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Volume 16 Issue 5 2020

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

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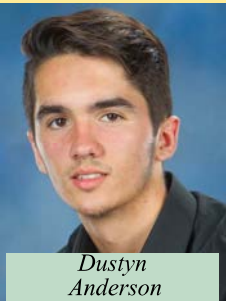
In This Issue

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

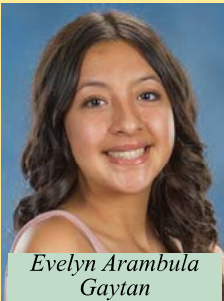
**CONGRATULATIONS
LIBERTY HIGH
class of**

2020

CONT. ON P. 4



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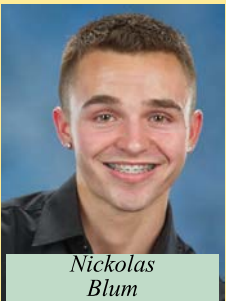
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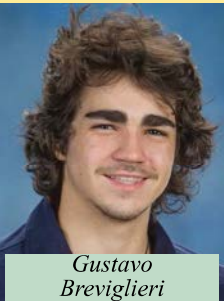
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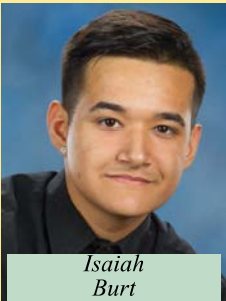
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*Gustavo
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Burt*



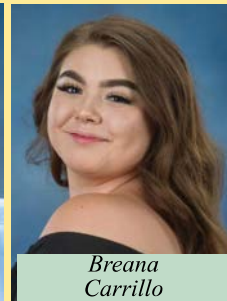
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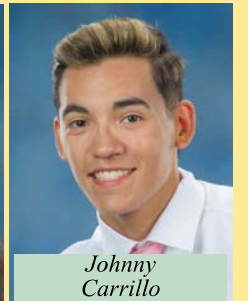
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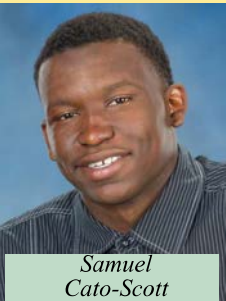
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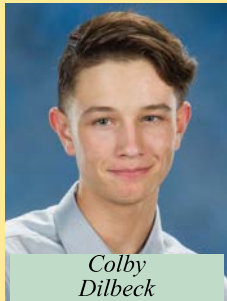
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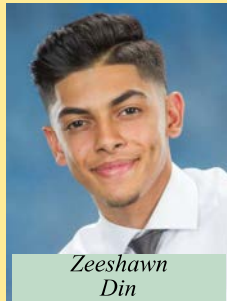
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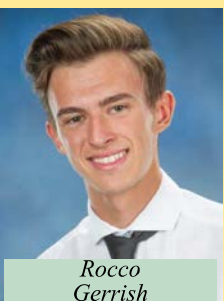
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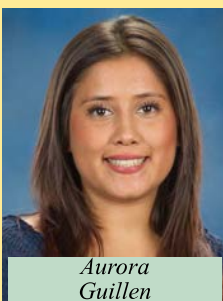
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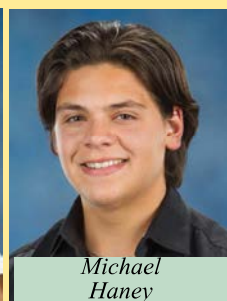
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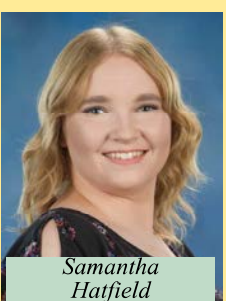
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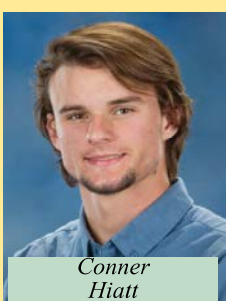
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*Samantha
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*Kadee
Hiatt*



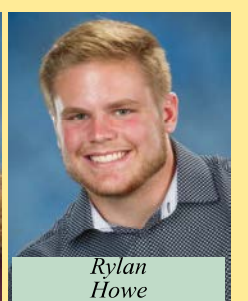
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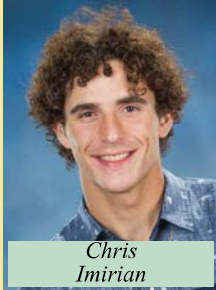
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CONT. ON P. 12



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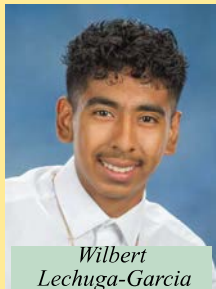
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Jones



Gursirat
Kaur



Jacob
Kuder



Wilbert
Lechuga-Garcia



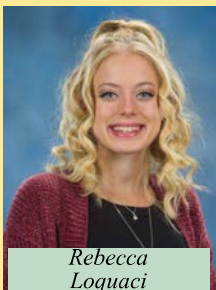
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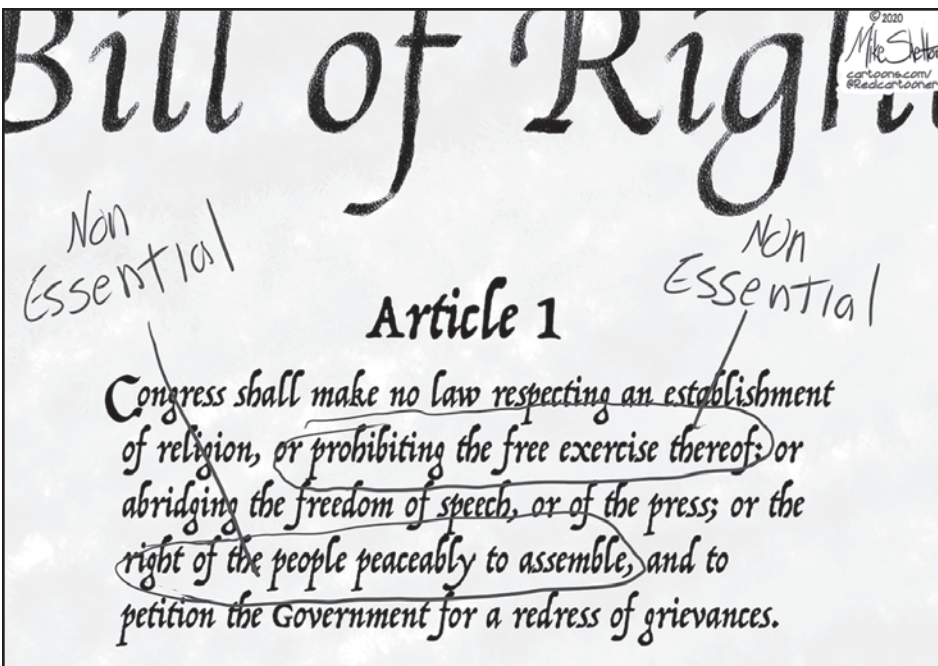
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Guest Editorial

We Need to Make Our Own Drugs

By Rich Lowry

A country learns about itself in a crisis, and one revelation in the coronavirus emergency is that we can't make our own penicillin.

The first patient successfully treated with the antibiotic was a woman suffering from sepsis in a Connecticut hospital in 1942. Her treatment took up half the country's supply. Yet in short order we figured out how to mass produce the medicine, saving the lives of countless soldiers in World War II. Once, factories throughout the country made the stuff.

The last U.S. plant to make penicillin, a Bristol-Myers Squibb operation in Syracuse, New York, shuttered in 2004.

What happened? According to Rosemary Gibson of The Hastings Center and author of the book *China Rx*, "Industry data reveal that Chinese companies formed a cartel, colluded to sell product on the global market at below market price, and drove all U.S., European and Indian producers out of business."

Just like that -- it's not so easy to simply start up a penicillin fermenter -- we were out of the penicillin-production business.

The story of penicillin is the tale of U.S. dependence on China-sourced pharmaceuticals and active drug ingredients writ large.

From 2010 to 2018, U.S. imports of pharmaceuticals from China increased 75 percent. Our dependence is even greater, given that China is the source of the active ingredients of many drugs produced elsewhere.

China is a dominant force when it comes to generic drugs in particular, which account for the vast majority of medicines that Americans take. We rely on China for 90 percent of our antibiotics, and for drugs for everything from HIV/AIDS to cancer to antidepressants.

China is fully aware of its leverage. It notoriously threatened via its state-run media to cut off our supply of drugs (except fentanyl, of course) and plunge the U.S. into "the mighty sea of coronavirus."

Even if China weren't a malign global competitor (it is), a remorseless dictatorship (it is) or a dishonest kleptocracy (it is), there would be risk inherent in having so many of our medications and their components coming from one country. We become vulnerable to any disruption of Chinese production, whether from disease, political unrest or war.

Beijing is a particularly nasty actor, but the coronavirus has demonstrated that even friendly nations will keep medical supplies from one other if it is in their self-interest to do so.

It is only prudent, then, that the U.S. begin a national effort to produce more of its own medicines.

Unspooling entrenched supply chains won't be simple. The U.S. should create every incentive for drug companies to at least move out of China into other foreign countries, and ideally come back here (economic incentives clearly matter -- when drug companies lost tax preferences to manufacture in Puerto Rico, many of them left for China). Eventually, federally funded health systems, including Medicare, Medicaid and Veterans Affairs, should buy only American-sourced pharmaceuticals.

Prescient commentators have been warning of our growing dependence on China for medicines for years. After this, there's no excuse for not fixing it.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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



I think if anything is going to make me give up Facebook forever it's going to be this pandemic. I can't take it anymore. I am at the absolute tail end of my wit and I don't know how I am going to survive without it. I'm pretty sure it's the only thing I've got going for me.

Not only is my feed chockablock full of nothing but conflicting memes and messages, but too often the contradictions are coming from the same people. I'm not sure how a respiratory virus has simultaneously called for the hoarding of toilet paper and negatively impacted people's brain cells, but it would appear we underestimated the extent of corona's effects. One day someone will post a message advocating for the necessity of wearing a mask in public in order to protect others then the very next day he or she will espouse the idea that we must all rise up and burn all the masks in order to fight a tyrannical government. I support everyone's right to have an opinion, hopefully an informed one, but pick a lane or get off the road so the rest of us with all of our cognitive faculties in place can pass.

I'm not sure how a respiratory virus has simultaneously called for the hoarding of toilet paper and negatively impacted people's brain cells, but it would appear we underestimated the extent of corona's effects.

But that's not what is making me pull the plug on my social media accounts. No, it's the arguments used against those of us who think this lockdown has gone on far too long and there are other dynamics at stake. Someone posts support for the idea that it's time to open the economy and here come the lefty snowflakes to ensure no one is thinking for themselves or deviating from the approved message. They don't present you with reasoned argument as to why the potential, and some would contend minimal, threat of death by COVID far outweighs the need for businesses to reopen, however. They just call you callous and uncaring. Don't you dare express an opinion contrary to how necessary and compassionate this lockdown is, because apparently that means you have zero regard for your fellow humans and wish them poor health and

ugly children.

But should we be shocked? This is the same fear mongering tactic lefties always use when they don't have a real argument. They can't participate in logical discourse, so they make wild accusations. You want to end illegal immigration and secure our borders? Clearly that means that you are xenophobic and harbor a special disdain for Hispanics. You are pro-life? Well obviously you are filled with unbridled hostility toward women in general and do

not want them to receive any kind of healthcare. You don't wholeheartedly support this lockdown? You must have no compassion for human life and want all the grandmas and grandpas to die alone in a hospital. Have you no heart? There's no room for informed debate, it's come down to "disagree with us and we destroy you with whichever label will stick and cause the most damage."

It would appear that we are not allowed to worry about the long-term effects this will have on the economy. Lives matter, but evidently not livelihoods. People are losing their jobs, their businesses, their futures, but somehow that's not supposed to factor into the equation.

Here are some interesting stats: According to the CDC (you can look these up at CDC.org), every year in the U.S. there are over 36,000 deaths from unintentional falls, over 40,000 deaths due to motor vehicle accidents, almost 65,000 unintentional

Please see **GENWHY** on P. 7

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GENWHY cont. from P. 6

poisoning deaths and almost 170,000 unintentional injury deaths. Governors haven't shut down construction sites, car manufacturers, companies that make household cleaners or outlawed showering or using a kitchen knife in the name of preserving the human race. The CDC website also tells us that in the 2016-2017 flu season between 28,000 and 61,000 people died of the flu. The 2017-2018 season saw 46,000 to 95,000 thousand deaths. All of this with an approved vaccine available. Yet, the government doesn't shut our country down every flu season.

I thought this whole stay at home thing was supposed to be about flattening the curve to make sure hospitals were prepared and acquired the supplies and equipment needed to handle the influx of patients. Well, as of Wednesday, May 20, 2020 the U.S. has suffered 93,622 deaths from COVID-19. Of the 1.58 million confirmed cases, that's about a .06 percent fatality rate. Is the curve not flat enough yet?

Risk is a part of life and so is

death. We put our lives on the line in a million tiny ways, but we do it because the alternative is to lock ourselves away and avoid the world and everyone in it. I don't know about you, but I've been doing that the last two months and I am done. Most of us have lost loved ones to disease, accidents, even foul play. The thought that someone I love might die, or even that I might die, is not enough for me to watch my rights get taken away. In the name of letting people go back to work, go back to school or reopen their businesses I am willing to take that risk, and so are millions of others.

You want to stay home? Then do that. You want to wear a mask? Then do that. You want to avoid your friends and your family because you don't want to subject them to your germs? Then do that. This lockdown might just be saving lives from COVID-19, but it is destroying lives in other ways and that has to be a part of the conversation. After all, this isn't just about life and death because there are scarier things in this world than death and life is about more than just whether or not you can breathe.

Last 4H Meeting and New Officers

By Wyatt Morgan

On May 12, 2020 the Sierra Shadows 4H Club held its last meeting of the year using technology to conduct a live Zoom session via the computer. At the meeting, Delaney Rocca presented her gold medal-winning presentation entitled "Delaney's Decorative Designs."

In addition, the club also elected 11 new officers to add to the four returning officers for next year. These officer hopefuls all presented speeches to the Sierra Shadows explaining why each wanted to serve.

At the end of the evening, the officers selected for next year were: President-Sierra Gonzales; Vice President-Emily Waldren; Secretary for a second term-Lily Kier; Treasurer

4H Happenings
4H Happenings
4H Happenings
4H Happenings
4H Happenings



Sierra Shadows 4H Club
By Regan Fringer

for a second term-Taylor Cardoza; Reporters for a second term-Corinna Martinez and Wyatt Morgan; Attendance Secretary-Griffin Williams-Smith; Hostess-Sienna Garcia and Hailey Martinez; Sergeant at Arms-Hunter Williams-Smith and Aubrey Rocca; Historian-Kate Hauschel and Colie Tichel; Healthy Living Officer-Christy Kaneko and Sarah Morgan.

We congratulate all of our new officers and hope they have a good rest of the year. We hope they have an amazing time serving our club and community.

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

Lemon Benefits

(May 2010)

Editor's Note: With the passing of Aunt Jean, I have decided to bring you a "Best Of" of her recipes over the past 10 years. Good recipes are timeless and I hope you enjoy them all over again.



dies are best. I can remember as a kid we had to wash the windows in the house (and there were lots of windows in the house in San Francisco) and we used hot water and vinegar – no Windex for my mom – and we dried the windows with crumpled up newspapers. And I still swear by baking soda and vinegar to clear a slow flowing drain, especially in the bathroom wash basin or the shower drain.

I LOVE Lemons

As I've told you in previous articles, I love just about anything made with lemons, especially

lemon meringue pie. There are a lot of other excellent ways to use lemons in cooking, especially desserts. In going through my mom's recipe cards

there are a couple of lemon recipes that I remember. Lemon Cake Pudding (when finished baking, it is a cake on top with lemon pudding on the bottom) and Lemon Bars.

Lemon Pudding Cake

Preheat oven at 350

- ½ C Sugar
- ⅓ C Flour
- ⅛ tsp Salt
- 3 T Butter
- ½ C Sugar
- 3 Eggs – separated
- 3 T Lemon Juice
- ½ tsp Grated Lemon Rind
- 1 C Milk

Sift together first three ingredients (use waxed paper and save washing another bowl). Cream together in large bowl butter and sugar then add egg yolks. Add the dry ingredients alternately with the milk, begin and end with dry ingredients, beating well after each addition. Beat the egg whites until stiff, but not dry.

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

As I've told you in previous articles, I love just about anything made with lemons, especially lemon meringue pie.

Not long ago we were sitting around the dining room table talking, and the subject of stale or bad room air came up. Think we were talking about men smoking at a poker game – not sure except I know we weren't talking about the room we were in. Anyway, my niece said she had read that if you put a shallow bowl of lemon juice in the room it would freshen the air. I had never heard that so I thought I'd look it up. And you know what? Lucy you are correct.

I not only found out about the clear air, but I also found out a lot I didn't know about the benefits of lemons. According to this article *The Health Benefits of Lemons*, there are lots of reasons to take lemon juice. The article went on to say that it is effective in curing many digestion disorders of the lower intestines. Lemon juice is even known to relieve hiccups. I read that the Romans used it as their cure for all types of poison. I read in another article to use lemon juice to get rid of dandruff and to remove fruit or berry stains from your hands, rinse hands with lemon juice. To clean your microwave, add four tablespoons of lemon juice to one cup of water in a four-cup microwave bowl. Boil in microwave for five minutes, allowing the steam to condense on the walls, then wipe clean. Wow! And I've been scrubbing all this time. There was even a way to brighten and strengthen your fingernails with lemon juice. I guess this just proves that the old home reme-

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RECIPE cont. from P. 8

Fold into batter. Pour into greased 1½ Qt. baking dish. Place in larger deep baking pan on oven rack. Before closing oven door, pour boiling water in lower pan to within ½ inch of top of baking dish. Bake for about 40 minutes, or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from pan of hot water at once. Best served warm.

Lemon Bars

- Preheat oven at 350
- 1 C Margarine
- 2 C Flour
- ½ C Powdered Sugar
- 2 C Granulated Sugar
- 4 T Flour
- 1 tsp Baking Powder
- 4 Eggs – beaten

6 T Lemon Juice
Blend together margarine with 2 C flour and powdered sugar. Pat in bottom of 9x13 pan. Bake 15 minutes.

Sift sugar, flour and baking powder together. Add eggs and lemon juice, blending well. Spread this mixture over the baked crust.

Bake for 25 minutes. Cool, cut into squares and dust with powdered sugar.

Lemon Coconut Bars

- Preheat oven at 350
- ¾ C Sifted Flour
- ⅓ C Chilled Butter
- 2 Eggs, beaten
- 1 tsp Grated Lemon Peel
- ½ t Vanilla
- 1 C Brown Sugar – firmly packed

¾ C Flaked Coconut
½ C Pecans, coarsely chopped
Cut butter into flour until thoroughly blended. Press into bottom of 13x9 baking pan and bake for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, beat eggs, lemon peel, vanilla and brown sugar together until creamy. Stir in coconut and pecans. Spread evenly over baked layer in pan. Return to oven and bake for 20 minutes. As soon as you take pan from the oven, spread on the lemon glaze. Cool in pan and cut into squares.

Glaze

- ¾ C Sifted Powdered Sugar
- 2 T Lemon Juice
- Blend together ¾ C sifted powdered sugar and 2 T lemon juice.
- I don't have a lemon tree and I

don't like to buy too many lemons at a time unless I need them for a special recipe I'm making, but I do like to have lemon juice on hand so I purchased one of the little yellow plastic "lemons" in the produce department. If you do have an abundance of lemons and don't use them all, I'm hoping you squeeze them and freeze the juice in the old fashioned ice cube trays and store in zip lock bags to use as you need it.

A Little Help, Please

Ladies and gentlemen, if you are reading this, I need your help. I am running out of ideas for this column – I really had to stretch to do this one. I have one more thing I want to write about and then that will be it. Call me and give me some ideas. Thanks!

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IN GOOD HANDS
with Warren Parr



Blocking an MBZ Repair

Hello 93636,

It's hard for me to believe but this article is my 60th "In Good Hands" article. In 2013 I was selected as a NAPA/ASE California Technician of the Year and soon after the Ranchos Independent editor, Randy Bailey, approached me about writing an automotive column. It wasn't something I was interested in doing so I turned the offer down. I'm not an English literature, writer, kind of guy. Several years later I reconsidered and accepted Randy's offer because I hoped the column would build awareness and generate support for an automotive vocational education program at Liberty High School. Writing a column is way outside my comfort zone and it's the hardest thing I do on a monthly basis. After five years, it's getting more difficult to find new automotive topics that may interest Independent readers.

Public School Career and Training Education has always been a passion of mine, so I regularly share our local progress. During the last two years, we've made considerable progress in Fresno and Tulare Counties and the Pico Club continually makes national industry automotive news. Google Warren Parr Pico Club to see.

Sometimes I write about unique situations that happen in the shop. This article is about a recent event.

Last month a new customer had her car towed into the shop with a transmission problem. She was driving to the coast when she made a quick stop in Kettleman City for a water break. When she restarted the car the "Check Engine" lamp was illuminated and the vehicle's transmission would not shift.

When I connected my scanner and performed an all-modules code scan, I retrieved several trouble codes from the engine and transmission electronic control modules. After some preparatory vehicle research, I performed a diagnostic that led me to a failed Electronic Pressure Control Solenoid inside the transmission. Today's valve bodies have many solenoids and they are not serviceable without replacing the entire valve body. In the past, we techs would access the valve body and replace the failed so-

lenoid only.

With this 500 S, the valve body and electronic control module (ECM) are located inside the transmission as an assembly. All I need is one simple solenoid and the only way to get one is to purchase the whole valve body ECM assembly. Then, I discovered the ECM was not available for purchase by me and the automotive aftermarket industry. I was blocked by Mercedes-Benz from making this simple repair on a 10-year-old 500 S without regard to the owner's wishes. In our local area, the only way to fix this Mercedes was to have it repaired at the Mercedes-Benz dealership.

When I told my customer Mercedes would not sell me the part, she was not happy. In addition to not having a choice of repair facilities – and after spending nearly \$500 for the Kettleman-Fresno tow – she was going to incur additional towing charges to get to the dealership.

LIMP-IN MODE: I explained to my customer her vehicle was in "Limp-In Mode" which is a designed feature that allows the vehicle to safely be driven at reduced engine power, limited engine RPM and/or one forward gear. She then asked if she could have driven the car back from Kettleman City. Yes, as long as it was safe and she had the patience to drive at the reduced speed. She was happy to not incur the additional towing expense but wished she knew about Limp-In Mode prior to the \$500 tow.

After some further research I discovered Mercedes' excuse for BLOCKING me from repairing this vehicle. It's known as the Theft Relevant Parts System (TRP) and is intended to protect Mercedes-Benz owners from vehicle theft. Mercedes says a Theft Relevant Part can be used to change the identity of a vehicle making it easier to hide the theft.

Mercedes-Benz has a team of eight security specialists for the entire world who provide TRP technical support to itself, its retailers and independent repair facilities. There are approximately 1,500 part numbers (keys, ignition locks and gearbox control units) that Mercedes chooses not to supply to we independent repair facilities.

I began my automotive repair business 34 years and 8 months ago and all at the same location. I was in operation long before there was a Mercedes-Benz of Fresno. I don't believe I create any risk at all to Mercedes by selling me the part I need to repair the 500S.

OK guys and gals, that's all for this one. As always, I'm looking for current, relevant, informative and/or interesting automotive industry topics to write about. If you have any ideas, suggestions, recommendations and/or general or specific questions concerning a vehicle, I can be reached at complete_car_care@hotmail.com or text to 559-907-7661.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636, Warren Parr

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Memory Lane

What do an empty Rainbow Bread bag, red dirt from Oklahoma and a 45 RPM of Billy Joel's "Just the Way You Are" have in common? They're all things I discovered in one of my memorabilia bins. Being sentimental may seem contrary to being an organizer, but I find it gives me empathy with my clients as they sort through their own assemblage of keepsakes.

Sorting memorabilia meets more resistance than most organizing projects. Julie Holland, M.D., an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at New York University School of Medicine, acknowledges that it's normal to hold on to mean-

ingful possessions. "Sentimental clutter is the adult equivalent of a teddy bear," says Holland. By the way, you can add my teddy bear to the bread bag, red dirt and record list.

During this pandemic, I've embarked on my back-burner project of organizing my keepsake bins. Maybe it's time for yours to move to the front burner too. To ensure you don't throw out the baby with the bath water or keep both the baby and the bath water, follow along as I lead you through my process.

Why take the time to organize my memorabilia?

- There are precious memories I'd like to revisit. If I feel overwhelmed with decades of anniversary, Mother's Day and birthday cards, it won't be an enjoyable stroll down memory lane.

- I don't want to burden my kids. If I get bored doing it, which I have at times, I can only imagine what it would be like for my kids after I'm gone.

- It opens up space. I'm reducing my number of bins. Yay!

- It connects me with others. During the process I took pictures of fun things from the past and texted them to friends and family. Like the Mother's Day card from my young son which said, "You're as pretty as a cow." To his defense I had a cow collection back then. A blast from the past can be a good distraction during this challenging time.

What should I keep?

- What sparks joy? Marie Kondo talks a lot about keeping things that "spark joy." I found this to be a good measure with keepsakes. I let go of things that aroused memories of struggles or things that were simply benign.

- Keep a sampling. The drawback with Kondo's criteria is that every Mother's Day card where my kids wrote about how great I was, sparked joy. When that happens, I gather the cards together and chose a sampling from each. I've also kept just a couple of the rocks my grandfather tumbled, one page from his journal and one apron from each grandma. The sampling idea is an excellent solution for collections too.

Sorting memorabilia meets more resistance than most organizing projects.

- Remember it's ongoing. Each time I go through things I let go of a little more. With the kids' college days long gone, three folders went out this round. Don't hold back from letting go if you're ready to, but also don't feel like you have to pare down to nothing on the first go-round.


How to keep it?

- Use it. Whenever possible I put my keepsakes to use so they're not tucked in the back of a closet somewhere. My granddaughters play dress-up with my mom's old costume jewelry and make mud pies with my grandma's red and white pots and pans. My daughter and I wear my grandma's aprons every Thanksgiving when we bake pies. I keep a photo of them wearing their aprons in the apron pockets.

- "Spontaneous Reminiscing" One of my clients puts sentimental cards into the books on her bookshelf so she can be "surprised" by them at a later date.


- Display it. A shadowbox displays my grandfather's tumbled rocks, diary page, grandma's birthstone pin and quilt square. A wooden picture from the McElroy cabin at Hume Lake took

Please see **CHOICE** on P. 17



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In Memoriam



**Beverlie
"Mac" McMullen
Castelletto**

**January 7, 1931
April 19, 2020**

Beverlie (Mac) McMullen Castelletto, age 89, of the Madera Ranchos, passed away peacefully at her home on Wednesday April 19, 2020. Mac was born in Michigan, Jan. 7, 1931. She graduated from Burbank High School. She continued her education by earning a degree in nursing and working as a RN in the Burbank area and then in Fresno. While raising six children and supporting her husband's career – 20 years with the Fresno Police Department – she continued to educate herself at Fresno City College. She took classes of interest, most notably music, which had her making her own musical instrument, a dulcimer.

Mac was preceded in death by her childhood sweetheart, the love of her life, Robert William Castelletto, known to everyone as "Cas." He and mom were married for over 50 years before his passing in 2008. Mom was known to show off her tattoo, her one and only. A small bunch of Scottish thistle flowers that she had tattooed above a small scar on her knee. She got the tattoo while in her 70s

and the scar when she was about 6. Dad hit her with a rock, leaving the scar.

Mac is survived by sons Robert Castelletto II and Steven Castelletto. Daughters Norma Castelletto, Donna Castelletto Wike, Janine Castelletto and Laura Castelletto-Lemanek. Mac was blessed with many grandchildren and great grandchildren that continued to amuse, amaze and bring joy to her life.

She was active with many local Fresno community activities, including Fresno Community Theater, Fresno City College, The Scottish Society, St. Teresa's Church and many activities here in the Ranchos.

Mom loved learning, genealogy and travel. By combining all three, mom taught herself how to speak Italian. Mom and dad went to Italy several times. She spent hours searching through old church and city records in her quest of tracking down the Castelletto heritage and dad enjoyed his time there tasting wine. They also traveled to Scotland, Acapulco, cruised to Alaska and through the Panama

Cannel but her favorite trips were that ones that involved the birth of a new grandchild or welcoming one of her children home from a deployment. Being a large military family, this included trips to Northern and Southern California, Washington State, Virginia, Kansas, Hawaii and Guam, not to forget those born in Fresno and numerous boot camp graduations.

Mac will be remembered in the Ranchos as the lady that rode a three wheel bike around, the neighbor who blasted Scottish music on her patio, spent time in the library, knitted in front of the coffee shop and had a story to tell anyone that would listen.

The Castelletto family would like to personally thank the Ranchos community for the love and support shown to their parents. Your kindness and friendship were never forgotten by them or their children.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.tinkler-funeralchapel.com for the Castelletto family.

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SEMUCU speaks

Put your "gloves on"
for a "knock-out"

By Igal Treibatch

Beating the Corona – not the beer but the COVID-19 – is a challenge for us all. As we contemplated at SEMUCU what action we could take as a non-profit to have an immediate helpful impact on our community, one of the answers was "gloves." SEMUCU arranged for 30,000 protective gloves to be distributed to our community FREE of charge to help fight the COVID-19. With April's ad at the back page of the Ranchos Independent, we advertised the campaign and distribution information. We hoped everyone took advantage of the gloves' availability and can use them for good health protection. The distri-

bution was on a first come basis until the inventory was depleted. We're happy to announce that all the gloves were given out and the reports are they are being used.

Results are in for the last SEMUCU State Energy Grant

The state's grant allowed a reimbursement of \$350 per each purchase of energy star-rated washing machines and dishwashers. A potential of \$750 reimbursement per family was available. The project is completed and was a success. Some of the beneficial effects for our community are:

- \$74,000 was distributed as part of this grant to anyone who purchased an energy and water saving dishwasher and washing machine during the grant's period.
- Savings of more than 7,090,000 gallons of water and 496 Kwh of energy will be conserved.
- The users will see a total of over \$90,000 in additional savings as a result of using these star-rated machines.

More on water and dry wells

As we rely on rainstorm water

availability, here are results based on tests we have conducted on larger dry wells, estimating approximating only 10 rain days per year and recharging with the smaller dry wells we installed in our community:

- As of today, over 140 dry wells have been installed throughout at a total cost of approximately \$500,000.
- At a recharge rate of 200 gallons per minute (the larger wells rate was tested at 650 gallons per minute) over 10 days of rain events, the 140 dry wells recharged 403 million gallons for the season (200 gallons per minute x 60 minutes x 24 hours x 10 days x 140 dry wells = 403.2 million gallons).
- In our community we have approximately 4,300 homes. Once the water reaches our aquifer it becomes available and the potential reserves, based on a recharge of 403 million gallons, translates to 93,767 gallons for each one of the 4,300 households. If your family uses 200 gallons per day, these reserves are good for 468 days per household. This is great help

toward reaching a sustainable water future.

We at SEMUCU are "BY THE COMMUNITY, FOR THE COMMUNITY"!

As part of the social distancing and contending with the COVID-19, instead of convening our monthly board meetings, for the foreseeable future we have chosen to hold our board meetings via telephone conferencing. We hold our meetings on the third Monday of every month starting at 6 p.m. The public is invited and encouraged to listen in and offer ideas for projects that can help our community. To call into the teleconference, dial 312-757-3121 and then enter the dial the access code 715-657-949 when prompted.

Southeast Madera County United (SEMUCU) is a non-profit benefit organization promoting local interests and topics in the SEMUCU area. Call 559-363-9095 for information or email SEMUCU at info@semcu.org. The website is www.semcu.org.

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CHOICE cont. from P. 10

residence on our hall wall when the cabin sold. Phase two of my keepsake organizing includes scanning and photographing items and then creating digital photo books. This is a beautiful and space-saving way to remember the past.

• Store it. I use a small antique suitcase that belonged to my aunt to store some keepsakes. Others are stored in decorative flip-top storage boxes. All are labeled so that it's clear which era or type of keepsakes are stored inside. Paper memorabilia is categorized and stored in a small file box.

• "My Most Treasured Things" My goal is to single out my most treasured keepsakes (that aren't being used) and put them in a special bin labeled as such. Then, at the time of my passing, my kids will know that they are free to discard everything else without looking through it all.

Anyone in the market for some old 45s?

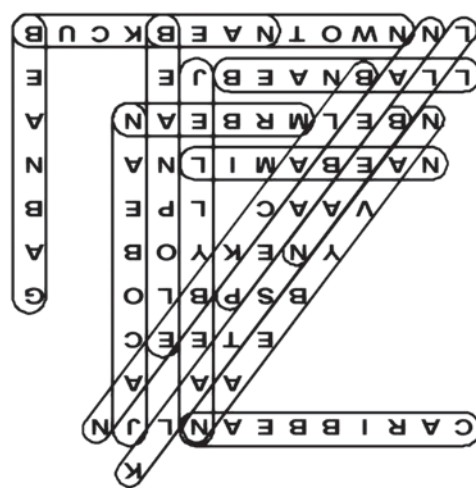
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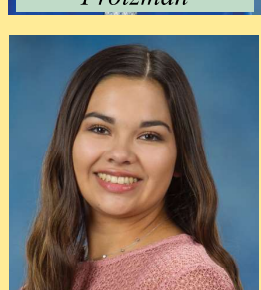
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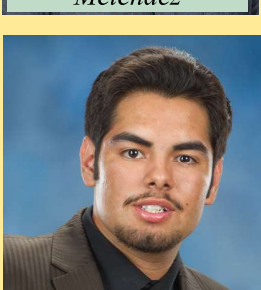
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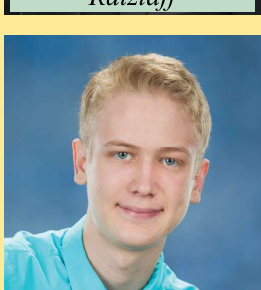
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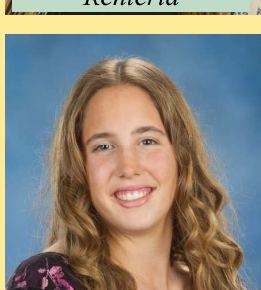
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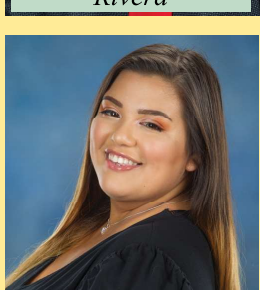
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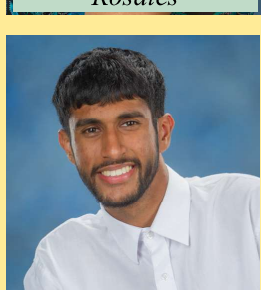
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For Sale

1978 Starfire Cabin Cruiser - 22-foot w/trailer, GREAT CONDITION - 351 Ford, 9.8 HP Honda trolling motor, 2 new batteries, new tires, all work done by Cronin Marine in Madera Ranchos, current license and a cover. \$9,500. Call Tammy at 304-2019.

Housecleaning

40 yrs of experience - References available - Lupe's House Cleaning, residential, one-time service, move-ins/move-outs, windows, construction clean up. LupePrado25@yahoo.com. 559-916-1528 or 650-771-2915.

Recyclables Pick Up

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- Get to know your frozen veggies. There's been a lot of emphasis in the past about fresh vegetables. While they're great, it's not always possible to get to the grocer's or farmer's market regularly. Frozen veggies often have the most vitamins because most are flash frozen right after harvest. You can find many varieties and they're easy to use in most recipes.
- Gotta paint a door? Put a lag bolt into the top and bottom of the door, on the narrow. This way, the lag bolt rests on your sawhorses, and you can flip the door over to paint each side. No longer do you have to paint one side, let it dry ALL THE WAY and then flip it over, risking paint getting pulled off the edges.
- For long-lasting condiments, write the date you open it on the jar or bottle. If there's not a good place, try using a piece of tape. This way you can better track how long that ranch dressing has been lurking in your fridge, rather than relying on the date it's good until.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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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.

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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| | | 9 | 5 | | | | | 6 |
| 3 | | | 6 | | | 9 | | |
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Senior Report

Looking Forward to Reopening

By Margaret Tynan

Well, here we are entering another month of COVID-19. Social distancing continues in order to stay healthy ourselves and to help protect the health of our community. We are all to be commended for the care we are taking to help each other through this very difficult time and for supporting our community.

The Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center, again, is not planning any activities in the foreseeable future due to the pandemic. We certainly will let everyone know when we are able to safely resume our various functions.

Without activities to report on for this month's Senior Report, I decided to give a little history of the Center, with a focus on the beginnings and evolution of our Garden Project.

Helen Lowell, having been a member of the Center for a very long time, has a wealth of information on its history. She shared that,

The Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center, again, is not planning any activities in the foreseeable future due to the pandemic. We certainly will let everyone know when we are able to safely resume our various functions.

from an idea for a Seniors Center by a few people over a cup of coffee in 1989 and several years of hard work and fundraising, the present location of the Center was purchased in 1997. The Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center is self-supporting. That is, fundraising has always been very important to the existence of the Center and its ability to provide seniors in the community events and services. Very soon after opening the Center, members and people of the community began donating plants and the garden became an important funding source, which it still is today.

In the early years you could see Olen Williams, dressed in his coveralls, working in the garden alongside many others caring for the plants: Potting, watering and weeding. Mary Thompson, who currently heads the team that consistently volunteers in the garden area, says she began working with Olen in the garden right after she became a member over 10 years ago. Mary enjoys working with her team, meeting new people and talking with

community members who visit the garden and support the Center. Carol Hill, a long-time friend of Mary's has been volunteering for about seven years. She shared that she loves plants and flowers and every spring she grows tomato and pepper starter plants to donate for the monthly Garden Sale. She creates many a lovely potted succulent plant arrangement throughout the year, as well as performing the regular gardening tasks.

Diane Maxfield is another member of the gardening team. She began volunteering when she joined the Center after retiring in 2010, working alongside Olen, Mary, Anna Johns, Fred Knorr and others. She said that member Nita Lackey

was a Master Gardener who contributed lots of ideas at the time. Diane shared that an important part of the history of the garden is the contribution of Boy Scout Troup 118. Not only have the Scouts volunteered year after year at the Annual Home and Garden Festival, but several have done their Eagle Scout Projects to make wonderful improvements to the Center's garden area. One project entailed clearing the area of rocks, filling holes, creating paths and leveling the ground to create a much safer area. The welcomed shade covering that shelters many delicate plants is a great result of another Eagle Scout project. Also, the well-constructed potting tables are another of the very much appreciated Eagle Scout projects.

The Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center is so thankful for the support from Boy Scout Troup 118, our garden volunteers and the many in the community who have donated plants, visited the garden and participated in the monthly plant sales. When safe, we hope to resume our monthly Garden, Boutique, Bake and Treasure House Sale. You are all wished the best. Stay safe.

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom."—Marcel Proust

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3. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce requires financial support in order to perform its job of increasing the economic prosperity of the Ranchos.
4. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce unifies the public spirit of the Ranchos and directs it into useful and constructive channels that are not limited to business.
5. Because I feel a sense of personal obligation to improve the quality of life in the Ranchos.

When's the NEXT Chamber of Commerce Meeting?

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, Wednesday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m., 37167 Ave. 12 Suite 5C in the Maywood Center. Come join us and see what's going on in your community. Call us at 645-4001.

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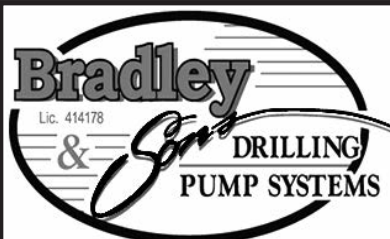
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By Betty Van Valkenburg

Bill of Rights -- May 2020

No better time to reflect on our history and rights. While we're sequestered at home with perhaps our businesses closed or our "unessential" jobs gone, we might use the time to review the Constitution and American history. As the country is arbitrarily shut down during the coronavirus hysteria, some see the restrictions on our liberties as government overreach and an infringement of our guaranteed rights. What do you think? What does the Constitution say?

Students can't go to school – for who knows how long – so this could be a great time for them to study our rich history and founding documents, starting with the Constitution and its first 10 amendments: The Bill of Rights.

For further study, Hillsdale College presents free online courses on the Constitution, Presidents, "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope" and more at www.hillsdale.edu/educational-outreach/free-online-courses/. Happy reading – and stay well.

The Bill of Rights -- Original 10 Amendments to the United States Constitution

Amendment I (Freedoms, Petitions, Assembly)

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II (Right to bear arms)

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III (Quartering Soldiers)

No Soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV (Search and

arrest)

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V (Rights in criminal cases)

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI (Right to a fair trial)

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII (Rights in civil cases)

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII (Bail, fines, punishment)

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX (Rights retained by the People)

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X (States' rights)

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Passed by Congress September 25, 1789. Ratified December 15, 1791.

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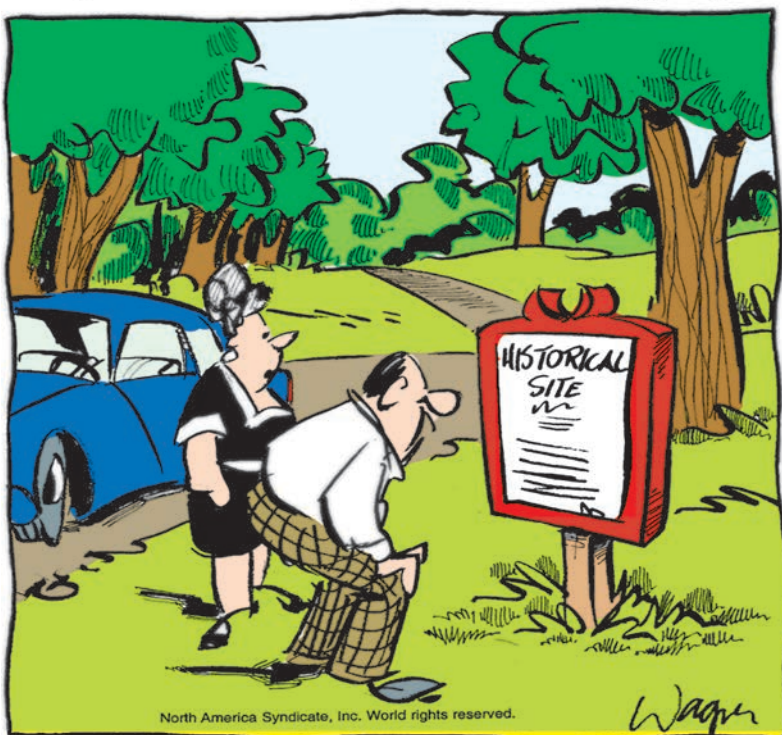
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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

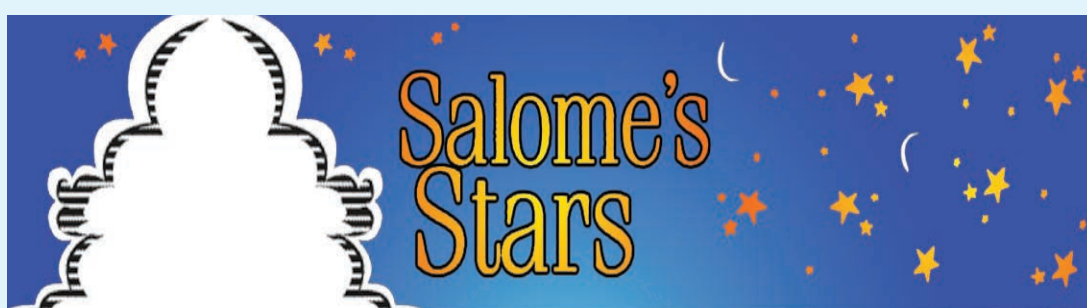


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GRIN and BEAR IT ^{Wagner}

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The Lamb is usually excited about taking on a new challenge. But if that's a touch of doubt you're feeling, maybe it's you telling yourself to go slow on this until you learn more.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Accepting new commitments when you haven't yet finished the batch on hand could be a bit rash. Better to ease up on the new ones until you get further along.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Try to be more open-minded in working toward a resolution of that standoff between yourself and a colleague or family member. A little flexibility now could work to your advantage later.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Some people might be anxious about your plans. So you need to take time to explain what you expect to do and how you expect to do it. And don't forget to ask for suggestions.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Dealing with an unfamiliar problem can be difficult. The wisest course you can take is to ask for advice from those who have been where you are and have come through it. Good luck.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Tackle a frustrating job problem by considering possibilities you might have ignored before. This reassures colleagues you're serious about finding a solution, even if it's not totally yours.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your balanced approach to life proves to be helpful this week when someone you care for needs your spiritual comfort, while someone else benefits from your tough-love practicality.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Once again, you're likely to be asked to keep a secret for someone. But do you really want to do so? Be honest with yourself and with your needs before you make any such commitment.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Taking a more direct approach from the more diplomatic one you've used before could make a difference in finally resolving a too-long-held disagreement. Try it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Being asked for advice is flattering to the Sea Goat, who has a habit of saying the right thing. This time, expect someone to be especially impressed and to act on that sentiment.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) With a number of pressures easing, your project could be making a lot more progress than you expected by this time. That's great news. But don't let yourself be distracted; stay with it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An interesting challenge looms that could be exactly what you've been looking for. Discuss this with colleagues who could have much to contribute and who might want to join with you.

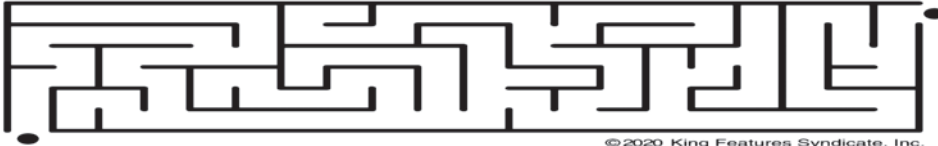
Born this Week

*Your heart is always open to offer loving concern for others.
And they, in turn, reach out to complete the circle.*

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FUN PAGES

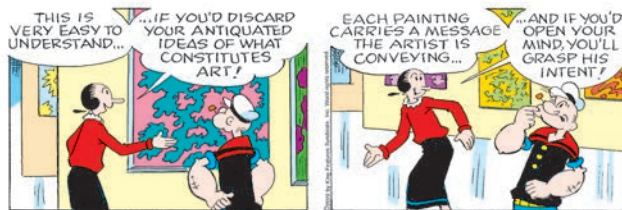
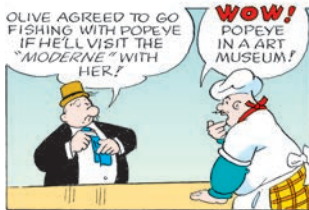
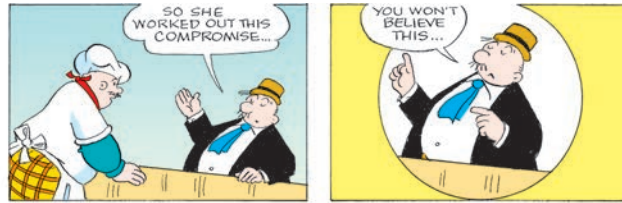
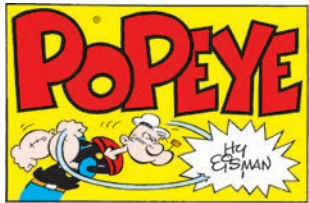
Kids' Maze



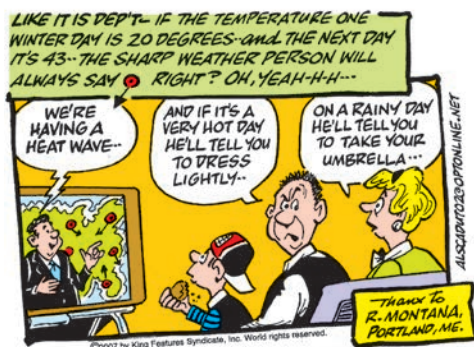
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TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



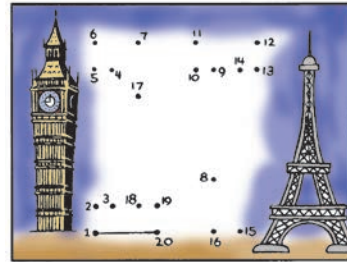
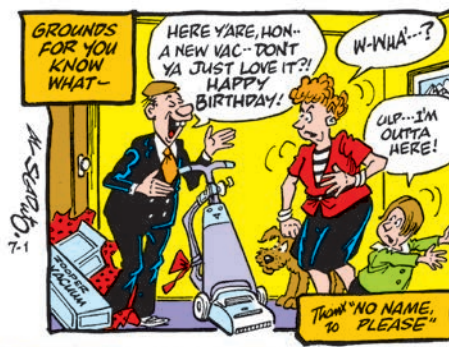
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



FIGNEWT IS AN ACCOUNTANT FOR A BIG CORPORATION-- A WHIZ WITH NUMBERS, BUT HOW'S HIS MATH ON THE GOLF COURSE? RS. X MARKS SHOW HIS STROKES ON THIS HOLE...



BY AL SCADUTO



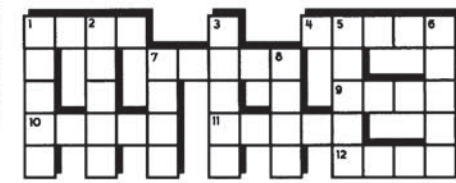
WHAT PART of London is in France? Connect the dots and find out.

Illustrated by David Coulson

THREE-RING CIRCUS! Place the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 into the small circles so that the four numbers, on the rim of any ring, add up to 14.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



WAY OUT WEST!

At left is a crossword puzzle grid. Below are words pertaining to the

Old West that you will need to complete the puzzle, using the trial-and-error method. Try to finish before roundup time.

4-letter words:

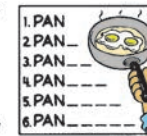
BARN
COLT
PESO
SPUR
STAR

5-letter words:

ARROW
BOOTS
HORSE
POSSE
ROCKS
SHACK
SHEEP
STEER
WATER

A PANOPLY OF PAN WORDS! In this puzzle all of the words get progressively longer, and they all start with PAN. Use the following definitions:

- PAN (in place).
- Type of glass.
- A jury duty list.
- Looked for gold.
- A cure-all.
- Deep dish fruit dessert.



Answers: 1. Pan. 2. Panel. 3. Panel. 4. Panned. 5. Panacea. 6. Pandowdy.

Wishing Well



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

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MAGIC MAZE • BEANIES



Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: USED TO MAKE TOFU

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Bean bag | Beantown | Jacobean | Mr. Bean |
| Beanball | Black bean | Jelly bean | Navy bean |
| Beanpole | Buckbean | L.L. Bean | Pea bean |
| Beanstalk | Caribbean | Lima bean | |

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- ANATOMY: What is a more common name for the medical condition called desquamation?
- TELEVISION: Who uttered the catchphrase "you rang?" in the sitcom "The Addams Family"?
- GAMES: How many dominoes are in a standard set?
- GEOGRAPHY: In which city is the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia located?
- MOVIES: Actress Meryl Streep won her first Academy Award for which movie?
- LITERATURE: What kind of creature was Bagheera in "The Jungle Book"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient of bouillabaisse, a type of stew?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented in the condition called coulrophobia?
- MUSIC: What is the name of blues guitarist B.B. King's Gibson guitar?
- U.S. STATES: In which state is Elvis Presley's estate (Graceland) located?

Answers

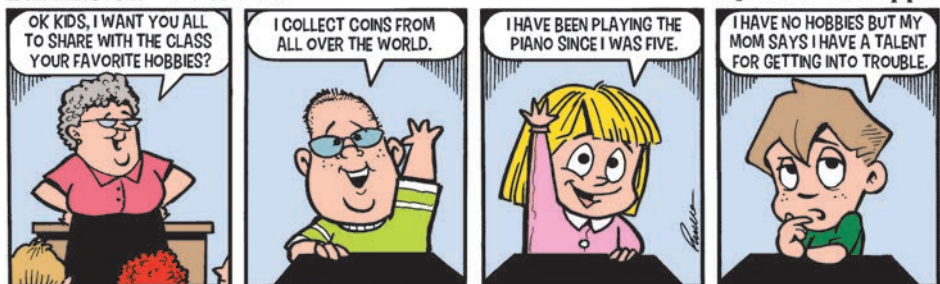
- Peeling skin
- Lurch, the butler
- 28
- Barcelona, Spain
- "Kramer vs. Kramer"
- Panther
- Seafood
- A fear of clowns
- Clown
- Tennessee (Memphis)

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



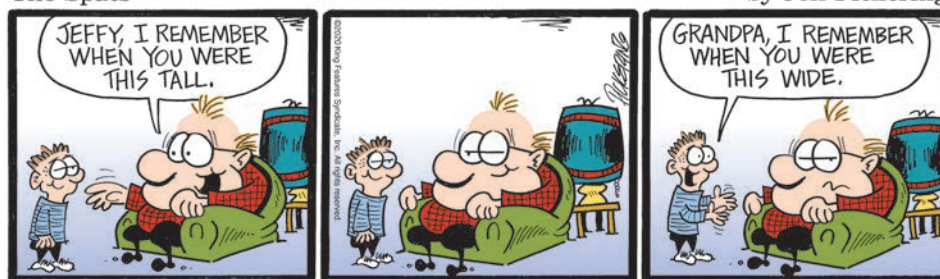
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

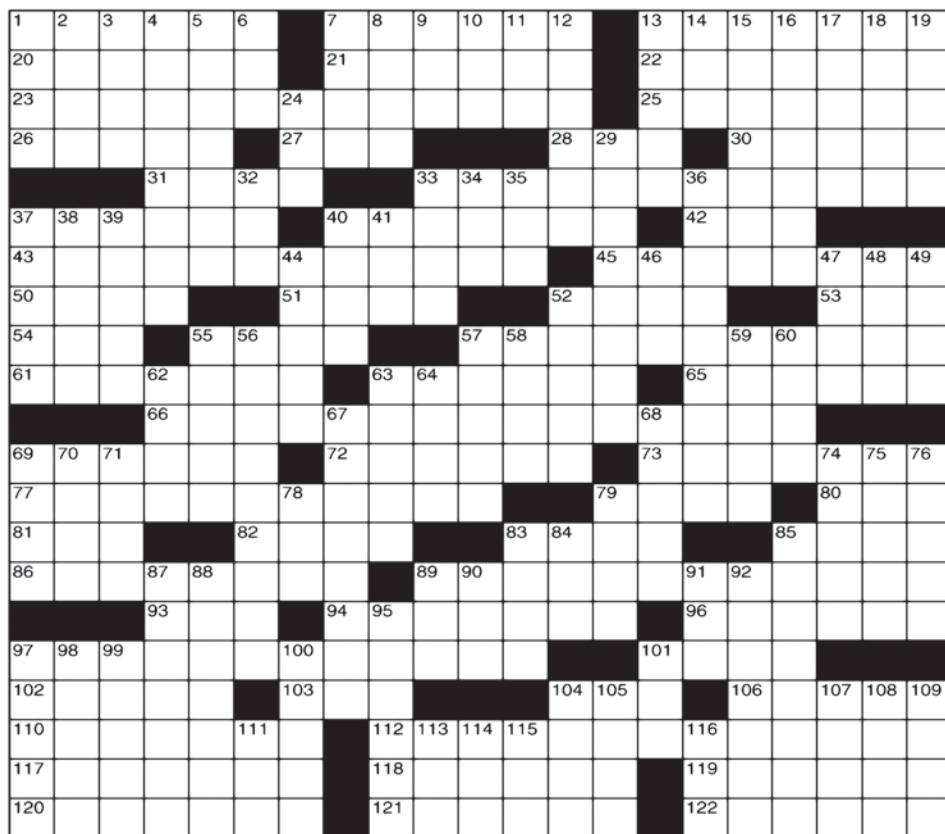
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Tree is missing; 2. Hat is added; 3. Plant is added; 4. Club is added; 5. Vest is different; 6. Nose is rounder.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Shrimp —
 - 7 Dismay
 - 13 Like pre-1917 Russia
 - 20 Stomach ailments
 - 21 Republic of China capital
 - 22 Old roof sight
 - 23 Inductee in the inaugural year of the ... NASCAR Hall of Fame [2010]
 - 25 Skin bubble
 - 26 Jan of South Africa
 - 27 Canon camera
 - 28 Fiscal exec.
 - 30 — throat
 - 31 "As — Dying"
 - 33 ... International Tennis Hall of Fame [1955]
 - 37 One pelting
 - 40 Bubbling on the stove
 - 42 "— Gang"
 - 43 ... World Figure Skating Hall of Fame [1976]
 - 45 With 99-Down, Texas
 - 50 Hearing pair
 - 51 Moistureless
 - 52 Bust — (laugh hard)
 - 53 "Found it!"
 - 54 Ending of enzymes
 - 55 Groove of carpentry
 - 57 ... National Baseball Hall of Fame [1936]
 - 61 Reprieve
 - 63 Stuck-up
 - 65 Conundrum
 - 66 ... Basketball Hall of Fame [1959] and College Football Hall of Fame [1951]
 - 69 "Flashdance" director Lyne
 - 72 One of Nod's two partners
 - 73 Not legal
 - 77 ... Pro Football Hall of Fame [1963]
 - 79 Writer — Stanley Gardner
 - 80 Less than bi-
 - 81 Western treaty gp.
 - 82 Hunky- —
 - 83 Maui, e.g.
 - 85 Blue-ribbon barriers of pickets
 - 86 Pasture-raised
 - 89 ... World Golf Hall of Fame [1974]
 - 93 "What was — think?"
 - 94 Compel obedience to
 - 96 Shady alcoves
 - 97 ... International Swimming Hall of Fame [1965]
 - 101 "— girl!"
 - 102 Full of activity
 - 103 Med. republic
 - 104 Darlin'
 - 106 Relative by marriage
 - 110 Digital data display
 - 112 ... International Boxing Hall of Fame [1990]
 - 117 Almond, say
 - 118 Lake in New York
 - 119 Director May
 - 120 Racing driver
 - 121 With 122-Across, barriers of pickets
 - 122 See 121-Across
 - 33 Sneak attack
 - 34 "Son of," in Arab names
 - 35 Wheel tooth
 - 36 "Everyone experiences that, right?"
 - 37 Trident
 - 38 Pick on
 - 39 Monsters
 - 40 Flight prefix
 - 41 "More than I needed to know" abbr.
 - 44 Stows cargo
 - 46 Suffix with venom
 - 47 Zingy flavor
 - 48 "Pardon me"
 - 49 — avis
 - 9 Actress Zadora
 - 10 Showery mo.
 - 11 Guided
 - 12 Chinese fruit
 - 13 Fifer's drum
 - 14 NBC TV inits.
 - 15 Under debate
 - 16 People taking breathers
 - 17 The "I" of IV
 - 18 Smile evilly
 - 19 Infield covers
 - 24 San Luis —
 - 29 Scapegoats
 - 32 Fido's noise
 - 74 Mario of New York
 - 75 — workings
 - 76 Cake levels
 - 78 Soil stirrer
 - 79 Fashion magazine
 - 83 Memo intro
 - 84 Pt. of USSR
 - 85 Tirana native
 - 87 Do nothing
 - 88 Estrogen or testosterone
 - 89 Locale of mil. jets
 - 90 Reiner of film
 - 91 Overly glib
 - 92 Paper story
 - 95 Not wide
 - 97 Loft locales
 - 98 Expend
 - 99 See 45-Across
 - 100 Quoter
 - 101 Santa —
 - 104 Jekyll and —
 - 105 Muscat site
 - 107 Not clerical Caron film
 - 108 Hathaway of "Get Smart"
 - 109 Heartaches
 - 111 Maui strings
 - 113 1969 Beatle bride Yoko
 - 114 Corp. honcho
 - 115 Youngster
 - 116 Foul caller

SEM CU

south east madera county united

SEM CU community, as we continue to fight through these unprecedented times, we are always looking to do more. We would like to hear from you. We would like to get your opinions and suggestions on additional projects with which we can help.

Please reach out to us and let us know your thoughts.

Our contact information is at the bottom of the page.

THE GLOVES INITIATIVE

SEM CU would like to thank the entire community. We have successfully distributed ALL of the 30,000 protective gloves. Thank you to everyone as we continue to fight COVID-19.

Until further notice, the regular SEM CU meetings will take place via teleconference. Our next meeting is Monday, June 15 at 6 p.m. The teleconference number is 312-757-3121 and the Access Code is 715-657-949.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

559-363-9095 • www.semcu.org • info@semcu.org