

# The Ranchos Independent



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50¢



## Falling from the Sky

***Sierra View Elementary's  
new administration building  
makes a perfect landing  
as the school's  
modernization project  
moves forward.***

*Photo courtesy of Tyler Takeda*

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# Falling from the Sky - Sierra View gets a New Admin Office



The crane gets ready to lift the new administration building into place at Sierra View Elementary.



Workers guide the new modular building toward its foundation on the site where the old portable office sat.



The building fits perfectly on top of its foundation to become the newest permanent building on the Sierra View campus.



Once in place, workers complete the process of making all necessary connections for electrical and plumbing.



With the installation of the building on its foundation complete, interior construction is next.



Like any other construction, walls are laid out and assembled to define the new office's work areas.

The new Sierra View administration building has arrived and is currently being installed in front of the school. The Sierra View Modernization Project, utilizing Measure S bond funds and state matching funds, was approved by the Golden Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees on Oct. 16, 2012. The project officially began in June and the new administration building was delivered July 11. Golden Valley confidently projects that construction will be completed by the first day of school in August.

*Photos courtesy of Tyler Takeda*

## Burglars Hit Hurst Hardware, Sheriff Offers Pictures

Shortly after 4 a.m. on June 19, Madera County Sheriff's Deputies responded to Hurst Hardware at 37398 Berkshire Dr. in the Madera Ranchos where they found the door to the back of the building open and whoever had broken in was gone. On July 17, Sheriff John Anderson released snapshots pulled from the surveillance tape showing one of two burglars in hopes of the public helping to identify the burglar.

In the video, two

men are captured on tape and can be seen running through the aisles of the store grabbing items off the shelves. Numerous



tools valued at nearly \$2,000 were stolen, including a 120-volt hammer drill, several circular saws, an angle grinder, batteries and a battery pack. After careful review of the surveillance video, detectives were able to pull two still shots that offer the best view of one of the suspects.

Anyone with information about the break-in and suspects involved is urged to call the Sheriff's Office at 559-675-7770 or CRIME STOPPERS at 498-STOP.

## LHS Tagged Hard

Sometime during the 4th of July holiday, vandals broke into the Liberty High School campus and defaced several of the school buildings with graffiti that the Madera County Sheriff's Department described as, "...vulgar messages, obscene drawings and at least one swastika."

The Sheriff's Department believes the vandalism took place sometime between the evening of July 4 and July 8. Liberty High School's exterior walls, windows and pillars were covered and the swastika was found on the school's cafeteria window.

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

*Click on "Local News" at*

# Yellow Fever-Carrying Mosquitoes Discovered in Ranchos Near Ave. 12



*Aedes aegypti*, complete with Yellow Fever, is the Ranchos' newest unwanted guest.

By Randy Bailey

On Friday, July 12, the Madera Mosquito and Vector Control District discovered mosquitoes breeding near Avenue 12 that were carrying Yellow Fever. Crews have been looking for these carriers ever since other breeders were discovered last month in a Madera neighborhood near the Arbor Vitae Cemetery in Central Madera.

The mosquito in question is the *Aedes aegypti* and can be identified from other mosquitoes by its dark brown or black color with distinctive white markings. The female can lay as many as 200 eggs throughout the season, but unlike other mosquitoes that need stagnant, standing water in swimming pools or other containers, the *Aedes aegypti* will lay eggs in any open container as long as there is some water. Then, even if the water dries up, the eggs can survive for

months and the reintroduction of water at a later date will cause the eggs to hatch, producing adult mosquitoes in about a week.

Yellow Fever Yellow causes fever, chills, anorexia, nausea, muscle pain -- usually in the form of a backache and headache -- then usually subsides after a few days, but sometimes it can be fatal. The mosquito can also carry chikungunya, a viral disease that

Please see MOSQUITO on P. 13

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Letters

Dear Editor:

Below I have pasted a copy of an email I received from Ray Krause which is an open letter to Tom Hurst in regard to the Planning Commissioner's position for District 1. I believe this warrants publication, I hope you agree.

Laura LaPorte  
Madera Ranchos

On July 13, 2013, at 11:20 a.m., Ray Krause wrote:

Tom, thank you for taking the time to meet with me before the Madera County Planning Commission meeting last Tuesday. I am encouraged by your résumé and lifetime credits as a military veteran, trades professional, business owner and family man. For over three years I have endeavored to make sound decisions on a county wide benefit basis rather than on a political district agenda. I am confident that you are fully capable of doing the same. Orderly, attractive and sustainable growth is a conscious choice which is so often lost on those who would go along to get along or force their own political self-interests. I sense that you are neither a puppet nor a pushover. Additionally, I appreciate your agreeing to stay open to continuing as District One Planning Commissioner after the upcoming Supervisorial election. Your fellow commissioners are a diverse, dedicated team which has helped the Madera County Planning Department become the best it has ever been.

It is with my good wishes that I hereby cede my seat on the Madera County Planning Commission to you as of this date.

We are all depending upon you and I am looking forward to working with you in the near future.

Ray A. Krause, Jr., Planning Commissioner  
Madera County District One

Dear Editor:

The letter from a Ranchos resident in the last issue of your paper blamed vandalism to

his car possibly on a "faded Obama sticker," accusing the perpetrators of being anti-progressive and "children." This crime is despicable, and although only circumstantial evidence supports the claim as written, I have no doubt that there are just as many random acts of vandalism in the community as well as vandalism targeted at conservatively oriented citizens. The writer then insisted, using some form of undisclosed knowledge, that the vandal's motives were "God-given patriotic moral superiority."

Claiming to be a "proud progressive" and bemoaning the dis-branding of a preferred calling of "liberal," it is a mystery with the condition of the nation how anyone can claim to be a "proud progressive." Progressives want to change anything in society they don't like, all in the name of progress, of course. It is not enough for them to disagree with, or have different perspectives on, an issue; they insist everyone conform to their viewpoint and willfully use the force of law and government to ensure and enforce it. There is virtually no limit to the scope of progressivism as it is "in the eye of the beholder."

And, while working for change to improve society is ostensibly a noble goal, it would be one thing if progressives' impulsive causes were based on some evidentiary historical, philosophical, spiritual or universal truth; but progressives reject the concept of absolute truth, contending that the only absolute truth is there is no absolute truth – a fundamentally irrational foundation. Consequently, the Constitution, God's law, religious and moral truth, the rights of innocent unborn, the record of history and the fundamental principles of liberty and freedom are fair game. Whatever suits the cause.

The primary tool of the progressive is government: progressivism is about growing the state – ever more intrusive, restrictive and confining – to impose their worldview. The present White House Occupant (WHO), while never admitting to be a progressive, is instituting the greatest progressive shift in American history and is the present embodi-

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 16

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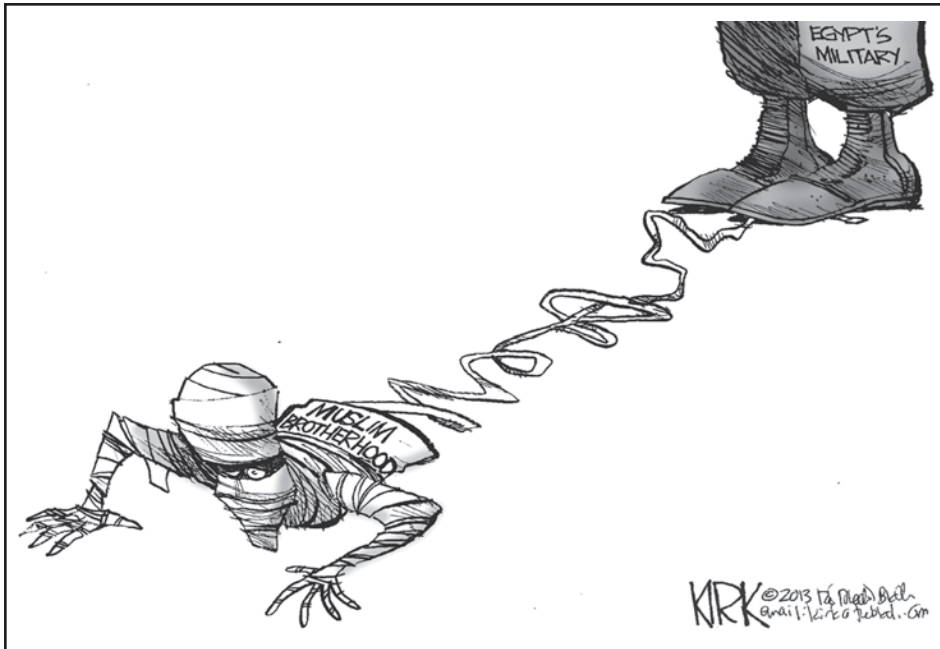
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Guest Editorial

# An Obamacare Surrender

By Rich Lowry

Washington is riven by conflict and deep-seated division. It is rare indeed when both sides can agree on anything consequential. Therefore it is incredibly heartening that there is now bipartisan agreement that the implementation of Obamacare is a mess.

Republicans have long maintained this, but now the Obama administration has lent its implicit assent with its astonishing decision to delay by a year the law's employer mandate. This is what the administration calls, via a blog post by the Treasury Department's assistant secretary for tax policy announcing the decision, "Continuing to Implement the ACA in a Careful, Thoughtful Manner." It can call it whatever it wants, but there is no hiding the embarrassment of a climb-down on a high-profile feature of President Barack Obama's signature initiative.

The purported reason for the delay is incompetence. The administration's story is that it simply couldn't find a way to implement the insurance reporting requirements on employers in the time frame set out in the law. Merely as a side-effect, it had to put off the mandate and the \$2,000-per-employee fine on employers with more than 50 employees who don't offer health coverage. This just happens to be the

mandate that is causing howls of pain from businesses and creating perverse incentives for them to limit their hiring or to hire part-time rather than full-time employees. And it just happens that 2015 -- the new target for implementation -- is after a midterm election year rather than during. Explaining the decision, Obama apparatchik Valerie Jarrett issued a stalwart communique from Central Command that should take an honored place in the annals of blatant, unembarrassed hackery. Her message was: All is well. Nothing to see here. Yes, maybe we've delayed implementation of the (hilariously euphemistic) "employer responsibility payments," aka fines, but don't worry, it's "full steam ahead" with the health-care exchanges this October. "As we implement this law," Jarrett explained, "we have and will continue to make changes as needed."

But the law is supposed to be the law, not optional suggestions from Congress. In Jarrett's view, Obamacare is little more than a warrant for the Obama administration to decide how it wants to run the American health-care system, one executive decision at a time. Obamacare was sold on the twin, flagrantly false promises that you could keep the insurance you have and the prices for insurance would drop. But there will be significant dumping of employees onto the exchanges, and the latest indication of the law's price shock came via The Wall Street Journal, which reported that "healthy consumers could see insurance rates double or even triple when they look for individual coverage." The delay of the employer mandate may create political pressure to delay the more important individual mandate as well, on grounds that ordinary people shouldn't face the fines for not buying government-mandated coverage that businesses have been spared.

Certainly, the maneuver on the employer mandate is a painful concession and a signal of weakness. Now everyone can agree: Implementation of the president's proudest achievement is troubled, at best.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

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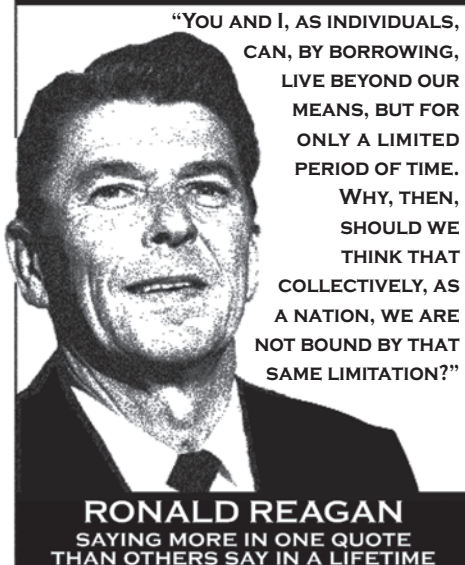
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# More to Know About LAFCO

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

I have just finished reading a book (yes, a book – I read at least one book a week) written by Michael Crichton called *Timeline*. Part of the words in this book made me stop and think about how the world around me has changed in my lifetime. It seems today that everyone expects to be entertained and they expect to be entertained all of the time. Business meetings that I have gone to must be snappy, with

bullet lists, Power Point and animated graphics, all so people don't get bored. These items are also being used in schools so students don't get bored. Malls and stores must be engaging, so they amuse as well as sell us. You

*I have been attending LAFCO meetings lately. Someone at the last meeting came up to talk to me. He said, "I thought that you had retired. What are you doing here?" I said, "Oh you know me, I just want to know what is going on first hand. I had been hearing all kinds of rumors."*

can often tell what they sell by the music coming from the store. Politicians must have pleasing video personalities and tell us only what we want to hear. Schools must be careful not to bore young minds that expect the speed and complexity of television. Students must be amused to keep their minds from getting bored. Everyone must be amused, or they will switch brands, switch channels, switch parties, switch loyalties or switch off. This is the intellectual reality of society today. Thank about it! Physics, chemistry and biology employ the most advanced technology to keep up with the demands of society to be amused.

When I grew up, most homes had one radio that everyone in the family listened to. That was my technology. There wasn't any television, any computers, laptops and no cell phones. There was one phone in the house and it was fastened to the wall. As a child I played outside the house. If you had a friend you played jump rope, hopscotch, jacks and marbles. If you were alone there was always a deck of cards or a book to read, pictures to draw and paper dolls to play with. I can just hear kids saying, "Boring!" We learned to amuse ourselves and not to rely on technology to entertain us. I see many advantages with today's technology but I also see many disadvantages.

I have been attending LAFCO meetings lately. Someone at the last meeting came up to talk to me. He said, "I thought

that you had retired. What are you doing here?" I said, "Oh you know me, I just want to know what is going on first hand. I had been hearing all kinds of rumors."

So, back to the beginning of this story, a call went out to the Ranchos community for local volunteers to set on a LAFCO commission for the Madera Ranchos. Twenty volunteers signed up. Of these volunteers 12 were chosen by Madera County officials to evenly represent the greater Ranchos area of study. I don't remember all of this happening and since I didn't understand what LAFCO was all about, I

didn't pay any attention to it. These are the 12 Ranchos members on the commission: Todd Chase, Vince Guthrie, Thomas Walsh, Jeff McGrath, Seth Thomas, Richard Hallert, Johal Sarbjit, Tom Zonsius, Mark

Toole, Tom Kellner, Edmond Bergthold, and Bill Prince. I know seven out of the 12 so at least I know I can call someone if I get too confused about this commission and what they are doing. I wondered why there were no women on the commission. I guess that no women signed up to volunteer? I missed the first meeting which was a formation meeting. The meeting that I went to was when the 12 members chose to run their own LAFCO meetings instead of having a Madera Official run the LAFCO meetings. Mark Toole was chosen as Chairperson to run the meetings. The members decided that they needed a secretary to keep the minutes of each meeting and they selected Tom Zonsius as secretary.

The first job of the commission was to put together a survey to be filled out by the people who live in the various sections of the Ranchos. They include: Bonadelle North, Bonadelle South, Madera Ranchos, Bonadelle #9, and Continental Estates. Most of us received a letter about a survey from Madera County but we didn't understand it, me included. When I went to my first LAFCO meeting and realized the importance of the survey I told the people at the meeting that we needed more time to get out more surveys. We also needed another place besides the library to pick up and drop off completed surveys. I suggested the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center

Please see **STOCK** on P. 13



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## Heroes Wearing Flip-flops

**GEN  
ERA  
TION  
WHY**  
by **eryn b. nyre**



People watching is best at the airport, and once again I find myself in the prime spot to just sit back and watch the vast array of personalities that cross my path. Waiting hours for a flight in a cramped, noisy and awkward terminal makes people forget they are on stage. Sometimes it brings out the worst in people. But sometimes, amid the frustration and fatigue, I get a glimpse of the very best that humanity has to offer through a shining example of human decency, and I am given a renewed hope for the future of society. Often I hone in on the rudeness that I see rampant, or the derelicts that have been forced on an otherwise civilized society, but today a different type of person has caught my attention, and he deserves to be written about, plus this gives

me a great way to kill time during the layover I am forced to endure. Two birds, one article.

It’s difficult to maintain patience in the stressful situations that traveling causes. Especially having to deal with the TSA and all their little minions that don’t care to greet you or make your uncomfortable and public trip through the naked machine any less unpleasant. That in and of itself can make you choose a

14-hour car trip over a two-hour flight. So I can understand why some people are grumpy. But when you see a person go out of his way to help someone, not just a little but leaps and bounds beyond what the average person would do, it warms your heart and puts the whole “when is the freaking plane going to get here” thing in perspective.

Let me set the scene: I’m camped out at the docking and recharging station in the terminal. Highly coveted, it’s easier to get a seat in the restroom than to find a spot here, so I counted myself very lucky. This particular techie station was close enough to a ticket counter for me to easily eavesdrop, and being the nosy little people watcher I am, I listened intently when a middle-aged man approached the ticket agent. He seemed a little more stressed than the average air traveler when asking about his standby status. The agent, who was pleas-

ant – but you can tell she would have preferred just about any other assignment than the one she currently occupied – did not have good news for him, which was obviously not what he wanted to hear. He immediately launched into the details of why he just had to be on that flight. Evidently his mother was sick and undergoing sur-

gery in the morning and he wanted to be there before she went under the knife. Now, people lie and some people lie very well, but he looked sincere. Had he needed a seat on my flight I probably would have given it to him, even though my mother would have had a small mental breakdown at having to postpone our visit. The airline attendant expressed her apologies but the flight was full at this point and there was nothing

she could do. As he walked away, a younger man stood up and walked over to the ticket agent. He was dressed casually but had the air of military about him, rocking the “high and tight.” My mouth fell open as he asked her if he could give up his seat for the man. I don’t know what touched me more, that he was willing to give up his seat, or that he, too, had a penchant for eavesdropping.

It’s nice to know it isn’t just me.

She told him he could do that, but advised him that the next flight out wasn’t until the morning. I expected him to say “never mind” and I expected him to sit back down and when the plane pulled away from the gate, I expected him to be on it. Occasionally, it’s a good thing when someone doesn’t meet your expectations. He didn’t change his mind, instead, he said to her,

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 13

## Don't Scrimp on Shrimp

There are several restaurants in Fresno that offer Coconut Shrimp on their Appetizer Menu. Randy's family loves them and the last time we were all out together, Randy suggested I find a recipe for them.

When I looked them up, I found almost as many Coconut Shrimp recipes as there are Chocolate Cake recipes. Well, maybe not quite, but it seemed that way. There were recipes using unsweetened coconut but adding sugar, then another one using sweetened coconut, but no sugar. Using a whole egg or just the egg white. Baked or deep fried. So I picked two, and either one sounds good.

### Crispy Coconut Shrimp

2 Pounds Uncooked Extra-Large Shrimp (16-20 per pound) Peeled and Deveined with Tail Left On

½ C Cornstarch

¾ tsp. Salt

½ tsp. Cayenne Pepper (optional)

3 Large Egg Whites

2 C. Unsweetened Medium Shred Coconut

2 ½ T Sugar

Vegetable oil for frying

Place cornstarch, salt and cayenne in a large zip-lock bag and mix well. Add shrimp to bag, seal shut and shake to coat evenly. Set aside.

Using a fork, beat egg whites in a small bowl until frothy. Place coconut and sugar in large shallow bowl or pie dish and mix well.

Holding each shrimp by the tail, shake off excess cornstarch, dip into egg whites (let excess drip off) then dredge in coconut mixture, turning to coat evenly (if sugar drops to the bottom of the dish, move the shrimp around so it gets coated with both sugar and coconut) Place shrimp on foil-lined baking sheet in a single layer. Cover and refrigerate until ready to cook. This can be done several hours ahead of time.

Pour enough oil into large nonstick pan to reach depth of ½ inch, heat over high heat until hot. To test if oil is hot enough,



## Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes

by Jean Briner

use tongs to hold one shrimp by the tail and submerge it in oil; if it sizzles and crackles it is ready. Working in batches so as not to crowd the pan, add shrimp to hot oil and fry, turning once, until golden brown. It should take about 40-60 seconds per side; if shrimp is browning too quickly turn heat down a bit. Use a slotted spoon to transfer shrimp to plate lined with paper towels to drain. Arrange shrimp on platter and serve with favorite dipping sauce.

### Skinny Coconut Shrimp

1 Pound (about 24) Large Shrimp Peeled and Deveined  
½ C + 1 T Shredded Sweetened Coconut

½ C + 1 T Panko Crumbs

2 T All-Purpose Flour (you may only need 1 T)

1 Large Egg

Pinch of salt

Nonstick spray

Preheat oven to 425. Spray a non-stick baking sheet with cooking spray

Combine coconut flakes, panko crumbs and salt in a bowl. Place the flour on a small dish. Whisk egg in another bowl. Lightly season the shrimp with salt. Dip the shrimp in the flour, shaking off the excess, then into the egg, then into the coconut mixture.

Lay shrimp on cookie sheet in a single layer, then spray top of shrimp with more cooking spray. Bake in the middle of the rack for 10 minutes. Turn shrimp over and cook another 6-7 minutes or until cooked through. Remove from oven and serve with favorite dipping sauce.

### Sweet and Sour Dipping Sauce

This recipe makes about one cup

1 tsp. Cornstarch

1/3 C White Vinegar

2 tsp. Vegetable oil

2/3 C Unsweetened Pineapple

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 17

come meet friends!

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# IT'S FARMERS MARKET TIME

ORGANIC

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7/13

## Hurst Hardware Parking Lot

37398 Berkshire Drive • Thursdays 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### New Member

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome the newest member to the Madera Ranchos business family

**Red Rock Environmental Group**

Everyone is Welcome!

### Chamber Mixer

Wednesday, Aug. 21 • 6 - 7:30 p.m.

### VDI Services

37167 Ave. 12 #5C, Madera Ranchos  
645-4001

### New Chamber Board

**Pres.:** Verlin Dill - VDI Services  
**V.P.:** Don Foster - Creative Catering  
**Sec.:** Audrey Stock  
**Treas.:** Virginia Vick  
**Past Pres.:** Ollia Ridge

**Board Members:** **3-Year:** Randy Bailey - Ranchos Independent; Lisa Haney - Haney Chiropractic; **2-Year:** Cindy Ceja - Vulcan Materials; Paula Stuart - Now & Again Thrift & Gift Shop; **1-Year:** Leann Fursman - Skin Elegance; Javier Felix - Madera Ranchos Barbershop

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

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*The Bookshelf*

# Kids Shine at Reading Program

By Lori McClendon

The Summer Reading Program was a great success and was well attended by many children this year. We would like to thank Kalani Torres, Diane Maxfield and Ginger Taylor and all the volunteers that made it happen.

We are now open on Fridays. Come visit us. And did you know free homework help is available at the Ranchos Library for grades k-5 on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. with Mrs. Taylor? Additional times may be available by appointment. Ask at the front desk.

**The Madera Ranchos Library**

37167 Ave. 12  
645-1214

Sunday and Monday Closed

Tuesday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday and Thursday

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday and Saturday

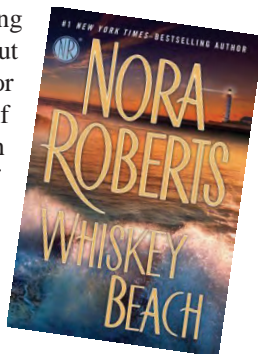
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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

*Check out our New Arrivals*

**Adult Fiction:** *Whiskey Beach* by Nora

Roberts – Boston lawyer Eli Landon has weathered an intense year of public scrutiny and police investigations after being accused of — but never arrested for — the murder of his ex-wife. With the help of *Whiskey Beach*'s resident housekeeper, yoga instructor, jewelry maker and massage therapist, Abra Walsh helps Eli take control of his life and clear his name but in the process discovers someone intent on destroying Eli once and for all.



Services available at the library include books, magazines and newspapers; books on CD and tape; DVD and VHS videos; access to ebooks; public computers with internet access; typewriter, photocopier and system wide book requests. Your library card -- don't leave home without it!



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# Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent



7/13

Aug. 2 & 13 - Karaoke Fridays  
**LIVE MUSIC**

Aug. 3 - The Gray Horse Band

Aug. 9 - AC Myles

Aug. 10 - "L" Train

Aug. 17 - The Ripper Blues Band

Aug. 23 & 24 - Ritchie Blues Band

Aug. 30 - Deja Blues

Aug. 31 - Rocky Rock

**All shows begin at 9 p.m. and play until 1 a.m.**

**ACOUSTIC SUNDAYS**

Aug. 11 - Jim from Exit 13

Aug. 25 - Allen Woodward, lead singer of 51 Aces

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# Inaugural Mike Reagan Memorial Fundraiser

## motorcycle - classic car - custom car run

### Sunday, August 18 • 8 a.m.

We will be leaving Christi's Place at 9 a.m. to meet up with the rest of the group in Fresno. Call 559-395-4873, or check us out on Facebook @Christi's Place for more details. All proceeds from the run and raffle prizes will be donated in Mike's name to ABATE, local chapter #24.

We would appreciate donated prizes for our raffle, including gift certificates for local businesses, unused gift cards, gift baskets and any new items that you would like to donate. We will accept anything with your business logo on it, such as T-shirts and a w.g., so it's free advertising for you. Drop off all donations at Christi's Place, or call so we can pick it up!



**SUPPORT FIRE STATIONS 9 & 19**



**28TH ANNUAL**  
**FIRE BBQ**  
 Madera County Fire & Rescue Station 19

**DINNER ★ DANCE ★ AUCTION**

**Sat., Aug. 17, 2013**

**5 p.m. to Midnight**

**Borba's Rancho Vista del Rio**  
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**Let's Eat!**

Every summer for the past 25+ years, our family has spent a week at Hume Lake. It's a place that holds great memories of special times with family and friends. During our kids' teen years, I often didn't know if I'd be feeding five or 15, but the extra kids were always welcome.

With only a small, outrageously priced grocery store up there, I had to come prepared. This required me to be, well, organized! Since I planned ahead we enjoyed good food and great times around the table on the deck — at least when the meat bees left us alone.

In today's busy culture we often forfeit the benefits of sharing a home-cooked meal with those we love. If you're ready to combat the high calorie fast foods, costly restaurant tabs, and restore family dinners, read on.

Schedule a time to sit down and write out a weekly or monthly menu. I prefer doing mine by the month so I can stagger repeat dinners throughout. It's OK to include "Let's Eat Out" and "Left-overs" on the menu, too.

If you're stuck with what to make, throw out a cry for quick 'n easy dinner ideas from your Facebook friends, or tap into a website like [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com). To have someone else make the plan for you, check out [www.emsals.com](http://www.emsals.com).

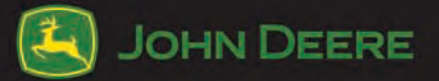
Try asking everyone in the family to write down their favorites. Incorporate these into your monthly plan. This way you'll know at least one person will love what you made. You might even have him or her be the kitchen assistant that night and learn how to make his or her favorite dish.

Having dinner themes is also a helpful tool. For instance, Mondays/Italian, Tuesdays/Chicken, Wednesdays/Mexican, Thursdays/Crockpot, Fridays/Pizza, Saturdays/Soup & Salad, and Sundays/BBQ.

After you've created a menu, check your food inventory and create a grocery list of items you need. For you smart phone users, consider adding the free app "Grocery IQ" to store your list.

Please see **ORGANIZE** on P. 13

**DEERE** SEASON



# “Once I tried a John Deere at Midland Tractor, nothing else came close.”

I looked at several different manufacturers, all of them had a tractor that could do what I needed, but none of them came close to John Deere on ease-of-use, comfort and the number of attachments available.

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MTC10X110722RI-4C

Click on “Local News” at

**STOCK** cont. from P. 6

and someone else suggested Hurst Hardware. There was no return address on the surveys because Madera County expected people to complete the survey on line on their computers. I explained to the Madera official that many of us were not comfortable using our computers in this way. I for one am not an "online" computer person.

People keep asking me what LAFCO stands for and it means Local Agency Formation Commission. It is the Madera County arm of the California Local Agencies Formation Commission which was started back in the 1960's to slow the sprawl of governing districts in California. Madera County planning and engineering offices are helping the 12 local members figure out what the people of the Ranchos really want and what we need and how much we are willing to pay for it. I found out a few things, such as Rolling Hills did not consider themselves a part of the Ranchos. When LAFCO did its study of Rio Mesa three years ago, Rolling Hills, Children's Hos-

pital and all of that area are considered Rio Mesa even though there hasn't been any progress across Highway 41 in the area I consider Rio Mesa.

Most of us who live in the Ranchos live in a Maintenance District if we live in the 93636 Zip Code. This is another thing that I learned. The Madera Ranchos has no governmental community recognition or a general growth plan in place. The 12-member commission, with the help of the Madera County staff, brainstormed to come up with a list of the Ranchos community assets and liabilities as a starting place. When the surveys were counted, the four top items of concern were water, police, fire and roads. I have learned by attending these meetings that there is a lot that I don't know about the Ranchos. I went to the first meeting because the rumors were flying and I wanted to know what was going on. Now I am going to find out as much as I can about the area where I live. The next meeting will be held on Aug. 21 at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center at 6 p.m.

Stay cool.

**GEN WHY** cont. from P. 7

"I'm on vacation, I have time, he doesn't. His business is more important." I was floored. What a completely selfless and touching act. She hadn't offered a free upgrade, hadn't offered to get him a room for the night, there was no incentive other than another human's happiness. I was nearly moved to tears.

After he changed his flight and walked away, the other man was brought back up to the counter and told he had been secured a seat on the flight. The man cried right there in front of everyone, and I'm not ashamed to say I did too. I thought about going up to the young man just to introduce myself and tell him what I thought of his act of kindness, and maybe ask him if he was married, but instead I sat there, awe struck at the random display of heroism. That's what it was, after all; it was heroism. You don't have to wear a cape to be a hero, and they aren't limited to heroes that run into burning buildings and save lives. A hero is someone who comes to the aid of others. Sometimes it seems like something small, like giving up your seat on a flight. Other times it's momentous, like making it home in time to see your mom before she goes into surgery.

**ORGANIZE** cont. from P. 11

Doing your shopping once per week and making sure you're purchasing everything you need for your menu will save you time and money. Create a routine for menu planning, list making, and grocery shopping.

When you can, double your recipe and store one meal in the freezer (two dinners — one mess!). Just make sure you place that entrée on your menu later in the month so it gets used up.

If all this seems a little overwhelming, start meal planning for just two to three nights per week. Some progress is better than none when it comes to a healthier bodies, finances, and relationships.

"If it were just about food, we would squirt it into their mouths with a tube," says Robin Fox, an anthropologist who teaches at Rutgers University in New Jersey. "A meal is about civilizing children. It's about teaching them to be a member of their culture."

For a FREE ready-to-use Monthly Menu form and check-off Grocery List send an email a request to [info@organizedbychoice.com](mailto:info@organizedbychoice.com).

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



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**MOSQUITO** cont. from P. 3

causes joint swelling, and dengue, a potentially deadly virus that can lead to high fever, severe headache, severe pain behind the eyes, joint pain, muscle and bone pain, rash, and mild bleeding from the nose or gums along with easy bruising. Neither of these diseases was found in the mosquitoes captured.

County abatement crews are continuing to search Ranchos neighborhoods for infestations and are actively spraying larvacide and insecticide. County officials assure the public there is no health risk at this time but Ranchos residents are asked to be vigilant in dumping out or refreshing containers holding water and adding mosquito fish to horse troughs. If you find unusual numbers of mosquitoes report them to the Mosquito and Vector Control District at 662-8880.

For a full list of information about steps you can take to help control mosquitoes around your home, you can visit the County's website at [www.madera.mosq.org](http://www.madera.mosq.org).

# What's the Pledge of Allegiance Mean?

By Verlaine Elinburg

**Pledge:** A solemn promise or agreement. **Allegiance:** Loyalty, dedication, devotion, fidelity, honor, obedience and homage. **The Republic:** a form of government in which the powers of sovereignty are authorized and entrusted in the people and are executed by the people, either directly, or through representation, a Democratic political system. **Liberty:** Independence, freedom.

As we celebrated the 4th of July and what it means to our amazing country, and what it has achieved, we realized our present government and some of its people have a different interpretation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was first published in 1892. In 1923 the words "my flag" were changed to "the flag of the United States." In 1942 it was altered by adding "of America" after "the flag of the United States." In 1954, fearing communism, the Pledge was amended to include the words, "under God."

Are we due for another change to the Pledge of Allegiance as America's values change?

On any given day you can hear of a school that is banning the Pledge of Allegiance and somewhere someone is prohibiting the American flag from being flown. The challenges to the Christian faith, while accommodating other reli-

gions beliefs, is common place and our liberty of freedom of choice and independence is questioned with new mandates by the present government that has the power to change the rules to accommodate their agenda. Government has the power to enter our private lives through present technology, pass tax laws to finance their "fair share" agenda, encouraging entitlement and accommodate all illegal entry to this country.

As we age, senior independence is a challenge, but the 4th of July usually means a large gathering of family and friends to celebrate this great day. This year the Ranchos/Hills Seniors celebrated with a potluck that included hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by George Hagler, tri-tip, BBQ chicken, potato salad and various pies. What a feast. We ended the gathering with the drawing of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors yearly raffle Tom and Cheryl Hurst of Hurst hardware. The 1st Prize winner was Kathy Johnson, a \$250 gift certificate donated by the Ranchos Market. Second Prize went to H Viau, a \$200 gift certificate to Hurst Hardware donated by Tom and Cheryl Hurst. Third place was four tickets to the Firemen's BBQ on Aug. 17 that went to Mr. Shippey.

The Ranchos/Hills Seniors extend its thanks to all its members and the people that joined in its annual raffle event. The dollars received will be used to help maintain the self-reliant Senior Center.

## LHS, RMS Registration Schedules

Ranchos Middle School Registration will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 14.  
**7th grade 9 – 10:30 a.m.**  
**8th grade 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**  
 Packets will be ready for pick up on Wednesday, Aug. 7 anytime from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 The Registrar will be back in the office on Aug. 5 for newbies and you must

be current with your Tdap shot.  
 Liberty High School Registration will take place Thursday, Aug. 15.  
**Seniors 8 - 9:30 a.m.**  
**Juniors 9:30 - 11 a.m.**  
**Sophomores 12:30 - 2 p.m.**  
**Freshmen 2 - 3:30 p.m.**  
 Packets will be available for pick up Tuesday, Aug. 13 starting at 7:30 a.m.

## LHS Grad Wins \$1K Ag Scholarship

Jennifer Zenteno of the Madera Ranchos was named one of four recipients of a \$1000 scholarship given by the Madera County Cattlewomen and Madera County Cattlemen's Associations.

Jennifer attended, and graduated from, Liberty High School where she was on the Honor Roll all four years of her high school attendance. She was active in FFA and helped her team place 3rd in the State Finals for specialty animal judg-



ing. She plans to attend Fresno State to obtain a degree in Veterinary Science and then she will apply to UC Davis to begin her career as a veterinarian.

She is the daughter of Jose and Leticia Zenteno and has one brother and sister.

Other award winners were Joshua Dowell from Minarets High School, Daphne Rose Norman from Yosemite High School, and Olivia Fernandez from Sierra High School.

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7/13

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## Kiwanis Korner

# Achieving a Beautiful End to Life

By Perry Watkins

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

Dare I broach a subject that no one really wants to talk about? Certainly not a great subject for polite dinner parties unless you want to drive someone to the other side of the room. Why would I want to mention the "d" word in a community events and charity column? Yet, it certainly affects us all, much too often, and much too soon. Yes, sometimes we just can't avoid the subject. It is how we all end up. Yet, I feel compelled to talk just a bit about death.

Having witnessed more tragedy and end of life circumstances by the age of 20 than most people witness in their lifetimes, it struck and fascinated me at an age when most young folks are thinking of anything else. The military can do that for a person. I also worked a number of years for hospice which brought me to the bedside to share final moments with family members. Sometimes I think I shed more tears than they did. We prayed together in many different ways. We shared cultural customs, music and foods. Sometimes sang or even danced in a circle. These were really rich and amazing experiences.

What compels me to explore it now is something I have really wanted to share. There are good deaths and really difficult, and even frightening deaths. What the heck is a good death you may be thinking? Well, I've witnessed folks who clung to life until relatives arrived, surrounded by the people who loved them; members of their church, people whose lives they had touched, neighbors who shared a lifetime together, kids, grandkids, and friends from all their varied life experiences. Maybe they waited until a relative arrived from the East coast or returned from the military. Right in the middle of the party they slip away with a smile on their face, surrounded by dozens of people who loved them. Amazing.

I have seen the other kind too. Folks who die alone, in a rundown building; alone in a hospital bed or in a low-rent motel room. People who are afraid to die, maybe even terrified. Not the way I hope to go.

A preacher once told me, "God don't care how often you sit in that blue chair looking pious. He may care what you did for others, how you treated people, if you were there when a stranger needed help. Get up out of the blue chair and do Gods' work: you are the hands of God," he said.

So I did.

How you live your life is how it will likely end. I have seen it firsthand more times than I can count. If I am surrounded by a bunch of people I loved and who loved me back then what more could I wish for?

I live and will probably die surrounded by a community I helped when they needed help, by people who prayed by my side when I needed a prayer; people who could ask me for a prayer, or were able to ask if I could help a neighbor. If a neighbor needs help then I will set aside what I am doing for myself and try to help, as often as I can. It's an old fashioned value. That's what Kiwanis does. Most likely when it's time to go, I won't be alone, or afraid, or forgotten. I have a community who cares. I have my friends at Kiwanis.

That's all Kiwanis really is, a bunch of neighbors helping neighbors. You are welcome to join us any Thursday night at the Pizza Factory.

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

### Board Members:

President: Marie Cameron  
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Treasurer: Perry Watkins  
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Debbie Farr, Mary Ann Parks, Mona Diaz, John Herrera and Ollia Ridge.

## WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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7/13

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

Letters cont. from P. 4

ment of the progressive movement. Woodrow Wilson would be proud.

The WHO is an economic moron who does not understand wealth creation and personal responsibility, which is why almost half the country is now dependent on government assistance of some sort, unemployment is high and business growth is stifled. The WHO is an historical illiterate, failing to understand the proper role of government in a free society. The WHO is morally vacuous, equating pregnancy with punishment and promoting infanticide and the wholesale slaughter of the innocent. The WHO is a usurper, disregarding the rule of law and its Constitutional obligations to arbitrarily enforce a progressive agenda. The WHO lives lavishly while calling for sacrifice. The WHO actively suppresses religious freedom and has undermined the historically proven foundational institution of civil society: marriage, as some cause celebre. The WHO is an anti-Constitutionalist, actively undermining the separation of powers, and the 1st, 2nd and 4th Amendments, to name a few. Some would call this treasonous. The WHO is a deceiver, secretly doing the opposite of what he publicly proclaims and perfecting the art of pandering for votes. The WHO is actively growing the state to "fundamentally transform the nation."

The more government does, the more government will have to do. The larger government grows, the more of its purpose will be to protect, preserve, and grow the state. The more citizens depend on government, the more voters will vote to protect their dependency. The more elected officials that know they can get re-elected by giving voters free stuff, the fewer makers and greater number of takers there will be. The WHO knows this and calls it "hope and change." The WHO is the quintessential progressive. This country will not survive many more WHOs.

Stewart Hough  
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

My name is Warren Parr. I would like to thank you for this opportunity to address and challenge Mr. Edward Moseley's statements at the June 4th Golden Valley Unified School District Board Meeting and in the Saturday, June 8th Madera Tribune article titled "Golden Valley Divided." Mr. Moseley accused me of "dirty politics, being petty and publicizing our dirty laundry in public." He also said I was not "... entirely 100 percent correct on this issue."

The very next night Mr. Moseley and I were at a LAFCO meeting, primarily addressing water issues of the Ranchos Com-

munity. After the meeting I confronted Mr. Moseley about his inflammatory and inaccurate remarks about me the previous night. We agreed to disagree and exchanged cell phone numbers so that we could have an ongoing discussion about the events that lead me to file the Grand Jury complaint. We had a text conversation later that evening and on into the next morning. Here is that conversation:

Parr: By the way Edward, it was Kathleen who went public first on Facebook. It was her that aired, to quote you, "our dirty laundry in public." She stepped out of line. She violated due process. I'm defending due process by letting the system work. I am using the free press. I am using the citizen judiciary system. I have protected her due process by allowing her the opportunity to defend herself which is more than she did for Andy [Alvarado]. She was accuser, judge and jury. Also I felt I could not go to her in private because she would have attempted to turn it back on me by accusing me of intimidation and bullying. My word against hers. To take that option from her hand, I decided to make my statement in public also, in plain view of the community so there was no misinterpretation of my words. I have gone on the record. She has chosen not to defend herself at this time. If I was being wrongfully accused, I would welcome the opportunity to defend myself and clear my name.

Moseley: I understand and I support your right to exercise your legal rights.

Parr: Thanks. I appreciate that. I'll send you the exact statute codes I cited on the Grand Jury compliant form if you would like. I think the Ranchos Independent may have a misprint and I do not want any misunderstandings.

Mr. Moseley reversed his statements to the Madera Tribune and the GVUSD Board of Trustees. He now supports my right to exercise my legal rights. He's right. It's not about "dirty politics or pettiness." It never was. It's about due process, a concept apparently Trustee Crumpton doesn't understand. She has been given due process (the opportunity to defend herself) in public on the record four times. I have been interviewed by both the Ranchos Independent and Madera Tribune. I have presented my accusations in open session during the public forum at three GVUSD Board Meetings. Trustee Crumpton has declined to be interviewed by both newspapers. She has declined to go on the record and defend herself at those GVUSD Board Meetings. Instead of due process, she has adopted the strategy of letting her friends and supporters attack me and speak for her. Trustee Crumpton, I can speak for myself, can you? I can use my own words, can you? I can go on the record so my accusations and statements may be verified, can you? Please sit down, take your time,

measure your words and write a letter to the editor at the Ranchos Independent and Madera Tribune. Tell us your account. Go on the record with your own words so your statements may withstand scrutiny. If you do not respond, I have to assume you do not want to go on the record so that your statements may be verified. If you will not defend yourself, I have to assume the alleged events at Webster Elementary School are true and your behavior is indefensible. Trustee Crumpton, PLEASE RESIGN. Please don't put the district through the expense of a Recall Election and further division of the Ranchos Community.

Edward, what do you mean I'm not "... entirely 100 percent correct on this issue"? Did you read the Grand Jury complaint or were you at the GVUSD Board Meeting when I made the accusations against Trustee Crumpton? NO. Google Search California Penal Code 626.7, 627.4 and California Education Codes 32210-32212 and 44800-44824 and text me please.

Also, when Trustee Crumpton filed her complaint (BP/AR 1312.1) against the Superintendent, a hearing was held on April 25, 2013. I had to file a request under the Public Records Act to unseal the "Findings and Decision" report from that hearing. Because of Trustee Crumpton's alleged actions, the dis-

trict may be exposed to a potential lawsuit from the potential and/or alleged emotional damage suffered by Mr. Januse who was the teacher being evaluated. Because of the district's potential financial exposure, the board thought it prudent that GVUSD have legal representation at that hearing. With the opinion from the district's legal representation and the GVUSD Board of trustees (minus Crumpton), Finding #9 states "... Board Member Crumpton's presence and her refusal to leave campus when asked by both the principal and the superintendent materially disrupted classroom activities at Webster school on April 17, 2013 in violation of law and board policy." Finding #10 and #11 sites all the codes I listed in the Grand Jury complaint except California Education Code 44800-44824. That one is mine. I used the information and conclusions from the Findings and Decision Report generated by GVUSD and its legal counsel in my Grand Jury complaint. The items listed in the Grand Jury Complaint were not mine. Request the "Findings and Decision" report for yourself. It's public NOW. Where am I inaccurate?

Let's get back to the business of education.

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RECIPE cont. from P. 8

Juice

- 2 T Ketchup
- 3 T Brown sugar
- Salt to taste

In a small sauce pan over medium low heat, whisk (using a metal whisk) together vinegar and cornstarch. Add remaining ingredients whisking constantly until mixture is heated through. If you want a thicker sauce than this, dissolve a quarter tsp. cornstarch in 1/8 to 1/4 C cold water. When dissolved, stir mixture into sauce and continue to heat and whisk until sauce thickens.

When Carolyn was younger and didn't have a boyfriend (Hi Josh!), she would stay overnight with me on the week-ends. I found out she loved vegetable tempura. There was a little Japanese take-out restaurant not far from me and for a treat we would go over there and get our dinner. Thinking if you were going to serve the Coconut Shrimp, how about doing some tempura too? I found a number of recipes and will tell you about the simplest of them all.

*Tempura Batter*

- 1 1/4 C All-Purpose Flour
- 12 oz. Club Soda ( 1 can)
- Vegetable oil for frying

In a bowl large enough to dip the vegetables, mix together the flour and soda until just mixed, ok

for a few lumps. Pour oil into heavy pot or skillet about 2 inches deep. Heat on medium high heat until 375 degrees on thermometer. Dip vegetables in batter, shaking off excess. Working in batches, fry vegetables until golden, about 3 minutes. Don't put too many in oil at one time as this will cause oil to cool. Using a slotted spoon, remove tempura to platter lined with paper towels to drain and sprinkle with salt.

You can use just about any vegetable that comes from the garden or farmers market. Broccoli or cauliflower florets, eggplant, all summer squash, carrots, potatoes, green beans, yams, onion slices or even green onions.

After I did this on vegetable tempura, I thought how about fruit tempura? We have fruit fondue and we grill fruit as well as vegetables, so why not fruit tempura?

The fruits suggested are all the pitted fruit: pears, apples, bananas and pineapple. Avoid the soft fruit such as melons and strawberries. However I did read one recipe that used strawberries but it said the berry was squishy on the inside. All the recipes suggested dipping the sliced fruit in flour, shaking off the excess before dipping in the batter. Fry until golden then remove to paper towel-lined platter and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

The other day I was watching a cooking show and she was making finger foods for a child's party. She sliced carrots into about 3-inch sticks, dipped them in egg whites that were beaten until frothy, then Panko bread crumbs and fried. Looked good, and how easy!

## SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Strike; 2. Praise;
3. Haven; 4. Cloak

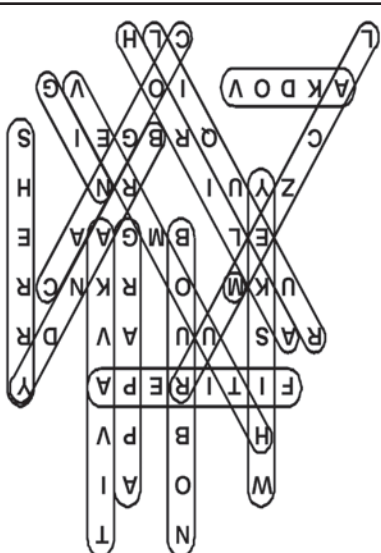
Today's Word:  
**APRONS**

ANSWERS

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			-	+	x
2	7	x	1	-	2



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## SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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		8			6			5
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4			5	8		6		

that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

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1 2 3 4 5 7 7 8 9

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September 7	Swap Meet (at Hurst Hardware)	SEMCU
October 5	Chili Cook-Off/Car Show Festival (in planning stages)	Ranchos Kiwanis
December 6	Christmas Tree Lighting (at Maywood Center)	Chamber of Commerce

To add items call the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce at 645-4001 or SEMCU at 363-9095. Items must be submitted AT LEAST one month in advance and are subject to editing.

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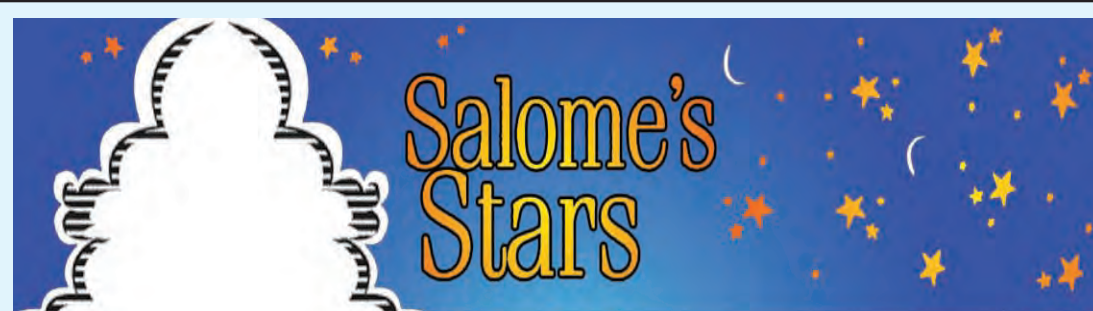
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### Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) With new facts to work with, you should feel more confident in moving ahead. But continue to do so at an unhurried pace so you can spot details you might otherwise miss.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Taking on that new workplace project could be one of your smarter career moves. Expect a surprising show of support from someone who had always been a critic.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You might feel you're too busy to undertake a new responsibility. But check it out before making any decisions. What you learn could persuade you to change your mind.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You feel quite content enjoying all the comforts of home right now. But the urge to travel grows stronger, and by week's end, you could begin packing your bags.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A hectic period begins to ease up, but that doesn't mean the Fine Feline can do much catnapping these days. You need to finish those old tasks and prepare for new ones.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Expect to get some good news about your financial situation by week's end. But it could still be too early to rush out with a long shopping list of things to buy.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Your management skills make an impression on some workplace VIPs who might be looking for someone like you to take on an upcoming project. Good luck.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Meeting a former adversary might be unsettling at first. But time has softened hard feelings, and you could be on the brink of starting a new relationship.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A troubling situation close to home might cause you to change your travel plans. But getting all the facts before you act might cause you to reconsider.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You might be quite alone right now in deciding to support a major workplace shift. But others will join you as new information supports your bold move.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A former co-worker returns with news that could persuade you to reassess recently made plans. Be sure to consult with a trusted colleague before you act.

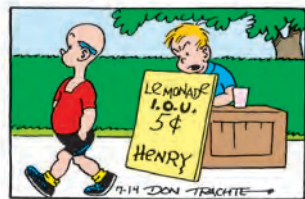
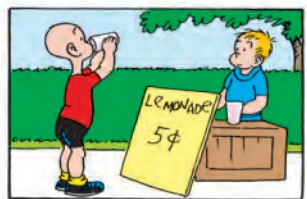
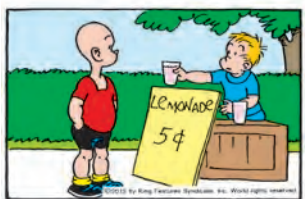
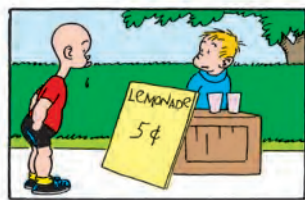
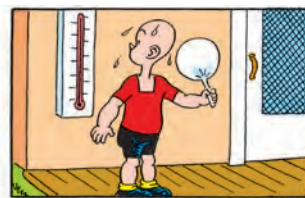
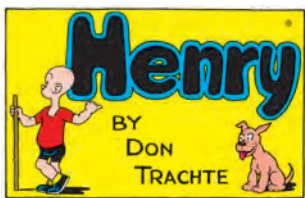
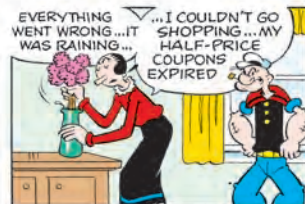
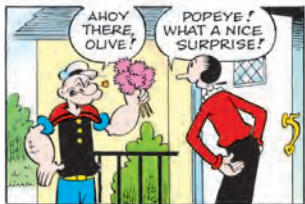
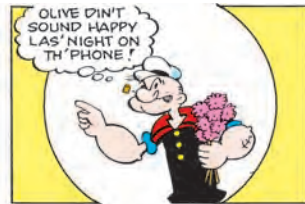
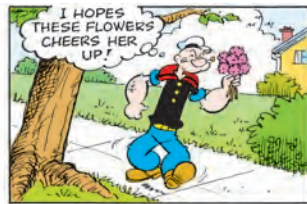
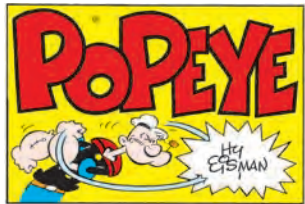
**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your motives behind a recent decision could be called into question by a rival. But once you present the facts, all doubts will be resolved. Enjoy an arts-rich weekend.

## Born this Week

While you love being the center of attention, your generous heart allows you to share the attention with others.

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# FUN PAGES

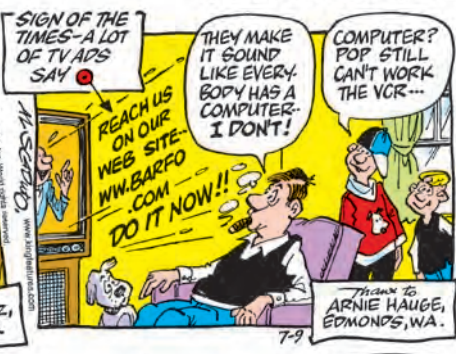


## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

PESTS WE CAN DO WITHOUT



## BY AL SCADUTO



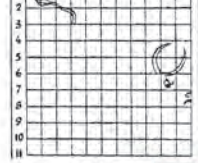
## SAY WHAT, POP?



## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

**HOLE IN ONE!** There is a way to see through an object or person without the use of a high-tech machine. Simply roll up a sheet of paper, hold it alongside your target, and peer through the roll with both eyes open.



Alakazam, your target — in this instance, someone's arm (see right) — will appear to have a hole through it. This illusory effect is created by a diversion of the line of sight of one eye.



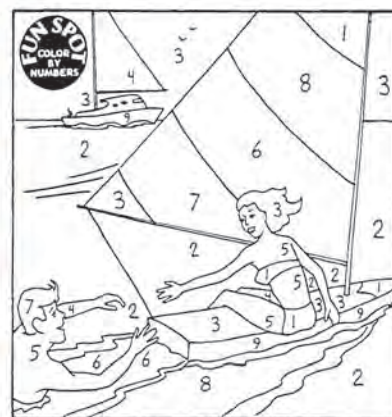
**WHERE TO!** Unscramble names of U.S. city travel destinations: 1. TEST ALE, 2. HIRE GAL, 3. SHOUT ON, 4. TIRE DOT, 5. SEA DOING. Time limit: 1 min. each.

### GRID-LOCKED RODEO STAR

**RIDE EM,** cowboy, if you can. There's a rodeo in town, and a crowd-pleasing performer is kicking up his heels. Care to see the show? Simply use a sharp pencil to draw lines in strict accord with coordinates, using a ruler where necessary. Try your hand at coloring the figure later.



**DOUBLE HEX!** Two of 11 hex signs above are twins. How quickly can you find them? Be sure to study all details.



**NEAR MISS!** "I'm on my way," says she. "Hey, wait for me," says he. Code: 1—Red, 2—Lt. blue, 3—Yellow, 4—Lt. brown, 5—Flesh tones, 6—Lt. green, 7—Dk. brown, 8—Dk. blue, 9—Purple.

### SPELLBINDER

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

UNSEATED

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

Try to score at least 50 points.

## TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- MEDICAL:** The condition called nephrolithiasis is more commonly referred to as what?
- CONGRESS:** What did the acronym HUAC stand for?
- INVENTIONS:** What 19th-century ranching aid did Joseph Glidden invent?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What are Georgetown University's sports teams known as?
- MATH:** What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MDCII?
- LITERATURE:** In what book do the characters Flopsy and Mopsy appear?
- LANGUAGE:** What is a poseur?
- FOOD AND DRINK:** What product is advertised as "Vermont's Finest"?
- SCIENCE:** What is the chemical symbol for mercury?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Where are the Pillars of Hercules?

### Answers

- Kidney stones
- House Un-American Activities Committee
- Barbed wire
- Hoyas
- 1602
- "The Tale of Peter Rabbit"
- Someone who pretends to be something he or she is not
- Ben & Jerry's ice cream
- Hg (hydrargyrum)
- Strait of Gibraltar

## Wishing Well

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

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

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### MAGIC MAZE ● ASSOCIATED WITH ROPE

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

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

- |          |         |            |         |
|----------|---------|------------|---------|
| Braided  | Hemp    | Nylon      | Towing  |
| Capstan  | Jumping | Polyester  | Twisted |
| Climbing | Knots   | Pulleys    | Winch   |
| Fibers   | Mooring | Rappelling |         |

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Click on "Local News" at

# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



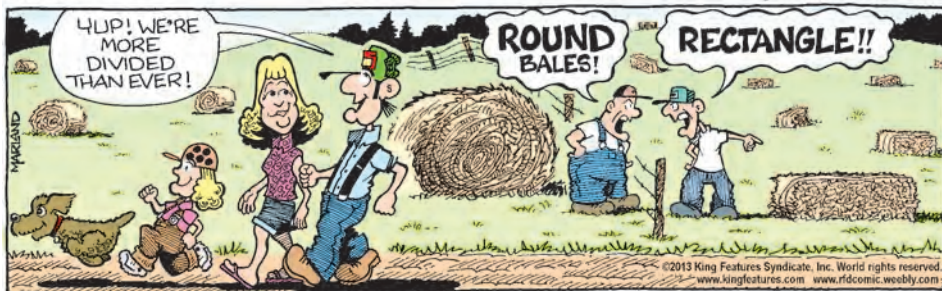
# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# SCRAMBLERS

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

Punch  
**TRIKES**

Approve  
**RASPIE**

Refuge  
**NEVAH**

Shield  
**ALOCK**

**TODAY'S WORD**

"But, boss, you wouldn't ask me to take early retirement if you could see the box of \_\_\_\_\_ my wife has waiting for me!"

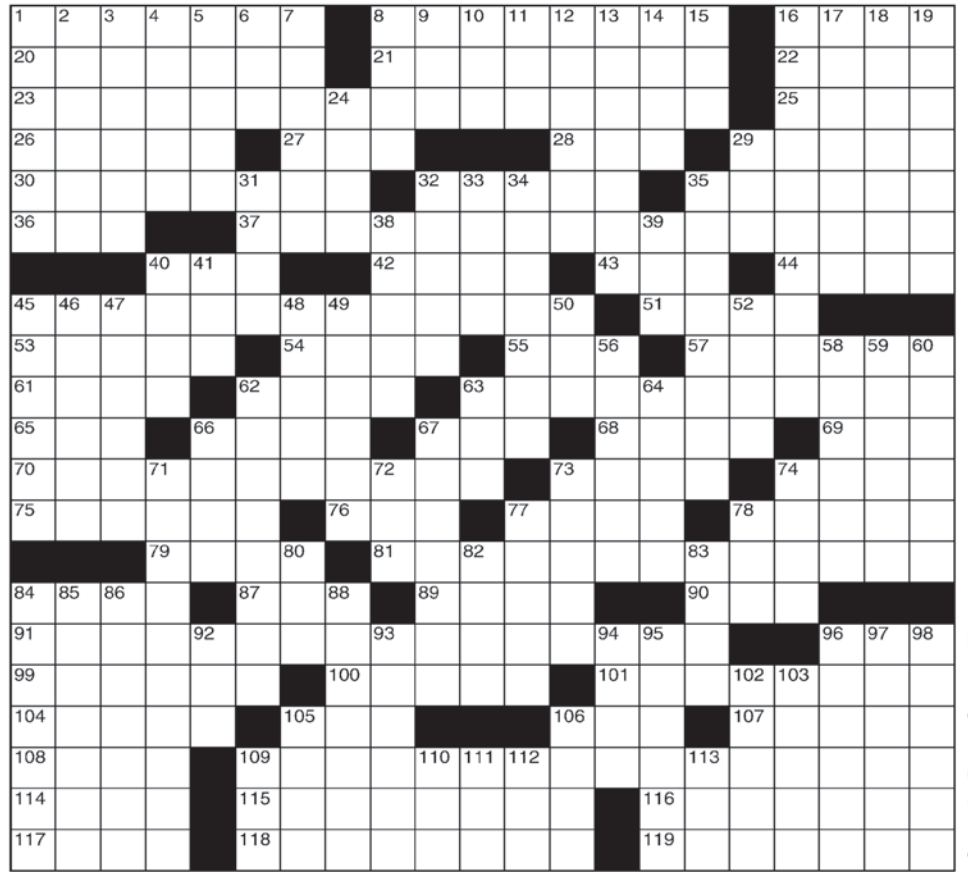
# HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Bow is different. 2. Hand is different. 3. Breads are concealed. 4. Hand is concealed. 5. Sign is smaller. 6. Glasses are missing. 7. Tail is replaced by paw. 8. Glasses are missing.

# Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Least distant
  - 8 "Mr. Mom" co-star
  - 16 Prefix with physics
  - 20 Accept the opinion of
  - 21 Was very meaningful
  - 22 Word after New or golden
  - 23 Compound in Turns
  - 25 Part of FYI
  - 26 "It's —!" ("See you then!")
  - 27 Put a flaw in
  - 28 Run — (pioneering rap trio)
  - 29 Fats Domino's "Whole — Loving"
  - 30 Departs in a ship
  - 32 Man — cloth
  - 35 Wrinkle-free textile fiber
  - 36 Previous to, in odes
  - 37 What women film directors and producers break through
  - 40 Satisfied sigh
  - 42 — the finish
  - 43 Liting tune
  - 44 — dixit
  - 45 "Pony Time" singer
  - 51 Gorilla researcher
  - 53 Delhi money
  - 54 "Buddy" star
  - 55 Greek consonants
  - 57 "All in the Family" in-law Mike
  - 61 Kill — killed
  - 62 Rumple
  - 63 Former rival of Best Buy
  - 65 Salt Lake City student
  - 66 Robert Frost, e.g.
  - 67 Requiring no prescription: Abbr.
  - 68 Scientologist — Hubbard
  - 69 Pooh-bah
  - 70 School cutups
  - 73 "— Herr"
  - 74 Sprint
  - 75 Valorous
  - 76 Revolting Turner
  - 77 Bern's river
  - 78 All wound up
  - 79 "And quickly!"
  - 81 Numismatist
  - 84 1995-2007 NFL lineman
  - 87 Warren —
  - 87 America's "Uncle"
  - 89 Courtroom declaration
  - 90 Sturdy tree
  - 91 British newspaper puzzle
  - 96 Sis's sib
  - 99 Loose overcoat
  - 100 Like Jack Sprat's diet
  - 101 Rocked on the brink
  - 104 Violinist
  - 105 Chairman of China
  - 106 "— for Innocent" (Grafton novel)
  - 107 Not just stout
  - 108 "Here we are — olden days ..."
  - 109 Tendencies of a social group's behaviors and beliefs
  - 114 Congregate
  - 115 Using indirect references
  - 116 City noted for miracle cures
  - 117 Give lip
  - 118 Sticky strips with poison
  - 119 Tortilla treat
  - 31 Sore
  - 32 28.35 grams
  - 33 Criticism
  - 34 Like a tribal emblem
  - 35 Mockery
  - 38 Security claims
  - 39 Spain's El —
  - 40 Busy as —
  - 41 Prez Lincoln
  - 45 Stoop low
  - 46 Rush
  - 47 Sustain
  - 48 Barbarous
  - 49 Actor
  - 50 Karel Capek play
  - 52 Env. alert
  - 56 Hard: Prefix
  - 58 Bon — (playboy)
  - 59 "Yea, verily"
  - 60 2002 Lucy Liu sci-fi film
  - 62 Sioux shoe
  - 63 Dol. units
  - 64 One of four archangels
  - 66 Greek consonants
  - 67 Above
  - 71 Their bulbs produce lathers when crushed
  - 72 Female
  - 73 Colorful parrot
  - 74 Unit of cards
  - 77 "— of robins ..."
  - 78 Brewed drink
  - 80 Lobbying gp.
  - 82 — Lund
  - 83 Miner's find
  - 84 Shrieks
  - 85 Shrinking
  - 86 Africans of small stature
  - 88 Rand — (map maker)
  - 92 Karel Capek play
  - 93 Discover
  - 94 Ear-related
  - 95 Outcome
  - 96 Starr or Lee
  - 97 Lay dormant
  - 98 Ukraine
  - 102 Doughnut's shape
  - 103 Critic Roger
  - 105 Meditate
  - 106 TV Soprano player Robert
  - 109 Half- — latte
  - 110 D.C.'s home
  - 111 Put a tear in
  - 112 "Hail, Cato!"
  - 113 Kanga's joey

# FUN PAGES

# **SEM CU**

**south east madera county united**

## **Family Movie Night**

*The return of the **Community Family Movie Nights** is here!  
Every **Friday night** through August 23 SEMCU is sponsoring  
**FREE family movies** at the Maywood Center beginning at 8:30 p.m.  
**FREE ice cold water** for everyone.*

*Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket to spread on the ground and be part  
of a great tradition that has returned to the Ranchos.*

## **FREE SOCCER CLINICS by CHIVAS U.S.A.**

**August 3, 4, 10 & 11 for Ages 6 - 18 Years Old**

*One weekend clinic will be in the Madera Ranchos and the  
other weekend clinic will be in the City of Madera.*

*The exact locations have not been determined yet.*

*For more information, visit [www.semcu.org](http://www.semcu.org) or call 559-363-9095.*

## **SEM CU REGULAR MEETING**

**Monday, Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m. • Ranchos Pizza Factory**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**559-363-9095 • [www.semcu.org](http://www.semcu.org) • [info@semcu.org](mailto:info@semcu.org)**