



the webb-martin aroud



## KERSTING COURT HAS TURNED ON THE LIGHTS!



Just in time for the Holidays the City of Sierra Madre has adorned the center of Downtown with beautiful, decorative lights. Photo courtesy of Dirk Bolle

### HOLIDAY CANDLIGHT WALK SUNDAY DECEMBER 22 Save The Date!



Members of the Sierra Madre community and friends of all faiths and beliefs will gather for this decades old tradition at St. Rita Church - 318 N. Baldwin Sierra Madre at 6:00 pm.

The group will walk down Baldwin to Kersting Court and you will hear from all our different Religious and Spiritual representatives. Bring candles or flash lights.

### CITY MANAGER SEEKS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON REVENUE COMMITTEE

Earlier in the week, SM City Manager Jose Reynoso reached out to the public seeking individuals who might be interested in serving on the newly established Ad Hoc Revenue Committee dedicated to exploring and recommending sustainable funding solutions to support our city's essential public services.

As a result of the recent failure of Measure PS to fund adequately fund Public Safety, it is believed that committee can play a vital advisory role in crafting strategies that ensure Sierra Madre's financial health.

(continued on page 15)

### ANTHONY RAINEY TO SERVE AS SIERRA MADRE FINANCE DIRECTOR

In August of this year, the City began a search for the next head of its Finance Department. After an extensive recruitment process an offer to Mr. Anthony Rainey to serve as the next Director of Finance.

Anthony Rainey brings over 17 years of distinguished experience in public sector financial management. With a proven track record of excellence in budgeting, fiscal planning, and governmental financial operations. Mr. Rainey's work has earned him recognition for aligning strategic financial objectives with

(continued on page 15)

*Santa's Looking For The Best Decorated House in Sierra Madre!*  
**2024**

THE MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS WILL ONCE AGAIN SEND OUR PHOTO SANTA TO LOOK FOR THIS YEAR'S BEST DECORATED HOME.

Make certain you have your decorations up by: **DECEMBER 16, 2024.**

**NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED** Photo Santa will drive all over town looking for the very best!

**YOU CAN ALSO CAST A VOTE FOR THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE!** Just email the address of your choice to: [editor@mtviewsnews.com](mailto:editor@mtviewsnews.com). **SUBJECT: BEST**

**WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE DECEMBER 21st EDITION OF THE PAPER!**

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### COMPASS

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We Are Bringing Out The Big Dogs To Help Make Your 2024/25 Real Estate Dreams Come True. Fall is The Perfect Reminder Of How Great Change Can Be. Is It Time To Sell Your Home And Make The Move You've Always Dreamed Of? CALL US! We Want To Help You Achieve Your 2024/25 Real Estate Goals

**Record Low Inventory Continues To Cause A Strong Sellers Market. THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO SELL!**



**Barbara Rogers**  
626.484.8135  
CalRE# 01169115

**Eileen Benson**  
626.278.0187  
CalRE# 01880650



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**FOR LEASE**  
**PASADENA \$4,000 / Mo**  
Spacious 3-story rental with 2 en suite bedrooms, Viking kitchen, fireplace, balcony, mountain views, and ADT security system.



**FOR SALE**  
**BIG BEAR CITY \$425,000**  
3 Beds, 2 Bath, 1,301 sf Home  
Tranquil Big Bear home with central heat, fireplace, balcony, fenced yard, and wraparound deck. Perfect mountain retreat!



**FOR SALE**  
**DUARTE \$449,000**  
2 Beds, 2 Bath, 993 sf, TownHouse  
Duarte gem on quiet ground floor corner lot with patio, pool, hot tub, modern kitchen, and 2-car garage.

*Saturday, November 30, 2024*  
*Shop Local Sierra Madre Businesses*

*All Day From Noon until 8 pm:*

*Visit Exhibitors in Kersting Court,  
 Baldwin and Sierra Madre Blvd. Downtown*

*Visit Family Fun in Memorial Park*

*LIVE MUSIC*

*USC Trio Joe Normal Muir HS Jazz Ensemble  
 Michael Swain Band Three Kings and more!*

*Performance by Sierra Madre Dance Company*



**5:00**

**SANTA COMES TO TOWN**

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**



*This Event Brought to you courtesy  
 Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce*

# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

## SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

JOIN THE MOVEMENT AND HELP OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

**THRIVE!**



The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce urges you to support our local businesses, today and everyday. When you shop local, you're not just making a purchase—you're investing in your community.

Stop by and visit our members in Downtown Sierra Madre (partial listing) today!

### GREAT GIFT SHOPPING

Arnold's Frontier Hardware  
Baldwin Avenue Gallery  
Brown's Classic Interiors  
Code 3 For Life  
Collective Co-Op  
Foothill Creative Arts  
Savior The Flavor

### EATS & DRINKS

The Buccaneer Lounge  
Casa Del Rey  
Corfu  
Lemon Zest Café  
Lucky Baldwins  
Nano Café  
The Only Place In Town  
Mother Moo Ice Creamery  
RT Rogers Brewing Company  
Taylor's Ol Fashioned Market  
Wistaria Restaurant Bar and Grill

Holiday Cards Still Blank?

*Frame Your Happiness*



Book Your Session - \$499



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ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

THE VILLA PRESENTS

## WINTER WONDERLAND & HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

WINTER WONDERLAND  
December 7  
8 am - 2 pm

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE  
December 7  
9 am - 2 pm  
December 8  
10 am - 1pm



Preorder Breakfast, See's Candy, Santa & Mrs. Claus photos and more!

FOOD \* SLEDDING \* SANTA \* GIFTS

Join us for holiday fun and cheer at Alverno's historic Villa! Slide down a sled hill with real snow, enjoy a pancake breakfast, take photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, shop for one-of-a-kind gifts, and more!



## 2025 ROSE PARADE® & ITS EVENTS

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Clothes, Shoes & Accessories; Kitchen, Linens & Housewares  
Books, DVDs, CD's, Stationary, Pictures - & So Much More

**December 5, 6 & 7**  
**Thurs. / Fri. / Sat. 9am - 2pm.**

Upstairs in Essick House & Down in Shop  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

626 355-7739

Proceeds Benefit our 2024-2025 Community Charities & Scholarships

~ STOP BY, BROWSE & Buy ~

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

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MONROVIA

## Weather Wise



### 6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Sun</b>	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
<b>Mon</b>	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
<b>Tues</b>	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
<b>Wed</b>	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
<b>Thur</b>	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s
<b>Fri</b>	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

### SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

#### SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 10, 2024 5:30pm

#### THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS!

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transparency efforts and The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment may also be made by e-mail to [PublicComment@Cityof-SierraMadre.com](mailto:PublicComment@Cityof-SierraMadre.com) by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record. The public may also comment in person at the meeting.

The meetings will be streamed live on Foothills Media website at [foothillsmidia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmidia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

### 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 Public LIBRARY  
Read • Discover • Connect

This week at the Sierra Madre Public Library

December 2 — December 7

#### Monday

Baby Rhyme Time — Library at 9:00am

Preschool Storytime— Library at 10:00am

#### Wednesday

Blood Drive— Library Parking Lot from 11:30am-5:45pm

#### Saturday

Sensory Play— Library at 9:00am. Call to register.

3D Printing Basics— Library at 12:00pm

Read, Discover, Connect  
@ Sierra Madre Public Library  
350 W Sierra Madre Blvd.  
(626) 355-7186

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

Thanksgiving brings us all together to give thanks for all God's blessings and for each other. We felt such gratitude as we assembled plates of turkey, mashed potatoes and Helen's Green Jell-O Salad. The feast turned out pretty well this year. But there have been years when it was...well, a different kind of experience...like this one...

### THE GHOST OF THANKSGIVINGS PAST

The Festive Bird is in the stove,  
It's time now for a nap.  
I laid me down, closed my eyes,  
And at the window heard a tap.

It's far too soon for guests to come,  
I need a little peace!  
The stuffing's ready, cranberries chillin',  
Pies overflow with pumpkin fillin'.

The tap just keeps on at my window,  
But I'm not gonna look!  
There's nothing more for me to do,  
This is one tired and sleepy cook.

So I snuggled deep down in my afghan,  
Turned my head the other way.  
I don't care who's at that window,  
They can tap all day.

Off I went to slumberland and dreamed a lovely dream,  
A kitchen, clean and spotless, everything just right.  
But then I dreamt a dreadful dream,  
That made me shriek with fright!

The tapping at my window,  
More insistent grew.  
And what was out there tapping,  
I'll now describe to you.

The Ghost of my Thanksgivings Past,  
A turkey that was huge!  
Tapped his enormous beak at my window,  
And gobbled... "J" accuse!"

"Fifty Thanksgivings, and more," he said,  
"Since you walked down that wedding aisle.  
So many turkeys you've served up,  
With sweet potatoes and a smile."

"All those turkeys come and gone,  
And still your gravy's awful!  
And the year the turkey hit the floor,  
Should be declared... unlawful!"

"Most of them were nicely done, I'll give you that," he said.  
"But some were cooked so badly,  
You should have ordered Chinese instead!"  
What an awful dream, I thought, as I cowered in my bed.



But the Ghostly Turkey wasn't finished,  
With his accusations many.  
And I, stuttering out my pathetic excuses,  
Discovered I hadn't any!

But then he smiled and said to me,  
"Your crimes are all forgiven.  
For those who've gathered at your table,  
Have rejoiced and laughed for hours."  
"We turkeys relish meals like these,  
They are sweet as summer flowers!"

Enjoy today, with friends and family,  
gathered 'round your table,  
Give thanks for health and joy and peace...  
Then share this Thanksgiving fable."

And with a last gobble...gobble, the Ghost of Thanksgivings Past,

Flew up, up, and away...  
And I heard him exclaim, ere he flew out of sight...  
"Happy Thanksgiving to all...  
And for heaven's sake, learn to make better gravy!"

Hope your Thanksgiving was the best one ever!

My book page:  
Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
Christmas is just a few short weeks away and my book:  
"Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope"  
Would be a really nice gift for everyone you know.  
It's on Amazon.com

"Star of Wonder" a delightful Christmas Kindle story is there

2024 Meet & Greet Santa

Last day to drop off the toys for TOYS FOR TOTS

Saturday, December 14th  
6:30 PM @ Sierra Madre Fire Department  
Santa will make his grand departure from Sierra Vista Park @ 6:15 PM

PARKING EXEMPTIONS

Thanksgiving HOLIDAY 2024

NO OVERNIGHT PARKING ENFORCEMENT FROM:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 2024 AT 2:00AM

UNTIL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 2024 AT 2:00AM

SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Creative Arts Group

#### Member Appreciation Day

Wednesday, December 4

Shop for one-of-a-kind handmade holiday gifts. We have ceramics, jewelry, glass, paintings and much more!

Winter Session begins January 13  
Registration is now open!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!  
We will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday November 25-30.

[creativeartsgroup.org](http://creativeartsgroup.org)  
626-355-8250 108 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre

### HONORS AWARDS NOMINATIONS

NOMINATION CATEGORIES

- 2024 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
- 2024 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
- CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
- PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD
- COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICE AWARD
- WISTARIA AWARD
- GEORGE MAURER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

DESCRIPTION OF AWARD

- 2024 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: SIERRA MADRE RESIDENT WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BENEFITED THE CITY DURING 2024
- 2024 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR: AN OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EXISTING IN SIERRA MADRE FOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS THAT HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF THE COMMUNITY.
- PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD: PERSON OR GROUP -FOR PROTECTING AND MAINTAINING SAFETY IN SIERRA MADRE.
- COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICE AWARD: FOR YOUTH UNDER 18 FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY IN 2024.
- WISTARIA AWARD: RECOGNIZING A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP THAT ASSISTS WITH PROVIDING COMMUNITYWIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.
- GEORGE MAURER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: FOR A PERSON/ENTITY WHOSE LIFETIME OF SERVICE EMBODIES THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM.

E-MAIL YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR A PERSON OR ORGANIZATION DESERVING OF AN HONORS AWARD TO:  
[HONORSDINNER@SIERRAMADRECA.GOV](mailto:HONORSDINNER@SIERRAMADRECA.GOV)

Deadline for Nominations is 5:00pm on December 31, 2024



## Pasadena Departments to Host Toy Giveaway

Join the Pasadena Police and Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Departments for a Merry Wishmas on Thursday, Dec. 19, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Jackie Robinson Community Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave. The event festivities will include a toy giveaway, crafts, photo op with Santa and light refreshments. Enjoy a live performance showcasing the students of the Robinson family's alma mater, John Muir High School and Norma Coombs Elementary.

Help spread holiday cheer this season with the Pasadena Police and PRCS by donating new, unwrapped toys, sports equipment, and gift cards at the Pasadena Police Department building, 207 N. Garfield Ave., from today through Thursday, December 12. Normal operating hours are from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Gifts will be given to the first 300 registered children, ages 17 and under, and must be present to receive the gift. To register, please visit Bit.ly/MerryWishmas.

For more information, please contact Officer Lynda Mercado LMercado@CityOfPasadena.net. or call 626-744-4501

## Altadena Library Board Vacancy

The Altadena Library Board of Trustees announces a vacancy and will make an appointment to fill that seat.

The Board of Trustees is accepting applications from anyone who would like to serve on the board for the two-year term starting on December 16, 2024.

Applicants must be at least 18, a resident of Altadena and registered to vote in Altadena. The chosen candidate will be sworn in at the Regular meeting on January 27, 2025.

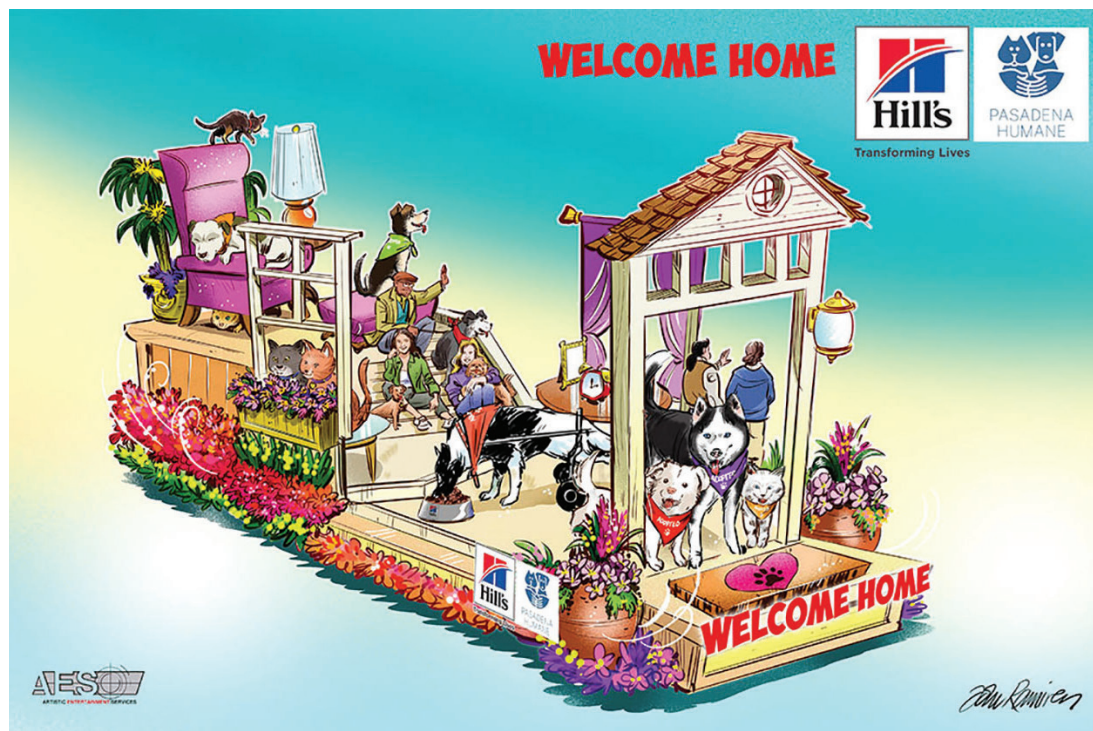
The current seat is for the two-year unexpired term ending 12/4/2026. Please note this seat is at-large, but that in 2026 this seat will only be open to residents in the Altadena Library District Area 4. If you have questions about this, please call (626) 798-0833 ext. 118.

The board meets at 5:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month; this unpaid, volunteer position involves budgetary and policy oversight as well as high-level strategic decision-making for the Altadena Library District. Interested parties should submit:

Letter of intent  
Resume  
Certification of Qualifications Form

These documents must be received by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 31, 2024. The board will interview potential candidates at a Special Board Meeting to be held in January 2025 (exact date TBA). Each candidate will be given 3 minutes to make a statement and will then be asked to answer 3 questions, which will be provided to candidates in advance of the meeting.

For details about applying, visit: [altadenalibrary.org/news/2024-board-vacancy](http://altadenalibrary.org/news/2024-board-vacancy).



## Pasadena Humane Unveils Rose Float

Pasadena Humane announced Wednesday that they are again teaming up with Hill's Pet Nutrition for the second consecutive year to raise awareness about pet adoption with their "Welcome Home" float set to travel down the 2025 Rose Parade route on New Year's Day.

The "Welcome Home" float, built by Artistic Entertainment Services (AES), celebrates the joy and companionship pets bring to our lives while highlighting the life-saving power of adoption they said. Every dog and cat featured on the float has been adopted from Pasadena Humane with support from Hill's Food, Shelter & Love Program.

They are also asking for volunteers that would like to help decorate the float.

"We're recruiting volunteers to help decorate our stunning float," they said "This is your chance to be a part of the Rose Parade magic and showcase your creativity while supporting a great cause."

Decorating begins on Dec. 27 and consists of both dry decorating and floral decorating. Floral decorating would be cutting, preparing, and gluing both dry material and fresh flowers to various float elements.

Since 1903, Pasadena Humane has offered lifesaving programs and services for animals and the people who love them in the Greater Los Angeles Area. In addition to pet adoptions they focus on programs and services aimed at helping people care for and keep their pets, such as free and low-cost spay/

neuter and vaccines, a pet food pantry, and an animal support call center. In 2023, Pasadena Humane helped more than 47,000 animals through adoptions, wildlife rehabilitation, lost and found, veterinary services, training classes, and surrender prevention assistance.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer visit: [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org).

## Register Your Pasadena Rental Properties

City officials are reminding Pasadena rental housing providers that they must act now to meet the December 22 deadline for registering all covered residential rental units and paying the annual Rental Housing Fee. The fee for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, which includes the 2023-2024 fee, is \$214.71 per unit. Moving forward, all rental housing providers must register their units and pay the Rental Housing Fee annually. Registration Requirements To register your units:

Online Registration: Visit the Rental Registry Portal to complete your registration and payment online.

Paper Registration: You may request paper registration forms by emailing [rentalregistry@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:rentalregistry@cityofpasadena.net) or calling (626) 744-7999. Completed forms must be submitted to the Rent Stabilization Department.

Property owners with 10 or more units can streamline the process by downloading the Rental Registry Bulk Submission Form for upload through the online portal.

Penalties for Non-Compliance Property owners who fail to register their rental units by the deadline may face serious penalties, including: Tenants may have the right to withhold rent until the owner is in compliance with the registration requirements For rent-controlled units, owners may not increase the rent Property owners may be prevented from evicting a tenant

If you are unsure about whether you need to register your unit, please contact the Rent Stabilization Department at (626) 744-7999 or at [rentalregistry@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:rentalregistry@cityofpasadena.net).

## Debbie Gibson to Headline Finale of 2025 Rose Parade

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced last week that iconic pop sensation Debbie Gibson will bring her unparalleled energy and timeless hits to the Grand Finale of the 2025 Rose Parade. Fans can look forward to an electrifying performance as Gibson takes center stage on the Mansion Entertainment Group float, promising to be a truly unforgettable closing celebration.



"In the time-honored tradition of female icons like Natalie Cole, Chaka Khan, Tanya Tucker, LeeAnn Rimes, Jordin Sparks, Lainey Wilson and Michelle Williams who have graced the Rose Parade, I can't wait to be a part of making this year's parade the best day ever!" says Gibson.

Debbie Gibson, a powerhouse of pop music and entertainment, first captivated audiences with her Billboard Hot 100 chart-topper "Foolish Beat," marking her as the youngest female artist to write, produce and perform a number one hit—a record she still holds today. With more than 16 million albums sold, hit singles spanning decades, and a celebrated theatrical career, Gibson continues to be an inspiring force in the entertainment industry.

Gibson's annual "Winterlicious" holiday tradition returns in December with residencies in Los Angeles and New York and two additional shows this year in Florida. The event is a festive celebration of all holidays, embracing inclusiveness at its core, welcoming everyone to join in the joyful spirit of the season. Her forthcoming motivational memoir will be released through Gallery Books.

Gibson's music, energy and commitment to creating unforgettable performances perfectly embody the spirit of this year's theme, 'Best Day Ever!' The Grand Finale promises even more excitement as we reveal additional performers soon officials said.

## Tattoo Design Workshop



Altadena library officials announced Thursday that they are holding a Workshop on tattoo design December 17 in Main Library Community Room. The event will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Create your own tattoo design through the three phases tattoo artists use: sketching, refining, and lining. Learn about and practice utilizing design elements like composition, line, and form to enhance your work. All are welcome to create a unique drawing just for fun or to bring to a tattoo artist when the time is right.

The workshop will be led by Sadie Goff, a tattoo

artist working in Altadena at June Bug Tattoo. Her education and 10 plus years of experience as a graphic designer informs her practice in creating custom tattoo designs for her clients. She is excited for the opportunity to connect with those curious about the artistic process and to talk about formal elements of design and how they apply in the unique commercial art industry of tattooing. See her work at @sadiespotatoes on Instagram, or at [sadiespotatoes.com](http://sadiespotatoes.com).

All supplies are provided, and registration is required. The Altadenalibrary is located 600 E. Mariposa Street. For more information or to register visit: [altadenalibrary.org](http://altadenalibrary.org) or call (626) 798-0833.

## Ribbon Cutting to be Held for Arroyo Trail Improvements

The City of Pasadena, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department, in partnership with the One Arroyo Foundation is set to hold a community ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the Arroyo Seco trail improvements. The event will take place on Saturday, December 7 at 11:00 AM at the Lower Arroyo Park parking area and marks a major milestone in revitalizing this cherished Pasadena resource.

The ceremony will feature remarks from Pasadena Mayor Victor M. Gordo and other community leaders. Attendees can enjoy optional activities, including a guided walk of the new trail improvements or a one-mile trail run led by the Pasadena Pacers.

"This project is a tremendous step forward in preserving the Arroyo Seco's natural beauty while making it safer and more accessible for everyone," said Mayor Victor M. Gordo. "We are proud to celebrate this achievement with the community, knowing it will benefit generations to come." The recently completed work as part of the One Arroyo Trail Project includes:

- Lower Arroyo Loop Trails: Enhanced erosion control and long-term trail stability.

- Mayberry Parker Bridge Access: New stone terrace trail steps and erosion protection.

- Trail Connections: Improved and cleared trailheads for smoother access near Westminster Drive and Holly Street Bridge.

- Landslide Remediation: Stabilized areas near the La Loma Bridge for improved safety.

- Outdoor Education Area: A new space for community learning and engagement.

- Devil's Gate Dam and Little Cottonwood Canyon Creek: New steps and bridge enhancements for equestrian and pedestrian use.

- Westside Trails: Completion of stroller-accessible lower trails and the upper loop connecting the Mayberry Parker Bridge to the archery range.

"The completion of these trail improvements is a testament to what we can achieve when the community comes together," said Dan Rothenberg, President of the One Arroyo Foundation. "We're excited to invite everyone to explore these enhanced trails and experience the Arroyo Seco like never before."

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, or to RSVP visit [OneArroyo.org](http://OneArroyo.org).

**Leonora Moss**  
Floral Gatherings and Keepsakes  
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CLOSED SUNDAYS - JUNE THROUGH DECEMBER

Need to get out of the house?  
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## San Marino Upcoming Events & Programming

### Tree Lighting Ceremony & Mayor's Reception

Home for the Holidays Tree Lighting Ceremony & Mayor's Reception is back again this year! Join us on Friday, December 6 from 5 – 7 PM at the corner of Huntington Drive and San Marino Avenue to honor the 72-year legacy of the Holiday House Bus Shelter: A San Marino Tradition. There will be photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, hot chocolate and tea, holiday cookies, festive selfie stations, and a kid's craft table. The event is FREE and everyone is welcome! For any questions, call (626) 403-2200. More information can be found on our website.

### Joyful Living Happy Life

Sunday, December 1 from 2:00 – 4:30 PM, Barth Community Room

This workshop gives you tools to face challenges in the workplace, social life, and family life. Join the Unified Charity Foundation as they talk this month about the law of attraction, or the secret of being a magnet that attracts happiness and good fortune. Registration is not required.

### Shop 'till You Drop Holiday Shopping Shuttles to Ontario Mills, Ontario

Tuesday, December 10 from 10 AM – 5 PM  
Cost: R: \$8 / NR: \$10 (non-refundable)

Time to get all your holiday shopping out of the way! Active adults ages 55+ are invited to join us for a daytime shopping trip. Transportation is provided. Registration is required.

### Senior Trip: San Antonio Winery Tour

Tuesday, February 11 from 10 AM – 3 PM  
Cost: R: \$74 / NR: \$88

Join us for a memorable trip to the historic San Antonio Winery, established in 1917. Guests will learn about the winemaking process, explore the beautiful estate, and taste some of their finest selections. Whether you're a seasoned enthusiast or a curious newcomer, this tour promises an educational and enjoyable experience. The trip includes a delicious lunch with your choice of Meat Lasagna or Chicken of the Day with Pasta, dessert (Cannoli), a coffee station, and a glass of wine from their preselected options at the stationed bar host. Registration is required by January 9.

### Annual Street Rehabilitation Project

The City's Annual Street Rehabilitation Project is currently ongoing. Ultimately, the project will resurface 26 streets throughout the City, in accordance with the City Council-adopted Pavement Management Plan. The first phase of the project involves substantial concrete work, including: removal and replacement of curb and gutter, cross gutter, and driveway approaches. Residents on impacted streets will be receiving notices from the City's contractor, Onyx Paving, with additional details about the project timeline, what residents can expect during the project, and what the project's impact to the neighborhood will be. Discover more details, including maps and schedules at: facebook.com/CityofSanMarinoCA.

For more information visit: cityofsanmarino.org.

## Pasadena One Colorado Keepsake Photos with Santa

One of the highlights of the holiday season is celebrating with a timeless tradition – photos with Santa. One Colorado, an unforgettable shopping and dining destination in the heart of Old Pasadena, just a few miles from downtown Los Angeles, invites children and their families to visit and take keepsake photos with Santa on select dates between now and December 24th. Each Friday (5 p.m. – 8 p.m.), Saturday (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.) and Sunday (10 a.m. – 7 p.m.) between now and Sunday, December 22nd, Santa will be available for individual and group photos in The Courtyard between Sushi Roku and Sage Restaurant. Santa will have special hours on November 29th (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.) and December 21st (10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.). And Santa will make one more appearance at the center on Tuesday, December 24th (10



a.m. – 7 p.m.) before heading back to the North Pole to prepare for Christmas Eve. To check online for times and dates, visit: bit.ly/4edQmns. Professional photo packages begin at \$30; guests are also invited to take their own photos for \$25. To learn more, visit: onecolorado.com.

## City Secures \$8.5M for Construction for Median Enhancements Project



Acting Director of Public Works, Kris Markarian and the department announced Wednesday a cooperative agreement with Caltrans on the Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project, a major initiative aimed at improving storm water quality in the Eaton Wash and Rio Hondo River. This project is designed to help meet the Total Maximum Daily Load ("TMDL") Waste Load Allocation ("WLA") requirements for the Los Angeles River watershed, addressing critical compliance goals in our local waterways and implementing an urban greening enhancement along a heavily urbanized corridor in the City to combat climate change impacts.

With the agreement in place, Caltrans is pledging \$8.5M to fully fund the construction costs for the project which is currently in the design phase funded through Los Angeles County's Safe, Clean Water Program - Local Return funds. The Sierra Madre Boulevard Median Enhancement Project will capture and manage dry weather flows and stormwater runoff, eliminate dry-weather pollutants, such as trash, sediments, heavy metals and bacteria, and infiltrate stormwater runoff from adjacent pavement surfaces. This will lead to cleaner stormwater in the

Eaton Wash and Rio Hondo River, healthier ecosystems, and direct benefits to the environment.

The project design is nearly 90% complete and is expected to be finalized in March 2025. Stakeholder outreach and input has been a key component over the course of the concept and design process. Since the start of design, Public Works staff,

working with Council District 4, has hosted four outreach meetings through which the project concept was progressively narrowed to the final project scope we have today. From this process, stakeholder input was used to identify community preferences for the median space, ultimately shaping the final aesthetic of the project. With the funding now in place, construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2025.

This partnership offers a significant opportunity to improve the quality of water in the Los Angeles River watershed while fulfilling key regulatory requirements, ensuring that both the City and Caltrans can make a positive environmental impact. The City looks forward to advancing this high priority project and making strides towards cleaner, healthier waterways and enhanced landscape medians for the community.

## Pasadena Senior Center to Host Talk with Adam Nimoy

The son of Leonard Nimoy, the iconic television and film actor best known for playing Mr. Spock on the original 'Star Trek' TV series, Adam Nimoy will share his experiences and explore his journey in a special Senior Center Cultural Thursday Event, "Star Trek, the Road to Recovery, and Reconciling with my Father," on Thursday, December 5.

Nimoy will share his experiences and explore his journey in a special Cultural Thursday Event, "Star Trek, the Road to Recovery, and Reconciling with my Father," on Thursday, December 5. He is a successful television director and film producer and has written "The



Most Human: Reconciling with My Father Leonard Nimoy" a poignant memoir detailing their complicated relationship and parallel paths from addiction to recovery.

The event is free for members, and \$5 for nonmembers. Registration is suggested, and can be made by going to PasadenaSeniorCenter.org and clicking on Lectures & Classes, then Cultural Thursdays, or calling 626-795-4331.

The event starts at 2 p.m. The Pasadena Senior Center is located 85 E. Holly St.

The elder Nimoy was a highly-repressed, high-functioning alcoholic who could identify with the dispassionate Mr. Spock character better than he could his own family. Adam Nimoy was a life-long pot smoker and drinker. It wasn't until they both entered and completed their own 12-step programs that they found a way to a healthy relationship in the latter years of Leonard's life.

Adam Nimoy is a graduate of UC Berkeley and Loyola Law School. He practiced entertainment law for seven years before changing careers to become a television director. He directed more than 45 hours of network television including episodes of Ally McBeal, NYPD Blue and Gilmore Girls. In 2016, he directed the documentary film For The Love Of Spock.

## Celebrate the Holidays with The Pasadena Public Library

The winter holiday season is just around the corner. Make yours a truly merry one by celebrating the holidays at the Pasadena Public Library. Enjoy free crafts,

programs and events for all ages. Whether you plan to enjoy Christmas carols, decorate an ornament, take home a craft kit, or join us for our 36th annual Kwanzaa celebration, there are plenty of opportunities for you to connect, explore and discover the wonder of the holidays. Plan out your holiday season with these programs and events.

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

For all ages unless specified. Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights

Enjoy our unique display showcasing the history, rituals and traditions of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights.

Dec. 1 – Jan. 2 (except Dec. 5 & 25), Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

Tree Decorating Are you feeling merry and bright? Help us make our tree look out of sight. Decorate an ornament then find a special place on the Christmas tree to hang it!

For ages 3-12. Monday-Saturday, Dec. 9 – 14, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Allendale Branch Library, 1130 S. Marengo Ave., and Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr.

Hastings Winter Ball and Tree Lighting Join us for Hastings' annual Winter Holiday Celebration. Enjoy festive music, carols, stories, refreshments, crafts, and our tree lighting.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 4 – 6 p.m., Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd. 36th Annual Kwanzaa Celebration Heri za Kwanzaa! Happy Kwanzaa! Join us for a joyous Kwanzaa celebration full of music, storytelling and youth presentations, in

partnership with the Pasadena Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Celebrate heritage and tradition with family, friends and the whole community! Friday, Dec. 27, 11 a.m., Jefferson Branch Library, 1500 E. Villa St.

Happy Noon Year Ring in the New Year with your little ones as we make crafts and enjoy festive activities before counting down to noon. For ages 3-5 and their caregivers. Tuesday, Dec. 31, 11:30 a.m., Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd.

MUSICAL EVENTS For all ages unless specified. Winter Celebration with the Candlelight Carolers Experience the magic of this festive time of year with the acapella Christmas quartet, the Candlelight Carolers. Bring your friends and family to enjoy a delightful mix of timeless classics and modern holiday favorites that will warm your heart. Sponsored by the San Rafael Library Associates.

Saturday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m., San Rafael Branch Library, 1240 Nithsdale Rd. Holiday Music Join us as we usher in the holiday season with a live performance by the Blair High School Chamber Orchestra.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m., Allendale Branch Library, 1130 S. Marengo Ave. Winter Holiday Concert and Sing-along with the Slide Rule Trombone Choir Celebrate the winter holidays with the Slide Rule Trombone Choir! We have a joyful set of holiday tunes prepared to share with all of you. Bring along your holiday voices to sing along in our caroling section at the end!

Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m., Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr. A Christmas Carol Enjoy an array of Christmas carols from Christmas

Matters Holiday Carolers. The quartet, adorned in stunning detailed Dickens costumes, will get in the holiday spirit as they ring in the season with their melodic voices.

Saturday, Dec. 14, 4:30 p.m., Linda Vista Branch Library, 1281 Bryant St.

### INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES

For all ages unless specified Winterland at Villa

Join us for a holly, jolly, wintry good time! We'll have crafts, stories and wintry surprises for you.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m., Villa Parke Branch Library, 363 E. Villa St.

### Holiday Ornament Workshop

Paint a festive holiday motif on a small slice of wood to make a vintage holiday ornament. Limited space. To attend, call (626) 744-7270.

For ages 18+. Friday, Dec. 13, 2:30 p.m., San Rafael Branch Library, 1240 Nithsdale Rd.

Holiday Card Workshop Drop in and make a card to spread winter holiday cheer! Choose a prefab design or use a variety of crafting supplies and let your creativity be your guide.

Saturday, Dec. 14, 4 p.m., Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.

Holiday Fun at La Pintoresca Celebrate the holidays with music, fun and arts and crafts. Tuesday, Dec. 17, 4 p.m., La Pintoresca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave.

### HOLIDAY TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS

For all ages unless specified Take & Make: Handprint Polar Bear Craft

Make a new polar bear friend with your hand! This simple craft for kids is a great way to spend a cold day and the polar bear friend can stay with you all winter long! Reserve a kit at CityOfPasadena.Libwizard.com/f/Polar\_Bear.

Sign-ups begin on Sunday, Dec. 1. Reserved kits can be picked up at Hastings Branch Library, while supplies last.

For ages 3+. Sunday, Dec. 1, Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Take & Make: Penguin with Presence (or presents)

Color a picture of a penguin with a present for a priceless holiday display. Santa will be flying by with a bell, with Rudolph lighting his way. Add some cottony Arctic snow on a fun-filled winter's day. Kits can be picked up at

San Rafael Branch Library beginning Monday, Dec. 2 at 10:30 a.m. Available while supplies last. For ages 3-12. Monday, Dec. 2, 10:30 a.m., San Rafael Branch Library, 1240 Nithsdale Rd.

DIY "Decorate It Yourself" Holiday Frame Decorate a wooden picture frame for the holiday season to give as a gift or to adorn your own space. Reserve a kit at

CityofPasadena.Libwizard.com/f/PPLdiyframe. Signups begin Monday, Dec. 2. Kits can be picked up at Santa Catalina Branch Library, while supplies last.

Monday – Saturday, Dec. 2 – 21, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd. Take & Make: New Year's Eve Noisemaker Wand

Decorate and assemble a New Year's Eve celebration star wand with jingling bells. Kits can be picked up at Hill Avenue Branch Library beginning Saturday, Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m. Available while supplies last. For ages 3+.

Saturday, Dec. 21, 10:30 a.m., Hill Avenue Branch Library, 55 S. Hill Ave.

For more information visit PasadenaPublicLibrary.net and follow us on Instagram and Facebook @PasadenaLibrary.



## Metro INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN METRO COORDINATED PLAN FOCUS GROUPS

Join us for an opportunity to share insights on transit needs and challenges facing Seniors and/or Individuals with Disabilities. Metro wants to hear from you!

Metro is updating its Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan), to address the transportation needs of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities in Los Angeles County (LA County). This plan will prioritize transportation strategies, services, and projects for funding over the next four years (2025-2028).

### Focus Groups

We invite you to attend one of our upcoming Focus Group Meetings to share your experiences and insights into transportation needs for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities in LA County. This is your chance to directly influence future funding decisions and help shape services that can make a real difference in the lives of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities. Your perspective is vital in identifying service gaps and ensuring that our community has access to reliable, accessible transportation.

### In-Person Focus Groups

**POMONA**  
Date: Wednesday, December 4  
Time: 5-7pm  
Location: San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center

**DTLA**  
Date: Thursday, December 5  
Time: 2-4pm  
Location: Metro Headquarters, Plaza View Conference Room

**PALMDALE**  
Date: Monday, December 9  
Time: 5-7pm  
Location: Legacy Commons for Active Seniors, Palmdale

### Virtual Focus Groups

Date: Tuesday, December 3  
Time: 10-11:30am  
Register Here!  
Zoom ID: 894 7222 7544

Passcode: 5851  
Call-in #: 213-338-8477  
Date: Wednesday, December 11  
Time: 11am-12:30pm  
Register Here!  
Zoom ID: 873 9622 0401  
Passcode: 5851  
Call-in #: 213-338-84

Your voice matters, and we want to hear from you. Together, we can work toward solutions that address the real needs of our community. Please join us!

### Additional Background Information

The Coordinated Plan update will address the transportation needs of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities over the next four years (2025-2028). The Coordinated Plan also fulfills requirements for FTA's 5310 funding for LA County. FTA Section 5310 Program funds are available for capital and operating assistance to support public transportation projects that:

1. Are planned, designed, and implemented to address the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities

when existing public transportation is inadequate, inaccessible, or unavailable.

2. Exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 to provide enhanced accessibility and mobility.
3. Improve access to fixed-route transit services, thereby reducing dependence on complementary paratransit options.
4. Offer alternative transportation solutions that help seniors and individuals with disabilities maintain independence and access essential services.

As the Designated Recipient of FTA Section 5310 Program funds in the urbanized areas of LA County, Metro will recommend projects for funding through a review process based on priorities and strategies outlined in the Coordinated Plan. This approach ensures that identified service gaps are effectively addressed through funding decisions.



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This performance is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

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(626) 355-3463  
Head of School: Joanne Harabedian  
E-mail address: jharabedian@alvernoheights.org

Arcadia Christian School  
1900 S. Santa Anita Avenue Arcadia, CA 91006  
Preschool - TK - 8th Grade  
626-574-8229/626-574-0805  
Email: inquiry@acsliions.com  
Principal: Cindy Harmon  
website: www.acsliions.com

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

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

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School  
Ms. Rose Navarro, Principal  
2660 East Orange Grove Blvd.  
Pasadena, Ca 91107  
626-793-2089  
https://school.abvmpasadena.org/

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

Bethany Christian School  
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3527  
Preschool-TK-8th Grade  
Principal: Jonathon Hawes  
website: www.bcsliions.org

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

Foothill Oaks Academy  
822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010  
(626) 301-9809  
Principal: Nancy Lopez  
www.foothilloaksacademy.org  
office@foothilloaksacademy.org

Frostig School  
971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107  
(626) 791-1255  
Head of School: Jenny Janetzke  
Email: jenny@frostig.org

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

High Point Academy  
1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road  
Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
Head of School: Gary Stern 626-798-8989  
website: www.highpointacademy.org

La Salle College Preparatory  
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org  
Interim Principal Ernest Siy

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: Dr. Eric Barba  
website: http://phs.pusd.us

St. Rita Catholic School  
322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
Principal: Jon McMaster (626) 355-6114  
mcmaster@st-ritaschool.org  
Website: www.st-ritaschool.org

Sierra Madre Elementary School  
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-1428  
Principal: Dr. Jodi Marchesso  
E-mail address: marchesso.jodi@pusd.us

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

Walden School  
74 S San Gabriel Blvd  
Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166  
www.waldenschool.net

Weizmann Day School  
1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204  
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School  
300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln  
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

Pasadena Unified School District  
351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
(626) 396-3600 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

Arcadia Unified School District  
234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net

Monrovia Unified School District  
325 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016  
(626) 471-2000  
Website: www.monroviashools.net

Duarte Unified School District  
1620 Huntington Dr., Duarte, Ca. 91010  
(626) 599-5000  
Website: www.duarte.k12.ca.us

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Our class collected coats, hats...      ...and mittens to donate to a shelter.  Kids: color stuff in! 

# Newspaper Fun!

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Try my mini puzzles!

## Days of Caring and Sharing!

December is a month with many holidays. People may celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas or Kwanzaa. New Year's Eve, the very last night of the year, may be celebrated by everyone! This is a good time of year to show good will toward other people. It is a time when people reach out to help someone or to greet others with "Happy Holidays!"

December 21st is the first day of winter, the coldest season for many. Some families must stretch their budgets to pay for heating, food, health appointments and, often, holiday gifts. Read the clues to find out ways that people are helping others in their communities. Fill in the crossword puzzles.

**A. Fight Hunger**

- cook for a \_\_\_\_\_
- help at a soup \_\_\_\_\_
- collect cans for the food \_\_\_\_\_
- donate produce that you buy from your local \_\_\_\_\_ market

**B. Beat the Cold**

- collect \_\_\_\_\_ and sweaters
- start a \_\_\_\_\_ tree
- donate \_\_\_\_\_ and quilts
- donate \_\_\_\_\_ to a fuel fund

**C. Bring Joy to Children**

- \_\_\_\_\_ a toy to put in a "new toy drop box"
- \_\_\_\_\_ away used toys to charity
- \_\_\_\_\_ a child's toy or jewelry to donate
- \_\_\_\_\_ new toys to bring to a Children's Home

**D. Care for Animals**

- donate to an animal \_\_\_\_\_ center
- visit the \_\_\_\_\_ after the holidays
- give pet \_\_\_\_\_ to a shelter
- donate pet \_\_\_\_\_ and blankets

**E. Help with Good Health**

- start a jogging/biking \_\_\_\_\_
- donate \_\_\_\_\_ to the Red Cross
- \_\_\_\_\_ someone to an appointment
- \_\_\_\_\_ a free exercise or dance class



# PUZZLES FOR YOU

Mountain View News Saturday, November 30, 2024

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

- ACROSS**
- F. unit of electrical capacity
  - \*Buche de Noël, e.g.
  - What influencers do?
  - Yemeni's neighbor
  - Another word for Tokyo
  - Singer Ross of "Where Did Our Love Go" fame
  - Laundry room fire hazard, pl.
  - Much of it about nothing?
  - Furnish with a fund
  - \*"A Bad Moms Christmas" actress Bell
  - \*Tiny Tim creator
  - Tibetan ox
  - Khrushchev's domain
  - \*Goo on real Christmas tree
  - Sketch
  - \*Poinsettia's motherland
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ Good Men", movie
  - Brussels' org.
  - Plant fungus
  - Reluctant
  - Klutzy
  - \*"It's beginning to look \_\_\_\_\_ like..."
  - Domains
  - Bog down
  - Oxen connector
  - Under epidermis
  - Mums' mums
  - Over, poetically
  - Alleviate
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Mahal
  - \*Tanne in "O Tannenbaum" (2 words)
  - \*It is feliz to Feliciano
  - Radiohost: "Hello, you're \_\_\_\_\_"
  - Knot-tying vow (2 words)
  - Dispatch boat
  - Carthage's ancient neighbor
  - \*Egg\_\_\_\_\_
  - Oil lamp dweller
  - Fishing poles
  - Bigheadedness
  - Painter Degas

- DOWN**
- Lore people
  - Mideast ruler
  - Hindu princess
  - Jittery
  - Farthest from point of origin
  - Ground beef description
  - Like Lemmon and Matthau together
  - Merchandise
  - Swim's alternative
  - Dwyane, once of Miami Heat
  - Any day now, to Shakespeare
  - Swerves
  - King's order
  - Increasing
  - Philosophy ending
  - Undo, as in strings
  - Green side
  - Before, in the olden days
  - J.M. Barrie's Pan
  - "Howdy, \_\_\_\_\_!"
  - Internal picture
  - Meltable home
  - Singer Sam of "Twistin' the Night Away" fame
  - Weasel's aquatic cousin
  - \*"Last Christmas" band, with !
  - Edible pod
  - Busybody, in Yiddish
  - Mountain range
  - Certain fraternity house letters
  - Cruel
  - Île de la Cité river
  - Tripped the light fantastic
  - \*Number of ghosts in "A Christmas Carol"
  - \*"He's Just Not That \_\_\_\_\_ You", movie
  - Police's surprise
  - Habitual twitches
  - Not happening (2 words)
  - Minor bumper damage
  - "Heat of the Moment" band
  - Opposite of talker?
  - \*The Grinch's Max

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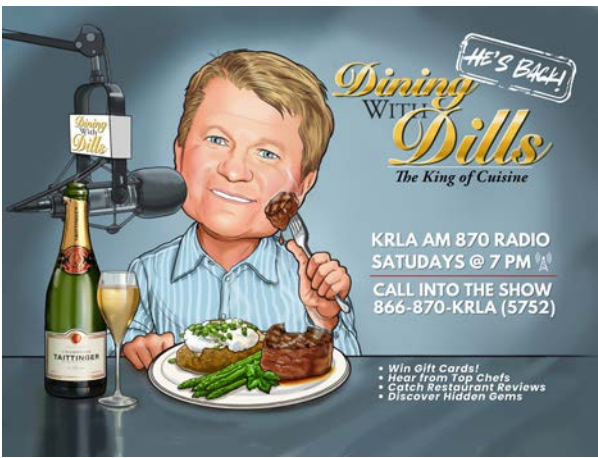
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## PETER'S HOLIDAY SURVIVAL TIPS

1. Ask for help, but don't expect it. Families aren't fair, and work is rarely divided equally. That's just the way it is. Personally, I prepare to do everything and am pleasantly surprised if someone pitches in. Don't waste energy being mad at the one person who always seems to be sitting on the couch—it'll only ruin the experience for everyone else.

2. Don't try to be right about everything. Family gatherings can turn toxic when someone insists on winning every argument. Even though I am always right (of course), I don't feel the need to rub it in every picture: enjoying time together.

3. Avoid criticism. Few things are as painful as watching someone get criticized in front of others. Whether it's your spouse, your kids, or your sister, holidays are a time to suspend judgment and embrace the spirit of the season. If discipline is necessary, pull someone aside for a private and respectful conversation.

4. Enjoy yourself. If you're doing all the work, make sure you also take time to sit down, take breaks, and connect with people. So what if dinner is a little late? Use the time to have meaningful, one-on-one conversations with the people you care about.

5. Lay off the liquor. I haven't had a drink in 10 years, and I don't serve alcohol in my home. It's amazing how much smoother family dinners go when no one's had too much to drink. If guests bring their own wine, that's fine—but the fact that they're the only ones drinking often helps them stay in control.

6. Embrace the family resemblance. The things that drive us crazy about our relatives are often traits we've inherited ourselves. Whether we like it or not, we're all destined to turn into our parents one day. Recognizing this can help us laugh instead of scream when those quirks start to surface.

### The Bottom Line

Holidays are a time for connection, celebration, and letting go of the little things that might otherwise drive us apart. Remember, no family is perfect—but with a little patience, humor, and perspective, yours can still have a wonderful holiday season.

As my dad would say, "Keep your lip tight, enjoy the company, and don't argue about the things you'll never win." Wise words for the season—and for life.

For more tips, tune in to my Saturday radio show at 7 PM on AM 870!

## ALL THINGS By Jeff Brown

### PINNACLES NATIONAL PARK: A CALIFORNIA HIDDEN GEM

The park is located in central California, is known for its unique geological formations, diverse wildlife, and a variety of recreational opportunities.



#### 1. Location and Overview

- **Location:** Pinnacles National Park is in the Gabilan Mountains, roughly 80 miles southeast of San Jose and 120 miles south of San Francisco.
- **Size:** The park covers about 26,000 acres.
- **Established:** It was originally a National Monument, designated in 1908 by President Theodore Roosevelt. It was officially designated as a National Park in 2013.
- **Divisions:** The park has two main entrances – the East Entrance near Hollister, CA, and the West Entrance near Soledad, CA.

#### 2. Geology and Rock Formations

- The park's iconic features are its towering rock spires, cliffs, and caves, formed from the remnants of an ancient volcanic field that erupted about 23 million years ago.
- The Pinnacles are part of the San Andreas Fault system, and over millions of years, tectonic forces have shifted the volcanic rock formations over 200 miles northward.
- Some of the most popular geological formations include:
  - Balconies Cliffs
  - High Peaks
  - Bear Gulch Cave and Balconies Cave

#### 3. Flora and Fauna

- Pinnacles is a biodiversity hotspot, home to over 400 species of plants. The wildflower bloom, typically in spring (March to May), is especially popular.
- The park's landscape includes chaparral, oak woodlands, and riparian habitats.
- Wildlife includes deer, bobcats, gray foxes, bats, and more. It's also known for its birdwatching, especially for: California Condors, Prairie falcons, red-tailed hawks, and other raptors.

#### 4. Popular Activities

- **Hiking:** Pinnacles has over 30 miles of trails, ranging from easy walks to challenging hikes. High Peaks Trail; Bear Gulch Reservoir Trail; Condor Gulch Trail; Balconies Cave Trail;
- **Rock Climbing:** Cave Exploration: The two main talus caves, Bear Gulch Cave and Balconies Cave, There are dark skies for stargazing and also Camping

#### 5. Climate and Best Time to Visit

- The park has a Mediterranean climate Spring (March-May) Fall (September-November)
- Winter (December-February): Mild temperatures, fewer crowds, and a chance to see waterfalls after rain Summer (June-August): Temperatures can exceed 100°F, so it's less ideal for hiking; mornings and evenings are the best times for outdoor activities.

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### BEST USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library announce that the December Best Used Book Sale will take place on Friday, December 6 (3:00-7:00) and Saturday, December 7 (10:00-2:00). It will be held on the parking lot behind the temporary library, 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Look for our special GIFT table; we're featuring NEW and UNUSED books, puzzles, games, DVDs and activity kits, perfect for gifts. In addition, we'll have a number of Nearly New thrillers, mysteries and fiction books, some signed, which have recently been on the Best Seller List. Check out our "Table Books" with many beautiful Art, Contemporary Culture and History selections. And for the collector, a complete set of The Works of Charles Dickens and a lovely Nancy Drew mystery set. For teachers, you might be interested in class sets of A Christmas Carol and Roll of Thunder, Hear Me Cry.

Did you miss a best-seller a year or two ago? You can probably find it in our Bargain Books for only \$1.00 each. Small paperbacks are \$.25 each or 5/\$1.00 and Children's and Young Adult books range from \$.50 to \$5.00, including holiday titles. DVDs and CDs are also available for only \$1.00 and Audio Books for \$3.00 each.

Remember our BAG SALE on Saturday, Dec. 7th! Fill a large grocery bag with Bargain Books and/or Media for only \$5.00 and save even more! All proceeds from this sale will go to acquisitions, services and programs at our library. Talk books and authors with our jolly, helpful volunteers at the Best Used Book Sale!

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## CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



[Nyerges is the author of several books including "Self-Sufficient Home" and "How to Survive Anywhere." He also leads wilderness classes every weekend. He can be reached at School of Self-Reliance, Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com]

### TOYON BERRIES:

*A traditional native food which matures in winter*

Toyon is a common tree in the hills around the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys, and in the Angeles National Forest to the north. It's found throughout the California chaparral regions. The leaves have small serrations on their edges, and are a bit leathery in texture. The fruits mature in winter, which makes them very unusual, and made them highly prized the native communities who ate the berries. After all, there are no other wild fruits that do their producing in winter. Today, folks can go to the grocery store whenever they want, but if you lived here 500 or more years ago in the pre-Mission era, "store" was a verb, not a noun. And if you ran low on supplies in winter, you could go into the hills and collect some food. Toyon was probably a life-saver!



Educator Javier Palare examines the ripe toyon fruit

There are many ways in which Native Americans ate the toyon berries in the past, and there are many modern methods of use.

Today, when native peoples collect the toyon fruits in winter, they begin by removing all the stems and washing the fruits. Even if they appear clean, the fruits have nearly always accumulated a lot of dirt.

Typically, you do not eat raw toyon berries because they are astringent and the flesh is mealy. They are improved by cooking or drying.

Though the exact details of how toyon berries were eaten in the past are somewhat speculative, or passed down word of mouth, there are people today who still process the berries for food. Rick Adams, whose wife is Dry Creek Pomo, processes the fruits by putting them in a pot, covering with water, and bringing to a boil. He lets them boil for just a few minutes, until they have plumped up just a bit. Then he rinses them in fresh water. This process removes the astringency of the raw fruit, and brings out the sweetness. The fruits processed like this have a fresh flavor, which is a combination of the low sugar content and a sour flavor, akin to a cumquat, or a raw cranberry. Though they can be eaten at this stage, Adams typically dries them for later use.

#### PREPARING TOYON BERRIES

At one of our Wild Food Cooking classes around Thanksgiving where we collected these fruits fresh, and boiled them as described above, everyone found them very likable. "They're sorta like cranberries of the West Coast," remarked one woman.

To dry toyon fruits, they can be spread on cookie sheets and put outside if the weather is hot. Otherwise, they can be dried in an oven with only a pilot light temperature.

The dried toyon is tasty. There is an initial flavor like black tea, and then, as you chew the hard little fruit you get a very pleasant combination of both sweet and sour.

Linda Sheer, who grew up in rural Kentucky and learned how to experiment with most wild foods to create tasty dishes, shared the following method of preparation. The berries are boiled, and the water changed. Assuming the berries are no longer astringent after one changing of the water, the berries are given just a little water and cooked at low heat while flour is added - usually wheat flour, but any other flour could be used with similar results. One slowly stirs as the flour thickens, and a few tablespoons of honey are added, to taste. This mixture thickens up, like a pie filling, and most people find it delicious.

#### NATIVE FOOD SYMPOSIUM

A few years ago at a Native Food Symposium Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, one of the presenters was Helen Wong who experimented with several methods of toyon preparation. One recipe that was served at the symposium, began by boiling the berries, and changing the water until it was no longer astringent. The fruits were then cooked with a few "secret" ingredients, and sweetened. This was served on graham crackers.

Most of the reports of cooking with toyon have been disappointing because toyon is a dry berry, often astringent. However, this recipe by Helen turned out pretty well. According to gourmet wild food cook Pascal Baudar, "Toyon is a tough berry to play with, but Helen did an amazing job."

## Katnip News!

JENNY



Meet Jenny, a stunning all-black kitten with a playful spirit and a heart full of love! At just 3 months old, Jenny is one of five adorable siblings born to sweet mama Mindy. She is spayed, vaccinated, and has tested negative for FELV/FIV, making her healthy and ready to



find her forever home.

Jenny loves spending her days playing and snuggling with her siblings, especially her favorite sister, Dottie. When it's time to wind down, she'll happily curl up in your lap for a cozy nap. Jenny will make a delightful companion for someone who can provide her with the love and attention she deserves.

Having a buddy helps kittens thrive, so if you can adopt Jenny and her sister (Dottie, featured last week), or you already have a young feline at home, Jenny would be delighted to join your family.

If Jenny has captured your heart, apply to adopt her at [lifelineforpets.org/mindys-kittens](https://www.lifelineforpets.org/mindys-kittens). Don't miss the chance to welcome this little bundle of joy into your life! She is thoroughly vetted and ready to go! Apply at <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/mindys-kittens.html>.

## Pet of the Week

Buddy is a 5-year-old, 50-pound Labrador Retriever mix with an energetic and affectionate spirit that's sure to brighten your days. This playful guy is happiest when chasing his favorite tennis balls in a spirited game of fetch, and he'll eagerly bring them back for more fun. If you have an active lifestyle and love outdoor adventures, Buddy is ready to be your perfect companion.



Buddy isn't just about playtime—he's a loyal, loving dog who thrives on human connection. Whether it's showering you with kisses or greeting you with a wagging tail when you come home, his enthusiasm for life is contagious. He's wonderfully mannered, demonstrating incredible self-control even when tempting treats are within reach. Plus, he's a calm and quiet presence who rarely barks.

Buddy's easygoing personality and love for people make him an ideal addition to any family. If you're looking for a fun-loving, loyal friend who will bring joy, laughter, and boundless energy into your home, Buddy is the one for you.

Buddy and all other pets over five years old have their adoption fees waived throughout November in celebration of Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month! The normal adoption fee for dogs is \$150. All dog adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines.

Walk-in adoptions are available every day from 2:00 - 5:00. For those who prefer, adoption appointments are available daily from 10:30 - 1:30 and can be scheduled online. View photos of adoptable pets at [pasadenahumane.org](https://pasadenahumane.org). 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.

Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.

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From The Desk of Steve Sciorba, Safe Path For Senior

## SENIORS AND DIABETES

Diabetes is a growing concern among seniors, affecting a significant portion of the aging population. Type 2 diabetes, in particular, is prevalent in older adults due to factors such as decreased physical activity, weight gain, and age-related changes in insulin sensitivity. Managing diabetes in seniors requires a tailored approach, as they often have multiple health conditions that complicate care, such as hypertension, heart disease, and kidney problems.

One of the key challenges for seniors with diabetes is maintaining blood sugar control. Aging affects how the body processes glucose, making it more difficult to regulate blood sugar levels. Medications, diet, and lifestyle changes can help, but seniors may face additional barriers such as cognitive decline, mobility issues, and the need for assistance with daily tasks. Additionally, the risk of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) is higher in older adults, which can lead to serious complications like falls, confusion, and even hospitalization.

Proper management includes regular monitoring of blood sugar levels, medication adherence, and a healthy diet. Exercise, even moderate, can improve insulin sensitivity and help maintain a healthy weight. However, balancing activity and rest is important to prevent fatigue or injury.

Family members and caregivers play a crucial role in supporting seniors with diabetes. They can assist in medication management, encourage healthy lifestyle choices, and help monitor for signs of complications. Health professionals should also provide ongoing education and adjust treatment plans as necessary to accommodate the unique needs of older adults.

In summary, diabetes in seniors requires comprehensive management to prevent complications and maintain quality of life. By combining medical treatment with lifestyle interventions, older adults with diabetes can lead healthier, more independent lives.

## HOW TO TALK TO YOUR DOCTORS – AND GET THEM TO LISTEN

Dear Savvy Senior:

How can I get my doctors to listen better? I just turned 78, and over the past few years I feel more and more dismissed by my doctors. I know I can't be the only one who feels this way. Any suggestions?

Dissatisfied Patient



Dear Dissatisfied:

Communication difficulties between patients and their doctors is nothing new. Many older patients feel like their doctors are dismissing their concerns, which can be frustrating and lead to missed diagnoses and delayed care. If you believe your doctor isn't listening to you, here are some tips offered by the National Institute on Aging that may help.

Prepare for your appointment: Before your exam, make a written prioritized list of any questions and concerns you want to discuss with your doctor, or print any online health research you've gathered, and bring it to your appointment so you won't forget anything. If you're in for a diagnostic visit, you should prepare a detailed description of your symptoms, when they began and what makes them worse.

Be honest and upfront: Even if the topic seems sensitive or embarrassing, it's important to be honest and upfront with your doctor. You may feel uncomfortable talking about memory loss or bowel issues, but these are all important to your health. It's better to be thorough and share detailed information than to be quiet or shy about what you're thinking or feeling. Remember, your doctor is used to talking about all kinds of personal matters.

Ask specific questions: If you and your doctor aren't communicating well, ask specific questions that require a response. For example: What might have caused the problem I'm dealing with? What's the specific name of my diagnosis? Is the problem serious? Will it heal completely or require ongoing management? What future symptoms might suggest you need emergency care or a follow-up visit? When and how will you receive your test results? If you don't understand something, don't hesitate to ask: Can you explain that in simpler terms? Or: Can you give me more details about that?

Take someone with you: Bring along a family member or friend to your appointment. Your companion can help you ask questions or raise concerns that you hadn't considered and listen to what the doctor is telling you and give you support.

Be persistent: If your doctor isn't addressing your questions, repeat them or rephrase them. If you still don't get anywhere, follow up with one of these statements: "I'm worried that we aren't communicating well. Here's why I feel that way." Or: "I need to talk with you about X. I feel like I can't. Can we talk about this?"

After your appointment, if you're uncertain about any instructions or have other questions, call or email your health care provider. Don't wait until your next visit to make sure you understand your diagnosis, treatment plan, or anything else that might affect your health.

For more tips, the National Institute on Aging offers a free booklet called "Talking with Your Doctor: A Guide for Older Adults" that can help you prepare for an appointment and become a better and more informed patient. To order free copy or see it online, visit [order.nia.nih.gov/publication/talking-with-your-doctor-a-guide-for-older-adults](http://order.nia.nih.gov/publication/talking-with-your-doctor-a-guide-for-older-adults).

Consider moving on: If you're not making any progress with your doctor and the problem persists, it's probably time to start looking for a new provider. Depending how unsatisfied you are with your care, you could also notify your doctor's medical group and your insurance company or leave feedback on their online profile. If you're dealing with a serious issue – like a doctor who prescribes the wrong medication or fails to provide test results in a timely manner – it might be appropriate to file a complaint with the state medical board.

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

## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ... NOVEMBER Birthdays\*



Flo Mankin, Alberta Curran, Carmela Frontino, Kathy Wood, Lena Zate, Joe Pergola, Janice Kacer, Valerie Howard, Lois Stueck, Jean Wood, Shirley Yergeau, Pat Krok, Irene Nakagawa, Anna Ross, Mary Steinberg, Mary Bowser, Susan Clifton, Mary Higgins, Kim Buchanan, Leigh Thach, Sue Quinn, Jill Girod, Jeanne Martin.\*

\* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required



## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder  
ANOTHER TURKEY ON THE TABLE

It was a Monday morning, and I was busy starting my week by organizing my schedule and some of my projects.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came to my door, looked in, and said, "Are you ready for the week?"

I don't recall her ever asking me that question, but I looked at her and said, "Well, I'm trying to work through my to-do list for the week."

"You do know what week it is," she said with a friendly smirk.

I was a little confused because I didn't know what she was getting after. As far as I'm concerned, a week is a week.

Then she responded, "This week is Thanksgiving. Are you ready for our family Thanksgiving dinner?"

It caught me slightly surprised, and I just looked at her and said, "Oh, my. I completely forgot that this was Thanksgiving week."

She laughed and walked out of my office and back to the kitchen, where she prepared for the family's Thanksgiving dinner.

I sat back in my chair and thought about this briefly. I could not believe that it was Thanksgiving again. Didn't we celebrate it last year? I thought for a moment and remembered that we did, and we had a wonderful time as we gathered around the family table.

Now, another Thanksgiving. We have Abraham Lincoln to thank for this national holiday, and I'm grateful. I have no problem with having such a holiday in the kind of world that we live in today. It is very hard to find anybody who is thankful for anything.

As I was thinking about it, I realized that time goes quickly. We celebrated Thanksgiving only 52 weeks ago. I am trying to remember those days, and I would have to check my calendar to see what happened during those days. But time flies by.

It's not so much that time flies by as forgetting what's happening.

I can get up at the beginning of the week and start on Monday, and before I know it, it's Friday, and I've got to close shop. I guess I need to blame my age for that.

I remember that, as a teenager, time was so slow. I couldn't get it to speed up and get on the way. I was in 10th grade and couldn't wait to get to 12th grade in order to graduate. I'm unsure, but somebody snuck in two 11th grades without me knowing it.

Sitting in my chair, I look back and realize how far I have come. Thinking along this line, I remembered how a friend used to say, "If you could go back in time, where would you go?"

I often think about that. Every once in a while, I'm reminded of something that happened 50 years ago. I don't know why it popped into my mind at that time.

Watching something on TV will remind me of something that happened when I was young.

If I could see forward as clearly as I see backward, it would truly change the way I live. But it doesn't work that way.

I am ready for another turkey on the table this year. I don't have to look back and think about the turkey on the table last year because I can eat that one. The one I can eat is the one that's going to be on the table this coming Thursday.

Some of the best things about Thanksgiving for me are, of course, the turkey, but then there is the pumpkin pie. Whoever came up with that idea of a pumpkin pie, I would just like to shake their hand and thank them for all the good times I had on Thanksgiving with pumpkin pie.

One of the good things about Thanksgiving is that I can eat and get away with it. If I had one piece of pumpkin pie, I would say, "Could I have another piece of pumpkin pie?" And because it's a Thanksgiving dinner, nobody can say no, not even The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

When I asked that question, she looked at me with one of "her looks" and carefully shook her head in the negative position, but that's about all she could do. That's the one thing I love about Thanksgiving. I can get away with it.

I can't think of anything around the Thanksgiving table that I don't like. The food is magnificent. And the pies are just wonderful.

My goal around the table is to ensure that the pumpkin pie vanishes without The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage knowing it's happening.

While eating the first bite of my first pumpkin pie, I will lift my fork in the air and say, "I want to thank The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage for such a wonderful menu today." Everybody around the table will shout, "Yes." And that solves a lot of my difficulties on Thanksgiving. Pass on the pumpkin pie.

As I was thinking about Thanksgiving, I couldn't help but think of Colossians 3:17: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

A thankful heart is a heart that pleases God. I want to please God every day no matter what it costs me. The best way to thank God is to be thankful for all my family and friends. Some of those may not be here next Thanksgiving.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail [jamesnyder51@gmail.com](mailto:jamesnyder51@gmail.com), website [www.jamesnyderministries.com](http://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.

STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON WHY I WRITE



Why do I write? The answer is simple. For me there has always been something inside of me that wants to, needs to, come out. Every animal is filled with blood; but that blood only pours out in unusual situations that are rare and stressful. The other kinds of stuff that emerges such as spit, poop and pee are regularly expelled but less painfully or urgently.

My need to write is different, I think it is in my blood. When I was about six or seven my father bought a grocery store in Southside Chicago and named it Stuart Food Mart. My family, for reasons that were never discussed with me, had moved from a safe neighborhood in Chicago to Southside Chicago which was anything but safe. Up until that age my father, mother, sister, grandmother, and I had lived in another Chicago neighborhood where I think the people were pretty similar to us and I think I felt safe and comfortable. My only strong memory of those early times goes back to when I was 3 and a half. I spoke to my mother who was in the hospital and was told that she was bringing home a new playmate for me. Although it has been talked about for years, I think I actually remember my grandmother opening the door and seeing my father standing next to my mother who was carrying something. I waited at the door with a small baseball bat ready to play with my new friend, but what was that thing my mother was carrying? It was definitely not a new friend, it was a baby, my baby sister! Some playmate! I think I have retained my disappointment for the next 76 years and perhaps that is an adequate explanation for the troubled relationship I continue to have with my sister who is still not much of a playmate. But we do regularly write (text) to one another. So, I guess things were not exactly as I wanted them to be even before we moved to the Southside. You probably know that the Southside had lots of poor people, many Black people, and many gangs. Stuart Food Mart was on Blackstone Avenue the eponymous (unlike my father I did go to School and gained a few words) locale of the Blackstone Rangers, an infamous well known gang of the era. My father was an immigrant, born in the Ukraine, who had never gone to any School. It is my understanding that Jews in the Ukraine were not allowed to attend School, but I recall my father, who died in 1978, telling me that he would sneak next to the windows of the school and listen to the teachers teaching. Unfortunately, the teaching was in Russian, and his only language was Yiddish. After coming to America, he did not attend School but tried one business after another. Despite his lack of education, my father in Chicago wrote for the Yiddish papers and occasionally ghost-wrote for the Chicago Tribune. I have on my bedroom wall a photo of an article he wrote while in the Civilian Conservation Corps. The article dated 1933 thanks President Roosevelt for finding a place for him away from the broiling streets of Chicago where he had stood unemployed and lost. Nevertheless, being a writer was in his blood and the article appeared in a rural Wisconsin newspaper where he worked clearing trees. About twenty years ago I received a phone call from someone who identified himself as the delivery boy at Stuart Food Mart. He asked to speak with my father. I explained that my father had died years ago. He then asked if I was the kid who hung around the store. I said that must have been me and he said "Do you remember writing stories when you were about seven or eight which you read to me?" Thart kid was and still is 80 year-old me. I am still writing, and I hope to make a connection with you and that together we can help to create a better world. The world needs us, and I need to keep writing.

If we have connected, please email me at stuarttolchin@gmail.com

HOWARD HAYS As I See It



"The real art of conducting consists in transitions." - Gustav Mahler

How those transitions turn out depends on who's holding the baton. President Biden and Donald Trump are both conducting their own ensembles heading towards transition, with approaches that couldn't be more different. For President Biden, it's making sure accomplishments of the Biden-Harris Administration aren't reversed, that funds already appropriated aren't clawed-back or spent on something else (more tax cuts for billionaires?) under Trump. There's a push in whatever time remaining to get contracts signed and already-funded projects underway. For the CHIPS and Science Act, that's \$39 billion in incentives for semiconductor manufacturing, bringing 115,000 jobs as a start. House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) made clear his intent to work with a future President Trump to repeal it - or whatever's left to repeal. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) responded, "Some people may hear CHIPS Act, or some kind of vague policy, but people in Buffalo, people in upstate New York, people in Michigan, they hear about the plant they work at". President Biden is working to get whatever's left of those funds out the door while he can. Another legacy for which he's determined not to leave funds unspent is the Inflation Reduction Act; \$391 billion invested in clean energy (while bringing \$238 billion net reduction in deficits over a decade). With an incoming administration determined to reverse whatever gains in combatting climate change, Biden is committed to protecting as many of these gains as he can. These Acts together with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law have already led to \$1 trillion in private sector investment along with 1.6 million new jobs in construction and manufacturing. According to the White House, "These investments in industries of the future are ensuring the future is made in America, by American workers." President Biden is working to limit the ability of any future administration to change that. There's fast-tracking the remaining unspent \$7 billion in military aid to Ukraine. President Biden is determined this gets to Kiev before the inauguration of Trump, who'd called supporters of Ukraine and our NATO alliance "suckers". He's also working to get as many judicial nominees confirmed in the last weeks of his administration as they did in the last weeks of Trump's. Under the baton of Donald Trump, his increasingly discordant ensemble heads towards transition choosing to ignore what was orchestrated under the Presidential Transitions Act of 1963, which has been followed by every incoming administration - until now. This Act sets the process for members of the incoming administration meeting with their counterparts in the outgoing one, receiving briefings to ensure a smooth transition. The FBI conducts background checks on those needing security clearances. It's a process usually begun weeks before the election. Now, just weeks before the inauguration, it's finally gotten underway - though in a very truncated form. The FBI hadn't even received the names of those who'd need access to classified information. The reason is that, ignoring requirements under the Transitions Act, the incoming team refused to sign the agreement on ethical concerns. Valerie Smith Boyd, director of the Center for Presidential Transition, explained to Politico: "The main thing that it says is that the members of the transition team will be bound by an ethics agreement that ensures that they're using information appropriately, that they limit the use of lobbyists and foreign agents, and that individuals who leave the transition and go back to the private sector won't use this information for personal gain." It's an agreement the Trump team refuses to make. They settled for a pared-down version, allowing for some limited exchanges between incoming and outgoing personnel. But as for FBI background checks, they'll wait until Trump himself controls the FBI. For security clearances, Trump will simply hand them out once he takes office. Nor will they sign the agreement allowing access to federal funding for the transition in exchange for full disclosures. As to who'll be paying their bills for the transition instead, they figure that Americans won't care. Richard Painter, chief ethics lawyer under George W. Bush, says by not signing "They can do anything they want. They can have any conflicts of interest they want. They could be taking money from foreign governments for all we know". Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) warns that because of this refusal to participate in a customary transition, Trump is "undermining his own ability to effectively manage national security emergencies, urgent public health and safety threats, and corruption risks". Another part of the Trump team's approach to transition is telling us what to expect immediately afterwards - like imposing tariffs on our two largest trading partners, Canada and Mexico. This would be in direct violation of accords signed just a few years ago - under former President Donald Trump. And then, presumably topping their priorities list, committing whatever Justice Department resources necessary to determine once and for all whether there really was no election fraud, whether Joe Biden really did win that election in 2020. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people." According to Mahler, successful transitions in a symphony depend on the conductor. According to Dr. King, when those transitions involve our country, we're all holding the baton.

RICH JOHNSON NOW THAT'S RICH IMPORTANT STUFF HISTORY BOOKS WON'T



"r/HistoryMemes subreddit" is a loose organization of over 3.6 million history experts who share hilarious takes on our past. (You can tell by their name they are not an organization of English teachers.) Let's exploit, err, expose, err, enjoy their wonderful comments on world history taking a peek at select contributions.

First, a quick description of literature from different cultural perspectives: English literature: "I will die for honor." French literature: "I will die for love." American literature: "I will die for freedom." Russian literature: "I will die."

Napoleon Bonaparte wasn't all that short. At 5'7 he was a typical height for the eighteenth century Frenchman. History considered him short because he surrounded himself with taller, more menacing guards. C'est la vie! It might have been when step ladders were invented... Oh, Emperor pardon me. I meant to say "escabeau".

Gertrude Ederle wanted to swim across the English Channel. She hired a male swimmer to train her. His experience? He had tried and failed to swim the Channel 22 times. This "knucklehead of a trainer" told her it was "too much for a woman swimmer". Hah! In 1926, Gertrude swam across the Channel beating the record of five men before her by two hours.

From the religion section, during the thirteenth century, Pope Gregory IX declared war on cats. His eminence said felines were connected to evil powers, witches and demons. I have two, Gizmo and Mabel. Pope Gregory was right. They are my masters.

In the ancient Persian Empire, men were required to debate ideas twice, once sober and once drunk. The idea had to sound good in both states of consciousness to be considered a good idea. It's time for Renaissance classes at the 'Buc'!

In 1518, a bizarre phenomenon dubbed the "Dancing Plague" gripped the streets of Strasbourg, Germany. "Frau Troffea" suddenly took to dancing for no apparent reason. Within weeks, dozens more joined her frenzy, unable to stop to the point of exhaustion. Eventually the phenomenon faded out. And it didn't resurface until January of 1973 when the song "Love Train" hit the charts by the O'Jays. What was called the "Dancing Plague" in the 1500's was now called "Disco" and lasted for 5 or 6 years, starting to die out when a group called "The Bee-Gees" invaded the genre.

Speaking of ancient empires, Caligula, the Roman Emperor, waged war against the mythical God Poseidon. How did he do it? He led 10,000 soldiers to the sea and ordered them to stab it with spears. He then claimed victory.

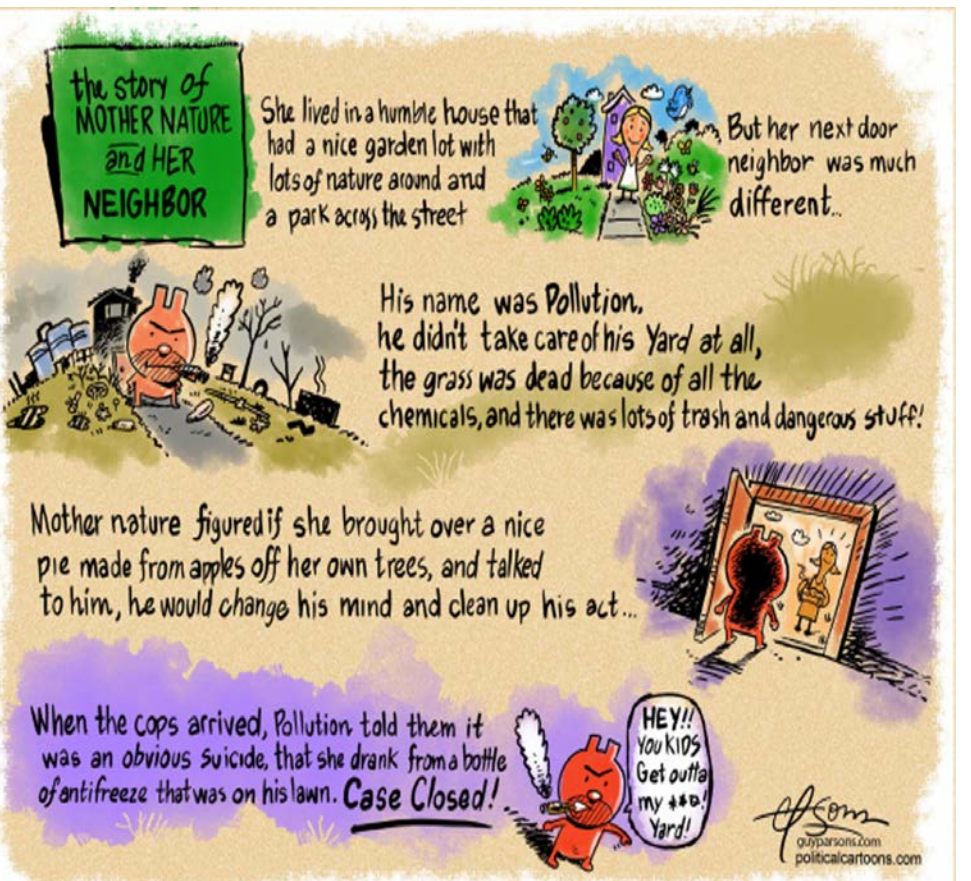
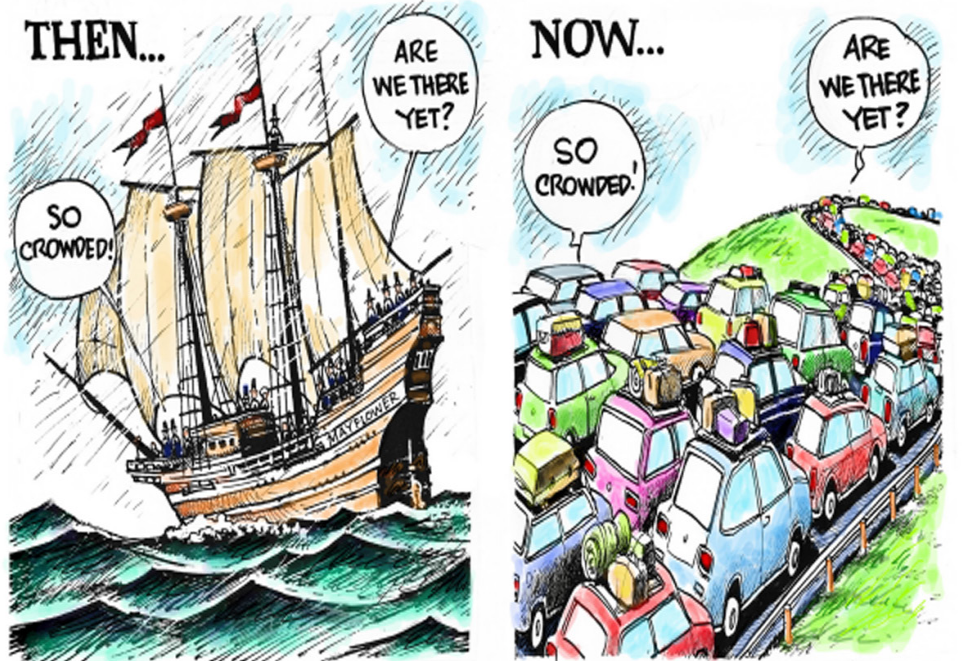
- Parts missing from actor Christopher Lee's resume:
• He witnessed the last public execution in France using a guillotine.
• He almost married Swedish royalty, was even given permission by the King of Sweden.
• The inspiration for James Bond, which was written by his stepcousin Ian Fleming.
• The only member of the "Lord of the Rings" cast to meet Tolkien.
• And finally, Sir Christopher became the second oldest living performer to make the Billboard Hot 100 with his performance of the song "Jingle Hell". He was 91...and a half.

Speaking of writers, the writer of the classic "Frankenstein" was a teenager...and a girl at that. Mary Shelley was 19 years old and wrote it in 1816 while on an estate close to Lake Geneva.

So, one day Julius Caesar gets kidnapped by pirates (True story). Pirates, of course, demand a ransom. Caesar, in his arrogance, demanded the ransom amount be higher because he was insulted by how low it was. In the end, Caesar gets free, assembles an army, catches the pirates and has them crucified. End of story. One question: How does an army catch pirates?

I hope you had a splendid Thanksgiving. And if you ate yourself into a near coma, know that this too will soon pass.

THANKSGIVING





**FINANCE DIRECTOR**  
(continued from page 1)



Mr. Anthony Rainey Photo courtesy City of Sierra Madre

operational needs, while fostering public trust through clear communication and stakeholder engagement

Rainey has held key leadership roles in Federal, District of Columbia, and California municipal governments, for cities such as Santa Paula, Maywood, Bell Gardens, and Rialto. He has successfully overseen complex financial operations, including the development and management of operating budgets, capital improvement programs, and five-year financial forecasts. His expertise extends to managing revenues, expenditures, fund balances, and guiding public agencies through audit readiness and compliance.

Mayor Kelly Kriebs stated, "We are fortunate to add to our team such a skilled and experienced Finance Director at this crucial time. I look forward to working with Director Rainey to put the City on a path to fiscal sustainability. I also want to thank the City's Budget Manager Satnam Rait for filling the role of Acting Finance Director during the recruitment."

He describes himself as a lifelong learner. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy of Industrial Societies from the UC Berkeley; a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington and a Master of Science in Information Systems Management from Seattle Pacific University. His academic background complements his practical expertise, enabling him to integrate innovative solutions and data-driven insights into the city's financial strategies.

Mr. Rainey expressed that he is dedicated to ensuring financial transparency, accountability, and sustainability. He is committed to advancing the city's financial stability, enhancing service delivery, and ensuring a resilient and vibrant future for Sierra Madre's residents and businesses.

**AD HOC COMMITTEE**  
(continued from page 1)

According to his announcement, the first objective of this committee will be to establish a shared understanding of the city's current financial landscape, including expenditures and revenues across all departments. Building on this foundation, the committee will explore innovative funding strategies to address our immediate and long-term financial needs while aligning them with our community's character and values.

Key objectives for the Ad Hoc Revenue Committee include:

- Conduct a thorough assessment of the city's budget to understand expenditures and revenues across all departments.
  - Identify viable revenue sources to support critical city services.
  - Develop strategic recommendations for the City Council that outline sustainable funding solutions to address current needs and future financial challenges.
- This committee will consist of council members, key city staff, and community members with relevant expertise. I am confident that the members will provide valuable insights to strengthen Sierra Madre's financial foundation. Your participation and expertise in this process will be invaluable to the success of this initiative.

If you are interested in serving on this committee or have recommendations for individuals with relevant expertise, please contact Roberta Malfitano at (626)355-7135 by December 9, 2024.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
BURBANK COURTHOUSE  
300 East Olive  
Burbank, Ca. 91502

**SUMMONS**

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

TATIANA VINOKUROVA aka TATIANA VLADIMORVNA VINOKUROVA, an individual; and Does 1-10.

CASE NUMBER: 24BBCV00489

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below:

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al de mandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que

procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

CASE NUMBER:  
(Número del Caso):  
24BBCV00489

The name and address of the court is:  
(El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
BURBANK COURTHOUSE  
300 East Olive  
BURBANK, CA. 91502

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:  
(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

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**FITNESS FOR LIFE**



Michele Silence, M.A. is a 37-year certified fitness professional who offers semi-private/virtual fitness classes. Contact Michele at michele@kid-fit.com. Visit her Facebook page at: michelesfitness. Visit her Facebook page at: michelesfitness.

**LYMPHATIC CARE MATTERS**

When people think about their health, they often focus on their heart, lungs, or brain. However, there's a lesser-known system quietly working behind the scenes to keep your body functioning at its best—the lymphatic system. This network of vessels, tissues, and organs is essential for maintaining your immune system, removing waste, and keeping your body's fluids in balance.

At its core, the lymphatic system acts as the body's drainage system, carrying lymph—a clear fluid rich in white blood cells—throughout the body. This fluid collects waste, toxins, and harmful invaders like bacteria and viruses, transporting them to lymph nodes. Found in areas like the neck, armpits, and groin, lymph nodes filter these harmful substances and help your immune system eliminate them. Think of your lymphatic system as a sanitation crew that not only cleans up but also protects you from potential threats.

Disorders of the lymphatic system, such as lymphedema, aren't always caused by lifestyle or injury. In some cases,

they have a hereditary component. If you've ever noticed an older relative with persistently swollen ankles, you've seen the effects of a possible lymphatic disorder. Imagine an elderly woman decades ago, sitting quietly with her feet slightly swollen and tucked into sturdy black shoes. For many, such swelling results from inherited traits that affect the lymphatic system's ability to drain fluid efficiently.

Hereditary lymphedema occurs when structural abnormalities in lymphatic vessels run in families. Swelling often begins in the legs or feet and may remain unnoticed until triggered by events like surgery, pregnancy, or even an insect bite. Knowing your family's health history can offer valuable clues. If lymphedema runs in your family, pay close attention to swelling or discomfort in the limbs. Seek medical advice early to make a significant difference. Early treatment can prevent complications such as cellulitis, fibrosis, pain, reduced mobility, fungal infections, and even cancer.

The lymphatic system doesn't just prevent swelling; it's also vital for immune health. By circulating white blood cells and delivering essential nutrients, it supports the body's defense against illness. The system can be compromised by hereditary issues, illness, or lifestyle factors. At that point its protective role diminishes.

Physical activity is one of the best ways to support your lymphatic system. Unlike the circulatory system, which has the heart to pump blood, the lymphatic system relies on muscle movement to push lymph fluid through the body. Gentle activities like walking, swimming, or yoga stimulate lymph flow and help it move efficiently. Deep breathing exercises are particularly effective, as they create chest pressure that aids lymph movement. Even small daily actions, such as stretching or climbing stairs, can positively impact your lymphatic health. This is especially important during the holidays, when indulgent meals, travel, and stress can disrupt healthy routines and impact your immune system.

Hydration also plays a vital role. Without enough water, lymph fluid can stagnate, increasing the risk of swelling. Aim for at least eight cups of water a day and include water-rich foods like cucumbers, watermelon, and leafy greens in your diet. Proper hydration not only supports lymphatic flow but also helps the body flush out toxins and maintain overall balance.

A healthy diet also plays a crucial role in supporting lymphatic health. Foods high in antioxidants, such as citrus fruits, berries, and leafy greens, reduce inflammation and keep the lymphatic system functioning optimally. Healthy fats from sources like avocados and walnuts can improve the system's efficiency, while fermented foods like yogurt or kimchi contain probiotics, which benefit the gut—closely linked to the lymphatic and immune systems.

Advancements in lymphatic medicine have brought hope to people with lymphatic disorders. Treatments such as manual lymphatic drainage (a specialized massage technique) stimulates lymph movement and reduces swelling. Compression garments help maintain fluid balance, particularly for individuals with chronic lymphedema. In severe cases, surgical procedures can reroute or repair damaged lymphatic vessels, providing long-term relief for those struggling with significant complications.

If you think you might have a lymphatic issue, it's crucial to seek a specialist who understands this system. A practitioner certified in lymphedema management or lymphatic medicine can provide targeted care and help you navigate treatment options. Look for someone with training in therapies like manual lymphatic drainage, as this technique requires specialized skills and should be performed by an expert. Asking for referrals from your doctor or reading patient reviews online can guide you to a qualified professional.

With growing awareness of lymphatic health, more resources and specialists are available to help you maintain balance and well-being. Prioritizing your lymphatic system is an investment in your long-term health, enhancing your body's ability to stay strong, resilient, and energized.

**HUDDLE UP**



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR! FOOTBALL SEASON IS HERE AND HARVEY WILL BE ON HIATUS FOR THIS COLUMN FOR A WHILE. FOLLOW HIM ON SUNDAYS ON AM830

**Coach Harvey Hyde's College Football Review & Preview**



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9/1 - 10am to 12:00noon	10/20 - 10am to 11am	12/22 - 10am to 12:00noon
9/8 - 10am to 11am	10/27 - 10am to 11am	12/29 - Raiders Football
9/15 - Raiders Football	11/3 - Raiders Football	1/5/25 - 10am to 11am
9/22 - Angels Baseball	11/10 - 10am to 12:00noon	1/12/25 - 10am to 11am
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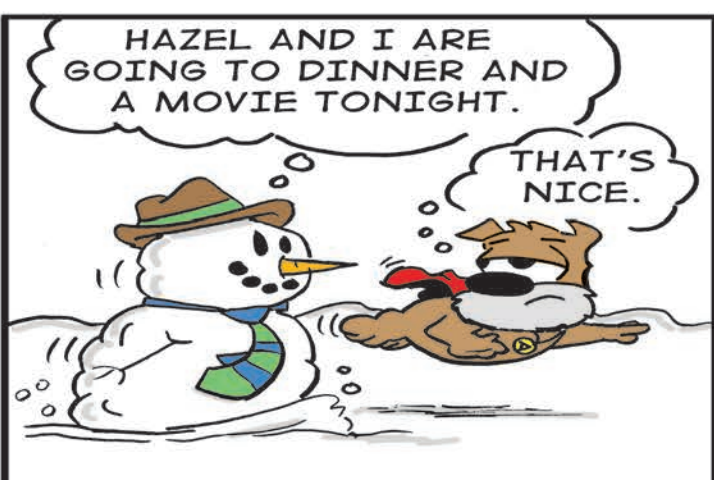
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by Tim Jones








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## December Events Around Town!



**One Time Events**

**December 7**  
**Prospect Park Walking Tour** - Tour Pasadena's historically and architecturally significant neighborhoods. 9:30 – 12:00 pm

**December 7**  
**Arcadia Snow Festival at The Arcadia Community Center** – Kids can enjoy snow sledding, holiday crafts, face painting, games and more. 9:00 – 2:00 pm

**December 8**  
**Happy Holidays: A Musical Concert to Benefit the Arboretum Library** - Enjoy classic holiday songs in Ayres Hall at 2:00 pm

**December 8**  
**Castle Green Holiday Tour** - Fun self-guided tour of the historic Castle Green, with live music, snacks and more. 11:00 - 3:00 pm

**December 13**  
**NUTCRACKER! Magical Christmas Ballet** - With jaw-dropping acrobatics, stunning sets and costumes. Pasadena Civic Auditorium. 4 & 8 pm

**December 14**  
**Flower Arranging: Holiday Door Swag at The Huntington** - Join Flower Duet in this hands-on workshop and create a décor piece with evergreens, flowers, and more. Adults only. 10 – 12 pm & 1 pm – 3 pm

**December 15**  
**Messiah Sing-Along at Lake Avenue Church** - Pasadena's favorite Sing-Along Messiah returns! This sing-along is led by a 100-voice choir and orchestra. 4- 5:30 pm

**December 21**  
**Flower Arranging: Winter Centerpieces at The Huntington** - Learn to make a festive centerpiece with evergreens, flowers, magnolia leaves and pinecones. Adults only. 10 – 12 pm & 1 pm – 3 pm

**December 28**  
**Architectural Legacy Tours** - Two of Pasadena Heritage's popular tours, the Churches of Pasadena & the Hillcrest Neighborhood 10 & 1 pm

**December 29**  
**Equestfest at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center** - Watch the Rose Parade's beautiful horses and talented riders perform. 12 – 2 pm

**Ongoing Events**

**November 30 – December 24**  
**A Christmas Carol at A Noise Within** - This timeless story of Ebenezer Scrooge is filled with music and merriment.

**Now – January 5**  
**Enchanted Forest of Light at Descanso Gardens** - Enjoy a one-mile walk through a shimmering wonderland featuring fresh delights.

**Now – December 31**  
**Winter Frolic at Kidspace Museum** - Kids activities include sock skating, dressing a snowman, building an ice fort, and more.

**December 6 – 8**  
**Los Angeles Ballet Presents The Nutcracker at Pasadena Civic Auditorium** - Set to Tchaikovsky's iconic score, this production stays true to the traditional tale set in 1912 LA.

**December 7, 8**  
**57th Annual Holiday Look In Home Tour** - Tour four beautiful homes and gardens with live holiday music and a boutique. 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

**December 7, 8, 14, 15**  
**Old Fashioned Holiday: A Victorian Celebration at the Queen Anne Cottage** - Victorian-era style holiday with carolers, dancers, holiday market and a visit from Santa Claus. Food trucks, a bar, and the Peacock Café. 10 – 3 pm

**December 13, 14**  
**Pasadena Symphony and Pops Holiday Candlelight Concert** - Savor holiday choruses in Pasadena's exquisite All Saints Church.

**December 13, 14, 15, 21, 22**  
**Holly Dolly Christmas** - Musical tribute to Dolly Parton's life and career including beloved songs and holiday favorites.

**December 26, 27, 28, January 2**  
**Rose Bowl Stadium Holiday Tours** - Walk in the footsteps of legends and go behind the scenes of "America's Stadium". 10 am & 12:30 pm

**December 28 – 31**  
**Float Viewing** - Experience the magic of creating the Rose Parade floats before Parade Day

**December 29, 30**  
**Bandfest at PCC's Robinson Stadium** - Watch Rose Parade bands perform their stunning award-winning field shows.



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