

The Ranchos Independent



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At Last!

The wellhead of the new Dublin Well is encased in a 5-foot cube of concrete in preparation for coming online in mid-June and offering relief to a thirsty community.

Photo courtesy of Karen Petryna

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Mona Diaz Says ‘I’m In!’ for Race



Former GVUSD Trustee Mona Diaz has filed the necessary papers to be a candidate in the upcoming Recall Election.

On Monday, May 11, Madera Ranchos resident Mona Diaz officially became the first person to throw her hat in the ring as a candidate for Golden Valley Unified School District Trustee, should the Recall Election be successful, by filing papers with Madera County. She will be running in GVUSD District 1 for the seat held at present by Carla Neal, one of the three trustees named in the Recall Election scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 1.

Diaz is a former GVUSD trustee from District 1 who stepped down from the position to run for Madera County supervisor last year.

Should the Recall Election prove successful, candidates will also be needed for the seats held by Kathleen Crumpton and John Moseley.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

The 8th Annual Word From Home Car Show and Freedom Celebration to support our troops is coming Sunday, June 28. The event supports a Ranchos organization that has delivered over 2,200 care packages to our troops.



The event is being held Sunday, June 28 from 5 p.m. until dusk. Entry fee is \$20, which includes a \$10 food ticket and \$10 for troop support. It's being held at Lifetree Assembly of God Church at 35849 Ave. 13½. To enter a car call Pam Hansen at 474-2330.

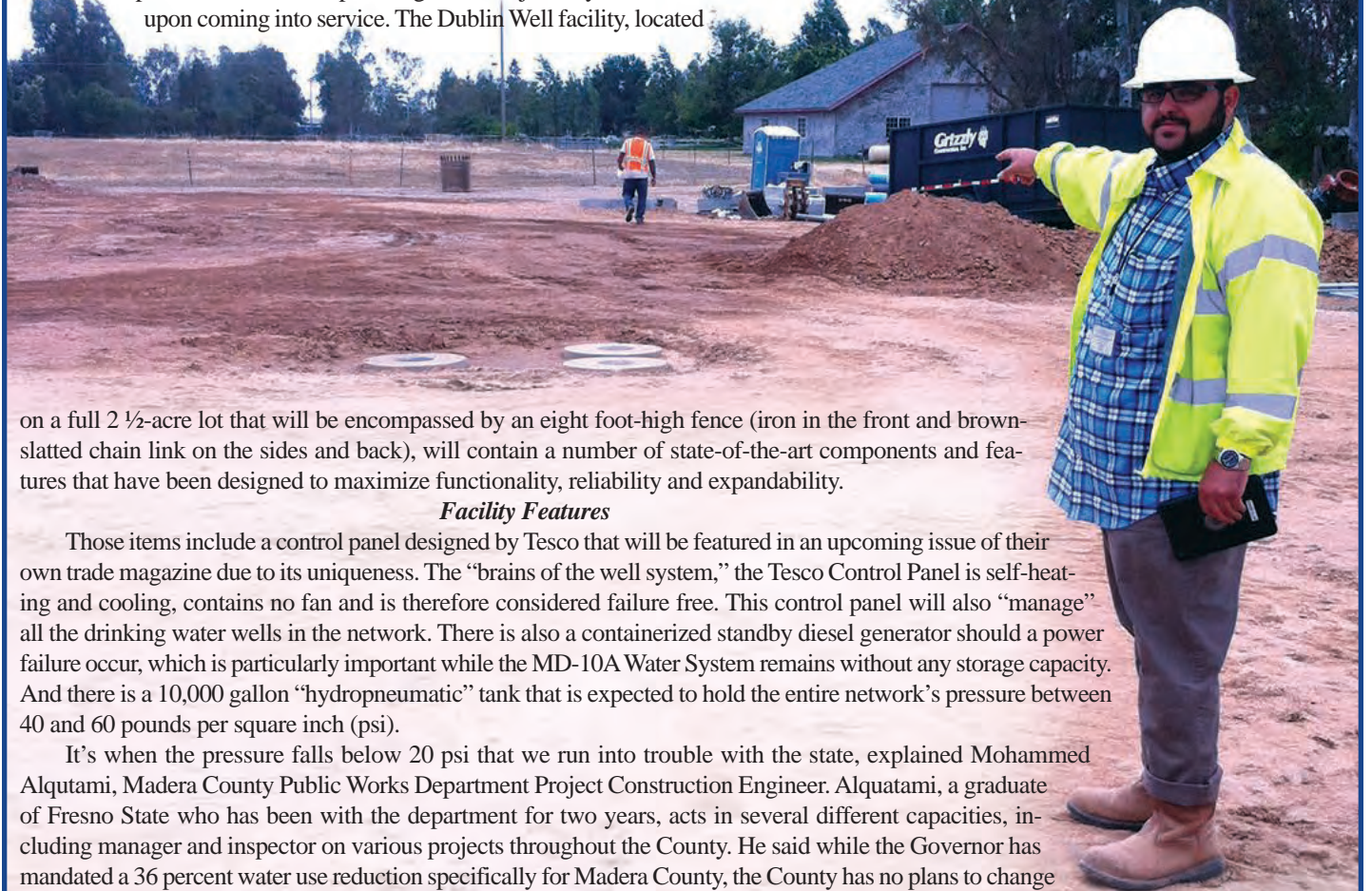
SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

At Last! Here Comes MD-10A's Dublin Well

By Karen Petryna

In the last several weeks, residents in the vicinity of the Dublin Well on Dublin Drive, which is seven blocks north of Avenue 12, have heard and seen a good deal of commotion as contractors from Grizzly Construction, Anderson Pump Company and others have been very busy bringing the latest elements of the Wood Rodgers plan to fruition. Scheduled to go on line by mid-June, the Dublin Well, installed in December 2013, is nearly ready to be connected to the MD-10A Water System piping network via a new 16-inch water line to Road 37 ½ and a new 480-volt power line along Road 37 ¾ being run from Avenue 12. Once connected the new well, which is also 16 inches in diameter, will add 800 gallons per minute (gpm) of production to the water system that is currently operated using just three remaining system wells. Those wells, Charlton, Kensington and New Fender, produced an average of 290, 390, and 770 gpm respectively during the months of November 2014 through February 2015 for approximately 955 service connections.

The seventh and latest of the MD-10A Water System wells since the Fernwood Well was installed in 1959, the Dublin Well is by far the largest, most powerful and most expensive with a total price tag to reach just shy of \$2 million upon coming into service. The Dublin Well facility, located



on a full 2 ½-acre lot that will be encompassed by an eight foot-high fence (iron in the front and brown-slatted chain link on the sides and back), will contain a number of state-of-the-art components and features that have been designed to maximize functionality, reliability and expandability.

Facility Features

Those items include a control panel designed by Tesco that will be featured in an upcoming issue of their own trade magazine due to its uniqueness. The “brains of the well system,” the Tesco Control Panel is self-heating and cooling, contains no fan and is therefore considered failure free. This control panel will also “manage” all the drinking water wells in the network. There is also a containerized standby diesel generator should a power failure occur, which is particularly important while the MD-10A Water System remains without any storage capacity. And there is a 10,000 gallon “hydropneumatic” tank that is expected to hold the entire network’s pressure between 40 and 60 pounds per square inch (psi).

It’s when the pressure falls below 20 psi that we run into trouble with the state, explained Mohammed Alqutami, Madera County Public Works Department Project Construction Engineer. Alqutami, a graduate of Fresno State who has been with the department for two years, acts in several different capacities, including manager and inspector on various projects throughout the County. He said while the Governor has mandated a 36 percent water use reduction specifically for Madera County, the County has no plans to change the Stage 3.5 water use restriction level which went into effect last August as long as the water system maintains at least 20 psi, a condition that failed last summer without the Dublin Well.

In addition to the features mentioned above, Alqutami, while providing a facility tour on site, pointed out the eight-foot-square chemical building, the PG&E pads which will hold the electric transformer, meter and main switchboard and disconnect, the storm drains and infiltration wells, and the trenches for the conduit that is being laid for two future replacement production wells. He also showed the locations of two future 1 million gallon storage reservoirs and he said that in addition to the fence that will be used for both security and reduced visibility, drought-tolerant oak trees will also be planted around the inside perimeter with their own drip irrigation system to improve the overall appearance of the facility even further. All of the above-ground structures sit on their own reinforced concrete pads, as does the wellhead itself for which a five-foot cubed block was made to encase it and several additional ports.

Along with Alqutami, Ken White, the Grizzly Construction Project Manager, described the purpose of the block and its extra ports. The block, they said, acts as a kind of anchor to keep the well as still as possible. This is particularly important since after the water is pumped to the surface it makes an immediate right angle turn to the hydropneumatic tank. It also holds what is called a soleplate on the top that likewise keeps the pump and its conduit equally still. The additional ports in the block are an air vent to prevent negative pressure from building in the well as the water is withdrawn, a port to add more gravel as the gravel surrounding the well casing settles, and a sounding port to measure the depth to the well water surface

Mohammed Alqutami, Madera County Public Works Department Project Construction Engineer, points to where a 1 million gallon storage tank is proposed to be at the Dublin Well facility.

Please see **DUBLIN** on P. 15

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Letters

Dear Editor:

I would like to call your readers' attention to the May 11th article in the Fresno Bee titled, "What to do with the budget surplus." Quote: "Governor Brown proposed increasing per pupil spending by 3 percent ..." – it goes on to say – "... much of [the budget surplus] has come from taxes on capital gains and large corporate bonuses."

What surplus? Liberals and progressives would lead us to believe the increased revenue collected by the state is the direct result of a recovering economy.

Not true.

Over taxation can also increase revenue for a short time. Capital gains are profits from investments. Bonuses are incentives corporations pay their employees and managers to increase growth and profits. The net result from these taxes will be less investment, less production, less growth and more government spending. Behavior we tax, we reduce; behavior we subsidize, we increase. The government took the money out of the economy (Free Markets) and will subsidize failing government. Who besides liberals and progressives think this model is a road map to prosperity? How sustainable is this model? Which is more likely, a shrinking or growing economy? TAXES KILL THE ECONOMY. If the increased tax revenue was generated from small business (that employs 70 percent of the workforce) and personal income taxes, that would be an indicator of a recovering economy and jobs. If the economy continues to struggle and slow, we will know the increased revenue is from OVER TAXATION!

The U.S. economy continues to struggle. In the first quarter of 2015, the U.S. economy ground to a halt. GDP was just over 2 percent. Two percent is the minimum growth needed from the economy to absorb the new, young, incoming workforce. If the growth is 2 percent, the economy is stagnant. In my estimation, the

slowing economy was a foreseeable result in part due to higher taxes. Further, after 6 1/2 years of U.S. liberal financial policies and management, the Federal Reserve continues to support the economy with stimulus. Can the U.S. economy stand on its own? Can the markets support the economy? The Federal Reserve says "NO." That's why the Federal Reserve made its decision last month to continue its stimulus. If the Federal Reserve does change its policy, stops printing currency, stops purchasing bonds and stops suppressing interest rates, money will flow out of the stock market to safer investments like bank savings accounts and/or the bond markets. The stock market is being artificially supported from Federal Reserve policy.

Did I mention the State's Pension Funds, like CalPERS and CalSTRS, depend on their investments to pay retirees pensions? Much of these funds are in the stock market. If there is a large correction, those investments may not generate the 7 percent revenue needed to meet the state's pension fund obligations. Happened in 2008 and 2009. The money collected from retirees while they were working, about \$75 billion, has been spent and the retirement fund now depends on profits from investments. Not to worry if you are a member of CalPERS or CalSTRS. Losses or decreases from those investments will be made up with contributions from the state's general fund. Just wondering: What will that do for school funding?

I would like to see the surplus revenue set aside in a "Rainy Day Fund." Better yet, I would like the money returned to the markets and into the hands of investors and businesses who created it. Let them grow the economy, create new wealth and new JOBS. Liberals and progressives hate the Free Enterprise System and Free Markets because they don't get to choose the winners and losers. The Free Enterprise System made the United States the

Please see LETTERS on P. 10



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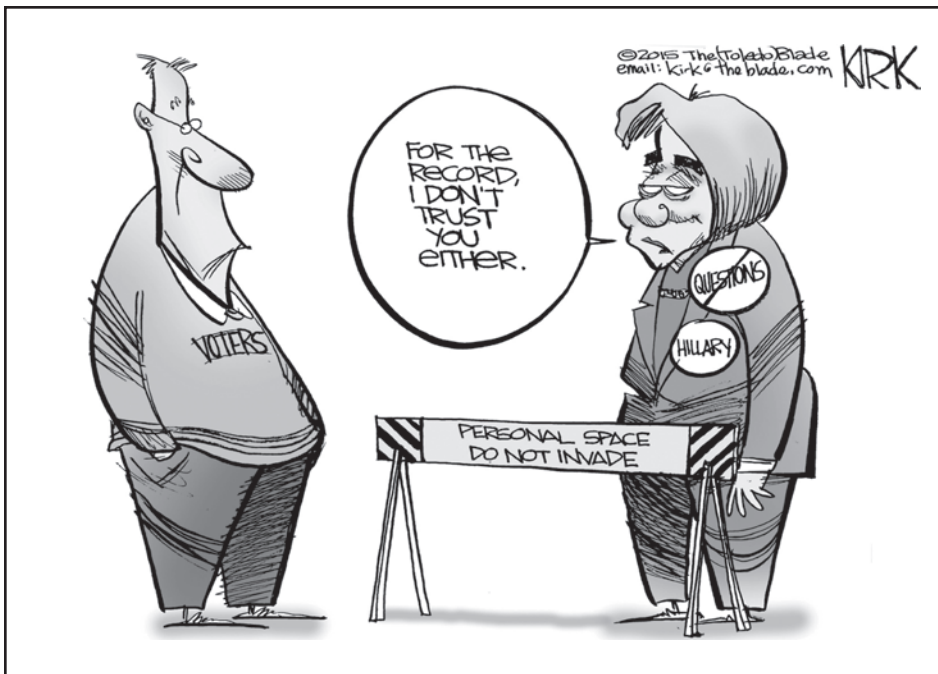
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Editorial

Forget it All ... Except This

By Randy Bailey

I'm going to ask you to do something for me. For the duration of this editorial I'm going to ask you to forget about the recall. Forget about Andy Alvarado. Forget about The Three and voting them out of office. Because regardless of how you feel about any of those subjects, there is a much greater problem in front of all of us through the actions of Trustees Crumpton, Moseley and Neal: The just don't care.

They don't care what you think, they don't care what I think, they don't care what fellow Board Members Steven Lewis and Mike Kelly think, they don't care what Golden Valley employees think and they don't care what the students think. Their total disregard for the will of the Ranchos community that elected them is appalling. It's mind-numbing. It's unbelievable.

It's one thing to throw out unfounded accusations; it something else altogether to back them up. Take notes.

Feb. 3 -- The "Andy Meeting." At this GVUSD Board Meeting, close to 500 Ranchos citizens showed up to express support for then Superintendent Andy Alvarado. After being allowed to speak, over the objection of Board President Crumpton and Moseley, the people really thought they had a chance to present their views and that those views might somehow be considered by the

Board.

Wrong!

The Board slinked off to closed session and when they returned the announcement was made that by a three-to-two vote the board had severed ties with Alvarado. All of you that came that night? Thanks for nothing.

April 21 -- "The Recall Meeting."

At this meeting the Sufficiency for Recall from Madera County that was presented two weeks earlier called upon the Board to set a date for a recall election. Crumpton wanted to have a special meeting to determine the date while the throngs of citizens in attendance spoke up for an earlier, rather than later, election date. Crumpton initially said that there would be a meeting to determine the date immediately following that night's Board meeting, but by the end of the evening, over the protests from the citizenry, she called a meeting for Friday May 1. Trustee Lewis said it had to be at an appropriate time so parents and employees could attend, a sentiment that resounded with the parents and employees in attendance that night.

Wrong!

Crumpton was so moved by the will of the people that she called for the meeting to be at 9 a.m. on May 1. Audience members looked at each other in disbelief and teachers throughout the room called out, "Guess WE won't be at that meeting!" Trustee Lewis said HE wouldn't be able to be at that meeting, but after conferring quickly with Moseley and Neal, Crumpton said it didn't matter. They only needed three.

May 1 -- The "Election Date Meeting." At 9 o'clock in the morning, a room at the Ed Ops campus was standing room only. The capacity crowd was SURE that they would be heard before any decisions were made for an election date.

Wrong!

Trustee Mike Kelly tried to read a statement into the record suggesting consideration of all possible dates, keeping an eye on causing the least amount of disturbance for the upcoming school year, but was shot down by Crumpton. Then before anyone in the audience could speak, Trustee Moseley moved for a Sept. 1 election date, the latest possible date, and it was approved three-to-two.

Folks, I don't care where your poli-

Please see **EDITORIAL** on P. 16

The Ranchos Independent

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Randy Bailey.....Publisher/Editor

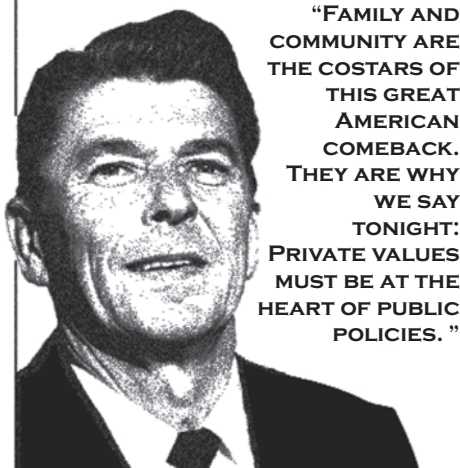
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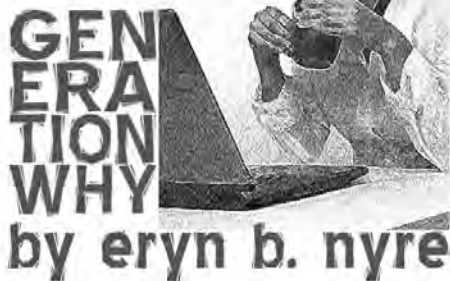
Waste Not, Just Bill for It

My Dad has always been a heck of a story teller. Even his lectures had plot, setting and character development. It took extra effort on my part to ignore such intricate and creative oration designed to teach me a lesson, but I managed to become very good at it. I was always an over achiever.

As an adult, I have come to look forward to his little stories and lectures. Of course, it is possible that it's because they are no longer aimed at me. Nevertheless, when my Dad opens his mouth you never know if he's dropping some knowledge, spinning a yarn, or just telling a joke. So, the other day when he called to tell me a story, I smiled as I gave him my full attention.

One thing about my Dad that hasn't changed since I was a little girl: he hates waste. You want to see a six-foot-two explosion? Leave a light on. Leave the water running. Order a double cheeseburger and extra fries then leave more than half of it on your plate. He grew up in a family where every bite, every sock, every penny counted. Keep the peace, eliminate waste. It's on our family crest.

Knowing this about my dad, it's of little surprise that he has a big beef with the medical field. Nary has a field existed with less wasteful practices than that of medicine. He was having a nice, slow burn the other day when he gave me a jingle to rant. He recently switched insurance companies and with that came a forced change in the supplier of his CPAP machine. Though some of the parts had been purchased, others weren't so he had to pack up everything rented and ship them back to company "A" then go down to company "B" and pick up brand new equipment. As the gentleman behind the counter at company "B" was gathering up all the little nuts and bolts that keep my wonderful father breathing peacefully every night, he added a few items that were superfluous. Being the consummate conservationist, my Dad stopped the young man and let him know that he already had the items at home. The guy waved him off and said not to worry, he wasn't being charged.



I can imagine what my dad's face looked like. One eyebrow up, his ice-blue eyes narrowed ever so slightly as though he were staring at his teenage daughter as she tried to explain how the brand-new exhaust system must have dropped out from under her car when she hit a speed bump too fast. It can be a scary look.

He asked the kid if they were planning on charging his insurance company. Well ... yeah. But HE wasn't being charged, so it's free.

The young man was then treated to a detailed explanation of what the word "free" meant, and how if someone pays for it (even if it is a big, bad insurance company) it isn't free. He then pointed out that if he doesn't need the pieces because he already has them, including them in his equipment is not only wasteful, it's borderline fraud. The point of insurance is to help people pay for the things they need, not pad the bill and the pockets of the doctors, supply companies and procedural facilities, etc. Insurance companies take enough joy in ripping off the public, when the medical world rips off the insurance companies ... well, that's just the kind of cycle my Dad has a colorfully inappropriate name for. In the end, no doubt through gritted teeth and flared nostrils, he managed to convince the employee that he would not be taking the extra items and they would not be billing his insurance.

Having worked in the medical field for the last 10 years or so, I shared this story with a few colleagues and everyone, myself included, has a tale of medical waste, and not the bodily fluid kind. Female patients who have only had women partners required to take

Please see GEN WHY on P. 14

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Fixing Congress and Other Fantasies



By Betty Van Valkenburg

Everyone has a pet "fix" for what's wrong with the government. Uncle Joe wants term limits for all politicians. Pete the barber calls for a balanced budget amendment. Others push for a Convention of States. Aunt Millie says that we need an IQ test for every candidate. (I always loved Aunt Millie.)

My favorite "fix" would be passing a bill to shut down the U. S. capitol building at least 364 days of the year and send all members of congress home to live in their own districts, sleep in their own beds with their own spouses, and live under the laws that they foist on the rest of us.

This is 2015, and representatives can vote online. They can hold webinar meetings. They can communicate through email, text, Skype, Twitter, Facebook, telephone, carrier pigeon and snail mail. They can send pictures to their new BFFs – their constituents – on Instagram.

Under my plan, they would keep regular business hours at their local offices, where they would be open to constituents and where constituents would be invited to observe all on-line votes. They would know and represent the district in which they live and work. They might actually see the properties that have been condemned and torn down to make way for high-speed rail and the businesses that are shuttered due to over regulation, over taxation and a mismanaged economy. Being full-time family members living at home again, they might run to the corner store for a dozen eggs and notice the latest grocery price hikes.

They could enjoy backyard bar-b-cues instead of elite Washington events. Their constituents could talk to them at churches, movies, parks, their kids' and grandkids' baseball games or the like. Instead of using the elite capitol gym and barber shop, they could sweat with their constituents at the local health club or listen to Pete the barber's ideas while getting a haircut.

Most importantly, they would be accessible to us, their constituents. Instead of a long and expensive cross-country flight to visit their

offices or to observe a congressional vote or meeting, we could drive a few minutes and be there. Yes, I know that they have many recesses/vacations away from D.C., but have you tried to get an appointment while they're in town?

My dream bill could be called the "Welcome to the Neighborhood Act." I haven't worked out all the details yet. Should congress meet in D.C. at least once a year or twice a year? What about a national emergency? Oh, well. If I want to appeal to politicians, I don't have to work out all the details or consider the consequences. I just have to think it's a good idea, feel warm and fuzzy about it, and then pat myself on the back and walk away.

Politicians who would pass my bill wouldn't be held accountable if the plan should fail, and neither would I. By the time the country figured it out, the politicians would have moved on to higher office and I would have probably moved on to a new precinct in the sky. Is this a serious suggestion? Perhaps

My dream bill could be called the "Welcome to the Neighborhood Act." ... I don't have to work out all the details or consider the consequences. I just have to think it's a good idea, feel warm and fuzzy about it, and then pat myself on the back and walk away.

not. But it does illustrate, I hope, that our elected representatives may be more in touch with Washington than their own districts.

We all have ideas for fixing the government – because we all know that it is seriously broken. We resent the intrusion into our lives and fear the unchecked power of

an out-of-control federal government. Most members of congress do need to be shaken out of the D. C. bubble of party politics and special privilege. And Uncle Joe's balanced budget amendment and other proposals might be desirable. But how can we make the changes needed – locally, statewide and nationally – to save a failing country? The local Tea Party is dedicated to preserving individual liberty through the principles of constitutionally limited government, free markets and fiscal responsibility. There are other organizations with similar goals, and still others dedicated to single issues such as Common Core. Perhaps we all need to work together.

Like one lonely mosquito on the backside of the "elephant in the room," you or I can't get much attention. But a horde of determined mosquitoes might get noticed. When asked to join with others on a cause we believe in, let's try saying, "Yes" and then take a big bite out of the bloated bureaucracy.

The Central Valley Tea Party promotes constitutionally limited government, free markets and fiscal responsibility. Call 412-5056 or visit WWW.CentralValleyTeaParty.com.

An Oldie but Goodie

Have you ever been in a used book store and seen the volumes of books? I love to go through them and find interesting books that I would love to read or just have in my library. Years ago, I was going through some old books in a store and found one that intrigued me. It was *The Essentials of Book Keeping* – published in 1886. I paid the 85 cents they wanted for it and took it home and treasured it. When Lauren (Randy's middle daughter) decided to change her college major to accounting, studying to be a CPA, I decided I would give it to her. Her birthday was last week, so I wrapped the book up and she now has it. Showing bookkeeping "as it used to be," before computers. Recently, Randy was in a thrift store and was going through their old books and found a cook book and bought it for me. The book is *Honest American Fare* and was published in 1981. There is no kale, hummus or pesto, but there is one whole chapter on vegetables. There are many recipes I would like to pass on to you so maybe I can do some more in a future article.

This one is from New Mexico.

Tamale Pie

- ¾ C. yellow cornmeal
 - 1 C. cold water
 - 2 C. boiling water
 - 2 T. unsalted butter
 - ¼ pound sausage meat
 - ¾ C. finely chopped onion
 - 1 large clove garlic, minced
 - 2 T. chili powder
 - ¼ tsp. ground cumin
 - ¾ lb. ground beef
 - ¼ tsp. hot pepper sauce
 - 1 stalk celery, chopped
 - 1 small Italian green pepper, finely chopped
 - 1 ½ C. seeded, peeled, chopped fresh tomatoes
 - 2 ears corn
 - 1 tsp. salt
 - ¼ C. sliced, pitted black olives
 - ½ C. grated Monterey Jack cheese
 - ¾ C. grated Mild cheddar cheese
1. Gradually stir the cornmeal



into the cold water. Stir this mixture into the boiling water in a heavy saucepan. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly; reduce heat to medium low. Add butter. Cover, cook, stirring occasionally, 35 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, cook the sausage meat in a large heavy skillet, breaking it up with a fork, over medium heat until it begins to lose its pink color. Add the onion and garlic, cook 5 minutes. Stir in the chili powder and cumin. Add the ground beef, continue to cook, breaking up meat with a fork, until beef loses its color, about 5 minutes.

3. Stir hot pepper sauce, celery and green pepper into the skillet. Cook 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, cook, stirring occasionally, 5 minutes.

4. Using a sharp knife, remove corn kernels from cob. With back of knife, scrape cobs to remove remaining kernel bits and milky residue. Add to tomato-meat mixture. Cook 10 minutes. Season with salt.

5. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly butter a 10 inch round baking dish, at least 2 inches deep. Spread two-thirds of the cornmeal mixture on sides and bottom. Spoon meat filling evenly in dish; arrange the olive slices over the top. Sprinkle with the grated cheeses.

6. Spoon the remaining cornmeal mixture evenly over the top of pie to form a crust. If the cornmeal mixture has become too thick to spread, thin it with a few drops of boiling water. Bake until golden brown, about 45 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving or serve at room temperature.

Do you have an old cook book and have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with our readers? I'd love to put it in one of the future articles. Give me a call here at the paper at 645-0634 or you can send me an e-mail at ranchosnews@yahoo.com.

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Does Our Community Have a Voice?

By Karen Petryna

Situated about 10 miles east of Madera and 10 miles north of Fresno, Southeast Madera County isn't just a roughly rectangular area on a map, it's a unique community of individual residents and business owners who appreciate the value of gracious Central Valley living. More than that, many people who live here are actively involved in a variety of organizations that treasure the area's many benefits and actively seek to preserve and improve them.

One such organization, South East Madera County United (SEMCU), was formed in 2010 by concerned citizens and business owners of the named region, an area from Highway 41 on the east to the railroad tracks on the west, from 145 on the north to the San Joaquin River on the south. Not coincidentally, this area is the same as both the territory of zip code 93636 and also the region in which every mailing address receives the Ranchos Independent newspaper monthly. So there is also a unique opportunity for everyone in the small, well-defined region of southeast Madera County to not only identify themselves geographically, but to communicate with one another via the

newspaper with advertisements, letters to the editor, as well as via the internet at SEMCU's website, SEMCU.org, and several FACEBOOK sites, including the "Ranchos Independent." But with so many communication options, can the whole community have a single voice with which to speak and be heard? And if so, could that voice be SEMCU?

Since its inception, SEMCU's original mission, to address severe water issues, has been expanded over the years to include a wide variety of issues close to the hearts of its members to inspire and support the entire community. Issues such as sustainability, community outreach, education, safety, parks, transportation, noise and energy have all been addressed through efforts such as annual soccer clinics free to all children of Madera County, annual participation in the Flatlanders' Day Parade to expand awareness, and bringing many local experts and government officials and employees to the monthly SEMCU meetings, held at 6:30 p.m. on the third Monday of the month, at the Pizza Factory on Avenue 12, to keep the community informed as well as provide the opportunity for folks to provide feedback to visitors.

SEMCU has also been an advocate of the community to fight unfair treatment by PG&E and other organizations and will continue to be a watchdog. In addition, SEMCU also began generating grant applications in earnest last year to secure funds to support the community, including the enhancement of soccer clinic resources and to conduct feasibility studies for community infrastructure improvements. The organization recently learned that it has been awarded a grant for over \$218,000 from the Department of Water Resources through its 2014 Water Energy Grant Program. The funds will allow SEMCU to run a community campaign to cover the costs of converting water fixtures, such as faucet aerators and showerheads, to low flow usage for the residents of Southeast Madera. The organization is also in the process of finding other opportunities to bring grant funding to the Ranchos and is willing to partner with members of the public to attain collective goals.

And SEMCU will do even more for the community when greater numbers get involved — the more that attend meetings, share their concerns, and volunteer their time, the stronger SEMCU's voice, the lighter the individual load, and the easier SEMCU will achieve its objective to meet the needs of all of Southeast Madera County. Check out its website at www.SEMCU.org for further details on how to become involved, as SEMCU says "By the Community, For the Community."

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LETTERS cont. from P. 4

wealthiest nation in the history of mankind. Let's return to it. How about we use the surplus revenue to fund water storage projects like Temperance Flat? Students need water, right? Mine did.

WHAT RESERVE?

I will give California credit for one thing: at least we have a budget. The federal government doesn't use a budget process anymore, I think. It's too restrictive and controlling. They have decided to use CRs (Continuing Resolutions). Any time the president needs more money he just tells congress that the federal government will soon shut down. For fear of a shutdown, congress passes a CR and raises the national debt ceiling so the U.S. can borrow and spend more money.

California's budgets are based on the previous year's revenue. That is a reactive position, as opposed to a proactive position. California drives forward while looking in the rear view mirror, oblivious or unconcerned of dangers ahead. If California's true economy continues to slow, and there is no reserve, it will be forced to borrow or make cuts in next year's budget. Does this make sense to anyone except liberals and progressives? Wouldn't it make more sense for the state to create a reserve which in turn would create stability and consistency in the services it provides and for the employees it employs?

The U.S. federal government spends \$1 TRILLION annually more than it receives. The Federal Reserve continues to stimulate the economy. All this spending just to bring the economy to a stalemate. Who really believes we are in a recovering economy? My position is we are in jeopardy and the GVUSD's budgets now and into the future should be very conservative and a "Rainy Day Fund" should be a priority. We need to be proactive and protect the district, its employees and students from reckless liberal sending policies.

Earlier this year I attempted to convey these concerns to Trustee John Moseley. California's budgeting process brings instability to districts. Without a "Rainy Day Fund," instability, inconsistency and cuts will be an ongoing part of GVUSD's future. I also expressed concern the newly elected school board would use the new one time money to financially obligate the district long term for things like pay raises. Trustee John Moseley told me he was in full agreement with California's budgeting process. He told me his personal financial policy is each year make the district's budget on the projected revenue and spend it all. He does not believe in a "Rainy Day Fund."

What experience and qualifications do Moseley and his coalition possess that would enable them to properly manage an \$18 million a year school district? To my knowledge Neal has none; Crumpton has a small home business as a piano teacher and Moseley's is all

bad. Moseley and his coalition are unqualified. My opinion is we are in trouble. The economy is in trouble and we have three liberal and/or progressive GVUSD board members in the majority. We need to remove Trustees Moseley, Crumpton and Neal before their liberal ideas, direction and policies destroy our school district. Vote YES to recall Moseley, Crumpton and Neal.

Now I may say some controversial things. I am only speaking for myself. The following are my own personal opinions and objectives and mine only as far as I know. I speak for no one else!

FIRST, it is my intention to return Andrew Alvarado to GVUSD as its superintendent. That has not changed. If I have learned anything from Trustee Crumpton, it is that determination and perseverance create opportunity. If in four years trustee Crumpton could force out a popular superintendent without cause and little or no community support, I'm determined I can return Andrew in much less time. I'm just as committed and I have much community support.

SECOND, I like would like to take this opportunity to endorse candidates Brian Freedman for Area 4, Mona Diaz for Area 1 and Maria Knobloch for Area 2 in the recall election. Here are the reasons for my decision: I do not know in what condition the school district will be after the election. I don't know the long and short term consequences and challenges before the district as a result of decisions from these unqualified board members. I hope for the best but I'm preparing for the worst. Therefore, it's my opinion we need new trustees who need only a little or no learning curve. I believe we need to mitigate our risk and cut our losses in this election. I think at this time it's too risky to elect unexperienced, un-vetted candidates who have little or no track record to judge by. Isn't that how we got to this point? It's also my opinion we need new trustees who know and have worked with Andrew Alvarado prior and understand the leadership and experience he brings to the problems and will act to return Andrew as soon as possible as GVUSD superintendent. It's also my opinion we need to restore the prior functioning school board as much as possible (minus trustee Crumpton) to the board so we can move forward with haste and no mistakes. I expect the new board to quickly move forward with issues such as completing the potential \$6 million grant proposal that was interrupted by the separation of the superintendent. I also expect the new board to move forward, preparing for new course offerings and electives such as career vocational training as a result of a successful grant proposal.

To those of you considering a candidacy for GVUSD board of trustees, it is not my intention to offend or discourage you if you feel

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 11

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The Bookshelf

Summer Reading Program Nears

By Amanda Judd

The Ranchos Library wants to thank you all for contributing to such a successful Flatlander's Day Craft Fair. What a lovely day it was; the weather was perfect. Thank you to all of our vendors, you were incredibly efficient and it made for such a smooth set up. Thank you to the community for coming out to show support for our Ranchos Library, it was a great turnout. Thank you to every individual who gave his or her time to make this event happen. We could not have done it without you.

Now that Flatlander's is in our rearview mirror, we are gearing up for the Summer Reading Program. We will be "Reading to the Rhythm" and exploring books and music. The program will run from the week of June 15 through – and will officially end – the week ending July 25. We will be kicking off with author and illustrator Steven Riley. Riley will be giving his presentation on June 18 at 11 a.m. Be certain to stop in and get signed up. We will be having additional various performances throughout the weeks. As a special treat for our closing performance on July 23, our final performer will be Brandon

Gray, "The Bubble Man." We are really excited to get moving through the summer and hope that you will be here to join in on the fun. It is sure to be a great and rewarding time.

Did you know that you can also check out books on your E-Reader? You may simply download the 3M app (Nook, Android, iOS, Kindle Fire, Mac and PC computers) to access free eBooks using your library card. It is easy to get started. If you need assistance please see the reference desk and we will be happy to help you. It is even faster using the Ranchos Library WiFi connection. You can link your devices and read wherever you are. It has never been any simpler to keep a book with you.

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www.MaderaCountyLibrary.org

LETTERS cont. from P. 10

compelled to run. I would like you to consider a few things beforehand and if still compelled, jump in in 2018. From observing school boards for 23 years, being elected to a school board will likely be the greatest SACRIFICE you and your family will ever make. You will be out of town many weekends per year attending district business. Twice a month you will receive a board packet consisting of about 300 pages. Two weekends a month will be dedicated to reading that packet, doing your homework, researching the information and asking questions so you will be prepared to make important decisions. You will receive many phone calls at inopportune times, probably from me. You may lose friends because of positions you take and decisions you make. You will receive very little monetary compensation for your sacrifice. GVUSD and its students will be a very large part of you and your family. If this does not discourage you, great!

My advice to a newcomer is, start by requesting the board packet now. Start reading it, do the research and be prepared to participate at school board meetings. Engage and interact with

the board. Offer new ideas and solutions so you will be prepared when you do win your election.

God bless.

Warren Parr
 Madera Ranchos

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

Send your letters to:

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Our Precious Things

Yesterday I was driving through some farmland near Hanford. I was struck by the sight of an old barn. It's not that it's so very rare to see an old

barn in the Valley, but what stood out to me was the fact that the ground all around the old barn had been tilled and prepared for planting. The land was valuable for producing food. The barn, however, was so broken down that it would neither provide a proper covering for harvested crops, nor a safe shelter for animals. It was obvious that the barn was left there on purpose, but why?

Here are some questions I would ask the old barn's owner:

What significance does the barn have to you, your family, or community? Does seeing it produce good feelings and happy memories? Is it being saved out of obligation or guilt? Is it being saved with the understanding that the next generation can have the same freedom to choose what to do with it without obligation or guilt? Is there plenty of land for crops without using the

land the barn is on? If the space is needed for something else, is there a way you could keep a portion of the barn instead of the whole thing?

When people call for my organizing services some are fearful that I'll expect them to throw "everything" away. Certainly a professional organizer wouldn't see the value in saving an old barn, right? Wrong! I enjoyed seeing the barn as I drove through the countryside. I assume they do too.

The owners of the barn acted intentionally. They chose to keep the barn. Other buildings from the past, a farmhouse, chicken coop and fencing had most likely been removed at some point. They didn't keep it all, just because it had history.

One of my favorite sayings is: "If everything's precious, then nothing's precious." How many things that you have from the past are

being kept intentionally? When we don't give thought to what we have or how we keep it, the value of the truly precious things can be compromised. The boxes of old college text books might be sitting on top of Great Grandma's wedding album or our own kids' baby books.

Here are some questions and tips to guide you as you give value to the precious things and release the rest.

Is this item adding value to my life right now? If not, can it add value to someone else's life? Today my client boxed up her collection of horse figurines to give to a friend's daughter. They were no longer adding value to her life, but would certainly be enjoyed and appreciated by this young girl.

Can I display what's precious or a portion of

Please see **ORGANIZED** on P. 17



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Liberty High School

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2. Boy Scouts Troop 118 (Color Guard)
3. Boy Scouts Troop 118

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2. Rod Connor Trucking
3. Life Tree Church

Float -- Non Profit

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3. SEMCU

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1. Hayden Jackson -- Miss California Princess

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1. Frank Bigelow
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The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, always the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. 37167 Ave. 12 Suite 5C. Call us at 645-4001.

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Business Profile

Grandma's Recipes at Juanita's

Rigo Rivas and Juana Duran and good friends and business partners Geri and Todd Larson are the proud owners of the Madera Ranchos' newest business: Juanita's Taqueria.

Juanita's specializes in authentic, freshly made Mexican food with recipes handed down for several generations from Juana's grandmother. They offer a variety of entrees both for dine in and take out, and they offer a unique Salsa Bar with five different types of salsa to suit a variety of tastes.

Juanita's just celebrated their first Cinco de Mayo with a banner day where they sold over 200 tamales in just a few hours. "Business has been great," said Todd Larson. "We've been welcomed by the Ranchos community and we are happy to support the com-

munity in any way we can."

Todd and Juana oversee day-to-day operations and Geri assists as a server. Rivas and Duran have successfully owned and operated The Ranchos Café for the past three years and Rivas continues to run the day-to-day operations of the Rancho's Café.

Future plans for Juanita's include serving beer and wine and opening their outside patio for dining which increases their seating capacity from 45 to an additional 25 more.

Juanita's Taqueria is located at 37275 Avenue 12 Suite D, next to Christi's Place. They are open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday and are closed on Monday. If you would like information on party or catering needs, call Todd or Juana at 660-5458.

GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

pregnancy tests prior to receiving the birth control pill, despite the fact that the pill would be helping her menstrual cycle not preventing pregnancy. Patients who are automatically given an array of STD testing as part of an exam regardless of them not being sexually active. Patients not able to return medical equipment after it is no longer needed. Equipment that could be easily cleaned and reused is left to gather dust in a garage rather than be put to good use and bring down cost.

Wellness checks and testing to figure out what is ailing a patient aside, the medical field is known to

be a bit careless with its resources. The paperwork alone that is triplicated then triplicated again is the leading cause for deforestation in the western world. In my own department we have, on more than one occasion, scheduled additional home visits because we didn't quite get the paperwork right the first time. But hey, it's not like the patient pays so that means it's free, right? It's hard for some people to worry about what the insurance company is charged when our hard earned money lines their pockets every month. But, perhaps, if we first eliminated the waste we could then focus on getting the insurance rates under control. Oh man, I sound like my Dad.

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- Wednesday, June 24, 2015
- Thursday, June 25, 2015

- EARLY-MORNING SESSION (AGES 6 to 9): Registration 7:00am; Clinics 8:00am - 9:30am
- MID-MORNING SESSION (AGES 10 to 13): Registration 9:00am; Clinics 9:30am - 11:30am
- EVENING SESSION (AGES 14 to H.S. Senior): Registration 5:30pm; Clinics 6:00pm - 8:00pm

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1. Via Facebook - "Madera County Soccer Fest"
2. Madera Parks and Community Services - <http://goo.gl/dqwZOC>


In-Person Pre-registration Locations:

1. Zabe Mortgage Group - 1609 Howard Road, Madera, CA 93637
2. Clark's Performance - 12271 Topper Road, Madera, CA 93638
3. Madera Parks and Community Services - 701 E. 5th Street, Madera, CA 93638

Raffle prizes to be awarded at the close of each session, including a chance to win tickets with transportation included to the Seattle Sounders vs. LA Galaxy game in Los Angeles on 8/9/2015

For further information please visit Madera Parks and Community Services website at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/maderapcsrec> • (559) 661-5495
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DUBLIN cont. from P. 2

from the ground surface.

Water Measurements

When the Dublin Well was drilled in November of 2013 to 550 feet below ground, the static water level was at 305.9 feet BGS (below ground surface) according to the Wood Rodgers Construction Summary Report, dated February 2014. After several pump tests conducted in December 2013 at rates of 600, 800 and 1,500 gpm, Wood Rodgers determined that the pump should be placed at 420 feet BGS to achieve a pumping groundwater surface level of approximately 350 feet BGS in the well. So it remains to be seen, after the added year and a half of drought that has ensued, what the current static water level is in the well, let alone if Wood Rodgers' estimates will hold. Nevertheless, the well's 150 horsepower pump is scheduled to finish being set sometime during the last week of May, according to Alqutami who also said PG&E is on schedule to have the electrical connections done by June 9 and Grizzly is on schedule to have the facility up and running by June 15. In the meantime, said White, his company is currently testing the already installed pipeline down Dublin Drive with water from the nearby fire hydrant that has been chlorinated, in order to sanitize it. Grizzly will have to ensure that the works they have installed are bacteria free, just as the county must ensure the same for the Water System network before the two parts can be connected together, Alqutami said.

Comparing Dublin

Asked to compare the size and complexity of the Dublin Well facility, White said he only knew of one comparable site in Riverdale where it had been necessary to drill below the naturally occurring arsenic there to 1,800 feet BGS. He said that even with plans to drill to that depth, it was anticipated that arsenic would still be encountered and a water treatment component had also been expected to be needed. However, when no arsenic was detected upon completion and testing of the

well, the treatment plant was not completed. Alqutami added that naturally occurring arsenic is found at varying depths in many regions and it can also vary in depth greatly within a very short horizontal distance.

Arsenic Not a Factor

Arsenic was also a big concern for the Dublin Well and critical measures were taken to ensure it did not contaminate the groundwater that was tapped into in order to prevent one of the very costly options of either abandoning the well and drilling another or maintaining a water treatment plant. Expenses associated with a treatment plant include using carbon filters and then disposing of them as hazardous waste and also continuously monitoring the filter efficiency by manually taking samples before, during and after treatment and having those samples analyzed by a laboratory. To minimize the possibility of any arsenic impact, three monitoring wells were installed at various depths first to ensure the well casing would not be "screened," or perforated to allow water entry in a soil lens containing arsenic. Second, the well was drilled in a two-stage process. Initially a 50-foot, 48-inch diameter borehole was drilled. Next, a steel casing was inserted. Following that, a mixture of sand and cement was pushed into the gap between the hole and the casing under pressure using a "tremie" pipe in order to create a sanitary seal. And finally, a new 32-inch diameter borehole was drilled from 50 to 550 feet. By this method the well design by Wood Rodgers, which was installed by Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company, also minimizes the possibility of contamination from the surface entering the well and the area near the surface.

Controversies Remain

Despite having involving the latest science and technology, as well as planning for the future, the Dublin Well and its facility have been subject to a fair amount of controversy, much of which remains. First and foremost, at least in retrospect, it seems unfathomable that the location for the well, while ideal for the system, would be chosen without regard to the surrounding private well owners who will not be allowed to connect to the system. This is because the well is located outside the MD-10A assessment boundary which borders property owners who have paid several thousand dollars to be allowed to connect to the system. County officials, particularly former County Engineer Ken Vang and former Supervisor Manuel Nevarez, have argued very publicly that owners of private wells that are located outside the assessment boundary, like the Dublin Well, must organize themselves and pay for an election and vote for an expanded assessment boundary so that they can also be assessed and pay what would be a significantly higher amount of the thousands

Please see **DUBLIN** on P. 17

Senior Report

Catch the Monarchs Before They Fly

By Patti Groh

It was a beautiful day for the Flatlanders Day. Hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. I know our seniors in the golf carts had a lot of fun. The Chamber of Commerce works hard to plan and accomplish all the logistics for the parade. Thank you. We seniors are proud to have been a part of it for 25 years.

Speaking of the Chamber, if you missed the mixer at the Senior Center you missed some good food. It is really nice to meet local business owners and members of the local Chamber.

By print time, the seniors will have taken a trip to Home Grown Cellars to see the Monarch butterflies. The butterfly sanctuary closes in June, but it is still a good place to visit with a Farm Country Store, picnic tables under trees (which the Seniors are taking advantage of), and kid's play area. It's located at Avenue 14 and Road 20 and the June hours are Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The owners are retired teachers and offer interesting information.

Now we're in June and again have our usual activities: Board meeting June 2 at 6:30 p.m., monthly sale June 6 from 8 a.m. to noon,

general meeting June 8 at 6:30 p.m. and a planning meeting June 22 at 12:30 p.m. On June 20 the June birthdays will be celebrated at the Burrito King in Madera at 11:30 p.m. Afterward, we will take a tour of the County Court House. If you want to be part of it and/or car pool, please sign up at the center.

The 21st of June is Father's Day. Most of we seniors' don't have our fathers here anymore, but it is certainly a good day for memories. Of course, the fathers of our children and grandchildren will deserve some special attention. I've heard one definition of a father as one whose daughter marries a man who is vastly her inferior, but then gives birth to unbelievably brilliant grandchildren. Yup.

The Treasure House is open, the Garden, the Boutique and wonderful homemade baked goods are available. Also, be aware that tasty jams/jellies are always available to purchase at the Center.

Again, some fun activities going on with the seniors. Please come and join us.

For more information or if you have any questions, please call (559) 645-4864. The center is located at 37330 Berkshire Drive in the Madera Ranchos.

EDITORIAL cont. from P. 5

tics lie. I don't care who you voted for or who you support. This is flat-out wrong. These people are running over the top of us and not even pretending to care what we have to say about any of it. Their arrogance is appalling, their condescension is palpable. From the beginning I, along with a whole lot of other people, have just wanted to know one thing about their collective decisions: Why? Why did you sever ties with Andy? Why should it take the full 14 days to accept the Recall papers from the County? Why couldn't an election date be determined on that 14th day? Why have a separate meeting to determine an election date and then guarantee it would have the least possible amount of representation from the public?

Why did you pick THAT date?

Their silence is deafening. Mix that with their confused look as if to say, "We don't *have* to tell you anything," and you start to grasp the depth of this situation. They don't care, they're not responsible to anyone except themselves and that's just how it is.

Despicable.

One of the main purposes of a recall election is to get unresponsive people whose actions are harming the electorate out before they do any more damage. You can vote any way you like on this issue but I've got to ask you: Don't you deserve better? At the very minimum, don't you deserve to be heard and listened to?

I know three people whose actions prove they obviously don't think so.



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DUBLIN cont. from P. 15

of dollars necessary to be allowed to connect to the MD-10A Water System.

And while Vang may have achieved agreement to add another well to the system, although no meeting minutes were ever recorded, from the informal Citizen Oversight Committee with whom he and other County staff met, members of the recently formalized and then disbanded committee say they were not privy to the well location decision-making process, let alone to choose a well location “upgradient,” or uphill, water-wise, and outside the MD-10A assessment boundary.

ORGANIZED cont. from P. 12

it? Maybe your mother’s 12 place settings of china have been boxed in the garage for 15 years. Displaying one place setting where you can see and enjoy it and then sharing the rest through a donation gives it much more value.

Rather than storing a bag of rocks in the garage, stuffing a quilt to the back of a closet and storing an old dress in a trunk, I created a shadowbox with three of the rocks my grandpa tumbled, a small square my grandma pieced, a snip of lace from her 50th Anniversary dress and a pin with the grandchildren’s birthstones. So much more valuable where we can see and enjoy the memories these items represent.

A client who has collected many things over

The Dublin Well should be on-line and operating very soon adding a much-needed boost of water, pressure and reliability to the MD-10A Water System, but it will be some time yet before its full effects are felt.

Between issues of the Ranchos Independent and notices of community meetings, events and news are provided automatically to those who “Like” the Ranchos Independent Facebook site. What’s more, choosing “Get Notifications” under the “Liked” menu ensures these notices show up in your “Facebook feed.”

the years is moving across the country to be closer to her children. Before we began the process of downsizing, I took pictures of each room where her treasures are displayed. She won’t be able to move them all, but she will have photos of how they were in the house she loved.

I encourage you to take a trip down memory lane. Let go of the boxes and baggage that may bog you down. Be intentional about keeping that which adds value to your life and share what will add value to someone else.

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

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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	-		x		14
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	x		+		17
22		10		15	

1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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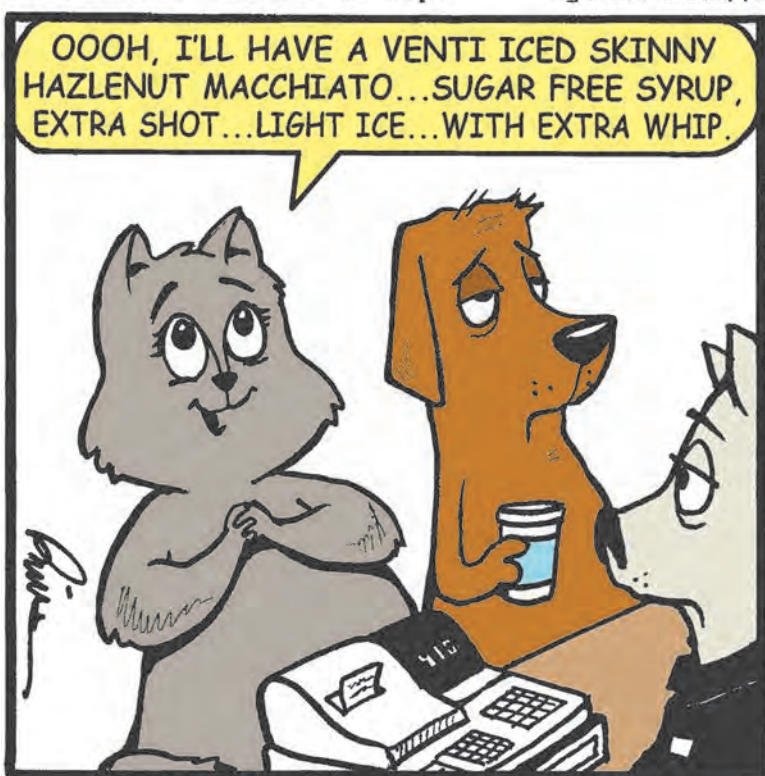
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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your Aries self-esteem level is high, as is your impatience to see more action come your way in the workplace. Good news, Lamb: It could start to happen sooner than you think.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Changing things now could upset a lot of people. But if you feel you're acting because you believe it's the right thing to do, others will understand and even come to support you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A change of mind might not necessarily be a change of heart. You still want to go ahead with your plans, but you might see a better way to make them happen. So go for it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An old business dispute could re-emerge and possibly affect upcoming negotiations. Consider opening up the situation to include suggestions from others on both sides of the issue.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Some Leos and Leonas might find it somewhat difficult to get their ideas accepted or even considered. But that's only for a while. Things will soon return to the way you like them.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) The pace seems to be slowing down from the hectic on-the-job run you recently enjoyed. But be assured that you're still in the race to pick up new workplace-related goodies.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Seasonal changes create opportunities for busy Librans. However, be sure to balance your workload with your personal life so that you don't overdo it on one end or the other.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A former critic could make a surprise turnaround and become a supporter. But if your Scorpion sense suspects a questionable motive, who are the rest of us to doubt it?

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Data on a new project seems less than dependable. But it might turn out to be just the opposite. Consult with someone who knows how you might best be able to check it out.

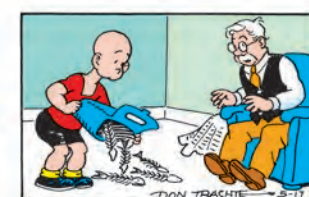
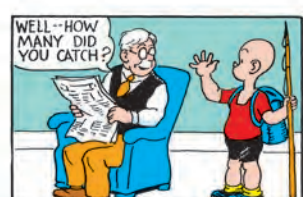
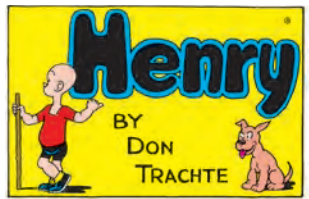
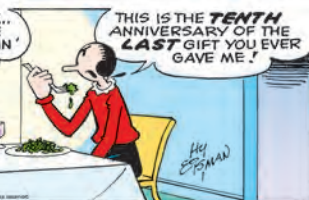
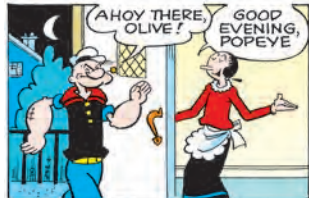
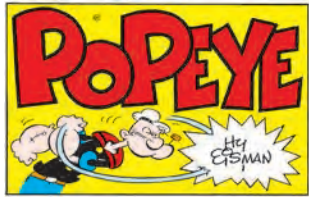
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Capricorneans face many decisions this week, with the Sea Goat's kids rating high on the consideration scale, especially regarding vacations and upcoming school matters.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Showing that you care is what Aquarians do so well. It's your very special skill. And this week, you'll have several chances to show off that gift for a very special person. Good luck.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) That streak of Piscean wariness should serve you well this week should you be among those who come up against a slippery character offering a fishy deal with nothing to back it up.

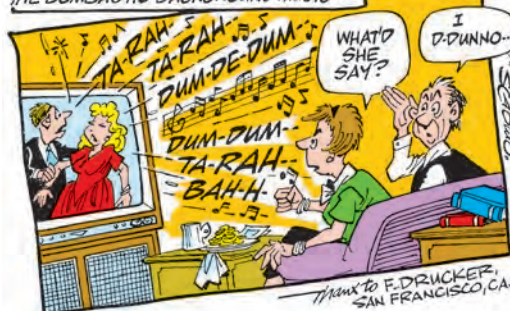
Born this Week
 You have an artist's sense of how to help others see,
 as you do, the beautiful things about the world.

FUN PAGES

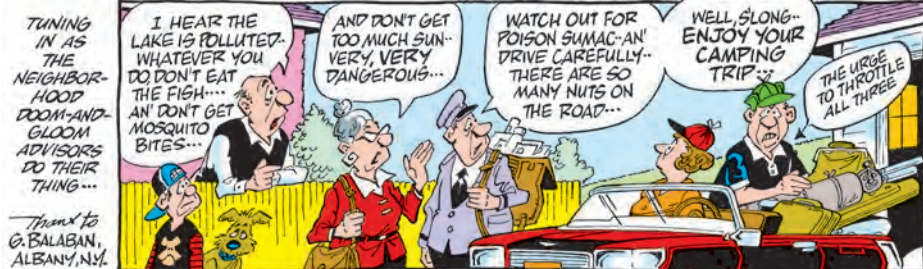
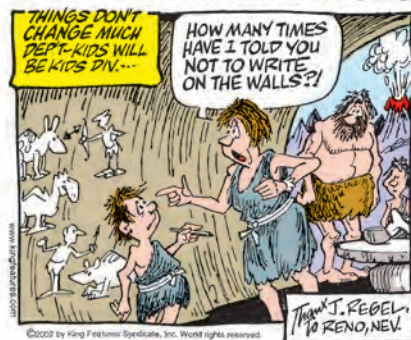


THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

PEOPLE WE CAN DO WITHOUT--THE GENIUS WHO DUBS IN THE BOMBASTIC BACKGROUND MUSIC...



BY AL SCADUTO



Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

CASE LOAD! Dear Hal: What writ would you say is the lifeblood of the U.S. judicial system? Dear Pal: I would say the Writ of Habeas Corpus. Dear Hal: What branch of the judiciary deals with BB-gun cases? Dear Pal: The Pelet Division. Dear Hal: What court should be consulted about stunted shellfish? Dear Pal: Small Clams Court.



CRATER
 2 S _ _ _ _ K
 3 R _ _ _ _ D
 4 B _ _ _ _ H
 5 H _ _ _ _ H
 6 G _ _ _ _ R

SUM FUN! If six times a certain number is as much less than 100 as it is more than 20, what is the number? Answer quickly, if you can.

RATE AND SEE EXERCISE

How do you rate when using letters of the word RATE (see above)? Object is to rearrange these four letters as necessary to form longer words in accord with these definitions:



1. Volcano mouth (already in place).
 2. Go fast.
 3. Hinder progress.
 4. Small amount of fresh air.
 5. Firedog station.
 6. Neighborhood pinnacle.
 Order of the Time limit: 3 min.

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Wishing Well

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

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

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MAGIC MAZE

U.S. GOLD MEDALIST AT THE 2008 SUMMER OLYMPICS

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

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

Cafaro	Gould	Madden	Tunncliffe
Clay	Harper	Peisol	Whipple
Coughlin	Liukin	Phelps	Zagunis
Eller	Lochte	Soni	

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BIG BASH! Mirror, mirror on the wall, it's prom time! Add the following colors: 1-Red, 2-Lt. blue, 3-Yellow, 4-Lt. brown, 5-Flesh tones, 6-Lt. green, 7-Dk. brown, 8-Purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words:

POETICAL

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the name of the island where Thomas the Tank Engine (of children's books and film) and his friends live?
- GEOGRAPHY: In what U.S. state is Mount Rushmore located?
- SPORTS FIGURES: What sport made Jack Dempsey famous?
- LITERATURE: In what year did J.D. Salinger publish the novel "The Catcher in the Rye"?
- MOVIES: In what year was the film "The Dirty Dozen" released?
- MYTHOLOGY: According to Greek myth, what was the name of the monster with 100 dragon heads?
- LANGUAGE: What is the practice of anthropophagy more commonly known as?
- HISTORY: What Native American tribe did Pocahontas belong to?
- MUSIC: In what country was composer Frederic Chopin born?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: How old was Theodore Roosevelt when he was sworn into office?

Answers

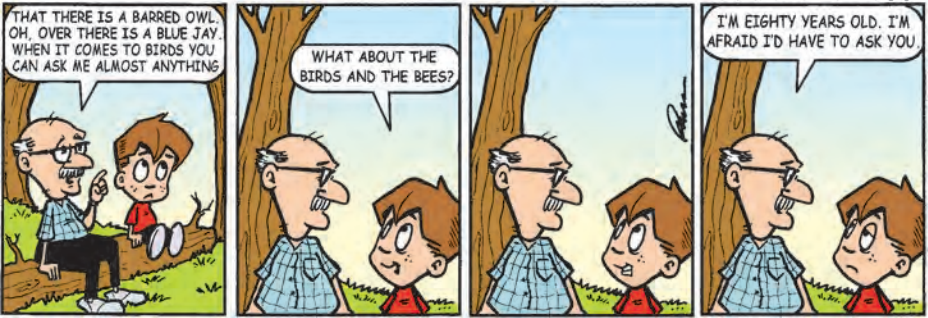
- Sodor
- South Dakota
- Boxing
- 1951
- 1967
- Typhon
- Cannibalism
- Powhatan
- Poland
- 10, 42

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Click on "Local News" at

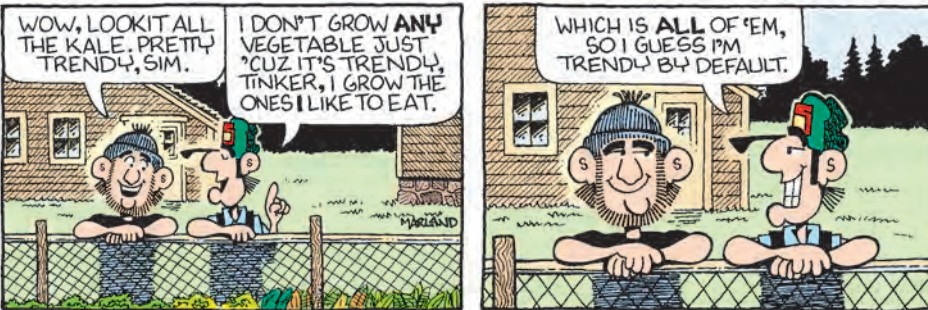
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



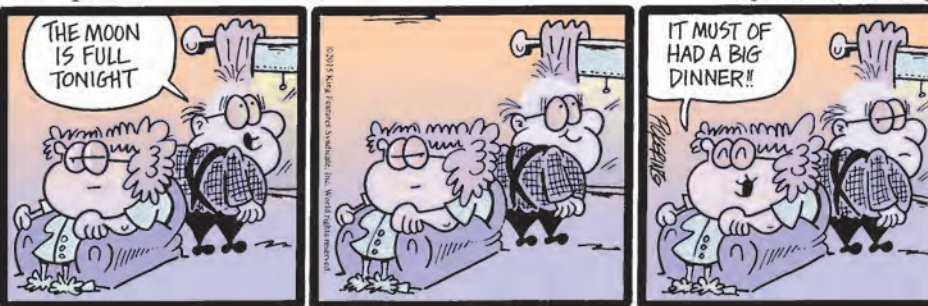
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

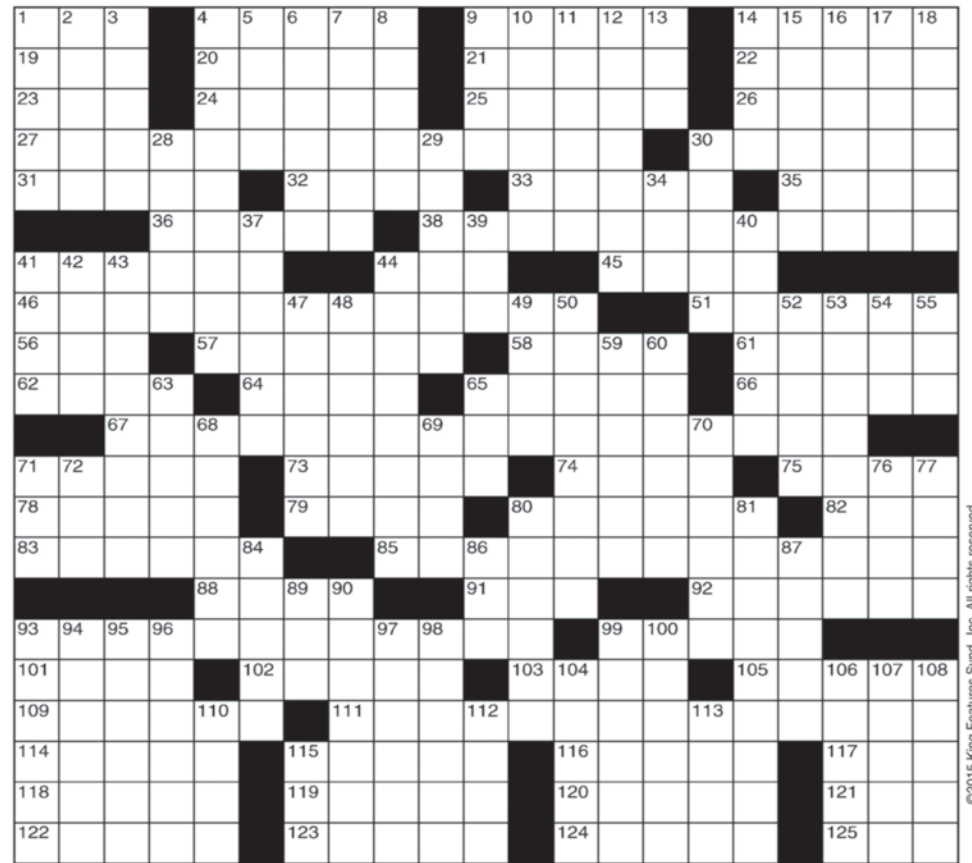
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Doghouse is missing; 2. Post is missing; 3. Shirt design is different; 4. Shirts are different; 5. Arm is moved; 6. Kite tail is shorter; 7. Kite is moved; 8. Kite tail is shorter; 9. Kite tail is shorter.

Super Crossword



- | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 56 — Banos, California | 93 What a great ad campaign leads to | DOWN | 40 Sister of Hansel | 77 Peat source |
| 1 Completed | 57 All tangled up | 99 Plant pest | 1 Credit's opposite | 41 Sch. near Beverly Hills | 80 Tries to shred |
| 4 Tea leaf readers, e.g. | 58 Friable soil | 101 Grimm nasty | 2 2011 hurricane | 42 Experts | 81 More elastic |
| 9 Title for Macbeth | 61 — degree or another | 102 Pan-fry | 3 Air current | 43 Mount with presidents' heads | 84 Fischer's skill |
| 14 Places to pitch tents | 62 Arthur of tennis | 103 Lane of song | 4 Safari sites | 44 Bone of the lower chest | 86 Suffix with glob or duct |
| 19 Transgress | 64 Home of Iowa State | 105 Gymnast Comaneci | 5 Part of QED | 47 Bring harm to | 87 Apt rhyme for "treadle" |
| 20 Bow go-with | 65 Organisms of a region | 109 Encore-eliciting cries | 6 "Marty" star Borgnine | 48 Mendel of genetics | 89 Lupino of film |
| 21 Dignity | 66 Chew go scenery | 111 What many shards are | 7 Sonata parts | 49 Skater Kulik | 90 Like always |
| 22 Largest city in Nebraska | 67 Hand-softened "superfood" dish | 114 Handle the party food | 8 Exchanges | 50 Fonz's quality | 93 Lynx variety |
| 23 Arthur of TV | 71 "1492" director Ridley | 115 Lake — Vista, Florida | 9 Hot cuisine | 52 "Traffic" actor Milian | 94 "Hellcats" actress Gail |
| 24 White of TV | 73 Pierces | 116 George who played Sulu | 10 Bigwig | 53 Fiber for newsprint | 95 Expert talker |
| 25 Writer Dillard | 74 Condé — | 117 Suffix with neat | 11 Heat to prevent stress | 54 Wee colonist | 96 Intense |
| 26 Prohibited acts | 75 Cyberjunk | 118 Love to bits | 12 In a racket-filled way | 55 "— haw!" | 97 Goddess with an owl |
| 27 Gougers charge them | 78 More ticked | 119 Scourges | 13 Prior to, in poems | 59 "Relax, Gil!" | 98 Less fat |
| 30 Warrants | 79 A Great Lake | 120 Sister of Fred Astaire | 14 Pylon shape | 60 Assembled as one body | 99 Chafe |
| 31 Sioux division | 80 Turns back to 000 | 121 Blasting aid | 15 Indifferent to ethics | 63 All gone, as dinner | 100 Snuck a look |
| 32 Just OK | 82 Sci-fi hoverer | 122 Car rollers, in London | 16 Capital of the Philippines | 65 Bible divs. | 104 Test models |
| 33 Papa Doc's country | 83 Like paradise | 123 Actor Gable | 17 Light particle | 68 Not lax at all | 106 "Purgatorio" poet |
| 35 First-aid flora | 85 Result of dropping a bushel, maybe | 124 Jewish ritual meal | 18 Wised off to | 69 Elk's kin | 107 "Of Thee —" |
| 36 No-see-ums | 88 Plant "pet" | 125 Something associated with the first words of this puzzle's seven longest answers | 28 Corporate symbols | 70 Fasten | 108 Invite to join at |
| 38 Symptom of mumps | 91 45s' relatives | | 29 Nun's beads | 71 Reno-to-Nicki | 110 Mined finds |
| 41 Tumult | 92 Flimsy pancakes | | 30 Rapper | 72 Chowder fish | 112 Duty |
| 44 Air safety gp. | | | 31 Rapper | 76 For — (not gratis) | 113 Editor's strike-out |
| 45 1492, e.g. | | | 32 Rapper | | 115 Telly giant |
| 46 Pesto ingredient | | | 33 Driving range peg | | |
| 51 Portable enplaning bridge | | | 37 Concert sites | | |
| | | | 39 — -Mart | | |

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- Easy-to-operate two speed hydrostatic transmission
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MTC10X110504RI-4C



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