

The Ranchos Independent



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

Volume 10 Issue 7 2014

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢



Photo Courtesy of Jay Shaw

Going High Tech to Find Ranchos Water

In This Issue

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

Going High Tech to Find Ranchos Water

By Karen Petryna

Off in the distance all you hear is seemingly muffled shotgun blasts. You're tempted to check the date to see if dove season has opened and you somehow missed it, but what you're really hearing is water being discovered. The water witchers have gone high tech. As Jay Shaw, co-owner of National



Jay Shaw, right, directs his son, Robert, in drilling the 2-foot holes necessary to place the black powder.



With the holes drilled, Shaw connects the antennas that will feed the information back to the computer.



Fire in the hole! The explosive power of the charges sends back seismic information that pinpoints water.



The only thing left to do afterward is collect the raw data and determine where to drill your well.

Groundwater Surveyor with his wife, Bonnie, prepares to explain the technology for finding water at depths of up to 1,500 feet, he first tells how it was his search for water when they were building their home on five acres in Clovis the led him down this path.

It was about 13 years ago that the Shaws were building their country home in Clovis. The well they were using during construction suddenly went dry. "We used water witchers and dowzers," Shaw said about their search for water.

What they ended up with was five dry holes. "One was 1,000 feet deep," he said.

A Little History

Water witching, or dowsing, is an ancient practice where the practitioner holds wooden sticks or metal rods in their hands as he or she moves about a property. Supposedly when water is detected the sticks or rods begin to bow or cross, indicating where to drill. Unfortunately, science has repeatedly shown the practice to be questionable. One researcher in the early 90s calculated that

the best dowzers were only .04 percent more accurate than a "mid-line guess."

Shaw found a company in Washington State that used electro-seismic equipment. He persuaded them to come to Clovis and amazingly watched as they successfully located water that the Shaws were able to drill. Shaw, a general contractor at the time, was so impressed with the technology and the results that he decided he wanted to get into the water finding business for him-

Please see **NO WITCH** on P. 12

Vulcan Rock Quarry at 41 and 145 Draws Closer

By Karen Petryna

The reality is that growth is coming to our part of Madera County. Housing developments are beginning to come on-line and each of those developments will require building aggregate for all aspects of construction. Building aggregate comes from quarries and quarries have historically been at the top of most people's "not in my backyard" list. The sad truth is when aggregate is acquired from farther away it increases its cost, which is passed on to the consumer, and its trans-

portation increases traffic and pollution. Another aspect of quarries is high water usage which begs the question as to how they can be supported here in southeast Madera County, especially in light of our questionable groundwater supplies. At issue here is the Austin Quarry proposed by Vulcan Materials Company for the corner of Highway 41 and Highway 145.

A Closer Look

The map below shows the sizes and kinds of developments planned for our area. In addition to Gateway Village, which is currently under construction at

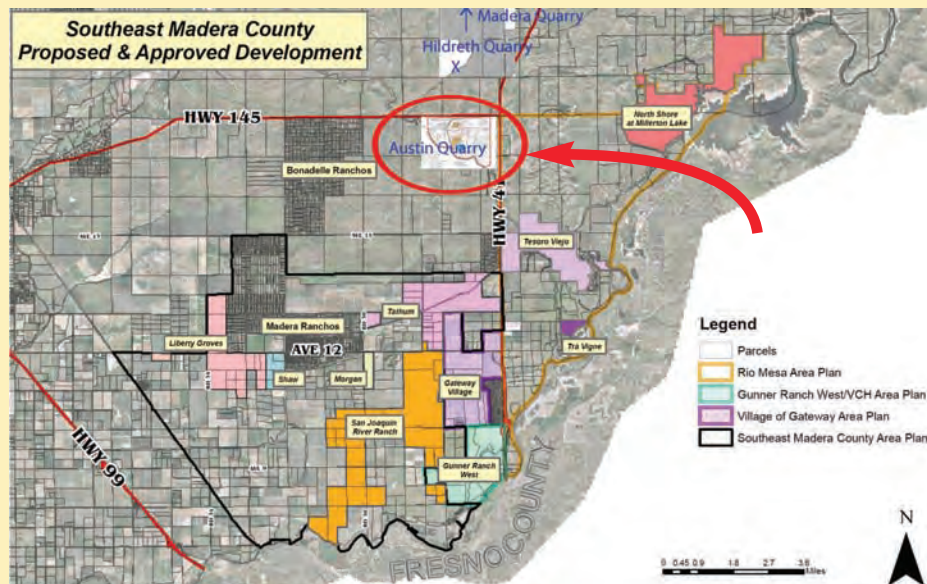
Avenue 12 and Highway 41, and Gunner Ranch West, a development surrounding Children's Hospital just approved by the Board of Supervisors, the map also shows the location of three quarries. There is the Hildreth Creek Quarry, proposed by Granite Construction in January 2009 and then later rescinded; the Madera Ranch Quarry, located just north of the edge of the map on Road 209 and currently closed; and the Austin Quarry, proposed by Vulcan Materials Company to be located at the southwest corner of Highways 145 and 41.

Each of these projects did, does, or will require extensive analysis of impacts to the environment including aesthetics, agricultural, biological and cultural resources, air quality, geology, noise, traffic, hazards and hazardous materials as well as — and perhaps most importantly and controversially — impacts to hydrology and water quality. By law, all of this information must be collected in Environmental Impact Reports, or "EIRs," that the public may comment on and even legally protest.

Understanding EIRs

Producing EIRs is always a time-consuming and expensive process involving performing studies and evaluating all the above-mentioned im-

Please see **QUARRY** on P. 18



New Golf Look at Riverbend

The Historic Coombs Riverbend Ranch is the site of a major expansion and upgrade for Riverbend Golf Club. The most obvious change upon arrival is the new name, Dragonfly Golf Club. The changes have been underway for the past several months under the supervision of President of Operations, Gene Gabelmann of FTP Golf Management. With 25 years of experience in the golf industry in California, Illinois, Arizona and Colorado, as well as membership in the PGA since 1995, Gabelmann brings his award-winning skill set to this exceptional location with the promise of a superior golf experience to follow.

"Golf is an activity for all ages and skill levels," says Gabelmann. "We want Dragonfly to be a place where the enjoyment goes beyond the score of the day. As we make the changes necessary to present our new name, we are also including enhanced membership benefits and additional opportunities for new members and daily fee players."

Golfers frequenting the course over the past several months have already experienced numerous improvements, including the new fleet of golf cars with on-board GPS touch screens, bag drop off upon arrival and enhanced customer service, improvements to golf course conditions, water feature renovations and a clubhouse remodel.

Click on "Local News" at

Coliform Bacteria Found in Ranchos Water System

By Karen Petryna

Levels of coliform bacteria above drinking water standards in the MD10A Madera Ranchos Water System were reported on June 26 by the Madera County Special District System in a mailed notice; mailed because, according to the notice, "... the incident was not an emergency." The notice went on to explain that, "Total

coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present."

No other bacteria of greater concern were detected upon further testing. Nevertheless, the Old Fender Well, which was found to be the source of the coliform bac-

teria, was taken out of service. Madera County Engineer Ken Vang said a couple of attempts were made, but he doesn't see the Old Fender Well coming back online. Vang said the well has seal issues, probably causing the contamination, and it is also a low producer because of how low the groundwater level has fallen.

Please see BACTERIA on P. 19



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

facebook.com/3VFeed

facebook.com/3VFeed



Summer Hours: Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Poultry Feed ON SALE

HEN SCRATCH
\$9.49
 50 LB. Bag

Poultry LAYING PELLETS
\$19.99
 80 LB. Bag

WE CARRY ALL NAME-BRAND FEED.

Logos: Diamond Professional, js west MILLING COMPANY, KRUSE'S Perfection, TARTER FARM AND RANCH EQUIPMENT, ELK GROVE MILLING, INC. The Horse Feed Specialists STABLE MIX, Taste of the Wild, Manna Pro, KING.

\$4 OFF when you buy any two **Farnam PRODUCTS**

\$3 OFF all **250 LB. Barrels** ELK GROVE MILLING, INC. The Horse Feed Specialists STABLE MIX

3-V Feed for ALL of your horse supplies!

16' Horse Corral Panels
\$119.95
 Green Color Only

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

Current Hay Prices per Bale

Orchard Grass	\$21.99
Timothy Grass	\$19.99
Forage Hay (heavy bales)	\$17.99
Alfalfa	\$16.75 (and up)
Oat Hay (heavy bales)	\$16.49
Wheat Hay	\$13.49 (and up)

(All hay prices per bale and subject to change)

ON SALE - This Month's SPECIAL!

4-Way Sweet COB
 Corn • Oats • Barley • Molasses
\$16.49
 75 LB. Bag

Non-Climb HORSE FENCE
\$119.99
 4' X 100'

You still get 2% CASH BACK on ALL of your purchases with your 3-V Feed REWARDS Card!

Don't forget to activate YOURS!

Madera Ranchos We are YOUR Store!

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

all prices exp. 8/31/14 except where noted and are subject to change

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

Liberty High School Hall of Fame Inducts Three More in 2nd Class

Liberty High School inducted three more into its Hall of Fame in May. Inducted into the second class were three-sport athlete Nick Eldred, contributor Igal Treibach and the 2009 Valley Championship baseball team.



The 2009 Liberty baseball team. Back row, from left, are head coach Aaron Black, Mitch Kochergen, Kenny Kirkman and Dustin Campbell. Middle row, from left, are Wess Kierste, coach Brett Ivey, Derrick Lacy, Chase Cullins, Pat Bariteau, Zach Barrow, Nick Palacios, coach Martin Carvalho and Austin Bauchman. Front row are Ben Cowger, left, and David Schmall.



Igal Treibach, right, with his wife Kathleen.



Nick Eldred, right, with his fiancée Kelly McCollister.

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

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

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

10% OFF!

ALL prepared drinks
(expires 8-31-14)

The Coffee Spot

37164 Ave. 12 #102 • 645-1225

7/14

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

7/14

WIN FREE PROPANE!

WIN 125 GALLONS OF PROPANE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Drawing to be held the first week of July, 2015. Delivery must be by August 31, 2015. Must be a Valley Propane customer.

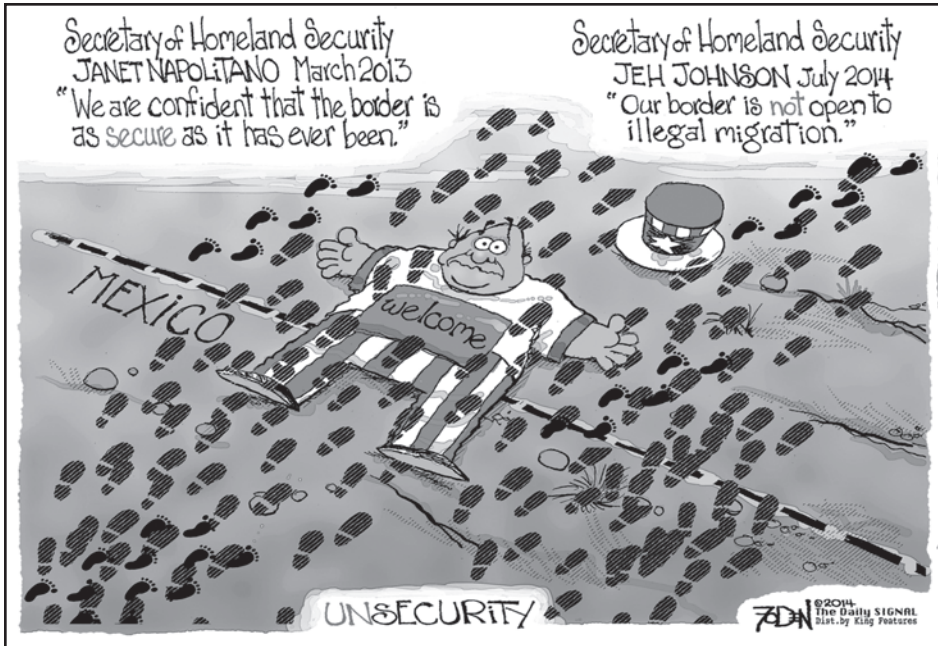
MAIL TO: Valley Propane • 37221 Ave. 12 #1D
Madera, CA 93636

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



Guest Editorial

Obama's Border Crisis

By Rich Lowry

It's hard to imagine a more apt summation of the lunatic state of the nation's immigration debate than the split screen over the past weeks.

In Washington, most respectable opinion lined up, yet again, to condemn Republicans for not passing an amnesty under the guise of defunct-for-now "comprehensive immigration reform."

Meanwhile, the crisis on the Southern border continued. A massive influx of people -- largely driven by Central Americans, many of them children -- drawn here in the expectation of lax immigration enforcement is overwhelming border officials and facilities.

A Wall Street Journal story about the crisis was headlined "Obama Plans Executive Action to Bolster Border Security," which has a man-bites-dog feel to it after all of the administration's executive actions to undermine immigration enforcement.

House Speaker John Boehner spoke imprecisely when he excoriated the president for "giving false hope to children and their families that if they enter the country illegally they will be allowed to stay." Actually, the hope is quite real.

A leaked memo from a high-ranking Border Patrol official said that only 3 percent of non-Mexicans apprehended at the border are being returned to their native countries.

"It will not be open arms," Vice President Joe Biden thundered in Guatemala City, attempting to dissuade would-be migrants. "We're going to hold hearings with our judges, consistent with international law and American law, and we're going to send the vast majority of you back."

The only part he had right is that we will hold hearings. The immigrants themselves may or may not be part of them.

The administration is waving the families and children into the United States, dispersing them around the country, and giving them a date -- often quite distant because of a huge backlog -- to appear in immigration court. Experience says only about a quarter will actually show up.

Why would they? As Byron York of the Washington Examiner points out, once illegal immigrants are in the country, they fairly quickly can become part of the broad category of people that the administration has exempted from interior enforcement.

Even many of the illegal immigrants who go all the way through the system and get a removal order don't go anywhere. According to Jessica Vaughan of the Center for Immigration Studies, there are roughly 800,000 aliens who have been ordered removed but are still here.

The administration's policy of eviscerating interior enforcement is entirely its own creation. That policy, together with the president's de facto amnesty of young illegal immigrants and all the talk of a more wide-ranging amnesty over the past year, has had a predictable effect.

The key to reversing the tide is enforcement, and not just at the border. But the same Wall Street Journal story with the headline about Obama bolstering the border reported he "will make at least minor adjustments to deportation policy later this summer that would shield some illegal immigrants from deportation" -- with his base agitating for even more far-reaching action.

For the left, and its fellow-travelers in the business community and on the libertarian right, there is only one side of the split screen that matters. It's always amnesty.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

(c) 2014 by King Features Synd., Inc.

The Ranchos Independent

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

Randy Bailey.....Publisher/Editor

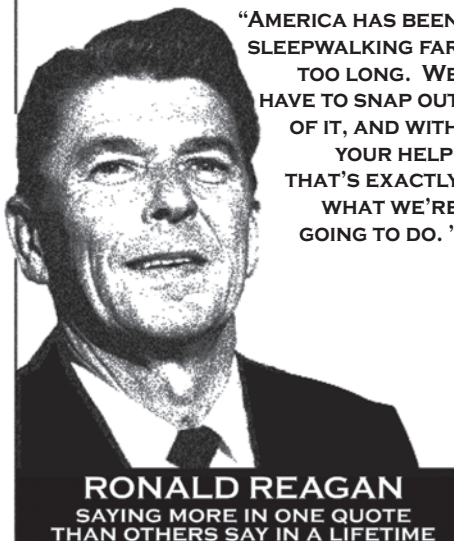
Karen Petryna -- Reporter

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

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

www.TheRanchos.com

THE RAY GUN SHOOTING STRAIGHT TO THE HEART



Doctor: Heal ... Me!

Doctors have entirely too much power. They not only hold your life in their hands but also your time and, let's face it, a little bit of your sanity. Okay, it's not just the doctor, but the entire hierarchy that is the doctor's office. Let's take a little walk through this delightful process.

First, you sit on hold with the scheduling department for 13 minutes just to have some teenager come on the line every few minutes and ask for all of your information three or four times. When she finally manages a little memory recall long enough to pull up your file and the schedule at the same time, now comes the fun part: the tedious task of finding an appointment that works with both your schedule and your doctor's, which is tough considering you told her it doesn't matter when it is - you'll take the first available appointment. Slow down there, turbo, that's too much information for the brain to handle at once. A long silence, lots of clicking and more than a few "ums" later, you are given your option and it's seven weeks out.

Huh?

This isn't a routine exam. You don't just feel like seeing the doctor because you can't get a date. There is something wrong.

Oh, it's important? Okay, they can squeeze you in six and a half weeks from now if you agree to come in at butt-oh-crack dawn and sign over your left kidney.

The time passes like a finals week in college that just won't end. But like the first sunny day after a long, gray winter, the day is upon you. You finally get to see the magic healer man; it is Happy Healing Day. You get ready and arrive to your appointment fifteen minutes early, eager beaver that you are. You wait in line to sign in, then find the only seat left in the overcrowded waiting room in between one patient who doesn't understand the proper use of headphones and another who needs a lesson in personal hygiene. You don't stop smiling though, you've waited for this for 45 days. Nothing will get you down today.

And then they call your name.

You step up to the window, insurance card and copay in hand. You are Boy Scout-level prepared for everything they can throw at you. The twit behind the plas-

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



tic window doesn't even look up from her computer. No "hello," no "thank you" for waiting patiently for half an hour while we chatted about Sally's new hair and Christine's growing hind quarters. She just takes your money and tells you to have a seat. Which would be nice, except the moment you stood up a vulture swooped in and planted himself in your freshly warmed chair. Happy Healing Day is a little less happy.

It is well past your scheduled appointment time when Mistress Indifferent from behind the plastic partition finally

calls your name again. You stand up, loudly announce that you will be returning momentarily in the hopes of deterring any would-be chair thieves, and make your way to the counter where you are told the doctor is running behind. It could be another hour, or you could reschedule.


Well, when is the nearest appointment? Three weeks from now. Your choice is to wait around for another hour, at least, or come back and try it all again in three weeks.

You choose to wait.

Happy Healing Day isn't all it's cracked up to be.

You take your seat, bury your face in a book and watch the next 60 minutes tick by at the speed of slow until they call your name again. Now they tell you the doctor has had a personal emergency and is out for at least a few weeks and apparently, there are no other doctors in the entire building that can cover and they have to reschedule. The next available appointment is ... in six weeks. What happened to the magical three week appointment you were offered an hour ago? She shrugs

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 19





**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

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent



NEED MORE SPACE?
barns big and small,
covers or shop buildings
many sizes and colors
from which to choose



**POLE BARN BY
S.J. LEACH CONSTRUCTION**
559-269-1956
CCL #526211

Ranchos Dental Care & Orthodontics

559-645-5320

www.ranchosdental.net



7/14



Matthew Pia, D.D.S.

**37144 Ave. 12, Suite 104
Madera Ranchos**

BUILT RIGHT. BUILT BY YORK.



The Affinity™ Series Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps

YORK
Heating & Air Conditioning

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



**Get a quality installation
done right by a
York® Certified Comfort Expert™**

Huckabee's
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
LIC. # 837274

559-662-0336
www.huckabeeshvac.com
hvacbysam@sbcglobal.net
Locally owned and operated in the Ranchos
Lic# 837274

7/14

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

www.TheRanchos.com

Senior Report

What Happened to Your Dreams?

By Verlaine Elinburg

What happened to your dreams?

We have many dreams during our lifespan. As a child our dreams are simple – a dream or a want or a wish for a special toy we would like to have that is beyond our reach. I remember as a child in bible class learning about Eve offering Adam an apple. At that time my dream was for that apple and a dream that one day I would taste this delicious fruit. I did not see or experience the taste of an apple until I came to America 18 years later. Even though I had travelled to England and a few South and Central American countries, it wasn't until I came to America that my apple dream came true. I tasted the apple and moved on to other dreams.

Coming to America was never a dream; the journey of life just took its course and this was where I landed. As adults, after being exposed to more of what life has to offer, we dream for different goals and accomplishments. As I was preparing to write this Article I asked my 19-year-old grandson what his dream was. He stated, to my surprise, to work, go to college and become a doctor. That is what you call a dream for both him and his father's side of the family. He is fortunate to be exposed to what the world he

lives in has to offer and the different prospects that are available to him. So many kids, and even adults, have a dream to have a place to sleep while they wonder when and what their next meal will be.

Many people have dreams but usually they give way to new priorities, new responsibilities or a different set of problems and concerns, such as starting a family and earning a living. We miss the opportunity of laying down the foundation for a happy, successful and meaningful life, which is the American dream.

Freedom and the pursuit of happiness.

We allow life to push us around and we join the rat race. We have many young people toiling at jobs that they hate as they put their dreams on hold in exchange for money and what happens? We get old. Once we stop dreaming we stop living. Without a dream we are just taking up space and life becomes a rut

and the difference between a rut and a grave is depth. As seniors, many of us have already side-stepped our dreams. Now that we have stepped out of the rat race that life required us to run, we can be exposed to different opportunities.

We can now dream again.

Unfortunately, many of us do not have the resources – namely money – to fulfill our earlier dreams, but we do now have resources that are far more valuable. They include time, limited energy, lots of enthusiasm and unique talents just waiting to be developed. It's everything we need to become alive again and chase do-able dreams that rejuvenate and satisfy our needs instead of just rotting from the inside out by sitting around all day – every day – abdicating life and waiting for our final moments. Begin by making new dreams; get out there and volunteer in your community.

You can begin with the Senior Center.

We had a low participation in the June election which means we can begin now and educate and make people aware of their civic

Many people have dreams but usually they give way to new priorities, new responsibilities or a different set of problems and concerns, such as starting a family and earning a living. We miss the opportunity of laying down the foundation for a happy, successful and meaningful life, which is the American dream.

duties. We can be verbal and communicate with our leaders about our dissatisfactions. If you like investigating and determining the needs of abused and neglected kids or patrolling neighborhoods with community watch or working with the homeless, there are local and national organizations you can

contact. Join the Peace Corps; attempt second careers for fun – photography, model building, wood working; teach illiterate adults or English to foreigners. You can go to www.2young2retire.com for dozens of ideas. If you find yourself in a rut, start dreaming or activate your past dreams.

The winners of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors raffle was drawn at the Ranchos Market on July 4 by Sally Mulling. The winners of the Ranchos Market \$200 Spending Spree were Antonio and Ana Colorado. The Hurst Hardware \$200 Gift Certificate was won by Bobby Kahn. The Red Rock Bin went to Natalie Garth and the Valley Propane Cooker was won by Shirley Tickel. Congratulations and thank you.

The Firemans BBQ is coming Saturday, Aug. 16. If you are interested, you can get

Please see **SENIORS** on P. 13

Cake Mix Magic

Those of you from my generation (The Golden Oldies), do you remember the first cake mixes that came out? It was not long after the Second World War. All you had to do was add water, mix, bake and Voila! You had a home-made cake. But that didn't last very long – the housewives of America didn't like the idea of dehydrated eggs and shortening; they wanted to add their own fresh ingredients. So we have the mixes of today – just about any flavor you want.

Several months ago, I did a column on Dump Cakes, using cake mixes and canned fruit. This column will be a little different, still using the box cake mix.

A dear friend that our family has known ever since we joined the church

we are now attending, sent me this recipe so I decided to find out what else can be made with a box cake mix.

Hope you enjoy them.

Easy Banana Bread

4 Large eggs
1 Yellow

Cake mix

1 (3.4 oz.) box instant banana pudding mix

1 C. water
¼ C. Vegetable oil
3 Large mashed bananas
1 tsp. vanilla
½ C. chopped walnuts or pecans (optional or use more)

Preheat oven to 350.

Beat eggs with electric mixer until thick and pale. Mixing after each addition, add the vegetable oil, water, mashed bananas, pudding mix, vanilla and cake mix. Stir in nuts.

Spray and flour two 8 ½ X 4 ½ X 3 loaf pans. Divide batter between loaf pans and bake approximately 1 hour or until tooth pick inserted comes out clean.

Thanks Bea.

Have you ever had a craving for brownies, but didn't have a mix and don't want to make them from scratch but you do have a chocolate cake mix in the pantry?

Chocolate Cake Mix Brownies

Preheat oven to 350

1 Devil's Food cake mix



¼ C. water
1 egg

Mix well, dough will be very thick. Press into greased 9 x 13 pan. Bake about 20-25 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. If you want them a little gooey, take them out of the oven before completely done. Do not over-bake. To customize your brownies, add a half cup chopped nuts and/or a handful of chocolate chips to dough before baking.

I have always liked Angel Food Cake and when I found this recipe I thought it sounded yummy.

Piña Colada Cake

1 Pkg. Angel Food cake mix
1 can (8 oz.) unsweetened crushed pineapple
8 oz. container frozen whipped topping, thawed
½ C. toasted

coconut
Heat oven to 350. Spray a 13x9 inch baking dish with cooking spray.

In large bowl, stir together the cake mix and pineapple. Pour into prepared baking dish. Bake 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out almost clean. Cool completely on a rack. Spread whipped topping on cake and sprinkle the coconut on top. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Almost everyone I know likes peanut butter and jelly. Make these and wrap one up and put in your kids (or your own) lunch bag.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Bars

1 White Cake mix
2 eggs
1/3 C. canola oil
½ C. peanut butter (crunchy or smooth)
½ C jelly (your favorite flavor)
1 C. Peanut butter chips

Preheat oven to 350. Mix together cake mix, eggs, oil and peanut butter.

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 14

Sago Key Palm Plantation!
More than 20,000 Palms & Sagos in stock. We also have a wide selection of Shade & Fruit trees.
call Tom and Maria at
559-268-6650
3535 S. Temperance • Fresno • www.sagorey.com

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

SAVE the DATE!
For a GIANT TACK SWAP!
FRIDAY, AUG. 15 • 4 - 8 p.m.
Parker's Equestrian Center is having a GIANT TACK SWAP complete with FREE HOT DOGS and WATERMELON
FREE to the PUBLIC
SELLERS: Only \$10 per space. Bring your own table and chairs. You are welcome to bring **ANYTHING HORSE RELATED** such as:
Tack • Bridles • Saddles • Bits • Spurs • Horse Books • Statues: Metal or Ceramic • Crafts, such as Leather, Horse Yard Art • Used or Outgrown Show Clothes, Boots, etc. • Jewelry • Western Turquoise Western Belt Buckles • Purses • Wallets
Just about ANYTHING HORSE RELATED is allowed. Call to verify if you're a dealer. If you have tack or anything interesting to sell or trade, CALL TODAY!
264-7980
or bparker@lightspeed.net
Parker's Equestrian Center • 8844 Road 35 Madera, CA

come meet friends!

Golden Valley Baptist Church

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

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

7/14

www.chadstrucking.com

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 •

7/14

CHAD
TRUCKING
CA #441782

LANDSCAPE DIRT
& DRIVEWAY

559-645-5363



Boy Scouts of America Troop 118 Sponsorship Opportunity Form

TROOP 118
MADERA RANCHOS, CA.



Our Boy Scout Troop has been growing!!

Your sponsorship will enable our Troop to purchase a larger trailer so all of our members can attend outings.

To thank you for your donation, your business or name can be prominently displayed in your sponsorship level color on the back of our trailer

**Gold level: \$300 and over; Silver level: \$200 to \$299;
Bronze level: \$125 to \$199; Sponsor level: \$50 to \$124**
Please make checks payable to: BSA Troop 118

Mail donation to:

BSA Troop 118 14532 Road 35 Madera, CA 93636
TAX ID NUMBER: 46-3346772

Questions?? Please contact...

Jim Cavalero: 559.352.6668 or Jeff Coulthard: 559.232.0912

7/14



Link It!

After building our home in the Ranchos, 35 years ago, our next step was to start a family. Some of our first "kids" included Jonah, a homely pup that grew into a beautiful German Shepherd mix, and Seena a mild-mannered, blue-eyed Siberian Husky. They were both great with our real kids when they arrived on the scene.

The only problem was Seena was a runner. She would slip through when a door or gate was left open and off she went. We felt bad for her when Jonah and the family were all out in the front yard, but we knew she couldn't be trusted. Finally, my husband came up with a plan. He took a short chain and connected Seena's collar to Jonah. Now, linked to the dog we could trust, Seena stayed where she belonged.

In his book, *The Art of Getting Things Done*, David Allen talks about the internal commitments we have made and that, when not processed correctly, they can add a great deal of stress to our lives. These commitments can include everything from "buy a new house," to "pick up the dry cleaning." Basically, it's your to-do list.

Without a trusted system to manage these to-dos, our minds are continually trying to recollect what needs to be done, while constantly adding new things. Sound stressful? Yes, it is! Not only does it stress us, it stresses those around us when things fall through the cracks.

For instance, yesterday I realized I hadn't written this issue's organizing article. I'm sure Randy Bailey was already trying to think of what to fill my space with when he received my email saying,

"Sorry—I'll get it to you in the morning!" I realized then that I needed to tweak my own "trusted system."

There are in-depth, more complex systems like the ones in David Allen's book, but today I want to just share a few tips that can alleviate some of the stress and help you be more productive.

First, you need a container for your list. If you're very connected to your phone, this might be the best place to store your to-do lists. Some of the current apps for that include Todoist, Any.Do, and coming soon — underlist. These allow for creating categories of lists, reminders and syncing your list with others. Evernote is also a popular app that allows you to keep to-do lists and more.

If you prefer the paper mode, a spiral notebook with dividers for categories is a good place to store your lists. But, as probably all of us have experienced at one time or another, simply having something on a list doesn't guarantee its completion.

That's where the "link it" method comes into play. The things we really

Without a trusted system to manage these to-dos, our minds are continually trying to recollect what needs to be done, while constantly adding new things. Sound stressful? Yes, it is! Not only does it stress us, it stresses those around us when things fall through the cracks.

want to get done have to be linked to our calendar. Just like Seena being linked to Jonah kept her from slipping away, linking our to-dos to specific days – even times – help keep them from slipping through the cracks.

On my calendar I have my scheduled appointments: clients, events, dentist, etc., and to-dos: call for quote, research kitchen products, follow-up with Joan, etc. If I want to make sure something happens, it gets linked to a specific day.

I proved to myself this method is important when, even though I schedule Mondays for office stuff —preparing for speaking engagements, writing, entering invoices in QuickBooks, etc. – I hadn't put my Independent article deadlines on specific Mondays. Guess what I'm doing today? Yep, scheduling the rest of the year's deadlines! Don't want to miss an opportunity to help you create a more peaceful and productive life.

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, visit her website www.organizedbychoice.com or she can be reached by phone at 559-871-3314.

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

“What exactly is a Chamber of Commerce?”

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization of citizens who are investing their time and money in a community development program – working together to improve the economic, civic and cultural fortitude of the Ranchos. Any citizen who is interested in helping to develop the community is eligible to be a member of the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce. The direct benefit is a stronger local economy: more businesses and more jobs with higher salaries and better fringe benefits. The indirect benefits are more public programs, better schools and less crime. The work of the Chamber is financed by the investments of its members. The dues structure is designed to permit even the smallest business

or individual to be a member. The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is guided by a board of directors, Chamber members who are individuals and business leaders in the Ranchos.

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is a service institution as well as an action institution. It provides a medium through which people can take effective action for the progress of the Ranchos. It helps create job opportunities by stimulating industrial, commercial and agricultural growth. It seeks the improvement of Ranchos facilities, such as streets, highways, parks and schools. It provides the opportunity for members to network with other business leaders and individuals from the community. In all of these func-

tions, the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce serves as a partner to every business, professional and individual in the Ranchos.

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce functions through the working committees of the organization. Money, planning and inspiration do not fulfill the Chamber’s mission unless the members work vigorously on the committee of their choice. Careful study is made of the community needs before action is taken. Every member has a voice in determining the policies and projects that the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce undertakes and every member is needed on active committees to achieve the Chamber’s goals.

“Why should I join the Chamber of Commerce?”

1. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce carries the reputation of being a leader of business integrity in the Ranchos and my affiliation lends my business credibility.
2. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is a close-knit organization in which members support each other’s businesses.
3. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce requires financial support in order to perform its job of increasing the economic prosperity of the Ranchos.
4. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce unifies the public spirit of the Ranchos and directs it into useful and constructive channels that are not limited to business.
5. Because I feel a sense of personal obligation to improve the quality of life in the Ranchos.

Your Chamber of Commerce
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 for more information.

New Chamber Board

Pres.: Virginia Vick
V.P.: Ollia Ridge
Sec.: Paula Stuart - *Now & Again Thrift & Gift Shop*
Three Year Board Members:
 Stephanie Reeves - *New York Life*
 Juana Revis - *Rancho's Café*

Two Year Board Members:
 Randy Bailey - *The Rancho's Independent*
 Lisa Haney - *Haney Chiropractic*
One Year Board Member:
 Audra Damone - *The Coffee Spot*
Immediate Past President:
 Verlin Dill - *VDI Services*

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



“FREE” SOCCER CLINICS TO ALL YOUTH OF MADERA COUNTY

Boys and girls aged 6 to 19 will receive professional instructions from the youth development coaches of Chivas USA and Fresno Fuego.

Limited Space Available! First Come, First Served!

EVENT DATES & LOCATIONS:

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL - 12220 Road 36, Madera, CA 93636

- Tuesday, July 29, 2014

MUSD MEMORIAL STADIUM - 215 Coyote Lane, Madera, CA 93637

- Wednesday, July 30, 2014

- Thursday, July 31, 2014

DAILY SCHEDULE: Each day of clinics will include three, two-hour sessions, with sponsor exhibits and prizes provided. A drawing will also be held for participants to receive a chance to win a free ticket with transportation to the Chivas USA vs. San Jose Earthquakes game on Sunday, October 26, 2014 at the StubHub Center in Los Angeles, CA.

- **EARLY SESSION (AGES 6 to 9):** Registration 7:00am; Clinics 8:00am - 10:00am
- **LATE AFTERNOON SESSION (AGES 10 to 13):** Registration 3:30pm; Clinics 4:00pm - 6:00pm
- **EVENING SESSION (AGES 14 to 19):** Registration 5:30pm; Clinics 6:00pm - 8:00pm; Sessions include ID clinic that will provide chalk talk from coaches and post-clinic player evaluations as well.
- **ONE DAY COACH SESSION:** SEMCOU will sponsor a special free lunch and Q&A session with the coaches of Chivas USA to benefit the local coaches in Madera County (Space is limited).

REGISTER EARLY! Parents are encouraged to pre-register their child(ren) before the event by visiting the Madera Parks and Community Services' website at <http://goo.gl/Kp1CXJ> You may also pre-register in person at the following locations

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

Soccer Cleats, Shin Guards Are Required

Limited booth space is currently available for local businesses and non-profit org.

For further information please visit Madera Parks and Community Services website at
<https://apm.activecommunities.com/maderapcsrec> • (559) 661-5495
www.semcu.org • (559) 363-9095



NO WITCH cont. from P. 2

self, figuring he could find wells for people and then build their homes for them. But, it was not to be. Just three months after buying the equipment and receiving full training, he found he had no time to open blueprints anymore. Shaw ended up in the water-finding business full-time.

The process for finding water is fairly straightforward. His equipment, which all fits in his 4-wheel-drive pickup, can detect water down to about 1,500 feet by generating a pressure wave that causes an electrical response. Shaw surveys the general area where the property owners have determined they would like a well. He then flags five locations about 70 feet or less from one another. At each location he drills a two-foot-deep hole and inserts a black powder charge, which is basically a 12-gauge shot gun shell without the shot. Four antennas are then connected to the holes. When the shells are detonated, they create a downward pressure wave. It is the unique signature of this wave that is picked up by the antennas and fed back to the proprietary software. Shaw knows that certain signals from the pressure wave have certain characteristics when moisture is encountered in the ground. He explained that his computer only gets a signal on moisture and, like an EKG, the signal “jumps” for moisture or remains as a “flat line” if none is detected. The analyzed data gives an indication of high total dissolved solids or salinity because the signal looks different – it shorts out – but the process cannot detect if the water contains other compounds such as sulfur or boron, for example.

Collecting Raw Data

What Shaw collects on-site is raw data. Based on his experience, he’s gotten pretty good at reading the raw data he collects, however it still needs to be analyzed by the processor and double checked by his geophysicist, Ronald Sorensen. Sorensen has over 30 years of geophysical experience both in California and abroad. Not only is he fully trained in the proprietary GF6 system Shaw uses, he also serves as an expert for the State of California for their professional geophysical test evaluations. Sorensen’s conclusions, along with Shaw’s findings, go into a report prepared by Shaw that indicates the estimated depth and yield of groundwater based on a specific well diameter. Shaw says the process is a little more complicated for larger wells, such as ag wells. In that case, it’s necessary to have an existing well to use for calibration so that he knows what a large amount of water

looks like in the particular formation at hand.

Repeat Customers

Shaw said National Groundwater Surveyor operates all over California and as far as Oregon and Nevada. He also trained his brother who now performs the same service in Southern California, Arizona and New Mexico. It certainly takes him all over the Central Valley. Shaw had just returned from a job in Gustine where he was looking for water for a cattle rancher. The rancher was a repeat customer who just four months ago had used Shaw, drilled to the designated depth and achieved the expected yield. Shaw said he gets a lot of repeat customers in the ag and cattle industry simply because he’s so successful that clients call him back when they’re ready to drill another well. The following day, Shaw said he would be working for one domestic client in Castro Valley and another in Livermore whose wells had gone dry. After that he was going to look for groundwater at a golf course that has been using irrigation ditch water that is now too expensive.

For more information you can reach Jay or Bonnie Shaw at National Groundwater Surveyor at 559-298-2409. Go to www.CaliforniaGroundwaterSurveyor.com for online information.

Take Control of Your Health

TriEase Allergy Soft Gels
TriEase gel capsules.
All-natural allergy pills.
Call today to get yours!



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

Call me to find out how these oils can help you!
Tina Shannon
Independent Product Consultant

call **645-4948** or **430-7131** www.mydoterra.com/tinashannon



Call Tina TODAY to get YOUR all-natural TriEase allergy pills.

7/14

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

559-464-5286
Lic. #867283 & Bonded

7/14

SENIORS cont. from P. 7

tickets at the Senior Center

Next Upcoming Event: The Doll & Collectable Show – Sept. 6.

The Department of health comes periodically to the center for free checkups. The screenings include personal health history review, blood pressure and blood sugar test, nutrition and health education and a low-cost blood test is available. The health screenings are for 50 and above and for referrals to medical providers and community services the contact number is 675-7893 to make an appointment. A nutritionally balanced lunch program is available Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. with a suggested price of \$1.75 for guests 60 years and older. Reservations are needed 24 hours in advance prior to 11 a.m. so remember to call Joann at 645-4864.

We have a growing exercise program being held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. The participants are getting more than just exercise by attending – they have fun, share laughs and meet new friends and get updates on their fellow members, as well as current news and updates on what is happening at the Center. There is room for you and you may

attend all three days or just one or two of them.

On Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. a variety of cards games are enjoyed so come and learn new games. On Wednesday we have card bingo at 12:15 p.m. and afterward card games are played. On Thursday we have a Pot Luck at 6 p.m. and after dinner we play poker and other card games. Check your calendar for daily events for each day of the week. If you do not have a copy of the newsletter, stop by the Senior Center for a copy. If you are unable to come in, contact Joann at 645-4864 and we will get one to you. Additional copies are available at the Ranchos Market and Hurst Hardware and many businesses on Avenue 12.

The Farmers Market at the center has a few vegetables and fruits, jams and jellies are available. The Boutique has many gift items. Members are always invited to attend the board meeting, planning meeting and general meeting listed in your newsletter. Be informed about what is happening at your home away from home by knowing the status of the Center and its changes, both financially and through ongoing functions. If there is an item of interest you would like to share with the membership drop us a short note at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center, 37330 Berkshire Dr., Madera, CA 93636.

Do you want to be in the know with the happenings in the Ranchos?



Email us with your news, events, school activities, meetings or anything important you want to share with your neighbors at:

IndependentFacebook@gmail.com

7/14

Can you afford to just guess where to drill in these hard economic & possibly drought times?



National Groundwater Surveyor is here to help and they will be happy to discuss the Service with you.



National Groundwater SURVEYORS

- Drilling a well can be a very stressful time.
- Did I pick the right spot?
- Will there be enough water to satisfy my water needs?

Sometimes we must cut our losses & have trained professionals do what they know best. National Groundwater Surveyor would like to relieve this burden and test your property. Using state of the art seismoelectric technology NGS can test your orchard, ranch, or single dwelling property.

7/14

For the best location to drill giving approximate depth and size of the aquifer.

Please visit our website at www.californiagroundwatersurveyor.com to read testimonials of some of our very satisfied customers.

National Groundwater Surveyor uses Ron Sorensen
Ca. License PGP #957

1-800-980-7429 or 559-298-2409

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

Set aside 1/2 C of this mixture. Press remaining mixture into a parchment lined, greased 8x8 square pan. Spread jelly over the crust in pan. Mix the 1/2 C reserved cookie mix with the peanut butter chips until large crumbles appear. Sprinkle the crumbles evenly over the crust in the pan. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

Not long ago, there was a message on the answering machine in the office and all it said was, "Aunt Jean, how do you cook eggplant?" No name or phone number to return the call so I hope whoever it was is reading this.

I love eggplant. Growing up, my folks had eggplant in every garden they had, including the Victory Garden when we lived in San Francisco. My favorite way my mother fixed it was fried. She would make a batter of Bisquick and fry it in shortening. I don't have her recipe, but I found one on the internet that could be used.

Batter Fried Eggplant

- 1 1/2 C. Bisquick
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 C. water

Mix together to form a batter. Peel and slice eggplant, lightly salt. Dip in

batter, shaking off excess. Fry in hot oil until golden on both sides. Drain on paper towels. The only thing about frying it is eggplants are like sponges and will absorb a lot of oil unless cooked quickly. But it is still good.

Another way I like eggplant is cooked in the oven. It doesn't take as much oil and you let the oven do the cooking instead of messing up the top of your stove.

Heat oven to 400. Peel and cube the eggplant in about 1" cubes. Since eggplant is so full of water, you might let the cubes stand in a colander for 30 minutes to get rid of the excess liquid. Dry with paper towels and put on baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil and toss to coat. Using clean hands is the best way. Season with salt and pepper and bake for about 10 minutes, remove from oven and stir the eggplant. Return to oven and bake for 10 to 20 minutes longer or until the eggplant is tender and lightly caramelized.

A big "thank you" for those who inquired about my absence from the office. I took the four "chicken" shots (extremely painful) as opposed to the surgery. It is still somewhat painful, but a whole lot better than it was.

Don't forget the Station 19 Fireman's BBQ on August 16.

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

7/14

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

7/14

Professional and reliable repairs at an affordable price for your MERCEDES BENZ and BMW

BRAKE FLUSH	INDUCTION SERVICE	"B" SERVICE
\$89.99	\$149	\$225
<small>COUPON EXPIRES 8-31-14 • CALL FOR DETAILS & APPOINTMENT</small>	<small>COUPON EXPIRES 8-31-14 • CALL FOR DETAILS & APPOINTMENT</small>	<small>COUPON EXPIRES 8-31-14 • CALL FOR DETAILS & APPOINTMENT</small>

Factory Trained JOURNEYMAN MECHANIC over 15 years of experience

CALIFORNIA MERCEDES & BMW REPAIR SERVICE
40101 AVE. 10, MADERA • 559-288-9521 • CALMBMWREPAIR.COM

7/14

DEERE SEASON



A tractor for every job. A deal for every tractor at Midland Tractor.

4105 Compact Utility Tractor

- 43.0 hp† John Deere PowerTech™ engine
- Standard folding ROPS, 4-wheel drive & load match
- Loader lift capacity 2,194 lbs.



0% FOR 60 MONTHS
+
\$500 IMPLEMENT BONUS¹

1025R Sub-Compact Utility Tractor

- 25.2 hp† efficient diesel engine
- Standard 4WD and power steering
- Fast and easy implement changeover



0% FOR 60 MONTHS
+
\$1,000 IMPLEMENT BONUS²

3038E Compact Utility Tractor

- Standard 4WD for maximum traction
- Hydro transmission with Twin Touch™ pedals
- 3-point hitch compatible with dozens of implements



MADERA • 1901 West Cleveland Ave • 1-800-948-7228
(across from the Madera County Fairgrounds)

¹Offer ends July 31, 2014. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Some restrictions apply; other special rates and terms may be available, so see your dealer for details and other financing options. Compact Utility Tractors Fixed Rate for 0.0% for 60 Months and \$500 OFF implement bonus. Bonus is in addition to Low Rate financing and requires the purchase of 2 or more qualifying John Deere or Frontier implements. Valid only at participating US dealers. ²Offer ends July 31, 2014. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Some restrictions apply; other special rates and terms may be available, so see your dealer for details and other financing options. Fixed Rate for 0.0% for 60 Months. \$1,000 OFF implement bonus on 1 Family and 3032E & 3038E is in addition to Low Rate financing and requires the purchase of 2 or more qualifying John Deere or Frontier implements. Valid only at participating US dealers. †Manufacturer's estimate of power (ISO) per 97/68/EC.

Local Girl Scouts Beautify Jr. High

Girl Scout troop 214 in the Madera Ranchos partnered with Fernwood Gardens to complete its service project at Ranchos Middle School this year. They were able to beautify the flower beds in front of the school and move some plants that were not too pleasing to the nose. The project was completed under the guidance of Jennifer Stemple, Girl Scout Troop 214 leader.



With new plants in hand, Ranchos Girl Scout Troop 214 gets ready to tackle a beautification project at Ranchos Middle school.



Beautification was only one part of the project. Moving some plants that didn't smell too good was also part of the plan.



Many hands do indeed make for light work and with all of the girls involved the project was accomplished in record time.



At the end of the day Ranchos Middle School benefitted from a much prettier planter area ... and it smelled a whole lot better.



FIRE BBQ

DINNER/DANCE/LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS
Saturday, August 16, 2014 5:00 to Midnight

Featuring
The Marie Wilson Band

Try your luck at Casino Tables and win Fabulous Prizes!



Hawaii Trip
 Opportunity Drawing
 \$5500 Value
 Tickets \$100.00 Each
 NO MORE THAN 300
 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD



Winner drawn at end of night
 Need not be present to win

**Come Enjoy and Support
29th Annual**



FIRE BBQ

Saturday, Aug 16, 2014

No Host Bar 5:00 PM to Midnight

Dessert Sale 5:00 to 6:30

Silent Auction/Raffle Row 5:00 to 8:30

Tri-Tip/Chicken Dinner 6:00 to 7:30

**Introduction & Honoring of Firefighters
7:00 to 7:30**

Live Auction 7:30 to 8:30

Casino Gaming 8:00 to 11:00

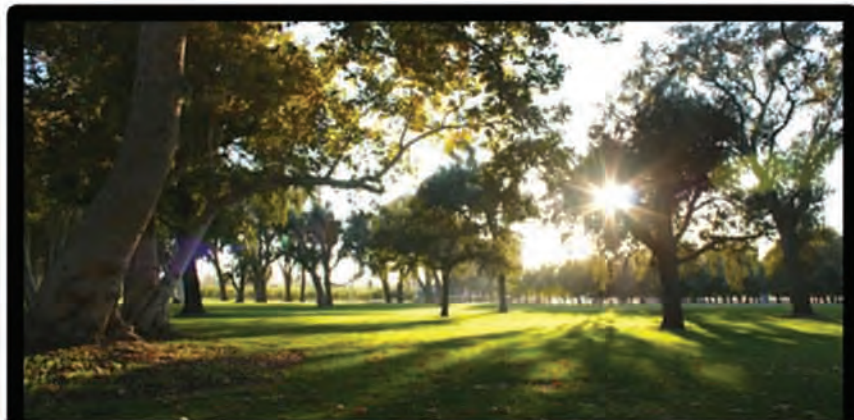
**Dancing with The Marie Wilson Band
8:30 to Midnight**

Hawaii Trip Drawing 11:45

Panoche Creek River Ranch

8805 Highway 41 – 2 miles North of Herndon

(Next to Cobb's Ranch off Cobb's Ranch Blvd.)



**EVENT
TICKETS**

\$25

ADULTS only

TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT:

- RANCHOS MARKET
- THE PIZZA FACTORY
- THE RANCHOS CAFÉ
- HURST HARDWARE
- THE COFFEE SPOT

Contact the following to purchase tickets or tables of 8 with VISA or Mastercard:

Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce
Call Virginia Vick at 645-4001 or
Lesley Flores 871-9175

Live Auction

Opportunity Drawings

Several handguns/shotguns

Private Wine Tasting for 10

Coach Purse

2x \$1000 Auto Repair Certificates

Custom-Made BBQ/Smoker

PLUS MUCH MORE

MORE ITEMS ADDED DAILY

7/14

Questions?

For more information on the BBQ go to volfirestation19.jimdo.com, or you can call Lesley Flores at 559-871-9175 or Peter Flores at 559-232-2428.

**Water Questions?
SEMCU Answers**

*“Water, water everywhere,
And all the boards did shrink
Water, water everywhere
Nor any drop to drink.”*

-- From *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

By Jeff McGrath

We seem to be in a similar predicament. We are in our third year of a drought and it does not look any better. There are long term solutions, but they are exactly that, “long term.” What about now? What can we do to help alleviate the problem?

Madera County has issued a Stage 3 Water Conservation notice. This means that even-numbered houses can only water on Wednesday and Sunday and odd-numbered house on Tuesday and Saturday. Watering is not allowed between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. While this applies to those of us in a Municipal Water District, it is good neighborly advice to all. We all share the same watershed.

What are some of the other things that can be done?

I'm sure that most have thought of the simple things, which are: Fix leaky faucets; install low-flow shower heads; don't leave the water running while brushing your teeth or while shaving; don't flush your toilet after every use – back in the 80s there was a saying, “If it is yellow let it mellow, Brown flush it down.”

While waiting to get hot water for your shower, fill a bucket with that cold water and use it to flush your toilet or water your plants; look into installing a water recirculator – this can be a do-it-yourself project that recycles the cold water back into you heater until the water is hot enough for your use. A passive system is the Grundfos Comfort Series which is manufactured in Clovis and is available at Hurst Hardware. It involves an electric pump that is placed on the hot water heater outlet pressurizing your hot water system to 3 to 4 pounds per square inch. The Grundfos system enables you to install a bypass valve at remote locations furthest from your hot water heater. The bypass valve bleeds some hot water into the cold water system periodically to

Please see SEMCU on P. 19

QUARRY cont. from P. 2

pacts, developing and proposing measures for mitigation, circulating the information to other government agencies and to the public, addressing comments received, and, in many cases, dealing with litigation from other parties. The process can be daunting and in some cases, like the Hildreth Creek Quarry project, parent company Granite Construction decided to pull the plug before it even started. Sometime after the Madera County Planning Department put preparation of an EIR out to bid for it, Granite changed its mind.

“Permitting, developing, and operating a quarry requires a significant investment of capital and human resources,” said Jacqueline Forchy, corporate spokesperson for Granite Construction. “Our analysis indicated that Granite would not be able to obtain an acceptable return on that investment over the next several years.”

Vulcan, however, hasn’t changed its mind.

Hydrology Examined

Ken Schmidt, owner of Kenneth D. Schmidt and Associates, is the local “go-to” hydrologist for development projects. Schmidt’s firm was engaged by Vulcan Materials Company to analyze the hydrology in the vicinity of the Austin Quarry, including the groundwater well already located on the property. All the environmental impact study reports Vulcan paid for, including Schmidt’s, were then provided to Benchmark Resources, the company Madera County hired to write the Austin Quarry Project EIR with money provided by Vulcan. As Matt Treber, Senior Madera County Planner and Austin Quarry Project Manager, explained, when a party proposes a project large enough to require an EIR, the County puts its preparation out to bid and the project proponent then has to give the County an amount equal to the price of the winning bid. In the case of the Austin Quarry, the County selected Benchmark Resources who bid \$382,678.

For the first draft of the EIR, Benchmark Resources’ subcontracted hydrolo-

gist used the environmental reports Vulcan had purchased, including those prepared by Schmidt and Associates regarding groundwater. Based on that information, their evaluation was that there would be no significant groundwater impacts. But it is not clear that Schmidt’s reports indicated there would be no impact to groundwater from digging a pit 400 feet deep into fractured bedrock in an area where water levels were measured only a few feet below ground, according to Bruce Gray of the Madera Oversight Coalition. In fact, Schmidt’s reports, which are listed in the reference section of the EIR, were not actually included as part of the two-volume, 1,177-page document.

Back in 2012, Vulcan changed its project description in order to be able to operate at full capacity from day one. That meant a goal of mining 2.5 million tons of aggregate per year. Because the revised project description was so different than the original, the Madera County Planning Department required Vulcan to pay to have their EIR completely redone. According to Treber, the new version is scheduled to be released around the end of July. Treber said that when the Austin Quarry EIR is reissued, a Notice of Availability will go out to all concerned parties and, although it’s not required, the County will also make the new draft available on its website. Meanwhile, a Conditional Use Permit to operate the Quarry is already in process.

“A few aspects of the analysis needed to be refined,” said Benchmark Resources Project Manager, Bob Delp regarding the revised EIR draft. “The EIR is not a decision-making document. The Board of Supervisors will consider the EIR and other information and make a decision about project approval.” The revision required a \$180,477 change order, bringing the total cost for Vulcan of EIR preparation to \$563,155, Delp said,

Despite the costs, delays and potential controversy, Vulcan spokesperson Barbara Goodrich-Welk is upbeat. “Vulcan Mate-

Please see QUARRY on P. 19

Let us help you return to a **NORMAL** life

we massage for your health

Joint Muscle Repair • Fibromyalgia • Sports Massage **25% OFF!**
 559-332-3313 call or text your **FIRST** visit!
 VALLEY HEALTH CENTER • Located in Haney Chiropractic with this coupon • EXP. 8/31/14

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE REDWOODS IN THE RANGHOS?

"DO YOUR REDWOODS LOOK LIKE THIS? WATER ALONE WILL NOT HELP THIS PROBLEM ..."

7/14

CALL THE YARD DOCTOR TODAY AT 559-681-5455! MENTION THIS AD FOR A 20% DISCOUNT OFF YOUR ESTIMATE.

20% OFF*

The Yard Doctor

- Lawns
- Gophers • Squirrels
- Weed Control • Tree Spraying

***GET 20% OFF YOUR ESTIMATE WITH THIS COUPON. EXP. 8-31-14**

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

DAVIS PLUMBING INC
 RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, REMODEL & REPAIR
 VERNON DAVIS, Owner

CA LIC #842676
 438 E. Shaw Avenue #217
 Fresno, CA 93710
 559-977-6289
 559-645-1864
 davisplumbco@aol.com

7/14

QUARRY cont. from P. 18

rials Company is the nation's largest producer of construction aggregates — primarily crushed stone, sand and gravel used in virtually every facet of today's society. We are excited about the Austin Quarry project and look forward to working with the community."

Other Developments

Water issues rest at the heart of several area developments, not just for Vulcan. It has taken several years of planning for another Madera County Planning staff-approved EIR. This one is for a master-planned community of about 3,000 dwellings and other structures on approximately 1,000 acres called Gunner Ranch West by Children's Hospital. The Area Plan was approved by the Board in 1995 and final approval was just granted on July 21, albeit for the fourth time. This is because each previous time the Board was not satisfied the project met the one-to-one water balance required by California law.

This time, according to County Engineer Kheng Vang, County staffers have worked with the Gunner group to develop a set of conditions that ensures a water balance for Madera County. He said that within 24 months of approval of their EIR, Gunner will have to provide a plan to the Board of Supervisors and will pay to implement a

groundwater monitoring plan to monitor how much will be extracted and how much they're putting back in. Not even Gateway Village has this program, Vang said, adding that if balance isn't achieved there are penalties. He said that Gunner feels its calculations have a water balance and they will show reduction of overdraft by conservation in southeast Madera County. For example, they could propose ponding basins of wastewater or build the Brockman Park recharge basin to the east of the Ranchos or provide water meters for the Ranchos or Rolling Hills, which would reduce water consumption. Vang said these are called "in-lieu water balance proposals" like the in-lieu groundwater recharge project for Gateway Village recently installed by connecting a pipeline to the Madera Canal which runs under Avenue 12 and will drip water into the San Joaquin River Ranch area for purposes of groundwater recharge.

Vang said that hydrologist Ken Schmidt calculated natural groundwater recharge to be equal to one acre-foot of water for every acre of land in the Root Creek area and that value would be used for the Gunner Ranch West project. This means that for every 12 inches of rain that falls on each acre of specified land, Gunner will get credit for an acre-foot of groundwater that their development will then be able to use without penalty.

BACTERIA cont. from P. 3**Leaks in the Lines**

When it was in use and as it drew water down, the Old Fender would periodically pump air which caused a negative pressure on the system. This negative pressure, or vacuum, would draw shallow, potentially contaminated groundwater in through the leaks in the lines. (Normally the water system lines are under positive pressure, causing water to be pushed out of the leaks—a much safer condition.)

With the Old Fender Well likely out of commission for good, the MD10A Water System is down to three operating wells, the combined capacity of which is 1,400 gallons per minute or 60.5 million gallons per month. Vang said that water consumption for July in the two previous years has been at 64 million gallons per month. And, since water conservation was measured at 9% in June of this year,

we can expect a demand of 58 million gallons per month this July. This means that Water System demand, assuming users maintain a 9% conservation rate or better, is very, very close to capacity. As the notice says, "[I]t is crucial to try and conserve water whenever possible."

Dublin Well Status

Regarding the new Dublin Well, Vang said the County is preparing plans and specifications in house for construction necessary to bring it online. However, Vang's schedule has fallen behind due to losing two staff members and he is contemplating outsourcing the work so that the construction can go through by next spring when pump contractors are most available. Vang said of the \$1.2 million originally budgeted for the Dublin Well, approximately \$500,000 has been spent and \$700,000 remains, enough to pay for consultants, contractors and everything else to bring it online.

GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

and stares at you — your move. You could smile and nod and take the appointment like the powerless chump you feel you might be or you can throw down and show this doctor's office just who is working for whom. More than two hours of your day wasted after more than six weeks of waiting and you barely get any eye contact, let alone some sympathy or even an apology. You get attitude, indifference and a lack of regard for your time. You choose throw down, and throw down hard. Some carefully selected words, a stern and unyielding tone and you manage to secure an appointment the following week.

When you actually get to see the doctor seven days later, you relay this information. There is still no apology, no compassion, no understanding. Instead, you are met with a shrug and a snide comment about you not being the only patient on the roster. Then you receive subpar care and are rushed through the appointment for which you have waited a quarter of a year.

Clearly medicine is not a customer service industry. If it were I could write a letter, get a refund, choose a different business ... no, I have an HMO and it takes an act of God to fire your doctor with an HMO. So I say again: doctors and their staffs have entirely too much power.

SCRAMBLERS*solution*

1. Search; 2. Heavy;
3. Procure; 4. Wrinkle

*Today's Word:***PAYCHECK****SEMCU** cont. from P. 17

maintain the hot water at a level which most customers would be happy. The benefit to this system is that it can be retrofitted after the sheetrock is up. The down side is that some people notice that their cold water initially can come out a little warm. The average household wastes 27-105 gallons of water per day waiting for hot water. That adds up to more than 12,000 gallons of water saved annually per installation.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

Visit the Ranchos' own Website.

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

www.TheRanchos.com

WANTED

**Will Buy All HORSE-RELATED Items Including TACK
and TURQUOISE JEWELRY • Call 559-264-7980**

PETE & MARIA'S

ITALIAN BISTRO

559-645-5545

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

SPREAD THE NEWS!

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



SUBSCRIBE!
to the Ranchos Independent!

local news • local events • local happenings
editorial • games • real estate • columns

The Ranchos Independent 37167 Ave. 12, #5C
Madera, CA 93636

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

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Payment: \$20 Cash Check Credit Card Bill Me

The Ranchos Independent 37167 Ave. 12 #5C • Madera CA 93636 Fax 559-645-4002

ANSWERS

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

BARSTOOL	LOGICAL	EDUCABLE	ISONS	GARDEN	OMEGA	GALAXIES	HUMER	LIETON	DERIVE	DOCTRINE	KANDID	MEAS	TAUON	ASSSES	URBANS	AMPER	STAR	TER	RES	IN	SA	NER	HOMES	TER	HOLD	DUP	WELL	APLUS	RECAP	OLE	RES	IN	PLANNET	GTOR	TH	SLO	RES	IN	LUMINA	ORS	LI	LINGO	NO	ASS	SIS	REDS	KE	LE	TON	AD	MS	ON	ASS	HA	IK	DI	AN	AD	BER	ING	NO	ND	ER	CO	NT	ROL	AW	AK	EN	SAR	AD	NO	NIC	PLA	Y	IN	GEN	ICE	INF	INI	T	AL	IE	NE	E	HE	TI	TAK	ES	T	EN	ST	EN	NA	M	EL	S	LOG	I	C	A	L	E	D	U	C	A	B	L	E	O	L
----------	---------	----------	-------	--------	-------	----------	-------	--------	--------	----------	--------	------	-------	--------	--------	-------	------	-----	-----	----	----	-----	-------	-----	------	-----	------	-------	-------	-----	-----	----	---------	------	----	-----	-----	----	--------	-----	----	-------	----	-----	-----	------	----	----	-----	----	----	----	-----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	----	----	----	-----	----	----	-----	-----	---	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	----	----	----	---	----	----	-----	----	---	----	----	----	----	---	----	---	-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

5	6	7	8	9
5	2	x	1	-
x	÷	x	x	÷
6	3	+	2	÷
-	x	-	-	-
7	4	÷	9	+

ANSWERS

H I L L I B
 F B
 R T K U
 E O Y M
 G B
 A
 H K P B L
 O E P P E R
 R N L R
 E

We Come to You!
Dean's Mowers Plus
661-0355
Mobile Riding Lawnmower Repair Service
 visit us at mowersplus.us



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

- 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

Transitions Children's Services
 LIC. #107206625

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

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



Bradley & Sons
 Lic. 414178

DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE

Same Day Service

674-1663
 23338 Ave. 14
 Madera

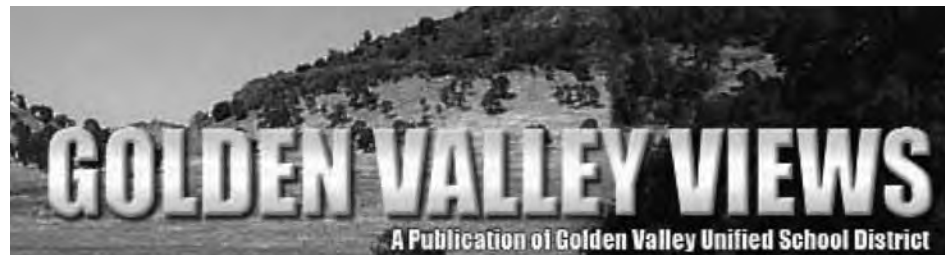
Family Owned
 Since 1976

DOG GONE CUTE STORE

SHOT CLINIC coming SEPT. 13

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

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

Dear Golden Valley USD Community,
 As the 2013-2014 school year draws to a close, I want to express my appreciation for the commitment of Golden Valley's parents, students, teachers, administrators, and support staff in making our mission "to provide our students the means to achieve to their highest potential within a caring, secure environment," a reality. I also want to thank our incredible parents and the community for their continued support and involvement. Educating children and preparing them for the future is truly a team effort.

I believe we have much to be proud of in Golden Valley. Not a day goes by that I do not encounter individuals who are passionate about improving the lives of our students and providing them with the best education possible.

Our school district excels above many others because our parents, teachers, staff and community do a remarkable job of supporting our students and setting high expectations.

We are blessed to be a part of a professional learning community that values quality education, high expectations and a "yes, we can", attitude!

On June 5, the Golden Valley Unified School District bid farewell to 131 students

of the Class of 2014. Many of our graduates will be going off to college and continuing their education. Others will possibly enter the workforce, begin a career and become productive members of society. They will make new friends and embark on a journey, which can be anything they so choose. Many of these opportunities will come together because of the solid foundation that has been established, a foundation for them to build upon, that can only be constructed with the bricks and mortar of family values and quality education.

We will also soon be saying goodbye to our retiring staff members. These teachers and support staff have earned their community's gratitude. They have given of their time and lives most generously to our students and we all appreciate their dedication. We wish you much prosperity and happiness during your retirement.

Thank you again to our parents for your partnership in the education of your child. I hope that the summer break gives you and your student a chance for rejuvenation. Have a safe, restful and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you next year.

Best wishes,
 Andrew G. Alvarado
 Superintendent

Lopez New Webster Principal

After working in various facets of education, including working as a camp counselor, an adult school teacher, a classroom teacher, a guidance counselor, an assistant principal and, finally, a principal, Ladislao "Lalo" Lopez will relocate from Half Moon Bay to the Madera Ranchos to lead Webster Elementary School.

Lopez is currently the principal of Manuel F. Cunha Intermediate School and has played a pivotal role in expanding elective programs, particularly a dual language immersion program.

"Lalo is passionate about learning and creat-

ing the conditions for all students and adults to enhance their 21st century skills. Among those skills are communication, collaboration, creative and critical thinking," said a statement from Golden Valley Unified School District.

Lopez grew up in the Central Valley and graduate from Madera High School. He earned his bachelor's degree and a teaching credential from Fresno State. He earned a master's degree from San Jose State, although he considers himself a Bulldog first.

Lopez is the father of nine-month-old Camila and four-year-old Emiliano.



Ladislao "Lalo" Lopez will relocate from Half Moon Bay to the Madera Ranchos to lead Webster Elementary School.

Classified

Alteration Services

Madlin's Alterations - 45 years experience - Tailoring, repairs and leathers. Fast service. **NEW ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER: 36027 Ruth Ave. Call 559-645-4583.**

Child Care

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

Construction

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

Floor/Upholstery Care

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

For Sale

FOR SALE - 1981 NISSAN 280 ZX. Project car. All original. Needs ton of work but solid starting point. \$1000 or best offer. Mama says it's got to go! **Call 905-8311.**

Housecleaning

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

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

Painting Services

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

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

P. O. Boxes

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

Recyclables Pick Up

FREE RECYCLABLES PICKUP - KIDS 4 RECYCLING offers pickup of all recyclable materials, including paper, plastics, glass,

aluminum and cardboard. If you have any questions be sure to **call Dianna at 999-6832 or 645-1048.** Funds support Ranchos' Seniors, library, schools and 4H.

Tractor/Trenching Services

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

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

Window Cleaning Services

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

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

CALL 645-0634

SAY YOU SAW IT IN the Ranchos Independent

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

©2014 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

STOP THE PAIN!

"We've got your back"

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

HANEY CHIROPRACTIC & rehabilitation center

36734 AVE. 12 • 660-5262

Specializing in AUTO ACCIDENTS

7/14

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.

	+		÷		4
-		-		×	
	÷		+		6
×		×		÷	
	-		×		8
5		7		6	

1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 9

©2014 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

Real Estate



Nancy Watson

The Ranchos Specialist, Working for "You"

645-5000

www.nancywatson.net



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

7/14



DAVID PARKER, Realtor®

Real Estate Sales - sellers & buyers:

www.davidparker.info

Property Management - we can rent your home:

www.parker-properties.info



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

7/14

Your Local Realtor Since 1969

Ethel Eddings Pronin

Owner - Broker

Jerry Eddings, Realtors

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

www.maderahomes.com DRE #00329063



37144 Ave. 12 Ste. 102 • Madera Ranchos

7/14

Continental Realty

PAUL & SUE SOBAJE

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



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

7/14

GUARANTEE.com REAL ESTATE



TWYLA SMITH

Your neighbor in the Ranchos since 1987

Your friend in Real Estate since 2003

BRE# 01397023

559-709-2349

twylasmith@guarantee.com

7/14

Want to Buy or Sell a Home?



Ask about our

FREE home warranty program.

We Have Pre-Approved Buyers!

Call Today!

Maria Fotopoulos - Cercone

Office • 559-645-1212

Cell • 559-250-6740

maria@ossrealtor.com

Ranchos resident for over 30 years!

7/14



DRE Lic. #01454566



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

"A Ranchos resident since 1985."

Interest rates are historically low, but prices are edging up. Call me for more information on your home's current value

... it could be the perfect time to sell.

7/14

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

Who's got 1980's prices?



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

Madera Glass & Mirror, that's who!

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

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

7/14

Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory

CHANEY'S

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

CLARK'S

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

PAINTING CONTRACTOR
 TEXTURED COATING • PAINTING
 VINYL SIDING • VINYL WINDOWS
 ROOFING

**FRANK KRAMER
 EXTERIORS**
(559) 645-4113
 TEXTURED COATING SPECIALIST
 FRANK KRAMER LIC. #273099

**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
**HWY 41 just North
 of Avenue 12**
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

**Jo-De DRILLING
 & TRACTOR SERVICE**

HARDPAN DRILLING
674-7770

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

**HIGH QUALITY
 GATE SYSTEMS**

**AUTOMATED
 ACCESS**
559-454-8060

**ROGER PRATER
 CONCRETE**
 Residential & Commercial
 38 years experience
 Lic. # 599235

 (559) 645-0911
 (559) 977-8983

How's your fence?
Advanced Fence
for all your fencing needs
559-464-5286
 Lic. #867283 & Bonded

**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.

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

**BRENT TATUM
 LAWN SERVICE**

 call for
FREE ESTIMATE!
 • Clean Up
 • Monthly Service
559-871-3529

**Brannon's
 A/C & Heating**

 • Preseason Service
 • Emergency Repair
 • New Installations
 • Water Heaters
 • Senior Discounts
559-706-1368
 Lic. #961690

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

 Interior & Exterior
 Specializing in
 Repaints
 Rental, Residential
 & Commercial
 Drywall, Stucco,
 Redashing & Ac-
 coustical Removal
 Color Matching
559-974-2268

**CRONIN MARINE
 REPAIR**
 ENGINE AND OUT-DRIVE REPAIR
 INBOARDS AND OUTBOARDS
 TRAILER BOATS ONLY

 Since 1964
645-1977

WHAT CAN YOU GET FOR \$25?
 How about 12,000
 Ranchos residents each month who
 look at Business Directory ads?
The Ranchos Independent
(559) 645-0634
 for MORE sales tomorrow, call
JEAN BRINER
Today!
(559) 645-0634
 The Ranchos Independent


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

**Central Valley
 Housecleaning
 Services**
 We CLEAN
 houses • offices • rental houses
 windows, including hard water stains
 shower doors
 10 Years of Experience
 Many Ranchos References
559-514-9816

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

Business Directory

WIGHT WATER POOLS
Service • Supplies • Repair

FREE ONLINE DELIVERY
WWW.WIGHTWATERPOOLS.COM

MON-FRI: 9AM-6PM SAT: 10AM-3PM SUN: CLOSE
37167 AVE. 12 #5D (559) 645-1969

LOCALLY OWNED!
HANDYMAN
HOME SERVICE

we are a full-service handyman, maintenance and remodeling company

we REPAIR, REPLACE and INSTALL anything around your home or business

559-907-2501

CALIFORNIA
MERCEDES & B.M.W.
REPAIR SERVICE

288-9521

40101 Ave. 10
Madera

www.calmbbmwrepair.com

PERSONAL TOUCH
LANDSCAPE & GARDENING
SERVICE • Lic. #B0008113

Ranchos Resident

Yard cleanups & hauling • Weed control
Lawn & garden service • Maintenance
Weekly & monthly service
Mag Anaya Jr.

559-974-1357

FIVE TWO
ADVERTISING

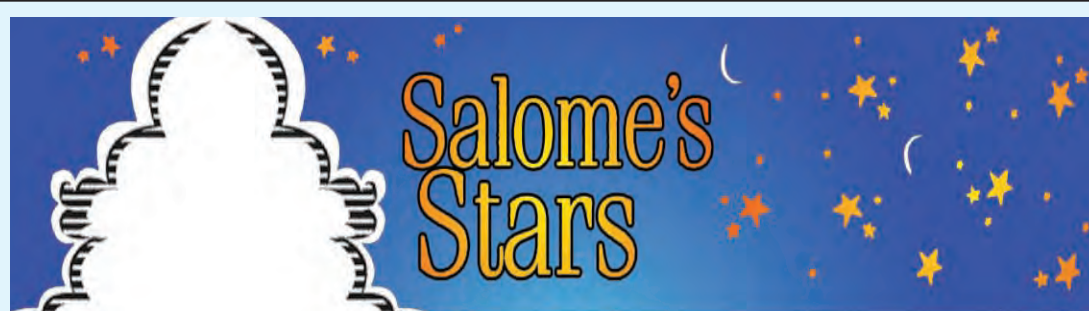
ADS
LOGOS
PR
MARKETING

645-0634

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



www.TheRanchos.com



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty is, as always, admirable. But you might want to be more tactful in discussing a sensitive issue with a family member. Remember: You can give advice without giving offense.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An unexpected workplace snag should be handled quickly and efficiently so that it leaves you time for family get-togethers. Also, you might soon get that long-sought apology.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Aspects favor family matters, especially where children might be involved. Spending time with loved ones helps restore some much-needed balance to your typically busy schedule.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That seemingly clear-cut agreement might not be quite so straightforward after all. Recheck for language that could make you liable for hidden costs and other unpleasant surprises.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Careful, Kitty. Better to deal with someone with proven reliability than with a big talker who promises much but can't confirm that he or she will deliver. Your social life really zings this weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your matchmaking skills are at peak performance levels both in helping to staff workplace teams for upcoming projects and for bringing people together on a more personal basis.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You're finally seeing some progress with your new venture. But be prepared for it to continue at a slower pace than you're used to. Meanwhile, a loved one could be preparing a surprise.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A family member's success pulls you into the spotlight as well. Enjoy it, but don't let it overshadow or otherwise obstruct what you're doing with your own creative projects.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Using what you already know might not be quite enough to get a proposed project off the ground. Look for any new information that might help tilt the scales in your favor.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Good news: While a changing workplace environment can be daunting for some, it could be the challenge you've been hoping for. If so, confront it with confidence and move on.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It's a good time to recheck travel arrangements for any changes that could work to your advantage. Aspects also favor strengthening and restoring old, fraying relationships.

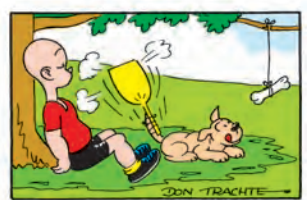
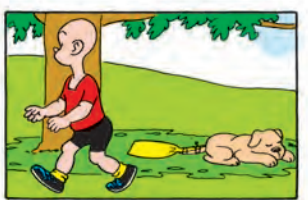
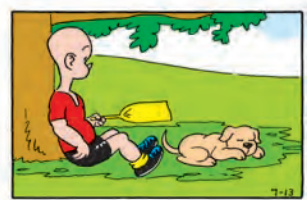
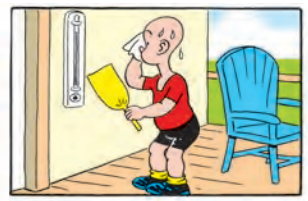
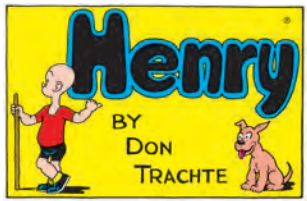
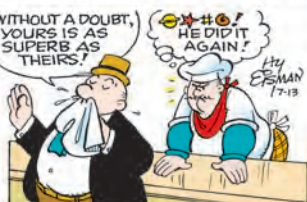
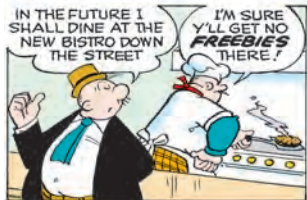
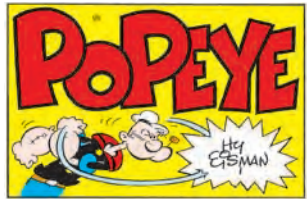
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Using your intuitive reasoning helps you cut right through the double-talk and go straight to what's really going on around you. Stay the course until all your questions are answered.

Born this Week

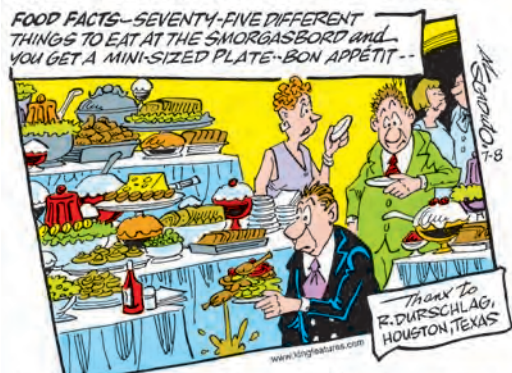
You radiate light and warmth, and others love being close to you.

(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

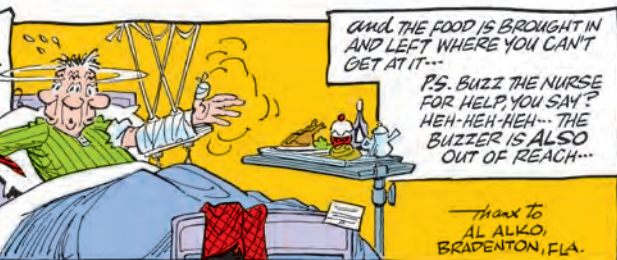
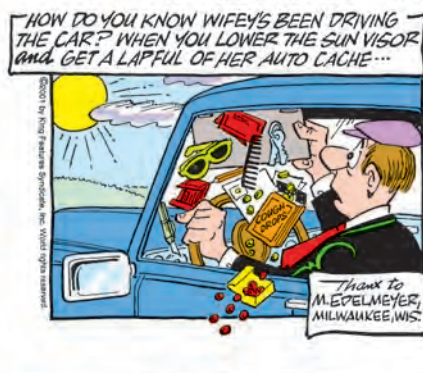
FUN PAGES



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

NINE COUNT! Object of this exercise is to see that the nine circles of the triangle at right contain the digits 0-9 in such a manner that digits in circles on each of the sides have a total of 13.

Digits 0, 1 and 2 are already in place, leaving just six more to be inserted.

Clue: Two missing digits on one of the three sides are even numbers.

Try to puzzle it out in two minutes or less.

YOUR CALL! "The _____ is the greatest nuisance among conveniences, the greatest convenience among nuisances," said Robert Lynd. Of what did he speak?

The telephone

WATERED DOWN BIRD WORDS

THOSE who know their sea and marsh birds, and also know their vowels, should have an easy time here. To identify birds, simply insert missing vowels below.

1. G-h-	11. P-tr-l
2. H-r-n.	12. P-l-c-r-l
3. G-r-t.	13. G-n-n-l
4. G-r-n.	14. -s-p-r-y
5. -b-s.	15. C-l-
6. S-t-r-k.	16. P-f-t-n.
7. S-n-p.	17. B-t-t-m.
8. R-l.	18. S-h-r-k.
9. T-r-m.	19. P-l-v-r.
10. S-t-t.	20. P-l-n-g-n.

How quickly can you fill the blanks?

PAINT SET! Two of these artists are twins. Which two is for you to decide. Be sure to study all details carefully.



TASK FORCE! Everyone's pitching in on this trip to the beach. Apply colors by number: 1—Red, 2—Lt. blue, 3—Yellow, 4—Lt. brown, 5—Flesh tones, 6—Green, 7—Dk. brown, 8—Dk. blue.

SPELLBINDER

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

INTRENCH

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

Try to score at least 50 points.

Possible two-letter words: _____

Possible three-letter words: _____

Wishing Well

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

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

(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ● — JACK

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

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

Apple	Bumper	High	Phone
Billy	Car	Jumping	Sky
Black	Cracker	Lumber	Steeple
Boot	Flap	Pepper	

© 2014 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- CITY NICKNAMES:** What U.S. city's nickname is "The Biggest Little City in the World"?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is a group of vultures called?
- SPORTS:** Which sport might include a maneuver called a "closed choctaw"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What color is cerulean?
- LANGUAGE:** What is the U.S. equivalent of the British pram?
- COMMUNICATION:** In the international radio alphabet, what is the standard word that represents the letter "P"?
- LITERATURE:** What was the name of the family in "The Grapes of Wrath"?
- TELEVISION:** Who played the role of Gus McCrae in the 1989 "Lonesome Dove" television series?
- THE BODY:** What is a human's normal temperature in Centigrade?
- PSYCHOLOGY:** What fear is represented in the condition called nyctophobia?

Answers

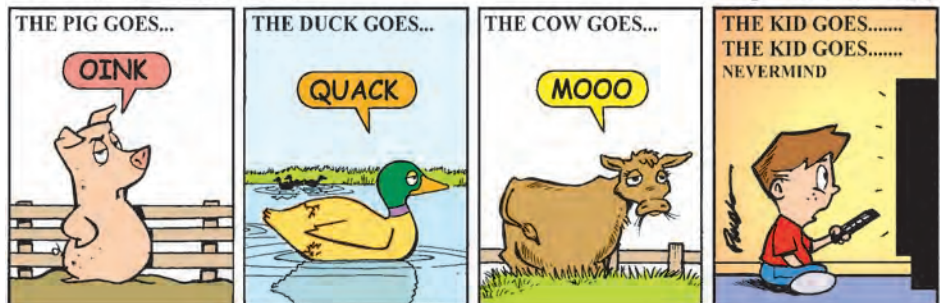
- Reno, Nevada
- A wake
- Figure skating
- Blue
- Baby carriage
- Papa
- Load
- Robert Duvall
- 9.37 C
- Night or darkness

(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

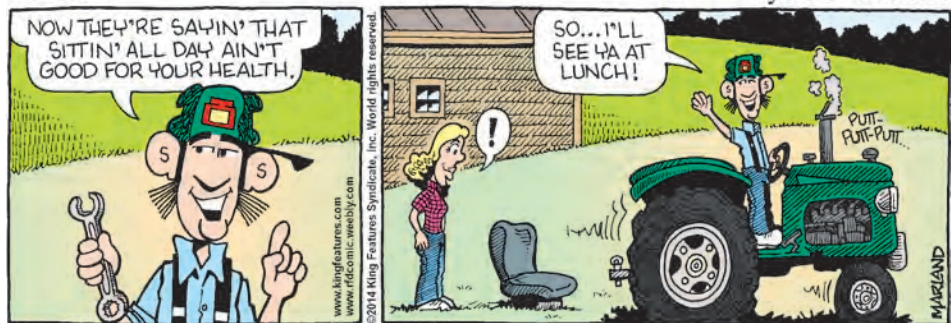
Click on "Local News" at

Amber Waves

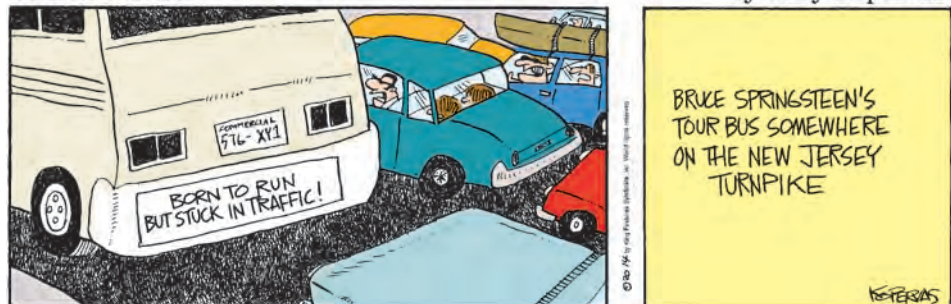
by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D. by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas



The Spats by Jeff Pickering



SCRAMBLERS

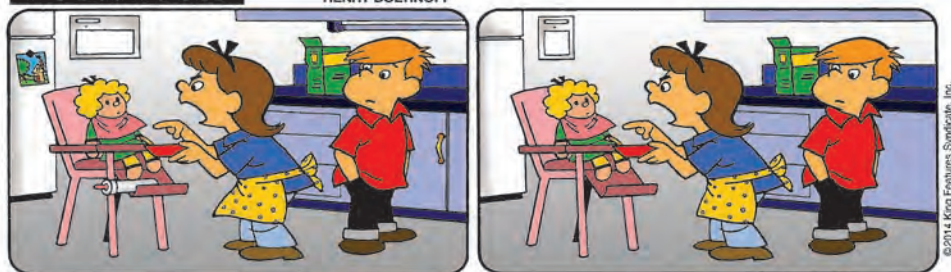
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Joyful: **DETALE**
Faint: **BLUEST**
Sniff: **HEALIN**
Bonus: **DRAWYER**

Next time you ask to meet me in a restaurant, I wish you'd wait in the **TODAY'S WORD**

HOCUS-FOCUS

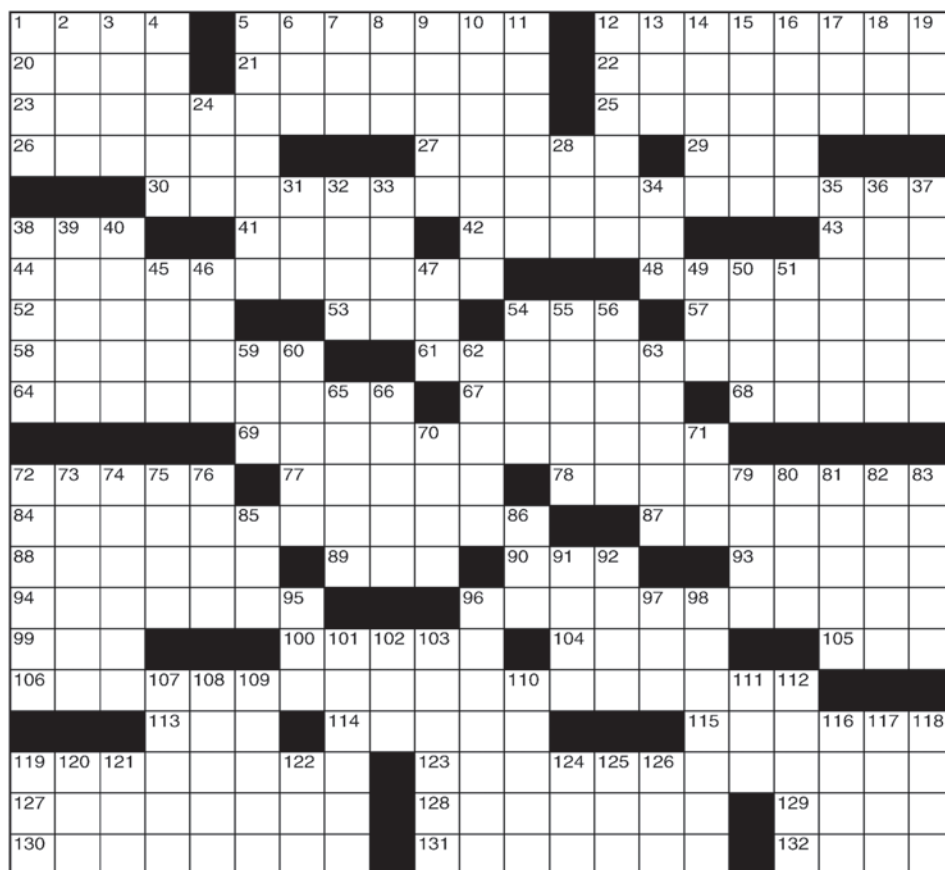
BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



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

Differences: 1. Drawing is different. 2. Light is missing. 3. Bottle is smaller. 4. Apron is different. 5. Light is missing. 6. Door is missing.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Hawaii's state bird
 - 5 Glossy varnishes
 - 12 Pub perch
 - 20 "This round — me"
 - 21 Using clear thinking
 - 22 Fit to be taught
 - 23 Hereditary information of an arboretum's species?
 - 25 The Milky Way and Andromeda
 - 26 Upper arm bones
 - 27 Deceive with untruths
 - 29 Prior to, in a sonnet
 - 30 Admonition against trying algebra problems after imbibing?
 - 38 Sigma follower
 - 41 Very draft-worthy
 - 42 Sure-footed equines
 - 43 — culpa
 - 44 One gawking at a Beatle?
 - 48 Sikhs' headwear
 - 52 Zeal
 - 53 Spiegel or Stern lead-in
 - 54 Pro- (some tourneys)
 - 57 Enable
 - 58 Track official with a gun
 - 61 Zero out serenely?
 - 64 Abode and outbuildings
 - 67 Gives a grade to
 - 68 Less loopy
 - 69 Hid oneself expertly?
 - 72 Great grade
 - 77 Wrap-up
 - 78 Pine extract
 - 84 Gradual formation of Mars, say?
 - 87 Ljubljana native
 - 88 Old Chevy minivan
 - 89 Scrubbing-in sites, briefly
 - 90 10% of XXX
 - 93 Group jargon
 - 94 Jackie's Ari
 - 96 Crimson-painted biology lab display?
 - 99 Dept. VIP
 - 100 Japanese verse form
 - 104 Gorilla expert Fossey
 - 105 Commercials
 - 106 Danish explorer no longer going wild?
 - 113 — -TURN (traffic sign)
 - 114 Give — of approval
 - 115 Finish dozing
 - 119 Grimly cynical
 - 123 Sibling's daughter having fun?
 - 127 Nissan luxury division
 - 128 Property recipient, legally
 - 129 Classic soda brand
 - 130 Kicks back briefly
 - 131 Autocrats
 - 132 North Carolina college
 - 5 Weather-changing currents
 - 6 Eggy libation
 - 7 Maturate
 - 8 60-sec. span
 - 9 Gut bacteria
 - 10 Arranged in thin plates
 - 11 Makes smooth and glossy
 - 12 Bard's "Git!"
 - 13 Cavity-fighting org.
 - 14 Governed
 - 15 Spook
 - 16 The IRS, e.g. Kenobi
 - 18 Jai-alai shout
 - 19 Arles article
 - 24 Ending for ranch
 - 28 Profs' aides
 - 31 Blowup stuff
 - 32 Extinct
 - 33 Tough to find
 - 34 Sept. hours
 - 35 Yardbirds hit of 1965
 - 36 Italian port
 - 37 Lent follower
 - 38 Junk
 - 39 — -ground missile
 - 40 Allow to flow freely again
 - 45 Stab
 - 46 Meal bits
 - 47 Misstep
 - 49 1995-2006 TV channel
 - 50 Members of Cong.
 - 51 La — Tar Pits
 - 54 Kin of PDQ
 - 55 The Doors' "Love — Times"
 - 56 Sword metal
 - 59 Country in E. Africa
 - 60 Corp. shuffle
 - 62 Burst out
 - 63 Archipelago components
 - 65 Bygone Olds and such
 - 70 Cartoon voicer Butler
 - 71 Online giggle
 - 72 Poise
 - 73 Nosedive
 - 74 Hedy of films
 - 75 L'états- —
 - 76 Beltway VIPs
 - 79 Toss the dice
 - 80 Pop singer Sands
 - 81 "I — Letter to My Love" (1980 movie)
 - 82 "— We Trust"
 - 83 Glowing signs
 - 85 Mai —
 - 86 Go hastily
 - 91 "... and — it again!"
 - 92 "The fix —"
 - 95 Moo — beef
 - 96 How farm kids are raised
 - 97 "Krazy —" (old cartoon)
 - 98 Incenses
 - 101 Advil rival
 - 102 Airport demands
 - 103 Persist in
 - 107 Film at a film festival, often
 - 108 Middy hours
 - 109 Put the pedal to the metal
 - 110 "The Cosby Show" mom
 - 111 "MYOB" part
 - 112 Cleo of song
 - 116 Part of a ship
 - 117 Canyon call
 - 118 No, in Berlin
 - 119 Create a lap
 - 120 Actress Ortiz
 - 121 Brother of DDE's successor
 - 122 Suffix with Israel or zinc
 - 124 Nay negator
 - 125 Hotel relative
 - 126 Insect trap

FUN PAGES

OVER 3,000 ITEMS | NO RESERVE | OVER 1,000 LOTS



Public Auction
RUS

WE BUY ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING...IF THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

EVERY SATURDAY **BONDED AND INSURED** · **559.439.9777**

LIVE PUBLIC AUCTION

11040 HWY 41 MADERA, CA

**ANTIQUES | APPLIANCES | BICYCLES | COLLECTIBLES | CONSIGNMENT | ELECTRONICS
FURNITURE | GOVERNMENT VEHICLES | JEWELRY | LIQUIDATION | OVERSTOCK | TOOLS | TOYS**