

November/December 2007



The IHA Advisor

The Holiday's Are Coming!



Traditional Christmas Tree and stockings

The holiday season is among us here in the USA , a time when we practice many different traditions that are second nature for most Americans. Traditions such as preparing a Thanksgiving turkey for a feast to share

with family and friends, Black Friday—the day following Thanksgiving Day when the shopping frenzy begins leading up to Christmas, and of course unwrapping gifts on Christmas morning. This is a joyous time in America, with

homes adorned with beautiful decorations that are admired by the young and old alike. Delicious meals, holiday parties, and holiday travel are plentiful and proves to be a good time to show goodwill toward all. It is also a good time for international visitors and hosts to share in holiday activities. An opportunity

to teach and learn, give and receive, simply share.

International Homestay America would like to wish everyone a happy, joyous and safe holiday season. For guests arriving in America during this wonderful time, we would like to say...

accueillir..begrüßen..dar la bienvenida..приветствовать..환영..
歡迎..歡迎..benvenuto.

WELCOME!



Traditional Thanksgiving Turkey

Inside this issue:

American Culture & Traditions	Front
IHA Sponsored Group Help Rebuild WWII Veteran's	2
Delicious Dishes	2
Special Events	3
Did You Know...?	Back
About Us	Back

Join our Team of Hosts - Host an International Student



International Homestay America is looking for hosts (families and individuals) to host international students, scholars & visitors. Hosting is a very rich and culturally rewarding experience. To become a host for IHA, go to www.ih-a-usa.com, download and complete the IHA Host Application and the IHA Host Agreement Terms & Conditions and fax or e-mail them to us at 916-314-8500



"From what I see, they're doing a darn good job"



Vito Virga 104 year-old, WWII Veteran

IHA Sponsored Group Volunteers with Rebuilding Together® to Help Rebuild WWII Veteran's Home



IHA guest Young Ran (left front) with her friends, Left to right: Woo Jin, Dwayne (IHA Staff), Dong Won, Seul Ki, and Min Joon enjoy a little breakfast before their painting and fence building assignments begin.

104-Year-Old Vet Gets Free Home Makeover

News10.net—Written by Jason Kobely, Internet News Producer

For the Veteran's Day holiday, a 104-year-old vet from Sacramento got a very special gift Saturday.

Vito Virga is believed to be the oldest living World War II veteran in the Sacramento area, serving overseas in Normandy during the war.

Now, thanks to a special veterans grant, the decorated former soldier is getting the 53rd Street home he built by hand back in 1937 fully renovated for free.

"We're doing new flooring, a new fence outside, new appliances and new furniture for his living room," Kristan Noonan of Rebuilding Together.

"From what I see, they're doing a darn good job," Virga said. Volunteers worked all day Saturday and were expected to complete the finishing touches Monday.

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For video of the NEWS10 broadcast [click here](#)

Rebuilding Together® is the nation's largest volunteer home repair organization in the country. The Sacramento affiliate is dramatically changing neighborhoods and lives, helping people live independently in comfort and safety.



Over 76,000 homes in the Sacramento area are considered substandard. Hundreds of seniors fall in their home each year.

Rebuilding Together Sacramento is decreasing those statistics through home repairs and modifications performed by our community's volunteers, corporations, civic and faith groups and many more.

To learn more about this amazing organization that is improving the quality of life for local residents contact their office at 916-455-1880 x1 or visit www.rebuildingtogethersacramento.org.

Special Events

Sacramento - Cal Expo - November 16-18, 2007

Harvest Festival ORIGINAL Art & Craft Show—meet over 300 artisans with more unique handmade arts and crafts than ever before. Don't miss out! For more info visit www.harvestfestival.com

San Francisco - Exploratorium - November 9, 2007 –December 31, 2008

Mind—A Major New Exhibition with over 40 new exhibits, Four Years in the Making

In *MIND*, you are the exhibit. Experience your own thoughts, feelings, and actions in provocative and unexpected ways in this major new 5000-square-foot Exploratorium exhibition featuring over 40 brand-new interactive exhibits. For more info visit www.exploratorium.edu/mind

Berkeley - Berkeley Repertory Theatre - October 12, 2007-December 2, 2007

After The Quake—in this poignant new play, you'll see that a storyteller can't dispel the world's woes, but he can teach a child-and himself-how to face fear. Frank Galati is renowned for transforming literary works in transcendent theatre. For more info visit www.berkeleyrep.org



after the quake

Delicious Dishes

Korean Rice

(It is also sometimes spelled "bibimba" or "bibimbop").

- 1 cup rice, uncooked (brown rice is excellent)
- 1 pound ground beef or pork sausage, or combination
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1 cup carrot, grated
- 1 cup celery, sliced
- Soy sauce to taste



Cook rice to almost tender as directed on package. Brown meat in frying pan and brown quickly the vegetables. Add the rice. Season with soy sauce during cooking and serve with soy sauce for each to add as desired. Can be put into casserole and put in low 300 to 325 degree oven for up to 1 hour.



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To subscribe, submit photos or stories or story
ideas, e-mail us at info@iha-usa.com
or call us at 916-684-8909

Did you know...?

...that you can make calls from your PC
(*personal computer*) to a regular landline
telephone
free of
charge!?



Free calling
from one PC

to another on the internet has been
around for quite some time, but now you
can make calls to standard telephones
for free depending on the type of internet
service provider you use. There are many
providers out there to choose from such
as [MSN Messenger](#), [Yahoo Messenger](#)
and [Skype](#).

About IHA

International Homestay America, LLC (IHA) was formed to meet the growing need for homestay services throughout the Sacramento region. We also responded to our clients needs for homestay placement in Berkeley and San Francisco. We provide placement services for students, visiting professors, interns, post-doctoral scientists or business travelers seeking short-term or long-term stays in America.

We are committed to providing our international guests with an enjoyable and enriching American experience in a homestay with fully screened hosts and an environment that is clean, safe, and affordable.

We are available anytime to assist you with your homestay needs. Contact our friendly homestay coordinators or visit us at www.iha-usa.com.