

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2009

INLAND VALLEY



TODAY
82/46



FRIDAY
72/44

Full weather
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Daily Bulletin

\$1.00 PLUS TAX

**ECONOMY
WATCH**

Experts see holiday spending hike

Staff and wire reports

Two major forecasters are predicting happier holidays this year than last.

According to a report from the International Council of Shopping Centers, spending will likely increase this holiday season by 1 percent to 2 percent over last year.

The National Retail Federation is even more optimistic, predicting a 5 percent bump in spending on Black Friday over the same day last year.

“Last year, in comparison, was very bleak,” said Glenn Miller, property manager and marketing director for The Shoppes in Chino Hills. “We’re

going into Black Friday feeling positive this year.”

There was more good news on Wednesday as the Commerce Department reported a slight rise — 0.7 percent — in consumer spending in October and the Labor Department reported the number of newly laid-off

workers filing claims for unemployment benefits fell below 500,000 last week for the first time since January.

Home sales — both new and existing — also improved in October over last year, according to reports.

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