

The Ranchos Independent



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

CELEBRATING
16 YEARS
IN THE RANCHOS

Volume 17 Issue 5 2021

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

Bye Bye Masks

**The Centers for
Disease Control says
“Take ‘em off!”
but California is
waiting until
June 15**

**By Julia Ries
with Randy Bailey**



In This Issue

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

Nationally, fully vaccinated people can now take off their masks in most indoor settings, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced on Thursday, May 13, but California is holding out until June 15, according to Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly. In a broadcast press conference on Friday, May 21, Ghaly said the year-long COVID-19 restrictions for businesses will be terminated and California will end its tiered system of restrictions for counties, lifting the capacity and distancing limits on June 15.

Stating that on June 15, COVID-19 restrictions of the past are no longer needed for the foreseeable future, Ghaly said that Californians who have received the vaccine will be able to finally remove their masks. He advised to continue following the CDC guidelines for social settings and stressed that unvaccinated people should still wear their masks. Travel guidelines are going to be updated as well so that they mirror federal recommendations.

No “Vaccine Passport” ... Yet

Ghaly said that California is not requiring – but is strongly recommending – that outdoor events for more than 10,000 people have some type of COVID-19 or vaccination check and require masks for those who fail either. For indoor events, the state is limiting attendance to 5,000 attendees and the same type of COVID-19 or vaccination check. There are no plans for a state-wide type of “vaccine passport,” but a “non-discriminatory and equitable” vaccine verification system for private entities is being talked about with the state’s urging.

Dee Dee Myers, senior advisor to Gov.

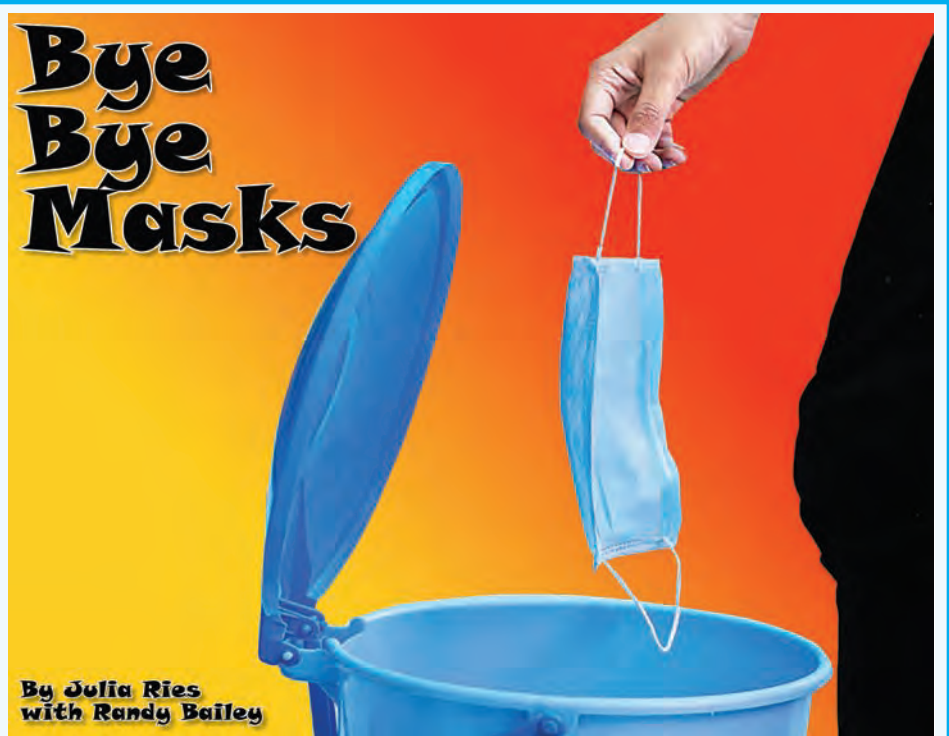
Newsom and director of the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development – and former press secretary to President Bill Clinton – said the next three weeks will afford venues the ability to plan for conventions, weddings, sporting and cultural events. “We’re still in the middle of that transition, and not sure what the next normal is going to look like,” Myers said. “We’ve gotten to that point and are excited to move forward.”

CDC Nationwide

Nationwide, the new guidance says fully vaccinated people – those two weeks out from their second dose of the two-shot vaccine, or people two weeks out from the one-shot vaccine – don’t need to wear masks indoors in places like offices, schools, restaurants, gyms and bars. Masks will still be required in crowded settings like planes, public transportation, prisons and homeless shelters, per the CDC guidance. The guidance also states that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear masks outside, even in crowds. Unvaccinated people still need to adhere to the masking and safety protocols recommended in public areas, the CDC said.

Herd Immunity

The reason for the change in the CDC’s direction is “herd immunity.” Before a population can reach herd immunity, an “inflection point” has to occur: The point where there’s enough immunity, through vaccination and previous infection, that cases begin to decline consistently. Experts suspect the United States hit an inflection point in late April. That built up immunity in the population that has the power to blunt the spread of COVID-19 is “herd immunity.” Herd immunity prevents community



transmission of disease when about 70 percent of the population is immune, either through vaccination or previous infection. Cases may continue to steadily decline, especially as vaccination rates increase.

Clinical trials have showed that the vaccines are effective at preventing COVID-19, confirmed by real-world findings. Of the nearly 95 million Americans who had been vaccinated as of April 26, only approximately 6,700 symptomatic breakthrough infections occurred in that time. Currently, 35.8 percent of all Americans are fully vaccinated and 46.4 percent have received at least their first dose.

“The vaccines are a triumph of modern medicine. They dramatically reduce the risk

of getting COVID,” said Dr. Lucy McBride, a practicing internal medicine physician in Washington, D.C., also noting that the vaccines cut people’s ability to transmit the infection, making post-vaccination transmission very unlikely.

“Even if vaccinated people do carry tiny bits of virus in their nose without symptoms, it’s not likely to be in any significant amount to infect other people,” McBride said. “Basically, once you have been vaccinated, you are safe yourself, and you are safe to be around other people.”

There are exceptions, but overall, the odds of infection after vaccination are

Please see **MASKS** on P. 11

2 Die in Ranchos Head-On, Avenue 15 at Road 37



By DJ Becker

A 77-year-old Madera man lost control of his 2012 Toyota Camry for unknown

reasons while driving westbound on Avenue 15 just east of Road 37, crossed into oncoming traffic, sideswiped a large Dodge pickup truck and then collided head on with an eastbound 2018 Chevy Malibu, killing a 25-year-old woman from Madera, according to the California Highway Patrol. The collision happened in moderate traffic about 2:10 p.m. on May 5, in sunny and dry conditions.

Abraham Nassimian was taken via ambulance to Community Regional Medical Center where he later died of his injuries.

The other driver, Yohana Carrillo Gonzalez, 25, was pronounced dead at the scene. Fire crews used extrication tools to reach the victims. The driver of the eastbound

pickup truck, a 52-year-old man from Reedley, was not injured. All parties were wearing seat belts and none of the vehicles had passengers, according to reports.

The force and impact of the collision spun the three vehicles, blocked both lanes and closed the area of busy Avenue 15 for three to four hours as emergency crews worked to investigate and clear the scene.

Officers said the collision was witnessed by several motorists who stopped to help and factors such as distracted driving and or a medical condition with Nassimian remain under investigation. Toxicology reports are pending.

Locals have often expressed their concerns to county authorities about increasing heavy and fast traffic on Avenue 15, and say they are always on the lookout for motorists speeding or passing unsafely.

Madera County Mask Clarification

The Madera County Department of Public Health is receiving questions related to masking requirements in Madera County. Face covering guidance from the California Department of Public Health has **NOT** changed. Masks are still required in Madera County and throughout California. Per Governor Newsom, California will keep existing mask guidance in place until June 15 when he aims to fully reopen the economy. After that, the state plans to allow fully vaccinated Californians to go without a mask in most indoor settings. You will still have the option to

Please see **COUNTY** on P. 4

Click on “Local News” at

THE HEAT IS ON!

**VALLEY
TEMPS
ARE ON
THEIR
WAY!**

**DON'T
GET
STRANDED
ON
VACATION!**

COOLING SYSTEM SERVICE

*WITH THIS COUPON • EXPIRES JUNE 28, 2021

**ONLY
\$99*
plus
chemicals**

**ONLY
\$99*
plus
R134a**

A/C SYSTEM SERVICE

*WITH THIS COUPON • EXPIRES JUNE 28, 2021

COMPLETE CAR CARE

YOUR LOCAL FULL SERVICE NAPA AUTO CARE CENTER

FREE DAILY PICKUP AND DELIVERY FROM 93636

275-0157

Letters

Dear Editor:

I just got you guys' most recent edition in the mail and I want to thank you guys for publishing 1984 on the front page, because it feels like that's where we're at.

Anyway, want to say good job guys. Appreciate you spreading the word.

Thank you.

Sam Chaney
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

Awhile back I decided to see how our contract with the new disposal company was working out. We had been assured of better service and at a lower cost. I discovered we were paying one of the highest rates for refuse disposal in the state.

I found it interesting that our contractor was one of few, if any, that didn't offer senior citizen or low-income discounts. I notified Red Rock and my County Supervisor. Shortly thereafter, I received an application for a senior discount. The form noted there was no guarantee of acceptance, but my next bill had a \$7.50 senior discount. I assumed all their customers were similarly notified. After conferring with local friends recently, I found they had not. Perhaps you might let Ranchos residents be aware of this discount, especially with possible upcoming rate increases due to SB1383. Mandatory trash services are also being considered (no more sharing a trash bin with your neighbor). They must have been searching long and hard for a way to stop these freeloaders that generated just a small amount of refuse (e.g., sin-

gle residents).

And just another thought. Back in 2015, I think I remember a Grand Jury finding that claimed our disposal company had overcharged their customers about \$1.2 million and ordered it paid back. (I may be incorrect on this as it was some time ago and now I'm old and feeble minded). Anybody aware of any pay-backs? Just curious.

Don't forget the public hearing being held to establish mandatory garbage and organics collection services and a service rate (increase) approval.

June 1, 2021 @ 10 a.m.
County of Madera
200 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

Don Helms
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

In America, the concepts of government-run child welfare and foster care go back nearly 100 years, to the creation of the national Children's Bureau in 1912. Over decades, there was increasing public attention to the needs of children and the role of foster care as a preference over the then-common institutional care ("orphanages") for abused, abandoned or neglected children.

But it was in 1988 that President Ronald Reagan issued the first presidential proclamation that established May as National Foster Care Month, a chance to spread awareness of the needs of these children and youth who usually enter foster care having dealt with major traumas. In age, they range from newborns up to age 21. Many have been abused and neg-

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 15

COUNTY cont. from P. 2

wear a mask if you choose.

For businesses:

Businesses in Madera County need to continue to follow the California Department of Public Health guidance requiring the use of masks indoors and all OSHA workplace practices which have also not been amended. Madera County recommends that businesses:

- Post signage stating masks are required.
- Make masks available to customers, if feasible.
- Remind customers of the mask guidance but do not confront those who

refuse to wear a mask.

For the public:

Continue to wear a mask in accordance with Madera County guidance and avoid close contact with those not wearing a mask in an indoor setting where masking is required to lower the risk of transmission.

As a reminder, the best strategy for moving beyond masking requirements and other COVID-19 restrictions is to get vaccinated. Vaccines are free and available to anyone 12 and older. More information about upcoming vaccination locations can be found at www.madera-county.com/covid19vaccine.

No appointment is necessary.

How do you get free tank rent for the first year, prompt friendly service, a free initial leak test and competitive prices? You call ...

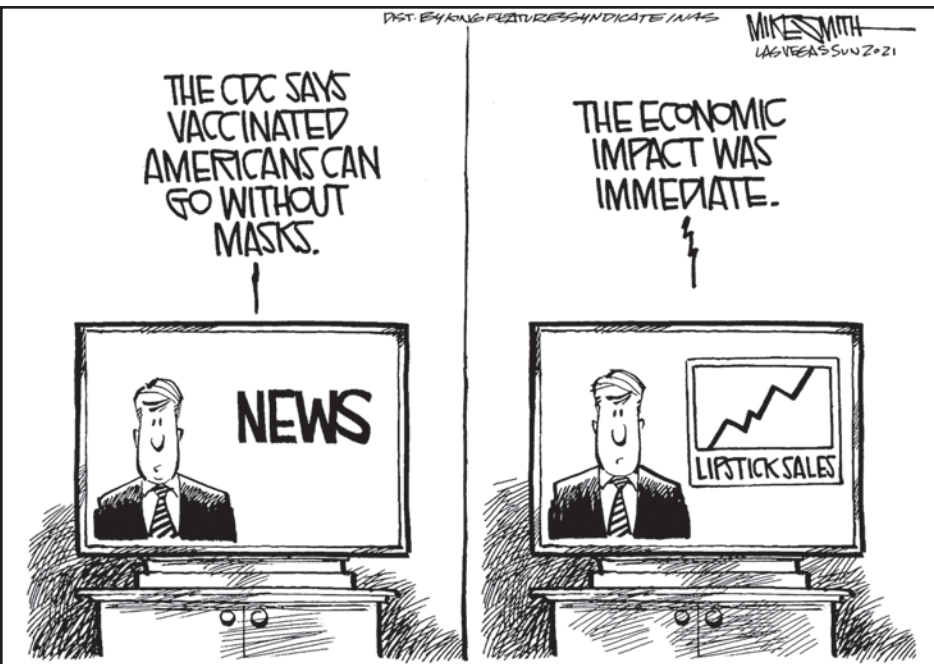


VALLEY PROPANE
559-645-5324
the **ONLY** locally owned
propane company in the
Madera Ranchos

GO HAWKS!

Join us in supporting our
LIBERTY HIGH HAWKS
this season and all year long
VALLEY PROPANE
"Service you can trust at prices you can afford"
645-5324 • 37221 Ave. 12 #1D
Madera Ranchos • Maywood Center

5/21



Guest Editorial

Content of Character? Nope ...

By Congressman Tom McClintock

Racism is the practice of according rights and privileges to an individual not based on equality under the law, but rather according to what race that person was born. It is antithetical to every principle our country was founded on, from the promise of our Declaration of Independence that “all men are created equal,” to the equal protection clause of our Constitution. It was a malignancy we fought a Civil War to remove. For generations, it has been denounced by every American of good will for the evil that it is.

Yet, this dangerous social pathology is now rampant in Washington. The House Judiciary Committee recently adopted a measure on a party line vote to establish a commission with the avowed purpose of enshrining racism into law under the guise of slavery reparations. The biased composition of this commission is obvious. There’s not a single Republican appointment. It is designed to reach into the dead past, revive its most malevolent conflicts and re-introduce them into our age.

It’s impossible to imagine a more divisive, polarizing or unjust measure than one that would use government force to require people who never owned slaves to pay reparations to people who never were slaves – based not on anything they did but solely because of what race they were born.

History offers us an inexhaustible

supply of grievances and injustices that are powerful enough to stoke hatreds and resentments that can tear any society apart. That is what this movement is all about. It is evil in its effect if not in its intent.

Lincoln often pointed out that our country was born into a world where slavery was an established institution. The American Founders reviled it and placed principles in our founding documents that they were confident would ultimately place that wicked institution upon the course of ultimate extinction and would lead to a republic where men and women of every race and background could together enjoy the blessings of liberty. Equal justice under law means a colorblind society where race simply becomes irrelevant and until recently, we had made tremendous progress toward that vision as a nation.

Martin Luther King expressed the gold standard of racial harmony: That we should be judged by the content of our character and not the color of our skin. It is the equal protection of the law and the vision of colorblind society stretching from the American Founders to Lincoln and King that is now under attack by the racist left.

Yes, there are racists in our society. There are racists of all colors in every society; it is the baser side of human nature. But no nation has struggled harder to transcend that nature and isolate and marginalize its racists than have Americans.

And yes, extremely damaging and foolish policies have disproportionately impacted black communities in recent decades. Union-dominated schools that have failed to educate children in inner cities, welfare programs that destroyed families and the withdrawal of police protection from crime plagued neighborhoods are certainly among them. But these policies devastate every community where they are practiced regardless of race. The answer is to change those policies – not to excuse them because they are ideologically pleasing to the left.

The racist left is content to ignore all of these current ills. It instead attempts to set neighbor against neighbor and American against American on the basis of their race. They say this is healing. It is precisely the opposite. They know it. Indeed, they count on it.

Americans of good will of every race and creed have had enough of this. They

The Ranchos Independent

The Ranchos Independent is published by Five and Two Publishing.
All contents of this publication are copyright 2021, all rights reserved. Reprinting without the permission of the copyright holder is forbidden by law.

All articles are submitted as the opinion of the author, who remains solely responsible for the content. The information gathered for this publication is from sources that are considered to be reliable, but are not guaranteed. Opinions expressed in advertisements or articles remain the opinion of the writer.

Randy Bailey.....Publisher/Editor

Jean Briner -- Columnist, Advertising Sales Emeritus

559-645-0634 37167 Ave. 12, Suite 5C • Madera, CA 93636
ranchosnews@yahoo.com

www.TheRanchos.com

THE RAY GUN
SHOOTING STRAIGHT TO THE HEART

“BEFORE WE REACH THE DAY WHEN WE CAN REDUCE THE DEBT CEILING, WE MAY – IN SPITE OF OUR BEST EFFORTS – SEE A NATIONAL DEBT IN EXCESS OF A TRILLION DOLLARS. NOW, THIS IS A FIGURE THAT’S LITERALLY BEYOND OUR COMPREHENSION.”

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

Please see EDITORIAL on P. 15

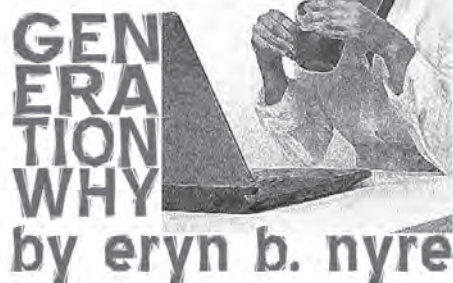
Hugging Memories

I have a sort of love/hate relationship with the month of May. It's my birth month, so of course I love it. Who doesn't want another reason to celebrate themselves? Though, the older I get, the less excited I am for it to come around again. That's the love part. The hate part is that this month also holds Mother's Day. I don't have any particular problem with the day itself, or celebrating mothers, but when you've lost your mom and you don't have children of your own then the day loses all its luster.

I'll be honest, my least favorite thing are the commercials. They come fast and hard and it's just Mother's Day coming at you from all angles. If you love your mother, buy her this jewelry. If you want to make your mom feel special, then take her to this restaurant.

If you want to be nice to your mother, then don't forget the candy and flowers. It fills me with bittersweet Mother's Day memories.

One of the earliest memories I have of doing something on my own for my mom on Mother's Day was when I was probably around 11 years old or so. I decided I wanted to make her breakfast in bed. I'd seen it on TV and it didn't look that difficult. So, I got up early and took to the kitchen. I decided cereal or oatmeal wasn't good enough for my mom, I was going to make her French Toast. Here's the thing: I had never made French Toast before so I had absolutely no idea what I was doing. I put the French Toast on a tray with orange juice, a banana, a little flower, and a handmade card. I woke her up and I can still remember how surprised she was. She had tears in her eyes as she took a bite and gave me a big hug. It wasn't until I was in my 30s that I learned the tears were because it was the most disgusting thing she'd ever tasted. She actu-



ally threw it in the trash because it was inedible. As it turns out, French Toast is made with eggs not melted butter. I told you I had no idea what I was doing.

As an adult one of my favorite things to do for my mom was take her to the spa for massages and facials. It was a way to spoil her and, let's face it, I got a little treat out of it too. I couldn't do this often because she lived in New Mexico and I lived in Cali-

fornia, but sometimes the stars would align. It was a day of luxury with fluffy robes, mineral baths, eating a decadent lunch poolside and basically just pretending we were living the

good life. As it turns out, it actually wasn't pretend. Time with my mom ... that was the good life.

For one year that I wasn't able to be with her, I bought her a necklace with a silver pendant. I had it engraved with her favorite scripture. She wore it so often it may be permanently and irreversibly tarnished. After she passed away it was one of the first things I retrieved. I slept with it under my pillow for a while, just to have a part of her with me. I know it's probably silly since it was something I bought her, but I know how much it meant to her so now it's become something even more special to me.

I think my favorite Mother's Day memory was the year that I actually got to be the gift, thanks to my dad. My father decided to

Please see **GENWHY** on P. 7

Let us compare your insurance rates



CRAWFORD INSURANCE GROUP, INC.
 auto • home • commercial • workers comp
 call Mark Crawford • 559-225-1435
 CrawfordInsuranceGroup@yahoo.com
 25-Year Ranchos resident • 30+ years experience
 Lic. #OE52033 & 0800722

5/21

Now Is The Time To Shed Those Unwanted Pounds

Look Good and Feel Great



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

LOSE WEIGHT AND INCHES TOO

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



DIET WORLD MEDICAL GROUP

"We Are Very Affordable" **224-6744**

OPEN: Monday - Friday
 9:00 AM until 5:30 PM

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

5/21

BEDROCK ENGINEERING

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

For a free consultation, visit our Madera Ranchos office!
 10878 Highway 41
 559.645.4849
 www.bedrockeng.com

INVEST IN YOUR EXISTING PROPERTY!

- Save money on flood insurance with an elevation certificate
- Verify your property line locations with a boundary survey
- Reconfigure your property lines with a lot line adjustment
- Improve your property with a grading and drainage plan
- Divide your property with a parcel map



Dedicated to serving the land surveying and civil engineering needs of Madera Ranchos and the Central Valley

5/21

www.chadstrucking.com

CHAD TRUCKING
 CA #441782

ARENA SAND • SAND & GRAVEL • HORSE FOOTING • CRUSHED ROCK • LANDSCAPE MATERIAL • FILL DIRT • TOP SOIL • HUMUS • BARK • CHIPS • RIVER ROCK • BASE ROCK • ROCK DUST • COBBLE STONES • DRIVEWAY BASE • CONSTRUCTION CLEANUP •

LANDSCAPE DIRT & DRIVEWAY
559-645-5363

5/21

GENWHY cont. from P. 6

fly me out to New Mexico as a surprise for my mom. The day I arrived he told her that he had to run some errands, but of course he was actually picking me up from the airport. When we got home, he went inside and told her that he picked her up a present at Home Depot and to help him bring it in. I was hiding behind the truck recording the whole thing on my cell phone. She came out and found me. I was able to capture her entire reaction; she practically mowed me down she was so excited to see me. I watch that video often.

My mom and I were extremely close; she was my best friend. As I think about all the wonderful Mother's Day memories we shared, I can't help but think about the times I didn't do enough for her. The times I took it for granted that she would be there. We often assume there is always tomorrow, that there is always more time. I know firsthand now that this is simply not the case. My mother and I were planning a family vacation to Mount Rushmore the night before she passed away.

The lesson here is: Take the time for the people you love today because you don't know when you've run out of tomorrows. Someday there will be only memories, and you can't hug a memory.



One Man's Junk is Another Man's Treasure

While sorting papers with a client, I came across an expired coupon. I was tempted to toss it but, as is my practice, I asked first. "Oh no," she replied, "I'm saving that as a template for a coupon I want to make for my business." I've learned to never make assumptions because what is one man's junk is another man's treasure.

Could a friend come into your home and easily identify your "treasures?" Treasures are disguised as junk when hidden in piles of clutter. They don't beg for our attentive action like bills to pay or pets to feed. They sit quietly collecting dust in the back of a closet, catch-all room, garage or storage unit. Sometimes they encroach on our living space covering the floor or flat surfaces because we mean to do something with them. We hope that

keeping them in our vision will inspire action, but when the next thing lands, we've lost sight of the treasure and the inspiration. When treasures convert to triggers causing stress and anxiety, it's time for some attentive action.

As you sort through your "treasures" it's unlikely you'll identify any of it as junk. Most likely, it isn't. Many belongings are donatable and truly do become someone else's treasure. There is great value in passing along things that others can't afford to buy new. But, if everything's precious, then nothing's precious, so choices must be made. Make sure you're rested, fed and have ample mental energy before starting the process of sorting.

Unless you're savvy selling online, your treasures may be costing you more to keep than to let go of ... even extra things in your home are costing you space. Your catch-all room could be your new craft room.

Questions to ask when distinguishing your treasure from, well, everything else.

1. Is it sentimental or nostalgic? The definition of sentimental includes things that prompt feelings of sadness. Nostalgia on the other hand includes a "wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations." Choose items that promote good memories. That doesn't mean it won't be sad at times but let go of things that stir bad feelings. Every-

thing that's kept needs a home. Decide where you will use, display or store your nostalgic items.

2. Is it something you need? Clients often say, "Now that I know where it is, I'll use it!" Think realistically about how it landed there. If it wasn't searched for, it probably wasn't needed. If you're convinced you'll use it, place it in a box with a date six months from now. Put a reminder on your calendar or phone to donate the

contents of the box at that time. Create a permanent home for anything you take out and use. After six months, donate the rest.

3. Does it add value to your current lifestyle and interests? When I ask clients about

their priorities I often hear, "I'd like to (insert hobby/activity), but I don't have the space for it." Give yourself permission to move on and let go of former passions and interests to make space for your current ones. Just because I collected cows and did folk art painting in my 30s, doesn't mean I have to consider them treasures in my 60s.

4. Can I make money if I hang

Please see CLEAN on P. 18

TRACTOR WORK

- House Pads • Lot Leveling •
- Underground Utilities Installed
- Septic Systems Installed •
- Concrete Work
- Driveways •
- Trenching

Call Sonny at **559-970-4476** Lic. #719500 S.G.E.

GOT POOP?
CALL The Poop Fairies

LOCAL dog waste removal service • Weekly, every other week and one time services • Residential and commercial properties • Check us out on Facebook, Instagram and at www.ThePoopFairies.com

559-GOT-POOP (559-468-7667)

Sago Key Palm Plantation!

More than 20,000 Palms & Sagos in stock. We also have a wide selection of Shade & Fruit trees.

call Juan and Maria at **559-268-6650**

6700 E. Central Ave. • Fresno • www.sagorey.com

Bradley & Sons DRILLING & PUMP SYSTEMS

Lic.#414178

DRILLING AND PUMP SERVICE

Same Day Service

674-1663
23338 Ave. 14
Madera

Family Owned Since 1976

Dating Yourself

(May 2011)

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.

Recently while "web surfing" I came across a website with all the fruits and vegetables that are in the Bible. Of course we all know about the apple that started all the trouble, the grapes that were turned into wine, the olive oil and many others, but the one on the list that surprised me the most was the cucumber. If I had read that passage previously, I hadn't thought much about it at the time, but now it seems strange that they were in bible times.

Two of the fruits on the list that we still have today are the fig and dates. They aren't as popular as most other fruit – you either like them or you don't; no in-between. My Aunt Alma (my mom's only living sister – she's 93 years old and still able to send me a three to five page typed – yes typed on an old typewriter – letter every month) loves figs. In fact, when she moved in with her daughter and son in law, she had a fig tree planted in their back yard.

I'm not that fond of figs, but I do like dates. A few years ago I discovered Randy likes dates also so I decided to do some research on the date.

A Little History

Since before the existence of Man, over 50,000 years ago, date palms and other fruit have been instrumental to humans. The Mesopotamians recognized the tree's versatility and value; its sweet fruit became an essential part of their diets and the palm offered "three hundred and sixty" uses, including needles, thread, lumber, mattresses, rope, baskets and other household items, as well as food and beverage. According to Purdue University there are approximately 1,500 varieties of dates.

The majority of dates grown today are in Egypt, Iran and Saudi



Arabia. In the United States, California leads the nation in date production with its 5,100 acres, mostly in the Inland Empire, the southeastern counties of San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial. These produce 18,900 tons for a value of just under \$29 million. According to 2008 figures, dates rank 43rd in California exports, right below apricots and grapefruit and above olives and sweet potatoes.

Growing up, when we were going to have company - especially during the holidays - mama would always put a tray of "goodies" out. It would usually include toasted almonds (almonds put in boiling water just for a minute so the husks could be removed, then the almonds fried in a little oil until brown and put out on paper towels and sprinkled with salt); sugared walnuts (walnut pieces dipped in a pan of boiling sugar and milk then drained and put out on waxed paper to dry); and stuffed dates (a pitted date with a piece of walnut in it, then the date rolled in either sugar or coconut that had been chopped).

Date Nut Bread

Grease a bread loaf pan and pre-heat oven to 325

- 1 C Chopped Dates
- 1 tsp Baking Soda
- ½ tsp Salt

1 C Boiling Water

Mix together in bowl and set aside to cool.

- 1 C Brown Sugar
- 1 Egg Beaten
- 1 T Shortening
- 2 C Flour
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 C Chopped Nuts

In large mixing bowl cream together the brown sugar, egg and shortening. Add flour and vanilla. Mix in date and water mixture and fold in nuts.

Pour into greased loaf pan and bake in 325 oven for 1 hour.

Can be sliced thin and made into sandwiches with softened cream

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

Create a gift from the heart

Ranchos Crafters' Studio & Gifts

559-824-6336

37164 Ave. 12 #102 (behind Subway)

Tue-Sat 12-6 • Sun-Mon Appointment Only

Visit us at www.RanchosCraftersStudio.com
and Facebook "What's Up in the Ranchos"
Contact us for SPECIAL GROUP PARTIES
NEVER a sitting fee • Walk-ins ALWAYS welcome



Arts & Crafts Studio • Bisque • Wood Items

Rodents destroying your property?

Over 15 years of experience
Licensed by Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Cal. Dept. of Pesticide Regulation
Nuisance animal trapping

CALL FOR AN INSPECTION TODAY!

ALLIED RODENT CONTROL • 312-5441



TIRED OF PAYING FOR FLOOD INSURANCE?

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



Michael Sutherland
& Associates, Inc.

645-4730 • Fresno 447-5815

Lic. #PLS 5815

36691 Avenue 12 • Madera Ranchos

www.theranchos.com

Visit the Ranchos' own Website.

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

www.theranchos.com

www.theranchos.com

www.theranchos.com

www.theranchos.com

www.theranchos.com

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

cheese.

Betsy Ross Date Pinwheels

- 1 C Chopped Dates
- ½ C Sugar
- ½ C Water
- ½ C Chopped Nuts
- ½ C Shortening
- 1 C Brown Sugar
- 1 tsp Vanilla
- 1 Egg Beaten
- 2 C Flour
- ½ tsp Salt
- ¼ tsp Baking Soda

Cook together the dates, sugar and water until thick. Stir occasionally to keep from sticking. Add nuts and set aside to cool.

In large mixing bowl, cream the shortening, brown sugar, vanilla and egg. Sift together the flour, salt and bak-

ing soda, add to creamed mixture.

This will make a stiff dough. Turn out on board and divide in half. Roll each half into an oblong 1/8" thick. Spread each oblong with half of the cooled date mixture. Roll each like a jelly roll and wrap in waxed paper. Refrigerate until cool. When ready to bake, slice in ¼" slices. Bake on greased cookie sheet at 350 for 10 to 12 minutes. Allow to stand a minute or two before removing from cookie sheet.

In one of the articles I read, there are several places in the Inland Empire of Southern California that make Date Shakes, however there is a fruit

stand in Thermal that makes the best. They are a true California specialty but can be made at home.

Date Shake

- ½ C Pitted Dates
- 1 C Non Fat Milk
- 3 C Vanilla Ice Cream or frozen

vanilla yogurt
Combine the dates and milk in a blender and blend. Add the ice cream and blend until smooth. Pour into glasses and enjoy!

Makes about four servings.

This recipe comes from my Aunt Alma – I spoke of her earlier in this article. She says they make nice Christmas Cookies.

Date Balls

- Preheat oven to 300
- 1 ¼ C Sifted Flour
- ¼ tsp Salt
- ½ C Butter
- 1/3 C Powdered Sugar
- 1 Tbs. Milk
- 1tsp Vanilla
- 2/3 C Chopped dates
- ½ C Chopped Nuts

Sift flour again with salt. In mixing bowl cream butter, gradually adding powdered sugar. Add milk and vanilla, then stir in flour mixture. Blend in nuts and dates.

Roll mixture into 1-inch balls. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 300 for 20 minutes or until light brown. (DO NOT over bake or they will be hard).

While still warm, roll in powdered sugar. Makes about three dozen cookies.

They aren't as popular as most other fruit – you either like them or you don't; no in-between.



BUY 4 TIRES
RECEIVE FREE ALIGNMENT
\$49 VALUE

Tires
We carry a great range for all vehicles and all applications, new and used

Wheel Alignments
Computerized wheel alignment. 30-day warranty

FREE Tire Maintenance
We offer FREE tire rotations and balance every 7,000 miles

Wheel & Tire Packages
We give your car the right look without compromising safety

Lift & Lowering Kits
Whether you're looking to run bigger tires or get an aggressive look, we have the right product for you



MADERA 559.831.2837 CHOWCHILLA 559.201.9133 FRESNO 559.478.5539

www.hotiresnwheels.com
(559) 831-2937
421 Noble St. Madera, 93637



90 DAYS SAME AS CASH

OPEN 7 M-S-DAYS SUN 9-5



PON TUS LLANTAS HOY CON TRES MESES PARA PAGAR



www.hotiresnwheels.com
(559) 831-2937

We do suspension and brake service.
Hacemos trabajo de suspension y frenos.

MASKS cont. from P. 2

miniscule. “The risk isn’t zero, but zero was never on the menu,” McBride said. “The benefits of vaccination are crystal clear. We only have to look at the real-world data to see that vaccination is the ticket to normalcy.”

Worldly Evidence

What has been observed in certain countries with high vaccination rates is that once an area hits an inflection point, cases continue to decline steadily. Real-world data shows the effectiveness of the vaccines and breakthrough cases are rare. Evidence also suggests that people who previously contracted the coronavirus are also well-protected. The bottom line appears to be that when there are fewer people who can contract the coronavirus because of increasing immunity, cases will drop, hospitalizations will plummet and deaths will essentially disappear.

Israel, for example, hit an inflection point in early March when about 40 percent of the population was given the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Once cases began to dip, the decline sped up.

The United Kingdom also hit its inflection point quickly. “The U.K. was on a pretty strict lockdown when the vaccines were rolling out and also had a higher level of illness than other countries in Europe,” said Dr. Monica Gandhi, an infectious diseases specialist with the University of California, San Francisco. “Which may have led to higher rates of natural immunity.”

Ever since the United States hit its inflection point in late April, cases related to COVID-19, hospitalizations and deaths have been decreasing, she said, noting that the inflection point will vary per state and even county depending on the level of natural immunity in the area. In areas that were hit hard by COVID-19, and therefore have higher natural immunity levels, fewer people need to get vaccinated to reach an inflection point. In areas mostly spared by COVID-19, more people will need to get vaccinated to hit that infection point.

In Michigan, cases recently hit record highs. “There were lower surges in the winter, and so cases went up before coming down, likely due to a lower rate of natural immunity,” Gandhi explained. Now, about 55 percent of people 16 and older in Michi-

gan have received their first dose and cases are finally declining for the second week in a row.

Cases where there were no symptoms, or “asymptomatic cases,” have also been present throughout the pandemic, according to Jennifer Horney, PhD, a disaster epidemiologist and founding director of the University of Delaware’s epidemiology program. “We don’t know exactly what our total coverage is, it could be higher than we think,” she said. “There could be upticks in areas where there are lower rates of vaccination, and there have continued to be higher levels of community spread.”

A Significant Drop

Cases have dropped significantly since this past winter, but the United States still sees about 35,000 cases a day. We are now on par with where cases were last September.

“The vaccine does seem to be effective, but the virus can still find susceptible people in the population who have either chosen not to be vaccinated or haven’t yet become eligible for the vaccine,” Horney said. Over the next few months, she said it will be crucial for more people to get vaccinated. As was learned from Israel, a high vaccination rate will protect the population. Health officials will need to make the vaccine as widely available as possible, provide as much encouragement and data as possible, and provide incentives for vaccination.

“It’s important to remember we have continued investments to make,” Horney said. “It’s not over.”

The pace for vaccinations slowed over the past weeks with only about 2.2 million doses being administered currently. That’s a 35 percent drop from the peak in mid-April, although it’s up slightly over the past days. The collective hope is that this new mask guidance will encourage people who are on the fence about being vaccinated to get vaccinated and hopefully get some normalcy back.

“We’re in a collective trauma. Our physical and mental health have taken a toll,” McBride said. “Vaccination offers the chance to begin the road to recovery.”

McBride echoes the sentiments of many experts who believe vaccines are our ticket to normalcy and should be treated as such.

Julia Ries writes for Healthline.com.

Senior Report**Seniors Anticipating COVID End**

By Margaret Tynan

The Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center wishes to thank everyone for their support of the Center through these past difficult times. It means so much to the seniors of our local area. In the spirit of community service, the Center is pleased to be able to, once again, extend support for the Friends of the Library Summer Reading Program. It is a very important benefit for the youth of our community.

With the increased number of people being vaccinated and the easing of pandemic restriction, the Center is slowly, carefully – but surely – beginning to offer opportunities for members to resume a few activities. Recently, a dozen members engaged in a friendly jigsaw puzzle building competition held on the outdoor patio.

At the starting signal, you could hear the 500 pieces of identical puzzles pour onto each of the four tables. Attack strategy murmurs from each of the three-person teams followed. The afternoon was filled with much laughter, concentration and occasionally consternation. “Why doesn’t that piece fit?” After about two hours, Team 4 shouted as they placed the last piece to win the competition. Diane Maxfield, Ellen Williams and Carol Wood each received a prize, none other than – you guessed it – a jigsaw puzzle. The players enjoyed light refreshments and a very pleasant afternoon.

On Saturday, June 12 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., members are invited to an afternoon playing table games on the shaded patio (ceiling fans too). The Center has a variety of games to choose from and members are welcome to bring any of their favorites. Of course, the popular “Hand and Foot” card game among others is available. Sign up at the Center at 37330 Berkshire Dr. or call 645-4864. We hope to see you there.

We are happy to resume holding our regular business meetings. The schedule for June is: Planning Meeting, Tuesday, June 1; Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 8; General Meeting, Tuesday, June 15. All meetings are held at the Center at 12:30 p.m. It is your Center. Be involved.

The Exercise Program continues to have a good participation. Join us on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. There is still room. The Writing Group will still meet on Zoom on Monday, June 7 and Monday, June 21 at 2 p.m. If you are interested in joining, we’d love to have you. Contact Rosemary Janis to be put on the email list. rosemary@myrancho.net

The regular monthly Outdoor Sale is on Saturday, June 5 from 8 a.m. to noon. Find interesting, useful items in the Treasure House. The garden area will also be open. Please wear a mask and maintain physical distancing while shopping.

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.”— Albert Einstein



Rosemary Janis (left) and Jan Williams concentrate on a jigsaw puzzle in a friendly competition at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center.



Ranchos/Hills Senior Center jigsaw puzzle contest winners (from left) Carol Wood, Diane Maxfield and Ellen Williams put it all together with friends at the Center.

**Say you saw it in
the Ranchos Independent**

In Memoriam



Patricia Ann "Patti" Groh
October 12, 1951 ~ April 20, 2021

Patricia Ann "Patti" Groh, 69, of Madera, Calif., passed away on April 20, 2021. Patti was born to Frank and Betty Shipe in Oroville, Calif. on Oct. 12, 1951. She graduated from Oroville High School where she met the love of her life, Robert, and they moved to Fresno in 1971. She went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Fresno as well as her Master's Degree in Social Work.

Patti was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She spent her last 26 years living in the Madera Ranchos where she loved to cook and was an active member in her church. She was also a member of the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center and the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce. But her greatest joy was spending time with her two grandsons. She also loved to do volunteer work and in 2017 she received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Patti will be deeply missed by her husband of 51 years, Robert; their son Tim and his wife Patty; grandsons Hudson and Carson; brother Jim Shipe and sister Barbara Shipe; as well as many extended family and friends.

Help for Dementia/Alzheimers Patients and Caregivers

PALS helps those recently diagnosed with early onset Dementia or Alzheimer's and helps create new friendships with others in similar circumstances. But it's also essential to remember that self-care is just as important as caregiving. While your loved one enjoys engaging activities and laughter, YOU, the CAREGIVER, can take a much needed break knowing your loved one is being cared for.

The PALS program focuses on independence. Group settings include one staff person to eight participants. Flexible attendance options fit most every budget. Financial assistance is made possible by grant funding and voluntary contributions.

The PALS Program restarts July 6. For more information, call Kristina Corona, Program Manager at Valley Caregiver Resource Center, at 559-224-9121.

Grant funding is provided by the Fresno — Madera Area Agency on Aging. You can find them online at ValleyCRC.org.



Grant funding provided by the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging

By Wyatt Morgan

On May 11, the present Sierra Shadows 4H club had its last meeting. The meeting was for the election of our new officers for 2021-2022.

Each member had to make their own speech and explain why they were a good candidate for each office.

Congratulations to the members who were elected: Host and Hostess -- Aubrey Rocca and Sienna Garcia; Healthy Living -- Emily Wallace and Christy Kaneko; Sergeant at Arms -- Kate Hauschel and Hunter Williams Smith; Attendance Secretary -- Griffin Williams Smith; Historian -- Hunter Weathers and Wyatt Morgan; Recording Secretary -- Corinna Martinez; Treasurer -- Colie Tickle; Reporter -- Kat Talley and Sarah Morgan; Recreation Officers -- Kenny Talley and Jake Poore; Vice President -



- Sierra Gonzalez; and President -- Emily Waldren. Congratulations new Officers for the 2021-2022 4H year. We all know that you all will do great in your position. Have a great year.



What's Happening
93636

APRIL 2021

Median Listing Price
\$425K

Median Days on Market
15

Median Sold Price
\$425K

Median Price/SF Sold
\$205

Data based on the Fresno County MLS

Your Neighbors & Real Estate Experts

*Thinking of buying or selling a home?
 Don't know where to start?
 Call or contact us.*

WE GOT YOU!



Mary Avigliano
 559-367-7264
 mary@ironkeyrealestate.com
 REALTOR® • DRE 02093132



Maurice Gonzales
 559.288.1904
 maurice@ironkeyrealestate.com
 REALTOR® • DRE 01390928

5/21

LICENSE #932435 **TIM DE MERA**
Owner/CEO
 Madera Ranchos Resident

FREE ESTIMATES

ALL STAGE CONSTRUCTION

AND DEVELOPMENT INC.

Room Additions & General Contracting • Commercial & Residential
 Discount Steel Buildings: Sales & Erecting
 Concrete Foundations & Flatwork

TIMDEMERA@AOL.COM **(559) 681-8947**
WWW.ALLSTAGECONSTRUCTION.COM

5/21

FLIP SIDE *join us*

SUNDAYS 9 & 10:30 AM

LIVE ONLINE AT 10:30 AM | WWW.FLIPSIDE.CHURCH

GETTING TO KNOW JESUS

A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL

MARK

IN THE MAYWOOD CENTER | 37193 AVE 12 #3H MADERA, CA 93636 | (559) 481-6875 | INFO@ACTS176.COM

FLIPSIDE VBS 2021



REGISTER TODAY!

PRESS ▶ PLAY
GET IN THE MIX

JUNE 13 - 17 | 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM | TK - 6TH GRADE
WWW.FLIPSIDE.CHURCH/MINISTRIES/KIDS-MINISTRIES/

SEMUCU speaks

California 2021 Drought Projections

By Jeff McGrath

On May 10, Gov. Gavin Newsom expanded the drought emergency declaration to include the 39 counties that encompass the Klamath River, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Tulare Lake watersheds due to an acute water supply shortage in the northern and central parts of the state. The governor designed the order with the ability to expand the number of counties, including Madera. Under the order, the governor is calling on the State Water Board to modify requirements for reservoir releases and diversion limitations to help conserve water for later in the year, improve water quality and protect cold water pools for salmon and steelhead, according to a statement from the state.

About 98 percent of California is currently experiencing drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, with nearly 75 percent of the state seeing ex-

treme drought conditions. Droughts have been intensifying, especially in the West and Southwest U.S., according to the latest National Climate Assessment, with climate change playing a key role in the scarcity of water in the West. As a result, we have listed different ways we can conserve water on a daily basis both indoors and out.

Indoor: Use washing machines for full loads only and run the dishwasher only when full. Install low-flow shower heads and take five-minute showers instead of 10-minute ones. Turn your bathroom faucet off when brushing your teeth or shaving.

Outdoor: Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler and adjust your sprinklers to ensure only your yard is being watered, not your house, sidewalk or street. Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to reduce evaporation and keep the soil cool, and landscape your yard with climate-appropriate plants.

About 98 percent of California is currently experiencing drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, with nearly 75 percent of the state seeing extreme drought conditions. Droughts have been intensifying ...

Problem with your well? According to the County, if you are having contamination problems with you well there is a self-help program from the State. Link to emergency water services with Self-Help Enterprises www.self-helpenterprises.org/programs/emergency-services.

We're repeating the fire prevention project for this summer! SEMCU is offering FREE discing around the perimeters of properties to qualified residents in the SEMCU area of South East Madera County. This project is to help prevent and mitigate the risk of fires throughout the months with excessive temperatures. We

found many people took advantage of this opportunity last year, which is why we want to continue it. If this is something you would like done, please email info@semcu.org or call 559-363-9095 to get scheduled.

SEMCU meeting notice: Since the state began to open public gatherings, we're able to begin our meetings in person again. This is as long as safe distancing and mask wearing are practiced. Meetings will still take place on the third Monday of each month at Verlaine's home at 37101 Avenue 12 (parking available on site). The public is invited and encouraged to participate and offer ideas of projects that can help improve our community.

To call SEMCU for more information, call 559-363-9095 or reach the organization at www.semcu.org or by email at info@semcu.org.

SEMCU is "By the Community, For the Community"



Fernwood Gardens
12090 Fernwood Dr.
Madera, CA 93636



happy FATHER'S DAY



Shaved Ice

Unique gifts - one of a kind items
Anvils, Fire hydrants & more.

New inventory of color,vegetables & indoor plants in-stock weekly

CHECKOUT OUR ECLECTIC SUPPLY OF YARD ART & GARDEN DECOR.

Tues - Fri: 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Sat & Sun: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
CLOSED - Monday

(559) 645-7677

Our knowledgeable staff is always willing to help you find everything you need, and not need. :)

We offer landscape design services!
Call or ask to schedule a consultation.
Plans Starting at \$150




Follow us on FB/IG for all up to date information!
#fernwoodgardensmadera

www.fernwoodgardens.net

fernwoodranchos@gmail.com

Free Vacation Bible School

Join Us For

DESTINATION



UNEARTHING THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS
JEREMIAH 29:13

A Week Full Of Fun Just For The Kids!
June 7-12, 2021
9am - 12pm
Kindergarten - 6th Grade

Golden Valley Baptist Church
Sunday School 9 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30AM
12414 Road 37 * Madera Ranchos
559-645-1700

LETTERS cont. from P. 4

lected and struggle to trust adults. Others are angry, confused, and without hope.

On any given day in the United States, there are more than 400,000 children living in foster care. Over the course of a year, nearly 700,000 children spend at least some time in foster care — in systems generally overseen by local county governments. If you were able to bring all these children together into one city, that city would be the 21st largest in the U.S. Right here in California, 83,000 children live in our foster care system — the largest such population in our nation. We must do better. These children and youth are part of our future, and we cannot abandon them.

On [May 18], the first ever National

CASA/GAL Volunteers Day, we are launching our new State of the Heart newsletter. Our quarterly e-communication will share with you some of the accomplishments of our network of 44 CASA programs, located in California counties all the way from the redwood forests in the far north to the deserts of the far south, and everywhere in-between. The 700 north-to-south miles of our state pose a geographic challenge for California CASA, but we work hard to maintain close and productive relationships with all of our CASA programs. We offer training, support, legislative advocacy, and professional counsel on all aspects of running a high-quality CASA program. To learn more about our services, you can read our Impact Reports.

Every day, those in our network inspire me with their passion and commitment to the cause of CASA — the belief that Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteers, or “CASAs,” are one of the most effective and cost-efficient ways to ensure that a child in the dependency court system is heard, that their best interests are met, and that they find stability and permanency in their lives.

Thank you for your concern and compassion for all those young people living in California foster care, and for the heroic CASA volunteers who provide them a beacon of hope. With your help, CASAs are changing lives, every single day.

Sharon M. Lawrence Esq., CEO
California CASA Association

EDITORIAL cont. from P. 5

are tired of seeing our children taught to hate themselves and to hate each other. They are tired of seeing our country demonized as racist by those whose first and solitary focus is on race. They are tired of the lie that our nation is systemically racist when it has done more to produce a civil and tolerant multi-racial society than any people in the history of civilization.

It is long past time that every American of every heritage denounces this evil for what it is, and to extirpate from our civil discourse those race-baiters of every persuasion who have polluted our national dialogue and corrupted our national heritage.

Congressman Tom McClintock represents California's 4th Congressional District.

IT'S A GOOD DAY FOR QUALITY.



"When you put your name on something, you want it to be the best."

That's the work ethic that Chris, our Senior Test Tech at YORK®, brings to work every day. American Quality impacts every level of design, engineering and manufacturing in every YORK® product. It's people of character and commitment who make that happen. You can see that in action in our latest video featuring a day in the life of Chris at YORK.com/today. It's a good day for quality. And that's a good day for everyone who owns YORK® equipment.

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Huckabee's
LIC #1021130

Locally owned and operated
37082 Avenue 12, Madera, CA 93636
559-662-0336 | www.huckabeeshvac.com

YORK
INSTALL CONFIDENCE

AMERICAN QUALITY

5/21

NORTHwest PEDIATRIC
Medical Group

Marina Alper, MD | Vivian Hernandez, MD | John Lattin, MD | John Kim, MD | Laurie Dahlberg, CPNP

Quality Pediatric Care Since 1995

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Pharmacy, laboratory and urgent care ON SITE



Close to the Friant exit off of Freeway 41
7355 N. Palm Ave. #100
Fresno, CA 93711

(559) 271-6302

northwestpediatricmedicalgroup.com

5/21

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent



Comprehending Compression

Hello 93636,

I thought I would begin this article with a hilarious event that happened last month here in the Ranchos.

On a Friday evening after work, my grandsons (Max 8 and Riley 7) and I were headed to the Nickel Arcade in Fresno to play some air hockey and video games. First, we needed to make a dash for cash at our local Ranchos ATM. As we turned into the State Foods Supermarket/NAPA parking lot the boys spotted a minivan with the hood raised. The boys wanted to help but I didn't. Thirty years ago I might have actually been able to help but with today's vehicle complexity it's my experience roadside diagnostic is generally an exercise in futility.

The boys insisted so, against my better judgement, we walked over and asked the ladies if we could help. "How do I connect this box to the battery?" the lady asked. The minivan's battery was a top-post lead acid battery so, for the moment, I was in my comfort zone. "Connect the red cable clamp to the large battery post (marked with a + for voltage source) and the black cable clamp to the smaller battery post (marked with a - for ground)." She then hands me the box and connects the cables. Now I'm intently studying the unfamiliar knobs and dials trying to understand how this battery booster works. The lady then asks, "What do I do with this hose?"

It's an air hose!

The box I'm holding is not a battery booster, it's a portable 12-volt, battery powered air pump to inflate flat tires. We are trying to jump start this minivan with a portable air pump.

Now that is funny.

An "A" for effort ladies, but no cigar.

Fortunately, they also had a set of old-school jumper cables in their possession. After several minutes of recharging the minivan started right up. I inspected the instrument cluster to see if there were any illuminated "Warning Lamps" to indicate a defective charging system. None present. I suggested the ladies try the Ranchos NAPA auto parts store to have their battery tested. With that success me and the boys were off for some grandpa—grandson play time.

The following is an example of a roadside diagnostic gone wrong. A couple of

weeks ago a 2000 Dodge Dakota rolled into the shop with an engine misfire. I connected my scanner and entered Mode \$03 (Stored Trouble Codes), Mode \$02 (Freeze Frame Data) and Mode \$06 (Emission Systems On-Board Test Results). I wanted to have some idea as to the extent of the problem. I retrieved trouble code P0303 (misfire cylinder #3) and the driving conditions present at the time the misfire occurred. Mode \$2 Freeze Frame Data is very important so testing and repair validation is conducted in the same manner as the fault occurred.

When I raised the hood, I saw a lot of shiny new parts. When I spoke with the customer, he told me he employed not one, not two, but three mobile mechanics to repair his Dakota. The first two performed a diagnostic, replaced some parts but the misfire remained. The third diagnosed defective fuel injectors but never returned after receiving money to purchase new ones.

The misfire was not hard to diagnosis in the shop with proper technology. I first performed a relative compression test by simply connecting my Pico Scope to a high current amp probe placed around the B+ battery cable. Disarming the ignition system so the engine would not start, I cranked the engine over and measured the starter motor current. A cylinder producing higher pressures requires the starter to work harder (more current) then a weaker cylinder (less current). In effect I'm measuring the electrical pressure (current) required to produce the mechanical pressure (compression) in the cylinder. These pressures are relative.

For my diagnostic I compare cylinder #6 (known good) to cylinder #3 (known bad). Cylinder #3 starter current was 163.3 amps while cylinder #6 was 192.9 amps. Cylinder #3 produced 15.04 percent less pressure than cylinder #6. Now I know the misfire is compression related. All the spark plugs, ignition cables, ignition coils, distributor caps, fuel injectors and sensors in the world won't repair low compression.

Next, I installed two Pico pressure transducers at cylinders #3 and #6 and performed an in-cylinder engine idling compression test. I included those waveforms with this article so you can see what I saw. When I aligned the 0-180-360-540-720 degree rulers (vertical lines) the problem was obvious. There it is. Can you see it? Cylinder #3 (Red) has a defective exhaust valve lifter.

Look at the 180-degree rulers for both waveforms. Can you see the cylinder #3 ruler (red -- pic. 1) intersects the exhaust ramp about halfway up the exhaust slope while cylinder #6 ruler (green -- pic. 2) intersects the slope at the top of the ramp. Cylinder #3 exhaust valve opening is 28 degrees slower than cylinder #6. Because the exhaust gasses are not completely exhausted from the cylinder, they mix and dilute the incoming air/fuel charge resulting in the misfire.

Hey, if you can't fully exhale you can't fully inhale. It's that simple. Cylinder #3 has an air flow problem. It's just basic physics.

As vehicle complexity advances, the technology and training needed to diagnosis these vehicles needs to advance. Some think vehicle diagnostic is expensive. I think the trial-and-error method is more expensive.

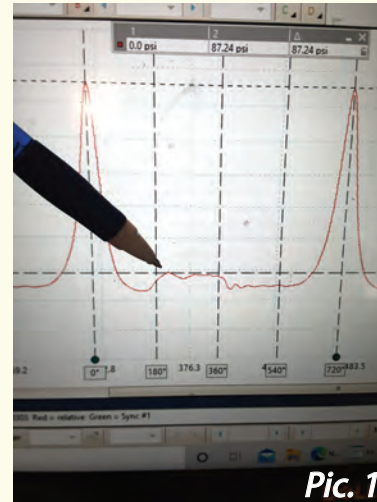
OK guys and gals, that's all for this one. Be careful. Don't pay a stranger in advance. Don't hesitate to ask for certifications.

Ask to see the test results with an explanation. If the explanation doesn't make sense the technician may not completely understand the test.

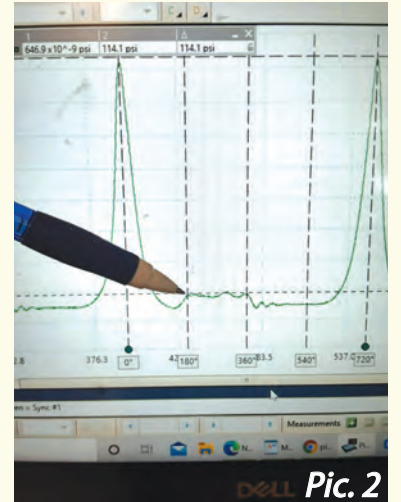
As usual I'm always interested in interesting and current automotive topics to write about. If you have any ideas, suggestions, recommendations and/or any general or specific automotive questions please text me at 559-907-7661 or email complete_car_care@hotmail.com.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636.

Warren Parr, ASE Master, Advanced Level and Hybrid Certified Technician



Pic. 1



Pic. 2

Got Water?

*Got a holding tank to fill? What about a swimming pool?
Don't want to waste your precious well water or pay PG&E to pump it?*

CALL US!

Bubba's Water Truck Service
call Gina at 559-289-3401 • BubbasWTS@yahoo.com

5/21

STOP THE PAIN!
"We've got your back"

*Specializing in
AUTO ACCIDENTS*

**D.O.T. Physicals • Drug Testing
Sports Physicals only \$35!**

**HANEY
CHIROPRACTIC
& rehabilitation center**

36754 AVE. 12 • 660-5262

5/21

**SAY YOU SAW IT IN
the Ranchos Independent**

Click on "Local News" at

Classified

Alteration Services

Madlin's Alterations - Over 50 years experience - Tailoring, repairs, wedding gowns. **FAST SERVICE.** By appointment only. **36027 Ruth Ave. Call 559-645-4583.**

Carpet Cleaning

Pinnacle Carpet Care and Upholstery - "Dries in hours, not days." BBB A+ rating. Golden Valley Chamber member. **Call Bruce today for a free estimate. 559-676-0760.**

Chimney Sweep

Paul the Chimney Sweep Guy- 29 years of experience. Wood stove inserts, pellet stoves and fireplaces. Also clean clothes dryer vents. **REMEMBER: THINK SAFETY, BURN SAFELY! Call 559-908-9332.**

Construction

New construction, remodels, room additions, barns and patios. Lic. #719500. **Call 559-970-4476.**

Firewood

Firewood for sale - Seasoned Almond firewood. Round or split. **Call 259-7122 or 645-5523.**

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. **BEST OFFER. Call 304-2019 or 252-0291.**

CLEAN cont. from P. 7

onto it long enough? A better question is, what are these extra things costing me to keep? Sadly, there are few things that are increasing in value these days. Unless you're savvy selling online, your treasures may be costing you more to keep than to let go of. This is especially

Housecleaning

Over 40 years 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

KEEP IT LOCAL - FREE RECYCLABLE PICKUP - KIDS 4 RECYCLING offers pickup of all recyclable materials including newspaper, shredded paper, containers, plastic, glass, aluminum and cardboard. **Call Diana at 999-6832.**

Funds support Ranchos community organizations.

Tractor/Trenching Services

BOBCAT WORK - DRILLING POST-HOLES - Trees - Trenching - Clean Up. **TRACTOR WORK** Discing - Rototilling - Mowing - Scraping - Stump Grinding. **Call John at 908-1066.**

Tractor Work - House Pads, lot leveling, driveways, trenching, concrete work and underground utilities installed. Lic. #719500. **Call 559-970-4476.**

Window Cleaning Services

Most windows \$5 inside/out - Screen, track, sills included. Remove hard water stain on home windows, shower doors and car windows. Cobweb removal too. Fully insured. **Call Nick at 285-1723. Free estimates.**

Ask about our SENIOR DISCOUNT!

true if you're storing things in a rented storage unit. Even extra things in your home are costing you space. Your catch-all room could be your new craft room. Inventory what you have and send pictures of things to antique and collectible vendors to confirm if there's a market for your items. If so, take the steps necessary to sell, and if not, donate.

River Rec Area to be Shuttered?

California's Department of Water Resources, with the help of the San Joaquin River Conservancy, is embarking on a plan to virtually eliminate a section of the San Joaquin River near the Ranchos that, at present, is available to all Californians for recreational use.

The Milburn Pond Isolation Project impacts an area of the San Joaquin River to the west of Highway 41 that's ostensibly an abandoned gravel pit that, over time, has filled with water and become a placid, pleasurable recreation area. The stated purpose of the project is "Habitat Restoration," with the intent to "... increase native fish survival by reducing movement of non-native warm water fish species from the pond to the river and movement of native salmonids from the river to the pond."

Ranchos resident Jan Peirsol has taken issue with the Conservancy and the state water department and is trying to get someone from the state to listen to her.

"My family, and families like us, have enjoyed access to this beautiful, calm area on the San Joaquin River for fishing, canoeing, swimming and relaxation," Peirsol said. "Never have we seen a dead salmon floating on the serene waters or even in the waters. The fish we catch are always 'catch and re-

lease' and the joy of our kids and grandkids is immeasurable. Memories forever."

Peirsol is urging as many people as possible to contact Karen Dulik with the California Department of Water Resources at 3374 E. Shields Ave., Fresno, CA 93726, or by email at Karen.Dulik@water.co.gov to address this situation.

In the Environmental Impact statement itself, Peirsol points out that its purpose statement virtually negates what it proposes to do. "... Mitigation measures are proposed to reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels for all resources areas except recreation. No feasible mitigation measures are available to reduce the significant impact on water-based recreation opportunities associated with Milburn Pond. *Therefore, this impact would be significant and unavoidable.*"

Peirsol states that it is wrong and totally unfounded to move forward on the project to close the pond to "increase native fish survival by reducing movement of non-native warmwater fish species from the pond to the river and movement of native salmonids from the river to the pond."

"If this is true," Peirsol says, "show me the science"

She contends Milburn Pond has no significant impact on the salmonids and not one shred of evidence has been presented to that effect. "Not one dead salmonid has been observed floating in the Milburn Pond by any of my acquaintances nor by the river guides who are on the river every day. Nor have they been seen swimming, nor have they been caught by a fisherman," she adds.

Peirsol concludes by saying, "We, the public, are not dumb. We recognize this project for what it is. San Joaquin River Conservancy wants to connect their waterway trail and this pond isolation does it for them.

"The focus should be on Recreational activities and the enjoyment we all experience being on the San Joaquin River, including Milburn Pond."

Peirsol says that although the comment date on the EIR has passed, she believes that a meeting will be held by the Wildlife Conservation Board to discuss this project and its Environmental Impact Report.

"With an informed public, maybe more voices speaking against this project could be heard," she said.

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

©2021 King Features Syndicates, Inc.

Don't let possibility enthusiasm crowd you out of your home. Share the wealth.

Contact Organized by Choice at P.O. Box 26152, Fresno, CA 93729, call 559-871-3314 or email info@organizedbychoice.com. You can visit www.organizedbychoice.com when you go online.

Real Estate

Work with the Realtor® who lives and sells in the Ranchos

Learn more about your local agent who provides value and expertise to her clients www.itsthecozylife.com



Samantha Phebus
559.970.6555

REALTOR | DRE#01823578 | samantha@guarantee.com

GUARANTEE REAL ESTATE
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

5/21

"Real estate is my life! I make your real estate dreams a reality."



MARIA FOTOPoulos
REALTOR

559-250-6740 • mfotorealtor@gmail.com
Integrity, Dedication, Results
www.homesmartpva.com/mfoto • DRE #01454566

"Put my experience, knowledge, service and professionalism to work for you."

HOMESMART
PVA REALTORS ASSOCIATION

5/21



This is Journalism?

By Betty Van Valkenburg

The Fresno Bee sent an email to its few remaining subscribers (some of us are hooked on the crossword page) and probably others with the subject: "What We're Up Against." Oddly, what the newspaper is up against, it says, is "False cures. Claims the virus was engineered. Conspiracy theories playing on racism."

The email is reprinted here as an example of how some who purport to be journalists can spin a phrase to make picking others' pockets sound altruistic.

VERBATIM EMAIL FROM THE FRESNO BEE

Subject: What we're up against False cures. Claims the virus was engineered. Conspiracy theories playing on racism.

This is the kind of misinformation that our community is up against. It's why The

Fresno Bee has remained focused on covering the pandemic, providing the antidote to false information since COVID-19 showed up in our community.

If there ever was a definition of public service journalism, this is it. It's why we partnered with Journalism Funding Partners to strengthen our coverage of the pandemic. This partnership means we can cover this story from more angles and reach more people. But for the partnership to work, we need you.

Make a tax-deductible donation to support our reporters and reliable, critical information.

Your support will help us strengthen our reporting on COVID-19, the vaccination campaign and fight misinformation that will keep our community from getting back on its feet.

A CONSERVATIVE'S INTERPRETATION

Such hypocrisy and obfuscation. Such shameful use of a deadly virus and the newspaper's own premature conclusions to solicit donations!

They say that they've been covering the pandemic the entire time and "... providing the antidote to false information since COVID-19 showed up in our community."

Now they are begging for donations so they can "... strengthen their coverage of the pandemic." Is this an admission that they have not covered it sufficiently so far?

The Fresno Bee is in business, as are others, to make a profit. Theirs comes from advertising and subscription fees, both of which are in serious decline as reflected by the newspaper's paltry few daily printed pages.

Apparently, the company needs to find revenue somewhere, so they're using Journalism Funding Partners to solicit and collect donations which otherwise would not be tax deductible. "Help, we need money" would not be a good sales pitch, so in their email they shamelessly paint themselves as victims with "What we're up against!" and as do-gooder "public service journalism" – not as a company, like others, in business to make money, and oh yes, to print only their side of a story.

No, no. The altruistic Fresno Bee is in business to save us from ourselves. We readers are too dumb to be told both sides of an issue and form sound conclusions, so they tell us only their side. And we couldn't possibly know that alternative information sources are available at our fingertips, covering every side of every issue, including

even unproven hypotheses and ongoing investigations regarding the virus.

TIME OUT FOR A LITTLE HUMOR

On the 2020 election problems: While untold numbers of words have been printed about the 2020 faulty election procedures, Kevin Jackson on the Blackosphere.net website is offering a tee shirt that makes the point in a few words. It says, "When I die, don't let me vote Democrat." (You may have to think about that for a moment, but the light bulb will come on and the laugh will come).

A few good laughs at Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's expense followed a live Instagram post where she condemned the use of the term "surge" regarding the border. She actually said this: "Anyone who's using the term 'surge' around you consciously is trying to invoke a militaristic frame ... this is not a 'surge,' these are children, and they are not insurgents ...". In the replies, someone called her "Sandy No-Cortex" and another, "Occasional Cortex." And this: "We shouldn't blame AOC's ignorance on what her longest sentence used to be: 'What would you like to drink?'"

With apologies to good bartenders everywhere.



• Some BBQ tips straight from my butcher: Let meats come to room temperature before cooking. It allows the meat to cook more evenly. Secondly, when your meat comes off the grill, give it time to rest before serving. This allows the juices to redistribute throughout the cut of meat and you'll end up with juicy goodness in every bite. -- JoAnn • Bring a distinctive towel to a pool party so that you will know where your

towel is. You can make an extra-large towel by sewing two smaller towels together, too." -- U.A. in New York • "For a really fun take on kebabs, use fruit instead of meat. The kids especially love fruit on a stick. If you have some neat cookie cutters, use them to cut watermelon into different shapes." -- M.M. in Michigan • The best outdoor tablecloths, especially on a windy day, are fitted single sheets. Simply fit the sheet over a standard picnic table and it's in place and ready. The elastic at the corners keeps it from flying away. You can

look at thrift and discount stores for fun patterns or just plain colors! • "Frozen grapes are the best summer snack for the kids, plus they are the perfect wine ice cube ever." -- J.R. in Oregon • Stainless steel appliances are very popular, and in the kitchen, they get plenty of chances to get fingerprinted up. My appliance guy recommended using a light-mist, wax-based aerosol dusting spray once or twice a week to keep my stainless steel appliance fronts looking their best." -- R.C. in North Carolina • In the closet, we all want to pare

away unused items, but sometimes it seems like you wear clothes that you don't. Turn all the clothes hangers the opposite way (facing out instead of in). When you use an item and it is returned to the closet, replace the hanger normally. In a few months, if an item has not been worn, it will be apparent. If it's not likely to be worn, it should go.

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

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory • Business Directory

CHANEY'S

 Lic. #899496
Bobcat Service
 • DRILLING • TRENCHING • DIRT WORK •
 • efficient • reliable • cost-effective call Beau
559-301-1613

CLARK'S

 559-645-1578
General & Custom Auto Service & Repairs
PERFORMANCE

Unlimited Concrete
 Lic. #1042108

 DRIVEWAYS • SIDEWALKS • COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
 call **Jose Lopez**
559-779-0401

Mike's Country Clippers Barber Shop
HAIRCUTS \$13
 Seniors Thursdays ONLY \$11!
439-2004
37184 AVE. 12 #104
 (behind Pizza Factory)

NEW & USED CARS & TRUCKS
 All Makes & Models
J.H. Sanders Sales & Leasing
822-4500
 41453 Ave. 14 1/2
 Madera Ranchos
www.jhsanders.com

BEDROCK ENGINEERING
 A solid foundation for your next project
 Land Surveying • Civil Engineering • Consulting
INVEST IN YOUR EXISTING PROPERTY!
 For a free consultation, visit our Madera Ranchos office!
 10878 HWY 41 • 559-645-4849
www.bedrockeng.com

Bradley & Sons
 Lic. 414178
DRILLING & PUMP SYSTEMS
674-1663
same day service

Huckabee's
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 Lic. #837274
559-662-0336
559-438-8260
 Sales and Service - Free Estimates
 Duct Testing & Certification
 Locally owned and operated!

HIGH QUALITY GATE SYSTEMS

559-454-8060

TOUCH-OF-GREEN LANDSCAPE
 CA LIC. #934774
 commercial, residential and industrial landscaping
 call **559-242-6352**
info@TouchOfGreenLandscape.us

Create a gift from the heart

 Arts & Crafts Studio • Bisque • Wood Stems
Ranchos Crafters' Studio & Gifts
559-824-6336
 37164 Ave. 12 #102 (behind Subway)

WE PICK YOU UP!
COMPLETE CAR CARE
559-275-0157
 7:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
 MONDAY - FRIDAY
"Hometown feeling, big city service!"

PERSONAL TOUCH
 Lic. # B0008113
 Landscaping & Gardening Services
 Yard cleanups & hauling • Weed control
 Lawn & garden service • Maintenance
 Weekly & monthly service (not a licensed contractor)
 call Mag Anaya Jr.
559-974-1357
 Ranchos Resident

BUBBA'S WATER TRUCK SERVICE

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

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

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		+		15		
+			÷		-			
	x			-		11		
+		+			x			
		+		x		16		
7		10			4			
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

H.O. TIRES
 • TIRES
 • ALIGNMENTS
 • WHEEL & TIRE PACKAGES
 • LIFT & LOWERING KITS
 • FREE TIRE MAINTENANCE
559-831-2937

Aleman's Painting
 SINCE 1980
 Interior & Exterior
 Specializing in Repaints
 Rental, Residential & Commercial
 Drywall, Stucco, Redashing & Acoustical Removal
 Color Matching
559-974-2268

FERNWOOD GARDENS

 12090 FERNWOOD DR.
 MADERA RANCHOS
559-645-7677

Get Involved!

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

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

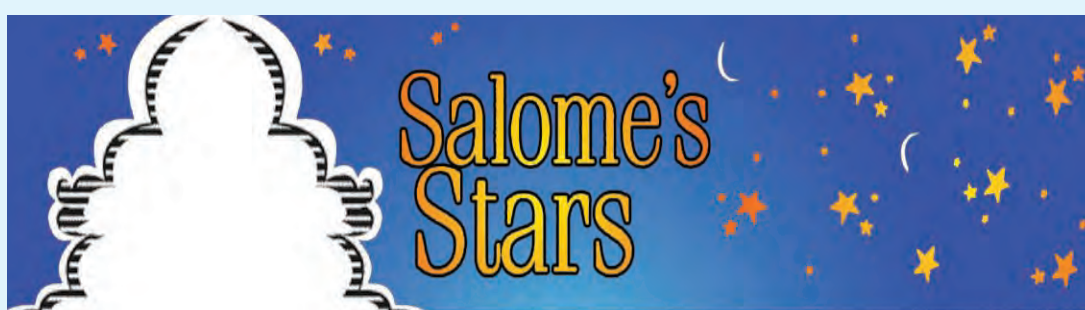
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



ADS
LOGOS
PR
MARKETING
645-0634



"With a little luck, I could have been fired by Donald Trump!"



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Temper your typical Aries urge to charge into a situation and demand answers. Instead, let the Lamb's gentler self emerge to deal with a problem that requires delicacy.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You are aware of what's going on, so continue to stand by your earlier decision, no matter how persuasive the counter-arguments might be. Money pressures will soon ease.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) By all means, have fun and enjoy your newly expanded social life. But don't forget that some people are depending on you to keep promises that are very important to them.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You need to wait patiently for an answer to a workplace problem and not push for a decision. Remember: Time is on your side. A financial matter needs closer attention.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You now have information that can influence that decision you planned to make. But the clever Cat will consult a trusted friend or family member before making a major move.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Good news: You're finding that more doors are opening for you to show what you can do, and you don't even have to knock very hard to get the attention you're seeking.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your gift for creating order out of chaos will help you deal with a sudden rush of responsibilities that would threaten someone less able to balance his or her priorities.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Congratulations. Your energy levels are coming right back up to normal -- just in time to help you tackle some worthwhile challenges and make some important choices.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The sage Sagittarian should demand a full explanation of inconsistencies that might be cropping up in what had seemed to be a straightforward deal.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A conflict between obligations to family and to the job can create stressful problems. Best advice: Balance your dual priorities so that one doesn't outweigh the other.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Don't guess, speculate or gossip about that so-called mystery situation at the workplace. Bide your time. An explanation will be forthcoming very soon.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Boredom might be creeping in and causing you to lose interest in a repeat project. Deal with it by flipping over your usual routine and finding a new way to do an old task.

Born this Week

You can warm the coldest heart with your lyrical voice and bright smile. You find yourself at home, wherever you are.

FUN PAGES

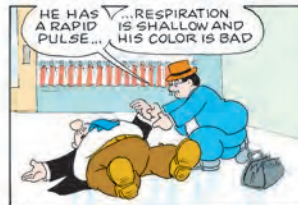
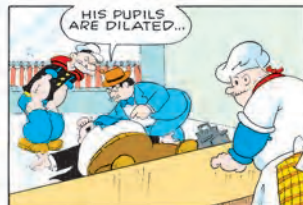
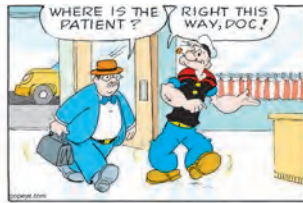
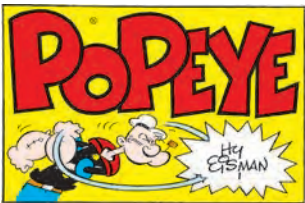
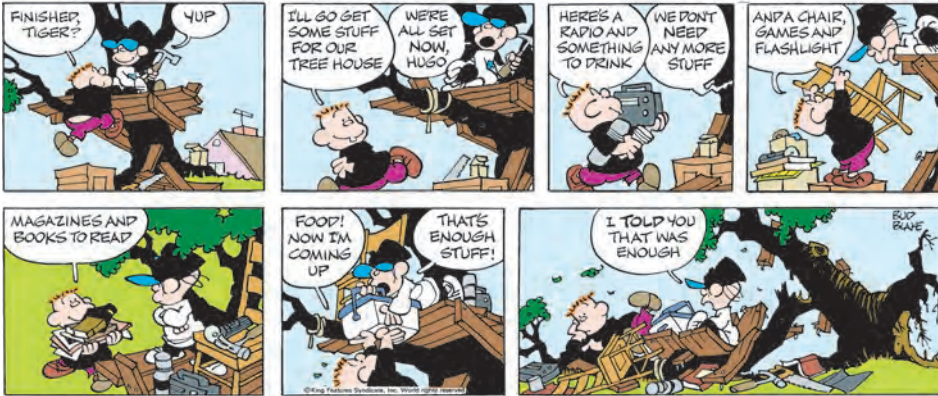
Kids' Maze



© 2021 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

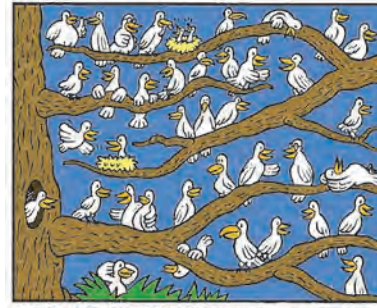
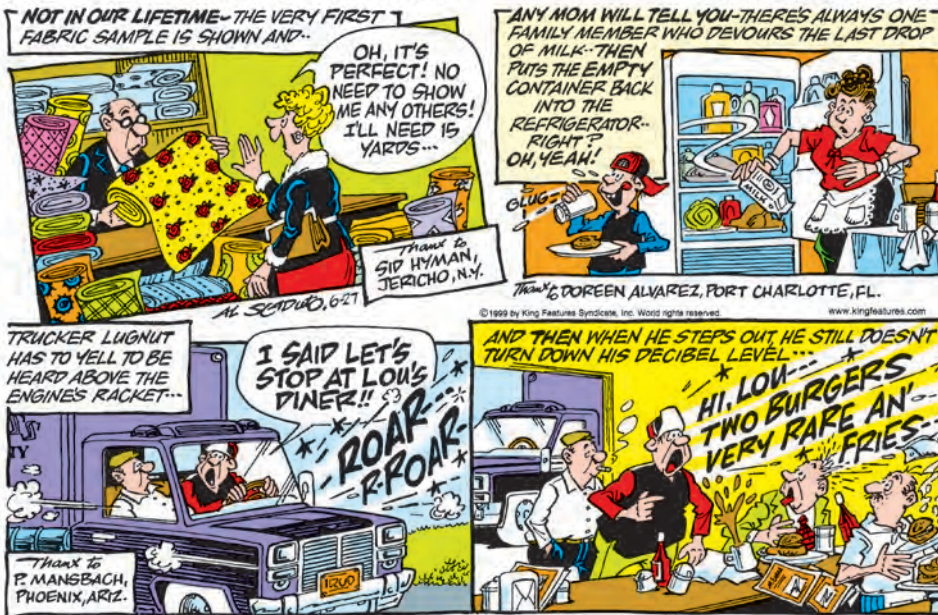
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



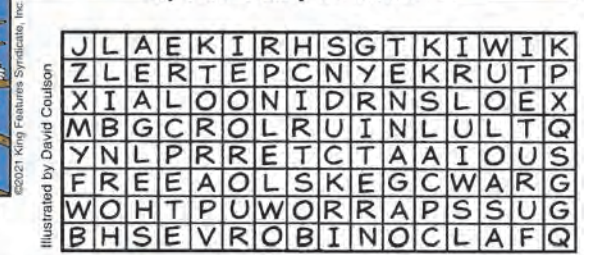
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

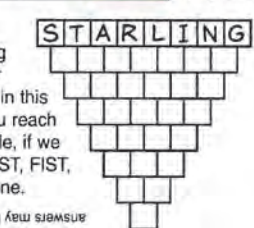


CHECK YOUR PEEPERS! Our artist says there are 40 birds pictured above. You have just one minute to find them all.

LUNCH BEAK! If six birds can eat six worms in six minutes, how many birds will be needed to eat 100 worms in 100 minutes at the same rate? *Answer: 100 birds*

BIRDS OF A FEATHER! Hidden in the diagram above are the common names of 25 birds or families of birds. They can be found by reading up or down, left to right, or right to left. You'll even find them diagonally going up or down. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the 25 birds you're looking for:

ANOTHER STARLING
Starting with the word STARLING, try dropping one letter so that the remaining letters, in their original order, spell out a new word. Continue in this manner, dropping one letter at a time, until you reach the bottom of our word pyramid. As an example, if we started with the word FIRST we could get FIRST, FIST, FIT, IT, I. You have two minutes to solve this one.



- | | | |
|--------|----------|----------|
| Crow | Hornbill | Shrike |
| Duck | Kiwi | Sparrow |
| Eagle | Loon | Starling |
| Falcon | Ostrich | Stork |
| Gannet | Parrot | Swan |
| Grouse | Pelican | Tern |
| Gull | Patrel | Turkey |
| | Quail | |

Wishing Well

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

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

MAGIC MAZE



- Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: - OF NOODLES
- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Aahing | Eerie | Oogenesis | Oolong |
| Aardvark | Llama | Oogonium | Oops |
| Aaron | Llano | Oohing | Oozing |
| Eel | Lloyd | Oolite | |

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: What is Canada's northernmost territory?
- TELEVISION: Which sitcom features a bar named Paddy's Pub?
- SCIENCE: Mycology is the study of what?
- MUSIC: Which city is mentioned in the Eagles' 1972 song "Take It Easy"?
- MEASUREMENTS: Which civilization was the first to divide a day into 24 hours?
- U.S. STATES: How many states border Colorado?
- MOVIES: "Hedwig's Theme" is the music that marks which movie series?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the novella "Breakfast at Tiffany's"?
- LANGUAGE: What does The Magna Carta mean in English?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the traditional birthstone for June babies?

- ### Answers
1. Nunavut
 2. It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia
 3. Fungi
 4. Winslow, Arizona
 5. Ancient Egyptians
 6. Seven: Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming
 7. "Harry Potter"
 8. Truman Capote
 9. The Great Charter
 10. Pearl

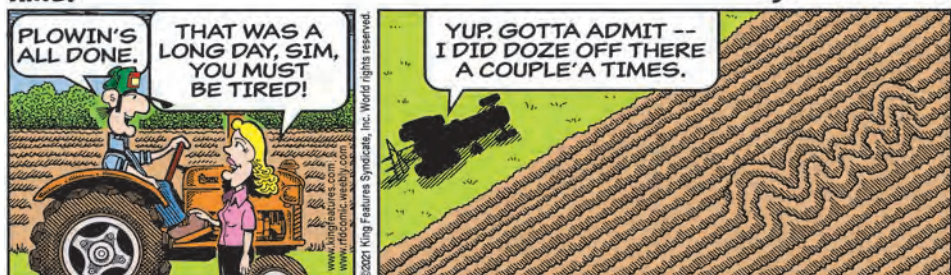
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



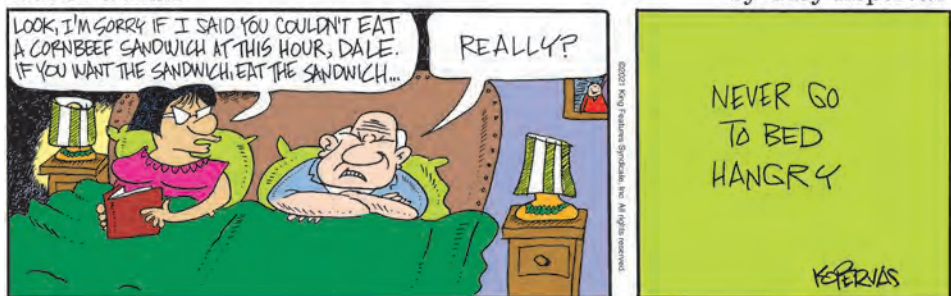
R.F.D.

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

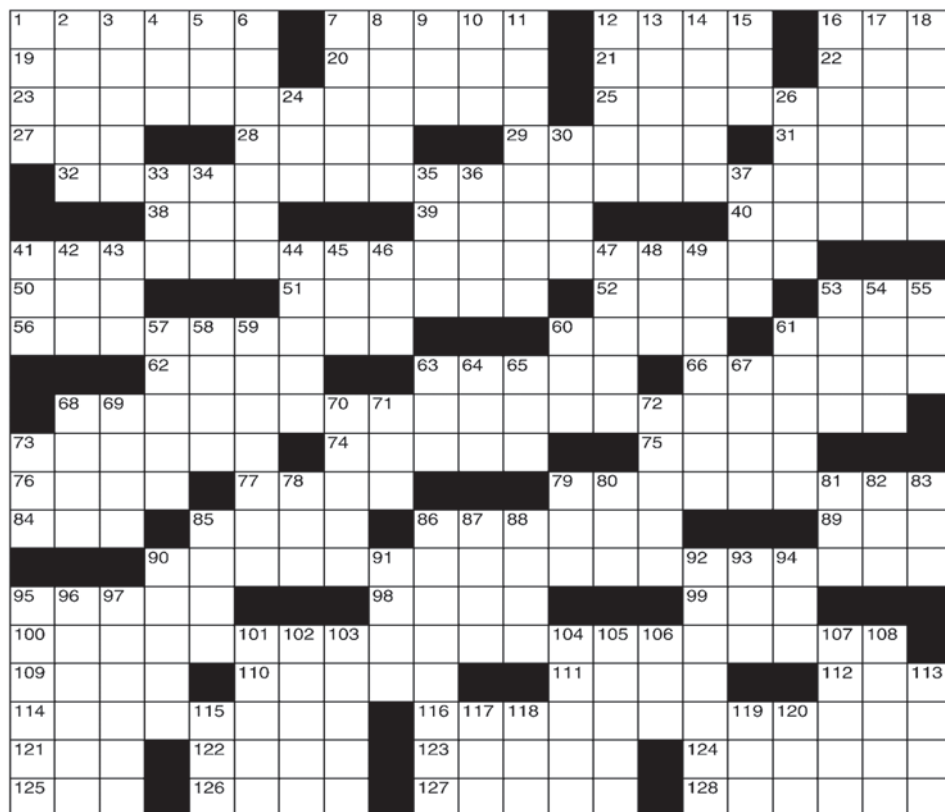
©2021 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



Differences: 1. Cap is different. 2. Collar is different. 3. Spoon is added. 4. Napkin is missing. 5. Frockies are missing. 6. Bow is added.

www.TheRanchos.com

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Beethoven's Third, popularly
 - 7 Biblical twin
 - 12 "— -Ca-Dabra" (1974 song)
 - 16 Math calculation
 - 19 Fred Astaire, e.g.
 - 20 Piano challenge
 - 21 Get out of the field
 - 22 Year, in Portugal
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 25 Security datum
 - 27 Cockpit guess, briefly
 - 28 Math calculation
 - 29 Woolen cloth
 - 31 Many a roof edge
 - 32 Riddle, part 2
 - 38 Costume part, perhaps
 - 39 Future jr.
 - 40 Maine college town
 - 41 Riddle, part 3
 - 50 Debt slip
 - 51 "Annie" star Quinn
 - 52 Home of the Bay of Pigs
 - 53 Mr. America's pride
 - 56 Sensed
 - 60 Great serves
 - 61 It has limbs
 - 62 Bit of a lot
 - 63 Cow catcher
 - 66 Diner dish
 - 68 Riddle, part 4
 - 73 Home of Ikea
 - 74 Virtual bread?
 - 75 Elliptical
 - 76 Like saints
 - 77 Not had by
 - 79 Turns away
 - 84 With 55-Down, totally ready
 - 85 Mrs., in Berlin
 - 86 SOS signals
 - 89 "So cool!"
 - 90 Riddle, part 5
 - 95 "Heidi" author
 - 98 A juror takes one
 - 99 Corn-on-the-cob unit
 - 100 End of the riddle
 - 109 Intro studio class
 - 110 "— Gold" (Fonda film)
 - 111 Author Sarah — Jewett
 - 112 Gun rights org.
 - 114 Stunning with a gun
 - 116 Riddle's answer
 - 121 Suffix with polymer
 - 122 Town near Santa Barbara
 - 123 Everything, in Latin
 - 124 Ill-advised
 - 125 Decimal base
 - 126 New York City river
 - 127 "Zounds!"
 - 128 Notes with hashtags
 - 10 Exalting poem
 - 11 Really criticize
 - 12 The Little Mermaid
 - 13 Moist, as grass
 - 14 GI's time off
 - 15 Clerk at TV's Kwik-E-Mart
 - 16 Actor Antonio — Jr.
 - 17 Asymmetric
 - 18 Oscar winner Rita
 - 24 Laundry room brand
 - 26 London length unit
 - 30 Actor Ken
 - 33 "Oh, gross!"
 - 34 LI doubled
 - 35 Even — speak
 - 36 Score unit
 - 37 Itty-bitty bit
 - 41 Little drink
 - 42 Bladed tool
 - 43 "They're playing — song"
 - 44 Courtroom mallet
 - 45 Go hastily
 - 46 Dated
 - 47 Razor-inventing philosopher
 - 48 Chalked stick
 - 49 Remit, as sins
 - 53 Musician Guthrie
 - 54 Bone to pick
 - 55 See 84-Across
 - 57 Tea box
 - 58 Latin "Lo!"
 - 59 Mined find
 - 60 Year — glance
 - 61 Green car?
 - 63 Zenith rival
 - 64 "TGIF" part
 - 65 Hearth residue
 - 67 Spiteful
 - 68 Like a missing GI
 - 69 Tony winner Carter
 - 70 Subside
 - 71 Start for friendly
 - 72 Aplomb
 - 73 "Na Na" lead-in
 - 78 Scott's refusal
 - 79 Bible boat
 - 80 Tripod part
 - 81 As well
 - 82 Really long time
 - 83 Hen or nanny
 - 85 Govt. money guarantor
 - 86 It lacks a heel
 - 87 Wood strip
 - 88 Throb
 - 90 Shaw of jazz
 - 91 Presage
 - 92 Ration
 - 93 Mineo of films
 - 94 Three, in Rome
 - 95 Try to hit, as a gnat
 - 96 Coined thing
 - 97 China's Sun —
 - 101 Mystical board
 - 102 Lower arm bones
 - 103 Kosher
 - 104 Like plow-pulling oxen
 - 105 Lock of hair
 - 106 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
 - 107 Many a bellybutton
 - 108 Lovers' meeting
 - 113 Firefighters' tools
 - 115 Sushi eggs
 - 117 "Can u believe it!"
 - 118 — roll (lucky)
 - 119 Nashville-to-Chicago dir.
 - 120 Have debts
- DOWN**
- 1 Falco of "The Sopranos"
 - 2 Balsa transports
 - 3 Tavern sign
 - 4 Freud's "I"
 - 5 So-so mark
 - 6 Call into court
 - 7 Tiara shiner
 - 8 Best players
 - 9 Bad dog

FUN PAGES

SEM CU

south east madera county united

Wildfire Safety Measure Offered to Our SEMCU Residents



If you would like this done, please call 559-363-9095 to sign up for FREE discing of your residential lot and boundary. Or email info@semcu.org and include your name, phone number, address and any specific instructions.

Since the state has begun to open public gatherings, we're able to have our meetings in person again.

Our next meeting is Monday, June 21 at 6 p.m.

Safe distancing and mask wearing will be practiced.

We will start at a new gathering hall at

37101 Avenue 12, Madera Ranchos

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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