

# Sierra Madre Resident In Mumbai

## Nancy Walsh, Senior Commission Chair Spent 36 Hours In Her Hotel Room During Seige

Sierra Madre resident, Nancy Walsh, surprised many of her friends and acquaintences when they saw ABC News on Friday evening, interviewing her about the seige in Mumbai. Walsh, known for her adventurous spirit, was as calm and collected as ever when she told of surviving 36 hours in her hotel room at the Oberi Trident in Mumbai, (formerly Bombay), India. “We felt very secure”, said Walsh. “I’ve been eating snacks out of the mini bar.” During the brief interview in which she appeared to be heading for the airport, she noted that being from Los Angeles [county] helped her not to be afraid. “I live in Los Angeles, for God’s sake”, she said with a big smile on her face.

Walsh was in Mumbai on a visit

with several friends according to sources in town. She was originally scheduled to return to Sierra Madre on Sunday. It was not known at press time whether or not she was able to take an earlier flight home.

The violence broke out earlier in the week when militant terrorists took over the Railway Station and two 5 star hotels, (The Ritz-Carlton and the Oberi). At press time, at least 5 Americans were among the dead.

Walsh is well known in Sierra Madre for being one of the “Tap Chicks”, a tap dancing troupe based in Pasadena.

She was CEO of LA County Coastal Outpatient Clinics. She has two daughters Jennifer & Melissa, two-son’s in law and three granddaughters. She is Chair of



File Photo /MVO

Sierra Madre Senior Community Commission, on the board of Egypt Exploration Org. of SO CA., supports archeological dig in the Sudan, collects Mexican folk art, travels, sings, and flies a magic carpet with her grandchildren.

# The Princesses of Sierra Madre



The Sierra Madre Rose Float Association has chosen its Princesses for the 2009 parade. Miss Laurel Cipolla and Miss Gail Gutierrez have been selected to reign over this year’s float. ‘Bollywood Dreams’ is the name of the float.

# Profiles: The Strength & Courage Of Chris Bertrand

By Susan Henderson

*Profiles* is a new feature in the MountainViews-Observer that will share with readers the extraordinary lives and contributions of our neighbors. Our very first article is about Chris Bertrand who is using a personal tragedy as a catalyst to help effectuate change.

When you ask people what single institution has had the most impact on their lives, the church is generally the answer. It doesn’t matter what denomination, the church is a symbol of faith, strength, integrity and honor. Its leaders hold themselves out before the world as examples of how to be good citizens and better human beings. And for most people, this stage is set when they are young. We learn to trust the church in its entirety, never questioning its authority.

What happens then, when that world crashes down upon you? When you discover that as a child you were abused and manipulated by the very people you trusted and that as an adult when you cried out for help, the church tried its very best to drown out the sound of your pain? Do you walk away from your faith and abandon all religious beliefs, or do you get up and get busy?

Well, for Chris Bertrand, a Sierra Madre resident who refuses to give up, getting busy is the right answer.

Bertrand, who many of you may know as a columnist in this publication, is much more than the external persona that you see around town. Wife of Dick Bertrand and mother of two adult sons, Eric and Scott, Chris is a woman who operates despite enormous pain and suffering. Instead of languishing on her misfortune, she uses it as a catalyst for change.

## Abuse Of Power

From the mid to late 60’s, Bertrand, her sister Karen and friend Patricia, studied the piano under the tutelage of Sister Benen Kent, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis in Rochester, Minnesota. Sister Kent was a respected member of the community, became a close family friend, and, as uncovered later, was a

mentally ill child abuser. For several years, Kent took advantage of the girls and their parents by regularly abusing the three unsuspecting young women entrusted to her care. Her actions permanently scarred these women in various ways. For Chris Bertrand, who was able to repress the memories for almost 40 years, the knowledge was devastating. When the memories finally surfaced and she was able to regroup she knew, “I had to do something.”



I to r: Chris, her sister Karen, Sister Benen Kent and Patricia - 1967 Photo Courtesy C. Bertrand

Gathering strength from her husband, sons, family and friends, Chris, along with her Karen and Patricia decided to take the matter back to the source. They decided to bring the abuse to the attention of the Order. “I wanted a face to face meeting with this woman who seemed to me [as a little girl] to be ten feet tall. I wanted to see this 5’ woman as a little old lady who could no longer hurt me. And then I

wanted the church to make certain that it never happened to any child again.”

That face to face meeting never took place. When the women went to the order in 2002, they met the proverbial brick wall of silence and denial. The Order would not let them speak with

Kent, who was still living at the time. Kent said she did not remember the abuse but did remember Chris as a gifted piano student. The Church refused to get involved. And the more they tried to

bring some closure to the matter by confronting their abuser, the more obstacles they faced. Chris called the church’s efforts to quash the entire matter, “the second instance of abuse”.

To make matters worse, as they began to research the background of Kent, they discovered that the Order and the Church knew (according to court records) that she had a history of mental illness and behavioral

# RAIN TESTS CITY’S EMERGENCY SERVICES

The City of Sierra Madre used their Mud Alert Flag system for the first time earlier this week when 1.71” of rain fell Tuesday and Wednesday. The initial alert was a Green Flag and it was later elevated to a Yellow Flag during the periods of heaviest rainfall. i

The Sierra Madre Public Works Department and the Sierra Madre Police Department helped residents prepare with sand bags and k-rails in designated areas. No significant incidents were reported however, there were power outages and cable outages that impaired some residents ability to access emergency information on Cable Channel 3 or the internet.

With the rainy season upon us, all homeowners are encouraged to take proactive steps to protect their homes. Sand and bags will be available at the Public Works Yard (621 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.) and the Fire Station (232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.). Additional information on how to protect your home can be found on the City’s website, [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com). Mud incident updates can be found at [www.sierramadrepio.blogspot.com](http://www.sierramadrepio.blogspot.com).

## The Sierra Madre Mud Alert System:

A series of three different colored flags will be flown at four different locations in the City (City Hall, Search and Rescue, Mountain Trail and Churchill Road, and Mary’s Market). When possible, flags will be displayed indicating one of three stages of emergency. Be sure to check the website, email alerts, SMTV3 or simply call City Hall or the Police Department to confirm the current stage of emergency and please understand the City may not always have the ability to change these flags.

**Stage One: GREEN FLAG** - Activated under a prediction of 80% - 100% chance of precipitation. Affected residents should get “READY” for potential evacuation. This includes keeping a close watch on weather forecasts.

**Stage Two: YELLOW FLAG** - Activated with an LA County Phase 1 mudflow forecast. This is described as small, isolated debris and mudflows possible at specific locations. Affected residents should get “SET” to leave their homes and may choose to voluntarily evacuate. Please note that all vehicles must be off the streets in potential mudflow areas during Yellow Flag alerts.

**Stage Three: RED FLAG** - Activated with an LA County Phase 2 or 3 forecast. Phase 2 includes moderate debris and mudflows at more widespread locations. Phase 3 - the potential exists for significant debris and mudflows to be widespread. Affected residents should “GO”, meaning they should immediately evacuate, and vehicles should not be parked on the streets.

A yellow or red flag may also trigger vehicles being towed from designated streets at the owners’ expense. The affected streets are: Mount Wilson Trail, Churchill Rd., Skyland Dr., Fern Glen, Fern Dr., Idlehour Ln., Canyon Crest Dr., Orange Dr., Woodland Dr., Brookside Lane, Sunnyside Lane, Yucca Trail, and Holly Trail. The City is working to have these vehicles towed to local lots, please look to future mud newsletters for further details.

The Red Flag “GO” will trigger Information Check-in Centers to be opened at both Sierra Madre Public School Campuses. (160 N. Canon Ave. & 141 W. Highland Ave.) If you evacuate, please notify the Check-In Center so that we know you are safely out and have contact information to ensure you have timely notice of when it is safe to go back into your home. Additional information on Evacuation Shelters and pet lodging will be available at these locations. When evacuating, please plan to be as self-sufficient as possible with important paperwork, medications, and clothing for at least seven days.

## Inside The MountainViews-Observer This Week

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Chris at home in Sierra Madre. Unknown to her parents, her early piano lessons were given by a child molester, Sister Benen Kent Photo By Dick Bertrand

problems and, as was the case of so many other abusers, she was simply transferred whenever trouble arose.

## Getting Their Attention

Finally, after all else failed, the women filed suit against the Order to get their attention. It did. Recently, the Order reached a settlement with two of the three victims (Karen, who remembered the abuse much earlier but took no action, had her claim dismissed due to the expiration of the statute of limitations.) “But it wasn’t about the money. The settlement was about getting their attention and pushing them into action”, says Chris. One of the conditions of the settlement was a healing mass that took place at the Order’s headquarters in Rochester. Another aspect of the settlement was for the Order (which is independent of the

church), to adopt the new policies of the U. S. Bishops in terms of how to deal with child abusers and measures to protect children from such actions. To date, they have not.

The lawsuit was not the end of the road for Chris. “It’s not over for me. We want to change the church from the inside. We want to protect children in the future”.

Despite all of this, Chris has remained a devout Catholic. Right after she remembered the abuse however, she “couldn’t open my mouth. I didn’t want to call attention to myself”. And, of course, when the lawsuit was filed, reactions were mixed. At the time they lived in Northern California. Once when Dick asked the parish priest why he had refused to return their calls. They were told, “I can’t talk about it.” As fate would have it, however, Dick was (cont. page 4)





# LOOK WHAT THE SIERRA MADRE MERCHANTS HAVE TO OFFER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON:

## ARNOLD'S FRONTIER HARDWARE

Specialty Gift Items  
Christmas Lighting & Decorations  
Open Early Friday @ 7 a.m.  
Storewide Sale Prices  
Free Wrapping Of Gifts\*

## ATTITUDE!

Just In Time For The Holidays -Attitude! Is Brimming  
with the latest in Today's Looks—Sophisticated Style  
One Of A Kind Handbags  
The Perfect Gift for that someone special!

## BEST BUY DRUGS

Sierra Madre T-Shirts, Bears, Hats,  
Sweatshirts  
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Vitamins & Nutritional Needs  
Friendly Prescription Service

## B.LA

Unique Gifts  
Anti-Body Lotion  
Pacifica Candles & Lotions  
Miso Pretty  
Gifts and Stationary

## EASTWICKE VILLAGE

Stone Art, Trapp Private Garden Candles, Ibis &  
Orchid, Wreaths, Tree Free Cards & Gift Bags, Jew-  
elry, Scarves, Capes & More!

## HARLEQUIN GALLERY

Master European Craftsmanship  
Restoration and Cleaning of All Art  
Repair and Restoration of Ceramics, Porcelain,  
Pottery and Paper  
Custom Picture Framing

## IRIS INTRIGUE

Peggy Kau Glass  
Jim Shore  
Kidorable  
Fres Produce & Jams Clothing  
Local Artisan glass, jewelry, scarves and cards

## LA BELLA ROUGE

JAG Jeans  
Lucky Brand Clothing & Accessories  
Fun Jewelry By Local Artists

## LEONORA MOSS

Custom Floral Design  
Flax Clothing  
2009 Sonny Salsbury Sierra Madre Calendar  
Made In America—Fair Trade  
"Green" Gifts

## PROVISIONS

Sumptuous Sleepwear and Loungewear  
Hand knit Cotton & Cashmere Sweaters  
Extensive offering of hostess and teacher gifts

## SAVOR THE FLAVOR

Stonewall Kitchens  
Tea Forte \* Barefoot Contessa  
Robert Rothchild \* Paula Dean  
Millicents





## Weather Wise



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

**Mon:** Lt Rain Hi 75s Lows 50s  
**Tues:** Rain Hi 60s Lows 50s  
**Wed:** Lt Rain Hi 60s Lows 50s  
**Thur:** Pt Cldy Hi 60s Lows 50s  
**Fri:** Sunny Hi 80s Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

### FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY DECEMBER BEST USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will be hosting their Annual Best Used Book Sale Friday, December 5th, 3pm to 7pm and Saturday, December 6th, 10am to 2pm. The sale will be located at the Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd. The library phone number is (626) 355-7186.

If Christmas is on a slightly tighter budget this year, the Library Best Used Book Sale will be the perfect stop for excellent gifts including for children – “The Encyclopedia of Horses and Ponies”, “The Random House Children’s Encyclopedia”, “Dear America” books and much more. There will be a special table of books on Interior Design and Architecture, new 2008 fiction titles, books on history and art, and a new selection of DVD’s. Outside tables will be filled with hard back fiction and non fiction books for \$1.00 each. Paperbacks for 25 cents and a new selection of children’s books.

The Friends operate the Best Used Book Store, offer reasonable prices, and all proceeds support the library programs.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November</h1>				<h2>Thursday 6</h2> <p>Mudslide Awareness Meeting 6:30PM            Sierra Madre School            Planning Commission Meeting            7:00 p.m. Council Chamber            Senior Community Commission            3:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber</p>		
				<p>General Election 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM            At Your Local Polling Place <b>4</b></p>		
<p>Community Services            Commission 6:00 p.m.            Council Chamber <b>10</b></p>	<p>Tree Advisory Commission            7:00 p.m.            Council Chamber <b>12</b></p>		<p>Planning Commission            7:00 p.m. Council Chamber <b>13</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>		
		<p>Library Board of Trustees            7:00 p.m. City Hall            Conference Room <b>19</b></p>				
<h1>Happy Thanksgiving!</h1>						

## Free Flu Shot Clinic

December 9, 2008 1:30 to 3:00 pm  
 Sierra Madre Recreation Center

611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre 91024

The Recreation Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., will be hosting the Public Health Dept. Flu Vaccination Clinic on Dec. 9th at 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. This is FREE and open to pregnant women, households with adults over 50 years of age, household contacts & caregivers of kids, and anyone with chronic health conditions. If you have questions can call the Hart Park House at: 355-7394.

## Give A Gift That Keeps Giving! Buy A SMRFA Coupon Book!

**Dine. Shop. Travel. Save!** This is really a perfect gift. The localized Entertainment Book is a paperback which contains coupons and discounts to local restaurants, entertainment venues, retail shops, rental cars, sporting events, and vacation deals and more. For a small contribution, you can get a book that will save you hundreds! Don't want the San Gabriel Valley Book? You can purchase one for almost any area. Call 626-355-7005 for more info.

## SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

### A CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET

Every Wednesday 3pm-7pm

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free. Free public on Mariposa.



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## Live @ 322 November

**Saturday 1** – Jazz Vocalist VR Smith  
**Wednesday 5** – Too Many Guitars with Tom McNamara & Van Webster  
**Thursday 6** – The Danny Guerrero Jazz Trio  
**Friday 7** – The Bobby Bradford Motet  
**Saturday 8** – Thelonious Dub  
**Wednesday 12** – Max Buda  
**Thursday 13** – Jazz Vocalist Susan Krebs  
**Friday 14** – Jack Sheldon  
**Saturday 15** – Jane Fuller  
**Wednesday 19** – The Bruce Lofgren Jazz Orchestra  
**Thursday 20** – The Roger Claims Jazz Combo  
**Friday 21** – The Donovan Muradain Quartet  
**Saturday 22** – The Michael McDaniel Joint  
**Wednesday 26** – The Aluminum Marshmallow & the Age of Aquarius Horns  
**Friday 28** – Swing Dancing with Flat Top Tom & the Jump Cats  
**Saturday 29** – Blues!! Thee Superstitions  
*Opera to Broadway with Danny Guerrero & the Café322 Singers – Every Sunday in November*

## Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce presents

## Dickens' Village Saturday, November 29, 2008

4 p.m. – 9 p.m.

- Sled rides on real snow
- Santa Claus
- Horse and Carriage rides
- Holiday Music and Carolers
- Family Art Project sponsored by Creative Art Studio
- Christmas Tree Raffle

Rain or Shine

For more information contact: Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce at:  
 www.sierramadrechamber.com or (626) 355-5111

## Create Your Own Baker's Dough Family Portrait



Create your family portrait in non-edible baker's dough as part of Sierra Madre's Dickens Village festivities. Families are welcome to come to Creative Arts Group, 108 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre, November 29, 4-8:00 pm, to work together on this free art project.



## Sierra Madre Woman's Club Wistaria Thrift Shop

## Holiday Sale

**Friday & Saturday  
December 5 and 6  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
 in the historic Essick House  
**550 West Sierra Madre Blvd.**

*We have all your Holiday needs:*  
*Clothing for the Entire Family*  
*Decorations • Ornaments • Candles*  
*Table Linen • Kitchen Necessities*  
*Toys • Stuffed Animals • Dolls • Games,*  
*Antiques • Jewelry • Collectibles*

**Proceeds support local charities**  
**For information call 626-355-7739**



## REMEMBRANCES

### Muriel Anne Call



Muriel Anne Call passed away on November 16, 2008 at Huntington Memorial Hospital, the very same hospital where she was born Muriel Anne Orozco on June 28, 1943. Throughout most of her childhood, she resided in Pasadena, California. Muriel attended Daniel Webster Elementary, John Marshall Junior High and was in the first class at the new Pasadena High School where she served as senior class secretary, graduating in 1961. She was chairman of her class reunion committee ever since.

On December 14th, 1962, she married Rowley Call. Together, they had 3 children, Jeffrey in 1963, Jason in 1966 and Adrienne in 1969. In September, 1973, she moved with her husband and children to Arcadia, California.

She immediately became involved in PTA at Baldwin Stocker Elementary School. In 1975, after 2 years of dedicated service, she was elected PTA President. She served as PTA President for two terms at Baldwin Stocker Elementary and two terms at First Avenue Junior High School. In addition to her service as PTA President, she also participated in many of Arcadia's scholastic boards, including Baldwin Stocker, First Avenue and Arcadia High. She was awarded the Honorary Service Award in 1984 and 1986 for her years of devoted service with the PTA. She was also heavily involved with PTA Congress,

PTA was not the only example of Muriel's devotion to community. She was also heavily involved with many of Arcadia's community programs, including Coordinating

Council, Summer Campership Program, HOY, Creative Arts Group of Sierra Madre, and the Methodist Hospital's Christmas Home Tour.

She had spent the last 15+ years working for the Arcadia Library in the children's department. There, she headed the fundraising for the Summer Reading program for the past few years, making it a huge success.

She also gave her time and support to her family, working with her children as a Cub Scout Den Mother, Brownie Leader, Girl Scout Leader and in the Order of Job's Daughters. She made it a point to never miss a recital, play or sporting event in which her children were participating. She continued this love and familial support all the way down to her 4 grandchildren, Griffin, Sam, Nolan and Sierra.

Suffice it to say, Muriel had a strong sense of love, devotion and duty to her family and community. She loved to work and to serve and took pride in the fact that, when given a task, it would be completed above any and all expectations.

In the end, the pain she endured due to her advanced Rheumatoid Arthritis became too much to bear. You would never know it though if you had the opportunity to meet her as she would always greet you with a warm smile and upbeat attitude. She will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know her.

Memorial Services will be held Saturday, December 6th, 11:00 am, at The Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 W. Duarte Rd, Arcadia.

### Joan Frances Sheets

Beloved sister of Elizabeth Converse and Frank Sheets; Aunt to Tom Sheets, Ted Sheets, Will Converse Richter and Joanclair Richter.

Passed away Sunday, November 16, at Arcadia Methodist Hospital after a long illness.

Joan had a career as an investment banker before opening Little Stuga, a favorite gift shop in Sierra Madre. For many years her shop was famous in the area for its unique and diverse gifts, clothing, and welcoming atmosphere for shoppers, families, children and pets.

An avid animal lover, Little Stuga had a resident dog, Lily, a Jack Russell Terrier, and her puppies. Little Stuga was a "must stop here" destination for local dogs and their owners.

She will be missed by her friends with many fond memories. Donations may be made in her name to an animal charity of your choice.

A memorial will be held in January 2009 around the time of her birthday.

### SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

#### A CERTIFIED FAMERS MARKET

Every Wednesday 3pm-7pm

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms. Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free.

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*Happy Holidays! from*

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*Staging*

*Accessories*

*Seasonal Decorations*

*Wallpaper*

*Flooring*

*Paint Consultation*

*Labor Resources Available*

### Arcadia

### MEDICARE PART “D” PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN UPDATES

Wednesday, December 3, 2008 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Dr., Arcadia CA 91007

The best way to make informed and safe health care decisions is to become familiar with the facts. On December 3, a representative from the Center of Health Care Rights will help you understand:

- When to enroll in a Plan “D” drug plan
- What benefits are covered by a Part “D” drug plan
- How your Medicare drug benefits work with Medi-cal or your retiree drug coverage

After the presentation a 101 computer assistance with a staff counselor on exploring throughout the Medicare Part “D” drug plan is available. This services is FREE, for reservations to attend please call (626) 574-5130

### CLASSICAL KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT DECEMBER 3

The Classical Kaleidoscope Concert series at the Arcadia Public Library continues with a concert on Wednesday, December 3 at 7 p.m. with a performance by the Nick Ariondo Chamber Trio. This will be an enchanting evening of passion and virtuosity featuring accordionist/composer Nick Ariondo, Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra violinist Paul Stein, and Pacific Symphony violist John Acevedo, performing works by Kreisler, Paganini, Ariondo, de Falla and Piazzolla.

Coffee, provided courtesy of Starbucks, and light refreshments will be served at a post concert reception at which concert goers will have a chance to talk to the musicians. Funded by the Arcadia Public Library Foundation, the concert is free and no reservations are necessary.

### Sierra Madre

### ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR Sunday, December 7, 2008 from 11 am – 1 pm

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church is holding an Alternative Christmas Gift Fair on Sunday, December 7, 2008 from 11 am – 1 pm following the 9:30 am worship service. All are welcome. Celebrate the start of the Christmas season by supporting local organizations such as San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, the Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches “Friends in Deed” programs, and Sierra Madre Search & Rescue; and global efforts such as Project Peanut Butter, Heifer International, and the “Give Ye Them to Eat” program in Mexico. Refreshments will be served. Fair Trade items such as coffee, tea and chocolate from Equal Exchange, skin care products from local company Anti-Body, and items from the Ten Thousand Villages Store in Pasadena will be available for purchase. The Church is located at 695 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. Call 626-355-0629 for more information.

### Civic Club Spreads Yuletide Cheer By Phyllis Chapman

Sierra Madre Civic Club, brimming with holiday spirit, keeps a busy calendar. Their beautification committee, headed by Joan Spears, has decorated the City Hall rotunda in its best yuletide style in time for the holidays. For over a decade the planting, care and decorating of the rotunda and the garden around the Hart Senior center has been an ongoing club project.

Creativity as a fund raiser has brought forth beautiful knitted and other hand made items by club members and chaired by Sue Quinn, for a boutique. The boutique participated in this year's City of Hope Jazz/Wine Walk with proceeds donated to the event's committee. Their Dickens Village proceeds are added to the club's philanthropy fund.

Members have made a generous donation to Foothill Unity Center which has taken care of families with a multitude of needs throughout the San Gabriel Valley for over 25 years. Also on their Christmas giving is Elizabeth House for single women who are pregnant, House of Hope, a long term transitional program for both couples and single women with children and Women's Room, offering a nurturing and safe environment for homeless women.

### Monrovia

### SAFYMCA to Provide Free Membership to Military Families

The Santa Anita Family YMCA (SAFYMCA) in Monrovia will provide military families with free access to youth development, family strengthening, and health and well-being programs as part of the new nationwide Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and Department of Defense (DoD) Outreach Initiative. Membership fees will be underwritten by the DoD and administered through Military OneSource, an information and referral service for military families. YMCA of the USA, the national resource office for America's 2,686 YMCAs, is helping to launch the initiative at participating YMCAs across the country.

“The YMCA has a long history of supporting military service members and their families – since the Civil War – so it was natural for us to join this initiative. We're happy to help meet the critical needs facing families of deployed military service members,” said SAFYMCA Chief Executive Officer, Damon Colaluca.

The ASYMCA-DoD Outreach Initiative responds to a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which requires the Secretary of Defense to develop a plan to support military family readiness and to ensure that military family readiness programs and activities are available to all deployed National Guard and Reserve families, and some active duty families in certain special categories.

Military families participating in the initiative are eligible for YMCA memberships based on participation requirements. Those eligible to participate in the new initiative include:

- All families of joint deployed National Guard and Reserves of all military branches;
- Families living in newly established Joint Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) bases;
- Active Duty Independent Duty station personnel and their families; and
- Relocated spouses and family members of deployed Active Duty personnel.

More information about the ASYMCA-DoD Outreach Initiative can be found by visiting [www.asymca.org](http://www.asymca.org) or [www.ymca.net](http://www.ymca.net).

The SAFYMCA is located at 501 S. Mountain Ave. For more information about programs and services visit the website at [www.safymca.org](http://www.safymca.org), or call (626) 359-9244

### Sierra Madre Monrovia Fire Departments Receive \$30,000 Each

By Bill Coburn

Sierra Madre Fire Chief Steve Heydorff was joined by a strike crew returning from five days fighting fires at Prada and Sylmar as a grant check for \$30,000 was given to the Sierra Madre Fire Department. Monrovia Fire Chief Chris Donovan accepted a similar check on behalf of the Monrovia Fire Department as several Monrovia firefighters, Monrovia Councilwoman Mary Ann Lutz and Mayor Rob Hammond looked on.

The grants were awarded by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and Swett and Crawford, along with their client CIBA Insurance. The grants are part of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company's Heritage Program, which in the last four years has distributed \$21 million to 1,100 fire stations, with more than a quart of that money going to California Departments. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman's Fund products can direct these grants to stations in their community, and it was CIBA Insurance that steered these funds back into the Monrovia and Sierra Madre Departments.

“This is a grant package that touches a number of different communities in the area, and is our way of giving back to the region in which we work,” said Amy Lochmoeller with CIBA Insurance Services. “Fire Equipment and gear can be very expensive, so we're proud to help these departments receive some much needed tools to better enable them to respond to emergencies and protect the communities they serve.”

#### BERTRAND (cont. from page 1)

transferred to Southern California and in their quest to find a new home, they attended a service at St. Rita's in Sierra Madre. Father Krekelberg spoke that morning and let the congregation know that he was about to speak on a subject that “may not be comfortable for you and me but the scandal of abuse is on everyone's mind....We should help the victims. We should address the perpetrators, put them through the legal system if necessary, and we need to clean our house, we need to move on, we need to rebuild.” When the Bertrand's heard those words, they knew exactly where they would settle down. They never told Father Krekelberg about the impact of his words on their lives until more than a year later.

Despite the abuse, humiliation, pain and suffering, Chris remains a devout Catholic committed to helping the church and community change. She works very hard in St. Rita's lending her professional talents - marketing and public relations - to help the church. She works with the Welcome Committee. She is a Eucharist administrator and she helps with the Centennial committee. Professionally she writes a regular homes and gardens column, business spotlight and feature articles for MountainViews-Observer and other local publications. Chris is an occasional writer and photographer

for non-profit organizations such as SGV Habitat for Humanity, Sierra Madre Rotary and La Canada's Towne Singers.

***“If we do this right, and we take this abuse scandal and come out of it the right way, we will come out of this as a stronger church.”***

It takes an extraordinary person to look beyond their own pain and suffering and try to make the world a better place for others. But that is exactly what Chris Bertrand is - extraordinary. She never

once lost faith in her church and will continue to work hard to change things for the better. “If we do this right, and we take this abuse scandal and come out of it the right way, we will come out of this as a stronger church.”

There is a bit of irony in the fact that their association at St. Rita's has strengthened Chris. St. Rita of Cascia is the Patron Saint of the Impossible, who was rejected twice from the entering the convent for political reasons. She is the protector of abuse victims, and desperate causes. And now, St. Rita has another budding rose in her garden of protectorates, Chris Bertrand.



Karen, Chris and Patricia at the Motherhouse in Rochester In 2008





# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## This Week in Pasadena

### *Pasadena City Hall Tree-Lighting Ceremony Will Include Live Music And Plenty Of Holiday Cheer*

Vice Mayor Steve Haderlein will lead the official tree-lighting ceremony and holiday celebration Thursday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the grand entrance of Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave.

The McKinley After-School Performing Choir under the direction of Robin Turrentine will sing songs of the season; refreshments will be served. Haderlein will turn on the lights of the 20-foot Washington Noble fir at 6 p.m. The lights, donated by Pasadena Water and Power, are energy-saving, light-emitting diodes (LED) that use about 90 percent less energy than incandescent tree lights and do not produce any heat. The tree will also be decorated with large, colorful ornaments.

Everyone is invited to bring new, unwrapped toys, sporting equipment or gift cards to the event and place them in Spark of Love Toy Drive boxes provided by Pasadena Fire Department. The gifts will be distributed to needy children and teens. For more information call (626) 744-4755.



### *Tournament Of Roses Officials Are Mayor's Special Guest Walkers Dec. 3*

2009 Rose Queen Courtney Chou Lee and her court will be joined by Tournament of Roses President Ronald "Corky" Conzonire and Tournament of Roses CEO Mitch Dorger as the special guests of Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard during a 3.3-mile walk around the Rose Bowl Stadium at 7:45 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, as part of Up & Moving Pasadena.

Meet at Gate A at the stadium. Free parking is available. All levels of ability will be accommodated.

Up & Moving Pasadena is a community effort to support fitness for health. Walks are scheduled at 7:45 a.m. the first Wednesday of every month. Find walking tips, start a walking group and track your progress at [www.upandmoving.org](http://www.upandmoving.org) or call (626) 831-2980.



### *Reminders From City Of Pasadena As Rainy Season Approaches*

From sand bags to water conservation, the city of Pasadena provides services, programs and advice for surviving the rainy season.



Pasadena Water and Power stresses the importance of turning off irrigation systems so they operate when it rains. Our region's water supplies have been severely challenged by the statewide drought and by pumping restrictions in the Sacramento Delta, so use every drop of water wisely:

\* Reduce the frequency of watering during rainy periods.

\* Eliminate watering one day a week to save up to 250 gallons of water weekly.

\* When it's not raining, step on your grass; if it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water. For additional water-saving tips, rebates and conservation programs, visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater).

Although the Pasadena area did not experience damage during recent wildfires, the drought has caused dryness in hillsides, which can cause mudslides during heavy rains. Pasadena Fire Department has sandbags available for residents of hillside areas at Fire Station #37, 3430 E. Foothill Blvd., and Fire Station 38, 1150 Linda Vista Ave.

Be prepared for rain and storms by following these Fire Department tips:

\* Clear debris and overgrowth from drainage channels and rain gutters before rains.

\* Keep your car's gas tank full; power outages might shut down gas pumps.

\* Stay away from storm drain channels and other bodies of water.

\* Keep your disaster kit updated with a flashlight, extra batteries, portable battery-operated radio, first aid kit and manual, emergency food and water for your family and pets, non-electric can opener, essential medications, sturdy shoes and comfort items for children.

## Queen Skittles To Reign Over Doo Dah

Story and Photos By Teresa Baxter

Last Sunday the American Legion Hall hosted an event that represented everything that is wacky, wild and wonderful about the irreverent and offbeat Doo Dah Parade. That afternoon, 21 hopefuls awaited their turn to show off their talents and vying for the illustrious title of the Queen of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Occasional Pasadena Doo Dah Parade.

Look-a-likes were spot-on with impressive impersonations of Alaska vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, and famed anti-rehab singer, Amy Winehouse. The crowd jumped to their feet when the talented guitar shredder Eric(a) Valentine rocked the house, while the outgoing Queen Michelle Mills, also known as "Naughty Mickie", graciously reigned over the festivities awaiting to pass on her crown.

"Some of the auditions



*1st runner-up Eric(a) Valentine.*

were very inspiring and the singers were really



*Naughty Mickie passes the crown Queen Julie AK47*

good," said Mills. "I'm thrilled to bring attention to the Light Bringer Project, which does so much for children. Once a queen, always a queen, and I hope the new queen will carry on my spirit."

Dr. Demento emceed the tryouts, while judges that included Bad Chad, the Serpent Queens and an incognito Rose Parade official put contestants through the wringer with heckling and inquiring questions all in the name of fun.

"It's a fun party... everybody has a good time and no one gets hurt," said Demento. "Other than that, it's a three-ring circus."

Eventually, first time contestant Julie "Skittles" Klima walked away with the crown, while the self-proclaimed "always the bridesmaid, never the bride" Eric(a) Valentine earned the 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up title for the second year in a row. Sarah Palin



*2nd runner-up Roobie Breastnut as Sarah Palin*

impersonator, Roobie Breastnut, took 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up and vowed that she will win the title in 2012.

"I promise as queen I will challenge the Rose Queen to a duel to win the hearts and minds of the Pasadena public," said Klima. "I'm so excited that I get to wear

this crown...when I heard about Doo Dah I knew this is the type of parade I would want to be in."

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Occasional Pasadena Doo Dah Parade will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18 stepping off at 11:30 a.m. on the streets of historic Old Pasadena.

## Janitors Nervous Over Contract

By Dean Lee

Before approving a new two-year deal for citywide janitorial services earlier this month which ends the current longtime contract with U.S. Metro Group, Inc., the City Council tried to ease concerns expressed by workers who feared their jobs may be in jeopardy.

The new \$1.6 million per year contract with Topflite Building Services, Inc will save the city \$33,000, which, according to City staff, would save less than 2.1 percent. The new contract is set to take effect Dec. 1.

A motion was quickly introduced by councilmember Jacque Robinson, and seconded by councilmember Sid Tyler, although the council first backtracked after realizing only a few members of the audience spoke English.

"Are there others in the council chambers who would like the benefit of Spanish translation of the deliberations of the council and the staff from this point on?" asked Mayor Bill Bogaard. The meeting was then translated in Spanish starting after public comment.

"These previous contractors did not respect us..." one worker said in Spanish. "We are afraid of losing [work] hour[s] and benefits from this new employer. And we are afraid this contractor would do the same as the last." She also asked if their salaries would be reduced.

Others thanked the council for successfully negotiating the recent contract with U.S. Metro Group that did insure benefits and job titles. One worker even said their vacation time was also increased, so they were concerned that Topflite would continue to honor the recent Metro contract provisions. He then asked if they could meet with the company.

The city's legal council later said the city does not intend to become



embroiled in a situation between two private entities, because, technically, the transition between the two companies does not involve the city. "The city's roll is very limited," said Bruce Barsook. "Its responsibility is to award a contract, then notify the terminating contractor of the awarded contract."

However, Bogaard said the city would not be just a casual bystander.

It was suggested by some that U.S. Metro had a higher bid than Topflite because of the added benefits. Director of Public Works, Martin Pastucha, said there was no way to account for the difference in bids.

"It may be the difference between how much profit one had," he said. "Or additional numbers..."

Bogaard said a meeting between current workers and Topflite had already occurred. He said that, of a total of 41 janitors, 23 signed in at the introductory meeting on Nov. 11 in the Public Works Building.

Bogaard said the janitorial staff

was informed during that meeting that the total labor hours currently performed under the existing contract will remain the same. All of the specifics were also translated into Spanish, including that Topflite would comply with the Displaced Janitors Opportunity Act.

This law requires janitorial contractors and subcontractors, who secure a new building service contract, to continue employing the janitorial staff of the former contractor or subcontractors for at least 60 days. Pastucha said the company had agreed to extend the period to six months.

He also said that Topflite was required to comply with the city's Living Wage Ordinance, which establishes, "a threshold for wages under the Living Wage Ordinance or a wage and benefit provision."

The contract will be administered by the Building Systems and Fleet Management Division of the Department of Public Works.



## CLASSIFIEDS



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know?

## Your Gift to the Environment

By Pat Birdsall

Ten simple steps that can turn the holiday season into one that will benefit the environment as well as your friends and family...

- 1: Give a compact fluorescent light bulb or two as gifts. Old-fashioned light bulbs waste 85% of their energy in heat and don't last long. Compact fluorescent bulbs these days come in all shapes and sizes, and colors.
- 2: Pull the plug on dirty presents. Electronics are popular gifts, so rather than just consider the cost, check out which companies are doing more than others to make cleaner products. This year's presents shouldn't be next year's toxic waste.
- 3: Pay for the present, not the packaging. Put some thought into the gifts you are purchasing. Avoid products that are over-packaged or made from toxic PVC plastic or from endangered trees like mahogany.
- 4: Travel smart. When it's time to go shopping for the perfect gift or to visit relatives, try to take public transportation or carpool. Every time you hop in your car or even worse a plane, you're producing greenhouse gases which contribute to global warming. Even better? Shop online.
- 5: Cut down on paper. Why not have fun making your own wrapping paper out of recycled paper? With a potato stamp and some water paint you can make unique wrapping paper. Cut up last years cards to make perfect recycled gift tags. Make sure your waste wrapping paper goes in the recycling bin. If you send holiday cards, look for recycled content or better yet, send an e-card.
- 6: Be tree friendly. If a tree is traditionally part of your celebrations, a living, potted one is your best option because it can be reused next year. If you must cut a tree, be sure to recycle it.
- 7: Less is more. If you decorate your home with lights, think about how much energy they use. Don't forget to turn off the lights before you go to bed, and use LED bulbs.
- 8: Go au natural. Replace those plastic, over-priced holiday decorations with natural, reusable decorations like whitewashed branches and pine cones. They can put you in the holiday spirit just as easily as a huge, inflatable snowman.
- 9: Cut down on shopping. Try to buy local produce to cut your travel miles.
- 10: Break out the china. Use real dishes--not disposables. *Greenpeace*

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**Fire Safe Council  
"Announcements and Observations"**

You saw the news: hillside homes, mansions and tract homes alike, manufactured homes and apartments--fire hoses pushing water against the flames, the wind pushing the water back and the ember storm heading onward to the next vulnerable point in someone's life.

Sierra Madre was beyond lucky and you can repeat after me: there was no wind, there was no wind, there was no wind!

But there is plenty to burn above our burned area of last April 23==to the north, west and east. Please continue to support our efforts and attend our meetings especially our 3rd anniversary meeting, December 1, at 7 p.m. in the City Council chambers.

We are proud to announce three years of community outreach with our Fire Safe Council message! Come and celebrate this milestone with us. The meeting, as always, is open to all. This time, please RSVP to Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council, 355-0741 or 355-9350 as refreshments will be served.

At the anniversary meeting we will have an opportunity for all in attendance to tell their stories of this earthquake drill and actual stories from past earthquakes you have experienced as well as the more recent fire and mud flow events of this past April and May.

Our preparation is on going. We cannot rest on our laurels. We must continue to organize our community and our families toward emergency response proficiency.

**ROUND THE CLOCK EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

SIERRA MUDRE MUD FLOW AND DEBRIS INFO: [www.sierramudre.info](http://www.sierramudre.info)

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE EMERGENCY INFO: [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com)

Mud incident updates can be found at [www.sierramadrepio.blogspot.com](http://www.sierramadrepio.blogspot.com)

**FOCUS: A Weekly Spotlight On Sierra Madre Volunteers  
Chris and Halcyon Koerber**

Imagine arriving in Sierra Madre just before the Fourth of July Parade and experiencing it for the first time.

Chris and Halcyon Koerber came to Sierra Madre in July, 1997, and were immediately smitten by the town.

"We knew there was something wonderful about this town," they remembered, and that was just before they joined in the Sierra Madre spirit of volunteering.

HALCYON: Civic Club (former president), Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, member of Friends of the Library (mostly book sales), small group leader at Church of the Ascension, working on the Rose Float, Dickens

Village Committee for the Chamber of Commerce, formerly docent chair of the Wistaria Festival, continues to assist current docent chair and assist with docents at the annual Wistaria Festival.

CHRIS: Development Committee of Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy, chairman of Development Committee for Sierra Madre Community Foundation, formerly assistant Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 4 in Pasadena, assistant girls' softball coach, now assists (upcoming) Eagle Scouts.

Chris was born in Ohio and has a Bachelor of Science degree from Kent State University. He received his CFP designation in 1993. His job working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in plant protection brought him to California, then he joined New Century Insurance Services, Inc. in 1991, became a partner in 1998, and was named vice president, Health and Employee Benefits.

About when he came to California, Halcyon was operations manager of an import freight company, and they met, were married in 1984.

Halcyon was born in Santa Ana (CA) "while they still had orange groves." She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from Cal State Long Beach before entering the job market.

Halcyon said, "The more you participate as a volunteer the more fun you have."

The Koerbbers have two children: Daniel, who is a senior at the University of Dayton (Ohio), and Katie, who attends Hillsdale College in Michigan.

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**Sierra Madre Police Blotter**

During the week of Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 334 calls for service.

**Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>:**

1:41 PM - Arrest, Sierra Madre Blvd and Sunnyside Ave. A motorist was stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. A records check revealed the Los Angeles resident's driver's license was suspended for DUI. The driver was issued a written promise to appear and released.

**Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>:**

10:53 PM - Arrest, Michillinda Ave and Orange Grove Ave. A bicyclist was stopped for an equipment violation. During the investigation he was found in possession of marijuana. The cyclist was issued a written promise to appear and released.

**Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>:**

2:19 PM - Arrest, 100 block West Highland Ave. A non-injury traffic collision was reported on private property. The passenger had a no bail misdemeanor bench warrant. He was arrested and transported to the station, booked and released to the Sheriff's Dept.

**Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>:**

2:23 PM - Arrest, 100 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. A motorist was stopped for a traffic violation. During the investigation a records check revealed the Monrovia resident had an outstanding traffic warrant. The driver was arrested, held and released to Monrovia PD

**Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>:**

1:47 AM - Arrest, 600 block East Sierra Madre Blvd. A motorist was stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During the investigation a records check revealed the Monrovia resident had an outstanding traffic warrant. The driver was arrested, held and released to Monrovia PD

8:24 AM - Arrest, Mariposa Ave and Hermosa Ave. A motorist was stopped for a traffic violation. A records check revealed the Sierra Madre resident's driver's license was suspended. The driver was issued a written promise to appear and released.

5:15 PM - Residential burglary, 200 block Michillinda Ave. The front door of the residence was forced open to gain entry and steal a plastic box and brown jewelry box containing several pieces of expensive jewelry. The crime occurred between 7:20 am and 4:30 pm, Friday 11/21. The loss was estimated at \$16,000.00.



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**MountainViews-Observer****Mission Statement**

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

**Stuart Tolchin On..LIFE****IS IT MINE OR IS IT OURS?**

Did you enjoy your Thanksgiving? Did you have enough turkey----more than enough, I bet. Maybe that's the problem; maybe all of us are having a bit, or more than a bit, more than the amount we actually need, or even, want. In her pre-Thanksgiving column last week our illustrious publisher- editor Susan Henderson commented that according to a Northern California historian (probably a subtle reference to a relative of hers) "for some strange reason the true source of the bountiful harvest celebrated by Thanksgiving has not been widely published. It was the shift from communal farming to private farming in which the people of Plymouth Colony got to keep the benefits of their own efforts instead of sharing in a distribution of the communal effort".

Susan further speculated that "ironically, with this current economic climate, by next year we may have to go back to a communal effort". Please note that at this first Thanksgiving Banquet the harvested food, although owned individually was shared communally. Unfortunately, I think, history has shown us that this is not the usual case. Most of the time there is an unequal distribution of stuff---A few have more than they need and most of us have less than we need. A look at the world today shows the unpleasant reality that much of the population is starving and a significant percentage of the world's population does not even have access to safe drinking water. This is a staggering realization and most of us think about it as little as possible. We know it's true but somehow rationalize it by congratulating ourselves upon showing the foresight to be born here in this land of plenty where we can have our Thanksgiving Feasts without experiencing any guilt.

Unfortunately, as Susan and Bob Dylan have noted, the times they are-a-changin'. I thought of this as I watched a news program showing canyon residents preparing for mud-slides by forming a fireman's brigade which stuffed sandbags and placed them in spots vulnerable to mud-slide damage. (I hope everyone was well-protected) Like most of us, I get a good feeling when I see people working together for the common good. Yet, we live in a capitalistic society fueled by greed, or at least by the desire to accumulate sufficient wealth to do something or other. It's more than the need to make one economically secure or to take care of one's family; I'm afraid it's the way many of us keep score. At this time of the year the Sports Sections are filled with the news of athletes demanding more and more millions in order to agree to play a game that they would probably be happy to play for free. If they can't get their millions, I guess, they won't play because they feel disrespected and undervalued.

It's a disease from which we all suffer to some extent in this society. If you're so smart, then why aren't you rich? If we want respect from others and, I guess, even self-respect, then we had better get rich. Well, folks, the times they are-a-changin', big-time. The paradigm must shift. Bill Gates and Warren Buffet and some of their pals are already trying to use their billions for the common good. Maybe pro-athletes and team owners and assorted CEOs could limit themselves to a million dollars a year and use the rest for the common good. I do not think that this limitation and potential shift of economic resources should diminish the motivation for the creation of wealth in any of these highly-talented individuals. I'll tell you what. I'll lead the way. I promise to contribute, with no strings attached, every penny I earn beyond one million dollars per year for the benefit of the common good. There's only one problem I can foresee. HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Letter to the Editor**

Re: Article, page 11, dated Nov. 14, 2008

*Noted Solar expert updates Caltech associates on renewable energy*

"A Caltech professor of chemistry described that burning fossil fuels raises carbon dioxide (CO2) levels in earth's atmosphere contributing to global warming." If this is a fact, and (CO2) is exhaled by animals, and humans, should there be more green plant materials to synthesize the (CO2), releasing oxygen into the air?

Lee Cline, Sierra Madre

**Isn't It Ironic?**

By Kim Clymer-Kelley



The sweet taste of Obama's victory on November 4<sup>th</sup> was immediately followed by a very bitter pill to swallow ... the passing of Prop 8. While examining the results of the voting and reflecting on just what the passing of this new legislation means and on how exactly such a travesty could happen, I was struck by some real irony.

First of all, let me say that the ease with which the state of California's constitution can be amended is simply outrageous. A constitution is supposed to be a document that protects the rights of its citizens and sets guidelines by which a government is to be run...a sound framework around which all statutes are to be built. It is supposed to be designed so that no simple majority can strip others of their inalienable human rights. It must protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority. In order to amend the U.S. Constitution, both the Senate and the House of Representatives must pass the proposed amendment by a 2/3 margin, not just a simple majority, and then 3/4 of the states must vote to ratify it. It is that difficult. This protects the structure of government and keeps it from being unstable and transitory ... one that might be changed on a mere whim of the people. It is not good when a population can be whipped into a frenzy by lies and fear and then have the power to act while in such a state to nearly permanently alter the laws of the land. This makes a constitution basically meaningless if it can be altered so easily. California needs to seriously rethink its policy on amending its constitution. It cannot be left unprotected from religious zealots.

some irony to be found in the passing of this new constitutional amendment. The excitement of the possibility of electing our first African American president brought out a record number of African American and other minority voters. This turn-out changed the face of American politics and played a powerful role in Mr. Obama's election. With nearly 70% of these African American voters (and over 50% of Hispanic voters) voting in favor of Proposition 8, their heavy participation in this election was enough to swing the polls in favor of the amendment that robs gay couples of their civil rights. So by coming out to vote in an election that promised to see their centuries-old battle for the civil rights of the African American people culminate in the election of an African American man as president of our land, they assured that another oppressed group was robbed of their civil rights...irony at its finest.

In examining closely the effects that the new amendment will ultimately have on the gay community, another ironic fact emerges. The supporters of the amendment, primarily the Mormons and the Christian right, opposed gay marriage on religious grounds, stemming from their interpretation of the Bible (and their assumptions that the God of their understanding also coincidentally hates and fears gays as much as they do). They did not want gays to marry for religious reasons, so they forced their church's religious views into the laws that govern

**Some Thanksgiving Thoughts**

By Greg Wellborn



Asthe war in Afghanistan appears to be escalating, the economy grinds downward and many renowned financial institutions teeter on the brink of collapse, it would be easy to scoff

at the thought of giving thanks for our present circumstances. Sometimes, though, it takes trials and troubles to remind us of what really matters and to help us truly give thanks for the blessings we enjoy as Americans. Such is the season in America this year, and I wanted to take a few moments to reflect on those important matters as we gather around our tables.

Thanksgiving is a very important holiday in our household. It is purposefully a time of celebration and reflection. It is not just a way-station en route from Halloween to Christmas; it is not just a day to increase our energy in-take in preparation for what retailers tell us, hope in their hearts, will be the busiest shopping day of the year. The year goes fast enough as it is, and the holiday season seems to pass at twice that speed, so it is fitting that we celebrate all the blessings God has so richly bestowed upon America and her citizens.

First and foremost among these blessings, and one with special meaning to our family this year, is the sacrifice being made by so many young men and women in uniform. That they would willingly enlist in our armed services in order to be sent thousands of miles from home where those who do not share our values will take every opportunity to end their young lives is amazing. In our family, there is such a young man, and I would like to publicly pay honor to and give thanks for the sacrifice of one Lieutenant David Johnson, U.S.N. currently deployed to Afghanistan. To him and to all who similarly serve, we owe a debt which we have no capacity to repay. Let us at least take a moment this year to thank them in our hearts and lift them up in our prayers.

We should also give thanks for the fruit of their effort. Because of the long line of citizen soldiers extending from the time of our country's very founding to the present, we remain the longest enduring self-governing nation of free people ever built or sustained in history. We have our imperfections, but year after year, decade after decade, century after century, we make progress in preserving and spreading freedom, granting to millions the simple, but defining, right to vote, worship, gather and speak as we please without fear of king or tyrant.

We can also give thanks for the material blessings which surround us. Whether we are rich or poor, gainfully employed or recently laid-off, there is

**Rich Johnson**

Yes, it was during business hours. Fortunately for Mario, the owner of the restaurant, Jane and I sold out the place. I made a deal with Mario, promising not to sing until people had already ordered dinner. Now there was no way the customers could lose. 'Cause whether or not they liked me, they were sure to like Jane Fuller. So, whatever I did was soon forgotten in a sea of enjoying her wonderful voice and jazz guitar playing. I must point out to you baby boomers that Jane has a jazz rendition of an old Cream (rock group) song. The song? "Sunshine of Your Love." It rocks...in a jazzy sort of way. I'd like to thank everyone who came out to support my short comeback tour. Visit Jane at her website, which is coincidentally [janefuller.com](http://janefuller.com). She has a terrific Christmas CD available for purchase. And, I

got the second copy of her new hot-off-the-press CD entitled Night and Day. It's a tribute to Cole Porter.

Now, one of my goals with this column is give you useful information at your fingertips. Bits of undeniable truth you can call up instantly to impress friends, relatives and complete strangers. My friend, Tim La Marca, sent me these conversation starters, which can be used during the holidays. I hope you find them useful.

1. A day without sunshine is like night.
2. On the other hand, you have different fingers.
3. 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.
4. Remember, half the people you know are below average.
5. He who laughs last thinks slowest.
6. Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
7. The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese in the trap.
8. Support bacteria. That's the only culture some people have.
9. A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
10. Change is inevitable, except

from vending machines.

11. If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments.
12. How many of you believe in psycho-powers? Raise my hand.
13. When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.
15. How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?
16. Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
17. Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

I hope you had a wonderful Turkey Day. I'm glad Ben Franklin couldn't convince anyone to make the Turkey our national symbol. The thought of a roast bald eagle dinner with all the fixin's doesn't sound very appetizing.

Oh and by the way, don't forget about the Sierra Madre Library Best Used Book Sale. It's Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 3pm to 7pm and Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 2pm at the Library. Great buys at great prices.

stripped of their civil rights and forbidden to marry outside their religion. They also lost the right to attend or teach at public schools, hold government jobs, practice law or medicine or publish books...is this the ultimate agenda that these people have for those who are gay? They have already resorted to rousing fear that our children might be taught of the existence of a gay lifestyle. Will they next forbid gay individuals to teach their children? What political agenda will their hate prompt next? If this wrong is not righted, it will serve to put all of our civil rights in jeopardy. The next group targeted by such a hateful movement could be one of which you are a member.

First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Communist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up, because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant.

Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for me.

by Rev. Martin Niemoller, 1945

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail, April 16, 1963



**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2033919**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ALL AMERICAN FIRE PROTECTION CO.**, 3109 BUCKINGHAM RD., GLENDALE, CA 91206. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SERGIO RAFAEL IRIZAR**, 3109 BUCKINGHAM RD., GLENDALE, CA 91206. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SERGIO RAFAEL IRIZAR**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2054222**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ALPHA-X ENTERPRISES**, 16239 FIDELITY AVE., BURBANK, CA 91506. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MICHAEL CAMARILLO**, 1307 W. ALAMEDA AVE., BURBANK, CA 91506. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MICHAEL CAMARILLO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/20/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2026461**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **C. OWAMDA & ASSOCIATES, OKOLI INTERNATIONAL**, 10308 PARK ST., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **GODWIN OKOLI**, C. OWAMDA, 10308 PARK ST., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This Business is conducted by: **HUSBAND AND WIFE. Signed: GODWIN OKOLI**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/17/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on NOV. 17, 2008.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2053858**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. CHARLES M. FRYE REVIEW CENTER 2. CENTER FOR NURSE EDUCATION & TRAINING**, 6444 E. SPRING ST. #124, LONG BEACH, CA 90815. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CHARLE M. FRYE**, 6444 E. SPRING ST. #124, LONG BEACH, CA 90815. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: CHARLES M. FRYE**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/20/08.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2034948**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CREDIT BANC SOLUTIONS GROUP**, 9350 FLAIR DR. STE #108, MALIBU, CA 91031. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MAI DIRECTORS DIVISION 1, INC.**, 9350 FLAIR DR. STE. #108, EL MONTE, CA 91731. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: HECTOR RAMIREZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2054421**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MIRANDA TILE**, 2102 MENLO ST., TORRANCE, CA 90502. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSE MIRANDA**, 2102 MENLO ST., TORRANCE, CA 90502. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE MIRANDA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/20/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2013215**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. POPULAR REALTY 2. POPULAR MORTGAGE GROUP**, 15928 CLEAR SPRING DR., LA MIRADA, CA 90638. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **VERONICA RIVARA**, 15928 CLEAR SPRING DR., LA MIRADA, 90638. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: VERONICA RIVARA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/14/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2034440**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. SOUNDCRAFT RECORDING STUDIO 2. GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION GROUP 3. GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT HOLDINGS 4. GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES 5. WORLDWIDE ENTERTAINMENT GROUP**, 11271 VENTURA BLVD. #368, STUDIO CITY, CA 91604. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MISSINGLINK REKORDZ, INC.**, 2764 N. GREEN VALLEY PKWY #663, HENDERSON, NV 89014-2120. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: K. KHASHAYARI**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2053745**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **TEODORA'S GIFT**, 400 S. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA 91007. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **FRANCISCO UQUIN**, 14023 CERRITOS AVE., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: FRANCISCO LUQUIN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/20/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/01/2006.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2051611**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **THE EAST LA SOCIETY OF FILM & ARTS (TELASOFA)**, 2227 CHESTNUT AVE., LB, CA 90806. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JUAN ESCOBEDO**, 2227 CHESTNUT AVE., LB, CA 90806. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JUAN ESCOBEDO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/20/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2054421**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **THE FRAME HOUSE**, 12 N. FIRST AVE., ARCADIA, CA 91006. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CULTURE 121, INC.**, 12 N. FIRST AVE., ARCADIA, CA 91006. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: JANE GARZONA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 08-2053384**  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM**, 2104 ORANGE AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90806. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONALS AGAINST CRIME, INC.**, 2104 ORANGE AVE., LONG BEACH, CA 90806. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: MALIK SALEH**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on SEPT. 1990.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

**File No. 2008-2053932**  
**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**  
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **TEODORA'S GIFT**, 11453 FOSTER RD., NORWALK, CA 90650. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on FEB. 26, 2004, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number is 08-045035. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) **SIGNED: FRANCISCO UQUIN**.  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FILE NO. 2008-2034949****STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **CREDIT BANC SOLUTIONS GROUP**, 9350 FLAIR DR., STE. 108, EL MONTE, CA 91731. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 10/29/08, in the county of Los Angeles.

The original file number of 20081922976. The business was conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) **SIGNED: PRES. SERGIO RAFAEL IRIZAR**.  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FILE NO. 2008-2033918****STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME**

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **CAL SAFE FIRE PREVENTION CO.**, 3109 BUCKINGHAM RD., GLENDALE, CA 91206. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 7/3/08, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 200819192196. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) **SIGNED: SERGIO RAFAEL IRIZAR**.  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/24, 12/01, 12/08, 12/15/2008

**FILE NO. 08-195838****FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **COOLING DYNAMICS**, 820 S. MARYLAND AVE. #102, GLENDALE, CA 91205. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CLIMATE AIR CONTROL, INC.**, 820 S. MARYLAND AVE. #102, GLENDALE, CA 91205. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: CEO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/18/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1995692**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **RYCON COMPUTERS**, 16239 FIDELITY AVE., HENDERSON, NV 89014-2120. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SALVADOR PEREZ**, 16239 SIGMAN ST., HACIENDA HTS, CA 91745. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SALVADOR PEREZ**, 16239 SIGMAN ST., HACIENDA HTS, CA 91745. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SALVADOR PEREZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/12/08.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1996599**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LIE BARAKO 2. THE BLACK CAT**, 3909 W. SUNSET BLVD., L.A., CA 90029. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ABEL DEL REAL SANCHEZ**, 3939 VESLICH AVE., L.A., CA 90029. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ABEL DEL REAL SANCHEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1996432**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LIE BARAKO 2. THE BLACK CAT**, 3909 W. SUNSET BLVD., L.A., CA 90029. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ABEL DEL REAL SANCHEZ**, 3939 VESLICH AVE., L.A., CA 90029. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ABEL DEL REAL SANCHEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1986975**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PIONEER DRIVING SCHOOL**, 3018 BEVERLY BL. #B, L.A., CA 90057. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **EMILIO H. UST, JR.**, 4835 BRESLE AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **EMILIO H. UST, JR.**, 4835 BRESLE AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: EMILIO H. UST, JR.**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/10/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1986975**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PIONEER DRIVING SCHOOL**, 3018 BEVERLY BL. #B, L.A., CA 90057. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **EMILIO H. UST, JR.**, 4835 BRESLE AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **EMILIO H. UST, JR.**, 4835 BRESLE AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: EMILIO H. UST, JR.**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/10/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1994984**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ROSEMEAD MOTOR CO.**, 9223 RAMONA, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HERB FINLEY**, 9223 RAMONA, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: HERB FINLEY**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/168.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1995838**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ROYAL FLUSH CAR CLUB**, 10056 MATTOCK AVE., DOWNEY, CA 90240. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DANIEL RUEDAS**, 10056 MATTOCK AVE., DOWNEY, CA 90240. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: DANIEL RUEDAS**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/20/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1985862**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. USA LAW CENTER 2. MI BUSINESS CONSULTANT**, 8728 VALLEY BLVD. STE. 209, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOHN W. VELY BLVD. STE. 209, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770**. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: NGHIA "JOHNNY" BU/PRES**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/06/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 08-1987270**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. WACCO 2. 2710 AMANDA ST. #A, WEST COVINA, CA 91792**. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HERO REPUBLIC, INC.**, 2710 AMANDA ST. #A, WEST COVINA, CA 91792. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HERO REPUBLIC, INC.**, 2710 AMANDA ST. #A, WEST COVINA, CA 91792. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: LIQING DU/PRES**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

**NOTICE**- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).  
Publish: MountainViews-Observer  
Pub. 11/17, 11/24, 12/01, 12/08/2008

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT****File No. 20081995685**

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ARROYO CANYON RIDING SCHOOL**, 4750 Oakgrove Drive, Hamahongna Watershed Park, Pasadena, CA. 91103. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JULIA UNAMUNO**, 109 E. GRANDVIEW, PASADENA, CA 91103. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JULIE UNAMUNO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **11/12/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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## TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

### Cafe Verde

The day Andy Rooney accepts his place back into society; I think I am qualified to take over the controls for him at 60 Minutes. This is as close to nails on the chalkboard for this Critic as it comes. It is not an insignificant annoyance that I am required to bear at the compulsion of other restaurant Critics. They spend half the time engaging on the size of a ponderous restaurant or a sleek copy of a

painting on the wall, which may be hanging at the Getty and also proudly displayed at their residence, it should be noted. We should make our impact reviewing hidden gems or being forthright and placing the truth upon the page no matter how painful it presses our senses. Esoteric is one thing; Art World and Architectural Digest are another and for more creative inspiration, consider pontificating on what you are trained in and leave the other stuff to the experts! You wouldn't read this every week if I told you that Sizzler makes a steak and McDonalds does French Fries? No, people follow my page for elementary reasons; I get you off the beaten and well traveled trail and keep your credit card light.

I'm just getting my Andy Rooney on again; does anyone have some bushy eyebrow thickener and a tornado applicator for me?

Café Verde in Pasadena is a restaurant which I and probably you have passed many times over the course of time but never stopped to have the question answered. Well, I stopped the car there last week and I glad to report that my instincts are still impeccable. At least on restaurants, the stock market has leveled a pessimist review of my other skills. Though the restaurant is very small and in fact tiny, fortunately they offer tables on the sidewalk. By the time you read this they should have expanded to the corner. I sat outside and was greeted by the head server *Carlos*, this guy is on top of the menu and doesn't require notes to make suggestions. Since I hail from Maryland, anytime I see Crab Cakes (\$12.50) I order them, no question they are good, and a perfect size for sharing. The soup of the day was a Tortilla Soup (\$5.75) and well above average. Okay, its entrée time!!! The menu is filled with Americana Staples; Roasted Bass, Lamb Chops and Surf and Turf, all in the affordable (\$20) to (\$25) range. I ordered the Handmade Lobster Ravioli (\$21.50), wonderfully delicious, with tender thin skin ravioli and richly filled with shredded lobster. Truly, I made the right call. My understanding is that many of the staff trained under Hugo Molina and I know that one of the partners worked at Parkway Grill for years. I am almost done folks. I was truly full, but my dedication to non-mural writing I had to have dessert. I had the Pear Brandy Al-ala Mode, WOW, Incredible. I am glad to say I ate the whole thing!! The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and of course dinner. As of this writing there is no liquor license, so bring your own wine. Overall, two thumbs way up for dinner.



Café Verde 961 E. Green St., Pasadena (626) 356-9811 check out their website for exact hours and current prices. Join me next week as I review, Roy's Fusion.

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## Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

First-Ever *Direct* Image of an Exoplanet

Photo by Aaron Dominquez

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has taken the first visible-light snapshot of a planet circling another star. The team of astronomers who made the discovery includes researchers at JPL.

Estimated to be no more than three times Jupiter's mass, the planet, called "Fomalhaut b," orbits the bright southern star Fomalhaut, located 25 light-years away in the constellation Piscis Australis, or the "Southern Fish."

Fomalhaut has been a candidate for planet hunting ever since an excess of dust was discovered around the star in the early 1980s by NASA's Infrared Astronomy Satellite.

In 2004, the coronagraph in the High Resolution Camera on Hubble's Advanced Camera for Surveys produced the first-ever resolved visible-light image of the region around Fomalhaut. It clearly showed a ring of protoplanetary debris approximately 21.5 billion miles across and having a sharp inner edge.

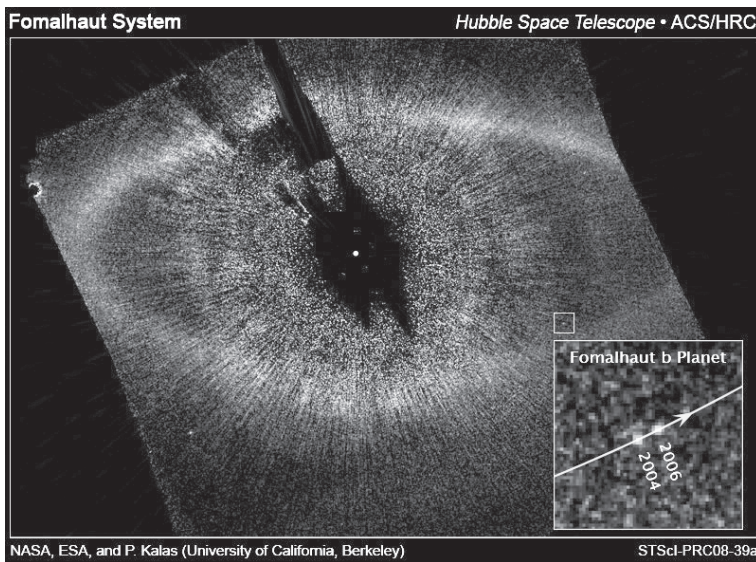
This large debris disk is similar to the Kuiper

Belt, which encircles our solar system and contains a range of icy bodies from dust grains to objects the size of dwarf planets, such as Pluto.

Hubble astronomer Paul Kalas, of the University of California at Berkeley, and team members proposed in 2005 that the ring was being gravitationally modified by a planet lying between the star and the ring's inner edge.

Circumstantial evidence came from Hubble's confirmation that the ring is offset from the center of the star. The sharp inner edge of the ring is also consistent with the presence of a planet that gravitationally "shepherds" ring particles. Independent researchers have subsequently reached similar conclusions.

Now, Hubble has actually photographed a point source of light lying 1.8 billion miles inside the ring's inner edge. The results are being reported in the November 14 issue of Science magazine.



"Our Hubble observations were incredibly demanding. Fomalhaut b is 1 billion times fainter than the star. We began this program in 2001, and our persistence finally paid off," Kalas said.

"Fomalhaut is the gift that keeps on giving. Following the unexpected discovery of its dust ring, we have now found an exoplanet at a location suggested by analysis of the dust ring's shape. The lesson for exoplanet hunters is 'follow the dust,'" said team member Mark Clampin of NASA's

Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. Observations taken 21 months apart by Hubble's Advanced Camera for Surveys coronagraph show that the object is moving along a path around the star, and is therefore gravitationally bound to it. The planet is 10.7 billion miles from the star, or about 10 times the distance of the planet Saturn from our sun.

The planet Fomalhaut b is brighter than would be expected for an object of three Jupiter masses. One possible explanation is that it has a Saturn-like ring of ice and dust reflecting starlight. The ring might eventually coalesce to form moons. The ring's estimated size is comparable to the region around Jupiter and its four largest orbiting satellites.

Fomalhaut is one of the few stars you can actually see from the city. To find it, look straight to the south, fairly low in the sky, at about 6:00 p.m. tonight. Fomalhaut (the name means "the fish's mouth" in Arabic) is the brightest star in that part of the sky. Wave to whatever people may be living up there—too bad their star doesn't have a more pronounceable name!

If you'd like to learn more, you can contact Bob at [beklund@mvoobserver.com](mailto:beklund@mvoobserver.com)

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## From the Inside Out: *Settling "In"*

By Mary Carney



We're about three weeks away from the shortest day, and the longest night, of the year. Here in SoCal we may "notice" daylight ending earlier, but it doesn't seem to affect how most of us live our daily lives. Back in Central Pennsylvania, where I grew up, there was a definitely slower rhythm and flow at this time of year. Especially the post-turkey days.

I loved the weekend "after the turkey". Why? Turkey noodle soup. Post-Thanksgiving dinner, the roaster received all the turkey bones and roasted skin; water was added to above the browned juices level along the sides (which hadn't gotten used up when making the giblet gravy). To this was added a splash or two of cider vinegar, some celery ribs, a couple carrots, then the roaster was covered and simmered gently on the two burners while we did the dishes. Eventually dark, rich turkey stock was poured into storage containers, meaty bits were separated from the bones and skin for later, and the bones, etc, were firmly wrapped in newspaper and taken down to the garbage can which lived in the unheated garage.

With a holiday weekend family of six - parents, mom's sister, and us three girls - leftovers didn't last too long - but every one was delicious: turkey sandwiches, turkey noodle soup, creamed turkey with fresh home-made waffles or biscuits, and the leftover stuffing with gravy were my favorites. Now, of course, with staying away from gluten, I'm looking at how to recreate the memories and flavors without the stuff that interferes with my health.

Wonderful to have gluten free noodles - so turkey noodle soup is safe. Gluten free breads work just fine for stuffing, as long as they're handled right. Waffles ... now, there's a real challenge - but I supposed I could heat up some gluten free scones (biscuits) instead. And, of course, there's that great turkey casserole with stuffing on the bottom, turkey in the middle, broccoli on top with some gravy poured over it and baked ... nothin' says lovin' like somethin' from the oven ...

Back then, Thanksgiving weekend was our "Christmas card" weekend - all of which needed finishing by Sunday evening for mailing out Monday morning. Where did that bit of family discipline disappear? Well, that was a "family" affair. I do really well with "family affairs", just not so good "on my own." My Christmas cards have, upon occasion, been noted for arriving by Valentine's Day (sigh!).

As the days get short and the evenings longer, our bodies - regardless of where they are - begin a type of hibernation process. Why? Our cells are literally "fueled" by sunlight - whether we live in buildings or out-of-doors - our bodies react to the presence or lack of the sun's frequencies. Our bodies extraordinarily sensitive light receptors begin to respond to increasing light levels in the mornings and, about two hours after sunset, are pretty much ready to snuggle in for the night. The artificial lighting that we live under has very subtle impacts on our systems - and can serious get them "out of whack". For

example, if you've been at an evening meeting under fluorescent lighting, it will probably take you at least two hours to "come down from" the impacts of those light spectrum before you can get quiet enough to go to sleep.

The light manufacturers know that by now, hence there are more "full spectrum" light bulbs available. However, to truly understand the seriousness of light's impact on us, include the Dr. John Ott time-lapse video (or CD) about the effects of light on plants, animals and humans on your holiday resource list. Nothing takes the place of living with real sunlight - and much of our own inner cellular health depends upon it.

Business demands that we be the equivalent of robots. Turn on at the same time in the morning, work without ceasing during the day, turn off at the same time at night. Maintain the same pace regardless of outside circumstances - in other words, be a machine. But our bodies are not machines - and there is a life rhythm which we need to honor.

During the short days and long nights is the time to take the best care of yourself ... carefully storing the limited sunlight energies and using them wisely until the sun "comes back" again. In the meantime, if you have the opportunity, curl up in front of a fireplace with soft lights and soft music, enjoy a bowl of home-made turkey noodle soup, and recharge your inner batteries so that you can meet the rest of the year's challenges.  
*m.carney@mvoobserver.com*

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The Senior  
By Bruce Lamarche  
SCAM-ME-NOT!  
(Avoid Holiday Danger)  
Spot

People usually feel more generous during the holidays, and they're in the spending mode. Criminals can take advantage of this.

At the Market

We've all seen the Salvation Army folk outside the market in uniform. These certainly are good people doing great work for the needy. There are others, unfortunately, whose validity you cannot tell. The teenager in baggy clothing approaching you for a donation to something you've never heard of may be a scam. If you feel so inclined, ask for an identification card issued by the charity or the City. If you have any misgivings, just smile and walk on.

Find a Trustworthy Charity

If you'd like to donate to a charitable organization you want to make sure you choose a trustworthy one. You want one where you can be sure that your money will actually get where it's supposed to be going. It isn't always easy to do this, however, as there are always scam artists out there trying to make a quick buck off of other people's good intentions.

Take some steps to make sure that your next charitable contribution goes to help the people who need it rather than lining the pockets of the undeserving. Before you donate money to the cute kid or polished executive soliciting you, be smart and, ask questions. Do your homework.

Protect Against Marketing Scams

Criminals have turned marketing scams into a science. They've developed the perfect blend of phony promises and high-pressure pitches to trick people out of their credit card numbers, bank account numbers, or cold, hard cash. Seniors are especially targeted.

The AARP reports that more than half of all fraud victims are 50 and over. According to the National Consumers League, seniors tend to trust strangers on the other end of the line, and they're also more likely to cave in to bullying. Con artists use three primary ways to contact their victims: by phone, mail, and even door-to-door sales. Once people take the bait, the real feeding frenzy begins, and they get bombarded by other con artists.

That phone call or email asking for money, especially during a holiday season, could be a scam regardless of how legitimate it sounds. However, there's an easy way to check up on a charity before donating your money to it. You can look them up on the computer. If you're not savvy to the computer, go to the public library and ask for help. Librarians are more than glad to help look these charities and help determine if they are legit.

Never give out your bank or credit/debit information over the phone if you solicited. Legitimate charities can wait for you to check things out before donating.

Gift Card Scams

Gift cards are becoming a trend in holiday gift giving. The counters of many larger stores have a rack of gift cards available for sale. You can pick them up and have the cashier activate them as part of your purchase. What you may not know is that a scammer has already written down that same number and is waiting for you to activate the card with money. Knowing that there is a delay between the time you buy it and Christmas Day, the scammer will use the number off the card to make purchases. The card will be worthless to that special person you gave it to when they attempt to use it.

You can prevent this simply by asking the clerk for a card that has not been on public display. If the clerk won't cooperate, pass on purchasing the card.

The holidays are a grand time and certainly one for generosity. There are many worthy charities that do need help. Be smart and check them out first. Most of all, don't ignore your instincts.

**Got a question? Ask Bruce by phone-(626)335-3412 or e-mail: [blamarche@verizon.net](mailto:blamarche@verizon.net)**

*This article is provided by Bruce Lamarche, a member of Society of Certified Senior Advisors', [www.csa.us](http://www.csa.us). Bruce's company, R & B Reverse Mortgage Services (Glendora) helps seniors make an informed decision about obtaining a reverse mortgage. [www.LASeniorMortgage.com](http://www.LASeniorMortgage.com)*

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See the "Senior Spot" column weekly!

Greetings

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

By Pat Birdsall

FYI:

Medicare Annual Enrollment: November 15-December 31

Any changes you make during this period will become effective January 1, 2009.

During Medicare annual enrollment, you can make the following changes to your Medicare insurance... \*Change your HMO insurance plan\* Change your Medicare supplemental plan\* Change from an HMO to a supplemental plan \*Change from a supplemental plan to an HMO plan \*Change your Medicare Part D Medication Plan... Check your 2009 benefit book to make sure your insurance plan has not changed its benefits or price. Also, make sure that your Medicare Part D Medication Plan has not removed any of your current medications from the formulary list and that the premiums have not increased substantially. Annual enrollment is the period to make any changes. If you have any questions, call Arlene Okamoto, the 50+ Health Connection/Senior Services Coordinator at Methodist Hospital, Arcadia. 626.821.6978.

~Helpful Hints~

Put less elbow grease into grating cheese by using a nonstick cooking spray on your cheese grater for smoother grating and for easier and faster cleanup.

Did you ever wonder where the name of the popular cooking spray, PAM, comes from? It stands for "Product of Arthur Meyerhoff." The first patent was issued in 1957 to Arthur and his partner, Leon Rubin.



Happy Birthday

November Birthdays: Lena Zate, Carmella Frontino and Alberta Curran

Recipe of the Month:

Mushroom Turnovers with Sour Cream



- \* 2 Tbs.olive oil
- \* 1 large onion, chopped
- \* 4 packages (5 oz. Each) mixed mushrooms, trimmed & thinly sliced.
- \* coarse salt & pepper
- \* 1 sheet frozen puff pastry (from a 17.3 oz. box), thawed
- \* ½ cup reduced-fat sour cream, for serving

1- Preheat oven to 425 degrees. In a large nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high. Add onion: cook, stirring occasionally, until golden brown, 5 to 6 minutes. Add mushrooms: cook, stirring occasionally, until mushrooms are tender, 4 to 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper; set aside.

2- On a lightly floured work surface, rollout dough (still folded in thirds) to a 20-by-10-inch rectangle. Using a pizza cutter or sharp knife, trim edges straight: cut dough into four 10-by-5-inch rectangles. Dividing evenly, mound mushroom mixture on one half of each rectangle, leaving ½-inch border on three sides. Lightly brush border with water; fold other half of pastry over filling, and press edges firmly to seal. With a floured fork, crimp edges.

3- Using a wide metal spatula, transfer turnovers to a large baking sheet. With a paring knife, cut 3 to 4 small slits in the top of each turnover. Bake until golden and puffed, 20 to 25 minutes; serve turnovers with sour cream. Everyday Food

For Your Funny Bone

Eddie in Dallas calls his son in New York just before Thanksgiving and tells him, "I'm sorry to tell you this, but your mother and I are getting a divorce. I just can't take any more of her nagging and complaining. We can't even stand the sight of each other anymore. I'm telling you first Eddie, because you are the eldest, please tell your sister." When Eddie calls his sister Julie, she says, "No way are they getting divorced, I'll go over and see them for Thanksgiving." Julie phones her parents and tells them both, "You must not get divorced. Promise you won't do anything until I get there. I'm calling Eddie, and we'll be there with you tomorrow. Until then, don't take any action—please listen to me," and she hangs up. The father puts down the phone and turns to his wife and says, "Good news," he says, "Eddie and Julie are coming for Thanksgiving and they're both paying their own way."

**Quote:** Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a gift and not giving it. ~William Arthur Ward~

Activities:

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

**Lunch Program:** Monday- Friday at the Intervale Café -12:00 Noon-Call (626) 355-0256 to make your daily reservation. Suggested donation \$2.00 for seniors (60+) and \$3.75 for visitors

**Monday:** Free Strength Training Class with volunteer Lisa Brandley 1:00- 1:45 PM

**Tuesday:** Bingo: 1:30-3:30 PM .25c per card. Yoga- 5:30 PM- 7:00PM Instructor Andrea Walsh- \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over.) Call 355-5278 for more information

**Wednesday:** 1st & 3rd Wednesdays-Community Lunch & Learn Program

**Thursday:** Game Day- 1:00- 3:30 PM Poker, UNO, Scrabble, Cribbage, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, Pinochle...you name it.

Yoga- 5:00 PM- 6:30PM \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over) Call 355-5278 for more information

**Friday:** Ping-Pong- 1:30 PM  
**Saturday:** Senior Club for those 55 and older- Brown bag lunch at 11:30AM. Meeting at Noon- Bingo at 12:30 PM -Only .25c per card

Can you donate one hour of your time per month? Local volunteer drivers are desperately needed for the Sierra Madre Meals-on-Wheels program. Please call Darlene Traxler at 626.355.6220. You can make a difference in someone's life.



Monthly Excursions:

\*For reservations and further information call Susan Clifton at (626) 355-7394 or stop by and see her at the Hart Memorial Park House- 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM

**Thursday, December 18- 9:30 am to 4:00 pm- "Christmas Around the World"** - The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum's annual holiday exhibit featuring 30 beautifully decorated trees representing the countries that President Reagan visited while in office. Menorahs given to him while he was in the White House will also be on display. There will be time to tour Air Force One, and to see other parts of the Library & Museum as well. \$16.00 per person for transportation, admission & audio tour. Lunch is on your own at the Café. Menu prices range from \$4.95-\$7.95 for soup, burgers, sandwiches and salads. For more information or to register, please call the Senior Desk at 626.355.7394.

**Fall Swim Pass for lap swimmers and water walkers at the Sierra Madre pool ends on November 26th. For more information call (626) 355-5278.**



**Free Blood Pressure Clinic:** Second Tuesday of each month 11:00 AM- Noon, no appointment necessary

**Financial Consulting-** Joohee Lee, MBA. An Arcadia resident, and a financial service professional with New York Life Insurance Company in Pasadena. She will be volunteering on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Hart Memorial Park House from 10:00AM- Noon. Please call (626) 355-7394 for an appointment.

Meals-On-Wheels:

Meals are delivered to homebound seniors through the YWCA Intervale lunch program M-F with frozen meals for the weekend. \$2.00 suggested donation per day  
Call Susan Garcia at (626) 858-8382

**TRUE TALES:** True Tales Is A Mature Look At Traditional Fairy Tales

The True Tale of Humpty Dumpty



After his fall, Humpty Dumpty, unconvinced that he could not be put back together again consulted a plastic surgeon who assured him that of course, he could be restored to his former self. In fact, it would be a real coup for the doctor to perform such a feat. During the surgery however, the surgeon talked continuously on his cell phone and was so distracted that as a result Humpty Dumpty was not reconstructed as he had expected, but instead had a waistline!

Now our hero was actually quite proud of his new physique—so much so that he refused to answer to Humpty Dumpty (which was a nickname imposed by bullies anyway), and asked to be called by his given name, Eggbert. Pride is all very well, but it doesn't pay the bills and his health insurance company had refused to pay for his surgery. Cracked and addled eggs were not covered by his policy. So in the true American way, Eggbert sued the plastic surgeon. The jury consisted primarily of Vegans who, with very little deliberation, found in favor of Eggbert.

After all he had gone through—the fall, the

surgery and the lawsuit, Eggbert was so worn out that he needed a vacation. He decided to take a cruise where he hoped to meet some neat little egglettes. Though there were some cute chicks on board, Eggbert really didn't care for "older" women—they were too hard-boiled for his taste... forgive the expression. He decided to try the swimming pool where, as he approached, he heard the cry: "Last one in the pool is a rotten egg." By this time, as you can well imagine, Eggbert was becoming (to put it euphemistically), a bit "over-ripe" and took this comment as an ethnic slur, but decided, good egg that he was, to let it pass.

Humpty Dumpty then discovered what all cruise passengers do—FOOD! He proceeded to eat six meals a day, or to put it another way—one continuous meal. As a result, he regained his former ovate shape.

As we leave Humpty Dumpty (no longer Eggbert), he and his fellow passengers are involved in a class action suit against the cruise line which served such irresistible food that caused them all to gain weight. The End

*Dorothy White is a fourteen year resident of Sierra Madre. After losing her husband, she moved here from the mid-west. She is an active member and Secretary of the Sierra Madre Senior Citizens Club.*



**The Sierra Madre Playhouse**  
Southern California Lyric Theater  
presents  
**A Christmas Carol Story**  
Adapted by Larry Davison  
Directed by Alison Kalmus  
art by HC Arnold  
**November 28 through December 23**

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87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre 91024

WHEN:  
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Saturday matinees at 2:30 on Dec. 13 and 20.  
Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. on Nov. 29, Dec. 3, 13, 20.  
Sunday matinees at 2:30 on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21.  
Sunday evening at 7 p.m. on Dec. 21.  
Monday evening Dec. 22 at 8 p.m.  
Tuesday evening Dec. 23 at 8 p.m.

Champagne reception precedes Opening Night (Nov. 28) performance at 7:15 p.m.

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Call the synagogue for reservations. 626-445-0810  
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www.yuvalronmusic.com

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For more information, please contact:  
Don Simkovich, 818-667-1789, or Rowley Call, 626-862-2969.

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## One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them* Photos and Article By Chris Bertrand **Late Autumn at the Chicago Botanic Garden**

A family visit took me to the Midwest in mid-November. When I travel, I like to explore a historic house or special garden, and this time chose the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Illinois. I expected to have this well known garden to myself, given the midweek visit and the nearly winter season, with perhaps a few maintenance staff out working. Wow, was I mistaken!

As I had expected, the staff was busily assembling and installing Christmas decorations for the post-Thanksgiving, Wonderland Express event, which brings thousands yearly through January 4. Nearly every venue near the Visitor Center buildings hummed with activity. Both the indoor and outdoor facilities were teeming with visitors and members young and old, even though it was only 35 degrees. Certainly frigid for my California-acustomed blood, but Spring-like for Chicagoans facing much colder temperatures as the Winter approaches. I had anticipated dormant, brown grass, but the Fall's warm temperatures was still requiring regular mowing. I'm told many members come year round to enjoy the café for its views and its repast. A master gardener class was full in another area, teaching a score of the 5200+ students who register for a wide variety of classes yearly through the



Regenstein School of the Botanic Garden. There is even a Master's and Ph. D program here, created in concert with nearby Northwestern University. I saw school groups getting a tour about the history of roses (first used decoratively in India according to the children's docent), and a large women's group who traveled for a first time visit. Retired folk sat reading on benches cantilevered over the lagoons. Business men in suits came in for a quick lunch. On the water's edge, my father soaked in the bright sun and the vistas across the lakes to the Carillon on Evening Island, where regular summer concerts on the Carillon are a big draw.

Further out, the population thinned out, though we were by no means alone. Every minute or two, a jogger or a couple ambled by as part of the 760,000 annual visitors enjoying the 2.3 million plants amid 385 acres. Expansive, still-green lawns create a connection for the miles of serene trails through the English, Japanese, Prairie Gardens, Oak Meadow, Waterfall and other gardens. After the bright sun and brisk though invigorating weather, the tropical greenhouse fogged our glasses and my camera with humidity, so we didn't stay inside long. The specimens, unusual in the

Midwest, are de rigueur in balmy Los Angeles, so we saved that for another day! As with our local Huntington Gardens and LA Arboretum, there's simply too much to take in at one visit.

The price of parking at the Chicago Botanic is rather steep, but a bike path connects to the well-used, hundreds of off-road miles dedicated throughout the Chicago area, including the extensive Forest Preserve System and a leg right down to the beach at Lake Michigan.

After growing up here in Chicago, I often feel most at home in the symmetrical plantings of the English Gardens, though I found the native white prairie grasses arrestingly beautiful, clumped up close along a path and en masse, waving in the wind at a distance.

Chicago's topography is mostly flat, as it is the plains, after all. So vistas are an important draw for Midwest visitors. The lagoons created by post Depression work crews were reconfigured through the years since the 1970's opening of this incredible Chicagoland treasure.

They brilliantly reflected the clear sky with just a ripple across the waters. An allee of leafless trees near the Visitor Center has been aligned like soldiers at attention, for a directed view from land to water and islands beyond. Still a "young garden" with only thirty-six years of growth under its belt, this living museum of recreated prairie and manicured specialty gardens are well worth the visit



on your next sojourn to Chicago! If you are Huntington Gardens, Los Angeles Arboretum or Descanso Gardens members already, your membership offers a reciprocal entry privilege to the Chicago Botanic Gardens, as well!

The Chicago Botanic Garden is at 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Illinois. For more information, call 847-835-5440 or visit [www.ChicagoBotanic.org](http://www.ChicagoBotanic.org)



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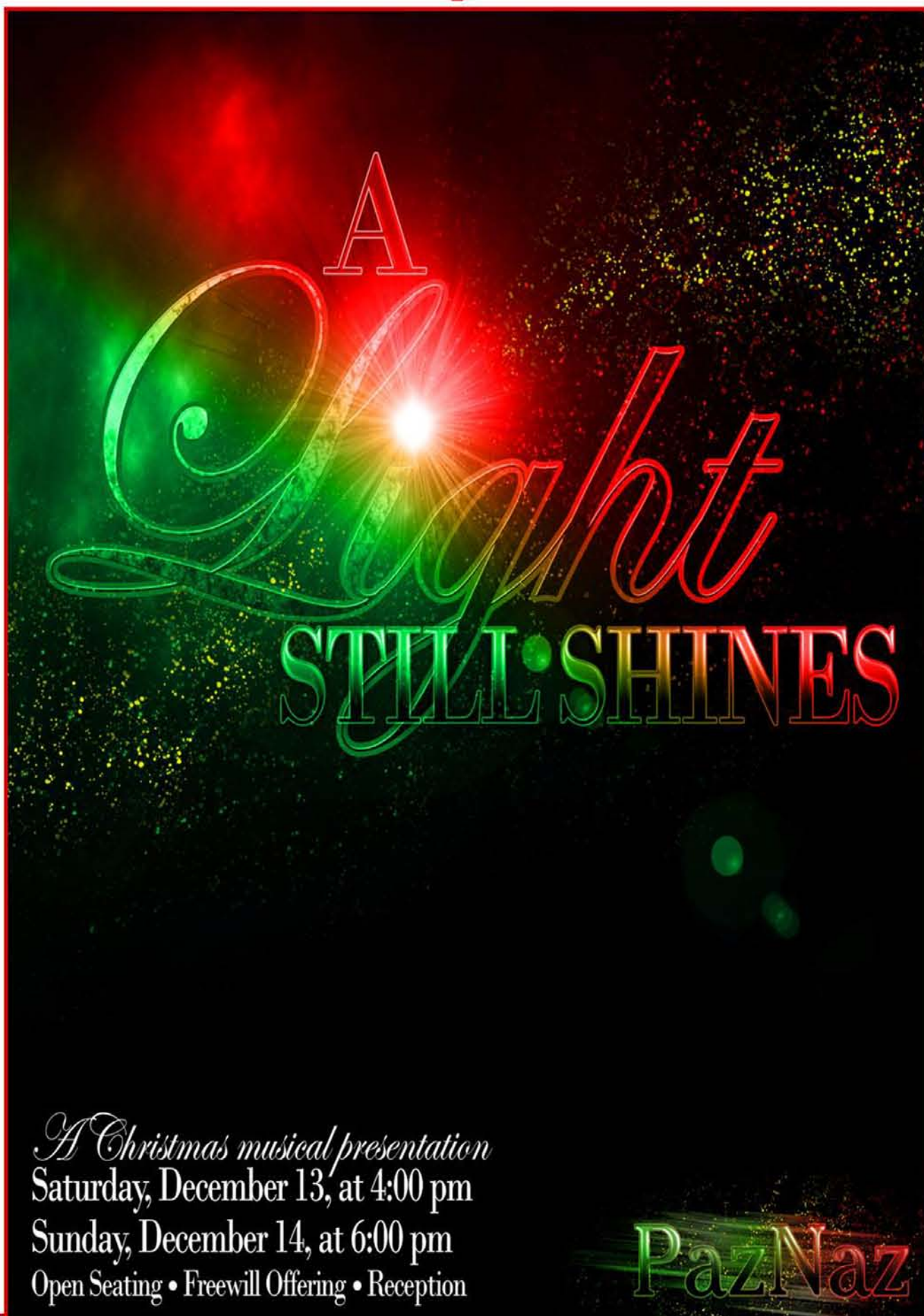
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