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The COMMUNITY BUGLE™

Vol. 16 No. 10 Inter-Community Newspaper Serving Southwest California DECEMBER 2013

Citizen Donors Cover Arson Costs

In September 2013, within two weeks of an arson incident, a complete restoration of a monument dedicated to the spirit of volunteerism was completed and paid for by the City of Temecula at a cost of \$3500. The monument was donated to the city less than two years ago by Friends of Ronald Reagan Sports Park (FRRSP), a non-profit group. The monument stands as testament that their city's volunteers were recognized in a speech by a President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, for their Can-Do spirit in building the sports park at no taxpayer expense. Phase 1 of the monument depicts President Reagan standing alongside his engraved words from the speech.

FRRSP received contributions that exceeded the costs of restoration from individuals and groups across the country. Most donations came when people heard of the vandalism. Some checks, received by mail, did not specify where the money should go. An especially significant contribution received from the crew aboard the USS Ronald Reagan based in San Diego was used in part for restoration and in part for completion of Phase 2 of the monument which will depict a family

of four planting trees and flowers in a garden island to the left of the President.

Among the local group donors were the Democratic Club of Southwest Riverside County and the local Republican Assembly club. Reflecting on the community support, Peters said, "The proliferation of individual initiative in our young people is not a political objective -- it is all-American."

Democratic Club President, Suji Fox, presented their check to Perry Peters, President of Friends of Ronald Reagan Sports Park, at the monument. "Such senseless acts serve no purpose and further no cause. The Democratic Club unreservedly condemns this wanton act of vandalism on the monument to former President Reagan. This park, serving so many people in such diverse ways, is a perfect example of how working together with common purpose and cooperation revitalizes our communities," said Fox.

The city of Temecula has now been reimbursed for their expenditures in the restoration. Riverside County Supervisors approved a \$10,000 reward for the capture of the arsonists but to date there has not been any announced progress in the case.



Suji Fox, President of the Democratic Club of Southwest Riverside County, passes a check to Perry Peters, President of Friends of Ronald Reagan Sports Park, standing in front of the statue of President Reagan at the park.

Make a Difference Day

Assistance League of Temecula Valley (ALTV) collected 1,122 books from our members, friends and thrift shop customers to support child literacy for "Make a Difference Day", the largest national day of community service sponsored by USA WEEKEND and Points of Light.

Students at the Pechanga Boys & Girls Club were all smiles as members of ALTV delivered over 400 books to the clubhouse. They are so excited about their new books that they are forming a book club all on their own. Doesn't get much better than that!!!

"With approximately 200 students at each of our four sites every day, we encourage reading and the kids love to read," said Maryann Edwards, CEO /President of the Boys & Girls Clubs. "We

are thrilled to receive these books from Assistance League." The books will be distributed to all four clubhouses.

Assistance League of Temecula Valley is a 501(c)(3) volunteer organization serving the families of Southwest Riverside County for 24 years. "We are happy to be able to provide the books for the Boys & Girls Club," said Assistance League president Dorcas Shaktman. "We promote literacy within the communities we serve."

Books will also be donated to Oak Grove Center for Education, Treatment & the Arts in Murrieta and Rancho Damacitas Group Home in Temecula.

For information about ALTV programs and membership information, call 951.684.8018 or visit www.temeculavalley.assistanceleague.org

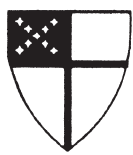


Pictured with the children at the clubhouse are Maryann Edwards, CEO/President of the Boys & Girls Club (left) and Dorcas Shaktman, Assistance League President (right).

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Community Voice

Thank You Pechanga Tribe



Publisher's Note:

The following submission relates to the end of a seven-year-long battle to stop a quarry in the hills above Temecula after County supervisors approved the project in a 3-2 vote in 2012. "Bonnie and Clyde" refers to the community's moniker for two Granite Construction employees. Mark Macarro, (pictured) is the Chairman of the Pechanga Tribal Council. Pechanga stopped the project by negotiating a purchase agreement for the property from Granite Construction. The City of Temecula, in honor and recognition of the Tribal Council's efforts that saved the city, has declared November 15 as Pechanga Pu'eska Mountain Day.

Today's [November 23] first annual Pechanga Mountain Pu'eska Mountain Day celebration at Temecula City Hall was packed. The happiness was infectious as ceremonies commenced and Avelaka Macarro, Mark's niece, member of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians & Great Oak High School student movingly sang the National Anthem. Children of Temecula sequentially read the entire Pechanga Pu'eska Mountain Day proclamation.

Chairman Mark Macarro thanked Riverside Supervisor Stone, Supervisor Buster and the Temecula City Council with whom he says the tribe has an unusually good relationship compared to other tribal/city relationships throughout the US, even when they don't always agree on everything.

The facts and history he related are fascinating and endless. A few highlights: The tribe employs 4,000 people; it contributes \$14,000,000 to charities; the

I-15 freeway, Rte. 76, and Butterfield Stage Road share a common feature: they are ancient Indian foot travel trails.

Councilmen Jeff Comerchero's, "...we went through something very scary...", vividly evoked all the fear, anger, paranoia, even conspiracy theories that took root in Temecula prior to Nov. 2012, when the stunning news of the Pechanga \$20,000,000 purchase suddenly exploded on our consciousness. It was like suddenly waking up from the nightmare of the evil charlatans, Riverside Supervisor John Benoit and Granite's very own "Bonnie and Clyde" who slithered around local Riverside towns for seven years inciting envy and hatred of superior Temecula by all the miserable little towns permeating SW Riverside, to politic their filthy quarry business, and bring Temecula down to the dirtbags' level.

Afterwards, outside we were treated to a cornucopia of tribal culture, authentic natural foods (I loved the acorn pate and sweet bread), jewelry (Joan [my wife] bought gorgeous Indian handmade abalone dangling earrings), and much more. The Tribe's brand new museum, a large high end luxury mobile home actually, had fascinating movies, art, and lectures. Later, outside, a tribal insider told me the amazing story of the sudden rare, unanimous vote at the Sunday monthly tribal meeting preceding Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012. Truly a high stakes poker game where Pechanga bid \$7 mm for the sacred land, Granite countered with a \$25,000,000 offer, and then quickly sold it for Pechanga's \$20,000,000 countering bid.

What a joyful day today was. How fortunate Temecula is to have the Pechanga neighbors.

Nick Biddle, Temecula

Christmas Tree Lane

The Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks Lodge will host its fifteenth Christmas Tree Lane at the lodge on Saturday, December 7 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The lodge is located at 33700 Mission Trail, Wildomar. For information, call (951) 674-6804. Admission is free.

Christmas Tree Lane is a fundraising event for the Elks Scholarship Program which provides scholarships to graduating

seniors who plan to attend colleges, technical schools or universities.

There are twelve themed decorated Christmas Trees complete with gifts for the lucky winners. Tickets to win a themed display are only \$1.00 each but winners must be present. Please plan to attend and support scholarships for the graduating seniors of local schools.

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Movie Review

Thor: The Dark World



The exploration of space and the universe is the modern day equivalent to our ancestors exploring the uncharted seas. We are now in search of answers to how our cosmos all began and how it will end. We have been around for millions of years but have only begun to consume science like a hungry bear and use it to delve into the unknown. I ponder such questions as, "Is there such a thing as parallel universes?" and "Is time travel a possibility?"

I like to think that there are other worlds with extraterrestrial life that may even resemble our human form. I don't believe God created earth as the only place in the universe that could support life. Like parallel worlds, the inhabitants may be similar to us intellectually or they might be more advanced than we can imagine. The *Marvel* comics provide a glimpse of many heroes that come from other worlds such as the small planet, Asgard, where Thor makes his return for another swing of the hammer in *Thor: The Dark World*.

Our story opens eons before the universe was created. A race of Dark Elves led by Malekith seeks to use a weapon called the Aether to cloud the universe in darkness. The Dark Elves fail when the representatives from Asgard are able to trap the weapon into a stone column that looks uncannily like the monolith in *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Cut to 2013, where Loki (played by Tom Hiddleston) is serving a life sentence for his war crimes in *The Avengers*. Thor (played by Chris Hemsworth) continues to work with the other Asgard warriors to protect the nine realms (earth being one of them) from evil. The characters Jane and Darcy return from the first *Thor*. Jane (played by Natalie Portman) is in London, where her intern Darcy (played by Kat

Dennings) takes her to a warehouse where the laws of physics and gravity don't apply. Then Jane is transported to another world and becomes infected by Aether. Thor's father Odin (played by Anthony Hopkins), reveals that the infection will bring about the end of the universe as it has awakened the Dark Elves. Loki could be their only chance to save everything from darkness.

So if you thought that the first *Thor* was very fantasy-like, *Thor: The Dark World* steers even farther away from the superhero formula. What we get is a surprisingly complicated plot. It is never clarified as to why the creatures from before the universe began want to take it over and destroy it. And while the villains look interesting their only plan is destruction. The plot is generic and to be fair, hard to work after using Loki as the villain.

The first thirty minutes is an exposition of how the fantasy elements work in the *Marvel* universe. It takes off from there as the action and humor finally pay off. There are plenty of scenes of Thor fighting bad guys and Loki doing what he does best, looking awesome while being campy. In an interesting twist, Jane is now the fish out of water on Asgard as Thor does his best to save everyone. The final battle in London actually had me rooting more than I did for Iron Man 3. It's creative with constant teleporting to other worlds and plenty of the destruction that makes a blockbuster fun.

I'll give this four hammers of Thor out of five. The first movie had a great story, but was short on action. This one has an okay story, but tons of fun action. Hopefully, in an eventual *Thor 3*, they can meet halfway in the middle for my wish to be granted.

More Robert Nickerson reviews are available at www.mastermindfilmproductions.com

Just A Minute



Betty O'Brien
obabe1@verizon.net

Gift

My definition of "gift" is something you didn't know you wanted, but now can't live without; a modem, for example. This electronic marvel my "techy" children gave me opened up the world of email to me. Email is right up there with food, water, and shelter as necessities. A gift isn't always something you hold, or smell, or taste. On one of my first airplane flights, I became ashen and gripped the arm rests in silent terror when I heard a heavy rumble beneath my feet. My seat mate, a perfect stranger, casually said, "Ah, there goes the landing gear; we'll be on the runway in a few moments." When my children were teens, they

pooled their baby-sitting, errand running, and lawn mowing money to buy me a Mother's ring at the local drugstore. Colored stones represented all their birthdays and mine. By happy coincidence, we were all born in different months which made for a very pretty ring. No real jewels, then or now, mean more to me.

Some gifts hurt. After a long and deadly illness, as a young girl I was given injections of streptomycin every three hours around the clock for weeks. I dreaded the painful shots, but they worked. Without a doubt, this so called "miracle drug" was the gift of life itself.

I hear the door bell; or is it a Christmas bell? Maybe there's a gift for me. Doesn't matter, to get or give, a gift is special.

Teaching Credentials

Earn a California Career & Technical Designated Subjects teaching credential at California State University. Winter Term enrollment deadline is December 10. The credential is required to teach in California career and technical (regional occupational) training programs, community colleges, adult schools, many private and public schools and academies as well as non profit and public service training facilities. The credential is also required to teach in the many new public high school academies that have recently opened in the Coachella Valley and many other areas in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

To enroll students must have at least a high school diploma. California residents over the age of 60 may be eligible for a tuition waiver. Classes are offered at CSUSB's Palm Desert Campus with an online option. If a fast track option is elected, the courses may be completed in two terms of study. In addition, course credits earned in obtaining the credential may be used as credit for a Fast Track B.A. or M.A. Degree in Career & Technical studies. Contact Dennis Larney, dlarney@csusb.edu or call 760 341 2883 Ext 78157

Blood Drive, Marrow Registry

The Chaparral High School campus will open to the public on Saturday, December 14, for a first-time ever public blood drive and blood marrow registry. The blood drive and marrow registry are scheduled from 8 am-1 pm at 27215 Nicolas Road in Temecula.

Charity Drives

Chaparral High School is holding a drive to collect clothing, shoes, household items, school supplies, canned goods, new toys, baby items, and blankets. The collection of durable goods will run from 8 AM - 2 PM on December 14. Donations are being collected in collaboration with campus clubs and Goodwill Southern California, The Restart Center, San Diego Blood Bank, Temecula/Murrieta Rescue Mission, Be the Match®, Birth Choice of Temecula, and the Temecula Sunrise Rotary. Chaparral High School is located at 27215 Nicolas Road in Temecula. Contact Kristy Baron for more info at kbaron@tvusd.k12.ca.us. Special accommodation can be made for early drop off of donations; email her for directions.

Local Events Now Posted Online

Holiday concert, parade, and a Lyric Opera are a few of the events that are offered for your enjoyment in December. Visit www.thebugle.com and click our

Local Events menu item often as the calendar is updated regularly.

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Holiday Legislative Open House

Senator Joel Anderson was pleased to meet many of the southwest Riverside County residents who joined over 2,000 people at his annual Holiday Legislative Open House to receive a legislative update on several bills the Senator authored that were signed into law and to give their feedback and ideas on how to improve their community.

"I am truly blessed to represent this area of Riverside County with so many dedicated and active residents who care deeply about their community. I received great ideas and advice on how I can best represent the area in Sacramento," said Senator Anderson. Concerns that were raised by residents ranged from water issues to attracting more manufacturing businesses into the community.

"This is a very important event for me because 40 to 60 percent of bill ideas I have introduced in the past have come from people who have attended our Holiday Legislative Open House. I appreciate everyone who took time out of their

busy schedule to give me advice and ideas for new bills to introduce in Sacramento," said Senator Anderson.

The event also showed off the talents of local youth throughout the Senator's district. Culinary arts students cooked delicious treats for residents and young musicians serenaded the crowd with beautiful classical music.

If you were unable to attend and have legislative ideas, Senator Anderson still wants to hear from you. Please contact the Senator's office at 619-596-3136 or email at Senator.Anderson@Senate.CA.Gov



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Board Game Fundraiser

The Chaparral High School band is hoping Picaroon, a pirate-themed board game created by the founders of the best-selling Apples to Apples game, can help it find new treasure. In limited release and sold only online, the new strategy game has band members eager to play and excited about fundraising.

We held a game night to introduce it said Brenda Coalter, band parent and fundraising chair. "The kids caught on fast, and really like that the game can be as simple or as complicated as players want it. "I love Picaroon," said Miranda Negrete, CHS drum major. "It's a unique game and it kept me guessing. I can't wait to get one of my own". Nathan Myers, assistant drum major, added, "Picaroon is a very fun game. It will be a great addition to family game nights."

Picaroon is available online through January 2014 in a fundraising partnership with the CHS Band Program – ranging from \$37 to \$69 (the premium edition features game tiles, not cards). To support the CHS Band Program fundraiser, log on to <http://www.picaroonboardgame.com> and input the code "Pumas". Pumas is the school's mascot.



Cub Scout Pinewood Derby

The Temecula Valley Elks hosted Cub Scout Pack 302 for their annual Pinewood Derby and Turkey Feast recently. The event was attended by more than 30 Cub Scouts and Webelos, along with another 70 parents, grandparents and siblings.

Participants gathered around the four winners, shown in the middle of the front row of the picture with their trophies. The winners are Trajan Williams, Diego

Garibay, Robbie Gisler and Zachary Toth. In the back row: Temecula Lodge Scouting Chairman Ken Nordstrom on the left and Cub Master Scott Lindow on the right. Pack 302, located in Temecula, is sponsored by the Temecula Valley Elks, and meets at Rancho Elementary School.

In addition to the Derby and the feast, the boys also brought food to be donated to the Temecula Pantry.



Temecula Grad Marched in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Emily (Emy) Hardy, 2013 Chaparral High School grad, is a freshman clarinetist with the University of Massachusetts Marching Band. The band was chosen, for the first time this year, to march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade which is broadcast all over the world.

With nearly 400 members, the UMass Marching Band is the largest collegiate marching band in the northeast and has had the honor of winning the Sudler Trophy, which is the highest honor a college marching band can receive. The band is often referred to as the Power & Class of New England. Band members hail from 18 states and three countries.



The band arrived from Massachusetts on Tuesday, November 26, to have time to explore the Big Apple before the parade. On the morning of the parade, Emy and her bandmates were up at 2:30 a.m. to assemble and rehearse at 4 a.m. for NBC in front of the Macy's 34th Street store. At 7:45 am the band lined up to begin the parade and marched down the streets of Manhattan playing a repertoire which consists of the school's fight song, Roll Down the Field, God Bless America, and a Boston favorite: Sweet Caroline in honor of the Red Sox World Series champions this year.

Emy is the daughter of Jeannie and Dale Hardy of Temecula. Her sister, Allie, attends the University of Oregon.

FurHuggers Animal Rescue Debut

FurHuggers Animal Rescue & Welfare Foundation is southern California's newest animal rescue and welfare foundation. "Our Mission is to end animal suffering by providing the victims of neglect and violence with medical care, love and shelter. We strongly believe in humane education and in helping current pet owners keep their companion animals in safe and loving homes. We support local shelters and rescue groups with volunteer work and by networking animals in need." said Founder Iris Whitten.

FurHuggers held their grand launch in Temecula on October 26 at Animal Friends of the Valleys' shelter fundraiser, "Paws on the Promenade Spooktacular". The FurHuggers booth was located directly across from the AFV stage, giving visitors and a dozen T-shirted volunteers an up-close view of a Halloween pet parade, a doggy costume contest and live musical entertainment.

As one of 30 vendors, the Wildomar-based nonprofit organization provided more than 150 booth visitors with animal-care information, free natural dog treats,

and pet supplies and merchandise, all to raise awareness of its mission to prevent the suffering of homeless and abused animals. The star attraction: several dogs processed for adoption into new "forever homes."

"We are thrilled to have taken part in this AFV event," said Whitten. "What better way to raise awareness of homeless animals' needs than by attracting crowds with a fun day like this. We could not have hoped for a more welcoming response from the community."

"We could not have done it without our volunteers," added Whitten. "Our team joined paws for a good cause — giving a voice to voiceless pets in need and showing people how they can help. Whether it's by providing temporary foster care, volunteering time, donating funds or supplies, or just spreading the word about what we do... Everyone can make a difference."

For more information about FurHuggers, call 866-645-8660, write to info@furhuggers.org or visit www.furhuggers.org



FurHuggers founder, Iris Whitten, (back row, second from left) and a team of volunteers at Animal Friends of the Valleys' "Paws on the Promenade" event in Temecula.

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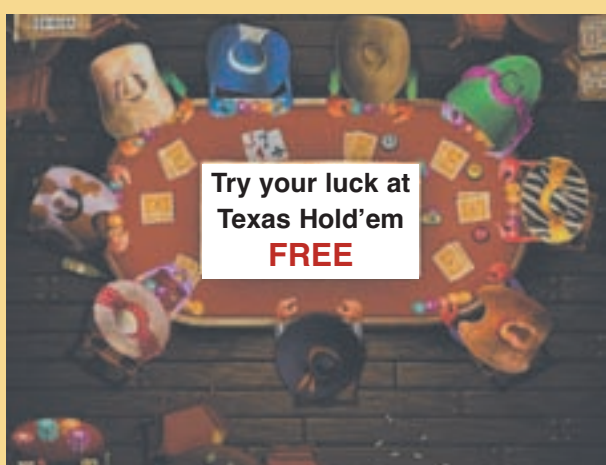
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Veterans Day event takes wounded warriors skydiving

A Veterans Day event known as "Wings of Inspiration" gave 10 combat wounded veterans a chance to go skydiving in Lake Elsinore for free. In attendance were country singer LeAnn Rimes – who sang the National Anthem – actor Eddie Cibrian, and TV personality Mario Lopez who was the exclusive media correspondent with NBC's Extra.

The owners of Rock & Load Clothing, a local online clothing business that promotes patriotism and a positive mindset, stepped in as the official food sponsor for the Wings of Inspiration event. Their task was to provide food for all the veterans, celebrity guests, and film crew.

"We basically had 3 days to prepare everything as the official food sponsor and

for staging the VIP area. It was a challenge but we pulled it off," said co-owner of Rock & Load Clothing and US Navy veteran Brandon McFarland. "We wanted to celebrate Veterans Day by giving back in some way," says the other co-owner of Rock & Load Clothing, Kat Aveno. "By helping organize the event with free food, we provided that camaraderie feel among the veterans who participated."

After their skydive session, LeAnn Rimes and her husband Eddie Cibrian joined the Rock & Load Clothing booth to chat with the owners and some of the wounded warriors who participated. "The anticipation on the plane is scarier than the actual fall," Rimes told a veteran as she laughed.



Menifee Arts Council Artist of the Month

Upon retiring almost 17 years ago, Judy Irwin and her husband traveled across the United States for many years before settling in Menifee. "I got into the art world through a strange set of circumstances," said Irwin. After going out shopping with a friend one afternoon, Irwin wanted to buy a watermelon paper plate holder in the store; however, she was told that she had to paint it herself instead. "Never having painted a thing in my life, I replied, 'No, not me, I don't paint', to which they said, 'We'll teach you'" said Irwin. "That was my start in the art world."

Irwin has now been painting for 18 years. "Art opened a new door in my life. I see things differently now, the beauty in nature and the vast array of colors in objects. I would say my style is realistic and I use vibrant colors in my work," said Irwin.

Irwin did Tole painting during her first few years of painting. But after taking a few painting workshops, Irwin fell in love with using watercolors and has been using that medium ever since. "

In addition to painting regular sized watercolor pieces, she is currently involved in creating miniature paintings, which she sells online.

Irwin joined Arts Council Menifee a little over two years ago. "Joining the Arts Council opened up opportunities for me to show my artwork that had never been available to me before," said Irwin. She hopes that others will take a leap of faith and discover painting like she did.

"Anyone can learn to paint, some better than others, but everyone can learn and enjoy the relaxation and the accomplishment of their own artwork," says Irwin. "I would say to anyone wanting to paint, go for it!"




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Open Mic Night

At 7 pm, on the first Tuesday of the month, St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church is hosting Open Mic Night. Singers, musicians and poets of all faiths are welcome to share their

inspiration in a safe and welcoming atmosphere. All ages can perform. Two microphones, guitar amp, grand piano are available. Free admission.
44651 Avenida de Misiones, Temecula

RTA Driver to the Rescue

Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) coach operators do some good things when they are behind the wheel. Sometimes, they rescue run-away teens needing a safe place. Other times, they help families locate loved ones who might be on board. This year, a driver helped police nab a fugitive. Sometimes, however, RTA coach operators save their best work for when they are not on the job.

Ted Jenkins, an RTA coach operator for 24 years, was walking home from another day on the job when he spotted a wheelchair on the side of a busy road just a few feet away from railroad tracks that slice through the City of Riverside. At first he didn't notice anything strange, just an abandoned wheelchair without its owner. Then he looked down the tracks and saw the body. Then he heard the sound of the approaching train.

"It was getting really dark out," Jenkins said. "So I just started moving fast toward this guy and I started calling out to him. He moved around a little bit and that was a good sign."

Turns out the guy on the tracks was Joseph Larry, a frequent RTA customer who Jenkins actually knew as a passenger on Route 1. When the coach operator arrived at Larry's side, he pulled the man away from the tracks, dialed 911 and waited with him in the dark for paramedics to arrive.

Later, when Larry woke up in an Inland hospital he had no memory of what happened, only that he may have had a bad reaction to new medication and blacked out. A few days later, after Larry was discharged from the hospital and home resting, he heard a knock at the door. When the door opened, Jenkins was on the other side.

Jenkins, who had ridden an RTA bus to Larry's house, wanted to check on his friend. The driver told Larry about everything, including how when Larry was lying on the ground when the train was passing he asked over and over where his hat was and how Jenkins had told him he found it in the dirt and everything was going to be fine, and then how he waited with Larry in the dark for the paramedics to arrive, and how he made sure they took the wheelchair with them to the hospital.

Jenkins thinks back on how he could have easily missed his opportunity to help Larry that day. "I had the chance to work overtime but I didn't take it for some reason," Jenkins said. "If I had worked overtime, I wouldn't have been there to help this guy. Things happen for a reason and this was divine intervention."

Larry credits Jenkins with saving his life. "I could have been hit by a train or just died out there in the dark," he said. "RTA has a good man working for them. He's a true hero."



Chef Jerry

As a former food editor in Tacoma, WA, Jerry found the best recipes were ones that were simple, easy to prepare and both delicious and nutritious.

Budapest Pork Stew

- 1 1/2 lbs pork stew meat or roast cut in 1/2 inch cubes
- 2 Tbl pork fat
- 1 large sweet onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 1 tsp paprika
- 1 tsp green paprika
- 1 head sour cabbage, chopped
- 1 can (16 oz) seasoned cut tomatoes
- 3 large red potatoes, cut in 3/4 inch cubes

- 1 pint sour cream
- 1. Combine all ingredients, except the potatoes and sour cream, in a stew pot and cook 30 minutes on medium heat.
- 2. Reduce heat to simmer and add the potatoes to the stew.
- 3. Simmer for 30-40 minutes or until the potatoes are done.
- 4. Serve in bowls with a dollop of sour cream on top.

"Always remember the three key ingredients in the recipe of life: **Caring...Loving...and Understanding**"

Dictionaries for 3rd Graders

Temecula Valley Elks Lodge #2801 has again joined with The Dictionary Project, a national organization, to give student dictionaries to 3rd grade students. So far this year they have delivered dictionaries to five (5) elementary schools in the Temecula Valley School District: Abbe Reinke Elementary, Nicholas Valley Elementary, Pauba Valley Elementary, Rancho Elementary and Temecula Elementary. A total of 648 dictionaries have been presented to date. The Elks plan to continue with the project and to include at least five (5) additional elementary schools.

The goal of this program is to assist all students in becoming good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and

resourceful learners by providing them with their own personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. Educators see third grade as the dividing line between learning to read and reading to learn, so the Dictionary Project encourages groups to give dictionaries each year to children in the third grade.

Temecula Valley Elks first joined in this project in 2005. Over the years the project has gradually grown from one (1) school the first year, six (6) schools last year and, hopefully thirteen (13) schools this current year. Nationally the Dictionary Project has reached 18,255,644 students in the United States. The Elk's Lodge is proud to be a part of this project.



L-R: Sandy Coward, 3rd Grade Teacher at Pauba; Kim Tucker, 3rd Grade Teacher at Pauba; Laurel Frey, Dictionary Program member; Barbara Conner, Dictionary Program Chairman; Bob Farrens, Dictionary Program member; and Michelle Truax, 3rd Grade Teacher at Pauba

Putting America's Veterans to Work in Renewable Energy

Empower America, a new business located in Temecula, is on a mission to recruit, train, and employ America's veterans. Working with a coalition of national, county, and local governments, organizations, and businesses, it is working to originate or assist in developing renewable energy projects and jobs in Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Los Angeles counties. It then recruits veterans, provides them with no-cost training and national certification and, upon successful program graduation, places them in paid positions with coalition contractors.

Empower America's classes are being taught by instructors with the National Institute of Training & Education, and trainees will eventually be tested for certification by the nationally-recognized North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). Vets are being trained to go to work for energy contractors in either solar photovoltaic installation or energy efficiency assessment. There is no cost to veterans; the program is funded in part by the Workforce Investment Boards and Inter-Faith Community Services. Cohort classes are scheduled to start each Monday.

"From boots on the ground to boots on the roof, Empower America trains veterans to deploy solar to achieve U.S. energy independence. Our focus is creating American jobs for American veterans using American-made products that drive American energy independence," said President and CEO Mario R. Pabon. "Our goal is to inspire citizens and businesses to consider the discipline, qualifications, and can-do attitude of American service

veterans in driving energy-independent solutions for our nation. We want them to think of our veterans not just on Veterans Day, Memorial Day, or Independence Day, but every day," Pabon added.

Interested veterans can sign up through any EDD office, their military bases and stations, and Interfaith Community Services in Escondido. For more information on Empower America, contact Mario Pabon at (951) 296-0208, or email him at mpabon@weempoweramerica.org. Additional information also is available on the company's website at www.weempoweramerica.org



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Ballroom Dance Lessons Save the dates: January 8, 15, 22 & 29. West Coast Swing (Jitterbug, Jive) 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. Mary Phillips Senior Center, 41845 6th St., Temecula. Singles, couples, all ages welcome. \$28/person for all four classes. John Irwin Instructor

Sanctuary For Rent Temecula church looking to share sanctuary (seats 75-100) with another church. Facilities include classrooms and kitchen. Available Sunday afternoon and/or evenings and midweek. Call Mel for more details at **951-308-2746**.

Reader Ads

Four lines of text (as seen above) - \$25 per monthly issue.

Display Ads

8th page Display Ads in Black & White (as seen on the left) \$84 per monthly issue.

DYNAMIC WOMEN LUNCH MEETINGS

Menifee/Murrieta Success UP NAFE Affiliate Network

Second Wednesday of each month at 11:30.

Our mission is to help women grow both personally and professionally.

Wednesday, December 11 - 11:30am • Networking/Holiday Luncheon

Wine tasting: Rebecca Anderson will speak on wines for the Holiday Entertainment and optional \$10 gift exchange - Bring a gift, Get a gift Opportunity to display your products. Do a little shopping.

Meeting Fee: Members \$10, Guests \$15 (Cash or check payable to Robbie Motter)

Location: Boston Billie's (26850 Cherry Hills Blvd. Menifee).

Lunch may be ordered and paid for by the individual directly to the restaurant.

RSVP: **Robbie Motter, Director: 951-679-8048** rmotter@aol.com

Club/Org Events

Retired, Set, Go! meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 11:30-12:30 at the Sun City Library, 26982 Cherry Hills Blvd. Free and the public is invited. Topics: aging issues and fun topics of interest to the community. Hospice of the Valleys **951-200-7800**.

Seniors' Golden Years -12:45 pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Mary Phillips Senior Center, 41845 6th St. in Temecula. \$ Bingo 100% payout. Lots of fun. For info call **951-694-6466**

SW Riverside County Marine Corps League Detachment 1057 meets on the last Saturday of each month at 9am at Grand Isles, 24405 Village Walk Place in Murrieta. More info: www.mcl1057.org or call **951-775-1191**.

The Mended Hearts, Inc. meets the 3rd Saturday of each month, 10 am to noon. We invite heart patients & their caregivers to join us at the Professional Office Building (1st floor) behind the Loma Linda University Medical Center, Murrieta. Bill: **951-461-6958**

Grandparents Without Partners - A very special group of seniors - Age 60 yrs + meet for a variety of events one or more times monthly. Please call or e-mail GENIE for calendar of events, costs and to make reservations. **951-461-9560** ngenies@aol.com

Personal Fitness Training now offered at Kay Cenicerros Senior Center for adults age 65 and over. Geri-Fit® Certified Strength Trainer. All equipment provided. Gift certificates available. For more info or to register, call **951-694-6873** or visit gerifit.com

Murrieta Breakfast Lions - Sight and Hearing Assistance Service Club plus youth programs. 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7-8 am. Grand Isle Apts. on Village Walk. **951-677-8548** or **461-3054**

Temecula Valley Elks #2801 meet on the first, third, and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Lodge located at 28061 Diaz Road in Temecula. For info call **951-695-7470**

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar Elks #2591 meet on the first four Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the lodge located at 33700 Mission Trail, Wildomar. For info call (951) **674-6804**.

Temecula Valley Rose Society - Third Thursday of the month, 10:15 - noon, at the Temecula Public Library (30600 Pauba Road). Topic on Nov 21 "Companion plants for Roses..." Guests welcome. www.temeculavalleyrosesociety.org **951-551-5505**

Senior Citizen Services - Monday thru Friday, 8 -noon & 1-4 pm at the Kay Cenicerros Community Center (29995 Evans Road in Sun City). To report a senior at-risk please call (951) **679-2374**

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Knight Printing & Publishing, Inc.

P.O. Box 657 • Murrieta, CA 92564

Website: www.thebugle.com

Advertising: 951-440-0623 • E-mail: info@thebugle.com

Ad Rates Online at www.thebugle.com

Rates include print distribution & online readership at www.thebugle.com

Publisher/Editor: Nancy Knight - 951-837-1617



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