

The Ranchos Independent



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50¢

Madera County Gets Serious About Opioids

**County joins nationwide suit
against drug companies**

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On May 1, 2018, Madera County took an important step in the fight against the national and statewide opioid crisis. The Board of Supervisors joined several other counties in retaining a group of law firms including national law firm Baron & Budd, to initiate litigation against manufacturers and distributors responsible for the opioid epidemic.

“The health and safety of the public is of utmost importance to the Madera County Board of Supervisors,” said Board Chairman Tom Wheeler. “As the governing body of this great County, we need to take whatever steps necessary to help protect our residents and future generations.”

Strength in Numbers

Madera County joins a consortium of 30 California counties that are working together to take a stand for communities and counties that represent approximately 10.5 million California residents. All 30 counties are filing suit in federal court and expect their cases to be transferred into the Multi-District

Litigation in Ohio, where over 500 public entities have filed similar suits. The intended legal action will include a taxpayer and cost recovery action in addition to equitable relief to help mitigate and prevent current and future problems.

“This litigation seeks to recover taxpayer funds used to respond to the opioid epidemic,” says Madera County Counsel Regina Garza. “Local government services have been unfairly subsidizing the impact of the opioid epidemic, which was created by multi-billion-dollar corporations whose irresponsible actions placed profit over public safety.”

The California Opioid Consortium (COC) and its counsel have compelling evidence that many of the nation’s largest drug manufacturers pushed highly addictive, dangerous opioids and deliberately misinformed doctors by claiming that patients using the drugs rarely experience addiction. The expected manufacturer Defendants include Purdue Pharma; Teva Ltd. (which acquired pharmaceutical maker Cephalon, Inc. in 2011); Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson); Endo Health Solutions, Inc.; Allergan PLC; and Mallinckrodt. Drugs manufactured by these companies include, but are not limited to: OxyContin, Actiq, Fentora, Duragesic, Nucynta, Nucynta ER, Opana/Opana ER, Percodan, Percocet, Zydone, Kadian and Norco.

Seeking Recovery

The COC will seek recovery from three of the nation’s largest drug distributors — Cardinal Health, AmerisourceBergen, and McKesson Corp. — who failed to monitor, identify and report “suspicious” opioid shipments to pharmacies, in violation of the federal Controlled Substances Act. The lawsuit also names other large national distributor/retailers.

The County’s entire legal team includes the law firms of Baron & Budd; Levin, Papantonio, Thomas, Mitchell, Rafferty & Proctor; Powell & Majestro; Greene Ketchum Bailey Farrell & Tweel; Hill, Peterson, Carper, Bee & Deitzler; and McHugh Fuller Law Group. The firms currently represent over 300 cities and counties throughout the United States.

Ranchos Pianist To Play Classics



Praised for “beautiful performances of great warmth,” by *Classical Voice of North Carolina*, pianist Michael Delfin, with roots in the Madera Ranchos, has soloed for the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and the Aspen, Eastern, and Chautauqua Music Festivals. And now he’s coming home to play at the University Presbyterian Church in Fresno on Saturday, June 9 at 4 p.m.

Delfin has performed with the Eastern Music Festival Young Artists Orchestra and CCM Philharmonia and has captured prizes in the International Crescendo Music Awards, Chautauqua Piano Competition, EMF Piano Competition, and two consecutive CCM Concerto Competitions. As a harpsichordist, he is the recipient of the 2017 Catacoustic Consort Early Music Grant and has attended the American Bach Soloists Academy. A Valley native, Delfin recently performed for the third time on KVPR 89.3 “Young Artists Spotlight” and won both the Fresno Musical Club’s Susan Torres Award and Bell T. Ritchie Award.

He holds degrees from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Peabody Conservatory of Music and the Johns Hopkins University (B.A., History) and has pursued doctoral studies at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. His teachers include Awadagin Pratt, Yoshikazu Nagai, Boris Slutsky, Carol Oaks, Michael Unger (harpsichord), and Judah Adashi (composition).

Admission is free and the University Presbyterian Church is located at 1776 E. Roberts Ave. in Fresno. For more information you can visit www.michaeldelfinpianist.net.

“CalFresh” Program Helping End Hunger in Madera

Community Food Bank offers a variety of services, including the CalFresh Outreach Program. Brenetta Sadakov, CalFresh Outreach Coordinator, travels throughout Madera County on a weekly basis attempting to end hunger in the community by assisting individuals in applying for CalFresh (formally known as Food Stamps). Sadakov has partnered with other agencies in Madera County to help achieve this goal, such as the Department of Social Services, Madera Food Bank, WIC, First 5, Hope House and more.

CalFresh is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) which provides nutrition assistance to low-income households. If eligible, individuals will receive monthly benefits for food loaded on a card that functions like a debit card.

With more nutritional options for families, it is estimated there will be fewer trips to the doctor for nutrition-related diseases and an increase in productivity at work.

Through a partnership with Central California agencies, Community Food Bank distributes nutritious food to over 280,000 food insecure people each month. In fiscal year 2017, approximately

33 million meals were provided to communities in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera and Tulare counties. Community Food Bank supports a variety of hunger and nutrition education programs including the Emergency Food Assistance Program (USDA), Pantry Program, Mobile Pantry, Backpack Program, SNAP Outreach and Neighborhood Markets.



Additionally, CalFresh is a great asset to the local economy. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Services, it has been estimated that there is a multiplier of SNAP benefits on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 1.79, that is, an increase of \$1 billion in SNAP benefits increases GDP by \$1.79 billion and results in an increase of 8,900 to 17,900 full-time equivalent jobs.

If you are in need of help purchasing food for your family, Community Food Bank’s CalFresh Department can help. You can contact Brenetta Sadakov at 559-997-6869 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to see if you can apply for CalFresh and you can also visit www.communityfoodbank.net to learn more.

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Letters

Dear Editor:

We invited Paul Hornick, who is running for Madera County District Attorney, to a meet-and-greet in Oakhurst about 2 weeks ago, and the invitation was readily accepted. Paul showed up and in seconds had everyone's attention with his enthusiasm and knowledge. Paul is also out there, knocking on doors, meeting as many people as he can, communicating his vision to improve the system. How refreshing! As we all know the DA's office has been plagued with problems for some time. Paul is the one candidate offering solutions to fix the problems in the office. It is so good to see someone who can and will make a difference. The Madera County Prosecutors' Association and Madera Police Officers' Association have endorsed Paul. This tells us that the people who know all of the candidates put their trust in Paul. So I urge you to join me and vote for Paul Hornick for DA.

Sonia Villas Boas-Crane
Oakhurst

Dear Editor:

Hi. As I am sure you know, the scouts are now open to girls. We will have our first girls' Tiger Den starting this August when school starts up. Tigers are first graders. Girls of all ages are welcome to join Cub Scouting and Pack 119 is holding a recruiting night on May 31 at 6:30 - 7:30 at Webster. I am the Tiger Den leader for the girls. The pack is based at Webster but is for both Webster and Sierra View students. I would think it would be great if there is anyway you could get the word out about the recruiting drive and anyone can go on line and register at any time also. Thanks for your time and if I can answer any questions feel free to ask.

John Martin
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

Three candidates listed alphabetically: Paul Hornick, David Linn, Sally Moreno. All

three have military service. We thank them for their service. All three are attorneys. Definition of lawyer vs attorney: Lawyer is a general term for a person who gives legal advice and aid and who conducts suits in court. An attorney or, more correctly, an attorney-at-law, is a member of the legal profession who represents a client in court when pleading or defending a case. In the US, attorney applies to any lawyer. Definitely a requirement for the Madera County District Attorney position. My concern is the apathy shown by the voting public. What I hear over and over is "my vote won't count so why bother."

Every vote counts.

What is really important is not just voting but being informed regarding the candidates and choosing the best one for the job. The District Attorney position is a job. It requires someone with knowledge of the system, management skills, personal skills, the ability to get along with others, being not just good but great at their job. A passion for going above and beyond to prosecute and bring justice to each and every court case. Justice is very key ... guilty or not guilty. I am saddened by our current incumbent David Linn who was previously voted in and was not able to do the job. Now he is running again. He and his wife have filed claims against Madera County for \$15 million dollars. He is involved in allegations of inappropriate workplace behavior. The allegations accuse him of workplace harassment, discrimination and abuse. To be in this position there shouldn't be a shadow of a doubt in proper behavior. The DA is there to uphold the law. We need someone strong and willing to go the distance. This is an elected position. A position that the voters select someone to run the District Attorney's Office which not only means to prosecute criminals but to ensure all the attorneys and support staff are doing their jobs as well. Paul Hornick has all the skills necessary to excel as the Madera County District Attorney. He is passionate about his country, being a professional at his job and is currently doing an outstanding job at the Madera Co. District Attorney's Office. He is already working there, knows the problems needing to be corrected and

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 18

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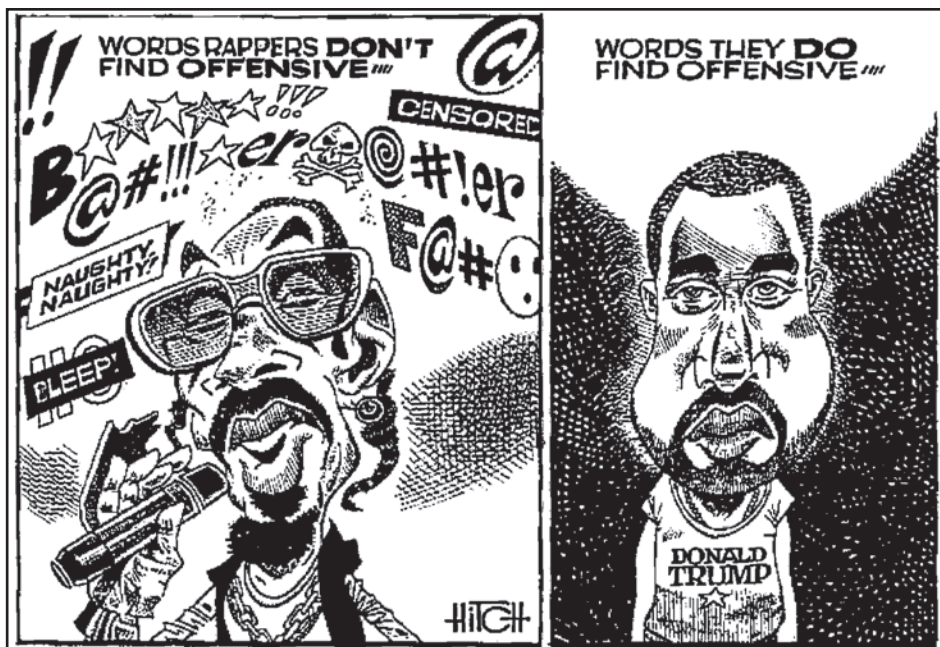
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Guest Editorial

Who's Botched the Mueller Probe?

By Rich Lowry

Rod Rosenstein is doing a star turn as principled defender of the law, but he's performed abysmally as deputy attorney general, and President Donald Trump would be fully justified in firing him.

The leaked questions that special counsel Robert Mueller wants to ask Trump in a prospective deposition are, if accurate, a sign that Mueller has spun out of control on Rosenstein's watch.

The questions (drafted by Trump's legal team after consultations with Mueller's investigators) suggest a free-floating investigation of the president's motives, undertaken by a subordinate of the president. This is unlike any special counsel investigation we've ever seen and represents a significant distortion of our system.

Per the questions, Mueller wants to know how Trump reacted to news stories in The Washington Post. What he thought of FBI Director James Comey during the transition. How he feels about his attorney general.

These questions grow out of an obstruction-of-justice probe centered, as far as we can tell, on Trump's exercise of the legitimate powers of the presidency.

What makes Mueller different is that his predecessors were given the mission of investigating specific alleged crimes. As my National Review colleague Andrew McCarthy has repeatedly pointed out, Rod Rosenstein mentioned no crimes

in his initial order to Mueller, a violation of the special counsel regulations.

This amorphous, wide-ranging guidance appears to have allowed Mueller to effortlessly slide from an amorphous, wide-ranging investigation into Russian meddling into an amorphous, wide-ranging investigation into obstruction of justice. (Rosenstein followed up later with a more specific memo to Mueller.)

Now, judging by the leaked questions, obstruction is the lion's share of Mueller's work. Absent smoking guns that we aren't aware of (always possible), this is bizarre and disproportionate.

We now have an extensive obstruction investigation carried out by investigators who haven't been obstructed. There's been an intense focus, for instance, on Trump's Oval Office discussion with then-FBI Director Comey about going easy on Michael Flynn. But as Andy McCarthy also notes, no one went easy on Flynn, who pled guilty to lying to the FBI.

Regardless, current Justice Department guidance says the president can't be indicted. If Mueller takes heed, he is limited to indicting underlings and writing reports on his findings, with Congress the most important consumer.

This means Mueller is, in effect, the lead investigative counsel for a prospective House impeachment committee. It's an important position, just not one that should be housed within the executive branch.

Rod Rosenstein is ultimately responsible for the state of this investigation. On the merits, he should be fired and replaced by someone willing to exercise proper oversight of the special counsel.

A more practical lever would be to push for Rosenstein to recuse himself. As a party to the firing of James Comey, he shouldn't be overseeing a probe in which he's a witness.

To this point, the White House posture toward the Mueller investigation has been to cooperate and hope it goes away, when a root-and-branch legal and constitutional challenge to Mueller's work is now what's called for.

Surely, Mueller will want to ask questions about such an effort, too -- because he's the unbounded investigatory ombudsman of the Trump era.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

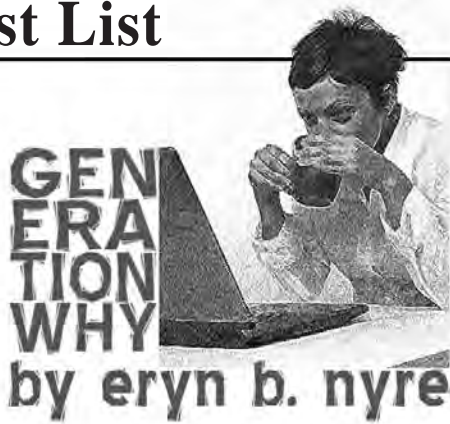
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RONALD REAGAN
 SAYING MORE IN ONE QUOTE THAN OTHERS SAY IN A LIFETIME

Top 5 Dumbererist List



I don't think I'm alone in my quest to have a little bit of fun at work. It's a job and I have to do it, but if I can have a giggle here or there then at least I won't feel like a piece of my soul is dying every time I walk through the door. My new favorite work hobby is ranking the ridiculous things people say to me on a daily basis. I'm thinking of putting a whiteboard up in my office so I can keep a running tab of the best examples. Until then, however, I'll just leave the top five right here.

Number 5: "We have to emulsificate the numbers."

Do you know someone who loves to show off their vast and expansive vocabulary to any and all within earshot, only they don't seem to know what those fancy words mean? Yeah, that's my co-worker. To be honest, I'm still not 100 percent sure what she meant by emulsifying the numbers and by the looks on the

Have you ever heard something so ridiculous that you just know that the moment it hit your ears your face contorted in a look that told the world you have officially found the dumbest person on the planet and we must immediately dissect him and study how his brain manages to allow him to walk and talk but not actually think?

faces of everyone else in that meeting, I wasn't the only one. Usually I can figure out what she means through context, but in this case it went over my head. What's sad is that we are all so used to it now that we shrug it off and move on. Next time I am going to take my Dad's advice and tell her that her information is invenerial. My only concern is that she will likely add that "word" into her regular rotation of malapropisms. I don't know if I want to be responsible for that.

Number 4: "Why can't you just pay me what I say I work; why does the client have to confirm it?"

This gem came to me via a phone call from a young man who was missing some hours on

his paycheck. He missed a few time punches and when told he had to come in and pick up a paper time card to fill out and have his client sign, he just couldn't figure out why we wouldn't take him at his word.

Fraud.

Fraud, my simple little friend, is why we can't just take you at your word. Needless to say, his hesitance to have his hours verified raised some sparkly red flags and the resulting investigation proved he wasn't clocking because – queue a gasp – he wasn't actually working with the client. Sort of hard to provide in-home caregiving services if you are not in the home actually caring for the client. Strange, I know.

Number 3: "Why does the client have to be home for me to provide services?"

I could make this stuff up if I wanted to, but the truth is so much more ridiculous and entertaining. You wouldn't think I would have to explain this to so many of our caregivers, but the sad fact is that I have this conversation several times each month. The program is called "services at home" because we are required to provide services to the client while the client is in

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 7

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GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

his or her home. I know that's a complicated concept but without those two key points the program would just be called "do whatever you want to do wherever you want to do it and we'll send you a check just for being you." Despite liberal attempts to make this a thing, it's just not profitable or sustainable.

Number 2: "After David."

Let me set the scene. A young girl calls in and wants to know the status of a complaint she made about one of the internal employees. She said she was upset with the way he was scheduling so she came down to the office and filled out an After David. After poorly covering up my snorting laugh with an obviously fake cough, I asked her if she remembered to whom she turned in her affidavit. I spoke slowly and clearly and overly pronounced the word to the point that anyone else would have probably been offended. She told me she turned in her After David to the women with the curly black hair. This went back and forth a few times and has left me thor-

oughly convinced she thinks I'm a raging moron who doesn't know what an After David is.

Number 1: "He's my dad and he's going to die soon - I'm going to take him to the nudie bar anyway; what does it matter if I do it during my shift?"

Have you ever heard something so ridiculous that you just know that the moment it hit your ears your face contorted in a look that told the world you have officially found the dumbest person on the planet and we must immediately dissect him and study how his brain manages to allow him to walk and talk but not actually think? That was my face. There was no hiding it. There was no covering it up. I stared at him silently and blinked for a few beats hoping he was going to laugh and tell me he was just kidding.

He was being serious.

No, man. The taxpayers will not pay for you and your Dad to get your jollies at the strip club. That does not satisfy the "at home" portion of the "services at home" creed, nor are those the kind of services the state is willing to reimburse us to provide.

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Choose Chocolate

Growing up, every year on our birthday we got our choice of a cake. The only two I can remember was my brother George's and mine. George always got a banana nut layered cake with whipped cream on the top and between the two layers, with sliced bananas on top of the whipped cream. I used to have the cake plate mama always served it on and was going to give it to him but before I could, guess who dropped it and broke it into a million pieces? Sorry, George. My favorite cake growing up was a plain old white cake baked in a 9 x 13 baking dish and thick dark, dark chocolate frosting. Our mom didn't care much for anything chocolate. She hated chocolate ice cream. I used to tease her when she made chocolate frosting that she only waved the cocoa can over the bowl as there wouldn't be much chocolate in the frosting. My sister Maxine used to work for Pacific Bell (before AT&T) and they would get See's candy at an incredible discount for

Mother's Day and Christmas. Mama would get a couple of boxes, eat a couple of pieces and the rest would go into her freezer. Months later there would still be See's candy in the freezer.

Recently I had to have one of my appliances worked

on, so I called Jim. I've known Jim for somewhere between 20 and 25 years. We are both diabetics, his is worse than mine, but while he was here we were talking about the things we couldn't eat. Jim said he wanted a platter full of Barbara Bush's Chocolate Chip cookies and a big bowl of real ice cream for his last supper. He described the cookies as not your old ordinary chocolate chip cookies; these had oatmeal, pecans and coconut in them. So, after he left, I looked these cookies up. Barbara Bush has a favorite cookie but wasn't as Jim had described. Just as I was getting ready to go somewhere else, I happened to see Laura Bush has a chocolate chip recipe and that was the one Jim had described. Laura's are called Cowboy Cookies. Jim had the correct family, just the wrong First Lady. Barbara was our 41st First Lady and Laura our 43rd First Lady.

Laura Bush's Cowboy Cookies



Aunt Jean's Ranchos Recipes

by Jean Briner

- 3 C all-purpose flour
 - 1 T baking powder
 - 1 T baking soda
 - 1 T ground cinnamon
 - 1 tsp. salt
 - 1 1/2 C butter (room temperature)
 - 1 1/2 C granulated sugar
 - 1 1/2 C packed light brown sugar
 - 3 large eggs
 - 1 T vanilla
 - 3 C semisweet chocolate chips
 - 3 C old fashioned rolled oats
 - 2 C sweetened flake coconut
 - 2 C chopped pecans
- Preheat oven to 350.

Mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt in bowl. In large bowl, beat butter on medium speed until smooth and creamy, about one minute. Gradually beat in sugars, beat to

combine, about 2 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each. Beat in vanilla. Stir in flour mixture until just combined. Add chocolate chips, oats, coconut and pecans. For each cookie, drop 1/4 cup dough onto ungreased baking sheets,

spacing 3 inches apart. Bake for 17 to 19 minutes, until edges are lightly browned, rotate sheets halfway through. Do not over bake. Remove cookies to rack to cool. Makes about 3 dozen cookies.

I have a recipe for a chocolate dessert that when you put it in the oven it looks like a cake, but when it is baked, there is cake on the top but dark fudge pudding on the bottom – very decadent! When I saw this recipe, I thought how much more decadent can this get?

Chocolate Poke Cake
Chocolate Cake

- 1 15.25 oz. Devil's Food chocolate cake mix, plus ingredients listed on box
 - 1 can sweetened condensed milk
 - 1 C semisweet chocolate chips
- Chocolate Whipped Cream Topping*
- 2 C heavy whipping cream
 - 1/2 C powdered sugar

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

Our mom didn't care much for anything chocolate ... I used to tease her when she made chocolate frosting that she only waved the cocoa can over the bowl as there wouldn't be much chocolate in the frosting.

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RECIPE cont. from P. 8

- ¼ C plus 2 T. cocoa
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- Mini chocolate chips

Heat oven according to box directions.

Bake cake according to box direction in a 9x13 cake pan.

Once cake comes out of the oven, using handle of wooden spoon, poke holes all over top of the cake.

Place sweetened condensed milk and chocolate chips in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave for about 30 seconds to one minute. Whisk until smooth, microwaving more if necessary to melt the chocolate.

Pour chocolate mixture over the cake and spread to fill in holes. Set cake aside to cool, about an hour, then refrigerate until completely cooled.

Whip heavy cream until it begins to thicken. Add powdered sugar, cocoa and vanilla and whip until stiff peaks form. Spread whipped topping evenly over cooled cake. Sprinkle mini chocolate chips over cake and drizzle with chocolate sauce.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Have you ever wanted a piece of chocolate cake and just couldn't justify making a whole cake? I found this recipe and thought about making it but was afraid

if I liked it, I would get addicted. I went ahead and made it, but I didn't eat the whole thing – HONEST! Not to say I didn't want to.

Chocolate Cake in a Mug

- 3 T all-purpose flour
- 3 T sugar
- 2 T cocoa powder
- ¼ tsp. baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 3 T milk
- 3 T vegetable oil
- Splash of vanilla extract
- 3 T chocolate chips

Put the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt in a 12-ounce microwave-safe ceramic mug. Blend thoroughly with a fork. Add the milk, vegetable oil and vanilla and blend until smooth. Stir in chocolate chips. Microwave on high for 90 seconds. Do not overcook or the cake will be dry. Let cool for two or three minutes before eating. Be sure to use a cup large enough or you will have a mess in your microwave. If you are like me, I don't enjoy cleaning up a messy microwave. This recipe is so simple – no hot oven, or heavy mixing – you could let the kids (or grandkids) make this cake. If you have a can of whipping cream in the refrigerator or some vanilla ice cream in the freezer, it makes it even better.

PAUL HORNICK

FOR MADERA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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Officers' Association**



**The Madera County
Prosecutors' Association**



The men and women of the Madera County Prosecutors' Association and the Madera Police Officers' Associations endorse **Paul Hornick** for Madera County District Attorney.

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- Senior Deputy D.A. Prosecutor for Madera County DA's Office
- Captain, U.S. Army
- Former Platoon Leader
- Army Reserve JAG Officer

VOTE PAUL HORNICK



Paid for by Paul Hornick for Madera County District Attorney 2018 FPPC # 1401296



Garage Band

What do The Beatles, Google and old text books have in common? They all spent time in a garage. The Beatles and Google moved out and up in the world, but those old text books? Well, they might still be lurking in a corner of your garage. Even if you're able to squeeze in a car or two, now's a good time to purge and organize. Who knows? If you create enough space, your garage might birth the next American Idol or a billion-dollar company.

Schedule a couple days back to back, especially if there are unmarked boxes from three moves ago. This gives you a better chance of not giving up half-way through. Work with the goal of completing the purge process on day one and organizing on day two. Recruit some muscle and support to seal your success.

Day 1 – PURGE AND SORT

Set up. Pull out your trash and recycle cans. If you're likely to find a lot of unusable and unrecyclable items, consider renting an additional dumpster from your waste disposal company.

Label boxes for donate or sell. Schedule a pick-up for donations or plan your yard sale for the next weekend, so those items don't have a chance to incorporate themselves back into the garage.

Determine the categories of stuff you'll want to keep. For instance: yard care, tools, paint supplies, car care supplies, pet supplies, sports equipment, seasonal décor, camping gear, luggage, etc. Lay tarps or old sheets on the driveway for sorting onto. Tape signs on them so the categories are clearly defined.

Have one box for the random, "I have no idea what this is, but it looks like it might be important." After the project is complete, close and date the box for 6-12 months out. Toss or donate anything that wasn't pulled out and used by that date.

Also create a "take into the house" container. Keep in mind you'll have to find homes for everything that comes into the house, so be cautious about how much you add to that box. Things that should go into the house include photos, paint (keep just enough for touch-ups in a labeled jar), paper goods, and food.

Choose one side of the garage and begin the purge and sort process. This means picking up each item and sorting it into trash, recycle, donate, sell, or one of the save or relocate categories. The temptation will be to defer decisions by putting things to the side. DON'T DO IT! Make the hard choices. If

you must create a "think about it" box, give it an expiration date like the "no idea" box and donate or sell what's left at the appropriate time.

Make sure you have water, snacks and some energy-boosting tunes playing to keep you moving. Take breaks as needed so you don't bum out. When the sorting/purging is complete, clean the inside of the garage so you're ready for Day 2. Pull in your tarps/sheets for the night, keeping your labeled categories intact.

DAY 2 – ORGANIZE

If you want your garage to have a uniform look, consider purchasing bins before you begin. You can always return the ones you don't use. I like the Clear Stack 3-pack 45-quart bins from Costco. Their size and shape make them easy to handle. You'll likely need a few larger ones as well. If you're doing a good job purging and emptying a number of your own bins, you can use those for storing what you keep instead of buying new. Avoid using cardboard boxes. They don't protect their contents and are vulnerable to bugs and rodents.

Refer back to your designated categories when containerizing. For example, your "PAINT SUPPLIES" bin may store your paint brushes, rollers, masking tape, trays, tray liners, stirrers, drop cloths, etc.

Shelving is a must for easy access to bins. Closed cabinets keep things a bit cleaner, but open shelving works well too. Make sure you measure and assemble your shelves so that they accommodate your bin size. Place bins together on shelving according to their categories. Use the middle shelves for bins you use most. For rarely used items and seasonal storage, consider sturdy shelves that mount to the ceiling.

Not everything is best suited for bins. Create a home for tools in an organized tool box or on a peg board. You can designate what goes where by outlining each tool once it's hung. You can also use a magnetic strip to hang your frequently used screw drivers, pliers, measuring tape, etc.

Wall-mounted track-based systems are great for hanging everything from ladders, bikes and garden tools, to extension cords, fishing supplies and wheelbarrows. Attachments include shelves, baskets, hooks and specialty containers for sports equipment. The attachments can be easily changed to adjust to your family's needs.

Now that you've cleared space, map out designated parking for kids' bikes, wagons and scooters using colored duct tape on the floor. To ensure you park your cars correctly, hang a tennis ball from the ceiling. Place it so it touches the center of your windshield when you're in the right spot. Or if you'd rather, you can leave the cars out, and set up your drum set for band practice. Maybe you'll be the next Ringo!

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



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Say you saw it in the *Ranchos Independent*

SEMUCU speaks

By Jennifer Laughlin

SEMUCU's focus is on water conservation and building a sustainable future. As many of you know, water is an urgent issue in the region. Even after one of the wettest winters in early 2017, and the State of California lifting the Drought State of Emergency, Madera is still extremely vulnerable to shortages and the crisis still ensues. Even though the county relaxed water rules last year, don't let that relax your views on water availability. The long-term outlook is very worrisome. SEMUCU is trying to raise awareness but this is also, admittedly, a not-so-subtle effort to encourage you to

take advantage of the benefits SEMCU offers and join us.

I have just recently become involved with SEMCU and have been impressed by the dedication to the community and tremendous efforts toward water conservation. I had the pleasure of meeting many residents and locals at the Flatlander's Day Parade and Craft Fair on May 12. It was a fun day and SEMCU had two floats that hopefully sparked some interest. SEMCU also had a booth that saw a lot of activity. We appreciate the time many of you took to stop by, have a chat and learn a bit more.

As we shared with those who came to our booth, SEMCU has received several grants for the benefit of the community. The grants SEMCU is managing for you include free dry well installation for qualified properties; reimbursements for energy efficient appliances and water meters; and free low-flow equipment for showers and faucets. We have other grants in the pipeline and we will keep you updated.

Not only do we want to keep you updated but we want you all involved too. We want your ideas and we are interested in your concerns, and SEMCU wants to get these benefits to the community. To do so, we need the community. We ask qualified community members to help us manage the hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant money and we need eligible community members to take advantage of that money. Lastly, we just want to get to know you.

SEMUCU meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Madera Ranchos Pizza Factory at 37184 Ave.12 in the Madera Ranchos. Come a grab a slice on us and join in the conversations. All are welcome.

There are many ways to follow SEMCU. You may "friend" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/semcu.page, or like our public page at www.facebook.com/South-East-Madera-County-United-535841709813870. Check out our website at www.semcu.org as well. If you would like information on any of our programs or would like to join our email list, you may contact us at info@semcu.org or give us a call at 559-363-9095. We look forward to hearing from you.

The SEMCU area covers all of southeastern Madera County with boundaries on the north provided by Highway 145, on the south by the San Joaquin River, on the east by Highway 41, and on the west by the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway tracks where it intersects with Avenue 32 1/2. SEMCU is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity that seeks grant-funding for community projects. The "SEMUCU Foundation" makes donations to, and sponsors, activities in and for the community.

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The Bookshelf

Goodbye Flatlanders, Hello Reading

By Jerrica Edmundson

This month at the library we finally got to celebrate Flatlander's Day with everyone and commemorate it with our 28th Annual Craft Fair to accompany the Chamber's parade. This was my first year organizing this but I'm glad to say it was worth the effort when it all came together. Now that the big event has come and gone, we get to look straight ahead to our Summer Reading Program this year and do everything we can to give the local kids and teens something fun and educational to look forward to this summer, starting on June 21 with local author Steve Riley kicking it all off with us. Flyers with the whole summer lineup are available in the library, and

posts will be made to the Facebook page with more details.

Now that we've gotten the events out of the way, let's check what's on the librarian's shelf this month:

Jerrica's Shelf:
Timeline by Michael Crichton



This is a revisit for me of a classic that I love, and definitely changes the pace for my reading as it goes away from high fantasy, in a way. Michael Crichton is a fantastic suspense and action author, and this book is definitely true to form in that it mixes suspense, science fiction and real-world scenarios in a way to make it just believable enough to have fun imagining that it could really happen. This book revolves around a team of archaeologists and historians that stumble upon a shocking discovery at a dig site: a modern eyeglass lens that matches perfectly with one of their own pair of glasses and a handwritten message in modern English.

They are swept up into a scientific world where they have developed a way to travel back in time to investigate just how this anachronism could happen, while risking their lives of course. They end up finding their way back to medieval France and have to survive not only the trips there and back, but also the time there — and they are having issues fitting in just right.

All in all, this is an action-packed book that teeters on the line between science fiction and action in a way that I find to be exciting and fun to read.

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American Legion Hosts Army Ball

On June 14, the U.S. Army turns 243 years old and to celebrate, the Fresno American Legion Post #509 is having a dinner-dance open to all members of the United States military and the general public as well.



The dinner - dance is scheduled for Saturday, June 16 from 5 to 11 p.m. and will be held at the American Legion Hall at 3509 N. First St. in Fresno, just north of Shields Ave. Tickets are available for \$35 per couple or \$25 for singles and only 300 tickets will be available. Reservations have to be made by May 31. Call 559-224-0522 for more information about the food, prizes, music and no-host bar.

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Senior Report

When does Summer Begin? Seniors Know

By Margaret Tynan

Well, here we are approaching June and summer. I did a little reading to answer the question, "When does summer begin?" There are two different dates depending on which method one uses, meteorological or astrological. Meteorological summer begins on June 1 through August 31, but many people consider June 21, or the Summer Solstice, as the first day of summer. This year Summer Solstice begins in the Madera Ranchos on June 21 at 3:07 a.m. PDT. No matter which way you think of summer, be sure to include the activities at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center as you plan your June calendar.

On Saturday, June 2 the monthly Bake and Boutique and the Treasure House sale will be held from 8 a.m. to noon.

Join the 10 a.m. stretching and strength building exercise group that meets at the Center every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The



A crafts session at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center produces handkerchief dolls for "Operation Christmas Child" from the able hands of, from left, Helen Lowell, Eva McAtee, Bonnie Elia, Jo Chase and Sue Dobbs.

potluck and game evenings continue to be held every Thursday beginning at 6 p.m. through the summer. Bring your table service and a dish to share.

A fun afternoon event of Bunco will be held Saturday, June 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Center. An auction of great prizes will also be held at the event. Community members are invited but be sure to get your tickets early at the Center (37330 Berkshire Dr., phone 645-4864) as they are limited. Bring light finger snacks to share. We hope to see you there.

Do you have an art or craft you would like to learn or to show us how to do? We'd love to have you join us. Center and community members meet over coffee on various Tuesday and

Thursday mornings beginning at 9:15 a.m. to learn how to make very interesting and enjoyable projects. Past sessions include decorated sweatshirts, various paper crafts, loom hats and handkerchief dolls, to name a few. If you would like to host a project, there are time slots available on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. Give the Center a call for more information.

Deborah Konkle has hosted and participated in the arts and crafts group and is a returning member after some time away. Deborah's mother was one of the first members of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors in the 90s. She recalls driving her mother to meetings held at Fresno's Woodward Park in those

early days. She has lived in the Ranchos for over 30 years and has two children and seven grandchildren. Welcome back Deborah.

If you have ever thought about writing but just haven't gotten

around to it, then you are not alone. I'm one of those who wants to write but needs a group for encouragement. So, I am starting a peer-led writing group for the four Mondays in June (June 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.). Those who are interested will meet at the Center on Monday, June 4, at 3:30 p.m. to get started. Some materials and information on peer writing group structure will be provided. Bring a notebook and pen. This is an opportunity to write memories and stories from life to share with your family or maybe write that short story or start that novel that you have inside just waiting to be put to paper. Call or come into the Center to sign up. We hope you will join us.

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Questioning the Future

Hello 93636,

I was very glad to meet so many of you that came by my Flatlander's Day booth Saturday, May 12 and introduced yourselves. I very much enjoyed my time answering questions and demonstrating some of my industry's new school technology. It was especially fun explaining to the "Do It Yourselfers" crowd what the humps, bumps and wiggles of some automotive waveforms represent. I enjoyed watching their facial expressions change as they understood and the little grin that implied, "You're cheating; this is too easy." Thanks again 93636 for all your support.

Well, it's hard to believe three years passed so quickly. To the best of my recollection, this is the 37th article of the "In Good Hands with Warren Parr" automotive column. It's always been my intent to inform and educate readers about advancements in automotive technology so that you may make informed decisions with regard to the repair and maintenance of your vehicles. Normally, I like to be upbeat and share interesting things that happen in the shop during the normal day-to-day happenings. This article will depart from that tradition as I'm currently very concerned and disappointed about the health and future of my industry.

Seven years ago, my son resigned and left our company for employment with the California Department of Corrections. At that time, it was very difficult to find his replacement. After weeks of searching I settled on a young man with a strong aptitude and work ethic.

After seven years of investment in his education and training, he also became a top tier technician. Well, Fresno City College came a calling. He too resigned and left the business for opportunities in the public education industry.

I've been looking for his replacement for the past five weeks but I have not found a single applicant with the skill set I want. The closest I've found are technicians in the 50- to 60-year-old range who will all to soon be eligible for retirement and I'd have start the search process all over again. I'm looking for young talent to invest in and train who will help me elevate my company and my industry to the next level, but I can't find that individual.

Currently, the average age of an auto-

motive technician in the United States is 52 years of age. Young people are not entering the automotive repair industry in sufficient numbers to replace retirees. My industry is experiencing a significant shortage of qualified technicians.

I believe the problem is largely the consequence of the systematic elimination of vocational education opportunities from the public schools. The programs that remain are "old school" and outdated.

The automobile is by far the most complex and most sophisticated piece of technology that we interact with on a daily basis. The primary reason for that complexity is the implementation of increased fuel economy and air quality standards. By 2040, Europe will ban the sale of all fossil fuel vehicles. As my industry races rapidly toward the all-electric, self-driving vehicle, the nature of my industry will change. Last week I performed an all-systems module scan on an ordinary, average vehicle. I counted 33 modules reported. The modern vehicle is a series of computers and processors networked together bolted onto four wheels. From where will the talent come that will be needed to diagnosis and repair these systems?

Last month I too was recruited to teach an automotive emissions class at Fresno City College. As part of my due process, I decided to sit in and observe the class.

Part one of the lesson plan was very basic and simple. It was designed to teach the students how to successfully prepare and place a vehicle onto the dynamometer for a proper Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) emissions test. No concerns here; I perform this procedure many times every day.

Part two of the lesson plan concerned the chemistry, formation and diagnostic of the unwanted tailpipe emission, oxides of nitrogen (NOx). NOx is the component of tailpipe emissions that turns the air into brown smog. The instructor explained the relationship between air/fuel ratios and NOx formation. During the presentation he only briefly mentioned lambda. Where did he find this curriculum, in a time capsule?

This is what I learned 20 years ago. We've moved on. I've been exclusively using the lambda calculation process the past 10 years as the first line of defense when battling a NOx or any emission problem. It's as though the past 20 years of emissions research and advancements in science and technology never happened.

At the break I asked the instructor from which edition he was teaching and when it was last revised. I was unprepared for his answer: The curriculum was de-

veloped by the California Bureau of Automotive Repair and is the most current edition. All students are required to take and pass the course in order to obtain a California Smog In-

spector License. OH MY GOSH!
Why is air/fuel ratio still being taught? It's

Please see **HANDS** on P. 17

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HANDS cont. from P. 16

very ambiguous, complicated and doesn't provide a process to calculate the ACTUAL air/fuel ratio. Lambda is much easier and much more accurate. The curriculum being taught in California's public community colleges is outdated and just plain misleading. These students will need to be retrained when, and if, they actually pass the test to become a licensed California emissions diagnostic and repair technician. I cannot in good conscience teach this curriculum. I told the instructor I would reconsider if the curriculum is revised and updated. I'm still waiting for the call.

Last year I received an email from a well-known national automotive industry co-operation. I had been nominated by one of my instructors for a position on a newly formed national automotive advisory committee. Our charge was to evaluate the company's current and proposed course curriculum and provide input and direction concerning future instructional and training needs of our industry. Last October I flew to Denver for our first meeting. The common denominator with all 10 members was we were all heavily involved in our local public education system, strong supporters of Career Vocational Training and invested in new school automotive technology. WOW; a room of people just like me.

Committee members came from as far

east as Florida, as far north as Illinois and as far south as New Mexico. I was the only member from west of the Rocky Mountains. At some point it was revealed that the co-operation was in the process of creating a magnet charter school in Colorado. The school is modeled after the European model and will bypass the regular public school system. The school will be a fully accredited, six-year school (grades 8-14) in which students have the opportunity to graduate with an accredited automotive degree. If successful, the co-operation would in effect franchise the model throughout the United States.

We were asked to consult on the curriculum and program designed to successfully transition introductory level students into qualified and employable automotive technicians in six years. I fully support the co-operation's vision, investment, tenacity and courage. If the public school system will not do it, someone from our industry needs to.

All right guys, that's all for today. As always, looking for interesting and informative automotive topics to write about. If you have any suggestions, recommendations or any general or specific questions about the automotive industry or a vehicle, please contact me at complete_car_care@hotmail.com or text me at 907-7661.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636

Warren Parr

ANSWERS

7	2	8	3	4	5	9	1	6
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ARABS REBELLED AGAINST THE CALIPH

THE CALIPH WAS A TURK

HE WAS CALLED HARUN AL RAASHID

HE RULED FROM 786 TO 809

HE WAS A GREAT LEADER

HE WAS A GREAT SOLDIER

HE WAS A GREAT STATESMAN

HE WAS A GREAT POET

HE WAS A GREAT MUSICIAN

HE WAS A GREAT DANCER

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HE WAS A GREAT ENGINEER

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HE WAS A GREAT JOURNALIST

HE WAS A GREAT CRITIC

HE WAS A GREAT ARTIST

HE WAS A GREAT WRITER

HE WAS A GREAT THINKER

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LETTERS cont. from P. 4

is definitely the candidate to make this the best District Attorney's Office. As for Sally Orme Moreno, she lives in Madera but chooses to work in Fresno. She worked in the Madera District Attorney's Office once upon a time but chose to leave when it got tough. Is she running because she will personally get something out of being the District Attorney or is she running because she really wants to help Madera County? We need someone that is behind Madera County 100 percent and will stay through thick and thin. Please do your research and vote.

Becky Gribble
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

I would like to say a word in favor of Paul Hornick, Candidate for Madera County District Attorney. Paul personally came to our door. He was very polite, explained his position on politics and his plan of action for the County of Madera. He left us with a positive feeling that there is a better way of handling crime, prosecuting cases that matter and seeing the District Attorney's Office work as a collective team under his leadership.

We were also visited by the other candidate, Sally Moreno, whom did not present a clear plan of action as Paul Hornick had presented. Paul

both continuous and standard rain gutters. General Contractor. Repair Maintenance. 12 years working in the area. ****NEW PHONE NUMBER: 559-908-0759****

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Hornick has been endorsed by his peers: the Madera Police Officer's Association and the Madera County Prosecutor's Association. This is an important aspect to consider when voting for the next District Attorney for Madera County. Knowing that under Paul Hornick's leadership, the associations that work directly with the District Attorney's Office to fight crime will work well together, as a team to prosecute offenders.

We decided our vote was going to Paul Hornick back in April. He is the kind of person we need who will make us proud to say that we live in Madera!

Sincerely,

Debbie Wyant
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

Since moving to Madera County 2 years ago, we learned how outdated law enforcement -- particularly in the DA's office is. After attending the Town Halls and speaking with each candidate, we are very pleased to support Paul Hornick for the District Attorney for Madera County. Madera County needs a fresh start, Mr. Hornick is the best candidate to lead with alternate fresh solutions with integrity that will provide better results for today's issues.

Todd & Debbie Jackson
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ing. Call John at 908-1066.

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	-		x		12
x		x		+	
	+		x		20
-		+		+	
	+		x		17
11		14		6	

1 1 2 3 4 5 6 8 9

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top ten

World's Most-Common Surnames

1. Lee (or Li)
2. Zhang
3. Wang
4. Chang
5. Nguyen
6. Garcia
7. Gonzalez
8. Hernandez
9. Smith
10. Smirnov

Source: Wikipedia

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5/18



It's That Time Again
Primary Election June 5

By Betty Van Valkenburg

So, you're sitting at your kitchen table with your voting packet in one hand and mail-in ballot in the other, wondering how to make sense of them. Is it that time again?

Some voting recommendations may be of help. While studying candidates and propositions, I checked the voting guides of some conservative organizations looking for consensus. A few recommendations based on my research are listed below and offered with the expectation that you will of course use your own good judgement.

In that vein, I recommend two excellent resource sites:

1. On VoteSmart.org, you can search any elected official's name to find his or her voting record, biography and funding sources, plus very helpful ratings from many organizations devoted to special interests such as taxes and spending, defense, abortion, gun rights and more. Or you can merely enter your zip code to

find every federal, state, county and city elected official who represents you. Just before elections, as now, candidates for each position are listed as well.

2. Ballotpedia.com bills itself as a non-partisan online political encyclopedia covering federal, state, and local politics, elections, and public policy; and it is a wealth of information.

Election Integrity Project

Most importantly, let me recommend the Election Integrity Project California (EIPCa) which is dedicated to assuring that every legally cast vote is properly counted and reported. EIPCa representatives assist citizen groups as well as political and business organizations on a non-partisan basis in their efforts to assure integrity in the voting process.

EIPCa educates volunteers and trains them to be capable, non-partisan and non-intrusive observers of the election-day voting process; and it has become a leader in uncovering and combatting election fraud and abuse. I've had the privilege to observe several elections at various precinct locations, and it's been eye opening. Please check out their information-packed website at ElectionIntegrityProject.com and consider signing up to become a trained poll observer - if not for June 5th, then for the November general election.

What I've learned through research and observation is that California's election process stinks!

First and foremost, there really is no pos-

sitive identification required for registration and voting. None, nada, zilch! The voter registration form does not require a Social Security or driver's license number, and the address can be a description such as "the corner of Fifth and Main." After registering, a first-time voter "may" be asked to show proof of identification "or" residency, such as a PG&E bill with a name on it. That's it, folks.

Protect Your Vote

Vote-by-mail ballots are not secret. Your name and address are on the return envelope.

Vote in person, not by mail. You can surrender your vote-by-mail ballot, in its envelope, to precinct workers on election day. They are to nullify your vote-by-mail ballot and give you a regular ballot which you can then mark in the privacy of a booth and drop in the box. If they don't know this procedure, have them check with the county elections office.

Vote at your precinct as early in the day as possible. Remember, there is no voter identification required. Any imposter can walk in, announce your name and address, "sign" your name, get a ballot, and vote. Imposters wait until late in the day to be sure you have not already voted, which they can learn by the convenient list of that precinct's registered voters' names and addresses required to be posted outside the entry and updated hourly to indicate who has already voted. Sweet!

Go to the correct voting location shown on your voter packet. Otherwise you will be

given a provisional ballot.

Do not use a provisional ballot unless all else fails. Both vote-by-mail and provisional ballots go through "extensive processing procedures" (too many hands and subjective interpretations). Signatures must be verified, although very loosely, and it can take weeks before they are counted. (EIP trains observers of this process as well.)

A few voting recommendations based on the voting guides consulted:

Governor: Travis Allen or John Cox. Allen squeaked by just ahead of Cox in the sites I checked, but I would break the near-tie in Allen's favor because he has a tangible conservative California Assembly voting record; his Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association rating is 100 percent; conservative groups on VoteSmart rate him from 93 to 100 percent; and he is endorsed by Assemblyman Jim Patterson and Congressman Tom McClintock whose opinions I respect.

Lt. Governor: David Hernandez. Secretary of State: Mark Meuser. Controller: Konstantinos Roditis. Treasurer: Jack Guerrero. Attorney General: Steven Bailey. Insurance Commissioner: Steve Poizner.

Prop. 68, No. Prop. 69, No. Prop 70, Toss-up. Prop. 71, Yes. Prop. 72, Yes.

Visit the [Central Valley Tea Party website](http://www.centralvalleyteaparty.com) at www.centralvalleyteaparty.com for more information.

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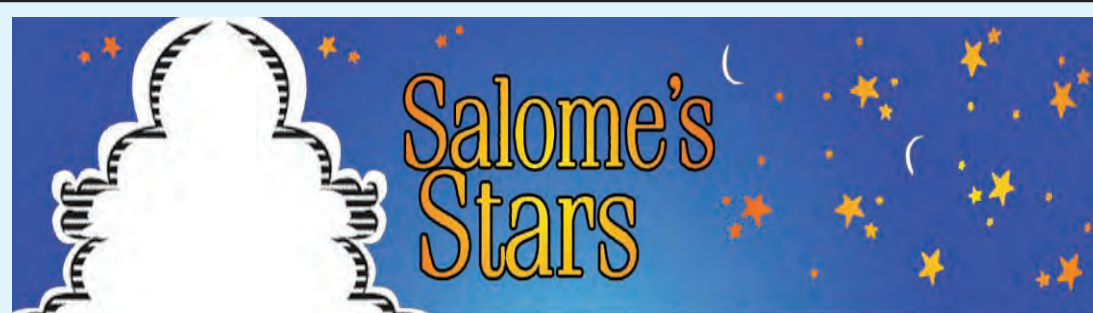
645-4001
 2nd Wed. of the month • 6:30 p.m.
 37167 Ave. 12 #5C, Madera Ranchos

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Lots of possibilities begin to open up by midweek. Some seem more appealing than others. But wait for more facts to emerge later on before you consider which to choose.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bravo to the determined Bovine. While others might give up, you continue to search for answers. Expect your Taurean tenacity to begin paying off by week's end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might want to consider stepping back from the task at hand for a while. This could help you get a better perspective on what you've done and what still needs to be done.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your keen Cancerian insight should help you determine whether a new offer is solid or just more fluff 'n' stuff. The clues are all there waiting for you to find them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Being ignored is difficult for any proud Leo or Leona. But pushing yourself back into the spotlight might be unwise. Instead, let things work themselves out at their own pace.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Trying to uncover a colleague's secret under the pretext of showing concern is ill-advised. Control your curiosity to avoid raising resentment in the workplace.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Expect to hear good news about a loved one. Also, be prepared for some changes in several family relationships that could develop from this lucky turn of events.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some surprises are expected to accompany a number of changes that will continue through part of next week. At least one could involve a romantic situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You might be upset by some of your critics. But most of your associates continue to have faith in your ability to get the job done, and done well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A workplace goal that suddenly seems out of reach is no problem for the sure-footed Goat, who moves steadily forward despite any obstacles placed in his or her way.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Uncertainty about who is right and who isn't might keep you from making a clear-cut decision. Wait until you know more about what you're being asked to decide.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be careful to keep your emotions in check when dealing with a demanding personal situation. You need to set an example of strength for others to follow.

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GRIN and BEAR IT Wagner

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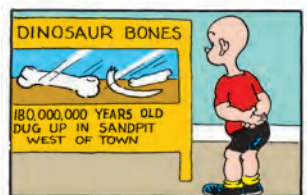
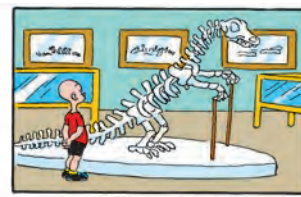
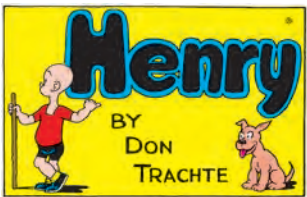
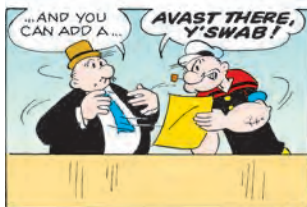
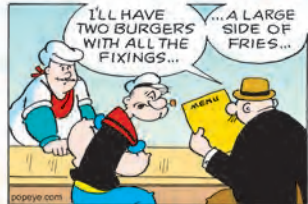
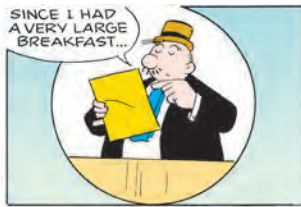
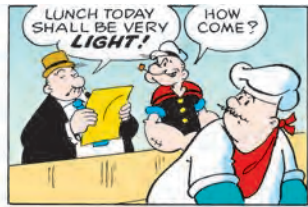
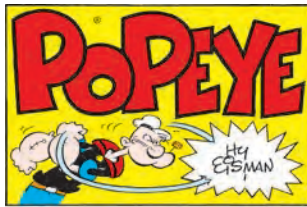
"You've been having that good dream again, haven't you?"

Born this Week

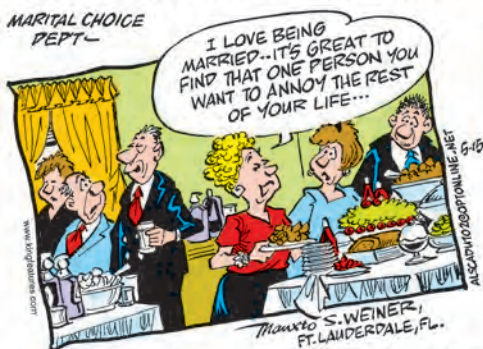
You have an extraordinary ability to rally people to do their best. You would be a treasure as a teacher.

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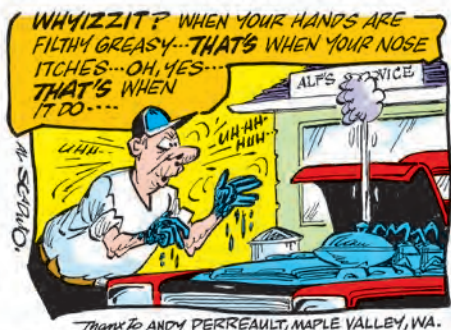
FUN PAGES



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



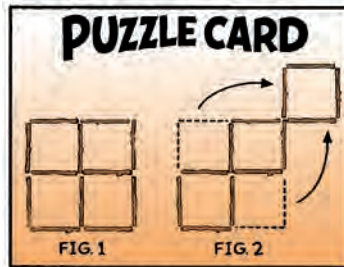
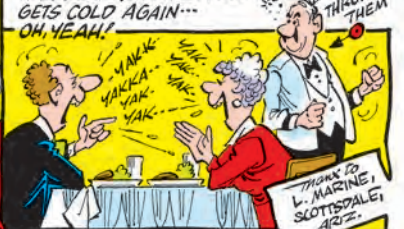
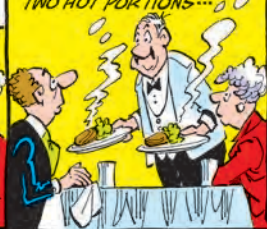
BY AL SCADUTO



ASK ANY WAITER-- THE DINER'S VOICE A COMPLAINT.

SO THE WAITER BRINGS TWO HOT PORTIONS...

AND WHATTA THEY DO? THEY KEEP YAKKING--FOOD GETS COLD AGAIN... OH, YEAH!



LAY OUT 12 STICKS, as shown in figure 1, and challenge your friends to move four of them to new positions so that three equal squares will be formed. Figure 2 gives our solution.

EIGHT DOWN AND TWO TO GO! See if you can figure out what the next two letters are in this series of letters.

A E F H I K L M _ _ ?

Answer: The above eight letters are in an alphabetic order and they are all made using straight lines. Therefore, the next two letters should be "N" and "T".

IT TAKES A "PUZZLE ARTIST" TO SOLVE THIS ONE! At right is a word square. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same both across and down.

- Picture support (given).
- Ancient Greek marketplace.
- Individual performances.
- To wear down.
- Sci-fi weapon.

Answers: 1. Easel; 2. Agora; 3. Solos; 4. Erode; 5. Laser.



Illustrated by David Coulson



SEE IF YOU CAN "RISE" TO SOLVE THIS ONE!



**BAKE
BALE
BALL
BOLL
ROLL**

In this type of puzzle you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. In our example, we changed BAKE to ROLL in four moves. See if you can change the following five words in four moves.

- JUNK to PILE
- PASS to BUCK
- MOAT to WALL
- COLD to FEET
- RANK to FILE



Illustrated by David Coulson

Wishing Well®

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

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MAGIC MAZE ● AROUND THE —

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

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

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|--------------|-------|
| Bend | Horn | Moon | Town |
| Circle | House | Neighborhood | Track |
| Clock | League | Table | World |
| Corner | Maypole | Time | |

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- INVENTION: When was the nylon-bristle toothbrush invented?
- HISTORY: By what other name was the French military leader Joan of Arc known?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What color is the famous Hope Diamond?
- U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Kansas?
- TELEVISION: What was the theme song to the 1970s cop show "Baretta"?
- BIBLE: Who are the only two angels to be directly named in the Bible?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the name of the main mountain range where Mount Everest is located?
- MEDICAL: What area of the body is affected by bursitis?
- LANGUAGE: What is an elision?
- ENTERTAINERS: For what crime was actress Sophia Loren jailed in 1982?

Answers

1. 1938, by Dupont
2. The Maid of Orleans
3. Blue
4. Topoka
5. "Keep Your Eye on the Sparrow"
6. Michael and Gabriel
7. The Himalayas
8. The joints
9. Omission of a sound or syllable
10. Tax evasion

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Click on "Local News" at

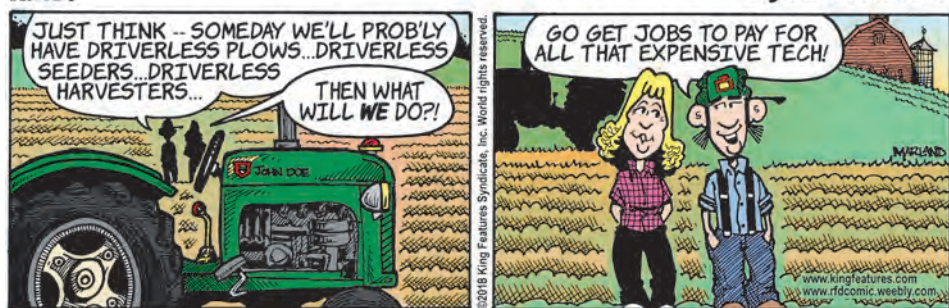
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

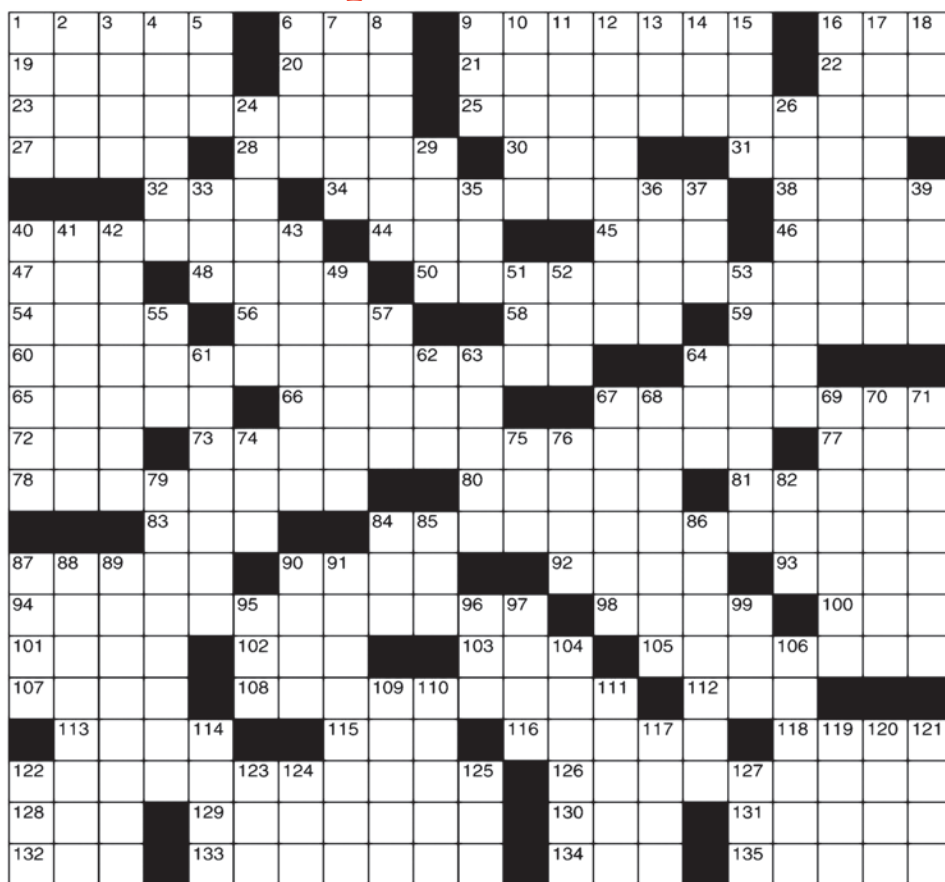
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Window is higher. 2. Sign is different. 3. Sign is different. 4. Neckline is different. 5. Headset is missing. 6. Glove is different. 7. Lawn light is missing.

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Super Crossword



- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | 54 Pop singer Lovato | 98 Guitar great Lofgren | 135 See 134-Across | 41 Notion about motion | 88 Person with a pet pooch |
| 1 Iraqis, e.g. | 6 Yank's Civil War foe | 56 Journalist Paula | 100 "Botch-—" (1952 hit song) | 42 Charges | 89 No longer fazed by |
| 9 "View of Toledo" artist | 58 Dimwit | 59 Lock plates no. | 101 "What —!" ("He's the best!") | 43 Enticed | 90 Editor's mark |
| 16 Road sign | 60 Cold, cloudy conditions, say | 64 See 77-Across | 102 Balkan repub. | 49 Aussie miss | 91 Pin-on worn by staffers |
| 19 — Haute, Indiana | 66 Spock player | 67 Has a printed price of | 103 Shag, e.g. | 51 Post-WWII prez | 95 Not refined |
| 20 Fruit eater in Genesis | 72 Secretive U.S. org. | 73 "Since the subject has come up ..." | 104 Get flushed | 52 Fish-fowl link | 96 East ender? |
| 21 "Naked" rodent | 77 With 64-Across, of equal status | 78 Olympic skater Witt | 105 Musical of 1980 | 53 "Yes, it's also included" | 97 Repents of |
| 22 Byronic "before" | 80 Packaging abbr. | 81 Ugly beasts | 106 Second draft | 54 "— so sure!" | 98 — Lankan |
| 23 A second time | 83 Puppy's bite | 84 "Seems suspect to me" | 107 Actor Michael of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" | 55 Put a label on | 104 Not stay dry |
| 25 When you get there | 87 Dimwit | 90 Singer with the 2001 hit "Thank You" | 108 Cowardly | 56 Kiwi relative | 106 Queasiness |
| 27 Flat-topped rise | 92 Kemo — (the Lone Ranger) | 93 Or Diamond | 109 Day, in Peru | 57 Best Musical of 1980 | 109 Norway's currency unit |
| 28 Choose to participate | 94 What jailbirds are behind | 99 Color akin to navy | 110 Shed tears | 58 Gentle | 110 Wails in lamentation |
| 30 Nosh, say | 99 Singing with the 2001 hit "Thank You" | 100 Least lax | 111 Arsenal | 59 Kiwi relative | 111 Performers, in the Bible |
| 31 Like a desert | 100 Least lax | 101 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 112 Take apart | 60 Trotted | 114 Virgil, e.g. |
| 32 "Sister Wives" airtel | 101 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 102 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 113 "Such is life" | 61 Twilight, old-style | 117 Indy 500, e.g. |
| 34 Lots of | 103 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 104 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 114 One may seek respite | 62 1995 Leslie Nielsen comedy | 119 Tube fan's punishment |
| 38 Greater than | 105 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 106 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 115 Family cat, e.g. | 63 "Laughing" mammal | 120 Desert hill |
| 40 President Nixon | 107 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 108 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 116 Stephen, French-style | 64 Greek letter | 121 "The Good Earth" wife |
| 44 Snatch | 109 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 110 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 117 Huge name in insurance | 65 Guy keeping the peace | 122 87-Down user's buy |
| 45 RV hookup gp. | 111 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 112 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 118 Voting "yes" | 66 Smidgen | 123 Suffix with Seattle |
| 46 Zilch | 113 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 114 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 119 Least lax | 67 Refrain | 124 Pewter part |
| 47 Love of Lennon | 115 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 116 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 120 Family cat, e.g. | 68 Exchanged for the better? | 125 In place |
| 48 What jailbirds are behind | 117 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 118 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 121 Stephen, French-style | 69 Slipped sort | 127 Lt. Tasha on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" |
| 50 Color akin to navy | 119 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 120 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 122 Flip out | 70 Formerly better? | |
| | 121 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 122 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 123 Jail cell parts | 71 Grappled, in dialect | |
| | 123 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 124 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 124 Linguist Chomsky | 72 In the know | |
| | 125 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 126 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 125 Testing spot | 73 Amp (up) | |
| | 127 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 128 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 126 Osaka sash | 74 Summers, in French | |
| | 129 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 130 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 127 Off-limits | 75 Fired thing | |
| | 131 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 132 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 128 Slangy "OK" | 76 Altar words | |
| | 133 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 134 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 129 Actress Charlotte and others | 77 Carpooling lane abbr. | |
| | 135 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 136 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 130 Tennis champ Andy | 78 Misleading sort | |
| | 137 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 138 With 135-Across, poem whose first line is found among this puzzle's 11 longest answers | 131 Apple debut of 2010 | 79 Apples | |

FUN PAGES



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