

The Ranchos Independent



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

CELEBRATING
14 YEARS
IN THE RANCHOS

Volume 15 Issue 1 2019

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

The *C* Word

what you **DON'T** know
could kill you.

By Randy Bailey

In This Issue

Editorial • Page 5 / Aunt Jean's Recipes • Page 8
Classifieds • Page 18 / Fun Pages • Pages 22 & 23



In the last two years, I have had to deal with something I never thought I would have to deal with.

Cancer.

The "C" word.

The first time was over a year ago and resulted from my doctor catching a mole on my left forearm that didn't look "quite right." It was on the arm that I always hung out the window when I drove. Probably not a good idea for a guy as fair-skinned as me, but there it is. The doctors got on it, cut a good chunk out of my forearm and are satisfactorily convinced they got it all. Their subsequent tests have agreed with them.

Then not quite a month ago I went into St. Agnes for foot surgery. They took some blood for some normal tests and something popped up in my kidneys. Upon closer inspection, it was a cancerous growth in my bladder.

I was speechless.

To be in the hospital for your foot and then discover something cancerous growing in your bladder is jarring to say the least. But, like the forearm, the doctors are confident they got it all and now only time will tell.

As a result of all this, I wanted to do something for my family and friends and readers. I went online and looked at what the American Cancer Society has to offer on the subject and I put together a very brief overview of what to look for and what questions to maybe ask. I didn't know any questions to ask.

I hope you find this helpful and if nothing else it can possibly be that first step on a road of 10,000 miles.

Cancer Can Start Anywhere

It starts when cells grow out of control and crowd out normal cells, making it hard for the body to work the way it should. The

cancer can spread from where it started to other parts of the body and when it does this, it's called metastasis. Cancer is always named for the place where it starts, so when lung cancer spreads anywhere, it's still called lung cancer. It's not called brain cancer unless it starts from cells in the brain. There are many types of cancer and it can start in any part of the body, including the lungs, the breasts, the colon, or even in the blood. This is why it is crucial to communicate with your doctor and get checked regularly.

The symptoms of cancer depend on the type of cancer, where the cancer is, how big it is and how much it affects other parts of your body. You have to talk to your doctor about any changes you've noticed and it will probably be at this time your doctor will suggest a physical exam that may include any of the following:

Lab tests: Blood and urine tests can be used to help find some types of cancer. They can also be used to find out how well your body is working.

Ultrasound: For this test, a small wand is moved around on your skin. It gives off sound waves and picks up the echoes as they bounce off tissues. The echoes are made into a picture on a computer screen.

X-rays: X-rays of the part of your body that might have cancer are sometimes the first tests done. A chest x-ray may also be done to see if the cancer has spread to your lungs.

CT or "CAT" scan: This test uses x-rays to make detailed pictures of the inside of your body. This test may be done to look for cancer or to see if it has spread.

MRI scan: MRIs use radio waves and strong magnets instead of x-rays to make detailed pictures of the inside of your body. MRIs can show the tumor and other parts

of the body.

PET scan: PET scans use a kind of sugar that can be seen inside your body with a special camera. If there is cancer, this sugar shows up as "hot spots" where the cancer is found. This test can help show if the cancer has spread.

Endoscopy: This is when a thin, lighted tube is put into your body to look inside. The tube may be put in through a small cut in the skin or through a natural opening, like your mouth. The tube lets the doctor look at the tumor and other nearby body parts. A biopsy can be done with tools put into the tube.

Biopsy: In a biopsy, the doctor takes out a small piece of the lump to check it for cancer cells. A biopsy is often the only way to tell for sure if you have cancer.

Bone marrow aspiration and biopsy: For this test, a hollow needle is put into the center of a bone (most often the back of your hip) to take out a small amount of the liquid inside called bone marrow, where blood cells are made. The bone marrow is tested to see if there are cancer cells in it.

Grading Cancer

The cancer cells in the biopsy sample might be given a grade and this can help doctors predict how fast the cancer is likely to grow and spread. Cells that look very different from normal cells are given a higher grade and tend to grow faster. We don't yet know what causes all cancers, but we do know that there are certain things called "risk factors" that affect your chance of getting some diseases. Some risk factors for cancer can be changed and others can't. Risk factors don't mean that you'll get cancer, and some people who get cancer may have few or no known risk factors. Even if a person with cancer has a risk factor, it's very hard to know what part that risk factor may have had in causing the cancer.

If you have cancer, the doctor will want to find out how far it has spread. This is called staging. Your doctor will want to find out the stage of your cancer to help decide what type of treatment is best for you. The stage describes how much the cancer has grown in the area where it started. It also tells if the cancer has spread to other parts of your body. Your cancer may be stage 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4. The lower the number, the less the cancer has spread. A higher number, like stage 4, means a more serious cancer that has spread from where it first started.

The outlook for many people diagnosed with cancer is very good. The fact is that most cancers can be treated and there are millions of people living in the United States today who have or had cancer. See your doctor early and cancer doesn't have to be either scary or a death sentence.

County Electeds Sworn Into Office

At the Madera County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 8, County elected officials were sworn in, beginning with County Clerk-Recorder Rebecca Martinez whose 45 years of service is the longest currently serving elected official in Madera County. Also sworn in was District 1 Supervisor Brett Frazier, District 2 Supervisor David Rogers, District 5 Supervisor Tom Wheeler as well as Assessor Gary Svanda, Auditor-Controller Todd Miller, Sheriff Jay Varney, Treasurer-Tax Collector Tracy Kennedy and District Attorney Elect, Sally Moreno.

2018 chair Tom Wheeler passed the proverbial gavel to Frazier then said, "It has been a pleasure to work with each of you. I have no doubt Supervisor Frazier will do an exceptional job as chairman."

The chairman approves meeting agendas, presides over board meetings, serves as the official spokesperson for the board, represents the county at public events, appoints supervisors to various boards and commissions, and signs written correspondence and legal documents. Frazier, who lives in the Ranchos, took the time to recognize members of his family and friends following the announcement of his chairmanship.

"This is an ongoing effort to engage communities and increase the transparency of local government," Frazier said.

Chamber = Santa For Vets at Xmas



Again this Christmas, veterans at Fresno's VA Hospital were greeted with over 100 bags of items from the people of the Ranchos through the annual event sponsored by the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce and coordinated with the Community Christmas Tree Lighting. Items ranged from socks, t-shirts and underwear to coffee and paperback books. Although there was no tree ceremony this year, the veterans were not forgotten. For more information on the event, contact the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce at 559-645-4011.

COMPLETE CAR CARE



Kyle
Madera Ranchos

Warren
Madera Ranchos

Cameron
Madera Ranchos

Michael
Fresno

Billy
Madera

WE ARE YOUR LOCAL NAPA AUTOCARE CENTER

**PLEASE GOOGLE OUR CUSTOMER REVIEWS • 102 REVIEWS • 4.9 STARS
WE PERFORM MOST REPAIRS FOR MOST VEHICLES • FREE ESTIMATES
FREE DAILY PICKUP AND DELIVERY FROM 93636**

275-0157

5787 W. BARSTOW, FRESNO

Dear Editor:

Your editorial on the Ranchos area in your December issue of the Independent touched on three subjects that are important to our community in the Ranchos and the larger area of this corner of Madera County.

MD-10a special district water system has been mismanaged since 1996 when local individuals turned our water system over to the Board of Supervisors. There was an existing rate payer-owned water system in Madera County out on Road 26 – Madera Valley Water Company – hat still functions for the benefit of the rate payers, that was ignored by these people when they found the private owner of our Ranchos water system had allegedly misappropriated \$400,000 from rate payer fees and state bond money for this system.

MD-10a rate payers again paid for a state bond to turn over \$3 million or so to the Board of Supervisors for five new wells that would provide fire-flow benefit. Two wells were drilled and we have never had fire-flow benefit that we paid for since 1996, evidenced by the total destruction by fire of the Hurst Hardware store on Avenue 12 in 2004 with a fire hydrant less than 100 yards from the fire.

When Brett Frazier took over as our supervisor in 2015, several of us asked for a comprehensive accounting of MD-10a management and finances from 1996 through 2015. The Board of Supervisors agreed and it was unanimously approved. The result of this was a one- or two-year explanation with opinions put in by Rhonda Cargill, secretary for District One, that were in contrast to the approved agreements between temporary Madera County employees and rate payers in 1996. There is still no accounting for our money.

Again, several rate payers asked for a MD-10a oversight committee to represent the community in the handling of our water system and money, and again Brett put this before the Board of Supervisors and they unanimously agreed. The result was putting in the unofficial existing panel with a set of bylaws that clearly stated when a member of the board died or quit that the remaining members could vote in a replacement for that position. When five of the seven members quit a few months after this new committee was in place, Rhonda, Brett and the temporary County Counsel said that the remaining two members could not vote in replacements because there had to be a quorum of four with the seven-member panel. Consistent with their inability to do math and be accountable, these three did not allow the two remaining members to fill the vacancies; you cannot have a quorum of four when you only have two remaining members.

We have had no oversight committee or knowledge of actions and money transfers for MD-10a since 2015. Currently the Charlton well is abandoned, and the Kensington well has been flushed out repeatedly over the last year leaving only the New Fender well and the Dublin well providing water for the ratepayers of MD-10a. Two wells do not provide fire-flow benefit, but then we have never had fire-flow benefit.

In 2008, then Supervisor Frank Bigelow and the top temporary Madera County employees came out here to ask the community if they wanted a four lane expressway going through our community or a bypass and finally, after I had to show the Madera County employees running this show that the federal government census declared the Madera Ranchos to be the area within Avenue 13 and Kensington and Road 36 to Road 38, and that consensus meant more than half of the people responding, Bigelow finally acknowledged that this community did not want Avenue 12 to be a commuter route and in 2009 the Madera county planning department wrote up an Avenue 12 bypass with three alternate routes south of the 6.2 canal. This report and action has been shelved for 10 years while current temporary Madera county employees at multiple public meetings have stated there was never a decision on this project.

The sewage plume of the Ranchos with 60 years of failing and replaced septic systems is in fact another issue that has not been addressed while we lose potable water for thousands of property owners out here.

There has never been any groundwater recharge in this area other than the mosquito pond that was converted to the only recharge basin in this area at Liberty High School. For three years Brett has said they are working on it – there is no groundwater recharge happening. This area has lost 300 vertical feet in our water table since this area was zoned for houses.

These issues need to be brought to the attention of your readers and the community at large before we lose potable water and have four lanes of traffic running through our community on Avenue 12. The water systems in Continental Estates and Rolling Hills are examples of property owners having to successfully sue the Board of Supervisors for their well in

Continental Estates and Rolling Hills, choosing a replacement private water system because of the mismanagement of money and resources with their water system managed by Madera County Board of Supervisors.

Chuck La Rue
Madera Ranchos

**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**

1/19

WIN FREE PROPANE!

WIN 125 GALLONS OF PROPANE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

*Drawing to be held the first week of July, 2019. Delivery must be by August 31, 2019.
Must be a Valley Propane customer.*

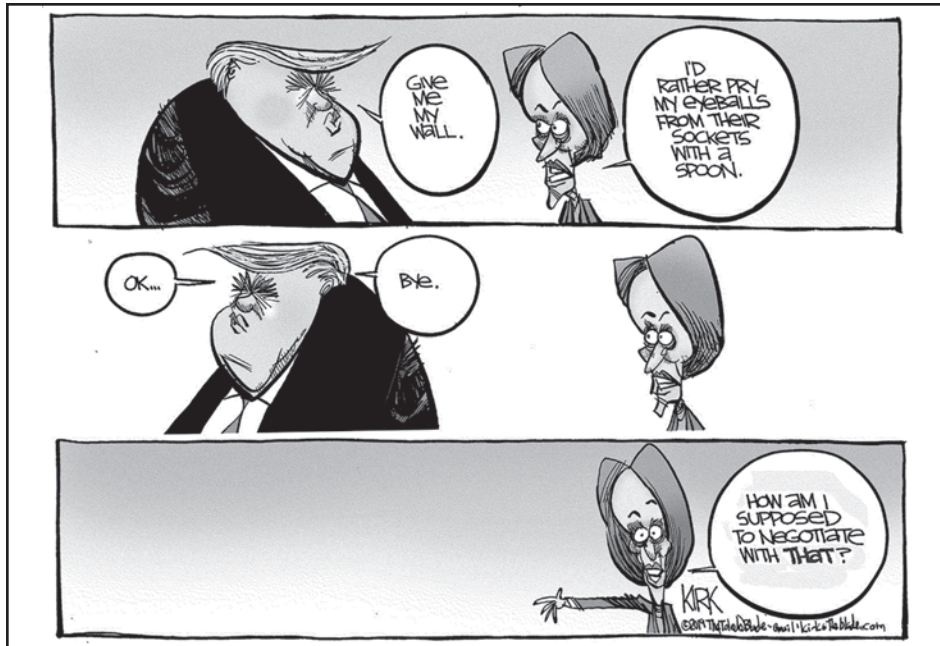
**MAIL TO: Valley Propane • 37221 Ave. 12 #1D
Madera, CA 93636**

VALLEY PROPANE

"Service you can trust at prices you can afford"

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

Click on "Local News" at



The Ranchos Independent

The Ranchos Independent is published by Five and Two Publishing.
 All contents of this publication are copyright 2019, 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

Jean Briner -- Columnist, Advertising Sales

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

www.TheRanchos.com

Guest Editorial

FBI Trampling Our Order

By Rich Lowry

The FBI took it upon itself to determine whether the president of the United States is a threat to national security.

No one had ever before thought that this was an appropriate role for the FBI, a subordinate agency in the executive branch, but Donald Trump isn't the only one in Washington trampling norms.

The New York Times reported the astonishing news: "Counterintelligence investigators had to consider whether the president's own actions constituted a possible threat to national security." U.S. presidents over the decades have made many foolhardy decisions that have undermined our security; never before have they been deemed a fit subject for an FBI investigation.

The proximate cause for the probe into Trump was his firing of FBI Director James Comey, which the FBI considered both a potential crime and a national security matter because it might shut down the investigation into Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election.

Even if they were shocked by the treatment of Comey, top FBI officials should have been able to quickly ascertain that the Russia investigation continued unimpeded -- indeed, it is still ongoing today.

If the Times reporting is correct, the FBI grew more suspicious of Trump's conduct based on comments that have

been widely misunderstood. Among the bill of particulars:

- During the campaign, he urged the Russians to hack Hillary Clinton's email. Trump clearly meant this line *sardonically*, though.

- The GOP platform allegedly was softened toward Russia. Never mind that, as Byron York of the Washington Examiner has demonstrated, this *didn't* actually happen.

- And in his Lester Holt interview after the Comey firing, Trump said that "... this Russia thing with Trump and Russia is a made-up story." The president added, it's worth noting, that he *knew* firing Comey probably extended the investigation rather than shortened it.

More legitimately, agents were disturbed by Trump's continual praise for Vladimir Putin. These comments were blameworthy, but not a federal offense.

As part of the executive branch, the FBI should brush up on the powers of the chief executive. The president gets to fire subordinate executive branch officials. He gets to meet with and talk to foreign leaders. He gets to make policy toward foreign nations. Especially important to the current investigation, he gets to say foolish, ill-informed and destructive things.

If the president wants to tilt toward Russia (not that Trump really has, except in his words), he can. If he wants to butter up China's dictatorial president during high-stakes trade negotiations, he can. If he wants to announce a precipitous withdrawal from Syria and make it slightly less precipitous in a fog of confusion, he can.

And the FBI should have nothing to say about it.

The Times story is another sign that we have forgotten the role of our respective branches of government. It is Congress that exists to check and investigate the president, not the FBI.

Perhaps the Times report is exaggerated, or the FBI has serious evidence of a criminally corrupt quid pro quo between Trump and Moscow that there's no public indication of yet. Otherwise, the Times story is a damning account of an offense against our political order, and not by Donald Trump.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

THE RAY GUN
 SHOOTING STRAIGHT TO THE HEART

"[THE DEMOCRATS'] PHILOSOPHY CAN BE SUMMED UP IN FOUR SENTENCES: IF IT'S INCOME, TAX IT. IF IT'S REVENUE, SPEND IT. IF IT'S A BUDGET, BREAK IT. AND IF IT'S A PROMISE, MAKE IT."

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

Start with Turn Signals

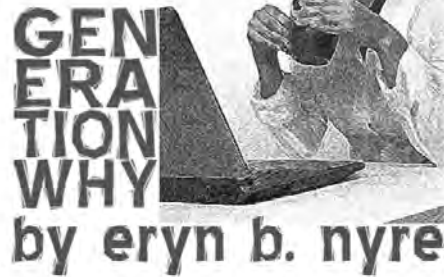
Our country is so divided at the moment it feels as though we may never repair the damage. There is so much anger, obstinance and derision it's no wonder we can't agree on anything. The middle ground is getting more and more difficult to find, let alone navigate. I know we can't agree on education, border security or taxes, but can we please, for the love of rainbows and unicorns, can we at least agree to use our blinkers? That's a place to start, right?

My Grams always took driving very seriously and would constantly tell me she would not have a member of her family driving like an idiot, an old person, or a girl. The last of which always concerned me because I had been under the apparently mistaken impression that she was in fact, a girl. Questionable gender identity

aside, as an adult I have come to realize that her motor vehicle advice was both spot-on and timeless. She used to tell me every time we were in the car together that using my

blinker wasn't optional and she would disinherit me if she caught me neglecting it. It's amazing to me how many people don't use their blinkers. Heaven forbid you take a moment to signal to other drivers your intent. What's the point in doing that? I mean ... it's not like it could actually prevent a collision by ensuring that you aren't in the exact same place that the other driver is attempting to occupy. Physics. Who needs it?

I used to think that Grams ranting behind the wheel was just the way she blew off steam. After more than 20 years of driving I now realize she was a genius and if we all followed her little rules there would be a lot less accidents. Such as causing a three-car pile-up because you merged onto the freeway going 15 miles an hour less than the flow of traffic and everyone in the lane had to suddenly slam on their breaks because you're an idiot. I can just see my



Grandmother gripping her steering wheel with her jaw locked and teeth clenched, yelling through the windshield at the moron who caused her to slam on her breaks and swerve into the next lane. Then she would turn to me and say, in a matter-of-fact, no grandchild of mine will drive like a moron sort of way, "When you merge on the freeway, you merge with the flow of traffic!" I am truly stunned

I know we can't agree on education, border security or taxes, but can we please, for the love of rainbows and unicorns, can we at least agree to use our blinkers?

by how many drivers ignore this rule just content in their own little bubble where they are the center of the universe and everyone around them will just have to find some way to avoid a collision even if it means spontaneously sprouting wings.

Another of my Grandmother's pet peeves was the fast-lane cruiser. She never minded slower drivers sticking firmly to the speed limit from the sanctuary of the slow lane where they belonged. But in her eyes refusing to maintain the flow of traffic while in the fast lane was worthy of some name calling. Windows up of course because first and foremost Grams was always a lady. Anyone else picking up on the pattern here? Among Grams' top rules were: don't put your elbows on the table, don't bite your nails, and never, NEVER disrupt the flow of traffic.

Included in my own top ten list of driving fails, but right on topic of those who mess with the flow of traffic, are the looky-loos. Never mind there are thousands of

Please see GEN WHY on P. 7

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

1/19

NOW RENTING

Madera Ranchos Professional Office Complex

36914 Avenue 12 • Madera CA 93636

BUILDING 1

BRILLZ WAY

PARKING

Brand new construction in Madera Ranchos

- 16 unit Professional Office Complex
- Month to Month tenancy
- Units range in size from 243 square-feet to 426 square-feet
- Great exposure on the corner of Avenue 12 & Loren Way
- Close proximity to both Highway 41 & Highway 99
- Common area men's & women's restroom
- Rent starting at \$425 per month
- Rent includes: PG&E, Water, Trash & Site Maintenance

LOREN WAY ELEVATION

AVENUE 12 ELEVATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: **JASON SOBAJE**
(559) 647-1104 jason@buildcontinental.com

*Disclaimer: Project information is presented here with the possibility of changes or withdrawal without notice.

1/19

Say you saw it in the *Ranchos Independent*

Click on "Local News" at

PETE & MARIA'S
 ITALIAN BISTRO
 559-645-5545



NEW DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS

We now deliver to the Ranchos, Bonnadelle & Rolling Hills areas.

GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

pounds of dangerous machinery zooming along around you, feel free to take a moment to observe the gruesome scene. While you're at it, pull out your phone and take a little video. The safety of others is not your concern. I nearly slammed into the back of someone who had nearly slammed into the back of a looky-loo the other morning on my commute to work. As we all swerved around her, she had the audacity to look at us like we all needed to take a driver's safety course. I pictured how Grams would handle it. I could imagine the mild expletives she would have lobbed through the

windshield. I should have blown my horn. Grams used to remind me that the horn was invented for a reason and it wasn't just a one-note, mobile musical instrument. Never be afraid to lay on the horn when you need to get someone's attention, she would say.

My father may have physically taught me to drive, but whenever I am behind the wheel and I encounter a driver that clearly wasn't lucky enough to have a Grams like mine, it's her words I hear and her attitude I channel as I roll down my window and proceed to scream a driving lesson at them while traveling 70 miles per hour. I never claimed to be a lady, after all.

www.chadstrucking.com



TRUCKING
 CA #441782

LANDSCAPE DIRT & DRIVEWAY
559-645-5363

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

GET PAID AT



GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM
GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM

37357 AVE. 12
MADERA RANCHOS

next to LEE KITCHEN

OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY
10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Health Care Services In Your Area
Call for an appointment today!




COMMUNITY CARE - MADERA RANCHOS
 11976 Road 37 • 559-645-4191

Family Practice; Behavioral Health

Services:
 • Child immunizations
 • Laboratory

*Medi-Cal and Medicare welcome
 Same-day appointments available
 Discount program for the uninsured*

Now Open on Saturdays!
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

www.MaderaRanchosCare.com

Super Sunday Here We Come!



How do you feel about what has been going on with the NFL for the past couple of years? Two years ago, Colin Kaepernick started it all by sitting out the singing of the National Anthem and you might say “all hell broke loose.” People were NEVER going to watch NFL football again! And there are probably former fans that haven’t watched a game since. Then there were other diehard fans who thought “freedom of speech” and let the league work it out. I’ll admit I have been watching some games, I just love football. Was hoping my favorite team would make it to the Super Bowl but they didn’t even make it to the playoffs.

Whether you like it or not, the Super Bowl is going to be played again this year. Super Bowl LIII (53) will be played February 3 in the Mercedes Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia. The stadium looks nothing like a football stadium – I think it is beautiful. It was completed in August, 2017 at a total cost of \$1.6 billion. The retractable roof wasn’t completed until July, 2018. It seats 75,000, with seats ranging from lower level 50-yard-line for \$13,156 each to “nose bleed” upper level for \$4,665 each. Gladys Knight (without the Pips) will be singing the National Anthem. Maroon 5, who will be joined by rappers Travis Scott and Big Boi, will be doing the half time program. OK, who in the heck are these people? I know, it’s not a Beach Boy, Neil Diamond or Johnny Mathis world anymore.

How do you feel about an NFL team coming to Fresno during the 2019 season? I read that hometown boy Derek Carr who plays for the Oakland Raiders would like for the Raiders to play their home games at the Fresno State Bulldog Stadium until the Raiders’ Las Vegas

Stadium is ready in 2020. Oakland Coliseum, where they play now, seats 56,057 and Bulldog Stadium seats 40,727. Probably won’t happen, but it was a fun thought.

Are you going to have fellow rooters in for the game or do you prefer to yell alone? In either case you will need something to eat but you don’t want to be cooking while someone makes a touchdown. So make the snacks simple or make them on Saturday. If you have kids that are going to be there and like to make snacks, by all means let them. The younger ones may need some help melting ingredients or taking things out of a hot oven, but otherwise it will be good learning for them, and they will be proud during the game when their snack is served.

Who doesn’t like Nachos? And so simple to make.

Nachos

- 1 bag corn chips
- 3 C freshly grated cheese***
- 1 jar jalapeno slices (optional)

***Any cheese you like – Monterey jack, pepper jack, cheddar, Mexican (a blend of 4 cheeses)

Preheat oven to 350.

Put a layer of the whole chips in an ovenproof dish or pan, then a layer of cheese and jalapeno’s if using. Repeat until you have three layers. Bake until the cheese is melted. Don’t over bake; you want the cheese to be gooey.

The kids can help roll up the hot dogs in:

Pigs in a Blanket

- 8 hot dogs

Please see **RECIPES** on P. 9

Adventist Health

Welcoming New Patients!

Vivian Bartlett, F.N.P.-C

FAMILY MEDICINE

SPECIALTIES

- Women’s health
- Physicals
- Wellness exams
- Preventive medicine

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing; New Jersey City University
- Master of Science in Nursing and Education; University of Phoenix, Ariz.
- Family Nurse Practitioner; Indiana State University, Terre Haute

CERTIFICATION

- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Family Nurse Practitioner
- Certified Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurse, CWOCN

LANGUAGES

English and Spanish



In Madera

Adventist Health
Medical Office - Madera Ranchos

11976 Road 37

559-645-4191

MaderaRanchosCare.com

A service of Adventist Health Reedley

Rodents destroying your property?

Over 15 years of experience
Licensed by Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Cal. Dept. of Pesticide Regulation
Nuisance animal trapping

CALL FOR AN INSPECTION TODAY!

ALLIED RODENT CONTROL · 312-5441



RECIPES cont. from P. 8

1 pkg. refrigerated crescent dinner rolls

1 egg, lightly beaten with 1 tablespoon of water

Preheat oven to 375.

Separate crescent dough into triangles. Place hot dogs at wide end of triangle and roll up. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Brush egg and water mixture lightly over rolls. Bake 12-15 minutes or until golden. Serve with catsup and or mustard.

Then there is one of my favorites, the Seven Layer Dip. There is no cooking to

this one, only opening containers and spreading on top of the last layer. The kids might need a little help with the chopping. I'm not going to tell you the quantities because you can judge how much to use by the size you want it to be. When I used to take this to a family get together, I would take it on my large (12x18 inch) sheet pan. I would use three regular cans of refried beans to start. The layers I used were:

Seven Layer Dip

- Refried Beans
- Sour Cream
- Guacamole – either homemade or purchased
- Canned Green Chilies*

Salsa*

- Shredded Iceberg lettuce
- Shredded cheese
- Sliced or Chopped Olives*
- Chopped tomatoes
- Chopped green onions

*Be sure to drain well, you don't want the dip to be soggy.

Serve with your favorite corn chips.

And you will need something sweet.

How about letting the kids make this one with you helping them melt the butter and the chocolate chips?

Peanut Butter Squares

- 1 C Crushed graham crackers
- 1 C Powdered sugar

- 6 T melted butter
- 1 C Peanut Butter
- 1 ½ C melted chocolate chips

Prepare a 9x9 inch pan by lining the bottom and sides with parchment or wax paper. Mix the crushed crackers, powdered sugar, melted butter and peanut butter together. Dough will be stiff, press into prepared pan. Pour on the melted chocolate. Refrigerate at least two hours before cutting into squares.

There you have it – whether you use any of these suggestions or go buy a pizza or sandwich or just raid the refrigerator, HAVE FUN – make it a good day and GO RAMS!

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



That's Where Those Were!

“Ohhh, that’s where those were!”

Ever been there? Your keys or glasses, scissors or remotes. You’ve searched high and low, all the places that make sense. Maybe it’s something more critical like your passport or passwords, wedding ring or great-grandma’s locket. Frantically you rummage through drawers and cabinets — stress and blood pressure rising.

Finding lost things with my clients is one of the joys of my work. We’ve uncovered everything from social security cards in paper bags in the garage to hundreds of dollars in cash at the bottom of a box of papers. Connected to joyful discovery is anxiety when items go missing. Nobody likes to lose things. For many it’s

a chronic issue: “Where did I leave my ...?”

WHAT are lost items costing you?

- Money – replacing items not found

- Space – now you’re storing two or more of the same things you lost and replaced

- Relationships – receiving blame or blaming others: “you had it last!”

- Reliability – time searching makes you late for work, miss appointments, meetings or flights

WHY am I losing things?

- Domestic drift – your phone, glasses and other items float around the house with you

- Multi-tasking – you have multiple projects going on with stuff everywhere

- Your things don’t have specific homes

- You don’t return things to their homes

- There’s too much stuff

HOW do I stop losing things?

- Designate temporary holding places to keep from losing things to the domestic drift.

According to *Lost and Found* (pmnewsire.com) phones and glasses are second and fourth on the list of commonly misplaced items. They drift around with us but aren’t always connected to us. Be intentional about a corner of the coffee table if you’re in the family room, or if in the

kitchen, a specific spot on the countertop. I even designate “temporary holding place” for my car when shopping. At Target it’s one row to the left of the center when I come out of the store. No wandering the parking lot!

- Cut out multi-tasking. According to *The True Cost of Multi-Tasking* (PsychologyToday.com), we don’t actually multi-task: We switch tasks. Our brains can really only focus on one thing at a time, with the exception of doing a physical task that you’re very good at while doing a mental task — like walking and talking. But throw in a cell phone, and even your walking will be impaired. Focus on doing and finishing one thing before getting out more things to do. You’ll have less to keep track of.

- Create homes for things. TV remotes and car keys won first and third on the most commonly lost item list. Make homes for these items with convenience in mind. A basket on the floor next to the recliner, or a drawer in the coffee table is a good spot for the remotes. A hook on the wall just inside the door, or the outside pocket of your purse is a user-friendly spot for your keys. For important things that you don’t use often like passports, keepsakes, etc., create a home and then keep an index on your phone or computer of where to locate these items when needed.

- Put things in their homes. This may be

Put things in their homes. This may be the biggest challenge. It requires training the brain to stop and think. Your new mantra is “Don’t put it down, put it away.” You use the tape to wrap a gift, “Don’t put it down, put it away.”

the biggest challenge. It requires training the brain to stop and think. Your new mantra is “Don’t put it down, put it away.” You use the tape to wrap a gift, “Don’t put it down, put it away.” You get a screwdriver out to tighten the faucet,

“Don’t put it down, put it away.” If you’re watching TV and slip off your shoes, you don’t have to jump up and run them to the closet, but scan the family room, your desk, the kitchen wherever you are before you leave the room and put things in their homes. This will eliminate frustrating searches later on.

- Reduce. According to an LA Times article, “For many people, gathering possessions is just the stuff of life,” the average U.S. household has 300,000 things. When you lose something, do you feel like you’re looking for a needle in a haystack? Reduce the haystack. Start small. Pull out your “junk drawer” and remove the junk. Replace the items you need and use. It will be so much easier to find them without having to sort through the junk.

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

**CIGARS • CIGARETTES
PIPES • TOBACCO
E-CIGARETTES**

559-479-4943 • 9 AM - 7 PM

RANCHOS SMOKE SHOP • 37167 AVE. 12 #4D

Got Water?

*Got a holding tank to fill? What about a swimming pool?
Don't want to waste your precious well water or pay PG&E to pump it?*

CALL US!

Bubba's Water Truck Service
call Gina at 559-289-3401 • BubbasWTS@yahoo.com

**A Rainbow of Quilts
2019 QUILT SHOW**

**March 2-3 • Madera Fairgrounds
doors open at 10 a.m.**

QUILT SHOW ADMISSION
1 DAY = \$8 • 2 DAYS = \$12
CHILDREN 6-12 = \$2 • UNDER 5 = FREE
QUILT SHOW ADMISSION

FEATURED QUILTERS
Anita Frede
Janet Morita

Matfield Hall
Madera Fair Grounds
1850 W Cleveland Ave
Madera, CA 93637

FEATURES:
Quilter's Café
Raffle
Children's Treasure Hunt
Door Prizes
Vendors

**Heart of CALIFORNIA
Quilters' Guild**

**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



Succulent Heart Valentine's Craft!
February 9th, 2019
11am-2pm
Cost: TBD

New items in stock! Dramm hoses and sprayers, Corona tools, bird seed, grass seed, hanging baskets, bug houses, weed killer, and more!



Hours

Tues.-Fri. 9am-4pm
Sat. 9am-4pm
Sun. 10am-4pm



Fernwood Gardens



Location

12090 Fernwood Dr.
Madera Ranchos
Ph. 645-7677



Facebook.com/FernwoodRanchosMadera



Instagram.com/FernwoodGardens

1/19

"If you can dream it, Marty can pour it!"



- **Borders**
- **Driveways**
- **Walkways**
- **Patios**
- **Pool Decks**
- **Large & Small Slabs**
- **Stamped Concrete**
- **Stained Concrete**

Marty Owen -
The Concrete Guy

Marty has a passion for creative concrete design. Marty has been laying concrete for 32 years and has extensive experience in every area of concrete, from residential to commercial.

Licensed & Bonded SCL#991137

Marty the Concrete Guy • 559-718-9952

1/19

Kiwanis Korner

Happy New Year from Ranchos Kiwanis

By Becky Koop

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

The Ranchos Kiwanis Club wishes all of you a Happy New Year as it begins 2019 with a flurry of events.

Our first volunteer opportunity of 2019 will be in support of the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce's Crab Feed. This event will be held on Friday, March 1 and our Kiwanis Club will be there to support the Chamber in set up, service and clean up. We are all part of the same community and, as the John Heywood quote states, "Many hands make light work."

On April 14 we will be holding our annual Cross the River Run, stretching from Woodward Park to Madera Panoche Creek. We are also starting plans for our food booth at Flatlander's Day Parade, held this year on May 11.

At our last 2018 meeting, the Ranchos Kiwanis Club had a guest speaker, Nikki Donnelly. Nikki is involved with special education at Clovis Unified School District and lives in Rolling Hills. Her talk covered a very interesting organization, CA SIBS, which is a support for sisters and brothers of people with disabilities and special needs. Nikki's power point covered some of the challenges, as well as the special opportunities, that siblings of disabled or special needs children are ex-

posed to. One of the most interesting aspects of her presentation covered the siblings' relationship with each other throughout various life stages, ranging from preschool, elementary, teen, adulthood and even as older adults. Nikki explained that the CA SIB mission is to build a network of information, support and advocacy resources to empower siblings to thrive together throughout all of these stages of life. If you would like more information,



The Ranchos Kiwanis Club had guest speaker Nikki Donnelly speak at their last meeting about CA SIBS, a very interesting organization which provides support for sisters and brothers of people with disabilities and special needs. Donnelly is involved with special education at Clovis Unified School District and lives in Rolling Hills.

their website is www.californiasibs.org.

The Ranchos Kiwanis Club will have many more great speakers throughout 2019. We currently have talks scheduled with local GVUSD representatives Kevin Hatch, Chris Imperatrice and our local Citizens on Patrol organization.

The Ranchos Kiwanis Club welcomes new members to join our dynamic organization. We meet every Thursday (except the first one of the month) in the Pizza Factory Banquet Room at 37184 Ave. 12 at 6:15 p.m. Please come on down, listen in and make new friends.

www.RanchosKiwanis.com

When you don't know
where to turn...
because someone
drinks too much...



Al-Anon is an anonymous support group for families and friends of alcoholics.
Golden Valley Baptist Church • 12414 Road 37 • Thursdays 7-9 PM • 559-645-1700

1/19

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

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

The 16th Annual Chamber

CRAB FEED



Friday, March 1 • 6 p.m.



At the beautiful DANTE CLUB
No-Host Bar • Live/Silent Auctions

Your \$65 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.



1/19

Call the Chamber for more information. 645-4001

Be a Crab Feed Sponsor

Is your business going to the Crab Feed? For \$600 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.

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, always the second Wednesday of the month. Join us on February 13 at 6:30 p.m. at 37167 Ave. 12, Suite 5C. Come give your input on the future of the Ranchos. Call us at 645-4001.

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

The Bookshelf

Using Facebook to Keep Current

By Jerrica Edmundson

This month at the library, we've started the planning for our Summer Reading Program once again. We are going to be starting some interesting new fundraising events, with a family paint night coming soon — keep an eye out on Facebook for updates regarding the specifics of this if you're interested in having a fun night all while supporting the local Friends of the Rancho's Library. We do post updates with any and all events happening with the library on our Facebook page, and also allow you to message us to renew your books. On with the books!

Jerrica's Shelf - *The Belles* by Dhonielle Clayton

This book revolves around a girl named Camellia, a "Belle." The world she lives in has been punished by the God of the Sky because the Goddess of Beauty loved her children so much that the God of the Sky became jealous and made all of the children of earth into what has become known as "The Gris." From birth, every normal person is grey in color, has hair that feels like dry straw, and red eyes — but the Belles are a select few that are born with color. They also have the ability to "treat" the gris and make them beautiful for a cost. As a result of this, we have a society



that hinges on beauty and directly relates how beautiful one is with how much money they have.

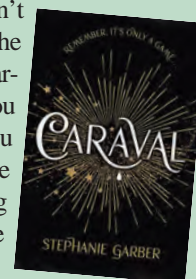
Camellia has five sisters that are also endowed with this magical power and once the favorite is chosen, the story evolves into a deep and twisting plot that I truly couldn't put down. This is a book that delves into the darkness of human nature and just what people are willing to sacrifice in order to remain beautiful.

Kate's Shelf - *Caraval* by Stephanie Garber

Caraval is a magical trip that follows two sisters — Scarlett and Donatella — as they escape their terrible home life and abusive father with the help of an enchantingly handsome sailor named Julian. The girls' father has arranged for Scarlett to marry an unknown duke from the mainland, but he has no idea that Scarlett has been writing letters to the leader of a sort of circus troupe of epic proportions for

seven years, requesting that he visit their remote island. She finally gets a response that includes three tickets to the show — one for her, her sister, and Scarlett's anonymous fiancé. The only catch is that the show is taking place on an island that the girls have never heard of, and Scarlett is set to be married in 10 days. Enter Julian: the roguish sailor who happens to know exactly where this island is, and is willing to take them so long as he can have the third ticket to the event.

This book really surprised me with how much I liked it; I wasn't sure what to expect as the concept seemed a bit far-fetched. As soon as you start reading though you start truly caring for the characters and wanting to see which way the story turned next.



BUY 4 TIRES
RECEIVE **FREE ALIGNMENT**
\$49 VALUE

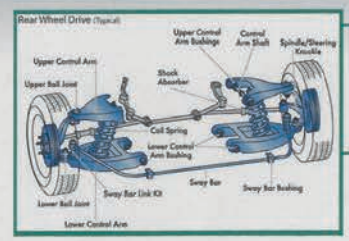


90 DAYS
SAME AS CASH

OPEN 7 DAYS
M-SAT 8-7 • SUN 9-5



PON TUS LLANTAS HOY CON TRES MESES PARA PAGAR



We do suspension and brake service.
Hacemos trabajo de suspension y frenos.

www.hotiresnwheels.com
(559) 831-2937

Tires

We carry a great range for all vehicles and all applications, new and used

Wheel Alignments

Computerized wheel alignment. 30-day warranty

FREE Tire Maintenance

We offer FREE tire rotations and balance every 7,000 miles

Wheel & Tire Packages

We give your car the right look without compromising safety

Lift & Lowering Kits

Whether you're looking to run bigger tires or get an aggressive look, we have the right product for you



MADERA 559.831.2837 CHOWCHILLA 559.201.9133 FRESNO 559.478.5539



www.hotiresnwheels.com
(559) 831-2937
421 Noble St.
Madera, 93637

SEMUCU speaks

By Jeff McGrath

Kudos to the residents of 93636. By participating in the 2014 Low Flow Grant that was obtained by SEMCU, we have distributed 4,121 low-flow devices to 692 households. This project will have the following benefits over the lifetime of the new low-flow devices:

1. 111,100,100 gallons of water conserved
2. 391,311 Kwh of energy conserved
3. \$71,300 in energy savings
4. 109 Metric tons of CO₂ equivalent prevented (aken from the final report submitted to State)

The third quarter request to State for our Washing Machine/Dish Washer reimbursement is being finalized and the fourth quarter has been submitted to Provost and Pritchard for processing. Reading "What is up in the Ranchos" on Facebook, there have been inquiries about the rebates. To reduce paperwork and costs, SEMCU only submits quarterly reports and it takes the State up to six months to process them. It is a long process, but I assure you that the money is forthcoming. We have accepted all requests for rebates but if your rebate was rejected for lack of information, we have already contacted you for further information.

If you are thinking about replacing your appliance, now is the time. This grant will expire soon with the contract with the State ending on April 30, 2019. Maybe a gentle push is what you need so let me help you: my wife and I have been in our house for about 11 years now and the dishwasher came with it. It has worked well with no issues, but at 11 plus years old, how much longer was it going to work, what were the repair bills going to look like, and can they even get parts

for it? These are some of the questions that ran through our minds so the we decided to step into the "wild side" and we purchased a new dishwasher. It is so quiet that sometimes we must check to see if it is on. I it takes about one hour less run time to do a cycle and the dishes appear cleaner. So, if you are on the fence, get off it and make that commitment – time is running out. An incentive is you will get \$350 back into your pocket for a dishwasher or a washing machine or \$700 for both. There is still money available, but this is a two-year grant and time is limited. If you are thinking about replacing that old noisy machine with a new Energy Star, Highly Efficient Clothes/Dish Washer Machine, now is the time to do it. Please see the back page of the Ranchos Independent on how to get reimbursed or go to SEMCU's web page at www.semcu.org for a form.

Speaking of the Ranchos Independent, I hope you have read Randy Bailey's editorial last month. He hits the nail on the head in the last four paragraphs. There is not a water system in the Ranchos, our septic tanks are ticking time bombs, we need an Avenue 12 bypass, and what about replacing our failing water pipes – or even bigger thought – a sewage treatment plant? These things don't happen because someone wrote about it or thought about it; it happens when citizens get involved. You can make a difference, step out of that shell and give it a try. Please plan on attending one or more of our meetings held at the Ranchos Pizza Factory at 37184 Ave. 12, every third Monday of the month starting at 6 p.m.

We are still looking for a grant writer as ours has stepped down due to increased job responsibility, so we are in search of another (one or two) writer(s) that could help us with grants. If you are interested, please let us know by attending a meeting. Promise ... we don't bite.

You may reach us through our website at www.semcu.org.



FREE

1st 100 Gallons • 1st Year Tank Rental
Installation of a Kamps Tank
Leak and Safety Inspection

Let Kamps Propane show you the difference of becoming a customer! Call Lora Brazil at 559-356-4992
O.A.C. • some restrictions may apply



WOOD / CARPET / LAMINATE / VINYL

Valley Remnants & Rolls

Call your Ranchos neighbor
HAL CAPPS for your
BEAUTIFUL, NEW FLOOR!

1820 E. McKinley (east of Blackstone) • 559-445-0206



Life by you.



Comfort by YORK.

YORK® Affinity™ Premium Residential Systems

No matter how cold the season gets, you can rely on a YORK® furnace to keep your home warm and comfortable. Our new Affinity™ Series is smarter, more connected and more efficient than ever before. Verified quality is backed by some of the best warranties in the industry – so you can focus on what matters and enjoy every moment.





YORK®
INSTALL CONFIDENCE



Huckabee's Heating & Air Conditioning
Locally owned and operated
37082 Ave. 12, Madera Ranchos
559-662-0336
www.huckabeeshvac.com

Create a gift from the heart

Ranchos Crafters' Studio
559-824-6336
37164 Ave. 12 #102 (behind Subway)

Tue-Sat 12-6 • Sun-Mon Appointment Only

Check us out on Instagram and Facebook "What's Up in the Ranchos"
Contact us for SPECIAL GROUP PARTIES
NEVER a sitting fee • Walk-ins ALWAYS welcome



Arts & Crafts Studio • Bisque • Wood Stems

Senior Report

“Fun lunch! Fun people! Fun volunteers!” Describes Ranchos/Hills Seniors

By Margaret Tynan

“Fun lunch! Fun people! Fun volunteers!”

That’s how Debbie Farr describes the lunch program at Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center. Debbie is the coordinator for the Center’s congregate meal service since last July after her retirement from a 26-year career with the Fresno Bee. She has been a member of the Center intermittently for several years and, in fact,

served as president from 2013-2014. Debbie says she loves her part-time work and interaction with the people she serves. “My biggest love is the volunteers that help serve, clean, wash dishes, sign-in people and even take out the trash. They are my heroes. They help without even being asked.” She goes



Keeping the meals flowing at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center is a group endeavor and requires the help of volunteer members like (from left) Mimi Avatt, Santha Kurup, Verlaine Elinburg, Debbie Farr, John Orta and Judy Sears.

on to say, “Come out and enjoy lunch with your neighbors and have some fun.”

The meals are provided by the Community Action Partnership of Madera and delivered Monday through Friday with lunch service beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Center. A monthly menu is available at the Center or other business locations in the Ranchos. The nutrition program offers adults

60 years and older a nutritionally balanced and delicious lunch for the suggested donation of \$2.50, however no one is denied on the basis of ability to donate. Call the Center at 559-645-4864 by 11 a.m. the day prior to reserve a lunch.

Many studies indicate a strong relationship between social engagement, good nutrition, exercise and positive health benefits (The National Institute on Aging, Elder Care Alliance). Ranchos/Hills Seniors offers many opportunities to members and people in our community to reap these



One of the regulars at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center is Mimi Avatt who volunteers every Wednesday. Her fellow volunteers call her the “Golden Globe Water Girl” and she makes sure no one goes thirsty.

positive health benefits. Participation in the nutrition program is a place to socialize with friends and make new acquaintance as well as nourish the body. The Center has a stretch and strengthening exercise program that meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 to

11 a.m. that contributes to overall health. There are also many social events planned and held each month that members and the community enjoy. Be engaged. Become a member of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors. Membership is open to anyone 50 years or older. Dues are \$65 per year. Call or stop by the Center to join (37330 Berkshire Dr. in the Madera Ranchos).

A Valentines themed potluck will be held at the Center on Thursday, February 14 beginning at 6 p.m. Josie Turner, with volunteer help, is planning lovely decorations to add to the festivities. Sweets for the Sweet will be for sale to take home to enjoy. Bring a dish to share, your table service and your sweet tooth. We’ll see you there.

Big plans are in the works for another Bunco Party. Carol Wood and others are busy organizing the popular fun event. Save the date, Saturday, March 23 (time to be announced). Contact the Center for tickets and more information.

The monthly Bake and Boutique and Treasure House Sale will be held Saturday, Feb. 2 from 8 a.m. to noon. Also, don’t forget to participate in the Planning Meeting on Tuesday, February 5 and the General Meeting on Tuesday, February 19. Both meetings begin at 12:30 p.m.

Reminders: 2019 Membership renewal is due by February 10 and the Center will be closed President’s Day, Monday, February 18.

Thought for February: “I think of exercise as the father of the body and nutrition as the mother.” –Mandy Ingber

are you ready for
NATURAL polishes and removers?
Ranchos Sugar Coat Nails

- personalized designs
- long-lasting gel polish

559-718-3788

- by appointment only
- call for more information

1/19 follow us on Instagram: @ranchosugarcotnails

dōTERRA
What can doTERRA Essential Oils Do For You?

TriEase Softgels were developed to protect against seasonal and environmental elements and to promote a healthy respiratory system when needed most.

Contact me today for a **FREE** sample or if you’d like to attend a **FREE** class on essential oils and products.
Tina Shannon -- Wellness Advocate
call **645-4948** or **430-7131**
Visit my online store at mydoterra.com/tinashannon

1/19

LICENSE #932435 **TIM DE MERA**
Owner/CEO
Madera Ranchos Resident

FREE ESTIMATES

ALL STAGE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT INC.

Room Additions & General Contracting • Commercial & Residential
Discount Steel Buildings: Sales & Erecting
Concrete Foundations & Flatwork

TIMDEMERA@AOL.COM **(559) 681-8947**
WWW.ALLSTAGECONSTRUCTION.COM

1/19



Thank 1970s Arab Oil

Hello 93636,

Last week a 2013 Ford Escape rolled into the shop with an overheating complaint. In the process of diagnostic, we discovered a Ford Technical Service Bulletin that addresses overheating complaints for certain turbocharged 1.6L Ford Escapes. Safety Recall 13S12 addresses potential localized overheating of the engine cylinder head which can result in a crack in the cylinder head and create a fire hazard due to leaking oil. The recall includes enhancements to the engine cooling system, engine shielding and a reflash for the Powertrain Control Module (PCM). I'm wondering how a PCM (computer) reflash can correct what appears to be a mechanical design issue? I was unable to locate any further information regarding the reflash so I suspect its purpose is to de-tune the engine and decrease stress on the cylinder head and cooling system.

Also, a 2007 Dodge Cummins diesel rolled into the shop with the same engine overheating complaint. After some challenging diagnostics we were able to determine the low side driver in the PCM was defective resulting in an engine cooling fan failure. The Dodge Cummins needs a PCM replacement.

If you are wondering how a PCM reflash and a PCM replacement became the correct repair for an overheating engine, let me explain.

It all began in 1975 with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act. The EPC Act was the USA's response to the 1973 Arab Oil Embargo. With the EPC Act, congress established federal fuel economy standards starting with new 1978 model year passenger cars and light duty trucks. The 1975 legislation was intended to roughly double average fuel mileage for new cars to 27.5 miles per gallon by 1985 and 22.2 MPG for light duty trucks by 2007. The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 again raised the fuel economy standards for America's cars, light trucks and SUVs to a combined fleet average of at least 35 MPG by 2020. In 2009 the Federal Government, state regulators and the auto industry established a national program to again increase Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards to approximately 49.6 MPG by 2025. As of December 2017, the on-road fleet average was about 21 MPG. As you

can imagine, automotive engineers are looking at every part of the vehicle for potential fuel savings.

Here are some of the technologies born as the result of increased fuel mileage compliance standards: Hybrid and Electric Vehicle Technologies; Smaller Turbo Charged Engines; Cylinder Deactivation; Idle Stop; Direct Fuel Injection; Variable Valve Timing; Variable Valve Lift; Deceleration Fuel Shut-Off; Continuously Variable Transmissions; Electric Steering; Smart Air Conditioning; Smart Charging Systems; Electric Water Pumps; Electric Engine Cooling System Fans; and Regenerative Braking. Other new technologies include plastic everything. Weight is the enemy of fuel mileage. Many vehicles now have plastic valve covers, oil pans, intake manifolds, radiators, water pumps and cooling fans. Even though everything is smaller and lighter, electrical driven components are much more efficient than their mechanically driven counterparts due to precise control by the PCM.

OK, back to our case studies.

A modern automotive, mechanically driven water pump circulates approximately 1 gallon of coolant every second. During freeway driving that's 3,600 gallons per hour, every hour. With an electric water pump the PCM modulates the impeller speed to circulate only

the minimal amount of coolant necessary to maintain proper engine temperature. By reducing the amount of coolant being circulated, we reduce the energy needed to circulate the coolant and thereby increase efficiency and fuel mileage.

It turns out our 2013 EcoBoost Ford Escape had a traditional mechanically driven water pump and the PCM was not involved with its operation or failure. Our problem was just an old fashion water pump coolant leak. After the repair we recommended the vehicle be returned to a Ford dealership for the 13S12 safety revisions.

With our Dodge Cummins, Dodge used a large electric cooling fan to regulate engine temperature. During heavy engine loads the large electric fan draws massive amounts of air through a radiator to dissipate engine heat. During lighter engine loads, the PCM decreases the fan blade speed and operation because there is less heat to dissipate. Replacing the mechanically driven cooling fan with an electrically driven cooling fan reduces the amount of work being performed, energy consumed and thereby increases efficiency and fuel mileage. Vehicle engineers have turned to small electric motors to control many of the modern vehicle functions because they are light, reliable and can be programmed to operate in a more efficient manner.

Don't be surprised if soon even your vehicle's brake system becomes classified as an emis-

sion component. Non-hybrid vehicles will soon also use regenerative braking to convert the vehicle's kinetic energy into electrical energy to recharge the vehicle's 12-volt battery. That will decrease the load on the engine from the mechanically driven alternator.

California emissions and federal fuel mileage regulations are the driving forces for so much of today's automotive innovation and technology. There is no doubt the modern automobile is the most complex technology that most individuals interact with on a daily basis. For us, the automotive professionals, the new technology represents a future of on-going training and learning. The modern professional automotive technician attends more on-going training than any other industry professional that I'm aware of. OH! That's all for now. Gotta go! It's Saturday and I'm late for class.

As usual I'm looking for interesting and informative automotive topics to write about. If you have any suggestions, recommendations or general or specific questions about a personal vehicle, please TEXT 559-907-7661 and I will promptly reply.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636 Warren Parr

ASE Master, Hybrid and Advanced Level Certified

A 2013 & 2014 NAPA/ASE California Technician of the Year

How's your fence?





chain link
wood
wrought iron

FREE Estimates • 7 Days a Week

**chain link • wood fence • wrought iron
privacy plus • gate operators
security windows • security doors • barbed wire**

Advanced Fence

for all your fencing needs

559-260-2116

Lic. #867283 & Bonded

1/19

Now Is The Time To Shed Those Unwanted Pounds
Look Good and Feel Great 1/19



- Nutritional Counseling & Menu Included
- AM PM Medications
- Diet Injection

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



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


call Juan and Maria at
559-268-6650
 6700 E. Central Ave. • Fresno • www.sagorey.com

1/19

STOP THE PAIN!
"We've got your back"

*Specializing in
AUTO ACCIDENTS*

D.O.T. Physicals • Drug Testing
Sports Physicals only \$35!



HANEY CHIROPRACTIC
& rehabilitation center
36754 AVE. 12 • 660-5262

1/19

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration

Spread the word – Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten registration is beginning. Please bring your future kindergartener with you to registration as assessments will be given during the registration process. In order to register your child, you will need the following:

1. Your child must be 5 by September 1, 2019 for Kindergarten. If your child will turn 5 between September 2 and December 2, 2019 your child will qualify for Transitional Kindergarten. You will need to bring in his/her birth certificate to verify either.
2. Your child's immunization record showing that your child is up-to-date on all of his or her shots.
 - A. TB Test (A GVUSD Requirement)
 - B. Polio (4)
 - C. Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (5)
 - D. Measles, Mumps, Rubella (2)
 - E. Hepatitis B (3)
 - F. Varicella (Chicken Pox) (2)
3. Proof of residency within the Golden Valley Unified School District boundaries.
 - A. This can be a utility bill, tax records, rental agreement, etc.
4. A completed registration packet.

Webster Elementary
(645-3540)


February 22, 2019 - Kindergarten registration beginning at 9 a.m. and Transitional Kindergarten beginning at 1 p.m. Registration packets can be picked up Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Webster Office beginning February 4 in order to have them filled out and ready to bring in on February 22. In addition, if you have concerns about your immunization records and would like to verify that your child has all of the necessary shots before February 22, please feel free to bring the immunization card to the office when you pick up your packet.

Sierra View Elementary
(645-3560)

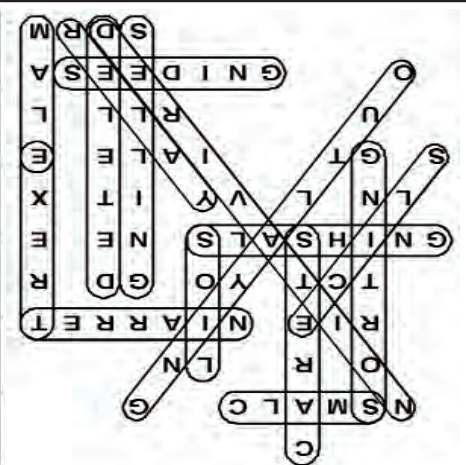
February 21, 2019 – Kindergarten 8:10 to 11 a.m. and Transitional Kindergarten 1 to 2:15 p.m. by appointment only. Please call the school office at 645-3560 to schedule an appointment. Registration packets can be picked up Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Sierra View office beginning January 29. Please have all registration forms completed and bring necessary documents by February 16. In addition, if you would like to verify that your child's immunizations are up-to-date, please feel free to bring the immunization card to the office when you pick up your packet.

ANSWERS

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



15		33		33		
1	+	7	x			24
x			-			
6	x	5	+	9		39
		x			+	
9	+	8	x	2		34



Classified

Child Care

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

Chimney Sweep

Paul the Chimney Sweep Guy- 29 years of experience. Wood stove inserts, pellet stoves and fireplaces. Also clean dryer vents.

REMEMBER: THINK SAFETY, BURN SAFELY! Call 559-908-9332.

Construction

New construction, remodels, room additions, barns and patios. Lic. #719500. Call 559-970-4476.

Firewood

Firewood for sale - Seasoned Al-

mond firewood. Round or split. Call 259-7122 or 645-5523.

Firewood for sale - Almond firewood, dry \$200 per cord delivered. Call Orville 559-822-6362.

Gutter Services

The Gutter Doctor specializing in both continuous and standard rain gutters. General Contractor. Repair Maintenance. 12 years working in the area.

****NEW PHONE NUMBER: 559-908-0759****

Recyclables Pick Up

KEEP IT LOCAL - FREE RECYCLABLE PICKUP - KIDS 4 RECYCLING offers pickup of all recyclable materials including paper, plastic, glass, aluminum and cardboard.

Call **Diana** at 999-6832. Funds support Ranchos community organizations and schools.

Tractor/Trenching Services

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

Tractor Work - House Pads, lot leveling, driveways, trenching, concrete work and underground utilities installed. Lic. #719500. Call 559-970-4476.

Window Cleaning Services

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

The Ranchos Independent classified rates are crazy cheap

TO ADVERTISE
call **645-0634**

SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

©2019 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

SAY YOU SAW IT IN the Ranchos Independent



JOIN SUPERVISOR FRAZIER FOR COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Thursday, January 31
8:30 a.m. -- 10 a.m.

Ranchos Café • 37193 Ave. 12
Madera Ranchos

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.

	+		x		34
+		x		+	
	x		+		39
x		-		x	
	+		x		24
15		33		33	

1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 9

©2019 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.

1/19

Work with the Realtor who lives in the Ranchos

Learn more about what I love about living in the Madera Ranchos at guarantee.com/ranchos-family



1/19

Samantha Phebus
559.970.6555

REALTOR | DRE#01823578 | samantha@guarantee.com

GUARANTEE REAL ESTATE
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

Real estate is our life! We make real estate dreams a reality.



Maria Fotopoulos - Cercone

ONE STOP SHOP
REALTY, INC

BRE Lic. #01454566

I'm ready to assist you with all of your real estate needs. Whether you're buying or selling, moving across town or out of state, I'm here to help. Your housing needs deserve the care of a specialist.

Cell 559-250-6740 • Office 559-645-1212
maria@ossrealtor.com • Ranchos resident for more than 30 years!

1/19



DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE

Same Day Service

674-1663
23338 Ave. 14
Madera

Family Owned
Since 1976

1/19

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent



Bike Lanes or Bust!

By Betty Van Valkenburg

Watching even a minute of The View is worse than fingernails on a chalkboard for me, but I caught the segment with Whoopi Goldberg and New York's Mayor de Blasio that was both hilarious and instructive at the same time. It seems that the uber liberal/progressive mayor has replaced automobile lanes on packed Manhattan streets with miles of dedicated bike lanes, causing traffic nightmares and the uber liberal/progressive Whoopi was furious about it. Her ox certainly had been gored. Funny how that works: Liberals love intrusive government policies until they're affected by them.

Whoopi shouted: "We got nine-block-long trucks delivering, and they can't make the turns. What feasibility study did you all do when you decided to put these [lanes] in?" She also implied that streets in elite neighborhoods had no bike lanes, to which de Blasio replied, "They're all over, Whoopi. Respectfully, they're all over." He then admitted: "Here's the bottom line: The number-one reason we have done this is a specific strategy we call Vision Zero."

So what is Vision Zero, why are bike lanes "all over" – not just New York City but all over – and why does it matter to the Valley? The answers reveal government overreach and a tangled web of nonprofit and government organizations with lofty sounding, but unreachable and possibly anti-liberty ideas backed by plenty of donated and taxpayer dollars.

The Vision Zero Network states that it is a nonprofit collaborative campaign "helping communities across the U.S. reach the goals of Vision Zero – eliminating all traffic fatalities and severe injuries – while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all on streets, sidewalks and bikeways." Wow. Apparently the only miracle that Vision Zero cannot claim is a cancer cure, but perhaps that's included in the "healthy" mobility part. And it claims, incorrectly, that "safe mobility is a basic right."

Vision Zero says that equity is to be achieved through prioritizing roadway safety investments in communities that are disproportionately impacted. According to them, equity also means "that if police are involved in Vision Zero, the community should make a public commitment to fair and equitable enforcement and ensure transparency and accountability on this commitment." This comment indicates a bias and implies that police are not normally fair and equitable.

As for those ubiquitous bicycle lanes, they cannot possibly eliminate fatalities, especially

as incorporated in Manhattan where Whoopi says six automobile lanes were cut to two and a half. The truth is that bike lanes have been added "everywhere" to comply with the Sustainable Development dogma, which apparently is endorsed by Vision Zero and the mayor. This column will tackle that complicated subject at a later date.

Let's go back to the web of bureaucracies and organizations pushing Vision Zero.

The National Safety Council (NSC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public service organization and its website states that it "eliminates preventable deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the road through leadership, research, education and advocacy. Getting to zero fatalities is not impossible – it just hasn't been done yet." Delusions of grandeur, anyone? The NSC may be doing good work, but these claims are absurd.

The Road to Zero Coalition (RZC) has set the first-ever goal of zero traffic deaths nationwide by 2050. It is managed by the National Safety Council and was launched in 2016 by the Department of Transportation, NSC, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Vision Zero Network is a member. Whew, that's a mouthful!

Safe System Innovation Grants are distributed by the NSC and are funded by the Department of Transportation.

Community Initiatives, a 501(c)(3) organization, manages grants and provides "fiscal sponsorship." A fiscal sponsor is a unique nonprofit organization that shares its 501(c)(3) status with unincorporated nonprofit projects. This allows projects to receive grants and tax-exempt donations from government, foundations and individuals; and projects can launch quickly without having to file for 501(c)(3) status. No pesky waiting around for that grant money!

The stated goal of zero traffic-related deaths is laudable but impossible to accomplish without draconian measures. Are we to be bubble wrapped? Must cars be eliminated altogether? Will driverless cars be mandated and our destinations limited? What enforcement measures will be used? (Capital punishment seems counter-productive to the goal of preventing deaths.)

The plethora of public and private organizations might provide lucrative employment and money might flow freely, but the bureaucrats are not super-natural beings (and perhaps not even intelligent beings if they propose adding bicycle lanes to save lives in Manhattan or Madera).

What does this have to do with the Valley, and who cares what Mayor de Blasio does or says? Answer: The bureaucrats are already here, and de Blasio may seek the presidency.

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

Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory

CHANEY'S

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

CLARK'S

 559-645-1578
**General & Custom
 Auto Service
 & Repairs**
PERFORMANCE

**Unlimited
 Concrete**
 Lic. #1042108

 call **Jose Lopez**
559-779-0401

**THE COMFORT
 AND RELAXATION
 YOU DESERVE**
BRIAN'S

HEATING & COOLING
675-1681

**NEW & USED
 CARS & TRUCKS**
 All Makes & Models
**J.H. Sanders
 Sales & Leasing**
822-4500
 41453 Ave. 14 1/2
 Madera Ranchos
www.jhsanders.com

**BUBBA'S
 WATER TRUCK SERVICE**

 We Fill
 Holding Tanks
 Swimming Pools
 Potable Water
 Dust Control
 Covering Mountain Areas & the Central Valley
 Call Gina at 559-289-3401
 email BubbasWTS@yahoo.com

CENTRAL VALLEY

HUMBLE TREE CARE
 ESTABLISHED IN 2005
**Tree pruning, shaping & trimming
 Tree Cabling • Tree removal**
559-347-8408 • www.cvhtc.com
 Fully Insured • 8+ Years Experience • Trained Arborist

**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

**TOUCH-OF GREEN
 LANDSCAPE**
 CA LIC. #934774
 commercial, residential
 and industrial landscaping
 call **559-242-6352**
info@TouchOfGreenLandscape.us

Create a gift
 from the heart

 Arts & Crafts Studio • Bique • Wood Stems
Ranchos Crafters' Studio
559-824-6336
 37164 Ave. 12 #102 (behind Subway)

NAPA **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

**PERSONAL
 TOUCH**
 Lic. # B0008113
 Landscaping & Gardening Services
 Yard cleanups & hauling • Weed control
 Lawn & garden service • Maintenance
 Weekly & monthly service
 (not a licensed contractor)
 call Mag Anaya Jr.
559-974-1357

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

**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.


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
559-974-2268

"We've got your back"
 D.O.T. Physicals • Drug Testing
 Sports Physicals only \$35!

**HANEY
 CHIROPRACTIC**
 & rehabilitation center
660-5262
 36754 AVE. 12 • Madera Ranchos

How's your fence?
Advanced Fence
 for all your fencing needs
559-260-2116
 Lic. #867283 & Bonded

DAVIS PLUMBING
559-977-6289
 "Plumbing
 problem?
 Plumbing
 solution!
 Call
 Vern!"

 Lic. #842676

for MORE sales tomorrow, call
JEAN BRINER
Today!
(559) 645-0634
 The Ranchos Independent

**WHAT CAN YOU GET
 FOR \$25?**
 How about 10,000
 Ranchos residents each month who look at
 Business Directory ads?
The Ranchos Independent
(559) 645-0634

Get Involved!

645-4001
 2nd Wed. of the month • 6:30 p.m.
 37167 Ave. 12 #5C, Madera Ranchos

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



**Plumbing problem?
Plumbing solution!
Call Vern!**
DAVIS PLUMBING • 559-977-6289
Lic. #842676



**"They think he's too handsome to be guilty. ...
We think he's too handsome to be innocent!"**

www.TheRanchos.com



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Seeing the silly side of some really ridiculous situations helps give the Lamb a new perspective on how to handle them. Some important contacts can be made this weekend.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Try to complete your outstanding tasks by midweek. This leaves you free to take advantage of new possibilities -- both professional and personal -- opening up by week's end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) With both your creative side and your energy levels rising this week, you should be able to tackle that too-long-neglected project again. A family member might have important news.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An explanation you requested seems to be more confusing than enlightening. You should insist on clarifications now, rather than deal with problems that might arise later.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your energy levels might be ebbing a bit. But that's no excuse for taking catnaps when you could be working on those unfinished tasks. There'll be time to curl up and relax by week's end.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It's a good time to get those ideas out of your head and into a readable format if you hope to have them turned into something doable. A good friend is ready with worthwhile advice.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Careful -- you might be stepping into dangerous territory if you decide to "exaggerate" the facts too much. Remember: The truth speaks for itself and needs no embellishment.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Although your workplace successes have earned you many admirers, there are some colleagues who are not among them. Be careful how you proceed with your new project.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You might have to go into great detail to explain why you're currently reluctant to make changes to an already prepared plan. Be sure you have all the facts to back yourself up.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Travel plans might still be uncertain. But instead of getting upset about the delay, open yourself up to other possibilities, and begin checking out some alternative destinations.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Changing conditions might require you to alter some of your plans. While you might be agreeable to this, be prepared with explanations for those who do not want changes made.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Although you might have to deal with some detractors who aren't too kind in their critiques, you gain points when you're willing to stand up and defend your work.

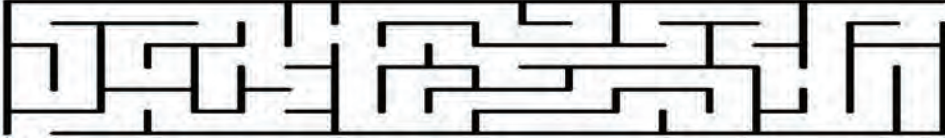
Born this Week

You have a gift for creating a warm and loving environment between yourself and others.

© 2019 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

FUN PAGES

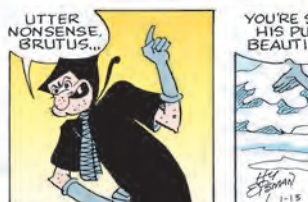
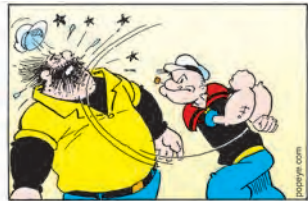
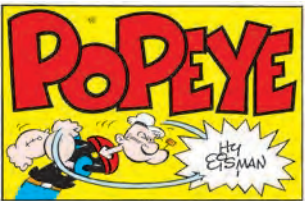
Kids' Maze



TIGER

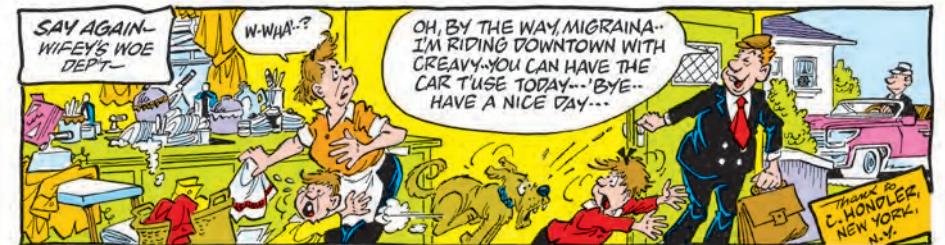
©2019 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

by BUD BLAKE



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



A CRUSTY PROBLEM! Hidden in the above frame is a famous proverb. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around counter-clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answers: Starting with "H" in the left rail; "Half a loaf is better than none."



DON'T SLIP UP solving this magic square puzzle. Can you find the five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words must read the same both across and down.

1. A short literary composition.
2. To glide on ice (given).
3. Group of Pacific islands.
4. Very small items.
5. Used in bread-making.

Answers: 1. Essay 2. Skate 3. Samoa 4. Atoms 5. Yeast

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



BATS IN THE BELFRY!

Don't go batly trying to figure out what these "bat" words are. To the left is a list of eight words, each of which starts with the word "bat." Using the following hints, see if you can hang them all up in five minutes.

1. A type of mat.
2. Needed in a relay race.
3. A flat-bottomed Louisiana boat.
4. Can be wet or dry.
5. A lounging garment.
6. A large army unit.
7. Part of a castle's walls.
8. Free-diving deep-sea vessels.



Answers: 1. Bath 2. Baton 3. Bateau 4. Battery 5. Bantony 6. Battalion 7. Battlement 8. Bathyscaphs

Wishing Well

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

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.

© 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE

INSERT A "P" TO MAKE A NEW WORD

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

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

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Carets | Exert | Seeding | Soil |
| Clams | Male | Selling | Sorting |
| Deleted | Outlaying | Slashing | Terrain |
| Derivation | Relay | Slice | |

© 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the number of the U.S. highway that runs along the West Coast?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the fastest bird in the world?
3. LITERATURE: What is the name of the wood carver in "The Adventures of Pinocchio"?
4. MOVIES: Which 1980s movie featured the tagline, "One man's struggle to take it easy"?
5. ASTRONOMY: How long is a year on the planet Mercury?
6. BUSINESS: Which automaker sold a line of cars called the Fairlane?
7. ANATOMY: How many times does the average human heart beat each day?
8. TELEVISION: Which 1960s television drama featured the catchphrase, "Book 'em, Danno!"?
9. ARCHITECTURE: Who designed the famous home called "Fallingwater"?
10. COMICS: What is the name of the dog in the "Dennis the Menace" comic strip?

Answers

1. U.S. Route 101
2. The peregrine falcon, which can exceed 200 mph in a dive.
3. Geppetto
4. "Ferris Bueller's Day Off"
5. 88 days
6. Ford Motor Co.
7. More than 100,000 times
8. "Hawaii 5-0"
9. Frank Lloyd Wright
10. Ruff

© 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.

Click on "Local News" at

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

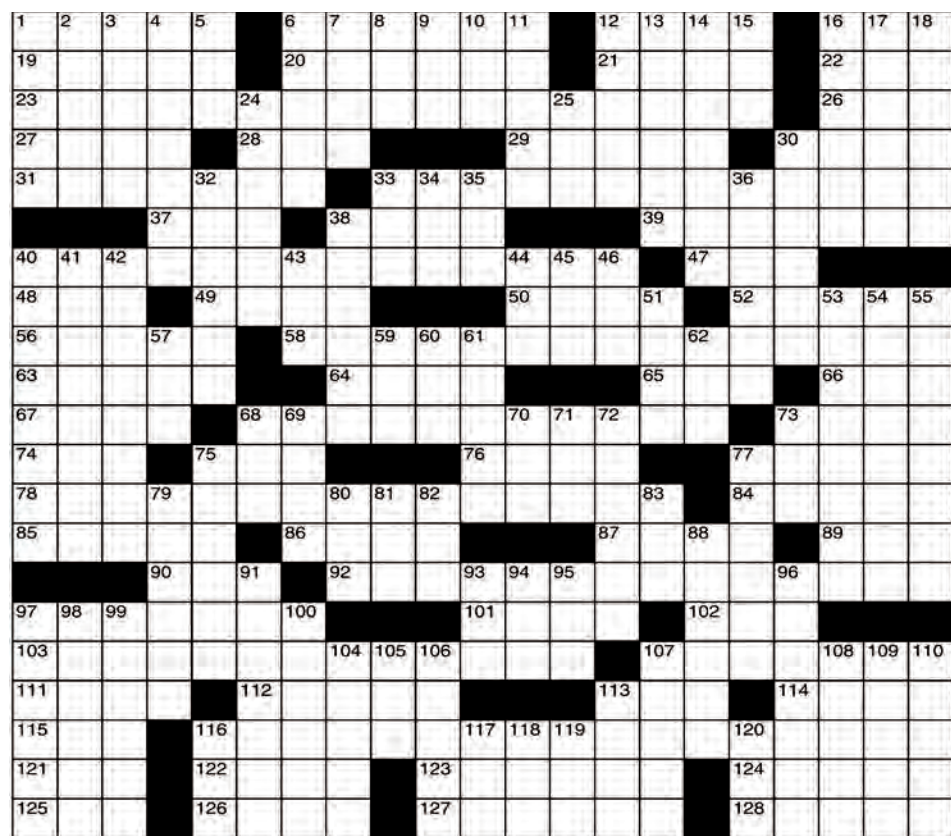
©2019 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Pajamas are different. 2. Moon is higher. 3. Hair is different. 4. One picture is missing. 5. Headboard is lower. 6. No. 7 is missing from picture.

www.TheRanchos.com

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Shred
 - 6 To another country
 - 12 Buster Brown's dog
 - 16 Mexican article
 - 19 University of Maine's city
 - 20 News anchor Katie
 - 21 Arduous task
 - 22 Not be idle
 - 23 Discoverer of Uranus ... and "The Office" co-star
 - 26 Spoil
 - 27 "Orinoco Flow" singer
 - 28 Sea, to Luc
 - 29 Buenos —
 - 30 Commanded
 - 31 PCs on planes, often
 - 33 Long-range German gun of WWI ... and "Apollo 13" Oscar nominee
 - 37 Letter #3
 - 38 Bern's river
 - 39 To the extent that
 - 40 1975 Wimbledon winner ... and "Shape of You" singer
 - 47 German article
 - 48 U.S. architect I.M.
 - 49 Pet treaters
 - 50 Slaughter with a bat
 - 52 Abnormal plant swelling
 - 56 Schindler with a list
 - 58 Deputy of an envoy ... and old CBS variety show host
 - 63 Ballpark gate
 - 64 Explorer Hernando de —
 - 65 Rose color snake ... and "60 Minutes" reporter for 26 years
 - 66 Klee output
 - 67 Bistro bills
 - 68 Olay product ... and "My Cup Runneth Over" singer
 - 73 Sheriff Andy Taylor's tyke
 - 74 Coach Parseghian
 - 75 — polloi
 - 76 "T.N.T." rock band
 - 77 Game venue
 - 78 Officer played by Phil Silvers ... and 1970s-80s New York City mayor
 - 84 2006 Sacha Baron Cohen film
 - 85 Nobelist Arafat
 - 86 Celine of song
 - 87 Many a repo
 - 89 Poetic form
 - 90 Holiday drink
 - 92 Left-leaning slant ... and "Lou Grant" star
 - 97 "Hips Don't Lie" singer
 - 101 — Grey
 - 102 Special span
 - 103 Large, hooded
 - 104 2006 Sacha Baron Cohen film
 - 105 Nobelist Arafat
 - 106 Celine of song
 - 107 Many a repo
 - 109 Poetic form
 - 110 Holiday drink
 - 112 Left-leaning slant ... and "Lou Grant" star
 - 111 Ship sailing past sirens
 - 112 "— Less Ordinary"
 - 113 Suffix with 66-Across
 - 114 Liquefy
 - 115 Rolodex no.
 - 116 Money from investments ... and Reagan cabinet member
 - 121 Previous to
 - 122 Jib holder
 - 123 "No clue"
 - 124 Whoop it up
 - 125 Berlin-to-Prague dir.
 - 126 "— girl!" ("All right!")
 - 127 Unboastful
 - 128 Pastoral verse
- DOWN**
- 1 Disk at the end of a spur
 - 2 "Three Sisters" sister
 - 3 61-Down producer
 - 4 Open, as a shutter
 - 5 Luau paste
 - 6 Peaks
 - 7 Nobelist Niels
 - 8 Long to undo
 - 9 NHL's Bobby
 - 10 "— for Alibi"
 - 11 1983 Mr. T comedy
 - 12 "— is human ..."
 - 13 Bays, e.g.
 - 14 Detective, slangily
 - 15 Suffix with priest
 - 16 Hedy of film
 - 17 National park in Maine
 - 18 Italicize, e.g.
 - 24 Electrical current unit
 - 25 Move quickly
 - 30 Soccer star Chastain
 - 32 Body of work
 - 33 "Harrumph!"
 - 34 Rage
 - 35 "Oh wow!"
 - 36 Off course
 - 38 Birthplace of St. Francis
 - 40 Desertion of one's faith
 - 41 Highway pull-off
 - 42 Polynesian-themed lounges
 - 43 Quad bike, e.g.
 - 44 Classic car
 - 45 Actress Blyth
 - 46 Turndowns
 - 51 "Of course!"
 - 53 1996 role for Madonna
 - 54 Steeping sauce
 - 55 Snacker on termites
 - 57 Capone and Unser
 - 59 Dupe
 - 60 Plus more: Abbr.
 - 61 Reef stuff
 - 62 Guitar pioneer Paul
 - 68 "— wise guy, eh?"
 - 69 Caring
 - 70 Martin Luther opponent Johann
 - 71 Hoopla
 - 72 Actress Mitzi
 - 73 Gold, in Italy
 - 75 Daring
 - 77 On deck, say
 - 79 Tree with fan-shaped leaves
 - 80 Up to, in ads
 - 81 Young male, in hip-hop
 - 82 Having five sharps
 - 83 Central point
 - 88 Joined with
 - 91 React to, as a bad pun
 - 93 Moray, e.g.
 - 94 "Norma —"
 - 95 Suffix with compliment
 - 96 Fried quickly
 - 97 Glides on ice
 - 98 Job opening fillers
 - 99 He directed "Life of Pi"
 - 100 Most adept
 - 104 Gaucho rope
 - 105 Mall's cont.
 - 106 Kin of khaki
 - 107 Natty tie
 - 108 'Vette, e.g.
 - 109 Atelier tripod
 - 110 Reflect (on)
 - 113 Rural hotels
 - 116 Thurman of "Prime"
 - 117 Tokyo, once
 - 118 Fizzling thing
 - 119 Opal finish?
 - 120 Hosp. scan

FUN PAGES



SEM CU
SOUTH EAST MADERA COUNTY UNITED

DISHWASHERS & WASHING MACHINES

Dishwashers have been added to the
Reimbursement Grant for qualified residents
of **South East Madera County**
NOW GET \$350 EACH FOR
Dishwashers & Washing Machines
certified as *“Energy Star Rated”*

Additional discounts at **Ventura TV & Appliance**
may bring the cost even lower!

www.VenturaTV.com

1/19

**FLOODED AREA ON
YOUR PROPERTY?**
A FREE Drywell/Drainwell will help!
for qualified locations

Sign up at Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce
37167 Ave. 12 #5C, Madera Ranchos

Monday - Wednesday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For more information contact SEMCU at:
email: info@semcu.org or call: 559-363-9095