

# The Ranchos Independent



PRSRST STD  
ECR  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MADERA, CA.  
PERMIT NO. 61

Volume 10 Issue 1 2014

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

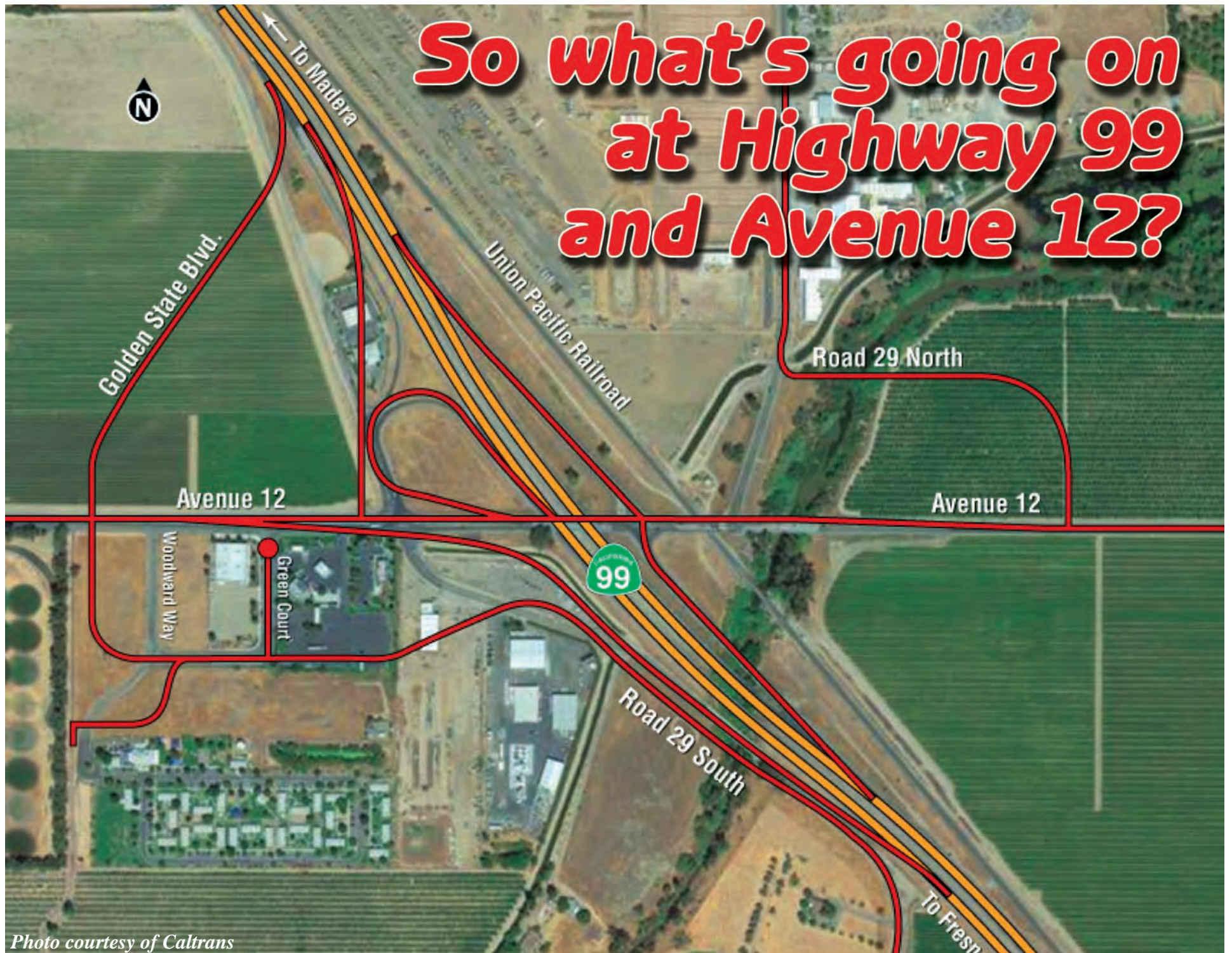
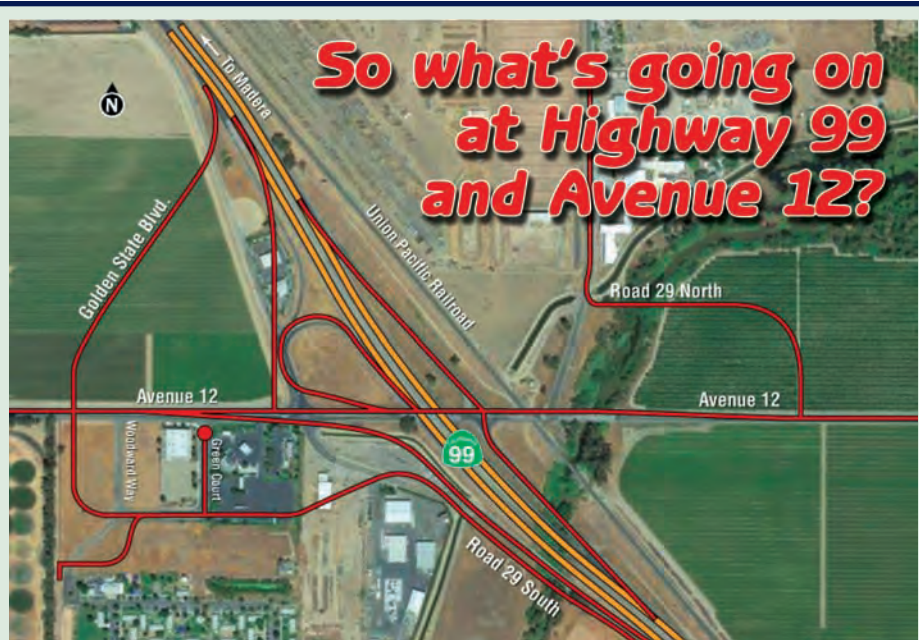


Photo courtesy of Caltrans

## In This Issue

Editorial • Page 5 / Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes • Page 8  
Classifieds • Page 22 / Fun Pages • Pages 26 & 27





By Randy Bailey

Here's a riddle: What will cost \$84 million and won't be completed until the winter of 2016?

Did you guess the intersection at Highway 99 and Avenue 12? Congratulations.

If you have travelled westbound on Avenue 12 at any time since last April, you have probably wondered exactly what "they" are doing to the intersection at Highway 99. Here is what is being done and who "they" are.

As you probably figured out, "they" is Caltrans, the state-run department that manages more than 50,000 miles of California's highways and freeways. Caltrans' literature states that the purpose of the project at 12 and 99 is to make, "... operational improvements to the State Route 99 and Avenue 12 Interchange within Madera County in order to upgrade the existing interchange." Caltrans estimates the improvements are needed in the name of safety in an attempt to accommodate the increases in traffic that the future will bring.

Caltrans has planned out the project to include constructing a brand new Avenue 12 bridge over Highway 99, just north of the existing one. In the process, modifications are going to be made along both westbound and eastbound Avenue 12 and Road 29, both north and south, is being completely reconfigured.

If you've been through that area you know that the Jack in the Box, Johnny Quik and AM-PM stations have all been torn down. The AM-PM came out to accommodate a new southbound 99 off-ramp onto Avenue 12. The Johnny Quik and Jack in the Box had to go to make way for the new southbound Road 29 and a new southbound on-

Please see 99/12 on P. 20

## Thieves Posing as House Roofers Steal 101-Year-Old Citizen's Safe

The Madera County Sheriff's Office is investigating a weekend robbery in Chowchilla where two men posing as roofers entered a man's home and made off with his safe.

The homeowner, who is 101 years old, said at around 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, two Hispanic men in their 30s or 40s and wearing dark clothing with one wearing a baseball cap, showed up at his house located on Robertson Blvd. Both men claimed they were there to fix the victim's roof and both men were let in. No weapons were used, as the roofing ruse was enough for the two suspects to gain entry.

While one suspect sat with the victim discussing repair costs, the second suspect wandered through the residence. No sooner had a deal for repairs been struck and the suspects left. It was then that the homeowner discovered his safe was missing.

Roughly one hour later, deputies found the safe on the outskirts of the Ranchos near the intersection of Road 33 and Avenue 7 – roughly 29 miles away from the victim's home.

Anyone with information is urged to call the Madera County Sheriff's Office at 559-675-7770 or CRIME STOPPERS at 498-STOP.

## Armed and Dangerous Fugitive Loose, Running in Madera County



Nineteen-year-old Brandunn Wilson is wanted in both Fresno and Madera counties on a felony drug warrant and for felony vandalism. Authorities consider him armed and dangerous.

A 19-year-old Fresno man who managed to elude authorities during a pursuit through North Fork in mid-January is wanted in both Fresno and Madera counties.

Brandunn Wilson is wanted on a felony drug warrant out of Fresno County and he is also wanted in Madera County for felony vandalism. He was last seen riding in a 1997 Toyota 4Runner, silver in color. It is not known if he was the driver or the passenger in the vehicle

and at this hour his whereabouts are unknown.

Wilson stands 6 feet tall and weighs approximately 210 pounds. He has blue eyes and long brown hair. In the attached booking photo, which was taken in May of 2013, it shows Wilson with his hair pulled back in a single braid.

Anyone who may have information is urged to call the Madera County Sheriff's Office at 559-675-7770 or Crime Stoppers at 498-STOP.

## Bigelow Named Vice-Chair of Powerful State Committee

As the California legislature reconvened on Jan. 6 for the 2014 legislative session, Assemblyman Frank Bigelow (R-O'Neals) was named Vice-Chair of the powerful Assembly Appropriations Committee. Bigelow succeeds Assemblywoman Diane Harkey (R-Dana Point) as the lead Republican on the committee that has jurisdiction over state spending.

"I'm honored that my colleagues have put their trust in me to lead Republicans on the Assembly Appropriations Committee," Bigelow said. "I'm committed to reigning in state spending and growing private sector job creation for California's working families."



Assembly Republican Leader Connie Conway (R-Tulare) explained that Bigelow's real-world experience makes him an ideal choice to lead Republicans on the committee.

"Frank Bigelow has a proven record of fiscal stewardship as a County Supervisor and as a businessman. He has helped build a surplus at the local level and consistently voted against unnecessary and unaffordable government spending. As Vice Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, he is well-positioned to hold bureaucrats accountable for how they spend the people's tax dollars," said Assembly Republican Leader Connie Conway.

Click on "Local News" at



# Former Madera Police Chief Announces Bid for Sheriff

Michael Kime, former Chief of the Madera Police Department, has announced his intention to run for Sheriff of Madera County in the upcoming 2014 election.

Kime led the Madera police department for 10 years, until retiring in October of 2012. During that time, the number of Madera police officers was increased by 10 to 61 and police emergency response times were improved, Kime said. A gang task force was implemented and DUI accidents and

alcohol related fatalities were also greatly reduced.

Incidents of graffiti – once out of control – were also largely eliminated through a joint police, city and community task force, Kime said.

Formerly a Lieutenant with the Sacramento Police Department, Kime also credits his service in the military and reaching the rank of Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps, as being formative. He has over 40 years of experience in law enforcement and holds a Bachelor's degree in

Criminal Justice, is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, holds a POST Executive certificate and has more than 3,000 hours of additional specialized police training. He additionally holds a teaching credential and has taught college-level courses at various police academies.

Kime resides in the city of Madera and is currently engaged in law enforcement consulting.

Michael Kime can be reached at 559-416-9473 or by email at kimeforsheriff@gmail.com.



3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com



**OPEN LATE  
MON-SUN  
FOR WORKING  
PEOPLE  
LIKE YOU!**

1/14

**Winter Hours: Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Truckload Pricing on  
ALL FENCING  
MATERIALS  
all month**

**WE CARRY ALL NAME-BRAND FEED.**

**ALFALFA CUBES  
\$389  
per ton**

**Get ready for CHICK SEASON!  
POULTRY FLY PENS  
20% OFF**

**Show Season is HERE!  
GET  
\$5 OFF\*  
your next bag of SHOW FEED  
\*(with this coupon, exp. 2-28-14)**

**IVERCARE  
Horse De-Wormer  
BUY 1, GET 1  
50% OFF**

**2% CASH BACK  
on ALL purchases  
with your  
3V FEED  
Rewards Card  
ask us how**

**All propane bottles welcome  
\$12 minimum  
RVs and Motorhomes welcome**

**MADERA RANCHOS**  
*we are your feed store!*

**Current Hay Prices per Bale**

Orchard Grass .....	\$19.95
Timothy Hay .....	\$19.95
Forage Hay (Horse quality; Heavy) .....	\$17.99
Alfalfa .....	\$15.85 (and up)
Wheat Hay .....	\$13.99 (and up)
Cattle Oat Hay/Forage .....	\$11.99
Cattle Grass Hay .....	\$7.99
Rice Straw .....	\$7.99
Wheat Straw .....	\$6.99

(All hay prices per bale and subject to change)

**Stable Mix  
BARRELS  
\$3 OFF  
250 LB. Barrels**

**Lay Pellets  
\$19.95  
per 80 LB. bag**

**3V Feed is your premier hay supplier of Alfalfa, Orchard Grass, Oat Hay, Timothy Hay, Wheat Hay, Sudan Grass, Straw and others!**

**"Quality & Customer Service is Our Motto" • We are YOUR Feed Store!**

all prices exp. 2/28/14 except where noted and are subject to change

**559-661-0038 • 28342 HWY. 145 (East Yosemite) • MADERA**

3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com

3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • 3VFeed.com



**Letters**

Dear Editor:

Governor Brown today finally listened to the voices of millions of Californians who have been demanding that Sacramento take action on water. These extreme drought conditions have hurt farmers in my district who need water to grow their crops, small business owners who rely upon tourism dollars for their livelihood, and families who are suffering under mandatory water restrictions. Today's declaration will hopefully result in the coordinated response and assistance that those who have been hit the hardest by this drought are seeking to get through this crisis.

Frank Bigelow, Assemblyman Dist. 5  
 Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee Vice Chair  
 O'Neals

Dear Editor:

Water is far and away the main issue in both the foothills and the Valley portions of Madera County. There are known solutions which are common and solutions which are specific to both of these areas and all their stakeholders. The current problems have been many years in the making and one may point to a lack of vision and fiduciary management for why we are now at this critical juncture. Pointing fingers is, well, pointless at this point.

Actively looking for a light at the end of the tunnel, and hoping it's not an oncoming train, are a few dedicated county staff professionals and elected servants. There may be no quick fix but there are some small and some bold measures which can be taken immediately to start the healing. Meaningful dialog is necessary but a well-planned and courageous action plan is mandatory.

I have talked to many responsible and genuinely concerned farmers, ranchers, developers, county staff, environmentalists and home owners who, if galvanized, (admittedly a big "if") could hammer out a viable plan to sustain all of our futures. The

current "us versus them" mentality is the road to ruin and endless litigation to the eventual benefit of no one. Standing on the sidelines, waiting to be called into play by the State and Federal bureaucrats is not a solution. It is, in fact, giving up.

Yes, we need a one year plan, a five year plan and a 25 year plan but more importantly, we need a 30, 90 and 180 day plan to address what local folks know is a "today" problem. They do not believe, and I agree, that Sacramento nor the Feds are going to be adequately responsive to our needs. Past performance has repeatedly proven that. There are rural homeowners who have found their water prospects too bleak to even continue paying their mortgages. They are tired of being treated as statistics and being referred to as "the masses" or "those people." These are independent individuals and they are fed up with the lack of county services for which they have paid and continue to pay.

Water may not be our only concern in District One or in the County as a whole but it's way ahead of whatever is in second place.

Ray Krause  
 O'Neals

*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:

email:  
**ranchosnews@yahoo.com**  
 mail:  
**The Ranchos Independent**  
**37167 Ave. 12 #5C**  
**Madera, CA 93636**  
 fax:  
**559-645-4002**

**How do you get free tank rent for the first year, prompt friendly service, free leak tests and competitive prices?**

**you call ...**



**VALLEY PROPANE**

**559-645-5324**

**the ONLY locally owned propane company in the Madera Ranchos**

**WIN FREE PROPANE!**

**WIN 125 GALLONS OF PROPANE**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

*Drawing to be held the first week of July, 2014. Delivery must be by August 31, 2014. Must be a Valley Propane customer.*

**MAIL TO: Valley Propane • 37221 Ave. 12 #1D Madera, CA 93636**

**VALLEY PROPANE**

*"Service you can trust at prices you can afford"*

**645-5324 • 37221 Ave. 12 #1D Madera Ranchos • Maywood Center**

**you obviously HAVEN'T had your coffee yet**

MOCHAS • SMOOTHIES • LATTES  
 FRAPPES • CAPPUCINOS • ESPRESSO  
 ICED COFFEE • DREYERS ICE CREAM  
 DONUTS • OATMEAL • BAGELS & CREAM CHEESE

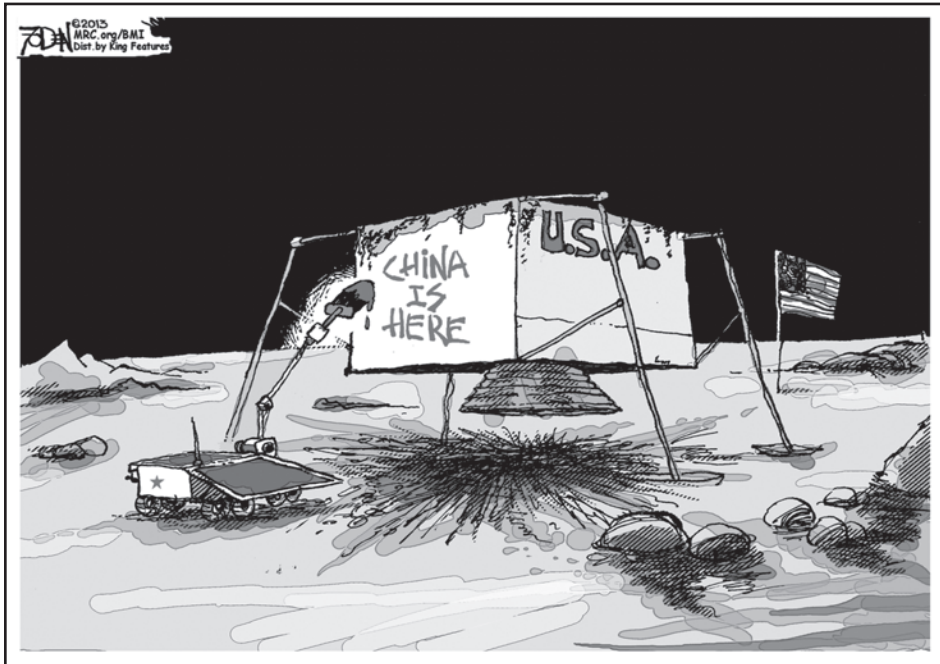
• FREE WiFi • Open Mic SAT 8-11 p.m. • BEST Coffee!

**10% OFF!**

ALL prepared drinks  
 (expires 2-28-14)

**37164 Ave. 12 #102 • 645-1225**





# The Ranchos Independent

The Ranchos Independent is published by Five and Two Publishing.  
 All contents of this publication are copyright 2014, all rights reserved. Reprinting without the permission of the copyright holder is forbidden by law.  
 All articles are submitted as the opinion of the author, who remains solely responsible for the content. The information gathered for this publication is from sources that are considered to be reliable, but are not guaranteed. Opinions expressed in advertisements or articles remain the opinion of the writer.

**Randy Bailey.....Publisher/Editor**

Silas Verrinder -- Reporter • Karen Petryna -- Reporter

Jean Briner -- Columnist, Advertising Sales • Tina Shannon -- Advertising Sales

**559-645-0634** 37167 Ave. 12, Suite 5C • Madera, CA 93636  
**ranchosnews@yahoo.com**

www.TheRanchos.com

## Editorial

# Water, Water ... Nowhere

By Randy Bailey

That Jerry Brown. What a bold visionary.

This month he stepped forward and confidently looked the people of California in the eye and declared we are officially in a drought. I guess the last two to three years with barely a drop of water was the big tip off. Something just didn't seem quite right to Jerry and he went with his gut – and his gut told him the lack of water meant *something* and that *something* was a drought.

Bold.

Visionary.

Of course, don't expect Jerry to do anything about it. Or the Democrats in Sacramento either for that matter. They've got a train to build.

That's right, we've got no water but, by God, we've finally got a way to get from L.A. to San Francisco.

Here's the dirty little secret: California does not have a water shortage problem. Even in drought years (whether officially proclaimed or not) enough moisture in the form of rain and snow and fog and anything else wet falls on the Golden State and provides more than enough water for California. Enough for you and me.

And more.

So if it's not a shortage problem, what kind of a problem is it? It's a STORAGE problem. Every year, of all that

moisture that falls on California, more than 50 percent of it flows straight into the Pacific Ocean. Gone. Bye-bye. Adios. Why? There's no place to put it.

California's water infrastructure was built over 50 years ago when the state's population was around 16 million people. Today, you and I are part of the 38 million who call California home. That's more than double what the system was designed to handle and that number is growing.

See a problem yet?

Jerry Brown doesn't. Sacramento Democrats don't. They've got a train to build.

### A Solution - And A Cause

Of course, they will have a solution. The answer will be conservation. That's right – it's our fault. The reason we don't have enough water is because we're selfishly doing things like taking baths and showers, washing clothes and our dishes, and the biggie: flushing the toilet after we go to the bathroom. There's your problem.

Conservation is important – God don't we in the Ranchos know that. The majority of us don't have lawns. We don't leave the hose running when we wash the car. We wash big loads of clothes instead of a lot of little ones. We get it. But here's a news flash for you: Conservation doesn't get you one drop of additional water.

None. Zero. Nada.

California lawmakers approved the "Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act" in 2009 that would have generated \$11 billion for our troubled water system. Of course, only \$3 billion, 27 percent of the total, was for water storage.

See a problem yet?

What happened? It was pulled from the ballot in 2010 and was going to be tried again in 2012 and then pulled from that ballot as well. The powers that be figured voters in hard financial times wouldn't support raising that kind of money. 'Course raising billions for a train is totally justifiable. After all, how else would we get from L.A. to San Francisco? By the way, guess what's slated for the November 2014 ballot?

Again?

For a bit of perspective, California's State Water Project, the one that produced the California Aqueduct, was approved by voters in 1960 for \$1.75 billion. That would be \$13.7 billion today. As the proj-

**THE RAY GUN**  
 SHOOTING STRAIGHT TO THE HEART

"OUR PROGRESS BEGAN NOT IN WASHINGTON, DC, BUT IN THE HEARTS OF OUR FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, WORKPLACES, AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS WHICH, TOGETHER, ARE UNLEASHING THE INVINCIBLE SPIRIT OF ONE GREAT NATION UNDER GOD.."

**RONALD REAGAN**  
 SAYING MORE IN ONE QUOTE THAN OTHERS SAY IN A LIFETIME

Please see **EDITORIAL** on P. 6



# Ghosts of Stock Christmas Past

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

I always have a decompression time after the holidays. How about you? The Christmas tree is down and also the outside Christmas lights. Thank goodness for my daughter and my two grandsons. They helped me set everything up for Christmas and take everything down. I still have some Christmas kitchen towels to wash and also some Christmas pot holders that really got a workout with all of the cooking this Christmas. The refrigerator is still full of special types of holiday food. I can't eat it all and I can't bear to throw it away so what to do? I have decided that some can go into the freezer, some can go into a soup pot but that still leaves some that need to go into the garbage. The house is quiet now that everyone and the dogs have gone home. My granddaughter and her husband brought their two dogs along this year for Christmas. The only laughter that I hear is my own. The memories of a busy happy Christmas are all that are left.

It is time to take a deep breath because the days in January 2014 are flying by. A new year is starting and I have many exciting adventures to look forward to. I have a trip to visit my son Bob in Hawaii planned, a trip on the Snow Train to Reno with the Ran-

chos/Hills Seniors and a trip to the Mariposa Storytelling Festival in March. So you can see 2014 is getting off to a great start. It is also the time to sort through everything I spent in 2013 and take out everything I can use for taxes. I always try to get everything ready so I can see my tax person in February.

There will be a big celebration over at the Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center on Jan. 26. The Seniors will be celebrating 25 years of

working together in the Madera Ranchos to put together one of the most unique senior centers in California. The center is owned and managed by the senior's membership. The original financing for the center begin with cookie sales. Many community leaders, businesses, volunteers and members have made this center a

success. The history of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center will be on display to the community on Jan. 26. Come over to the Open House between 1 and 4 p.m. and check us out. We are a different kind of senior center. We work together, play together and travel together.

Some of the things to put on your calendar are: Jan. 26, Ranchos/Hills Senior Center Open House; Feb. 25-27 Snow Train to Reno; and March 7 Chamber of Commerce Crab Feed.

So welcome to 2014! It is going to be a great year.

*The house is quiet now that everyone and the dogs have gone home. My granddaughter and her husband brought their two dogs along this year for Christmas. The only laughter that I hear is my own. The memories of a busy happy Christmas are all that are left.*

## EDITORIAL cont. from P. 5

ect progressed, the people of California got 25 dams and reservoirs, 18 pumping plants, 683 miles of aqueduct and eight hydro-electric power plants. That project ended up costing a total of \$4.3 billion, or \$33 billion in today's dollars. The sorely needed bullet train is projected at somewhere around \$68 billion ... for Phase One. Total will probably be around \$100 billion, but hey, how else are we going to get from L.A. to San Francisco?

Another huge part of the problem is that many of the people of California just don't get it. I'm going out on a limb and assuming that the vast majority of those who just don't get it are people who think water just comes out of a faucet. Like the one in the kitchen or the one in the bathroom. That's where water comes from so what's the problem? Food comes from the grocery store and gas comes from the gas station. What's wrong with you?

To illustrate this disconnect, the Pub-

lic Policy Institute of California took a poll of Californians in September of last year on a myriad of topics, including questions about water. Ready? Approximately 53 percent of Californians surveyed believed that "... the water supply for their part of the state will be somewhat or very inadequate in 10 years." Know what that means? It means 47 percent of Californians DON'T think that. They think we're doing just fine. Why do you ask?

Only 45 percent think that we need new, increased water storage. Meaning? Fifty-five percent, the majority, think we shouldn't build any more dams or reservoirs. They just can't connect the dots about storing more water for drought years. Their solution? According to the poll, 49 percent said, "...the state should focus on conservation ..." Here's a tip: If you conserve nothing, you still have nothing.

I'm all for a bullet train - because I just don't see how else we could get from L.A. to San Francisco - but can I get a glass of water first?

1/14



LANDSCAPE DIRT & DRIVEWAY

**559-645-5363**


chadstrucking.com


CHAD HARR  
CA #142100

- SAND & GRAVEL •
- CRUSHED ROCK •
- LANDSCAPE MATERIAL •
- FILL DIRT •
- TOP SOIL •
- HUMUS •
- BARK •
- CHIPS •
- RIVER ROCK •
- BASE ROCK •
- ROCK DUST •
- COBBLE STONES •
- DRIVEWAY BASE •
- CONSTRUCTION CLEANUP •

# NEED MORE SPACE?

## barns big and small, covers or shop buildings many sizes and colors from which to choose





# POLE BARN BY S.J. LEACH CONSTRUCTION

## 559-269-1956

CCL #526211




# BEDROCK ENGINEERING

A solid foundation for your next project  
Land Surveying • Civil Engineering • Consulting


For a free consultation, visit our Madera Ranchos office!  
36961 Avenue 12  
559.645.4849  
www.bedrockeng.com

## INVEST IN YOUR EXISTING PROPERTY!

- Save money on flood insurance with an elevation certificate
- Verify your property line locations with a boundary survey
- Reconfigure your property lines with a lot line adjustment
- Improve your property with a grading and drainage plan
- Divide your property with a parcel map





Dedicated to serving the land surveying and civil engineering needs of Madera Ranchos and the Central Valley



1/14

## BUILT RIGHT. BUILT BY YORK.

**The Affinity™ Series Furnaces**

One reason York® Heating and Air Conditioning Systems are so reliable is because our people "own" them before you do. From the assembly line to your home, they take personal ownership of each and every part they are responsible for. That's what we mean when we say: Built right. Built by York. Visit us at York.com.

**YORK**  
Heating & Air Conditioning

**Huckabee's**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
LIC # 937274

559-662-0336

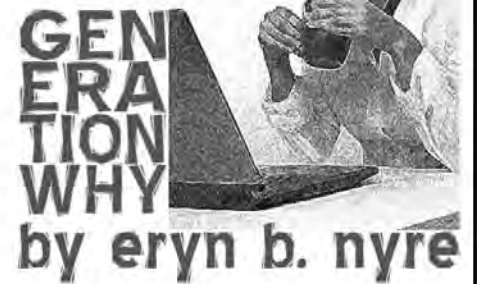
www.huckabeeshvac.com  
hvacbysam@sbcglobal.net, Locally owned and operated Lic# 837274

1/14

# No Stinking Resolutions

Resolutions? *We Don't Need No Stinking Resolutions!*

It is resolution time again; a new year has begun and most of the population stands at the beginning of what they hope is the best year of their lives. And just to help ensure that it is, they have made a set of life-changing promises to themselves designed to make them healthier, happier and more successful in the coming 12 months. Every year it's the same, you want something better for yourself so you create a list of how you are going to achieve happiness. You want to be healthier, so you resolve to eat right and exercise. You want to see the world so you resolve to travel. You want to plan for your retirement so you resolve to save. Most of us have done



love crossing things off lists. Sometimes when I am at the grocery store and I remember something I need that wasn't on my list, I first add it to the list just to feel the satisfaction of crossing it off. It's a sickness but it gave me an idea. Victories, even small ones, fill you with a sense of accomplishment and build momentum toward

larger goals. With that in mind, I decided instead of a bunch of resolutions that become forgotten, I would focus on the little things I can cross off throughout the year rather than at the end of it.

How come no one has thought of this? Well, it turns out people have thought of it, lots of

*I'm excited about this, then again, who isn't excited at the beginning of the year. It seems silly when you think about it: from one day to the next and suddenly there is a renewed sense of optimism. It was just a Wednesday, but still, it brought with it hope for something better.*

people.

Tons.

There have been studies dedicated to this very topic. Like most people in this information age, I took to the internet and discovered that I'm once again pulling up the rear in the ingenuity department because this very idea is everywhere. This hasn't deterred me though. I like my idea and maybe I didn't come up with it first but I have no problem hopping on this band wagon.

So basically, instead of large, sweeping goals that span the next year of my life, a year that could go off in any number of directions, I'm going to take it step by step. Each month I will set some moderate goals for myself, like write three chapters in my book and clean out the little closet in my hallway that has become the place where the stuff I'm not sure I want goes to be forgotten. The aims are specific, the time frame is reasonable, and my weekly and daily goals will be designed to move me closer to accomplishing my monthly objectives. No resolutions in the toilet, no

As I was preparing my resolutions I thought about the goals I had set for myself a year ago, and how pretty much none of them were met. It's not just me though, according to the University of Scranton, only 8 percent of resolutions are successful. So 92 percent are abandoned by the end of the year, which says nothing about how many go out the door before spring forward. I became discouraged and gave up before I even began, how's that for a statistic? So this year, I said, "no." I'm done. I just can't do it anymore more, sweeping declaration! No more resolutions. Wait, is that a resolution? Dang. All right, I guess I'm making one, only I'm just dressing it up in a pair of work boots and calling it Nancy.

What's my plan? Glad you asked. Instead of a generic resolution, I'm going to set small, reasonable, detailed goals for myself with specific time frames that, and here comes the clever part, can actually be achieved. I don't know about you, but I

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



## Super Bowl Means Super Snacks



So, after 17 weeks of football, is your team in the playoffs? Of course we would like to see our favorite team win and be in the playoffs, and ultimately end up in the Super Bowl, but after reading about this year's Super Bowl I'm not so sure I would want to go. To convince you that maybe this isn't the year to go, I found some statistics.

It will be played in the Met Life Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey in a stadium that does not have a roof on it. According to the Weather Chanel, the weather forecast is a high of 39 with a low of 20 for the 2nd of February, the day of the game.

Tickets on the 50 yard line are around \$7,650 and in the nose bleed section around \$2,337.

No ice chests, women's handbags or umbrellas – what do you do if it rains, or worse yet, snows? However, you can take in a blanket – only if it is slung over your shoulder – that's what the rule book says.

And here's the kicker – no tail gating! If you want to eat or drink, you have to purchase from the concessions inside the stadium. And a few of those prices: Ultimate Nachos – \$14; Hot dog – \$9; Peanuts – \$6; a bottle of water – \$5; Draft beer – \$12.

So I think I am convinced I'm going to stay home, enjoy the game in a nice warm home with family and friends, drinks and snacks in the next room and, oh yeah, a potty room right down the hall. Look at it another way: I've not spent a few thousand dollars.

Wherever you spend the day hopefully watching your favorite team run all over the op-

posing team, you have to have snacks. Nothing fancy, not a three course meal, and for heaven's sake only finger foods. The most you should have to put on the table are some paper plates and napkins. Be sure to do the mixing, cooking and whatever else is necessary on Saturday so that on Sunday when you get home from church all you have to do is get your snacks on the table, maybe order a pizza, and enjoy your guests and the game. The game starts at 3:25 p.m.

I found a recipe that sounds easy, and good:

### Chicken Cheese Balls

1 rotisserie chicken – purchased at the store  
 ¼ C hot sauce – or amount you like

1 tsp. black pepper  
 1 ¾ C grated cheddar cheese  
 ¼ C sliced green onions  
 1 C flour  
 3 eggs, beaten lightly  
 2 C bread crumbs (panko are best)

Vegetable oil for frying  
 Have oil heated to 350 degrees

Take the meat from the chicken, discarding the skin and bones. Shred the chicken and put in large bowl, add the hot sauce, pepper, cheese and green onions. Toss to combine. Roll the mixture in small balls, about the size of a golf ball.

In three separate pans (pie plates work well) place the flour in one, the eggs in another and the bread crumbs in the third. Roll each of the balls first in the flour, then in the eggs and finally in the bread crumbs. Place on a cookie sheet

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9



# BRONCOS

**BOOKS A MESS? TAXMAN KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR? NEED HELP WITH YOUR CURRENT OR PAST YEARS' TAX RETURNS?**

call **PAUL H. CAMERON**  
*Business Services • CTEC and IRS Registered Return Preparer*

**OVER 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE** **645-5136** OFFICE  
**706-1677** CELL

EMAIL: [PCAM47@MSN.COM](mailto:PCAM47@MSN.COM)

12443 Fernwood Drive, Madera Ranchos



1/14

## NEW YEAR, SAME ISSUES

**After recently talking with hundreds of folks in S.E Madera County neighborhoods, it's no surprise that the main issues are still water, water and water, in that order. Also of no surprise is the strong independent spirit of these engaged and well informed residents. It has always been so. Let's talk, then let's do something, thanks.**

**Paid for by Ray Krause for Supervisor FPPC#1359463**

## WANTED • WANTED

Do you need some extra cash? We are looking for the following items and **FAIR PRICES are PAID --**  
**SADDLES • BRIDLES • HEADSTALLS • SHOW HALTERS • BITS • SHOW TACK • ALL OTHER HORSE TACK • OLD HORSE BOOKS • TACK RACKS • HORSE STATUES**  
**ALSO -- WESTERN BELT BUCKLES • SPURS • AMERICAN INDIAN ITEMS • TURQUOISE JEWELRY • STERLING SILVER JEWELRY • COSTUME JEWELRY – ALL KINDS • POCKET WATCHES • THIMBLES • STERLING SPOONS – FORKS – PLATES, ETC.**

If you have anything for sale call:

**264-7980**

or [bparker@lightspeed.net](mailto:bparker@lightspeed.net)

We live in the Ranchos and can come to your place *or* meet you.

**THANK YOU**



1/14



GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING

# Dog Gone Cute Store

Save the Date!  
**LOW-COST SHOT CLINIC**  
 Sat. Feb. 22 • 10 am • Noon

call **645-PETS**  
 to make your grooming appointments now

**37221 Ave. 12 #1C**  
 in the Maywood Center in the Madera Ranchos



GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING • GROOMING

come meet friends!

## Golden Valley Baptist Church

Mansel Trimble is the pastor at Golden Valley Baptist Church. Come say "hello" to Mansel.

Sunday School 9 a.m. • Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
 12414 Road 37 • Madera Ranchos • 559-645-1700

# STOP THE PAIN!

"We've got your back"

D.O.T. Physicals • Drug Testing  
 Sports Physicals only \$25!

**HANEY CHIROPRACTIC**  
 & rehabilitation center  
**36734 AVE. 12 • 660-5262**



Specializing in AUTO ACCIDENTS

## 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.

	-		×		15			
×		+		×				
	+		+		22			
÷		×		-				
	+		×		35			
12		27		33				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8

©2013 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

until ready to fry. When the oil is ready, fry the balls in batches. Cook for about 2 minutes per batch. Place the cooked balls on a plate, lined with paper towels to drain.

Serve the chicken balls with Ranch Dressing or make your own Blue Cheese Dressing:

- 1 ½ C mayonnaise
  - ½ C packed blue cheese – broken up
  - ½ tsp. hot sauce
  - 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
  - 1 tsp. salt
  - Juice of half a lemon
  - 1 tsp. chopped garlic
- In large bowl, combine all ingredients and adjust the seasoning. Serve in small bowl with the chicken balls.

My two favorite dips, and easy to make, are:

**Seven Layer Dip**

The quantities in this recipe will depend on the size of the serving plate you use. When I take it to our family party, I use a large flat-rimmed baking sheet.

- Layer from bottom to top:
- Refried Beans
  - Sour Cream
  - Guacamole
  - Canned, diced chiles
  - Shredded lettuce
  - Chopped tomatoes
  - Shredded cheese (I like to mix cheddar, jack or pepper jack)

- Chopped black olives
- Chopped green onions

This is such a versatile recipe; you can use more of one of the ingredients that you or your family prefers and you can add a layer of salsa or serve it on the side. Serve with tortilla chips.

**Sour Cream and Onion Dip**

- 1 pint sour cream
  - 1 pkg. dry onion soup mix
- In a small bowl mix the sour cream and soup mix, put a lid on it and refrigerate until ready to serve. This should be mixed at least 24 hour before serving so onions can soften. Best when

served with ruffled potato chips. And you can't have a snack table without something sweet:

**Caramel Brownies**

- 1 stick butter, melted
  - 1/3 C and ½ C evaporated milk
  - 1 box German Chocolate cake mix
  - 1 C finely chopped pecans or walnuts
  - 90 caramels, unwrapped
  - 1/3 C semisweet chocolate chips
  - Powdered sugar for dusting top of brownies (Optional)
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly butter and flour a 9x9 baking pan.

Pour 1/3 C evaporated milk in a bowl with the cake mix. Add the melted butter and the chopped nuts. Mix the ingredients together – it will be real thick.

Divide the dough in half. Press half of dough in bottom of prepared pan for first layer. Bake until slightly set, about 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside.

While the first layer is baking, unwrap the caramels and put in top of a double boiler with the remaining ½ C evaporated milk. Stir occasionally until the caramels are melted and the mixture is smooth. Pour the caramel layer over the baked layer, spreading evenly. Sprinkle the chocolate chips over the warm caramel layer.

On a piece of waxed paper spread the remaining brownie mix into a square slightly smaller than the baking pan. Carefully lay it on top of caramel and chocolate chip layer. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes – do not overbake. Remember, they will continue to bake after you take them from the oven. Remove from oven and let cool to room temperature. Cover the pan and refrigerate for several hours to allow to set. When you're ready to serve, sprinkle with powdered sugar (optional) and cut into squares. Serve with lots of cold milk or hot coffee.

Whatever you do – HAVE A GOOD TIME!

(And GO BRONCOS!)



# Choices, Choices and More Choices

By Verlaine Elinburg

There is no simple fact that life is full of challenges. From the moment we begin our life's journey we are presented with choices. Early on, most of those choices are made by our parents. I would say it's probably because it's when we cannot think for ourselves. We then get to the age when we make a choice and have to accept the consequences. We then know whether it is right or wrong or if it was a good or a bad decision. As we grow older and journey through life, we begin to make our own decisions about our lives.

Choices again.

Who would we want to spend our life with, where would we like to live, work or continue our education? All these decisions affect our future and our retirement years. When we reach retirement age we are given another set of choices to make on how we want to spend our golden years. This is what we have worked for our entire life, to retire in a relaxing and stress-free environment.

*When we reach retirement age we are given another set of choices to make on how we want to spend our golden years. This is what we have worked for our entire life, to retire in a relaxing and stress-free environment.*

This coming June, I will have been retired for five years. I have experienced withdrawal from the works force; most of my contacts were work-related. I felt irrelevant, out of the loop. Here again I was dealt another deck of cards with the choice to either play them or fold and grow old. But my mind was still speeding and there was so much out there that I have never experienced. I was secretly thinking I would breeze through the rigors of old age with gene splicing, molecular manipulation and replacement organs on demand. I am already close to 70 and too old for much of the current scientific breakthroughs. By the time they trickle down I will be long gone.

In spite of all this I find my senior life my best years. The Ranchos/Hills Seniors helped my speeding mind, being involved with all the fundraisers and all the other functions. I have found new freedom to do what I want and say what I think (within reason). Once you get away from the "me" thing, you want to help others by volunteering your time and mind. You will never believe the rewards until you do it and if you have not already, you will learn the critical importance of friendship and love in your life.

While I am on the subject of volunteering, the Ranchos/Hills Seniors are in need of volunteers. You do not have to be a member or a senior to offer your help. The Home & Garden and our Annual Senior Bike Ride are approaching in April and we need some young blood to help us. Remember, this will be your Senior Center one day.

In the New Year we all find a new challenge or a change. This year my goal is to get all the information I can obtain about living internationally and explore new options as I grow older. Maybe in five years I will be living in Costa Rica.

The celebration of the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center 25th Anniversary on Jan. 26 from 1 – 4 p.m. will be a day to be cherished and remember.

A reminder, the Reno Snow trip on Feb. 25, 26 and 27 is now closed. Forty-six travelers' information packages were handed out or mailed out and if you did not receive your literature call Jolene or Joann at the senior center at 645-4864.

Extra Extra: Another Ranchos/Hills Seniors trip is scheduled for October, 2014.

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 11 a.m. so remember to call Joann at 645-4864 and also notify the center if you need to cancel or change your reservation.

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, meet new friends and get updates on old friends, their fellow members and get current news on what is happening at the Center and in the

Please see SENIOR on P. 20

**The Finest Boarding and Training Facility on the San Joaquin River**

**featuring:**  
 Cross Ties • Round Pen • Wash Racks  
 Tack Rooms Trailer Parking • Three Sandy Arenas  
 Dressage Court • Full-sized 200x200 Arena  
 Miles of Trails • Practice Trail Course with Obstacles  
 Weekly Summer BBQs • Moonlight Rides  
 Shady Lawns for Picnics and Relaxing

**Parker's Equestrian Center**  
 8844 Road 35  
 Madera, CA **559-264-7980**

**Ranchos Dental Care & Orthodontics**  
 37144 Avenue 12 #104  
 Madera Ranchos

**559-645-5320**  
[www.ranchosdental.net](http://www.ranchosdental.net)



**10 FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE 10**

**THINK SAFETY BURN SAFELY**

**Paul the Chimney Sweep Guy**  
 26 years experience  
 BBB LIC. #30026395

**Is YOUR Chimney Safe?**  
**\$10 OFF all services!**  
 Chimneys • Inserts • Wood Burning Stoves  
 Pellet Stoves • Minor Masonry Repairs  
 Dryer Vents  
 call today!  
**559-908-9332**

**TIRED OF PAYING FOR FLOOD INSURANCE?**

Lenders' requirements vary, but an Elevation Certificate could reduce the cost of flood insurance (or eliminate it completely). You can't afford to wait any longer, so contact the professionals today at

**Michael Sutherland & Associates, Inc.**  
 645-4730 • Fresno 447-5815  
 36691 Avenue 12 • Madera Ranchos

**Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent**



## It's time for a change at the District Attorney's Office

I have practiced law for nearly 40 years and argued cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. I've served in the United States Navy and retired with the rank of Commander. I've run a small business, and been active in the community. I have been encouraged by hundreds of citizens in Madera County to run and serve as your next District Attorney, and recently filed paperwork to formally put my name on the ballot. I take the charge of running for District Attorney very seriously; the people of Madera County deserve leadership and accountability from their elected officials.

I pledge to run a clean campaign based upon facts and the record. However, the people must know why I've decided to run for this critical office.

The theme of my campaign is "Restore the Public Trust," and the following 10 reasons are why I'm challenging Michael Keitz in the June 3<sup>rd</sup> primary election:

1. Mr. Keitz has cost the taxpayers over \$1,500,000 because of law suits related to hostile working conditions for employees in his office.
2. Under Mr. Keitz's leadership there has been 90% turnover in the DA's office which makes our streets less safe.
3. Mr. Keitz is directly responsible for the loss of Madera County's most experienced and accomplished prosecutors because of poor leadership and working conditions.
4. Mr. Keitz sued the people and taxpayers of Madera County to cover up the Rowley Report from the public, which I understand the report summarized the terrible working conditions and lack of leadership in his office.
5. Mr. Keitz used \$40,000 in taxpayer money to pay his legal fees to cover up the Rowley Report.
6. Mr. Keitz refuses to prosecute criminals himself while crime has gone up and our streets are less safe. Our cops need help!! The Deputy DA's need help!!
7. The State Attorney General and the Grand Jury have investigated his office multiple times.
8. Mr. Keitz refuses to debate me in public forums so the voters can decide. He does write press releases and attends ribbon cuttings during office hours. He has refused to debate me in front of the citizens of Madera Ranchos to discuss the issues affecting your neighborhoods.
9. The morale in the District Attorney's office must be improved. Prosecutors and staff must be recognized for their accomplishments. Mr. Keitz writes press releases without recognizing his prosecutors and staff for their success in convicting criminals.
10. Finally, there is no professional development budget for Deputy District Attorney's prosecutors. They have to pay out of their own pockets.

I will be hosting a meet and greet in Madera Ranchos in March. Please visit my website [www.linnformaderaDA.com](http://www.linnformaderaDA.com) for regular updates. Please contact my campaign so you can join our team.

Sincerely,

David A. Linn  
Candidate for Madera District Attorney

David  
**Linn**  
District Attorney

1/14

Paid for by Linn for District Attorney

### GEN WHY cont. from P. 7

half-eaten loaf of bread and belly full of regret. And since life has its twists and turns, if one month I want to focus on going to the gym, and the next month I find myself laid up with a broken leg, it's not a resolution out the window, it is an opportunity to set new goals. So I guess the bottom line here is my resolution is to actually achieve the goals I set for myself – I'm just trying to go about it a little more systematically.

I'm excited about this, then again, who

isn't excited at the beginning of the year. It seems silly when you think about it: from one day to the next and suddenly there is a renewed sense of optimism. It was just a Wednesday, but still, it brought with it hope for something better. Maybe this new plan is the key to maintaining that positivity throughout the year, starting each month out like we all do on January first, with the world at our feet and endless possibilities.

Here's to small victories and to accomplishing your goals ... and crossing off lists.

### Accessing Your Accessories

I remember as a child a jewelry box with large orange clip-on earrings and a matching beaded necklace that my sister and I would play with. It was fun dressing up, even though those clip-on earrings were painful. I love bling, but still feel like I'm playing dress-up when I put it on, so I leave it to those who feel more comfortable in it. If you're among those who have a collection of fine, costume, and/or sentimental jewelry, here are some tips for accessing your accessories.

As always, the first step is to purge and sort. Remove the single earrings that have been missing their partners for the last five years and the broken items that your good intentions haven't fixed. Let go of the unloved and unused jewelry as well.

Sort the remaining jewelry into three categories: fine, costume and sentimental. Consider creating a display of your sentimental pieces in a shadow box so you can enjoy seeing them. Or, designate a specific compartment in a dresser-top jewelry box for those items. That way they don't get in the way of finding the items you regularly use.

Secure your fine jewelry in a safe, or keep it hidden in a hollowed out book or aerosol can safe. Apparently sock drawers, the freezer and, of course – jewelry boxes, are the most commonly checked by thieves.

Often we don't wear the jewelry we have because it's not easily accessible or it's too time consuming to find. If it's all clumped together we might simply forget it's there. So for the rest of your jewelry, accessibility is the key.

The hanging pocket jewelry organizer is a favorite because it can be hung on the back of the closet door, or on the closet rod so that you can choose and retrieve your accessories while getting dressed. Bed, Bath and Beyond has a cute one in the shape of a little black dress. One side has pockets for earrings and the other side has loops that hang necklaces and bracelets.

The velvet lined jewelry dividers keep your items from being a jumbled mess and can be stacked in dresser drawers. A cheaper version is an ice tray which can hold more than 14



pairs of earrings and is also easily stacked.

There are many other items that can be re-purposed for jewelry organizing. A belt/tie hanger can hang necklaces and bracelets. An accordion rack, formerly used for kitchen mugs, or a decorative towel rod with S-shaped shower curtain rings can do the same. The most unique repurposing I've seen is a metal rake (without its handle) painted and attached to a wall – for those of you with a more rustic motif.

A framed, fabric-covered corkboard with decorative pushpins makes an attractive wall jewelry organizer. Even cup-hooks screwed into wood strips can create lots of hanging space for earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings.

There are, of course, traditional jewelry boxes. The key is to store items in single layers so you can see what you have. Likewise, don't overcrowd jewelry stands, creating more trouble than it's worth to reach the one you want. Place only your jewelry that is used often on these stands and store the rest in an alternative area.

Jewelry can be a fun way to express yourself and add variety to your wardrobe. It's even more fun when you can easily find what you're looking for.

You can contact Brenda McElroy to have questions answered at *Organized by Choice* (because things don't always fall into place) at P.O. Box 26152, Fresno, CA 93729, or you can email her at [info@organizedbychoice.com](mailto:info@organizedbychoice.com), visit her website [www.organizedbychoice.com](http://www.organizedbychoice.com) or she can be reached by phone at 559-871-3314.



# Get Hot and Spicy and Get Healthy: The Benefits of Spicy Food

By Chuck Newcomb MS, RD, CDE

Ever wonder why so many foods originating from the hotter climates in the world are always so spicy hot? From Mexico to India, Southeast Asia and China to Southern Italy, popular cuisine is full of spices, herbs and flavorings that make the eyes water and the cheeks turn rosy. Reality TV shows make a big deal out of which restaurants serve the hottest foods and which contestants are able to withstand the fiery insults from the foods they serve.

Some hot spices or food components have not only been used for improving flavor but also for medicinal purposes. Native Americans have used cayenne (*Capsicum annuum* or *frutescens*, or red pepper) as both food and medicine for at least 9,000 years. Cayenne has also been used in traditional Indian Ayurvedic, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean medicines as an oral remedy for digestive problems, poor appetite, and circulatory problems. It has also been applied to the skin for arthritis and muscle pain.

Spicy foods containing peppers might even have an impact on cancer. In 2006, researchers at the Cedar-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles found that capsaicin, a substance found in hot peppers like habanero, jalapeño and chili, killed off prostate cancer cells.

Research suggests that eating hot peppers contained in spicy foods might be helpful for treating obesity. Hot peppers have been shown to suppress appetite and decrease total caloric intake. A 2006 study published in *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* found that consuming chili pepper improves blood sugar and insulin regulation after a meal.

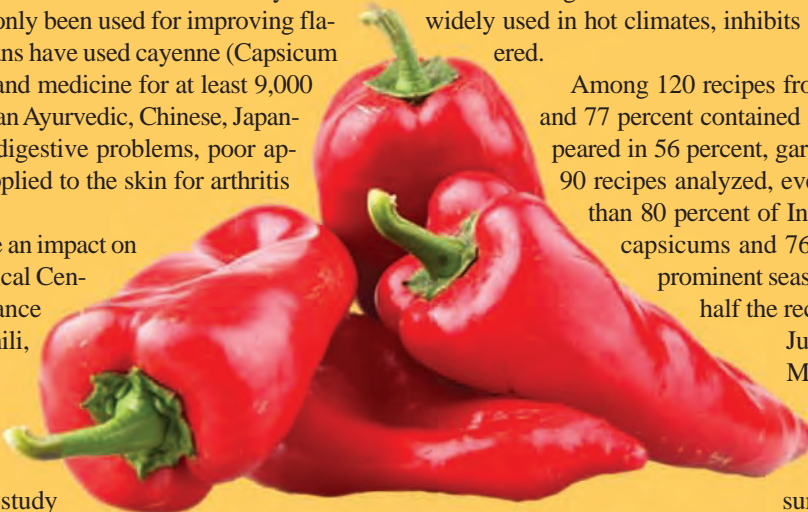
Until the introduction of refrigeration, populations living in warm and tropical climates were at greater risk of illness from potentially hazardous foods like meats, beans and other high protein foods. A unique property of hot spicy foods is the potent antibacterial role

they play to protect against food-borne illness. People who enjoyed food with antibacterial spices probably were healthier, especially in hot climates. They lived longer and left more offspring who in turn enjoyed the same kinds of foods and flavors as them.

A review of 4,578 recipes containing meat, poultry or fish published in 93 traditional cookbooks found that the hotter the climate of the region, the more spices were called for in the recipes. Especially prominent were spices like onion and garlic that have been shown to inhibit the growth of all 30 microorganisms considered in the study. Cayenne, which is widely used in hot climates, inhibits the growth of 80 percent of microorganisms considered.

Among 120 recipes from Indonesia, 80 percent contained garlic and onion and 77 percent contained capsicums. In Ireland, on the other hand, onions appeared in 56 percent, garlic in 23 percent, and capsicums in only 2 percent of 90 recipes analyzed, even though the plants can grow there. In India, more than 80 percent of Indian recipes were prepared with onions, ginger, and capsicums and 76 percent called for garlic. But in Norway, the only prominent seasonings were black and white pepper, used in less than half the recipes.

Just a word of caution: The University of Maryland Medical Center warns that hot peppers might increase stomach acidity, increase the risk of bleeding from blood-thinning medications and decrease the effectiveness of aspirin. Consult your doctor about consuming spicy food if you have a stomach or intestinal problem, or are taking blood-thinning medications or aspirin.



Chuck Newcomb, MS, RD, CDE, is a Ranchos resident and is a consulting Registered Dietitian with a Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition from New York University. Find out more on his website [MySmartRD.com](http://MySmartRD.com).

## Noblett's "Clean Campaign" Pledge

Rochelle Noblett, a candidate for Madera County's District 1 supervisorial seat, has signed a "Clean Campaign" pledge in which she pledged to the people of Madera County, including the Madera Ranchos which is part of District 1, that she will not engage in negative advertising, even if she should be attacked by negative advertising generated by one of her opponents.

Noblett signed the pledge in Madera on Jan. 2 in the presence of Al Galvez, Ron Manfredi and Stell Manfredi, retired Madera County Administrator.

A copy of the pledge appears to the right.



### Rochelle Noblett's Clean Campaign Pledge:

*I, Rochelle Noblett, candidate for County Supervisor do hereby pledge to the people of Madera, The Ranchos, Rolling Hills, East Side Acres and all of District 1 that I have not and WILL NOT send negative mailers about my opponents or attack them in any of my campaign materials. My campaign will be based on my experience, talent and vision for Madera County. Negative ads do not create jobs, protect water, fight crime or insure we get our fair share of state tax dollars.*

*I stand by my pledge and will hold to it even in the event that I am attacked. I will continue to focus on the challenges facing our community and how I can address them as your County Supervisor.*

	1/2/14
Rochelle Noblett	Date
Witnessed by:	
	1/2/14
Al Galvez	Date
	1/2/14
Ron Manfredi	Date
	1/2/14
Stell Manfredi	Date

**Plumbing Problems?**  
**Davis Plumbing**  
 LIC. #842676  
 559-977-6289

**DAVIS PLUMBING INC**  
 RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL  
 REMODEL - REPAIR  
 VERNON DAVIS  
 PRESIDENT

PH 559-977-6289  
 FAX 559-645-1864

438 E SHAW AVE #217  
 FRESNO CA. 93710  
 davisplumbco@aol.com

1/14

559-395-4873

**Christi's Place**

**KARAOKE EVERY FRIDAY  
 LIVE MUSIC EVERY SATURDAY  
 \$5 COVER**

**Oils Gone Wild Party • Sun. Jan. 26**  
 Mark your calendar! • Oils Gone Wild Party  
 Simply She's Sexy Lingerie • Women & Men Welcome • 1-4 p.m.  
**LIVE - The Danny Millsap Band • 4-8 p.m.**  
**37275 Ave. 12, Madera Ranchos**

1/14



# Liberty High Wins Mock Trial, Heads to State Competition in March

Liberty High School won the 2013-2014 Honorable Edward P. Moffat Madera County Mock Trial held on Dec. 4, 5, and 10. Liberty High School battled Madera and Yosemite High Schools.

“It was a tough competition and we are proud of all of our teams,” said Cecilia Massetti, Madera County Superintendent of Schools. “Students learned so much about the court system through this experience.”

Liberty High School will represent Madera County at the state competition March 21-23 in San Jose. Team members include Makenna Avakian, Tyler Bird, Claire Copher, Alyssa Ghioldi, Michaela Hammond, Corey Jackson, Jesus Medrano, Carissa Miller, Vivian Montijo, Bethany Samarin, Michael Sassano, Jordan Serpa, Sarah Smart, Samantha Smith, Vianey Vasquez Guerrero and Gloria Zarate. The team is coached by Mac Blate and the assistant coaches are Jaycob Rousey and Chelsea Ruland.



The entire Liberty High Mock Trial team is all smiles after their First Place finish at the Madera County Mock Trial. They will now head to San Jose for Statewide competition.



LHS Mock Trial winners Claire Copher (left), Michael Sassano and Jordan Serpa react to their victory.



Beaming with pride after their Mock Trial victory, Liberty High students Alyssa Ghioldi (left), Claire Copher and Jordan Serpa display their awards and a check for \$500.

Shelby Boyd from Madera High School won the Courtroom Artist competition. She sketched a courtroom scene during Thursday’s trial. Mia Summers from Yosemite High School will represent Madera County as the winning Courtroom Journalist. Summers wrote a story based on Tuesday’s trial.

“It’s exciting to have students from each school representing Madera County at

the state competition,” said Massetti. “We wish them luck during the next round of competition.”

During the fictional case, People vs. Concha, Rae Concha was tried for second degree murder and possession for sale

of a controlled substance (amphetamine in the form of prescription Adderall). Mock Trial students also discussed the Fourth Amendment protection against unlawful search and seizure.

The Mock Trial is a simulation of a criminal court case in which the students act

Please see **MOCK** on P. 20

Madera County will also be sending a Courtroom Artist and Courtroom Jour-



1/14 Paid for by Todd Miller for Auditor Controller

## MILLER ★ Auditor Controller ★

With over 35 years experience as an accountant and community leader, Todd Miller has the skills we need serving us as Auditor Controller.

As our next Madera County Auditor Controller, Todd Miller will:

- Ensure mandatory State Audits are completed on time!
- Get our financial house in order so our county has the money it needs to improve roads and support our police and fire fighters!
- Be our fiscal watchdog and ensure that YOUR tax dollars are spent wisely!

**Todd Miller, No Nonsense, No Excuses, for Auditor Controller!**



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

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

# The 11th Annual Chamber

# CRAB FEED



## Friday, March 7 • 6 p.m.



### At the beautiful DANTE CLUB No-Host Bar • Dancing • Auctions

### Your \$45 ticket includes Crab, Salad, Pasta, Bread and Dessert!

Tables of 10 are available for your Business or Group. Business Sponsorships are also available. Call for info.

Proceeds go to the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Annual Crab Feed always sells out so get your tickets early!

You can get your tickets at the Chamber office, the Ranchos Independent, Ranchos Pizza Factory or the Ranchos Café.

**Call the Chamber for more information. 645-4001**



1/14

### Be a Crab Feed "500" Sponsor

Is your business going to the Crab Feed? For \$500 you get a table for 10, get to put your company banner up at the event, have your name listed at every table, have your table introduced at the event and be listed in the Ranchos Independent. Call 645-4001.

### Next Mixer

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce's next mixer will be held at

### Ranchos Fitness

37167 Ave. 12 #4A • Madera Ranchos  
Tuesday, February 18 • 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come and meet your local businesses.

### Community Guidebook

After a 5-year wait, the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is producing a NEW Community Guidebook. If you would like to be included in this invaluable resource that will be mailed to every Ranchos address, or if you would like more information, contact Stephanie Reeves at 559-287-0781 or call the Chamber at 645-4001.

### New Members

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce welcomes its newest members to the Chamber family  
**District Attorney Michael Keitz**  
**Madera County Sheriff Candidate Greg Noll**

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.

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

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



# New Home-Cooked Meal Delivery Service Available in the Ranchos

Do you need a fast, fresh and nutritional meal to serve to your busy family? Chefs Sherry and Chuck Rovenstine, owners of Central Valley Caterers, have the answer: a new meal delivery service to residents in the greater Ranchos area.

Initially designed as a once-a-day meal delivery service for seniors and shut-ins, the program is now available for busy parents and hard-working professionals. Each entree is made daily from scratch using only fresh, wholesome ingredients. Nothing is frozen or pre-made from cans, bottles or boxes. Meals include a main dish, rice or potato, fresh steamed vegetables, a whole grain dinner roll and dessert. Central Valley Caterers

offer a wide variety of meal choices, such as beef, fish, chicken, pork, tri-tip, pot roast, vegetarian entrees, salads and desserts. New menu items and special desserts are added monthly. All meals are fully cooked and packed in microwavable/freezer-safe containers. They can be reheated and ready to serve in one to three minutes, depending upon your individual microwave. All meals will keep safely in the refrigerator for three to five days or can be stored in your freezer for later use.

Meals are priced at \$7.80 each and that includes delivery. Delivery is free with five or more meals and Visa, MasterCard, EBT Cards and cash are all ac-

cepted. For menus, order forms, or further questions, please call Sherry 917-8250 or Chuck 917-7875.

### The Central Valley Caterers Story

For 12 ½ years, Chuck and Chef Sherry Rovenstine owned and operated ExecuChef Caterers, Inc. in Sacramento, Calif.

Starting in 1990, ExecuChef Caterers grew to become one of the largest and most successful full-service catering companies in the Sacramento Area. Clients included groups as little as 15 guests up to corporate functions as large as 4,000 people. Clients included the NBA Sacramento Kings, Apple Com-

puter, Intel, Granite Construction, Comcast Cable and the California Teachers Association, just to name a few. They sold the company in January of 2003 and moved to the Fresno Area to be closer to family and friends.

Not quite ready to retire, they opened Central Valley Caterers in Fresno in March of 2003. They specialize in business and corporate catering as well as all types of social catering for groups up to 500 guests. They are now celebrating their tenth year in business in Fresno and Madera Counties thanks to such wonderful clients as Wells Fargo, McCormick Barstow; PG&E and many, many more.



# Minarets Charter / Minarets High School

Apply online at [www.minarets.us](http://www.minarets.us)

## Now accepting applications for 2014-2015

Call 559-760-5042  
For a campus tour

Focus on:

- Professional and 21st century skills
- Career and college emphasis
- Project-based and hands-on learning
- Very diverse elective offerings
- Career Areas in Ag and Natural Resources, as well as Arts, Media & Entertainment



All Minarets Students are provided a Macbook laptop or iPad

For more information:  
Daniel Ching (559) 760-5042  
[dching@mychawanakee.org](mailto:dching@mychawanakee.org)

**\* 25 minutes North of Fresno**  
**\* Daily bus pickup near Children's Blvd.**

[www.minarets.us](http://www.minarets.us)



Film Production



Music Production



9 CIF Sports



Advanced Placement Classes



Ag & FFA



WASC Accredited





## Liberty High Team Places in First Robotics Tournament Entered



Zach Rose (left), Justice Yang and Leah Portnoff are the winning members of team "AstroBots" that took second place at their first entry into a robotics competition on behalf of Liberty High.

Sunday, Jan. 5 was an eventful and notable day in the history of Liberty High School. Two of Liberty High School's robotics teams competed in the school's first robotic tournament. Kudos to Justice Yang, Zach Rose and Leah Portnoff who represented the team "AstroBots." They emerged from the rigorous qualifying round of 16 teams in second place. They prevailed to a semi-final victory and were awarded the Judges Trophy for perseverance and adaptability. Their robot epitomized an elegant but functional design. "Team42" represented by Nick Demera, Devon Berg, Lane Shima and Matthew Halencak also made a strong showing. Besides having a great time, both of Liberty's teams gained valuable experience in the

competition learning how points are scored, alliances are formed and match terminology.

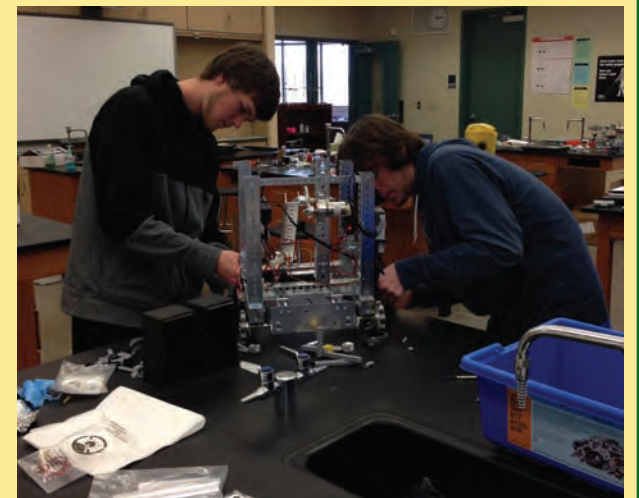
This is the first year of robotics at Liberty High School. It was started by Mike Erickson, Liberty physics and chemistry teacher as another tool to excite students to the possibilities of science, technology and computer science careers while having a lot of fun. More than 20 students have participated at various levels. Teams are responsible for designing, building and programming their robots to compete in an alliance format against other teams. It is a great opportunity for students to apply real-world math and science concepts. The robot materials are reusable from year-to-year and the robot is programmed using a variety of languages. Teams, including coaches and mentors, are required to develop strategies and build robots based on sound engineering principles. Awards are given for the competition as well as for community outreach, design and other real-world accomplishments. It is made possible by grants and sponsorships from Golden Valley Unified, local Ranchos organizations, Central Valley and nationally based organizations.

It was a long day as the teams hit the road before the sun rose to attend the First Tech Challenge qualifying tournament at Oak Ridge High School in El Dorado Hills. Attending were robotic teams from the Sacramento and Bay area with Liberty being the only representative from the Central Valley.

First Tech Challenge is one of the programs offered by For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or FIRST, a unique melding of science, technology, engineering, and math principles with the excitement of competition. It is designed for students worldwide to compete head to head in robotics, using a

sports model.

"It was very gratifying to see our teams in an actual competition, after spending so many hours fund raising, designing, redesigning and programming," Erickson, the first-year coach for the Liberty teams, said. "I'm especially proud of the way they came together as a team, sharing their ideas and keeping an open mind to other suggestions. This tournament was an eye opening experience for all of us. Hopefully it will propel everyone to greater achievements in future tournaments. I can't say enough about all the organizations that supported us during this first year – financially and even just words of encouragement. Thank you so much."



The members of Liberty's other entry, "Team42" were hard at work preparing their robot for their part of the competition held in El Dorado Hills. Liberty's team was the only Central Valley entrant in the tournament.

## Webster Honor Students

There were 220 students named to Webster Elementary's honor roll for achieving a grade point average of 3.0 and above. Of those students, 159 were named to the Wolverine Honor Roll for achieving a GPA of 3.5 and above. And of those 159 students, 79 were honored with the Principal's Honor Roll for a 4.0 grade point average. Principal Felipe Piedra points out that two-thirds of Webster's students were named to the honor roll, half of the students achieved a 3.5 GPA of 3.5 and above. And of those 159 students, 79 were honored with the Prin-



## Transitional Kindergarten Ready for 2014

Our second year of implementation for Transitional Kindergarten has been a great success. Providing for the academic and social development needs of our youngest learners provides a foundation for learning that is second to none. Our first class of Transitional Kindergarten students are demonstrating tremendous growth in Kindergarten this year.

Starting with the 2014-2015 school year, GVUSD will begin full implementation of the Transitional Kindergarten program. A transitional kindergarten is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate. A child is eligible for transitional kindergarten if a child will

have his or her fifth birthday between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2.

Transitional Kindergarten utilizes curriculum that blends preschool foundations and Kindergarten Common Core Standards, allowing for mastery of academic skills and social development that will provide a foundation of success in kindergarten and beyond.

Golden Valley Unified School District is excited to continue to meet the needs of our youngest learners through Transitional Kindergarten. Parent information meetings will be held in February, prior to kindergarten registration on March 7. Any questions regarding Transitional Kindergarten can be directed to Chelan Shepherd, Webster Vice-Principal, at 645-1322.



## Sierra View Announcements

We are excited to announce that Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) has donated \$5,260 to the Sierra View Playground project. The money was donated by an inmate group focused on reaching out to the local community. The goal of inmates is to make a positive impact on the community. Tara Pires a parent from Sierra View Parent Club and Principal Chris Imperatrice went to CCWF to receive the donation. The inmates raised the money by selling household items to fellow inmates. The donation is the largest amount given to our parent club as of today.

The Sierra View Community is proud to announce that we will be dedicating a Service in U.S. Armed Force Honor Wall on Feb. 21 in conjunction with Patriotic Day. The Honor Wall will have the names of former Sierra View students that have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, year that they enlisted and the military branch in which they served. We will be soliciting names from the community over the next two months to add to this perpetual banner in our multi-purpose room. If you have a name that should be recognized please email [cmcelhaney@gvusd.com](mailto:cmcelhaney@gvusd.com).

**BRETT** ☆ For Supervisor  
**FRAZIER**  
 Your Voice. Our Future.

**ACCOUNTABILITY**



If elected, I'll be a strong voice for our community. As your neighbor and Supervisor, I will always be approachable and accessible.

As a business owner and elected official, I met payroll and balanced a city budget. As your Supervisor, I will make sure your government is working for you and accountable for every tax-dollar. I will utilize my experience to ensure that county government is business friendly, efficient and cost-effective.

To be accountable to the public, folks must know where you stand: **reliable water, good schools, public safety and responsible growth** are paramount to growing our economy and preserving our strong community identity.

**I will work to foster communities of choice.**



With your voice, together we can accomplish much.  
**OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON IT.**

[www.brettfrazier.org](http://www.brettfrazier.org)

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brett Frazier for Supervisor 2014 FPPC# 1362502

## Governor Brown Budget Proposes Eliminating Agricultural Education

### California Agricultural Teachers' Association Director Speaks Out

In his 2014-15 State Budget released last week, Governor Brown proposed the complete elimination of funding for the Agricultural Education Incentive Grant, which supports high quality Agricultural Education standards in our public schools. This grant program is designed to provide matching funds for districts who commit to meeting state-approved program standards in Ag Education, including classroom instruction, supervised agricultural experience projects, and leadership training through the Future Farmers of America (FFA) student organization.

The Agricultural Education Incentive Grant currently supports local Ag Education programs and FFA activities in over 300 high schools statewide, with over 74,000 students enrolled in programs offered in a wide variety of urban, suburban, and rural settings. Students enrolled in these programs are representative of California's social and ethnic diversity, with Hispanic

students making up 51 percent of current Ag Education enrollment, while 35 percent are White.

"We are extremely disappointed that Governor Brown has proposed eliminating Ag Education funding in California, the leading agricultural-producing state in the nation," said Jim Aschwanden, Executive Director of the California Agricultural Teachers' Association. "These programs are vital if we expect to attract bright, talented, and innovative students to help meet the many challenges facing both agriculture and the state of California over the next several decades. The elimination of support for high quality, rigorous program standards sends a clear message to schools that agriculture and these programs are not important for the future of our state economy. We think this is a terrible mistake."

The California Agricultural Teachers' Association is a professional education association, representing over 700 instructors in Agricultural Education at the Middle School through University levels in California, with headquarters located in Elk Grove, Calif.

## Academic Decathlon Begins Again

The 32nd Annual Madera County Academic Decathlon competition began on Friday, Jan. 24. High school students will compete in the interview and essay competitions at Madera County Office of Education.

Liberty High, Chawanakee Academy, Chowchilla High, Madera High, Madera South High and Yosemite High Schools will be competing to be named county champion. The winner of Madera County's Academic Decathlon will advance to the state competition in March.

The remaining eight Decathlon events, including the speech competition, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1 at Madera South High School. This year's topic is World War I to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the war.

"This prestigious competition continues to be highly regarded by colleges and gives students an opportunity to be introduced to topics not necessarily emphasized in their general course of study," said Cecilia Massetti, Ed.D., Madera County Superintendent of Schools. "Students not only demonstrate their analytical skills but also must communicate their ideas through interviews and essays showing the depth of their knowledge."

Many changes are in store for the 2014 Academic Decathlon. Schools will be allowed up to 25 students per team. All are eligible for awards. The final overall team will

be determined by selecting the top three scoring students from each division. This is the first year the interview will be held on a separate day from the traditional Academic Decathlon day, the first Saturday in February. This will allow for the increased number of students and create a shorter Saturday competition. This will also be the first year that the essay test will be held online. Students will complete their essays using a laptop computer. Essays will be scored by trained readers after the competition.

Madera County was invited to participate in a pilot-program with four other counties in California to test new software for the Academic Decathlon. Students will use hand-held devices to input their tests answers. Students will take the art, economics, language and literature, mathematics, music, science and social science tests using the device.

The Super Quiz will also be taken using the devices and will display an answer summary after each question. This will provide instant results to the audience after each round.

The public is invited to attend the Super Quiz and Awards Ceremony on Feb. 1 beginning at 2:15 p.m. at Madera South High School. For more information please call Kristi Winter, Events Developer, at 559-662-3873.



*In Memoriam*



**James Patrick "Jim" Tangrady**

**February 2, 1955 - January 7, 2014**

James Patrick "Jim" Tangrady was born on Feb. 2, 1955 in Chicago, Ill. to John and Elaine Tangrady. In 1964, John moved his family to southern California, ultimately settling in Montclair, Calif. where Jim grew up, graduated from Montclair High in 1973 and later attended Chaffey Junior College.

In 1979, Jim and his best friend Randy Bailey moved to Fresno, Calif. with the promise of working in the beer industry. Jim later found great success working in the automobile industry, primarily with the Herwaldt family at Herwaldt Oldsmobile and then Saturn of Fresno.

In 1990 Jim was blessed with a daughter, Taylor Tangrady-Porton.

In 1998 Jim was unable to resist Christ's salvation any longer and became a Christian, joining the Faith Community Church of the Nazarene in Clovis, Calif. the next year and being baptized there five years later. That same year, 2003, Jim married the love of his life, Lucy Busch, and three years later they moved to Meridian, Idaho.

In Idaho, Jim and Lucy's life took an exciting turn when they decided to go into business for themselves and created Itz Sew Lucy, manufacturers of custom, hand-made aprons and other sewn kitchen accessories which are distributed in several western states.

Jim was preceded in death by his father John and mother Elaine and is survived by his wife, Lucy; daughter Taylor; stepdaughters Amanda Mullen and her husband Paul, Sarah Busch and her fiancé Robyn Becht, and Julie Alejo. Jim is also survived by his "brother" Randy Bailey and his wife Vicki of the Madera Ranchos, Calif. and countless friends and loved ones he amassed over a lifetime.

Jim will be remembered as a devout husband, a loving father, a steadfast best friend, a guy that could make anyone laugh, and a godly man who truly loved the Lord and never stopped thanking Him for saving his life. Jim leaves this existence with only two pieces of unfinished business: 1. Not seeing his beloved Chicago Bears win one more Super Bowl and; 2. *Ever* seeing his beloved Chicago Cubs make it to a World Series.

He is greatly and sorely missed.

**LAWRENCE**  
TIRE AND SERVICE

**INVENTORY  
CLEARANCE  
SALE-SALE-SALE**

Lawrence Tire and Service • 224-7414  
4764 N. Blackstone, Fresno

CLEARANCE PRICES GOOD  
THROUGH MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014



1/14

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

Visit the Ranchos' own Website.  
Get fully downloadable back issues of the Ranchos Independent (beginning with April 2006). Learn how you can add your Ranchos-area business to this site!

1/14

[www.theRanchos.com](http://www.theRanchos.com)  
[www.theRanchos.com](http://www.theRanchos.com)

Take Control  
of your Health



**COLD & FLU SEASON  
IS NOW UPON US!**

Everyone should be taking one to two **On Guard Beadlets** per day to boost your immune system during this time of the year.

**dōTERRA™**

Doterra Certified Pure Therapeutic Grade Essential Oils can improve your health, increase your energy, fight viruses and so much more.

Call me to find out how these oils can help you!

**Tina Shannon**

Independent Product Consultant

call **645-4948** or **430-7131** [www.mydoterra.com/tinashannon](http://www.mydoterra.com/tinashannon)



**Valentine's Special • Mark Your Calendar**

Oils Gone Wild Party • Sun. Jan. 26 • 1-4 p.m.  
"Oils Gone Wild & Simply She's Sexy Lingerie"  
at Christ's Place • 37275 Ave. 12, Madera Ranchos  
Make your Valentine's Day **REALLY** special!  
Women & Men Invited

1/14



**Happy 1st Birthday!**

**Caden James Lee Bailey**

Happy 1st Birthday on  
December 31, 2013

**Mommy and Ariella  
Love You!**

**SAV YOU SAW IT IN THE RANCHOS INDEPENDENT**

Click on "Local News" at



**CHIEF**  
**Jay Varney**  
*for Sheriff*  
**FBI Trained, Texas Experienced!**

Paid for by Committee to Elect Varney for Sheriff/Coroner 2014. FPPC# 1361251 1/14

**Bradley & Sons**  
 Lic. 414178

**DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE**

**Same Day Service**

*Family Owned Since 1976*

**674-1663**  
**23338 Ave. 14**  
**Madera**

1/14

**Sago Key Palm Plantation!**  
 More than 20,000 Palms & Sagos in stock.  
 We also have a wide selection of Shade & Fruit trees.

call Tom and Maria at  
**559-268-6650**  
 3535 S. Temperance • Fresno • www.sagorey.com

1/14

**Now Is The Time To Shed Those Unwanted Pounds**

**Look Good and Feel Great**

**LOSE WEIGHT AND INCHES TOO**

**WE KNOW LOW CARBS! \$20 OFF 1st visit only**

**DIET WORLD MEDICAL GROUP**  
 "We Are Very Affordable" **224-6744** OPEN: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM until 5:30 PM

4844 N. First, #101 • Fresno, CA 93726 • Between Shaw & Santa Ana

1/14

**Transitions Children's Services**  
 LIC. #107206625


**Foster Parents Needed**

*We are looking for nurturing and loving homes for children placed in foster care. We provide support, training and reimbursement to our foster families. For more details, please contact Michelle at (559) 222-5437.*

**1945 N. Helm, Suite 101**  
**Fresno, CA 93727**  
**(559) 222-5437**  
 www.transitionschildrenservices.org

1/14

*In Memoriam*



**James "Jim" Powell**  
**July 26, 1939 - January 3, 2014**

James "Jim" Powell left us on Jan. 3, 2014. He was born on July 26, 1939 to Dorcie and Lucille Powell and was the oldest of three children with a sister, Janey Nichols, and a brother, Jerry Powell.

As a child, Jim worked with his father on the Limoneira Ranch in the Santa Paula area and grew up to be a farmer. He graduated from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona with a degree in Citrus production and spent many years working on the S & J Ranch in Madera County until finally in 1980 he was able to start his own farm management enterprise, El Oso Farming Company.

Although Jim worked many hours on the farming operation, he felt it was his duty to give back to the community. He was involved with Madera County Farm Bureau, Madera Sunrise Rotary, Madera-Joppa Masonic Lodge, Madera Eastern Star and Camarena Health Center, rising to leadership positions in each organization. His willingness to take on leadership roles was not a surprise to those who knew him.

Jim was active with his children in Boys Scouts, Indian Guides, soccer and Rotary's Interact program where he had the opportunity to travel to Mexico over 20 years helping to build playgrounds in depressed areas of the country.

Jim loved sailing and travelling, having visited Russia, Israel, Iran, Central America, Costa Rica, the British Virgin Islands and numerous historic sites throughout the United States.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents and sister and is survived by his wife, Janet; his children, Bruce Powell and his wife, Michelle; Jennifer Wakefield and her husband, Jason; and Jason Powell and his girlfriend, Lori Botelho. Jim also had five grandchildren: Mackenzie Wakefield and Kathryn, Rachel, Jillian and Sean Powell. Additionally, Jim's brother Jerry Powell and his wife, Sydney; and Jim's cousin Phyllis Wanamaker and her husband, John. Jim also had many wonderful friends who he loved and valued.

Jim was a hard-working man with a high level of integrity; a man of his word. He would go to great lengths to do what was needed in every situation and was an exceptional man, son, father and friend. He will be missed by many, but will remain in our hearts for evermore.

Memorial Services were held on Jan. 11 at Jay Chapel in Madera. Remembrances may be made to The Rotary Foundation, 14280 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693, or the American Heart Association, 7425 N. Palm Bluffs Ave. Suite 101, Fresno, CA 93711.



**To Advertise in the**  
**Ranchos**  
**Independent**  
 call **645-0634**

1/14



## Tacherra Calls Out Costa on Water

16th Congressional District Republican candidate Johnny Tacherra commended Governor Jerry Brown for finally declaring an emergency after years of water shortages that have costs thousands of jobs, millions of dollars in economic revenue that could have strengthened local education and law enforcement after years of inaction by Congressman Jim Costa. "As a dairy farmer who has seen the devastation of this drought firsthand, I want to thank Governor Brown for finally doing the right thing," said Tacherra. "After all, as the saying goes, 'Better late than never.'"

Tacherra also shared his perspective on the failed leadership of Congressman Jim Costa.

"Jim Costa can't have it both ways and needs to be held accountable," said Tacherra. "He can't say he has influence for the Valley when we somehow always get the short end of the stick on every issue and negotiation he is involved in. All he has to show for his time in Sacramento and Washington over 30 years

is backing a \$100 billion train nobody here wants. He has his pension and Cadillac healthcare after voting for ObamaCare which stuck it to farmers and working families one more time. Now he needs to get away and let the Valley finally have the representation it deserves in Congress."

Tacherra has called for ending both state and federal funding for the "Train to Nowhere" to pay for increased water storage, agricultural education and research and international trade programs to increase Valley agricultural production and bring family-sustaining jobs to Fresno, Madera and Merced counties.

"So much of the revenue driven by California agriculture comes from other states and nations buying our products. That lowers the trade deficit and strengthens our economy and our nation," he continued. "We must finally throw off the shackles of failed environmental and economic policies to grow our economy intelligently from the ground up."

## Knoll Gets Endorsement, Award

Greg Noll, candidate for Madera County Sheriff, is proud to announce a recent endorsement from the Fresno Police Officers' Association (FPOA).

In October, representatives from the Fresno Police Officers' Association attended a candidate's night sponsored by the Madera Deputy Sheriff's Association. Each candidate was asked specific questions about what they plan on doing if elected Sheriff in Madera County. The candidate's night was videotaped and distributed to members of the Fresno Police Officers' Political Action Committee (PAC) for review. Once the video was reviewed, the PAC committee unanimously chose to endorse Greg Noll for Madera County Sheriff. Then, at the monthly FPOA board meeting, another vote was taken and again a unanimous decision was made to endorse Greg Noll for Madera County Sheriff in 2014. The FPOA endorsement represents over 1,000 police officers both active and retired with many of

its membership living in Madera County. Greg is extremely honored by this endorsement and stated this is the first step to ultimately improving public safety in Madera County.



Madera County Sheriff candidate Greg Noll, (right), receives the Outstanding Community Service award from members of Fresno's Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Committee.

Noll was also recently recognized by the Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Committee of Fresno for his work in the community while working for the Fresno Police Department. The Unity Committee has been a vital force at the grassroots level in organizing the Dr. King birthday celebrations every year in Fresno. Greg received the "Outstanding Community Service" award for his work in building partnerships and impacting crime while leading a group called Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life. Knoll also received proclamations from United States

Senator Diane Feinstein and Congressman Jim Costa. Knoll's hope is to bring this same collaborative effort to Madera County and the Madera County Sheriff's Department if elected.

99/12 cont. from P. 2

ramp from Avenue 12 onto Highway 99. Golden State Boulevard, which used to run alongside of the AM-PM station parallel to the 99 is now being carved out of a vineyard to the west of the existing road. It had to be moved because the new 99 off-ramp passes through what was the old Golden State Boulevard.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$84 Million and is being paid from Proposition 1-B funding, the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and local Madera County Measure "T" funds. The contractor on the job is Security Paving, Inc. and the projected completion timeframe is sometime around the winter of 2016.

SENIOR cont. from P. 10

Madera Rancho community. There is room for you and you may attend all three days or just one or two of them.

On Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. are a variety of card games to be enjoyed. Come and learn new games. On Wednesday we have card bingo at 12:15 p.m.

On Thursdays at 6 p.m. we have a great pot luck with poker and other great card games.

Check your calendar for daily events for each day of the week. If you do not have a copy of the newsletter, stop by the Senior Center for a copy. Additional copies are available at the Ranchos Market and Hurst Hardware and several businesses along Avenue 12. You can also contact Joann at 645-4864 and we will get one to you.

The Farmers Market at the Center has a few vegetables available as well as jams and jellies. The Boutique also has many new, handy and "on the spot" needed gift items.

Members are always invited to attend the board meeting, planning meeting and general meeting listed in your newsletter. Be informed on what is happening at your home away from home. Keep in touch about what is happening and the status of the Center and its changes, whether financial or just ongoing functions.

The Ranchos  
Independent  
classified rates  
are **crazy** cheap.

CALL 645-0634

MOCK cont. from P. 13

as attorneys, witnesses, bailiffs and clerks. Attorneys from throughout the valley score the students' performance. This was Liberty High School's fourth year participating and second win.

In addition to winning the Mock Trial overall, several of the Liberty High students received additional awards.

**Outstanding Roles:** Students who received multiple nominations from scoring attorneys and judges.

**Claire Copher for Defense Attorney**

**Bethany Samarin for Defense Pretrial Motion Attorney**

**Honorable Mention Roles:** Students who received one or more nominations from scoring attorneys and judges

**Carissa Miller for Defense Witness**

**Jordan Serpa for Prosecution Attorney**

**Sabrina Jones for Prosecution Attorney**

**Vivian Montijo for Prosecution Witness**

**MVP:** Students were nominated by the opposing team because they displayed outstanding role portrayal, attitude, demeanor, sportsmanship, helping hand, etc.

Madera High selected Claire Copher from Liberty High School and Yosemite High selected Bethany Samarin from Liberty High School.

Ernest LiCalsi, Judge Michael Jurkovich and Judge Charles Wieland presided over the trials. The Mock Trial was held on three separate days and teams participated in six rounds of competition.

The Mock Trial and other student academic events are supported by Madera County Office of Education and Madera County Schools Foundation through community and business donations and volunteers. Madera County Superior Court co-sponsored the Mock Trial.

The California Rights Foundation provided the trial cases.

**SCRAMBLERS**  
solution

1. Verge; 2. Glance;  
3. Teach; 4. Praise

Today's Word:  
**GARAGE**

Click on "Local News" at



# SPREAD THE NEWS!

Have friends or family who love the Ranchos Independent but live outside the area? Are you moving but you still want to keep in touch with what's happening in the Madera Ranchos?



## SUBSCRIBE!

to the Ranchos Independent!  
 local news • local events • local happenings  
 editorial • games • real estate • columns

# The Ranchos Independent

37167 Ave. 12, #5C  
 Madera, CA 93636

645-0634 • fax 645-4002 • ranchosnews@yahoo.com

### SUBSCRIPTION FORM

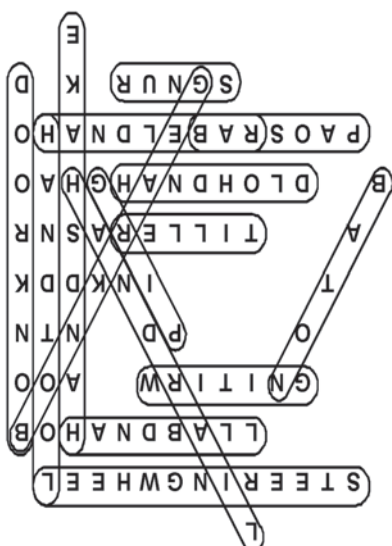
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Payment: \$20  Cash  Check  Credit Card  Bill Me  
 The Ranchos Independent 37167 Ave. 12 #5C • Madera CA 93636 Fax 559-645-4002

## ANSWERS

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

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

12																				
2	+	3	x	7	35															
÷		x		-																
6	+	8	+	8	22															
x		+		x																
4	-	1	x	5	15															





# Classified

## Alteration Services

**Madlin's Alterations** - 40 years experience - Tailoring, repairs and leathers. Fast service. **NEW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER: 36027 Ruth Ave. Call 559-645-4583.**

## Boy's Club

**RANCHOS BOYS CLUB** - Seeking Christian boys (10-14) to meet 2 times per month for fun, fellowship and low/no cost constructive activities. **Call Melanie at 573-639-1739.**

## Child Care

**Child Care** - Susan Ryan Day Care. Newborn to 5 years old. Licensed. **Call 661-4725 or 706-0424.**

## Construction

**New construction, remodels, room additions, barns and patios. Call 559-970-4476.**

## Floor/Upholstery Care

**Pinnacle Carpet Care and Upholstery** - "Dries in minutes, not hours." Carpet, upholstery, tile/grout cleaning and sealing, aggregate, stone, auto, boat and R.V. interiors. BBB and Golden Valley Chamber member. **Call Bruce today for a free estimate. 559-676-0760.**

## For Rent

**FOR RENT** - Office Rental now available. Small office on Ave. 12. **Call Ethel at 645-1890.**

**ROOM FOR RENT** - In Madera Ranchos - House privileges. \$350 per month plus utilities. **Call 704-1251 for details.**

## For Sale

**For Sale - Interesting original handcrafted items.** Stop by Mac's any Wednesday afternoon. Enjoy a complementary beverage and treat yourself to a goodie. **36752 Berkshire Drive - 645-7707.**

## Housecleaning

**Housecleaning - Get ready for ... anything!** Get your house, yard and windows in order. Give us a call for a free estimate. **Call Linda at 559-645-0308 or Staci at 559-458-3248.**

**Housecleaning Service - Have your house spring cleaned all year long.** Experience, Responsible, Honest. Fair prices. **Call 416-2585.**

## Lost & Found

**Lost Dog** - Female - Mid size - Brown & Black - Looks like a coyote. If you have her or know where she is please call **704-1251.**

**Found - Two sets of car keys.** In the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce office at 37167 Ave. 12 #5C. Come by, identify them, take them home.

## Painting Services

**Painting Services - Gerald Scheffing & Son Painting.** 40 years experience. Interior & Exterior. Licensed, insured and bonded. Lic #313070. **Call 674-2320.**

**Painting Services** - 40 years of experience. Licensed. **Frank Kramer Interiors. Lic. #273099. Call 645-4113.**

## P. O. Boxes

**Ranchos P.O. Boxes NOW AVAILABLE** - at Ranchos Barber Shop. \$10 per month. **Call 363-1851.**

## Recyclables Pick Up

**FREE RECYCLABLES PICKUP - KIDS 4 RECYCLING** offers pickup of all recyclable materials, including paper, plastics, glass, aluminum and cardboard. If you have any questions be sure to call **Dianna at 999-6832 or 645-1048.** Funds support Ranchos' Seniors, library, schools and 4H.

## Tractor/Trenching Services

**BOBCAT WORK - DRILLING POST HOLES** - Trees - Trenching - Clean Up. **TRACTOR WORK** Discing - Rototilling - Mowing - Scraping - Stump Grinding - Roll-off Bins. **Call John at 908-1066.**

**Tractor Work** - House Pads, lot leveling, driveways, trenching, concrete work and underground utilities installed. **Call 559-970-4476.**

## Window Cleaning Services

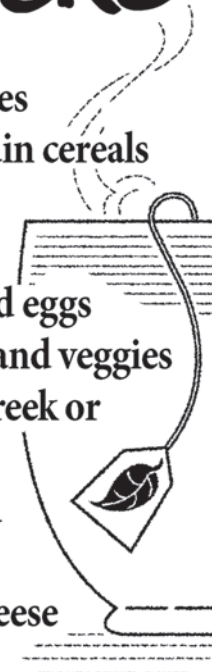
**Most windows \$5 inside/out** - Screen, track and sills included. Remove hard water stain on home windows, shower doors and car windows. Cobweb removal available. Fully insured. **Call Nick at 285-1723. Free estimates. SENIOR DISCOUNT!**

**The Ranchos Independent**  
**CALL 645-0634**

## top ten

### Flu-Busting Snacks

1. Oranges
2. Veggie slices
3. Whole-grain cereals (fortified)
4. Nuts
5. Hardboiled eggs
6. Hummus and veggies
7. Yogurt (Greek or low-fat)
8. Bean salad
9. Green tea
10. String cheese

Source: Geneia 

©2014 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

## SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

©2014 King Features Syndicates, Inc.



# Real Estate



## Nancy Watson

The Ranchos Specialist, Working for "You"

645-5000

www.nancywatson.net



If you are considering buying or selling a home, call Nancy Watson. She is an experienced agent who has served the Ranchos with honesty and integrity for 24 years. A Ranchos resident since 1977, Nancy is dedicated to serving her clients with the highest level of care and commitment. Please call Nancy Watson for all of your Real Estate needs.

1/14



## DAVID PARKER, Realtor®

Real Estate Sales - sellers & buyers:

[www.davidparker.info](http://www.davidparker.info)

Property Management -  
we can rent your home:

[www.parker-properties.info](http://www.parker-properties.info)



A Ranchos resident for over 30 years, I am a full-time professional agent working Madera, Fresno and Clovis. We offer first class service for sellers and buyers. Unable to sell at current prices? We offer full property management and will rent your home for top dollar and handle all the details. Call me today! 490-1989 • DRE#: 01323109

1/14

## Your Local Realtor Since 1969

### Ethel Eddings Pronin

Owner - Broker

Jerry Eddings, Realtors

Direct Line: 559-435-3366 Madera: 559-645-1890  
Fresno: 559-435-1890 FAX: 559-645-5417

www.maderahomes.com DRE #00329063



37144 Ave. 12 Ste. 102 • Madera Ranchos

1/14

## Continental Realty

PAUL & SUE SOBAJE

Covering the Ranchos since 1976  
Handling Lots, Homes, Ranches  
Representing Buyers & Sellers



CONTINENTAL REALTY • 36875 AVE. 12 • MADERA RANCHOS  
MADERA 559-645-5450 • FRESNO 559-431-7060

1/14



1/14

## Your Ranchos Team



TINA TORRENCE  
790-7446  
BRE#01853827



ERIC READ  
869-8333  
BRE#01930321

Buyers are looking for Ranchos homes. We can help you sell FAST! CALL OR TEXT US NOW FOR A FREE PROPERTY ANALYSIS.

## Want to Buy or Sell a Home?



Ask about our  
**FREE**  
home  
warranty  
program.

We Have  
Pre-  
Approved  
Buyers!

Call Today!

Maria  
Fotopoulos - Cercione

Office • 559-645-1212  
Cell • 559-250-6740

maria@ossrealtor.com

Ranchos resident for over 30 years!

1/14



DRE Lic. #01454566



LIZ KUCHINSKI, CDPE, CRS, GRI, SFR  
Realtor, Century 21 C. Watson • DRE Lic. #01263332

"A Ranchos resident since 1985."

Interest rates are historically low, but prices are edging up. Call me for more information on your home's current value ... it could be the perfect time to sell.

1/14

Century 21 C. Watson Direct: (559) 364-1000 • Fax: (559) 440-7608  
7520 North Palm • Fresno liz@LizKuchinski.com • www.LizSellingHomes.com

## Who's got 1980's prices?



1/14

You can do it yourself or have the pros at Madera Glass & Mirror take care of your window repairs. Got broken screens? Madera Glass & Mirror has the expertise to make quick work of any screen repair. Glass for picture frames is a specialty at Madera Glass & Mirror. Fix a broken one or complete a project.


## Madera Glass & Mirror, that's who!

Madera Glass & Mirror's repair services are close to the prices charged in the 1980's. Give them a call today for unbelievable prices on incredible quality work and products for all of your glass and screen needs.

Madera Glass & Mirror Co. • 1825 Howard Rd., Madera • 559-673-3583



**Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory**

**CHANEY'S**  
  
 Lic. #899496  
**Bobcat Service**  
 • DRILLING • TRENCHING • DIRT WORK •  
 • efficient • reliable • cost-effective call Beau  
**559-301-1613**

**Clark's Performance**  
 • GM, H1 & ASE Master Certified  
 • General Automotive Repairs  
 • Hot Rod Customizing & Lowering  
  
 Jeff Clark  
**645-1578**

**PAINTING CONTRACTOR**  
 TEXTURED COATING • PAINTING  
 VINYL SIDING • VINYL WINDOWS  
 ROOFING  
  
**FRANK KRAMER**  
**EXTERIORS**  
**(559) 645-4113**  
 TEXTURED COATING SPECIALIST  
 FRANK KRAMER LIC. #273099

**MZC**  
  
 • Industrial  
 • General  
 • Farm  
 • Mig  
 • Tig  
 • Stick  
 • Certified  
 • Portable  
**Welding & Fabrication**  
 call JERRY CLARK • 706-3865

**NEW & USED  
 CARS & TRUCKS**  
**All Makes & Models**  
**J.H. Sanders**  
**Sales & Leasing**  
**822-4500**  
**HWY 41 just North  
 of Avenue 12**  
**www.jhsanders.com**

**Now & Again**  
**Thrift & Gift Shop**  
 Come find your treasures  
**37164 Ave. 12 #103**  
 (next to The Coffee Spot)  
  
**We Now Carry  
 BALLOONS!**  
**645-0013**  
 Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Thu Noon - 7 p.m.  
 Sat 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. / Sun 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Jo-De DRILLING**  
  
**& TRACTOR SERVICE**  
**HARDPAN DRILLING**  
**674-7770**

**Notary in the  
 Ranchos!**  
 Mobile Notary and  
 Loan Document Signing  
 Daytime • Evening • Weekends  
**Diana J. Tucker**  
 Serving Madera & Fresno Counties  
**381-5879**

**HIGH QUALITY  
 GATE SYSTEMS**  
  
**559-454-8060**

**ROGER PRATER  
 CONCRETE**  
 Residential & Commercial  
 38 years experience  
 Lic. # 599235  
  
**(559) 645-0911**  
**(559) 977-8983**

**Need Construction?**  
 Lic. #932435  
 • Concrete  
 • Rough Framing  
 • General Building  
 • Steel Buildings • Shop Buildings  
 • Room Additions • New Construction  
**FREE ESTIMATES!**  
**All Stage Construction, Inc.**  
**559-681-8947**

**TRANSMISSIONS  
 & AUTO REPAIR**  
**+ A/C SERVICE**  
**Ranchos Auto Repair  
 & Chuck's Transmission**  
**645-4475**

**WHAT CAN YOU  
 GET FOR \$25?**  
 How about 12,000  
 Ranchos residents each  
 month who look at  
 Business Directory ads?  
**The Ranchos Independent**  
**(559) 645-0634**

**AAA  
 RV CENTER**  
**559-233-5000**  
 RV PARTS & SERVICE • MOBILE REPAIR  
 INSURANCE ESTIMATES & REPAIRS  
 FACTORY & EXTENDED WARRANTY REPAIRS  
 MADERA, CA

**Professional Pet Care  
 When You Can't Be There**  
**Pets, Plants, Plus+**  
 Specializing in Livestock  
 call Sandra Oliver  
**559-240-3556**  
 or  
**559-517-0233**  
**PSI**  
 Pet Sitters  
 International  
 MEMBER  
 Accredited • Insured • Bonded

**Huckabee's**  
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
 Lic. #837274  
**559-662-0336**  
**559-438-8260**  
 Sales and Service - Free Estimates  
 Duct Testing & Certification  
 Locally owned  
 and operated!

**Aleman's Painting**  
 SINCE 1980  
 Interior & Exterior  
 Specializing in  
 Repaints  
 Rental, Residential  
 & Commercial  
 Drywall, Stucco,  
 Redashing & Ac-  
 coustical Removal  
 Color Matching  
 BONDED & INSURED  
 Lic. #589140  
**559-974-2268**

**CRONIN MARINE  
 REPAIR**  
 ENGINE AND OUT-DRIVE REPAIR  
 INBOARDS AND OUTBOARDS  
 TRAILER BOATS ONLY  
  
 Since 1964  
**645-1977**

**Housekeeping  
 & Cleaning  
 by Rosalia**  
 • Over 10 Years  
 Experience  
 • MANY Ranchos  
 References  
 Available  
**559-718-9941**  
 or  
**559-363-9348**


**MARION POOL  
 SERVICE & REPAIR**  
 • Weekly Service  
 • Equipment  
 • Supplies  
 • Residential  
 • Drains - Upstarts • Commercial  
 • Locally Owned  
**251-2514 351-1605 645-4799**  
 office cell after 5 p.m.

**CERTIFIED ARBORIST**  
 • Artful Pruning  
 • Removals  
 • Disease  
 Management  
  
**UPRIGHT**  
 TREE SPECIALISTS  
**645-TREE**  
**(8733)**

**INAPA B&M**  
 Auto & Truck Parts  
 Store hours:  
 Mon - Fri 8:30-5:30  
 Sat 8:00-4:00  
 Sun 10:00-3:00  
 Madera Ranchos Plaza  
**37405 Ave. 12, Ste. 801**  
**645-1570**

**call for  
 FREE ESTIMATE!**  
 • Clean Up  
 • Monthly Service  
  
**BRENT TATUM**  
**LAWN SERVICE**  
**559-871-3529**

**Mitchell L. Vick**  
 GENERAL CONTRACTOR  
 Lic. #563698  
 • Custom Homes • Concrete •  
 • Remodeling • Additions •  
**559-970-4635**  
 mlvconst@gmail.com

**THE COMFORT  
 AND RELAXATION  
 YOU DESERVE**  
  
**BRIAN'S**  
**HEATING & COOLING**  
**675-1681**



## Business Directory

**WIGHT WATER POOLS**  
Service • Supplies • Repair  
**FREE ONLINE DELIVERY**  
[WWW.WIGHTWATERPOOLS.COM](http://WWW.WIGHTWATERPOOLS.COM)  
MON-FRI: 9AM-6PM SAT: 10AM-3PM SUN: CLOSE  
37167 AVE. 12 #5D (559) 645-1969

**LOCALLY OWNED!**  
**HANDYMAN**  
HOME SERVICE  
we are a full-service handyman, maintenance and remodeling company  
we REPAIR, REPLACE and INSTALL anything around your home or business  
**559-840-0519**

**CALIFORNIA**  
**MERCEDES & B.M.W.**  
**REPAIR SERVICE**  
**288-9521**  
40101 Ave. 10  
Madera  
[www.calmbbmwrepair.com](http://www.calmbbmwrepair.com)

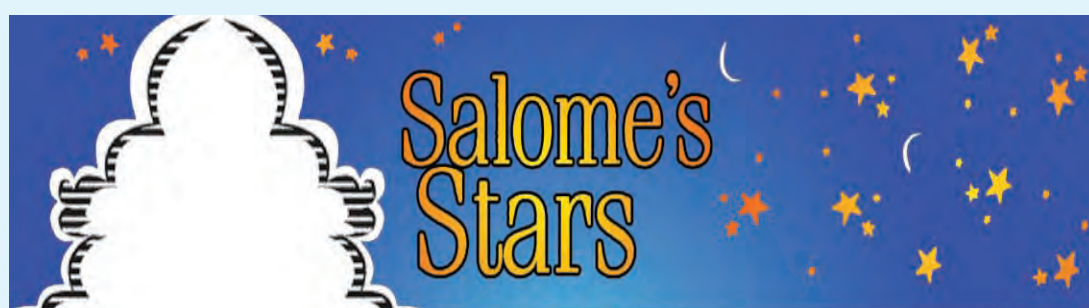
**PERSONAL TOUCH**  
LANDSCAPE & GARDENING  
SERVICE • Lic. #B0008113  
Ranchos Resident  
Yard cleanups & hauling • Weed control  
Lawn & garden service • Maintenance  
Weekly & monthly service  
Mag Anaya Jr.  
**559-974-1357**

for MORE sales tomorrow, call

**JEAN BRINER**  
**Today!**  
**(559) 645-0634**  
The Ranchos Independent

## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Romantic aspects are high at this time for single Lambs looking for love. Warm and fuzzy feelings also are at enhanced levels for Rams and Ewes in paired relationships.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) This week favors what Taureans dote on -- namely, love and money. Look for more meaningful relationships for both singles and pairs, as well as an improved financial outlook.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) All lingering shreds of that recent bout with boredom are dissipated as you eagerly accept a challenging offer. Your positive mood persuades others to join you in this venture.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You might need validation for a possible solution to a situation involving someone close to you. Consider asking a trusted friend or relative to help you with this problem.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Investigate carefully before agreeing to assist a friend or colleague with a personal problem. There might be hidden factors that could emerge later that will create problems for you.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Your decision to work with an associate rather than go it alone, as you first proposed, brings an unexpected bonus. Be careful not to be judgmental. Allow for free and open discussion.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A loved one's health problem could, once again, make demands on your time and attention. But this time, make some demands of your own, and insist that others pitch in and help.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time for the traditionally staid Scorpion to plan adjustments in your day-to-day schedules. Be more flexible and allow for more impromptu, off-the-cuff actions.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Avoid creating unnecessary fuss over a situation you don't approve of. If it's going to work, it will do so despite your objections. If it fails, it will do so without a push from you.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Working with a trusted colleague could open your mind to exploring some considerations you previously dismissed out of hand. The weekend brings news from a loved one.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Resolving a recent problem leaves you in a good position to strengthen your influence on how things get done. But continue to encourage ideas and suggestions from others.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A new friend suggests an interesting opportunity. But check it out before you snap at it. It might be a good deal for some people, but it might not work in helping you reach your goals.

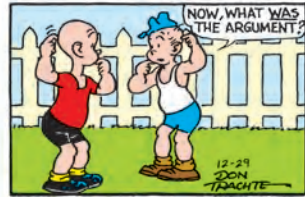
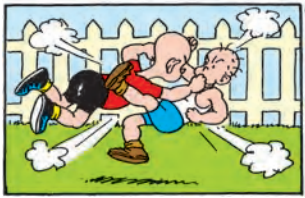
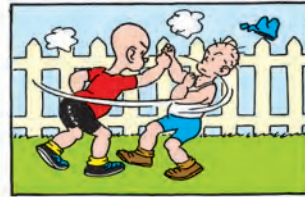
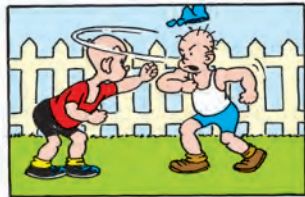
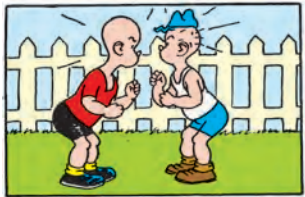
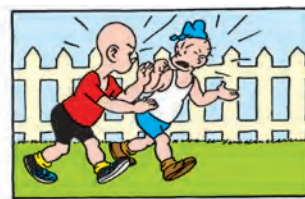
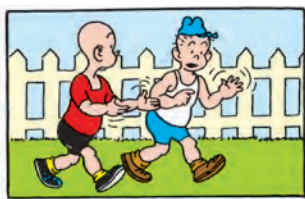
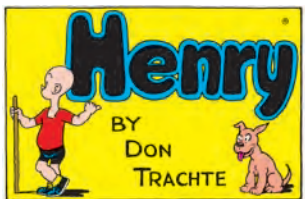
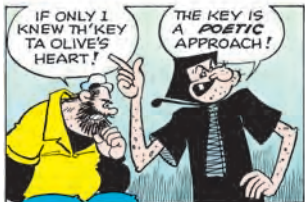
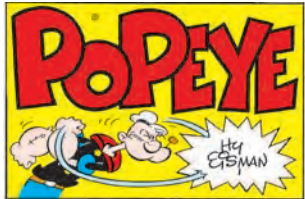
## Born this Week

You have a way of helping people solve their problems,  
making you a most-respected counselor and trusted friend.

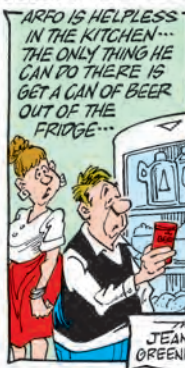
(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.



# FUN PAGES



## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



## BY AL SCADUTO



EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? YOU'VE WAITED IN LINE TWENTY MINUTES AND-- AT LONG LAST YOU APPROACH THE REGISTER-- THAT'S WHEN YOU GET THIS TIMELY ANNOUNCEMENT-- P.S. SHE JUST WENT THRU THE SAME THING AT THE POST OFFICE.



## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

**BUG OFF!** Let's see if you can solve these "pun"-derous insect riddles, answers to which, match, require a play on words. Chances are you will be stung by their acidity.

**BY SUNDIAL**  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

1. What insect can't talk? 2. What insect eats plates? 3. What insect won't leave? 4. What insect blows a horn? 5. What insect uses a brush? 6. What insect needs a rest? 7. What insect is knee high? Peek below, if you must.

1. The horse fly. 2. The house fly. 3. The dragon fly. 4. The tick. 5. The car-painter ant. 6. The dragon fly. 7. The tick. 8. The house fly. 9. The house fly.

**SAY WHAT!** What simple mathematical axiom is the equivalent of this: "The double of a certain number is equal to that number plus one?"

**SIMPLY TREASURE THESE WORDS**

Where is the treasure buried? Answer is stated tersely in the diagram above: BY SUNDIAL. And, acting on this clue, a treasure hunter is at work at the site.

Coincidentally, there is another significance to the words BY SUNDIAL. Number the letters 1-9 from left to right in order, as shown, and it's possible to restore the missing digits of the multiplication problem at hand.

That is to say, simply substitute number for letters: 1 for B, 2 for Y, 3 for S, etc. See how quickly you can make the changeover.

**SURE SHOT!** One of four throws is sure to reach the basket. Which one? Pick a line and then see if you are on target.

**FUN SOLO**

**COLOR NUMBER**

**RHYME TIME!** Rhyme, if not reason, rules the storybook canvas above. Apply colors by number: 1—Red, 2—Brown, 3—Yellow, 4—Green, 5—Flesh. Choose your own colors for canvas items.

**SPELLBINDER**

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words:  
P E R O R A T E

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

Try to score at least 50 points.

## Wishing Well

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

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.

**MAGIC MAZE ● HANDS ON**

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

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

Bar soap	Grip	Handlebar	Steering wheel
Baton	Hand tool	Handrail	Tiller
Doorknob	Handball	Handshake	Writing
Gear knob	Handhold	Rungs	

© 2013 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved

## TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who designed the Statue of Liberty?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a beaver's home called?
- LANGUAGE: In the international phonetic alphabet, what word represents the letter "Y"?
- MONEY: What is the basic currency of Poland?
- GEOGRAPHY: What nation is Baffin Island a part of?
- TELEVISION: Who was Steve McGarrett's nemesis in the series "Hawaii Five-O"?
- HISTORY: Who was the first postmaster general appointed by America's Continental Congress?
- MOVIES: Which two comedians starred as friends in the movie "Stripes"?
- MEDICINE: What is trepanning?
- SCIENCE: How fast do hummingbirds' wings move?

- Answers**
- Frederic Bartholdi
  - A lodge
  - Yankee
  - Zloty
  - Canada
  - Wo Fat
  - Benjamin Franklin
  - Bill Murray and Harold Ramis
  - Cutting a hole in the skull to relieve pressure
  - Their wings flap between 12 and 80 times a second.



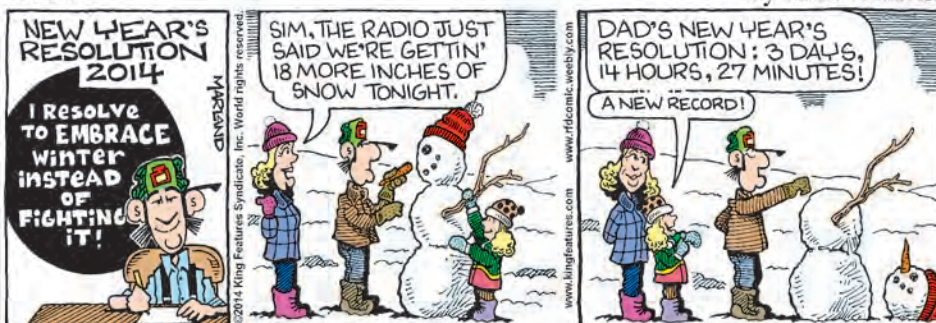
# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



### SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Brink: GREVE

Peek: CLANGE

Train: CHEAT

Cheer: RASPIE

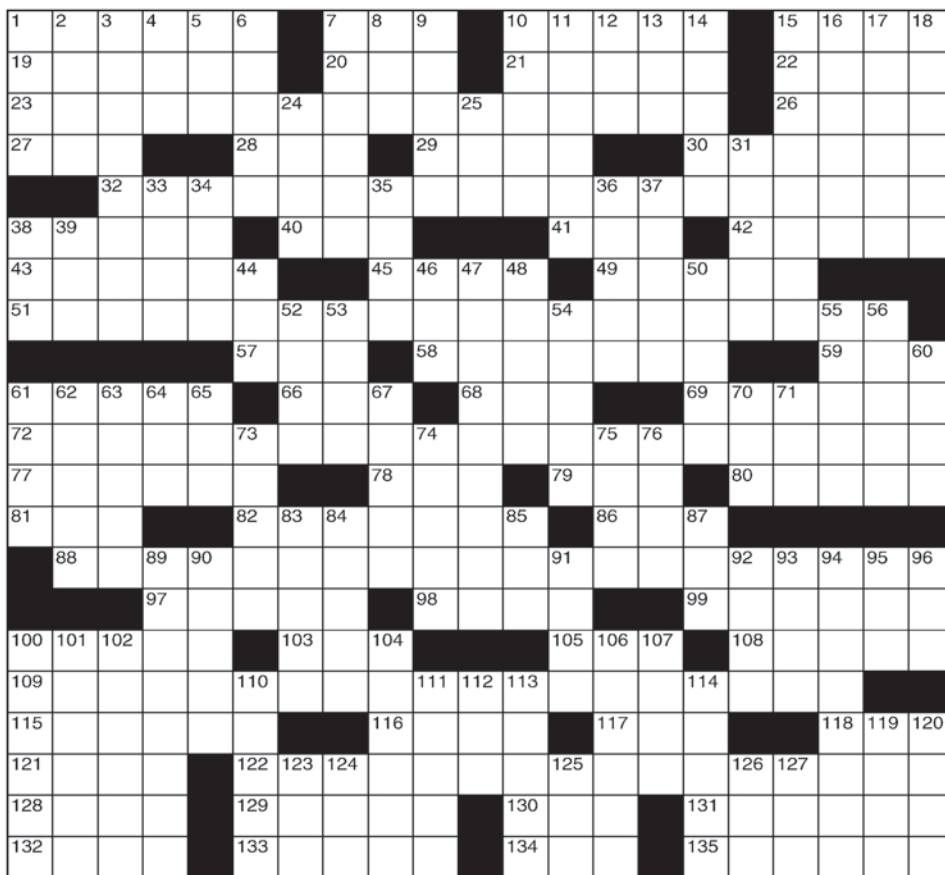
"I have plenty to show for 30 years of marriage — and I'm putting it all in a sale!"

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How can you find them? Check answers at www.ranchos.com

# Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Shackle
  - 7 Sweeper, for short
  - 10 Allegation
  - 15 Steep, rugged cliff
  - 19 Imprudent
  - 20 Anger
  - 21 Burly
  - 22 Mister, in Munster
  - 23 Canine "Midnight Rider" singer?
  - 26 Have — in one's bonnet
  - 27 Having the flu, e.g.
  - 28 Prefix with sex or cycle
  - 29 Opera feature
  - 30 Making a gondola go
  - 32 Canine "Highway to Heaven" co-star?
  - 38 Zoo heavyweight
  - 40 19th of 24 Greek letters
  - 41 Cager Ming
  - 42 Examines
  - 43 Sponge up
  - 45 See 44-Down
  - 49 Davenport and divan
  - 51 Canine 2004 presidential hopeful?
  - 57 Trio less one
  - 58 Supermarket scanner
  - 103 Backwoods negative
  - 105 No longer active: Abbr.
  - 59 "Hulk" director Ang
  - 61 Grainy, as beer or ale
  - 66 "Fear Factor" ailer
  - 68 By way of Hemingway or Tubb
  - 72 Canine "Memoirs of a Geisha" novelist?
  - 77 "American —" (Richard Gere film)
  - 78 Legendary coach
  - 79 Patriotic woman's org.
  - 80 Moistens, as a turkey
  - 81 Same: Prefix
  - 82 Heartaches
  - 86 "Get him, Fido!"
  - 88 Canine "On the Waterfront" Oscar winner?
  - 97 "That's easy for you —!"
  - 98 Auld lang —
  - 99 Pope after Adrian I
  - 100 Weed killer brand
  - 103 Backwoods negative
  - 105 No longer active: Abbr.
  - 108 Averages
  - 109 Canine 1995-2009 Pennsylvania congress-man?
  - 115 Port on Lake Erie
  - 116 Disaster relief org.
  - 117 Stew morsel
  - 118 Gobbled up — (Richard Gere film)
  - 122 Canine three-time Daytona 500 winner?
  - 128 "Garfield" canine
  - 129 Central Florida city
  - 130 Ethane, e.g.
  - 131 "No lie!"
  - 132 D.C. ball club
  - 133 Alpine warble
  - 134 Lyrical poem
  - 135 Twitches
  - 2 Carbon compound
  - 3 Around 93-Down
  - 4 Twitch
  - 5 That, in León
  - 6 Snip anew
  - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
  - 8 Abbr. at JFK
  - 9 Joker player Romero
  - 10 Sequence
  - 11 Extreme folly
  - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
  - 13 DDE's nickname
  - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
  - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
  - 16 Makes a new proposal
  - 17 Response to "Am sol!"
  - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
  - 24 Muscle woe
  - 25 Paid intro?
  - 31 "I do" setting
  - 33 Hip to
  - 34 Popped top
  - 35 Great anger
  - 36 Simply must
  - 37 Greeted the villain
  - 38 Rule, in India
  - 2 Carbon compound
  - 3 Around 93-Down
  - 4 Twitch
  - 5 That, in León
  - 6 Snip anew
  - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
  - 8 Abbr. at JFK
  - 9 Joker player Romero
  - 10 Sequence
  - 11 Extreme folly
  - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
  - 13 DDE's nickname
  - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
  - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
  - 16 Makes a new proposal
  - 17 Response to "Am sol!"
  - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
  - 24 Muscle woe
  - 25 Paid intro?
  - 31 "I do" setting
  - 33 Hip to
  - 34 Popped top
  - 35 Great anger
  - 36 Simply must
  - 37 Greeted the villain
  - 38 Rule, in India
  - 2 Carbon compound
  - 3 Around 93-Down
  - 4 Twitch
  - 5 That, in León
  - 6 Snip anew
  - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
  - 8 Abbr. at JFK
  - 9 Joker player Romero
  - 10 Sequence
  - 11 Extreme folly
  - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
  - 13 DDE's nickname
  - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
  - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
  - 16 Makes a new proposal
  - 17 Response to "Am sol!"
  - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
  - 24 Muscle woe
  - 25 Paid intro?
  - 31 "I do" setting
  - 33 Hip to
  - 34 Popped top
  - 35 Great anger
  - 36 Simply must
  - 37 Greeted the villain
  - 38 Rule, in India
- DOWN**
- 1 Japanese volcano
  - 2 Carbon compound
  - 3 Around 93-Down
  - 4 Twitch
  - 5 That, in León
  - 6 Snip anew
  - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
  - 8 Abbr. at JFK
  - 9 Joker player Romero
  - 10 Sequence
  - 11 Extreme folly
  - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
  - 13 DDE's nickname
  - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
  - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
  - 16 Makes a new proposal
  - 17 Response to "Am sol!"
  - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
  - 24 Muscle woe
  - 25 Paid intro?
  - 31 "I do" setting
  - 33 Hip to
  - 34 Popped top
  - 35 Great anger
  - 36 Simply must
  - 37 Greeted the villain
  - 38 Rule, in India
  - 2 Carbon compound
  - 3 Around 93-Down
  - 4 Twitch
  - 5 That, in León
  - 6 Snip anew
  - 7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
  - 8 Abbr. at JFK
  - 9 Joker player Romero
  - 10 Sequence
  - 11 Extreme folly
  - 12 "Near — can tell ..."
  - 13 DDE's nickname
  - 14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
  - 15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
  - 16 Makes a new proposal
  - 17 Response to "Am sol!"
  - 18 Rocker Allman and pitcher Olson
  - 24 Muscle woe
  - 25 Paid intro?
  - 31 "I do" setting
  - 33 Hip to
  - 34 Popped top
  - 35 Great anger
  - 36 Simply must
  - 37 Greeted the villain
  - 38 Rule, in India



# **PUBLIC LIVE AUCTION**

## **EVERY SATURDAY**

**NO RESERVE - STARTS @ 10:30am**

PREVIEW FRIDAY 10am - 5pm

"VISIT US ON THE WEB AT  
[PUBLICAUCTIONRUS.COM!](http://PUBLICAUCTIONRUS.COM)"

OVER 1,000  
ITEMS EVERY  
WEEK!



# ***Public Auction***

# **RUS**

**11040 HWY 41**  
**MADERA, CA 93636**

**OFFICE: 559.439.9777**  
**FAX: 559.439.1777**

**INSURED AND BONDED**

- ANTIQUES
- FURNITURE
- GOV. VEHICLES
- JEWELRY
- OVERSTOCK
- LIQUIDATIONS
- COLLECTIBLES
- ELECTRONICS
- APPLIANCES
- BICYCLES
- CONSIGNMENT
- ...and more!

**WE SPECIALIZE IN ESTATE SALES!**