

## Big Oak Theatre

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musical version of the famous Dickens classic, "The Christmas Carol," takes you back to the 1860's set in London. Patrick Hart is featured as the memorable and bumbling old Scrooge and his intriguing performance is nothing short of extraordinary. The production includes many accomplished performers and an array of impressive musical numbers that will no doubt have you singing right along.

"Scrooge, The Musical," features such artistic local actors as Brooke Bauenfeld, an exceptional actress and singer who portrays Isabel, and James Godbelt, who is outstanding in his role as Tom Jenkins. The talented duo Melissa & Scott Strauss are also enjoyable to watch in their performance of Mr. & Mrs. Cratchit. Other noteworthy performers include the admirable Angela Dobson Robbins as the Ghost of Christmas Past, Owen Smith, who delivers a top-notch performance as the Giant Ghost of Christmas Present, and Scott Anthony McClay is the credible young Ebenezer. In addition, Betsy Coulter along with Brian Potter are first-rate as the unforgettable Mr. & Mrs. Fezziwig and Mike Firek as the Ghost of Marley is equally impressive. The delightful Kristina Van Horst as Tiny Tim will steal your heart and the talents of Riche Ferris along with newcomer Jacq Rondeau as the nephew and nephew's

wife respectively deliver commendable performances.

Equally entertaining cast members not to be missed include: Ivie Alcom, Callie Dorff, Kaitlyn Dorff, Korey Emslie, Samantha Aziza Grosfky, Bonnie Hart, Cassandra Janisse, Mia Skye, Grant Measures, Ava Measures, Katie Miller, Hannah Miller, and Megan Wise. Sound Direction for "Scrooge, the Musical" is by Brent Molina.

With the holidays upon us you don't want to miss this entertaining local performance of "Scrooge, The Musical" here in Chatsworth. This is a show every one of all ages will enjoy. The musical numbers are remarkably moving and the acting as well as singing and dancing of the entire ensemble together is simply dazzling to watch.

The Big Oak Theatre is located at 22200 Chatsworth Street in Chatsworth. Tickets for each performance are a \$15 donation per person. Group rates are also available. All shows are at 3PM. For more information and ticket reservations contact (818) 998-0185 or [avenueact1@att.net](mailto:avenueact1@att.net).

### Upcoming Auditions for The Big Oak Theatre in Chatsworth

Auditions for The Big Oak Theatre's next musical, "It Kickin' Country Goes to Broadway" opening early in 2012 will be held in late December. If you are interested in auditioning, please contact The Big Oak Theatre for information on audition times and dates at (818) 998-0185.

## On The "Lighter" Side

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I shopping. (I knew I was in trouble when I observed Nordstrom sales clerks calling Shirley by her first name.) Because Shirley is so good at her new job she found a little unused weekday free time. However, that didn't last long. We now are enrolled in extension classes at UCLA as well as in other classes at various campuses throughout Los Angeles. A special UCLA program for seniors (youth-challenged, not what follows freshman, sophomore, and junior), called the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), now counts us among its members.

It is not that they speak slower or louder that makes them for seniors - it is the requirement that all the OLLI students must be over 50. We are enrolled in "The History of Rock 'N' Roll," "Why Sinatra Matters," and "Five Centuries of American Food" (a subject I happen to know something about). They certainly

didn't have any of these classes when I was in college or pharmacy school.

Retirement is not what everyone thinks it will be. My entire after-worklife existence has been taken over by Shirley. In my case, retirement is exhausting. I am going to have get a job - just so I can rest.

Barry Pascal, our former North Valley Honorary Mayor and former Honorary Sheriff, owned Northridge Pharmacy for 32 years and is now retired. He has written seven comedy books and writes a humorous column for the California Pharmacists Association Journal as well as our North Valley Community Connection. Shirley has become a terrific scheduler and travel agent in her retirement. Rather than buying Barry a full fare seat, she figured out that it was cheaper just to ship him and pay the baggage surcharge. © Barry Pascal December 2011

## Reverse Mortgage

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safer home, travel, help children and grandchildren and a lot more.

A reverse mortgage allows anyone 62 or older to access a portion of the equity in their home without making a mortgage payment for as long as they live in the home. The home must be the senior's principal address and meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) minimum property standards, the home owner must have the capacity and willingness to maintain their property taxes and homeowner's insurance, and be able to keep the house in reasonable condition.

and resources available to help you learn more about it. MetLife Bank, N.A. offers free educational materials, including a comprehensive information planner kit and DVD to consumers who want more information. You can order a kit by contacting me at 818-366-6210.

A reverse mortgage can make all the difference, and can help seniors to live better today and be more prepared for the future. Jay Bolton is a Reverse Mortgage Consultant with MetLife Bank and can be reached at 818-366-6210 or [jbolton@metlife.com](mailto:jbolton@metlife.com). MetLife has been helping its customers build financial security for

## DECEMBER 2011 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS CALENDAR

### Weekly

### Networking

Networking

The reverse mortgage process can be relaxed over 140 years.