

Mountain Views News

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Altadena

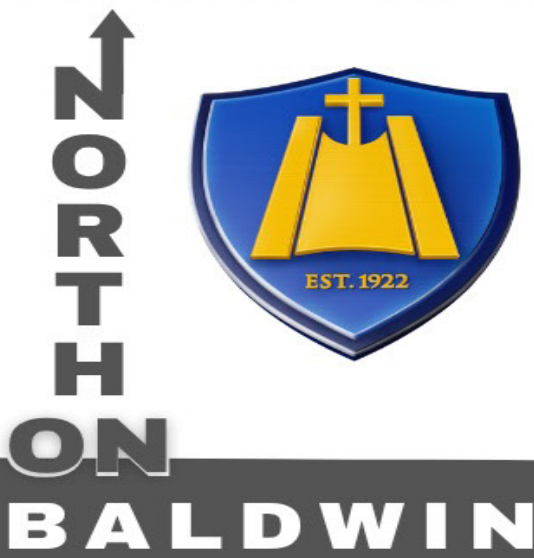
South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

VOLUME 19 NO. 49

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SIERRA MADRE ROTARIANS BRING HOLIDAY CHEER



Members of the Sierra Madre Rotary Club continued their annual tradition of decorating the lampposts along Sierra Madre Boulevard and Baldwin Avenue, bringing holiday spirit and cheer to residents and visitors alike. This custom began in the early 2000s when Rotary members sought a meaningful way to give back to the community during the holiday season.

Over the years, the decorations have taken many festive forms. While garlands have always wrapped the lampposts, they have also been adorned with holiday flags, bows, candy canes, and more. This year, Rotary members introduced a fresh new look by adding green wreaths accented with bright red bows.

Decorating for the holidays is just one of many community service projects the Sierra Madre Rotary Club undertakes each year. Additional efforts include collecting Toys for Tots during the holidays, supporting veterans' programs, and providing numerous youth opportunities such as the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Teen Leadership Camp, the Dan Stover Music Contest, and Interact. During the 2024-2025 year, Sierra Madre Rotary provided more than \$30,000 in grants supporting community initiatives and fire relief efforts. Many of these projects are made possible through the generous support by local residents and businesses of the Sierra Madre Rotary Community Book. To learn more about the Sierra Madre Rotary Club, visit our table at the Winter Festival on December 6. You can also visit our website at www.sierramadrerotaryclub.com or follow us on social media.

The Sierra Madre Rotary Club wishes each and every one of you a wonderful, joyful holiday season.

KERSTING COURT TRANSFORMED FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Photo by Dirk Bolle

COUNCIL TO DISCUSS SIERRA MADRE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS AT NEXT MEETING

There are a number of ways residents without their own vehicles can get around, in and out, of Sierra Madre. The Sierra Madre Local Transportation program (SMLTP), includes various services including the City's Dial-A-Ride Service, the Gateway Coach, the Metro A (Gold) Line, and Metro Local Line 268. Each of these provide means for residents to access to transportation resources. Some of them, such as Dial-A-Ride provide curb-to-curb service for elderly and disabled residents, including rides to medical facilities in Pasadena, Arcadia, or Duarte.

The Gateway Coach which is a fixed route public transportation service available Monday through Friday, ex-

cept holidays, providing access to key locations within the city. For those needing out-of-town trips, the program allows travel up to two miles beyond the city limits.

Additionally, the On the Move Riders Program by Metro provides educational workshops and travel training for older adults to help them navigate the bus and rail system in LA County.

At the City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 9th, the agenda includes discussion on the future direction of SMLTP.

For additional information on this agenda items, go to: <https://www.sierramadreca.gov/services/transportation>.

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2025

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SIERRA MADRE

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PASADENA

ALTADENA

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Weather Wise



6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 40s
Mon:	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace!" Is. 9:6

One of my favorite authors, Michelle Griep, who describes herself as, "an author, blogger, and occasional super-hero when her cape is clean," at one time published a daily blog, "Writer Off the Leash." Here's what she shared a while back and it's so good I want to pass it along. We're still eating Thanksgiving leftovers and it feels like Christmas is just minutes away. Stress? Of course, stress! Some helpful advice about removing a little stress from your life can't hurt a bit!

Before the chaos begins, try sitting still and just breathing for five minutes. Yes, it sounds like something from a wellness podcast, but short grounding practices actually work. Start your day centered instead of scrambling and you might manage a smile well before noon.

"There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour." Charles Dickens

Five Ways to Slay Holiday Stress

Change Your Perspective

Sometimes all that needs to be changed is your mindset. This season, take a good, hard look at all you are doing and then question everything. You could be stressing yourself out because of expectations and values that aren't really yours. Examine what your core beliefs are and live those out; not some totally imaginary Hallmark Christmas movie ideals.

Let Go

Who says you need to do it all? Unless you're Martha Stewart, you don't have to. Besides, she has Minions to fetch and carry for her. You probably don't. Choose 1 item to cut from your must-get-done-before Christmas list and just say no. I'm not talking simply crossing it off your list, I'm saying cut it out and throw it away for good. Maybe you'll decide not to do cards anymore or bake 6 different kinds of cookies. Whatever. The point is to stop doing 1 activity and give yourself that time to do something you really want to do...like watch one of those Hallmark Christmas movies, or have a mug of cocoa with mini-marshmallows, lie on the couch and read.

Plan Ahead

Obviously, you're not going to cut everything from your holiday season. Decide on what you'll keep. Remember, you are being proactive by choosing what you will keep and what you won't then whip out your calendar and plan those things into your schedule. If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Putting things off till the last minute causes undue anxiety. Decorating for Christmas inside and out seems to be one of the things that's at the top of just about everybody's list so go ahead and enjoy that. But only do as much as you really want to do.

"Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!" Dr. Seuss "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

Shop Online

Books make great gifts and are just a click away. So is just about everything you can imagine. You'll avoid crowds and save time (and gas) driving to and from various stores and malls. Yes, you might end up paying for shipping (unless you're a wise Amazon Prime customer) but in the long run, if it saves you time and energy, it's totally worth it.

WALKING SIERRA MADRE The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

Be Present

Stop obsessing over whether everything's perfect and just be there. Engage with the actual moments, even the messy ones. Burned the ham? Laugh about it! Your great uncle telling that same story again? Listen this time. The memories you'll treasure won't be about perfection; they'll be about showing up. And talk to each other. Stress thrives in silence. No family member wants you silently suffering through the holidays. Let people help you. At the end of the day, a happy holiday is a healthy holiday. And that means asking for help, setting boundaries, and remembering that presence matters way more than perfection.



There now, don't you feel better? Take a breath, or two or three, drive 'round town, be amazed at how beautiful Kersting Court is with all the lights, visit all the local merchants today, shop local and buy a lot! Check out the Library's used book sale, go to some of the music events and remember this precious truth: Jesus is the reason for the season! Go to a Christmas concert. Tell someone you love them. And smile. A lot! Have the best time ever...it's Christmas!

One final thought... tomorrow, December 7th, is Pearl Harbor Day, observed annually to remember and honor the 2,403 Americans who were killed in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941, which led to the United States declaring war on Japan the next day and thus entering World War II. President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated in his address to the Nation on December 8th that December 7th is: "A day that will live in infamy."

I'm hoping all your Christmas memories this year are merry and bright, and all the gifts you receive are exactly what you wanted and all the gifts you give are exactly what they wanted, too.

The picture this week is a beautiful golden reindeer who lives next door to me.

*"That First Noel's come 'round again, just like it does each year,
To tell us it's Christmas, a very merry Christmas,
The best time of the year, the best time of the year!"*

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis
Christmas is just a few short weeks away and my book: "Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope" Would be a really nice gift for everyone you know. It's on Amazon.com
Star of Wonder" a delightful Christmas Kindle story, where four lonely people find love following a strange new star on Christmas Eve, is there, too.

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 9, 2025 5:30 pm

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS!

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

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

The meetings will be streamed live on Foothills Media website at foothillsmmedia.org/sier-ramadre and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

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

Sierra Madre's EMERGENCY radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on Sierra Madre Community Information Radio. The station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

Your event must:

- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to radio@cityofsierramadre.com.



Sierra Madre Public
LIBRARY
Read • Discover • Connect

*This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library*

December 8— December 13

Monday

Baby Rhyme Time — Library at 9:00am

Preschool Storytime — Library at 10:00am

Wednesday

1, 2, 3 Baby & Me— Lovebug Music—
Library at 10:00am

Green Teens— Library at 4:00pm

Thursday

Delayed Opening — Library open from
12:00pm—6:00pm

Shelf Stories— Library at 6:30pm

Saturday

3D Printing Basics — Library at 12:00pm

Digital Services — Library at 1:00pm

Sip & Shush — RT Rogers at 6:30pm

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Santa Parade

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Meet & Greet Santa

AT SIERRA MADRE FIRE DEPARTMENT | 6:30 PM

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Stephanie Lan

Alex Russell

Wednesday
December 10, 2025

7:00 PM
Doors open 6:30 PM

Cay Mortenson
Auditorium

FREE CONCERT

The Amazing Harmonies and Melodies of Liszt, Moszkowski, and Mozart

Three of the most energetic composers of the Classical and Romantic eras will be featured. Many musical surprises are in store for the audience.

Violinist Paul Stein, pianist Stephanie Lan, and violinist Alex Russell will be performing.

For music lovers ages 12+. Seating is limited to the first 112 patrons. Stay to meet the musicians. Reservations are not necessary.

Friends of Arcadia Public Library will sponsor a silent auction fundraiser at the concert.



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Winter
CLASSES BEGIN
JANUARY 19, 2026

Thinking of improving your artistic skills in the new year? CAG offers classes in drawing, ceramics, jewelry and more for beginner to advanced artists. Check out our classes on our website and register soon. Classes fill up quickly!



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- Lunch and Learn, October 29: Breast Cancer Screening, Treatment & Recovery

For a complete list of free programs please visit our website.

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www.CancerSupportSGV.org

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JOIN US IN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF SIERRA MADRE'S PARKS, OPEN SPACES, AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES!

The City of Sierra Madre is updating the Open Space & Recreation, and Conservation Elements of the General Plan. These updates will guide how our community preserves, protects, and expands our parks and natural resources.

We need your input to ensure these plans reflect our community's needs and values!

There will be a short presentation at 6:30 PM followed by an open house format meeting.

Wednesday, December 10th
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
at the Hart Park House

222 W Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024



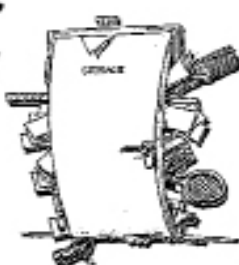
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Volunteers Needed for 2026 Pasadena Homeless Count

The count will take place the evening of January 21 and the morning of January 22, 2026.

City officials announced that volunteers are needed for the night of Wednesday, January 21, 8:00-10:00 p.m., and the morning of Thursday, January 22, 6:00-8:00 a.m., to help count and administer a survey to people experiencing homelessness. The same group of volunteers goes out together in the evening and the morning. Volunteers must be 18 and over and attend an online orientation to prepare for the count on Wednesday, January 14, 2026. The volunteer registration deadline is Tuesday, January 6, 2026.

The Homeless Count is a vital effort that provides critical data to guide policy and funding decisions surrounding homelessness in Pasadena. Additionally, the count offers a meaningful opportunity to connect with and support our neighbors experiencing homelessness. As in past years, volunteers will distribute cold weather kits throughout the count.

Volunteer registration is now open and will remain open until Tuesday, January 6, 2026. All volunteers can sign up at PasadenaPartnership.org. Volunteers are the backbone of ensuring the count is a success and is carried out effectively and comprehensively. "We ask that you consider signing up to count with your fellow friends and neighbors. For questions, contact info@PasadenaPartnership.org.

Pasadena In Focus Winter Newsletter

Lisa Derderian, Chief Communications Officer, announced the Winter 2025-26 Pasadena In Focus, a quarterly newsletter that promotes the City's programs, events, and more. The new issue highlights, holiday shopping initiatives, the Spark of Love Toy Drive, Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game preparations and safety tips.

"The city is working to ensure residents have easy access to important City news and resources."

Pasadena In Focus continues to serve as a vital communication tool in newsletter format, and as a monthly talk show on YouTube, ensuring residents have multiple ways to stay informed, involved, and engaged in their community. To view the new issue, please visit CityOfPasadena.net/PIF.



City Approves North Lake Specific Plan

The Pasadena City Council recently approved, unanimously, the long awaited North Lake Specific Plan (NLSP), setting a new vision for one of Pasadena's most historic and culturally significant corridors. The plan was approved at the council's November 24 meeting and introduced clearer design standards, improved pedestrian features, and focused residential growth near the Metro A Line station, while maintaining transitions that respect and protect surrounding historic neighborhoods.

According to the city staff report, the proposed NLSP is along North Lake Avenue from Maple Street to Elizabeth Street, along East Washington Boulevard between El Molino Avenue and Catalina Avenue, and along East Villa Street from El Molino Avenue to Wilson Avenue. The Plan area centers along the prominent north/south corridor connecting with the Central District, the I-210 Freeway and the Metro A Line Lake Station to the south; the historic residential neighborhoods of Bungalow Heaven, Washington Square, and Historic Highlands to the east and west; and Altadena to the north.

Pasadena Heritage officials said they have followed the city's effort closely and is encouraged that the final plan supports both corridor revitalization and long-term stewardship of historic resources.

According to a statement by Pasadena Heritage the plan's approval marks an important step toward a more vibrant and walkable North Lake that honors the past while planning for the future. To ensure that the city carries out this ambitious strategy, Pasadena Heritage has urged the Council to assign the resources and leadership necessary to ensure the plan's success, and staff has been asked to return to the city council with guidance on those actions necessary to speed implementation of the plan. As implementation begins, we will continue monitoring projects and advocating for thoughtful development that complements North Lake's architectural character and community identity.

Locally Designated Landmark

Buildings in the NLSP include the Saunders House 580 N. Lake Avenue; the Reynolds & Eberle Mortuary 825 E. Orange Grove Boulevard; the C.C. Loury House 397 N. Catalina Avenue; the Oversen Building 1347 N. Lake Avenue; the Santa Catalina Library 999 E. Washington Boulevard; the Commercial Building 1445 N. Lake Avenue; the Breiner House 1495 N. Lake Avenue; the Washington Theatre 851 E. Washington Boulevard and the Former Drive-In Market 731 E. Washington Boulevard.

Along with historic buildings the NLSP also includes Historic Signs: the Washington Theatre and Crown Hotel and Restaurant Supply Co. The plan focuses on four major areas.

Washington Place • The subarea is focused around the neighborhood-serving commercial node at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Washington Boulevard. The plan would upgraded public realm and pedestrian oriented buildings built to the sidewalk, consistent with neighborhood landmarks including the Washington Theater • Medium-intensity mix of retail, office, services and multi-family housing.

Vineyard Gardens • The subarea encompasses the section of Lake Avenue between Claremont Street to the north and Mountain Street to the south. The plan would include context-sensitive infill development with residential character • Landscaped setbacks and greening that complements the surrounding historic districts and neighborhoods.

North Lake Village • The subarea encompasses the section of Lake Avenue between Mountain Street to the north and Orange Grove Boulevard to the south. The plan would include Low-rise infill development with small landscaped setbacks • Enhanced streetscape and more appealing building footprints.

Lake Station District • This is the NLSP's southernmost subarea, bounded by Orange Grove Boulevard to the north, Wilson Avenue to the east, Maple Street to the south and El Molino Avenue to the west. The I-210's Lake Avenue freeway on and off ramps, Lake Avenue Overpass, and Lake Metro A Line Station

(accessible via the overpass) all contribute to a multimodal southern gateway to the subarea. Active frontages and enhanced public realm to create a sense of place • New higher-density and transit-oriented development with mix of everyday uses.

The future of drive-through business in the NLSP was also a significant topic of discussion. The proposed NLSP would continue to prohibit new drive-through businesses, however the Planning Commission would consider options to regulate the existing ones. Currently, there are six permitted drive-through businesses in the NLSP, all of which are restaurants and are located between Orange Grove Boulevard and Mountain Street according to the city staff report.

For more information visit: cityofpasadena.net/planning.

Pattern Keepers: Batchelder Nature In Relief

Join Pasadena Heritage December 20 at the Blinn House for Pattern "Keepers: Batchelder Nature In Relief" hosted by @shagho artist and community facilitator, exploring Ernest Batchelder's ornamental legacy through nature's hidden patterns. Eucalyptus seed pods crack into star forms, California live oak acorns nest in textured caps, and Anna's hummingbird throats flash ruby coin-sized patches—patterns waiting for hands working clay, paper, leather, and found materials. Working with local museums and heritage sites, participants will translate nature's geometries into relief and surface design, encoding collective wishes about a more harmonious, abundant world. Each repeated motif becomes anticipatory consciousness—active projections reshaping reality through patient ornamental work.

The event will run from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Shagho is Pasadena Heritage's inaugural Artist in Residence. A multidisciplinary designer and cultural practitioner, she will be collaborating with us on creative workshops and explorations of Pasadena's rich craft traditions.

The Blinn House is located at 160 N Oakland Ave

For more information visit: pasadenaheritage.org.

Local Altadena Leaders to Light Up Christmas Tree Lane



Annual Community Celebration Marks Hope, Resilience

Christmas Tree Lane Association volunteers announced that the 105th annual Christmas Tree Lane Lighting Ceremony and Winterfest in Altadena—a cherished free holiday tradition and the oldest large-scale outdoor Christmas lights display in the country—is set for this afternoon and evening. Acclaimed actor, director, producer, writer, and activist Edward James Olmos will Emcee.

"This year's Lighting Ceremony is especially meaningful following the devastation of the January 2025 Eaton Fire" event organizers said. "The surviving historic deodar trees along Christmas Tree Lane serve as a symbol of hope, resilience, and community strength. Supervisor Kathryn Barger will join residents, leaders, and volunteers to honor those impacted, reflect during a brief candlelight moment, and celebrate as the Lane illuminates for the holiday season."

The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place from

6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with the Winterfest and Pre-Ceremony Performances starting at 3:00 p.m.

The list of speakers will include:
- Los Angeles County Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger
- State Assemblymember John Harabedian
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu

Christmas Tree Lane is located along Santa Rosa Avenue at Mariposa Street

Every winter, nearly a mile of towering deodar cedar trees along Santa Rosa Avenue—known as Christmas Tree Lane—comes alive with thousands of glowing lights. This historic stretch is the oldest large-scale outdoor Christmas lighting display in the United States and a beloved part of Altadena's identity. Behind the scenes, the all-volunteer Christmas Tree Lane Association (CTLA) makes the magic happen. For over a century, CTLA has been responsible for lighting the Lane, maintaining the trees, and keeping this treasured tradition alive through community donations, sponsorships, and countless volunteer hours. Read more here: Christmas Tree Lane Altadena—Since 1920.

Pasadena Water and Power Recognized for Excellence in Public Power Communications

City officials announced Thursday For the second consecutive year, Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) has been awarded an Excellence in Public Power Communications Award from the American Public Power Association (APPA). PWP was the sole recipient of the Award of Excellence in the Print/Digital category for its "Ottawatta Family" storybook, Kate's Career Date, which introduces students to the wide variety of careers in the utility industry. PWP was also one of three recipients of an Award of Merit for the animated video version of Kate's Career Date.

"We are incredibly proud to be recognized once again by the American Public Power Association for our creative outreach efforts," said David Reyes, PWP General Manager. "The 'Ottawatta Family'

storybook and animated video are part of our commitment to inspiring the next generation and making utility careers more accessible and engaging for young minds."

According to APPA, its annual communications awards program acknowledges utilities that demonstrate ingenuity and creativity in storytelling through outstanding copy, design, graphics, video editing, and web interactivity. The awards were presented last month in Salt Lake City, Utah.

To download the award-winning story book, or to view other family-friendly learning materials, visit PWPweb.com/Education.

PWP provides electricity to more than 65,000 customers within Pasadena. PWP and delivers water to nearly 38,000 households and businesses in Pasadena and adjacent communities in the San Gabriel Valley.



SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Come visit our booth at the WINTER VILLAGE FESTIVAL Saturday, Dec. 6th

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Leonora Moss

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BARGER RECOGNIZES TRIBAL FIREFIGHTERS WHO HELPED SAVE COMMUNITIES DURING JANUARY WILDFIRES

Recognition event celebrates Native American fire crews whose actions protected homes, residents, and shared lands.



Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Vice President Mark Villaseñor performs a welcome song Supervisor Kathryn Barger stands alongside honorees during recognition event. (Photo credit: Bryan Chan/LA County)

As Native American Heritage Month drew to a close, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger honored the tribal nations whose fire departments stepped forward to help battle the Eaton and Palisades wildfires earlier this year.

When the fires swept through communities in January, fire crews from 15 tribal nations traveled from across California, Oregon, and Arizona to protect lives, homes, and natural resources during an unprecedented and dangerous chapter in the region’s history.

“In January, tribes came to our aid in our time of need,” Supervisor Kathryn Barger said. “Their response reflects generosity, partnership, and a shared commitment to co-stewarding this land. Our Los Angeles County Fire Department relied on the incredible support of these tribal fire departments to provide mutual aid when it mattered most. I’m honored to welcome representatives from several of these tribal nations here today.”

Representatives from the Barona Band of Mission Indians, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation joined Supervisor Barger in person to take part in the recognition ceremony. It was preceded by Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Vice President Mark Villaseñor performing a short welcome song.

Supervisor Barger presented commemorative scrolls to the tribal leaders and fire officials as symbols of appreciation and as commitments to continued partnership.

Los Angeles County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone also spoke, reflecting on the magnitude of the firefight. “It is my honor to recognize the service and courage of the firefighters from these tribal nations,” Chief Marrone said. “I extend my deepest gratitude to their governments for supporting us as we battled these unprecedented wildfires. Never in my 39 years of service have I seen fire behavior like what we experienced. As we move forward, we will continue learning and adapting, including incorporating the fire management practices long used by Native American tribes to promote resilience across our landscapes. On behalf of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, thank you for standing shoulder to shoulder with us to save lives and protect our communities.”

Fire Chief Keith Alexander of the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation expressed deep appreciation for the recognition. “On behalf of the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and San Manuel Fire Department, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Supervisor Barger and



Members of the Yurok Nation fire department stand in front of a Yurok firefighting vehicle as they prepared to deploy to the Los Angeles region (Photo credit: Yurok Nation)

the entire Board of Supervisors for recognition of our efforts,” he said. “Your acknowledgement not only honors the bravery of our personnel, but also uplifts the spirit of our nation. We are proud to stand alongside the Los Angeles County Fire Department to protect lives and the land that we all cherish.”

The fifteen tribal nations that contributed mutual aid during the Los Angeles wildfires included the Barona Band of Mission Indians, Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, Klamath Tribes, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Navajo Nation, Pala Band of Mission Indians, Pechanga Band of Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, and the Yurok Tribe.

Leaders from the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission were also present, including Chair Shawn Imitates Dog, Vice Chair Mark Villaseñor, Commissioners Dr. Andrea Garcia, Vivian Garcia, John Only A Chief, and Rich Toyon, and Executive Director Alexandra Valdes.

Each year, the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission selects a theme for Native American Heritage Month. This year’s theme is Firekeepers: Honoring Tribal Firefighters, Indigenous Stewardship, and Future Ancestors. “I cannot think of a more fitting theme to acknowledge all Los Angeles County has endured and overcome in 2025,” said Supervisor Barger.

REMEMBRANCE

Prominent Civic Leader Edgar Bourne, Jr.

A lifetime Monrovia/Duarte resident passed suddenly last month. Edgar Bourne, Jr. was a successful entrepreneur and family man who accomplished much for our region but had so much more scheduled. He had been contracted to help rebuild several homes and businesses that were destroyed and damaged by the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Altadena wildfires.



Bourne Construction, Inc. is a state licensed general contractor/developer with 45 years of professional experience. Edgar’s inventory of custom designed single family, multiple family homes, apartment and condominium complexes and townhouses are located throughout Southern California. Not limited to Monrovia and Duarte, he provided housing solutions, urban in-fill abodes that foster ideal community living and home ownership, as well as retail and industrial developments for many. He was engaged by various cities and had a stellar reputation for delivering high quality and cost effective edifices.

Edgar attended Monrovia’s public elementary, both Clifton and Santa Fe Middle schools and graduated from Monrovia High in 1975. In middle school, he met the love of his life, Sondra. They became friends, later married, had a son, and two daughters, and three grandchildren. The Bournes have been a hardworking, productive family for 44 years.

After high school, Edgar worked for a local Mobile gas station and at Disneyland in Anaheim. He was then employed by Southern California Gas Company and had a 39-year career before retiring in 2018.

Monrovia Mayor Becky Shevlin said, “We acknowledge and honor Edgar’s longtime roots in the Monrovia Community and we are tremendously grateful for his many contributions in building, renovating and beautifying homes in Monrovia and the surrounding areas.” Filippo Fanara, owner of CIBA Real Estate, commented, “Edgar was one of the better men along this journey. He was not afraid to roll up his sleeves and quietly lead the way.”

“The City of Monrovia, Duarte and the entire San Gabriel Valley lost an amazing leader and trailblazer in the housing construction business. Edgar Bourne, Jr. had a stellar reputation for delivering high quality and cost-effective homes all the while providing jobs to our communities. He will be greatly missed,” said former California State Assemblymember Chris Holden. Services were held on Friday, Dec 5 at First Presbyterian Church, Monrovia

PROPOSAL TO PLACE DOWNTOWN MONROVIA ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ADVANCES



On December 2, the Monrovia Historic Preservation Group (MOHPPG) presented their efforts to place Downtown Monrovia (Old Town), Myrtle Avenue from Palm to Olive and the surrounding blocks, on the National Register of Historic Places. The effort highlights Old Town’s long-standing role as the heart of the community and aims to formally recognize its architectural and cultural significance.

If awarded, the designation could open the door to federal and state preservation incentives, including grants and tax credits for qualifying rehabilitation work. It would also add Old Town Monrovia to a national archival database and allow the community to celebrate the designation with an official plaque.

A National Register listing does not impose new restrictions on private property owners. It does not limit how owners may use, develop, modify, or even sell their buildings unless federal funding or permits are involved. Zoning rules and regulations remain the same with or without the listing and designation.

ARCADIA ASSISTEENS DONATE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO LOCAL PROGRAM

In November, the Arcadia Assisteens donated \$5,000 in Vons gift cards to the California Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Foundation, in support of the backstretch/back of the track workers at Santa Anita Park race track. As part of their philanthropic programs, the Arcadia Assistance League and Assisteens have donated time, clothing, and money to the backstretch program for many years. About Assistance League of Arcadia

Serving the communities of Arcadia, Alhambra, Duarte, Monrovia, Rosemead, San Gabriel, and Temple City, Assistance League of Arcadia transforms lives and strengthens our community, through community-based programs. For more information, please visit www.alarcadia.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Pictured Above: (l to r) Angela Valverde - California Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Foundation, Aracely Cedeno - California Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Foundation, Chloe Nguyen - Arcadia Assisteens, Chair 2025-26 Cristina Halstead - Arcadia Assisteens, Coordinator, Ann Sotowa, Arcadia Assistance League, President

THE SPIRIT OF GRATITUDE.....

The spirit of gratitude began early on Thanksgiving Day at St. Rita School's annual Dad's Turkey Bowl. With friendly smiles masking their fierce competitiveness, this community tradition brought together enthusiastic fathers, supported by mothers and their children cheering for a morning of camaraderie and football.

This year's Turkey Bowl was facilitated by St. Rita School dad, Brian Johansing, who provided a perfect start to the holiday festivities for the participating families. The friendly but sweaty competition was a display of community bonding, with fathers showing off their athletic skills and their children admiring them from the sidelines.



The morning was made extra special by the participation of distinguished community member: Mark Lopez of the Sierra Madre Police Department. Officer Lopez's presence on the field emphasizes the strong partnership between the school and local law enforcement, adding an element of civic pride to the morning's activities. His participation was a highlight, embodying the community's commitment to involvement and good sportsmanship.

The Dad's Turkey Bowl is more than just a game; it reinforces the bond between St. Rita School families and creates lasting memories year after year. The game concluded with handshakes and high-fives, and the families went home with a healthy appetite, full of hearts ready to celebrate Thanksgiving Day.

▶▶▶ BE A STUDENT COMMISSIONER

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Arcadia High School 180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007 Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee bforsee@ausd.net Arroyo Pacific Academy 41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca, (626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org	Monrovia High School 325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us Odyssey Charter School 725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001 (626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill website: www.odysseycharterschool.org Pasadena High School 2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca. (626) 396-5880 Principal: Dr. Eric Barba website: http://phs.pusd.us
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The Gooden School 192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-2410 Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner website: www.goodenschool.org	Pasadena Unified School District 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109 (626) 396-3600 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us Arcadia Unified School District 234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007 (626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net
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SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES TO THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ESSAY AND VISUAL ARTS CONTESTS AND WIN PRIZES!!

2026 Contest Theme Is: "Resilience and Renewal: Social Justice, Equality, and Community Empowerment"

As we enter 2026, we reflect on the vision conveyed by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in his "I Have a Dream" speech given August 28, 1963, during the March on Washington. More importantly, we should analyze that vision, while thinking about the current state of our society. Giving emphasis to racial integration, war, poverty, and economic and employment inequalities, we must ask ourselves, "Are we living the dream and what are we doing to help bring it to fruition?"

In his book Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. states, "In any social revolution, there are times when the tailwinds of triumph and fulfillment favor us, and other times when strong headwinds of disappointment and setbacks beat against us relentlessly. We must not permit adverse wins to overwhelm us as we journey across life, mighty Atlantic; we must be sustained by our entrance of

courage in spite of the winds. This refusal to be stopped, this 'courage to be,' this determination to go on 'in spite of' is the hallmark of any great movement."

"Resilience and Renewal: Social Justice, Equality, and Community Empowerment"

This theme recognizes Dr. King's commitment to nonviolent action in pursuit of justice and equality. It's a call to action to protect the values that elevate humanity, and to work together to ensure freedom, justice, and democracy are safeguarded.

Your submission should reflect ways to recover quickly from difficulties, trials and tribulations and respond to the challenges facing the country today, e.g. wildfire, immigration, threats to democracy, in line with the writing of Martin Luther King.

All in Grades 4th through 12th may Enter All submissions are due to the Pasadena MLK by: Friday, December 8, 2025

The event will take place Monday, January 19, 2026 at

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**First Impression:****THE ITALIAN DELI ON WASHINGTON**

By Peter Dills – Dining With Dills

I mean... what else can I say but the truth? A friend asked me, "Where do you want to go for lunch?" and without hesitation I replied, "Let's try that new Italian deli on Washington." Off we went. Expectations were simple: a sandwich, maybe a bag of chips, and back to the day.

Before the emails start—"Peter, you should've tried the pasta!" "Peter, the chicken parm!" "Peter, why no lasagna?"—remember this was lunch, not dinner, and a first-impression, not the final word. My father always insisted on three visits before writing anything; today I'm breaking that rule and I'm okay with it.

Here's the surprise: despite the name, this isn't a deli in the Mario's of Glendale or East-side Deli by Dodger Stadium sense. It's a full restaurant with a deli counter, a dining room, a bar, and outdoor seating. It's been open a few months now, and based on the strong Yelp reviews—very few complaints—it's already a welcome addition to the Northern Pasadena food scene.

Inside, Reuben seemed to be everyone's waiter, which tells me the "new kid on the block" energy is still in full swing. People were looking around like they'd discovered something new... because they had.

Let's talk bread. Enzo bakes it fresh daily—Italian rolls, baguettes, full loaves, even piada, the Italian flatbread. With bread this good staring you in the face, no wonder the sandwiches lean generous. Sebastian Maniscalco famously jokes that every Italian restaurant should have olive oil on the table. He's right. A bottle on each table here would be a nice touch.

Yes, there's a bar—beer taps, liquor, the whole sha-bing sha-bang. An Italian deli where you can order a martini? Only in Pasadena.

As for our lunch, the Lucky Luciano All-American—turkey and provolone—was a clean, satisfying sandwich. But the Italian Deli Hero stole the show. It didn't make it to the to-go bag. I finished the whole thing, no regrets.

Outdoor seating is available, and with Pasadena's weather behaving beautifully, why wouldn't you sit outside? They even provide water bowls for your little Sinatras—the pups.

IN SUMMARY

If you forget the address, just look for the line of cars on Washington Blvd. circling the block trying to figure out where to park.

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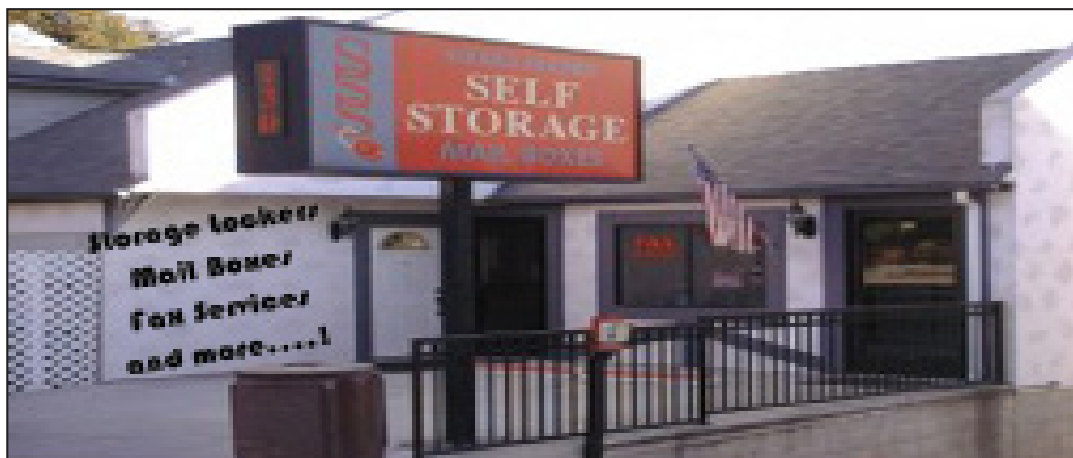
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THOUGHTFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS SENIORS CAN GIVE—WITHOUT BREAKING THE BUDGET

Christmas gift-giving can be joyful, but it can also feel overwhelming for seniors living on a fixed income. Thankfully, meaningful gifts don't have to be expensive. With a little creativity, seniors can give heartfelt presents that friends and family will truly appreciate—without straining the budget.

Homemade gifts are always special, and many require only simple, low-cost materials. Seniors who enjoy crafting might knit small dishcloths, crochet ornaments, or create handmade greeting cards. These personalized items often become treasured keepsakes. Baking also makes a wonderful gift: a tin of cookies, a small loaf of banana bread, or a jar of homemade jam adds a warm, personal touch to holiday celebrations.



For seniors who prefer practical presents, small everyday items can still feel thoughtful. A pocket calendar, a pretty bookmark, or a set of inexpensive candles can be both useful and festive. Dollar stores and local markets often carry charming seasonal items perfect for stocking stuffers.

Memory-based gifts offer another meaningful option. Seniors can write short letters sharing favorite family stories, recipes, or life lessons. Compiling a small photo envelope or selecting a few printed snapshots for loved ones can spark joy and connection, especially for younger family members.

Experience gifts require little to no money and can be even more valuable. Offering an afternoon of help with childcare, sharing a favorite recipe during a cooking session, or promising a monthly phone call or coffee visit can create lasting memories. These “gifts of time” often mean more than anything wrapped under the tree.

For seniors, the true spirit of Christmas lies in thoughtfulness, not price tags. With simple materials, creativity, and a personal touch, they can give gifts that warm hearts—even on a modest budget.

BE WARY OF WINTER HEART ATTACKS

Dear Savvy Senior:

I've heard that people with heart problems need to be extra careful during the winter months because heart attacks are much more common. What can you tell me about this?
AFib Alan

Dear Alan:

Everyone knows winter is cold and flu season, but many don't know that it's also the prime season for heart attacks too, especially if you already have a heart condition or have suffered a previous heart attack. Here's what you should know, along with some tips to help you protect yourself.

In the U.S., the risk of having a heart attack during the winter months is twice as high as it is during the summertime. Why? There are a number of factors, and they're not all linked to cold weather. Even people who live in warm climates have an increased risk. Here are the areas you need to pay extra attention to this winter.

Cold temperatures: When a person gets cold, the body responds by constricting the blood vessels to help the body maintain heat. This causes blood pressure to go up and makes the heart work harder. Cold temperatures can also increase levels of certain proteins that can thicken the blood and increase the risk for blood clots. So, stay warm this winter and when you do have to go outside, make sure you bundle up in layers with gloves and a hat, and place a scarf over your mouth and nose to warm up the air before you breathe it in.

Snow shoveling: Studies have shown that heart attack rates jump dramatically in the first few days after a major snowstorm, usually a result of snow shoveling. Shoveling snow is a very strenuous activity that raises blood pressure and stresses the heart. Combine those factors with cold temperatures and the risks for heart attack surges. If your sidewalk or driveway needs shoveling this winter, hire a kid from the neighborhood to do it for you, or use a snow blower. Or, if you must shovel, push rather than lift the snow as much as possible, stay warm, and take frequent breaks.

New Year's resolutions: Every Jan. 1, millions of people join gyms or start exercise programs as part of their New Year's resolution to get in shape, and many overexert themselves too soon. If you're starting a new exercise program this winter, take the time to talk to your doctor about what types and how much exercise may be appropriate for you.

Winter weight gain: People tend to eat and drink more and gain more weight during the holiday season and winter months, all of which are hard on the heart and risky for someone with heart disease. So, keep a watchful eye on your diet this winter and avoid binging on fatty foods and alcohol.

Shorter days: Less daylight in the winter months can cause many people to develop “seasonal affective disorder” or SAD, a wintertime depression that can stress the heart. Studies have also looked at heart attack patients and found they usually have lower levels of vitamin D (which comes from sunlight) than people with healthy hearts. To boost your vitamin D this winter, consider taking a supplement that contains between 1,000 and 2,000 international units (IU) per day.

Flu season: Studies show that people who get flu shots have a lower heart attack risk. It's known that the inflammatory reaction set off by a flu infection can increase blood clotting which can lead to heart attacks in vulnerable people. So, if you haven't already done so this year, get a flu shot and Covid-19 booster for protection. And, if you've never been vaccinated for RSV or pneumococcal pneumonia, you should consider getting these vaccines too.

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



SENIOR HAPPENINGS

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OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

A SURPRISED PRE-CHRISTMAS GIFT SPECIAL



I enjoy everything about Christmas except that I'm not so fond of Christmas shopping. That is not something I enjoy. Compared to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, who is the Queen of cash registers, I am not qualified to do shopping.

Mostly, I don't know how to get a present for The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage because she has everything she needs. And for me to find out one thing that she needs for Christmas would be a miracle in and of itself.

Something happened this week that encouraged me in this line. I got a pre-Christmas gift that I was not expecting.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was using a paper cutter for her Christmas card work in my office. All of a sudden, I heard her groan in agony. She walked out carrying a paper cutting board, and told me it broke while cutting some paper.

"I'm just going to throw it away and use another board."

"Wait a minute," I said, "maybe I can fix it for you?"

It took her a while to calm down from hilariously laughing at me. Then she said, "What, you fix something?" and continued laughing.

One of the levers popped out of its socket, and it was almost impossible to put it back in.

She handed it to me, walked away snickering, and I began looking at the little board, trying to figure out what I could do.

I thought about this for a while, thinking it would be an excellent opportunity to challenge that image of me. What would happen if I could fix this little cutting board and hand it back to her?

Looking at that cutting board, I didn't know where to start. You have to know where to start in order to fix something, and I needed to figure how to begin this project.

After fiddling with it for several minutes, I suddenly saw how it could be fixed. I was surprised at myself. But with a little twisting and turning, I could pop that lever back in where it belonged. When I did that, the board was back to normal. I'm not sure I was.

I was so happy I didn't know what to do, and I certainly didn't want to sing. But I called The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and said, "Oh, my dear. Would you please come in here for a moment?"

She showed up very quickly, and I handed the cutting board back to her and said, "I fixed it for you so now you can continue using it."

She looked at me, then at the board I had just handed her, and in a low tone, she said, "How in the world did you fix that?"

Getting an early Christmas present is a very wonderful thing. I could not have gotten a better one than this.

As I was musing over this great gift, I couldn't help but think of the greatest gift in the world.

The verse that came to mind was John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Christmas is the celebration of God's greatest gift coming into the world. During this illustrious celebration, I do not want to forget what God's gift has done for me. The gift from God is "everlasting life" that comes to those who believe in Him.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com

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RECOGNIZING LOCAL VETERANS:
BEN WALKER SR.
WORKING TO ASSIST VETERANS, AND TRAIN YOUTH

The life of Pasadena resident Ben Walker Sr would make an exciting and fast-paced documentary. Besides operating his own engineering business out of Monrovia where he prioritizes hiring Vets, he works tirelessly for the benefits of all veterans. He's a familiar face among the veterans of Pasadena. As the vice commander of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Association of Black Veterans (NABVETS), he is a proud Vietnam-era Veteran and staunch advocate for all former service members, but especially veterans of color who might not be aware of all the benefits to which they are entitled.

Walker moved into the Pasadena area at age 17, hoping to get into professional baseball. He enrolled at Pasadena City College, partially to further his desired baseball career. But just three months into PCC, he was drafted shortly after his 18th birthday.

This was during the Vietnam war, With no bootcamp or basic training, Ben was shipped out directly to the Navy for his assignment in Vietnam, with no previous experience and having never before fired a gun or boarded a ship. After being issued a thick envelope of paperwork and an airline ticket that routed him through San Francisco, Anchorage, Japan, and finally to the Philippines, he boarded a supply boat which carried him onto his final destination, the destroyer USS Mansfield. "It was so dark, I couldn't see my hand in front of me," Ben recalls. He crossed between the two ships in the dead of night via a zip line rope walk. Laughing, he remembers, "the captain took one look at me and asked, "What am I going to do with you!?"



Walker served aboard the ship, loading canons that were fired into Vietnam. When asked if he felt safer on a ship than on land, Walker exclaims, "Are you kidding? Where can you run to on the ship? At least on land, I could run somewhere." Walker adds that his ship was fired upon and hit many times, though he survived the ordeal. When he returned to Southern California, he earned a Masters degree in engineering at UCLA, and worked for a little over 2 years at Jet Propulsion Laboratory while still in school. He worked for Unical in downtown L.A., and then in 1991, he started his own company, WEL Walker Electronics, Inc. Seventy percent of his company specializes in electrical high and low voltage distribution and service; the other 30 percent specializes in renewable energy. He's an expert in solar energy, and have given lectures at seminars on the topic. He's completed his North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners Certification. His wall and files are full of the official recognitions and Acknowledgments from companies and prominent political figures. Because of his work with solar energy, he was invited to Washington D.C.in January of 1997 for the inauguration of Bill Clinton and Al Gore, Jr.

This 77-year-old disabled veteran has a stellar business background. But what really makes him tick is his dedication to youth training, and assisting veterans.

As the vice-commander of the National Association of Black Veterans, he works with under-served Vets – typically from the black and brown communities – to make sure they are aware of the many opportunities for veterans after serving for their country. Walker's father was an Army Veteran and was denied the chance to receive an education or assistance purchasing a home under programs like the G.I. bill. Many Korean War and WWII-era vets were denied access, but Walker was one of the first generations of Black service members to use the GI Bill when he attended UCLA to study Electrical Engineering. Returning veterans of color settled in Altadena because of the well-known restrictions on where black and brown families could purchase homes or live. Black WWII Veterans like Pasadena's Jackie Robinson often served in segregated units and it was not uncommon for many local families of color to proudly claim their connection to the service.

Walker continues to fight for Veteran benefits and he makes a special point to honor the families of military dependents (often times called "Army Brats" or "Military spouses") for their quiet aid to support those who serve. During the monthly meetings of NABVETS, Walker focuses on such topics of importance to vets as housing, VA benefits, education, as well as military academy opportunities for youth.

He is currently working closely with a number of veteran seniors for better visibility and support since many accomplishments of black veterans are under threat from being omitted from history books and the classroom. The National Association for Black Veterans can be contacted at www.nabvets.com

And if this wasn't enough, Walker has done basketball training and coaching with youth at Pasadena area YMCA and the Boys Club, and other schools, for nearly 30 years. He received an official acknowledgment from the County of Los Angeles, signed by Kathryn Barger, to recognize him as a "role model as a result of his work with Aspires West Pasadena," where he coached in basketball and did math consultation. His office walls are covered with many of the basketball students over the years. "And I'm not just coaching them in basketball," explains Walker. "I'm training them to go to school and become a lawyer, or an engineer, or a doctor. I'm training them for life." In fact, you can tell by his walls what's important to Walker: Family, veterans, and youth training.

Walker hopes to see renewed appreciation and provide a helping hand for those Veterans who might be struggling. "Let's inspire the next generations of those who serve, and recognize those who risked laying down their lives for this country."

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Katnip News!



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Found alone late at night in a Costco parking lot, Odie quickly made it clear

he never wants to be the only cat again. He adores the company of his foster cats and will meow until he's reunited with them. Odie is currently more interested in play than cuddling. However, when he does settle down long enough to be pet, he loves to have his soft belly and head rubbed.



Apply at <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/odie.html> or use the qr code. NOTE: We will have a pet items table at the Fables & Fancies bookstore in Kersting Court, Sierra Madre, on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 11 - 2. Stop by!

Pet of the Week

There's something delightfully fun about Polar Bear — a 2-year-old cream Labrador at Pasadena Humane whose one-up, one-down floppy ears make him look perpetually ready for holiday mischief. After his owner could unfortunately no longer care for him, he was surrendered to the shelter and is now hoping for a calm, cozy home where he can be the only pet. He can be nervous in new places or around loud noises, but once he warms up, he settles in nicely. He enjoys steady walks, close companionship, tasty chews, and patient guidance. Spend just a little time with Polar Bear and you'll see his festive charm unfold. He hops right into the car, explores a backyard like it's his own snowy hideaway, and lights up for toys, treat puzzles, and snuffle mats. This sweet boy leans in close for scratches, nudges his leash when he needs a potty break, and offers kisses to anyone who kneels down to greet him. If you're hoping to add a tenderhearted companion to your winter season, Polar Bear is ready to bring warmth, whimsy, and a very cute pair of mismatched ears to your home. Polar Bear is available for a 10-day adoption trial at Pasadena Humane today!



The adoption fee for dogs is \$150. All dog adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines. Walk-in adoptions are available every day from 10:00 – 5:00. View photos of adoptable pets at pasadenahumane.org. New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.

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A PRICELESS GIFT

Everyone knows someone they love who could benefit from a little more regular exercise. Maybe it's an older relative, a friend who's been out of shape for years, or even just an acquaintance who seems to be struggling to stay healthy. The holidays are a wonderful time to show we care, and this year—when budgets are tight and people are feeling stressed—there's a priceless kind of present you can give: the gift of fitness.

It's a gift that costs little or nothing, yet it can bring huge rewards like better health, a brighter mood, and even more years of life. Giving someone the tools, motivation, or support to move their body can be one of the most thoughtful things you do this season. And in the process, you might even inspire yourself to move a little more too. Here are some creative, meaningful ways to give the gift of health that don't come with a price tag.

1. Customized Music Playlist. Music is one of the best motivators for movement. Create a playlist of upbeat songs you know your friend or loved one will enjoy. Choose tunes that make them tap their toes, sing along, or maybe even dance a little. Whether they play it while walking, cleaning the house, or doing light stretches, it shows that you know their taste and care enough to personalize something just for them.

2. Try-Something-New Buddy Pass. Many people want to try a fitness class but feel nervous going alone. Offer to be their workout buddy for a free community class—like yoga in the park, a dance session, or a SilverSneakers class. A fun first experience can change someone's entire attitude toward exercise.
3. Fitness Challenge Jar. Add a little surprise and motivation to each day. Write simple fitness challenges on slips of paper. Things like “do 10 wall push-ups,” “walk for three songs,” or “stretch your arms and shoulders.” Place them in a decorative jar and label it “Your Daily Challenge.” For an older person or someone who's been inactive, this can make fitness fun again and help them feel successful with each small step.
4. Healthy Snack Basket. Include small, affordable items like fruit, herbal tea, or popcorn, with a note that says, “Fuel for feeling good.” Add healthy foods they may not have tried, like dried fruit or flavored sparkling water. A gift like this encourages better nutrition without preaching.
5. Stretching Help. For someone who deals with stiffness, back pain, or a chronic condition, a few gentle stretches can make a world of difference. Create one or two short stretching routines and show them how to do them safely. You can even offer to join them—by phone, video chat, or in person—to help them get started.
6. Sleep or Relaxation Kit. Since rest supports fitness, gift a relaxation playlist, eye mask, or chamomile tea to promote recovery and balance. An especially important gift for someone who is under a great deal of daily stress and needs to unwind. Better sleep can improve mood, energy, and motivation to move more during the day.
7. “5-Minute Fitness” Video Playlist. Curate a YouTube playlist of beginner-friendly workouts (chair exercises, gentle yoga, or walking workouts). Write down the links or make a QR code they can scan easily. This gives them a ready-made library of safe, doable exercises they can do at home on their own schedule.
8. Inspirational Wall Print. Design or handwrite a short motivational saying about movement or health and frame it. Even better if you create it yourself. Every time they look at it they'll think of you and know that you care.
9. “Active Day Together” Voucher. Gift a day out involves movement but doesn't feel like exercise (like visiting a botanical garden, holiday light walk, or museum).

These ideas require something even more precious than money—your time and attention. When you show up for someone, it sends a powerful message: “You matter to me.”

An older person might look forward to pulling one note from that challenge jar each morning. A friend might cherish your company during a walk more than any store-bought gift. These simple experiences create memories that last far longer than anything wrapped in a box.

This holiday season, forget the expensive gadgets and trendy gym gear. Give something better. Gift encouragement, companionship, and a gentle nudge toward better health. Fitness truly is a gift that keeps on giving, for both the giver and the receiver.

ALL THINGS by Jeff Brown

25 LIFE FACTS TO BE THANKFUL FOR
Realities we often take for granted, but are truly worth appreciating!

1. You're alive: The simple fact that you're breathing and living today is a miracle. So many factors contribute to being alive at this very moment. 14 billion years worth at least.
2. Your body works: Every day, your heart beats, your lungs breathe, and your body maintains homeostasis without you even thinking about it.
3. The power of choice: You have the ability to make decisions—big or small—that can shape your life and the world around you.
4. Relationships: Whether friends, family, or significant others, having connections that provide love, support, and laughter is something to cherish.
5. The beauty of nature: Sunsets, mountains, oceans, forests, and the changing seasons all offer moments of awe.
6. Technological advances: You can connect with anyone, anywhere in the world, learn nearly anything, and access entertainment at your fingertips.
7. The capacity for growth: No matter where you are, you have the potential to learn, evolve, and improve.
8. Food: You have access to nourishment that sustains your body—whether it's a home-cooked meal, a cup of coffee, or a delicious treat. Farmer's markets, supermarkets, endless restaurants.
9. Laughter: It's a natural gift that can instantly brighten your mood, connect you with others, and help you cope with stress.
10. Your mind: The ability to think, problem-solve, and create is a powerful gift that shapes your life every day.
11. Freedom of expression: You have the ability to express your thoughts, opinions, and ideas, something that many people throughout history fought for.
12. The kindness of strangers: There are countless moments where people show compassion or help each other, sometimes without even knowing the impact they make.
13. Art and creativity: The ability to experience or create art, music, literature, and other forms of creative expression enriches life.
14. Health: Even when it's not perfect, the fact
15. Memory: The ability to recall the past—whether to learn from it, enjoy good times, or reflect on how far you've come.
16. The internet: A vast resource for knowledge, connection, and entertainment that has revolutionized the way we live and learn.
17. The gift of time: Each day is a fresh opportunity to make a difference, pursue passions, and be with the people you care about.
18. Perspective: The ability to see the world from different angles and appreciate diversity in people, cultures, and experiences.
19. Hobbies and passions: Whether it's sports, writing, painting, spiritual growth or anything in between, having interests that bring joy and purpose is invaluable.
20. Emotions: Your ability to feel joy, sadness, excitement, and every other emotion makes you deeply human and connected to the world.
21. The potential for adventure: Life is full of opportunities for new experiences, travel, and discovering unknowns..Planes, trains & autos.
22. Science and innovation: The progress humanity has made in medicine, space exploration, transportation, and more has vastly improved life expectancy and quality of life.
23. Books and knowledge: The ability to read, access information, and be inspired by writers, thinkers, and philosophers across time.
24. Resilience: No matter the challenges, you have the capacity to bounce back and continue moving forward.
25. Love: Whether romantic, familial, or religious love, this emotion and reality is the foundation of many meaningful experiences in life.

UNLOCK YOUR LIFE



STOP CHASING THE HORIZON:
A More Sustainable way to measure your progress

We've been taught to measure our lives by distance from perfection.

How far am I from the goal?
How much more should I have by now?
Why am I not there yet?

That constant horizon-watching builds a silent misery. No matter how much ground we've covered, the horizon always moves. We walk. It retreats. We improve. The standard rises. The result: chronic dissatisfaction in a life that may actually be working.

I was recently re-reading *The Gap and the Gain* by Dan Sullivan and Dr. Benjamin Hardy, and one line landed hard: When we measure ourselves against an ideal future instead of our real past progress, we rob ourselves of momentum.

They call this “living in the gap.” The gap is the emotional space between where you are and where you think you should be. Comparison, pressure, and perfectionism all rolled into one painful, negative cocktail. And it's very American. We've baked dissatisfaction into our success culture.

I see the cost of this mindset daily in brilliant people leading organizations, raising families, changing communities, artists, and actors who still privately confess, “I never feel like I'm doing enough.”

Meanwhile, research confirms what our bodies already know. Chronic self-criticism increases stress hormones, such as cortisol, reducing cognitive flexibility and emotional resilience. In plain language: beating yourself up doesn't produce growth — it produces burnout. Harvard Business School has published research showing that progress fuels motivation more reliably than pressure or unrealistic standards. Small wins create momentum; constant dissatisfaction does the opposite.

There's a healthier measurement system: the gain.

The gain asks one powerful question:

Who was I a year ago, and how far have I come?

This shifts the reference point from an imagined future to your lived growth. When we measure backward instead of forward, motivation strengthens. Self-trust increases. Confidence solidifies. We stop chasing the horizon and start stabilizing our momentum.

Here's what I invite you to practice this week:

Instead of asking “Why am I not there yet?”
Ask “What have I already built that once felt impossible?”

Instead of naming what's missing, list what's changed, what has improved:

Skills you've developed

Fears you've outgrown

Boundaries you've learned to hold

Relationships you've healed

Courage you didn't have before

From a neuroscience standpoint, this matters. Studies from UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center show that reflective gratitude, actively noticing progress and positive change, boosts well-being, resilience, and perseverance. Our brains literally move forward faster when we acknowledge how far we've come.

This isn't about settling or shrinking our dreams. Vision still matters. Vision needs nourishment, enjoy the journey, notice your life, and appreciate it. And nothing feeds the journey more than honest recognition of growth already earned.

Progress measured by inadequacy feels exhausting.

Progress measured by gains is sustaining.

Lori A. Harris is an award-winning Integrative Change Coach and host of "Unlock Your Life with Lori Harris." Learn more at loriaharris.com.--



that you have health, or access to healthcare, is something to appreciate.





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

STUART TOLCHIN



WHAT I KNOW ABOUT BASEBALL AND DO NOT KNOW ABOUT ANNYTHING ELSE

First of all, I know the rules of baseball; at least I did before the powers that be started messing around with them. I think these rule changes are made in the belief that shortening the time of the games will make the games more appealing to fans. There are now time limits between pitches and limitations on attempted pick-off throws, a ban on defensive shifts, and the three batter minimum for pitchers, reduced mound visits, and strange extra-inning rules. To me, this is a great misunderstanding of the appeal of baseball to avid fans like myself. The great thing about baseball was that I KNEW THE RULES. I knew those rules even before I was in Little League. Of course there are many other great things about baseball. The players are not all covered up with equipment and padding and helmets. I can tell that guys out there are regular human beings just like me, except for the fact that they happen to be very good at baseball.

Next in baseball I can tell what's going on just by watching. Compare this with football, which has a bunch of unidentifiable players having different responsibilities all moving around at the same time. All a baseball spectator needs to do after a ball is hit is to watch the runner and the ball. In football, there are 22 players on the field running in all directions, and the ball often disappears. If you go to a game, it really is confusing. In order to practice the skills of baseball all you need is a little space and a few guys to throw the ball back and forth; or even one person can hit the ball to the others. Compare that to football where there is much more happening besides pitching and catching, and I have no idea how one actually prepares. Let's face it; football is brutal and confusing muck like the rest of life.

Certainly, other sports are less complicated than American football. Soccer, which is called football in the rest of the world, involves players who are not all covered up with pads and equipment. To practice soccer all that is needed is one ball, a couple of players, and a little space. Perhaps that is one of the main reasons why soccer is the most popular sport in the world; but not here. I think the reason for that is that

PUT THE LIGHTS ON

as Americans we DID NOT LEARN THE RULES at an early age or any time thereafter. It's also much like life.

What about basketball? Practicing basketball is pretty easy. You don't need anyone else; just a ball and a basket. Professional basketball players are not all covered with equipment and are out there playing in shorts. They are easily identifiable and perhaps that is the problem. Pro basketball players are almost always individuals very different from normal folk like you and me. Tall six-footers are short guys in basketball, and it is difficult to identify with them. Yes, I know Kobe and LeBron have had great appeal, but it is very different from the appeal of Sandy Koufax, a baseball player not a person of unusual size or physique.

Speaking of Sandy Koufax for me suggests Judaism. Sandy was a Jewish guy who famously refused to play on Jewish Holidays. I consider myself to be a Jewish person as both my mother and father were Jewish. Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, neither of them had any contact with Jewish principles or teachings. Still our family identified as Jewish despite rarely celebrating all but one or two Holidays. On those days my sister and I were not allowed to go to School and just played handball against the garage walls.

I have always been an atheist and that, for me at least, is not inconsistent with my identification as a Jew. For me being a Jew has little to do with belief. That does not matter; what is important is what one DOES with their life. Staying home from work or School and being with family is not a bad idea but being compassionate and caring and striving for Fairness and Justice is what makes a Jew. One can do that alone, no matter your physique or athletic ability. Maybe understanding other rules might have contributed to my ability to lead a more satisfying life; but the only rules I knew about were the rules of baseball. There are, I'm sure, other rules and guides that might just contribute to a satisfying life. I just want you and I to have the opportunity to keep searching and hope that no one changes the rules so as to make them even more difficult to locate and understand. Times are tough enough as it is!



HOWARD Hays As I See It

At the end of the day, it's all about the money." - Russian Opposition Leader Garry Kasparov

I wrote last week of two billionaires, real estate developer Steve Witkoff and equity fund manager Jared Kushner, representing the United States in negotiations on Ukraine. The Wall Street Journal came out with their own article on the subject (not wanting to be scooped by the Mountain Views News). It identified a major topic with the Russian representative - the \$300 billion in frozen Russian assets, and the prospect of it being used to finance joint Russian/U.S. business ventures. Russia would get what it wants in Ukraine, while insiders like Witkoff and Kushner could make a bundle. Another plus for the Russian side would be widening the rift between us and our NATO allies, who still see Russian President Putin as a threat and still refuse to accept the targeting of civilians in an armed invasion of a sovereign state. According to the article, Putin has already dispatched his own billionaire bros to set things up with American companies in joint ventures, whether oil/gas pipelines or rare earth materials mining - all to be signed, sealed and ready to go when the time comes. Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk noted, "We know this is not about peace. It's about business."

Former George W. Bush speechwriter David Frum described the deal as, "betray Ukraine in exchange for privileged business benefits for Trump insiders." Garry Kasparov added, "It's how Putin turned Russia into a mafia state and it's been Trump's goal from day one of his new unleashed administration".

It was reported over twenty years ago that while President Bush would be warning of Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction, Vice President Cheney would be going over maps with oil execs making plans for divvying up Iraqi oil fields. Now, instead of Iraq and Hussein's supposed weapons, it's Venezuela and President Nicolas Maduro's supposed drug connections. Both rationalizations for invasion are similarly lacking in legitimacy, while both situations are similarly all about oil and the money to be made from it (with Venezuela having twice the oil reserves as Iraq).

The fentanyl Trump talks about mostly comes up through ports of entry from Mexico, distributed by U.S. citizens. Cocaine mostly comes from Venezuela's neighbor, Colombia. Those boats we're blasting apart aren't equipped to make it to the U.S., anyway. If they did carry drugs, they'd more likely be on their way to being prepped for shipment to Europe.

Going to war against Venezuela is more about opposition leader Maria Machado's intent, post regime-change, to privatize oil holdings and open them up for business. Rep. Maria Salazar (R-FL) was giddy at the prospect; "We're talking about the largest reserves of oil in the world that will be doing business with American companies . . . American companies in Venezuela for the next 100 years."

For a real case of a national leader partnered with drug lords, there's former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez, sentenced to 45 years for taking millions in bribes from the Sinaloa cartel, among others, to facilitate their shipments. Rep. Norma Torres (D-CA) posted, "I spent years fighting corruption in Latin America. Hernandez ran a cartel-backed criminal empire that trafficked 400 tons of cocaine into the U.S., used his office to steal U.S. taxpayer dollars, and bought political power with drug money."

He's now been pardoned by President Trump. Some speculate it was to help the election chances of Hernandez' party-member Nasry Afura, boosted by Trump. But again, it's all about the money. Three of Trump's wealthiest backers had an ongoing project with Hernandez, and Trump wouldn't want to risk their support by not doing them this favor.

Billionaires Peter Thiel (who's protégé, J.D. Vance, became Vice President), Marc Andreessen and Sam Altman of Open AI had Hernandez on board for the creation of a techie-ruled, crypto-based autonomous zone in Honduras where they could do their thing without having to bother with customary regulations. The current Honduran government wasn't all that supportive, so the billionaire techies wanted Hernandez back on the scene. Trump then pardoned the man who, according to court testimony, had bragged that while pretending to cooperate with the DEA, he'd instead "stuff the drugs right up the noses of the gringos".

The Trump family's crypto holdings have been reported as having more value than their real estate. Trump will do whatever he thinks would enhance the value of these assets - such as springing Hernandez so he can return to help protect the crypto-bros' project in Honduras. Another example was the pardoning of Ross Ulbricht, serving time for his "Silk Road" dark web enterprise. Ulbricht brought in some \$200 million from his operation, primarily through online sales of cocaine, heroin and fentanyl. But he was regarded a martyr by the Bitcoin crowd, so Trump let him off - on his second day in office.

In trying to figure out why we're selling out Ukraine to Putin, threatening war against someone without evidence of drug involvement while pardoning those who've been convicted of it, Garry Kasparov has some advice: "politicians and pundits spend too much time looking for complicated motivations from ideology or psychology or blackmail. It's money. It's always money. They're crooks. With immense power, but still crooks. Don't overcomplicate things."

RICH JOHNSON

ODD FACTS FROM AN ODDBALL



Literally, one of my literary heroes is a fellow named Louis Malcoln Boyd. L. M. was a newspaper columnist. He wrote over 10,000 columns in his writing career. If you run into him, it will be in heaven. Still, if you do run into him, call him "Mal". (And say hi from me)

Mal wrote a book coincidentally entitled, "Boyd's Book of Odd Facts". This incredible publication is a cornucopia of useless and fascinating bits of trivia. In fact, I have requested of my two wonderful children, that when I pass onto the next level of existence, adorn my gravestone with the expression: "Useless and Fascinating". So, let's dive in, shall we?

Chopsticks were most likely invented during the Shang dynasty (1766-1122 BCE). Nevertheless, you should know the Chinese also invented knives and forks. In fact, the 'cha' (fork) was a dining tool before the 'kuaizi' (chopsticks). Critical information here!

Now this is important to know: Do you ever swallow while asleep? Yep. Exactly 7.6 times per hour on average. Research done by Dr. Clement S. Lear, of no less prestige than a member of the faculty of the prestigious Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

"It was in 1935 when the first knock-knock jokes popped up...Last one that comes to mind: "Knock Knock" "Who's there?" "Highway cop." "Highway cop who?" "Highway cop every morning with a headache." This is important: "Zebras in a herd never all sleep at the same time. Always there are a few lookouts." Like at my house (just kidding!)

The three most famous catnappers in the world history were Thomas Edison, Winston Churchill and Eleanor Roosevelt. Edison dozed at his workbench. Churchill dropped off from time to time in his desk chair. And Ms. Roosevelt napped anywhere. In fact, once, while being introduced as the featured speaker before a huge Madison Square Garden audience, the moderator had to go over and shake Eleanor awake (on stage) so she could take the podium and give her speech. Refreshed I'm sure.

97.137 per cent of all water is salt water. 2.24 per cent of water is ice and snow. Another .6129 per cent is underground. So, figure .009% of water is in freshwater lakes. And .0001% is in the rivers. That leaves .001% in the atmosphere.

Cambridge University Library in England has one shelf of books devoted to the works of deranged writers. (editor's note: I hope to be there someday)

Among the favorite books of novelist Ian Fleming was one called "Birds of the West Indies". Care to guess the name of the author? Yep. James Bond. So, when actually do the Chinese fortune cookie makers put that little slip of paper into the cookie, before or after? After. The cookie is baked flat and the slip of paper is put in the middle while it's still warm. Then the cookie cooker twists it into shape.

This is important: The television code of the National Association of Broadcasters forbids any scene wherein somebody gargles. It's strictly not permitted. Actor Humphrey Bogart was not the first choice for his roles in: "The Petrified Forest", "Casablanca", "The Maltese Falcon" and "The African Queen". Nope. "The Petrified Forest" would have starred Edward G. Robinson, "Casablanca" would have starred Ronald Reagan, "The Maltese Falcon" would have starred George Raft, and "The African Queen" would have starred Gregory Peck if the original producers had their way. Go figure.

In closing, let me tell you how the great British actor Michael Caine got his stage name. He was born Maurice Joseph Micklewhite. His early stage name was Michael Scott. He was up for his first big movie role when he returned a frantic call from his agent. It seems there was another actor in England already using the name "Michael Scott". Michael, calling from a payphone outside the theaters at Piccadilly Circus, had to come up with a new stage name right there on the spot. Frantic for ideas, Michael noticed the marquee on the theaters were playing two movies. He got his name from the movie "The Caine Mutiny" and the rest is history.

The other movie on the marquee you may ask? Had he gone that direction he would be known today as Michael Dalmation! The other movie was "101 Dalmations".

Before I sign off, I must share I ran into a very smart and knowledgeable individual who advises those of us Medicare aged fossils on Medicare options. He was extraordinarily helpful. His name is Mark Spiro and he can be reached at fiatlux91750@gmail.com.

This is Richard Dalmatian signing off. P.S. JJ Jukebox's next rock and roll concert is Saturday night, January 3rd at Nano Café. Reservations (626) 325-3334. Call Wednesdays through Saturday after 4:00pm to make reservations. Come one come all...well maybe not quite all.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JULIUS STEPHEN MURPHY
CASE NO. 25STPB13080

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JULIUS STEPHEN MURPHY. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CARL BROWN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CARL BROWN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 12/18/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

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December Events Around Town!

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ONE TIME EVENTS:

- December 5**
Charity Dance Show at the Arcadia Performing Arts Center - Arcadia High School Dance presents exhilarating performances 7pm

December 6
Breakfast with Santa at Arcadia Community Center - Photos with Santa, breakfast, crafts, and games 8:30am & 10:30am

December 6
Snow Festival at Arcadia Community Center - Enjoy snow sledding, crafts, & games 9am – 2pm

December 6
Family Workshop: Handmade Greeting Cards at The Huntington - Create handmade holiday cards using collage & other styles 10am – 1pm

December 6
Children's Holiday Wreath Making at the Arboretum - Children build enchanting holiday wreaths using materials from the Arboretum & the LA Flower Mart 2pm – 3:30pm

December 7
Vroman's Bookstore: Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Party - Decorate a house you can take home! 12pm – 5pm

December 7
Gloria: Christmas Sounds of Worship & Praise - Celebrate the sounds of Christmas with the Lake Avenue Choir, Orchestra, Handbells, and guest soloist Jamal Sarikoki 4pm – 5:30pm

December 13
Holiday Fair in Downtown Arcadia – A fun day of entertainment, kid's activities, visits with Santa, Mrs. Claus's story time, & food 11am – 4pm

December 14
Castle Green Holiday Open House - Explore the Castle's turn-of-the-century charm. Entertainment, refreshments, games 11am – 3pm
- December 14**
The Lettermen at the Arcadia Performing Arts Center - Christmas concert celebrating the season & smooth three-part harmony 2pm – 4pm

December 20
Flower Arranging: Holiday Centerpieces at The Huntington - Create a winter holiday centerpiece 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm

ONGOING EVENTS:

- November 7 – January 11**
Winter Frolic at Kidspace Museum – Sock skating, dress-a-snowman, build ice forts & more

November 16 – January 4
Enchanted Forest of Light at Descanso Gardens - Light, color & music transform the garden into whimsical botanical artscapes

November 21 – December 28
Enchant Christmas LA at Santa Anita Park - This holiday events offers a light-maze, ice-skating trail, artisan markets, food and drink

November 29 – December 25
A Christmas Carol at A Noise Within - This timeless Dicken's story is filled with music, merriment, and good cheer

December 6, 7, 13, 14
A Victorian Holiday at the Queen Anne Cottage - Tours of the Queen Anne Cottage with a holiday marketplace, carolers, dancers, kids' crafts, and visits with Santa

December 12, 13
Pasadena Symphony and Pops Holiday Candlelight Concert - Savor an array of holiday choruses in Pasadena's All Saints Church

December 20 – 21
A Jet Set Christmas at Sierra Madre Playhouse - Matt Johnson and the New Jet Set perform a foot-tapping show of festive music in swing, bebop, and big band arrangements 8pm



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