

# The Ranchos Independent



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

June 2007

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

35¢

## The Ranchos Sends a "Word From Home"



The growing Madera Ranchos Word From Home group (from left) Berniece Wardle, Sue Haddock, Clare Wardle, Pam Hansen, Kay Haworth and Kayla Hodges prepare boxes of everyday items that are in high demand by our troops but are unavailable in Middle East combat zones.

By Pam Hansen

A group of private citizens, mostly from the Madera Ranchos, are sending gift packages to troops originally from the Central Valley who are currently serving in the Middle East. "Word From Home" is made up mostly of family and friends of military personnel who gather and ship everyday items that are not generally available and are greatly missed by the troops. The items range from dental floss and insect repellent to Ziploc bags and CDs. Packages go to as many Central Valley military personnel as possible, not just to troops related to or known by members of the group, making it a truly "community" service project.



Liberty High student Emily Wardle helps Word From Home by addressing mail labels for the packages to be sent to our troops in combat.

Word From Home handles the mechanics of the project – soliciting donations, selecting the recipients, creating the packages and shipping them – but they need assistance in obtaining items and in paying the box and postage hard costs. The project began in April 2007 and will run as long as it is needed.

Items requested by the troops include the following examples:

Snack Foods: Powdered drinks, canned

tuna/chicken, protein bars, dried fruit/nuts, cookies, chips, candy, gum and granola.

Entertainment items: Magazines, paperback books, DVDs, CDs, travel games, nerf balls, balloons and puzzles.

Health/Comfort: Baby wipes, lip balm, toothbrushes/paste, dental floss, deodorant, eye drops, hand lotions, socks, sunscreen and insect repellent.

Miscellaneous: AA batteries, disposable cameras, sewing kits, Ziploc bags, stationery, greeting cards, calling cards, neckerchiefs.

### Questions

**How many members are in your group and do they all live in the Madera Ranchos?**

We currently have nine adults, three teens and one child (11 years old)

in our group. One grandmother lives in Chowchilla and another adult lives in Fresno, but the rest of us live in the Madera Ranchos. We continue to solicit volunteers and all of the mothers and grandmothers who have called in have stated they can volunteer if needed.

**How long have you been conducting the Word**

Please see **HOME** on p. 9



## Two Meth Lab "Dump Sites" Discovered 5 Miles from LHS

Two latest discoveries in close proximity to the Madera Ranchos brings number of Meth Lab "Dump Sites" to eight.

By Randy Bailey

On Monday, June 18, Madera County Sheriff's Deputies discovered two different Methamphetamine "dump sites" within a mile of each other near Road 32 and Avenues 7 and 8 in rural Madera County. The two finds bring the total number of dumpsites discovered recently by Deputies to eight and illustrate just how close this type of activity is to the Ranchos with their locations a mere 5 miles from Liberty High School.

Meth dump sites are where the spent materials used to produce Methamphetamine in



Acid-filled buckets, acid cylinders, flammable liquids and a 40-gallon trash can filled with lab debris was found at one site.

impromptu Meth labs are disposed. At one of the sites nar-



Narcotics agents clear a Methamphetamine "dump site" of toxic debris just 5 miles from Liberty High.

cotics agents sorted through four 5-gallon buckets filled with acid, two acid cylinders, a 40-gallon trash can filled with lab debris and a flammable liquid. All highly toxic and flammable, agents are convinced they are the remnants of a "Super" Meth lab, capable of producing in excess of 10 pounds of pure Methamphetamine.

Madera County Sheriff John Anderson, who has been monitoring the narcotics agents'

Please see **METH** on p. 13

**INSIDE**

Editorial.....Page 2  
Letters.....Page 3  
Stock Report.....Page 7  
Real Estate.....Page 16  
Classifieds.....Page 16  
Fun Zone.....Page 19

### Library/Community Center Moves Forward

The proposed Madera Ranchos Library/Community Center proposed by the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce continues to move forward after a meeting on June 14 that involved the executive boards of several clubs and organizations represented in the Ranchos. In attendance were representatives of the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce, Madera Ranchos Kiwanis, Friends of the Library, the Madera Ranchos Library, the Ranchos Independent and interested citizens.

The purpose of the meeting was to see if the leadership of the represented organizations saw a value to the proposed project and if they would be willing to convey that value to their respective memberships. All representatives said they would share the information with their members and make them aware of the next Town Hall meeting for the project.

**EMERGENCY!**

A Madera Ranchos father, mother and two small children had their home and all of their possessions burn to the ground June 23 leaving them with only the clothes on their backs. They need donations of food, clothing, everything! Call Tina Shannon at 352-5441 to see how you can help.

**352-5441**



**THE D.O.G. HOUSE**  
DEMAND OPEN GOVERNMENT BY DALE DROZEN



Is this enough digging for this month? My paws are killin' me.

Just a little background first:

The Water Commission – according to Chairman Moss – is to be an advisory group reporting directly to the Board. It will study and report on any issue related to water use or management, including flood, watershed or wastewater. I personally believe this could be one of the most important commissions in the County, considering how important water is.

The Water Commission first surfaced several weeks ago. Depending on when you looked at it, the numbers changed.

According to Madera County Council, David Prentice, when it was conceived it was a total of 10. By the time it got to the first public hearing it was up to 13 to be appointed by established groups or organizations and one “at large” member. The problem was that only one of the assigned representatives was to be from Eastern Madera County (defined as east of the Madera Canal).

There was a pretty good showing at the hearing and the number of at large members was upped to three, with two of them being from Eastern Madera County. Another first hearing was set and the number of at large members was increased to six. When Supervisor Bigelow made the motion to add them he placed all six to be chosen from Eastern Madera County. His motion Passed 3/2.

Another first hearing was set for June 5 and when the June 5 agenda came out item 5 was a motion to reconsider.

**PROBLEM:** A motion to reconsider can only be requested by someone on the prevailing side of the vote to be reconsidered. I do not believe this one was.

When item 5 was called, Supervisor Dominici said that he could not ask for it to be reconsidered but was wondering if someone else would. For whatever reason – I do not know – Supervisor Wheeler said something to the effect of “... Out of respect for Supervisor Ronn and because I want to hear what he has to say, I will make the motion.” Supervisor Ronn Dominici seconded it.

**PROBLEM:** There are only certain reasons why you can ask for a motion to reconsider and neither of the ones Wheeler gave are on the list.

The mater was discussed by the Board and a vote was taken to reconsider.

**PROBLEM:** Any item on the agenda means members of the public must be given an opportunity to talk before the vote is taken. I moved to the area of the podium, gestured and even went up and talked to the County Counsel to protest but the Chairman would not open it to public comment. The issues:

- 1) The posting of item 5 was not in order (was not done by a member of the prevailing side).
- 2) The motion to reconsider by Supervisor was not in order (had he just made the motion it could have been debatable but he explained his reasons).
- 3) The action of the Board – the vote to reconsider was not legal – was in violation of the Brown Act (members of the public were not permitted to speak on the issue before the vote).

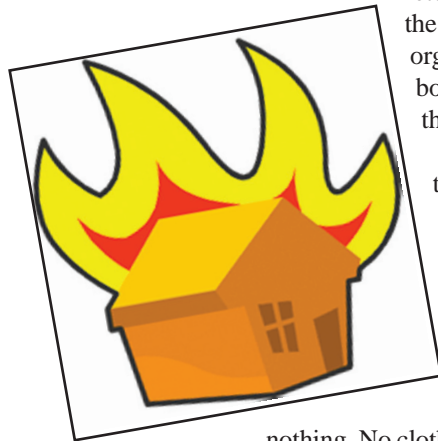
So what now? If they go forward and I win my case everything after this point could be thrown out and we would have to start over.

**Random Notes**

Happy 4th of July! It'll be here real soon. I don't know if it's because I'm getting older or if it's because I finally “get” it, but the 4th has become one of my favorite holidays. The patriotism, the fireworks, the music ... I love it all. I notice that I listen a little more closely to the words of the patriotic songs and I'll admit they choke me up a lot more than they did when I was younger. Particularly now, with our country involved in a global war on terror, I appreciate our freedoms probably more than I ever have and I appreciate the sacrifice made on my behalf by our men and women in uniform. They are the reason I can sit here in the comfort of my air conditioned office and type these words, and I thank them for that.



Speaking of the 4th, if your Independence Day celebration involves fireworks, the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Madera Ranchos Library are operating a fireworks booth in the Maywood Center next to Cat's Diner. Load up on your Piccolo Petes and sparklers and know that a percentage of the money you spend is going to two very good organizations. Look for them to open up their booth the last week of June right up and through the 4th.



There's a special notice on the front page of this month's Ranchos Independent telling about an emergency situation for a Ranchos family of four. Jay and Michaela Ford and their two little girls, Shelby, 7, and Samantha, 5, literally lost all of their worldly possessions in a fire on June 23. Thankfully no one was hurt and insurance will eventually make everything right, but between now and then they have nothing. No clothes, no furniture, no cookware, no bedding ... the list goes on and on. The Red Cross is already helping out but that merely scratches the surface when EVERYTHING is wiped out. If you'd like to help out and have got some things you'd like to donate, call Tina Shannon at 352-5441 and she will work her magic at organizing everything to make sure the Fords are helped out on their road to recovery through the generosity of their good neighbors in the Ranchos. I just want to thank you in advance for your kindness and caring. It's what makes living in the Ranchos special.



Another great program that has just started up in the Ranchos is “Word From Home,” the brainchild of Pam Hansen. She and her fledgling group put together “care packages” for our troops in the Mideast. It's stuff that we take for granted here but they just can't get over there.

And they give military personnel from the Central Valley first shot at everything. If you'd like to help this group out or contribute, call Pam at 559-645-0513 or 559-474-2330.

If the kids are driving you crazy this summer, the Ranchos Library has a solution: Get your kids and teens involved in the summer reading program. The focus this summer is on mysteries and your kids can earn prizes while they keep their young minds fertile over the summer. You certainly don't want weeds growing between their ears as they attempt to vegetate over summer! Sign up for the program at the Madera Ranchos Library in the Maywood Center on Avenue 12 at Maywood.

Have a safe and sane 4th, help out your neighbors in any way you can, help out our troops and get the kids reading some books this summer. Sounds like a full plate but what a sense of satisfaction you'll get when you start tearing through a pile like that!

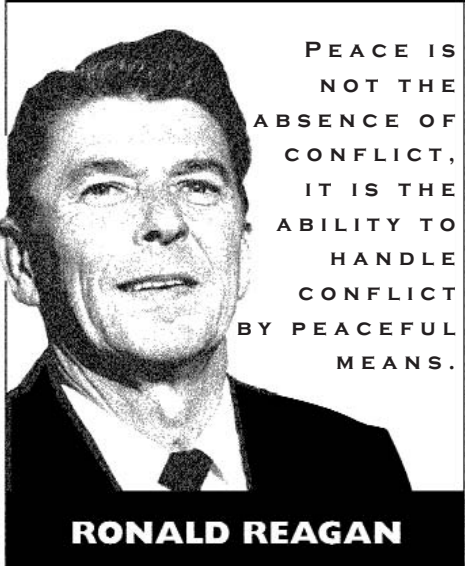
See you next month.

**The Ranchos Independent**

The Ranchos Independent is published by Five and Two Publishing. All contents of this publication are copyright 2007, all rights reserved. Reprinting without the permission of the copyright holder is forbidden by law. All articles are submitted as the opinion of the author, who remains solely responsible for the content. The information gathered for this publication is from sources that are considered to be reliable, but are not guaranteed. Opinions expressed in advertisements or articles remain the opinion of the writer.

**Randy Bailey** . . . . . Editor **559-645-0634**  
**Tina Shannon** . . . . . Advertising Sales  
37167 Ave. 12, Suite 5C • Madera, CA 93636 • ranchosnews@theranchos.com

**THE RAY GUN**



PEACE IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF CONFLICT, IT IS THE ABILITY TO HANDLE CONFLICT BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

**RONALD REAGAN**

## Letters

Dear Editor:

Jerry Brown's election as Attorney General last November worried more than a few Californians.

The new sheriff in town is telling some people who aren't following the strict letter of one particular law – at least as he sees it – to get out of Dodge.

Unfortunately, the people in question are not violent criminals, but businesses and law-abiding workers vital to California's economy.

At issue is Assembly Bill 32, a bill signed by Governor Schwarzenegger last year requiring a 25 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2020. The warnings issued by my Republican colleagues and I were drowned out, overshadowed by "the sky is falling" hysteria generated by the left and by the pressures of the upcoming November election. Now, thanks to a lawsuit filed by Attorney General Brown and environmental activists against the County of San Bernardino, the full consequences are becoming all too clear.

The lawsuit charges that San Bernardino County's General Plan violates the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it fails to consider and reduce carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gasses, as mandated by AB 32.

That may sound like a lot of arcane letters and numbers, but this is not just some bureaucratic showdown that might bother you if you took the time to look into it. On the contrary, this lawsuit threatens to cause devastating harm to our already ravaged infrastructure and, by extension, to our state's economy. It also could radically alter how you live on a daily basis.

For decades, environmentalists and opponents of growth have used – and abused – the subjective and convoluted provisions of CEQA to delay countless projects up and down the state, from highway construction to housing developments. Though intended to protect the natural resources we all appreciate, it has become a favored weapon of those bent on stopping progress. Local governments and private developers pay thousands, if not millions, more trying to comply with CEQA's restrictive mandates, increasing costs to prohibitive levels.

The implications of the lawsuit filed against San Bernardino reach much further. No county or state agency has ever been asked to consider carbon dioxide in the CEQA review process. So, if our AG gets what he wants, there won't be a single county or city in California with a growth plan that meets the new standard.

How could they? Nearly a year after AB 32's passage, the state's own Air Resources Board (CARB) still hasn't developed proposed regulations for how California is supposed to meet the law's directive of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels.

Here's a preview: Considering the fact that our population has increased 23 percent, and vehicle miles traveled have increased 27 percent since 1990, CARB's elusive plan will almost certainly require drastic changes.

Essentially, I'm not talking about some big, bad smoke factory belching pollutants into the air, either. Millions of taxpayer dollars once intended for roads, schools, parks and clean water projects will instead be spent on studies, consultants, reports and litigation. Every Californian will be forced to make economic decisions about where they live

based on the increased cost of fuel and consumer products.

You can kiss every pending infrastructure improvement goodbye, too – including all those projects being funded through the Proposition 1B transportation bonds overwhelmingly approved by voters last year.

So, in short, the attorney general has taken legal action in the name of the state to cut down the most ambitious effort to repair and expand California's highways in decades.

Essentially, we can build the desperately needed infrastructure projects and add lanes to our congested highways as long as we don't use them!

Liberals like to use the court system to socially engineer an outcome in which Californians, frustrated by idling on gridlocked freeways, demand mass transit. However, the electorate spoke loudly and clearly when they authorized \$20 billion in bond funding for transportation improvements. They want to get in their cars and be able to get from point A to point B quickly and safely – which, not insignificantly, would also reduce air pollution.

That was the point of AB 32, wasn't it?

Senator George Runner  
Senate District 17  
(Senate District 17 incorporates portions of the Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura and Kern counties. Ed.)

Dear Editor:

It seems that Mr. Grauer and I (letter, May '07) have had a number of similar

experiences in life. I, too, made the aforementioned 2x4 skateboards, hunted and plinked with .22 rifles around my childhood home in the Napa Valley, drove my Jeep on Forest Service roads that are now closed, and drag raced until all the drag strips within logical driving distance were shut down by complaining neighbors who knew the strips were there when they moved in. However, as I am sure Mr. Grauer will recognize, all of these activities were done in the public domain, not on private property that we had worked all our lives to purchase.

I have seen most of the things I have loved in life either outlawed or driven underground, and I am at the end of my patience with the attitude that "if it bothers me in the least, it should be illegal." In case anyone has forgotten, America was founded on individual rights and liberties, but that ideology, so treasured by the

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 6

*The Ranchos Independent* welcomes your letters. Whether you're a fan or someone looking for something to line the birdcage, we want to hear from you.

Send your letters to:

**The Ranchos Independent**  
37167 Ave. 12 #5C  
Madera, CA 93638

or  
FAX 645-4002

or  
ranchosnews@theranchos.com

Get your  
**FIREWORKS**  
for the 4th of July

at the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce  
& Friends of the Ranchos Library

**FIREWORKS STAND**  
July 1 - 4 • 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Next to Cat's Diner in the Maywood Center  
Come out and support your local library and chamber!

**THUNDERSTRIKE**  
MOTORCYCLES

**CASINO NIGHT**  
JULY 13, 2007  
7PM - 10PM

**\$100 BUY-IN**

**PRIZES!!!**

**BLACKJACK**  
**ROULETTE**  
**CRAPS**  
**TEXAS HOLD'EM**

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO  
THE ROCK MINISTRIES

14634 HWY 41  
MADERA, CA 93636  
BETWEEN AVE 14 1/2 & 15  
FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL (559)822-4220

**WWW.THUNDERSTRIKEMOTORCYCLES.COM**

## Ranchos Kids, Teens "Get a Clue" With Summer Reading Program

By Ellen Mester

The Ranchos Library resounded with joyful laughter at the fun-filled kickoff of our Summer Reading Program, "Get a Clue @ Your Library." The music, games, puzzles, riddles, and even Ike's Juice Bar was open to all those who signed up for the summer reading program. And at the end of the evening a winning name was drawn for the grand prize: the new Harry Potter book that is due out July 21.

Kids and Teens: It's going to be a great summer for reading! If you haven't signed up for the Summer Reading Program stop by the library and pick-up a packet. The packet will have your reading log, pencil and two bookmarks. Select some good mysteries or any stories that capture your imagination, check them out with your library card then take them home for some enjoyable reading time. Read 30 minutes minimum per day and record your time and title of the book. If you read a minimum of 150 minutes per week you are eligible to select a prize from Ike's treasure chest. You may only select one prize per week. At the end of the summer the reader who has read the most minutes with a minimum of 900 minutes will receive a Grand Prize!!!

### New Library Planning Committee Update

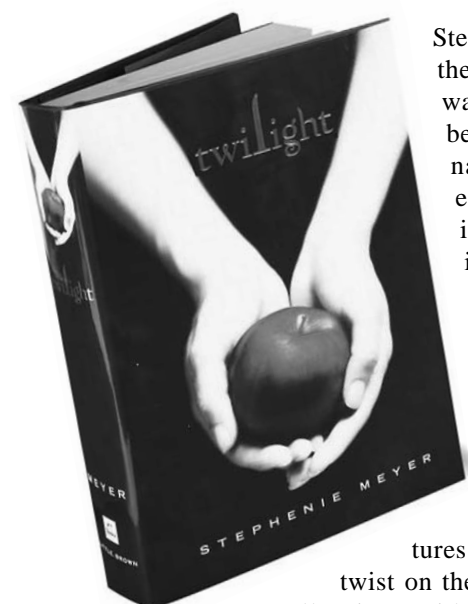
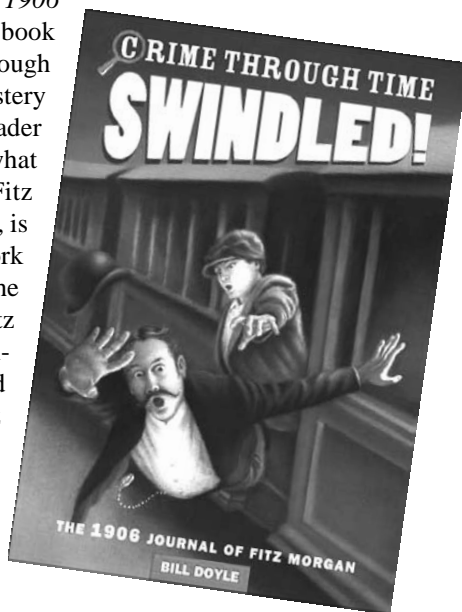
The NLP Committee has been hard at work preparing a grant application for start-up funds for promotional material that will be informational and encourage meaningful dialog with interested parties. The application is due July 1. We received valuable information from the survey that was mailed out two months ago in your Ranchos Independent. Of the 175 surveys that were returned, 89 percent said they were willing to support a ballot bond issue for the new library. Also on the survey the majority of respondents said that the most valued current services were books, reference material and staff help. The top three new services that respondents would like to see in the new library were a quiet reading room, new children's educational programs and expanded hours. This is important information for planning purposes. There will be other surveys in the future as the project progresses so if you didn't get a chance to voice your opinion on this survey be sure to respond to the next one. This is our community library — we want to hear from you!

Reminders: Bring your children to Monday Story Time at 11 a.m. with Mrs. Anderson. The Friends of the Library meet the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. The New Library Planning Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The Friends of the Library and the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce will be selling fireworks again this year in the Maywood Center. Help support the Ranchos Library and Chamber of Commerce.

### Book Recommendations

**Juvenile Fiction:** *Swindled! The 1906 Journal of Fitz Morgan* by Bill Doyle. This book is just one in a series entitled "Crime Through Time." It's just perfect for our SRP mystery theme because it offers clues to the reader through a series of journal entries (somewhat similar to the Dear America series). Fitz Morgan, 14-year old daughter of a detective, is traveling in disguise as a boy from New York to San Francisco via train. Always on the lookout for crime solving opportunities, Fitz stumbles into a mystery involving a poisoned secret service agent and Dr. Sigmund Freud himself saving the man's life. Fitz and her new friend Justine Pinkerton (daughter of the famous detective Pinkerton) put together the clues to solve this mystery. It's fast pace with lively dialog and makes this an exciting book for readers age 9 to 99.



**Young Adult Fiction:** *Twilight* by Stephanie Meyer. If you haven't read any of the popular vampire series yet, you might want to read this one. This is a love story between 17-year-old Bella and a vampire named Edward who is forever 17 and extremely handsome. He lives with a "family" of vampires who are somewhat unique in that they are cultured, caring, only drink blood from animals and try to do positive things with their never-ending lives. Unfortunately, other vampires roaming the world drop by and cause serious trouble for the "family." As unbelievable as this may sound, the story is so engrossing that I could hardly put it down. It is very popular with teens because it captures the teen angst while giving an interesting twist on the difficulties that good vampires face. It's well-written with a strong storyline that leaves out the sex and bad language making it appropriate for young teens too.

Please see **BOOKS** on page 5

## HOW TO KEEP YOUR COOL DURING THE ENERGY CRISIS.



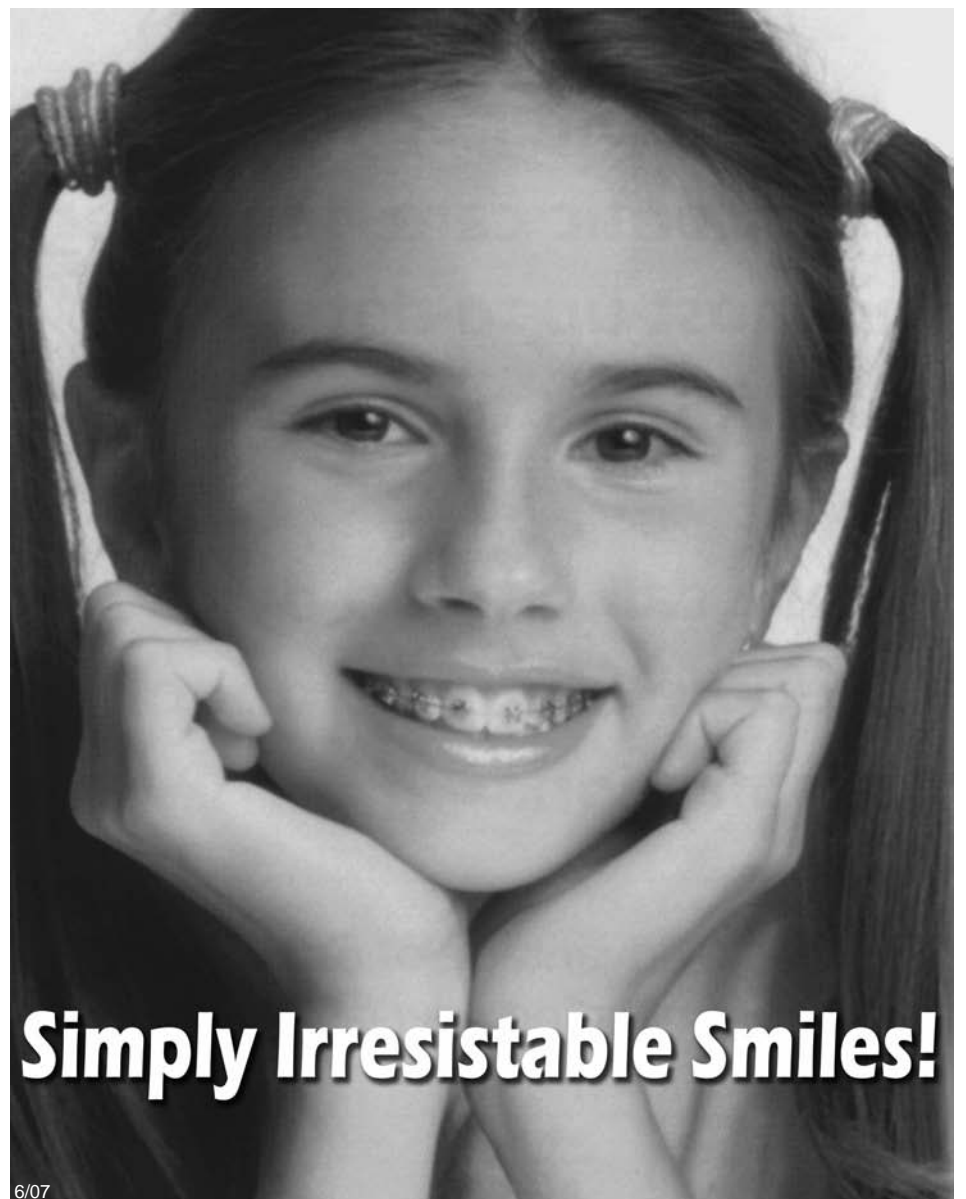
Before you give up your air conditioner, give us a call. We offer a whole range of ways you can start reducing your energy bills. Right now. Like putting in a programmable thermostat. Or installing a new super-efficient unit featuring Puron environmentally-sound refrigerant. Whatever you choose, we can help you keep your cool, and your cash, all summer long. After all, no one comes through in a crisis like we do. **Whatever it takes.<sup>SM</sup>**

# 559-662-0336

# 559-438-8260



6/07



## Simply Irresistable Smiles!

**Ranchos Dental Care & Orthodontics**  
37144 Avenue 12 #104 • Madera Ranchos

# 559-645-5320

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



6/07

# CM&N Nursery

## NEXT TO HURST'S HARDWARE

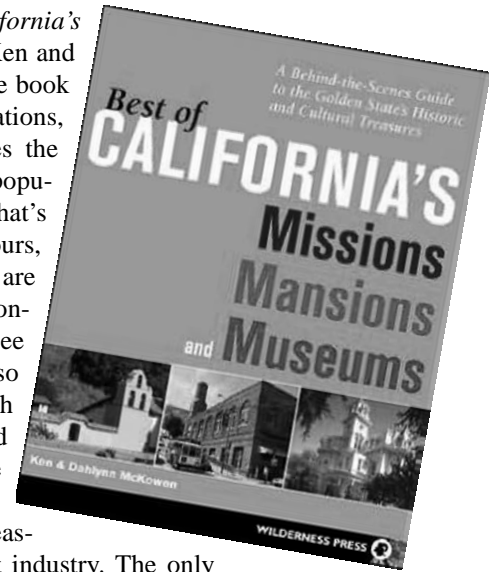


**TREES, SHRUBS & FLOWERS**  
Great Prices & We Deliver

37398 Berkshire Drive • Madera Ranchos  
John Finley • 974-2117

**BOOKS** cont. from page 4

**Adult Non-fiction:** *Best of California's Missions, Mansions and Museums* by Ken and Dahlynn McKowen. This is a new guide book published just in time for summer vacations, day trips or weekend jaunts. It divides the state into eight regions and lists all the popular sites with helpful headings of "What's Here" and "Don't Miss This." Prices, hours, addresses, phone numbers and websites are also included, but the best part is the concise descriptions of the key places to see and specific facts that make them so memorable or special. California is such a large state with such diversity and uniqueness that it's difficult trying to see all that there is to see. This book can help by showing some of the state's treasures without all the hype of the tourist industry. The only disappointing aspect I found to an otherwise excellent book was that the pictures were in black and white.



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

## Liberty High School Sober Grad Thanks You!

Agri-Consultants, Anne Estrada, Annette Watkins, Azteca Milling-Gruma Corporation, Aztlan, Bed Bath and Beyond, Carrie Bennett, Carol Bloesser, Bresee Properties (Robert and Linda Bresee), Maggie Bulger, California Embroidery, Carl's Jr. (Riverpark), Cat's Diner, Central Valley Caterers, Central Valley Wireless, Chili's Restaurant, China Wok, Chukchansi, Clawson Honda, County Bank, CSEA, Emerald Thrift Store, Firestone Tires, Floral Affair, Don Foster, Gottschalks Fresno, Gus' Food Locker, GVTA, Harris Construction, In 'n Out Burgers (Riverpark), The Jurhend Family, Kinkos, Kiwanis, Maria Knobloch, Steven Krueger, Leap/Carpenter/Kemps, Liberty High School Senior Class 2007, Lyons Magnus, Maaco, Madera Auto Center, Madera Produce, Massetti Appliance, Mazmanian Family, Mim's Café, Moses Family, North Fork Mono Rancheria, Pepsi Distributors, Pete's Drive In, Pistoresi Motors, Pizza Factory, Ranchos Auto Repair, Ranchos Independent, Ranchos Market, Greg Reitz-Guarantee Real Estate, Sal's Mexican Restaurant, Don Sears, Sweet Tomatoes, Sysco Distributing, Tyler Takeda, Mark Toole, The Vineyard Restaurant, The Williams Family and Donna Winder.

*Sober Grad Thanks You!*

*Ride the Logger  
All Aboard!*

... for the scenic Narrow Gauge Railway excursions on authentic steam-powered locomotives or Model-A powered rail cars.

*Operating Daily*

Highway 41, 60 miles north of Fresno, 4 miles south of Yosemite National Park.

Please check our Website for schedule information.

*Yosemite Mountain  
Sugar Pine Railroad*

56001 Yosemite Hwy 41, Fish Camp, CA 93623  
**559-683-7273**  
www.ymspr.com

6/07  
Try the *Moonlight Special* Steam Train, BBQ & Entertainment every Wednesday & Saturday Night.

## Library Improvements at LHS

By Shannon Willhoite

This year LHS made many improvements to the Library Media Center. We now have a Website for students. This Website includes information such as library policies, tutorials, the Destiny OPAC and a Writer's Guide.

A Friends of the School Library group and student Library TAG (Teen Advisory Group) was formed this year. These groups work together to build a strong library program and provide more resources for our students. With the help of the Penny War, a fundraiser sponsored by TAG, the library now has three couches, two poof chairs and two coffee tables. Plants, new posters and teen-themed periodicals were also added to the library. These additions have brought more students into the library to study and read at lunch time and at break.

The library now has a number of new resources. Students have 900 new books available, an online library catalog (Destiny) accessible from home, an Opposing Viewpoints database and WebPath Express (a search engine of pre-evaluated Websites). These resources allow students to access accurate information for school projects and debates without having to use other sources such as Google and Yahoo. Also, the library acquired six brand new computers that better meet student needs.

This year the Library Media Center has sponsored many promotions to get students involved in using the library. Some of the activities include a book club, Teen Read Week, Teen Tech Week, National Library Week, and YNK (You Never Know) with the Madera Ranchos Library. All of these activities were well-received. The library gave out incentives to get students involved and prizes for participants. Teen Read Week encouraged students to check out books (and read them) and to learn their way around the library with a scavenger hunt. Teen Tech Week introduced our new databases as well as online blogs and wiki's. YNK is a summer reading program at the Ranchos Library that will get teens involved in reading mysteries.

TLC Fellowship Presents

# AVALANCHE RANCH VBS

July 8-12, 2007  
6-9 p.m. Nightly  
Ages 3-12

Located on the corner of Ave. 15 and Monreal Rd.  
15048 Monreal Rd.  
Madera, CA 93636  
Pre-Registration Recommended Call 645-0722

## VACTION BIBLE SCHOOL

Outdoor Movie Night at the Lighthouse  
July 13 & 27 • 7:30 p.m.  
Popcorn, Snacks and Wholesome Family Entertainment  
Everyone Welcome!

6/07

LETTERS cont. from page 3

Founding Fathers, is now considered arcane. Today, we are living in what is essentially a "kid gloves police state." Now we have breaches of the Constitution that would have been unthinkable 40 years ago, by a government that has grown far too powerful, arrogant and controlling. How did that happen? Because we not only allow it, we demand it. A growing number of Americans not only feel more secure when their lives are strictly supervised and controlled, but they also want the lives of others controlled at their every whim as well. If you look hard enough, you can find a law, ordinance or statute against most everything, and there always seems to be one in every neighborhood who does. They are the adult equivalent of the schoolyard bully.

When you move to a rural area where most residents have tractors and use them frequently to plow, disc and scrape, you can rest assured that there will be no shortage of dust, regardless of any raised by children on dirt bikes. It collects on furniture in a thick patina before we have even finished dusting the other side of the room. Simply stated, I think it's a shame that we are rapidly losing the individual liberties and property rights that our forefathers died to give us, in a vain attempt to keep our wash clean. My wife also has to dust and do laundry frequently, in addition to working up to 60 hours a week, but I have found a solution to that problem: I help her.

C. L. Cake  
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

My name is James Huddleston. I'm writing this article for the communications merit badge which I need to get to promote to Life Scout. I would like to start by stating that I have just completed my first year at Liberty High and I would like to thank the community for that. I would like to thank the people who made it possible for me to go to high school in the community instead of leaving the area to go to a different one. I would like to thank the teachers and parents for all their support of the school district and their hard work for my education. Thank you to all the

board members who have worked tirelessly for the good of our schools. Thank you to the students who went and are going to Liberty because without them, the school wouldn't exist. So thank you everyone and I hope to have more wonderful years in the Madera Ranchos.

James Huddleston  
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

I am writing about the recent articles in the Ranchos Independent that dealt with attempts to improve the quality of life in our area by building a better library and a community center. While I applaud these attempts, for they are important, I do believe there is a more pressing need that should be addressed first.

The roads in this area are old, poorly kept and in need of resurfacing. Many of the roads are very rough, with small to large pot holes. These conditions cause our cars to rattle and vibrate badly as we drive over them. This increases the wear and tear on our vehicles and shortens their driving lives and/or increases expenses with repairs related to these driving conditions.

The roads affect our property values out here and the desirability to move out here. Roads in poor condition give the impression to potential buyers that this area is poor economically and therefore not a quality place to live. But this is not true.

I am requesting that the Ranchos Independent give serious thought to prioritizing your collective efforts to improving the road conditions before building another library (we already have one) or a community center (nice but not necessary).

I believe that people who are interested in this issue need to contact the Ranchos Independent, Chamber of Commerce and Supervisor Frank Bigelow, and ask them to move forward on a road resurfacing plan. Thank you. Sincerely,

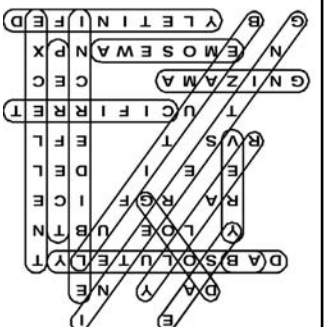
Kirk Pool  
Madera Ranchos

SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE RANCHOS INDEPENDENT!

## Puzzle Answers

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

SUDOKU



MAGIC MAZE

**ENDS JUNE 30th** VALLEY FEED **ENDS JUNE 30th**  
ANNUAL

# BIG SALE

Tack	Hats	Boots
Blankets Pads Halters (except saddles)	Felt & Straw Stetson Serratelli Resistol	Justin Durango Kid's Boots
<b>20% OFF</b>	<b>25-50% OFF</b> <small>(except special table)</small>	<b>25% OFF</b>

## MONTANA

Jewelry & Accessories

### 25% OFF

<h3 style="margin: 0;">Wranglers</h3> <h2 style="margin: 0;">\$18.95</h2> <p>13 MWZ's &amp; 936 DEN's All other Wranglers 20% OFF <small>(except special table)</small></p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Shirts</h3> <p>Buy 1 = 20% OFF Buy 2 = 25% OFF Buy 3 = 30% OFF</p>
---	---

## SADDLE SPECIAL

AS MARKED - HURRY IN FOR BEST SELECTION!!!

### Special Table

Pants  
Levis • Lee • Wranglers  
\$10 and up • Ladies too!

### Special Table

Hats  
Straws \$10 and up  
Felts \$50 and up

CHECK FOR WEEKEND SPECIALS

**VALLEY FEED**
121 N. GATEWAY - MADERA

**674-6735**

*Fine Quality Craftmanship*

AUTO  
BODY

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC • COLOR MATCHING • FRAME STRAIGHTENING • CUSTOM PAINT

Specializing In:

- Foreign & Domestic Car Repairs
- Frame Straightening
- Custom Paint
- Unibody Frame Repairs
- Color Matching
- Chroma Vision Color Matching
- Insurance Work

**ASE**  
CERTIFIED

**I-CAR**  
GOLD GLASS

**CHIEFF-Z-LINER**  
Precision Collision Repair

**genesis 2**  
COMPUTERIZED MEASURING SYSTEM

**DU PONT**  
ASSURANCE OF QUALITY

INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOME

**VISA**

**MasterCard**

**DISCOVER NOVUS**

FREE ESTIMATES

674-8591

WE NOW OFFER MOBILE ESTIMATING SERVICE

"We Come To You" IN THE RANCHOS AREA

FREE PICK-UP & DELIVERY - JUST CALL FOR APPOINTMENT



The Stork will be bringing a  
**NEW ARRIVAL**  
in late October

The excited soon-to-be-parents  
**Michelle Shannon and Nick Gates**  
are expecting a baby girl

The proud grandparents-to-be are  
Jack & Tina Shannon and Mindy Brandt & Rick Gates

6/07

## Bored Outta' Your Mind? Gotta' Dance?

6/07



*you need*  
**Star Force Dance!**

*Hip-Hop and Jazz Dance • Tumbling  
Boys & Girls  
Ages 2 - 18 • Evening Classes*

**FIRST WEEK  
FREE!**

**Star Force Dance**  
37193 Ave. 12 #3F  
645-STAR

## OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

- Home Appliances
- Lawn & Garden
- Audio & Video Electronics
- Craftsman Tools
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Diehard Batteries

**Appliance.**

Contractor Sales

Serving Customers  
Since 1996

**OPEN 7 DAYS  
A WEEK**

Monday - Friday  
9:30am - 6:30pm  
Saturday: 9am - 6pm  
Sunday: 11am - 5pm



**Sears**

AUTHORIZED RETAIL DEALER

201 S. Gateway Drive • Suite A  
Madera, California 93637  
Sé Habla Español • www.searsdealer.com

**675-1787**

6/07

**WE DELIVER • HAUL AWAY  
INSTALLATION AVAILABLE**

## The Stock Report

# Finishing the GV School Budget

By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

Summer is really here. Are you ready for it? Regular school is out but summer school is in session and your school board is working hard to finish up 2006-2007. The district school year is from July 1 to June 30. One of my biggest concerns when Superintendent Marilyn Shepherd left Golden Valley for another job was that we would have to put the budget for 2007-08 without her expertise in finance. When we were able to hire Vi Chuck as our interim Superintendent for Golden Valley, I was relieved because she had experience in overseeing school budgets. Then the district was fortunate to hire Margaret Rosales from FCMAT to help our staff do the real work on our 2007-2008 budget so we could get it to the Madera County Office of Education and the California State Office of Education in Sacramento by June 30. Margaret Rosales held a two-day Budget Workshop for your school board members. The purpose was to provide an overview of the various areas of school district finance. It is not a simple task to put a budget together on time and some hard choices had to be made.

Of course this was all going on when the school year was winding down. Webster and Sierra View both had their awards assemblies. Your school board members try to make as many of these functions as possible. I enjoyed the way that Sierra View reinforced the pillars of Character Counts by giving awards to a student that represents each pillar. Principal Shane Pinkard of Ranchos Middle School had a very busy first year and he put together a very smooth graduation ceremony for his 8th graders. Principal Andy Alvarado had award ceremonies as well as a graduation for 120 graduating seniors. I want to thank Interim Superintendent Vi Chuck for her words of wisdom at both Liberty High and Ranchos Middle School graduation. Vi is so positive and has that "can do attitude" that built this district. Thank you Vi.

*This school year 2006-2007 was the year that Liberty High received a six-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) ... six years are the maximum amount of years that are given to a high school.*

Principal Jim Green put on a graduation for 12 Educational Options graduating seniors. A student from Valley Teen Ranch graduated and is on his way to college. Jim does a great job with his students.

I think that our community should be very proud of Liberty High School. Principal Andy Alvarado is only the second principal that Liberty has had. This year was the third graduating class of seniors from Liberty High. This school year 2006-2007 was the year that Liberty High received a six-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The Liberty self

study report was a masterpiece of work. Six years are the maximum amount of years that are given to a high school. Also the Madera Grand Jury came to Liberty High and gave it the once over and decided that it was a place where they would be happy to send their children. They sent the board and district a very nice letter. So Andy, your "three A's" have really shone bright this year. Andy's "three A's" are Academics, Athletics and Activities. Keep the students busy, on task and involved. Our Liberty athletes have broken all kinds of records for a small new high school. Liberty sports have done better than anyone could have foreseen.

For the Liberty Class of 2007 the Sober Grad night was a great way to celebrate the end of their senior year. I worked from 9 p.m. to midnight. The other workers were there until 5:30 a.m. with the students. At 5 a.m. Garrett Vanne was the winner of the donated Toyota Camry

*The Madera Grand Jury came to Liberty High and gave it the once over and decided that it was a place where they would be happy to send their children.*

2002. It is a nice car and I hope Garrett enjoys it.

A date to put on your calendar for this summer is the 22nd Annual Station 19 Volunteer Fire

Company Bar-B-Q, Dance and Auction on Saturday, Aug. 18 at 6 p.m. at Cobb Ranch. Tickets are \$25 and can be bought at Ranchos Market, Ranchos Auto Service, Hurst Hardware, the Ranchos Independent, the Chamber of Commerce and of course from the Volunteer Firefighters. Call 801-7703 if you have any questions or donations.

## HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY MADERA RANCHOS!

God Bless Our Troops

*Hart Photography*  
Gallery & Unique Gifts

Visit our beautiful showroom for a look  
at our one-of-a-kind gift ideas  
imprinted with your photo or logo

*We also offer*

Portraits. Weddings. Special Events. Laminating. Restorations

37193 Ave 12 #3C Madera Ranchos, CA

559.645.1918

www.hartsphotographs.com

6/07

## 24-Hour CAREgivers Needed

for seniors in their homes  
No criminal history and  
car w/insurance required

Call Home Instead  
**265-3110**



6/07

# Our Nation's Red, White and Blue

By Eleanore Burchell

The Ranchos/Hills Senior Center, located at 37330 Berkshire, has recently lost another member. Consequently, we would like to send our sympathy and respects to the family of Lee Biddison. Until recently, she has been very active here.

On June 14 we celebrated Flag Day and soon it will be July 4th, another day when Americans celebrate our red, white and blue. Flags have powerful connotations. They speak to the people and politicians. In past history dictators have flown flags while dissidents

*Flags have powerful connotations. They speak to the people and politicians. In past history dictators have flown flags while dissidents have ripped them down. In every country of the world, the treatment of a flag displays an opinion or statement. In the U.S.A., we take the treatment of our flag seriously. The code of ethics regarding*

our flag includes rules that state the flag cannot be used for advertising; it cannot cover a monument or any ceilings; it must not be folded while being displayed. No one should write on an American flag and ships may lower their flags slightly in greeting to each other, but otherwise the flag should not be dipped for any other object or person.

On June 14, 1777, the continental Congress proposed that the United States have its own national flag instead of flying the British Union Jack. The 13 stars of the flag represented the 13 new states. There were few public ceremonies honoring the Stars and Stripes until 1877, when on June 14, it was flown from every government building in honor of the centennial of the adoption of our national flag. Schools had unfurled American flags over their doors or outside buildings long before this, however, North Dakota and New Jersey made a law that required their schools to fly the flag daily. The first official Flag Day was observed in Philadelphia, Pa. in 1893. New York also proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day in 1897. Other states were slow to follow.

However, in August 1949, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day. Since then the President proclaims the commemoration yearly and encourages all Americans in the country to display the Stars and Stripes outside their home and businesses.

Do you remember who made our first flag? Do you know who made the first five pointed star? The answer is Betsy Ross for both questions.

### Raffle Getting Closer

The great Fourth of July raffle is getting closer and tickets are almost sold out so stop by soon to get your chance to win. It's only \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5. Members of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors will be sell-

ing tickets in front of the Ranchos Market until they are sold out. Prizes are: 1) a beautiful quilt, 2) \$250 Ranchos Market shopping spree, or 3) a one-night stay at Bass Lake.

Our next monthly sale will be held on Saturday, July 7. Our garden staff has been extremely busy with the plants and trees. There are several Japanese maple trees still available and looking for a happy home, as well as many other varieties of shade and fruit trees. Flats of pretty flowering plants are also available. The bake sale section has cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, fudge, peanut brittle, etc., and is held in the main building where you will also find the cookbooks and boutique items.

What is one person's discard is another person's treasure and our Treasure House has everything you might be looking for so please come in to find your personal treasure.

An AARP "55 Alive" 8-hour driving instruction class is scheduled to be held in two 4-hour sessions on Monday, July 23 and Tuesday, July 24 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is a \$10 fee. If you have any questions, please call Joann at 645-4864.

**THE UP SIDE** - a quote from today's positive thinker: "Don't ever let anyone tell you that you can't do something. MORE important, never tell yourself that."

We don't want you to forget us during the week so remember the plant, produce and boutique sections are available Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, 6 to 9 p.m. and Thursday evenings between 6 and 9 p.m.

Our next travel adventure will be Oct. 9 through Oct. 22. We will fly to the East Coast then board a bus and we plan to see the fall colors of the Eastern U.S. and Canada plus many other sights in the area. For more information or if you're interested in joining the group, call Joann at 645-4864. An immediate deposit is needed to hold a spot for you.

A Panama Canal cruise is in the planning for next April. Hopefully, more information will be available in next month's article.

The June Birthday and Anniversary celebration was held at 11 a.m. on June 23 at Yosemite Falls, 4278 W. Ashlan in Fresno. The July Birthday and Anniversary celebration is scheduled for July 21 at 11 a.m. at County Waffle, 3851 N. Blackstone in Fresno.

Remember Tuesday BINGO nights from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

If you need someone to laugh with, come join our Thursday evening potlucks with games played afterward. There is a lot of fun here. Remember, laughter is good for your body and soul and being happy does

Please see SENIORS on p. 15

Serving Madera Ranchos

and Surrounding Areas



**VALLEY PROPANE**  
800-736-0407 • Vince Guthrie • 559-655-2324

"HOME OF THE BIG ROLL"



**Valley REMNANTS & ROLLS**  
Floor/ to go  
30% - 60% Everyday Savings  
1820 E. McKinley (Near Blackstone) 445-0206

**BOBCAT WORK**

- Grading
- Tree & Stump Removal
- Clean Ups

**645-7540**



**Prestige Grooming**

Professional quality grooming • By appointment only  
**PAMPER YOUR PET**  
**447-9424**  
7277 Blackstone, Suite 103 • Fresno



**CHAD HARR** →

**TRUCKING** CA# 142100 **645-5363**

Fill Dirt • Topsoil • Humus • Bark • Chips • River Rock  
Crushed Rock • Base Rock • Rock Dust • Cobble Stone  
Driveway Base • Fill Sand • Washed Sand • Plaster Sand



**Do you need Affordable Health Insurance???**

You may qualify for a Group Plan...

Give me a call for a free quote/consultation...

**Cindy Vail OE81172**  
Licensed Insurance Agent  
(559-674-5450)

Administrative Office: North Richland Hills, TX. Exclusions and limitations apply. Group policy #MW-25906, MW-25907, MW-25939 or state variation. Plans not available in all states. Association membership is required. MW/000303 Exp. 12/07

Mid-West National Life Insurance Company of Tennessee  
A HealthMarkets Company  
Keeping the Promise of Affordable Coverage






**COUPON**

**NOW OPEN!**

**SUBWAY**

**ANY 2 FOOT LONG SANDWICHS \$9.99 with coupon**

**ANY 2 SIX-INCH SANDWICHS \$7.99**

2-Chips (w/coupon) 2-21oz. Soft Drinks

**Valid only at Ranchos Subway • exp. 7-31-07**

**HH Hurst Hardware**

37398 Berkshire Drive  
Madera Ranchos, CA 93636

Phone (559) 645-5680  
Fax (559) 645-5681

Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Sat 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Sun 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A Division of Pitre Electric, Inc.

**SHOP: Plumbing • Electrical • Pipe Threading • Welding  
Supplies • Giftware • Paint • Tools • Lawn/Garden • Lumber**

6/07

Since 1964

**FORCE OUTBOARDS**

**Chrysler**

Phone: 645-1977

**CRONIN MARINE REPAIR**

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

Jim Cronin  
Madera Ranchos

6/07

**WineShop At HOME**  
Independent Wine Consultant

WE BRING THE WINE COUNTRY TO YOU

Introduce friends to a memorable event by hosting a private wine tasting in the comfort of your home or office. Relax together while enjoying limited production wines and food pairing ideas direct from the Wine Country.

Call to book a WineShop At Home tasting featuring six different exquisite wines for just \$59.00 (a value of \$120.00). As the host you will receive generous discounts towards your favorite wine selections.

DIANE J. GISCHL-LINGO  
INDEPENDENT WINE CONSULTANT  
559-250-3213  
WWW.WINESHOPATHOME.COM/DIANELINGO

Prices do not include tax & shipping

6/07

**The Milgard Makeover**

**SAVE ENERGY!**  
BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME!  
REDUCE STREET NOISE!

Nothing increases energy efficiency while reducing outside noise like award-winning Milgard replacement windows. Locally made and serviced, Milgard offers an industry leading lifetime guarantee. If your home is ready for a makeover, call your certified Milgard dealer today.

**Clearly a beautiful offer.**

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

**559-673-3583**

Madera Glass & Mirror Co.  
1825 Howard Rd.  
Madera, CA 93637

**FINANCING AVAILABLE O.A.C.**

**Milgard Windows**

**Clearly the best.**

6/07

**HOME cont. from p. 1**

**From Home project?** We started in March of this year. We mailed our first packages this month.

**How many troops have received your packages?** We have mailed 14 packages to date. Our first packages were sent on June 13, 2007. Our next ones will go out on July 11. We meet on the second Monday of each month to fill packages and get them ready to post. The packages go in the mail the following Wednesday.

**From what Valley cities do the soldiers come?** The soldiers receiving our first packages were from calls received from families in Fresno, the Madera Ranchos, Dinuba and Reedley. We got phone calls from Selma, Reedley, Dinuba and Fresno. We will respond to every caller who gives us a complete address of a soldier in a combat zone.

**How do you select the recipients of your packages?** We will send a package to any soldier upon request, as long as they are stationed in a combat zone. Our goal is to get addresses of soldiers from the Valley who are currently not receiving mail from home. But, donations permitting, we will not refuse anyone.

**How many packages do you plan to send in the next 12 months?** Our goal is at least 25 packages per month, for a total of 300, but it could be higher, depending on the response. With 13 volunteers and growing, we anticipate being able to send up to 50 packages per month, or a total of 600 for the year. We will add volunteers as the project grows. Two other communities have contacted us to get info to start their own project. Every soldier needs to know that we are supporting them.

**How many items do you require for the next 12 months?** We fill boxes that are 11-inches long, 9-inches wide and 6-inches deep. These are flat-rate postage boxes,

so we can stuff them full. We need enough items to fill 300 - 600 boxes for one year.

**What are your financial needs for the next 12 months?** We estimate we will need \$2,700 - \$5,400 for postage; we currently have \$650 in financial donations.

**How much of that is for items and how much for shipping?** The major portion of the financial donations will go to shipping at \$8.95 per box. We will spend a minimal amount on fliers and decorations. We are hoping that the items for the packages will be donated, so we don't have to spend cash on them. Everything mailed has been donated so far and hasn't cost us anything. We have a business in Sacramento donating used DVD's. We are still contacting local businesses for phone cards, magazines, books, etc. Last month's car and sports magazines are great donations.

**What other organizations are supporting your project?** We currently have four individuals who have donated money. Several individuals and one business have donated supplies. We are seeking donations from other businesses.

We have three bins in the Madera Ranchos (Central Valley Wireless, Pizza Factory and Madera Ranchos Assembly of God Church), and anticipate placing bins in Fresno (R&R Automotive), Clovis and Visalia (Roger Vogt's Performance Auto and Air) in the next two weeks. We also have a couple of quilting groups (Coalinga and Chowchilla) offering to donate small pillows and hat coolers.

Donations are tax deductible, as this is a ministry of the Madera Ranchos Assembly of God Church. Financial donations should be designated for troop support.

If you would like more information contact Pam Hansen at 559-645-0513 or 559-474-2330.

**The Ranchos' Smallest Grads**



Tina's Day Care Class of 2007 is (back row) Sarah Shevenell, Lauren Parks, Kiyomi Yasunaga and Sophia Napier. (front row) Sammy Torres and Cameron Pia.

Tina's Day Care, located at 36307 Fender Ave. in the Madera Ranchos, is proud to present its graduating Class of 2007. With diplomas in hand, the four girls and two boys of the pre-school day care run by Tina Najarian are now fully prepared to take on kindergarten and then the world. The graduating class consisted of Sarah Shevenell, Lauren Parks, Kiyomi Yasunaga, Sophia Napier, Sammy Torres and Cameron Pia.

**PET BOUTIQUE**

**Dog Gone Cute Store**

We carry for bettas, fresh water fish, hermit crabs, water turtles, tortoises, iguanas, small birds, parrots, mice, hamsters, rats, chinchillas, guinea pigs, ferrets, rabbits, cats, dogs, chickens, pot-bellied pigs, goats, sheep and horses.

*we deliver!*

**645-PETS** Open Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
37164 Ave. 12 #102 • Madera Ranchos

6/07

# THE POWER TO DOMINATE.



6/07

**2006 YZ450F**

• An all-new light and strong aluminum frame results in great mass centralization and fantastic handling. • New, five-speed gearbox squeezes even more performance from the mighty five-titanium-valved 449cc engine. • Suspension refinements front and rear—including Speed Sensitive Damping System forks and a titanium rear shock spring—mean fantastic handling and superior comfort. • Sharp new styling keeps the YZ450F at the front of the pack in the looks department, too—including a special 50th anniversary color.

## Dirt Mania 2007 @ YAMAHA 99

2006 YZ 450F \$5299 + TAX AND LICENSE

2006 YZ 250F \$4699 + TAX AND LICENSE

Till the end of June. Come get your new dirt toy at **YAMAHA 99!**

AVE 12 AND HWY 99 559-645-4545



Professional rider depicted on a closed course.



6/07

Happy Sweet 16th Birthday

Amber Rael!

We love you so much!

Dad, Mom and Riley Bear

## DEFENDERS OF FREEDOM SUNDAY, JULY 1ST

Worship Service 8:30 am  
10:30 am

“Defenders of Freedom” 7:00pm  
followed by

- \* Fireworks
- \* Watermelon
- \* Corn on the Cob
- \* Fun for the entire family

CELEBRATE YOUR INDEPENDENCE WITH US!

*Madera Ranchos*  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

N W corner of Road 36 and Ave 13 1/2  
645-0716 maderaranchosag.org

6/07

# Keep it Simple ...

... with simply the best hand-made aprons available in the Universe ...

... fully reversible and made right here in the U.S.A. from your choice of material.

The Unisex Adjustable®

the Classic Reversible®

The Wash Day®



U.S.A. made, fully reversible and classic - yet functional - styling with your choice of material on each side. Two aprons for the price of one!

only \$30<sup>00</sup> + S&H  
(PLUS sizes available)

To order today call 208-855-0830 or build your own at

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

6/07



# Topics:

- 🌐 You don't have to be old to be mature.
- 🌐 How to profit from your problems.
- 🌐 Decisions: make good ones.
- 🌐 How to beat the temptation that always beats you.
- 🌐 Getting a good blessing from the Good Book.
- 🌐 How to treat people right.
- 🌐 How to have real faith.
- 🌐 You can bridle a horse, now bridle your tongue.
- 🌐 Having good relations even if you're not related.
- 🌐 You ain't God, so quit acting like you are.
- 🌐 Facing your future before you get there.
- 🌐 Learning how to be wise with your wealth.
- 🌐 Learning how to pray about your problems.

This series will take us through June, July, and August. Don't let church slip to the "back burner" over the summer.  
 Sundays @ 9:30 & 11am  
 Liberty High School  
 559-790-0061  
 info@acts176.com  
 acts176.com



## Declare Your Independence from HIGH energy costs



call Brian's Heating and Cooling for

**FREE**  
estimates  
on NEW units

SERVICE CALL  
for ONLY

**\$55<sup>00</sup>**

(EXCLUDING WEEKENDS)



WE DO SERVICE & WARRANTY REPAIR ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS!

Brian's Heating & Cooling  
**675-1681**

Brian Padilla Owner/Operator  
 Contractor #862395



Financing Available O.A.C.

WE ACCEPT MOST COMPETITORS' COUPONS • CALL FOR DETAILS

The Ranchos Independent  
 The Ranchos Independent  
 The Ranchos Independent  
 The Ranchos Independent  
 The Ranchos Independent  
 The Ranchos Independent

### SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

© 2007 King Features Synd., Inc. World rights reserved.

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

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

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

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

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

**Business Profile**

**Time to Travel? R We Gone Yet?**

Ray and Sharry Rivas have been residents of the Madera Ranchos since 1989 when they moved here to get out of the hustle and bustle of Fresno. With a son starting kindergarten, they were in search of a quality school in an area that they wanted to raise their children. Now that kindergartener is 22 years old, living on his own, and his 20-year-old sister is attending Fresno City College.

Ray and Sharry have dabbled in a variety of home-based businesses throughout the years in the Ranchos, in addition to Ray's welding career with Modern Welding Co in Fresno and Sharry's vocation as a Recreational Therapist working with Senior Citizens at a variety of locations. Currently they are involved in a field everyone loves: Travel! Ray and Sharry are Certified Referring Travel Agents and have created R We Gone Yet Online Travel.

"It is like a dream come true, something that we can do together and enjoy the many discounts and benefits of travel that travel agents are allowed," Sharry said, "plus be able to offer a service that will SAVE our friends, neighbors and family money also."

Sharry says their competitors are

Expedia, Hotels.com and other online services, but their site can often save you money because they don't have the expense of advertising. "Word of mouth and customer satisfaction are our advertising," Sharry said.

Sharry said that so far her satisfied customers have been referring their friends and expressing gratitude in the money they have been able to save. "\$70 per person on a cruise to Mexico for 4 days ... \$20 per person on flights to Seattle ... \$170 on a family vacation for seven to the east coast," and there are more.

In addition to travel, their website [rwegoneyet.info](http://rwegoneyet.info) also is a sports and entertainment booking site. You can also find a honeymoon/anniversary registry for vacation planning and they offer assistance with group travel, fundraising and non-profit travel packages.

"We are blessed that our small community in the Ranchos is supportive of local business and our promise to you is to meet or beat other online services and that you will enjoy the savings that we have to offer," Sharry said.

You can visit their website at [rwegoneyet.info](http://rwegoneyet.info) or give them a call at 559-474-0505.


**Ranchos' Golden Valley Martial Arts Qualifies 9 for National Tournament**



Ten students from Golden Valley Martial Arts recently attended National Qualifier #6 held in Fresno and nine of them successfully qualified for the National Championships to be held in July. Master Johnson received a Gold Medal from the Officiating Committee and performed the National Anthem during the Opening Ceremonies. In all, Golden Valley Martial Arts brought home 19 medals.

Medal winners included:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| James Lee        | 2-Gold            |
| Vivian Sanchez   | 1-Gold 1-Bronze   |
| Patricia Felix   | 1-Bronze          |
| Frank DeAngelo   | 1-Gold 1-Silver   |
| Tiffany DeAngelo | 2-Golds           |
| Austin Soltero   | 1-Silver 1-Bronze |
| J.T. Tombs       | 2-Silvers         |
| Dawson Crop      | 2-Golds           |
| Colby Dubato     | 2-Bronze          |
| Ricky Sanchez    | 2-Gold            |



DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE

Same Day Service

Family Owned Since 1976

674-1663  
14794 Hwy 41  
Madera

6/07




Roofing Problems?  
Roofing Solutions!

Residential & Commercial  
New Roofs • Re-Roofs • Roof Repairs  
Over 30 Years Experience • LIC. #348911

REDMON ROOFING **431-8722**

6/07



The Lighthouse  
Christian Fellowship

On the corner of Ave.15 and Monreal  
**15048 Monreal Rd. Madera, CA 93638 559-645-0722**  
Senior Pastors Bernard & Linda Morris/ Resident Pastors Stoney & Amy Berna

Service Schedule  
Sunday 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
3rd Monday of the Month 7 p.m. Manna Link Food Distribution  
For needy families. Everyone Welcome!  
Tuesday 7 p.m. Life Connections Home Groups Thursday 7:30 p.m. Family Night  
RE-Generation Youth Group—Generation NeXt Children's Ministry  
Nursery Provided Ages 0-3 yrs. Sunday and Thursday Services

6/07

Curves has a "Short Circuit" Without You



JOIN NOW!  
REST OF SUMMER FREE!  
66% off service fee, July & August free, on 12m/cd  
Madera Ranchos 645-4968

6/07

OUR CREMATION PRICE IN MADERA  
**\$1499.89**

COMPLETE  
CREMATION  
SERVICES

Includes: transportation within 50 miles,  
durable urn and alternative container,  
one death certificate, permits and state tax.  
Everything one needs for a direct,  
simple cremation.

You can pre-plan yours today

# FD-1697  
Madera, CA 93638  
Fax: (559) 662-8551

Phone

662-8825

801 E. Yosemite Ave.

6/07

NEVER PAINT AGAIN!

Turn Your HOUSE into a DREAM HOME  
with TEX - COTE instead of paint



SPECIAL COUPON

\$500<sup>00</sup> OFF

ANY COATING JOB  
W/COUPON EXP. 7/31/07

• Trenching  
 • Sand Blasting  
 • Patch  
 • Primer  
 • Tex Cote  
 • Paint Trim

645-4113

Frank Kramer Exteriors Lic. #273099

6/07

**Now Is The Time To Shed Those Unwanted Pounds**

**Look Good and Feel Great**



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

**LOSE WEIGHT AND INCHES TOO**

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

**DIET WORLD MEDICAL GROUP**

**"We Are Very Affordable" 224-6744** OPEN: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM until 5:30 PM  
 4844 N. First, #101 • Fresno, CA 93726 • Between Shaw & Santa Ana

**SUMMER SPECIAL**

**Refurbished Laptops starting at \$485!**



**Knight & Day**  
COMPUTER SERVICE

**Hurry while supplies last**

Lots of New & Used Computers

**645-0122 • next to the Pizza Factory**

**37184 Avenue 12, Suite 104 • Madera Ranchos**

**CONTINUOUS GUTTERS**  
Up to 60 feet  
**FREE**  
with any complete reroof or new roof  
Call for details.

**Residential & Commercial**

- New Roofs
- Re-roofs
- Specialized in Repairs
- Roof Certification
- Roof Inspection
- Gutters
- Continuous Gutters
- Sky Lights - Sun Tunnels

*Locally Owned and Operated*



Always high quality at good prices! 645-0421 or 479-1321

**NEED MORE SPACE?**



barns big and small, covers or shop buildings

many sizes and colors from which to choose



**POLE BARNS BY S.J. LEACH CONSTRUCTION**

**559-269-1956**

CCL #526211

**METH** cont. from p. 1

work, says that all of the lab dump sites have been found within a 2- to 5-mile radius on Avenues 31 and 32 near Roads 7, 8 and 9.

"Based on evidence seized from the site [on the 18th], we believe that all the dumps come from the same lab," Anderson said. He further stated that similar dumps found in Modesto and Merced may be linked to the lab dumps found in Madera.

There is no way to know just how much Meth was produced from all of the other "cooks" – the term used for creating Methamphetamine in clandestine Meth labs – but agents say one super lab can produce a minimum of at least 10 pounds. Agents say that once the Meth is produced it is then "cut" with another substance, anything from baking powder to chalk or talc, to increase the quantity of the finished product. One pound of pure Meth can be cut into five pounds to sell on the streets. With a going street rate of \$15,000 per pound agents conservatively estimated that the labs responsible for these dump sites probably generated over \$5 million in Meth.

"The materials made to manufacture Methamphetamine are toxic and can be deadly if touched, even inhaled," said

Anderson. "It is imperative that if anyone sees a trash site, you may not realize that what you think is simply trash is really the deadly remnants of a Meth lab."

Anderson is warning citizens, farmers and ranchers to steer clear of the sites because a farmer in Madera County was injured when he opened up a bag of what he thought was trash but turned out to be Methamphetamine production waste. He was burned when he opened one of the bags but was fortunately able to quickly hose himself off and avoid serious injury. The dump site found on the 18th was removed just before a resident was preparing to clean the debris up herself, thinking it was simply trash that had been dumped near her home.

Obvious signs that a trash site may in fact be a Meth lab dump site include:

- Black plastic trash bags
- Camp fuel
- Cans of denatured alcohol and charcoal lighter fluid
- Drain cleaning products

The cost to clean both Meth lab dumps will total nearly \$20,000.

Anyone with information regarding any Meth lab dump site is urged to steer clear of it and call the Madera County Sheriff's Department at 559-675-7770 or toll free at 1-800-560-4911.

**Play Ball! Ranchos' Achelpohl Signs with University of Nevada**

Madera Ranchos' own Derek Achelpohl has been signed by the University of Nevada to join its Wolf Pack baseball team beginning with the 2008 season.

Achelpohl attended Webster Elementary before moving on to Madera High School from where he graduated and then went on to attend Fresno City College where he pitched for the Rams. Although Achelpohl missed the first half of the 2007 season at Fresno City, he went 5-0 in nine appearances with a 2.95 ERA. In 33.2 innings he struck out 33 opponents and walked only six. Rams coach Ron Scott firmly believes that the pitching of Achelpohl is what helped the Rams win the Central Valley Conference and advance to the California Final Four.

Achelpohl was born and raised in the Madera Ranchos, where he started his baseball career in the East Madera Babe Ruth Baseball League at age 6 playing T-Ball. As he advanced through the divisions,



*The Ranchos' Derek Achelpohl has been signed by the University of Nevada to join its Wolf Pack baseball team beginning with the 2008 season.*

Achelpohl played on the All Star teams that won District and advanced to State Tournaments to represent the Ranchos.

Achelpohl is the oldest son in a family of six children, including two older sisters, brother Nate, a junior this year at Liberty High School, Stacey, a graduate of Liberty and a member of Liberty's Softball Valley Championship team, and youngest sister, Caroline. Recently, Achelpohl helped coach the Liberty Ranchos

Babe Ruth Major All Stars in their tournaments and he is currently playing on a travel team throughout the summer.

**Cash Crop Grazing with Madera Cows**

In what is being called one of the most brazen cultivation moves in Madera County, MADNET (Madera County Narcotics Enforcement Team) agents not only found thousands of plants surreptitiously planted on a cattle ranch in Raymond, they also successfully captured one of the growers. Behind bars is Antonio Huerta Magana, 33, a Mexican national who claims to live in Modesto and whose bail has been set at \$500,000.

Agents found and destroyed an elaborate campsite littered with poisons, pesticides and human waste and believe there were at least four people tending to the gardens. When agents low-crawled into the area about 1 mile in from Road 415, just above River Knowles Road, at around 4 a.m. the morning of June 14, they came across one garden where the plants had been removed. They followed a trail only to find yet another garden where the

plants had been uprooted. Then, after walking approximately 100 yards further they found scores of gardens with the first having nearly 1,000 plants with some as high as 4-to 5-feet tall.

"How these growers managed to avoid being spotted until now is a miracle," said Sheriff John Anderson. "These people trespassed onto private land, set up house and basically took over. We are extremely lucky that no one (and that includes the owner of the property and her ranch hands), was harmed."

"These growers not only pose a threat to our way of life but the very livelihood of the people who live here," Anderson said. "Without MADNET and its team of agents, there's a good chance the growers would have made a financial killing."

The plants had an estimated street value over \$10 million.

# “Dusting” can be Deadly for Kids

*(Editor's Note: This was sent to me in an email from a friend. It sounded pretty far-fetched so I checked it out. I went to www.snopes.com, the authority on all Internet hoaxes and urban legends, and found that word for word this is a true account of one father's tragic experience with "dusting." The actual link to the webpage is www.snopes.com/medical/toxins/dustoff.asp. I have teenage daughters and I had never heard of this before and thought it was worth passing on to you.)*

First, I'm going to tell you a little about me and my family. My name is Jeff. I am a Police Officer for a city which is known nationwide for its crime rate. We have a lot of gangs and drugs. At one point we were #2 in the nation in homicides per capita. I also have a police K-9 named Thor. He was certified in drugs and general duty. He retired at 3 years old because he was shot in the line of duty. He lives with us now and I still train with him because he likes it. I always liked the fact that there was no way to bring drugs into my house. Thor wouldn't allow it. He would tell on you. The reason I say this is so you understand that I know about drugs.

I have taught in schools about drugs. My wife asks all our kids at least once a week if they used any drugs. Makes them promise they won't.

I like building computers occasionally and started building a new one in February 2005. I also was working on some of my older computers. They were full of dust so on one of my trips to the computer store I bought a 3 pack of Dust Off. Dust Off is a can of compressed air used to blow dust off a computer. A few weeks later when I went to use one of them they were all used. I talked to my kids and my two sons both said they had used them on their computer and were messing around with them. I yelled at them for wasting the \$10 I paid for them.

On Feb. 28 I went back to the computer store. They didn't have the 3 pack which I had bought on sale so I bought a single jumbo can of Dust Off. I went home and set it down beside my computer.

On March 1, I left for work at 10 p.m. Just before midnight my wife went down and kissed Kyle goodnight. At 5:30 a.m. the next morning Kathy went downstairs to wake Kyle up for school, before she left for work. He was propped up in bed with his legs crossed and his head leaning over. She called to him a few times to get up. He didn't move. He would sometimes tease her like this and pretend he fell back asleep. He was never easy to get up. She went in and shook his arm. He fell over. He was pale white and had the straw from the Dust Off can coming out of his mouth. He had the new can of Dust Off in his hands. Kyle was dead.

I am a police officer and I had never heard of this. My wife is a nurse and she had never heard of this. We later found out from the coroner, after the autopsy, that only the propellant from the can of Dust off was in his system. No other drugs. Kyle had died between midnight and 1 a.m.

I found out that using Dust Off is being done mostly by kids ages 9 through 15. They even have a name for it. It's called "dusting." A take off from the Dust Off name. It gives them a slight high for about 10 seconds. It makes them dizzy. A boy who lives down the street from us showed Kyle how to do this about a month before. Kyle showed his best

friend. Told him it was cool and it couldn't hurt you – it's just compressed air. It can't hurt you – his best friend said so.

Kyle was wrong.

It's not just compressed air. It also contains a propellant called R2. It's a refrigerant like what is used in your refrigerator. It is a heavy gas, heavier than air. When you inhale it, it fills your lungs and keeps the good air – with the oxygen – out. That's why you feel dizzy and buzzed. It decreases the oxygen to your brain and to your heart. Kyle was right. It can't hurt you – IT KILLS YOU!

The horrible part about this is there is no warning. There is no level that kills you. It's not cumulative or an overdose – it can just go randomly, terribly wrong. Roll the dice and if your number comes up you die. IT'S NOT AN OVERDOSE. It's Russian Roulette. You don't die later. Or not feel good and say, "I've had too much." You usually die as you're breathing it in; if not you die within 2 seconds of finishing "the hit." That's why the straw was still in Kyle's mouth when he died. Why his eyes were still open.

The experts want to call this huffing but the kids don't believe its huffing. As adults we tend to lump many things together, but it doesn't fit here and that's why it's more accepted. There is no chemical reaction, no strong odor. It doesn't follow the huffing signals. Kyle complained a few days before he died of his tongue hurting. It probably did. The propellant causes frostbite. If I had only known.

It's easy to say, "Hey, it's my life and I'll do what I want." But it isn't. Others are always affected. This has forever changed our family's life. I have a hole in my heart and soul that can never be fixed. The pain is so immense I can't describe it. There's nowhere to run from it. I cry all the time and I don't ever cry. I do what I'm supposed to do but I don't really

care. My kids are messed up. One won't talk about it. The other will only sleep in our room at night. And my wife, I can't even describe how bad she is taking this. I thought we were safe because of Thor. I thought we were safe because we knew about drugs and talked to our kids about them.

After Kyle died another story came out. A probation Officer went to the school system next to ours to speak with a student. While there he found a student using Dust Off in the bathroom. This student told him about another student who also had some in his locker. This is a rather affluent school system. They will tell you they don't have a drug problem there; they don't even have a D.A.R.E. or D.A.R.E. Plus program there. So rather than tell everyone about this "new" way of getting high they found, they hid it. The probation officer told the media after Kyle's death and they, the school, then admitted to it. I know that if they would have told the media and I had heard it, it wouldn't have been in my house.

We need to get this out of our homes and school computer labs. Using Dust Off isn't new and some "professionals" do know about it, it's just that it isn't talked about much, except by the kids. They all seem to know about it.

April 2 was one month since Kyle died. April 5 would have been his 15th birthday. And every weekday I catch myself sitting on the living room couch at 2:30 in the afternoon and waiting to see him get off the bus. I know Kyle is in heaven but I can't help but wonder if I died and went to Hell.



The makers of Dust-Off are aware of the problem and even have a disclaimer at [www.cameraguild.com/safety/05-10-27\\_dust\\_off\\_warning.htm](http://www.cameraguild.com/safety/05-10-27_dust_off_warning.htm)

# Potty Mouth Earns Trip to Jail

Foul language got the better of an alleged drunken Clovis man at Bass Lake on Saturday, June 2, and he now sits behind Madera County bars with bail set at \$32,000.

Christopher Perry Gordon Grill, 27, was arrested by Madera County Sheriff's Deputies after they received reports of an apparent drunk subject standing on the Wishon boat ramp at Bass Lake, reportedly mouthing off unwanted comments of a sexual nature. Bass Lake prides itself on its family friendly atmosphere and the profane comments drew the attention of the Bass Lake Boat Patrol.



Christopher Grill, 27, was arrested after a barrage of foul language alerted deputies.

Sergeant Chuck Bump responded to the call and discovered that Grill was a wanted man, with warrants issued for his arrest out of Glenn County for \$7,000 and another issued out of Butte County for \$25,000.

Grill was transported from the lake to the Madera County Department of Corrections where he was booked on the outstanding warrants as well as for charges of being drunk and disorderly.

**STEEL BUILDING SURPLUS SALE!**

WILL DEAL ON LIMITED, CUSTOM SIZES

**645-1941**

**PERSONAL TOUCH**  
LANDSCAPE & GARDENING SERVICE  
Lic. #B0008113

- Yard cleanups & hauling
- Lawn & garden service
- Maintenance
- Weekly & monthly service
- Weed control

**Mag Anaya Jr.**  
**559-974-1357**  
Local Ranchos Resident

**Don't Get Caught In The Rain!**

**DANEL ROOFING**

**CONTINUOUS GUTTERS**

**645-0421 or 479-1321**  
Free Estimates • Lic.# 814909

**Golden Valley Martial Arts**

Small Classes  
Kids & Adults

Individual Instruction  
Limited School Population

"Beginner" Classes starting soon!  
Call for Details

Realistic & Effective Self-Defense Training

World Recognized Black Belt Certification

Contact Master Johnson **559-917-5262**  
[www.goldenvalleymartialarts.com](http://www.goldenvalleymartialarts.com)  
email: [info@masterjohnson.com](mailto:info@masterjohnson.com)

SENIORS cont. from p. 8

not mean everything is perfect – it means you have decided to see beyond the imperfections!

More Facts and Fun

A nutritionally balanced lunch program Monday through Friday at 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. We have a growing exercise program being held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. The participants are getting more than just exercise by attending. They have fun and they share laughs. There is still room for you and you can attend all three days or just one or two of them. The Line Dancing class is also a great way to exercise. They meet on Fridays at 12:30 p.m. This combines fun and exercise. You do not need to be a member to attend these classes. We have a good group, but there is always room for one more: you! Come to think of it, there is room for two: you and your friend. Come in and check these classes out. Our watercolor classes held on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. are open and free to the Ranchos community adults. No prior watercolor experience is needed. The instructor can be reached by calling 645-1137.

Up and Coming Events

Monthly Sale, Saturday, July 7, 8 a.m. to noon  
Birthday and Anniversary celebration, Saturday, July 21, 11 a.m. at

Country Waffle, 3851 N. Blackstone in Fresno

AARP "55 Alive" driving instruction class, Monday July 23 first 4-hour session, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

AARP "55 Alive" driving instruction class, Tuesday July 24 second 4-hour session, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Weekly Events

Monday through Friday Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. (Reservations needed, call Joann at 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.

Wednesday, Watercolor Painting Class, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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

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

Friday, Line Dancing Class, 12:30 p.m.

Please feel free to come visit our Senior Center and get acquainted with our members. 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?

In Memoriam

Mel Wilkins

September 24, 1922 – May 25, 2007

Memories of a Dear Friend

Mel Wilkins was a man whom I was proud to know.

Every time that we would see Mel, he would always have a story to tell us and no matter how many times we may have heard the story, we still listened to every word. His stories were about the times at Pearl Harbor, or when he worked at Woolworth's or maybe KMJ. Other stories were on a personal note about his loving wife, or his cattle, and even the puppy he thought was the smartest little thing he ever saw.

Many stories were about Pearl Harbor. We have all read about the bombing at Oahu. but Mel Wilkins was there.

He was on one of the ships that got hit. He was also one of the soldiers that came home alive. He had injuries, but he never complained about any of the pain. He would just say, "If I told you everything that was wrong we would be here all day."

The words American, proud, loyal, honesty and integrity were all part of the meaning behind this wonderful man, Mel Wilkins.



Mel Wilkins  
September 24, 1922 – May 25, 2007

The stories started when Mel Wilkins joined my company (Century 21 Ranchos), in November 1987. He had just semi-retired from KMJ radio station. Prior to KMJ, Mel worked for Woolworth's Department Stores. He traveled throughout his career with Woolworth's.

I will miss you. So will my family, your loving wife Marion, all your friends and clients whose lives you've touched. You were a very special person.

Eileen Tiso, owner/friend  
The Real Estate Network

# SPREAD THE NEWS!

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

**SUBSCRIBE!**  
to the Ranchos Independent!

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



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

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

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Payment: \$20 Cash  Check  Credit Card  Bill Me  
The Ranchos Independent 37167 Ave. 12 #5C • Madera CA 93636 Fax 559-645-4002

# Classified

## Alteration Services

**Molly's Alterations (now open later 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.)** - Tailoring, repairs, and leathers. Fast service. Located at 36619 Ave. 12 or call 645-5527.

## For Rent - WANTED

**House to Lease** - Must be in Sierra View School area. 1-2 year lease preferable. 3 or more bedrooms. Needed by 8-1-07. Please call Stacy at 559-285-9701.

## For Sale

**For Sale - Horses** AQHA Registered horses for sale. Call 559-645-5290 or 559-304-5073.

**For Sale - 2007 Pool Table.** Solid wood w/carved legs. Never used w/accessories, can deliver. Cost \$4,500. Sacrifice \$1,500. Call 559-230-0486.

**For Sale- 2007 Hot Tub.** Loaded. Brand new. Therapy seats. Sacrifice \$2,475. Never used w/warranty. Call 559-360-9047.

**For Sale - 7 pc. Bedroom Set.** Solid cherrywood, sleigh bed, nightstand, TV armoire, chest. All dovetailed, Ethan Allen quality construction, New in boxes. Cost \$8k. Sacrifice \$1,950. Call 559-277-2511.

**For Sale - 1 Brand New Full Pillowtop mattress/box.** Cost \$400, sacrifice \$175. New in plastic. Queen cost \$600. Sacrifice \$195. Never used. Call 559-438-0248.

**For Sale - California King Plush Pillowtop mattress/box.** Brand new w/warranty. Cost \$800. Sacrifice \$475. Call 559-275-8813.

**For Sale - Regulation slate pool table.** \$400. Call 822-2313 or 907-3402.

## Gutter Services

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

## Handyman Services

**Rancho Handyman** - when you need a

helping hand then you need the Rancho 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.

## Investment & Loans

**Money To Loan Service** - Oro Financial. Able to loan today. Credit not a problem. Cash for trust deeds. Mobile home on land. Call 438-9999.

## Painting Services

**Gerald Scheffing Painting.** "Best in the West" for over 35 years. Call 674-2320. Lic. #313070.

**Texture Coat Painting** - Call Frank at 645-4113.

## Pool Services

**Marion's Pool Service & Repairs** - Locally owned and operated. Weekly service. Call 351-1605 or 645-4799.

## Tractor Services

**Tractor discing, grading, mowing, trenching, drilling, home irrigation systems.** Call Tomas at 645-4932.

**Tractor work, discing, rototilling, weed cutting. Bobcat work, drilling post holes, trees, trenching and clean ups.** Call Neal at 645-1200 or 285-8211.

**Tractor work, house pads, lot leveling, driveways, trenching and concrete work.** Call 559-970-4476 or 559-645-1500.

**Tractor work, lot discing, mowing and scraping.** Call Thomas at 645-6068.

## Utility Services

**Underground utilities installed.** Call 645-1500.

## Window Cleaning Services

**Window cleaning special.** Most windows \$5 inside/out. Screen and track included. Prices may vary for non-standard windows. Hard water stain and cobweb removal available. Fully insured. Call Nick at 285-1723. Free estimates.

# Real Estate



**Nancy Watson**  
The Ranchos Specialist, Working for "You"

645-5000  
www.nancywatson.net



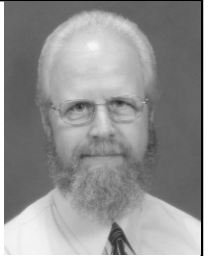
Nancy has been a Ranchos resident for 28 years and a full-time Real Estate Agent serving the Ranchos for over 17 years. She is a member of the Madera and Fresno Multiple Listing Service and is well known as a *Top Producer*. If you are interested in finding out the value of your home or know someone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

6/07



**DAVID PARKER**  
Realtor Associate

www.davidparker.info  
490-1989



A ranchos resident for 20 years, I am a full-time professional agent dedicated to serving our community's Real Estate needs. Allow me to show you how stress-free selling or buying a home can be. I worry with the details so YOU don't have to! Call me today or visit me on the Web and allow me to demonstrate how I can serve you.

6/07



*John Herrera, Realtor*

I am not only a long time Ranchos resident, but I am also involved in the community. I will be running the Kiwanis Fireworks booth with the rest of our club June 30-July 4 at Pete's Drive-in. Come by, pick up some fireworks, and say hi. If you are buying or selling, call me. You can trust a retired cop. I have changed offices but my service to you has not. "The most important things in your house are the people."

559-217-8947



6/07

## "No Excuses Just Results"



**Oscar Anaya**  
Senior Loan Officer

41428 Ave. 10 1/2 Ste.B  
Madera, CA 93638

645-7540

6/07

## COUPON

## Deegan's Appliance

Serving Fresno and Madera Counties

352 W. Bedford, Ste 103  
Fresno, CA 93711

266-6044

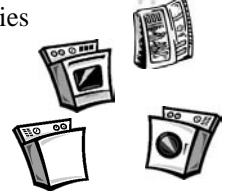
**\$5 OFF**

Any Appliance Repair with this coupon

COUPON



Installation Now Available



We Service Most Major Brands  
Sé Habla Español

6/07

You're Not Just Anybody -

**You're Somebody Here.**



**Madera**  
413 W. Yosemite Ave.  
662-2800



**River Park**  
80 E. Nees  
446-6350

6/07



To Advertise Call  
645-0634



FULL SERVICE AUTOMOTIVE SHOP



## TRANSMISSIONS

AUTOMATIC & STANDARD  
Foreign & Domestic  
Rebuild & Repair

37 Years Experience

FREE TOWING WITH OVERHAUL

# 10% OFF

WITH THIS COUPON

WE ALSO DO:  
Brakes • Tune-ups • Diagnostic  
Oil changes • Service work  
AND NOW: A/C SERVICE AND REPAIRS

**CHUCK'S TRANSMISSION & RANCHOS AUTO REPAIR**  
12090 37 1/2 • MADERA RANCHOS  
Just off avenue 12

**645-4475**

6/07



# Real Estate

Your Neighbor, Your Realtor®, Your Friend!  
Service To Smile About!



I can help sell your home for as low as

**2%!**

*Wanda*  
**FRIES**  
Realtor®

(559) 260-3332

6/07

## Continental Realty P.R.E.S.E.N.T.S



**4 Bed  
3.5 Ba.  
\$499,000**

36633 Cloverleaf

Fantastic 2,450 sq.ft. home on 1.25 acre lot with gorgeous pool and park-like yards. Home has vaulted ceilings, French doors, large dining nook and convenient kitchen. Master suite features two closets with tons of storage and adjoining spa tub. Tile flooring and quality carpeting throughout. Take a look!



**3 Bed  
2.5 Ba.  
\$379,000**

35213 Ave. 14 1/2

Custom country home in tranquil setting on 1.75 acres. Open floor plan features great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Opens into spacious kitchen and dining area with lots of storage space. Charming master suite and entire house features ceiling fans and raised wood foundation flooring. Screened porch, peaceful yard and 3-car garage.



**5 Bed  
3 Ba.  
\$539,000**

17194 Mark Road

Beautiful brand new home on 2.25 acres zoned for horses. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, double door entry, vinyl windows and more. Open floor plan with great room, dining room and huge kitchen. Master suite has two huge closets and a spa tub in bath. Covered rear patio and front porch. Large 3-car garage. MUST SEE!



**3 Bed  
2 Ba.  
\$465,000**

34922 Avenue 13 1/4

Over 2,500 sq. ft. on 2.25 acres zoned for horses. Great location features vaulted ceilings and brick fireplace, dining nook and great 50's-style game room. Kitchen has two breakfast bars, pantry and new flooring. Yard has covered patio and pool w/waterfall and diving board. Over 70 trees on property w/fenced horse enclosure, all just 15 minutes from Fresno.

6/07



**4 Bed  
3 Ba.  
\$499,000**

14786 Road 35 1/2

Sharp custom 2,332 sq.ft. home on 1.25 acres. Fireplace in living room and vaulted ceilings in both living and family rooms. Deluxe kitchen with two ovens, space for two refrigerators and tons of counter space and cabinets. Master suite has two walk-in closets. Separate bedroom/bath perfect for home office or guest suite. Laminate wood floors and 3-car garage.

Call the listing office for all of the amenities of any of these properties

call Paul Sobaje at Continental Realty  
**431-7060 or 645-5450**



Situated 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 \$469,950. Please call for viewing at 661-6200.

6/07

**Scrivner  
Real Estate**

1901 Howard Rd., Ste. F  
Madera, CA 93637

Office: (559) 661-6200



**Buying?  
Selling?  
Relocation?**



**No one works harder  
than Judy Hart to make your  
home ownership dreams come true.**

"A local resident in the Bonadelle Ranchos for the last six years, I am also a member of the Fresno Multiple Listing Service."



Judy Hart, Realtor

6/07

Judy Hart, Realtor • 559-479-1429 • onesterileort@hotmail.com

*I Can Help You Sell Your Home For As Low As 2%*

**Price Reduced!**  
**17308 Road 37**  
New custom home on 2.25± acres. 5BD/3BA w/tons of upgrades including granite counter-tops, huge jetted tub, vaulted ceilings, his/her closets and large 4-car garage. View this home today!  
**\$529,999**

**36711 Avenue 12**  
New home w/attached office/inlaw setup zoned commercial/residential. 4 BD/2.5 BA w/vaulted ceilings, jacuzzi tub and walk-in closets in master BR. Great location in heart of Ranchos.  
**\$499,113**



*Nicole*  
**LERNO**  
"RANCHOS REALTOR®"



nicolelerno@yahoo.com

**999-9005**

6/07



6/07

**Tom Kellner Owner/Broker**

559-706-3162 cell • www.kellnerproperties.com

### Land



RIO MESA PROPERTY AVAILABLE - Call Tom for details at 706-3162.

COMMERCIAL - Great Location - 1+ acre corner lot on Avenue 12. Lots of potential uses. Owner/agent. \$500,000.

REDUCED! 398+ acres. Ave. 15 west of Rd. 35. Long range development. Williamson Act now. Full parcel Only. Owner/Agent Related. \$18,500/acre.

GREAT INVESTMENT - Great buy, 37+ acres in Ag Preserve. RD. 35 @ AVE. 11. Owner/agent. \$450,000.

INDUSTRIAL - 15+ acres, 3 houses, large office complex. RD 25 near Ave. 12. \$150,000/acre.

INDUSTRIAL - 5 ac. w/house "as is", RD 25 north of Ave. 12. \$600,000.

### Homes



BEAUTIFUL Decorator Touches 4 BD/2BA @ 35203 AVE 13 1/4. 2 acres zoned for horses, RV parking. Original owner. \$477,000.

GREAT PROPERTY/GREAT PRICE - 3 BD/2BA @ 36954 Sparta. RV parking, newer comp roof, freshly painted in/out, security alarm, sprinklers front/back. Many extras. \$289,900.

3 BD/2BA @ 1019 W. Norwich, Fresno. Energy efficient w/triple pane windows, both real hardwood and aggregate floors, pool. Upgraded throughout. Owner/agent. \$335,000.

### Orchards



PISTACHIOS - 228+ acres, 12 separate APN numbers. Owner/agent. \$16,500/acre.

PISTACHIOS - 36 and 38 acre orchards. Owner/agent. \$13,500/acre.

ALMONDS - 70 acres of mature almonds. Fresno County near Raisin City. Owner/agent. \$13,500/acre.

Figs, Almonds and Pomegranates available also. Owner/agent. Call Tom for details at 706-3162.

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

Buyer should verify zoning, square footage and schools.

# Business Directory

**Charisse Lindsay Stindt**  
Lic#0616281



**FARMERS**  
Auto • Home • Life

**DISCOUNTS**

37144 Ave. 12 Ste. #103 • Madera Ranchos  
**(559) 645-4124**

**BOB WATKINS**  
**TRANSPORTATION**

- LOT DISCING • SAND • GRAVEL •
- ROCK • BASE ROCK • GRADING •
- HOUSE PADS • DRIVEWAYS •
- COBBLES • HUMUS • BARK •

**CALL BOB**  
**289-1743**

**VELVET TOUCH**  
**CAR WASH & DETAIL**



37075 AVE. 12 • MADERA RANCHOS  
**645-6630**

**B.M.T.**  
**Computer Repair**  
(559) 917-4507

- Sales & Service
- In-Home Service
- Sé Habla Español

Thomas Valdez Computer Tech.  
Retired FPD 26 yr. Certifications: A+/Network +  
Ca. Lic.#79328 Microsoft Certified Pro

**DVD Rentals**  
**Take Two Video**

Movies, Postal Services and More!

37221 Ave. 12 • Maywood Center  
**645-1202**



**Central Valley Wireless**

**645-1600**

Brad & Cathy Burford  
37167 Ave. 12 #D5  
Madera Ranchos

**Jo-De DRILLING**



**& TRACTOR SERVICE**  
**HARDPAN DRILLING**  
**674-7770**

**Notary in the Ranchos!**  
Mobile Notary and Loan Document Signing

Daytime • Evening • Weekends

**Diana J. Tucker**  
Serving Madera & Fresno Counties  
**381-5879**

committed to excellent workmanship & customer service

over 30 years experience

commercial, remodels & custom homes



**McAVOY PLUMBING**  
**645-4964**  
contractors license #891190

**ROGER PRATER CONCRETE**

Residential & Commercial  
38 years experience  
Lic. # 599235



(559) 645-0911  
(559) 645-0916

Tom Kellner  
owner/broker



**Kellner & Sons' Properties**

Residential Sales  
Real Estate Investments  
License Training

Cell 706-3162  
office 559-297-3770  
fax 559-297-3776

*Hart Photography*  
Gallery & Unique Gifts

- Professional photography
- Personalized unique gifts
- Gift certificates



**645-1918**  
www.hartphotographs.com

**Professional Dog Training**



**Vikki Campbell**  
Member A.P.D.T.

For the Love of Dogs

- Private/Group Training
- Behavior Consultation

**(559) 645-4351**  
email: forloveofdogs@sbcglobal.net

**Ranchos Auto Repair & Chuck's Transmission**



We specialize in transmission repair and service work.  
We now do A/C service and repair.

Auto, Truck, Motorhome, 4x4, Automatic/Standard  
12090 Rd. 37 1/2 • Madera  
**645-4475**  
SERVING THE VALLEY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

**AWNINGS & Lonas Del Valle**

Specializing in Awnings  
Recovers • Repairs Tarps • Lonas



**559-313-8407**  
License #B0006328

**Gregg Hatfield Flooring**

ceramic tile • hardwood • laminate

Commercial/Residential with my material or yours  
specializing in ceramic tile flooring

Expert installation – over 20 yrs experience  
license #591468  
**(559) 994-5908**

Double Car Port 18 x 21 \$895.00



Free installation on your level land.  
Ask for Carlos or Niomi  
**645-0518 or 645-1419**  
Corner of Ave. 12 & Maywood  
Madera Ranchos

for sales tomorrow, call

**TINA SHANNON Today!**

**(559) 645-0634**  
The Ranchos Independent

**Danny's**

- Cleanups (Brush, Trash, All Other Cleanups)
- Tear Out • Many Other Jobs
- Construction Site • Light Demolition
- Light Concrete Hauling

Call **Danny Powell** at  
**559-363-0805** or **559-281-4696**  
All projects expertly and professionally completed



*Elaines* Animal Inn & Spa

**Fresno** 3912 N. Hayston  
Fresno, CA 93726  
(559) 227-5959  
fax (559) 227-5960

**Madera** 40373 Brickyard Dr.  
Madera, CA 93636  
(559) 432-5959  
fax (559) 432-5616

www.elainesanimalinn.com

**MZC**

- Industrial
- General
- Farm
- Mig
- Tig
- Stick
- Certified
- Portable




**Welding & Fabrication**  
call **JERRY CLARK • 706-3865**

**Valley Green Hydroseeding**

Wayne Jones

Business 645-8528 Pager 489-7859  
NO JOB TOO SMALL



Ever Growing For Your Needs

**NAPA B&M**  
Auto & Truck Parts

Store hours:  
Mon - Fri 8:30-5:30  
Sat 8:00-4:00  
Sun 10:00-3:00



Madera Ranchos Plaza  
37405 Ave. 12, Ste. 801  
**645-1570**

**ANK**  
Quality Exteriors, Inc.

Vinyl Siding • Gutters • Patio Covers/Lattice  
Attic & Wall Insulation • Dual Pane Windows  
Garage Doors • Textured Coatings

**559-645-1392**  
General Contractor Lic. #669920  
Bonded & Insured

**U.S. MERCHANT SYSTEMS**

LOCAL SERVICE & SUPPORT  
ALL CREDIT/DEBIT CARD PROCESSING  
CHECK GUARANTEE  
INTERNET PAY SOLUTIONS  
ATM MACHINES  
GIFT CARDS  
BUSINESS LOANS  
CONSUMER FINANCING PROGRAMS

**559-645-1336**  
36961 AVENUE 12 • MADERA, CA 93636



Senior Pictures  
Family Portraits  
Weddings  
Pet & Livestock Portraits  
Sports Photography

Lynn **SANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**559-479-0943**  
LynnSandersonPhoto.photorefect.com

The **Real Estate Network**



**DARLENE FUQUA**  
Sales Associate and Notary Public

Office: 559-645-1102  
Cell: 559-246-6688  
36946 Ave. 12 #B  
Madera Ranchos, CA 93636

**Huckabee's**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
LIC. #837274



**559-662-0336**  
**559-438-8260**

Sales and Service - Free Estimates  
Duct Testing & Certification  
Locally owned and operated!

**Gus & Co. Salon**

37221 Ave. 12  
**645-0197**  
permanent makeup  
manicurist  
hair salon color, cuts & highlights

WALK-INS AVAILABLE  
THURSDAY - SATURDAY  
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT  
MEN • WOMEN • CHILDREN

THE COMFORT AND RELAXATION YOU DESERVE



**BRIAN'S**  
HEATING & COOLING  
**675-1681**

**Clark's Performance**

- GM, H1 & ASE Master Certified
- General Automotive Repairs
- Hot Rod Customizing & Lowering



Jeff Clark  
**645-1578**

**R We Gone Yet?**  
online travel services



**rwegoneyet.info**  
**474-0505**

TEXTURED COATING • PAINTING  
VINYL SIDING • WINDOW



**FRANK KRAMER EXTERIORS**  
(559) 645-4113  
TEXTURED COATING SPECIALIST


INSURED  
FRANK KRAMER LIC. #273099

**Christy Prater, CNRT**  
Make an appointment with relief!

Neuropathy & More ...  
Foot Therapy

call 559-222-FEET (222-3338)

Motorcycle & ATV Repairs



**YAMAHA99**  
A Division of Premiere Powersports, Inc.

**AUTHORIZED DEALER**  
Hwy. 99 and Ave. 12  
**645-4545**

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



MAMA'S BOYZ

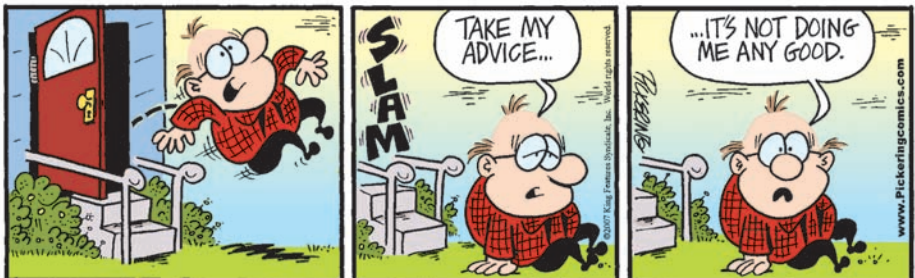
WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM

JERRY CRAFT



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Table is different 2. Picture has moved. 3. Fish is missing. 4. Water level is higher. 5. Woman's hair has changed. 6. Boy's neckline is different.



Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



1. To move backward (BACKPEDAL).
2. Susceptible to compacting.
3. Having ability.
4. A splendid residence.
5. To keep up with.
6. Batman has one.
7. Found in a pod.
8. Father (informal).
9. First letter.

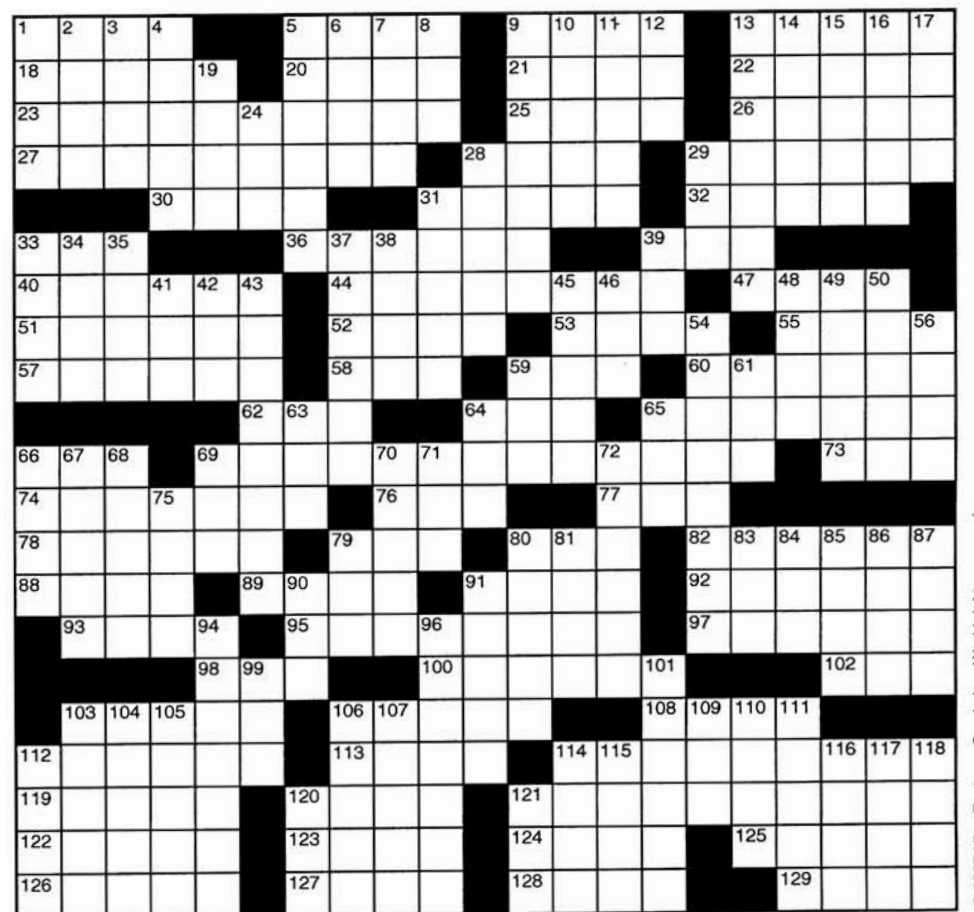
TANDEM LETTER WORDS! "See if you can give me four common words, each of which contains one of the double-letter sets written on the board." (Example: YAKKING contains a double KK.)

FIND-A-WORD! On the top line is our mystery word. You need to fill in the missing letters. Clue words (smaller words contained in letter-by-letter order within the mystery word) are defined below.

1. An inclined plane.
2. Used in music.
3. A streetcar
4. Used to batter down.

Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Zhivago's love
  - 5 Touch up the text
  - 9 It should be square
  - 13 "Don't — it!"
  - 18 Act like Etna
  - 20 Birdbrain
  - 21 Garfield's pal
  - 22 Fragrance
  - 23 Tennessee cry of denial?
  - 25 "— Shuffle" ('77 song)
  - 26 Long walks
  - 27 Pleasant
  - 28 Jeroboam contents
  - 29 Way up
  - 30 Vend
  - 31 Get — (be successful)
  - 32 Mikita and Musial
  - 33 Find the sum
  - 36 Spring holiday
  - 39 TV's "— Sharkey"
  - 40 Mature
  - 44 North Carolina cry of encouragement?
  - 47 Seizes suddenly
  - 51 Join the leisure class?
  - 52 Item for 37 Down
  - 53 Live on lettuce
  - 55 Coasted
  - 57 Texas cry of sympathy?
  - 58 Feel wretched
  - 59 Writer Rand
  - 60 Second Triumvirate member
  - 62 EMT's skill
  - 64 Everything
  - 65 Dickens character
  - 66 Yak
  - 69 Pennsylvania cry of disgust?
  - 73 — Moines, IA
  - 74 He'll bend over backward for you
  - 76 Grazing ground
  - 77 Permit
  - 78 Witch doctor
  - 79 Hoopsters' org.
  - 80 Exec's deg.
  - 82 Utah cry of revolution?
  - 88 Chihuahua dough
  - 89 Chihuahua snack
  - 91 Italian port
  - 92 Dwell
  - 93 "Scat!"
  - 95 Illinois cry of surprise?
  - 97 Sampras
  - 98 Weeding tool
  - 100 Duration
  - 102 Chemical suffix
  - 103 Buy off
  - 106 See
  - 129 Across
  - 108 Orient
  - 112 Uproar
  - 113 Mr. Diamond
  - 114 Least liberal
  - 119 Gravel-voiced
  - 120 Thailand, formerly
  - 121 Michigan cry of chagrin?
  - 122 Senator Kefauver
  - 123 Cultural grp.
  - 124 Nautical adverb
  - 125 Concluded
  - 126 Hackneyed
  - 127 Big man on campus
  - 128 Cunning
  - 129 With 106 Across, legendary drummer
  - 6 Barbie or Ken
  - 7 Unemployed
  - 8 Sock part
  - 9 "Le Misanthrope"
  - 10 Minneapolis suburb
  - 11 Helped playwright
  - 12 Composer Delibes
  - 13 Massachusetts cry of contempt?
  - 14 Author Jong
  - 15 Symbol
  - 16 Forebodings
  - 17 "Boss"
  - 19 What you used to be
  - 24 Actor Kilmer
  - 28 Baby basset
  - 29 Egyptian viper
  - 31 Playwright Fugard
  - 33 Taj town
  - 34 Sleuth Nancy
  - 35 Kids connect them
  - 37 Jockey giant
  - 38 Darjeeling dress
  - 39 Revolutionary Guevara
  - 41 Drollery
  - 42 Psychic
  - 43 Inclination
  - 45 Tennyson tale
  - 46 — rummy
  - 48 About
  - 49 Bank deposit?
  - 50 Burn a bit
  - 54 Quiet
  - 56 Colors
  - 59 Maugham's "Cakes and —"
  - 61 Pro-gun grp.
  - 63 Saucepan
  - 64 Drillers' org.
  - 65 TV's "Murder, — Wrote"
  - 66 Huff and puff
  - 67 Feels sore
  - 68 Impertinent
  - 69 Cops' org.
  - 70 — grease
  - 71 Indeed
  - 72 Grievance
  - 75 "Type" sequel
  - 79 Sgt. or cpl.
  - 80 — Carta
  - 81 Improve oneself, in a way
  - 83 Turn right
  - 84 DDE's predecessor
  - 85 Tiny coin
  - 86 Genesis setting
  - 87 Hawaii's state bird
  - 90 Veneration
  - 91 Freeway
  - 94 Idaho cry of excitement?
  - 96 Jack of "The Odd Couple"
  - 99 Poetic preposition
  - 101 "Hiroshima" author
  - 103 Good time
  - 104 Dreadlocked one
  - 105 Set in motion
  - 106 Kevin of "In & Out"
  - 107 Range rope
  - 109 Actress Meyers
  - 110 Seafood selection
  - 111 Accent feature
  - 112 Mus. directive
  - 114 — contendere
  - 115 Summit
  - 116 "The Never-Ending Story" author
  - 117 WWII gun
  - 118 "The — Is High" ('80 hit)
  - 120 Crestfallen
  - 121 LummoX
- DOWN**
- 1 Horne or Olin
  - 2 "He's — Picker" ('14 song)
  - 3 German valley
  - 4 Church areas
  - 5 Fit to feast



TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Where did Luke Skywalker grow up?
2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the children's book "The Wind in the Willows"?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the common name for the dog breed Borzoi?
4. MYTHOLOGY: What was the name of the sun god in Greek mythology?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the island of Curaçao located?
6. HISTORY: In what colony (now state) did the Battle of Bunker Hill take place?
7. GEOMETRY: How many sides does a quadrilateral have?
8. PSYCHOLOGY: What type of fear is represented by hedonophobia?
9. TELEVISION: What was the name of Don Johnson's character on "Miami Vice"?
10. MILITARY: What is the highest decoration awarded for heroism in the U.S. military?

Answers

1. The planet Tatooine
2. Kenneth Grahame
3. Russian Wolfhound
4. Helios
5. Caribbean
6. Massachusetts
7. Fear of pleasure
8. Fear of Crockett
9. Sony Crockett
10. Medal of Honor

MAGIC MAZE • OVERUSED WORDS

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

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

- Absolutely
- Amazing
- Awesome
- Bad
- Beautiful
- Definitely
- Easy
- Excellent
- Good
- Incredible
- Interesting
- Perfect
- Really
- Terrific
- Very

Golden Valley Baptist Church

Get a Life...

...that is *Real!*

There is no substitute, why settle for less?

Pastor David Swift

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Worship Service 10:15 AM

Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study 6:00 PM (til June 6)  
(Thursday nite starting June 7)

12414 Road 37, Madera, CA 93638

559-645-1700

In the Madera Ranchos (NW corner of Road 37 and Cloverleaf)

6/07

CONQUER YOUR PEST WITH CONQUEST!



\$55 OFF  
INITIAL SERVICE  
offer good through 7/15/07

559-232-0807  
OPR # 10829

Ron Rousey  
Field Rep # 40930

6/07

**22nd Annual FIRE BBQ**  
DINNER • DANCE • AUCTION  
To Benefit Station 19 Volunteer Fire Company



**Sat., Aug. 18, 2007 ★ 6 PM**  
**Historic Cobb Ranch**  
8805 N. Highway 41



Help us celebrate Chuck's 30th year!

- ★ No-host Cocktails 6 to 7 pm ★
- ★ Tri-Tip/Chicken Dinner 7 pm ★  
with Four Serving Stations
- ★ NEW this Year – Dessert Auction ★  
coordinated by Ollia Ridge!
- ★ Silent & Live Auction ★  
– spend less time in line with "Bid or Buy"  
on desserts and some auction items!
- ★ Dancing Under the Stars ★  
9 pm to Midnight  
with music better than American Idol!

**TICKETS \$25**  
ADULTS ONLY  
Available from: Volunteer Firefighters, Ranchos Market,  
Ranchos Auto Service, Hurst Hardware, Ranchos  
Independent and Chamber of Commerce

Credit Cards accepted for Auction only  
**Questions 801-7703**  
SPONSORED BY RANCHOS KIWANIS CLUB

6/07

**Saturday, August 18**  
**6 p.m. / Historic Cobb Ranch**  
**info at 559-801-7703**

# THE GAME ROOM BOYS

Your complete source for game room accessories including:  
Jukeboxes, Pinball Machines, Arcade Games, Pool Tables  
Neon Signs and Nostalgic game room goodies

Sales-Service-Rentals-Leasing-Repair

ON THE WEB @ [WWW.GAMEROOMBOYS.COM](http://WWW.GAMEROOMBOYS.COM)



Ask About  
Our Party  
Rental  
Program



37193 Ave. 12 # 3H, Madera, CA. 93636  
(559) 439-6460 or (559) 645-4147

6/07