

The Ranchos Independent



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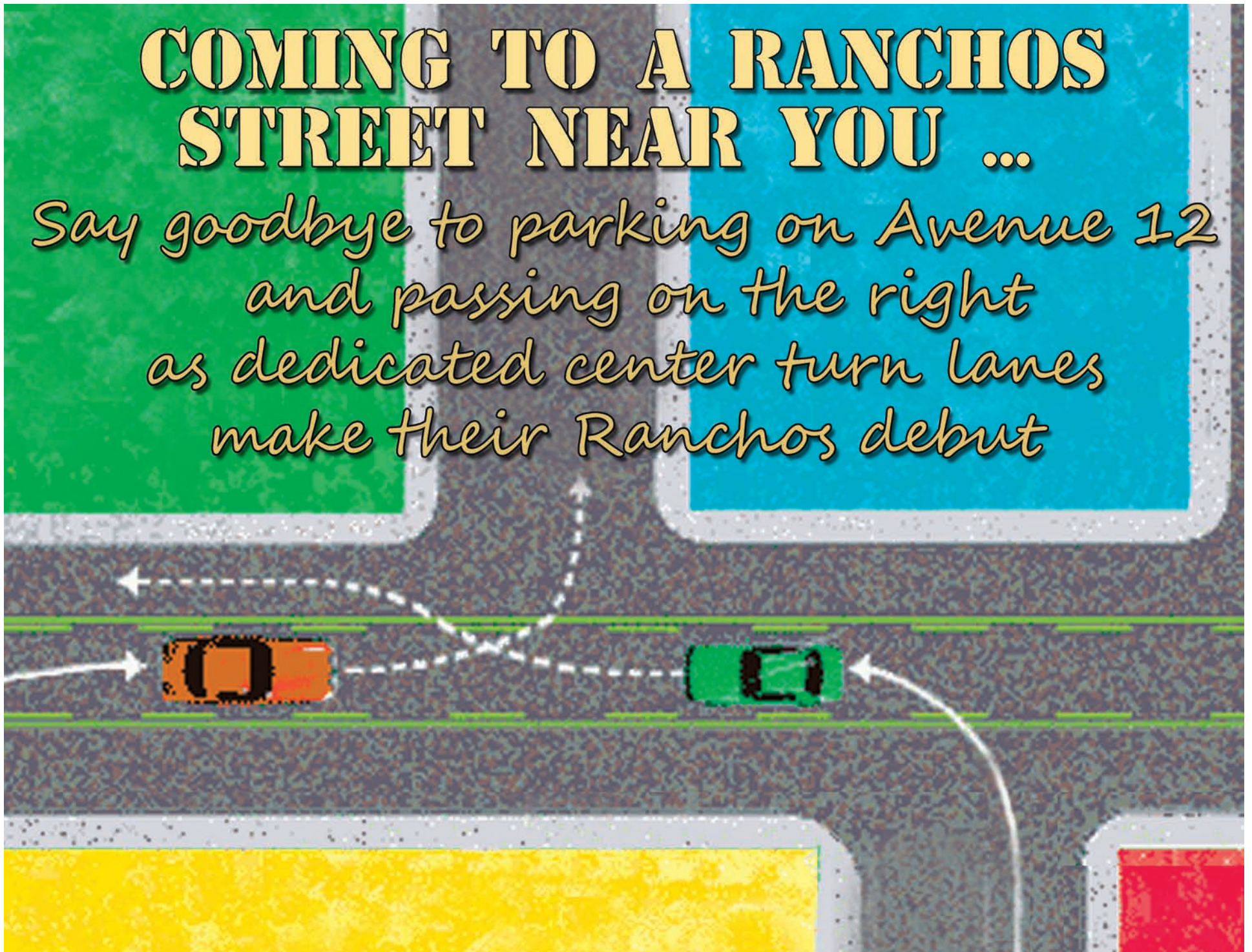
Volume 7 Issue 6 2011

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

COMING TO A RANCHOS STREET NEAR YOU ...

*Say goodbye to parking on Avenue 12
and passing on the right
as dedicated center turn lanes
make their Ranchos debut*



In This Issue

*Editorial • Page 5 / Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes • Page 8
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Deciphering the Lines on Avenue 12

Now that we've got a totally new look on Avenue 12, what exactly do those lines mean, how do you drive them and what about things like parking a car or truck on Avenue 12, garbage service and mail trucks? And what's that stuff all over Avenue 12 now? Let's take a look at these.

1. What do those lines mean? How do we drive them? - According to the California DMV Online Driver's Handbook (www.cal-driver-ed.com/dmv-handbook/21.htm Center Left Turn Lane) we now have a **Center Left Turn Lane**. The handbook says:

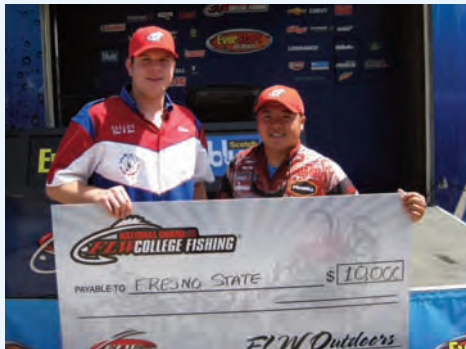
If a street has a center left turn lane, you must use it when you turn left (VC §21460.5[c]). You may only drive for 200 feet in the center left turn lane. This lane is not a regular traffic lane or a passing lane.

To turn left, signal and drive completely inside the center left turn lane. Don't stop part way into the lane, with the back of your vehicle blocking traffic. Make sure the lane is clear in both directions and then turn only when it is safe. Look for vehicles coming toward you in the same lane as they start to

Please see **TURN LANE** on P. 18

Ranchos Angler Wins Tourney

The Fresno State team of Christopher Delgado of the Madera Ranchos and Kong Moua of Fresno dominated the National Guard FLW College Fishing Western Division event on the California Delta Saturday, May 7 with five bass weighing 20 pounds, 14 ounces. The victory earned the team \$10,000 to be split between the university and the university's bass fishing club - \$7,500 for the bass club and \$2,500 for their school. The win also helped them advance to the Western Division Regional Championship.



Representing the Ranchos on the Fresno State team is Christopher Delgado (left) and Kong Moua of Fresno who together won the May 7 National Guard FLW College Fishing event on the California Delta in Stockton.

that had not spawned yet," said Delgado, a senior from the Ranchos, majoring in history. "We pulled up on our spot this morning and saw some fish on beds and were excited.

"I kept it real calm as the larger fish were not moving much and that helped us bring in our five big ones," Delgado said.

"We put it on the line today," added Moua. "I did not want this to be Chris' last tournament and now we are heading to regional's."

Rounding out the top five teams and

Please see **FISH** on P. 18

Great News From "Love for Lexi"

By Christi McKinney

Lexi Delgado of the Madera Ranchos is a high-spirited young lady who loves Pink and Hello Kitty and who always has a radiant smile on her face. Lexi and her battle with Leukemia have been embraced by the Madera Ranchos Community. On July 23, 2010 Lexi was diagnosed with "Acute Myelogenous Leukemia" (AML) at Children's Hospital in Madera.

AML is an aggressive, rare form of leukemia in children. Lexi has spent the past 11 months in one hospital or another coming home only for a few days at a time in between chemotherapy sessions. When Lexi's family heard the diagnosis everyone pitched in however they could to do whatever they



A huge surprise for Lexi (center) was when two of her friends from the Ranchos, sisters Mikayla Mosier (left) and Savannah Mosier (right) came to the Ronald McDonald house to visit.

could to help. They raised money and they raised awareness for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. A car wash was held in the Ranchos last September and friends and family participated as "Team Lexi" in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Annual "Light the Night" fundraiser at the Cobb Ranch. "Team Lexi" was honored to win the 3rd place award for raising money in the Friends and Family Division, having raised over \$3,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The family also plans on participating again this year and raising even more money.

"Operation Love for Lexi" was launched by local business owners in February. News of the event spread like wild fire and in just six hours the Madera Ranchos community opened its hearts and its wallets to raise over \$12,000 to help the Delgado family with expenses so they could be in Stanford near Lexi following her bone marrow transplant. The community donated over 100 pints of blood in Lexi's name and just as importantly 56 people signed up to be tested

for the National Bone Marrow Registry.

Lexi underwent three rounds of chemotherapy while she was at Children's Hospital in Madera. Doctors were pleased with her progress and had told the family that after Lexi completed her fourth round of chemo she would be considered to be "in remission."

Unfortunately, just before she completed this last round of chemo doctors discovered the Leukemia had returned. Since Lexi had relapsed during treatment her new course of treatment would require a bone marrow transplant. As Lexi celebrated her 13th birthday in February, the search was on to find a matching bone marrow donor.

She wasn't yet aware of what an extraordinary gift she was about to be given.

Since none of Lexi's family was a "match" they turned to the National Bone

Please see **LEXI** on P. 20

Alvarado Picked as New Golden Valley Unified School Superintendent

The Governing Board for Golden Valley Unified School District appointed Andy Alvarado as its new Superintendent of Schools on Monday, June 20 during a Special Board Meeting held at the District Office. Alvarado, who has worked for Golden Valley Unified School District since 2002 in various administrative capacities, will replace outgoing Superintendent Sarah Koligian, who will be leading Tulare Joint Union High School District next year. Alvarado will assume his new role on July 1, 2011.

Alvarado has served as assistant superintendent for the past four years and Liberty High School principal prior to his

promotion to the District Office. During Alvarado's tenure as assistant superintendent, he has guided the District in the area of Educational Services, specifically: curriculum, instruction and assessment; all the while, maintaining a laser-like focus on teaching, learning and student achievement. As a result of Alvarado's educational leadership, the District has experienced tremendous gains in all of these areas through his direct involvement with staff and students. He has also served in the capacity of providing support to site leaders.

"I am tremendously honored to have been appointed as Superintendent of

Golden Valley Unified School District," said Andy Alvarado. "GVUSD has, and will always be, a very special place for me and my family; it truly is the crown jewel of the Central Valley. I look forward to working with our dedicated staff, students, parents and community. We will continue our steadfast efforts of providing a private school education in a public setting to the many wonderful children of our District."

Superintendent Sarah Koligian said, "Congratulations on the appointment of Mr. Andy Alvarado as the next Superintendent of Golden Valley Unified School District. With his years of successful experience in leadership positions within the

District, I am confident that he will continue to grow a district of excellence."

"As the Golden Valley Unified School District Board President," said Mark Toole, "I would like to congratulate Mr. Alvarado as our new superintendent. We are confident that Mr. Alvarado, with his multitude of experience in educational leadership, will continue to lead the school district forward with the same level of excellence that has been achieved in the past."

Alvarado's transition to superintendent leaves a vacancy for the assistant superintendent position which will not be filled due to budget constraints. Alvarado and his staff will assume these duties.



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“One World, Many Stories” Theme of Summer 2011 Reading Program

By Ellen Mester

The 2011 Summer Reading Program is off to a fantastic start with our June 16 kick-off party that emphasized the “One World, Many Stories” theme. There were 14 stations in the children’s sections that represented 14 different countries designated by a flag and a game or craft. The most popular station was Italy, which had a gelato bar serving freshly made gelato. Other popular stations were Scotland which offered golf chip shots and a putting green, followed by Japan with the famous origami paper craft. Volunteers monitored each station and some wore clothing indicative of the country they represented. Many children passed through the doors and signed up for the Summer Reading Program, receiving a packet with a reading log, bookmark and pencil. Prizes will be given each week for children who return their reading log with a grand prize at the end of the summer for those who have read the most. The purpose of the reading program is to keep children reading throughout the summer. Studies have shown that children who actively engage their minds by reading, will do better at the start of the new school year than those children who don’t read. And to encourage children to participate we offer seven weeks of free programs for children age 3 to 12. The programs are all on Thursdays at 2 p.m. to make it easy to remember. Here is this year’s lineup:

June 16	Kick-off party	
June 23	English Renaissance	2 p.m.
June 30	Omnipresent Puppets	2 p.m.
July 7	Cat Haven’s bobcat	2 p.m.
July 14	Multicultural Music	2 p.m.
July 21	African Storyteller	2 p.m.
July 28	Prizes and Pictures	2 p.m.

Call the library at 645-1214 for more details. Many thanks to all the local businesses and organizations who sponsored this valuable program, and to the volunteers who made it all happen.

Changes May be Coming this Fall!

Keep your eyes and ears open for the possibility of new hours coming to the Ranchos Library. We are still waiting to hear what the changes will be but one thing looks certain: the continuation of furlough Fridays. A lot of people already think we have changed our hours but in fact we have had the same hours for over a year now. It’s the furlough days that make it seem confusing. We are sorry about that but it is saving the county quite a bit of money and thereby keeping the libraries open. So hang in there, faithful bibliophiles! We are doing our best to provide you with a free public library with a minimal staff and the best hours we can give right now.

Book Recommendations

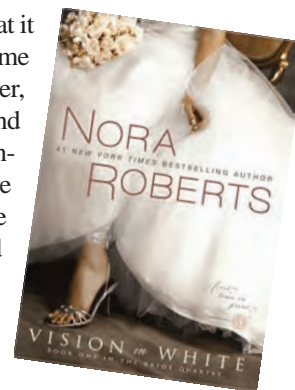
Young Adult: *Clockwork Angel* by Cassandra Clare. This is book one of Clare’s new series. Her very popular *Mortal Instruments* series, set in modern time, somewhat sets up the reader for this new series, *The Infernal Devices*. Although set in the late 1800’s, the familiar terms and even the similar beginning immediately captures the reader’s interest. It begins with Tessa Gray traveling from America to England in search of her brother. Upon arriving she is captured by the Dark Sisters who are Downworlders and members of a secret organization called the Pandemonium Club. Not long after her capture she learns that she has the ability to transform into another person. As they prepare her for marriage to the Magister, she escapes and joins forces with Shadowhunters, James and Will. They convince her she must use her abilities only for good, and therein lays her dilemma: she still has not found her brother. If you liked the first series you will enjoy this one as well.



Adult Fiction: *Vision in White* by Nora Roberts. This is the perfect romance novel for summer vacation. The story begins with four longtime friends who turned their favorite childhood game, “let’s play wedding,” into a unique wedding business generating a good return financially as well as respect

in the bridal world. They love what they do and are very good at it and it shows. The only problem is that they don’t have much time for their own romantic interests. Mackensie, the photographer, Laurel, the baker, Emma, the florist, and Parker that mastermind of wedding planners, all live on the Brown estate which Parker inherited when her parents died. They work well together and are still best of friends. Things get interesting when an old classmate arrives to help his sister with her wedding plans. Little did Mackensie know that he still has a crush on her after all these years. It’s funny and charming and most enjoyable.

Check out these books and more at the Ranchos Library and don’t forget your library card – don’t leave home without it.



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Guest Editorial

The Party that Forgot About Jobs

By Rich Lowry

John Boehner's constant refrain in advance of the 2010 elections was, "Where are the jobs?"

It was a simple question pertinent to the concern far and away foremost in the public mind -- the state of the economy. Since the election, the question for the GOP has become, "Where is your concern about jobs?"

The unemployment rate is still at 9 percent. According to Gallup, 35 percent of people say the economy is their top concern, and 22 percent say jobs. Just 12 percent cite the federal deficit and debt. Republicans have taken the top concern of roughly 1/8th of the public and made it their existential cause. On top of that, they have taken a subset of the debt issue, the long-term fiscal sustainability of Medicare, and made it their calling card.

If you are worried about the security of your job, if your personal income is stagnant, if the value of your home is still declining, and if you are paying more for food and fuel, the perilous state of a government program that you know, one way or the other, will never be permitted to go bankrupt is not a subject of proverbial kitchen-table conversation.

The special election in New York's 26th District served as an early, albeit imperfect, referendum on the Republicans' new calling card. Democrats made

the Republican plan to transition Medicare to a premium-support program the overwhelming issue. It worked. Henry Olsen of the American Enterprise Institute points out that blue-collar independents and Democrats who swung the GOP's way in 2010 swung against them this year. The Republican candidate Jane Corwin even bled blue-collar Republicans to a bogus "tea party" candidate.

These voters are especially sensitive to economic conditions and especially chary of changes to government programs they will come to depend on. They also are absolutely essential to Republican hopes in 2012.

Retreat on Medicare isn't an option now. Like Cortes in Mexico, Republicans have disabled their ships behind them. With Senate Republicans voting overwhelmingly in favor of the Ryan budget during a Democratic-engineered show vote, all but nine Republicans on Capitol Hill are on record for Paul Ryan's reforms. They'll have to fight it out, and, as Abraham Lincoln advised Ulysses S. Grant, "hold on with a bulldog grip, and chew and choke as much as possible."

But even the shrewdest Medicare messaging will not suffice. For a party obsessed with the legacy of Ronald Reagan, post-2010 Republicans have been quick to forget the absolute pride of place he gave to economic growth.

House Republicans just released a growth plan. Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio has been evangelizing for a growth agenda since his election last year. The elements are familiar -- cutting taxes and reforming the tax code, reining in regulation, increasing energy production, passing free-trade agreements. It doesn't have much chance of getting signed into law, but neither does Ryan's Medicare plan.

All of it is an exemplary exercise setting out a vision counter to President Barack Obama's and demonstrating that Republicans still know the most important question in American politics: "Where are the jobs?"

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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The Ranchos Independent

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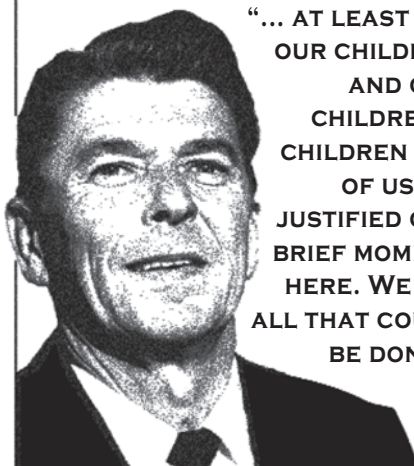
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Brains at the Drive-Thru

Joe Pesci said it best in the Lethal Weapon series. Though I won't repeat it here, his sentiment about fast food restaurants and their drive-thru windows is spot on. I have found recently that the best and brightest in the fast food employment arsenal must be kept in the back washing dishes because they are most certainly not working the drive-thru, thus the reason for this slightly bitter diatribe.

Sometimes I think that shift managers at fast food chains assign their crew members to the different positions throughout the restaurant like a team captain chooses his kick-ball team, and inevitably, the little clumsy girl with zero coordination is the last to be picked, and clearly the drive-thru

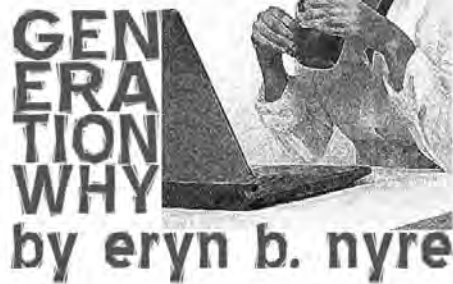
is the little clumsy girl of the fast food world. The drive-thru should be treated like the front lines: it should be manned by the best and brightest, but instead we get the people who can barely speak English (and

I'm not talking about immigrants); those who can't count to save their lives and the people who couldn't tell the difference between a spoon and a packet of ketchup.

Last week I was on a snack run for me and a couple of co-workers and I chose the drive-thru for convenience.

I did not choose wisely.

I bought two milkshakes, some fries and a few other easy-to-transport items for our late afternoon pick-me-up. After the crew member handed me a bag and shut the window, I noticed I had only received one of the shakes, so I just gave my horn a little toot and waited for her to come back. When she slid the window open I smiled and told her I was still waiting on the strawberry milkshake, she seemed confused, so I handed her my receipt and explained that I ordered and paid for two and only



received one. She took the receipt and closed the window while I assumed she was off to retrieve the elusive dairy treat.

Wrong again.

She came back with a manager. I would have never thought this situation warranted management involvement, but maybe things have changed since I was on the other side of the speaker. The

The manager, with my receipt in hand, told me that her employee said I received the shake. I was suddenly starting to think that these people thought I had shoved the drink down my shirt and was trying to hustle them out of a milkshake.

manager, with my receipt in hand, told me that her employee said I received the shake. I was suddenly starting to think that these people thought I had shoved the drink down my shirt and was trying to hustle them out of a milkshake.

Teetering dangerously between aggravation and amusement, I showed the manager my one shake and told her, each syllable dripping with sarcasm, "I ordered two. I paid for two. This is one. Now, two minus one is?" She was not amused. She glanced back at her computer screen and then at my receipt, one way or another I was getting my milkshake, even if I had to climb through the window and milk a cow to do it. She asked if I was absolutely certain I didn't receive the second drink and maybe I put it in the bag because her employee assured her that she made it and it wasn't on the counter.

Is this seriously happening?

With the scales tipped firmly to aggravation, I told her that I

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 11

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Commissioner

City of Madera Area (Board of Supervisors District 3 and 4)

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It's Time To Get Comfortable

6/11

The Stock Report

Congratulations to Liberty Graduates

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

On Thursday, June 2, I attended the Liberty High School graduation commencement exercises in the new Liberty High School Football Stadium. Now when we build the swimming pool Liberty High will be completed in the way that the community envisioned Liberty would look back in 1999 when we passed the first bond. I was so pleased to see Bruce Blair at the graduation ceremony. Bruce is recovering from a stroke. He was able to stand and shake hands with all of the graduates. Bruce's son, Ethan, was one of the 2011 graduates. Bruce is the assistant Boy Scout leader of Troop 118. Bruce's son, Ethan, and five other young men received the Eagle Scout rank on Sunday, June 12 at the Ranchos Middle School. The five Scouts are Ethan Blair, Ryan Chaney, Trevor Brauer, Roger Lydon and Patrick Sparks.

This week our Liberty High graduates are beginning a new phase in their lives. The world in which they grew up will always be the frame of reference that is uniquely theirs. The technology, the music, the clothes, the hair style, the tattoos, the video games, the TV programs and the movies are all of the things that they will remember when they are 30-40 years old and older. This year's graduates grew up on bottled water; when I grew up there were drinking fountains everywhere if you needed a drink. The words that today's graduates use in their everyday language weren't even invented when I was in school. The world that today's graduates live in has expanded to many places that I have a hard time finding on a map. Texting, Facebook and MySpace, and cell phones have always been a part of the 2011 graduate's life. Pencil and paper are almost obsolete. It is harder for a

graduate to get their first job than it used to be but don't give up; keep trying and don't lose hope. Congratulations Liberty High class of 2011. Now you are our hope for a bright future. It is in your hands now. Scary isn't it?

By the time that you are reading this article you have probably heard that the superintendent of Golden Valley Unified School District has left the district. Sarah Koligian has been guiding Golden Valley for the last four years. Sarah has had many challenges and learning experiences as a first-time superintendent. I am told that four years is a long time for a superintendent to stay in a school district. I will miss Sarah and I wish her the best in her new job with Tulare High School District. It will be a new challenge since she will be working in

The words that today's graduates use in their everyday language weren't even invented when I was in school ... pencil and paper are almost obsolete. It is harder for a graduate to get their first job than it used to be but don't give up; keep trying and don't lose hope. Congratulations Liberty High class of 2011. Now you are our hope for a bright future. It is in your hands now. Scary isn't it?

a different kind of a community than the Ranchos. Golden Valley Unified is forever changing because we are so new and the world keeps changing around us. Who will be our new superintendent? That is the question. The district needs to keep on the right path for our students. We have wonderful students and they need the very best education that we

can give them.

The Madera Ranchos lost two former military gentlemen. Marie Sells Costanzo's husband, Bob Costanzo, died on June 2. Marie and Bob met at the Ranchos Hills Senior Center. They were married in November of 2010. Bob was buried at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery with Military Honors.

Dale Lucas died on May 30. Dale was a member of the Ranchos Kiwanis club, the Taxpayers Association and the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce. Dale was given a full Military Service. Dale was devoted to giving countless veterans a funeral that brought dignity and pride to those who served our country.

Have a safe summer everyone.

Rice, Rice Baby!

Before we started studying rice in school, I thought rice was only grown in China. I found out differently when I was in about the fifth grade. Our dad took us kids to Los Banos to see rice fields. What a surprise! Vast fields of water with little plants peeping through. I called the Los Banos Chamber of Commerce today to see if the rice fields were still there and the man I spoke to said there weren't any there anymore, however he thought there were some out near Firebaugh and northeast of Merced. With the water shortage we are having I was wondering how they are surviving. According to what I read on the internet, the fields are flooded to slow the weed growth. They can irrigate by rows, but it is more economical to flood the fields because that way they don't have to take care of the weeds separately.

Rice has been grown in the southern United States since the mid-19th century. Rice cultivation began in California during the California Gold Rush, when Chinese laborers immigrated to the state and grew small amounts for their own use. Commercial production began in 1912 in Butte County. By 2006, California produced the second largest rice crop in the United States only behind Arkansas. Most of California's rice is grown in six counties north of Sacramento. The United States provides about 12 percent of the world rice trade. Of the rice grown in the United States, 58 percent is for direct food use, 16 percent is used in processed food, 16 percent for beer and 10 percent for pet food.

Growing up, we had rice more than pasta. I don't remember having spaghetti too often, but we did have rice. I remember mama's yummy rice pudding. I went through her recipe cards and not surprisingly, I didn't find one. A lot of her cooking she would just put things together and it would come out delicious. So I went online and with the many recipes I read, this one sounds the closest to hers. I know she did not put it in the oven; it was cooked on top of the stove. Hope you enjoy.

Rice Pudding

- ¾ C Uncooked White Rice
- 2 C Milk, Divided
- ½ C White Sugar
- ¼ tsp Salt



- 1 Egg, Beaten
- ⅔ C Raisins
- 1 T Butter
- ½ tsp Vanilla

In a medium saucepan, bring 1½ C water to a boil, add rice and stir. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 20 minutes.

In another saucepan, combine 1½ C cooked rice, 1½ C milk, sugar and salt. Cook over medium heat until thick and creamy, 15 to 20 minutes. Stir in remaining ½ C milk, the beaten egg and raisins. Cook 2 minutes longer, stirring constantly (if you don't stir, it might scorch). Remove from heat and stir in butter and vanilla.

In the book of dates I told you about a couple of articles ago, I read that National Rice Pudding Day is August 9. Happens to be my baby brother George and my sister-in-law JoRene's 42nd wedding anniversary – Congratulations!

I've told you before about the mini truck farm my mom had every summer in our back yard. Every year we had zucchini "coming out our ears." Mama would always try to get them picked when they were small, but once in a while one would hide and grow to be too large for regular cooking. But she wouldn't let it go to waste. When she'd bring one of these monstrous squash into the house, we knew what we were going to have for dinner:

Zucchini Stuffed Spanish Rice

- 1 Large Zucchini
- 1 Can Chopped Tomatoes
- 1 C Uncooked Rice
- 1 T Butter
- 2 T Oil
- ½ C Chopped Onion
- 1 Clove Garlic – Crushed
- 1 tsp Salt
- ¼ tsp Black Pepper
- Preheat oven – 350

Wash zucchini and cut off stem end. Cut in half length wise. Scoop out and discard seeds. Set aside.

Drain tomatoes, reserve liquid. Add enough water to liquid to make

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

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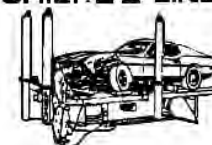
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Letters

Dear Editor:

Thank you, thank you, thank you to some really great friends in our community who helped us meet a need.

On June 13th, my husband and I returned home from a trip to Joplin, Mo. While watching TV, we saw the overwhelming destruction left behind by the tornado. God spoke to our hearts to do something, to take our travel trailer to Joplin and donate it as a temporary home for someone.

We were soon in contact with Brother Waymen Ming, Jr., Vice President of the Pentecostal Church of God headquarters in Joplin. Their college gym is being used as the distribution center for the donations needed by the victims He was excited and grateful to receive our trailer; there were so many needs for it.

While talking with Brother Ming, he expressed to us the need for cleaning supplies so we took this need to some wonderful people who were so willing to help. Heartfelt thanks to Mitch and Ana Zapien, Hurst Hardware, Valley Propane, Margo Kelly, Billie Martin and Patty McCann. Thanks to these giving people we were able to fill our truck and trailer with the cleaning supplies. Thanks to the amazing people of the Wings of Faith Church in Pinedale, they paid for our fuel. God bless you all.

Our trip was long, hot and windy, but oh what a joy it was! God gave us a mis-

sion that blessed and thrilled our hearts. We are so grateful to God for allowing us this opportunity.

Upon our arrival Brother Ming was there to greet us. Unloading all of the supplies and giving our trailer was one of the most rewarding times in our lives. Brother Ming took us around the devastation area. The disaster area is unbelievable and indescribable. The things we saw and the stories we heard changed our hearts forever. In a moment's time, everything was taken from these great people. Their homes, jobs, cars and, so so sadly, many lost loved ones. We were told a story of one young mother who got into her bathtub with her three young children. Her little girl was five and there were two younger sons. She did her best to shield and protect them, however when the tornado passed her two young sons were gone. She and her daughter were safe. Such heartbreak.

We saw a makeshift sign in the midst of the rubble that read, "GOD KNOWS, GOD CARES. HE WILL MAKE A WAY. HE'S ALREADY STARTED."

By the grace of God and their hope in Jesus Christ, they are able to pick up the pieces and try to rebuild their lives. It won't be easy and it will take a long time, but God is with them and will see them through, after all, HE'S ALREADY STARTED.

Patrick and Barbara Elwood
Madera Ranchos

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

one cup.

In saucepan, combine tomato liquid, rice and butter and bring to a boil. Turn heat down and simmer covered 5 minutes. Set aside.

In skillet heat oil, sauté onions and garlic until golden, about 5 minutes. (Sometimes mama would add a pound of hamburger here, breaking it up with a fork and browning it). Add reserved tomatoes, rice mixture, salt and pepper. Heat until heated through, takes about 5 minutes.

Fill zucchini halves with mixture, dividing evenly.

Arrange zucchini halves in 13x9 baking pan. Pour 1/2 C water in bottom of pan.

Cover tightly with foil. Bake 1 hour or until zucchini is tender.

My favorite rice recipe I got from a girl that worked in our office. I gave it to my mother and she took it to several potlucks. I know Campbell's has a

recipe similar to this one and only cooks in half the time, but believe me it is not as good. This recipe calls for a whole chicken but not every family likes all the parts. When I've cooked it for the family, I like thighs and wings, and most all the rest of the family prefer breasts – so use whatever your family prefer.

No Peek Chicken

1 Fryer – Cut Up
1 Can Cream of Chicken Soup
1 Can Cream of Mushroom Soup
2/3 Can Milk
1 Pkg. Lipton Onion Soup Mix
1 1/4 C Uncooked Rice
Paprika
Preheat oven 325

Mix cream soups and milk. Add uncooked rice. Pour in bottom of 13x9 baking pan. Lay chicken parts on top of rice mixture. Sprinkle onion soup mix on top of chicken and rice. Sprinkle with paprika. Cover pan tightly with foil. Place in heated oven for 2 hours.

NO PEEKING!

Flex Your Power this July 4th (and *Every Day*) when You Buy American

By Verlaine Ellinburg

In the global trade battle, you cast a vote every time you open your wallet. The decision? Whether you spend your money on products made in America or overseas.

In 1960, foreign goods made up just 8 percent of American purchases; today nearly 60 percent of everything we buy is made overseas. In the U.S.A., manufacturing employment peaked in 1979 and has been on a downward trajectory ever since. For some time, factory jobs have been moving to lower wage countries. Most recently, high-speed Internet connections have allowed clerical and white collar jobs to be done much cheaper in places like India, and even high-skilled jobs like reading X-rays have started to be done by low-wage doctors outside the U.S.

Is buying American-made more expensive? What staples are no longer manufactured in the U.S.? What difference would it make if we in America promise to buy American made products?

Manufacturing still has a major impact on our economy and on the nation's work force. Today, the United States has fewer manufacturing jobs than it did in 1941. On Feb. 28 of this year, ABC World News launched its Made in America challenge. The program stated that if every American spent just \$64 more than normal on U.S.A.-made items this year it would create 200,000 new jobs. For example, when buying food at Wal-Mart, check the labels of the products you're considering. Some of the products will show that they were made in China or some other foreign country. A can of Chinese Mandarin oranges could be replaced for a few more cents with the same product with the Liberty Gold or Dole brand made right here in California.

It's a shame that our government and big business have forsaken us.

"We the people." Do it yourself America. Simply look on the bottom of every product you buy and if it states it is made in China or PRC, which now includes Hong Kong, or any other foreign country, simply choose another product or none at all. You will be amazed how dependent you are on Chinese and foreign products and you will be amazed at what you can do without. For example, for Easter instead of plastic eggs, use real eggs and benefit some American farmer. Think about this: if 200 million Americans refuse to buy just \$20 in foreign goods each year, that's a billion dollar trade

imbalance in our favor.

Besides focusing on the consumer, we need to focus on our government and big business.

Government – In the 2012 election it is up to "We the People" to change it. As seniors it is our duty to save our country for grandchildren.

Big Business – Let's pick on Disney products, whose reliance on cheap labor is well documented. Checking the Internet, Disney products are made mainly in China, rarely in the USA, and the on the official Disney website the first 40 products were all imported. Another is Wal-Mart, where we buy cheap. Instead, look for items that are made in America. Check the Internet for "Made in America." You buy from the website and ship it to the stores for pick up without having to pay shipping.

There are other reasons to buy American. Foreign labor standards allow unsafe worker conditions, child labor, poisonous levels of lead and many brands sold here are produced in countries using dangerous, heavy polluting processes and have no environmental pollution controls. In the canned foods we consume, do foreign countries have the same food and drug standards required as in the U.S.A.? Are the factories inspected and kept clean with no rodents running around and are the workers free from disease and maintain hygiene requirements?

The growing lack of the U.S.A.'s ability to manufacture many products is strategically unsound. Factories and money are shifting to countries not friendly to the U.S.A. When you void imported goods in favor of American-made items; you help ensure that the United States does not find its access to vital goods impacted by political conflict. Jobs shipped abroad almost never return, but when you buy goods made in the U.S.A. you help keep the American economy growing. As we allow U.S. manufacturing ability to fade, future generations of U.S. citizens will be unable to find relevant jobs. Buy American and help keep your family, friends, neighbors and even yourself earning a living wage.

The Fourth of July represents our country's independence; let's not give it away. A challenge is out there to save our country: Pledge to buy American.

The Department of Health comes periodically to the Center for free checkups. The screenings include: Personal health history review, blood pressure and blood sugar test, nutrition and health education

and a low-cost blood test is available. The health screenings are for 50 and above. For referrals to medical providers and community services, the contact number is 675-7893 to make an appointment. A nutritionally balanced lunch program is available Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. A suggested price for 60 years and older is \$1.75. Reservations are needed 24 hours in advance prior to Noon so remember to call Joann at 645-4864.

We have a growing exercise program being held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. The participants are getting more than just exercise by attending. They have fun, share laughs and meet new friends. There is room for you and you may attend all three days or just one or two of them.

New to the agenda on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. are a variety of cards games to be enjoyed. Come and learn new games.

Check your calendar for daily events for each day of the week. If you do not have a copy, stop by the Senior Center for a copy. Additional copies are available at

the Ranchos Market and Hurst Hardware Store.

June Activities

MWF – 10 a.m. Exercise, Tuesdays 12:30 variety of card and other games, Wednesday – Card Bingo, Thursday – 5:30 p.m., Potluck and card games.

July Activities

MWF – 10 a.m. Exercise, Tuesdays – 12:30 variety of card games, Wednesday – Card Bingo, Thursday – 5:30 p.m. Potluck and card games.

July 2, 2011— Saturday, Ranchos/Hills Yard Sale 8 a.m. – Noon, Treasure House, baked goods, boutique and plant sale.

July 4, 2011 – Center Closed, BBQ at the Center 6 p.m. Membership only.

July 5, 2011- Tuesday, Board Meeting 6 p.m. Membership is invited.

July 11, 2011 – Monday, General Meeting 7 a.m.

July 16, 2011 – Saturday, Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries, Yosemite Falls 5123 Blackstone, Fresno, Ca. Call 225-6800 for info. 11 a.m.

July 18, 2011— Planning Meeting 12:30 p.m.

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GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

don't routinely put my drinks in flimsy brown paper bags but she was free to scan the roof of my car to see if her worker put it up there when I wasn't looking, or maybe she did make the shake but fed it to the ice machine by mistake.

She handed me my receipt and as she retreated into the kitchen she instructed the crew member to make the milkshake. As I was watching the minutes tick by I thought to myself this should be the new diet fad:

www.TheRanchos.com

pay for junk food and then they just won't give it to you. You can't gain weight from something no one gives you to eat or drink.

Later that same week, at a completely different fast food chain, I had another hair-ripping incident. I ordered dinner for my roommate and myself and requested extra cheese on two of the items. While reviewing my order on the screen at the speaker, I noticed every item was tagged with the extra cheese notification. I alerted the person taking my order that it was not ac-

curate on the screen and was told that their system was correct it must just be wrong at the speaker, which provided no confidence in the whole concept of reviewing the screen to ensure the order was correct. When I pulled up to the window I was greeted with the same total outlined on the order display, to which I repeated that it was not correct, I had only ordered extra cheese on two items, nothing else. The woman replied that she only showed two items with extra cheese, so I paid and examined the receipt. Just as I

thought: I had paid an additional dollar to have extra cheese on everything, including a drink.

Needless to say, I did get my money back, but this goes to prove my point. The drive-thru is supposed to be a time saver to move people through quickly and easily, and the person assigned to work the drive-thru should be smart enough to read their computer screen, tell the difference between one milkshake and two, and most importantly, that cheese would never taste good in a Pepsi.

Kiwanis Korner

Ranchos Kiwanis Lose a Fellow Member, Neighbor and Friend

"Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time."

By Carla Hart

I write this month's article with a heavy heart as we all share the grief from the loss of long time Kiwanian and friend, Major General Dale L.R. Lucas. Dale was a kind, generous man who always made us laugh with his witty jokes and anecdotes, often bringing us to tears. He always seemed the happiest when he was doing something for others as his life clearly reflected. Dale was a highly decorated war hero and former Green Beret who served an exemplary 23 year military career, moving up the ranks as a Private and emerging as a Major in the U.S. Army. As a young Sergeant in Vietnam, Dale risked his life on numerous occasions to render first aid to troops wounded in combat, carrying many of them to safety in the middle of cross fire. Undoubtedly, many soldiers lived because of Dale's unselfish acts of bravery. Dale was an underwater diver, a mountaineer specializing in extreme cold weather operations, and served multiple tours of duty in Vietnam with his last tour as a Cobra helicopter pilot with over 2,000 hours of combat flying time. His illustrious military career made him uniquely qualified to write three published books. His uncommon valor was the topic of several military magazine articles and an autobiography was in the works, proving that his life's accomplish-

ments would not just fill pages but, volumes. After his retirement, Dale was recalled to serve in the United States Volunteers Joint Service Honor Command where he earned the rank of Major General. He worked tirelessly with the JSHC providing deceased veterans with the full military funeral services they so rightly deserve. Dale passed away on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30 - a day befitting of the heroic man he was, not just in his military career but in his personal life as well. Dale, thank you for enriching us with your humor, grace and passion for life. You will surely be missed and never forgotten. Until we meet again, Godspeed to you on this next incredible journey on the other side, as heaven embraces a hero.

Congratulations to the LHS Class of 2011 and all the students of GVUSD for another fun and successful school year. The Ranchos Kiwanis gave \$2,000 in scholarships to three deserving Liberty seniors last month. In June, we awarded bicycles to four elementary school students from Webster and Sierra View for out-standing citizenship. Two students from Educational Options

were chosen to receive Visa gift cards and one student from Valley Teen Ranch was awarded a leather wallet containing good luck cash for recognition of a job well done. Two Ranchos Middle School students received the Kiwanis

Hope of America Award for leadership, character, and competency and one student received the annual Kiwanis Mustang of the Year award and a \$300 U.S. savings bond. It is our pleasure, as a service organization, to continue to provide support to our outstanding youth in the community. To all the award winners congratulations, thank you, and best of luck in your future.

The kickoff for our 4th of July TNT Fireworks stand ceremony will be at Ranchos Pizza Factory at 6 p.m. on July 1. We are going to have two local people sing the National Anthem and God Bless America, chosen from a competition of local talent. Come join us for the presentation of colors, songs and a distinguished guest speaker. Our booth will be open July 1 through July 4. All proceeds from fireworks sales support our local schools. See you there!

Congratulations to GVUSD Superintendent and Kiwanian Sarah Koligian on her recent transfer to Tula-re Unified School District. Even though we hate to see you go, we wish you continued success in your new position.

Be sure to visit our website at www.ranchoskiwanis.com for photos and videos of recent events.

Curious about The Ranchos Kiwanis? We meet at the Ranchos Pizza Factory the first Thursday of every month at 6:45 a.m. and each Thursday thereafter at 6:45 p.m. If you are interested in having fun while giving back to the community contact President Mona Diaz at 333-1913. Come join us at a meeting for dinner, fun and fellowship and see what being a Kiwanian is all about.



The late Major General Dale L. R. Lucas passed away on Memorial day, May 30, 2011. In addition to his other interests, Dale was an active member of the Ranchos Kiwanis.

www.ranchoskiwanis.com

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Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent



ORGANIZED BY CHOICE

By Brenda McElroy

“Downsizing” Myth Busters

One of the things I love about The Ranchos is the Ranchos/Hills Seniors group. They bring an element of heart, soul, and stability that is a valuable asset to our community. So, upfront I want to say what this article is not. It’s not about encouraging our seniors to move, and it’s not just for seniors!

More and more I’m hearing people my age (50ish) talk about downsizing. Usually it’s more about their stuff than their location. I believe there is a great benefit to letting go of what we don’t use or need in order to live comfortably and have the things we value most, easily accessible. I’m also hearing people say they don’t want their belongings to be a burden on their kids as some have experienced from the former generation.

Most of us start out with very little as young adults, but as our salaries and families grow, so does our accumulation of goods — larger houses, larger cars, more toys, etc. Most is well-suited for that stage of life but, when the kids are gone and our daily activities change, things that were necessary or made life fun can become burdensome. All of our belongings cost us something — space, time, money, and energy.

If you’re feeling the tug to begin the downsizing process, but holding back, here are five myth-busters that will help spur you on.

Myth #1 – “I’ll have to throw out all my stuff!” Buster: It’s really not about throwing out all your stuff. It’s about making choices, deciding what’s most valuable to you, and keeping your favorites. It’s also thinking reasonably about what you use and don’t use, need and don’t need.

Myth #2 – “My kids or grandkids might want this!” Buster: By all means ask them, but don’t hang on to things “just in case,” especially if your house is feeling more like a mini-storage than a comfortable home. One of my clients had a beautiful oak

dining hutch, but it was covering a large window that overlooked her newly re-landscaped backyard. None of her family members had a place for the hutch, but she found a friend that was very excited to receive it. Even if you find someone who will love and value your things on Craig’s List or eBay, it’s better than keeping items you don’t need or burdening family with them.

Myth #3 – “I have plenty of time to downsize later.” Buster: Not to be morbid, but there are no guarantees. As they say, there’s no time like the present. Downsizing your stuff can be a difficult task. It’s often physically and emotionally draining. Better to pace yourself and start now, than to wait until you’re forced to do it because of a move, or health reasons. Besides, why not enjoy the benefits of an uncluttered home now? Your children will be forever grateful!

Myth #4 – “When it comes to paper, it’s better to be safe than sorry.” Buster: Actually it’s possible to be safe AND sorry. Keeping more than you need compacts file drawers and often spills over into piles or boxes. That makes it difficult to find important documents when you need them. Downsizing your files means keeping what’s needed and important and letting go of the rest. Having essential documents easily accessible is extremely important in case of an emergency. The Freedom Filer system (www.freedomfiler.com) is a great tool for knowing what to keep and what to let go of. Feel free to contact me for a discount code on this fine product.

Myth #5 – “It’s too overwhelming, I’ll never be able to do it!” Buster: Maybe not by yourself and certainly not in one day, but it can be done! Partner with a relative, friend, or a Professional Organizer. This will help you keep on track and focused. Choose someone you trust and who will wisely and graciously encourage the “letting go” process.

Antoine De Saint-Exupery said, “A goal without a plan is just a wish.” If downsizing your belongings is truly your goal, take a few minutes right now to create a plan. Start small, maybe just your dresser or night stand this week. Think about it as rightsizing; having the right amount of things for today’s lifestyle. And don’t forget, the Ranchos/Hills Senior Treasure House is a great place to donate all your good stuff!

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Successful Year Ends with “District of Excellence” Still Growing



Golden Valley Unified School District Superintendent, Sarah Koligian.

By Sarah Koligian

Golden Valley schools have finished another successful year with many significant events that are continuing to “Grow a District of Excellence”. Each school has celebrated many accomplishments this past year and those staff members and parents associated with the school may be very aware of those accomplishments. However, one of Golden Valley Unified’s goals in the District Strategic Plan is to improve communication within the school community and outside of the school community. This article will capture and share some of those outstanding accomplishments with the larger community of the Madera Ranchos reflecting the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year.

Liberty High School

- Karie Wiegand won the CIF State Spirit of the Sport award
- Leiasa Horanic participated in the first ACE Summer Camp this summer.
- Science Lab building ready and open
- Graduation ceremony moved to Stadium
- Spring Musical- Grease ran a full house for three days. Erin Navarro was awarded an additional scholarship in the amount of \$2000.00 based on her performance in Grease. She has a scholarship

to Bethany College of Music.

- Jessica De Champlain was the recipient of ACSA scholarship
 - LHS won the ACE building design competition
 - Halee Sabourin and Lauren Bailey were recipients of ACE Mentor Program Scholarship
 - Halee Sabourin was the recipient of ACE state Scholarship
 - Stephanie McShane was honored by ACSA as the GVUSD parent volunteer for her untiring work for the Foundation for Golden Valley Schools
 - Piloted new digital senior portfolios with power point presentation
 - The San Joaquin Valley Officials Association recognized Suzie Dunn as the “Secretary of the Year” for 2010-2011
 - Kelly Styles won the sheep overall individual award in the specialty animal judging competition as well as the livestock judging contest at Reedley College.
 - Faith Quandt won Gold at the State Rabbit Judging Competition in San Luis Obispo.
 - LHS ROP teams won the Sierra Division Championship in the ROP career skills challenge at Fresno City College. LHS had 3 first places: ROP Sports Medicine team 1st place; Biology skills: Ben Zumkeller – 1st place; Digital Imaging skills – Jesse Dechamplain- 1st place
 - Axia Vang was awarded Comcast Leadership Scholarship
 - Ariel Sawall was awarded best of show for Youth Art Month at Circle Gallery sponsored by the Madera Arts Council.
 - Rene Mondeau received Cadet Endorsement by Congressman Radanovich to the Air Force Academy
 - Nicola Lambert and Frank Panian were named GVUSD Star Employees of the Year
 - Frank Panian was nominated as Madera County Teacher of the Year
 - Nicola Lambert was nominated as Madera County Classified Employee of the Year
- Ranchos Middle School**
- Successful Drama production “The

Addams Family” - Students and Mrs. Roth did an amazing job and parent support as always was beyond wonderful. Sold out both nights!

- Championship teams in Baseball, Softball and Girls Soccer.
- Over 190 students received either Honor Roll, Mustang Honor Roll or Principal’s Honor Roll for 2nd semester
- Science Fair - students were extremely creative
- Academic Pentathlon – 7th grade Overall Champions for Madera County. 8th grade won Second Place Overall.
- Rachel’s Challenge – all students participated in the powerful assembly at LHS and a new club was created at Ranchos - Totally awesome!
- Civil War Ball - always a success.

Webster Elementary School

- Wolverine of the Year – two winners Kelsey Noble and Rebecca Mendoza
- Gaven Crumpton, John Whitcomb and Aubrey Der Torosian read over 10,000 pages in our reading incentive program
- 5 retirees- Nola Neely, Teresa Nixon, Steve Eicholtz, Gwen Wolley, Marilyn Carlton (over 100 years of combined service)
- Kiwanis awarded two bicycles to Holly Hiatt and Shaun Foster for showing good character.
- Jill Lee and Stephanie Wagner welcomed new baby daughters in the spring.
- Principal Felipe Piedra - Administrator of the Year for Golden Valley and Madera County
- Jessica Simonton was married on June 4, 2011

Sierra View Elementary School

- Muffins with mom
- End of the Year Benchmarks
- SVPC Carnival
- Open House
- Count Me In Movie Class Competition
- Count Me In Monthly
- STAR Carnival
- Kindergarten Graduation
- Accelerated Reader Principal’s Party
- After School Math Tutorial

- English Learners Tutorial
- Purchased new mascot outfit
- Professional Development for all grade levels
- Creation of ELA pacing guides
- Octopus Festival- 1st Grade
- Sierra View Talent Show
- End of the Year Spirit Rally
- Modernization project started
- Sierra View vs. Webster Mushball Competition
- Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- STAR Teacher of the Year –Chelan Shepherd
- STAR Classified Employee of the Year – Gail Allen
- 6th Grade-Countries Around the World
- 1st Grade- Patriotic Day
- Kid’s Day
- Retirements of Gwen Wooley and Nola Neely
- Flatlanders’ Parade Float

Educational Options

- 26 graduates from Educational Options this year
- First Promotion Ceremony at CHCC Home/Hospital School for 12 students in grades K – 8
- Michael Avila a graduate from Centennial this year raced in his first professional motorcycle race and won!
- Iltze Solar graduated from college then came back this spring semester and received her high school diploma
- John Meacham from Valley Teen Ranch won the school logo contest with a patriotic eagle
- Randy Mewhirter did an assembly type class (relate for life) for Independence, Lincoln and Valley Teen Ranch that changed a majority of the student’s actions and reactions to life’s relationships

Maintenance

- Maintenance Department received 478 work requests with a 98% completion rate
- Successfully repaired propane main line at Webster Elementary without inter-

Please see **GROW** on P. 17

Click on “Local News” at

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GROW cont. from P. 16

ruption to school functions

- Preparation for modernization at Sierra View Elementary.
- Established an adequate sub pool for bus routes and custodial support

Operations (Grounds)

- Maintained and supported a full schedule of Football, Soccer, Baseball and Softball.
- Dealt with another extra wet year; conditions that play havoc to sports fields.
- Extra site support at Liberty High School, addition of a new Stadium and Science building.

Transportation Department

- The transportation department maintained the 8 established routes for the 2010/2011 school year
- Maximized capacities of buses continues to reduce home to school transportation costs
- Route optimization through setting assigned bus stops geographically and modification of walking distances was in affect this fiscal year with little or no impact on service
- Custodial support for the district was implemented and put into effect.
- Both in-house and sub drivers have done an excellent job filling the shoes when called upon

Night Custodial Crew

- New for the 2010/2011 school year

was the adoption of the Team Cleaning Concept to provide custodial support at all five school sites

- Established an excellent sub custodial pool

Cafeteria

- Prepared approximately 500 breakfast and 1000 lunches and had it ready to serve on time everyday
- Five new people to our staff which caused all schools to run more efficiently
- Continued to provide healthy, nutritious, and tasty food for our students

This list of accomplishments is just a snapshot of the many successes our students and staff experienced during the second semester of the school year. Thank you to all of our staff, students, parents for your many hours of dedication and commitment to providing our students with "a district of excellence". Thank you to the parents of Golden Valley for entrusting your children to us to provide the best education for them.

This is my last article submitted to the Ranchos Independent as Superintendent of Golden Valley Unified School District. Thank you to the community of the Madera Ranchos, parents and staff for allowing me the privilege to lead the district for the past four years. It has been an incredible experience and a blessing to my life. I share my best wishes to all of you for continued success.

"Never doubt that a thoughtful group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

– Margaret Mead

In Memoriam

Robert "Bob" Costanzo



July 17, 1920 - June 2, 2011

Bob Costanzo passed away on June 2, 2011. He was another one of our WWII veterans. Bob was married to and is survived by Marie Sells Costanzo. Bob and Marie met at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center and were married in November of 2010. Both Bob and Marie have been Madera Ranchos residents for many years.

Bob was buried at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in Gustine, Calif. with full military honors.

Sheriff Warns About Collection Scam

A New Debt Collector Scam Has Surfaced in Madera County

Madera County Sheriff John Anderson today issued a fraud alert to citizens throughout Central California regarding a new debt collector scam that has surfaced in Madera County.

People masquerading as debt collectors are contacting consumers via cell phone, land lines and in one case a message was left on a victim's work phone.

Victims have received calls from people posing as a Steve Clark, a James Watson, and an Eric Watson. The person calling claims to be a debt collector representing a law firm called "Neal & Richardson" and/or "Neil Richardson As-

sociates," with a telephone number 559-838-0290.

The premise of the call is to inform the victim that they are in default of a loan; and if the victim does not have legal representation an arrest is imminent. However, the matter can be resolved, claims the caller, by paying a said amount of money within 30 days. The tone is usually threatening in nature, but at some point some of the alleged scammers invoke God into the conversation ending with a phrase, "God Bless and Good Luck."

Sheriff Anderson says that if you get such a call, hang up and notify authorities.

Complaints can be filed with the FTC (Federal Trade Commission), Better Business Bureau and the State Attorney General's Office.

Lions Charter Ranchos Club

A new Lions Club has been chartered in the Madera Ranchos with 28 men and women. The club will serve the Madera Ranchos area and is sponsored by the Madera Breakfast Lions Club. Guiding Lions are President Chuck Wesely and Lions Past President Dwight Stephens.

District Governor Steve Granlees said, "I am proud to welcome these men and women into Lions. The Ranchos will be proud to have such a fine group serving their community."

The Ranchos Lions Club will meet on the first Thursday of every month at the Ranchos Pizza Factory. For more information contact Lions Chuck Wesley at 559-479-1644 or Lion Dwight Stephens 559-274-5364, or online at www.lionsclubs.org.

FISH cont. from P. 2

also advancing to the Western Regional Championship were Humboldt State University in second place; University of Nevada, Reno in third place; Sacramento State in fourth place; and Boise State University in fifth place.

The top five teams from each tournament qualify for the regional championship where the first-place team will win \$12,500 cash for their school and \$12,500 cash and a Ranger 177TR bass boat with a 90 horsepower Evinrude or Mercury outboard wrapped in school colors for their fishing club. The top five teams from each regional tournament advance to the national championship where the first-place team will win \$25,000 for their school and \$50,000 cash and a Ranger 177TR bass boat with a 90-horsepower Evinrude or Mercury outboard wrapped in school colors for their fishing club.

College Fishing is free to enter and FLW Outdoors provides boats and drivers for each competing team along with travel allowances. All participants must be registered, full-time undergraduate students at a four-year college or university and members of a fishing club recognized by their college or university.

The next National Guard FLW College Western Division tournament is scheduled for Sept. 24 on Clear Lake in Clearlake, Calif., and is hosted by Twin Pine Casino & Hotel.

FLW Outdoors is the largest tournament-fishing organization in the world, offering anglers worldwide the opportunity to compete for millions over the course of 191 tournaments in 2011.

You can get more information at www.CollegeFishing.com.

TURN LANE cont. from P. 2

make their left turns.

When turning left from a side street or driveway, signal and wait until it is safe. Then drive into the center left turn lane. Enter traffic only when it is safe.

You may drive across a center left turn lane.

So the bottom line is the days of passing cars on the right as they wait at an intersection on Avenue 12 are gone. Left turning cars will be sitting in their own lanes and you can just scoot on by. Please note: This is NOT a passing lane. That will probably pretty much guarantee a ticket on the new Avenue 12.

2. Can I park my car or truck on Avenue 12? - No. There is simply no place to put either type of vehicle now. An ongoing complaint about Avenue 12 was big rigs parked up and down the street, effectively blocking your view if you tried to pull out of a business driveway onto 12. Often you

would have to commit the entire front end of your car just to get out far enough to see if there was any oncoming traffic. That is now a thing of the past, but the trade off is no street parking. Six of one and half a dozen of the other.

3. How will this affect my garbage pickup on Avenue 12? - I talked to District 1 Supervisor Frank Bigelow and he said the County is looking at different alternatives. What the County is planning initially is looking at having the garbage trucks begin at an earlier time when traffic is lightest and see if that doesn't alleviate any potential problems with garbage service. If that doesn't work? Back to the drawing board.

4. How will this affect mail delivery on Avenue 12? - Mail trucks are considerably smaller than garbage trucks, but Bigelow said the County was also looking at asking the Post Office to deliver the mail earlier at lower traffic volume times. The County is pretty much looking at mail deliver through the same lens as garbage pickup, the only

problem is garbage is once a week; the letter carriers are out there six days a week.

5. What's that stuff all over Avenue 12 now? - What you're seeing on Avenue 12 is called "chipseal." It's a product that breathes new life into older asphalt roads at a greatly reduced price (up to 40 percent less than re-asphalting), but it extends the life of the road for about another 10 years, according to Frank Bigelow. The advantages are that it's virtually maintenance free, never needs a sealcoat and offers better traction. It also provides a cooler surface since it doesn't absorb heat like blacktop does. Who knew?

The bottom line to our new Avenue 12 is that, as so often happens, in an attempt to fix one problem, a whole slew of new ones pop up. We need, as a community, to be aware of the laws regulating our newly striped thoroughfare, follow the rules and let's see what happens. Remember, painting stripes is a lot cheaper than building a new road.

ANSWERS

10	6	9		
3	4	9	+	21
+	+	x		
7	2	5	x	25
x	÷	-		
1	4	6	x	30

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



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6/11

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6/11

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6/11

The Pastor's Desk

Peeling the Layers of Alcoholism

Again this month we have a guest writer for the Pastor's Desk. He is not a pastor but he has a message. With approximately 17.6 million Americans adults who abuse alcohol or are alcohol dependent, his message is timely and relevant.

Editor

By Mike B.

Hi, my name is Mike and I'm an Alcoholic.

Last time I wrote just a little to the behind the scenes nature of the normal alcoholic; the tip of the iceberg so to speak. It is a very complicated disease, that complicated people have, and there is not a cure. If the idea that there is not a cure sounds a little harsh or crass, keep reading and hopefully the light will come on.

You see, we deal with alcohol – cunning, baffling and powerful. It is the only disease that continually tells you that you do not have it. A few of you may have a problem with the fact that we use the word disease. We understand that it is not cancer, polio or diabetes. If you look at the word disease,

break it up and it looks like this "Dis-Ease," which means "not at ease." Believe me, when you are in the middle of your battle with alcohol you are as far away from ease as you can possibly get. Now that we understand it truly is a disease I will continue.

I read parts of two books daily: the Holy Bible and the Big Book of AA. The Bible tells me in the book of Jeremiah, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and there is no cure." The Big Book tells me that there is no cure for alcoholism. What that tells me and that I finally get is I need to continually, every day, work on my heart, my soul and my mind. Every day I have to put God first and sobriety second. If I do this everything else will fall into place. When I first got out of rehab, I wanted everything back. When things did not go as I had planned, self-pity and depression overtook me and I got drunk. Now, I finally realize turning my will over to a Higher Power every day, God will give me what I need, when I need it. Not what I want but what I need, that is the key. Keep God first and the minutia of life

will never, ever get you down. He will never leave you or forsake you.

While you as an alcoholic are wrapping your mind around the fact that you can never drink like a gentleman or lady, you start to understand that alcoholism is a disease of a two-fold nature: an allergy of the body and an obsession of the mind. This will clear up a number of questions. The allergy we could do nothing about. Somehow our bodies had reached the point where we could no longer absorb alcohol in our systems. The "why" is not important; the fact is that one drink will set up a reaction in our system that requires more; that one drink is too much and a hundred drinks are not enough.

The obsession of the mind is a little harder to understand, and yet everyone has obsessions of various kinds. The alcoholic has them to an exaggerated degree. Over a

"There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance – that principle is contempt prior to investigation"

– Herbert Spencer

period of time we have built up self-pity and resentments toward anyone or anything that interferes with our drinking. Dishonest thinking, prejudice, ego, antagonism toward anyone and everyone who dares to cross us, vanity and a critical attitude are character defects that gradually creep in and become a part of our lives. Living with fear and tension inevitably results in wanting to ease that tension, which alcohol seems to do temporarily. It took me some time to realize that the Twelve Steps of A.A. were designed to help correct these defects of character and so help remove the obsession to drink. The Twelve Steps, which to me are truly God inspired, are a spiritual way of living. It meant to me a way of life that had to have honest thinking, not wishful thinking; open-mindedness, a willingness to try and a faith to accept. These are a must: patience, tolerance and humility, and above all, the belief that a power greater than ourselves could and would help if we let it.

"There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance – that principle is contempt prior to investigation"

– Herbert Spencer

Until we talk again,

Mike



By Jannai Pero

This year's July 4th Family Freedom Fest will be at the Coarsegold Historic Village, 35300 Highway 41, in Coarsegold. Last year approximately 1,000 people attended the Family Freedom Fest at Oakhurst Park and this year we will have more parking, more vendors and better visibility with access right off Highway 41. This is a free community event sponsored by the Oakhurst/Coarsegold and Central Valley Tea Party.

The main program will be from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., but there will be activities all day starting at 9 a.m., so families can come early and stay late. There will be plenty of food choices to enjoy from vendors to restaurants with a grocery store and deli nearby. There will be music, free children's activities, many vendor booths to visit, inspiring speakers and something for everyone.

We are pleased to feature an international

Make Your 4th a Tea Party Celebration at Freedom Fest

recording artist, Linda Lanier, who tours America singing and giving inspirational speeches. She has a patriotic program that has moved audiences to tears. Linda possesses a passion for our country, our military and our veterans. She has entertained at the Pentagon, Governor engagements and she been extremely involved with promoting the Army National Guard. Linda Lanier has had several #1 hits including her song, "The American Flag" which hit #1 on the Radio Active Airplay Charts. We hope all Veterans will come and enjoy this very special presentation in their honor.

A great line up of speakers will inspire, challenge and inform us. Jim Franklin, talk show host for KMJ and pastor of Cornerstone Church in Fresno; Serafin Quintanar, a former Congressional candidate and local conservative activist for the Hispanic communities; Michael Olsen, producer and host of the syndicated Food Chain radio show speaking about "From Food to Freedom"; Kirk McKenzie of Silent No More Publications and author of Money, Defending Your Prosperity; as well as Jim Patterson, former

mayor of Fresno.

Children will be a big part of this year's event. We will repeat the popular reading of the Declaration of Independence by children in costume. Several patriotic songs and dances with children will be choreographed and led by professional children's voice and dance teacher, Jen Piccolotti. Russ and Retha Crumpton will provide all-day fun for children with FREE bounce houses, water slides, gold panning, candle and soap making, crafts and other old fashion fun.

A former president and actor from the Golden Chain theatre, J.R. Froelich, has written an original melodrama that will be performed for the first time with nine actors at this year's July 4th Family Freedom Fest.

Bring your hats and lawn chairs and invite your friends and family to celebrate America's freedom at the Coarsegold Historic Village this July 4th. Because this is a free event, we invite sponsors, advertisers, vendors and volunteers to be involved in supporting this patriotic celebration. To find out how you can be involved or for more info, contact: Family Freedom Fest Committee at

559-642-4852. You can email them at loweholler@sti.net, or you can mail them at PO Box 1261, Coarsegold, CA 93614-1261.

Madera Chapter Tea Party Meetings

Our June meeting guest speaker was Steve Frank from California Political News who spoke on "The Great California Depression of 2011." Now that was a meeting to get your blood pressure up.

Mark your calendar for the third Thursday of each month and don't miss hearing some very interesting speakers while connecting with others. The July 14 meeting will feature John T. Somerville, Central Regional Coordinator for Christians United For Israel, at 6 p.m. at Perko's in Madera. Please check the Tea Party website for complete details. Go to www.centralvalleyteaparty.com/events

For more information, and for those without Internet access, contact John Smedley at 645-7031. If you have access to the internet, you can contact John at jcsmedley@comcast.net. You can also contact Rick Farinelli by making an e-mail connection at richardfarinelli@sbcglobal.net.

LEXI cont. from P. 2

Marrow Registry for help. According to Dr. Jeffrey Chell, the chief executive officer of the National Marrow Donor Program, "Each year, thousands of people with different forms of cancer turn to the National Bone Marrow Registry for transplants. Seven million people are listed on the registry, however only a very small percentage of them are from minority groups. That's unfortunate," Chell said, "your background, your heritage is absolutely critical in finding a match. Currently only 9 percent of people on the registry are Hispanic. That's not enough."

Chell said they have a registry of millions, but they still do not have matched bone marrow donors for all patients. They need more people to join the registry, especially those from racially and ethnically diverse communities. "Any one person has a 1 in 20,000 chance of matching a stranger. By becoming a bone marrow donor you are giving someone a chance of a Lifetime." For more information about being a bone marrow donor you can visit www.marrow.org.

"We don't know how many donors they went through to find a match. All we know is that we only had 1 good match," said Lexi's Aunt, Alicia Delgado. This was certainly the news that Lexi's family and friends were waiting for. Lexi was admitted to Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford on March 18 where she was given intensive radiation and chemotherapy prior to the bone marrow transplant. On March 25 she received the transplant,

which is similar to receiving a blood transfusion. Two days after the transfusion Alicia posted to Facebook: "Lexi has been doing well and continues to smile as always. Where there is hope there can be faith; where there is faith, Miracles can occur."

Lexi suffered little side effects from her treatments and doctors were pleased that she did so well. The hope is that the donor cells continue to grow and create new healthy cells for Lexi's body. A primary concern after bone marrow transplant is "Graft vs. Host Disease," which means that the body is rejecting the new cells. This can happen within months or even years of a transplant. Lexi takes medication that helps prevent getting this disease. Lexi was in isolation during her stay at Stanford and she couldn't leave her room. To pass the time she would draw, paint, do crafts and played her iPod Touch. Lexi also has a mini nail salon so she loved to paint her nails. "Once word got out that she did nails, nurses would come in and ask for their nails to be done," said Alicia.

At the end of April Lexi's bone marrow tests showed no presence of any leukemia cells. Doctors then considered her to be "in recovery." And at that time Lexi was released to the nearby Ronald McDonald House at Stanford.

One of the many nice things about being at the Ronald McDonald House is that a patient is able to have family stay with them. Lexi's father, Alex Delgado, has been by her side the entire time. He was even lucky enough to be Lexi's date at the recent Lucille Packard Children's Hospital Prom. Other family members have also been able to stay with her. Lexi is staying in the Garden Immunity Wing, where patients who have compromised immune systems stay. Because she still has a weak immune system she is limited to a small number of visitors to avoid catching anything. The other children in this wing also have some form

of cancer so Lexi is able to interact with other children to whom she can relate. Lexi also goes to school for four hours a day at the hospital so that she doesn't fall behind on her school work. This way, she can resume classes with the rest

of her friends when she is able.

Lexi had a wonderful surprise recently when two of her best friends from the Ranchos school showed up to visit. Mikayla and Savannah Mosier made the trip to surprise Lexi and she was thrilled to see them and to show them around. Lexi will be sharing an address with Ronald McDonald until the end of June or early July when she may be released back to Children's Hospital in Madera.

"Throughout it all, Lexi has continued to keep a smile on her face and a positive attitude. Her body has been through so much, but she has been able to stay strong and not let the bad days get her down for long," said Alicia.

Lexi enjoys keeping in touch with her friends through Facebook, where her journey back to health has been journaled by Lexi, her family and her friends. "I can't wait to get back home to be with my family and my friends. The thing I miss most about being at home is sleeping in my own bed!" Lexi is also looking forward to going back to Children's Hospital in Madera to see all of her beloved doctors and nurses again. She wants to thank everyone for all of their love and support.

Because of privacy laws, the Delgados were given very little information about the bone marrow donor. After a year, if the donor agrees, then Lexi and her family can make contact with the donor. Both Lexi and her father Alex look forward to the day that they'll be able to meet the donor and thank this person for their gift of life and for allowing Lexi the chance to get better.



By Lexi's side the entire time, Alex Delgado has been with his daughter throughout the whole ordeal and looks forward to the day that she can come home.

4H Happenings
 4H Happenings
 4H Happenings
 4H Happenings
 4H Happenings
 Sierra Shadows 4H Club
 By Anahi Rivera



4-H Ends the Year ...

Sierra Shadows 4-H club have been very busy these past few months and all their hard work has paid off. Some of our members entered craft items into the Chowchilla-Madera County Fair while others exhibited small animals and live-

stock. The Sierra Shadows 4-H members did very well at the fair with many members placing and receiving ribbons for showmanship and some members sold their market animals. I would like to personally thank all the buyers who bid on our 4-H project animal and supported us. I would also like to thank our parents for their tireless dedication. While the members were busy getting ready for the fair, some of the members were also getting ready to present their demonstration speech at Regional Presentation Day and State Field Day which is held every year at the UC Davis campus. While all this is going on, 4-H members are also busy putting together this year's 4-H camp pro-

gram. This year 4-h camp will be held at a different location, Camp Pacifica in Mariposa. And as you can guess, things even got busier; some of our members were getting ready to graduate from 8th grade and high school. For those who are graduating this year, Sierra Shadows 4-H club wishes you the best.

As some of you know I have been writing 4-H articles this past year to inform the Ranchos community about what we at Sierra Shadows 4-H have been up to and will be doing. This 4-H year has ended and all the members are busy finishing up the last minutes details of our record book. All 4-H members keep a record book which given members an op-

portunity to reflect on their yearly work. The members document their skills they have learned and experiences in a written report. If you have an opportunity, ask a 4-H member to show you their record book, they can be quiet impressive. The Sierra Shadows 4-H club will mark the end of this year with a swimming pool party.

Youth between the ages of 9 to 18 years old may join 4H. The Sierra Shadows 4H club leader is Terri Fernandez, who can be reached at 559-645-4836. The next club meeting will be held at Sierra View Elementary School cafeteria in September at 7 p.m. Hope to see you there.

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the Book of Mark in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. What kind of physical problem did Timothy have of which Paul advised a little wine? *Back, Stomach, Head, Legs*

3. How many days was Jesus on earth after His resurrection? *3, 40, 100, 346*

4. From Acts 8, who baptized the Ethiopian eunuch? *Isaiah, James, Philip, Paul*

5. What is the Hebrew word that's usually translated as "blessing"? *Brocho, Chosson, Chumash, Ducket*

6. How old was Abraham when he died? *75, 175, 202, 256*

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Stomach; 3) 40; 4) Philip; 5) Brocho; 6) 175

Contact *Wilson Casey* at trivia@writeme.com

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Click on "Local News" at

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.

	+		×		30
×		÷		-	
	-		×		25
+		+		×	
	×		+		21
10		6		9	

1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 9

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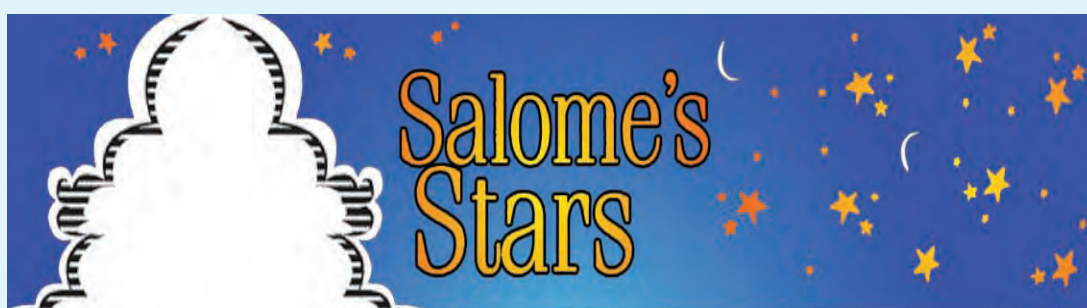
Today!

(559) 645-0634
The Ranchos Independent

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Family and friends rally around as you confront an unexpected challenge. Some plans will have to be changed until all the fuss and fluster settle down.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your creative gifts find new outlets for expression this week. Someone (a Libra, perhaps) has ideas that you might find surprisingly appealing. Pay attention.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll soon be able to restart those delayed travel plans. A financial matter you thought was closed could suddenly reopen. Be prepared to take swift, decisive action.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A romantic relationship takes an unexpected turn. You might be confused about how to react. It's best not to be rushed into a decision that you're not ready to make.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Don't let your pride stand in the way of resolving an emotionally painful situation. This is a good time to deal with it and let the healing finally begin.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A workplace problem that you've been handling so well suddenly spins out of control. Don't panic. You can rely on your good sense to help you restore order.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Wearing rose-colored glasses won't solve a thorny personal situation. You need to take a hard look at what's happening and then act according to the facts.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Weigh all your options carefully before making any decisions you've been putting off. Then go ahead and plan a weekend of family fun.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) While personal and financial situations continue to improve, some setbacks might occur. But they're only temporary, so hang in there.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family matters dominate the week. Health problems raise concern but soon prove to be less serious than you had feared. Things start easing up by the weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Most situations are calmer now, both at home and on the job. But there's still a chance that a co-worker will set off another round of unpleasantness.

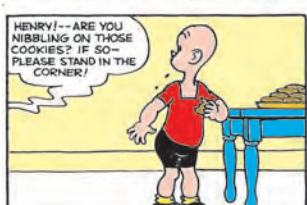
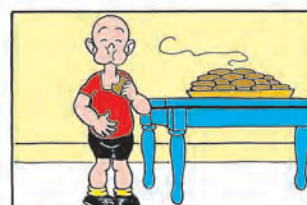
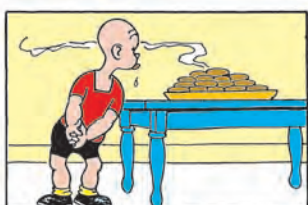
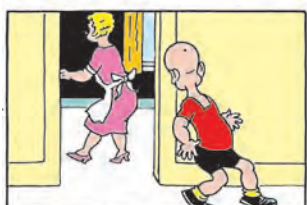
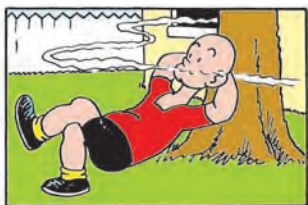
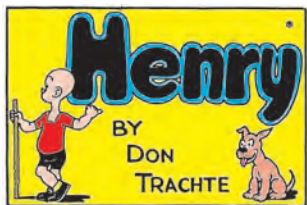
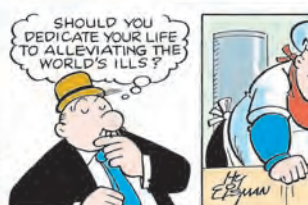
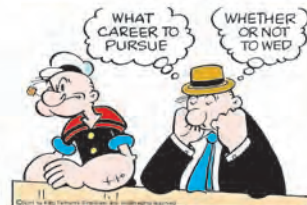
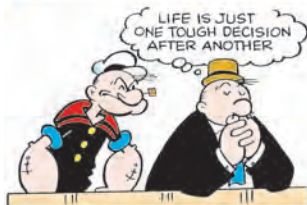
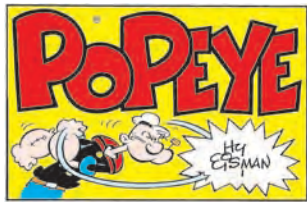
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) There's no need to fish for compliments from an admirer who can't say enough nice things about you. The upcoming holiday bodes well for family gatherings.

Born this Week

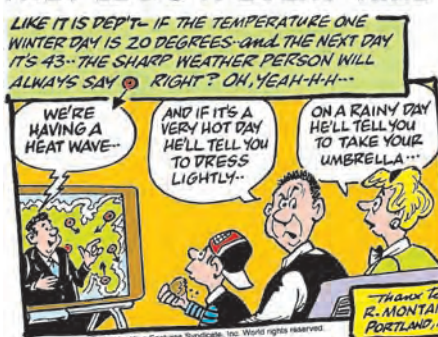
You love to compete, both on a personal and a sporting level,
and you hate to settle for anything less than excellence.

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FUN PAGES



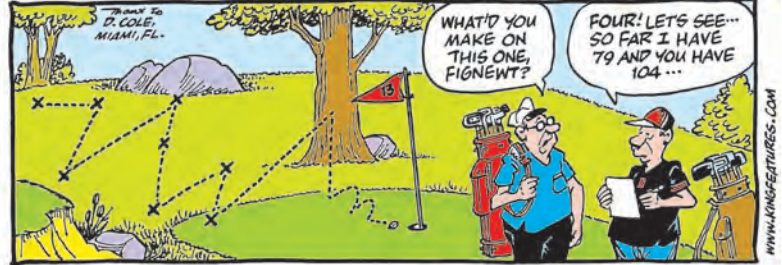
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



FIGNEWT IS AN ACCOUNTANT FOR A BIG CORPORATION-- A WHIZ WITH NUMBERS, BUT HONK'S HIS MATH ON THE GOLF COURSE? RS. X MARKS SHOW HIS STROKES ON THIS HOLE...



USE A CLOTH COVERED TABLE!
CHALLENGE YOUR FRIENDS to arrange eight soda straws so that they will form four equilateral triangles and one square. Our Puzzle Card shows how it's done.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

FIND THE BIG WORDS!

1	T					P
2	T					P
3		T		P		
4			T	P		
5			P	T		
6		P			T	
7	P					T
8	P					T

Using the definitions and anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DON'T RUN OUT OF GAS solving this AlphaMath puzzle! You must replace the letters in the signs with the digits 0, 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. Try to get the highest possible total.

Our answer: C=7, A=4, R=0, M=3, P=9, T=1, L=8, (740 + 349 = 1089)



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. BEST | ION |
| 2. COB | TENS |
| 3. FACT | OWED |
| 4. GALL | BLEED |
| 5. DEB | EON |
| 6. HEAR | ATE |

- DEFINITION:**
1. An earring shape.
 2. Temporary substitutes.
 3. Efforts to achieve.
 4. To delay or put off.
 5. Sequence of bookish events.
 6. A colorful wall hanging.
 7. A light musical.
 8. Fair and comfortable.
- ANAGRAM:**
- dart + rope
pops + tags
lamp + test
open + stop
reps + chat
tray + step
poet + tear
lean + past

Wishing Well

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

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

- Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| All Fools' | Bastille | Flag | Mother's |
| All Saints' | Boxing | Labor | Poppy |
| Armed Forces | Columbus | May | Veterans |
| Armistice | Father's | Memorial | |

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: "Ten Days That Shook the World" is an account of what event in history?
2. FASHION: What is an ascot?
3. LANGUAGE: Where might a lunule be found on the human body?
4. ASTRONOMY: When did Edmond Halley determine that a comet (which was later named after him) became visible to observers on Earth every 75 years or so?
5. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Cyprus?
6. HISTORY: Where did the Glorious Revolution of 1688 take place?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What did George Washington do for a living as a young man?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: On which continent did the peanut originate?
9. ANATOMY: To what system of the human body does the gall bladder belong?
10. ARCHITECTURE: Who designed St. Paul's Cathedral of London?

- Answers**
1. Russian Revolution
 2. Scarf or wide tie used as formal neckwear
 3. The crescent-shaped white mark at the base of the fingernail or toenail
 4. 1705
 5. Nicosia
 6. England
 7. Surveyor
 8. South America
 9. Digestive
 10. Sir Christopher Wren

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Click on "Local News" at

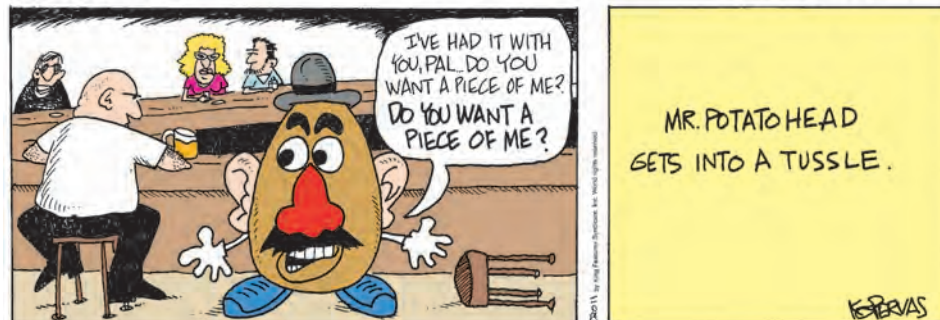
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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JERRY CRAFT



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



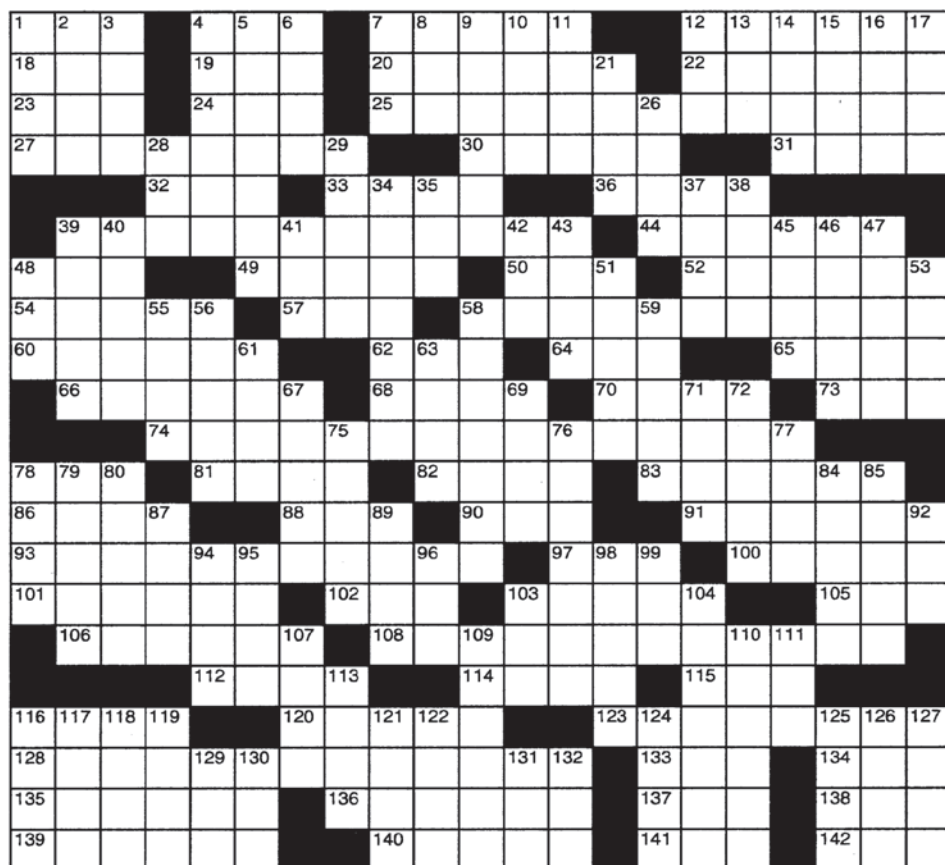
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Flowers added along fence. 2. Gloves are black. 3. Fireman's hat is different. 4. Tree has been added. 5. Man is wearing apron. 6. Fork is shorter.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 It may be tipped
 - 4 W.C. Fields quote?
 - 7 Poisonous plant
 - 12 Social groups
 - 18 Palindromic name
 - 19 Important numero
 - 20 Ages
 - 22 Lama or imam
 - 23 Singer Shannon
 - 24 CEO, e.g.
 - 25 Silent performer
 - 27 Like Donne's poetry
 - 30 Aquatic mammal
 - 31 Slight
 - 32 Zombie ingredient
 - 33 Memphis deity
 - 36 Obligation
 - 39 Famed anthropologist
 - 44 — fin
 - 48 Scand. nation
 - 49 Summarize
 - 50 Computer acronym
 - 52 Kitchen utensils
 - 54 — one's time (waits)
 - 57 Weber's "—
 - 58 '98 home run king
 - 60 Praise
 - 62 Female goat
 - 64 "O Sole —"
 - 65 Sour fruit
 - 66 Like some watches
 - 68 Bradley or Epps
 - 70 "Heat and —" ('83 film)
 - 73 Writer Rand
 - 74 Education pioneer
 - 78 Woods' grp.
 - 81 Indication
 - 82 Wordsworth works
 - 83 Magazine employee
 - 86 Air bear?
 - 88 — Gatos, CA
 - 90 MA hours
 - 91 Winter wear
 - 93 Bearded bandleader
 - 97 Lamb's dam
 - 100 Wear away
 - 101 Illinois city
 - 102 Financial abbr.
 - 103 What trumpets do
 - 105 Diarist Anais
 - 106 Homeric combatants
 - 108 5th Dimension member
 - 112 Farmer's "—
 - 114 Yemeni city
 - 115 Bond rating
 - 116 Lhasa —
 - 120 Ocean vessel
 - 123 Glass "— on the Beach"
 - 128 "Full Metal Jacket" star
 - 133 Team scream
 - 134 Humorist George
 - 135 Babbled
 - 136 Mame, for one
 - 137 Consumed a knish
 - 138 Gender
 - 139 Lady of Spain
 - 140 Moshe of Israel
 - 141 Contemporary
 - 142 Use a shuttle
- DOWN**
- 1 Muslim pilgrimage
 - 2 Lost
 - 3 Soft mineral
 - 4 "Bah! —!"
 - 5 Boxer Johansson
 - 6 Baird or Witherspoon
 - 7 Theological sch.
 - 8 — tree (cornered)
 - 9 Sulky
 - 10 Part of
 - 11 Atkins or Huntley
 - 12 Calculating person?
 - 13 O'Hare info
 - 14 Incites Rover
 - 15 Rock hound?
 - 16 Jacob's twin
 - 17 Pencil piece
 - 21 "Ethan Frome" prop
 - 26 Eloquent equine
 - 28 Rink legend
 - 29 Caroline, to Ted
 - 34 Celebrity
 - 35 Little devil
 - 37 Comice kin
 - 38 Math subject
 - 39 Shearer of "The Red Shoes"
 - 40 "As You Like It" setting
 - 41 Silly Skelton
 - 42 Periodontists' org.
 - 43 Campus digs
 - 45 Whips up a waistcoat
 - 46 Spanish city
 - 47 Croce's Mr. Brown
 - 48 Leno's network
 - 51 Loses control
 - 53 Noted Dutch treat?
 - 56 Patriot Deane
 - 58 Ramble
 - 59 Animal that roared?
 - 61 Singer Amos
 - 63 Melville novel
 - 67 Tenor Beniamino
 - 69 Hwys.
 - 71 Fountain order
 - 72 Threefold
 - 75 "I'm — Cowhand" ('36 song)
 - 76 Getty or Parsons
 - 77 "Take — leave it!"
 - 78 Heart, e.g.
 - 79 "Peer Gynt" composer
 - 80 "Maltese Falcon" actress
 - 84 Maine town
 - 85 Chatter box?
 - 87 Square measure
 - 89 Actor Pickens
 - 92 Berry or Olin
 - 94 Sped
 - 95 Construct
 - 96 Bartok or Peron
 - 98 One of the
 - 99 Directional suffix
 - 103 Command
 - 104 Stem
 - 107 "— Hand" ('81 hit)
 - 109 One in a million
 - 110 Salted snack
 - 111 Purrfect pet?
 - 113 South American capital
 - 116 Current amount
 - 117 Unwind a rind
 - 118 Mikita of hockey
 - 119 Conductor Klemperer
 - 121 Stentorian
 - 122 Writer O'Brien
 - 124 Neighbor of Pakistan
 - 125 — Haven, CT
 - 126 Brainstorm
 - 127 Casanova's cry?
 - 129 "— Alibi" ('89 film)
 - 130 Author LeShan
 - 131 Nicole on "Fame"
 - 132 Browning's bedtime?

SEMUCU

south east madera county united

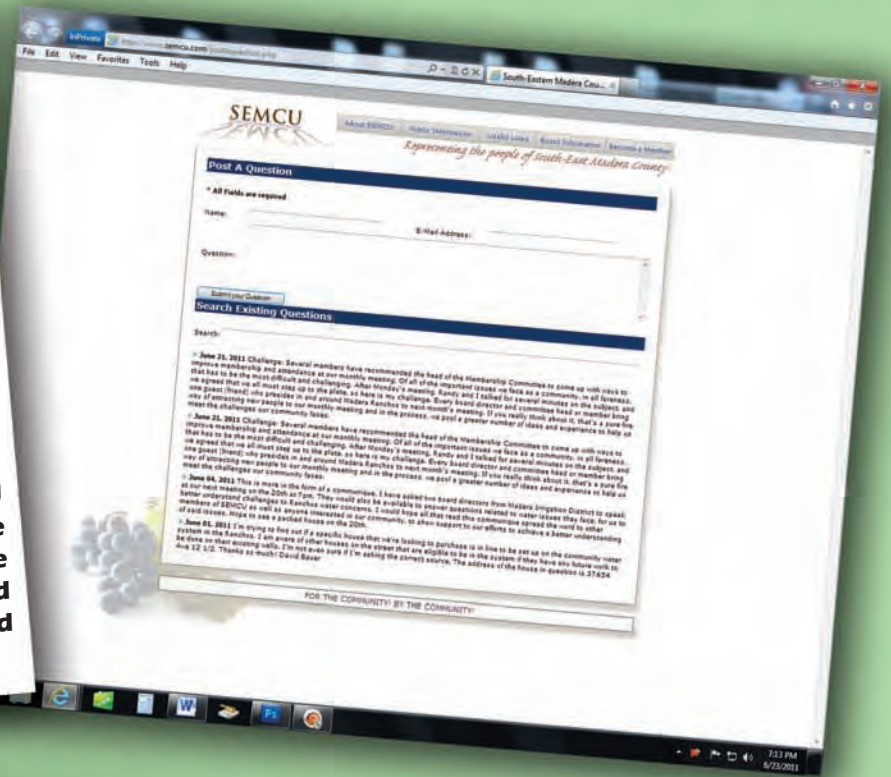
GOT QUESTIONS? GET ANSWERS!

Finally!

A place to get your questions answered about what's happening in the Ranchos. Whether you're looking for solutions to Water Issues, questions about Traffic Situations, curious about the prospects for the Ranchos getting a Park or what the future holds for a Community Center, this new Website is for you.

www.semcu.com/postaquestion.php

Under the Public Information tab at www.semcu.com you will see a new section called "Get Answers." Anyone may post a question which will then be automatically sent as an email to SEMCU members and community members that request updates. Once the question is answered, the person asking the question will be notified that an answer has been posted and all questions and answers will be posted on the Website where they can be viewed by everyone – like a blog.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

559-363-9095 • www.semcu.org • info@semcu.org

You're Invited!

SEMUCU REGULAR MEETING

Monday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. • Ranchos Pizza Factory

"Bring a Guest" Night

SEMUCU • FOR THE COMMUNITY! BY THE COMMUNITY!

The Ranchos Pizza Factory is located at 37184 Avenue 12 in the Madera Ranchos
For copies of SEMCU's meeting agendas and minutes visit www.semcu.org