

# The Ranchos Independent



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## Tree Wars: Signs of Trouble

By Randy Bailey

Two local businesses are taking their battle off the street and into the courtroom on Aug. 2 when John Finley, owner of CM&N Nursery, will be suing Mona Diaz, owner of Fernwood Nursery, for \$5,000 for damage done to metal signs he had made advertising his business which he claims confederates of Diaz have been actively removing and destroying in the name of unfair business practices. Diaz contends that she has never touched a sign belonging to Finley and doesn't know what he's talking about.

Finley says the trouble began in April of this year. At the time he was putting up signs advertising his wholesale tree nursery on power poles, bulletin boards and on private property where he had asked permission. "It would take me three to four days to have signs made and they'd be gone the next day," Finley said. He said he didn't know about the county's ordinance against posting signs on county property, "But once I was notified, all of my signs were down the next day," Finley said, adding, however, that many others still do post signs in the

Please see TREES Page 6

## Governor makes Ethanol Pit Stop In Madera Ranchos

By Randy Bailey

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Pacific Ethanol co-founder, and former California Secretary of State, Bill Jones paid a visit to the Madera Ranchos Thursday, July 13, as they toured the local Pacific Ethanol production facility on Avenue 12 in anticipation of its completion by the fourth quarter of this year. At a question and answer period in the middle of the facility, Governor Schwarzenegger was asked whether the plant would be up and running on schedule by this winter and before he could answer Jones leaned into the microphone and firmly answered: "Yes!"

The tour was timed to coincide with Schwarzenegger's announcement of his Bioenergy Action Plan for California.

"Our state is a biomass goldmine with tremendous resources found in our agriculture, forestry and urban waste," the Governor said.

The overall goal of the Action Plan is to move California toward energy independence while reducing harmful emissions that can result in pollution and certain "greenhouse" gases. "At the same time, revitalizing many of our rural and agricultural areas," he said.

California accounted for nearly 25 percent of the 4 billion gallons of ethanol demanded in the U.S. last year. The Ranchos plant is expected to produce over 35 million gallons of ethanol per year once it is fully operational.

"This facility is the largest new fuel refinery built in California in a generation," Jones said. "It is a significant milestone both for Pacific Ethanol and for the people of California."



Co-founder of Pacific Ethanol, former California Secretary of State Bill Jones, (left) introduces Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the press at an inspection and tour of the Pacific Ethanol Processing Plant on Avenue 12. The Governor was on hand to tout his new Bioenergy Action Plan and his administration's commitment to increasing biofuel production in an attempt to lessen California's dependence on foreign fuels while improving the environment. The Governor's goals are for California to produce a minimum of 20 percent of its own biofuels by 2010 and 40 percent by 2020. At present only 5 percent of the ethanol consumed in California is produced here.

## Sole Survivor of Deadly Avenue 12 Hit-and-Run Dies

By Randy Bailey

A husband and three children died in a fiery hit-and-run wreck, the result of a stolen vehicle slamming into their Toyota Corolla as they started to cross Highway 99 on Avenue 12 around 1 p.m. on July 3. The only survivor, wife and mother Celia Berber, 36, finally succumbed to the massive burns she suffered and died Monday, July 17.

Like most other families, Celia Berber and her husband, Balantin Lleranas, 34, and their children Sulema Alvarez, 16, Andoney Lleranas Berber, 10, and 4-year-old Brian Berber, all of Lindsay, were probably thinking about the upcoming Fourth of July on that hot July 3rd afternoon. They had no way of knowing that they were never to see another Independence Day.

Prior to the accident and less than a mile north of the fatal scene, a truck and trailer loaded with a bulldozer were being stolen approximately 1 mile from

Mearl's Market on Road 29, allegedly by Antonio Presiada, 26, of Madera. Leaving at a high rate of speed, the vehicle failed to stop or negotiate the turn onto Avenue 12 at the top of the southbound hill where Road 29 "T's" into Avenue 12 - and Celia Berber and family were at the ultimate wrong place at the wrong time. The force of the impact forced the small Toyota into the guardrail of the overpass and pinned it there as it burst into flames. Berber was pulled free by a passing motorist but the rest of her family perished in the fire.

Presiada was arrested the same day by Madera County Sheriff's deputies and booked on four counts of murder, five counts of felony hit and run, auto theft and felony DUI. Evidence gathered at the scene of the wreck coupled with evidence gathered at the scene of where the truck and bulldozer were stolen gave deputies enough information to arrest Presiada.

At his July 7 arraignment,

Presiada ultimately was brought up on 14 felony charges, including vehicular manslaughter, hit and run, DUI, grand theft and evading arrest. It has also been reported that Presiada is a member of the Surenos gang in Madera, a charge that he denies and which can carry additional legal penalties for him if true. If convicted, Presiada could be looking at 60 years to life before the possibility of parole.

### Trying to Steal Another Vehicle

Amazingly, at approximately 6:14 p.m. on the same day as the accident, deputies received a call from Presiada claiming to be injured as the result of being assaulted. Further investigation showed that the call came from Mearl's Market on Road 29, near the scene of the earlier hit-and-run and theft. When deputies arrived they found Presiada, allegedly in the process of trying to steal yet another vehicle, and complaining of injuries. But the kind of injuries

Presiada was complaining about were not the kind of injuries usually suffered from a beating, but rather the type consistent with an automobile accident.

When arrested, Presiada initially gave the name Antonio Palamino, one of four aliases he is reported to use. Further investigation showed that he also goes by Jose Guerra, Antonio Palomino Preciado and Antonio Preciado. Presiada was later turned over to the California Highway Patrol and remains in custody with bail set at \$1 million.

An autopsy on the family members determined the cause of death was incineration. Celia Berber was fighting severe burns over most of her body as well before she finally passed away.

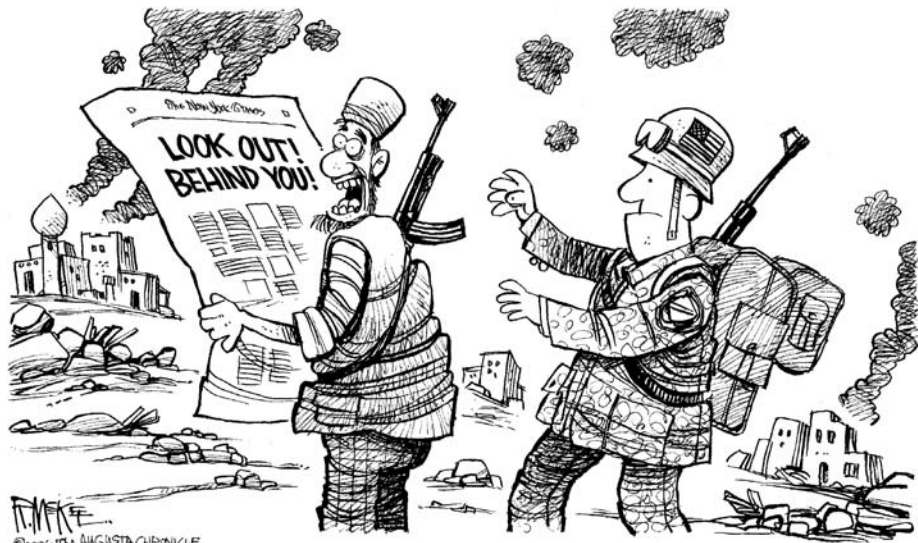
Madera County Sheriff John Anderson commended Deputies Mark Schafer, Daniel Keber, Zachary Zamudio, and Sergeants Patrick Majeski and Colleen Weisert, for their outstanding field work that resulted in the arrest of Presiada.



Antonio Presiada, 26, is being held in the hit-and-run death of a family of four on Ave. 12 on July 3.

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"WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT the 'NEW YORK TIMES'?!"...

### Editorial

## Bush's Veto Pen Used at Right Time

By Randy Bailey

President Bush finally vetoed some legislation this week. His first veto in his entire presidency and it couldn't have come at a better time for a better piece of legislation. Personally, I'm ecstatic that the President elected to save his veto for this legislation. What he was basically saying was, do embryonic stem cell research if you want, the government's just not going to pay for it which, although I find it reprehensible, works for me.

I'm reminded of the story of the guy who went his whole life and *never* spoke a word until one night his mom (who else would he be living with?) served him tuna casserole. He looked up and said, "I hate this!" The flabbergasted mother said, "You spoke! For the first time in all these years you spoke! How come you never spoke

before?" To which he replied, "Well, up till now everything's been alright." That's what Bush's veto reminds me of.

What really bothers me is all the knee-jerk types that will now make this an election issue, equating pro-life Republicans as members of the Flat Earth Society. The reality is that embryonic stem cell research is a sham. All of the breakthroughs, all of the benefits, all of the miraculous advances that have come from stem cell research have been from adult stem cells.

Adult stem cells, which are harvested from YOU, are not rejected by the body after they've been modified and replaced, unlike embryonic stem cells. Like any other tissue matching procedure, rejection is high.

Adult stem cells don't appear to cause tumors like embryonic ones do.

Advances in Parkinson's Disease therapy and multiple sclerosis therapy are both being driven by adult stem cell research. To date, guess how many humans have received a therapy with an embryonic stem cell. Give up? The answer is zero. Nada. None. Not one advance in human health is attributable to embryonic stem cells, but the list of advances from adult stem cells grows and grows. And where to we get adult stem cells from?

You and me.

No embryo farming.

No trading in the most rudimentary, fundamental form of human life.

The answer is already there and here was legislation that said "look the other way while we get this one through."

Now comes the fun part where we get to hear from actors and musicians and Internet fringe dwellers speaking before Congress (or anyone else, like the nightly news, that will listen to them) on the need for embryonic stem cell research.

And it's all so unnecessary.

Happy veto day!

**THE OBSERVATION DECK**

GOVERNMENT'S VIEW OF THE ECONOMY COULD BE SUMMED UP IN A FEW SHORT PHRASES: IF IT MOVES, TAX IT. IF IT KEEPS MOVING, REGULATE IT. AND IF IT STOPS MOVING, SUBSIDIZE IT.

**RONALD REAGAN**

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# The Ranchos Independent

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### Random Notes

I don't know if you're aware of it or not, but I also write a little monthly column for Fresno Magazine. They were interested in creating a political column with a view from the right and one from the left and I was their "go to" guy for one of the two sides. If you don't know which side I'm writing from, you obviously haven't been reading my editorials *or* Fresno Magazine, so here's your chance. S&K Mini Mart on Avenue 12 is the only official place in the Ranchos that sells Fresno Magazine and the latest issue has a picture of KMPH-Fox 26's Kopi on the cover. (When you get your issue let me know if it's just me or if Kopi doesn't look a LOT like that guy from *Weekend at Bernie's!*)

In a great show of solidarity, the Ranchos area churches are bringing a concert to Liberty High on July 29 for the kids featuring My Second Chance, Innate and Chasing Truth. Billed as the "Waking Dead Tour," it's got enough attitude (hard rock to hip hop to emo) for everyone in that post-pubescent, teeny-something demographic, but it's also got a good message. The best part is that rather than one specific church putting on the concert and taking the credit, all of the church youth groups in the Ranchos pooled their time and talent and pulled it off to present a cool concert for the kids for free. Ah, the community in action!

I guess the hottest topic in the Ranchos these days is illegally posting signs on power poles, stop signs and the like. It's becoming a mini-WWIII out there these days. One very patient lady has been politely complaining to the county for SEVEN years about people posting yard sale signs and puppies for sale signs and moving sale

signs on her corner property, but it had always fallen on deaf ears. When someone finally took a bedroom door out to her property with instructions to the garage sale written on it, that did it. She finally got an official county sign stating the laws and penalties for illegal posting. Patience is a virtue.

By the way, the laws says if you post ANYTHING on a power pole, fire hydrant, stop sign, etc., etc., etc. ... you're looking at a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail.

Hmmm ... where are those staple pullers?



Tickets are **NOW ON SALE** so buy yours early, the last two years we have **SOLD OUT**. There are only **500 tickets available. DON'T MISS OUT!**

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### Letters

Dear Editor:

In last month's Independent, Fred Mathes submitted a rambling screed concerning the signs posted along Avenue 12. In focusing on the "Trees for Sale" signs which I had posted and their subsequent removal, Mr. Mathes showed a level of dedication to the truth better suited for a work of propaganda. His claims contained gaping holes in the facts which he either neglected to mention or remains ignorant of.

It is true that I am suing Mr. Mathes' "Citizen 2," Mona Diaz, owner of Fernwood Nursery, for damages to signs I had posted, as well as a resultant loss of sales. However, contrary to his claims, the suit is in regard to numerous professionally made metal signs, not several sheets of "typing paper." Mr. Mathes properly cited the ordinance prohibiting signs on utility poles, but failed to mention the fact that Ms. Diaz specifically targeted my signs while ignoring dozens of others. Her actions were solely intended to damage her competitor, regardless of the attempt to portray them as an act of public service. Furthermore, Mr. Mathes falsely implied that Ms. Diaz had legal grounds for destroying my property; by extension of his logic, Mr. Mathes would have grounds to destroy an illegally parked car based solely on its location. This is, of course, absurd.

In both cases, legal means of removal exist, Ms. Diaz simply ignored them.

Ms. Diaz has hardly been the blameless one that she was made out to be. Mr. Mathes, the next time you feel the urge to touch pen to paper, please make an effort to get all the facts first.

John Finley  
CM&N Nursery

Dear Editor:

A small bit of information about rock quarries.

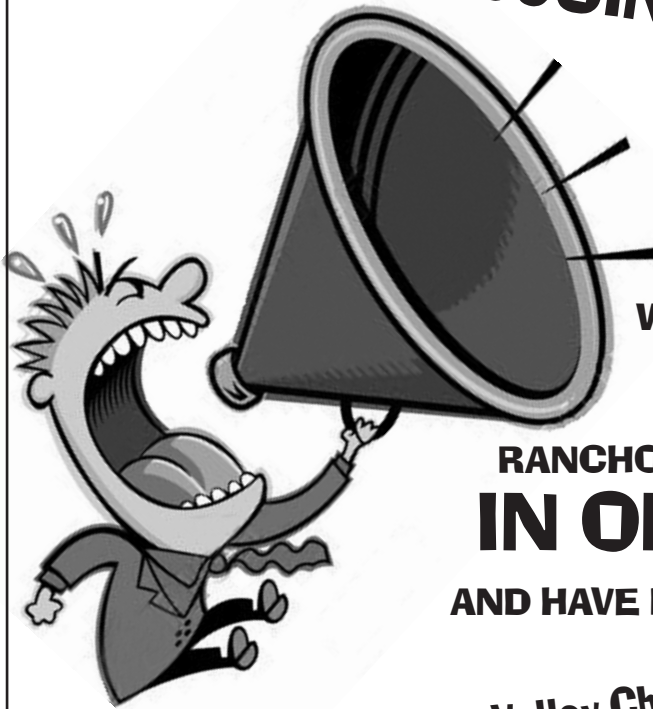
My family and I lived at a rock and sand quarry for 12 years on Hwy. 41 and the San Joaquin River. We raised three children during this time, and looking back and talking with all three of my grown children now, we would not have changed a thing. My children enjoyed the 500 acres we lived on. They enjoyed getting to know the truck drivers, loader operators, plant workers and even the office crew. My son who is now 20 years old can remember growing up at the rock plant and going for rides with some of the truck drivers at the age of six. They would stop for lunch or to get a cold drink, or sometimes my son would fall asleep during the ride. He really enjoyed spending time with them.

My two daughters can remember birthday parties we had. We would spend money on renting clowns or bounce houses to entertain the children, but they would have more fun sliding down the sand or rock piles on a piece of cardboard, or going swimming in the ponds out back which were made from the loaders. Our closest neighbor was a mile down the road, which was very nice. After business hours for the rock quarry our children could ride dirt bikes, four-wheelers and even horses. I never had to worry about someone running a stop sign and hitting them, and I never worried about someone taking them while they were playing. I can recall the truck drivers always being polite and always driving slow in front of my house at any given time.

I have sat back and listened to all the complaints about the rock quarries want-

Please see **LETTERS** Page 9

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# Summer Programs Thriving

By Ellen Mester

We have had a terrific turnout for our Summer Children's Reading Program, *Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales*. Over 125 children have enrolled in the program and participated in the contests, entertainment and prizes. It's been our best summer ever! Each week we've been singing, dancing or enriched in some way by our guest performers. And there's still more to come. Stop by and pick up a schedule. All this has been made possible by the wonderful financial support of the Friends of the Ranchos Library, the Ranchos Kiwanis, the Ranchos/Hills Seniors and the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce. Thank you all!

Our book club, *the Ranchos Roundtable Readers*, has been equally successful. We have a circle of 10 who have been reading historical fiction and non-fiction books about American history during our country's formative years. It's been interesting to learn about the daily lives of children, women and men who suffered the ravages of war for undoubtedly a future they could only imagine. Looking back in time makes us wonder if we would have the courage and the fortitude to do what our forefathers did to create the democracy in which we now enjoy. Good job, Readers!

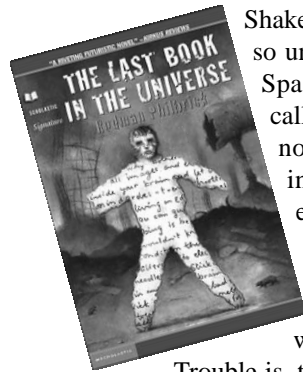
**NEWS FLASH!!!** The Grande Book Sale 2006 will be on July 22 through July 31 at the Golden Valley School District parking lot. More details to come. Purchase used books at bargain prices and remember, if you are looking for rare books, the web address is [www.librarybooksales.org](http://www.librarybooksales.org). Our Friends of the Ranchos Library have listed over 30 rare and special books and plan to list even more. You can browse books either by library (we're listed as Madera Ranchos Branch Library, top of the M list) or by author. You can also search for a specific book by typing in the title. Support the library by buying our used books, or by becoming a Friend of the Ranchos Library. Our meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

### Book Recommendations

**Adult Biography:** *What Remains: a Memoir of Fate, Friendship and Love* written by Carole Radziwill. Thankfully, this is not a tell-all book about the Kennedy family or the Radziwills. It is an honest description of one woman's marriage to the love of her life and the heartbreak when he dies from cancer. Carole Difalco, born to a rough and tumble family the complete opposite of her husband's family, graduates from college, lands a job with ABC, and ends up traveling the world as a news assistant then producer. She meets her future husband, Anthony Radziwill, while working together on a documentary. On their honeymoon, they notice a lump in his abdomen. Over the next five years they see countless specialists, surgeons – the best-of-the best. Intertwined is the story of family, Anthony's cousin, John Kennedy, Jr., and

his wife, Carolyn Bessett, who becomes Carole's best friend. Unless you have had your head in the sand the past several years, you know how it all ends. Everyone in the close foursome dies – but Carole. She offers glimpses of her life in association with the Kennedys and the Radziwills. Her husband was actually a prince but both he and Carole had arduous careers and lived a modest life. He hated drawing attention to himself, even as he was dying. Carole's writing style and honesty make this book so poignant. Be prepared for a good cry at the end – even though you know what's coming.

**Young Adult Science Fiction:** *The Last Book in the Universe* by Rodman Philbrick. Once again an author predicts that books will be obsolete in the future. I certainly hope not. This story set way into the future sounds somewhat familiar in a creepy way. The "Proofs" are genetically improved people who live in a place called Eden. The rest of the people are called "normals" and live in ghettos controlled by gang lords. Normals are not allowed in Eden. Spaz, who is so-named because he is epileptic, is sent by his gang lord, Billy Banger, to rob an old man named Ryter. Ryter tells him about the "backtimes" before the Big



Shake. It all sounds so unbelievable to Spaz – things called books that not only informed but entertained as well. Ryter remembers it all and writes it down. Trouble is, the gang lords don't want anyone to know about the backtimes. They might lose their violent control over the normals. The excitement begins when Spaz and Ryter escape the ghetto to save the life of a dying little girl. The only place that might be able to cure her would be in Eden. Fortunately in their quest they come upon a beautiful proof girl who helps them find the right medical care. It's an action packed quick read. You will find it in the YA section of the library.

**Juvenile Fiction Book:** *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier. This Newberry Honor book gives a believable accounting of a family caught up in the Revolutionary War. Young Tim Meeker tries to understand both viewpoints when his loyalist father argues with his older brother Sam who believes in the cause of freedom from the tyranny of King George. When Sam runs off to join the rebel army, Tim is left to help with the family business. Too soon, though, the tragedy of war catches up to them all regardless of which side they're on. Tim is forced to grow up quickly and take on the responsibilities of the family. The lasting impression is that of the injustice of war and the tenacity of those who survived it.

Check out these books and more at the library and remember your library card ... don't leave home without it!



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7/06

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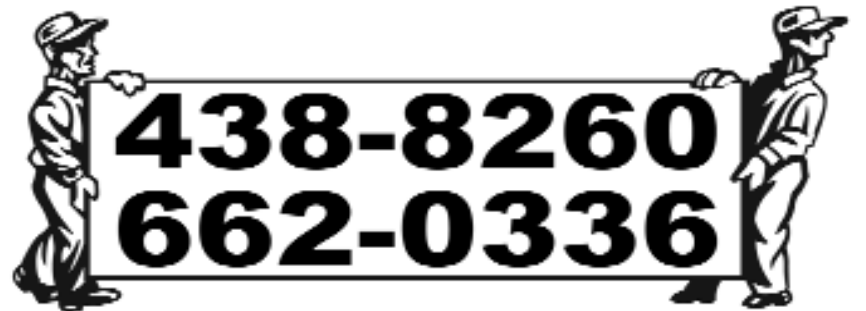
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7/06

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# New Teachers, New Classrooms as New School Year Quickly Approaches

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

Summer school and the Summer Elementary Enrichment Activities program are finished for another year. I hope that all of the students, teachers and volunteers had a productive and fun-filled summer.

Are you staying cool in these very hot summer days? Drink lots of water and put on that sunscreen so you don't fry. This too shall pass! I am not looking forward to the PGE bill.

Before you know it, regular school will be starting on Aug. 10. On Saturday, Aug. 5, 2006 our new Ranchos Middle School Principal, Mr. Shane Pinkard, will be having a community get-acquainted breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. We have a great community and I know you will welcome him and he said he wants to get to know you.

Webster Elementary will be having a new Vice Principal. His name is Mr. Marc Hammarck. Webster's last year's Vice Principal, Nancy McLaskey, has been promoted to the district office where she will be the coordinator of business services helping the district director of business services, Mr. Ivan Flores, keep track of numbers. This is a very important part of our school district and I wish Mrs. Nancy McLaskey all the best in her new position.

The summer has been very busy hiring new teachers, new administrators and new classified staff. I welcome all of our new people to Golden Valley and hope that the coming year will be productive and interesting for you. Golden Valley is a very special school district. We are new and

growing fast. We put a lot of effort into making this a place where students can learn and teachers can teach. We have high standards and work hard to reach the communities high expectations for their children. New teachers will have a chance to get acquainted with each other on Aug. 4. The first year at a new school job is always stressful. You have so much to learn so fast.

Liberty High will have registration packages ready to pick up on Monday, July 24 at the Liberty High office. This gives parents time to fill out all of the paper work by Aug. 2. Registration on Aug. 2 will be by grade level at the Liberty High gym. Filling out all of the paperwork makes the lines go so much faster. Students should be ready to have their picture taken for their student body card. Gym clothes will be available for purchase at the registration. Ranchos Middle School's registration is on Aug. 3. The registration package can be picked up on July 24 also at the middle school office. First day of school is Thursday, Aug. 10.

Some people have asked when the new classroom at Liberty will be completed. The work is two weeks behind schedule and won't be finished until Aug. 31. Remember all of that rain we had last winter? It set the construction crew back.

Golden Valley teachers will start work on Tuesday, Aug. 8 and 9. That is why the students will go to school for the first day on Thursday, Aug. 10. Starting school at the end of the week will give teachers and administrators time to fit students into the correct classroom and the students have a chance to meet their teachers and learn their way around the campus where they

will spend the next school year. I guess it makes sense?

Both Webster Elementary and Sierra View Elementary will have new classes for their gifted students this year. There will be two teachers at each school. These four teachers have been working all summer to put together a challenging plan for their gifted students. This has not been done before but the district has great hopes for elementary students involved. The Honors and Advanced Placement classes at the secondary will continue. The district will try to add additional classes every year.

Golden Valley has been working since January to put together the many different pieces of a Wellness Plan for all four schools. One piece of the plan is to serve breakfast during the nutrition break time at all schools. In observing the students that could eat breakfast we found that students that rode the bus came too late to eat breakfast. Many students who were dropped off by parents came too late to eat breakfast. Also some students have a hard time eating until they have been up for awhile. We hope that by changing to serving breakfast at the nutritional break it will encourage more students to eat breakfast at school. We all know that students that eat breakfast do better in school.

Changes have also been made to the lunch program. There will be salad bars at all schools with fresh fruit and vegetables. There will also be more choices of food and there will be more self-service items. I hope these changes will make school lunch more student friendly and nutritious. More self-service items should speed up the lunch line. A "pin" system will be used

at both Webster and Sierra View Elementary. Students will receive their "pin" numbers in the mail. Parents please help your students memorize their numbers when you receive the numbers. Please be patient with both the students and the cafeteria staff as they both learn all of the new changes. Once all of the bugs are worked out of the system I hope the food service will be better and faster for all students.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Sept. 3. That is the day for the annual Labor Day Community Picnic at Cobb Ranch. The time is noon to 5 p.m. and the price is \$6 per person or \$20 per family for the BBQ. There will be live country music, so bring your blanket and lawn chairs. The kids can earn money for their school through the Ranchos Kiwanis, so don't forget to register your children at the event. There will be lots of games and prizes and a water slide so bring a towel for the kids. This year there will also be a Business Extravaganza for local businesses.

The next school board meeting will be Aug. 22 at Liberty library at 6 p.m. See you there.



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TREES continued from Page 1

places he was told he couldn't, "And no one seems to bother them."

For her part, Mona Diaz is beside herself.

"I have never touched one of his signs," she says adamantly.

She is quick to point out that all other legitimate businesses up and down Ave. 12, including herself, have legal signage that was authorized by the county. "How would Ave. 12 look if all of the businesses out here advertised their businesses on power poles?"

Diaz does admit that one night things escalated and the Sheriff's Department had to be called.

On May 17 at about 9:30 at night, Finley was out posting signs. The details differ depending on which side you talk to, but the bottom line is that Finley elected to post a sign on a pole next to Diaz' property and when Diaz' husband and son went outside to investigate there was a confrontation with Finley, complete with words exchanged and another sign torn off, this time in front of Finley. The police report states that Diaz' husband first told the deputy that he had never confronted Finley, but that he later changed his story saying that he had. For Finley's part he is quick to point out that since the night that the Sheriff's Department came out he hasn't had any signs tampered with.

Diaz stated that she had no problem with healthy competition, adding that there was enough business in the Ranchos for everyone. What seems to be rubbing her the wrong way about Finley's operation is the legality of it. He operates out of acreage that he owns on Ave. 12 1/2, which Diaz says isn't zoned for a retail operation. Finley fires back that he's a wholesale operation, to which Diaz asks the question, "Then why is he advertising to the general public?"

Finley is in the process of "getting legal" at his operation, although sources say it was only after a Sheriff's Deputy and a couple of county code enforcers showed up that he got motivated. Nonetheless, on Aug. 9 he goes before the Planning Commission seeking a Conditional Use

Permit for his property. He's been given a waiver to continue conducting business until the determination of the Planning Commission is made, and he's looking at approximately \$5,000 in fees just to get the county's stamp of approval.

And that's what galls Diaz the most about the entire situation. She contends that, regardless of whether or not Finley's business is legal (which the meeting with the Planning Commission suggests that possibly it isn't), posting signs on public and private property is illegal and that's what he's complaining about. A source brought up the analogy of a person going to the police over dissatisfaction with an illegal drug purchase.

Finley's contention, however, goes beyond signs that were removed that were posted on power poles. He says he has witnesses who saw associates of Diaz remove metal signs that he had placed on private property, with the owner's permission.

Whether or not any or all of this will come up in the courtroom remains to be seen. For his part, Finley is seeking to recover the cost of the destroyed signs and, as a punitive matter, to recover lost sales estimated during the peak spring sales times that the signs were missing. All together he seeks \$5,000 from Diaz.

Interestingly, prior to going forward with the small claims action, Finley sent a letter to Diaz on CM&N letterhead dated June 1, 2006 outlining what his damages were and what he expected in compensation and offering to settle prior to going to court. But what concerned Diaz was the tone the letter took at the end. "...Continued assault on me will result in the sheriff's out again, bigger ads in the local paper, editorials, reward for witnesses, park a 48' van on Avenue 12 with a sign painted on it saying TREES FOR SALE, and this is just a few ways to advertise in the Ranchos. What will people think of you, your character and your professionalism. You have a lot more to lose compared to \$837.37 of damages you have caused me."

"I have no idea how this is going to come out," Diaz said. "I'm just going to wait and see what the judge says."

# FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED!

Genesis Family Center invites you to attend a foster parent orientation on Tuesday, August 1st or 8th, 2006. Orientations will cover training, reimbursement, support and any questions you might have.

If you have ever thought about being a foster parent and giving back to a child in need, now is your chance. Please join us on August 1st or 8th, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Genesis Family Center, Madera office located at 116 N. Gateway Dr., Madera, CA 93637.

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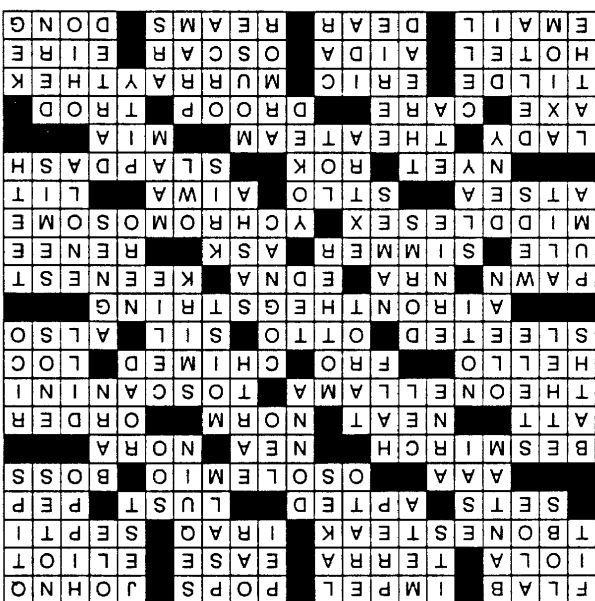
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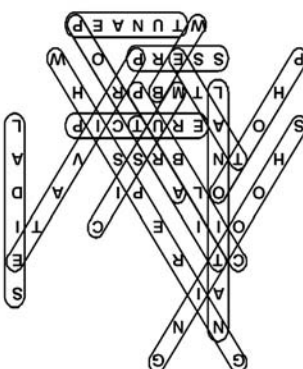
The 21st Annual Station 19 Dinner Dance and Auction is coming Aug. 19 at Coombs River Bend Ranch. This event sells out every year and is for one of the best causes around: Getting improved firefighting equipment that possibly will be used to save your life if the unthinkable happens to your home. This year they're trying to raise \$5,000 for a new, upgraded water tender. A new tender will be able to pump twice the amount of water in an emergency as the present one and will knock a fire down faster. And not only is it all for a good cause, it's a great time as well! There's BBQ dinner, adult beverages, dancing, music, live and silent auctions, and the setting is awesome for a late summer evening in the Ranchos. The FireBQ last year was *the* event everyone talked about last year, don't miss it next month.

## Puzzle Answers



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

Answer  
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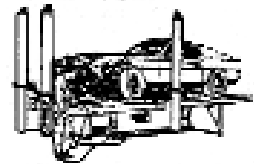


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# Road Rage + Toy Gun = Arrest

Authorities are calling it a frightening case of road rage – one vehicle cuts another car off, the other car supposedly tailgates the intruder and in response an occupant inside the first vehicle pulls out a gun.

18-year old Bennie Thomas of Kent, Washington found himself behind bars in early July facing weapons charges.

“The gun was a fake,” said Sheriff John Anderson, “but with a number of weapons engineered to look like the real deal, it would be virtually impossible to know the difference ... it’s a terrifying scenario.”

In fact Sheriff Anderson held a press conference in September 2004, warning the public about this very issue.

“Thankfully no one was hurt this time, but the man who pointed the pistol will answer to weapons charges.”

According to reports, the case involved three men in a Land Rover – all from Washington state – and three other people (all from Lancaster, California) in a 4-door Honda.

The Land Rover reportedly cut right in front of the Honda as the two-way passing lane was turning into one lane at the top of Deadwood in Oakhurst. The Honda was apparently in the number one lane and the Land Rover in the number two lane when this occurred.

According to the victims, once the Land Rover pulled in front of the Honda the driver kept applying his brakes until the Honda got close enough to see the backseat passenger aim a gun at them.

The passengers in the Land Rover said the Honda began tailgating them as they were heading down Deadwood but admitted that one of the passengers had pulled out a gun and aimed it the car behind them.

When both vehicles reached the red light at the intersection of 49 and 41, the Honda pulled along side the Land Rover and a passenger from the Honda stepped out, walked over to the Land Rover and ordered the backseat passenger out of the vehicle.

By then an off-duty Officer with the CHP happened to drive by and jumped from his vehicle to keep the situation

under control until Sheriff’s Deputies could arrive on scene.

When deputies arrived they found a black chrome handgun inside the Land Rover that looked almost identical to a semiautomatic. The handgun turned out to be a Daisy BB gun.

“The gun is a toy,” said Anderson, “but carrying it could one day get you killed.”

These are the exact words Sheriff Anderson warned the public during his press conference two years ago.

At that time he highlighted the potential dangers toy weapons pose. The latest airsoft BB guns are designed to look like real weapons ... weapons ranging from department issued firearms to AK Sniper Rifles, M16’s and even Uzi’s.

“Even though these automatic and semi automatic weapons dispense BB’s not bullets, they’re built to look like the real thing so that even cops have a hard time telling the difference.”


The warning he posed to the public in 2004 was be mindful of the potential dangers associated with these toy guns. “Suppose one of our deputies was to come face to face with one of these replicas, and when forced to make a split second decision ... the public has got to realize the possible ramifications.”

In 2004 Sheriff Anderson put on display and fired off real firearms and replicas – demonstrating how each one works. The only difference between the two was the discharge sounds. But when he paired up the M16 with an M16 BB gun, it was impossible to see the difference.

“The bottom line,” Anderson said, “there may come a time when one of our deputies is in a situation, fearing for his life and the safety of the public, and in making a split second decision may have to discharge his firearm. I would hate to think the person who brandished the weapon, was actually holding a BB gun.”

Binnie Thomas was taken into custody and booked in the Madera County Department of Corrections where he posted his \$5,000 bail. He is expected to appear in court July 27 for the charge of exhibiting a firearm in the presence of an occupant of a motor vehicle.

**Bailey - Cuculici**



Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bailey are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sheila Bailey, to Ovidiu Cuculici.

Sheila has been a resident of the Ranchos since 1993 and graduated in the first graduating class at Liberty High School in 2005. She has been attending classes at Fresno City College and is now pursuing an education as a medical computer specialist.

Ovidiu's parents are Tamara Zglavuta of of Anaheim, Calif., and Cornel Cuculici of Orange, Calif.

Ovidiu graduated from Polaris High School in Anaheim in 2003. He is currently taking classes at Fresno City College pursuing a career as a CPA.

The couple's wedding date is July 7, 2007. They will reside in the Fresno area.

**Liberty Worship Center**

*Remnant* Youth

Would like to thank all of the local business and personal sponsors for your generous donations to our Battle Cry Event, and those who participated in our flamingo migration fundraiser which funded Battle Cry as well. We had a Great time in the presence of God!

Bryan & Sere Hansen, Youth Ministers

7/06

The Pastor's Desk

# The Heat is On - Catch the Fire

By Pastor Ken Cooksey, Jr.

It seems as though every time I pick up the newspaper or watch the news on television, there is a FIRE on the loose somewhere. It is a certainty that we have come to accept as something that just happens during these hot and dry seasons of our lives.

Many times we read about the devastation that has been left in the ashes of these fires, and we read about the lives that have been lost or changed forever because they've been touched by the fire in some way or another.

We spend millions of dollars each year battling against these fires. We send in specially trained men and women to battle against them, and we have rescue crews to try and save people who have found themselves in the path of these tremendously destructive and devastating fires.

As I looked up into the smoke filled sky the other day from my home in the Ranchos, my thoughts were immediately apprehended, and my mind took me to a place where instead of running from the fire, I saw people running to the fire. I saw the millions of lives being touched by this fire and again as with the fires in the news, so were the lives of so many being changed by this fire.

This fire was not changing the lives of the ones it touched by devastation and terror, but rather by joy and salvation. Instead of specially trained men and women trying to rescue the people, the people had turned to their (would-be rescuers) and invited them to come with them into the fire.

The sky was not filled with smoke polluting and irritating, but this fire burned so hot and so pure that there was no smoke at all, and had only flames. These flames were of the most brilliant colors. Colors I'm not sure I had ever seen before, but as I looked at the flame, my mind began to try and associate these brilliant colors to those that I do have knowledge of. Colors I had seen before.

There was a color I related to gold or brass, but none like I had ever seen, for this gold or brass could have been nothing but the purest of all golds, or the finest of all brass because all the impurities it seemed had been burned away.

There was a color that resembled blue, but it was a blue as you might imagine a crystal being so true that it gave off a marvelously blue glow. It was as if it was transparent but yet I could see it.

There was a color that resembled red, but it again was not a red as I had ever seen. It was not a burnt orange red, but a deep, deep red, such as I can only describe as a crimson or scarlet red.

This fire was the most beautiful display of power and purity I had ever seen. There was no smell of smoke or destruction of any kind, but there was a sense of purity and completeness. You may be wondering by now where I may have experienced such a fire as I have

described to you.

This fire of joy, completeness, power, beauty and purity can only be found in one place, in the presence of God, where the heart of man is touching the heart of the one and only true living God.

You cannot run from this fire, for it is all encompassing, but not consuming. It is the same fire Moses encountered in the desert when God spoke to him. You cannot hide from this fire, for it is all knowing, and it sees all things.

The "good news" is that you can seek after this fire with you whole heart, and God promises in His word (the Bible) that in your pursuit of Him, you will find Him. You can "catch the fire". God is the fire.

As you drive past our dry open grasslands and our foothills and you feel the heat of the summer sun on you, I would encourage you to be mindful of the one true Son, Jesus the Son of God. I would also like to encourage you to seek diligently after the pure fire of His holiness which will burn away all impurities so that you may have joy, peace, completeness and a pure heart.

I want to encourage you to chase hard after the fire of His Holy Spirit. This Spirit of the true living God, this fire that changes lives, that transforms families and that is calling you today, is present every time we come together at Liberty Worship Center here in the heart of the Ranchos. You too can experience this life changing power. It isn't just for some and not others. It is for all who will call on the name of the Lord Jesus.

I want you to know that it isn't a place where you find the fire but it is the attitude and the fervor in which you seek after it, that allows you to find it.

Come and join us in one of the Ranchos churches this Sunday as we are in pursuit of the fire, and as we "catch the fire" of God.

*Ken Cooksey, Jr. is the pastor of the Ranchos' newest church, Liberty Worship Center, located at 37275 Ave. 12.*

## SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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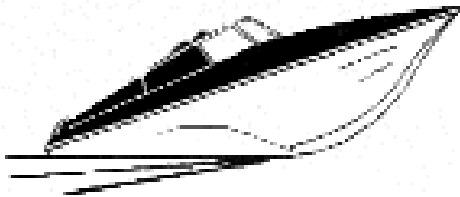
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LETTERS continued from Page 3

ing to come into our area. What upsets me is the people don't know all the facts about what a rock quarry will do or become. If I had the chance to live the way we did 12 years ago I would do it in a heart beat. We now enjoy living in the Ranchos on what use to be a quiet side street. We have been here for over 10 years. I can say at times we wish we were still at the rock quarry because now we have to put up with one annoying neighbor. There are also people racing down our street in cars and on four-wheelers (which are illegal to be ridden on the roads) and running stop signs. I am waiting for the day when someone gets seriously hurt or even killed.

The truck drivers had more consideration than that.

Everyone on our street is getting real fed up with it and planning to take action. The reason we moved to the Ranchos was because my husband got a job promotion with another company and the rock quarry finished digging the area, and has now become part of the San Joaquin Parkway for everyone to enjoy.

People say that the rock quarry will use up our water in the area. WRONG. The water that is used by the rock quarries is spread over piles of rock, sand or gravel to wash it. It is also used to keep the dust down on the dirt roads. The water then goes back into the ground and is absorbed back into the water table. I have seen more homeowners waste water by flooding their lawns and letting it run down the street. I have even seen peoples' sprinklers running while it is raining. If you want to complain about WATER, start with the people wasting it. Another water issue that does not make since to me are these huge water basins where they pump water out of the ground in the summer months when we should be conserving water, then letting it evaporate into the air. What's that about?

A farm uses 3 to 4 acre feet of water per year which is 1.1 million gallons of water per year. A cow can drink up to 60 gallons of water per day which is about 21,900 gallons per year. An average size home can use 1 1/3 acre feet which is 400,000 gallons of water per year. I did not make these numbers up. I talked to Madera County to get these figures.

Another complaint was the huge number of trucks that will be on the roads from the new rock quarry. WRONG. The trucks that haul the material are already on the roads, you see them every day. Local trucking companies come in and transport the material. There have been complaints that the trucks pull out in front of the cars on the road. I have seen more cars that pull out in front of the trucks. What the people don't understand is when you pull out in front of a truck it is real hard for a truck to slam on its brakes. They have a heavy load that they are hauling and they also have a lot of gears to downshift. I am not saying that all truck drivers are great, and I am sure that there are trucks that have pulled out in front of cars, but slow down on both

sides and give the right of way when needed. People today are always in a hurry to get nowhere.

Aggregate is stone, sand and gravel, and can be used for many things. Do you enjoy living in your house that is built on a concrete slab? The concrete is made from water, cement and aggregate. The cement is a mixture of limestone and gypsum. Your home that you live in may be constructed of brick or stone. Aggregate is used in wallboard and roofing shingles too. On average, it takes 200 tons of crushed stone, sand or gravel to build a new home. Do you enjoy looking out your windows? The glass from your windows is made from silica and sand. Do you enjoy taking walks on the sidewalks? Do you enjoy driving your car on the paved roads? All these things that you enjoy every day all are started from a rock quarry. Aggregate is used to build highways, bridges, homes, schools, sidewalks and parking lots. Your driveway at home may be made of crushed stone, gravel asphalt or concrete. Some aggregates are also used in agriculture. Finely ground lime is used to make soil better for plants. The top soil in your yards probably was hauled in from a rock quarry. I know that if you live in the Ranchos, all we have is HARD PAN. Plants don't grow too well in that! Think about how aggregate is used in your home and neighborhood. You can see how important it is to produce and use aggregate in our everyday life.

Rock quarry operations take pride to protect their communities. Strict measures are taken to protect the communities from noise, water and air pollution. They must follow strict rules and regulations which are put into place by the county, state and the federal government. They may plant areas of trees between the quarry and its neighbors. The trees then become a part of the next step after the mining is over which is called reclamation, which means to reclaim. People also think that when the rock quarry is finished mining the area you will just have a bunch of holes in the ground, but that is not true. When a rock quarry is finished mining the area, some aggregate operations become lakes and wetlands for recreation and wildlife. Others become neighborhoods, offices, parks or malls. Sometimes they are turned into beautiful golf courses.

If you are not sure what goes on at a rock quarry and all you are hearing is the negative side of things and you still are undecided, I am sure you have a computer at home or work; if not, the local library has one. There are many Websites to answer most of your questions. If not, some local quarries will give tours and answer all of your questions. I hope this bit of information helped some of you. Rock quarries are not our enemies. They are our friends. Think about what it would be like if you didn't have sidewalks, windows, paved roads and topsoil in your yard.

People today take so much for granted.

Tina Shannon



7/06

### "LOCALS" SPECIAL

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# Radanovich Bill Sails Through For Madera Water Bank Creration

Rep. George Radanovich (R-Mariposa) praised House passage of H.R. 3897, which authorizes the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the study, design, and construction of the Madera Water Supply and Enhancement Project. The bill passed by voice vote.

Congressman Radanovich offered the following floor remarks on the legislation:

"This important water bank project will help improve the water supply in California's San Joaquin Valley. The over 13,000-acre ranch where the water bank is located is well-suited for this project. The soils on and underneath the land are ideal for percolating water from the surface into the aquifer for storage. In addition, the land is valuable habitat for numerous species and contains large sections of the region's native grasslands.

"Funding for the project is underway. Madera Irrigation District, which will operate and maintain this project, issued

\$37.5 million in bonds to purchase the property. Also, the FY2006 Energy and Water Appropriations measure allocated \$200,000 to conduct a study on the feasibility of the water bank.

"With increasing demands on its limited water supply, the San Joaquin Valley is falling behind in creating additional water sources. The Madera Water Supply and Enhancement Project will enable water users to store excess river flows in a nearby aquifer. This stored water bank would then be used during 'dry' years and could prove critical to meeting water demands. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to expand water supply opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley."

*More information on federal issues is available on the Congressman's website at [www.radanovich.house.gov](http://www.radanovich.house.gov) or by visiting Congressman Radanovich's blog at <http://www.radanovich.house.gov/blog.shtml>.*

# Radanovich Announces Internships

### Assemblman Seeks Top Applicants for Challenging Position

Rep. George Radanovich is now accepting applications for the Fall Internship Program in his Fresno, Turlock, and Washington, D.C. offices. Those wishing to receive an internship in the Fresno or Turlock offices must have achieved college sophomore year status or beyond; Washington D.C. internships require college junior year status or beyond.

Congressman Radanovich's Internship Program offers the opportunity to interact with federal government agencies while learning about the Congressman's role in representing California's 19th Congressional District. Responsibilities include providing phone support, assisting constituents, processing

constituent mail, conducting research and working with the staff on special projects.

Consideration will be given to reliable, motivated individuals with excellent written and verbal communication skills. A strong work ethic and the ability to handle multiple tasks are essential qualities. Priority will be given to those with a demonstrated interest in the political process.

Interested individuals must send a cover letter and resume to Congressman George Radanovich's Office, attention Alisa Sisemore, by August 18 for Washington D.C. office applicants and by September 8 for Fresno and Turlock office applicants, at 1040 E. Herndon, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93720. Interviews will be scheduled for the top applicants.

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## GVUSD 2006-07 School Information First Day of School – August 10, 2006

### Liberty High School and Ranchos Middle School

Registration packet pick up: July 24, 2006 through Thursday July 27, 2006.

### **Liberty High School Registration August 2, 2006**

Seniors: 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
Juniors: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Sophomores: 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Freshman: 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Class schedules, yearbooks, PE clothes and ASB cards will all be available during registration day for purchase.

### **Ranchos Middle School August 3, 2006**

7th graders: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  
8th graders: 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All forms must be turned in and ID pictures taken before you receive your schedule. You may also purchase yearbooks and RMS hats and sweat-shirts. The first day of school is Thursday, August 10, 2006. Classes will begin promptly at 8:05 a.m.!

### Educational Options

- Centennial Independent Study School
  - Golden Valley Adult School
  - Independence Continuation High School
  - Lincoln Community Day School.
- The Educational Options office will have registration packets ready to be

picked up July 17th, located at 16362 Paula Road. Returning students need to come in for their emergency card and health history. The bell rings at 8:30 on the first day of school, August 10, 2006.

### Sierra View School

- Class Lists will be posted outside the office at 4:30 PM on Monday, August 7.
- Class Supply Lists will be posted in the showcase outside the office on July 24th.
- School starts Thursday, August 10th, 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Sierra View Parent Club will hold their first meeting at 8:15 AM on the first day of school in the Multipurpose Room.
- Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, August 17.

### Webster Elementary School

- Class Lists will be posted outside the office at 4:00 PM on Monday, August 7.
- New student enrollment: Tuesday, August 1.
- Bell Schedules:
  1. AM Kindergarten: 7:50 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.
  2. PM Kindergarten: 10:50 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.
  3. Grades 1-3: 7:55 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
  4. Grades 4-6: 7:55 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.
- New student enrollment: Tuesday, August 1.
- Back to School Night will be held on the first day of school, which is August 10th.

## Thank You Ranchos for Passing Golden Valley's Measure "S"

By Marilyn Shepherd, Ed.D., GVUSD Superintendent



On June 6th the voters in the Golden Valley community passed Measure "S" which will enable GVUSD to continue to improve and build facilities for our students and staff. Golden Valley is a growing school district and believes that quality facilities contribute to student achievement and success. Plans that have been developed are being refined to ensure that the students now and in the future have the classrooms and support facilities for a positive educational experience.

GVUSD will be moving forward on the project list below with the 2006 bond funds. The community oversight committee will be appointed by the GVUSD Board of Trustees in the Fall of 2006 prior to the issuance of the 2006 bond funds. Thank you for voting "Yes on Measure S" for without the passage of that bond GVUSD could not move forward on the following project list. The students and staff thank the community.

### 2006 Bond Project List

PROJECTS	COST (in millions)
<i>Liberty High School Phase III</i> .....	\$6.3
• Vocational Education Building	
• Football Stadium	
• Play Field Completion	
<i>Ranchos Middle School</i> .....	\$29.4
• Administration/Library Building	
• Multi-purpose /Theatre	
• Gymnasium	
• 25 classrooms	
<i>Sierra View and Webster Elementary</i> .....	\$2.0
• Stages in Multi-purpose rooms	
• Classroom cabinetry and counters	
• Playground equipment	
• Electrical Upgrades	
• Handicap accessibility for selected rooms	
• Improve traffics patterns and increase parking	
• Add security cameras	
• Replace selected classroom furniture	
• Replace portable restroom building with permanent structure (Sierra View)	
<i>Liberty High School Phase IV</i> .....	\$6.3
• Classroom & Science Buildings	
• Swimming Pool	
<i>New Elementary – site and design</i> .....	\$3.5
• Site acquisition	
• Architect fees through construction drawings	
• Madera County, Division of Assets Architect fees, EIR, CEQA	
<i>New Elementary Construction</i> .....	\$22.6
• Construction to occupancy	
<i>COP Repayment</i> .....	\$6.0
• LHS Phase I	
<i>Maintenance Operations &amp; Transportation</i> .....	\$10.2
• Future Facility	

### GVUSD Welcomes New Faces to the District

Born in Santa Cruz, Shane Pickard attended Mississippi State University, earning a B.S. in Science and an M.A. in Spanish. He taught in Mississippi before returning to Fresno and has since completed his preliminary Administrative Services credential and has completed course work for his doctorate.



Ranchos Middle School Principal, Shane Pickard.

Bilingual, Shane has 18 years of experience locally in the educational field. He is married to Joyce, originally from Caracas, Venezuela, who teaches at Fresno City College. He has two children, Rebecca, 13, and Patrick, 16. Both are involved in sports and school activities. They all live on twenty acres and his hobbies are dog and horse training and gardening.

Looking forward to the entire learning community at Ranchos Middle School, Shane may be reached at Spinkard@gvusd.k12.ca.us. Go Mustangs!

Kuljeet Mann was born and raised in India, and traveled extensively in India with her army officer father. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Science (Bio/Chem) and a Master's degree in English in India. She also received a Bachelor's degree in Education from India. Kuljeet moved to the United States in 1986 and started working on her teaching credential and a Master's Degree in Reading and Language Arts at Fresno Pacific University.

Kuljeet began her teaching career in Mendota in 1990 and has taught in Mendota, Hanford and Fresno Unified. She was a Literacy coordinator for McLane High in Fresno for three years and a GLC at Hoover high school for a year. For the past three years, she has been a Vice-Principal at Cooper middle School in Fresno.

Kuljeet is married and has two children - Ripon who attends UC Santa Cruz as a sophomore and Simi who will be a freshman at UC Irvine this fall. Kuljeet is trilingual and will be learning French and Arabic in the near future.



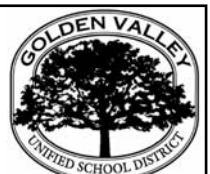
Liberty High School Learning Director, Kuljeet Mann.

### GVUSD Welcomes Marc Hammack

Marc Hammack has taught for over three years and they have no kids yet. Marc enjoys fishing, snow and water skiing, and traveling. His future plans are to attend FSU Doctoral Program in the Fall of 2007. He is forward to serving in GVUSD and working with the community.

He has been married to Heather

**GOLDEN VALLEY  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**Remember, the first day of school is Thursday, August 10**





# 2006/2007 Transportation in Golden Valley

**GOLDEN VALLEY**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Ranchos Middle School Students

PICK UP	TAKE HOME	
<b>ROUTE A</b>		
7:35.....14567 SKYVIEW	3:35.....36609 PAULINE	
7:38.....14558 HUNTINGTON	3:37.....36681 LEXINGTON	
7:46.....36609 PAULINE	3:39.....15351 MARK	
7:48.....36681 LEXINGTON	3:41.....15797 ROAD 36	
7:52.....17032 ROAD 37	3:43.....36334 AVENUE 16	
7:55.....37250 AVENUE 17½	3:45.....16065 LA CANADA	
7:58.....16065 LA CANADA	3:47.....37250 AVENUE 17½	
8:03.....14216 ROAD 36	3:49.....17063 ROAD 37	
8:10.....ARRIVE AT RMS	3:51.....36658 AVENUE 17	
<b>ROUTE B</b>		
7:48.....36334 AVENUE 16	3:53.....36441 VERDE	
7:50.....15351 MARK	3:55.....36579 BLANCA	
7:52.....15797 ROAD 36	4:05.....14567 SKYVIEW	
7:57.....36441 VERDE	4:08.....14558 HUNTINGTON	
7:59.....36579 BLANCA	<b>ROUTE B</b>	
8:02.....36658 AVENUE 17	3:21.....14216 ROAD 36	
8:10.....ARRIVE AT RMS	3:21.....35357 BONADELLE	
<b>ROUTE C</b>		
7:47.....35357 BONADELLE	3:23.....35412 JOHN ALBERT	
7:50.....35412 JOHN ALBERT	3:25.....14462 ROAD 35	
7:52.....14462 ROAD 35	3:27.....13529 ROAD 35	
7:54.....13529 ROAD 35	3:30.....35834 AVENUE 13½	
7:56.....35834 AVENUE 13½	3:33.....11952 TRIESTE	
7:59.....35637 AVENUE 13¼	3:35.....37479 BERKSHIRE	
8:05.....ARRIVE AT RMS	3:45.....10878 HWY 41	
<b>ROUTE D</b>		
7:47.....SE CORNER OF ROAD 35½ & AVENUE 13	3:50.....41336 AVENUE 10½	
7:49.....35151 MARCIEL	3:55.....NE CORNER OF AVENUE 11 & HWY 41	
7:51.....12482 ROAD 35	4:00.....40865 AVENUE 12	
7:53.....34860 AVENUE 12¼	<b>ROUTE C</b>	
7:55.....12570 ROAD 34½	3:33.....34860 AVENUE 12¼	
7:58.....SE ROAD 34½ & AVENUE 13	3:35.....12570 ROAD 34½	
8:05.....ARRIVE AT RMS	3:37.....SE ROAD 34½ & AVENUE 13	
<b>ROUTE E</b>		
7:16.....32885 AVENUE 11	3:39.....35637 AVENUE 13¼	
7:19.....11224 IOWA	3:41.....NE CORNER OF AVENUE 13 & ROAD 35½	
7:23.....33318 AVENUE 12	3:43.....35151 MARCIEL	
7:26.....9856 ROAD 33½	3:46.....11493 ROAD 33½	
7:28.....11493 ROAD 33½	3:48.....32885 AVENUE 11	
7:32.....8844 ROAD 35	3:51.....11224 IOWA	
7:34.....8605 ROAD 35	3:54.....33318 AVENUE 12	
7:38.....37107 AVENUE 9	3:57.....9856 ROAD 33½	
7:45.....10447 ROLLING HILLS DRIVEWAY	4:03.....8844 ROAD 35	
7:49.....NE CORNER OF AVENUE 11 & HWY 41	4:05.....8605 ROAD 35	
7:52.....40865 AVENUE 12	4:10.....7107 AVENUE 9	
8:00.....37479 BERKSHIRE		
8:03.....11952 TRIESTE		
8:10.....ARRIVE AT RMS		

## Webster Elementary School Students

PICK UP	PICK UP	
<b>ROUTE A</b>		
7:06.....12188 ROAD 37	7:08.....11156 COLORADO	
7:08.....12504 MESA	7:10.....1150 ROAD 33½	
7:10.....37422 AVENUE 13	7:17.....33168 AVENUE 12	
7:12.....12809 ROAD 37¾	7:22.....12571 ROAD 34½	
7:14.....12470 ROAD 37½	7:26.....34957 AVENUE 13¼	
7:16.....12200 ROAD 37½	7:28.....35330 AVENUE 13¼	
7:18.....SW CORNER OF ROAD 37¼ & BERKSHIRE	7:30.....35637 AVENUE 13¼ (IRON GATE W/ HORSE)	
7:19.....37611 AVENUE 12	7:32.....35834 AVENUE 13½ (DAY CARE DRIVEWAY)	
7:21.....NW CORNER OF ROAD 37 & KENSINGTON	7:34.....35325 AVENUE 13½	
7:22.....36740 KENSINGTON	7:36.....34829 AVENUE 13½	
7:24.....36103 KENSINGTON	7:38.....34660 AVENUE 13 & 34¾ (SW CORNER)	
7:27.....12201 GASTON	7:40.....35176 AVENUE 13	
7:28.....34860 AVENUE 12¼	7:42.....35746 AVENUE 13	
7:30.....12432 ROAD 35	7:44.....35673 AVENUE 12½	
7:31.....35179 MARCIEL	7:46.....Corner of 12½ & 35½	
7:32.....35451 MARCIEL	7:47.....ARRIVE AT WEBSTER	
7:33.....12783 ROAD 35½	<b>ROUTE D</b>	
7:35.....12919 ROAD 36	6:52.....ROAD 39 & AVENUE 8	
7:45.....ARRIVE AT WEBSTER	7:00.....COBB RANCH (STOP PRIOR TO DRIVEWAY)	
<b>ROUTE B</b>		
7:15.....13591 ROAD 35	7:07.....10421 LANES BRIDGE	
7:17.....35328 AVENUE 14	7:09.....10575 FIG GROVE ROAD & GROVE COURT	
7:19.....35771 AVENUE 14	7:12.....10845 POMEGRANATE & POMEGRANATE CIRCLE	
7:21.....35681 AVENUE 14½	7:15.....11061 EL CAPITAN & ADOBE WAY (SE CORNER)	
7:23.....35369 AVENUE 14½	7:17.....11150 MOUNTAIN VIEW & ADOBE WAY (SE CORNER)	
7:25.....14610 ROAD 35	7:18.....10644 MOUNTAIN VIEW	
7:27.....(SE CORNER 15 & 35) 14839 ROAD 35	7:20.....10454 POMEGRANATE ROAD	
7:29.....35302 AVENUE 15	7:22.....10118 FIG GROVE ROAD & FIG GROVE CL (SE CORNER)	
7:31.....35946 AVENUE 15	7:24.....HWY 41 & AVENUE 11 (SE CORNER)	
7:33.....35789 BONADELLE	7:35.....36753 ORANGE GROVE	
7:35.....35357 BONADELLE (WEST)	7:37.....36636 FENDER	
7:37.....35640 JOHN ALBERT	7:39.....36307 FENDER	
7:39.....14216 ROAD 36	7:41.....11914 CHARLTON	
7:42.....12880 ROAD 36	7:43.....12919 ROAD 36	
7:45.....ARRIVE AT WEBSTER	7:48.....ARRIVE AT WEBSTER	
<b>ROUTE C</b>		
6:42.....37107 AVENUE 9		
6:48.....8844 ROAD 35 SECOND DRIVEWAY		
6:50.....8605 ROAD 35		
6:55.....34307 AVENUE 9		
7:00.....9777 ROAD 33½		
7:03.....32885 AVENUE 11		
7:06.....32280 AVENUE 11¼		

## GVUSD Board Meeting Dates

August 22, 2006	February 13 and 27, 2007
September 12 and 26, 2006	March 13, and 27, 2007
October 10 and 24, 2006	April 17, 2007
November 14, 2006	May 8 and 22, 2007
December 12, 2006	June 12 and 26, 2007
January 16 and 30, 2007	

**Remember, the first day of school is Thursday, August 10**

# California Game Wardens: A True Endangered Species

By Dave Cogdill

As Californians, we're blessed to live in nature's playground - 1,100 miles of coastline, 30,000 miles of streams and rivers, 80 major rivers, countless mountain and desert trails, and the second most diverse wildlife population in the nation. California is second only to Hawaii in the number of threatened and endangered species. So, who is protecting these vast and valuable natural resources? The answer may surprise you.

The Department of Fish Game currently has just 192 game wardens out on field patrol. That's one warden for every 180,288 people in the state, the lowest staff ratio in the nation for a large state. Staffing levels haven't changed much since the 1950's, despite a huge boom in population and increase in criminal activity, such as poaching and rural drug operations.

The implications of the warden shortage are dramatic. Leads on poaching, a \$100 million industry in California, often go uninvestigated because of high caseloads. Two-thirds of calls to the wardens' enforcement hotline go unanswered due to staffing shortages, and many areas go completely unpatrolled.

It's not just wildlife that suffers without wardens. Game wardens are often the primary law enforcement in rural areas, providing emergency assistance to hunters, hikers and anglers. They routinely encounter and shut down dangerous drug operations, such as meth labs, and increasingly play a part in homeland security operations.

The lack of wardens also places California's economy at risk. Many rural communities depend upon outdoor industries, such as boating, hiking, and camping, as the backbone of their local economy. Hunting and angling retail sales alone top \$3.1 billion annually. Without warden enforcement, exploitation and criminal activity threatens businesses, just as it does wildlife.

So why doesn't the state just hire more wardens? Lower pay and lesser benefits in comparison with other law enforcement


agencies make it hard to recruit and retain wardens. Starting salary for a game warden is \$37,000, a mere two-thirds the pay of a new highway patrol officer. And the average warden salary is \$48,000 a year, compared to \$92,000 annually for a CHP officer.

The disparity is so great that the Department of Fish and Game is unable to fill its 64 current vacancies and stands to lose an additional 40 wardens due to retirement and salary concerns. Many recruits who initially train to be wardens are lured away by other law enforcement agencies offering a meatier salary, increased vacation and better retirement.

Throughout my career in the Legislature, I've fought to better the fishing experience, one aspect of which is increased money for game wardens. While budget funding earmarked for wardens was vetoed last year, I'm optimistic about \$30 million in the 2006-2007 State Budget for game wardens and other employees such as State Parks rangers, through the Department of Personnel Administration. This funding can and should be used to bring wardens closer to parity with other law enforcement agencies. Only through parity can DFG address its difficulties with attracting and retaining game wardens.

The preservation of our natural resources, and the many small businesses which rely upon them, depend upon a successful and well-staffed force of game wardens. I am thankful that Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 7, the Inland Fisheries Restoration Act of 2005, which will go a long way toward bringing back the proud sportfishing legacy in California by dedicating a portion of fishing license fees to fishing-related activities, and the warden funding in the state budget is a critical component in this endeavor. It would be wisely spent increasing the number of field patrol wardens and making compensation competitive with other law enforcement agencies.


*Dave Cogdill is an Assemblyman from the 25th District which includes part of Madera County.*



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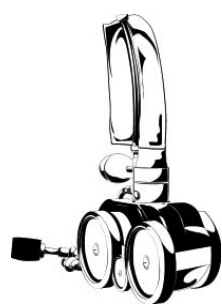
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**Senior Report**

**A Convalescent Home? Never!**

By Eleanore Burchell

**SENIORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

A month or so ago, one of our members was asked, "The Ranchos/Hills Senior Center located at 37330 Berkshire ... isn't that a convalescent home?" Oh, NO, far from it! We are an extremely active group of seniors with a large percentage of our 100-plus members who are also members of RSVP: Retired Seniors Volunteer Program. The RSVP Program is part of the Senior Corps, a network of national service programs that provides older Americans the opportunity to apply their life experiences to meeting community needs.

In 2005, the total volunteer hours by the members of Ranchos/Hills Seniors was 9,800. By converting this number into dollars using the minimum wage plus a percentage for benefits, we have contributed approximately \$86,000 worth of volunteer time to the community of Madera Ranchos in such places as Council on Aging, RSVP Advisory Council, Ranchos Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Library, Library volunteers, Library Book Sales, Madera County Sheriff Citizens on Patrol, Fresno/Madera Area Agency on Aging and Volunteers at Children's Hospital. We have had volunteers who helped at Liberty High School Grad Night and the carnival at Webster Elementary School. We have provided a place for the Taxpayers to hold their monthly meetings as well as the recent meeting held by Castle & Cook Development. We hold many events at our facility, but it is NOT available to be rented by the public. We have members who volunteer their time through service clubs. Our senior volunteers can be found each month folding and inserting flyers in your Ranchos Independent Newspaper. Just look around and you will find one of the members of the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center there helping others. "Convalescent home" not only struck a note with us, it struck a discord!

Annually, the RSVP honors their volunteers with a luncheon held at Pardini's. Approximately 400 Fresno/Madera area volunteers celebrated this event on Wednesday, June 28. With bright colors and a Mardi Gras theme, a great time was

had by all. Are you interested in becoming a RSVP volunteer? If so, call Joann at 645-4864.

The RSVP Regional Office consists of Fresno, Madera and Merced Counties. Last year's volunteer hours for the three counties totaled 143,000 hours which converts into \$1,230,000. Wow, we may be getting up in age, but we are still really valuable!

The August monthly sale will be held on Saturday, Aug. 6. Our fearless leader in the plant area, Olen Williams, just had a hip replacement. Hopefully he will be able to be back with us by then. We have just received new shrubs and flowering plants. Come in and check out the varieties. There will be no Treasure House sale this month. No bake sale in August! It's just too hot to bake.

New produce is coming daily. Wow, you should see the size of the onions our president, George Hagler, brings in - huge. Ears of corn, also grown on Farmer George's place, come in daily, but go out fast. We also have tomatoes and squash. We don't want you to get out of the habit of coming in to see us so remember the plants and boutique sections are available Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays, 6 to 9 p.m., and Thursday evenings between 6 and 9 p.m.

Our Alaskan travelers have returned glowing with excitement about their trip. Now, guess what? Another trip is in the making - a 7-day Hawaiian cruise in January. Interested? Call Joann at 645-4864 for particulars.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not using them in a fruit salad. However, we recently had dinner at a special steak house which served green beans with diced tomatoes ... mmmm good! This brings up the subject of the Ranchos/Hills Cookbooks. They are on sale for \$12 in the office of the center or at the monthly sales.

If you want to get out of the heat on Tuesday evenings, just come in and play bingo at 5:30 p.m. We are willing to share our air conditioning with you until 9 p.m. or so.

The August Birthday and Anniversary celebration will be held at Copper River Country Club at 11 a.m. on Aug. 26. Come

Please see SENIORS on Page 16

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**SENIORS** Continued from Page 15

and join us at 11500 N. Friant Road. Our July celebration was attended well and was held at Denny's.

Remember, laughter keeps one young at heart, so laugh, laugh and laugh again. If you need someone to laugh with, come join our Thursday evening potlucks with games played afterwards. There is a lot of fun here.

**More Facts and Fun**

A nutritionally balanced lunch program Monday through Friday 11:30 a.m. Suggested price for 60 years and older is \$1.75. Reservations are needed a day in advance so remember to call Joann at 645-4864. There is still room in the well-attended exercise class on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. You need not be a member to attend these classes. The attendance has been growing but there is always room for one more - you! Line Dancers are on vacation until September.

Fresno State nursing students will be presenting a seminar on "Foot and Skin Care" at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26. Everyone is welcome.

Remember BINGO is held every Tuesday evening 5:30 to 9 p.m.

**Up and Coming Events**

July 26, 11 a.m., "Foot and Skin Care" by the Fresno State Nursing Students  
 July 26, 6 p.m. Monthly potluck with

salads and desserts followed by Hand & Foot or Pinochle

August 5, Monthly Sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

August 26, 11 a.m., Birthday and Anniversary Dinner, Copper River Country Club, 11500 N. Friant Road

August 31, 6 p.m. Monthly potluck with a Greek theme followed by Hand and Foot or Pinochle

**Weekly Events**

Monday through Friday Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. (Reservations needed, call Joann 645-4864)

Monday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Pinochle, noon until?

Tuesday, BINGO, 5:30 to 9 p.m. (Hot dogs, hamburgers, desserts and more available)

Wednesday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Card BINGO, noon to 1 p.m.

Thursday, Potluck then Hand & Foot or Pinochle, 6 to 9 p.m. (Please bring your own plate and silverware.)

Friday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

We have shared data regarding our Senior Center with you. We welcome you to come and be one of us as our organization offers and promotes social, educational and civic activities in order to provide a better quality of life for all senior citizens. You have received an invitation. Hope to see you soon?

**Donation Pick-Ups**

Tina is now collecting items for this year's Dinner/Dance & Auction!

If you are interested in donating an item or items for our annual **Station 19 Fire Dept. Dinner/Dance & Auction Fundraiser on Aug. 19**, please call **Tina Shannon** at **645-4948** or cell **352-5441** and she will be happy to pick up your items by July 31. **The earlier the better!**



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Garden Tips

# Hot Summer GardenChores

By Thea Fiskin

Well we've already had the first heat wave this summer, time to limit working in the garden to early in the morning and early evening. July is usually not a month to do any major planting, instead maintain container plants, harvest herbs, fruits, vegetables, and of course, keeping the lawn mowed. When you relax in the air conditioning, check out the bulb catalogs arriving in the mail this month.

**LAWNS**

**Water** - Grasses should be watered deeply and infrequently to promote deeper root growth and to prevent crabgrass. Avoid watering in the late evening; leaves that don't dry during the warm evenings are prone to fungal diseases. Instead, water lawns in the early morning.

**Fertilize** - Warm season lawns like Bermuda, St. Augustine and zoysiagrass will benefit from fertilizer this month. You can also plant, patch and reseed these heat lovers all summer long. Cool season lawns like tall fescue and perennial rye don't like the heat and their growth slows down until the weather cools off. It's better to let fescue lawns "get through" July and August without too much help, then fertilize and/or reseed again in September. Raise the mower height about a half an inch for a couple of months to help reduce the heat stress. Also try not to mow in the same direction all the time; vary your path so you don't form ruts.

**WEED CONTROL**

**Crabgrass** - This summer annual weed thrives in lawns that are watered too often. Mowing your lawn a little higher and watering less often will discourage seed germination. The best and easiest

way to prevent crabgrass is to apply a pre-emergence herbicide in winter. Now you can selectively try to remove crabgrass from your lawn with a postemergence herbicide like Weedhoe (MSMA) coupled with a preemergence application of which there are several herbicides to choose from.

**Nutsedge** - Nutsedge thrives in wet, waterlogged conditions, so improve drainage and keep the area as dry as possible. Spot treatments of Roundup and Finale or watered in herbicides can be used in flowerbeds, while Manage and Weedhoe (MSMA) is available for use in lawns. Nutsedge is one tough weed so be diligent with hand pulling, hoeing, spraying and avoid over-irrigation to get rid of it.

**Spurge**- This is the flat creeping weed with a red spot on the leaves. When you pull it, sticky sap gets on your hands. Ants love it. Hand pull or hoe spurge plants before they set seeds and remove them from the site. In flowerbeds spot treat with Roundup, apply a preemergence herbicide and add mulch to prevent seed germination. To discourage infestations in lawns mow fescue at 3 inches to shade seedlings and fertilize bermudagrass to keep it healthy.

**CRITTERS**

**Spider mites** - Signs for these tiny little critters are mottled leaves and ultra fine webs, plants along dusty roads are particularly susceptible. Wash off with plain water, use insecticidal soap if necessary.

**Tomato hornworms** - These big green guys can strip a tomato plant of leaves and deposit large black droppings. Handpick

Please see GARDEN on Page 18

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**GARDEN** Continued from Page 17

or use *Bt* (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) sometimes called caterpillar killer.

**Tobacco budworm** - If your geraniums, petunias or roses have stopped blooming the culprit may be the tobacco budworm. The worm is the larvae of a night flying moth. It lays its eggs in the flower buds, and the hatching larvae feeds on the bud then travel down the stem. Try spraying *Bt* or a rose systemic, however do not use rose systemic near any plants you plan to eat.

*Check container plants often. Small containers and clay pots dry out quickly and may need to be watered twice a day.*

**GARDEN CHORES**

1. Deep water ground covers, lawns, shrubs and trees. Deep watering your stone fruit trees will help prevent Siamese twin fruit next spring.

2. Check sprinkler systems for leaks or clogged emitters.

3. Divide bearded iris. First carefully dig up plants and discard old rhizome and any diseased or rotted sections. Replant the young, healthy rhizomes, making sure to plant shallowly. Just barely cover with soil, then water.

4. After harvest, it's time to clean them up those berry vines. Cut this year's

fruiting canes back to the ground and then tie up the new green canes to take their place. It's also a good time to spread some compost or fertilizer in the bed, then deep water.

5. Prune apricot trees in summer. Beware of pruning too much, since bark that has normally been in the shade can burn.

6. Prune hydrangeas after blooms fades.

7. Check container plants often. Small containers and clay pots dry out quickly and may need to be watered twice a day.


8. Harvest herbs, fruits and vegetables regularly to encourage production. Unless you are entering a competition for the largest zucchini, pick them young.

9. Deadhead spent flowers from summer blooming annual and perennials to keep them blooming

10. Lightly cut back any perennials or herbs that might be getting leggy.

Have a great summer!

*Thea Fiskin is a UC Master Gardener with Tulare/Kings County. Master Gardeners are members of communities who are trained by UC Cooperative Extension experts in different aspects of plant science and then volunteer to extend that information to their community. The mission of the Master Gardener program is to provide research-based information for gardening practices and technologies of home horticulture, integrated pest management and environmental resource conservation.*



**The Garden Bug**

Dragonflies do not bite or sting humans.

Some prehistoric dragonflies' wingspans measured almost 30" wide.

**Dragonflies** are considered beneficial, as they prey on mosquitoes.

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Although the Ranchos resident maintains an office on north First Street in Fresno, Christy is fully mobile.

"I can go to people's homes or they can come to me," she said. "However, the first visit should be in my office."

Christy discovered the Neuro-Reflex Therapy method out of necessity since her father suffers from Peripheral Neuropathy.

"It causes burning and tingling in your feet," Christy said. "There can be itching and even severe pain."

Her father was at his wit's end when he heard of someone offering neuro-reflex therapy in Modesto. The relief was almost instantaneous. As a result, he told Christy and she became quite curious and contacted the Neuro-Reflex Therapy Institute in Modesto. It was there that she

met David Surbrook, Vice President and COO, but a patient as well.

"It sounded too good to be true, but after a few months my doctor asked, 'Can you show me what you're doing?'" Surbrook said.

He got so excited about the therapy that he formed a company and began certifying others in the method. "Right now there are about 40 certified therapists, mostly in California," he said, adding that there are a few in Hawaii and Texas as well. "Christy is the first in the Madera/Fresno area," he beamed.

The process is not reflexology, although it is an outgrowth of reflexology. "Reflexology is the beginning point," Surbrook said. "It's reflexology with new techniques," he stressed, adding that reflexology will not produce the same results.

Useful for feet and hands, the method also appears to work for carpal tunnel sufferers. "If we can get to you first, you may not need surgery," Surbrook said.

One wonderful byproduct of the method is reducing depression. "Most sufferers get depressed from no hope for relief," Surbrook said. "When the pain goes away it gives sufferers hope."

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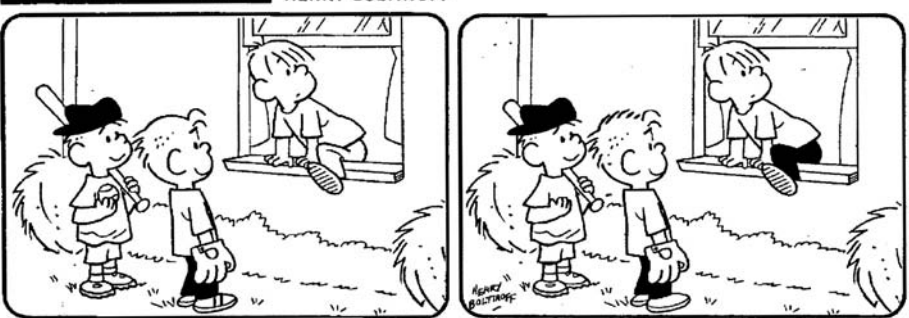
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RIDDLE CARD

Two brothers we are, Great burdens we bear, By which we are bitterly pressed. In truth we may say, We are full all the day, But empty when we go to rest.

RIDDLE CARD! The Jolly Jester says, "The items in this rhyme are things you use all the time."

SEE IF YOU CAN make this math expression correct by adding two minus signs and one plus sign between certain numbers:  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 = 100  
Answer: 123 - 45 - 67 + 89 = 100

FIND FAST-FOOD! Hidden in the grid to the right are the names of 11 foods and condiments. You can find them by reading up or down, side to side or diagonally. Time limit: 2 minutes.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

IN BLOOM! MARY has a wonderful garden filled with many kinds of flowers. Using the following hints, can you discover what 10 of them are?

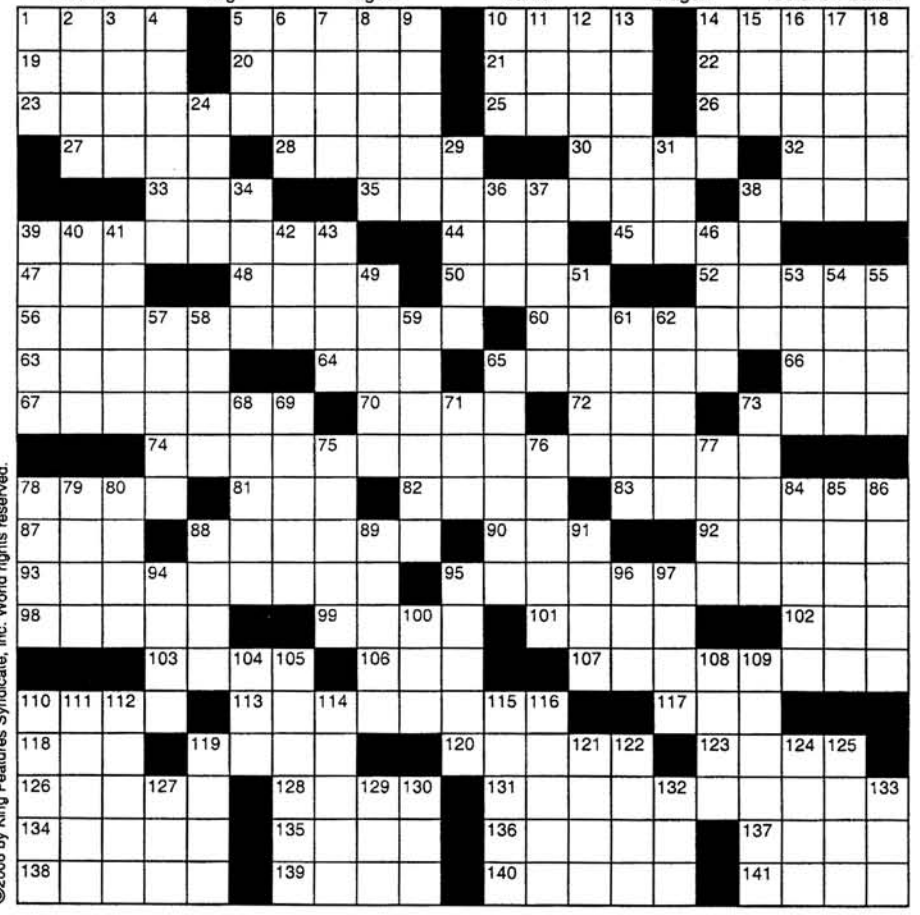
- WHAT FLOWER...  
1. is a bad-tempered monster?  
2. is two girls?  
3. is kissable?  
4. is used by the baker?  
5. is a precise girl?  
6. is a woman's shoe?  
7. is a sad chime?  
8. is a charming little boy?  
9. is in your eye?  
10. did King Midas fish with?



Super Crossword

LETTER PERFECT

- ACROSS**  
1 Exercise target  
5 Actuate  
10 Boston —  
14 Denzel Washington film  
19 Kansas city  
20 — incognita  
21 Comfort  
22 "Middle-march" author  
23 Butcher-shop buy  
25 Modern Mesopotamia  
26 Numerical word form  
27 Theater collection  
28 Director Michael  
30 Satyric trait  
32 Vim  
33 Bond rating  
35 Neapolitan song  
38 Work over?  
39 Tarnish  
44 PBS benefactor  
45 Mrs. Nick Charles  
47 ABA member  
48 Shipshape  
50 Standard  
52 Court cry  
56 Start of a Nash verse  
60 Maestro Arturo  
63 Opening remark?  
64 To and —  
65 Rang  
66 Rapper Tone —  
67 Rained and snowed  
70 Kruger of "High Noon"  
72 — vous plait  
73 To boot  
74 Bach favorite  
78 Hostage  
81 New Deal agcy.  
82 — May Oliver  
83 Most enthusiastic  
87 Diminutive suffix  
88 Make minestrone  
90 Say please  
92 Actress Zellweger  
93 Connecticut county  
95 It's a guy thing  
98 Perplexed  
99 WWII site  
101 Kenwood competitor  
102 Glowing  
103 No, to Nureyev  
106 Asian soldier  
107 Haphazard  
110 Disney dog  
113 George Peppard series  
117 Korf or Sara  
118 What a feller needs  
119 Keeping  
120 Give in to gravity  
123 Walked  
126 Diacritical mark  
128 Author Ambler  
131 Famed disc jockey  
134 Irving's "The — New Hampshire"  
135 Amneris' rival  
136 Messy Madison  
137 European country  
138 High-tech missives  
139 Expensive  
140 Uses a trepan  
141 TV's "Ding — School"  
6 "Simple Simon —"  
7 Type of sch.  
8 Thalia's sister  
9 Albert and Victoria  
10 Mile High Center architect  
11 Boathouse item  
12 Sacred song  
13 Costume sparkler  
14 Kid  
15 Castilian cry  
16 Hefty herbivore  
17 Short messages  
18 Stick 'em in your ear  
24 Actor Morales  
29 Singer Summer  
31 — Canals  
34 Composer Thomas  
36 August one?  
37 Big revolver?  
38 Holstein's home  
39 Rome's — of Caracalla  
40 Lucy's landlady  
41 Marker  
42 "Aladdin" frame  
43 Grapefruit serving  
46 Way  
49 Deck of destiny  
51 Dewy  
53 Pickling herb  
54 Baseball's Slaughter  
55 Puerto —  
57 City on the Allegheny  
58 Reply to the Little Red Hen  
59 One who no's best?  
61 Smug smile  
62 "The Color Purple" character  
65 Kirsch kin  
68 Sgt. Bilko  
69 Campus digs  
71 Designer Lapidus  
73 Bronte's "— Grey"  
75 Tom, Dick, and Harry  
76 Skater Cohen  
77 Franco of "Camelot"  
78 Cougar  
79 Landed  
80 Gets hitched  
84 "— Gay"  
85 Big rigs  
86 Choppers  
88 Deal with a dragon  
89 Newsboy's shout  
91 Kamm or Kristofferson  
94 Contradict  
95 Harnessed the oxen  
96 Bird of prey  
97 Abbreviated address  
100 Sodom  
104 JFK abbr.  
105 Fine fiber  
108 Compassion  
109 Moved like  
110 Woodworking tool  
111 Postulate  
112 Nile feature  
114 Mysterious  
115 Iron clothes?  
116 Animal that roared?  
119 Convent cubicle  
121 Namu or Willy  
122 Bloomsbury buggy  
124 Roy Rogers' birthplace  
125 Bruce or Laura  
127 "Agnus —"  
129 Journalist  
130 Roller-coaster unit  
132 "— longa, vita brevis"  
133 Brew barrel



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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Who wrote the book "James and the Giant Peach"?
- HISTORY: What did the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo do?
- GEOGRAPHY: Where is Montserrat?
- MEDICINE: What organ in the human body can be damaged by the childhood disease called rheumatic fever?
- THEATER: Who was the lyricist partner of composer Andrew Lloyd Webber?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is July's traditional gemstone?
- LANGUAGE: What is the code for the letter "F" in military phonetic alphabet?
- MUSIC: What is meant by the musical notation "grazioso"?
- RELIGION: What are the synoptic gospels?
- ART: What medium is used in the art of origami?

MAGIC MAZE — GALLERY



- Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
- |          |          |          |            |
|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Art      | Peanut   | Press    | Tate       |
| Ladies'  | Photo    | Private  | Web        |
| Music    | Picture  | Public   | Whispering |
| National | Portrait | Shooting |            |

Answers

- Ronald Dahl
- Settled the Mexican War
- Island exists in the eastern Caribbean
- The heart
- Tim Rice
- Ruby
- Foxrot
- Graceful
- Matthew, Mark and Luke
- Paper

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The Ranchos Specialist, Working for "You"

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www.nancywatson.net



Nancy has been a Ranchos resident for 28 years and a full-time Real Estate Agent serving the Ranchos for over 17 years. She is a member of the Madera and Fresno Multiple Listing Service and is well known as a *Top Producer*. If you are interested in finding out the value of your home or know someone looking for a home, Nancy can help. Let the dedicated, experienced agent work for "You!"

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**Oscar Anaya**  
Senior Loan Officer

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**645-7540**

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Realtor Associate

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**490-1989**



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Realtor® DRE #01702451

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Office 559-675-2150  
**"Hablo Español"**



2377 W. Cleveland Ave., Ste. 107, Madera, CA 93637




**3717 LOS OSOS CT. MADERA • 4 bed, 2 ba. Approx. 2,100 sq. ft.** Great cul-de-sac location. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, walk-in closets. New kitchen appliances, countertops. Tons of cabinets. Three-car garage and fully landscaped front yard, fully fenced backyard. **Must see! \$389,999**

7/06




**Nicole Lerno**  
your Ranchos Realtor

**GUARANTEE REAL ESTATE**  
cell **999-9005**



**36711 Ave. 12 MADERA RANCHOS • 4 bed, 2 ba. Approx. 2,600 sq. ft.** Attached office or Mother-in-law set up for residential or commercial use. New construction! Built-ins, jacuzzi tub, lots of cement work and yard to be landscaped. Wheelchair access, wide doors, handrails. Sprinklers, gas appliances. **Must see! \$599,000**

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**Nicole Lerno**  
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**GUARANTEE REAL ESTATE**  
cell **999-9005**



**GH REALTY** Maurice Gonzales

Ph: (559) 288-1904  
Email: maurice@itsmaurice.com

7/06




**JERRY EDDINGS, REALTORS**

**559-645-1890**

Custom 3 BR 2 BA on 2.25 ac. w/view of mountains. Horses OK. Easy care yard w/ gazebo, covered patio. Vaulted ceiling and plant shelf, tile and carpet. Master BR has huge walk-in closet. Custom touches throughout. Laundry, walk-in pantry, gas stove, oak cabinets. Ceiling fans. 2-car garage. \$389,000.

37144 Ave. 12 Ste. 102  
Madera Ranchos

7/06 



Just listed on 2.52 acres in the Ranchos. Unique country property, dual-rock fireplace, great room with high ceilings and a loft, wood plank flooring in dining area. Over 2,000 sq. ft. and over 1,100 sq. ft. detached shop. There is also an inground pool with a rock waterfall for your enjoyment. Priced at \$489,000. Please call for viewing at 661-6200.

**Scrivner Real Estate**

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Madera, CA 93637  
Office: (559) 661-6200

**Great Buy!**

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**Briggs Realty** 

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Realtor / Associate  
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Office: (559) 291-2548

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Cell: (559) 363-2247  
Home: (559) 645-0306  
Fax: (559) 645-0594

7/06

**36798 Eddings Dr., Madera Ranchos**



**OPEN HOUSE**  
Sunday, July 23  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



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Wanda Fries www.wandafries.com

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Madera Ranchos



**3 Bed  
2 Ba.  
\$449,000**

36757 Fender Ave.


Beautiful new home over 2,000 sq. ft. w/soaring ceilings, custom tile and custom paint on 1/4 acre lot. Great room w/gas fireplace, formal dining w/bay window and deluxe kitchen w/latest appliances and granite counters. Master w/huge walk-in closet and deluxe bath w/spa tub. Professionally landscaped.



**4 Bed  
3 Ba.  
\$439,000**

36729 Blanca


Custom home on 1.15 acre. Nice floorplan, living room w/bay window, family room w/vaulted ceiling and plant shelf, master w/walk-in closet. Isolated bedroom and bath, spacious open kitchen, dining nook w/bay window, walk-in pantry, laundry room, finished 2-car garage.



**4 Bed  
2 Ba.  
\$519,000**

36205 Blossom


Custom home on 1/2 acre lot. Open floorplan, custom touches throughout. Vaulted ceilings, spacious kitchen, large bedrooms. Covered patio w/ceiling fans and gas BBQ. Fully landscaped w/autosprinklers front and rear. Huge finished 3-car garage. All located near Liberty High and Ranchos Middle School.



**3 Bed  
2 Ba.  
\$364,500**

12897 Road 37


Cute home on 1 ac. lot w/many upgrades. Granite countertops and island, new kitchen cabinets and appliances. Laminate flooring, fresh paint and more. Nice floorplan includes living and family rooms with spacious kitchen. Located in the heart of the Golden Valley School District.



**5 Bed  
3 Ba.  
\$509,000**

17308 Paula Rd.

Lovely brand new home on beautiful high 2.25 acre lot zoned for horses. Home includes upgraded tile flooring and counters, double ovens, gas cooktop and walk-in pantry. Isolated bedroom and bath, covered patio and 3-car garage. Property is fenced and cross-fenced.



**Tom Kellner Owner/Broker**  
559-706-3162 cell

**Vacant Land**

39+ ac. Ave. 9 west of Rd. 36. \$40,000/acre. Horses now, deep well with HD pump. Investment! Full parcel only.

398+ acres. Ave. 15 west of Rd. 35. \$25K/acre. Long range development. Williamson Act now. Full parcel Only. Owner/Agent Related.

Prime 1+ acre located on Ave. 12. Corner lot. \$475,000. CALL NOW!

**OTHER LAND AVAILABLE**

**Farms & Ranches**

MADERA PISTACHIO ORCHARD - Approx. 100 acres, prime ag land, maturely 30 year old trees. **SOLD!**

**Other Properties**

AVE. 11 at RD 35 - 36 ac. of grazing land near Valley Teen Ranch. Corner parcel, Williamson Act, ag use only for now. Owner/Agent \$900,000

258 W. SAN JOSE, FRESNO - 3 BR, 2 BA in quiet Fig Garden area. 1,715 sf. Hardwood floors, mature landscaping. \$329K. OWNER MUST SELL!

ROAD 35 at AVE. 11 - 41+ acres with great long-term development potential. Williamson Act now, ag use only. Owner/Agent \$750,000

ROAD 35 at AVE. 11 - 36 acres in Williamson Act, potential development. Newly developed area for 40 ac. parcels. Owner/Agent \$800,000

2544 SAMPLE AVE., CLOVIS - 1,475 sf. 3/2, Roman tub, sprinklers, high ceilings, tile roof, skylights, RV parking. \$325K. MUST SELL! MAKE OFFER.

6697 E. HERITAGE AVE., CLOVIS - 3,589 sf. 4/3 custom home w/Guest Suite. RV possible, Clovis schools. \$949,000.

**Kellner & Sons' Properties • 559-297-3770**

Call the listing office for all of the amenities of any of these properties 7/06  
call Paul Sobaje at Continental Realty  
**431-7060 or 645-5450**

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# Classified Advertising

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For Rent - Chowchilla Greenhill's Country Club - New custom home, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, tile floors, incl. yard service. \$1,150 per month. **Call Agent 706-0301**

**FOR SALE**

For Sale - Three 3-wheelers for sale - A 200, 185 and a 110. All need work. Not running, come with extra parts. \$400 takes all. **Call 645-4948** after 7/26/06 for more info.

For Sale - Pool Table, 8ft. professional, solid wood, leather pockets, 1" slate, w/accessories, Armith balls, Simonis cloth, 4 cues, etc. Never used. Cost \$4,500. Sacrifice \$1,275. **Call 230-0486**

For Sale - Pool Table 2005 model, never used, lifetime warranty, can deliver. Cost \$4000. Sacrifice \$975. **Call 275-8813**

For Sale - Hot tub/spa, absolute all new 2006, loaded digital, 44 chrome jets, ozone, waterfall, never used. Cost \$8,200. Sacrifice \$3,875. W/warranty. **Call 360-9047**

For Sale - Spa, brand new, loaded, warranty. \$2,375 **Call 275-8813**

For Sale -Bedroom Set 7 pc. Solid cherry wood, sleigh bed, nightstand, dresser/mir-

ror, chest, dovetailed drawers, never used, cost \$7,000. Sacrifice \$1,875 Extra pieces avail. **Call 277-2511**

For Sale - Queen Pillow top mattress/box, cost \$500 sacrifice \$195. Never used. In plastic. **Call 230-0486**

For Sale- Queen Plush Pillow top brand new mattress/box. Cost \$700 Sacrifice \$275. King, cost \$900, sacrifice \$395 in plastic w/warranty. **Call 277-2511**

For Sale - King Pillow top mattress/box, cost \$600 sacrifice \$295, brand new in plastic. **Call 438-0248**

For Sale - Custom Bike designed by Orange County Choppers for Napa built by Schwinn. Still in the box. Also a 10' x 20' Canopy for autos, still in the box. **Call 706-5778**

For Sale - 4-16'L x 4'H Hog Wire Fencing. Paid \$60 each. Will sell all for \$100. **Call 645-1814**

For Sale - Beanie Babies! Over 50 to choose from. \$4 each. **Call 645-5825**

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Home Gym - MUST SELL! Complete with all stations, bench press, leg press, rowing, abs. New cost \$1,300, first \$500 takes. **Call 645-6138**

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The Gutter Doctor specializing in both continuous and standard rain gutters. Unusual jobs. Air conditioning service also avail. Yearly cleaning. 29 years working in the area. **Call 559-822-2759**

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Rancho Handyman - when you need a helping hand then you need the Ranchos Handyman. Whether the job is big or small the Handyman can do it all. Call Ohan for estimates. Now available: house painting. **Call 645-6924**

**HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE**

Jeannie's House Cleaning-Ranchos Area. Business Owner over 10 years. Reasonable rates, good references. Will do blinds, fans, and laundry. Fast and thorough. **Call 645-4176**

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Need teenager for occasional odd jobs around yard and house. Call Sam at **645-1721**

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In home care & cleaning for mentally disabled part time. **Call 645-5047**

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