



Conveying the most important messages between the DIY, fashion and independent arts communities and yours

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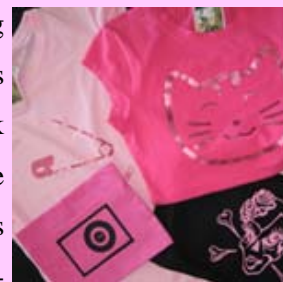
Edible fruitcake—really!

UPCOMING EVENTS 4

Take a "Friday Night Liberty" at Liberty Station, get in some last minute shopping, and make a gingerbread house!

The Holiday Hit List Returns For Its 4th Year!

The San Diego North Park Craft Mafia is giddy with excitement to bring you, yet another shopping extravaganza that features local, hands on artists and crafters just in time for the holiday season. We are back in North Park for this annual event on Sunday, December 5th, from noon to 6pm at the Masonic Hall, located at 3795 Utah St., just south of University Ave. As always, your favorite Craft Mafia members have invited dozens and dozens of amazingly creative vendors to supply you with awesome gifts for everyone on your hit list! Here is a sneak peek of what's to come!



There will be gifts for babies, children and their mamas from designers like: **Be Bop Baby Clothing**, **Made With Luv**, **Kobi**, **Laura Mulder**, **Little Partridge**, and **Sweet Lilybelle**. We will have jewelry designers such as: **Mimi & Moi Handcrafted Jewelry**, **Tora Jewelry**, **Attic 802**, **Brave Relics**, **Paloma Plane**, **R Priest Ellgy Co**, **Stephanie Kane Designs**, **Tabou Treasures**, **thechaseisover** and **Wink Artisans**. Other amazing accessories by **Acute Designs**, **Little Pink Plum**, **PenguinBot**, **Veronica von Borstel Designs**, **j.handcrafted** and dog accessories by **Belle Pepper Couture**! Unique artists selling their works include: **Andrea Zuill**, **Artista Muerta**, and **Jewels of Friendship**. We have fiber designers as well as hand knits by **Clever Knits**, **Darling Bud Designs**, **Kozie Kritters**, **Oink Pigments**, **Slipped Stitch Studios**, and **Wrapsody**! Clothing, aprons, tee-shirts and fashion designers like **Deena Lee**, **Velvet Klaw**, and **Meagan Rae Designs** will be there. Paper artists like **Peppermint Daydreams**, **PapaDesign/PapaWaii**, and **A Scrap of Time** will be selling their works. We will even have candles, soaps and body products by **Zabana Essentials**, **Meltdown-soaps** and **Queen Bee's Hive**. And more!!!!



You do not want to miss out on this awesome indie shopping event! And don't forget that the first 100 shoppers into the Holiday Hit List get a free swag bag!!!! (Limit 1 per family). Visit our website for all the latest news - www.HolidayHitList.com! We can't wait to see you Sunday December 5th!

- Crafty Love- from the North Park Craft Mafia

CRAFTY HELP:**ASK DR. MUERTA FOR CRAFTY HELP & ADVICE!**

Instead of answering a question this month, here are some tips and advice to survive the holiday season without all the joy being sucked out of the fun by a few rotten relatives and obnoxious shoppers. My best piece of advice is to look at everything as an opportunity to laugh. People do some ridiculous things, so make a choice to enjoy the entertainment, rather than get upset. Another thing to keep in mind is to let go of the little things. This works especially well with family! I love my family very much (even my in-laws are great!) but everyone has a bad moment, especially in close quarters and when cooperation is involved. Take a break when you need it. A walk outside, a quiet moment in another room, and make sure that cell phone is always charged to text your relatives' shenanigans to your best friend (or play Bejeweled when someone forgot to thaw the turkey and it won't be done until midnight).

More practical advice is to let other people do the work for you! If you're making a whole meal for Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Christmas, consider having at least part of the meal (like the desserts, yum!) prepared by someone else (a relative that knows how to cook, or a nice family owned bakery or restaurant in your neighborhood). Also, shop online! Etsy.com has some awesome handmade gifts for everyone you know, plus you're supporting independent business owners. For another fun shopping environment check out craft faires (like our Holiday Hit List, December 5th!) and street faires, buying handmade gifts, and enjoying time in a festive (rather than commercial and aggressive) environment! Another shopping tip, especially if you're budget is tight, make a nice donation to a charity and include a note in a handmade card about it (this won't work for some people, so consider your recipients carefully).

The holidays used to be about family, delicious food, and relaxing around loved ones, so try to keep that in mind when Aunt Sylvia is driving you nuts about not being married yet, or your brother-in-law JimBob drinks too much nog and drops the turkey.

Please email your questions for Dr Muerta about life, death, art or anything else to:

ask_dr.muerta@sandiegonthparkcraftmafia.com

**CRAFTY HOW-TO:****DRESS UP WITH A FUN AND FEATHERY HEADBAND!**

I originally showed how to make these headbands using items for Halloween. They are easily adaptable to any holiday, so why not make one for every occasion! They are the perfect accessory for New Year's Eve!

What You Need:

Plastic headband

Ribbon or fabric

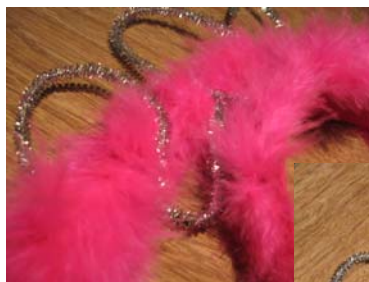
Pipe cleaners in colors of your choice

Small feather boa and other adornments of your choice

Hot glue gun

First, you will take a plain headband and cover it with ribbon or fabric that has been cut into ribbon strips. Use pinking shears to give a nice edge to the fabric while keeping it from fraying. Put a little hot glue on the inside bottom edge of the headband and attach the ribbon. Then, wrap the ribbon around the headband and cover completely. Use the hot glue, as you go, to hold the ribbon in place. Finish by attaching the ribbon to the other inside end of the band. Now you are ready to decorate! Decide what look you are going for. You can make it whimsical or a little more dressy. It's up to you! For a fun look, take

some of the pipe cleaners and bend them to make a "2011" that will sit atop the band. Start by wrapping the end of the pipe cleaner around a pencil and make a coil. Then continue to make each number separately. Attach the numbers to the band by gluing the coil and holding in place until set. Get your feathers and start gluing those on along the front of the headband to hide the coils. For a dressier look, leave off the pipe cleaners and simply glue on some feathers and cover the glued areas by attaching fabric flowers, rhinestone buttons, or other adornments. You're all set for a fun night out on the town! "Happy New Year's Eve!"



MADAME CRAFTINA'S
HOROSCOPE

BE PLENTY THANKFUL THIS SEASON!

Happy Holidays from Madame Craftina!!!!
This holiday season's stars bring plenty to be thankful for and plenty to be crafty for!

Sagittarius: Mondays are a lucky day for you in December Sags, so take advantage of the beginning of your weeks. Also this month you will feel very confident in your finances but do be frugal because surprises are around every corner.

Capricorn: This month, be sure to communicate effectively and directly to avoid your messages from being taken out of context. Maintain your health by eating healthy foods and staying social. Make the most of your every day.

Aquarius: This is not the month for you to gamble or test people's bluffs. Avoid situations where others are trying to test you. It's time to just be.

Pisces: Sunday is your lucky day this month

Pisces. It is normal for you to be seeking an overall better quality of life. Stay with that venture because you have so much to benefit.

Aries: Holiday times are wonderfully spent with family but be sure to avoid being drawn into the family drama. You may find others not appreciating what you have to say anyway so choose your words and actions wisely.

Taurus: Thursday is a lucky day for you this month bulls and December is a great time to take relationships to new heights. Grow slow but grow indeed.

Gemini: This month, twins, you will have a decision to make regarding money and lifestyle. Be true to your heart and don't be afraid of the unknown. Your lucky day this month is Saturday.

Cancer: Wednesday is a lucky day for you crab, so celebrate your midweek! Be knowledgeable of your emotions this month or they may get the best of you.

Leo: Beware, lion, of what the pride is up to. Focus your energy on work but be sure your work is focused. That will help you to manage your finances more efficiently.

Virgo: Fridays are your lucky days this month Virgo and you will enjoy every one of them. You will meet eccentric people and should be open minded in regards to what these people may be able to do for you.

Libra: December is the perfect time to spend some time with friends and family that you do not see often enough. At work, do not be afraid to pipe up and offer your opinion, someone important just might be around to hear it!

Scorpio: You may find yourself making changes to your appearance this season but they are not in vain. Consider yourself grooming for the winter. Take advantage of your Fridays this month because the weekend is your lucky time!

MA MANGIA

A CHRISTMAS STORY 'EDIBLE FRUITCAKE' ...NO, REALLY !!

The following recipe was featured during the presentation of "A Christmas Story" during TBS's Dinner & a Movie (www.tbs.com). Just had to share!

You will need:For the "Fruit" Part:

- 1 1/2 cups dried, diced apricots (1/2-inch chunks)
- 1 1/2 cups dried cranberries
- 1 1/2 cups golden raisins
- 1 cup diced pineapple (1/2-inch chunks)
- 1/4 cup Gran Marnier
- 1 cup coarsely chopped pecans
- 1 cup coarsely chopped blanched almonds

For the "cake" Part:

- 2 sticks butter, softened
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1 cup confectioner's sugar
- Zest of 1 lemon, grated
- Zest of 2 oranges or tangerines, grated
- 6 eggs, separated
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp almond extract
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 250°F. Butter two 9x5-inch loaf pans and line with parchment paper or aluminum foil. Butter the paper or foil and set aside.

2. In a medium mixing bowl, combine the apricots, cranberries, golden raisins, pineapple, and Gran Marnier; stir well and set aside. In another mixing bowl, sift together the flour, salt, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg, and ginger. Add the chopped nuts and toss a few times.

3. In a large mixing bowl, cream together the brown sugar, confectioner's sugar, and butter until fluffy and smooth. Blend in the egg yolks, one at a time, allowing each to incorporate before adding the next. Stir in the vanilla, almond extract, lemon zest, and orange zest.

4. To the butter mixture, alternately fold in the flour mixture and the fruit mixture; stir until well blended. Beat the egg whites until salt peaks begin to form. A third at a time, fold the beaten egg whites into the batter.

5. Pour half of the batter into each of the prepared pans, filling them no more than 1 inch from the top. Smooth out the tops and bake about 2 hours. To see if the fruitcake is cooked through, insert a knife or skewer in the center. If the knife emerges clean, you might as well put in all the rest of your silver and clean it while you've got the chance. Cool in the pans for 30 minutes, turn out, and brush the tops and sides with a little Gran Marnier. Eat warm, or wrap tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerate. Yield: Two 9x5-inch fruitcakes.

6. **Note:** If what you want is a fruitcake that can withstand the ravages of time better than yourself, double the Gran Marnier and add at least two cups of brandy or rum to the dried fruit. Soak for 24 hours before proceeding with recipe. (The next thing to do is decide who in the family is worthy of inheriting these durable, fruity monoliths in years to come.)





WHO IS KEEPING SAN DIEGO CRAFTY?

Teresa Salazar of *Velvet Klaw*
www.velvetklaw.com

Svea Komori-Ang of *Belle Pepper Couture*
www.bellepeppercouture.com

Meagan Rae Longtin of *Meagan Rae Designs*
www.meaganraedesigns.com

Kim Klem of *Artista Muerta*
www.artistamuerta.com

THE SAN DIEGO NORTH PARK CRAFT MAFIA WAS FOUNDED IN SEPTEMBER 2007 AND IS DEDICATED TO CRAFTING, FASHIONING, STYLING AND CREATING THEIR SAN DIEGO.

www.SanDiegoNorthParkCraftMafia.com
info@sandiegonthparkcraftmafia.com

P.O.Box 711773

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858-272-4276

WATCH US ON TV!

@ 9am

San Diego Living
Channel 6

Can't wait? Check out Our YouTube page!

<http://www.youtube.com/northparkcraftmafia>

LAST MINUTE
HOLIDAY SHOPPING
EVENT, DEC. 16. 6PM-9PM

@ EL TAKE IT EASY
VENDOR SPACES AVAILABLE!

Email us:

info@sandiegonthparkcraftmafia.com

Happy Holidays!

Crafty Black Book: Upcoming Events for December

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

FRIDAY NIGHT LIBERTY- FIRST FRIDAY EVERY MONTH

Friday Night Liberty is a monthly first-Friday evening of FREE open artist studios, galleries and events throughout NTC Promenade Arts & Cultural District. Be sure to visit Barracks 19, the home of the NEW Velvet Klaw Screen Printing Studio! Free parking. Free Admission. The Freedom to explore, wander and enjoy our growing cultural campus. **5 p.m.** www.ntcpromenade.org/what.php

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

HOLIDAY HIT LIST

Check out the cover story! **12 pm to 6 pm** at the **Masonic Hall in North Park, 3795 Utah St.,** www.holidayhitlist.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

SAN DIEGO CITYBEAT'S WINE, BEER AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Santa for pictures, a tranquility station and great holiday gifts for sale!

Beer will be \$1, Wine will be \$3ish and more details at:
www.sdcitybeat.com/sandiego/contestsView-56.html
57 Degrees, 1735 Hancock St. -92101 from 7-10PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

CRAFT ON BROADWAY

Modern Craft Show in Vista. Come by and check out the goods, and get a bite to eat at Sonic, Allen's Alley or Yellow Deli. Gift bags for the first 50 shoppers, Vendor spaces available. **12pm-5pm,** www.craftonbroadway.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

SDNPCM's LAST MINUTE HOLIDAY SHOPPING EVENT

Come shop for your last minute list check offs. Try something from their menu and check out their drink specials! **El Take It Easy, 3926 30th St., 6pm-9pm**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

CRAFTY CONSPIRACY AT THE VELVET KLAU STUDIO

Our monthly craft get together! Come hang out, craft, craft swap, just get away for a bit at our Crafty Conspiracy. We hope to see you there!

Velvet Klaw Studio, 2690 Historic Decatur Rd, Studio 203, -92106.
(Across from the PL Sports Pub) 7p.m.-9 p.m.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE & BLOG FOR ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS!

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE SD NORTH PARK CRAFT MAFIA!