

The Ranchos Independent



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BE CAREFUL BREATHING

how the Ferguson Fire in Mariposa can affect you in the Ranchos

Photo courtesy of firewisemaderacounty.org

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Cal Supreme Court Nixes Splitting State on Ballot

A proposition that wanted to divide California into three states, and was headed for the November general election, was shot down by the California Supreme court on Wednesday, July 18.

The pulling of the proposition from the upcoming ballot was in response to what the court said were, "... significant questions ... raised about its validity." That decision resulted in the ordering of the secretary of state to take it off of the ballot.

An environmental group called the Planning and Conservation League is taking a challenge to the court, arguing that dividing the state would drastically change its structure beyond what a simple ballot initiative should be able to do.

The justices were unanimous in their decision, stating, "We conclude that the potential harm in permitting the measure to remain on the ballot outweighs the potential harm in delaying the



If the court ultimately rules in favor of the initiative, it could appear on a future ballot, allowing voters the option of dividing California into "Northern California, California and Southern California."

proposition to a future election."

The "Cal 3" initiative was the brainchild of Tim Draper, a venture capitalist who spent \$1.7 million of his own money trying to put it to a vote. In 2016 he tried to get interest in splitting the state into six pieces but couldn't gather enough signatures. His contention is that California is "ungovernable" due primarily to its size, unequal wealth distribution and diverse geography.

The Planning and Conservation League's lawsuit says major changes to the state's structure require approval from two-thirds of the Legislature before being considered by voters or a state constitutional convention.

County Takes Next Steps to Privatize Water District

On Tuesday, July 10 the Madera County Board of Supervisors approved an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement with Bakman Water Company for the potential sale of County Service Area 19 (Rolling Hills) water system. The water system provides service to approximately 335 customers in Rolling Hills, located in District 1 in Madera County.

In May of 2017, the Rolling Hills Homeowners Association unanimously requested that the water system for Rolling Hills be privatized and no longer be operated and maintained by Madera County. On July 18, 2017, the Madera County Board of Supervisors directed county staff to move forward with the privatization. The County solicited a Request for Information (RFI)

and received three responses from California Water Service, California American Water and Bakman Water Company. On March 13, 2018, the Board of Supervisors directed staff, based on the vote of the residents (139 in favor of Bakman Water Company, 76 in favor of California Water Service, 7 in favor of the County continuing services, and 2 in favor of California American Water), to enter into negotiations with Bakman Water Company.

The Exclusive Negotiation Agreement was requested by Bakman Water as a means to facilitate negotiations between parties from the time the agreement is signed through 120 days, or upon the closing of escrow, whichever is first. The County will not negotiate with, solicit of-

fers or proposals from other parties, or respond to any entity or person about the negotiations while the agreement is in effect, except when legally bound. The exclusive negotiations should produce a Purchase Agreement that both parties agree upon. If no agreement can be reached and a Purchase Agreement is not signed, then Madera County Public Works staff will come back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

"The residents of Rolling Hills requested that their water system be privatized, and we are hopeful the process will move swiftly. If successful, this will be the first special district water system in Madera County to move towards privatization," said District 1 Supervisor Brett Frazier.

County Warned About Wildfire



A helicopter drops fire retardant above the Ferguson Fire outside of Yosemite.

Picture courtesy of Kari Greer, National Wildfire Coordination Group.

Smoke from the Ferguson Fire in Mariposa County prompts health caution

By Randy Bailey

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has issued a warning that smoke from the Ferguson Fire in Mariposa County is affecting air quality in locations throughout the Northern and Central San Joaquin Valley. The air conditions have prompted local air pollution officials to issue a health cautionary statement for five Central Valley counties, including Madera. The smoke impacts will continue until the fire is extinguished.

The Ferguson Fire started July 13 in the Sierra National Forest and is burning in steep, rugged terrain with little to no access roads. As of Sunday, July 22 the fire was covering 30,493 acres, an increase of over 2,500 acres from the previous Friday night. It is estimated that at this time the fire is only 6 percent contained. There are 2,903 personnel currently engaged on the fire, including 204 engines, 38 water tenders, 17 helicopters, 72 crews and 42 dozers. There has been one fatality and four injuries to date. It is expected that the weather will get warmer and drier in the coming days, but most of the fire activity and behav-

Please see **SMOKE** on P. 17

Alvarado Leaves Golden Valley for Fresno District

By Randy Bailey

Golden Valley Unified Superintendent Andy Alvarado resigned his position with the school district and accepted the position of Superintendent of Central Unified School District in Fresno. His new position was effective July 1.

Alvarado had been the superintendent of GVUSD for the past seven years. Before that he had served as assistant superintendent, Liberty High School principal and vice principal.

Alvarado had been terminated in February of 2015 by the GVUSD Board of Trustees, an act that so incensed the community that a successful recall election re-

sulted in the ouster of the three board members responsible for his removal. The first act of the newly elected school board was to offer Alvarado his job back in September of 2015, which he accepted.

Alvarado lives in Fresno and his wife, Leah Alvarado, is an English teacher in the Central Unified School District. Central Unified School District has 15,772 students; GVUSD is under 2,000.

In a prepared press release GVUSD Board President Brian Freeman said, "As the Golden Valley Unified School District Board President, I would like to congratulate Mr. Alvarado on his new position as superintendent of Central Unified School District."



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Letters

Dear Editor:

Thinking about meeting new people? Making new friends? Making a difference in your community? Do you realize you don't have to own a business to join the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce?

The new Riverstone Development and other housing developments going up in this area are going to change the dynamics of the Madera Ranchos and the outlying areas. Riverwalk is going to be a huge commercial development at Highway 41 and Avenue 12. Wouldn't you like to get involved and be part of the upcoming changes to the Madera Ranchos/Bonadelle area? YOU can be part of shaping and changing our future by joining and being a part of the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce.

I have been attending the meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Not only am I learning what is going on today, but I am getting fascinating, informative lessons on the past. New ideas are always welcome. Meet fantastic people that care about the community. Come as a visitor. See what the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is all about. Exciting times in the past and future!

Hope to see you there.
Becky Gribble
Madera Ranchos

and I'm glad that you took on this subject to let us all know what is really going on with our representatives.

Also, the article on *Enough is Enough* was mindboggling, indicating that there will be absolutely no Republicans to vote for in the upcoming election (aside from Governor) because of Proposition 14. That is absolutely unacceptable. I sure hope this can be changed because it is really stacking the deck for Democrats. Usually these subjects are never brought up because California favors Democrats to the detriment of any other party. Hooray for the staff of the Ranchos Independent.

Finally, the article on *Gotta' Work to be Working* says it all. As a person that is newly retired from working for 50 years, I say "Hear, Hear!" It's about time that these words were said to those that expect and feel entitled to a "free ride." I have paid my dues and my own way all my life, now it is time for everyone else to take pride in themselves and work for what they get.

I commend your paper for their fresh approach to the news. Thank you.
Sincerely,
Carol Guthrie
Madera Ranchos

The Ranchos Independent welcomes your letters. Whether you're a fan or someone looking for something to line the birdcage, we want to hear from you. The only rules? **Sign it, be civil or forget about it.**

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Dear Editor:

I wanted to take this opportunity to praise a few of your articles in the above-mentioned edition of your newspaper. Most of the time I do not have the opportunity to read it through and through, but today I did, and I have to tell you that three of your articles are so "spot on" that I had to write (and I never write to newspapers). *H₂O Storage* opened my eyes as to what is really happening with Proposition 1 that was approved by the voters. I did not realize that the funds could be released and work could start but our government in Sacramento is dragging their heels. That is just not right

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Guest Editorial

Roe is a Travesty

By Rich Lowry

The prospect of overturning *Roe v. Wade* will be at the foreground of the battle over Justice Anthony Kennedy's replacement, and it should be.

Roe is judicially wrought social legislation pretending to the status of constitutional law. It is more adventurous than *Miranda* and *Griswold*, other watchwords of judicial activism from its era. It is as much a high-handed attempt to impose a settlement on a hotly contested political question as the abhorrent *Dred Scott* decision denying the rights of blacks. It is, in short, a travesty that a constitutionalist Supreme Court should excise from its body of work with all due haste.

Roe has been commonly misunderstood since it was handed down in 1973, in part because its supporters have been so determined to obscure its radicalism. It is commonly thought that *Roe* only prohibits restrictions on abortion in the first trimester, when it effectively forbids them at any time, imposing a pro-abortion regime as sweeping as anywhere in the advanced world.

Roe struck down 50 state laws and has made it all but impossible to regulate abortion, except in the narrowest circumstances. More to the point, the argument that its particular

set of policy preferences is mandated by the Constitution is flatly preposterous.

Over the years, the decision's laughable constitutional inadequacy has been widely recognized. Shortly after it came down, Harvard Law School professor John Hart Ely, a supporter of legalized abortion, wrote that "*Roe* is bad because it is bad constitutional law, or rather because it is *not* constitutional law and gives almost no sense of an obligation to try to be."

The court in *Roe* purported to find the constitutional right to abortion in the 14th Amendment, which says that no state can "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

This passage has no obvious or even subtle connection to legalized abortion (in fact, abortion laws were being tightened in the 19th century when the amendment passed). No matter. According to Blackmun, abortion is so central to liberty that no restriction on it can stand constitutional scrutiny.

He is at pains to deny that unborn children are "persons in the whole sense." As evidence, he points to clauses in the Constitution about persons that don't have "pre-natal application," e.g., the requirement that persons must be 35 or older to run for president. This is too stupid for words. Just because clauses like this refer to adults doesn't mean that minors, or unborn children, don't have rights.

The best case that can be made for *Roe* is that it is a mistaken decision on the books for nearly 50 years now, so it has to be honored as a precedent. But the court is not, and shouldn't be, in the practice of standing by fundamentally flawed decisions. *Brown v. Board of Education* overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which upheld segregated education, almost 60 years later. Just last week, the Court overturned a labor decision from 1977.

Roe is bad law and bad democracy. It has no sound constitutional basis, and deserves to go the way of the court's other embarrassments and misfires.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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The Ranchos Independent

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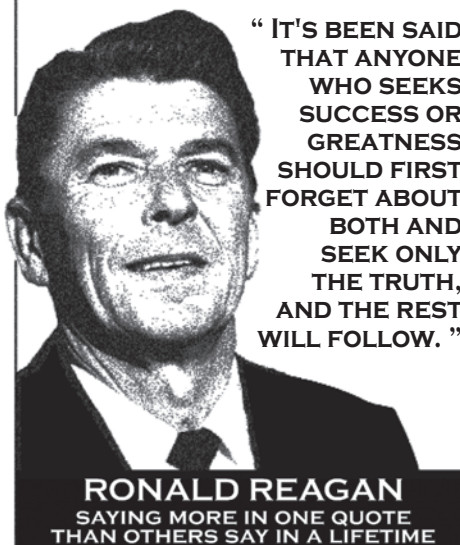
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Good Grammar Do Matter

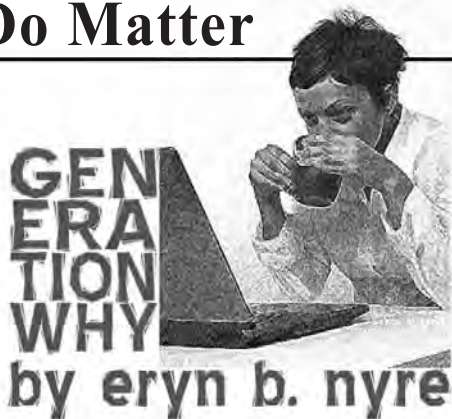
I was sitting in the hot tub at my gym last night with a colleague. We were discussing our mutual stress knots and the various aspects of our jobs that had caused them when we were interrupted by an amusing woman in a hot-pink bathing cap. She told us she hadn't meant to eavesdrop, but she just loved to hear two intelligent women having an intellectual conversation. I was amused by this because I didn't think our conversation had been particularly intellectual. Still, her comment brought to mind something my dad had told me a while back, which was poor grammar can make a smart person sound stupid; and evidently good grammar makes an otherwise ordinary discussion about spreadsheets sound like academic discourse. In this vein, I thought I would deliver this brief public service announcement. Just a few little grammar tips to help increase your intellectual standing.

Conjugation

This tiny little concept makes all the difference in the world. It's no more complicated a notion than knowing when to use "is" vs. "are" and "do" vs. "does." Few things in life have an instantaneous impact on my opinion of a person like failed conjugation. When I hear people say things like, "he don't know," or "what she do," I have very little faith that they could even hold a regular conversation with me, let alone an intellectual one. Most people learn this in second grade ... just saying. I know there's plenty of people out there who would say that good grammar don't matter but to them I respond, oh yes it do! (See what I did there?)

The Double Negative

I don't know nothing about why people can't quite figure out that not knowing nothing is actually knowing something, you know? You can know something. You can know nothing. But you can't not know nothing. Similarly, if you didn't do nothing you actu-



ally did something and if you don't feel like doing it no more, well I can't even dissect that one. I love watching the show Pawn Stars and I think Rick Harrison is quite knowledgeable despite not having a formal education. He is a voracious reader and sponges up every bit of information he can but every time he says he isn't going to do something no more he loses a chunk of his credibility. Ever wonder why you don't catch most doctors and lawyers talking like this? It's because you can't expect people to trust in your knowledge and education if you don't sound like you have either.

Bad Words

I know there's plenty of people out there who would say that good grammar don't matter but to them I respond, oh yes it do!

I don't mean words of the four-letter kind. I mean words that either don't belong in the context or are completely made up. For example, regardless. I don't really know why this abomination has become so popular but it's just irridiculous. The suffix "less" tacked onto the end of the word regard means without regard. The prefix "ir" also means without ... so what are you trying to say, without the lack of regard? Here we are in the land of the double negative again. I don't like that land. We should evacuate that land and set it on fire.

Another example that I hear nearly every day is orientate. People are orientating all over my office. I have no idea what that is but I'm afraid I'm not doing it. They should have covered it at orientation. I would certainly be more fa-

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 7

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GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

miliar with how exactly to go about orientating someone if I would have been properly oriented on the subject. Speaking of my office, the other day one of my team members said she was congruating while waiting for a meeting to start. I was genuinely concerned for her well-being. While I'm thinking of it, a picture is "hung" and a person is "hanged." Allow me to clarify because I know some of you are yelling at your newspapers right now about these words being in the dictionary. A dictionary is a tool used to define. It is not a tool used to indicate grammatical accuracy. Ain't is in the dictionary but most of us know that word ain't proper.

Me vs. I

I'm throwing this one in not because it gives me an eye twitch when people get it wrong but because I think people need to know that using "I" isn't always correct. Sometimes it's me. The simple way to be sure is to drop the other person from the sentence and see how it sounds. You wouldn't say, "do you want to go to the store with I?" You

would use "me" in this example, and therefore when you add the other person back in it becomes, "do you want to go to the store with Anthony and me?" I know it doesn't sound as sophisticated but it's correct nonetheless. There's always someone excited to correct me when they hear me use "me" in these contexts. When I explain why I was right it's like popping a little girl's big pink balloon. I mean, I still do it, but that deflated look is always the same.

To be clear, I'm not asking everyone to recite the Chicago Manual of Style from memory. I'm not asking everyone to execute flawless grammar in every single situation. No one is immune to mistakes, certainly not me. What I am asking is that we all try to side-step the obvious grammatical landmines. Idioms and slang aside, colloquialisms and informal speech excepted, a basic understanding of grammar and syntax from people who graduated high school is really not too much to ask, is it? This not only helps to avoid miscommunication but is the difference between sounding like you have an education vs. sounding like you learned English by watching old episodes of Jerry Springer.

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Kids? Get Cookin'

Growing up we were fortunate that our mom was able to be a "stay at home mom." I am so thankful that during that time I was able to learn from her how to handle various kitchen tools and start to cook. But about the time I was a junior in high school (I was the oldest of five kids), daddy had the first of several strokes and mama had to go to work. She delivered the Fresno Bee to the rural area of Chowchilla. She delivered over 400 papers, taking about five hours and over 300 miles every day. At that time, The Fresno Bee was an afternoon paper, six days a week, but the Sunday paper was morning. We had to leave the house by midnight every Sunday morning or we wouldn't get them delivered on time. I had my driver's license and learned the route. On school days when I was off and weekends, I would drive the route or split it in half and each of us would get home early. I had my first car wreck out there one Sunday morning, but that's a whole 'nother story.

It was my responsibility to start dinner after I got home from school, not only to help mama out, but so we wouldn't be eating late. Usually she would tell me what to do to get dinner started and it was fairly easy to do. But this particular afternoon she called that she was having car trouble and I would have to fix dinner. She was so frustrated about the car that she told me to fix whatever I wanted to. So, my sisters helped me peel probably five pounds of potatoes (remember there are seven of us) and I shredded them. No food processors then - all done by hand. I fried the potatoes and thought it needed something else, so I took three pounds of hot dogs that were in the refrigerator and cut them up into bite size pieces and put them into the pan, then I opened two quarts of mamas canned green beans and made a salad. I was



Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes

by Jean Briner

so proud. We ate it, but you know what? I don't ever remember having that meal again.

Do you have kids at home for the summer? Little ones that want to "hep" you mix something you are making for dinner? Let them! So, what if they drop an egg on the floor; how many have we dropped? It will be a good time to teach them not only how to handle eggs but also how to clean them up. Or do you have a high school grad getting ready to go away to college and will be far enough away that they won't be able to come home for dinner every night? I hope they know how to make something more than Top Ramen. I've never been in a dorm room, and I'm quite sure they don't have a full kitchen, but I'm sure there is a small refrigerator and for sure a microwave. Did you know you can cook chicken in a microwave?

Recently Scott Rothe, a friend of Randy's, joined us for church and lunch afterward. He was telling me he takes care of his aging parents and cooks chicken in the microwave for them. I had never heard of cooking chicken in the microwave.

Scott's Microwave Chicken

2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts

Salt & Pepper

2 T butter or margarine

Place seasoned chicken on microwave-proof plate and cook on high for 11 minutes. Check for doneness - if not quite done, cook again at one-minute intervals. Don't overcook.

You can use any seasoning you like - season salt, lemon pepper - lots to choose from

He also cooks bone-in thighs - cooking for 8 minutes,

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

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RECIPE cont. from P. 8

again checking for doneness. If you like barbeque chicken, just add some of your favorite bottled sauce.

How about chicken nuggets that even the younger ones can do (with a little help).

Chicken Nuggets in the Microwave

- 1 egg
- ¼ C butter or margarine
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 1 2/3 C crushed corn flakes (or bread crumbs)
- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts cut into bite size pieces

Salt and pepper the chicken. In a medium bowl beat the egg and butter together. Place the crumbs on a large baking pan. Put the chicken in the egg mixture then roll on the crumbs. Place in a microwave-proof baking dish. (The recipe calls for a 9 x 13 baking dish, but I think that may be too big for some microwaves. Use a 9 x 9 glass baking dish – you may have to cook in two batches). Cover with a piece of wax paper and cook for 8 minutes,

rotating dish after 4 minutes. Serve with your favorite dipping sauce.

What kid – little, teen, or older – doesn't like chocolate pie? I have a recipe that takes no cooking at all.

Chocolate Pie

- 1 ready made (graham cracker or shortbread) pie crust.
- 2 boxes chocolate instant pudding mix.
- 2 C whole milk
- 1 8 oz. tub Cool Whip

Put pudding mix and milk in mixing bowl. Whisk until thick. Takes about 2 minutes. Spread 1 ½ cups of mix onto the prepared crust.

Mix about half of container Cool Whip into bowl of remaining chocolate pudding and whisk together until combined. Spread on top of pudding in crust. Top the pie with remaining cool whip. Refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours before serving.

I hope your college bound teens only the best, and that they can cook most of their meals at home (either the dorm or an apartment) and that your younger ones can begin to learn how to cook.

Meet Miss Madera County



Miss Madera County for 2018 is Jacqueline Trafton.

Come out and meet Jacqueline Trafton, the 2018 Miss Madera County, at the Madera Ranchos Pizza Factory on Friday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. There will be an informal question and answer period where you can learn about the scholarships associated with the Miss California pageant, ask questions and eat pizza.

Miss California is the state competition for the national Miss America pageant that is held annually in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Often thought of as a "beauty pageant," it is in actuality a scholarship pageant. Miss California for 2018, Mackenzie Freed, received nearly \$25,000 in scholarship money for her victory.

The California pageant has been around since 1924 and has produced several Miss America winners with the last one being Debra Sue Maffett, Miss America 1983. The California pageant is decided in June and the Miss America contest is held in September.

For more information you can visit www.missmaderacounty.org, or contact local sponsors Travis and Stephanie Hart at missmaderacounty@gmail.com. The next local competition will be in March of 2019.



One Last Gift

“... in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” –Benjamin Franklin

It’s interesting that with a 100 percent mortality rate, very few of us take time to prepare for death the way we do for taxes. Perhaps it’s because, when it comes to death, there’s no “April 15th.” Each of us has an unknown deadline and unfortunately, we can’t apply for an extension.

We also don’t contemplate who the preparation is for. While spiritual preparation is for ourselves, the physical preparation is not. It’s for our loved ones we leave behind. Some family members receive “the call” and experience the nightmare of rummaging through piles of papers, searching for essential documents, planning a funeral without knowing the

Since we don't know when that eleventh hour will come, now is the best time to prepare. It's our one last gift to those we love ... Give your family permission to keep what's most precious to them and let go of the rest. This is the icing on the cake of your one last gift!

wishes of their loved one, and all the while feeling paralyzed by grief. It’s a painful and overwhelming task that none of us would wish for those we love.

Others get “the call” and know exactly where to gather the information. It’s been prepared with everything to fulfill the deceased’s wishes and finalize the estate. This doesn’t diminish the sadness, but it reduces the stress tremendously. It’s a final gift we can give our loved ones to ease the pain at a time of great loss.

Since we don’t know when that eleventh hour will come, now is the best time to prepare. It’s our one last gift to those we love.

These lists are not exhaustive and it’s always necessary to confer with a licensed attorney regarding your own essential documents but, here’s a starting point.

Documents to prepare

- Will or Living Trust
- Advance Directives (DPA - Durable Power of Attorney, Healthcare Power of Attorney, DNR -Do Not Resuscitate, Organ Donor)
- Asset Inventory

- Valuables Inventory
- Monthly Income and Source
- Emergency Care Authorization Forms (for dependents)

- Pet Care (Arrangements/Veterinarian)

Documents to Compile

- Birth Certificate
- Marriage Certificate
- Civil Union Documents
- Divorce Decrees
- Child Custody Decrees/Agreements
- Property Deeds/Trusts
- Vehicle Titles
- Military Records
- Social Security Card & Benefit Records
- Driver’s License (copy & location of)
- Passport
- Employee ID (copy & location of)
- Medicare/Medicaid Cards (copy & location of)
- Tax Return Archive (7 years – location of)
- Current Year Tax Documents (location of)

List contact information for

- Executor
- Attorney
- Accountant
- Financial Advisor
- Insurance Agent
- Employer

- Retirement Plan
- Clergy
- Physician
- Notification of family, friends, neighbors, coworkers

Location information for

- Valuables (include on inventory list)
- Copies of keys for vehicles, home, safety deposit box, off-

site storage

List of accounts/policy numbers passwords/ signatories for

- Insurance Policies - Life, Health, Dental, Disability/Long-Term, Homeowners, Auto
- Pensions/Memberships with Survivor Benefits
- Automatic Deposit Authorizations
- Automatic Withdrawal Authorizations
- Annuities
- Bank Accounts
- Pension
- IRA/401k
- Investments/Stocks
- Mortgage
- Credit Cards
- Loans
- Time Share Agreement
- Service Providers and other bills
- Medical Records
- Email
- Social Media
- Electronics’ Access Codes

Please see **GIFT** on P. 13




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7/18



33rd ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER'S BBQ

August 18th, Panoche Creek River Ranch

8805 Highway 41 - 2 miles North of Herndon
(Next to Cobb's Ranch off Cobb's Ranch Blvd.)

5pm-11pm

Dinner, Dancing, Live and Silent Auctions!

- **Purchase Your Tickets At The Following Locations:**
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 - State Foods
 - Chamber Of Commerce
 - Credit/Debit Card and PayPal via www.maderastation19.com
 - Credit Card: Call Lesley Flores at (559) 871-9175 or purchase at Ranchos Chamber Of Commerce
- **Ticket Price:**
\$40 ea. or \$300 Table (8 people)

EVENING TIMELINE

- No Host Bar 5pm-11pm
- Dessert Sale 5-6:30pm
- Silent Auction/Raffle Row 5-8:30pm
- Catered Tri-Tip Dinner (Outlaw BBQ) 6-7:30pm
- Introduction and Honoring Firefighters 7-7:30pm
- Live Auction 7:30-8:30pm
- Live Music and Dancing with Prestige Band 8:30-11pm
- Corn Hole Tournament after Live Auction

ADULTS ONLY PLEASE!!!

To Donate Or If You Have
Any Questions Please Contact:
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Peter Flores (559) 232-2428

GIFT cont. from P. 10

Off-site Storage

Final Disposition

Record your wishes/plans and payment information for:

- Funeral Home
- Cremation (location of ashes)
- Burial (location)
- Grave Marker

Service

Keep in mind that a service is another way to look after your loved ones in their grief. It's a time for people who care about them to come together and offer their comfort and support. If you'd rather not have one, record your wishes but give them permission to make that decision when the time comes.

Record your wishes for the following

- Type of Service(s) – Viewing, Wake, Grave-side, Funeral, Memorial
- Funeral – clothing/jewelry, type of casket; open/closed casket, pallbearers
- Service Location
- Clergy/Religious Preference
- Readings/Scripture
- Photos (choose one for newspaper, if desired)
- Music
- Flowers
- Memory Table Items
- Donation recipient in lieu of flowers
- Program (photo, scripture, poem)

Reception

Don't feel you need to script the whole thing but listing some guidelines will reduce the number of decisions required by your family.

Legacy

What are some aspects of your life you'd like your family and friends to remember? Record some accomplishments, career highlights, community service, military experience, spiritual journey and special memories about people, events and places you've experienced. Your family will treasure these and may draw from them to create your obituary.

Create a short list of your most precious belongings. You may designate them to individuals or families, if desired. Give your family permission to keep what's most precious to them and let go of the rest. This is the icing on the cake of your one last gift!

Storage


Once you've compiled this info, scan and/or make copies of the documents. Back them up on an external hard drive or flash drive. You may also

choose to store them in the cloud. Organize the originals in a locking fire-safe security file or, place them in a file tote in a safe. If your safe deposit box is adequate, you can store them there. Make sure your executor and trusted family member or friend have copies of or access to all of the above.

There's a wonderful free resource with forms for all of the above and more at www.LivingSmartGuides.com. You can print or download the forms to complete on your computer. I highly recommend you check it out before preparing your "one last gift."


Contact Organized by Choice (because things don't always fall into place) at P.O. Box 26152, Fresno, CA 93729, call 559-871-3314 or email info@organizedbychoice.com. You can also visit www.organizedbychoice.com.

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NET AFTER REBATE	\$349

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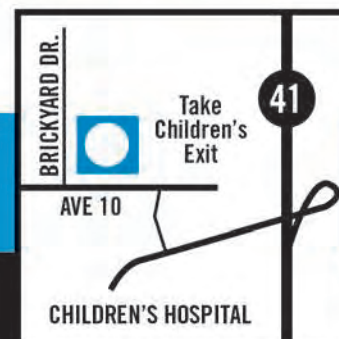
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7/13

IN GOOD HANDS

with Warren Parr



Ford Powerstroke 101

Hello 93636,

2018 has been a very good training year for the automotive industry. This year Ford rolled out its first \$100,000 pickup truck, the 2018 F-Series Super Duty Limited. The service and maintenance recommendations for Powerstroke vehicles is extensive and precise. Last week's Ford 6.7L Powerstroke class addressed many of these complexities. In addition, I did a little research and thought I'd pass it along with some of the training I received. This class caused me to re-think my business model.

Ford estimates by 2020, trucks, commercial vehicles and SUVs (including off-road and performance versions) will account for 50 percent of U.S. new vehicle sales. Ford is reallocating \$7 billion in capital from cars to SUVs. Ford will replace 3/4 of its lineup and add four new trucks and SUVs. Ford will also introduce the hybrid version of the F-150, Mustang, Explorer, Escape and Bronco as well as some full electric vehicles.

The rest of this article is dedicated to the many Powerstroke enthusiasts I see cruising around 93636. I hope this helps.

The Generation 4 6.7L Powerstroke diesel engine is rated at 400 hp and 900 ft. lbs. of torque. When installed into the F-Series chassis, they are capable of very high towing capacities. Proper service and maintenance is central to the reliability, prolonged life and usefulness of this vehicle platform.

The first step in determining the proper maintenance schedule is to determine if the vehicle use is normal, severe duty or a combination thereof. The definition of severe duty use is: excessive idling, frequent stops, driving conditions that require four-wheel drive, frequent hauling or towing, hot, cold or dusty climates and the use of biodiesel fuel.

TECH TIP 1: Engine Oil Service: Ford has a new engine oil specification for the Powerstroke engine. Chevron DELO 400 and Shell ROTELLA diesel engine oils no longer qualify. Use engine oil meeting the WSS-M2C171-171-F1 standard only.

Severe Duty miles need to be separated out and manually tracked. The maximum oil change interval for severe duty driving is 300 hours. The maximum combination driving interval is 7,500 miles. The oil capacity of a 2017 and newer Powerstroke is 17 quarts.

For those rare 6.7L vehicles that are not severe duty vehicles, a maintenance processor will monitor the vehicle usage and calcu-

late the engine oil condition. The Oil Life Monitor will alert the driver when it's time for an oil service.

TECH TIP 2: Fuel Filter Service: The 6.7L Powerstroke engine uses two fuel filters and both should be changed every 15,000 miles or at least once per year.

The primary fuel filter housing is mounted to the Diesel Fuel Conditioning Module (DFCM) located on the left frame rail. The DFCM delivers 1 gallon of fuel per minute at 70 psi to the high-pressure fuel system. Two thirds of that fuel is simply used to lubricate and cool the high-pressure fuel pump and injectors. The remaining 1/3 is available for delivery to the cylinders. If a DFCM filter is restricted and volume and/or fuel pressure is reduced, the engine will run normally but the lubrication and cooling process will be inefficient and damage will occur to high pressure system components.

CHANGE THOSE FUEL FILTERS!

The DFCM is self-priming. After filter(s) replacement, turn the ignition key on but do not start. The pump will run for 30 seconds, backfilling the fuel injectors. Don't forget to drain the water separator. The secondary fuel filter is located on the left side of the engine compartment.

TECH TIP 3: Cooling System Description and Service: A dual cooling system was developed to meet the many challenges of the 6.7L Powerstroke vehicles. Each system has its own radiator, water pump and set of thermostats.

The primary cooling system (high temperature) supplies coolant to the engine block, engine oil cooler, turbo charger, heater core and stage 1 of the EGR Cooler. The primary system utilizes dual thermostats at 194 and 201 degrees F. Staggering the thermostat openings facilitate a more even engine warm up process and reduces engine block thermal shock. The thermostats are located in the coolant return. The primary system capacity is 7.5 gallons.

The secondary cooling system incorporates a two-stage radiator. The upper 2/3 supplies 140-degree F. coolant to the transmission and second side of the EGR Coolers. The lower 1/3 supplies 113-degree F. coolant to the Cold Air Charge and Fuel Coolers. The secondary cooling system capacity is about 3 gallons. Use only Motorcraft Specialty Orange Engine Coolant mixed 50/50 with distilled water.

The initial engine coolant replacement interval is 60,000 miles and every 45,000 miles thereafter if the vehicle is operated in Severe Duty conditions. DO NOT reuse the coolant after a repair. Coolant additives are sacrificed onto cooling system component surfaces. New components need new coolant.

TECH TIP 4: Automatic Transmission Service: The TorqShift transmission family uses a special transmission fluid, Mercon LV. Ford recommends the fluid be replaced at 150,000 miles. If the fluid is dark or smells burnt prior, exchange the fluid and replace the transmission filter. The system capacity is about 18 quarts.

TECH TIP 5: Transfer Case Service: The transfer case also uses a special fluid. DO NOT use the Mercon LV transmission fluid in the transfer case unless specifically recommended by Ford. Ford reports catastrophic failures of transfer cases when Mercon LV is used. The capacity is 2 quarts and a 60,000-mile service interval is recommended for severe duty applications.

TECH TIP 6: Differential Service: Rear differential: Ford uses 75W-90 or 75W-140 synthetic gear oil in their rear differentials due to the extreme pressures exerted by the 6.7L high-torque engines. If the differential is equipped

with a limited slip, special additives are required. Use the additives if there is any doubt. The system capacity is about 4 quarts and a 50,000-mile service interval is recommended for severe duty applications.

Front differential: Ford recommends a standard 80W-90 gear oil. The system capacity is 2.9 quarts and a 50,000-mile service interval is recommended for severe duty applications.

OK guys, that's about it for this one. Do it yourselves, I only covered a small amount of the information in the 6.7L Powerstroke workbook. If you would like some additional information, send me a text or email and I will print that out and shoot you a copy. As always, I can be reached at completecarcare@hotmail.com or 907-7661.

Warren Parr

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7/18



- Summer kids tip: Create an "I'm Bored" jar with ideas about things to do. Now when that phrase inevitably comes up, you'll be ready with a quick solution.
- This tip takes the pain out of a task nobody likes: dusting the blinds! Use a set of salad tongs for a blinds duster; just wrap a microfiber cloth around each of the tongs and secure it with a rubber band or two. Then use the tongs to grab and glide along each blind. Even kids can get behind this dusting job.
- If you're like the average American, you'll eat about 35,000 cookies in your lifetime.
- "Tacos are a favorite meal in our house, but very messy -- until we discovered a great use for coffee filters. We use a filter to hold the taco and peel back the paper as we eat. Now nothing drips out or falls out, even if the shell cracks!" -- E.B.

in Oregon

- "We like juice at home, and the kind we like has a large mouth on the bottle. It turns out that after we finish the juice, the bottle makes a great storage container for snacks. We clean and dry it, then fill it with cereals or dry pasta. We've even used them for popcorn." -- R.K. in Missouri
- Recipe substitution: For 1 cup of tomato juice, use 1/2 cup of tomato sauce plus 1/2 cup of water.
- If you have dry, cracked heels from wearing flip-flops and sandals too often, apply a layer of petroleum jelly to your feet before bed and cover with socks. If you can't sleep with socks, do this in the evening, maybe while watching TV. It will soften the hard skin after a week or so -- sooner depending on how dry your feet are.
- Though coffee has been around for about 700 years, instant coffee wasn't invented until 1906. By George Washington. Of course not *that* George Washington. The man who made coffee more convenient -- and less palatable -- was from Belgium.

Send your tips to *Now Here's a Tip*,
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7/18

SMOKE cont. from P. 2

ior is dominated by the thick fuels and rugged topography found in the area.

Smoke from the fire can cause serious health problems including lung disease, asthma attacks and increased risk of heart attacks and stroke. Where conditions warrant, people with heart or lung disease should follow their doctors' advice for dealing with episodes of particulate exposure. People with existing respiratory conditions, young children and elderly people are especially susceptible to the health effects from these pollutants. Anyone being exposed to poor air quality or wildfire smoke should move inside to an air-conditioned environment.

Ranchos residents can check the District's wildfire page at www.valleyair.org/wildfires for information about any current wildfires and whether they are impacting the Valley. The District's Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) provides localized air quality data from an extensive air-monitoring network which allows Valley residents to track particulate matter at any Valley address by visiting myraan.com. Residents can also follow air quality conditions by downloading the free "Valley Air" app, available in the Apple store or Google Play.

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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7/18



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7/18

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7/18

GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

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Is California a "Losing Proposition"?

By Betty Van Valkenburg

Every commentary covering political or government-related issues seems to agree on one thing these days: California is going down the tubes. The implied question is: Can it be saved?

The reasons for alarm are numerous: high taxes, homelessness, high poverty rate, crime, drug-paraphernalia-littered streets, embarrassing train to nowhere, crumbling infrastructure and a disappearing middle class.

Now the government seems to have discovered a major crisis: a housing shortage and steep housing costs. Never mind that the increasing costs are due in part to high taxes and that government overregulation and environmental requirements increase permitting time and costs for new construction.

The state's best and brightest solution is to change local zoning laws to include more high-rise, stack-and-pack housing next to the never-to-be-completed train track to nowhere and city bus routes – instead of cutting unnecessary regulations and taxes.

Meanwhile, construction of the train to nowhere is moving homeowners off their property through eminent domain, compounding the housing need. Sanctuary state policies encourage poor non-citizens to come and receive public assistance, drivers' licenses, schooling and medical care – again increasing the costs and adding to the housing shortage. (Before you call me racist, just don't. I am not. My comments are about failed public policies and not about race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or national origin.)

Ballot Propositions Past

While most of California's problems can reliably be attributed to Democrat, liberal, progressive and/or socialist government politicians and their policies, we the people have approved many bad ballot measures. Time and again voters have been hoodwinked by slick advertising, outright lies and misleading voter pamphlet statements. Few voters have or can take the time to study the legal language, and the hype sounds so good.

Proposition 1A brought us high-speed rail in 2008 with promises of full funding, 200-mile-per-hour trips from San Francisco to Los Angeles, and low fares. What's not to like?

Fast forward a full decade. There is no private funding, federal funding was stopped, no bonds have been issued and Jerry Brown's cap-and-trade scheme doesn't yield enough to pay for it. It is years

behind schedule and costs have skyrocketed. It can't be built through the mountains to Los Angeles. There has been mismanagement and business plans have changed numerous times. Construction continues although some had to be torn down because of unsafe building methods. Home and business owners continue to be displaced.

Proposition 47 in 2014 downgraded some felonies to misdemeanors and Proposition 57 in 2016 expanded parole eligibility for "nonviolent" criminals. Both measures promised us that violent criminals would be kept behind bars and taxpayer money would be saved. Instead, crime has increased and a number of prison inmates who committed violent crimes have been granted parole under Proposition 57's Nonviolent Parole Program. And where are the tax savings?

Of Prop 57, the president of the Los Angeles Association of Deputy District Attorneys said the public was duped by the language and that it was very clear they intended to release violent offenders by re-describing them, despite their crimes, as non-violent offenders.

November Ballot Propositions

The qualification of two particular ballot measures for the November ballot indicates Californians' frustration with state government.

Proposition 6 is a constitutional amendment

to repeal the 2017 increase of gas and diesel taxes and vehicle fees and to require voter approval for such increases in the future. Jerry Brown will wage all-out war to protect his tax measure and will tell us, surprise, that our

roads are bad and more money is needed to fix them. Hopefully voters will reject the hype and realize that we've driven down this bumpy road before and that tax money continues to be diverted away from roads. Brown's tax increase measure itself carved out millions of tax dollars to be spent not for roads, but for rail, bicycling and pedestrian improvement and parks.

Proposition 9 – to divide California into three states – qualified for the November ballot, but the California Supreme Court has just decided to remove it. Although the proposal seemed ill advised, the 600,000-plus petition signatures in its favor indicates that Californians think something is terribly wrong with the state.

Votes Matter

Educating ourselves on the merits of candidates and ballot measures before we vote is crucial. The "Say Anything" game is a lot of fun, but a politician who will "say anything" to secure our votes is not. We must be wary.

As the November 6 election nears, this column will provide voting information and list resources for further study. Teaser: Republican candidate for governor, John Cox, promises to stop the train to nowhere.

Visit the Central Valley Tea Party website at www.centralvalleyteaparty.com for more information.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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GRIN and BEAR IT by Waqar



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your zeal for challenges usually works well for you. But this week it's best to avoid jumping into new situations without more information. Vital news emerges by the weekend.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Once again, the Bovine's patience pays off as that pesky problem works itself out without taking too much of your valuable time. A new task opens interesting possibilities.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Those suggestions you want to share need to be set aside for a while so you can focus on the job at hand. There'll be time later to put your ideas into a workable format.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Be sure about your sources before you use the information in any decision you reach about your new project. Some of the data might be out of date or misinterpreted.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A sudden challenge might rattle you at first. But pump up that strong Lion's heart with a full measure of courage, and face it with the continuing support of family and friends.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Watch your expenses this week so you can have a financial cushion to fall back on should things tighten up later this month. Money matters ease by the 1st.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Uncertainty over workplace policy creates anxiety and confusion among your colleagues. Don't be surprised if you're asked, once again, to help work things out.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The workweek keeps you busy tying up loose ends and checking data that needs to be verified. The weekend offers a chance to relax and restore your spent energies.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is not the best time to go to extremes to prove a point. Better to set a sensible goal now and move forward. There'll be time later to take the bolder course.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A step-by-step progression is the better way to move ahead. Taking shortcuts could be risky at this time. Important news arrives on the 1st.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Avoid getting drawn into workplace disputes that should be handled by those directly involved. Instead, spend your energy developing those new ideas.

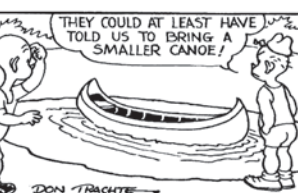
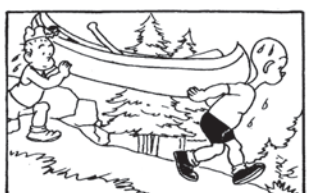
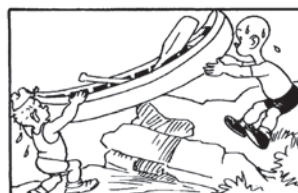
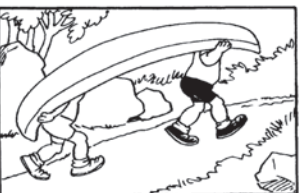
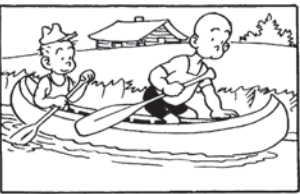
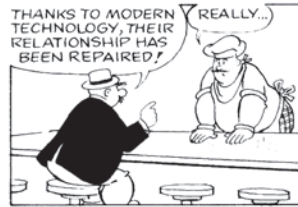
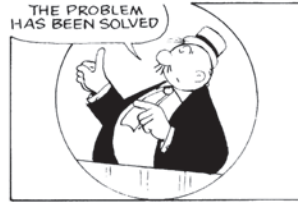
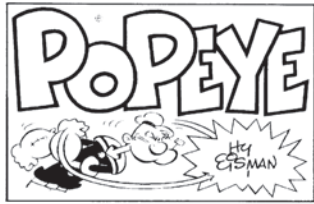
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You still need to be prudent about money matters. But things start to ease by the end of the week. A weekend encounter with an old friend brings welcome news.

Born this Week

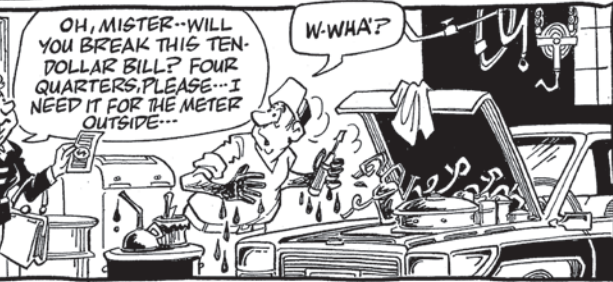
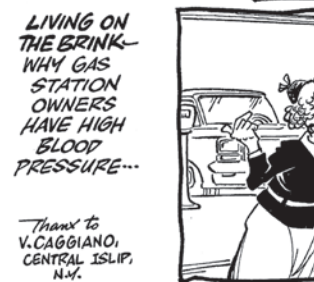
*You handle challenging situations with boldness
when necessary and caution when called for.*

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FUN PAGES

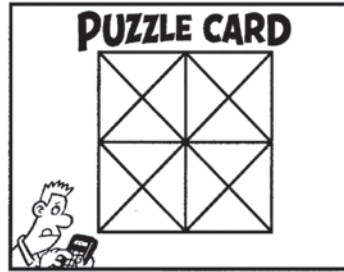


THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



Thank to V. CAGGIANO, CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y.

BY AL SCADUTO



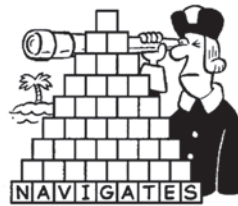
A PUZZLE WITH AN ANGLE TO IT! There are more than 30 triangles in the drawing above. They come in four sizes. You have five minutes to find the total number.

Answer: There are 44 triangles. From the smallest to the largest, there are 16, 16, 8 and 4.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

PYRAMID OF WORD POWER



Don't get lost looking for these words! Starting with the given word NAVIGATES, at the bottom of our word pyramid, try dropping one letter at a time as you work your way up, so that the remaining letters at each level spell out a new word. The following helpful hints are in ascending order, beginning with NAVIGATES.

1. Follows a planned course.
2. Fine wines.
3. Original inhabitants.
4. What rich people do.
5. Found on pitchforks.
6. What billy goats are supposed to eat.
7. To pose for a picture.
8. A player, as in tag.
9. Roman numeral 1.

LUNCH AT THE MALL! Can you solve this AlphaMath puzzle in under five minutes? You must replace the letters to the right with the digits 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try for the highest sum.



Our answer: F=7, A=5, S=2, T=8, B=0, C=1, U=9, R=6, (7528 + 7440 = 14968)

LINK-UPS! Here's a list of 12 short words, divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from one word in the left column to one word in the right.

1. NAP
2. SCAR
3. RAN
4. WAGE
5. TAB
6. AMEN

LED
ABLE
RED
KING
KIN
CITY

Answers: Napkin, scarify, ranking, ranky, scanty, scarily, tabbed, warged, warged, warged, warged, warged, warged.

Wishing Well

5	7	2	6	7	5	3	4	3	8	5	3	4	
M	L	D	L	I	O	L	S	I	S	D	V	T	
3	2	6	2	5	2	4	8	6	2	8	7	4	
E	O	N	O	N	E	O	E	U	O	T	C	F	P
3	6	4	5	3	5	6	4	6	8	2	6	3	
Y	K	C	R	O	A	A	A	H	C	H	E	U	
4	8	6	5	6	2	8	5	4	8	3	2	3	
R	E	A	T	D	E	S	E	S	R	S	I		
4	2	4	5	4	7	5	2	3	4	5	4	8	
F	I	U	D	L	E	E	T	D	L	S	Y	N	
5	8	5	8	2	3	2	7	8	5	2	5	3	
I	O	R	W	A	E	T	I	O	E	E	S	A	
8	3	8	7	8	3	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	
B	L	V	S	I	S	G	O	O	U	O	S	D	

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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J H E S I A C Y A T L T Y R W
V T C R P H V N R L L S K N G
I O G E A C D E B Z I Y X E W
U S R V P O V L L M D E L P J
A S O M A L A I O G G K E S D
B N O S I N N U G G A P M A Y
A Y X S E L L I V D A E L W U

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Alamosa	Frisco	Keystone	Silverton
Avon	Gold Hill	Leadville	Telluride
Dillon	Granby	Ouray	Yampa
Eagle-Vail	Gunnison	Salida	

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: Who is the current host of the "Family Feud" game show?
2. ART: What is the only work of Michelangelo's that bears his signature?
3. INVENTIONS: Who developed and patented the electric telegraph in the United States in 1837?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of South Dakota?
5. LANGUAGE: What letters end a gerund in the English language?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the common term for bovine spongiform encephalopathy?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many vice presidents served with President Franklin D. Roosevelt during his four terms?
8. U.S. STATES: Which state was once an independent sovereign nation?
9. ASTRONOMY: How old is the sun in our solar system?
10. GAMES: How many chance spaces are on a Monopoly board?

Answers

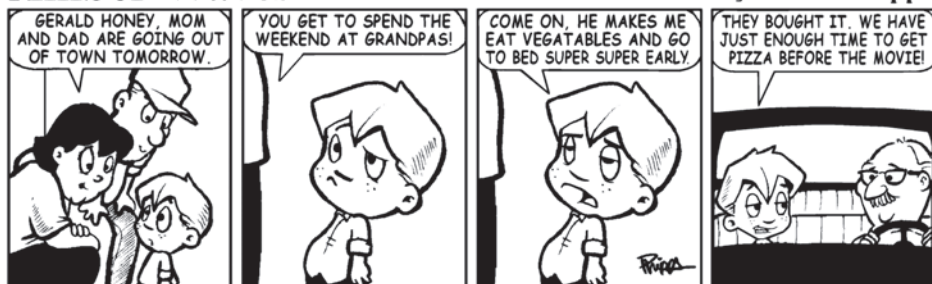
1. Steve Harvey
2. "The Pieta"
3. Samuel Morse
4. Pierre
5. "Ing"
6. Mad cow disease
7. Three: John Nance Garner, Henry Aard Wallace and Harry S. Truman
8. The Republic of Texas
9. About 4.6 billion years
10. Three

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Click on "Local News" at

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



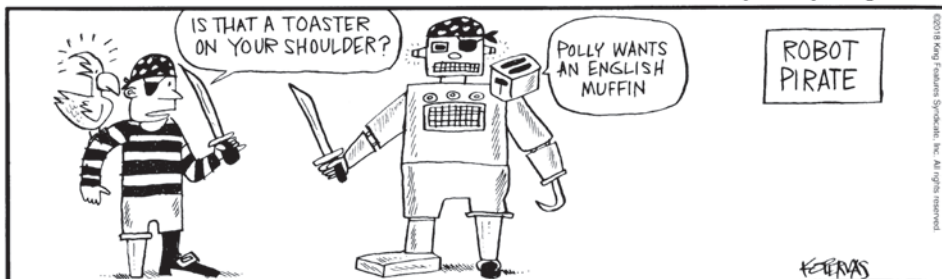
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

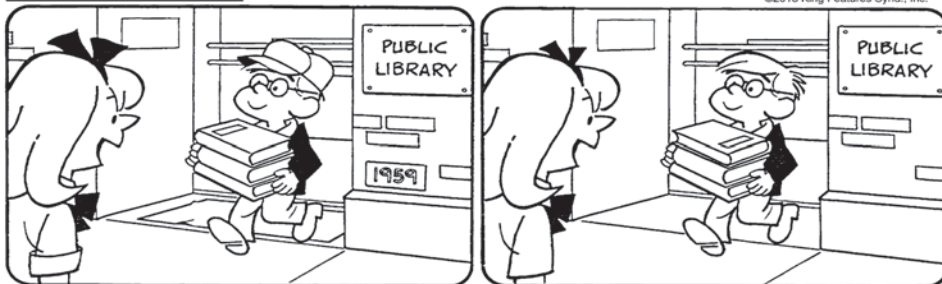
by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

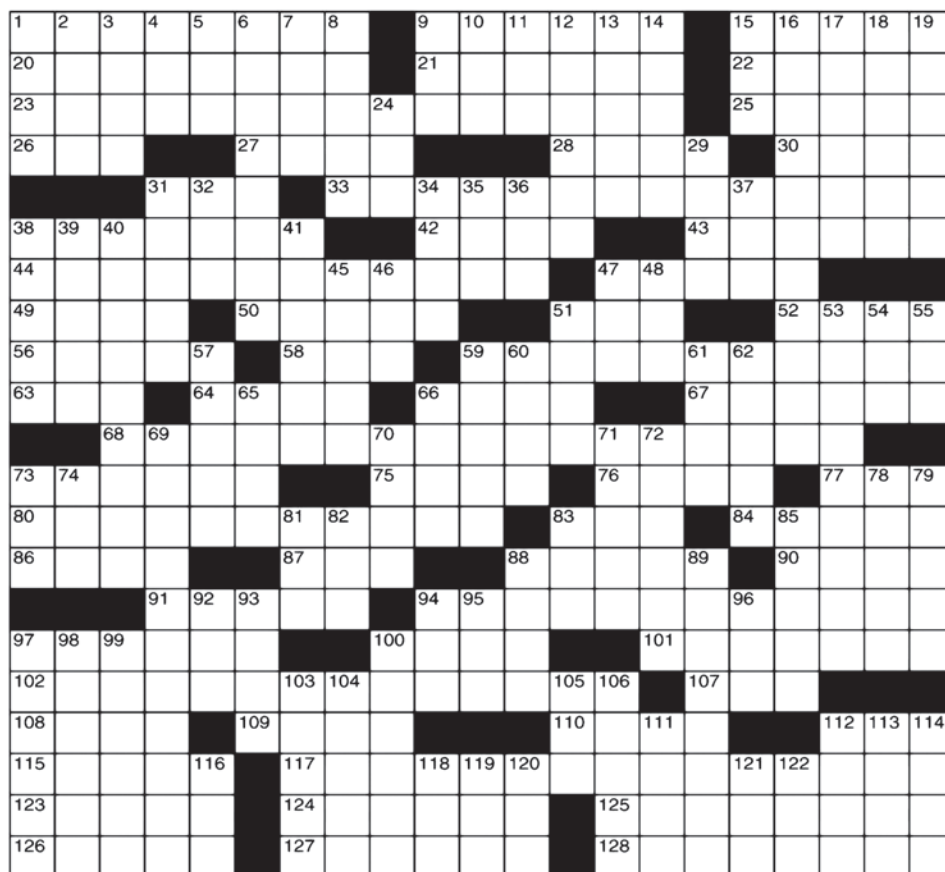
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Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Bow is smaller. 2. Sleeve cuff is missing. 3. Cap is missing. 4. Book is reversed. 5. Mat is reversed. 6. Mat is missing. 7. Book is missing. 8. Cornerstone is missing. 9. Cap is missing.

www.TheRanchos.com

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Another name for Jesus
 - 9 Utterly failed
 - 15 Abounds
 - 20 Flattish Italian bread
 - 21 Salt with element #53
 - 22 Dot in the drink
 - 23 French president who never wore color-coordinated clothes?
 - 25 Being tried, in law
 - 26 Ship wood
 - 27 Not e'en a single time
 - 28 Advanced
 - 30 Whet
 - 31 Director Van Sant
 - 33 Caught a three-time Best Actor red-handed?
 - 38 Purplish red
 - 42 Aria, usually
 - 43 Analyzes, as syntax
 - 44 Frequent co-star of Humphrey Bogart who was fantastic?
 - 47 Gospel group
 - 49 Musk of Tesla Motors
 - 50 Slippery
 - 51 "Eureka!"
 - 52 Phil of folk
 - 56 Enumerates bread
 - 58 Campaign creations
 - 59 "Die Hard" star dicing vegetables?
 - 63 Avenues: Abbr.
 - 64 Exude slowly
 - 66 Pure delight
 - 67 Tie together
 - 68 Issued an alert to a knighted composer of musicals?
 - 73 Evening bash
 - 75 Hankerings
 - 76 Italian for "it"
 - 77 Little devil
 - 80 Reclusive "Bonanza" star?
 - 83 Tolkien terror
 - 84 Put on hold
 - 86 Last name of Buffalo Bill
 - 87 Consents to
 - 88 Try to cure
 - 90 Boy, in Baja
 - 91 Weight unit
 - 94 Legendary hockey player who's a native New Zealander?
 - 97 Harmonize
 - 100 Pal of Spot or Rover
 - 101 Consulate
 - 102 Promote the growth of the star of "The Last King of Scotland"?
 - 107 Gp. that lobbies
 - 108 Comic Buzzi
 - 109 Dunaway of "Network"
 - 110 Class book
 - 112 That woman
 - 115 Wading bird
 - 117 1954 Literature Nobel after getting more uptight?
 - 123 Stock unit
 - 124 Salad plant
 - 125 Revere
 - 126 Talked up
 - 127 Scraped
 - 128 Fed eagerly
- DOWN**
- 1 "Behold!", to Cicero
 - 2 It needs grist
 - 3 Sir's counterpart
 - 4 "Six-pack" on a bodybuilder
 - 5 "Prolly not"
 - 6 Forks, e.g.
 - 7 To be, to Proust
 - 8 Freight-filled
 - 9 With 120-Down, Wrigley's gum brand
 - 10 Mauna —
 - 11 U. URL end
 - 12 "I'm on it"
 - 13 Ran in park — Marie
 - 14 Pop singer — Marie
 - 15 — Maria
 - 16 She played the mom on "Good Times"
 - 17 Arm joints
 - 18 Nasty sort
 - 19 Underscore
 - 24 Bit of history
 - 29 Bit of errata
 - 31 Belgian city
 - 32 N.A. nation
 - 34 Author Dinesen
 - 35 IM guffaw
 - 36 Em preceder
 - 37 Chou En —
 - 38 Coal and oil
 - 39 Dark
 - 40 Danger when landing a plane
 - 41 Flaming
 - 45 Gave succor
 - 46 IV amounts
 - 47 Comrade of Fidel
 - 48 Laugh half
 - 51 Not up yet
 - 53 Elucidates
 - 54 Sound from a souse
 - 55 Seattle-to-Reno dir.
 - 57 More achy
 - 59 Carbon copy
 - 60 180s on the road
 - 61 Fly traps
 - 62 On the outs (with)
 - 65 Blood type, for short
 - 66 Hidden valley
 - 69 "Hello, hello?"
 - 70 Caustic cleansers
 - 71 "— to do it all over again ..."
 - 72 Musical run with four sharps
 - 73 Utah's capital, for short
 - 74 Hugs, on cards
 - 78 Café lists
 - 79 Official substitute
 - 81 Flier of myth
 - 82 Scratch (out)
 - 83 Former Bruin Bobby
 - 85 Seminal '40s computer
 - 88 Received
 - 89 Enticing
 - 92 French for "a"
 - 93 Brand of spongy balls
 - 94 Sch. in Cambridge
 - 95 Org. on a toothpaste box
 - 96 Dubya's deg.
 - 97 From the top
 - 98 Stumper (Var.)
 - 99 High-heel feature
 - 100 Nasty sorts
 - 103 Desert rarity
 - 104 Spotted scavenger
 - 105 Afr. republic
 - 106 Christopher of film
 - 111 Comic book mutants
 - 112 Pirates' loot
 - 113 Not like a bit
 - 114 Gazed at
 - 116 Film director Demme
 - 118 Drink slowly
 - 119 Cain's mom
 - 120 See 9-Down
 - 121 Con opener?
 - 122 Dog's threat

FUN PAGES

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2. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is a close-knit organization in which members support each other’s businesses.
3. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce requires financial support in order to perform its job of increasing the economic prosperity of the Ranchos.
4. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce unifies the public spirit of the Ranchos and directs it into useful and constructive channels that are not limited to business.
5. Because I feel a sense of personal obligation to improve the quality of life in the Ranchos.

When’s the NEXT Chamber of Commerce Meeting?

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, Wednesday, August 8 at 6:30 p.m., 37167 Ave. 12 Suite 5C in the Maywood Center. Come join us and see what’s going on in your community. Call us at 645-4001.

shop local · buy local · shop local · buy local · shop local · buy local

shop local · buy local · shop local · buy local · shop local · buy local

NEWS
FIRSTS

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2	8	3	9	5	7	4	1	6
6	9	4	1	2	8	7	5	3
9	1	6	5	3	4	8	2	7
4	2	5	8	7	9	6	3	1
7	3	8	6	1	2	5	4	9
8	6	2	4	9	1	3	7	5
3	4	9	7	8	5	1	6	2
1	5	7	2	6	3	9	8	4

15	15	10		
5	+	4	÷	3
	+			
6	+	8	x	1
	÷		+	
9	÷	3	+	7
10				

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Senior Report

Seniors Get Their Dance On Over 4th of July

By Margaret Tynan

Cowbell ringing, horn blowing and laughter filled the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center during the June afternoon Bunco game. Center members and their guests had a great time rolling dice, moving from game table to game table, winning prizes and enjoying delicious snacks. A highlight of the afternoon was a live auction conducted by auctioneer Perry Watkins. Perry has lived in the Ranchos area for the past 15 years. He says his "real-life" job is his work as a registered nurse, but he enjoys doing volunteer auctioneering to help raise funds for schools, hospitals and other charitable organizations. Thank you, Perry, for helping to make the afternoon fun and exciting. Also, the work of Carol Wood and others to put the event together is very much appreciated.

American Independence Day was celebrated a little early at the Center by members and their guests. In spite of the hot weather, Roy Cochran barbecued the all-

American meal of hamburgers and hotdogs on the outside grill. They were served at the festive red, white and blue-decorated tables with all the trimmings and yummy side dishes and desserts. No one left hungry, that's for sure. Ginger Denning won the members-only prize drawing of a fishing trip on Shaver Lake that was generously donated by Steve Santoro.

The weather wasn't the only thing that was hot that day – the music was very hot. Lil Dan Cabral played his guitar accompanied by fiddler Wendell Miller during the celebration. There was lots of toe tapping and hand clapping. It was nearly impossible to sit still, and many didn't. Soon people were dancing to the Tennessee Waltz or doing the Electric Slide to the beat of country tunes and singing along to many of the old favorites. We hope that Lil Dan and Wendell will join us again in the future. We loved their per-

formance.

With much fanfare, Bill Whyman, president of the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce, pulled the winning tickets for the Ranchos/Hills Seniors July 4th raffle drawing. Congratulations to the winners. Dr. Matthew Pia won 1st prize and will soon be on a leisurely fishing trip on Shaver Lake compliments of Fish Box Charter. Ronnie Schmall will be enjoying a large pizza every month for a year, compliments of the Pizza Factory as the 2nd prize. Third prize of several local restaurant gift certificates and a bottle of wine

compliments of Valley Propane went to Bonnie Elia. We are grateful to the businesses for their generous prize contributions and to everyone for supporting our successful fund raiser.

Here is a reminder of the schedule of meetings and activities at the Center. Treasure House, Garden and Boutique sales will be held as usual on the first Saturday, Aug. 4 from 8 a.m. to noon. However, it is just a bit too hot to bake, so there will be NO bake

sale on that day only. Strength building and stretching exercises are held every Monday – Wednesday – Friday from 10 - 11 a.m. The Writing Group will continue to meet each Monday in August from 3 to 5 p.m. The craft group will meet on Tuesday Aug. 7 and 21 at 9:15 a.m. All regular monthly business meetings are held at the Center at 12:30 p.m. as follows: The Board meets on the 1st Tuesday; the General Membership meets on the 2nd Tuesday; and Planning meets on the 3rd Tuesday. We hope that many of you in the community will join us for the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center events. Also, we encourage and welcome new members.

Thought for August: "Remember to be gentle with yourself and others. We are all children of chance and none can say why some fields will blossom while others lay brown beneath the August sun." — Kent Nerburn, American writer.



At the Independence Day BBQ, (from left) Margo and Gerald Conkle, and Carol Fitzgerald and Roy Cochran dance to the Tennessee Waltz provided by musicians Lil Dan Cabral and Wendell Miller.



"Going once? Twice? All in? Sold to the highest bidder!" Perry Watkins, right, kept the action going as auctioneer at the Bunco game held at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center.

The Bookshelf

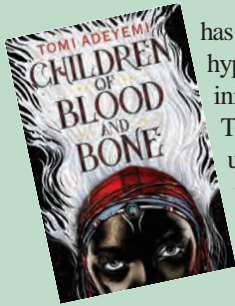
Final Summer Reading Day Aug. 2

By Jerrica Edmundson

This month at the Ranchos Branch Library we are in full swing with our Summer Reading Program and it has been fantastic seeing so many people come in and get excited about reading. Our final day of the program will be on Aug. 2 and we will be having our grand prize drawings along with some special visitors to meet everyone. In the same vein, let's jump into what your friendly librarians are reading and maybe we'll discuss something that piques your interest:

Jerrica's Shelf

Children of Blood and Bone
by Tomi Adeyemi



This is a book that has been earning a lot of hype lately, and it is definitely well-placed. This story takes a unique look into traditional Nigerian folk tales, mixing magic and family units in a way that is refreshing and intriguing.

We start with a teenage girl named Zélie who lives in a small village in Nigeria, where she is learning to fight with a staff from a village elder of sorts. She has bright white hair and silver eyes, marking her as a Maji — someone who was once a magic user before the connection with the power was lost. The monarchy found a way to sever the connection and took the weakness as an opportunity to try

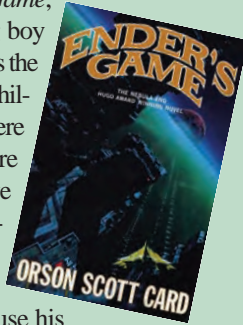
to completely obliterate the Maji from existence. The story follows Zélie on her journey to keep her family together and restore the connection between her people and their powers.

Spencer's Shelf

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

In *Ender's Game*,

we follow a young boy named Ender who is the youngest of three children in a world where families typically are only allowed to have two children explicitly. The government allowed Ender's birth because his two elder siblings are highly promising in military tactics and may potentially help humanity's chances at defeating the ominous "buggers" that have been plaguing the humans thus far.



After getting into a fight with a fellow student (which ends fatally for the other boy), Ender is questioned and — based on his answers — gets admitted into the special Battle School where he is trained in advanced military tactics.

Ender's Game is the first book in the Ender Saga but the other four books in the series take place in varying stances around this one, some before and some following. This is classic Orson Scott Card, and really is one of his best-known books. I consider this to be a science fiction classic that any fan of the genre must read.

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**Say you saw it in
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SEMUCU speaks

By Igal Treibatch

It is not every day that we get good news. Well, today is one of these days:

\$9 FOR A BRAND-NEW DISHWASHER!

Department of Water and Resources (DWR), SEMCU's grantor of funds to our community, agreed to add "dishwashers" to the SEMCU grant program. Now residents of 93636 may apply for a \$350 reimbursement for the purchase of each dishwasher and washing machine that is "Energy Star Rated" and get as much as \$700 in total rebates.

This opportunity allows residents to receive such a reimbursement even if the equipment was purchased any time after the date the grant was approved in March 23, 2016. (proof of residency and a receipt for the purchase is required by DWR).

The Extra Good News

We were contacted by Ventura TV & Appliances in Fresno and were asked if they could help facilitate the transactions. Any appliance store may do the same and participate in the same way. Ventura TV & Appliances has made us aware that there are additional factory incentives in some cases, in one case bringing the cost of a Dishwasher to \$9, not including tax or shipping and installation if necessary.

Yes, this is not a mistake. Let me repeat it:

\$9 FOR A DISHWASHER!

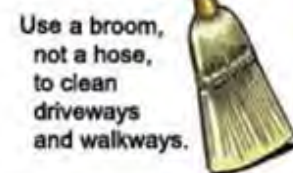
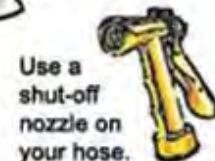
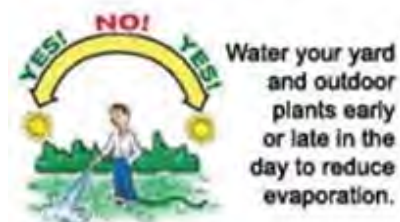
If this is not good news, I don't know what is.

Folks, this is just another opportunity to take advantage of what is available to our community in southeast Madera. The reimbursement will come from the DWR grant department after they process each individual's application.

You may apply at the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce at 37167 Ave. 12 #5C in the Madera Ranchos or email: info@semcu.org, or call 559-363-9095. You can also apply at Ventura TV & Appliances at 3619 E. Ventura in Fresno, between Cedar and First. Their phone number is 559-265-4326.

SEMUCU invites South East Madera community members to come to our "once a month" meeting on the third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Pizza Factory and voice their opinions about our community's needs. You can make a difference. This month's meeting is on Monday, Aug. 20.

For the community, by the community!





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