

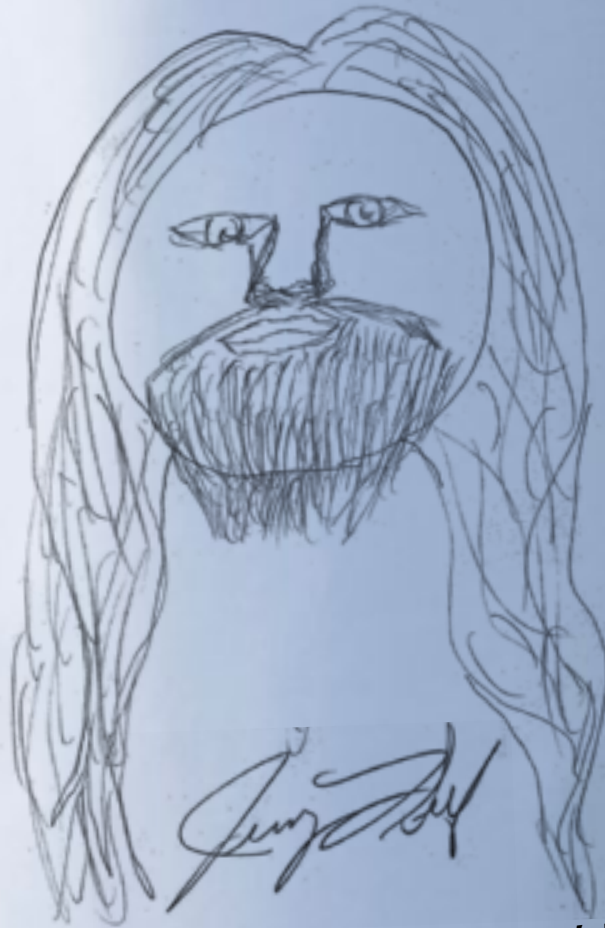
SUMMIT LIFE

VOLUME 3, #27



OCTOBER 2015

WANTED



**Good Samaritan who saved my son's life.
If you spot him, please call Jerry Self at
818-993-2738.**

Good Samaritan or Angel?

STRANGER SAVES BOY'S LIFE IN PARK

For over a month now, Summit resident Jerry Self has been searching desperately for the man who saved his son's life. He wants to again thank him for bringing 18-year-old Matthew Self home after falling from his bike in the hills of the park. He is the youngest of Jerry's three boys. "You need to take him to the hospital," the Good Samaritan told Jerry after helping a badly injured Matthew onto his front porch. And then as quickly as he appeared, he disappeared. Neighbors think the stranger may have been an Angel.

"It took seven minutes at the most to get Matthew into my car parked on the street and out through the park security gate on the way to the hospital," Jerry estimated. "There was no way the Good Samaritan could have disappeared completely in that amount of



Matthew Self is shown in intensive care unit at Northridge Hospital Trauma Center. Now a month later, he's up and well and anxious to thank the stranger who brought him home after a fall in the park, which fractured his skull. *Photo courtesy of Matt's dad, Jerry Self.*



Matthew Self and dad Jerry are reunited after Matt's return home from the hospital following brain surgery. Had it not been for an assist from an unidentified stranger, the 18-year old might have died in the street after falling headfirst from his bike in the park. *Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.*

time. Just going down the four steps from my porch and walking the 25-foot path to the street would have taken almost half that time. So he could not have walked out of the park that fast. And if he had been driving, I would have caught up with his car."

The news at Westhills Hospital was not good. A cat scan revealed a brain hemorrhage. Young Matthew was placed on life support and rushed by ambulance to the Northridge Trauma Center where he underwent immediate surgery for a fractured skull. After almost four days in the hospital, he was released and is now much improved, according to his dad. "He no longer talks baby talk, but forgets things easily and walks on the tips of his toes. Regardless of that, I'll be forever grateful knowing that my son would have died on the street where he fell had it not been for that unidentified man," Jerry emphasized.

"When Matthew and his bicycle were delivered home with the man's help. Jerry examined his son from head to toe and couldn't find a scratch, except for a bruised knuckle. "Were you in a fight with my son," he asked the stranger. "I would never hurt another human being," the man replied. When

he realized that there had not been a fight, Jerry shook the man's hand. "It was a handshake like no other, strong and powerful and loving," Jerry explained.

Jerry describes the Good Samaritan as a dark haired Caucasian, about five feet, eight inches tall

and approximately 220 pounds (see Mr. Self's cover drawing). "I would say that he looked powerful, not fat," Jerry explained. "He's not a local. I've talked to most of my neighbors and the people in the Club House. They've never seen him before." If you do see someone who fits Jerry's

description, please get his name and telephone number and call Jerry at 818-993-2738.

"And do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2) ❖

LET THE SILVER FOX PANIC IN YOUR BEHALF. TRAVEL IS EASIER THAT WAY

When we entered the Ventura Boulevard offices of New Act Travel, Orlando Burgos, the Silver Fox, was in full panic mode. "One of my clients has wandered off in the jungles of Brazil," he said. "Give me a few minutes to track him down."

The client was quickly found, but the lesson learned from the experience is ongoing. "The farther you go south of the border, the further you penetrate a totally different world," Mr. Burgos explains. "The Internet alone won't do it. You need a knowledgeable travel agent to help you and, occasionally, to locate you."

Orlando and his wife Elizabeth have been in the travel business for more than 30 years, gradually retiring from their substantial agency with 30 employees to work at their own pace with nationwide firms like Pro Travel and New Act Travel. These giants are more than happy to handle telephone bills and office costs in return for a revenue percentage from knowledgeable agents who no longer want to handle all the small stuff.

My specialty is detail oriented Latin America travel packages that customers emotionally remember long after they return home, said Orlando. "You can have off-the-shelf canned soup or for a couple of bucks more, you can have fresh

Bouillabaisse."

If you're up to it, Orlando will send you off to the banana fields of Ecuador or to the coffee fields of Costa Rica and Panama to work alongside the locals for pennies a day. When you come back, you will have tasted life from a far different

perspective. As Hemmingway once wrote, "you will feel that what happened to those you worked with in the field, happened to you, the good and the bad, the ecstasy and the sorrow. And you will remember how the weather was."

(Continued on Pg. 6)



A graying Orlando Burgos, the silver fox of Silver Fox Expeditions, is shown at his office computer shortly after helping locate a travel client who wandered off into the jungles of Brazil. "The farther south you go in the Americas, the further you penetrate a totally different world," he says. *Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.*

THE GRANTS INVADe SPIRIT HALLOWEE



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hat would happen, we wondered, if the three children of Summit neighbors Khena and Eric Grant were allowed to roam freely in a Halloween store with all those costumes, masks, ghouls and goblins? Two stores turned us down, but Cassie, the manager of Spirit Halloween on Fallbrook was willing to take a chance. Here's the result. You can't miss Gabriel, almost 2. He supports recycling. Emma, 6 1/2, tries on costumes and engages with a ghouls as Gabriel looks on. And what can you say about little Phoebe, almost 3 1/2. She's clearly a Mad Hatter. *Diane Brown/Summit Life photos.*



N: HAVE A BLAST TRYING ON COSTUMES



(Silverfox continued from Pg. 3)

Orlando was born in Costa Rica 68-years ago, and arrived in the U.S. in 1958. Prior to going into the travel business he logged thousands of trouble free air hours as a military and commercial pilot. Then, on a freeway off ramp six months ago, he almost died. He was “T-boned” on the driver’s side by another car and rushed to the hospital with a pelvis broken in six places, a ruptured spleen and a punctured lung. He wasn’t expected to make it and

spent three months in intensive care before the healing process took over.

“I feel so good these days that I’ve taken up recreational flying again. It’s a lot safer than driving on the freeways,” Orlando said. “I want to thank all my neighbors at the Summit for their best wishes. We all need vacations and I’d like to help provide all the great people in the park with a vacation they will long remember at modest cost. You can reach my office at 818-501-0808, Extension 304.”

Orlando points out that you don’t have to go all the way to exotic Latin America destinations to enjoy yourself. “Mexico, in my opinion, has the best tourist infrastructure in the world,” Orlando said. “Folks need to ignore the overemphasis on the drug wars by the media. Everybody in the Mexican tourist business works hard to make you feel very special all the time. But you still need the advice of someone like me to make it a positive event for the entire family.” ❖

WHAT HAPPENS TO PIZZA PARLORS ON THANKSGIVING? HERE’S THE HUMOROUS ANSWER FROM UNCLE ERNIE’S PIZZA

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hile my pizza parlor is closed on Thanksgiving, we’re very busy

on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving and I’ll tell you why,” Says Steve Apostolof, owner of Uncle Ernie’s Pizza on Topanga Canyon Boulevard.

“We’re very busy because everybody is starting their four day holiday. They’re picking grandma up at the airport, and they know they’re cooking tomorrow. So, dammit, why should they cook today?”

Pizza is not for everyone or for every occasion. Eating pizza on Thanksgiving Day is for sad sacks, according to Steve. “Yet some pizza places stay open to service the loners and the disenfranchised,” he says. Uncle Ernie’s has traditionally given employees the day off on Thanksgiving to be with their families. Ditto on Easter, the Fourth of July, Memorial Day and New Years. “My dedicated crew are normal people who, like me, normally party on those holidays,” Steve explains.

But let’s get back to Thanksgiving. It’s a roller coaster ride for Steve. “While business will increase by as much as 50 percent on Wednesday,



Thanksgiving is a roller coaster ride for Steve Apostolof, owner of Uncle Ernie’s Pizza at 9841 Topanga Canyon Boulevard. His business can increase as much as 50 percent the day before Thanksgiving and then normalize three days later as people get tired of turkey leftovers. *Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.*

it drops 25 percent from Thursday through Saturday before normalizing again on Sunday as customers watch football and get bored with turkey

leftovers. Maybe you’ll join them and say.... ENOUGH BIRD ALREADY, I’VE GOTTA HAVE SOME PIZZA.” ❖



LAST SWIM OF SUMMER: Illiya Donkov, 4, takes one last ride in safety ring in near deserted Summit pool. Now all Illiya can think about is trick or treating in the park on Halloween, according to his Mom, Boriana. *Larry LaCom/Summit Life photo.*

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

INGREDIENTS

Crust:

1 3/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
3 tablespoons light brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 stick melted salted butter

Filling:

3 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, at room temperature
1 (15-ounce) can pureed pumpkin
3 eggs plus 1 egg yolk
1/4 cup sour cream
1 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon fresh ground nutmeg
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
2 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

For Crust:

In medium bowl, combine crumbs, sugar and cinnamon. Add



melted butter. Press down flat into a 9-inch springform pan. Set aside.

For Filling:

Beat cream cheese until smooth. Add pumpkin puree, eggs, egg yolk, sour cream, sugar and the spices. Add flour and vanilla. Beat together until well combined.

Pour into crust. Spread out evenly and place in oven for 1 hour. Remove from the oven and let sit for 15 minutes. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 4 hours.

Recipe courtesy of Paula Deen. Read more at: <http://www.foodnetwork.com>

UNCLE ERNIE'S PIZZA



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& MORE

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NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

SUMMIT LIFE OFFERS NO-COST BUSINESS ADVERTISING

If you think it's unusual for a mobile home community to offer a full-color eight page monthly magazine, how about this: Free monthly business advertising in our Summit Life magazine for every park resident. (Please see Silver Fox travel article on page 3.)

The logic is simple. A going business will make a good tenant a happy tenant. And happy tenants make for a happy park.

Start by letting us know by email if you'd like a business ad. Our email address is garrywormser@gmail.com. Please include a phone number where we can easily contact you to set up your quarter page ad along with a story about your business.



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PLEASE SEE SILVER FOX TRAVEL ARTICLE ON PAGE 3.

SUMMIT LIFE

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Editor - Garry Wormser

Staff Correspondent - Marci Wormser

Graphic Design - Susan Leinen

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