MERICAN KIVER



WW2 Hero's **Book Out** in Time for Christmas

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A Tasteful Way of Making the Most of the Holidays

Page 9



Mr. and Mrs. Claus Welcome Little Samuel to His First Christmas

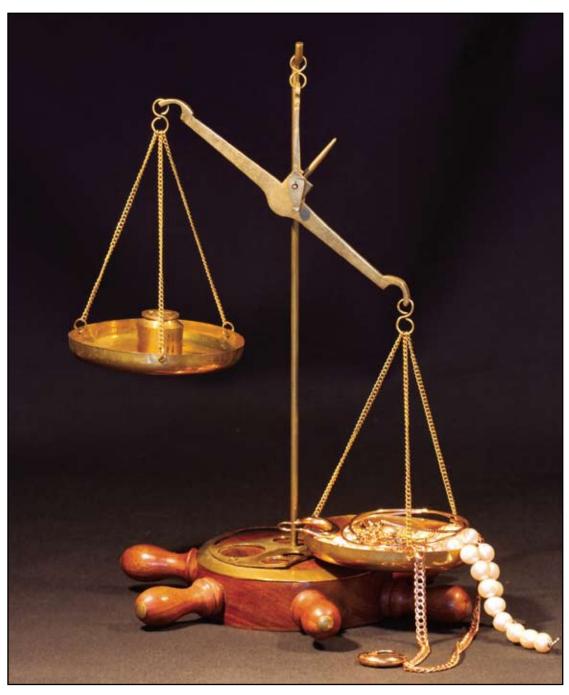
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Volume 5 Issue 23

Serving Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Carmichael, Orangevale & Gold River

First Edition for December 2010

Will the Great Wealth Grab Turn Holiday Assistance in the Government's Favor?



Commentary by Perry Hartline

"By the time people understand something's wrong and it's time to act, it's usually too late," says Sal Santoro, owner of Gold Rush Coins and Jewelry, and grand vizier of area silver and gold dealers. He's addressing a normal human condition, and talking real money. He's right of course. The more broad and dangerous the monetary change, the less likely we are to understand the implications, particularly when we're not told the problem. Today Americans are acting on the evidence of their eyes

and wallets. They know intuitively something's wrong and are searching for answers and safety till the truth is revealed and the new normal is introduced. Today we're a people with no confidence in our government. We've moved to the bunkers and are digging in. Because money's scarce, prices are creeping up and the future is uncertain we've cut spending. Many have found safety in precious metals. Now that's a problem.

Year-to-date silver's raced past gold to become the world's highest yielding metal at 42% compared to gold at 27%. Two weeks ago it parked in the uncertain area next to

gold. Stable, plodding silver was declared "volatile" by financial analysts on November 29. Most of the volatility comes from demand by central banks around the world; fear of the facts hiding under economic reports; fear of the Obama administration's Disneyland understanding of finance and spending, and the Federal Reserve's incoherent monetary policy feeding wild printing presses. Add in the European Union's newfound poverty in Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Greece, possibly Italy and two former Eastern Bloc states next year and we have a third factor, one pointing to a weakening euro and the release of hot

gases from Europe's political class and signaling a financial collapse in Western Europe, if not the world.

Economic stress ignites precious metals, and precious metals are mental. They feast on fear and grow in value. Fear is inspiring silver speculators to hunt short-term profit in its rising price while individuals and households scurry to safety and put a higher percentage of savings into precious metals. A year ago financial consultants recommended eight to ten-percent of a portfolio be invested in metals, today it's twenty. In a few mostly local incidences large orders of silver are going unfilled. We're seeing the twinkling of a silver shortage here and there. At this writing silver stands at \$28.85 an ounce. That's near double the over the counter price in January as gold began its move upward, out of reach of average people. When it touched \$1000 an ounce small investors began pulling back. When it broke \$1200 it was an emotional breakthrough. When it clawed up Everest to a breathtaking \$1400 an ounce, silver was discovered.

China and India's central bank's lust for silver is insatiable, followed by Brazil, the Asian and Arab countries, and Germany. Central banks are emphasizing silver because it's undervalued and is seen as a wise high-yield investment compared to gold. In reality both metals are deeply undervalued. They've been stopped from finding their true inflation-adjusted worth for twenty years because of one thing: government policy. And the US is the main traffic cop. If the metals were allowed to adjust for inflation they'd be worth thousands not hundreds per ounce.

Understand that government must have real wealth. But at the same time governments need fiat currency, stated-value currency set at whatever governments say. This lets people do day-to-day business and allows societies to function. It also lets governments print money to finance deficit spending on programs they can't afford. This thinking grabbed hold in the US and Europe during the Great Depression, and it didn't work.

Wealth Continued on to Page 12

Donations Needed



From the Citrus Heights Police Department

Citrus Heights - This year the Citrus Heights Police Department and City of Citrus Heights are partnering with our Chamber of Commerce, local community groups and service clubs including Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Soroptimist, Citrus Heights Women's Club, schools, REACH, Neighborhood Associations, American Legion, Parade Committee, and the Capital POPS to adopt over 100 less fortunate families, including 250 children of all ages, for their Christmas gifts and holiday meals.

We are looking for business and community assistance to donate the following new only items: baby necessities (diapers, food, car seats,

formula), children's clothing, bikes and bike helmets, jackets, toiletries/ grooming, school supplies, gift cards for teenagers, electronic toys, books, games, stockings with stocking stuffers, food (holiday meal items and non-perishables), socks, underwear, linens, small appliances, kid toys (i.e., baby, K-3, 4-6, 7&8, high school), grocery store gift cards, restaurant gift cards, or any other gift cards.

We hope you will join us in taking care of our less fortunate community members.

Donated items can be dropped off at the Citrus Heights Police Department, City Hall or the Community Center on Fountain Square Drive near Greenback; or call 916-727-5561 for pick up or further information.

Turn on Your **Blue Lights at Christmas**

Sacramento Region - The holidays and decorating homes with lights inside and outside is just around the corner. Around the country some communities encourage residents to feature one window of their home or a part of their outdoor display using only BLUE LIGHTS as a salute to all our Law Enforcement Officers. In recent years, in Sacramento County and surrounding Counties we have lost too many officers responding to

their duties and it ended with injury and sometimes death. These BLUE LIGHTS during the holidays would be a public way to remember and thank all these men and women in law enforcement who help protect us

We hope that you will consider doing this. It is really a small thing to do for the men and women who put their lives on the line for us every working day and night.



Panera Bread Citrus Heights is calling all fans to experience Panera's first-ever drive-thru on the West Coast! Their Grand opening was held December 7th at 6 a.m. The bakery-café hosted a "sneak peek" drive-thru event offering free tastes of their latest menu items including the famed mint crinkle cookie, all natural steak chili with cornbread and peppermint hot chocolate.

New Panera Breads Location Opens in Citrus Heights

First West Coast Drive-Thru and 100th California Location

Citrus Heights - With its identity rooted in handcrafted, fresh-baked, artisan bread, Panera Bread is committed to providing great tasting, quality food that people can trust. Highlighted by antibiotic free chicken, whole grain bread, select organic and all-natural ingredients and a menu with 0 grams artificial trans fat per serving, Panera's bakery-cafe selection offers flavorful, wholesome offerings. The menu

includes a wide variety of yearround favorites, complemented by new items introduced seasonally with the goal of creating new standards in everyday food choices. Guests will enjoy Panera's warm and welcoming environment featuring comfortable gathering areas, relaxing decor, and free internet access provided through a managed WiFi network. At the close of each day, Panera Bread bakery-cafes

donate bread and baked goods to community organizations in need.

The Panera Bread at Sunrise Marketplace, perfect for breakfast, lunch, dinner will offer a full array of cafe, signature and hot panini sandwiches, salads and soups as well as the bakery-café's signature bread loaves. The bakery-café offers a wide variety of bagels, pastries and sweets, smoothies plus specialty coffees and espresso drinks, all in

a welcoming atmosphere with free WiFi. Regular business hours are Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Panera Bread is located at 7901 Greenback Lane at Sunrise and Greenback in the Sunrise Marketplace, next to Old Navy and BevMo!, in Citrus Heights. For more info http://www.panerabread.



Commentary By Richard Amerling, MD

The landslide Republican victory, in taking the House and electing some strong conservatives to the Senate, can be interpreted as a mandate to rein in government spending, and specifically to repeal ObamaCare, as these issues were clearly behind the large turnout. There is still a very real possibility the Supreme Court will find the "individual mandate" to buy private insurance unconstitutional. If this provision is thrown out, it's hard to see how the law survives, since the mandate is needed to finance it.

Now is an excellent time to construct a conservative alternative vision for true reform of our health care delivery system. Since most current problems with the health care system stem from government, a conservative plan should seek to reduce its role.

It goes without saying that the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act must be repealed since, like all the laws passed by this administration, it does precisely the opposite of what its name suggests. By massively increasing the health care bureaucracy at the expense of actual providers of care, it will make care harder to access and more expensive. Many physicians will take early retirement and the already great physician shortage will be exacerbated.

The law is too large and complex to waste time foraging for items to salvage. There is a great risk of leaving behind hidden mandates and rules that will be harmful. Better to scrap the whole thing. With Democrat Senators running scared for their jobs in 2012, it is conceivable the Senate would also vote for repeal (Harry Reid notwithstanding). But not even the most generous view of Barack Obama's ideological flexibility has him signing a repeal bill, and a veto override is out of the question for now.

It may be possible, however, to enact affirmative measures that make ObamaCare irrelevant. Here are some

The Conservative Way Forward on Health Care

common sense, free market proposals, many of which were proposed and discussed, but ignored by the President and the Congressional leadership in the run-up to passage of ObamaCare.

1. Transfer the tax deduction for health care spending from employers to individuals. This would end the absurdity of purchasing health insurance at the "company store," a practice that limits individual choice and liberty, nourishes a sense of dependency, and promotes overuse of care. This policy, an accident of WW II wage and price controls, was the "original sin" in health care financing; doing away with it would empower consumers to shop for the best plan for their families, which will lower premiums.

2. Remove barriers to the interstate sale of health insurance. There is broad agreement on this proposition. It would increase choice and competition between insurers and drive down premiums by effectively ending state mandates that drive them up.

3. Deregulate and allow greater contributions to Health Savings Accounts. These fabulous tax shelters give individuals more control over their health spending, and, coupled with an inexpensive policy to cover catastrophic illness (i.e., true insurance), are all most people need. By returning most health care purchasing decisions to consumers, spending will immediately be slowed and prices curbed. This is the conservative, free market, already tested and proven way to "bend the cost curve down."

4. Followthe recommendations of the bipartisan Breaux Commission and give Medicare beneficiaries a means-tested stipend to buy private insurance. This solution came during the Clinton era but was too freemarket to pass muster with Bill and Hillary. With Medicare moments from insolvency, there should again be a bipartisan consensus to reform this behemoth.

5. Transfer (gradually) all Medicaid responsibility to the states. Federal support for Medicaid allows much greater spending than would otherwise occur. It forces frugal states to subsidize lavish coverage in New York, California, and elsewhere. States should have complete freedom to organize their Medicaid systems along their own priorities, in exchange for losing, over perhaps five years, the federal subsidy. This would encourage states to find innovative ways of providing health insurance for the poor, such as individual health accounts, or subsidies to buy private insurance.

The latter two points would allow the mammoth Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be mothballed, though Medicare could retain a role as insurer of last resort for those with pre-existing, expensive, chronic diseases.

6. Institute a "loser pays" system for medical malpractice to cut frivolous lawsuits. The ability to launch a lawsuit (and this applies beyond medical malpractice) with minimal financial risk is the reason behind the explosion of malpractice litigation, with all the associated costs. Tort reform at the federal level would require the Senate to override the trial lawyers' veto, which could be a problem. This reform should be pushed at the state

7. Finally, for true patient protection, let's propose a constitutional amendment to guarantee the individual's right to privately contract for medical care. This will eliminate for all time the threat to the private practice of medicine and assure that, no matter what system is in place, patients will always be allowed to spend their own money on care.

The above points are clear, simple and practical solutions. They empower the individual and greatly reduce malignant government influence and unburden the taxpayer. It is the conservative way forward on health care.

Richard Amerling, MD is a nephrologist practicing in New York City. He is an Associate Professor of clinical medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, and the Director of Outpatient Dialysis at the Beth Israel Medical Center. Dr. Amerling studied medicine at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, graduating cum laude in 1981. He completed a medical residency at the New York Hospital Queens and a nephrology fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He has written and lectured extensively on health care issues and is a Director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Amerling is the author of the Physicians' Declaration of Independence (http://www.aapsonline.org/medicare/doi.htm).

Dr. Amerling resides in New York, NY and can be reached at http://www. aapsonline.org/

Sponsored By: Widowed Persons **Association of** California, Inc.

Office Hours: 10:00am-3:00pm Monday through Friday 916-972-9722

> What: Newcomer's Buffet and Social

Who: Any and all widows or widowers may attend

When:

Third Monday evening at 5:30 pm

Where: In the private dining room at the

Plaza Hoff Brau, corner of El Camino and Watt Avenue; cost varies as the choice is from a no-host buffet menu.

This is a public service to all widows and widowers and there is no charge to attend the social other than the meal they chose.

> Any and all widows or widowers are invited

Sunday Support

Every Sunday from 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

In the meeting room of the WPAC office. Enter from the back parking lot at 2628 El Camino Avenue, Suite D-18.

Realizing how difficult it is to go into new social situations when one is first widowed, the Widowed Persons Association of California encourages widowed men and women to come to Sunday Support each Sunday from 3:00 pm-5:00pm with some going to dinner as a group following the session. The Widowed Persons Association is designed to be of help to recently widowed men and women, but any and all widows and widowers are welcome as a community service by WPAC. Participants do not need

to be members and there is no charge.

Superior Court Affirms Rancho Cordova Redevelopment Agency in Eminent Domain Case

Rancho Cordova, (Dec. 3, 2010)-Judge Raymond M. Cadei, judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, has overruled a legal challenge to the City of Rancho Cordova Redevelopment Agency's (RDA) use of eminent domain. In an effort to implement its redevelopment plan and to eliminate blighted conditions along Folsom Boulevard in the City of Rancho Cordova, the RDA filed an eminent domain action in 2009 to acquire an approximate nine-acre site owned by the Lily Company. The Lily Company filed a legal challenge to the RDA's legal authority to use eminent domain, and Judge Cadei held a seven-day trial on that challenge in October.

In upholding the RDA's right to take the property, Judge Cadei stated

that the Resolution of Necessity filed by the RDA "contains ample evidence of the blighted condition of the subject property and the surrounding area, of the need to acquire the subject property in order to further the objectives of the City's Redevelopment Plan...to lead to the greatest public good and the minimum of private injury." Furthermore, though the Lily Company contended that the RDA colluded with the Los Rios Community College District on a proposed deal involving the District's potential purchase of the property, Judge Cadei stated that the "Court finds no evidence to support" that claim. Judge Cadei overruled other claims made by the defendant, ultimately declaring the RDA's "right to take defendant's property pursuant

to the Resolution of Necessity.'

Curt Haven, Economic Development Director for the City of Rancho Cordova stated "Our priority is improving the quality of life for our residents and businesses in Rancho Cordova. We can now move forward with exciting plans to redevelop this area and bring jobs and vitality to the community."

Rancho Cordova, in the eastern part of Sacramento County, has been incorporated as a city since 2003. This year it was named as one of ten All-America Cities nationally. City Hall is located at 2729 Prospect Park Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670; www.cityofranchocordova.org; 916-851-8700.

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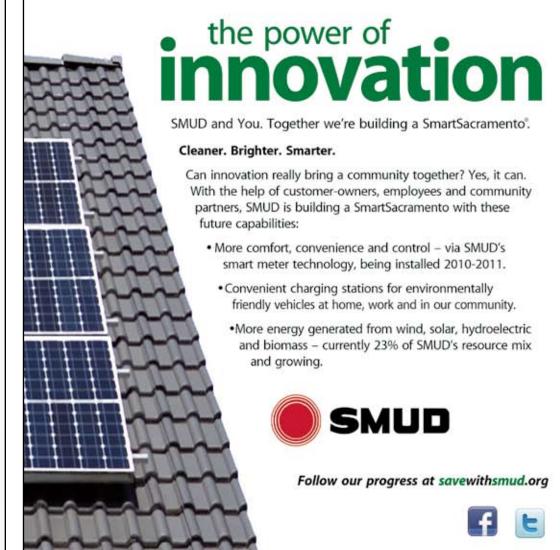


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Mia Rangel, **SMUD** Spokesperson

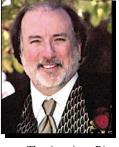
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Herbert Brown Named Special Agent in Charge of the Sacramento Division



Herbert Brown, named special agent in charge of the FBI's Sacramento Division

Director Robert S. Mueller, III has named Herbert Brown special agent in charge of the FBI's Sacramento Division. Mr. Brown most recently served as the section chief for the Gang Criminal Enterprise Section, in which he oversaw all domestic and international gang/drug operations.

Mr. Brown entered on duty as a special agent in August 1987.

He was assigned to the Denver Division, Colorado Springs Resident Agency. Mr. Brown was a member of the SWAT team and the Organized Crime/Drug Program. He also worked as a full-time undercover agent, alongside the U.S. Army's Criminal Investigative Division.

In August 1990, he was transferred to the Los Angeles Division, Santa Ana Resident Agency. Mr. Brown was a SWAT team leader and assigned to the Organized Crime/ Drug Program.

In 1995, Mr. Brown was promoted to supervisory special agent, Criminal Investigative Division at FBI Headquarters and detailed to the Organized Crime Section.

Mr. Brown was promoted to supervisory special agent in March 1998 to the Los Angeles Division. He served as the supervisory special agent of the Joint Drug Intelligence Group and the senior supervisory resident agent of the West Covina Resident Agency, where he oversaw

counterterrorism operations.

He was promoted to assistant special agent in charge, Los Angeles Division, in 2002. He served as the criminal, crisis management and administrative program manager. Mr. Brown was the crisis response on-scene commander in Athens, Greece, during the 2004 Olympics.

In 2005, Mr. Brown became the FBI's on-scene commander in Baghdad, Iraq, overseeing FBI and Counterterrorism Criminal operations.

Mr. Brown was promoted to section chief for the Gang Criminal Enterprise Section in April 2008.

Mr. Brown is a native of San Diego, Calif. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of California in 1979. Prior to his employment with the FBI, he served as a police officer for the Capitola and San Jose Police Departments from 1979-87.

to Military Children Christmas Treasures

Christmas Treasures Brings Joy

Decadent triple chocolate cookies, luscious low-carb brownies, delicious double chocolate fudge these are just a few of the 400 plus

recipes in this new e-Cookbook. Christmas Treasures, released just in time for the Christmas Holiday baking season.

Christmas Treasures, a new fund raising e-Cookbook is stuffed full of recipes for your favorite sweet treats-cookies, bars, tarts, squares, pies, cakes, sweet breads and much more – all your traditional favorites plus new recipes that will keep them coming back for more.

In honor or our military, Christmas Treasures is being sold to raise needed funds for Toys for the Troops' Kids (TFTTK), a nonprofit that gives Christmas toys to children of military personnel who are deployed during the Christmas Season. Find out more about TFTTK at their website, www. ToysfortheTroopsKids.org.

Christmas Treasures can be purchased for \$9.99 online at www. CookBooksforProfit.com. \$5.00 from each purchase goes directly to TFTTK. Purchase Christmas Treasures today and bring joy to the children of those who sacrifice so much to keep America safe and

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SMUD Approves 2011 Budget

Despite impact from economic downturn, budget will maintain low rates and reliable service

Sacramento Region - The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Board of Directors has approved a \$1.54 billion budget. The 2011 budget provides funding for all programs, projects and initiatives needed to meet the strategic targets set by the SMUD Directors, while cutting costs without compromising customer service.

The lagging economy has figured prominently in the budget, which anticipates a \$42 million drop in electricity sales. This would bring the cumulative shortfall since September 2009 to \$97 million. The budget also assumes that the number of customers participating in the low-income discount rate is expected to grow to about 111,500 in 2011. That will require a subsidy of \$38 million.

The budget also covers many increases in operation costs, including long-term power contracts, natural

gas purchases and regulatory fees, as well as labor and employee benefits costs. Since even before the financial crisis of 2008, SMUD has been making every effort to protect customers through aggressive cost containment in all discretionary areas of the budget, including reducing anticipated spending to cover rising costs and the revenue shortfall. Changes are also being implemented to make operations more efficient.

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members of the public.

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7:30 a.m. at the Sacramento Convention Center Who should attend:

 Keynote address from USDA Rural Development Deputy Under Secretary Victor Vasquez

Join us Friday, December 10 at

Regional Forum: Rural-Urban

Connections

Strategy

- Highlight the role of agriculture in the region
- Explore agricultural conditions and challenges with representatives of agriculture from around the Sacramento region
- Identify market opportunities for expanding regional agricultural activity
- Share innovations from the project to help shape our region's economic and environmental health

WW2 Hero's Book Out in Time for Christmas



Major Ernie Ford and wife Etta display medals and a Congressional award earned by the WW 2 pilot. After Ford's death, Etta labored to produce the book her husband penned before his March 2010 death. Photograph by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

By Susan Maxwell Skinner

Carmichael-A Carmichael man who completed 364 air force combat missions in WW 2 was asked the secret of his survival. "I never got shot down," replied retired Major Ernest Ford. "And God was always my co-pilot."

He toiled to finish a book detailing his war adventures in New Guinea. Aged 88, my friend Ernie died this year, months before his book was published. His wife and number-one admirer Etta was left to complete the project. 'My New Guinea Dairy' is now available for Holiday giving. It's a cracking good

Ernie's family says Hollywood folk have seen the book and a movie is possible. Even for a film script, it seems far-fetched that a desperate 21-year-old man's instinct could save 90 lives. But the quietly-spoken pilot achieved such a miracle. In the Battle of Wau (a conflict that helped halt Japanese invasion of Australia), Ernie flew dozens of military evacuees 10 feet above rocky terrain for over a mile. With

enemy planes bombing from above, his C-47 and two other aircraft he led escaped. Ernie was an overnight hero, feted in Australia and paraded on US bond tours for the rest of the war. Bob Hope interviewed him on radio. "He said I was young for so many missions," recalled the pilot. "He asked if I'd been flying since the Civil War."

After his 1963 military retirement, Ernie Ford sold insurance in Sacramento. Few clients knew he had flown the greatest number of combat missions of all WW2 pilots. He was slated for a Silver Star. Though some history books record him thus decorated, this medal eluded him because records from New Guinea were lost and witnesses passed on. Ford's miraculous action at Wau was lauded but never officially recognized. He nevertheless earned six Distinguished Flying Crosses and was further decorated for Korean service. Till death, Ford was philosophical about the one medal that got away. "I always knew I earned it," he shrugged.

Viewing Ernie as part of the 'Greatest Generation,' Broadcaster

Tom Brokaw sought permission to publish his tale of Wau. "But he wanted Ernie to surrender all rights to his story," explained Etta Ford. "He said no. My husband wanted to tell it himself."

In his account, teenage Ernie was sent to the wilds of New Guinea after Pearl Harbor. He experienced a Micronesia unknown to outsiders. "They warned us we'd see nudity on a scale we'd never see again in our lives," he recalled. "My, they were right. I doubt a physician ever saw so many bare chests." Ford was a pilot who flew anywhere, whatever the risk. "It was all an adventure," he said. "Besides, I wanted to get above the mosquitoes."

Along with his war stories – and many photographs — Ernie Ford's autobiography includes the conviction that no victory is achieved by one man. "I could not get a big head over what I did," the hero told me. "An older serviceman once told me: 'son; winning a war takes all of us.' And I never forgot that."

'My New Guinea Diary' is available from www.Amazon.com

Citrus Heights Woman's Club Gives Thanks

Citrus Heights - The GFWC Woman's Club of Citrus Heights celebrated this past Thanksgiving by increasing their outreach to families in the area.

This was made possible because of an increase of active membership this year and because of the generous contributions of others in our community. The club has been able to increase Thanksgiving dinner baskets, tripling last year's efforts. There are many community members to thank, as they gathered at Merrill Gardens Senior Retirement living to assemble the donations into packages.

Approximately a two-week supply of groceries went into each of ten baskets. Another eight complete Thanksgiving dinners were made available by Lucky Derby Casino, cooked and packaged up by the Casino Chef and staff members.

Food and cash donations were made by club members and local businesses including Togo's, In The Spotlight Beauty Salon, Armor



The GFWC women putting together Thanksgiving food baskets. The ladies in the photo are Cathy Reuter, Donna Butler, Carol Spiker, **Emily Neeland and Claudia Ferguson.**

Mini Storage, and La Placitas Dos. Jim VanMaren came to the rescue with the Citrus Heights Club House for the fund-raising efforts. Merrill Gardens supplied all the pies for the baskets. So, yes you can see, Citrus Heights Woman's Club has much to

be thankful for, with the whole community willing to help to provide a happier Thanksgiving to needy

For more information about the club call 916-723-2314.

Great Clips of Fair Oaks Celebrates A Grand Opening in Style



Rand Jacobs, of RK Insurance and the Honorary Mayor of Fair Oaks, gets a "grooming" from Ryan McVeigh, co-owner, Sarah Vasler, store manager, and Shannon McVeigh, co-owner.

Fair Oaks - Great Clips of Fair opening this past month as it fellow styled by some real pros, give Great

Oaks, owned by Shannon and Ryan chamber welcomed members with Clips a visit at 8909 Madison Avenue McVeigh, celebrated its Chamber of goodies and holiday smiles. If you are in the Safeway Shopping Center near





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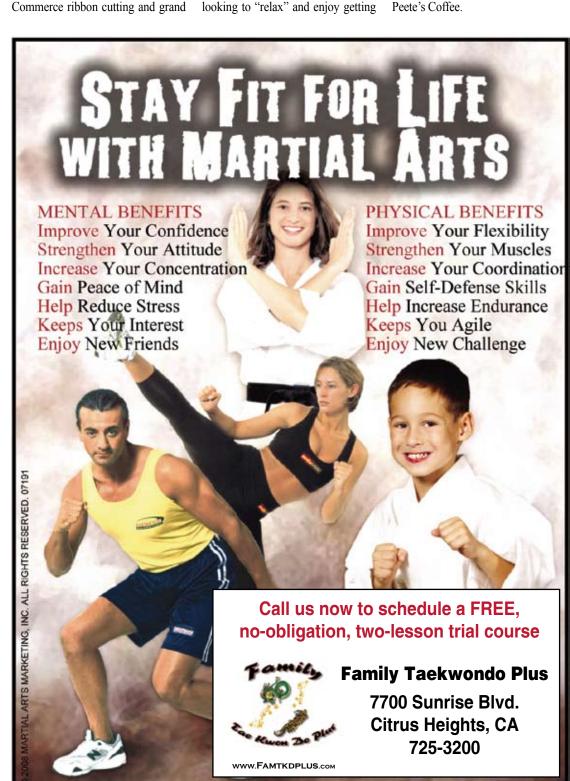
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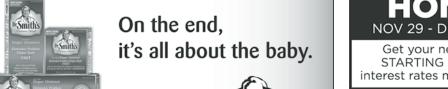
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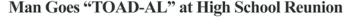
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Marlys Norris, Christian author By Marlys Norris

Regardless of what befalls your life YOU CAN rise above every adversity and get through it! YOU CAN, because God is always in you and with you wherever you go. He will show you the way and He will take you through it. There is nothing that touches your life that has not first passed through His personal love just for you. He has allowed it to touch your life, not always to hurt, but to teach someone else a valuable lesson and cause them to look to Him about their own life.

If someone has attacked you with angry unkind words, YOU CAN forgive them — even if they never say they are sorry or give you an

You Can!

apology. YOU CAN do it because your personal relationship with the God of the Bible instructs you to forgive that person Seventy times Seven (70x7 times — Read: Matthew 18:22) YOU CAN AND WILL DO IT because your relationship with God is supremely important to you. To please Him in every area of your life is ultimate. Our reactions and reactions either honor or dishonor him before others. "Let no corrupt communications proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers". (Ephesians 4:29) When we do this, we have learned from the Holy Word valuable lessons that honor God and bring Him the Glory He alone deserves.

Every unfortunate experience we have in our lives teaches us specific lessons we need to learn. They also teach us how far we have come in experiencing a sincere and genuine walk with God. It awakens our innerspirit to find areas in our lives where we need more discipline and control and where we do not exemplify the love of God or a Christ-like Spirit. When we fail we are aware we need some more pruning our sinful fleshly natures and that we have been very lax to examined ourselves as the Scripture commands: Psalms 26:2 & 3 "Examine me, O Lord and prove me; try my reins and my heart. For thy loving kindness is before mine yes; and I have walked in thy truth. 2 Corr. 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know you not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates". When we honor these words and take them seriously we will follow in obedience and be blessed with the favor of God. And I Corr. 11:28 "But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup". (Speaking of taking the communion cup.) We are not to take communion in vain and dishonor God but be reconciled to all men/women.

"Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way: first be reconciled to thy brother/sister, and then come and offer thy gift". (Matthew 5:24) YES, YOU CAN!!

Marlys Johnsen Norris, Author Marlys5934@sbc global.net "Intimacy Begins Going God's Way'

"God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle'



By The Reverend Kevin Kitrell Ross

Autumn is my favorite time of year! This season brings with it the opportunity to reflect, renounce, and to reinvent. This time is exciting to me because we still have the balance of the year to prepare for the coming year. Ah, it is the best of both worlds.

The fully bloomed harvest and the falling of autumn leaves create barren trees and empty fields. As any good farmer would do, this time of year invites us all to evaluate our harvest, to examine our gardens, to take inventory of our tools, and to recondition our soil.

Insights will be Revealed

As we approach the dawn of a new year, let's stop and ask ourselves some important questions that when answered will inform and empower us with the best success strategy for 2011. Here are a few to reflect upon:

1. What were my successes and victories this year and what actions on my part contributed to them? 2. What were my losses and failures this year and what actions or inaction contributed to them? 3. What "ways of being" (habits) did I employ this year that I would want to continue? 4. What habits or "ways of being" that got in my way and that I would need to discontinue? 5. What commitments am I prepared to make that will enable me to end this year strong and begin the new year with a bang? To get full value from your reflection experience, I suggest that you find a place that is quiet and still. As you raise the above question, trust the inner impulse of Spirit to guide you into the answer that is beyond your wildest dreams. It

may also be valuable to contact someone you know, who cares about you to support you with addressing these questions. Having an objective perspective can really enrich the experience for you.

By reflecting over your year, insights will be revealed to you that will empower you with the tools you need to reinvent yourself and to design and live the life of your dreams.

Kevin Kitrell Ross is the host of Design Your Life weekly radio program, online at www.unity.fm, every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. He is also the Senior Minister/ Spiritual Director of Christ Unity Church of Sacramento, online at www.christunity.com . Feel free to join them for one of their two services 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Christ Unity Church is located at 9249 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Audubon Offers Free Children's Field Trips

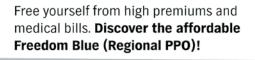
Sacramento Region - A birding trip responsible adult. Binoculars suitto William Pond Park on January 8 will launch a new monthly program of free field trips for children and their families, Sacramento Audubon has announced.

The trips are designed for children 6 to 12 years old, who must be accompanied by a parent or able for small hands will be available for children who don't have field glasses of their own.

The goal of the trips is to introduce children to birds and the outdoors and teach them bird-watching skills. The trips will be led by experienced birders who are also good teachers,

Audubon notes.

The January 8 trip, like all the following ones, will start at 8:30 A.M. and end at 11 A.M. Reservations are necessary, and may be made by contacting the program leader, Maureen Geiger, at mkgeiger@sbcglobal.net or at (916) 444-0804.



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December 25th, Christmas Day

HOLY COMMUNION IN CHAPEL

By Pastor Ray Dare

True joy and happiness do not come from what's happening around you, they come from what's happening in you. That's why Paul said, "I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little." Philippians 4:11b.

You cannot choose what is going to happen to you today, next week, next month, next year. But you can choose how you're going to respond, how you're going to react. What happens to you in life is not the most important thing. What happens in you is what matters most. And that is a choice.

How to Live Happier

We've seen different people put in the same bad circumstances. One will come out a winner and the other will come out a whiner. One complains, the other conquers the circumstance.

God wants to help you conquer your present circumstances, not complain about them. As long as you're complaining it only makes you more miserable. It will never change the facts. Complaining does not work; it only takes away your

How do you conquer complaining?

Recognize it as sin, confess it and ask God to help you conquer it. How much time do you spend griping, grumping, and complaining? You've got to admit it's not right.

Replace gripping with gratitude. "No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT) When you learn to be grateful in spite of circumstances, that is maturity.

Refocus your thoughts. "So we fix our attention, not on the things that are seen, but on the things that are unseen. What is seen lasts only

for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts forever." 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 Positive people realize that God is in control. God is fitting everything into a pattern and He has a plan beyond my problem. Resolve to speak only in a positive

way. "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

What would happen in your life if all of a sudden all complaining stopped? I'll tell you what will happen – you would be a lot happier! People around you will be happier too! Don't let complaining steal your joy. Happiness and joy do not come from having the right circumstances; they come from having the right

See you soon, Pastor Ray

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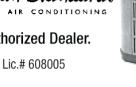
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Lungren Named Chairman of Committee on House Administration



Congressman Dan Lungren

Washington, D.C. - Rep. Daniel E. Lungren (R-CA) has been named Chairman of the Committee on House Administration for the 112th Congress. After serving as Ranking Member in the 111th Congress, Rep. Lungren awaits the challenge to undertake the difficult task of reducing spending and protecting voting rights.

Boehner (R-OH) announced the appointment of Rep. Dan Lungren. "Throughout his tenure with the House Administration Committee, Dan has been a leader in the Committee's efforts to ensure the smooth, efficient and cost-effective operation of the House. In his new role as Chairman, Dan will continue providing the leadership and oversight needed to rein in the cost of operating Congress and save taxpayer dollars, consistent with the GOP's Pledge to America" Boehner said. "Americans are more engaged in their government than ever before, and direct media has played a critical role in fostering this trend. From his post at the House Administration Committee, Dan has helped to lead GOP efforts to ensure Members of Congress utilize the latest in technology and new media tools to better communicate with their constituents, and I'm confident that will continue in the 112th Congress."

"It has been a privilege to serve

House Speaker-designate John as Ranking Member alongside Mr. Brady and I am honored to serve all Americans as Chairman of the Committee on House Administration. With the largest incoming class of new members in 60 years, I am looking forward to continuing their transition into the 112th Congress. The Committee will also do its part in finding ways to reduce spending in Washington D.C. and bring a more efficient, responsible government back to the people", replied Lungren. "I am also dedicated to preserving the integrity of elections and ensuring all service members overseas have an opportunity to have their vote counted. The Committee will work diligently and will be up to the task of defending this fundamental right for all Americans."

> Congressman Dan Lungren serves as Ranking Member on the House Administration Committee in addition to serving on the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees.

The Freedom of Accountability

Commentary by Rachel Wilson

In Michael Goodwin's video, "The Loss of the Freedom to Fail," he identifies social promotion, the act of "passing students along even when they haven't mastered the material," and entitlement mania as serious threats to freedom (Goodwin)¹. He argues that society needs to regain the freedom to let students fail so they will learn how to succeed rather than expect a handout. While social promotion and entitlement mania are current and serious threats to freedom, the larger underlying threat is the lack of accountability of students and teachers in American society.

According to the Accountability and Evaluation analysis of current high schools in the San Juan District, there has been a 17.1% decline in the number of students finishing high school over a four year span, and an overall 2.9% increase in drop-out rates (SJUSD)². While 70.1% of all high school graduates go on to attend colleges or universities, more than half of them are

ill-prepared for college courses because they either didn't learn the material, or weren't taught according to educational standards (Bureau of Labor Statistics)³. Teachers need to be held accountable to the scrutiny of the school board and through anonymous student surveys to ensure they are teaching what they are supposed to. Likewise, students need to be held accountable for their academic standing by having grades accurately reflect their progress, rather than being passed along even if they fail to meet educational requirements.

Before I was in college, I was failing my math class. I didn't take my education seriously because I didn't understand math or see how it benefitted me to learn it. My teacher refused to help me, so I refused to pay attention and ask questions when I didn't understand. At the close of the year, I had failed every test and homework assignment, but my teacher gave me a B so I could graduate with my class. I felt discouraged and stupid because I knew I didn't deserve the grade. Looking back, I wish we had both been held to higher

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standards. If we don't hold students and teachers accountable, then ignorance will become the new standard. If we allow this threat to continue, we can expect to be taken over by another nation, one that values education as a privilege and necessity, and we will lose our superpower status, much like Alexander the Great's Hellenization of Western Europe.

Change starts with holding everyone accountable for their actions, including ourselves. In this way, we can change our current society of unmotivated, unintuitive individuals to one that rises above and pursues the American dream. Freedom of accountability is our last hope for change.

¹ Goodwin, Michael. "The Loss of the Freedom to Fail." New Threats to Freedom. Templeton Press, 2010. Web. ² San Juan Unified School District. Web.

³ "College Enrollment and Work Activity of 2009 H.S. Graduates." U.S. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010. Web.

Dental

An Economical Yet Tasteful Way to Make the Most of the Holidays



For a taste of tradition, serve or give an elegant Christmas Pudding during the holidays. It could make your get-togethers more fun than the Fezziwig's ball.

(NAPSA) - The state of the economy doesn't have to leave you feeling like Ebenezer Scrooge this holiday season. Instead, you can celebrate with the warm and delicious tradition of giving gifts of great food to friends, family and guests.

For example, consider a Christmas pudding Mrs. Cratchet would have been proud to serve. It's been not only a highlight of holiday meals for centuries. but it can also be very economical. The pudding is generally prepared using breadcrumbs, raisins and other fruits and spices available around the house.

Given the investment many holiday bakers make in ingredients, such as nuts and dried fruits, it's usually wise to invest in fresh ingredients to help

your holiday treats turn out as intended. April Osburn, Culinary Classroom Manager for Clabber Girl, stresses that using outdated or near-date ingredients in your recipe can dramatically affect the finished product. "The holiday season is a time when you are baking to impress, and time, as well as money, is at a premium. The last thing you want to do is let an expired ingredient cause your recipe to fail. Using old baking powder can make your baked item flop. Not only is the rise of the product affected, but using old ingredients can compromise taste and the integrity of your baked goods."

It's important to be sure all your ingredients are fresh, especially baking soda, baking powder, cornstarch, flour and spices. Replace any that are a year old or more. If in doubt, start anew and date each item to be

Thisholidayseason, impresseveryone with the Christmas pudding that can make a great addition to a neighborhood cookie exchange, a visit with family or as dessert for your own holiday dinner.

Christmas Pudding

2¹/₂ cups all-purpose flour, sifted 1 teaspoon Clabber Girl Baking Powder

- 11/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/ teaspoon salt
- 1/ teaspoon cinnamon 1/4 easpoon cloves
- 1 cup milk
- 1/₄ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1¹/₂ cups raisins
- 1/2 cup currants
- ¹/₂ cup chopped citron 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 3/4 cup margarine, softened
- 2 eggs

Mix and sift dry ingredients. Add fruits and stir until they are well coated. In a separate bowl, cream butter and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in eggs and add flour/fruit mixture alternately with milk. Mix well. Turn into greased 11Ú2 quart mold. Cover and steam 2 hours. (To steam, set mold on a rack in large kettle/saucepan. Keep boiling water to half the depth of the mold, adding water during steaming process when necessary.)

Makes 8 servings.

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Gold River Crowned National Champions

The mixed doubles team team from Gold River, California, representing the USTA Northern California Section, captured the national title at the USTA League 10.0 Adult Mixed Doubles National Championships



Pictured from left to right: Steven Fabela, Laura McGaffigan, Isabella Kling (Captain), Kelly Pace-Wilson, Brian Heiland and Jeff Shin.

Tucson, Arizona - The mixed doubles team team from Gold River, California, representing the USTA Northern California Section, captured the national title at the USTA League 10.0 Adult Mixed Doubles National Championships held at the Hilton El Conquistador Resort in Tucson, Ariz. from Nov. 19 to Nov. 21.

The Northern California team defeated a team from Richmond, Va. 2-1 in the Championship match. Earlier in the day, the Gold River team defeated a team from Sarasota, Florida, 2-1 in the semifinals. They advanced this far by winning their round-robin flight contested Friday and Saturday.

The team is captained by Isabella Kling and features Steven Fabela, Laura McGaffigan, Kelly Pace-Wilson, Brian Heiland and Jeff Shin and plays at the Gold River Racquet Club.

The top four teams in order of finish are: Northern California, Mid-Atlantic, Pacific Northwest, and Florida. This year's USTA League 10.0 Adult Mixed Doubles National Championship has drawn the top 10 teams from throughout the nation.

USTA League is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Since its inception in 1980, USTA League has grown from 13,000 participants in its first year, to over 750,000 players across the nation today, making it the world's largest recreational tennis league.

USTA League was established to provide adult recreational tennis players throughout the country with the opportunity to compete against players of similar ability levels. Players participate on teams in a league format, which is administered by the USTA through its 17 Sections. The league groups players by using six National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP) levels, ranging from 2.5 (entry) to 5.0 (advanced). USTA League is open to any USTA member 19 years of age or older. It features Adult and Mixed Doubles divisions, as well as a Senior Division (age 50 or older) and a Super Senior Division (age 60 or older).

Head Penn Racquet Sports is in its 23rd year as official ball of USTA League. For more information about USTA League or the USTA as a whole, visit www.usta.com.

The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level — from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. A not-for-profit organization with 750,000 members, it invests 100% of its proceeds in growing the game. It owns and operates the US Open, the highest attended annual sporting event in the world, and launched the Olympus US Open Series linking 10 summer tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns the 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S., is a minority owner and promotional partner of World TeamTennis, and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. The USTA philanthropic entity, USTA Serves, provides grants and scholarships and through tennis, helps underserved youth and people with disabilities to improve academics and strive for excellence. For more information on the USTA, log on to usta.com.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Welcome Samuel to His First Christmas



Fair Oaks - Sometimes Christmas brings even more wonderful reasons to celebrate. Mom and Dad hold Samuel in their laps and Mrs. Claus at the Fair Oaks Christmas in the Village event, held on December 4th. Matt and

Natalie Miller of Fair Oaks shared the joy of Samuel's birth just nine days before their visit to Santa.

Christmas in the Village saw as they all get hugs from Santa a larger than expected crowd to the area to enjoy Christmas shopping, the downtown treats from local restaurants, and all shared in the Christmas parade. The event just got in under the raindrops this year, which brought smiles to all those in attendance. This event happens annually on the first weekend of December and is sponsored by the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce.

SMUD Offers Tips to Customers to be Warm and Safe this Winter

Lower Winter Rates, Money-Saving Programs and Safe Home Heating

Sacramento Region - Customers of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) can save on their energy use and lower their electric bills this winter thanks to several programs the electric utility offers.

SMUD offers low-income customers several programs to help them save energy as well as money on their electric bill. Eligible lowincome customers can take advantage of SMUD's Energy Assistance Program Rate (EAPR). EAPR is a discount rate that can save customers more than 30 percent on their entire monthly electric bill. Customers are eligible for the discounted rate if their total household income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty level. For example, a family of four can earn up to \$44,400 a year to qualify for EAPR.

SMUD EAPR customers also may be eligible for the Residential Weatherization program.

Qualified customers can, at no

cost to them, have their homes and apartments weatherized to improve energy efficiency and lower energy costs. Weatherization measures may include attic insulation, low flow showerheads, water heater blankets and pipe wrap and compact fluorescent lights.

Colder weather can also present some customers with challenges to stay warm, especially in an economic downturn. Burning an open fire inside a home is dangerous and can be deadly; however, this is an accepted practice in the homelands of some recent immigrants. Information in multiple languages on safe heating practices and programs to help lowincome customers with their electric bills is available from SMUD.

The use of open fires indoors to stay warm and cook could be deadly because California homes are very airtight unlike the open-air homes in some countries. Burning wood and charcoal releases carbon monoxide.

Carbon monoxide cannot be seen or smelled, and it can kill people in min-

utes. SMUD is sharing these safety · Never use an unventilated appliance like a kerosene or propane

your home. · Never use an unventilated fire or burn charcoal indoors.

heater, stove, oven or dryer to heat

· Never use lighter fluid or gasoline to start a fire or burn painted or treated wood in the fireplace.

SMUD customers continue to pay significantly less for electricity than most Californians and more than 25 percent less than customers who are supplied by neighboring PG&E. For information about all of SMUD's energy-saving programs and for tips on how to stay warm and safe this winter while keeping the electric bill lower, please call SMUD at 1-888-742-7683 or visit smud.org.



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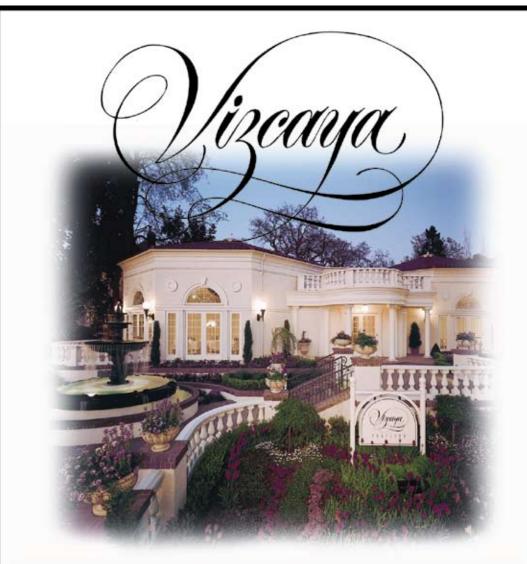
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SHIFT YOUR LIFE

Why can't I do anything right? Why can't I get the job I want? Why can't I find true love? Why do bad things happen to me? Why? Why? Why? Are you tired of all the whys and want to get the why not? Dr. Tracy Latz, practicing Integrative Psychologist, wants to help with "Shift" 12 keys to shift your life.

Dr. Latz says "when we don't know any better, we create our own obstacles in our lives. Once you understand these concepts, you will realize how important it is to identify and cull out negative thoughts and transform feelings of anger, resentment, fear, and anxiety that limit ability to create joy and peace. Which one are you?

Feeling Unloved: When we feel this way, it appears nothing will go right for us.

Guilt and Shame: If your parents divorced by the time you were a teenager, you may have developed a distrust of lasting relationships.

POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

You might now find yourself in relationships where you fear intimacy, rejection.

Abandonment: Many of us get stuck when we fell alone or have a sense that we have been abandoned by friends, partners, and family. When we feel abandoned, we shut everyone else out and isolate.

Anger and Resentment: Whenever we feel anger or resentment towards someone else, we actually tie ourselves energetically to that person or situation and continue to draw to us similar negative experiences.

How We Define Ourselves: Rather than defining ourselves as connected to everyone else, we perceive ourselves to be isolated and disconnected except through externally imposed social groups.

Lack of Self Love: Isn't it funny that many of us feel guilty whenever we do something nurturing for ourselves and we feel like we are doing something wrong? Why?

Inadequacy and Powerlessness: Some of the tests we face in life create crisis such as a loved one dying, divorce, being fired from a job, a career has lost its reward, a driving dream was not realized, financial problems, children in crisis. When something like this happens, we beat ourselves up feeling as if we have

Heartache: Depending on the intensity of the event, we heal from acute pain in time, but we learned to guard our heart so we are not left so vulnerable again.

The Unknown: One of the greatest fears is the fear of the unknown. Many people get stuck in their circumstances for fear of taking a different path.

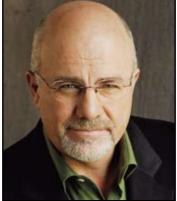
Stress: We often get caught up in the fast pace of our daily lives that we no longer feel refreshed or alert or have the clarity to observe where we are in our lives and that we have created for ourselves.

Habit: We create something every day. It can be more of the bad stuff or we can start the habit of creating good.

Self-Discipline: With all the world's negativity, how do we keep it from seeping into our lives? We need regular routines that keep us balanced in body, mind, and spirit.

Check out her website at www.12keystoshift.com. Now go out there and be positive! It's the holidays! Be kind to yourself! You deserve it!!!

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



Dave Ramsey is a personal money management expert, popular national radio personality and the author of three New York Times bestsellers - The Total Money Makeover, Financial Peace Revisited and More Than Enough. In them, Ramsey exemplifies his life's work of teaching others how to be financially responsible, so they can acquire enough wealth to take care of loved ones, live prosperously into old age, and give generously to others.

College Kids Don't Need New Cars

Dear Dave,

I'm 24, and I'm finishing up college. I've been driving an old, used car for a while now, and I'm thinking about getting a new one. I've managed to save up about \$30,000 from my jobs, but every time I go to a car dealer they want me to finance a new car instead of paying cash for one. What do you think I should do?

- Devon

Dear Devon,

Who gives a crap what the car

dealers want? This is *your* purchase, not theirs. Besides, the only reason they want you to finance is so they'll make a lot more money off the deal.

Dude, you're a 24-year-old college student who has been smart enough and industrious enough to scrape up \$30,000 over the last few years. You don't need to throw a huge chunk of that into something that's going to go down in value like a rock. New cars lose 60 percent of their value in the first four years. A \$28,000 car would be worth around \$11,000 after that period of time. That's not what I call

You don't need a brand-new car, Devon. Once you've got a million dollars in the bank, then you can go out and buy a new car. For now, you need to stick with good, used, lowmileage vehicles that are about three or four years old.

a smart investment.

If I were in your shoes and had your budget, I'd shop around and pay cash for a cool little \$10,000 car. You can get a great automobile for that kind of money, plus you'll still have the majority of your savings sitting

- Dave

No, No, No!

Dear Dave,

Should I take \$20,000 out of my thrift savings account to use as a

down payment on an investment property? My payment would be \$1,200 a month, and I could lease it for \$1,500 a month. It will also give me a better return than if I left it in my savings account, even with all the penalties. What do you think?

- Cecilia

Dave Says

Dear Cecilia,

So, you want to cash out retirement, and take a penalty, to buy an investment property. And on top of that you're going to take on debt, too? This is like combining two dumb things into one big mess. I don't think

I understand the allure of real estate. I love real estate. But it's pretty obvious you've never been a landlord. Bringing in \$1,500 and paying out \$1,200 sounds good to you, but there's also a lot of risk involved, and that's something you haven't figured into the equation. Sometimes you have places that just sit there empty. Other times you have renters who don't pay, things that need fixing, or people who just tear stuff up.

The idea that you're going to make a bunch of money off this situation is pure fantasy. Don't go there!

- Dave

For more financial help please visit daveramsey.com.

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The Medical Problems of Airport Screening: It's Not Just the Radiation



Commentary by Jane M. Orient, M.D. www.aapsonline.org

The radiation dose is likely the least of the problems with airport

If operating as specified, a scanner delivers about 0.01 millirad of radiation, or 0.00001 rad. You unavoidably get 10,000 times as much from the natural environment every year.

The worry is not surprising in a nation that has been barraged with antinuclear propaganda for decades. Keeping people terrified of doses even tinier than those from airport scanners seems to be government policy. Fearmongering has likely caused a \$10 trillion loss to our economy by stopping the expansion of nuclear power plants, and greater dependency on hostile foreigners for energy-including those who sponsor terrorism.

We must not induce unreasoned fear, not even to oppose an outrageous assault on liberty. There is, however, another aspect to the airport scanners. They use an ingenious low-energy backscatter technique, which is apparently wonderful for identifying explosives in cargo. Since the radiation doesn't penetrate far, it wouldn't affect an unborn baby. But it does concentrate the dose in the

Some scientists warn that this effect has not been properly studied, and one nuclear medicine expert told me that he is going to opt out of the scan. I think this much is clear: if you had a deadly disease, and the scanner were an FDA-regulated device that might save your life, your doctor wouldn't be allowed to use it, because of inadequate study.

Also if your doctor had an o

go to federal prison for referring you for a scan. These anti-kickback laws, however, do not apply to the influential government cronies who stand to make a fortune from the scanners.

Leaving aside the radiation, let's look at U.S. airport security from the perspective of a terrorist, or a Martian. We have TSA agents scurrying about, fighting the last war against the shoe and the underwear bombers, both caught by vigilant human beings. The threat is from aspiring martyrs, who are captive to an ideology that advocates turning its sons and daughters, even little children, into bombs.

So is the remedy to subject all Americans to virtual strip searches, and even little children to groping that we teach them is wrong? Does it make us safe, and are the medical and psychological side effects worth

Inmates of Nazi concentration camps were frequently subjected to strip searches. It was probably just one more way to dehumanize the prisoners.

The TSA process treats American travelers (except congressmen and other significant people) like prisoners, and strips them of Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches and seizures. It subjects them to enhanced risk of loss (or theft) of important things like their indispensable governmentissued photo ID. While in the scanner, their luggage is unattendedwhat about that risk of "introduction of items without their knowledge"? And what about the transmission of scabies, crab lice, bedbug larvae, and all manner of germs by TSA gropers? Do they change gloves and wash their hands between subjects, as hospital personnel must do?

The option of a "private room" is no protection against violation of dignity. We need, so to speak, transparency in government operations. Let Americans see—and record on video—their protectors in action. Let them watch agents search a screaming three year old to see whether it makes them feel safer.

How much "safety" is enough? Will a virtual stripping suffice, or do we need an invasive body cavity search of everyone? Even then, there would be threats. Swallowed explosives detonated by radio frequency. ship interest in the scanner, he might A bomb set off in the crowd waiting

to get through security. A blast in the luggage compartment. A missile launch.

The Israelis use intelligence, but Americans seem to have ruled that out, to keep our agents safe from the charge of "profiling."

Safety requires vigilance, not mindless rules. We need plainclothes observers, watching for tell-tale behavior. We might consider screening polygraphs with questions such as "Where do you expect to be this evening?" For suspected explosives, we have sniffers: technologic ones, and dogs.

Watching the holiday scene at the airport may awaken Americans to the reality that we are not rich enough or powerful enough to keep acting this

Use those scanners to check luggage and cargo. But still, it's not the radiation that's the problem; it's the abandonment of common sense.

Jane M. Orient, M.D., On Air contributor speaking on Healthcare Reform. Dr. Orient has appeared on NBC, MSNBC, ABC and many major broadcast venues throughout the US, as well and her Op-eds have been printed in hundreds of local and international newspapers, magazines and followed on major blogs.

Dr. Orient is the Executive Director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons. She has been in solo practice of general internal medicine since 1981 and is a clinical lecturer in medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona, and her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. She is the author of Sapira's Art and Science of Bedside Diagnosis; the fourth edition has just been published by Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins. She also authored YOUR Doctor Is Not In: Healthy Skepticism about National Health Care, published by Crown. She is the executive director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, a voice for patients' and physicians' independence since 1943. Complete curriculum vitae posted at www.drjaneorient.com. Additional information on healthrelated issues: www.aapsonline.org

Government's Grope and Grab has Got to Stop!



Commentary by Elizabeth Lee Vliet, M.D. www.aapsonline.org

Intrusive gropes of traveler's private parts by TSA's government employees is just the latest overreach of this administration to "grope and grab" every aspect of our lives. Here are some examples:

- 1. Grope our bodies, literally or by x-ray, treating everyone as an equal threat to safety, and grab harmless
- 2. Grope our medical privacy in the electronic records the government wants for every medical visit.
- 3. Grab our right to choose our medical treatment with our physician, rather than the government panels now being created.
- 4. Grope our financial records in the new "reform" act.
- 5. Grab our money for higher health insurance premiums to cover new Obamacare mandates.
- 6. Grope and grab our paycheck with more reporting and higher taxes.
- 7. Grab our liberty to choose how we pay for medical care.
- 8. Grope and grab our food choices with a food bill being rammed through in the lame duck Congress: as with "healthcare reform" it has to be passed into law before we can see
- 9. Grope and grab our CO2 emissions-from traveling, from heating and cooling our homes, even from eating high-fat foods—in a vast new EPA power grab.
- 10. Grab our energy sources with drilling bans onshore and offshore. 11. Grope and grab our 401k and IRA plans in a proposed mandate to buy
- 12. Grope and grab 30% of all personal and business international wire transfers of money beginning 1-1-2013, buried in the "Jobs" bill.

Treasury bills.

13. Grab added 3.8% tax on the gain over \$250,000 on sale of our homes

14. Grab our kids' toys, mandating removal from Happy Meals, starting in San Francisco.

The TSA indiscriminate body scans and intrusive gropes are a good example of what Benjamin Franklin warned against when he said in 1755 that "Those who would give up essential Liberty to purchase a little temporary Safety deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." His statement is often misquoted to omit the key adjectives essential liberty and a little temporary safety, which then changes the meaning significantly. He recognized that we always have to make

In the name of airline safety, millions of Americans are being deprived of their fundamental, essential 4th Amendment liberty and have not really gained any greater safety than we had with the walk-through magnet and targeted pat-downs. Body cavities can still be used by suicide bombers to carry explosives. And cargo is incredibly still not being adequately screened for explosives. So it is only the illusion of "enhanced security" that is being offered in exchange for gross violations of our bodies and our liberty—and without the basic safety precautions required in medical x-ray facilities, or the infection control precautions demanded of medical personnel. This grope-and-grab policy, like the others, is about control and subjugation of the public, not security. What price are we willing to pay in dignity and privacy for the illusion of more safety?

The government pretends it is all "for our own good." Anybody could be a potential terrorist, and we as consumers and patients are too stupid to know how to manage our own lives. Dr. Donald Berwick, recess appointed head of Medicare and Medicaid even said it directly in July 2008 as he celebrated the 60th anniversary of Britain's National Health Service: "I cannot believe that the individual health consumer can enforce through choice the proper configurations of a system as massive and complex as healthcare. That is for leaders to do."

Based on 30 years of medical practice, I disagree vehemently. Patients and physicians acting as partners make far better medical decisions than any government bureaucrat I have ever encountered.

We are being incrementally stripped of our liberties at an alarming rate, like the proverbial frog in a pot of gradually warming water.

Once we have lost all, it is too late to jump out of the boiling water, back to our essential liberty our Founders fought to achieve.

The fundamental question is this: Do you want the government groping and grabbing all these aspects of your life, or do you feel YOU should make the choices that are best for you? It really isn't a dispute over whether changes need to occur – it is whether the changes should be planned centrally by Washington to control and direct your life, or whether YOU are empowered to make the changes that are best for you, the individual.

I think it is high time we demand that our new Congressional representatives start off the New Year with a bold halt to the federal government "grope and grab." That's a New Year's Resolution for change we can

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Dr. Vliet speaks as an independent physician, not as an official spokesperson for any organization. Dr. Vliet has no financial ties to any health care system, pharmaceutical company, or health insurance plan. Her allegiance and advocacy is to and for patients.

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The Forest, the Trees and the TSA

Commentary by John Jay Myers, Whiskey & Gunpowder

With all the naked viewing and groping going on, I wonder if this is the United States of America or the back room of an adult video store. We have two major problems here, the TSA and its intrusive unconstitutional invasions of our rights, and the bigger question of why are we turning into a police state.

Let's start with the TSA. How many passengers have I seen interviewed on TV who all share the notion that "If it makes us safer then I think it is a good idea. I just want to get to my destination in one piece." Not only does this presume that the government is more capable at assuring safety than private citizens, but it also illustrates an alarming trend in this country where we have become willing to so easily trade freedom for the illusion of safety (or prosperity,

Let me ask you this — who has the greatest interest in safe and secure airplanes? The government? On the contrary, the people themselves have the greatest self interest in safety. The airlines would not want to jeopardize their reputation, their financial security, nor the lives of the passengers. Then there would be the insurance companies who insure those planes who would insist on the airlines taking proper steps for safe travel. And finally there are the passengers, who are so interested in safety that they willingly bend over and accept the government's intrusion. So we now have three key private players with major interest in the safety of planes.

The TSA only had a two-year contract before the airlines could opt out. I believe it is time for America's airlines to opt out, or for the people to opt out of America's airlines. Let airlines decide what security policies they employ, and then let the free people of America choose which airlines they feel safest flying. This simply means if you don't want to blow up prematurely (if blowing up was already on your agenda), ride on a plane with tight professional security, and if you don't want to pay more for a ticket (or be probed) ride on the plane without it. Freedom and security is not a trade off. Freedom IS security.

If you believe that the federal government has the greatest interest in a secure plane, or that we should employ a more intrusive "papers please" approach or the Israeli model of rapid fire interrogations, let me ask you a few questions. If we could make airlines 100% safe, so safe that we know that a terrorist will never board a plane and take it over, would that be the end of terrorism as we know it? Do secure airlines mean a secure America? Hardly, considering that in America we have thousands of events held daily where greater

numbers of people gather. Which brings us to the title of this article, "The Forest, the Trees and the TSA." The TSA is actually only a symptom, while the real problem is our foreign policy. Our history in the Middle East did not start on Sept. 11, 2001. Understanding our involvement around the world and how it has a habit of coming to roost is key before we end up with check points outside our

children's soccer games.

Though any step toward privatization in the airline industry is an improvement, the ultimate solution to our problems is bringing our troops home and minding our own business. Foreign belligerence is immoral, incredibly costly, and it threatens our security by inspiring people to hate us.

and www.takebackmedicine.com.

This is not a "blame America first" mentality. This is blame bad policy first. The fact is that our foreign policy of a trillion dollars a year is bankrupting this country. The fact is that our involvement in these countries is the main reason some want to attack us. The fact is that the TSA represents a victory for the terrorists and a loss for freedom, and facts are never unpatriotic. We are accepting a federal government to protect our freedom when the federal government military/security state is openly hostile to freedom.

We have sent the government scrambling to find new ways to intrude on our rights, without realizing that our current foreign policy of entangling alliances and questionable corporate intent is the opposite of what our founders envisioned. We need to think about this the next time we see a Fox News report about the impending threat of Iran followed by an advertisement sponsored by Lockheed Martin. America can continue down a road of war, terror, insecurity and an ever increasing police state, or we can choose a new direction of peace, commerce, security and a foreign policy of freedom.

Regards, John Jay Myers, Dallas, Texas, U.S.A.

To me the choice is clear.

The Great Wealth Grab

Wealth Continued from Page 1

Europe dragged it out again in the early 1970s, and the US in the 1990s. Europe began its slow crumble the middle of this decade, but spending continued in the Euro Zone until it ran out of virtual money and in 2008 very real bills began kicking at the door. Countries were breaking under the weight of benevolent social programs. Greece was first. Now it's Ireland. The US became officially broke the first quarter of this year when after repeated warnings by the Office of Management and Budget [OMB] and the Congressional Budget Office [CBO], President Obama said, "We've reached our limit. We're broke, out of money. We can't continue to print money and spend this way, it's unsustainable." But he's done nothing about it. In fact he continues to spend. It's a hallmark of this president to say he's not doing something while he's obviously doing it.

Unlike Europeans Americans believe homeownership is almost a birthright, and with it the building of equity. In other words our savings are our homes. We saved for retirement in 401-K's and other instruments, which in turn were invested in the stock market in mutual funds and other venues. Europeans on the other hand, don't own homes or build equity, and as a result have a higher bank savings rate than Americans. Under President George Bush our government's policy on banking and housing was set by Senator Dodd and Congressman Barney Frank. This policy inspired

banks and investment institutions

that for decades ached to get at the



money in the mortgage market. Dodd and Frank took off the handcuffs. Encouraged by Congress, these institutions loaned, spent and created real debt with virtual money. When the bills came due the houses collapsed and destroyed the last sources of real wealth Americans had, our home equity and our retirement money. Our retirement was clubbed to death in the last two market crashes caused by the housing collapse. European retirement is state funded, as is health care, six weeks of vacation and a parade of other benefits. Today the denizens of the EuroZone are raging and weeping because of the cutbacks in countless social programs their political class created for them. Which brings us back to constant value currency.

Jason Bowman, a local silver expert, says, "We and Europe have been financing ourselves on ersatz money for two generations. The bills will come due in the future, let them deal with it. That's kicking the can down the road for people in the future to pick up. It's irresponsible." He laughed, "Now China of all countries sees the danger of that and is encouraging individual ownership of silver and gold after years of stated-value currency and tough ownership laws. On the other hand our government doesn't want

citizens to use real money. That puts us in business against them. The government needs it to pay the bills as it keeps running up the tab. They don't want Americans using constant-value money because it keeps government from doing what it wants."

The Federal Reserve was created to ensure a stable currency and economic environment. So far under Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke it's done the opposite.

Because of demand silver is outperforming gold. Because of demand silver's new worth makes it volatile. Ironically, since the value of precious metals is constant, their price describes how worthless our currency is or how far we've fallen from the 1800s when gold was worth \$8 an ounce. Worse, on January 1, 2011 the new Form 1099 goes into effect. The IRS, the National Chambers of Commerce and business large and small opposed it, but the Obama administration wanted it and got it.

For those of us considering silver remember: On the first any transaction with any business for any product totaling \$600 or more over a year's time must be reported. It doesn't matter if you spent \$20 one week and \$150 the next. If it totals \$600 at the end of the year it must be reported. You're required to tell the government what you have and how much you spent. It's about control, and breaking down the individual.

There have been two middle-class revolutions in history. One delivered the United States, the other delivered Nazism. Hold on, we're in for a bumpy ride.