



# North of Montana

by  
**Kate Bransfield**

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# About this publication

This publication was produced by local Realtor Kate Bransfield to keep the North of Montana neighborhood up to date on some of the more interesting happenings in this unique corner of Santa Monica. As a Santa Monican for over 22 years, Kate takes pride in being a part of this vibrant community.

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## Giving thanks

By KATE BRANSFIELD

We have so much to be thankful for living North of Montana.

Thanksgiving gives us the perfect opportunity to reflect and consider all that this neighborhood has to offer. We have world-class public schools, beautiful surroundings and a sense of community not often seen.

To celebrate this occasion, most families gather to enjoy a fine meal and share each other's company. Here are a few tips to make this year's Thanksgiving dinner a bit more interesting.

Season's greetings and happy Thanksgiving.



### Citrus gives Thanksgiving dinner a zing

Sausage in the stuffing, cream in the potatoes, gravy on that big, rich bird. Face it, Thanksgiving is one heavy meal.

The best way to lighten things up? Citrus.

"It adds brightness, freshness, it accentuates other flavors," says cookbook writer Michael Ruhlman, author of "Ruhlman's Twenty."

Whether it comes from orange, lemon or lime, the acid in citrus fruits balances fat, the way vinegar balances oil in a dressing. It invites salt and awakens the palate. Citrus zest offers

bite with its intensely fragrant oils. Used together, the juice and zest create levels of sweet-sour-bitter that play out across your tongue.

"Citrus fruits have a double life," says Niki Segnit, author of "The Flavor Thesaurus." "The juice is sour, the zest is bitter. You have two different flavors you can play with."

Oranges are the world's most popular citrus fruit, Segnit says, their broad flavor assuring that they play well with most others. Your everyday orange loves apples, fennel and chocolate, but it is so rich in undertones that it also offers surprising combinations, such as our asparagus recipe listed here.

The sharp, intensely sour juice of limes adds spunk to sugary items, but we often turn to lemons as the workhorse of the kitchen. Their bracing juice highlights almost any flavor, from sweet apple to piney rosemary, and lemon often is what stands between a chef and a one-note dish.

**CITRUS-GLAZED ASPARAGUS**  
Trim and steam 2 bunches of asparagus until bright green and just tender, about 5 to 7 minutes. In a small saucepan over medium heat, whisk together 1/4 cup orange marmalade, 2 tablespoons lime juice, 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika and 1/4 teaspoon cumin. Bring to a simmer, then season with salt and pepper. Toss the asparagus in the glaze and sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds. Serves 6.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 80 calories; 5 calories from fat (8 percent of total calories); 1 g fat (0 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 16 g carbohydrate; 4 g protein; 4 g fiber; 170 mg sodium.

**EASY CITRUS-HERB CRANBERRY SAUCE**  
Cut 3 clementines in half. Remove any seeds. In a processor, pulse the clementine halves until finely chopped. Add 1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme, 1 teaspoon chopped fresh marjoram and 1 tablespoon chopped chives. Pulse to mix, then transfer to a bowl and stir in a 14-ounce can whole-berry cranberry sauce. Season with salt and pepper. Serves 12.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 60 calories; 0 calories from fat (0 percent of total calories); 0 g fat (0 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 15 g carbohydrate; 0 g protein; 1 g fiber; 5 mg sodium.

**LEMON-ROSEMARY BREADSTICKS**  
In a small skillet over medium heat, melt 4 tablespoons of butter with the zest of 1 lemon and 2 tablespoons minced fresh rosemary. Cook for 1 minute. On a lightly floured surface, roll out a 20-ounce ball of purchased pizza dough to a 12-by-18-inch rectangle. Cut into 1-inch strips. Brush with the lemon-rosemary butter, then transfer to a lightly oiled baking sheet, twisting if desired. Allow to rest at room temperature for 20 minutes. Bake for 20 minutes at 350 F. Serves 12.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 140 calories; 50 calories from fat (36 percent of total calories); 6 g fat (3 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 10 mg cholesterol; 20 g carbohydrate; 3 g protein; 1 g fiber; 160 mg sodium.

(Recipes by Alison Ladman)

— Associated Press



## North of Montana Single Family Homes Sold Year To Date - 2010 Compared To 2011 From ALL agents in ALL companies

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	TOTAL
<b>2010</b>											
Number of Listings	4	2	3	10	7	7	7	7	7	4	58
Average Days on the Market	90	13	69	27	43	37	33	53	71	47	483
Low Price	\$1,452,000	\$1,815,000	\$930,000	\$1,749,000	\$1,920,000	\$2,026,000	\$1,800,000	\$1,689,000	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000	\$16,681,000
Median Price	\$1,917,500	\$2,056,500	\$2,340,000	\$2,662,500	\$2,556,000	\$3,195,000	\$2,300,000	\$2,667,500	\$2,390,000	\$1,950,000	\$24,035,000
High Price	\$2,795,000	\$2,298,000	\$2,675,000	\$4,000,000	\$3,517,000	\$4,190,000	\$2,700,000	\$3,650,000	\$7,350,000	\$3,700,000	\$36,875,000
Average Price Per Square Ft	\$814	\$762	\$742	\$716	\$780	\$732	\$859	\$792	\$772	\$958	\$7,927
<b>2011</b>											
Number of Listings	4	2	8	4	4	4	10	8	5	4	53
Average Days on the Market	70	114	57	176	72	22	19	71	24	\$80	705
Low Price	\$1,925,000	\$2,825,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,493,000	\$1,278,000	\$1,747,050	\$1,650,000	\$1,865,000	\$1,730,000	\$1,950,000	\$17,563,050
Median Price	\$2,704,654	\$4,152,500	\$2,635,000	\$2,780,000	\$1,802,500	\$3,132,625	\$2,640,000	\$2,432,750	\$2,580,403	\$2,725,000	\$27,585,432
High Price	\$3,243,000	\$5,480,000	\$4,030,650	\$4,445,000	\$11,650,000	\$3,999,388	\$4,984,000	\$3,335,000	\$3,695,000	\$4,950,000	\$49,812,038
Average Price Per Square Ft	\$682	\$959	\$772	\$691	\$986	\$934	\$748	\$768	\$889	\$763	\$8,192

\*To prevent skewing of the numbers, these stats do not include the sale of a property on Adelaide for \$11,650,000



# Montana Avenue Holiday Walk

**Dec. 2**  
Kick the holiday season off with Montana Avenue's annual Holiday Walk. You and your family are sure to find the perfect holiday gifts walking down twinkling streets filled with live music and festive fun! And of course,

Santa will make an appearance, too. The event begins at 5 p.m. and runs through 9 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.montanaave.com](http://www.montanaave.com).

## Montana Library events

The Montana Branch Library is so much more than just a library. It offers free Internet access and is a meeting place for the North of Montana neighborhood. The library is located at 1704 Montana Ave., Santa Monica, Ca., 90403. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

*Below are some of the more interesting happenings going on at the library in November:*

**Nov. 22**  
**Thanksgiving Program**  
3:45 p.m. — 5:45 p.m.  
Come celebrate Thanksgiving with stories and crafts. Ages 3 and up.

**Nov. 23**  
**Library closes early**  
5:30  
All Santa Monica libraries will close early.

**Nov. 24**  
**Library closed for Thanksgiving**

**Nov. 30**  
**Baby Time**  
10:15 a.m. — 10:35 a.m.  
Story time for babies up to 18 months old. There will be a second edition of this event at 11:15 a.m.

**Dec. 1**  
**Preschool Story Time**  
11:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.  
Stories for kids ages 3-5 every Thursday morning.

**Dec. 5**  
**Classic Film and Discussion Series: 'Body and Soul'**  
2 p.m.  
In this 1947 drama directed by Robert Rosen, a young boxer (John Garfield) slugs his way out of the slums only to fall prey to organized crime. Refreshments to be served. Followed by discussion with film scholar Vivian Rosenberg. Cost: free.

## School calendar for North of Montana

### Lincoln Middle School

1501 California Ave.  
Santa Monica, CA. 90403-4305  
(310) 393-9227  
[www.lincoln.smmusd.org](http://www.lincoln.smmusd.org)

**Nov. 23**  
**Minimum Day**  
12:50 p.m.  
All students dismissed early.

**Nov. 24-25**  
**Thanksgiving holiday.**

**Dec. 1**  
**Orchestra Concert**  
7 p.m.  
Hear the sounds of the school orchestra.

**Dec. 5**  
**Progress Reports**  
All students will be sent home their reports.

**Dec. 7**  
**School Site Council**  
3:15 p.m.  
Get involved.

### Roosevelt Elementary School

801 Montana Ave.  
Santa Monica, CA. 90403-1591  
(310) 395-1472  
[www.roosevelt.smmusd.org](http://www.roosevelt.smmusd.org)

**Nov. 22**  
**Walk to School Tuesday**  
Ditch the car and stroll to campus. It's good for the environment.

**Nov. 24-25**  
**Thanksgiving holiday.**

**Dec 1**  
**School Tour**  
Take a look around campus.

**Dec. 2**  
**Coffee with the Principal**  
8:35 p.m.  
Meet and greet with Roosevelt's principal.

### Franklin Elementary School

2400 Montana Ave.  
Santa Monica, CA. 90403-2199  
(310) 828-2814  
[www.franklin.smmusd.org](http://www.franklin.smmusd.org)

**Nov. 23**  
**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

**Nov. 24-25**  
**Thanksgiving holiday.**

**Dec. 5-8**  
**Holiday Book Fair**



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122 Elmwood School, 1996, 1999  
Walter Blue Adams School, 2000  
Beverly Garfield School, 2007



**Roosevelt  
Elementary School**

801 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403  
(310) 395-1472 (310) 827-1188 FAX



**FRANKLIN  
Elementary School**

[www.SantaMonicaListings.com](http://www.SantaMonicaListings.com)