



## OC News

### Attorney Guilty Of Helping Launder Marijuana Profits

STAFF REPORTS

**Santa Ana** – An attorney who engaged in a conspiracy that allowed the owner of a chain of marijuana stores to hide some of his income has pleaded guilty to federal financial offenses.

Guilty pleas by Richard C.

see OC Page 3

## IE News

### Charges Dropped Against Teacher Bramlett

STAFF REPORTS

**San Bernardino** – On Mon., Dec. 15, charges were dropped against the Indian Springs High School teacher, who last September was accused of having an inappropriate sexual relationship with two students.

Citing insufficient evidence, prosecutors have dropped all charges against Amy Corinne Bramlett, 46, of Highland, with-

see IE Page 3

## Local Families Help Donate Life At Rose Parade

STAFF REPORTS

**San Gabriel Valley** – Local families are paying tribute to loved ones by sharing their gift-of-life legacies in the upcoming Rose Parade, in the form of "Floragraphs" on the Donate Life Rose Parade Float.

According to Donate Life California, more than 70 organizations will join together to help inspire people to become organ, eye and tissue donors in an effort to save the lives by creating awareness

at the Rose Parade. 2015 will signify the 12th year that Donate Life California has participated in one of the world's most visible campaigns available.

Covina's Jesus "Jesse" Cruz lost his life at just 20 years of age. In September 2010, at a Rio Hondo College wrestling meet, the athlete and star student collapsed during one of his matches, and

see Parade Page 3

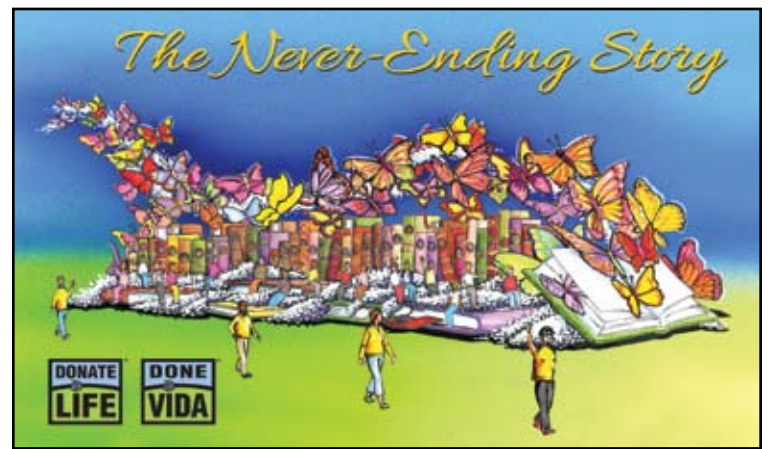


IMAGE COURTESY: DONATELIFECALIFORNIA.ORG

## Visit The 'New' Walnut Library

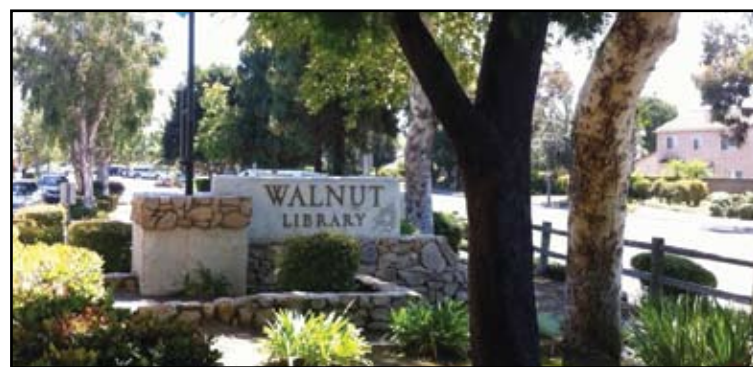


PHOTO COURTESY: WALNUT PUBLIC LIBRARY

STAFF REPORTS

**Walnut** – You may not have noticed, but the Library in the City of Walnut is back open for business!

Closed to the public this past June, the five month, \$1.1 million renovation has been completed and the Walnut Library reopened its door on Mon., Nov. 17.

With technological additions

funded by the former First District County Supervisor, Gloria Molina, the renovation features a redesigned interior with new carpet, fresh paint and new furniture. A large group study room has been added, as well as a new Family Place; and the latest in modern technologies.

The Walnut Library now

see Library Page 2

## What's Happening In Walnut & Diamond Bar

STAFF REPORTS

**Walnut/Diamond Bar** – There is much ado in the cities of Walnut and Diamond Bar. Here is some information from their websites to keep you in the know:

### WALNUT

• Walnut Selfie Campaign: The City of Walnut wants to remind residents to shop locally! In order to promote

local businesses, the City is conducting a "Selfie Walnut Businesses" campaign. To join in the fun, simply take a picture of yourself while you are shopping at local businesses, and email them to Derrick Womble at dwomble@ci.walnut.ca.us. Once they are reviewed, the Selfies will be posted to the City of Walnut's Instagram, Twitter and Facebook pages (@CityofWalnut).

The deadline to send pictures is Wed., Dec. 31, 2014. For more information, contact the Community Development Department at (909) 595-7543.

• Winter Wonderland Santa Pictures Are Up: Did you or your children take a picture with Santa at the Walnut Winter Wonderland on Dec. 13 at the Walnut Senior Center? Your pictures are now avail-

able for you to save! You can see your pictures on the City of Walnut Facebook page or go to [www.cityofwalnut.com](http://www.cityofwalnut.com) for a direct link to the pictures.

• Sandbags Available At City Yard: With the rain coming and going, keep in mind

see Happening Page 5

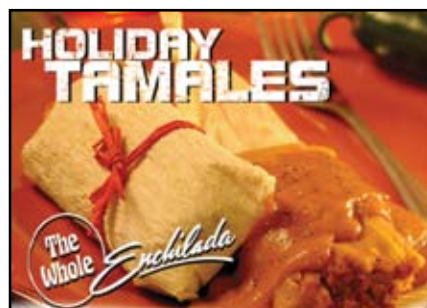
## FEATURED BUSINESS

### It's Holiday Tamale Time At The Whole Enchilada

STAFF REPORTS

**Diamond Bar** – Christmas is just around the corner, so let the planning begin! The Whole Enchilada will be your holiday partner with dozens of possibilities including catering, a night away from cooking during this busy season, and

see Enchilada Page 5



Get your holiday tamales today at The Whole Enchilada.

## FEATURED BUSINESS

### Something For Everyone At Walnut Hills Village

STAFF REPORTS

**Walnut** – Things can get hectic this time of year. Not only do you need to finish your holiday shopping, but you've got a party to plan, you can't forget to drop off the cleaning (again), and you have friends coming over for dinner tonight. How do you get it

see Village Page 5



Walnut Hills Village is located at 20747 Amar Road, just 1/2 block west of Grand Avenue, with easy access from the 60 and 57 freeways.





Community News

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Did You Know?

By K.P. SANDER

Christmas, the annual festival observing the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated by billions of people all over the world as a religious and cultural celebration, Christian and non-Christian alike.

Technically speaking, “Christmas” – an Old English term meaning, “Christ’s Mass” – is celebrated on December 25. Historians estimate that the year of Jesus’ birth was sometime between 7 and 2 B.C., according to Wikipedia; however, the actual date is not known. Around the 4th century, the Western Christian Church attached December 25 to Christmas. It is possible that the date may have initially been chosen to align exactly nine months after early Christians believed Jesus was conceived.

Modern day celebration of the Nativity is often centered around gift-giving – akin to the gifts the three wise men brought to the Christ child in Bethlehem – family and social gatherings, a special meal, church services, decorations and Christmas trees.

The trees actually have more purpose than as an umbrella for presents. They are more of a representation of Christianity. Evergreens - fir, pine, and spruce which don’t lose their needles, but stay green year-round - symbolize Jesus’ everlasting love; the

shape, a triangle, represents the holy Trinity (Father, Son and Spirit); the shape also points to Heaven; and the tree itself, represents the wood of the Cross.

The birth of Jesus is recorded in two of the Biblical Gospels. In the book of Luke, Chapter 2, “Christmas” was announced thusly: “8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

And this leads us to Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas, Father Christmas. Delighting children with the promise of presents if they are on the Nice List, the portly, bearded, red-suited cherub is the stuff sugar-plumb dreams are made of. With a team of elves and reindeer, this “right jolly old elf” dates back,



IMAGE COURTESY: PINTEREST

perhaps, to Saint Nicholas, a 4th century Greek Christian bishop, known for his generous gifts to the poor.

While Saint Nicholas was a real person, the evolution to the magical Santa Claus of today has had many variations throughout the world, but almost always has been related to the gifting of children or the poor.

In America, an anonymous poem called “Old Santeclaus” – describing an old man on a reindeer sleigh bring presents to children – presented itself in New York in 1821. That poem was later attributed to Clement Clarke Moore, and is commonly known today as “The Night Before Christmas.”

So, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwan-zaa! Whatever you celebrate during this holiday season, here’s hoping it was filled with love, joy, laughter and peace.

Visit the ‘new’ Walnut Library

LIBRARY from page 1

houses 23 all new public-access computers; a flat screen monitor in the Teen Section for gaming and programs; the installation of three automated check-in systems for customer self-service; and an iPad catalog search. There is even a

brand new vending machine that will allow patrons to check out laptop computers for use while in the Library.

The Walnut Library is a valuable resource for everyone; not just as a study source for students, but for readers of all ages, including access to digital media, and events open to the public. And look for special family story-time fun coming in

January.

**Walnut Library Hours:**  
Sunday/Monday – Closed  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 1 to 8 p.m.  
Friday, Saturday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Walnut Library is located at 21155 La Puente Road. They can be reached at (909) 595-0757, or visit <http://www.colapublib.org/lib/walnut>.





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# Attorney guilty of helping launder marijuana profits

OC from page 1

Brizendine, 59, of Long Beach, were entered on Mon., Dec. 15, by United States District Judge, James V. Selna. Monday's action concludes proceedings in which Brizendine pleaded guilty to two counts, money laundering and conspiracy to structure cash deposits to avoid federal reporting requirements.

According to the United States Attorney's Office, Brizendine was an attorney for John Melvin Walker, who operated marijuana stores across Los Angeles and Orange counties and generated approximately \$25 million in income over a six-year period. Brizendine conspired with Walker and others to accept cash from the marijuana operation and invest the funds into several corporations. According to court documents,

Brizendine agreed to accept more than \$10,000 in cash and then make smaller deposits into different bank accounts so as to not trigger federal requirements that financial institutions report currency transactions of more than \$10,000 (this process is called structuring cash transactions). By pleading guilty, Brizendine specifically admitted that he structured approximately \$389,700 for Walker.

The case against Brizendine

was announced after Judge Selna unsealed documents associated with the case.

Last year, Walker was sentenced to nearly 22 years in federal prison for operating a chain of marijuana establishments and failing to report millions of dollars in revenues was on his taxes.

Brizendine is scheduled to be sentenced on May 4, 2015. At that time, he will face a statutory maximum sentence of ten years in federal prison. Until that time,

he will remain free on a \$500,000 bond.

The investigation of Brizendine and the marijuana operation was conducted by the Orange County Sheriff's Department; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; IRS-Criminal Investigation; the California Board of Equalization; the Orange County District Attorney's Office; and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

# Charges dropped against teacher Bramlett

IE from page 1

out prejudice (meaning charges could be re-filed should new evidence come to light). A San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office spokesman is reported as stating that based on their investigation, they were unable to move forward with the case.

Bramlett was initially charged with oral copulation of a child under age 18, and penetration with a foreign object. However, there are reports that the two boys, who accused the teacher of abuse, recanted their story



PHOTO COURTESY: SBSB  
Amy Corinne Bramlett

this past November. There are also alleged reports that one of the boys was in the midst of a burglary at the teacher's home, and used the abuse fabrication to shield his own crimes during interrogation. CBSLA.com

previously reported Bramlett's attorney as saying that the first alleged victim "...was facing first-degree burglary charges when these allegations came up, so he clearly had motivation to be dishonest."

Bramlett, who was free on \$100,000 bail, has been on administrative leave from her job as a Program Specialist. She will be working with the San Bernardino City Unified School District on what steps are needed to return to her job.

At this time, there is no word on whether charges will be brought against Bramlett's accusers.

# Local families help donate life at Rose Parade

PARADE from page 1

was unable to be resuscitated. A few years previous, Jesse told his family he wanted to become a donor if anything should happen to him; a fortuitous decision for others.

Diamond Bar's Lo family will honor 78-year old donor, Sandy Lo, who not only lived a life of grace and giving to others, but saved the lives of five others through her donations. Lo was an immigrant from Taiwan who worked her way up in the clothing industry. She continued to volunteer in her community long after retirement; including cooking meals for Hurricane Sandy victims in a tireless effort that family reportedly says was just part of her everyday demeanor. Lo passed away in February 2013 from a stroke.

Glendora's 48-year old Joseph "Jody" Culver, who in October 2008 suffered a fatal heart attack,

has benefitted more than 95 individuals with cornea, tissue and bone transplants from his gifts. His memory has been greatly enhanced through his donor wishes. Culver's January 1st birthday will also be remembered at the Rose Parade.

For the families of these individuals, there is a certain solace associated with the gifts of life that have occurred because of these acts of generosity. Knowing that your loved one lives on through others, and has created so many possibilities in those lives brings about bittersweet consolation.

"The Never-Ending Story" is the title of the Donate Life Rose Parade float, and it features "beautiful butterflies emerging from storybooks to symbolize the enduring power of organ, eye and tissue donation and transplantation. The butterflies ascend above 72 volumes adorned with Floragraph portraits – all created with organic materials – of deceased donors whose legacies are nurtured by

their loved ones."

Donate Life California says that 12 living organ donors whose stories have become intertwined with those of their recipients will be walking alongside the float this year. In addition, 30 riders representing transplant recipients who celebrate the new chapters of their lives made possible through the generosity of donors will be seated among thousands of dedicated roses onboard.

The 126th Tournament of Roses Parade begins on New Year's Day 2015 at 8 a.m. and features floral floats, marching bands and equestrian units that all travel the more than five miles down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena. The Rose Parade is presented by Honda, and is seen by millions of people worldwide each year.

For more information about the parade, visit [www.tournamentofroses.com](http://www.tournamentofroses.com). For more information about the Donate Life Rose Parade Float and organ donation, visit [www.donatelifecalifornia.org](http://www.donatelifecalifornia.org).

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# Shoeboxes “Virtually” Change Lives

STAFF REPORTS

**Chino** – Chino-area residents rallied together to pack 8,400 shoebox gifts last month for children worldwide struggling with war, disease, poverty and other difficult circumstances. Although the collection sites are closed for 2014, Chino residents can still contribute to the local collection number by packing a shoebox gift online at [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org).

With Operation Christmas Child’s virtual-packing tool, it is quick, easy and convenient to pack a Christmas gift for a child in one of the hardest-to-reach countries. The online tool allows anyone to go from a virtual shopper to a vital influence in just a few clicks.

At [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org), visitors select a child’s age and gender, shop through an online selection of culturally relevant gifts, “build” their shoebox and finish it off by uploading a photo and writing a note of encouragement to the child who will receive it.

For many, building a shoebox online provides the perfect complement to a busy lifestyle and a perfect way to provide a tangible expression of love to children living in desperate situations. The virtual-packing tool also offers participants the option to challenge friends to participate, or the opportunity to give a donation that lets others build online themselves.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan’s Purse,

an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. Through simple shoebox gifts and a message of hope through Jesus Christ, children learn they are loved and not forgotten. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to more than 113 million children in more than 150 countries. In 2014, Op-



PHOTOS COURTESY: SAMARITAN’S PURSE

From packing, to shipping, to delivery, Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes continue to change the lives of children the world over

eration Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoebox gifts to reach another 10 million children.

# What’s happening in Walnut & Diamond Bar

## HAPPENING from page 1

that you can pick up sandbags at the Walnut City Yard, located at 21701 East Valley Blvd., in Walnut.

**DIAMOND BAR**

- Sheriff’s Vacation Check

Program: If you are planning to go out of town, take advantage of the Diamond Bar-Walnut Sheriff’s Station’s Vacation Check Service. A Sheriff’s deputy or trained Volunteer on Patrol will monitor your property, at least once a day while you are away, to check for

evidence of possible forced entry or any other suspicious activity. This service is free, and Vacation Check Request Forms may be completed by visiting the Sheriff’s Station at 21695 E. Valley Blvd. in Walnut. For more information, call (909) 595-2264.

- 2015 Calendar and Street Sweeping Schedule Order Deadline: The deadline to order your City of Diamond Bar’s 2015 Calendar and Services Guide and magnetic Street Sweeping Schedule is approaching quickly. To receive one or both of these items by

mail, place your request no later than Mon., Dec. 29 by visiting [www.DiamondBarCA.gov/reservemycopy](http://www.DiamondBarCA.gov/reservemycopy). If you do not have Internet access, you may call in your request to (909) 839-7054. For more information, visit [ci.diamondbar.ca.us](http://ci.diamondbar.ca.us).

# Something for everyone at Walnut Hills Village

## VILLAGE from page 1

all done?

Walnut Hills Village could be your answer! Conveniently located with easy access, the Village truly has something for everyone. With more than 30 stores in one location, and anchored by Stater

Bros., this is one-stop shopping at its finest. And with so many independent merchants, this is the perfect opportunity to shop small by shopping local.

Drop your pet off at Sophie’s Wags To Whiskers boutique for a holiday grooming, while you relax at Newen’s Beauty Salon or Art Nails. You can run some

errands at several retailers, and grab a quick lunch at Baby Elephant Thai Cuisine. There is even time to schedule that dental or vision appointment that you’ve been putting off, get your banking done, and run into Dollar Tree for some stocking stuffers. Asian Kitchen Express will even set you up with delicious Pho-Thai party

trays for your celebration, while Royal Florist takes care of your table centerpiece. And, the UPS Store is right there to help mail your gifts to out-of-state family and friends. Suddenly, the holidays don’t seem so hectic with so many options in one place.

So, don’t let the hustle-bustle of the holidays get you down.

Stop by Walnut Hills Village and amaze your family with your holiday organizational skills. The Village is located at 20747 Amar Road, just a ½ block west of Grand Avenue in the City of Walnut. See the full page ad on the backpage of this publication for a full listing of all retail establishments.

# It’s holiday tamale time at The Whole Enchilada

## ENCHILADA from page 1

delectable holiday tamales.

From delicious platters and entrée meals to taco bars, The Whole Enchilada offers fresh, authentic Mexican recipes their resident chef brought from their homeland. They guarantee you will enjoy your dining experience.

“All our food is made fresh daily,” says Lil Palmer of The Whole Enchilada. The restaurant has been in business for over 30 years, offering a variety of Mexican dishes ranging from enchiladas and burritos to carne

asada and fajitas.

Planning a Christmas celebration? The Whole Enchilada can help cater your event with handmade tamales – which are available year round. This traditional holiday dish is sold by the dozen and is available in pork, beef, chicken, green chili and cheese. Other menu items, such as the taquito or street taco platters, are available for catering as well.

Whether it’s a holiday fiesta, business meetings or parties, promotions, fundraisers, birthdays, or just an evening out, The Whole Enchilada will dazzle you with their excellent customer service and delicious food. They look forward to helping you cel-

ebtrate the special moments in your life.

If you are looking for a delicious treat after your meal, try The Whole Enchilada’s Mexican Kaluha Flan, Rio Grande Mud Pie, or popular Deep Fried Ice Cream.

The celebration doesn’t stop with just one visit. The Whole Enchilada has gift cards available

for purchase in person or online. It’s the perfect Christmas stocking stuffer, or that special someone in your life. And be sure to ask The Whole Enchilada about the Combo Punch Card, Enchilada Bucks, and their Kids Club. With a wide variety of reasons to visit, it’s obvious that The Whole Enchilada wants to become your favorite restaurant.

Don’t deny your taste buds this holiday season, visit the Whole Enchilada soon!

The Whole Enchilada is located at 1114 S. Diamond Bar Blvd., (at Grand Avenue, in Diamond Bar). You can reach them at (909) 861-5340, and visit their website at [www.wholeenchilada.com](http://www.wholeenchilada.com). See their ad below for coupon specials.

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**NEW!!**  
Grilled Chicken Tostada with Mango Salsa



**The Whole Enchilada**

**DINE IN SPECIAL**  
**2 for \$20**  
Each entrée includes choice of any 2:  
• taco (shredded beef or chicken)  
• cheese enchilada  
• (2) taquitos  
plus 2 fountain drinks or 2 Mug-A-Ritas served with rice and beans

**\$20**

With this coupon. Not valid Friday, Saturday, Sundays or Holidays. Not valid with any other offers. Exp: **01/7/15**

**The Whole Enchilada**

**ENTRÉE**  
Buy one entrée and receive the second entrée of equal or lesser value at 1/2 off.

**1/2 off**

With this coupon. Not valid Friday, Saturday, Sundays or Holidays. Not valid with any other offers. Exp: **01/7/15**

**The Whole Enchilada**

**\$5 off**  
Any Purchase of \$25 or more.

With this coupon. Not valid Friday, Saturday, Sundays or Holidays. Not valid with any other offers. Exp: **01/7/15**

[www.WholeEnchilada.com](http://www.WholeEnchilada.com)

• Dine In • Take Out • Smoothies • 1114 S. Diamond Bar Blvd. (at Grand next to Chase Bank) • Gift Cards • Catering • Diamond Bar - (909) 861-5340



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Sat - Sun: 11am - 10pm

www.chineseypage.com/mandarin

LUNCH OR DINNER	LUNCH OR DINNER	SUNDAY LUNCH BUFFET	CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY WITH US
<h2>\$10 OFF</h2> <p>(Dine In or Take Out) Each order over \$45 (before tax &amp; excluding drinks). One coupon per order. Not valid with any other offer, coupon or discount. Not valid on holidays. Valid with coupon only.</p> <p>Exp. 01/7/15</p>	<h2>\$5 OFF</h2> <p>(Dine In or Take Out) Each order over \$25 (before tax &amp; excluding drinks). One coupon per order. Not valid with any other offer, coupon or discount. Not valid on holidays. Valid with coupon only.</p> <p>Exp. 01/7/15</p>	<h2>\$2 OFF</h2> <p><b>ALL YOU CAN EAT</b></p> <p>One coupon per table each person. For Sunday Lunch only. For Adult Dine-In only. Not valid with any other offer, coupon or discount. Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid on holidays. Valid with coupon only.</p> <p>Exp. 01/7/15</p>	<h2>\$30 OFF</h2> <p>Each order over \$80 (before tax &amp; excluding drinks). One coupon per table per order. Not valid with any other offer, coupon, or discount. Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid on holidays. I.D. required to show birthday. Valid with coupon only. Exp. 01/7/15</p>  <p><b>Walnut Honey Shrimp</b> Lightly battered shrimp served with sweet mayonnaise and honey crusted walnuts</p>

Restrictions apply on these holidays: Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, & 4th Of July



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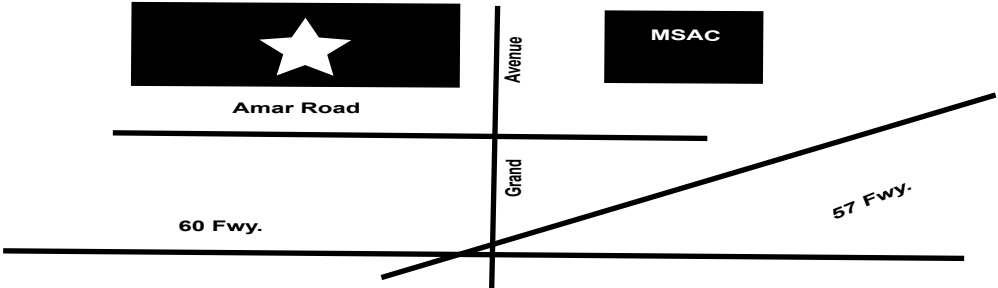
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**Walnut Hills Village**  
20747 Amar Road, Walnut  
(1/2 block west of Grand Avenue)



*Newen's  
Beauty Salon*

Newen's Beauty Salon  
20747 E. Amar Rd. #2 ~ Walnut, CA 91789  
909-598-8394

**Eyebrow Threading**  
**\$ 8.00**  
Exp. 12/31/14

**Men's Hair Cut**  
**\$15.00**  
1/2 off w/ coupon  
Exp. 12/31/14

**Chemical Service**  
**\$ 5.00 OFF**  
Exp. 12/31/14

**Baby Elephant  
Thai Cuisine**

20795 #3 Amar Rd. ~ Walnut, CA 91789  
909-595-3034



**OPEN DAILY**

**11:00 am - 10:00 pm**  
**Dine In ~ Take Out**

**Walnut Hills Village  
Merchant Directory  
(area code is 909)**

\$1 Drinks .....	869-8632
20/20 Vision Optometry .....	468-9622
4G Verizon Wireless .....	595-9109
50% Cleaners .....	444-1111
Allstate Insurance .....	468-1495
Art Nails .....	594-5080
Asian Kitchen Express .....	345-8587
Bin Bin Konjac .....	594-2832
Burger King .....	468-3672
Clearwater Bagels .....	598-4332
Dollar Tree .....	468-4850
East West Bank .....	869-7232
Electric Beach Tanning .....	839-1992
GNC Vitamins .....	869-7272
International School of Montessori .....	594-8172
Baby Elephant Thai Cuisine .....	595-3034
MJ Café & Teahouse .....	612-7480
Max Loan Center .....	702-8889
Newen's Beauty Salon .....	598-8394
Re/Max Good Life Realty .....	598-5151
Royal Florist .....	718-0688
Sake Sushi .....	594-5221
School Connection .....	594-1873
Skyline Dental / Harvey Chen, DDS .....	595-1800
Smoke Town .....	468-5816
Stater Bros. ....	598-6534
The UPS Store .....	444-1303
US Taekwondo .....	595-9222
Vapor Junkies .....	595-0255
Wags to Whiskers .....	594-4092
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Walnut Village Shopping Ctr.

