

The Ranchos Independent



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

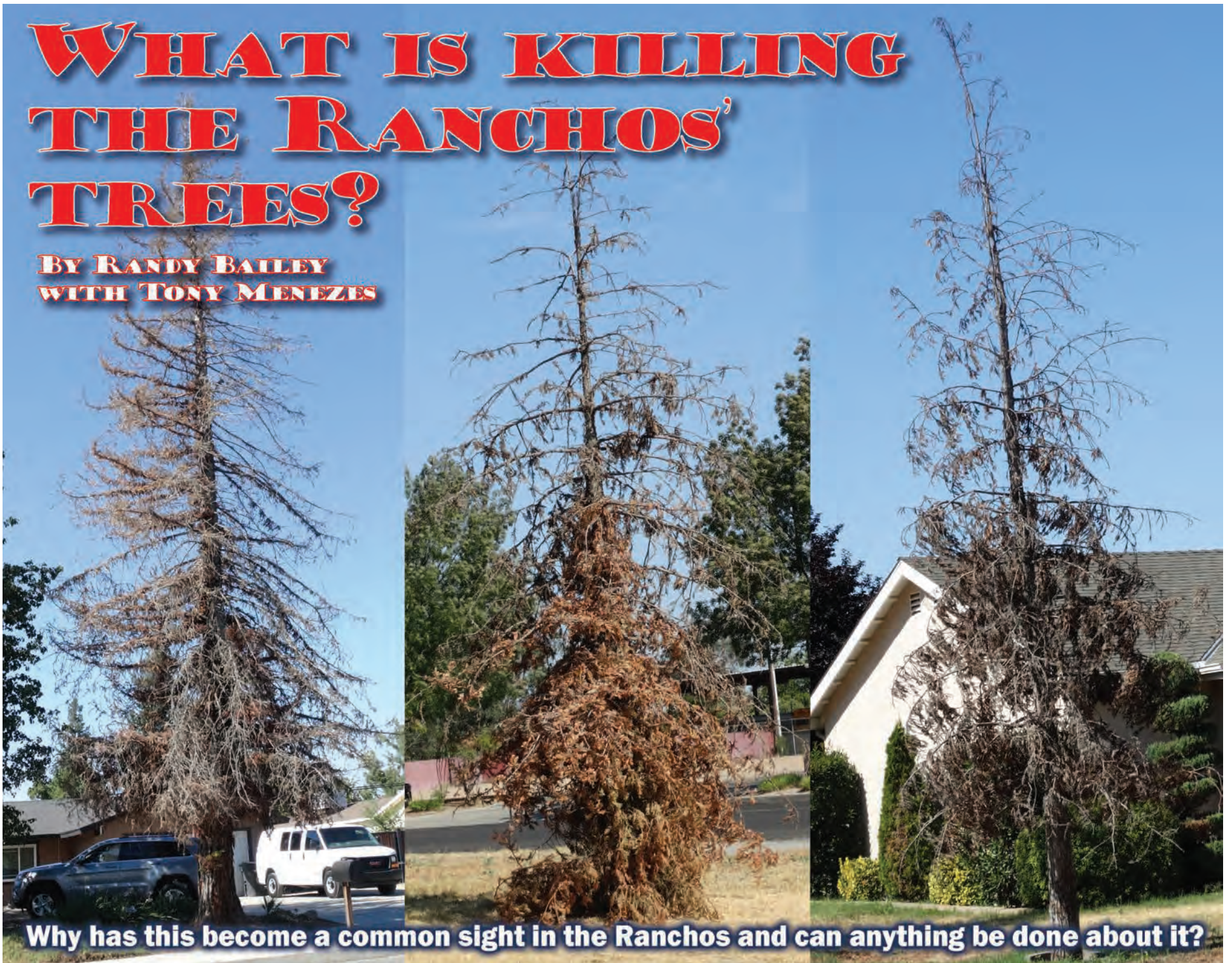
Volume 12 Issue 7 2016

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

WHAT IS KILLING THE RANCHOS' TREES?

BY RANDY BAILEY
WITH TONY MENEZES



Why has this become a common sight in the Ranchos and can anything be done about it?

In This Issue

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

By Randy Bailey with Tony Menezes

In late June, the U.S. Forest Service announced that it had identified a total of 66 million dead trees throughout California's forests. Spanning six counties, approximately 760,000 acres in the southern Sierra Nevada have been affected.

The beginning of the damage can be traced back to 2010 and it is estimated that between then and October of 2015, over 40 million trees had died statewide. The U.S. Forest Service further determined that from October 2015 through June of this year alone, an additional 26 million trees had died. That means that in eight months, the number of subsequent trees that died equaled more than 50 percent of all the trees that had died in the preceding five years.

A Perfect Storm

Forestry experts are laying the blame on three factors leading to this historic tree die-off; a "perfect storm" of factors that have come together to devastate our forests. First is four consecutive years of severe drought in California. To that is added a dramatic rise in bark beetle infestation of almost biblical proportions. The final piece of this deadly puzzle is warmer temperatures.

In an article released by the U.S. Forest Service, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack was quoted as saying, "Tree die-offs of this magnitude are unprecedented and increase the risk of catastrophic wildfires that puts property and lives at risk."



He further said that across the country, California's fire risk was the most extreme. Vilsack lays the responsibility for what happens next at the feet of congress. "Unfortunately, unless Congress acts now to address how we pay for firefighting, the Forest Service will not have the resources necessary to address the forest die-off and restore our forests. Forcing the Forest Service to pay for massive wildfire disasters out of its pre-existing fixed budget instead of from an emergency fund like all other natural disasters means there is not enough

money left to do the very work that would help restore these high mortality areas. We must fund wildfire suppression like other natural disasters in the country."

Forest Service scientists expect to see continued elevated levels of tree mortality during 2016 in dense forest stands, stands impacted by root diseases or other stress agents and in areas with higher levels of bark beetle activity. Additional surveys across the state will be conducted throughout the summer and fall.

The Ranchos Situation

Which brings us to the Ranchos and its trees.

The trees that appear to be getting hit the hardest in the Ranchos are Coastal Redwoods. These are huge, beautiful trees that many Ranchos residents have chosen to make showpieces in their landscaping efforts. Of course, any time the word "coastal" appears in something being used in the parched Central Valley, trouble may not be too far away.

The Ranchos Independent contacted Tony Menezes, Ranchos resident and owner of The Yard Doctor Tree Services for some insight on what's happening to the trees in the Ranchos.

"There are several issues affecting the health of the trees in the Ranchos," Menezes began. "Obviously, the drought has been the leading contributor, but there are other factors as well." From there Menezes took us down the check list for tree health in the Ranchos.

"Water, soil, fungi, insects and other things," he said.

Water

Menezes started by pointing out that many people don't know what the proper amount of water is that a tree needs. The most widely used method is one gallon of water per day per foot of height. However, measuring tree height is especially difficult and hard to estimate. "The easiest method is to measure DBH," Menezes said. DBH is "Diameter at Breast

Please see **TREES** on P. 3

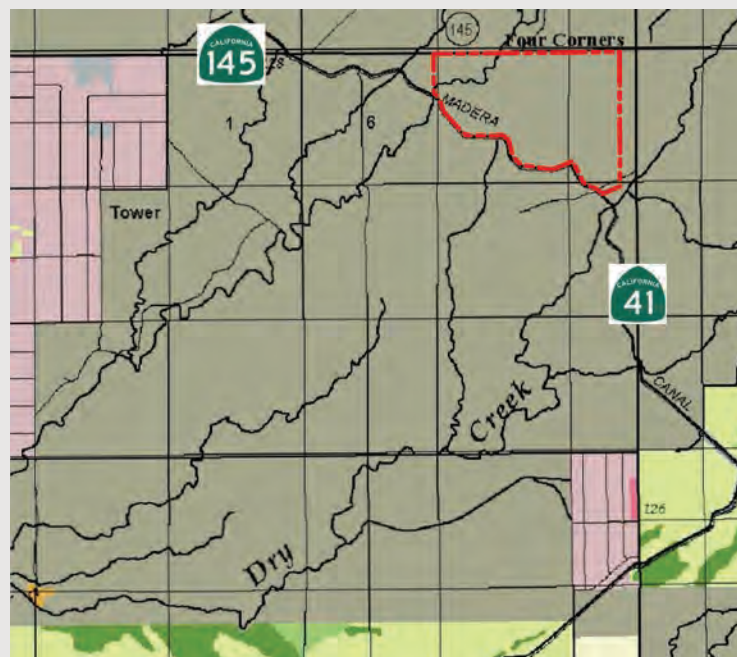
Austin Quarry Benefits Madera; Madera Ranchos Will Have to Wait

By Karen Petryna

The Austin Quarry Project proposed by Vulcan Materials Company, which has been in the works for about 10 years, is on the verge of coming to fruition in Southeast Madera County. A Planning Commission hearing held on Tuesday, July 19 at the Board of Supervisors' Chambers in Madera has likely decided the project's fate. Only if the Commission's decision is appealed within 15 days, in writing, to the Planning Department, will the Board of Supervisors hear that appeal at a future meeting.

Quarry Location

The Quarry will be located a quarter mile west of Highway 41 near the intersection of Highways 145 and 41 on 671 acres of land to be leased from Mike Urrita. Active operations -- the quarry, plant site, entrance road and berms -- will take place on about 348 acres, or approximately half of the land of the project. Over the next 100 years, the active land area will be excavated to a maximum depth of 400 feet below ground surface, while the other 323 acres, along with another 1,970 acres to the west that Vul-



The proposed Austin Quarry by Vulcan Materials Company will be situated just west of Highway 41 on Highway 145.

can purchased and designated the "Fenton Property," will remain grasslands, natural drainage channels and wetlands that will never be disturbed.

Vulcan

Vulcan is the largest aggregate producer in the United States with 344 quarries in the U.S. and 57 facilities in California, including one located off Friant Road in Fresno and another in Sanger. Vulcan plans to ramp up operations at the Austin Quarry over the next decade or so to reach its maximum permitted production of 2.5 million tons of aggregate annually with approximately 40 on-site employees to run and maintain the facility.

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Vulcan has reimbursed Madera County nearly \$2 million for its expenses to hire consultants and lawyers to produce an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project. Analyzing potential negative impacts to the environment in categories of Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Air Quality, Biological and Cultural Resources, Geology

Please see **QUARRY** on P. 14

TREES cont. from P. 2

Height.” He says to measure the diameter of your tree at that height and then multiply it by five, giving you an accurate amount to water your tree. “For example,” Menezes said, “a 16-inch-diameter redwood times five equals 80 gallons of water two days per week.” Just so you don’t freak out on that amount of water, an average 100 square foot lawn with pop-up

sprayers watered in excess of 12 minutes per station uses over 500 gallons per watering. Multiply that by two times per week and you are using over 1,000 gallons of water for 10 feet by 10 feet of lawn. That’s enough water for over 12 Redwoods per week.

Soil

“The pH in the Ranchos is not good,” Menezes said. It ranges from 7 to a high of 8.2, based on numerous samples taken

throughout multiple properties. Without getting too complicated, this factor locks up needed nutrients the trees need. “Also, when wet this soil can be a sticky goo or when dry it’s as hard as cement,” he said. Both of these factors cause issues detrimental to the plant. When it’s too wet there’s compaction which results in a lack of oxygen to the plant. When it’s too dry there’s also compaction and the microbes that are vital to the breakdown of nutrients

die and there’s a lack of oxygen to the roots. “Twenty percent of the water used to irrigate is not available to the plant due to clay soil,” Menezes said. He said trees in this type of soil need amendments a minimum of four times per year when healthy; more often when not. “It’s also a good practice to have a mulch around the tree to at least the dripline, this will help

Please see TREES on P. 14

2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • Quality & Customer Service is Our Motto • 3VFeed.com

3-V FEED & GARDEN SUPPLY



7/16

Hours: Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Select **HORSE DE-WORMERS**
BUY 2 GET 1 FREE

WE DELIVER!
FEED & HAY

SUPER SUMMER SAVINGS

GMO FREE
Alfalfa Pellets
\$389/ton

Economy Gauge
BARBED WIRE
\$45.95
(1,320 FT.)

WHOLE CORN
50 LB. BAG
2/\$14.99

all
Stock Tanks
15% OFF

12-FOOT
Economy Gates
\$49.95

all
HORSE
FLY MASKS
10% OFF

WE STILL SELL
CHICKS & LAYING HENS

Horse Quality
ALFALFA
\$10.89/BALE
we WON'T be UNDERSOLD!

Diamond
DOG FOOD
\$3 OFF
Beef & Rice 40 LB. Bags

Layer
Crumble
\$10.99
50 LB. Bags



WE CARRY ALL NAME-BRAND FEED.

Logos for: Professional, Nutrena, Triple Crown, Manna Pro, js west, TARTER, ELK GROVE MILLING, INC., Taste of the Wild, KING.

Madera Ranchos We are YOUR Store!

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 (subject to change)

Timothy Grass (Oregon Hay)	\$22.99
Orchard Grass (Oregon Hay)	\$21.99
Bermuda Grass	\$12.85
Alfalfa (Horse Quality)	\$10.89 (and up)
Forage	\$ 9.99
Oat Hay	\$ 8.99 (and up)
Straw	\$ 8.99
Cattle Oat Hay	\$ 6.49

all prices exp. 8/31/16 except where noted and are subject to change

2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • Quality & Customer Service is Our Motto • 3VFeed.com

2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 2% cash back • does your feed store do that? • 3VFeed.com • facebook.com/3VFeed • Quality & Customer Service is Our Motto • 3VFeed.com

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

Letters

Dear Editor:

This goes out to our dear friends and neighbors in the Madera Ranchos, Bonadelle Ranchos and Rolling Hills.

It is with great disappointment that I must officially advise you that as of July 1, 2016, the Madera Ranchos Lions Club can no longer operate and remain viable. We have struggled over the past few years with no new members and the loss of older members due to changes in life and work.

We most recently have had five active members who have given their all for the past two years to help our community. We truly want to thank all of you for supporting and helping our fundraising efforts. We ask you to please continue your community support by helping our friends in Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Library, Ranchos/Hills Seniors and all the scouting and school groups with their efforts to make our area a wonderful place to live.

Please know that all monies we have remaining will be donated to our local school music program, Cub Scouts and Fire

Station 19.

May God bless all of us, our families, our community and our wonderful country.

Very truly yours,
Paul H. Cameron
President, Madera Ranchos Lions Club
Madera Ranchos

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

Send your letters to:

email:

ranchosnews@yahoo.com

mail:

The Ranchos Independent

37167 Ave. 12 #5C

Madera, CA 93636

fax:

559-645-4002

**COMPLETE CAR CARE
WE ARE YOUR FULL SERVICE**



AUTOCARE CENTER

WARM WEATHER IS HERE - COME ON OVER TO COMPLETE CAR CARE FOR ALL YOUR VEHICLE COOLING NEEDS!

- WE SERVICE AND REPAIR AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS • INSPECT AND RECHARGE
- WE SERVICE COOLING SYSTEMS, THIS INCLUDES YOUR RADIATOR, WATER PUMP, HOSES, ETC. • COOLING SYSTEM SERVICE INCLUDES UP TO 4 GALLONS OF A 50/50 MIXTURE OF COOLANT AND DISTILLED WATER



\$10 OFF

Call Billy at 275-0157 for an estimate and to book your appointment

**COMPLETE CAR CARE
5787 W. BARSTOW
FRESNO, CA
275-0157**

Clip here for discount coupon • Valid for most vehicles
Like us on Facebook.com/CompleteCarCare
Check out our Google website www.completecarcarefresno.com
expires 8/20/16

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

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

you call ...



VALLEY PROPANE

559-645-5324

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

WIN FREE PROPANE!

WIN 125 GALLONS OF PROPANE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

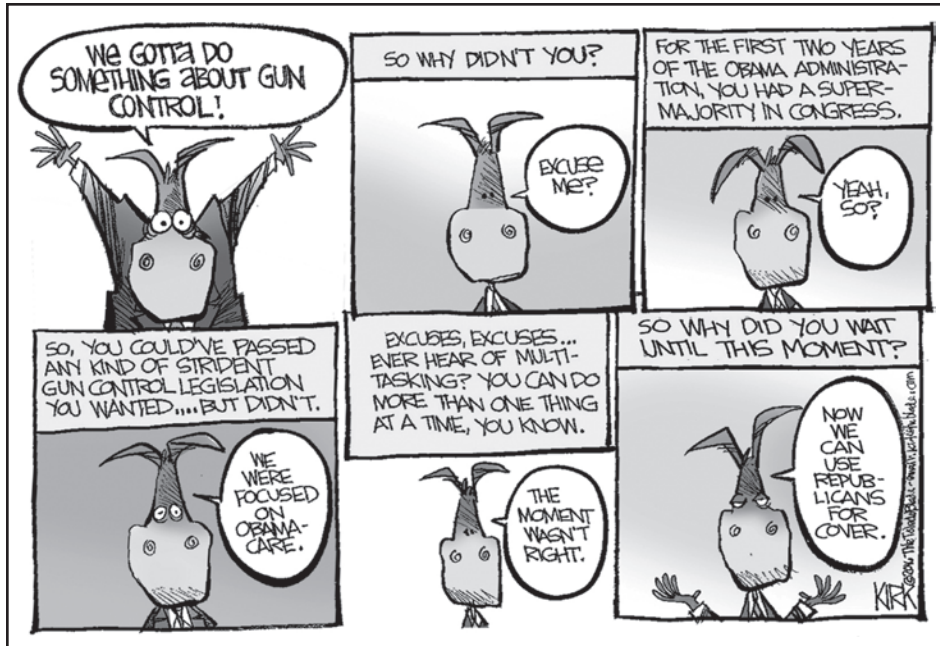
Drawing to be held the first week of July, 2016. Delivery must be by August 31, 2016. Must be a Valley Propane customer.

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



Editorial

Some Black Lives Matter

By Randy Bailey

Back in the 1980s when I was going to Fresno State, I had to take a “diversity” class to graduate. I chose Women’s Studies and will never forget the first day of class. Our instructor was a young, recently graduated black woman whose opening remarks were: “All of the problems in the world today can be attributed to men; specifically, white men.” Being a white man I looked around the room at the other white men who also *had* to take this class and one of them spoke up and said, “Well, what kind of a chance does *that* give us?”

What she was most adamant about was that we would never know what it was like to have our black brothers routinely assassinated by white policemen. In one regard she was right because I didn’t have any black brothers, but something didn’t seem to ring true about her statement. Since there was no Internet then, I headed over to the Henry Madden Library on campus and checked FBI and Justice Department statistics for black homicides.

She was right. Someone *was* killing her black brothers: It was her *other* black brothers. I took my research back to class the next day and presented them in front of the class. After she listened she asked where I

got my statistics.

“The FBI,” I said.

“Who do you think’s behind the FBI?”

“White men?” I sarcastically replied.

“Exactly!”

The only saving grace I gleaned from this was thinking that reasonable, thinking people surely didn’t think like this and in the future, when everyone would have had access to this information, this great lie would have a stake driven through its heart once and for all.

So much for my fortune telling expertise.

Here it is, over 25 years later, and the Black Lives Matter movement is singing the same song. It was a lie back then and it’s a lie today. Here are the most current numbers from the FBI files; do with them what you will:

1. Between 2010 and 2011, 4,906 blacks were murdered by other blacks. That is 1,406 more black Americans killed at the hands of other black Americans – in two years – than *all* of the lynchings of blacks from 1882 to 1968.

2. Consider this: The FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Reports and Centers for Disease Control tabulated an average of 4,472 black on black homicides annually between Jan. 1, 2009, and Dec. 31, 2012. For the same period, University of Toledo Criminology Professor Dr. Richard R. Johnson conducted research that determined 112 black men died from both justified and unjustified police-involved killings. At that rate, it would take the police 40 years to kill as many black men as have died at the hands of other black men in 2012 alone.

Facts are stubborn things.

Finally, according to Heather MacDonald, author of *The War on Cops*, black males have made up 40 percent of *all* cop killers over the last decade, even though they only represent approximately six percent of the population. What does that mean? It means that a police officer is 18 1/2 times more likely to be killed by a black male than an unarmed black male is likely to be killed by a police officer.

It appears you have to be very selective about which lives actually matter.

The Ranchos Independent

The Ranchos Independent is published by Five and Two Publishing.

All contents of this publication are copyright 2016, 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 • DJ Becker -- Reporters

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

“AS LONG AS THERE ARE GUNS, THE INDIVIDUAL THAT WANTS A GUN FOR A CRIME IS GOING TO HAVE ONE AND GOING TO GET IT. THE ONLY PERSON WHO’S GOING TO BE PENALIZED AND HAVE DIFFICULTY IS THE LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN, WHO THEN CANNOT HAVE [IT] IF HE WANTS PROTECTION – THE PROTECTION OF A WEAPON IN HIS HOME.”

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

Social Media Cold Turkey

My name is Eryn and I am a social media-aholic.

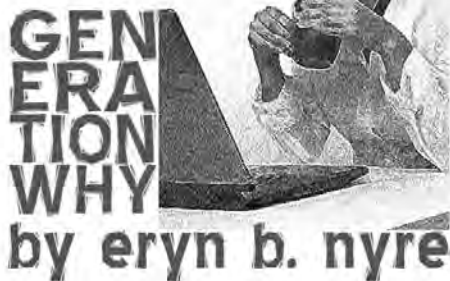
Hi Eryn.

It's not that I didn't know I had a problem, but I honestly hadn't realized just how bad it was until I found myself ducking out of a perfectly entertaining movie that I had just paid \$12 to see, to check my Twitter and Facebook. I'm ashamed of myself, but admitting you have a problem is the first step to overcoming it.

It wasn't just at the movie theater either. It happened at dinner with my friends; at the bar on girls' night; even in my own living room. My phone was always in my hand and also in front of my face. I've had to restart shows and movies because I would miss huge chunks of time when I learned they were trending on Twitter or stumbled

across a Facebook page dedicated to them and lose myself in the world of virtual interaction.

It's not just that it is a time suck, though it is most definitely that, but social media had started affecting my moods. I'm sure it has a lot to do with the fact that it's an election year, but the sheer amount of stupidity that people like and share and post on the internet has been enough to give me the beginnings of a stomach ulcer. I would wake up and check my various feeds and find myself instantaneously either saddened or angered by people's unwillingness to inform and better themselves. It was a crapshoot. I knew a lot of people were just looking to start a fight and a scathing retort would only feed into their own neurosis, but I'm not allowed to drive around the country and whip people with a car antenna,



so a scathing retort was all I had. It never made me feel better though. When I found myself so enraged by a particular post, which was nothing more than a stupid meme designed to raise the hackles of people like me, I took it out on a couple of coworkers.

I realized it was time to do something about my addiction.

So I'm taking a sabbatical from social media. No Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, or

The dissolution of dependency is already so advanced that I managed to enjoy an entire day with my best friend filled with shopping, lunch and a "manipedi" without even unlocking the screen. In just a little over a week it's becoming less and less of a habit to even reach for the phone when I don't need to make a call or send a message.

what have you. I have turned off my notifications and have sworn off checking them on my phone or computer. My goal is one month. It's a lofty goal, to be sure, but one must reach for the stars. I know what you're thinking, "But Eryn, what if there is an emergency? If you aren't checking social

media, they might not be able to reach you." Well, I never said I was swearing off my phone entirely. I'm still accepting calls, text messages and emails. This is a social media-specific boycott.

What I am worried about, however, is going crazy from separation anxiety. It's been a little over a week and I can't seem to shake the feeling that I have no idea what is happening in the world. I still check my favorite news site daily so I'm quite confident that the Zombie

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 18

We Come to You!
Dean's Mowers Plus
661-0355

Mobile Riding Lawnmower Repair Service

visit us at mowersplus.us



7/16

- Pre-season Service
 - Emergency Repair
 - New Installations
 - Hot Water Heaters
 - Senior Discounts
- 559-706-1368**

Brannon's

A/C & Heating

7/16

BEDROCK ENGINEERING

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

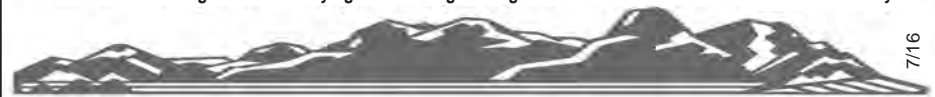
For a free consultation, visit our Madera Ranchos office!
36961 Avenue 12
559.645.4849
www.bedrockeng.com

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



7/16

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

7/16



Specializing in AUTO ACCIDENTS

Click on "Local News" at

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

LOSE WEIGHT AND INCHES TOO

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

DIET WORLD MEDICAL GROUP

"We Are Very Affordable" 224-6744 OPEN: Monday - Friday
9:00 AM until 5:30 PM

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

7/16

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.transitionschildrensservices.org

7/16

Bradley & Sons
LIC. 414178

DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE

Same Day Service

674-1663
23338 Ave. 14
Madera

Family Owned
Since 1976

7/16

Ranchos Dental Care & Orthodontics

559-645-5320
www.ranchosdental.net





Matthew Pia, D.D.S.

37144 Ave. 12, Suite 104
Madera Ranchos

"Serving your community for over 20 years"

7/16

ORGANIZED BY CHOICE

By Brenda McElroy

7/16

Two Toxic Words

As I was sorting closet contents with a client yesterday, she repeatedly used the two toxic words: "for now." She's not the only one. We all do it at times. A few minutes ago I said those words as we moved a lamp we're replacing. "Let's just put it here for now," I said.

What makes these words so toxic? I believe the amount of clutter in one's home directly correlates to the number of times a person says, or thinks, "I'll just put this here ... for now."

There are three main reasons we use those words.

1. The least harmless is when we need a temporary home for something, like the lamp we're donating, or the shirt we're returning because it's the wrong size. These things will clutter up an area, but there's a plan in place for removing them.

2. Then there are deferred actions.

The suitcase that sits waiting to be unpacked, or the clean laundry pile laying on the couch. There's the mail on the kitchen table and the box of Costco supplies to be put away. There are grocery bags of stuff cleaned out of the car or purse and tossed in the closet to be sorted out later. And all the stuff that gets crammed into the spare room when company's coming. These are all things that could be put away, but the action is deferred when we leave them somewhere else "for now."

It's frustrating when you can't find your favorite top because you forgot it's still packed or in a pile on the couch. It's costly when the mail doesn't get opened and a bill becomes overdue. It becomes overwhelming when all the "for now" stuff accumulates in the spare room and you don't know where to start.

3. The third and potentially most

challenging reason is that we defer decisions. We don't have a designated spot for the new kitchen gadget, so rather than deciding where to put it, it sits out on the counter. We don't know where to file our Health Benefits package so it joins a stack of other deferred decisions on the desk. We feel like we're saving time by just throwing it on top, but in the end it does the opposite.

When a pattern of deferred decisions is established, it becomes increasingly hard and time consuming to find things. Things that cannot be found at all have to be replaced, taking even more time. Not to mention the increased stress and cost involved in searching for and replacing things.

As painless as I try to make the purging process, I often feel like I'm holding my clients' feet to the fire as I press them to make a decision. Otherwise, they easily move things from one pile to another, or try slipping things into their pockets instead of deciding: Is it a keep, toss or donate? If it's a keep, where is its home going to be? Deferring the decision feels easier at the time, but the consequences are not so pleasant.

According to a study conducted by a Boston marketing firm and reported in Newsweek magazine (June 7, 2004), the average American burns 55 minutes a day – roughly 12 weeks a year – looking for things they know they own but can't find.

We're not as productive when we haven't made conscious decisions about our stuff. According to a study conducted by a Boston marketing firm and reported in Newsweek magazine (June 7, 2004), the average American burns 55 minutes a day – roughly 12 weeks a year – looking

for things they know they own but can't find.

Marie Kondo, author of *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up* has a simple mantra: "Don't put it down; put it away." Putting something down can happen anywhere. That means when you go to look for it, it could be anywhere. Putting something away means you've made a conscious decision and taken action to put it where it belongs.

As you take action and make decisions, you will reap the benefits of a more peaceful and productive environment.

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

No Melon-choly Here

As a child, I watched my dad plant seeds for our garden. When he'd get ready to plant the watermelon seeds, he'd go out to my grandparent's dairy and get a load of cow droppings (otherwise known as manure) and he'd come back home and dig holes for the seeds, put a couple shovels full of the manure in each hole and drop some seeds in and cover them up. It always amazed me that such wonderful tasting fruit can come from such an awful smelling beginning – but it worked!

Out at our grandparent's, in order to keep the watermelons cool they would let the melons, covered with wet gunny sacks, sit in the "tank house." Not really a house, but a large framed building that held a huge tank that was pumped full of water for the house use. Us kids loved it when grandma or grandpa didn't turn the main pump off in time and the tank would run over. We would run through the overflow until they got the pump turned off. I can still remember grandpa running (he was a big man, but he could sure run) to get the pump turned off and yelling something about "wasting water" – even in the '40's they worried about wasting water.

We now have the choice of seeded or seedless watermelon. I realize the convenience of the seedless – no bother with the kids eating seeds by mistake or the seeds all over the patio or ground – but I really think the seeded melons are the sweetest, plus you get to eat the heart of the melon, the best part.

I have always thought of melons for dessert or maybe a salad, but I found some ways that may surprise you. The first one makes a refreshing summer snack and kids love it.

Spicy Watermelon

- ¼ tsp. ground cumin
- ¼ tsp. ground coriander
- ¼ tsp. chili powder
- ¼ tsp. salt



Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes

by Jean Briner

- 1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper
- 2 C cubed seeded watermelon
- ½ lime, juiced

In a small bowl, mix together the spices. Put the watermelon in a

large serving bowl. Sprinkle with spice mixture and mix well to coat melon. Sprinkle juice over spiced melon and serve.

This bread is very moist and has the texture of pumpkin or zucchini bread. If you have extra can-

taloupe it can be pureed and frozen for use later.

Cantaloupe Bread with Praline Glaze

- 3 eggs
 - 1 C vegetable oil
 - 2 C white sugar
 - 1 T vanilla
 - 2 C cantaloupe, peeled, seeded and pureed
 - 1 C all-purpose flour
 - 1 tsp. salt
 - 1 tsp. baking soda
 - ¾ tsp. baking powder
 - 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
 - ½ tsp. ground ginger
 - ½ C butter
 - 1 2/3 C brown sugar
 - ½ C. chopped pecans
- Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour two 9x5 loaf pans.

In a large bowl, beat together eggs, vegetable oil, sugar, vanilla and cantaloupe. In a separate bowl, sift together flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon and ginger. Stir the flour mixture into the cantaloupe mixture, stir to combine. Pour batter into prepared pans. Bake in a preheated oven for 1 hour, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean. Meanwhile, combine butter and brown sugar. Microwave for 3

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

Whether your favorite melon is a Crenshaw, as was my Dad's; a honeydew, which was my sister Faye's; or mine, a watermelon or cantaloupe, they are in the markets now. They can be eaten at breakfast, lunch or dinner and a snack anytime in between.

PETE & MARIA'S

ITALIAN BISTRO

559-645-5545

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

www.chadstrucking.com

TRUCKING
CA #441782

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 •

LANDSCAPE DIRT & DRIVEWAY

559-645-5363

TIRED OF PAYING FOR FLOOD INSURANCE?

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

Michael Sutherland & Associates, Inc.

645-4730 • Fresno 447-5815
36691 Avenue 12 • Madera Ranchos

SAY YOU SAW IT IN the Ranchos Independent



31st ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER'S BBQ

August 13th, Panoche Creek River Ranch

8805 Highway 41 – 2 miles North of Herndon
(Next to Cobb's Ranch off Cobb's Ranch Blvd.)

5pm-Midnight

**ADULTS
ONLY
Please!**

Dinner, Dancing, Live and Silent Auctions!
Purchase Your Tickets at the Following Locations:

**Ranchos Market • Ranchos Pizza Factory
Ranchos Café • Hurst Hardware
Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce**

Credit/Debit Card and PayPal via
www.maderastation19.com

Credit Card: Call Lesley Flores at (559) 871-9175
or purchase at Ranchos Chamber of Commerce
or Ranchos Café.

Ticket Price: \$35 ea. or \$245 per Table (8 people)

EVENING TIMELINE

**No Host Bar 5pm-Midnight • Dessert Sale 5-6:30pm
Firefighter Jailhouse 5-10pm
Silent Auction/Raffle Row 5-8:30pm
Catered Tri-Tip Dinner 6-7:30pm • Photo Booth 5-9pm
Introduction and Honoring Firefighters 7-7:30pm
Live Auction 7:30-8:30pm
Music & Dancing 8:30-Midnight**

**8805 Highway 41 – 2 miles North of Herndon
(Next to Cobb's Ranch off Cobb's Ranch Blvd.)**

**To Donate or if You Have Any Questions, Contact:
Lesley Flores (559) 871-9175
Peter Flores (559) 232-2428**

7/16

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

minutes, stirring every minute. Stir in pecans. Pour sauce over warm bread. Let it cool for one hour before serving.

I love Mexican food, but sometimes the salsa served is a little too warm for me. So how about a variation?

Watermelon Tomato Salsa

1 ½ C chopped red onion
1 C chopped cantaloupe
1 C chopped watermelon
1 tomato, seeded and chopped
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped

¼ C fresh lime juice

¼ C chopped fresh cilantro

Salt and pepper to taste

In a large bowl, mix all ingredients together except salt and pepper. Add salt and pepper to taste. Refrigerate at least 4 hours before serving. Be sure to seed the tomato; if you don't the dish will be too watery.

How about a Watermelon Margarita with your Mexican food?

Watermelon Margarita

2 tsp. sugar

1 lime wedge

3 ½ C cubed seeded watermelon
½ C tequila
2 T sugar
3 T fresh lime juice
1 T Triple Sec

Place 2 tsp. of sugar in a saucer. Rub the rims of six glasses with the lime wedge, spin the rim of each glass in the sugar to coat it. Set prepared glasses aside.

Combine watermelon, tequila, sugar, lime juice and triple sec in a blender; process until smooth. Fill each glass with ½ cup crushed ice. Add ½ cup margarita mix to each glass. Garnish with lime wedges or melon balls, if desired.

Whether your favorite melon is a Crenshaw, as was my Dad's; a honeydew, which was my sister Faye's; or mine, a watermelon or cantaloupe, they are in the markets now. They can be eaten at breakfast, lunch or dinner and a snack anytime in between.

Got a favorite recipe that wows 'em that you'd like to share with the world? Send it to ranchosnews@yahoo.com or mail it to us at The Ranchos Independent, 37167 Ave. 12 #5C, Madera CA 93636.

Cal Dems Spending to Save Costa

Sixteenth Congressional district GOP nominee Johnny Tacherra's campaign has issued a statement in response to a story in the Los Angeles Times that highlighted the

California Democratic Party's heavy spending on behalf of incumbent Congressman Jim Costa. The story found Costa to be vulnerable in this election and said that the congressman is the main recipient of the California Democratic Party (CDP) "paid voter registration drives," according to the Los Angeles Times. Costa has received hundreds of thousands of dollars from the CDP over his long political career.

"Make no mistake about it. Nancy Pelosi knows her close friend Jim Costa is in increasing danger of not returning to Congress due to his failure to fix the problems the Central Valley and our nation face today," Tacherra said. "Despite a war chest

exceeding \$1 million in special interest campaign donations, Costa is in trouble and they are pulling out all the stops to save him."

Tacherra further said that the fact that in this area there is no state Senate race and the Assembly incumbent, Adam Gray, had his opponent drop out of the race months ago is what's enabling the CDP to spend the money. "If they are looking at the same polls I am, it is obvious that Central Valley voters want a change in Washington," Tacherra said. "It is 'All Special Interests on Deck' at the CDP to save Costa."

Carl Fogliani, Tacherra's Senior Advisor, said Tacherra looks forward to winning the support and votes from all those new voters. "They are registering because they know it is time for a change from the failures of the past and Johnny Tacherra is that change," Fogliani said.



Johnny Tacherra is running as a Republican against incumbent Jim Costa for the 16th Congressional District that serves the Madera Ranchos.



How to Keep Cool

Hello 93636,

Just a few tips to help you "do-it-yourselfers" understand and properly diagnosis your vehicle's cooling system. In this hot weather it may just come in handy.

Let's start by checking and servicing your vehicle's cooling system. If you drive a Toyota Prius or newer Ford diesel pickup, you have two separate and independent cooling systems. Check both. In the case of the Prius, one cooling system is for the gasoline engine and the second is for the hybrid high voltage electrical system.

If your vehicle has a radiator with a radiator cap, check the coolant level there. You should be able to visually see the coolant inside the radiator neck. The color of the coolant will differ depending on the type of coolant and vehicle manufacture. Turn the radiator cap over and inspect the large and small rubber seals for cracks. Replace the cap if any are found. For safety, only check the coolant level when the engine is cool.

If the cooling system is low, top it off. Use coolant, not water. Some beneficial properties of coolant over water are: It raises the boiling point; lowers the freezing point; inhibits rust and; lubricates the water pump. **DO NOT** use one size fits all coolant. Use only the coolant designed specifically for your vehicle. If you cross-mix coolants, they can create a gel. When that happens you have big problems. **BE CAREFUL!** There should be a manufacturer's coolant information label somewhere under the hood. Use it. If not, get the owner's manual from the glove box. If you don't know which coolant to use or the proper coolant is not available, use distilled water. Do not use tap water if possible. We don't want an adverse chemical reaction from fluoride, chlorine or whatever else is in the tap water and I certainly don't want particles of iron circulating throughout the cooling system and grinding on things like plastic water pump impellers. By the way, the cooling system service intervals are listed on the label and in the owner's manual. Service the cooling system on time. Coolant does wear out.

Many vehicles have cooling sys-

tems with the fill cap mounted on top of the expansion tank. If you inspect the expansion tank, you will see a cold and warm full mark. If the engine is warm, the coolant level in the expansion tank should be at the upper mark or warm level. In the morning when the coolant is cool, the coolant level should be at the lower mark, **NOT THE TOP ONE**. I don't trust these systems to accurately display the correct coolant level. Look inside the radiator whenever possible. Here's my explanation: When coolant temperature increases, the coolant expands into the expansion tank. When coolant temperature decreases and the coolant contracts, a vacuum is created in the cooling system drawing coolant out of the expansion tank and back into the cooling system. The radiator is **ALWAYS FULL**, hot or cold. But if the cooling system has a leak (not sealed), the expansion tank can lie. Outside air can be sucked into the cooling system instead of coolant from the tank. The unintended consequences are an air pocket in the cooling system and the expansion tank will always show full (**TOP MARK**) even if the system is cool and/or the Radiator is empty. If you verify the expansion tank level is active, then – and only then – can it be a trusted coolant level indicator.

Some other indicators of a low cooling system are the heater does not blow hot air. There may not be enough coolant to circulate through the heater core. Also, the coolant temperature gauge on the dash is fluctuating. It should be rock solid. If the gauge is fluctuating it is an indication of air pockets passing by the coolant temperature sensor. If the cooling system is consistently low, have it pressure checked for leaks.

Here's some more overheating diagnostic tips I've learned over the years: If your vehicle overheats only when the vehicle is stopped or in stop and go traffic, suspect the radiator cooling fan is inactive. When traveling down the road the cooling system is not dependent on the cooling fan because air is being rammed through the radiator from the motion of the vehicle. When the vehicle stops, the rammed air also stops and the cooling system becomes dependent on the cooling fan. If the fan is inactive, overheating.

DIAGNOSTIC TIP #1: Get out and see if your cooling fan is spinning. Next, place a hand towel over the vehicle's grille. If the fan is efficient, it will suck enough air through the grille to pin the towel. Next, turn the engine off and see

that the towel does fall off. If the towel was not pinned, I start my diagnosis with the cooling system fan.

Here's another useful tip: If you have air conditioning, turn it on. Most vehicles automatically turn on the radiator fans when the AC is on. If the overheating condition disappears, suspect a failed engine cooling fan temperature indicator switch.

DIAGNOSTIC TIP #2: If the vehicle always overheats, happens within a few miles and the cooling system is full, suspect a stuck closed thermostat or head gasket failure. Unless the vehicle has been severely overheated within the last several months, the odds are in your favor it's not a head gasket failure. If your cell phone has a forward-looking infrared app, sample the coolant temperature in front and back of the thermostat. If the thermostat is open the temperatures will be identical.

DIAGNOSTIC TIP #3: If the vehicle only overheats at higher speeds and/or climbing hills, suspect a restricted radiator or soft lower radiator hose. At lessor engine speeds, the engine generates less

heat and the water pump turns slower. When the engine begins working harder it speeds up. As a result, more heat is generated and the water pump spins faster. If the radiator is internally restricted, not enough coolant can be circulated through the radiator to remove the increased heat. Also, if the lower hose becomes soft, the increased suction from the water pump can collapse it.

DIAGNOSTIC TIP #4: If the engine runs slightly warmer and the AC air is also warmer, wash the AC condenser and radiator by spraying water through the grille to remove dust and bugs.

Hope this helps. Give me a call if you need clarification or have additional questions.

If you have suggestions for future topics, as always I can be reached at complete_car_care@hotmail.com or Facebook. I would love to answer your questions.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636

Warren Parr

ARD 117312

EO License # 139887

GOLDEN VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

12414 Road 37, Madera Ranchos – Corner of Cloverleaf & Road 37
559-645-1700

Family Friday Night Movie
July 22nd • 8 p.m.



FREE FUN!
Free Popcorn,
Drinks & Snacks

Sunday Bible Classes – ALL Ages 9 am

Sunday Worship Service – 10:30 am

Fellowship Coffee & Snacks Follows Sunday Services

Call for more information about:

Quilting/Sewing Circle – Tuesday Mornings 9am

Life Apps for ALL Ages – Wednesday Nights

Women's Ministry – Thursday Nights

Under the direction of Pastor Mansel L. Trimble



www.goldenvalleybaptistchurch.org

Email: goldenvalleybaptistchurch@live.com



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



7/16

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

**Marty Owen -
The Concrete Guy**

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

Licensed & Bonded SCL #991137

Marty the Concrete Guy • 559-718-9952

Senior Report

Missed Opportunities at Friendship

By Patti Groh

I really enjoy going to yard sales, estate sales and thrift shops. I don't buy a lot. I have so much stuff of my own that I should be getting cleaned out. Occasionally, though, I find something that I will enjoy or be able to use. Sometimes it is even something I've even been meaning to buy and I find it slightly used at a very good price. But, that is not really my point today. I want to tell you about the estate sale I stopped at a few weeks ago, out here in the Ranchos.

I started in the garage, looking around. There were a lot of things there that I could find in our garage and shop. There were tools and hobby things that my husband has or would love to have. Things he really would enjoy and love to talk about.

"... I think what a lost opportunity it was for them, for me, for the other Seniors, to have missed knowing each other ..."

Then I went into the kitchen. Out there on the table and counters were kitchen tools, appliances, cookbooks, Tupperware and such items. All of those things were interesting to me – many that I have in my kitchen and pantry. There was a small food processor that I purchased. I'd been wanting a small one for a while. Picked

up a great little cookbook using brand name ingredients.

As I further looked around the house, the furnishings and decorations were very much to my taste. It really felt like a home. As I wandered through, I realized that I would really have liked to have known and might have become friends with the people who had lived here. As a couple, I think my husband and I would have enjoyed spending time and getting to know the last owners.

As I paid for my small purchase, I learned that the two daughters-in-law were cleaning out the house of their well-loved-in-laws. Father had died about a year and a half ago and mother in the last six months. I said that I thought I would have really liked them as it seemed we had interests in common. Apparently, they were a quiet couple, didn't get out and socialize much outside of family. Daughters-in-law even mentioned how they had encouraged mom and dad to go to the Seniors Center and meet people, especially to mom after dad died.

As I've pondered on it, I think what a lost opportunity it was for them, for me, for the other Seniors, to have missed knowing each other. So, I want to encourage others to come explore the possibilities of friendship at the Senior Center. Please don't wait. Start this week. You don't know what you might be missing.

All the winners of the Fourth of July raffle have been notified. Seven of us went to the Pizza Factory where we had employee Jon Cash draw the winning tickets. And the winners are (drum roll inserted here): First prize of four Disneyland tickets went to Pauline Castilas; Fish Box Charters trip to Shaver, Verlaine Elinburg; Free Pizza Factory pizza-a-month for a year, Sue Potter; Red Rock bin, Tony Colorado; Chukchansi dinner and lodging, Audrey Stock. A big thank you is shouted out to all of the people who purchased tickets and made this such a success. And of course, thank you to the organizations who donated the prizes.

August 6 is the Center's Saturday Treasure House, Garden and Boutique Sale. But hot August is a "No Bake Sale" Sale which means kitchens won't be heated up but donations may be made to the "No Bake Sale."

August birthdays and anniversaries will be celebrated on August 20 at Venetian Gardens restaurant in Fresno. Please sign up at the Center. Arrive by 11:15 for lunch at 11:30.

Don't forget potluck every Thursday evening at 6 p.m. with cards afterward. Come down and use the Center's air conditioning.

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. #997265 & Bonded

7/16

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

Flatlanders Day



Annual Crab Feed



Chamber Sponsor Reception Night



Verlin Dill for VDI Industries with Chamber President Ollia Ridge.

Igal Treibatch for Liberty Groves.

Nancy Finley for Fernwood Gardens.

Karen Petryna, left, and Igal Treibatch for SEMCU.

Randy Bailey for the Ranchos Independent.

Community Christmas Tree Lighting · Veterans Christmas Program
Fireworks Booth Fundraiser · Liberty High Business Scholarships
Community Guidebook · Support for Local Businesses
Support for Local Projects · Interesting Speakers
Great Monthly Mixers · The only thing missing is YOU!

7/16

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

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

TREES cont. from P. 3

conserve water and promote a healthy environment for your tree.”

Fungus

The most predominant fungus in the soil affecting Ranchos Redwoods is *Phytophthora*, which is literally Greek for “plant destroyer.” “This pathogen generally attacks the root system but may attack other areas of the tree,” he said. “Due to many cases of watering issues and the hardpan we have, moisture can build up around the root system causing conducive conditions.” If your tree has *Phytophthora*, your odds for saving it are not very good. There is a vast array of information on *Phytophthora* at the University of California website at ipm.ucanr.edu. Go there and enter “*Phytophthora*.”

Insects

“The predominant insects in the area are borers. Predominantly flathead borers, but there are others. Many others,” he said. However, willows and birch trees are the most affected in the Ranchos. Unlike the trees being destroyed in the Sierra Nevada, Menezes said insects aren’t at the top of the list in the Ranchos.

Environment

“The wrong type of ground cover, like rocks, can be very detrimental to the root system,” Menezes said. “They can

cause a very warm to hot surface. That can or may harbor many disease vectors and restrict oxygen to the roots.”

He also said that when you are draining or cleaning your pool or hot tub, do not dispose of the water in the flower beds or around trees. “That water is contaminated as far as plants go and can be deadly to them,” he said.

Last fall, Governor Brown declared a state of emergency on the unprecedented tree die-off in California. He formed a “Tree Mortality Task Force,” reprioritizing \$32 million in California to conduct safety-focused restoration along roads, trails and recreation sites. To date, the Forest Service has felled over 77,000 hazard trees, treated over 13,000 acres along 228 miles of roads around communities and recreation sites and created 1,100 acres of fuel breaks. Work on another 15,000 acres is in progress and it’s all aimed at suppressing wildfires.

But that doesn’t do a thing for Ranchos residents with dying Redwoods in their yards.

Menezes said that when the Ranchos first encountered problems with its wells, the draconian measure of cutting all plant watering wasn’t well thought out. “If your lawn dies, you can replant next year and have a lawn. If a 20-year-old tree dies, well, you get the idea.”

QUARRY cont. from P. 2

and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Surface and Groundwater and Water Quality, Land Use, Noise, Traffic and Transportation, the final version of the EIR, at 10 volumes, was completed last month.

Austin Quarry Open House

At an Open House hosted by Vulcan on Wednesday, July 13 at the Ranchos Middle School, numerous Vulcan employees from around the country as well as their Friant and Sanger plants, were present to answer questions from the 85 residents who responded to the 3,623 invitations that were sent out via direct mail about those impacts and explain how the County will require Vulcan to address them.

When asked why Madera needed another rock quarry, in addition to the newly named Madera Quarry -- purchased by Schimmick Construction from former District 1 Supervisor Rick Jenson and located less than 10 miles north -- Mike Linton, Vice President of Properties & Land Development and based in Glendale, explained that not only was the Conditional Use Permit at their Friant facility expiring on Sept. 10, 2017, but the Madera Quarry (currently permitted to remove 900,000 tons of aggregate per year) and Vulcan’s

Sanger quarry (currently permitted to remove 2.5 million) together will not begin to meet the area demand projected by California’s Department of Conservation over the next 50 years.

Aggregate

Aggregate, which includes rock, sand and gravel, is used for nearly every kind of man-made structure -- roads, bridges, building foundations, parking lots, under rail road tracks, driveways and sidewalks, as well as along both river and sea shores (using a product called “rip rap,” to help prevent erosion). According to David Donaldson, Vulcan’s Vice President of Governmental and Community Relations and based in Birmingham, Ala., aggregate will be a major component in the work that will ensue with the passage of the federal highway bill, called the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which President Obama signed into law in December 2015. The Act will pay out \$305 billion over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 in highway and mass transit funding to improve the country’s dangerously deteriorating and outdated infrastructure.

Water

Although the hydrologists who con-

Please see **QUARRY** on P. 17

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

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

98° F and oppressive. 72° F and impressive.

No matter how hot it is outside, you can count on a reliable, energy-efficient YORK® air conditioner to keep you cool and comfortable inside. And you can also count on it being protected by one of the strongest warranties in the industry. It's just another way we install confidence. **Call or stop by to learn more.**

YORK
INSTALL CONFIDENCE

Quality Installation
Done right by a York® Certified Comfort Expert™

Ask us about our **Affordable Easy Financing**
Through GE Capital

Huckabee's HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Locally owned and operated
36141 Avenue 12 #103, Madera, CA 93636
559-662-0336 | www.huckabeeshvac.com

7/16

STOP PAINTING!

instead we recommend Sherwin-Williams
ELASTOMERIC COATING

included in your price: All necessary carpentry work • Stucco repair
In Business Since 1970 • BBB A+ rated • Lic. #273099

Frank Kramer Exteriors 559-645-4113
textured coating specialists



ADS
LOGOS
PR
MARKETING

FIVE TWO
ADVERTISING

645-0634



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

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
www.theRanchos.com
www.theRanchos.com
www.theRanchos.com
www.theRanchos.com
www.theRanchos.com

7/16

www.TheRanchos.com



Bring on Socialism!

By Betty Van Valkenburg

Anyone who's known me for at least five minutes knows that I've been a life-long conservative who believes in the tenets of hard work, self-sufficiency and self-sacrifice when necessary, and in individual liberty protected by a government that is (or was) bound by law to certain limited powers.

In this country that rewards and values the can-do spirit, never would I have thought that an avowed, proud-to-be Socialist named Bernie would garner popularity and a large following of voters while running for president of the United States promising everything to everyone. Or that, not to be outdone, while Bernie promised the moon, Hillary would promise the stars as well. (Why stop at this world when the entire galaxy is available?)

Meanwhile, this hard-working conservatism thing is really getting to be exhausting. Don't you think? Caring for self, family and home while maintaining a job or business or juggling retirement income – although satisfying and fulfilling – just sometimes sucks and makes us tired.

I have been listening to the grand socialist promises and – OMG – they're beginning to sound good to me. Spending a life of hard work, following the laws and asking nothing of government except the protection of our God-given rights as promised in the Constitution appears to be for chumps.

So I've had it! Time to get aboard the gravy train instead of working to keep the train on the track. I'm converting to Liberalism/Progressivism/Socialism. Bring it on! I don't care what "ism" it is, just so it takes care of me and gives me the goodies. I deserve them, don't you know?

Never mind that socialism leads to poverty and authoritarian control wherever it is tried. We can do it right this time. Never mind asking who's going to pay for the free food, free education, forgiveness of student loans, free housing, free single-payer health

care, free re-training because the original government schooling doesn't teach, free day care, free night care, free abortions, free condoms, free stuff, stuff, stuff. The filthy rich, Wall Street and large corporations will pay for all of it – until they are taxed out of existence. But why worry about that, since we aren't them? The politicians have made promises, you see. We will be happy. We will be content. We will be well fed according to the First Lady's nutritional dictates. We will want for nothing except perhaps a shred of dignity.

Just imagine it. A benevolent, all-caring government providing my every need, lifting from my shoulders the onus of self-sufficiency and responsibility for my own well-being. A life of ease and contentment with new rights granted by big government: New rights to food, clothing, a "living wage," health care, education, housing. No more striving to succeed or excel. No more failures to overcome. No more the mere right to the pursuit of happiness, but the promise of government-provided happiness.

Freedom from want. Freedom from making life's hard decisions.

Oh-oh. Wait just a minute. I want to make my own decisions for what I'm given for free. I might not like what those in power decide for me. If I'm going to become a greedy Socialist, I'm going all in. After all, I really don't like kale or Brussels sprouts so I want an extensive menu of free food. I want to live in a nice home, not in run-down government housing. I want my grandchildren to go to Harvard for free, not to Podunk U. I want to

drive around the country in a new Lexus, not an old Chevy. Oh, shoot! Better add another new right: The right to a car – a car of my choice, and in the color I want, after all. And while driving around the country, I want to stay in the best hotels. Oh boy, another discovered right: To hotel accommodations and certainly not at a Motel 6. And room service. And spas ...

Well when I get on a roll there's just no stopping my wish list of freebies. Just as there is no end to the perils of Socialism.

If only Socialism/Liberalism/Progressivism could live up to its utopian hype. Wouldn't it just be so great?

For information and resources, please visit www.teaparty patriots.org.

The Bookshelf

Getting Ready for A New School Year

By Amanda Judd

The Ranchos Library has been flying through our Summer Reading Program. We have loved our entertainers and congratulations to all of those Gold Medal Readers that have been turning in their logs every week. It is exciting to see everyone so captivated with selecting new books every week.

August will soon be here, and with it comes the start of a new school year and, not coincidentally, Children's Vision and Learning Month. With one in four children having an undiagnosed vision problem, the goal of the national observance is to educate about the intimate relationship between vision and learning.

With the beginning of school, remember that the Ranchos Library is the perfect place to come in and pick up books for required reading lists and getting the necessary information to do research for those reports. We are putting out new titles each and every week. We also have binders for Sierra View and Webster Elementary Schools that can help you check levels for the Accelerated Reader testing and you can also access those websites on your tablets or other mobile devices using our Free WiFi.

August is also Getting Ready for Kindergarten Month. The library has lots of resources to get those little ones ready for their first day of school. It is always fun to read books about kindergarten with them; story times are a great way to get your child talking about the new school. Our AWE Computers also have an educational game specifically tailored to preparing for that first day. We will also be resuming our Preschool Story Time. Mrs. Maxfield's first story time will be on Thursday, Aug. 18 at 11 a.m. and continue each Thursday thereafter. Ranchos Library Storytime is a fun, read-play-learn activity session that is customized each and every week. We hope to see you there.

Ranchos Library would like to thank the community for supporting your local library and your local Chamber of Commerce with our 2016 Fireworks Booth. We appreciate all of the patronage and enthusiasm for the community and our library.

The Madera Ranchos Library
 37167 Ave. 12 • 645-1214
 Sun-Mon Closed • Tue 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Wed - Thu 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 Fri-Sat 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
www.MaderaCountyLibrary.org

LHS Alums Honored as Kiwanis Scholar Athletes

Liberty High alumni Logan Pierce and Gaston Villanueva have been honored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Fresno and Madera Counties, State Center Community College District Athletics Department and Educational Employees Credit Union in their annual honoring of outstanding scholar athletes.

The Kiwanis Torch of Excellence is awarded to college-level students who have achieved honors both academically and athletically. Students who achieve a 3.0 - 3.49 grade point average for two consecutive se-

mesters, or freshmen who achieve a 3.5 or higher grade point average during their first semester are designated Scholar Athletes. Students who have participated in the program for two years and attained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher are awarded the Torchlighter Award.

Villanueva is being honored in his second year of competing in soccer at Reedley College with the Torchlighter Award. Pierce, in his first year playing football at Fresno City College, was honored as a Scholar Athlete.



Logan Pierce, center, is flanked by his parents, Jim and Lori Pierce, as he receives the Kiwanis Torch of Excellence award.

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

©2016 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

GET PAID AT

M&G

RECYCLING

GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM
 GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM
 GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM
 GLASS • PLASTIC • ALUMINUM

37357 AVE. 12
MADERA RANCHOS

next to **LEE KITCHEN**

Finding Water is what we do WELL!

National Groundwater SURVEYOR

1-800-980-7429
 CaliforniaGroundwaterSurveyor.com

National Groundwater Surveyor works with R.A. Sorensen CA License PGP # 957

I have an oil for that!

Do you suffer from:
 Headaches • Pain • Allergies • Seizures • Arthritis
 Heartburn • Weight Issues • Sleep Problems • Stress
 Depression • Asthma • Colds & Flu • Indigestion
 Menstrual Issues • Acne • Eczema • Skin Disorders
 And Much More ...

Then I can help you!

dōTERRA

Certified Pure Therapeutic Grade Essential Oils
 100 percent All Natural • No Fillers or Harmful Additives

Tina Shannon • Wellness Advocate

call **645-4948 or 430-7131**
www.mydoterra.com/tinashannon • dama3@yahoo.com

Classified

GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

Apocalypse hasn't started yet, but I have no idea what my friends have been eating. I don't know who has gone to the store or who has decided to take in a movie. No one sends me texts when they are going to the gym. No one on the street shouts random sayings at me that have no real bearing on their own situation in life, let alone mine. How am I supposed to know whether I should cook chicken or lasagna tonight without posting a poll and asking my friends to cast a vote? People just aren't supposed to live like this.

This social media blackout has loosened not just my already tenuous grip on reality, but on my cell phone as well. I had accidentally left it in my bedroom the other day for hours. Who does that? I didn't even notice that it wasn't in my hand until I heard it ring from the other side of the apartment. I was so startled. I kept staring at my hand wondering why it wasn't the source of the ringing. The dissolution of dependency is already so advanced that I managed to enjoy an entire day with my best friend filled with shopping, lunch and a "mani-pedi" without even unlocking the screen. In just a little over a week it's becoming less and less of a habit to even reach for the phone when I don't need to make a call or send a message. I'm afraid it's going to get lonely without me. Perhaps I should get it an iPad to keep it company.

I can't imagine what lies in store for me for the remainder of the month, but I fear that without this addiction to social media I might have a lot of extra time on my hands. Maybe I could pick up some sort of crafting hobby. I hear there's an app for that.

TO ADVERTISE
in the Ranchos Independent
CALL 645-0634

Alteration Services

Madlin's Alterations - 45 years experience - Tailoring, repairs and leathers. Fast service. **NEW HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8-5. 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.**

Guitar Lessons

Guitar, Mandolin, or Ukelele lessons. Tuesday and Wednesday mornings or early afternoons. Trained instructor. Call **Yolanda for details. 577-4423.**

Gutter Services

The Gutter Doctor specializing in both continuous and standard rain gutters. General Contractor - Repair Maintenance. 32 years working in the area. Call **559-822-2759.**

Housecleaning

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

Interior Decorating

Interior Designs & Decorating specializes in interior decorating, design, wallpapering, interior painting and more. With over 10 years of experience, we serve all of the Ranchos and can help beautify your home. Call **Fermin Barboza at 559-416-6336.**

Painting Services

Painting Services - 40 years of experience. Licensed. Frank

Kramer Exteriors. Lic. #273099. Call 645-4113.

Quilting Services

QUILTING - Computer assisted longarm quilting. Designs starting at 1¼¢ per square inch. We can usually finish your quilt within one week. Call **Pam at 559-718-1829.**

Recyclables Pick Up

KEEP IT LOCAL - FREE RECYCLABLE PICKUP - KIDS 4 RECYCLING offers pickup of all recyclable materials including paper, plastic, glass, aluminum and cardboard. Call **Diana at 999-6832 or 645-1048, Funds support Ranchos community organizations and schools.**

Tractor/Trenching Services

BOBCAT WORK - DRILLING POST HOLES - Trees - Trenching - Clean Up. **TRACTOR WORK** Discing - Rototilling - Mowing - Scraping - Stump Grinding - 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, sills included. Remove hard water stain on home windows, shower doors and car windows. Cobweb removal too. Fully insured. Call **Nick at 285-1723. Free estimates. Ask about our SENIOR DISCOUNT!**

Yard Sales

Yard Sale - Tools, Garden Tools, 1969 Vintage Singer zig-zag sewing machine & notions. New dressmaking form. Mahogany dining table with leaf and 4 upholstered chairs. Stainless steel stock pots, cash register and lots more. July 22nd and 23rd from 7 a.m. to noon. **35581 John Albert Drive. Call 645-1252 for particulars.**

The Ranchos Independent classified rates are crazy cheap

CALL 645-0634

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.

	÷		+		7
×		+		÷	
	-		×		10
÷		÷		+	
	×		÷		2
6		2		7	

1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 9

©2016 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

Click on "Local News" at

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.

7/16



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

7/16

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



ONE STOP SHOP
REALTY, INC

BRE Lic. #01454566

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

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

7/16



Samantha Phebus
Living and Working in the Ranchos
559-970-6555
samantha@guarantee.com

There is a good chance you've been hearing about the recent hot real estate market. If you're thinking about buying or selling please give me a call. I'd love to visit with you and provide you with a free market analysis.

CalBRE#01823578



"Leading You Home"

7/16



Your Ranchos Neighbor
Doug Baker
Realtor-CalBre#01981367

(559) 250-4777
dbaker@guarantee.com



7/16


Your Local Realtor Since 1969
Ethel Eddings Pronin
Owner - Broker

Jerry Eddings, Realtors
Madera: 559-645-1890 • Fresno: 559-435-1890
DRE #00329063

37144 Ave. 12 Ste. 102 • Madera Ranchos




7/16



ADS
LOGOS
PR
MARKETING

645-0634



Alex M. Shubin
www.AlexMShubinProperty.com
AlexShubin@att.net

559-479-0520




ALEX M. SHUBIN
REALTOR
CA-BRE #01180082

7/16

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

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

 Since 1970
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
 41453 Ave. 14 1/2
 Madera Ranchos
www.jhsanders.com

BUBBA'S WATER TRUCK SERVICE

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

Posadas Cleaning

 Marina Posadas
559-481-0958
En Español 559-536-8018
 Open Availability
 License #3003592

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

HIGH QUALITY GATE SYSTEMS

559-454-8060

CENTRAL VALLEY

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

How's your fence?
Advanced Fence
for all your fencing needs
559-464-5286
 Lic. #997265 & Bonded


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

Housekeeping & Cleaning by Rosalia

 We clean empty houses, offices & rentals. Clean windows & water spots. Painting services inside & out. We haul anything and do small repairs.
559-514-9816
559-718-9941

 **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

MARION POOL SERVICE & REPAIR

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

Huckabee's
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 LIC. #637274
559-662-0336
559-438-8260
 Sales and Service - Free Estimates
 Duct Testing & Certification
 Locally owned and operated!

Aleman's Painting

 SINCE 1980
 Interior & Exterior
 Specializing in Repaints
 Rental, Residential & Commercial
 Drywall, Stucco, Redashing & Acoustical Removal
 Color Matching
 BONDED & INSURED
 LIC. #589140
559-974-2268

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

 Since 1964
645-1977

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


Longarm Quilting
559-718-1829

T&P Quilting • Pam Polach

ASTAR SMOG
 WE SMOG ALL VEHICLES • TEST ONLY
 5310 W. Spruce Ave., Fresno
 State of California LICENSED
SMOG CHECK
 "On the corner of Spruce and Herndon."
TEST ONLY
559-548-0000

PERSONAL TOUCH LANDSCAPE & GARDENING SERVICE • Lic. #B0008113

 Rancho Resident
 Yard cleanups & hauling • Weed control
 Lawn & garden service • Maintenance
 Weekly & monthly service
Mag Anaya Jr.
559-974-1357

Get Involved!

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

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

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

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



©2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You face the possibility of raising your relationship to another level. However, your partner might demand that you make promises for which you're not sure you're ready.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) As changes continue, expect things to get a little more hectic at your workplace. An unexpected travel opportunity could open new career prospects.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Confront the person who caused your hurt feelings and demand a full explanation for his or her actions. You'll not only recover your self-esteem, but you'll also gain the respect of others.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That personal problem in the workplace is compounded by someone's biased interference. Stand your ground, and you'll soon find allies gathering around you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You don't accept disapproval easily. But instead of hiding out in your den to lick your wounded pride, turn the criticism into a valuable lesson for future use.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) That former friend you thought you'd cut out of your life is still affecting other relationships. Counter his or her lies with the truth. Your friends are ready to listen.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) What appears to be an unfair situation might simply be the result of a misunderstanding. If you feel something is out of balance, by all means, correct it.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A stalled relationship won't budge until you make the first move. Your partner offers a surprising explanation about what got it mired down in the first place.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A co-worker shares some startling news, but before you can use it to your advantage, make sure it's true. The weekend favors family matters.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your usual conservative approach to family situations might not work at this time. Keep an open mind about developments, and you might be pleasantly surprised.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Plans might have to be put on hold because of a family member's problems. Don't hesitate to get involved. Your help could make all the difference.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Relationships in the home and in the workplace need your careful attention during this period. Be careful not to allow misunderstandings to create problems.

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



North America Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved. Wagner
"SHADDUP! I'm the umpire's mother!"

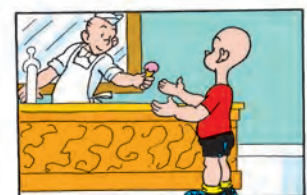
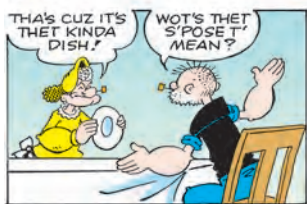
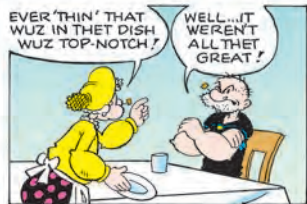
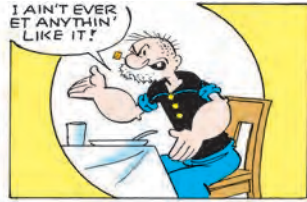
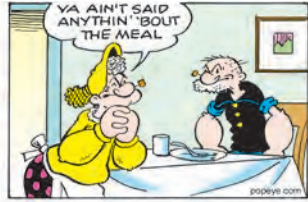
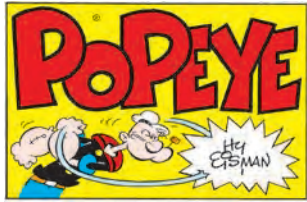
www.TheRanchos.com

Born this Week

You have a keen, insightful intellect and enjoy debating your views with others who disagree with you.
You also love to solve puzzles -- the harder, the better.

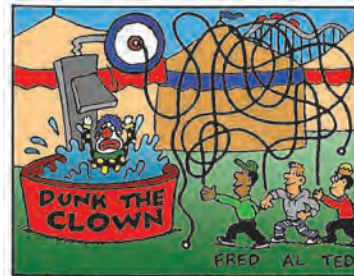
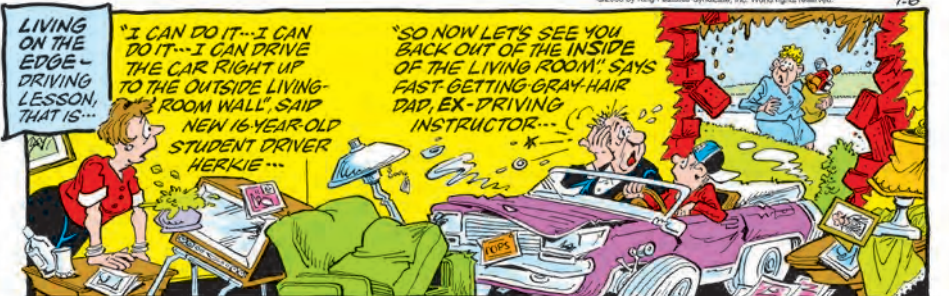
(c) 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

FUN PAGES



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



CLOWNING AROUND! Which of these "lefties" gave Dusty the Clown a quick bath?
Answers: Fred was right on target.

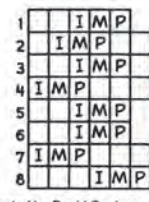
A TRICKY QUICKIE! To the right is an incorrect equation. Can you make it correct by adding one straight line to it?
 $11+11+1=1,152$
Answer: Add a straight line to the second plus sign, turning it into a "4." The equation will now read $11+1141=1,152$.

HOLY WORD-SQUARE, BATMAN! At the right is a word square grid. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same both across and down.
1. A toothy villain (given). 2. Provides food and liquid.
3. The wind is their friend. 4. A significant occurrence.
5. What a sick person does.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A DEVILISH WORD CONTEST!



In the grid shown here, there is room for eight "impish" words. Each contains the word "IMP." Using the following hints, see if you can solve this puzzle before our friend finds another target.

1. A light way to travel.
2. What a teen-ager hates.
3. To complain and whine.
4. To obstruct the progress of.
5. To be stingy with.
6. Tarzan's friend.
7. Regal or majestic.
8. To be frugal.

Wishing Well

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

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

(c) 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE • WHOLE GRAINS

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

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

Amaranth	Farro	Oats	Teff
Brown rice	Kamut	Quinoa	Triticale
Einkorn	Maize	Rye	Wheat
Emmer	Millet	Spelt	

©2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. MONEY: What is the building depicted on the back of a \$20 bill?
2. MEASUREMENTS: How many yards are in a fathom?
3. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented by pyrophobia?
4. TELEVISION: Who voiced the role of Charlie on the original "Charlie's Angels" TV series?
5. U.S. STATES: Which three state capitals have the least number of letters in their names?
6. LANGUAGE: What are gauchos?
7. FIRSTS: Who was the first woman to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: In superstitious beliefs, how many years of bad luck allegedly come from breaking a mirror?
9. MATH: What is a 20-sided shape called?
10. AWARDS: What is the award given each year to major-league baseball's most outstanding pitchers in the American and National Leagues?

Answers

1. The White House
2. Two (six feet)
3. Fear of fire
4. John Forsythe
5. Salem, Oregon; Dover, Delaware;
6. South American cowboys
7. Amelia Earhart
8. Seven
9. An icosagon
10. Cy Young award

(c) 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.
Click on "Local News" at

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

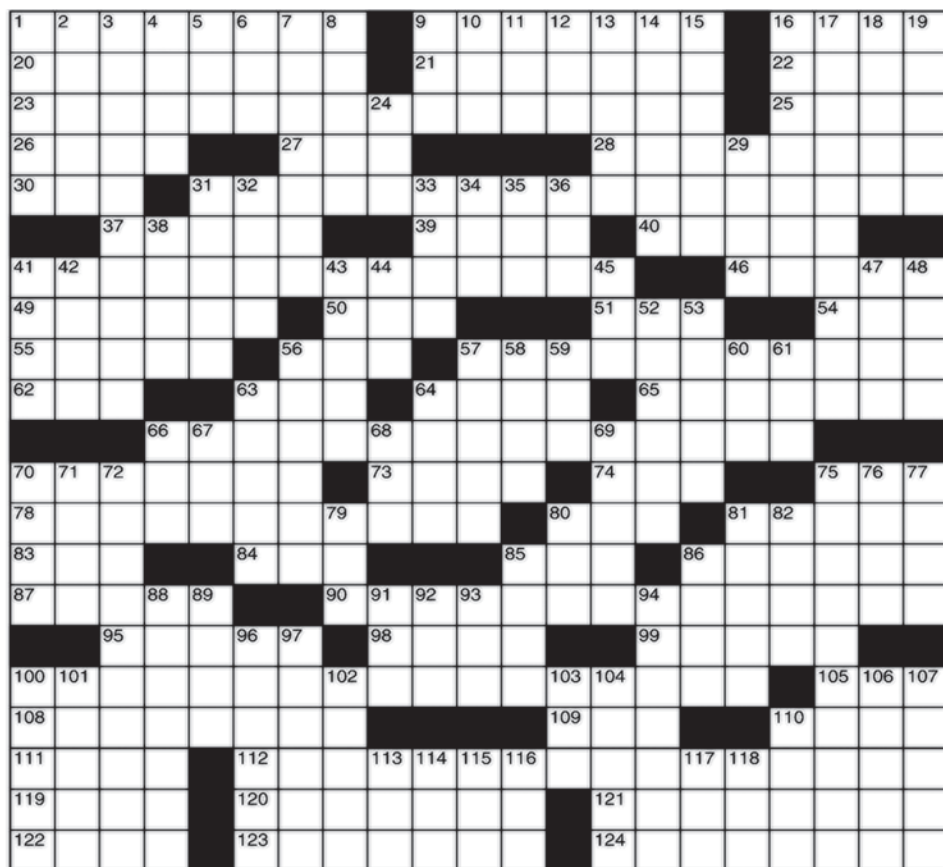
BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

©2016 King Features Synd., Inc.



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Walking stick is shorter; 2. Arm is moved; 3. Sun is missing; 4. Pants are shorter; 5. Cap is reversed; 6. Headset is missing.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Auto-theft deterrent
 - 9 Nickname for Ireland, with "the"
 - 16 "— to say?"
 - 20 Formal written defense
 - 21 Informer
 - 22 Lend a hand
 - 23 1941 hit for Billie Holiday
 - 25 "Would — to you?"
 - 26 "Frozen" snow queen
 - 27 Athenian H
 - 28 Of volcanic activity
 - 30 Subpar grade
 - 31 Kind of shipping with smallish freight
 - 37 O'Hara's Butler
 - 39 Kind of sword
 - 40 Give rise to
 - 41 One watching unobtrusively
 - 46 See 87-Across
 - 49 Fly jets, say
 - 50 Lend a hand
 - 51 Telly initials
 - 54 Bear, in Tijuana
 - 55 Countries
 - 56 Home pest
 - 57 Xeroxing supply
 - 62 Common B.A. major
 - 63 Orly jet, once
 - 64 Soprano
 - 65 California's region
 - 66 Legendary king of Camelot
 - 70 Little-by-little
 - 73 Morales of movies
 - 74 High trains
 - 75 Stein quaff
 - 78 Pilot's direction detector
 - 80 Nada
 - 81 Made even
 - 83 Gp. of G.P.'s
 - 84 One-wd. definition, essentially
 - 85 2005 Best Director Lee
 - 86 Plod along
 - 87 With 46-Across, pancake pour-on
 - 90 Like a technology in development
 - 95 Singer Clark or Gibbs
 - 98 Bowl game
 - 99 Believer in a "God of reason"
 - 100 Ayatollah
 - 103 Orly jet, once
 - 105 "Give — try!"
 - 108 Forbearance
 - 109 Yank enemy
 - 110 "— all a favor and ..."
 - 111 Luc's gal pal
 - 112 Simple substances split in eight
 - 119 Pop singer Celine
 - 120 One hanging in the air
 - 121 Sherpa, e.g.
 - 122 E-mail status
 - 123 Fifty percent
 - 124 "The way things look to me ..."
- DOWN**
- 1 Pent-up
 - 2 As straight as —
 - 3 "The Twilight Zone" host
 - 4 Jessica of "Sin City"
 - 5 Texting titter
 - 6 Census stat
 - 7 Meets the challenge of
 - 8 Jib holders
 - 9 Burnt residue
 - 10 Salt Lake City collegian
 - 11 Place: Abbr.
 - 12 Homer's cry
 - 13 More guileful
 - 14 Slick offering at a spa?
 - 15 Infer
 - 16 County in Kentucky or Indiana
 - 17 Reddish purple color
 - 18 Ex-Twin Tony
 - 19 Swiftswiss
 - 24 Pic on a pec, perhaps
 - 29 UPS items: Abbr.
 - 31 Pre-Easter periods
 - 32 Kitchen extension?
 - 33 Pay mind to
 - 34 Tax mo.
 - 35 Ut. neighbor
 - 36 Golfing peg
 - 38 Skull's place
 - 41 Outlet event
 - 42 Writer Bunin
 - 43 Zulu's group
 - 44 Plop (down)
 - 45 Fenway stat
 - 47 Functions
 - 48 Cruise stop
 - 52 Happen to (old song)
 - 53 Rocky peaks
 - 56 Wynonna Judd's sister
 - 57 Unsoiled
 - 58 Luxury hotel chain
 - 59 Hip dwelling
 - 60 NHLer, e.g.
 - 61 Barley
 - 63 Sharp pains
 - 64 Lhasa — (dog breed)
 - 66 Nabokov heroine
 - 67 Classic Karel Capek play
 - 68 — center (play area)
 - 69 Be in power
 - 70 Unit of fat
 - 71 "— Lama Ding Dong"
 - 72 Film version, e.g.
 - 75 Person reading for a role, say
 - 76 Big name in toy bricks
 - 77 Place of bliss
 - 79 Heart rocker
 - 80 Wind dir.
 - 81 Choo-choo
 - 82 Furrows
 - 85 "— in Calico" (old song)
 - 86 Smartphone of the 2000s
 - 88 Merciful
 - 89 Iroquois tribe
 - 91 Suffix with ethyl
 - 92 95, to Nero
 - 93 Asian ideal
 - 94 Food
 - 96 Western cattle farm
 - 97 Korean city near Seoul
 - 100 Apple tablets
 - 101 Flaxlike fiber
 - 102 Superman portrayer Christopher
 - 103 WWW bookmark
 - 104 Singer — Marie
 - 106 People of Rwanda
 - 107 Benefit
 - 110 Galley mark
 - 113 "Ho-hum"
 - 114 401(k) kin
 - 115 Bit of cartoon art
 - 116 Whelp's yelp
 - 117 Prefix with center
 - 118 Family VIPs

©2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

FREE

Low-Flow
Shower Heads
and Faucet Aerators
AVAILABLE NOW for
the **93636** zip code area



PICK UP LOCATIONS:



Madera Ranchos Chamber of Commerce
in the Maywood Shopping Center, across from the Library
Monday - Wednesday • 10am to 3pm

Ranchos/Hills Senior Center Bake Sale
at 37330 Berkshire behind the Maywood Shopping Center
First Saturday of each month • 8am to Noon



For more information Email: SEMUCU.WaterFixtures@gmail.com or Call: (559) 363-9095