



LSI Newsletter Alhambra

NEWSLETTER DATE

July Calendar of Events

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July 5th

Orientation Day for new students. Afternoon and Evening classes begin.

July 8th—

Outdoor Concert in Pasadena

July 12th—

Lunch Social

July 15th—

Tennis Practice with Jose in Alhambra Park

July 16th—

Santa Monica BEACH!!! Beach Volleyball practice, bike riding, rollerblading etc.

July 21st—

Six Flags with Erber!

July 29th-

BIG Luau party in Oiwake restaurant, Little Tokyo



Rent or Buy?

By Vina

Do you live in your own house, or a house you are renting for a short time? Can you afford a new house? Since 2000, many Americans cannot afford a house because of the housing bubble. For now, renting a house instead of buying has become a popular trend in the United States. There are several differences between renting a house or buying a house.

Renting a house is the cheapest way to live in a house without a loan. You do not have to worry about your down payment or high property taxes. You just need to pay rent and the electric bill. For example, if you buy a used house in Eagle Rock, Los Angeles, you have to pay at least \$76,000 for down payment in addition to the monthly mortgage. If the house needs to be fixed, you may spend more than \$15,000 on repairs. Some people may change their job and move to a city near their company. When you are renting a house, you can easily move out, and you don't have to sell your house immediately. In addition, some landlords will provide furniture, so you won't spend money buying or shipping furniture when you need to move out.

Buying a house is one of the goals everyone has dreamed of or pursued. Some people say that buying a house makes them feel fulfilled, and it also seems like a kind of status symbol. Even though buying a house is costly, it is an investment. For example, house prices in downtown are higher than they were several years ago. Some investors buy houses and hold them for a period of time, and then sell them. They can earn lots of money. If you buy instead of renting, furniture and electronics may cost you an arm and a leg. However, you can buy decent or reliable products so you don't have to worry about quality. Moreover, when you buy a house, you can remodel and redecorate at any time, and choose any style you want. Unlike a rental house, you can leave this property to your children. Your children won't dread inflation in the future.

In conclusion, buying and renting have different advantages and disadvantages. More and more people claim renting is better than buying a house. I don't think buying is a bad idea. Before buying a house, you can calculate for yourself. There are many quizzes on the internet that can help you to analyze and make decisions, or maybe you have a different opinion. Which one do you prefer: renting or buying a house?



Summer Fun Around Los Angeles

By Juliana

When summer arrives, lots of good things come with it. The best, most popular movies come out in July. The sunny weather is perfect for a good beach barbecue or a picnic with friends and family. You can go bowling or sing karaoke at night, and afterward have a nice evening meal at a fancy restaurant. There are a lot of fun things to do in the summer in LA, especially in Old Town Pasadena and The Grove.



At night you can go to a live music concert. There are concerts in Old Pasadena, at the Leavitt Pavilion. It's free music, and the concerts start on June 22. Afterward, you can grab food in the restaurants nearby with your friends, because there are a lots of different restaurants.

If you want to go to beautiful places to walk or go shopping, there are pretty places like Santa Monica, Old Town Pasadena, Rodeo Drive or The Grove. Or if you just want to picnic or barbecue, you can go to Santa Monica Beach or Huntington Beach. If you like shopping, The Grove is the perfect place to shop, and the environment is so pleasant that you won't want to go home after arriving there. The restaurants are fancy and good with a lot of variety, like Italian food or pizza, but they are a little bit expensive. If you want to spend less money, you can go to Farmers Market near The Grove. There are lots of different kinds of food, like Spanish, Mexican and Brazilian.

This summer, you won't get bored, because there are too many things to do. You will want to go everywhere and do everything.

Savoy Kitchen and Baccali Cafe

By Faye

Alhambra has a lot of Asian restaurants, and I have been to some restaurants with different styles. **The Savoy Kitchen** is my favorite one. It is on the corner of Valley Blvd and Monterey, and you can easily find it. At lunch time, there are many people in line. The most popular meal is Hainan Chicken, and it is only \$6.50. The Hainan chicken tastes tender and juicy. If you like it spicy, you can add ginger and chili sauce. Also, there are others meals you can order. You will love Savoy Kitchen.



Baccali is one of my favorite restaurants in Alhambra. The most popular meal is Cajun Chicken. It's only \$5.95. The food here is cheap and delicious. Baccali has all kinds of Asian food. There are over 100 meals at Baccali. If you don't like chicken you can choose something else. Also, it has breakfast, lunch and dinner, so you can come here anytime. The drinks are Hong Kong style, and the food tastes just like it would in Hong Kong. Try it!

LSI Faces



Masa Sugiyama is from Shizuoka, Japan. When he came to Los Angeles, he was 22 years old. Masa likes soccer. He has five people in his family. He is the second child. He came to LA to study music because he wants to get a job as a guitarist when he goes back to Japan.

Rita Shih is a new student from Taiwan. She felt excited in her first class in LSI because she met many new friends and her teachers are very nice. She likes the culture in the U.S., because she thinks she has more freedom here. She can do anything she wants and no one will judge her. She was a research assistant in Taiwan. Whenever she has free time, she will play Wii or hang out with her friends. In the long run, she wants to stay in L.A. with her boyfriend



Peggy Chiang is from Hong Kong. She is interested in reading and traveling. She has been to China, Europe, Australia, African and South Africa. She especially likes Russia because the architecture is so beautiful. Peggy says that Hong Kong is famous for milk tea and steamed seafood. They also eat raw seafood.

Finding Your Own Style

By Peggy

Do you want to look more charming and attractive? There is no doubt that everybody will say “yes”. Everyone would like to dress well and attract others. However, how can you dress well? Some people find it is difficult; even celebrities and superstars hire their own fashion stylists to help them dress. However, it is not as hard as people think. Finding your own style is easy when you follow these steps.

The first step is to understand yourself. You should figure out your personality, colors and clothing style. Do you like to be sharp and dressy, or casual? Do you like to wear body-hugging clothes or loose, comfortable ones? What colors do you like? Do you prefer bright or dull colors? What is texture of clothing do you like? Do you like natural, soft fabric like cotton; shiny, silky polyester; or fabric blends? After you answer all these questions, you should have a basic understanding of your own style. However, while people like to wear their favorite colors and styles, those styles might not be the most suitable for them. Therefore, the next step will provide you more information about how to select the appropriate clothing that will make you look good.

You should find out what your body shape is. This is very important because you have to find the cut and pattern that can show off the best of your body. For example, if you are tall and skinny, you should not wear vertical stripes and slim fit dresses, because you will look taller and skinnier. Do not choose horizontal stripes if you are big. V-necks are not good for long-necked people, while turtlenecks are not suitable for people with short necks. If you are short, try to avoid too many layers; however, layers are good for tall people. Do not wear long boots if you have short legs. Do not wear halter tops if you have a wide back. In addition, your favorite color may not be the most suitable color for you. You should try on different colors to find out which ones flatter you. In general, try to avoid pastel colors if you are fair because you will look paler. If you have dark skin, you may look better in light colors while dark colors might not look good on you.

Furthermore, you should dress according to your age and the occasion. You should not dress older than your actual age. Instead, always try to dress within 10 years younger than your actual age. That will make you look more beautiful and more energetic. In addition, you should always dress appropriately for situation. Do not overdress or dress too casual. For example, if you are going to a job interview, you should dress professionally. You may look great in your party dress, but it is not suitable for a job interview. Do not wear your high heels to the beach, or when you go hiking.

Actually, developing your own style is easy if you just follow the above steps. Besides, reading fashion magazine will let you know what is in style. However, you should not follow fashion trends blindly. The most popular style might not be the style for everybody. You should always think about your own style when you select your clothes. If you remember all the above tips, you will always look your best.



All About Dim Sum

By Peggy



Chinese dim sum is one of the famous cuisines in the world. It is increasingly popular in western countries. Because of its variety and small portions, you can have different choices and try as many dishes as you want. Chinese dim sum can be divided into several types: steamed dumplings and buns, rice noodles (chang fun), fried dishes, baked goods and desserts.

Steamed dumplings and buns are the most common type of dim sum; nearly 70% of dishes are in this category. You should be familiar with the woven bamboo trays which contain different ingredients. The bamboo trays can be stacked, and several dishes can be cooked at one time. Steamed dishes include shrimp har gow, pork shu mai, steamed beef balls and steamed buns.

The second type of dim sum is rice noodles (chang fun). Chang Fun is made of rice noodles with different fillings, such as meat, seafood or vegetables. Normally, it is served with oil and soy sauce. The most famous rice noodle dishes are shrimp rice noodles, beef rice noodles and barbecue pork rice noodles.

Other types of dim sum are pan-fried, fried or baked. These are the types of dim sum which better match the tastes of western people, who prefer crispy foods rather than steamed ones. Typical pan-fried dim sum includes pan-fried turnip cakes, pan-fried taro cakes and water chestnut cakes. Egg rolls, fried dumplings and shrimp are deep-fried. Baked treats include baked honey barbecue buns and baked barbecue pork cakes.

The last type of dim sum is dessert. As in other parts of the world, people in China will have dessert after their meal. In order to match the tastes of western people, modifications are inevitable. However, there are still traditional desserts such as sweet bean curd and white rice cakes. The other famous desserts are baked egg custard tarts and mango pudding.

Since there are so many varieties of Chinese dim-sum, there is no doubt that each person can find a favorite. However, you should not only order the ones you like, but also taste some others that you haven't tried before. You might be surprised. You may love it.

