

# Escrows, Inc.

3520 W. Magnolia Blvd.  
Burbank, CA 91505

*Every day give yourself a good  
mental shampoo. ~ Sara Jordan*



NOVEMBER '08

Dear Professional:

This month I thought it would be good to once again focus on the power of giving—it's nearly Thanksgiving time remember? So I came across a

book entitled, *"The Power of Giving—How giving back enriches us all."* Naturally it reminded me of the scientifically confirmed benefits inherent in the practice of giving. Those include better health, increased happiness, improved relationships, and enhanced feelings of security, pride and accomplishment. Sounds good, right?

But in addition to the usual ideas about giving, this book included a short chapter at the end that suggested something new. Want to find more meaning, happiness and abundance? Then try giving something "UP." That's right. This book suggested giving up a number of things that just might make this the happiest November ever. A few of those things are: Unhealthy emotions: Anger, complaining, fear or gossip. Unhealthy actions: intolerance, gambling, drugs. Unhealthy activities: too much TV, eating unhealthy food, shopping; or even procrastination, prejudice or littering. While none of these may be a problem for you, I'm sure there is probably something each of us can "give up" and thereby experience a happier and more prosperous future.

However you choose to experience and celebrate this month of Thanksgiving, we'd like to say that we value and appreciate your business each and every day. Thank you again for making Escrows, Inc. your escrow company now and in the future.

Until next month,

Marcia Amoroso  
President/Escrow Officer

## ESCROW EXPRESSIONS

DEDICATED TO INCREASING THE EFFICIENCY OF EVERY CLOSING

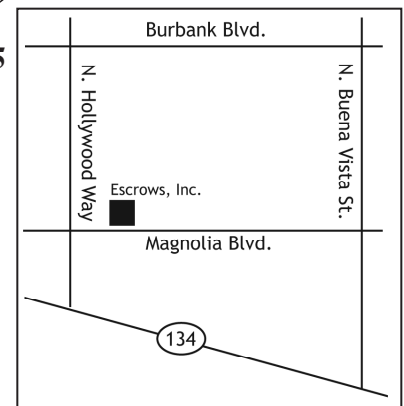
### ESCROWS, INC.

3520 W. Magnolia  
Burbank, CA 91505

Phone:  
818-841-9400

Fax:  
818-841-9839

Find us on the web at:  
[www.escrows-inc.com](http://www.escrows-inc.com)



#### REAL ESTATE TIP FOR NOVEMBER

### NAR Good Neighbor Awards AKA: We can always make a difference!

The National Assoc. of Realtor "Good Neighbor Awards" are now in their ninth year and recognize the top ten Realtors in the U.S. who generously volunteer their time to help others. Each of the finalists donates countless hours and dollars to organizations that help those in need. They also remind us all that no matter how busy, no matter what is happening in the economy or the world, people can and do reach out to help their neighbors.

Of the ten finalists, five are selected to receive \$10,000 each to support their charity. The other five receive a grant of

*continued...*

## ***ESCROW TIP, continued....***

\$2,500 each, which effectively makes them all ten of them winners. For that reason we list all ten below with a brief statement of their good work.

**1. Mary Bacon for the Mt. Juliet Help Center. (Tenn.)** This center lost its lease in 2006 and Mary almost single-handedly got it restarted and thriving. It serves 400 families a month.

**2. Lei Barry for the Inter-Faith Housing Alliance (Penn)** This alliance offers temporary housing and life skills to local people. Lei founded it 20 years ago and is responsible for fund raising and support to keep it healthy.

**3. H. Burton Foster for the Matthew Foster Foundation (N.Y)** Started in 1999 Burton has helped over 250 families with children with cancer, after losing his own son to the disease.

**4. Scott & Robin Gwaltney for Rochester Better Chance (Minn)** For 16 years this couple has arranged housing and support for over 45 at-risk teenage boys and gone on to help them succeed educationally and emotionally.

**5. Reita Hutson for Gabriel's Dream (Ariz)** Since 2003 Reita has helped over 400 young men from the Sudan (Lost Boys) start a new life in Arizona. She gave them housing, health care, education and hope.

**6. Victor Kee for Sunday Supper and Sunday Meals on Wheels (Oregon)** For 16 years Victor has run and fed the homeless and coordinates over 120 volunteers to cook serve and deliver food to homeless and elderly people each week.

**7. Caroline McCartney for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (Virginia)** Caroline has worked for 16 years to support this children's hospital which works to eradicate cancer and other diseases for children.

**8. John Neibarger for Mary E. Babcock Library (Ohio)** John is responsible for visioning, fund raising and creating a public library in his small town, which opened in 2006.

**9. David Pap for Cambridge Housing Assist. Fund (Mass.)** David is the co-founder and chair of this organization which works with homeless and near-homeless people and has helped over 1,300 families since 1999.

**10. Sheila Stevens for The Sport of Giving (Georgia)** Sheila is founder and president of this nonprofit that funds breast cancer treatment and prevention activities for local women.

Each of these winners is a reminder of the good deeds and community building efforts of Realtors across the county. They also remind us of the many, many ways that we can help one another. They are great role models and inspire us all to reach out and help any way we can. What a great reminder this month while we celebrate and enjoy Thanksgiving!

For the full story of the amazing work of each of these finalists go to:

<http://www.realtor.org/rmogoodneighbors/goodneighborhomepage>

## ***NEWS FLASHES!***

***Current Real Estate News You Should Know About***

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### **More Households Make Room for Extended Family**

**ABC News, Barbara Pinto (09/23/08)**

American households are becoming more multi-generational, according to a new report released Tuesday by the U.S. Census. The number of heads of households who share their homes with their parents, brothers and sisters, and other relatives grew 42 per-

## ***Continued from below:***

cent from 2000 to 2007

The census finds a 75 percent increase in parents under the age of 65 who are now living with their adult children. In all, 3.6 million American households have made room for older parents. By state, Alaska had the highest number of parents moving in with their adult children – an increase of 167 percent, according to the data. South Dakota had the lowest – up 7 percent. Sharing a home represents an old-fashioned approach to economic challenge, experts point out. Donna Butts, executive director of Generations United, an advocacy organization.

"It is evolving in some ways back to how families used to live. That is, they're living in multi-generational households," Butts said.

### **Gen Y Wants High Tech, Green Homes**

**The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Kevin Duffy (10/08/2008)**

Gen Y, which will be 30 percent of homeowners by 2015, are forcing home builders to look differently at what they design, build, and sell. The generation born between 1976 and 1982 wants high-tech convenience and communication, walkability, green building standards, and diversity. They'll sacrifice space, and some will even pay more, to incorporate those qualities into their lives, real estate experts told an audience at a recent forum on developing real estate for Gen Y, sponsored by the Urban Land Institute.

"In-town areas and inner suburbs will really remain on an upward trajectory" when the housing market turns around, said Sarah Kirsch, senior principal at research firm Robert Charles Lesser, who conducted a study on Gen Y attitudes about real estate. Gen Y's favorite neighborhood amenity is a library, followed by a restaurant or cafe, a main street village, a recycling center, and a fitness center, the Robert Charles Lesser study concluded.

## ***Helping To Make It a Great Thanksgiving for us all!***

### **Support BTAC Today!**

In this time of economic hardship, Burbank Temporary Aid Center (BTAC) is helping a record number of people. Because of that their pantries are empty. Many of those going to BTAC are people going for the first time in their lives and have always been able to take care of themselves. Now they need our help. In response, Escrows, Inc. will be having a Food Drive from Nov. 1, 2008 through Nov. 20, 2008. Please stop by anytime during those dates and drop off food, toiletries, diapers, and donations at our office at 3520 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505.

Remember, as it says in the *Go-Giver*- "Your true worth is determined by how much more you give in value than you take in payment."

Join us and together we can help everyone in our community have a "Happy Thanksgiving."