

Placer Sentinel

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First Issue of December 2012

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The Skill Set of the Young and Smart



For graduating students today, these are indeed the hardest of times. Turning college degrees into formidable careers will prove to be a challenge.

**Commentary by
Jeffrey Tucker,
Laissez Faire Today
Reprinted by permission**

The unemployment rate for 19-24 year olds hasn't moved much since 2008, and the reality of the tight job market has fully dawned on the young people I've spoken with about this. They know that odds are against them and that it takes extra effort to make a go of it following college graduation. They are also aware that this represents a dramatic change from every decade since the end of World War II.

I recall that no one in my college graduating class worried about jobs. They wondered if they were choosing the right profession, whether more degrees were necessary, whether it would be good to move near or far, and that sort of thing. But the notion that we would suddenly find ourselves unemployed for a long time, or even longer than a week, never occurred to us.

Back in the day, young people would graduate college and go

on long trips to Europe, follow the Grateful Dead, hang out in the college town for a year with their buddies, or casually do odd jobs until the time seemed right to get serious. We had marketable skills and we knew it. We were the sellers of services and the market was buying. The "land of opportunity" still thrived.

No more. I've observed two general reactions to this among young people. Some let the problem sneak up on them and melt into despair when things don't go their way. These people have a sense that they did everything right: good schools, decent grades, graduating on time. They sent out hundreds of resumes but got back nothing in return. Now they are living with Mom and Dad, saddled with a terrible debt they can't pay, and increasingly bitter at the world and contemplating the indignity of a minimum-wage job.

These people followed the rules but the rules betrayed them. Now they blame everyone

else. They blame the system, and they are right that they system is rotten. They blame their counselors, and it's true that older people have been blindsided by this too. They blame the 1%, and there is no question that the system is rigged in favor of the well connected. I completely understand this attitude but there is a problem: it doesn't actually accomplish anything. Anger, excuses, and protest gets no one any closer toward actually fixing the problem.

What intrigues me more are the students who are refusing to let the problem defeat them. They have seen three classes of graduates leave the college cocoon and face the cruel world, and they have seen who succeeds and fails. Among this group, you will find not panic or worry but a strange calm and confidence that they will be among the minority who will find a good-paying position in their field of choice. Having talked to many of these people over the last year, I've discerned the common character traits

and skills sets they focus on. **Hard Work.** All the students who have confidence about overcoming the odds are extremely busy for school, work, or professional preparations. I've met engineering majors (talk about time consuming) who are also cross-country runners who train 3 hours per day, every day. I've also met students who are pre-law who work for very low pay at law firms, just as a way of getting experience. Even students who are music majors accept every gig they can.

They take internships when available. They work odd jobs. They rise early and get to bed on time. They don't take off summers, and the weekends are full of tasks.

These students are preparing themselves for a life of very hard work. They don't party. They watch what they drink. They avoid personal relationships that threaten to distract and bog them down.

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Senator Gaines Sworn in, Elected Caucus Chairman

SACRAMENTO, CA – (MPG) Senator Ted Gaines (R-Rocklin) was sworn into office December 3rd as representative for the 1st Senate District at the State Capitol.

"I am honored to serve the North State and the people of the 1st Senate District and am prepared to continue fighting hard for taxpayers and ensuring job-creation is our number one priority," Gaines said. "I am going to work tirelessly to get the private sector back on its feet. That means keeping taxes low and simplifying regulations so businesses can feel confident and start hiring again."

Gaines was also unanimously elected by the Senate Republican Caucus as Chairman yesterday afternoon during an organizational meeting which included returning and newly-elected members.

"I am proud to be part of our Caucus leadership," said Gaines. "I look forward to working closely with my Republican colleagues as we serve as a unified voice in proposing common-sense policies that strengthen California's economy and put people back to work."

At the same meeting, Senate Republicans unanimously re-elected Bob Huff of Diamond Bar as the Senate Republican Leader. Since he was first elected into office, Gaines has held dozens of town halls and community outreach meetings throughout the region, making him one of the most accessible legislators in Sacramento.

Gaines was first elected to the State Assembly in 2006 after serving on the Placer County Board of Supervisors and as a member of the Roseville Planning Commission. He was elected to the 1st Senate District in 2011. The owner of Gaines Insurance, Senator Gaines and his wife, Beth, have six children and reside in Rocklin.

Senator Ted Gaines represents the 1st Senate District, which includes all or parts of Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou counties.

Source: The Office of
Senator Ted Gaines

When Storm Repairs Become Costly Headaches

SACRAMENTO, CA – (MPG) The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) is urging California home owners to be vigilant when it comes to contracting for clean-up or repairs from this weekend's heavy rain and high winds. Sometimes what appears to be the cheapest solution to repair flood damage, remove a fallen tree, fix a downed fence, or patch a leaky roof may not be the best choice.

"Anyone who needs to repair post-storm damage should be looking for a legitimate, qualified tradesperson—especially in an urgent situation," said CSLB Registrar Steve Sands. "A licensed contractor who is skilled in the specific trade you're seeking is insured and bonded, and is not likely to leave you in the lurch when it comes to properly

completing the job at a fair price. "Consumers can use CSLB's online resources, available at www.cslb.ca.gov or CheckTheLicenseFirst.com, to review the license status of a contractor they plan to hire, and to get tips on the best approach to home repair projects. Any construction job valued at \$500 or more in labor and materials must be done by a state-licensed contractor. California Business and Professions (B&P) Code requires licensees to carry workers' compensation insurance coverage for their employees, and to be bonded.

For tree trimming and removal jobs where the tree is 15 feet or higher and the job is more than \$500, the contractor must be state-licensed. The B&P Code allows a gardener who does not have a

state license to work on incidental tree pruning if the tree is less than 15 feet and the job costs less than \$500. State law requires all Roofing (C-39) contractors to carry workers' compensation insurance, even if they do not have employees, to ensure that consumers are protected in the event of an accident or injury on the homeowner's property.

CSLB urges consumers to follow these tips when soliciting bids from any home improvement contractor:

- Hire only licensed contractors, and ask to see the license and photo identification.
- Don't rush into repairs, no matter how badly they're needed.

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Contractors State License Board Reminds Storm Victims to Check the License First Before Making Repairs

Seniors Need to Know

It's YOUR Money! Make Sure You Still Get It!

By Karyn Engbrecht-Maynard
MSNH

If the title of this article was: *Your Federal Benefit Check*, you might completely ignore it! This is important information, so please read this article carefully and discuss your options with someone you trust. You have a decision to make!

By March 1, 2013, you will no longer receive your benefit check from the Federal government in the usual manner. This is critically important news for many people, but especially for seniors who may feel some confusion about anything electronic or technological. Let me give you some basic information, because this is something you're going to have to do!

- If you are currently receiving a paper Federal Benefit Check, you must change to electronic direct deposit. This means your check will automatically be deposited directly into your bank account or credit union account on each payment day.
- Your second choice is to apply for a Direct Express Debit MasterCard. There is no charge for this card!
- To make the switch, go online at www.GoDirect.org or call (800) 333-1795

You can also go into your bank or credit union and ask them to help you. They will be expecting this request, so don't hesitate to ask for help.

Here's what you'll need with you:

- Your 12-digit federal benefit check number
- Amount of your most recent federal benefit check
- Financial institution's routing transit number* (direct deposit only)
- Your account number* and type – checking or savings (direct deposit only)

If this all sounds confusing to you, don't feel badly. We all get used to doing things a certain way and ANY change is uncomfortable. Before you make the change from a paper check to an electronic deposit or debit card, you must feel comfortable about the process.

What if you do not have a bank account? No problem! No bank account or credit check is required and there are no sign-up fees or monthly account fees with the Direct Express Debit MasterCard. The card is fast, easy, safe and convenient.

If YOU understand banking, credit cards and electronics, this

whole process will be a breeze for you. The real purpose here is to let you know there is help available to get you through the process and you should get this taken care of sooner and not later because you will have to do it!

The Treasury Department has launched the Go Direct campaign as a public education campaign to communicate with Americans about the new electronic payments requirement. The campaign will do so with the help of nearly 1,800 partner organizations, as well as through events, media coverage, print materials and the Internet. Campaign materials and websites in English and Spanish also are available at www.GoDirect.org and www.DirectoASuConta.org.

You can also call Seniors First at (530) 889-9500 for more information.

The Older Adult Advisory Commission is responsible for advising the Department of Health and Human Services and the Board of Supervisors on the needs of Placer County's older adults. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday at 1:00 PM. For more information call the Public Authority at (530) 886-3680.

Storm Repairs: Costly Headaches

Continued from Page 1

- Be careful when using online bulletin boards like craigslist.org. Unlicensed operators may try to mislead you into thinking they are licensed.
- Don't pay more than 10 percent or \$1,000, whichever is less, as a down payment.
- Don't pay in cash, and don't let the payments get ahead of the work.

• Get at least three bids, check references, and get a written contract.

• Contact CSLB if you have a complaint against a contractor.

The Contractors State License Board licenses and regulates California's 300,000 contractors, operating under the umbrella of the California Department of Consumer Affairs. It is regarded as one of the leading consumer protection agencies in the United

States. In fiscal year 2011-12, CSLB helped recover nearly \$36 million in ordered restitution for consumers. More information and publications about hiring contractors are available on CSLB's website or by calling (800) 321-CSLB (2752). You also can sign up to receive automatic CSLB email alerts.

Source: Contractors State License Board

Colla Voce Chamber Singers to Perform Songs of Light

AUBURN, CA - (MPG) Colla Voce Chamber Singers will celebrate the 2012 December holiday season with "Songs of Light: Yuletide, Hanukkah and Winter Solstice" on December 8th and 9th. These candlelight concert experiences, designed by Artistic Director Janine Dexter, include music from many customs and cultures, and are focused on creating multi-sensory beauty that accentuate the mystery and wonder of the year-end traditions. The songs include a variety of genres from early Latin chant, Rachmaninoff, Lauridsen and Whitacre, to traditional Chanukah folk songs, music celebrating light, dawn and solstice and familiar, well-loved Christmas melodies. The Chamber Singers are collaborating with choreographer Debbi Sampson and Pamelot School of Dance to present the Scandinavian Winter Solstice story of Santa Lucia Queen of Light. In the custom of Colla Voce, the audience will be involved in the creation of the experience.

The concerts are December 8th, 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Grass Valley and December 9th, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Pioneer Methodist in Auburn. Tickets and information are available online at collavoce.org or at 530.305.1316.

Colla Voce of the Sierra, Inc., the non-profit parent group of Colla Voce Chamber Singers, has a family of offerings for the foothill community. Giocosio, Colla Voce Children's Chorus program, launched in the fall of 2009 for children 7 to 11, will be singing at local retirement and nursing home facilities in December under the direction of Ms. Wendy Brown.

Colla Voce has recently begun a music docent program, the Bravo Music Appreciation Curriculum, as a gift to local Auburn schools. Docent training was provided for the parent and teacher volunteers on Oct 18, 2012. The initial participating schools are Bowman Charter School, Alta Vista Community Charter School, and Skyridge

Elementary school. The program will be piloted this year in the 1st and 2nd grade classes in each school, expanding to Kindergarten and 3rd grade classes next year.

It is the goal of Colla Voce to support and implement this program in all interested schools, K-5, in Auburn and the surrounding communities to increase children's access to classical music. The Bravo program is also being used in five schools in Davis. Colla Voce Artistic Director, Janine Dexter, is overseeing the program, and local Bowman parent and music therapist, Tara McConnell, is serving as Colla Voce's Music Docent coordinator of this project.

Funding for the beginning stages of the program was provided through a grant to Colla Voce from a local anonymous family foundation. Continuing support will come from ongoing donations to this non-profit arts organization.

TGH Aviation Toys for Tots Christmas Raffle

AUBURN, CA - (MPG) TGH Aviation, located on the Auburn Airport, is once again holding their annual raffle in support of the Placer and Nevada County Marine Corp. League Toys for Tots Program.

Raffle tickets cost just one dollar and are available for purchase at the TGH Airport Shop located at 13615 New Airport Road in Auburn. Prizes include numerous gift certificates for several of Auburn's higher end restaurants such as The Monkey Cat, Lou La Bonte's, and Tre Pazzi's. Prizes also include scenic aircraft flights over the foothills area, Hilda's Bakery gift certificate and more gift certificates for a number of Auburn and Grass Valley retail stores and an opportunity to have lunch with World War II fighter pilot ace, Col. Bud Anderson.

Anderson flew two tours of combat against the Luftwaffe

in Europe while with the 363rd Fighter Squadron of the 357th Fighter Group based at RAF Leiston, England, and was the group's third leading ace with 16 1/2 aerial victories. His P-51 Mustang nicknamed Old Crow carried him safely through 116 missions without being hit by fire from enemy aircraft and without Anderson ever having to turn back for any reason.

In 1947, Major Bill Hendricks and a group of Marine Reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed 5,000 toys to needy children. The 1947 pilot project was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots in 1948 and expanded it into a nationwide campaign. In 1948, Walt Disney designed the Toys for Tots logo, which they use today. Since that time the Marines have collected and distributed over 388 million toys.

TGH Aviation was originally established as The Gyro House in 1947 at Riverside, Ca. airport. They relocated to Auburn in 1976 and they were the first business to operate at the Auburn Airport. TGH is a Federal Aviation Administration Certified aircraft component repair facility specializing in navigational systems and fuel management systems. They have a world-wide customer base and they are a highly valued supplier to both the United States Department of Defense and to our NATO allies.

Raffle tickets cost one dollar and are available now through 2:00 PM on December 14, 2012. Winning tickets will be drawn immediately thereafter. Winners need not be present. Persons purchasing a raffle ticket will also receive a discount on TGH Airport Shop merchandise.

2012 Charity Raffle

Drawing Held December 14th, 2012
\$1.00 per ticket. All proceeds benefit:



Raffle Prizes

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It is the intent of the Placer Sentinel to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. We consider our Editorial and Opinion pages to be a public forum for our readers. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.



Publisher
Paul V. Scholl

524,000 Meals Packed for Malnourished Children

ROCKLIN, CA – (MPG) More than 524,000 meals for malnourished children were packed by some 2,500 volunteers during a three-day Feed My Starving Children MobilePack™ event that concluded Saturday at William Jessup University in Rocklin.

The event, the third year in Placer County, was made possible by financial support from a number of organizations. Wells Fargo was the lead corporate sponsor, covering the cost of nearly 50,000 meals, while Randy Peters Catering and Event Planning helped cover the cost of nearly 25,000 meals. While the event is concluded, organizers say they are continuing to seek donations to cover the cost of the meals that were packed. A \$22 donation covers the cost of 100 meals. To donate, please visit www.sacfm-sc-mobilepack.org.

Other sponsors were: 5,600 meal sponsors: Allied Waste Service of Sacramento, AT&T, Citrus Heights Rotary, Mercy San Juan Medical Center of Sacramento and Reeve-Knight Construction. 3,600

meal sponsor: Southwest Airlines and Hewlett Packard. 2,800 meal sponsors: Atlas Disposal, Cimino Care, Propp Christensen and Caniglia LLP, Sacramento Kings and Umpqua Bank.

“We were excited to grow this event with Wells Fargo, a key sponsor of the event, and engage with more community partners,” said Kris Glass, Event Coordinator. “The volunteer response to pack meals was tremendous.”

Volunteer meal packers included groups of employees from Wells Fargo, Umpqua Bank, Reeve-Knight Construction and Propp Christensen and Caniglia LLP. Many area churches supported the event financially and with volunteers, including Valley Springs Presbyterian Church in Roseville, Adventure Christian Church, St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Rocklin, Providence Bible Church, Bridgeway Christian Church, Metro Calvary Church in Roseville and Vespers in the City in Sacramento.

Feed My Starving Children coordinates MobilePack™

events around the country where volunteers combine and package ingredients scientifically formulated to address the needs of children suffering from malnourishment into meals that FMSC calls MannaPack™ Rice. Each meal costs 22 cents to be produced and packed for shipping around the world.

While the event is concluded, organizers say they are continuing to seek donations to cover the cost of the meals packed. To donate, please visit www.sacfm-sc-mobilepack.org. Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit organization that distributes culturally-neutral, nutritious meals to nearly 70 countries through more than 90 missions and humanitarian agencies. In most cases, the free food is used to operate orphanages, schools, clinics, and community feeding programs that contribute to long-term community development. Ninety-two cents on every dollar donated to FMSC goes directly to the food program.

Source: HalldinPR.com



Around Town with Loyce Smallwood



Around Town with Maria Scoggins; Gwenn Jones; Loyce!

The season delights with great eye candy DT Auburn on Lincoln Way where merchants have outdone themselves include Mickey's Boots and that great window decorated with alluring merchandise include a running electric train.

You'll be tempted by the colorful array of shoes/purses in the festively decorated window of Footpath and holiday lights twinkle brightly at Avantgarden where Owner Kim Wright has laid out a mass of home décor including candles/soaps along with artsy jewelry and fashion accessories.

Down the way across from Central Square at 925 Lincoln Way Kat's Country Korner Owner Kat Stewart has filled gleaming display cases with a wide array of southwest jewelry including turquoise/lapis/coral set in sterling silver. Kat also has a dizzying array of hand tooled leather purses and belts along with suede/leather jackets and cowboy boots; and the store also has vases and pictures in the western style.

Looking for fashion with a vintage feel? Check out Maria Francis' Get Dressed boutique on High Street across from Hilda's Bakery. Maria's prices are budget friendly and Maria also offers up her services as a seamstress.

Continue down into OT and enjoy the variety of Christmas trees lining the hallway of the mall in OT where the standout tree decorated with an oriental flair fronts the Omiyage Japanese shop midway down the hall. Delight the senses with a look at the end of the hall on the left at Roberta Lynn's Ragtime Silk shop where hand-made pillows, purses and Victorian lampshades make for memorable gifts.

More custom gifts can be custom made by friendly owner/craftsman Dan Tenold at the end of the hall at Wizards of Metal where a wide variety of metal signs and yard art can be bought on the spot.

Out on the street, stop by Old Town Auburn Antiques, 1586 Lincoln Way and enjoy the impressive variety of vintage,

collectibles and antiques alluringly displayed by veteran shopkeeper Gloria Padilla.

After all the shopping and volunteering treat yourself to some delicious apple cake at La Bou in Belair where friends recently gathered to celebrate birthdays.

Special Sentinel Stars sent to computer whiz/technician Matt Cummins who rejuvenated this owner's PC in a timely and skillful manner; and Sentinel Stardust sent to St. Joseph's Church Parish and thrift shop for helping the homeless and other non-profits for 25 years.

Stop by to shop/donate Monday through Wednesday and Saturdays from 9am to 3pm. Delights, indeed.

Comments to loycer@suddenlink.net.

Come to Placer SPCA's Holiday Open House

ROSEVILLE, CA – (MPG) Please join the Placer SPCA as we celebrate our many friends and supporters this holiday season at our annual Holiday Open House, Thursday, December 6 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. the Placer SPCA Companion Animal Care Center, 150 Corporation Yard Road, Roseville.

The Holiday Open House is a free event, open to the public.

As our guest you will enjoy great food and beverages, delicious

desserts, music, raffle, tours of the companion animal center, holiday treats for sale, and good cheer.

We'll also have our holiday giving tree, where you can leave a special gift for the animal friends in our care. Gift items on our animals' wish list can be viewed on our website at www.placerspca.org/wish. Local companion animal welfare experts, the Placer SPCA is a private, non-profit organization not affiliated with any other entity and does not receive

donations through the ASPCA or HSUS.

We are dedicated to improving the lives of animals and people through our programs and services, such as our spay/neuter assistance, humane education and behavior programs.

For more information about the Holiday Open House, please contact the Placer SPCA at (916) 782-7722, ext. 102 or (530) 885-7387 ext. 102 or visit www.placerspca.org.

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TAX HELP

from a Tax Pro

Dean Alexander Sr.

The Poor in America, Taxes and Otherwise

They are trying to tell us that the poor are okay. The class suffering injustice is the middle class. Everyone is flirting with the middle class. That, in itself, encapsulates the lot of the poor. They are being ignored as constituents. The presumption is that they don't vote and when they vote they will vote one way. The ones they vote for ignore them and the ones who don't expect to get their vote write them off and their needs along with them. This is just a starter.

Biasness in the Tax Code

Let us take up the tax code and biasness against those who are less fortunate. The itemized deducting benefits for example accrue only to the middle and upper class. A poor person may incur five thousand dollars of medical expenses that may not be recognized by the code because they don't go above the threshold of the standard deduction which they would get anyway, medical or no medical as if the medical expenses never happened. The person who can itemize is one who can benefit from those medical because he or she has other deductions such as interest and taxes on their house. The code, in all fairness however, gives a hand to the poor through the child credit and the earned income credit to mitigate some of the biasness skewed,

not necessarily against the poor, but toward the more fortunate.

Higher Payroll Taxes

Take payroll taxes. Those taxes are phased out above a hundred thousand dollars (about one hundred and ten thousand.) So the poor or the middle class will continue to pay the payroll taxes to the last dollar of their earnings. The more fortunate will have an income above that threshold which is exempt from payroll tax above that level. That equates to about fifteen per cent of less income tax for the benefit who live better.

Although the poor benefit from child credit and earned income credit, they are no match to the great benefits offered in the code for those with means. Take capital gains rate (which I totally support). This rate is usually shown on the tax returns of those who have some means. Take investment tax credit which gives the taxpayer a dollar for dollar credit. Both can only be utilized by movers and shakers, not the poor.

The Obscenity of Pay-Day Loan Interest

When we move away from the tax challenges inherent in the code, we encounter the pervasive biasness of the society, any society not necessarily ours alone, against the

poor. Who would believe that there are some institutions who charge over five hundred per cent as interest rate (yes five hundred 500%) not fifteen per cent, it is not fifty but five hundred per cent! Who does that? Ask our glorified congress about pay day shops? These shops should either stop preying on the needy and to charge a fair interest rate or be closed (as in shut down.)

Bank Charges that Hurts

Another biasness in our daily lives is the insufficient charges banks take from the poor. There may be a few hundred dollars of charges that the poor may end up paying for a ten dollar bouncing check. He or she will pay their bank fees and others who receive his bouncing check. There should be some mercy somewhere in the corridors of the elegant banks. And then there's the higher loan interest rates charged to the poor because they are the ones who usually end up with bad credit. Not to mention the interest and a rate of over thirty per cent on credit cards. Persons with means may pay two or three per cent. Same thing goes for buying a car. The poor buys a cheap car with a payment as high as that of a luxury car because they don't have good credit.

Dean Alexander is the founder and CEO of NFA Tax Help and has been helping clients with tax issues for over 35 years. Email dalexander@resolvemytaxes.com.

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By PAT BOONE

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SONIC Gives Thanks to Local Teacher with Classroom Supplies through Limeades for Learning

LOOMIS, CA (Grassroots Newswire) - With a Thanksgiving message, SONIC Drive-In is giving thanks for public school teachers through donated supplies and classroom experiences. One Loomis-area teacher is directly benefitting and has received funding for a classroom project from SONIC through its Limeades for Learning cause program. Franklin Elementary School, Hot For Science! Program earned \$435.80.

The program recently completed its fourth annual voting campaign in partnership with DonorsChoose.org that allows the public to vote online for the classroom projects they want to

see funded by SONIC. SONIC funded \$600,000 worth of those most-voted-for projects on a weekly basis between September 24 and October 29.

“SONIC’s commitment to education is inspired and directed by the very communities our drive-ins are a part of,” said James O’Reilly, chief marketing officer for SONIC. “It’s those folks, the SONIC customers and Limeades for Learning voters who visited the site and voted in record numbers, who we’d like to congratulate and thank for another successful year of Limeades for Learning.”

The Loomis teacher’s project is one of the more than 1,490 nationwide that received

funding this year as a result of being a top-voted project on LimeadesforLearning.com. Projects include calls for much-needed supplies that inspire learning and deal with subjects like the arts, science, reading and physical education. SONIC and its franchisee partners have donated more than \$2.7 million and funded more than 5,500 projects for teachers across the country through Limeades for Learning since 2009.

For more information on Limeades for Learning and how teachers, students and the public can get involved, please visit LimeadesforLearning.com.

The Skill Set of the Young and Smart

Continued from Page 1

They are not members of social fraternities and sororities. Social life is way down the list of priorities. Their top priorities are school, grades, work, and making and saving as much money as they can.

All of this matters for the future. The biggest annoyance that employers have is being saddled with a new employee who knows not the meaning of work. They have been through four years of partying and sloth. They long for this to continue...with pay. This is more obvious from a resume than one might think. On the other hand, a student who has references from a wide number of established people who can speak with confidence about a prospective employee’s work ethic overcomes this fear, and has a much better chance going forward.

Technical Skills. At the dawn of the digital age, I looked forward to a time when all young people knew programming skills, could fix their own computers, and had vast literacy in navigating the new world of technology. Wow, what a disappointment! It’s astonishing how widespread computer ignorance is today. And it seems to be getting worse.

What I had not anticipated is that the easier that devices would become, the fewer skills people feel that they need to acquire. It is not uncommon that young students today are only good at updating their Facebook accounts. And the following fact still astonishes me: many students today can’t even type.

This is absolutely absurd. Learning to type has never been easier. You can go to typingpal.com or any number of services and learn in the course of ten days to two weeks. It should be rather obvious that a job candidate who is one-finger pecking is going to fall to the bottom of the list.

But it takes more than typing skill. Database management, photo editing, video making, website management, basic code — all of these are important. A candidate who can speak Geek is in a much better position than one who cannot, even if the job in question doesn’t seemingly involve computer skills. Young people who can’t navigate essential software with some competence are essentially

advertising their lack of drive and their unwillingness to add value to the great enterprise of the digital age.

Low Debt. True, it is not long possible to work your way through school, and this is tragic. Unless the parents have a substantial income or savings, there is a good chance that a student today will have to take out a loan. But minimizing that is essential. Smart students understand this. The more debt you have when you leave college, the fewer choices you have when you leave. You want to be in a position to accept relatively low pay and work your way up, without having your finances crushed by debt obligations.

The horror stories here are legion, and the alert students know them all. This is why they look for every scholarship opportunity, ever work/study program, every chance to make a few bucks. Also important: spending as little money as possible. Social spending is the great bane of a student’s existence. Decline to go partying if it means being stuck with a big and pointless bill at the end. There are ways to date that do not involve breaking the bank. Doing without a car is a luxury that pays returns later. It all comes down to frugality. This is an essential financial skill that can and should be cultivated in college. It will be needed all throughout life.

Network Building. As regards Facebook and Twitter, let’s just say that many students in the past have made mistakes. Smart kids know this. They learned to use social tools wisely. They watch their privacy settings. If there is any image that shows drinking or partying in a crazy place, it is untagged. All status updates must be intelligent. And they should be relatively few on Facebook. It can even be advantageous to make your name unsearchable, though that alone can raise suspicions among future employers.

A tool that smart students have started using that most students do not is LinkedIn. This is the professional network, and here you can start forming contacts in your field and generally cultivating a professional online personality. This requires careful thought and some elbow grease but any applicant with an impressive profile and a large network

immediately becomes more attractive to the job market.

These tools are there to help people navigate the tight labor market. It is never too early to start doing what is necessary to build up a well-thought-out digital profile and presence. These tools can be your best friend or your worst enemy, depending on how you use them. But they should be used. An applicant who is invisible to in the digital realm might be suitable for a position in the national security apparatus but it is increasingly strange in a commercial world.

Practicality. I love liberal arts and the cultivation of broad and highly educated minds as much as anyone. But the smart set of students understands that this alone will not cut it in the marketplace today. Practical skills cannot be neglected, whether they are in accounting or engineering, and math and science generally. The last generation that could get by in life without having actual technical skill in practical areas of life graduated two decades ago.

To be sure, some people are called to a serious vocation as a professor in literature, philosophy, and the arts, and that’s fantastic. But these are pretty much the only people who can completely neglect hard sciences and practical skills in life. The smart set understands that the liberal arts are essential to have a broad view of the world, but that these alone are not enough to make a go of it in today’s world.

As much as we talk about the trials of young people today, we all know that some will make it through and thrive in the future. This is true even in the hardest of times. And for graduating students today, these are indeed the hardest of times. To be sure, the lack of opportunities today is not the fault of its victims; it is the fault of terrible public policy that has raised the cost of hire, distorted economic structures, and punished entrepreneurship. Because there is little chance of this changing anytime soon, it pays to get on the right side of history and start preparing for the tough road ahead, so that you can face it with confidence.

*Sincerely,
Jeffrey Tucker*

DMV: “Ask George” Expert Answers to Common DMV Questions



By George Valverde – Director, California Department of Motor Vehicles

Do you have questions about general driving related requirements like registration and insurance?

Are you unclear about laws and restrictions related to driving?

The California Department of Motor Vehicles has answers.

“Save Time by Going Online,” at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Q: I was involved in a collision for the first time last week and had no idea what I was supposed to do. What steps should I take?

A: Being involved in a traffic collision can be very traumatic, especially your first one, so it is normal to feel overwhelmed. After any type of vehicle collision, no matter how minor, you must stop. Otherwise you may be convicted of “hit and run” and could be severely punished.

At the scene of a crash, it is important to show the following information to the other driver or persons involved, or to any peace officer.

- Your driver license
- Registration card
- Evidence of insurance
- Your current address

If you hit a parked vehicle or other property, try to find the owner. If you can’t find the owner, leave a note with your name and address (and the name and address of the owner of the vehicle you are driving, if different) and securely attach it to the vehicle. Report the collision without delay to the city police or, in unincorporated areas, to the Highway Patrol.

Following a crash, you or your insurance agent, broker, or legal representative must do the following:

- Move your vehicle off the street or highway. If you do not move your vehicle or have it removed from the street or highway, any peace officer or authorized personnel may have your vehicle removed and impounded

• If someone is killed or injured, report the collision to the police or Highway Patrol within 24 hours

• If there was more than \$750 in damage to the property of any person, or anyone was injured or killed, report the collision to the DMV within 10 days

The DMV has a brochure on what to do in the case of a collision. You can find it online at www.DMV.ca.gov.

Q: I am moving out of state. I know I need to re-register my vehicle. Should I notify California DMV that my car will no longer be in the state?

A: As with any time you move, you should report this change of address to the DMV using a Change of Address form. Save time by going online! This can be accomplished at <http://www.DMV.ca.gov/online/coa/welcome.htm>!

Please also notify DMV, **in writing**, to report that the vehicle was removed from California and will be registered in another state or country. Your letter **must** include the following information:

- California License plate number, and/or,
- Vehicle identification number, and
- Date vehicle left California (MM/DD/CCYY), and mail to: DMV PO Box 942869, MS C271 Sacramento, CA 94269-0001

A status will be added to the vehicle record to prevent billing notices from being mailed.

Q: Is it possible to “remove” points from your driving record?

A: Points are not something you want on your driving record, and they can be assigned as a result of collisions or traffic tickets. Generally, collisions where you are at fault are one point and tickets are between one and two points.

The only way to remove points from a driving record is to wait. Most points stay on your record for three years. Depending on severity, points may stay on your record for up to 10 years.

To avoid accruing points, always follow the traffic laws and avoid reckless behavior. Be certain that you are driving defensively and never distracted while on the road. Keep this advice in mind, and you will be able to keep points off of your driving record!

For more information on points on your driving record, visit http://www.DMV.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/actions_aps_court.htm

The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Acting Undersecretary Traci Stevens. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.

Broadband Summit Date Moved Back

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) We’ve just been informed that the date for the Broadband Summit previously scheduled for mid-January in San Francisco is being moved to mid-March to correspond with two other broadband-related events. It is also being moved to Sacramento where those events are scheduled to be. Since the Summit

will be so close, we have asked the CPUC if we can have a few more seats for the Gold Country Broadband Consortium since interest in the Summit has been pretty strong. Stay tuned for more information, and thanks for your continued support for the expansion of broadband infrastructure and the adoption of broadband service.

Brent Smith, CEO Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp) 560 Wall Street, Suite F Auburn, CA 95603 530.823.4703

For more broadband information, visit our blog: <http://goldcountryconsortium.wordpress.com> or www.sedcorp.biz.

Auburn AAUW Holiday Luncheon

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) The Auburn branch of American Association of University Women will host their annual Holiday Luncheon on December 9, 12:30-3:00 at the Auburn Valley Golf Club, 8800 Auburn Valley Road.

New and prospective members are invited to join the group for a delicious lunch, as well as lively

entertainment and vendors offering unique gifts.

Auburn AAUW offers women a chance to give back to the community with participation in many local events. Scholarships, Tech-Trek STEM camp for girls, and other events all help our area’s children. AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education,

philanthropy and research. Women who join during the Holiday Luncheon event receive a discount on AAUW dues.

Reservation deadline for the lunch is November 29. Cost is \$25. For more information or to reserve your space, please call Barbara at (530)888-1273. To learn more about AAUW, visit auburnaauw.org

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By Ronnie McBrayer

Where Love Begins

They are simply uninvolved.

Why? Some of it is demographic, related to the age of our transitioning generations. Some of it is the natural evolution of a Western society, and the result of an increasingly diverse nation. But frankly, and this cannot be ignored, the church has earned this decline all by its institutional self.

The Pew Report confirms that the religiously unaffiliated think that religious organizations are "too concerned with money and power, too focused on rules, and too involved in politics." As one deeply committed to the Christian faith, I could not more heartily agree; I say, "Amen."

Combine this study with the respected statistics of the Barna Research Group (which is an evangelical think tank), and the situation becomes clearer still. According to Barna, those unaffiliated with religion use several primary words to describe Christianity, words that include: "Anti-gay, judgmental, hypocritical, and insensitive."

I know not every Christian behaves harshly toward others. The most gracious, caring, and welcoming people I have ever met are Christians, fixed firmly within the institution. But I admit that the most obnoxious, hateful, and critical individuals I have ever met are also religious people. This has to change.

"Change," you ask? "Are you saying we should change our beliefs just to salvage our fleeting market share?" No. Market share has nothing to do with it, but how we treat others has everything to do with it. How can we who follow the loving, open-hearted, redemptive Christ be anything but loving, open-hearted, and redemptive people?

The longer I do this kind of work, and the longer I see these kinds of recent statistics, the more strongly I feel that the last thing most communities need is just another religious institution: An institution that pounds the pulpit and its parishioners with unyielding dogma; that points fingers, condemns, and excludes others from the love of God; that can never confess its shortcomings, admit when it has been wrong, or meet people where they are rather than demanding that people come to it.

No, communities don't need more hardened, inflexible places like these; but every community needs simple, uncomplicated, receptive places. Every community needs launch pads of empowerment and liberation. Every community needs a communion of friendship, freedom, and faith that will build bridges of grace to the world, not boundaries of separation and marginalization. Simply, every community needs a place of radical hospitality and attraction that welcomes all to know a loving God.

I call these places "church." Yes, I know, some churches are far better at being judgmental religious institutions than being living bodies of service and compassion, but my hope endures. My hope endures because where hardened institutionalism ends, love can begin, and the love of God is the most attractive force in the universe.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

Okay, That Wasn't Funny

By Rev. James L. Snyder

Let me make it very clear right up front that I am in favor of as many "ha ha moments" as possible. I could not get through a week without my daily dose. I firmly believe that laughter is the appropriate medicine for the soul. Some people, according to their demeanor, need a little more laughter than they are presently getting.

That said, let me quickly point out that some things are not funny.

Of course, most things in my life and about my person are marvelous targets of humor. I do not take myself very seriously. I am not sure any wise person would take me seriously either. In fact, I would highly suspect a person who took me seriously. I can take a joke as well as the next person and I can give it back as well as the next person.

I have had some weeks that if it was not for a little bit of humor I do not know how I would have gotten through. So, if you can't do anything you can at least laugh. I firmly believe that the best laugh is when you can laugh at yourself. You might as well laugh at yourself, everybody else is.

Then, there are those serious moments in life that beg for no laughing. I would recommend that warning signs are put around these areas reading, "Positively No Laughing Zone." With this sign should come a severe penalty for those who violate it.

That said; let me explain an area in my life where the sign should be permanently erected.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were having supper with another couple. We try to do this at least once a month and keep up with each other's progress or lack thereof.

We were having a great meal and as we came to the end, I stopped the waitress and said, "I would like some ice cream for dessert." As far as I am

concerned, that is a rather reasonable request and quite in keeping with the environment I was in.

"What kind of ice cream," she queried, "would you like?"

When it comes to ice cream, ice cream is simply ice cream to me. If there is a flavor of ice cream I do not like, it has yet to be invented. I love ice cream. My favorite song is, "I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream." In my date book, there is no better ending to a wonderful meal than ice cream.

I remember my grandfather's favorite ice cream was vanilla. He would not eat any other ice cream; he thought they were polluting it with colors. To him an ice cream sundae was as close to blasphemy as he ever would get. "Why ruin," he objected, "the ice cream with all that slop?" He wanted nothing coming between him and the purest experience of ice cream he could get.

Me, I love ice cream regardless of the flavor or color or "slop."

I looked at the waitress and simply said, "I don't care what flavor you bring me. Surprise me. As long as it isn't broccoli." That was supposed to be a joke. Ha ha ha.

As the waitress left our table, we resumed our conversation and shortly she returned with the ice cream.

Upon her arrival, I looked at her and then the ice cream she was bringing and almost screamed aloud. Of all the blasphemous things to do to a customer, this has to take the cake.

First, she had an ice cream bowl with three scoops of ice cream, vanilla, strawberry and chocolate. No problem. However, on the side of the dish in plain view for everybody to see, especially me, was a piece of broccoli. Broccoli! The forbidden fruit or whatever it is.

My dining companions thought this was the funniest thing they

had ever seen. Particularly, the dining companion that was going to come home with me that night.

Not only did they laugh. The waitress laughed. The table next to us began to laugh. The table next to them began to laugh. It was not long before everybody within 173 miles was laughing at my ice cream/broccoli dessert.

Actually, not everybody was laughing. I was not laughing. Broccoli, no matter the presentation, is no laughing matter in my book.

If matters could not be worse, my wife, through her hilarity spasms, reached over, picked up the broccoli and began eating it in my presence. Talk about adding insult to injury, my injury was vastly insulted.

I may have been smiling on the outside, but I assure you I was more than frowning on the inside. Some things are funny; broccoli is not one of those things.

Driving home amid the muffled chuckles on the other side of the front seat, I thought of what the apostle Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (KJV), "Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

I know that when Paul said, "In every thing," it included things like broccoli. I must say that there are some things in life, like broccoli, where the thanksgiving is a matter of faith. *I will never learn to love broccoli, but I can muster up enough faith to thank God for all things, including broccoli.*

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at (352) 687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Soar With Eagles



By Karen Anderson

The experience of being judged can be so damaging to your self-image. As I talked about judging in the article, "Unreasonable Expectations," it can create long-lasting emotional, spiritual, and even physical pain. My personal experience has been forced on me through people that are supposed to love and care for me; right. Not in my case. How ironic that someone you open your heart to can create such pain in your life. It has for me; if not for God, I would have ended my life, or at least be so ill that I would be useless to everyone. Don't get me wrong; we do have our good times and those are fun, but then boom, the harsh words start again. I don't believe they realize what they are doing to me. I go through my day so many times with a heavy heart, almost to the point of pain. This has been going on for many years. For the longest

time I really thought that I was the problem...I must deserve this. God has shown me that this is not true. I know now that it is not with me, but with them. Their words and actions are a choice they make. It has nothing to do with me.

Many times, I have had to rely on this verse as a reminder of how God feels about me. He says, "Who stood up for me against the wicked? Who took my side against evil workers? If GOD hadn't been there for me, I never would have made it. The minute I said, 'I'm slipping, I'm falling,' your love, GOD, took hold and held me fast. When I was upset and beside myself, you calmed me down and cheered me up." It is important to know, without a doubt, that you are special to God. He says so!

For me, personally, I'm okay because I now wear the "Armor of God" to protect me. Remember, I have said before that I do not deserve this treatment, and you do not either. God has helped me to be strong enough to fight back, not physically, but through my words and actions. Walking away is always a good start. What happens, though, when you come back and it picks up where it left off? This is where God has given me the strength and the words to defend myself. I wear a

cross everyday to remind me of how much God loves me. I am in His Word daily to strengthen my spirit. Spending time with God is like preening my feathers as the eagles do to be prepared for the day. I speak to Him every day, and wait for His direction... when to walk away and when to say something. I know the strength and power of the eagles and I use that vision anytime I need it. The verse that gives me power is, "...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on the wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Be an eagle-Christian, and continually look to the Heavens for God is there waiting for your call. He is like the daddy eagle who swoops down to catch the eaglet when it fails to fly on its own. Take wings my friends, and know He is there with you...just cry out!

PASSAGE:
Psalm 94:16-19 (The Message)
Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain and has a local TV show, *Move Your Mountains*. Contact Karen at www.doab-lesteps.com, or 916-961-4765.

Home Delivery Routes Available.



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Widowed Person's Grief Support

AUBURN - Grief Support for Widowed People will hold a meeting at 1 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 28 in Auburn for anyone interested in helping widowed people work through the grief process and find redirection in their lives.

This organization has trained volunteers who help widowed people work through the trauma of losing a spouse.

It has been in the South Placer area since 1986 and is supported by local community organizations.

Anyone interested in working in this program, or anyone in need of "one to one" grief support may call (530) 885-8298.

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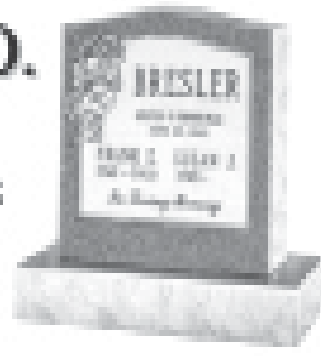
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Miscellaneous
Miscellaneous Items for Sale
Miscellaneous

Painting
Personal
Plumbing
Pool & Spa Service
Pool Tables for Sale Out of State
Prevents Mortgage
Senior Housing
Services
Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

Pets/Animals
Piano Lessons
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Elwood was a cute baby a lovable 5 lbs., 4 oz. . . . and that was just his mustache.

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Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers 1-9 in a 9x9 grid.

Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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Crossword puzzle grid with letters and black squares.

Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

MEDITATION

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Sons In Retirement Holiday Luncheon

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) Sons In Retirement Branch 37 will hold its annual Holiday Luncheon (Ladies Invited) on Thursday, December 6, at the Auburn Elks Lodge, 195 Pine St. Social hour begins at 11, with lunch of roast beef and salmon at noon. All members are urged to attend and bring their ladies. Entertainment will be provided by the Forest Lake Christian School Chamber Choir under the direction of Lyndsay Barham. They will sing songs of the season.

Arrangements for tickets and seating can be made by calling (530) 885-6919. Visitors/prospective members are always welcome. The only expense is the cost of the lunch. No dues, no fees, no rituals, no causes. Sons In Retirement (SIR) is a Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to Promoting the Independence and Dignity of Retirement. For more information call (916) 663-4620 or (530) 886-8441.

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13					14			15					
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CLUES

ACROSS

- Muslim woman's headscarf
- Found on a keyboard
- *What mommy gave Santa
- Idealized image
- Beagle bride
- "Saturday Night Fever" music
- Yo-Yo Ma with a cello, e.g.
- Like sashimi
- Team event in track
- **"Away in a _____"
- Number of football players on field per team
- Zeus, e.g.
- Dog pest
- Boozer
- Red Cross supplies
- Like Tinkerbell
- Absent soldier
- Like Civil War reenactment battle
- **"_____ Baby"
- Down in the dumps
- Up and about
- Tranquil scene
- Officially allowed
- Hokkaido people
- Calm by deception
- Like Thai cuisine, e.g.
- Eye amorously
- Bro's sibling

DOWN

- Used for drying
- Inflated feeling
- Cream cheese on a bagel, e.g.
- *Pipe smoker
- Fictional cemetery dweller
- Be in the red
- In an unfriendly manner
- *Seen with Santa
- *Given name of famous crooner
- Ranee's wrap
- Blouses
- Ottoman officer title
- Heavy walk
- That guy
- Mosque V.I.P.
- Cup of Joe
- Maturing
- Double-drum
- Millimeter of mercury
- R.N.'s org.
- B in IBS
- Chicken _____
- _____ of Man
- PET or CAT
- _____ sauce
- **"I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my _____"
- Swelling
- **"Mele Kalikimaka" wreath
- Dissenting clique
- **"Santa Baby, slip a _____ under the tree, for me"
- Young hooter
- Often describes luck
- Parks on a bus
- Jack and Jill's water jug
- River in India
- Credit card reader writing tool, pl.
- *They are decked
- With little fat
- *"Wenceslas" title
- Olden days disciplinary tool
- Probable
- Jason Bourne's enemy
- Altruist's opposite
- Parkinson's drug
- Grouchy Muppet
- Used to frighten something away
- Partner of circumstance
- Goes with eggnog, pl.
- Greek salad cheese
- Novice
- Original matter
- Greenwich time
- Tail move
- Uh-huh

For Solution See Page 7

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5		1	7			2		
9				1				6
	4		9		6			1
								7
	9	6				4	2	
2								
3			6		1		4	
1				8				5
		5			9	1		8

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 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.
 Come back every week for Sudoku! For Solution See Page 7.

Outdoor World

PRESSURED BUCKS
 When a single person gets heavy, you can often find dear friends who aren't. Look for fence lines that pool these high-gross, air-trapped. This is prime habitat for both bedding and travel, especially if it has woodlots or water sources nearby.
 Old abandoned overgrown farms, especially those with old fruit orchards, are prime hangouts for these creatures.
 Small hidden fields with islands of trees or small trees are also certainly worth trying.
 Bucks and deer are in small woodlots and to use them to hold estrous does to keep them away from other bucks.
 Larry Ehrlich is host of the internationally syndicated *Outdoor Radio*.
 For more tips, go to www.outdoorworld.com and click on the "Outdoor World" library.

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IN MEMORIAM

Marian Wing O'Neill

3/19/20 - 11/26/12

Marian Wing O'Neill moved to Placer County in 1965. She travelled widely as a child in England, Canada and the Western United States. After attending Reed College, she graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a BA in Psychology with an minor in Art and later obtained a graduate degree in Occupational Therapy from San Jose State.

Mrs. O'Neill worked as an occupational Therapist at Newcastle School for Exceptional Children, and then obtained a Secondary Life Teaching Credential. She taught locally until retirement. Her varied art education was received



from local junior colleges, principally Sierra Jr. College and from U.C. campuses. As a professional artist in watercolor and printing,

her work appeared in many local shows. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Robert J. O'Neill, her children: Steven, Judith, Gillian, Nina and Sarah – and her grandchildren: Solange, William, Stephen, Annalee and Benjamin – and her niece Suki.

She was involved in: Sierra Foothill Unitarian Church, U.C. Alumni Association and Reed Alumni Association.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Placer Women's Center.

A service will be held at the Sierra Foothill Unitarian Church on Saturday Dec. 8th at 10 a.m.

It's the Holiday Season, Without Andy Williams

Commentary by Dr. Paul Kengor

It was shortly before Thanksgiving. I was in the kitchen washing dishes when I heard my first music of the holiday season. Sick of talk radio and sick of election post-mortems, I gave myself a breather, turning the FM dial to something cheerful for a change.

The first song I heard was "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," by the great Gene Autry. There is no substitute. And there's no better feeling every season than hearing such songs for the first time. I grabbed my two-year-old daughter and danced with her. She smiled as I sang, didn't make a peep, her head on my shoulder.

Then I heard the next tune, "There'll be much mistle-toeing and hearts will be glowing when love ones are near! It's the most wonderful time of the year!" It was crooned in that soaring, happy voice so uniquely Andy Williams.

Yes, Andy Williams. Himself a Christmas classic—"Mr. Christmas." "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" is probably his signature song; or maybe "It's the Holiday Season."

As I was singing along, twirling my two-year-old, it hit me: This was the first time I was singing with Andy Williams without his presence in this world. Williams passed away on September 25 at the age of 84.

His passing didn't happen without notice, even in our self-indulgent, frenetic, short-time-span culture. I caught the news of his death at a website. It gave me pause. I never met the man, but I have fond memories of his place in Americana and Christmas.

Williams had a regular TV show in the '60s and '70s, but it was his Christmas specials that ran longer still that most of us remember. I would catch them at my grandmother's

house. She lived in Emporium, Pennsylvania, which really was over the river and through the woods. In fact, during the snowy drives to my grandmother's house on Christmas Eve, we'd cruise through a little town in Western Pennsylvania called Brockway, where we encountered horse-drawn sleighs clogging under the streetlights and over the railroad tracks. The horse knew the way to carry the sleigh through the white and drifted snow.

When we got to my grandmother's house, it was total mirth: My grandmother's anchovy and pepperoni rolls, freshly cooked ham, cookies everywhere, my grandfather blissfully babbling on, my Aunt Em and Uncle Rich, my Aunt Della and Uncle Joe, Uncle Bruno, Aunt Ruth and Uncle Sam—all crammed happily in a tiny little kitchen. Most are gone now.

Tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago.

That brings me back to Andy Williams. It's funny the things you remember, but, in those days, there were only three or four stations on television: ABC, CBS, NBC, and maybe a PBS affiliate. At Christmas time, no one missed Bob Hope's annual special on NBC. He did all sorts of skits and gags and musical renditions and terrific tributes to the troops—and presented the college football all-Americans. We would take time out from the kitchen—playing cards, Scrabble, or just talking—to watch Bob Hope.

But Bob Hope wasn't the only one. Other big names did Christmas shows: Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, Loretta Young, Jimmy Durante and the Lennon Sisters, Lawrence Welk—and Andy Williams. Williams sang those songs, always accompanied by fake snow, pretty girls, lots of colors, sweaters, and glowing faces (click here and here and here and here).

Until September 25, 2012, Andy Williams was one of the only big names still alive from that genre. Remarkably, he had still been performing and was very active. In fact, he made the news not long ago for taking a shot at President Obama. He was not a supporter.

When I heard that Williams died, I began writing a tribute. I read the news the same day I happened to read this verse from Ecclesiastes: "One generation passes and another comes.... There is no remembrance of the men of old."

That was fitting. I didn't finish the article. Like much of America, I was preoccupied with less redeeming things—like politics and the 2012 election. We couldn't pause to adequately remember this man of old. For that I am sorry.

But, just as fitting, the arrival of the holiday season corrected that. As Christmas time begins again, it does so—once again—with the voice of Andy Williams. We're made mindful of what lasts. Andy Williams lasts. He makes us happy; politics doesn't.

Andy Williams, rest in peace. And thanks for the memories this most wonderful time of the year.

Dr. Paul Kengor is professor of political science at Grove City College, executive director of The Center for Vision & Values, and author of the book, "The Communist: Frank Marshall Davis, The Untold Story of Barack Obama's Mentor." His other books include "The Crusader: Ronald Reagan and the Fall of Communism" and "Dupes: How America's Adversaries Have Manipulated Progressives for a Century."

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Upcoming Shows in December

GOLDEN BOUGH

7 PM Sat. Dec. 8 General Admission \$15, Senior \$12, Children \$10, Members of the Multipurpose Senior Center, \$10.

Rooted in the traditional Celtic music of the seven Celtic nations (Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, The Isle of Man, French Brittany and Spanish Galicia), Golden Bough has become a popular and in-demand group on both sides of the Atlantic. Since their formation in 1980, this trio of modern day minstrels has traveled great distances to numerous countries, to bring their music to enthusiastic folk fans the world over. Backing themselves on an array of acoustic instruments; Celtic harp, guitar, octave-mandolin, mandolin, accordion, violin, penny-whistle and bodhran, they blend their voices in the pristine harmonies that have become a Golden Bough trademark.

An Old World carol states, "Good fortune attend each merry man's friend to do the best that he may, forgetting all wrongs in carol and song to drive the cold winter away." With that in mind, Golden Bough created a special program for the whole family, incorporating Old World Carols and other Celtic songs of Christmas and Winter with their own compositions, written especially for the Yuletide season.



The Golden Bough Trio.

For tickets, go to www.musicandmore.net
Or call 530-305-0938
Buy tickets at the door at 11596 D Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

MEN OF WORTH

7 PM Sat. December 22 General Admission \$15, Seniors \$12, Children \$10, Members of the Multipurpose Senior Center, \$10.

FROM Scotland's Outer islands and Ireland's west, some of America's most authentic musical heritage is coming to The Irish Scottish folk music duo, Men of Worth will perform at: local venue, Date, time, phone, website, etc.... Men of Worth's tunes and songs are so authentic, so closely connected to their heritage, that Scotsman Donnie Macdonald sings some in his native Gaelic; while Irishman James Keigher includes time-polished pieces saved from the oral traditions of his native County Mayo. "Our music has its history in the crofting life of my Hebridean homeland and James' western Ireland. It was a part of the fabric of everyday life and it came to America with the immigrants a century ago", explained Macdonald. "Now, we're playing it again, to audiences for whom it could only

be a generational memory".

"For us, the irony is we were brought up in Scotland and Ireland, and as boys we listened most eagerly to the music of America, and not especially to the music of our own areas. On our radios, we heard Hank Williams Sr. and Jim Reeves. We wanted to see the Arkansas River, not Loch Lomond, and Reeves' hometown of Carthage, in east Texas, had more romance for me than did the Isle of Lewis". "Joni Mitchell, Neil Young and Crosby, Stills and Nash influenced me greatly", admitted Keigher, who as a teen was already performing his own songs in the Irish pubs where he learned his wit and humor. "But now I have returned to my own musical bloodlines, too." The pair could not escape the emotion and tradition of their homeland song heritage. "We could not grow away from those sounds", said Macdonald, "so we have preserved them as accurately and

authentically as we can, in our performances". "We entertain people with the real music of our regions; we have an ancient yet fresh musical story to tell".

Sometimes that music comes from prosaic sources – Keigher wrote one song after overhearing two old ladies gossiping about him in a village market – and sometimes from traditional music passed down the generations. Several of Macdonald's songs come from his mother's own poetry and from Hebridean crofters' airs. The musicians, who met in California in 1985, each play a handful of instruments, among them mandolin, guitar, mandocello, banjo, concertina and bodhran (a handheld drum). They have played concerts across the US, from Alaska to Texas. They also take guided tours to their own musical roots: leading folk fans to the western isles of Scotland and to Ireland's heartland to hear the real music of the isles.

Placer Pops Chorale Candlelight Concert Series: "A Holiday Homecoming"



such as "The Christmas Song," "Joy to the World," "God Bless Us Everyone," (from Disney's "A Christmas Carol"), "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and much more!

When: Dec 8 at 7:00 p.m.
Dec 9 at 2:00 p.m.
Where: Three Stages at Folsom Lake College
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Cost: \$20-\$35
Information/Tickets: (916) 608-6888 or www.threestages.net.

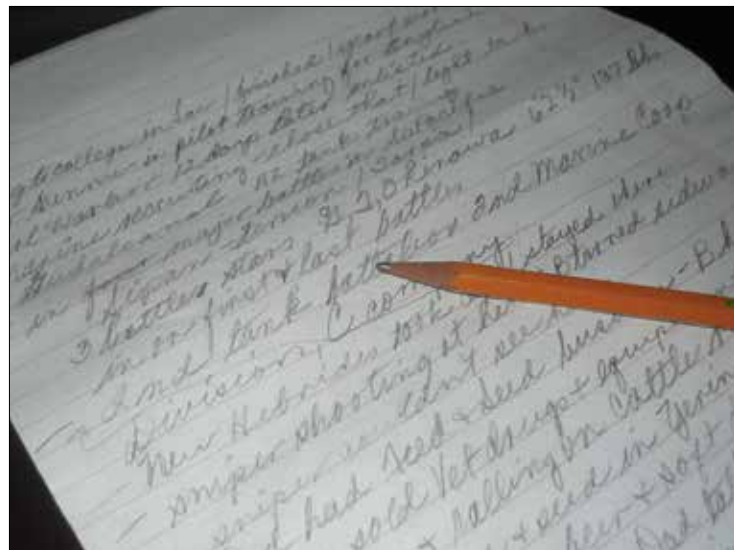
When: Dec 14 at 7:30 p.m.
Dec 15 at 2:00 p.m.
Dec 16 at 2:00 p.m.
Where: Dietrich Theatre at Sierra College
5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin
Cost: \$15-\$30

Information/Tickets: (800) 838-3006 or www.placerpops.org.

Capture the spirit of the season with timeless and heartwarming Christmas classics! This always-popular holiday series,

performed by the Placer Pops Chorale and its orchestra, showcases traditional, pop and even humorous choral arrangements

Clean Up That Manuscript



By Chery Anderson

Are you a writer with a book begging to be printed? Putting your darling in readable form is a daunting task.

The Gold Country Writers is presenting a panel discussion that will make the problem manageable. Titled *Clean Up That Manuscript!* it will be on December 19, 2012 from 10 am to noon in The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA.

An author, three editors and a publisher will discuss the common mistakes made in manuscripts and offer solutions.

A question and answer period will follow each speaker.

The Gold Country Writers is a group of authors, aspiring authors, any others promoting local writers who meet every Wednesday at 10 am, at Depoe Bay Coffee Shop. Find more on their website www.goldcountrywriters.com.

CLEAN UP THAT MANUSCRIPT

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• Rewriting, Cutting, Editing:
Marsha Ross
Advancing the goals of the protagonist through story arc
• To Be or Not To Be:
Susan Rushton
Words that flatten and slow the flow
• Problems That Shout "Amateur Writer": Alton Pryor
Show don't tell to place the reader in the scene
Panel discussion will start about 10:15 with each speaker having 10 to 15 minutes with 5 minutes for questions. Program should end about 12 noon.
For more info: taleteller2@gmail.com.

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with Mary Jane Popp

Astaxanthin, taken daily, reversed aging in middle-aged women in only 6 weeks. Dr. Jones takes 12 mg daily. Please refer to her website for detailed information. You can also get a 25% discount on your order if you use the code Vibrant. You can call 800-453-1187. Incidentally, Dr. Jones told me she is not affiliated monetarily with any of the companies she tells us about. They are just products she uses herself.

4) Keep Your Body Hydrated. Make sure you drink plenty of purified water every day--at least 6-8 large glasses, in-between meals. Water moisturizes your skin from the inside out and helps eliminate toxins through the skin. Lack of moisture in your skin creates wrinkles just like plums create prunes and grapes create raisins.

5) Exercise Your Way To Radiance. Exercise is also a natural and effective way to increase the health of the skin by increasing circulation, eliminating toxins through the skin and giving skin that healthy glow. After aerobic exercise, such as brisk walking, jogging, cycling, hiking, swimming, or aerobic classes, the skin takes on a beautiful natural glow that no makeup artist could duplicate.

6) De-Stress In An Infrared Sauna. An infrared sauna is the best kind for your body and skin. After only one use, your skin will glow. For more info on Dr. Jones favorite one, check her website, click on Favorite Products, and scroll down to Thermal Life Infrared Sauna or you They are just products she herself uses.

7) Exfoliate With Dry Skin Brushing. Dry brushing the body with a natural bristle brush or loofah mitt each day before bathing is very beneficial to your skin. Not only does dry brushing improve the appearance of your skin giving you a healthy glow, but it also helps your body eliminate toxins.

8) Nourish With Flaxseeds. Dry skin is a sign (among others) that one is deficient in omega-3 fatty acids. Flaxseed, an excellent source of omega-3 fatty acids, may be one of nature's greatest little health packages, especially when it comes to the skin.

9) Catch More Zzzzzs. Sleep is when the body's "repair work" and maintenance are completed. In fact, Dr Jones thinks that there's nothing more restorative for our bodies and creating healthy skin than getting ample sleep, night after night after night.

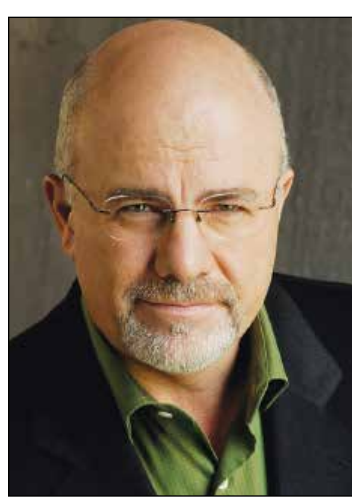
10) Say Goodbye To Constipation. Chronic constipation will preclude you from having beautiful, healthy skin. It's impossible to have beautiful skin all over your body if you are chronically constipated. Her favorite solution is the Squatty Potty. You heard me right! Dr. Jones says it is a natural and effective remedy for constipation and maintaining optimal colon health. Check out her website or www.SquattyPotty.com. At their website, you can listen to Dr. Jones broadcast on "Colon Health and Detoxification" Getting in the Flow. To order the Squatty Potty, call 800-670-1130.

11) Relax Through Meditation. Scientists are finding that meditation helps keep us wrinkle-free and healthy. One study showed that people who had been meditating for more than five years were biologically 12-15 years younger than nonmeditators. To learn how to begin a meditation program or how to upgrade and existing program, please refer to the audio books "Wired to Meditate" and "Choose to Live Peacefully," both available at her website. You can get the set at a discount too.

12) Lead A Joyful Life. You've heard it over and over again... "stop and smell the roses." But Dr. Jones says research demonstrates time and again that simple pleasures can decrease our stress considerably and bring a youthful vitality such as listening to your favorite music, petting your dog or cat, taking a relaxing bath, and laughing often. Laughter is part of a joyful life. Research shows that laughter improves mood after high levels of daily stress and even boosts immunity. According to Dr. Jones, when you put on a "happy face," your skin takes on a youthful glow.

So there you have it. The twelve key ingredients to having healthy skin from Dr. Susan Jones. You are probably thinking...how can I get all of this done? Not to worry, just go to www.SusanSmithJones.com It's all there in detail with lots of other important information about your life and lifestyle wellbeing! Just think, by the holidays, you can be well on your way to looking GOOOOOD!!! And don't forget the most important ingredient to a great life! BE HAPPY!!!

Join Mary Jane for the **KAHI Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPOFF 10 PM - Midnight.**



Dave Says

Dave Ramsey is America's most trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four New York Times best-selling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover and Entrepreneurship. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 5,000,000 listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Why You Shouldn't Cash Out

Dear Dave,
Is it a good idea for a married couple in their early thirties, who have a lot of student loan debt, to cash out one of their 401(k)s to pay it off?

- Marcy

Dear Marcy,
No way! You never cash out a 401(k) or IRA to pay off debt, unless it's to avoid a foreclosure or bankruptcy. Let's say you take \$50,000 out of your 401(k). Do

you know what happens next? They're going to charge you a 10 percent penalty, plus your tax rate. If you make \$75,000 a year, that puts you in a 25 percent tax rate, plus the penalty. That's a 35 percent hit, and that's how much of your money is going straight down the toilet.

Look at it this way. You wouldn't ask me if it's okay to borrow money at a 35 percent interest rate to pay off your school loans, right? That would be ridiculous, and this is just as dumb.

There are no shortcuts when it comes to getting out of debt, Marcy. Roll up your sleeves and get on a beans and rice budget where every dollar has a name. This will enable you to save money and pay off that debt!

- Dave

Paying for the Classes?

Dear Dave,
My wife and I have our fully funded emergency fund in place, and we're debt-free, except for the house. She wants to return to school to get a master's degree and change careers. She'll be reimbursed up to \$7,000 a year. Can we use some of our emergency fund to get things started?

- Kevin

Dear Kevin,
I've got a better idea. Save up the money!
You guys are in great shape already. And to me, this opportunity seems like a small investment with a fabulous return. I really like the idea. But you have to be careful when it comes to things like this. You don't want to get into the habit of calling things emergencies when they're not emergencies. It's a great thing, but it's nowhere near an emergency.

I know she's excited about the possibilities, but I'd just roll up my sleeves, save a little extra for a while and cash flow the classes. She'll probably get reimbursed for the first classes right after she gets her grades, then you can use the reimbursement check to pay for the next classes, and the next check the next classes. Make sense?

I love the school idea, and I'm glad your wife has such a great opportunity. But I don't want you to take a chance on messing up the progress you've made in taking control of your finances. Just take your time and save for those first classes. You'll be glad you did!

- Dave

*For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.

GLOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS

You know about the twelve days of Christmas, but do you know about the twelve secrets to radiant skin? You can look years younger in two months and have skin that glows with vitality... no matter what your age! Just think. By Christmas and New Years, you can look great! And it doesn't involve needles or surgery or even a visit to your dermatologist. These twelve tips come from holistic health and natural beauty educator **Dr. Susan Smith-Jones**, author of some 25 books...her latest "Walking on Air."

According to Dr. Jones, your skin will be the first to give away your deep dark secrets. If you've been neglecting your health or been under extra tension (like we're not during the holidays) or if you're not sleeping, your skin will let the world know. Weighing in at about six pounds, your skin is about one-eighth of an inch thick. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and boy can they behold from your skin and hair...both essentially dead. The skin is continually growing from within, creating new cells that push their way outward. American Indians used to diagnose body ailments by the lines in the face. Let's face it, the face is one area of the body which is terrible at keeping secrets.

Dr. Jones has extensively studied the skin. She narrowed it down to these twelve steps to looking great. By the way, she has lived by these steps and she really does look years younger than her chronological age. So here goes.

1) Protect From Too Much Sun. Over exposure can break down the collagen and elastin components of the skin, causing less moisture, flexibility, and tautness.
2) Eat Skin Enhancing Foods. Your diet should incorporate lots of fresh fruits and veggies. These foods are high in water content to keep your body hydrated and bring glow to your skin.
3) Fortify With Hawaiian Astaxanthin. In one impressive scientific skin study, the powerful antioxidant, Hawaiian

Mark Twain in Placer County

AUBURN, CA--(MPG) Catch up on what's new about Mark Twain in Placer County. Do so at the Placer County annual holiday dinner at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at Veterans Memorial Hall, 100 East St., Auburn.

David C. Antonucci of

Tahoma, author of two popular books about Lake Tahoe and the 1960 Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley, will give a special presentation on "Mark Twain in Placer County, a Civil Engineer's Take on History."

To assure a seat, call (530)

885-5074. The menu includes roast beef, turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, Christmas salad, rolls and apple pie. Cost is \$14. There will be a special drawing for historical and other items.



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9am - Noon:	The Laura Ingraham Show
Noon - 1pm:	The KAHl Noon News with Mary Jane Popp and the KAHl News Team
1 - 4pm:	The Dave Ramsey Show
4 - 6pm:	The KAHl Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHl News Team
6 - 7pm:	The Drive Home Show with Dave Rosenthal
Wednesday:	Wealth Strategies with Hunter William Bailey
7 - 10pm:	Sports Byline USA with Ron Barr
10pm - 12am:	Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp
Saturdays	
6 - 7am:	A Time for Seniors
7 - 8am:	The Swap Shop
8 - 9am:	The KAHl Corral
9 - 10am:	The Garden Guru
10 - 11am:	The Dew Sweepers Golf Show
11am - 7pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
7 - 8pm:	A Way With Words
8 - 9pm:	Rewind with Jimmy Jay
Sundays	
7:30 - 9am:	Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet
9:00am - 7pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
7 - 8pm:	A Way With Words
8 - 9pm:	Hearts of Space

KAHI increases our commitment to foothills news with our new News Director, Mary West



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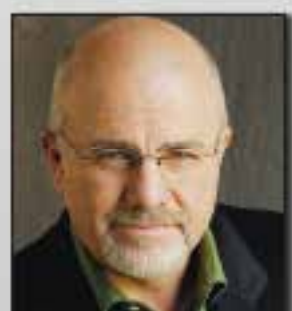
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Laura Ingraham



Dave Ramsey



Mary Jane Popp

FRESH RECIPES FOR A

Holiday Buffet



Set Your Table with Grapes for Heart Health

Grapes may be the perfect finish to a busy holiday meal. In a new study of 16,000 people conducted at Ohio State University and supported by the California Table Grape Commission, grapes consumed along with a high-fat meal helped improve blood cholesterol levels. The study found that eating grapes with a high-fat meal improved blood cholesterol levels and lowered the risk of heart disease.

Roasted Salmon Appetizers with Grapes

- 1 cup fresh bread and nut gran mixture
- 2 cups salmon
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup fresh grapes
- 1/2 cup fresh herbs
- 1/2 cup fresh cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh nuts

In small bowl, combine grapes, oil, cheese, nuts and salt. Toss grapes in oil mixture. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spread grapes on a baking sheet. Bake for 10 minutes. Serve with bread and nut gran mixture.

Grape Berry Martini

- 1 cup fresh grapes
- 1/2 cup fresh herbs
- 1/2 cup fresh cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh nuts
- 1/2 cup fresh bread and nut gran mixture

Pickled Grapes

- 1 cup fresh grapes
- 1/2 cup fresh herbs
- 1/2 cup fresh cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh nuts
- 1/2 cup fresh bread and nut gran mixture

For the pickled grapes, wash grapes and pat dry. In a large bowl, combine grapes, herbs, cheese, nuts and bread mixture. In a small bowl, combine vinegar, oil, salt and pepper. Pour mixture over grapes and toss. Refrigerate for 2 hours. Serve with bread and nut gran mixture.

Apple Cider

- 1 cup fresh grapes
- 1/2 cup fresh herbs
- 1/2 cup fresh cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh nuts
- 1/2 cup fresh bread and nut gran mixture

In small bowl, combine grapes, herbs, cheese, nuts and bread mixture. In a small bowl, combine vinegar, oil, salt and pepper. Pour mixture over grapes and toss. Refrigerate for 2 hours. Serve with bread and nut gran mixture.



Fresh Grapes

Bring a new twist to your holiday party by serving fresh grapes. They're not only delicious but also packed with antioxidants. Grapes are a great source of resveratrol, a natural compound that has been shown to have heart-protective properties. They also contain flavonoids, which are known to improve blood flow and reduce the risk of heart disease. Grapes are also a good source of fiber, which can help with digestion and keep you feeling full. So next time you're planning a holiday buffet, don't forget to include some fresh grapes. They're a healthy and delicious addition to any meal.

For more recipes and inspiration, visit www.PlacerSentinel.com.



Grape Berry Martini



Grapes with Fresh Herbs

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