Well 2018 has arrived ready or not! The calendars will be changed, we will have to remember to write 2018 rather than our old friend 2017 and we will need to be aware of other changes that come along with a new year.

And yes we will go through 365 more days before ushering in 2019 with all its own fanfare. But 2018 is the year we will be contending with and all the change that will come with a new year. For some the change will be subtle but for others it will be dramatic and life changing.

2017 was a good year marked by an improving economy, record highs on the DOW and brighter future that goes along with such economic news. We are also seeing a shift in the many years of war we have been in and hopefully we will see increased numbers of troops come home from those far off battlefields.

We do have a bit of a problem in North Korea but hopefully with added pressure from our global partners we will see a peaceful resolution to this global threat.

It would also great if our politicians in Sacramento and Washington DC could figure out how to get along and get things done for a change rather than the status que we have witnessed for the past few years, amazing to think these are grown ups with a purpose.

O K enough of that now it is time to get back to today January 1, 2018. A time of celebration and recuperation for those who had a good time out the night before. Time for family, friends and neighbors to get together and enjoy the New Year, usher it in with enthusiasm and joy.

So take time to watch the Rose parade and then eat, then watch football/eat somemore, then more football or a movie then eat again. Or go for a nice hike, bike ride or just relax. Its your day do whatever you want.

Sorry to say January 2, 2018 will come around with all the expectations of a new year. But for today try and not worry about it too much.

This really is a great time of year for all kinds of reflection or not because you can decide on a new set of goals or just improve the old ones that seemed to slip through your fingers in that old year 2017.

But don't get too relaxed the reality of life is waiting just like do I dare say the tax season. But for now have a great New Year enjoy and reflect on your many blessings. This has been Mike Downey for Community Comment.