

The Ranchos Independent



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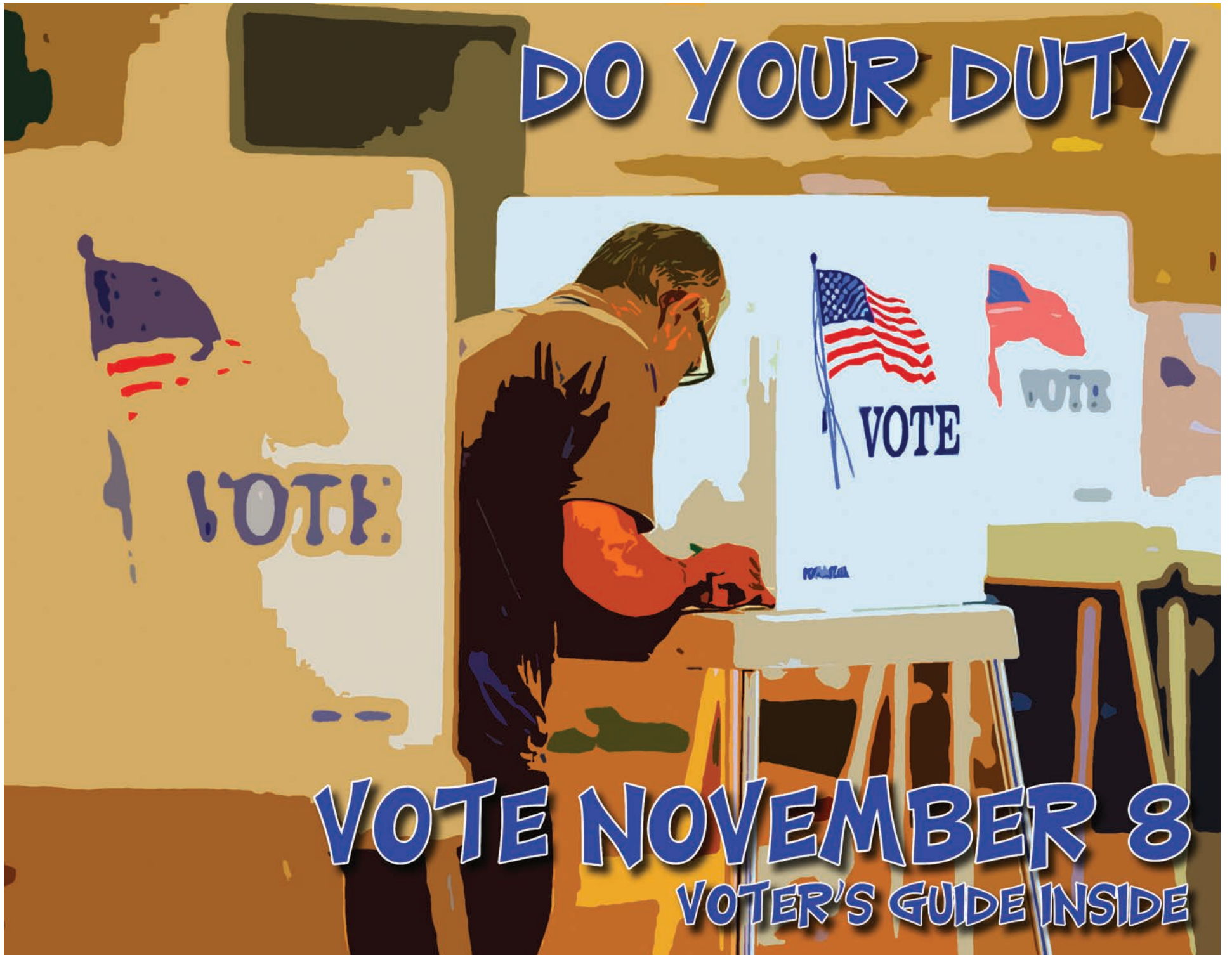
CELEBRATING
18 YEARS
IN THE RANCHOS

Volume 18 Issue 10 2022

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

50¢

DO YOUR DUTY



In This Issue

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Liberty High Goes Into Lockdown

By Randy Bailey

On Tuesday, Wednesday 5, Liberty High School went on a full campus lockdown in response to an alert sent from the school's automated alert system. The lockdown only lasted 18 minutes and was determined to have been issued in error.

According to the school district, at 12:30:05 p.m. an automated lockdown announcement went out to the entire campus via the public address system. The announcement placed Liberty High School on a lockdown at that exact time, and the entire campus was secured with no signs of an intruder or threat. The Sheriff's Department

was on scene shortly after the announcement went out and the campus was completely locked down but then cleared in less than 5 minutes, with all students and staff accounted for at 12:35 p.m.

A school lockdown confines all staff and students to the classroom due to a real or *perceived* threat. Isolation of staff and students inside the school limits exposure to risk from outside people, exposures or situations.

There are several reasons for a school to determine that a lockdown status is most protective of its staff and students. There

Please see **LOCKDOWN** on P. 4

41 Paving Project Begins at 145

Approximately 1,200 feet of both northbound and southbound lanes of Highway 41 at Highway 145 are going to be repaved.

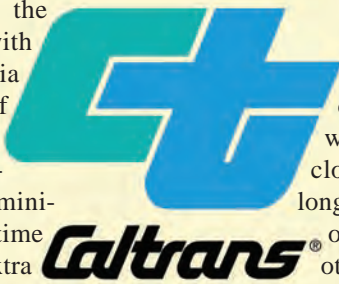
The California Department of Transportation is planning the paving project, along with Fresno-based Garcia Paving, to this portion of Highway 41 in Madera County. All work is scheduled for night hours to minimize the impact on daytime commuting, but as such extra care during construction hours is cautioned.

The approximate 1,200 feet of Highway 41 will be just south of Highway 145 and a portion of the intersection of 41 and 145 will also be included. They are fore-

casting that the project should take approximately 15 working days and work was scheduled to begin on Thursday, Oct. 20. All work is scheduled overnight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

People using the highway can expect delays of up to 10 minutes at a time and complete traffic control will be in place. However, closures may continue for longer periods of time because of weather-related delays or other uncontrollable events that often can occur.

As always, allow additional time while driving in construction zones and practice extra care. Also, always be aware of construction workers and make sure you "Slow for the Cone Zone."



Grape Growers Offer Scholarships

California table grape growers are offering three types of scholarships to graduating high school seniors from the table grape growing regions of California. There are two types of scholarships offered for field workers and their families. The first is a \$14,500 scholarship for graduating seniors who will attend two years of a community college and transfer to a California university or college. The second is a \$25,000 scholarship for graduating seniors who will attend a four-year California university or college. The third type is a \$25,000 scholarship offered to graduating seniors who will attend a four-year California university or college and are interested in studying agriculture and building

a career in the table grape industry.

Three of each scholarship type are available. The deadline to apply for all scholarships is Friday, Feb. 10, 2023 at 5 p.m. Since 1985, California table grape growers have offered scholarships to graduating high school seniors from California's table grape growing regions. To hear recent scholarship recipients in their own words, visit: www.grapesfromcalifornia.com/communityoutreach/scholarship-recipients/.

For more information on the scholarship program, please email Scholarships@grapesfromcalifornia.com or visit: www.grapesfromcalifornia.com/community-outreach/.

ELECTION 2022

THE RANCHOS INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

(These are suggestions provided by the Ranchos Independent. This is still America ... vote how you please.)

There's an old saying that if you keep doing what you're doing, you'll get what you've got. If you're pleased with the way California is being run, by all means vote Democrat. The reality is that at this time in our state, positions from the Governor down to Dog Catcher are almost exclusively Democrat. If, on the other hand, you'd like to see something different for California, vote a straight Republican ticket. Now, for the propositions ...

7 Propositions and 1 Measure on our November 8 Ballot

Proposition 1 – Abortion Constitutional Amendment | California state law already allows access to abortion and contraception, but Prop 1 is so extreme it will allow unrestricted late-term abortions. that will end up costing taxpayers millions. **VOTE NO**

Proposition 26 – In-Person Sports Wagering | The proponents of Prop 26 want you to believe this measure is *just* about sports wagering, but don't be fooled. This massive expansion of gaming changes state law to give private trial lawyers the powers of the Attorney General — allowing them to file endless and frivolous lawsuits. **VOTE NO**

Proposition 27 – Online Sports Wagering | Out-of-state gambling corporations are promoting Prop. 27 as a solution to homelessness with no accountability measures in place to protect taxpayers. We should more effectively manage the billions the state is already spending as well as any new funding needed in the future. **VOTE NO**

Propositions 28 – Art and Music K-12 Education Funding Initiative | It's time to get back to basics and support quality education with funds dedicated to improving basic skills such as Math, Science and Reading – *all* where California is falling behind. **VOTE NO**

Proposition 29 – Dialysis Worker Unionization | Identical measures were overwhelmingly rejected by voters in 2018 and 2020 but the labor unions figure third time is the charm. If passed, Prop 29 would increase the cost of healthcare while lessening the quality of service our most vulnerable patients receive. **VOTE NO**

Proposition 30 – Income Tax Increase for EV Subsidies | Lyft is proposing this massive \$4.5 billion tax increase so they can use taxpayer's money to build more electric vehicle infrastructure and meet CARB's new mandate. Now is the worst possible time to saddle taxpayers with \$4.5 billion in additional taxes to double down on failed energy policies. **VOTE NO**

Proposition 31 – Flavored Tobacco Ban | Politicians who wrote this say it will reduce underage tobacco use, but it's already illegal to sell any tobacco product to anyone under the age of 21. It's projected that Prop. 31 will increase illegal smuggling and counterfeit markets and force even more tobacco sales into underground markets controlled by organized criminal gangs. **VOTE NO**

Measure T – This is a continuation of the existing 1/2 cent Transportation Tax for Madera County for various transportation needs. **YOU CHOOSE**



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**Andy Wheeler, Candidate
Madera County Board of Supervisors,
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- Madera Deputy Sheriffs' Association
- Madera County Firefighters/CalFire Local 2881
- Madera Police Officers' Association
- Former Candidate Michele Stephens
- Madera County Supervisor Robert Poythress
- Golden Valley School Trustee Steven Lewis
- Madera County Supervisor Brett Frazier
- Theron and Karen Higginbotham
- Madera County Supervisor Tom Wheeler
- Candy Hall
- Madera County Supervisor Lety Gonzalez

- Dan Foss
- Chris Imperitrace
- Mike and Melissa Der Manouel Jr.
- Jay Mahil, Farmer
- Felipe Piedra
- Tim Williamson
- Justin Gibson
- Mike and Julie Burgess
- Johnny Tacherra, Farmer
- Bob and Leslie Carella
- David and Christina Wagner




(Partial List)

10/22



**Vote for Andy Wheeler
for Supervisor!**



CONTACT:  Wheeler4Supervisor.com
 5200 N. Palm Ave., Suite 306, Fresno, CA 93704
 Andy Wheeler for Madera County Supervisor

Highway 41 Crash Kills Driver, Dog

On Thursday, Oct. 20 at approximately 6:30 p.m., a car crash in Madera County resulted in the death of a woman and her dog while three other men who were injured in the accident were sent to local hospitals. The accident occurred on Highway 41 and Road 208, an area just north of the intersection of Highway 145 and Highway 41.



The California Highway Patrol said that the woman, who has not yet been identified, was traveling from Road 208 to Highway 41 in her Mini Cooper when it appears she turned in front of an oncoming Toyota Tacoma, causing the collision.

She had a male passenger in her car who suffered major injuries, as did the two men in the Toyota pickup.

The CHP said all those involved were wearing seatbelts and it didn't appear that alcohol and drugs were a factor in the crash. The incident is still under investigation.

LOCKDOWN cont. from P. 2

may be an unwelcomed person or persons on the campus grounds or local law enforcement may have notified administration of a situation or person of concern in the vicinity. It could also be a menacing animal seen on the grounds. In short, there is some sort of event occurring, or threatening to occur, that the school believes can be mitigated by limiting access to staff and students. Building principals, as the "front line," in concert with district administration, should make the determination as to lockdown drills. For actual incidents requiring lockdowns, building principals can

initiate lockdown status or by the prompting/guidance of local law enforcement.

The district's Information Technology department confirmed that the lockdown came from extension 2002 at the school, which is an office phone. After talking with IT, it was determined that the alert was sent in error from the automated alert system. At the same time, the Administration was also in touch with Educational Options and Ranchos Middle School near Liberty High to inform them of the status during the ordeal.

Liberty High School lifted the lockdown at 12:48 p.m. after checking with the IT department and Sheriff's department and confirming that the entire campus was clear.

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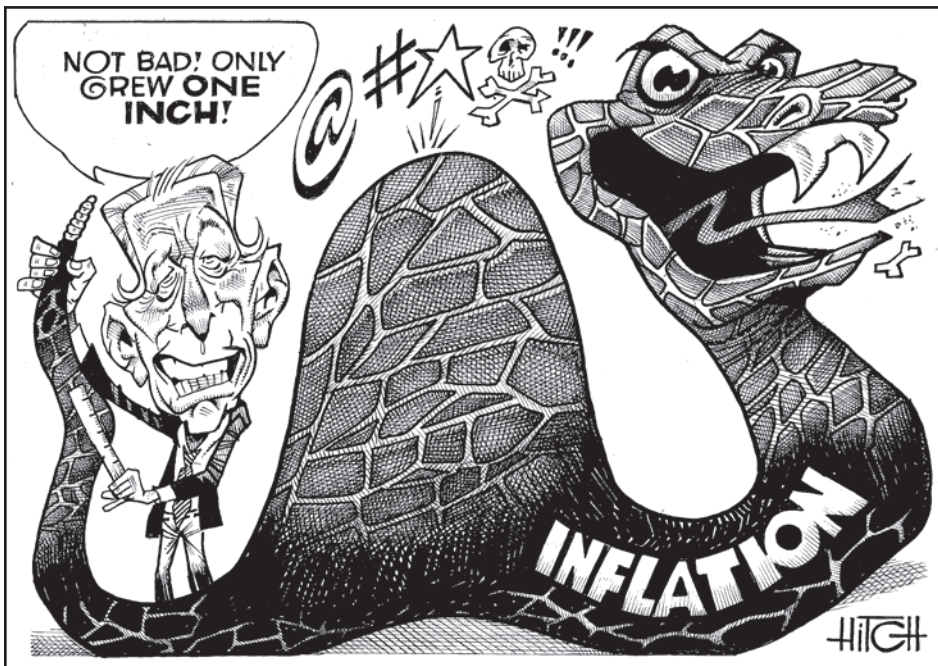
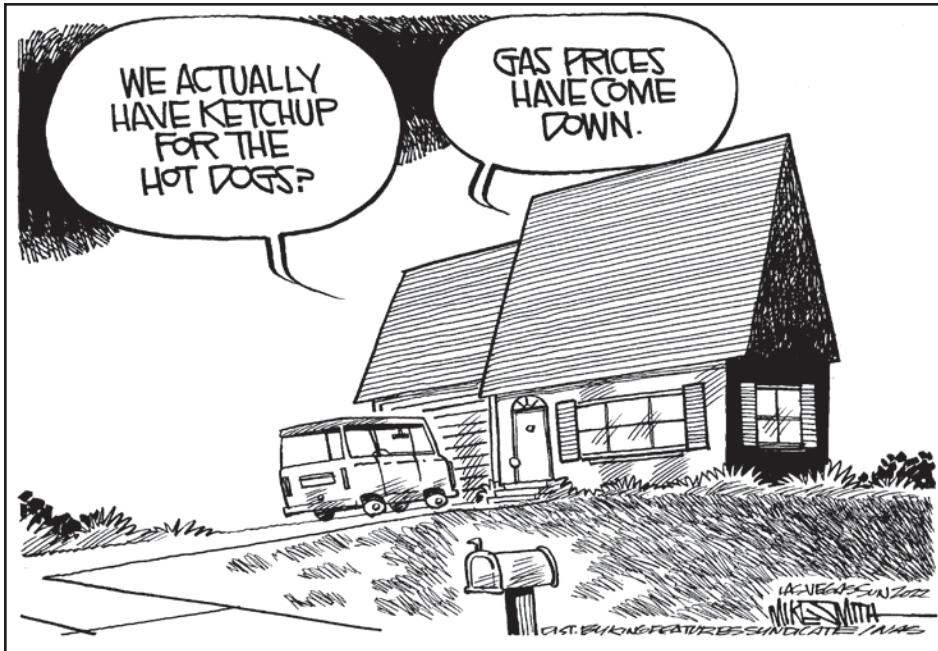
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Guest Editorial

When Will CA get a G.O.P. ?

By Richard Eber

It occurred to me last week after writing a column about sports gambling initiatives 26 and 27 that watching paint dry is more interesting than California politics in 2022. Contested elections are more plentiful than a Joe Biden press conference.

In reality voters in the Golden State find themselves playing the part of voyeurs watching how races unfold in other states. We are supposed to care about contests going on in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Arizona, Ohio, Florida and elsewhere. Even worse, I receive pleas each day in Microsoft Explorer from Rhinestone Politicos begging for donations from people I don't even know. It can be truthfully asked, how could my life possibly change if Dr. Oz, Stacey Abrams, Hershel Walker, or Mark Kelly win or lose?

But then again, following all of these other people is more entertaining than handicapping the race between Gavin Newsom vs. Brian Dahle. Let's see ... on the June 30 filing date for campaign contributions, Newsom raised \$30.7 million to his opponent's \$1.6 million. This disparity will continue to increase as voters will likely never learn Dahl's name.

The contest for Lt. Governor is even more ridiculous as the current office holder, Eleni Kounalakis, has no record to run against. Since being elected by money put up her billionaire Dad, this lady has done virtually nothing in office

to deserve anyone's support or opposition. Her Republican opponent Angela Underwood Jacobs sounds like an upgrade but in reality neither of these women have the experience or expertise to become Governor of the country's largest state.

The Attorney General's race between Democrat appointee Ron Bonta and his Republican opponent Nathan Hochman is slightly more interesting, even though Bonta collected 3.3 million more votes in the primary and outspent his foe 3 to 1. Perhaps this year, with ineffectual prosecutions leading to high crime rates in California, the Republican has a slight chance of winning.

The State Controller's job is also up for grabs with Democrat Malia Cohen and Republican Lanhee Chen on the ballot. If someone could tell me what the function of this office is -- other than signing checks -- figuring out who is most qualified for the job might create more intrigue

We should all be more interested in the State Treasurer's job as the current office holder Fiona Ma is responsible for the State's investments, including the retirement funds. Being a good Democrat, she does not dare to criticize the incompetence of CalPERS and CalSTRS which consistently underperform.

Ma's opponent, Republican Jack Guerrero, is much more qualified for the job but lacks funding to reach voters while wearing the GOP Scarlet Letter around his neck. This gives him virtually no chance of winning. No doubt incompetence will reign supreme Nov. 8.

The race that bothers me the most is the so called non-partisan post of Superintendent of Public Instruction overseeing public education. The present office holder, Tony Thurmond, is a do-nothing lapdog of the Teachers Union. Under his reign, test scores have plummeted in math and English. No one cares because critical race theory is now taught.

During the Covid-10 epidemic, Thurmond was an advocate for keeping kids at home while insisting on wearing masks when they returned in person to the classroom. We can see how well that worked.

Giving this guy another term is similar to bestowing the Captain of the Titanic a medal for not colliding with a coral reef in the North Atlantic. Unfortunately, Thurmond's well-qualified opponent Lance Christensen will have no opportunity to win given the Democratic Party and Teacher's Union total stranglehold on

Please see EDITORIAL on P. 7

The Ranchos Independent

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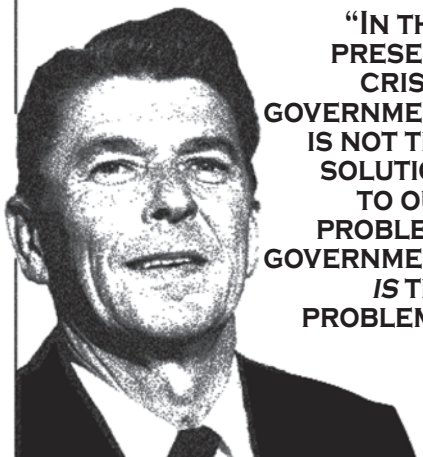
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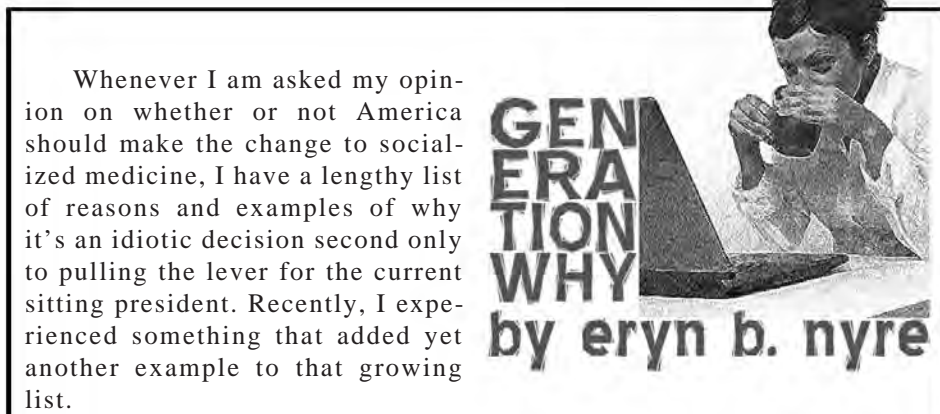
THE RAY GUN SHOOTING STRAIGHT TO THE HEART



"IN THIS PRESENT CRISIS, GOVERNMENT IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM; GOVERNMENT IS THE PROBLEM."

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

A "No" Vote on Socialized Med



GENERATION WHY
by **eryn b. nyre**

Whenever I am asked my opinion on whether or not America should make the change to socialized medicine, I have a lengthy list of reasons and examples of why it's an idiotic decision second only to pulling the lever for the current sitting president. Recently, I experienced something that added yet another example to that growing list.

First, let me say that personally there is no aspect of socialized medicine that I support. I think it leads to rampant waste, poor healthcare and an increase in corruption. Our current healthcare structure is already fraught with all of these things, but once the federal government gets its meat hooks all the way in there it will be out of control. Socialized medicine is simply not the answer to making our healthcare system better. Having said all that, let me tell you about my most recent experience and why I think it would have been significantly worse if the socialists got their wish.

I went to the dermatologist for a routine skin check, something we should probably all do more often. In addition, I've been experiencing some stubborn fungus on my big toe. I've tried every over the counter and home remedy Google suggests, but nothing was curing it. The doctor looked at it and prescribed a topical gel. She called it into my pharmacy and about an hour later I got a call from them letting me know it wasn't covered by my insurance.

I should point out my insurance plan is hardly the Cadillac of plans. My company, despite being a healthcare company with its own medical group and health plan, doesn't cover this state. We have facilities here, but not healthcare providers directly from our medical group. The company has to contract out to other health plans in states outside the main footprint, which is the Midwest. Having

never lived in South Dakota, I can't say for certain that their local health plan is the cream of the crop but I'm guessing it's much better in the hub than out of it. But I digress.

When the pharmacy told me this particular medication wasn't covered by my insurance, I asked how much it would cost me. \$600.

Once I managed to pick my jaw up off the floor and stuff my eyeballs back into my skull, I asked

her if that came with a handsome man to apply it and give me a little foot rub at the same time. She wasn't as amused with me as I was with myself and just told me that it did not. I asked

her if there was a generic version that I could have my dermatologist prescribe for me and she said this was the generic.

Yikes.

I told her I simply couldn't afford that and I guess the toe would have to go. Her response was to tell me they have a coupon they can apply to bring the price down. Way to bury the lead, lady. I didn't have to sign up or do anything special to get this coupon. Evidently it was a magic coupon. She just hit a button on her computer and suddenly my total was \$65. Nearly 90 percent off at the press of the button, and yet, she would have charged my insurance the full price if they would have covered it.

Some of you are thinking, "Well Eryn, at least they brought the price down." They did, but only

Please see **GEN WHY** on P. 17

Whenever I am asked my opinion on whether or not America should make the change to socialized medicine, I have a lengthy list of reasons and examples of why it's an idiotic decision ...

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EDITORIAL cont. from P. 5

this office

Until it was looked up, I wasn't sure if there was an election this year for U.S. Senator in California. Democrat Alex Padilla, who was appointed to the job last year to replace Kamala Harris, is running virtually unopposed. One would think he would face stiff competition to hold on to this seat.

Apparently not.

Instead Padilla faces weak opposition from Republican Mark Meuser. This Republican loyalist previously ran for the House of Representatives and the legislature in Contra Costa County. He has never garnered more than 40 percent of the vote in a general election. His only real constituencies are protest ballots against liberal Democratic opponents. Several years ago the Vice Chair of Contra Costa GOP counseled Meuser to change his Ivy League "Little Lord Fauntleroy" appearance to more resemble prospective constituents.

Not much has changed over the years

for the "Harold Stassen" of California.

After looking at this list of Republican candidates, it is no wonder their Democratic opponents aren't inclined to debate them. Why bother such interaction because few voters turning out November 8 even know the names of these deadbeats.

Talking about deadbeats, it appears the State GOP organization -- under the leadership of Chairwoman Jessica Patterson -- is oblivious to changing the narrative of California politics in a more conservative direction. They have put virtually no effort into promoting voter registration or putting up better candidates to run for State office.

The results speak for themselves.


Even well-healed Republican donors are reluctant to send donations to this do-nothing cadre of ineffectual bureaucrats who spend most of their limited resources on Anti-Trump activities and inflated salaries.

This editorial originally appeared in the California Political Review at www.capoliticalreview.com.



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Transforming Good Intentions to Priceless Reality

This morning I got word that my husband's last uncle passed away. Two days ago, we attended the Celebration of Life service for a 59-year-old man with whom we did ministry. Last month a good friend's father died. Ecclesiastes 7:2 says, "It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart."

Death stops us in our tracks — literally and figuratively. Literally when it is our turn, we no longer walk with those on earth. Figuratively, when it happens to those around us it causes us pause and, at least for a moment, we take to heart our own mortality.

Why should we take this to heart and what does it have to do with being organized? Sandra Felton of Messies Anonymous said, "Organizing is not nearly as important as many other things in life, but what it delivers is often priceless."

For the young widow whose husband handled the bills and paperwork, being left with a simple system and organized files is priceless. For the adult children of deceased parents, inheriting a home that does not take hours and hours of sorting, trashing, and donating is priceless.

Taking to heart our own mor-

tality gives rise to an assessment of priorities. When leaving a funeral, we're not hoping to spend more time watching sitcoms before it's our time to go. We may be thinking of things we haven't yet done — our "bucket" list, creating a will/trust, gathering important documents, or purging excess belongings. We may be thinking of relationships to invest in or restore.

What do you want in life? That's an important question considering we all have an expiration date. In *Organizing for the Creative Person*, authors Dorothy Lehmkuhl and Dolores Cotter Lamping say, "Good time management means doing activities you regard as important to achieving what you want in life."

Unfortunately, when we consider something important, it doesn't automatically happen. Here are four Action Steps that can transform your good intentions to priceless reality.

What do you want in life? That's an important question considering we all have an expiration date.

Action Step One — Identify one thing that is of high importance to you. Create a specific goal based on that value.

For instance, maybe preserving memories is of high importance to you. Your goal may be to organize your photos and create a photo book for your child, vacation or year. Or maybe your goal is creating a video of your grandparents sharing memories.

Action Step Two — Break down your goal into steps. If you're dealing with hard copy photos, your first step would be to gather your photos then purge and sort in categories based on your end goal. If your goal is a video, your first step may be creating a list of questions to which your grandparents could respond.

Action Step Three — Schedule specific time on your calendar to work on each identified step. You may want to schedule two hours every Thursday night, or 9 – 11 a.m. once a week on

Please see **ORGANIZE** on P. 17

Soup it Up

(October 2012)

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.



by Jean Briner

I was beginning to think we weren't going to have a fall season, going from summer right into winter. Then we had those few beautiful 70+ degree days, but here we are back into the 80's and projecting to get to 90 over the week-end. I do love the fall weather. In addition to the beautiful weather, we don't have to turn the A/C on and it's not chilly enough yet for the heater.

As I said in last month's article, another thing I love about the fall is we can start cooking in the kitchen and not worrying about heating up the kitchen, or worse, the whole house. Comfort foods we can cook are stews, soups and roasts. This month I'll continue from last month with soups – I think most everyone likes soup, especially the good homemade kind.

This first recipe was my sister Faye's. I've never made it, but my sister Maxine did and she informed me it not only made a big pot, but it was delicious.

Dear readers, remember that recipes (except baking recipes) are just suggestions. If you or your family doesn't like something, substitute something else. They don't like carrots? Don't use as many as called for and add an extra potato – or surprise them and put in a turnip. If you don't like a particular seasoning, avoid it, or put something else in. Personally, I hate the flavor of cilantro so I just don't put it in and maybe use parsley instead.

Taco Soup

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 can Rotel
- 1 can chopped tomatoes

- 1 package ranch dressing mix
- 1 package taco seasoning mix
- 1 can ranch style beans
- 1 can creamed corn
- 1 can kidney beans
- 1 can black beans
- 1 can pinto beans
- 1 can navy beans
- Water
- Grated cheese
- Sour cream
- Tortilla Chips
- Brown ground beef with onion in 6 quart soup pot. Add Rotel, tomatoes, ranch mix, taco mix, ranch style beans and cream corn to beef and onion.

Drain and add remaining cans of beans. Add 2 cans of water. Stir together and simmer for 10 minutes or until the consistency you like. Serve over tortilla chips, and garnish with grated cheese and a spoon of sour cream.

The following recipe is also from my sister Maxine. There are a couple of notes written on the side of the recipe. If you can't find dry mint, use fresh. And she says she prefers red cabbage to the green.

Armenian Cabbage

Fill soup pot ¾ full of water

- Add:** 1 head cabbage cut in eighths (1/8)
- 3 medium diced onions
- 2 closed handfuls pearl barley
- 6 ounces beef base
- ½ tsp. white pepper
- 1 serving spoon diced tomatoes
- 1 serving spoon tomato sauce
- 2 T dry mint
- Cook 30 minutes or until barley and cabbage are tender.

I think I have told you before about going over to the Yturi (I know that isn't the way to spell it, but I couldn't find it on the internet) Hotel for lunch and eating in the dining room with the sheepherders. They served soup, salad, entrée, side dishes and desserts all family style. The food was outstanding. A special soup I always

liked was the Beef Barley Soup. I went on line looking for a recipe, and wow, there are as many recipes and differences as there are colors in a big box of Crayola's.

Beef Barley Soup

- 2 lbs. beef – Oxtails, stew meat, chuck steak or roast – any meat that can be boiled.
- 2 Qts. Water
- ½ C Pearl Barley
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 3 ribs celery, chopped
- 3 carrots, cut in ¼ inch slices
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- ½ tsp. thyme
- ½ C chopped fresh parsley
- Brown beef with a little oil in the bottom of a large kettle or Dutch oven. Add balance of the ingredients except the parsley. Bring to boil, reduce heat, cover and sim-

mer 2 ½ to 3 hours, or until meat is done, and barley is tender. Cut meat to bite size pieces and skim any fat from top of soup and remove bay leaves before serving. Stir in parsley, and serve.

In last month's article I told you I would include Randy's Corn Chowder recipe, so here it is:

Randy's Corn Chowder

- 2 cans condensed Cream of Chicken soup
- 1 Qt. Half and Half
- 3 cans Whole Kernel Corn, drained
- 6 Potatoes
- 2 T sugar
- ¼ C Butter
- 2T Parsley Flakes

Put a large pot on medium heat and empty the two cans of cream of chicken soup into it. Instead of

Please see RECIPES on P. 10



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Senior Report

Treasure House: A Ranchos Gem

By *Melanie Williams*

Do you remember the summer of 2000?

We do at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center. Renovations were just being completed at the Senior Center. The expansion project included the removal of interior walls to provide a larger main room for meetings and events and it was completed in June of 2000. Three new disability-accessible bathrooms were beautifully designed and completed in July of 2000, and a new building near the back of the property was completed in August of 2000.

“Now all we need is a name for our new building. ‘Garage’ is hardly appropriate,” said Esther Anderson at the time.

She was the writer for the Ranchos/Hills Seniors Report in August of 2000. Many senior members thought it deserved a better name than “The Garage,” so suggestions were submitted for a more inspirational title to give the new building with Helen Lowell submitting the winning name. She called it the “Treasure House” and was awarded \$10 for her winning submission.

Helen and her husband spent the \$10 plus another \$20 on a clock purchased from the Treasure House. The clock became a humorous novelty in their own personal family history, about giving back more than what was originally received for the Senior Center.

On Oct. 14, 2000, the new “Treasure House” was opened to the public. It also happened to be Flatlanders’ Day that year in the Madera Ranchos. Keiko Wyatt hosted the Opening Day Event for the Treasure House at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center.

Many Helping Hands

Many members helped to establish the Treasure House. They donated new and used clothing, shoes, coats and kitchen accessories like matching place settings, linens and tablecloths. It was called a rummage sale, but many of the items were new or

hardly used. The Senior Center Monthly Sale was in full operation with the Treasure House, boutique, bake sale and plant sale in the Scout Garden.

Over the years, many volunteers helped to improve the Treasure House. Former Ranchos/Hills Board President, Mike Thompson, organized the storage space in the new building and from 2003 to 2013 Audrey Stock took over and was the coordinator of donated goods and sales at the Treasure House.

Josie Turner took over from Audrey when she became a member in 2012 and did not hesitate to take on the Treasure House. The mantle was then handed to Jo Chase in 2018 and she has been in charge of it ever since. Lu and Rosemary Janis upgraded the storage facility when it became dormant during Covid until its reopening in Spring of 2021.

Vicki Dougherty helps Jo Chase in the Treasure House and calls to schedule other volunteers during the monthly sale. Jo says Vicki is a great help in coordinating the Treasure House volunteers. It takes a lot of volunteer hours to keep things going at the Ranchos/Hills Senior Center. We always encourage donations of goods, collectable items and plants to the Senior Center.

This year’s Annual Craft Fair was a great success. The Senior Center hosted 30 vendors that sold a variety of crafts and goods. We thank Mike Fursman for his master grilling techniques at the BBQ Luncheon at the Craft Fair. A big thank you to all the volunteers who donated and participated in the Craft Fair Event.

Thought for November: “November comes and November goes. With the last red berries and the first white snows. With night coming early and dawn coming late, ice in the bucket and frost by the gate. The fires burn and the kettles sing, and the earth sinks to rest until the next spring.” *Clyde Watson*

RECIPES cont. from P. 8

adding water to the soup, use the full quart of half and half. Start stirring. You don’t want it to stick to the bottom or it will burn. Drain the three cans of corn and add them to the pot and keep stirring. Peel the potatoes and then dice them into approximately 1/2” squares and add them to the pot as you cut them. Once all the potatoes have been added, add in the butter, sugar and parsley flakes. Cook until the potatoes are tender, usually around 30 minutes. The smaller you cut the potatoes the faster it cooks. Pair this soup

with sliced sourdough bread that has been buttered and then put under the broiler. It melts the butter into the bread and toasts it, but only on one side, making the other side soft, chewy and buttery.

I know there are a lot of people out there that won’t agree with me – one of those was my sister Faye. She hated Daylight Savings Time – but I like it. It will go into effect Sunday morning, Nov. 6 at 2 a.m. So, before you go to bed Saturday, Nov. 5, set all your clocks BACK one hour. If you don’t, you will be quite early for church the next morning.

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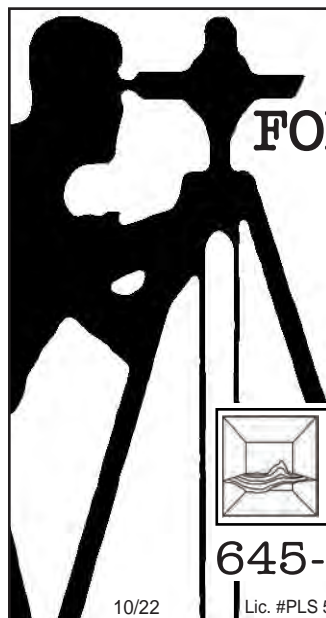
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The Bookshelf

Time to Curl Up with a Good Book

By Jerrica Edmundson

October is here and I am so glad that the temperature is finally starting to cool off. It's almost to the point where I just want to curl up with a fluffy blanket, a cup of tea and a good book, which is always my favorite way to spend time. Things here at the library are also starting to get officially settled down, and that is definitely the best. We can officially welcome Kate back to the ranks here at the Ranchos Library and we are so glad to have her back behind the desk helping out our community members where she belongs. Feel free to come say hi and welcome her back.

As far as new and exciting things going on, we have recently received a generous donation from the Madera County Superintendent of Schools of circulatable learning backpacks. We currently have five different themes to choose from, and each one includes activities driven toward learning or defining a specific skill. These are geared toward our youngest community members and have themes like: The Alphabet, Dino Dig, Health and Safety, Let's Get Moving, and Shapes and Colors. We will be adding more to the selection, but here we have a few sets of each theme, and they can be checked out for Madera County residents for three weeks at a time. We also are currently working on setting up a reading tutor through a volunteer who is generously offering her time to help little ones get better at their reading skills, starting in January. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for more details regarding that amazing opportunity.

As always, I love being able to help out our community in new and innovative ways, so if there is ever something you think we can help out with — let me know.

Jerrica's Bookshelf: *Legends and Lattes* by Travis Baldree

This book managed to confirm that I have a new favorite sub-genre of book: cozy fantasy? Apparently it's a genre that has come to exist as its own happy little subset of the fantasy world, and I am so here for it. I had never realized my penchant for depressing storylines and this is a departure from that that just makes me feel so ... calm. These books have served as a refreshing break



from the standard epic fantasy in a way that doesn't feel like I'm settling for something to disrupt my somewhat singular focus on high fantasy epics. This will join Becky Chambers' *Monk and Robot* series as a comfort book to read when the world just feels too dark to deal with.

Legends and Lattes follows an orc barbarian named Viv as she seeks to settle down from her adventuring career and start up a café serving the unusual gnomish delicacy she discovered on her journeys: coffee. Viv shows us that change can be scary, but worthwhile so long as you truly work toward it. Hanging onto your past only serves to hold you back — and I think that is a lesson that we all need to learn nowadays. She makes friends with the townsfolk and this book manages to make “the true treasure was the friends you made along the way” trope into something that I didn't find off putting or cringey in the least. I love this book and will forever recommend it to anyone who asks.

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SEMCU speaks

By Verlaine Elinberg

What About Measure T?

The Southeast Madera County United area covers the area of Madera County bounded on the north by Highway 145, on the South by the San Joaquin River, on the east by Highway 41 and on the west by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway and Ave. 32 ½. SEMCU interests facing our community, such as water, schools, energy and transportation are becoming major concerns.

For 30 years, Madera County communities have depended on Measure T for transportation improvements. It has been supported by a ½ cent sales tax, initially approved in 1990 and renewed in 2006 with a 20-year expiration which will expire in 2026 unless renewed by

voters. The Madera County Board of Supervisors has placed a measure on the Nov. 8 ballot to renew this source of local transportation funding at this current rate. If approved by voters, the Measure T renewal will last until ended by voters. This will allow Madera County to rely on this funding on an ongoing basis to meet local transportation needs and plan for the future. The plan will be revisited every 15 years thereafter to potentially adjust the transportation programs and associated allocations of Measure T proceeds to ensure that the plan addresses the future transportation needs of the County and its residents, as determined through a comprehensive public engagement.

Since 2006, the Measure T Transportation ½ Cent Sales Tax Program

has been administered by the Madera County Transportation Commission/Authority. Measure T needs to renew this funding before 2026. Transportation projects like road repairs, highway improvements and traffic safety upgrades require significant planning and engineering before they can be implemented. If we wait until the last minute to renew funding, projects will have to be put on hold until funding is available. Measure T funding provides approximately \$12 million per year. The funds are also matched by state and federal government funds in new revenue for transportation improvements for Madera County. In addition to transportation, Measure T revenue supports local transportation projects, such as filling potholes, adding additional lanes to existing streets and roads, sidewalks like on Avenue 12) traffic control devices to

enhance student and public safety, public transit, paving and maintaining local streets and roads, keeping transit affordable for students, seniors, veterans and the disabled. In addition to local projects, it is also used for Regional Transportation Projects: Freeway interchange improvements and reconstructing major commuter corridors to enhance access between cities and communities.

One of the interests of SEMCU to our community is transportation. In the Madera Ranchos, Avenue 12 is our major concern for safety. We have all heard, and some have experienced, tragic accidents and deaths there. This will not go away with the increase in housing and population in the last 30 years, We need to make the right decisions when we vote on Nov. 8. Measure T helped Madera County qualify for \$226 million in state and federal matching funds that would have otherwise gone to other communities. The highlight is it's not an increase in taxes, just an extension of an existing tax. Everyone pays equally because it's a ½ cent sales tax.

Please see SEMCU on P. 15



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10/22

SEMCU cont. from P. 14

Whether you're homeless, an immigrant, working class, elite or a business owner, if you buy something you pay the tax. Madera County, the City of Madera and the City of Chowchilla benefit from Measure T and Sacramento and the federal government are "hands off." The City of Madera Chamber of Commerce has endorsed Measure T.

For more information visit www.maderactc.org/measuret/page/measure-t-renewal.

For now, the regular (once a month) SEMCU meetings take place virtually on the third Monday of every month and last about an hour. The next meeting is on Monday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. To join, call 312-757-3121 and use access code 715-657-949. For more information about anything related to SEMCU, call 559-363-9095 or email us at info@semcu.org. You can also visit our website at www.semcu.org.

*SEMCU is "By the Community,
For the Community"*



Sierra Shadows 4H Club

Local 4-H Takes Honors at Show



The Sierra Shadows 4-H group was well represented at the Madera County Fairgrounds on Sunday, Oct. 2 for the Madera County 4-H Achievement Awards.

By Sarah Morgan

The Madera County 4-H Achievement Night was held on Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. at the Madera County Fairgrounds on Cleveland Avenue in Madera. Sierra Shadows 4-H was lucky enough to have winners in many categories.

In the Club Officer Books category, for Historian Wyatt Morgan and Hunter Wethers were first medalists. For Reporter, Sarah Morgan and Katherine Talley were first medalists. For Secretary, Corinna Martinez was first medalist. And Treasurer Colie Tickle was County Winner.

For Outdoor Adventures, Micah Lee was County Winner. For Arts & Crafts, Sarah Morgan got County Winner. For Horses and Ponies, Aubrey Rocca got first place and Lucy Lee got second place. For Meat Goat, Hunter Williams-Smith got third place. For Outstanding First Year, Landon Davis got third place. For Poultry, Griffin Williams-Smith got County Winner. For Self-Determined for her Joshua's Ways project, Sierra Gonzalez got County Winner. For Shooting Sports, Wyatt Morgan was County Winner.

It was a great night, everyone had fun and congratulations to all of the Sierra Shadows winners are in order.

In Memoriam

Anderson “Andy” Lee Blake

December 17, 1940 - August 8, 2022



It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Anderson Lee Blake, 81, of the Madera Ranchos. Andy passed away on Aug. 8, 2022 in his home from natural causes, while surrounded by family and loved ones. Andy was a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Andy Blake was born on Dec. 17, 1940 to Leslie and Cecile Blake in New Market, Iowa. He graduated from New Market High School in 1959. In 1960, he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he met Frances and they went on to wed in 1962 at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. Andy served 20 years in the Air Force and retired in 1980. Andy and Frankie then lived in Watsonville, Calif. where they managed Healthway Natural Foods on East Lake Avenue. Andy was part of the Main St. Business Improvements for the City of Watsonville and worked for NASCAR, writing articles about local races for the Register-Pajaronian newspaper from Watsonville Speedway, Laguna Seca and Sears Point (Sonoma Raceway). Andy and Frankie briefly lived in The Colony, Texas

before finally moving to the Madera Ranchos.

Andy lived a life of service

and loved helping others and volunteered his time with numerous local church programs and youth groups. Andy also dedicated his time to the Boy Scouts of America. He served as both an Assistant Scout Master for Troop 15 and as a Scout Master for Troop 1095 while in Louisiana, and as a Scout Master with Troop 118 in the Madera Ranchos. Andy loved fishing, camping, motorcycle riding, photography and barbecuing with family during warm summer evenings. Andy is preceded by his parents and his brother, Merle Blake. He is survived by his wife, Frankie Blake; his four children, James Blake, Patricia Akiyama, John Blake and Brenda Blake; his nine grandchildren, Jerry, Anthony, Samuel, Daniel, Amanda, David, Isiah, Katherine, and Julieanne (Max); and his great-grandson Milo.

A funeral service and reception were held at Holy Spirit Church in Fresno on Oct. 17. It was a lovely service with friends and family and Andy's final resting place will be at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery with military honors.

Kiwanis Korner

Sheriffs Bring the Law to Kiwanis

By Sally Rowden

Finally, the cooler weather is upon us. It's a pleasure to sit out in the mornings and evenings. Hope each of you are enjoying it.

At our Oct. 13 meeting our guest speakers were Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims and Madera County Sheriff Tyson Pogue. Both shared how the communities of Fresno and Madera work together in all facets of law enforcement. The fentanyl crisis was discussed and they encouraged us to talk with our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren about the dangers of fentanyl. A great

point shared by the sheriffs is the Good Samaritan Fatal Overdose Prevention Laws. Research confirms the most common reason people cite for not calling 911 is fear of police involvement. This law protects the caller from prosecution which has the potential to save victims of

overdose. Narcan was also discussed. This is the lifesaving nasal spray medication that helps reverse the effects of an overdose. You can get Narcan at your local pharmacy without a prescription. Both sheriffs highly suggested keeping Narcan in your home.

In regard to crime, they advised having a "Shut Down Routine" in the evenings, meaning your family knows what needs to be put away, locked, closed, secured, etc. being proactive in keeping crime at bay. And do be diligent in watching out for your neighbor. If it doesn't seem right, then it probably isn't.

Our first event for the holiday season is our Ranchos Kiwanis Christmas Tea & Luncheon to be held on Nov. 5 from 11:30

to 2 p.m. There will be a silent auction and door prizes. The cost is \$25 per ticket. Location is 37101 Avenue 12, Madera Ranchos. This fundraiser supports the children of our community. Contact our President, Ollia Ridge, at 824-0979 for tickets or further information.

A huge thank you to President Ollia Ridge for housing our Installation of Officers in September, and congratulations to Sally Rowden for receiving the Kiwanis Distinguished Service Award. From Liberty High graduates Devyn Johnson and Yvette Quintana we received thank you

notes for the Kiwanis Scholarships they received. Then a thank you letter from Kevin Hatch, Golden Valley Unified School District Superintendent, for our Ranchos Middle School Teen Living Class and the Educational Options Garden Project monetary donations. Plus, Leslie

Goston, principal at Educational Options, brought chocolate chip cookies as a thank you too. They were delicious. A thank you from Valley Children's Healthcare Injury Prevention Program for our monetary donation was also received. Sadly, the annual Poinsettia Sale has been canceled due to increased costs.

We meet every second Tuesday and Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Second Son Brews large community room located at 37167 Avenue 12 Unit 4C in the Madera Ranchos. You can also find us on Facebook at Madera Ranchos Kiwanis.

In closing ... "If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito." Betty Reese

www.RanchosKiwanis.com



Retiring Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims, left, and Madera County Sheriff Tyson Pogue met with the Ranchos Kiwanis and discussed a wide range of topics at the last Kiwanis meeting.

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

Click on "Local News" at

GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

what kind of prices those perceived deeper pockets would be charged.

Pharmacies, healthcare providers, labs and testing facilities would be tripping over themselves at the chance to submit even more exorbitant bills. Our government, especially the current administration, is demonstrably not known for its judicious and responsible spending. Under socialized medicine the pharmacy would likely have raised the price to over \$2,000 in the hopes that the government would just fork out the money. Of course, I'd have to wait six months for it to go through the Red Sea of bureau-

cratic tape; meanwhile my toe falls off.

Let's say that my friend Sally and I went to McDonald's for lunch and we both ordered the same cheeseburger, fries, and soda pop. If they charged me 90 percent more than they charged her for the same food, in the same restaurant, in the same part of the world, just because they presumed I had deeper pockets and could pay it, we would both walk out. It's already incredibly difficult to "walk out" within the confines of the healthcare industry. Under socialized medicine it would be impossible. There would be nowhere to run and, as it is, I almost lost a toe.

ORGANIZE cont. from P. 7

your day off. Whatever it is, write it on your calendar and protect it like you would a doctor or repairman appointment. Don't bounce around to other projects during your scheduled sessions and stay on track with the order of steps you've outlined.

Action Step Four — Celebrate each step's completion and designate a special reward for completing the goal.

Some goals require additional help. If yours is restoring a relationship, some counseling may be in order. If yours is creating a will or trust, you'll want to con-

nect with an attorney. If you're sorting and purging your entire house, a professional organizer can decrease the overwhelm and guide the process.

If yours is preparing for what comes after that final goodbye, I recommend reading the Gospel of John in the Bible. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

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Come join in the celebration that raises badly needed supplies for Veterans at the VA Hospital. Snacks, drinks, Christmas carols and Santa!




When's the NEXT Chamber of Commerce Meeting?

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, Wednesday, November 9 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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The Ranchos Independent

Classified

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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.**

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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.**

Garden and Landscape

Garden and Landscape Servicing is now available -- Lepe Garden and Landscape Servicing. Everything for your garden and landscape including fences, irrigation and cement work. **Call 559-916-1528 or 650-771-2915.**

Housecleaning

Over 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

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.**

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Window Cleaning Services

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

• **A Tip From JoAnn:** I like bottled water, but it's expensive and creates a lot of waste. I have plenty of reusable bottles, but bottled water always seemed more convenient and, frankly, better. I found that what I really like is to take a bottle of very cold water out of the fridge and drink it, so instead of storing those reusable bottles in the cabinet, I fill them straight from the dishwasher and put them in the fridge. Now I have the convenience of bottled water without spending the money, and I happily am not creating waste. • To remove stubborn contact paper from kitchen shelves, use a hair dryer set on low to loosen the adhesive. Peel away slowly. • Here's a trick for removing hard-water stains on windows or glass doors: Apply full-strength fabric softener to surface. Let dry, then use a wet cloth to remove, rinsing the cloth frequently. • "Hang a bag of clothespins near the laundry basket. Then if something has a stain that needs to be addressed, put a clip on it before adding it to the basket. This way, you'll know what to pretreat on wash day." -- D.W. in Washington • Got a grease stain on your shirt? Cover it with baking soda right away. The baking soda will absorb oil. Repeat several times and launder as quickly as you can. Send your tips to *Now Here's a Tip*, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803



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The Ranchos Independent classified rates are **crazy** cheap and **crazy** effective!

TO ADVERTISE call 559-645-0634

SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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.

	+		×		14			
×		÷		+				
	×		-		11			
+		+		+				
	+		-		12			
13		11		11				
1	2	3	4	5	5	6	8	9

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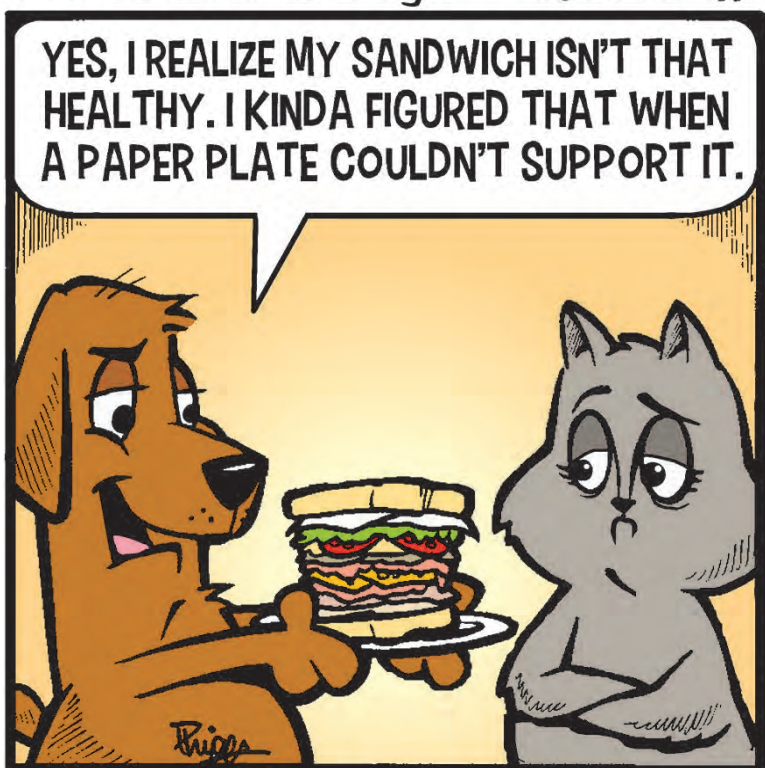
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10/22

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



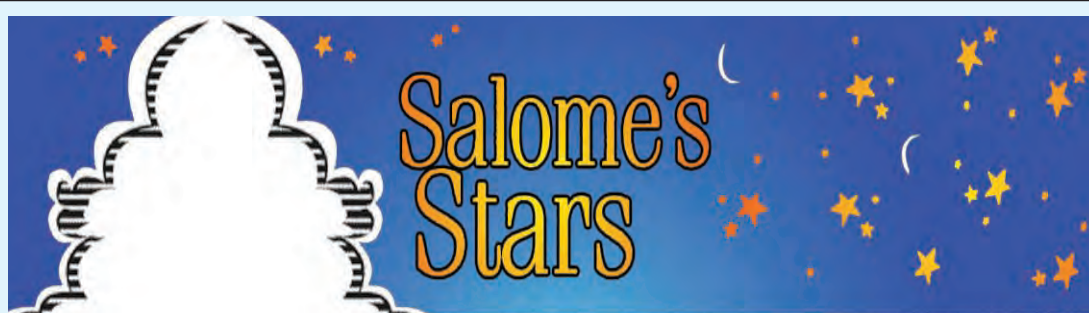
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ADS
LOGOS
PR
MARKETING
645-0634

GRIN and BEAR IT by Waqar



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 "The only thing left is a reality show about producing a reality show."



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your ideas earn the respect of your colleagues, but you'll have to present some hard facts and figures if you hope to persuade those who make the big decisions.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Keep those bright Bull's eyes focused on the project at hand. Avoid distractions. There'll be lots of time for fun and games later. Expect to get welcome news this weekend.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You soon might have to decide about moving a relationship from its current status to another level. Don't let anyone influence your decision. It must be yours and yours alone.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You finally can get off that emotional roller coaster and get back to focusing on your goals without interruptions through the rest of the week. A nice change is due by the weekend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Trying to make an impression on some people runs into a bit of a snag at first, but it all works out. An old and almost forgotten personal matter once again needs attention.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A rise in your energy level helps you finish an especially demanding task. Take some time now to spend with family and friends before starting a new project.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) This is a good time to re-establish contact with trusted former associates who might be able to offer good advice regarding that career change you've been contemplating.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your resourcefulness combined with a calm, cool approach help you work your way out of a knotty situation, and avoid a potentially serious misunderstanding.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A calm, quiet period allows you to recharge your energies. But, you'll soon be ready to saddle up and gallop off in pursuit of your goals.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family matters need your attention. Check things out carefully. There still might be unresolved tensions that could hinder your efforts to repair damaged relationships.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It's a good time to take a stand and show as much passion on your own behalf as you do when arguing for the rights of others. You might be happily surprised by the reaction.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You bring sense and sensitivity to a confusing situation. Things soon settle down, leaving you free to enjoy a weekend of fun and relaxation.

Born this Week

You have a talent for being able to perceive possibilities where others only see problems.

FUN PAGES

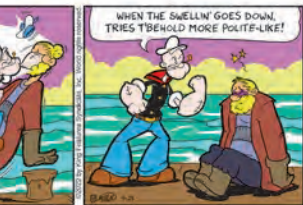
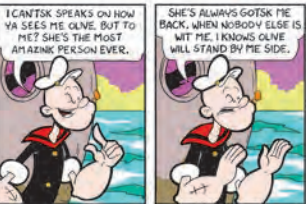
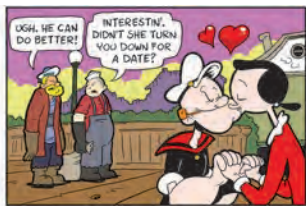
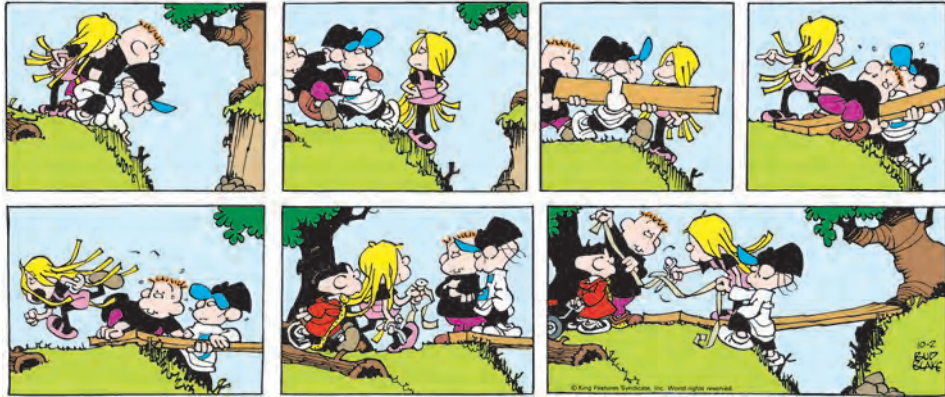
Kids' Maze



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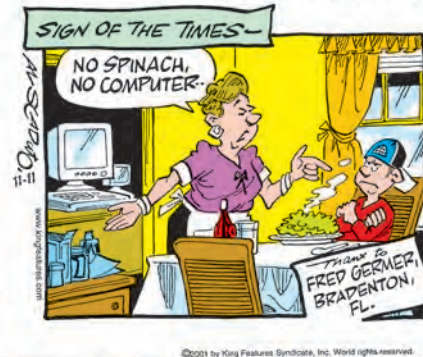
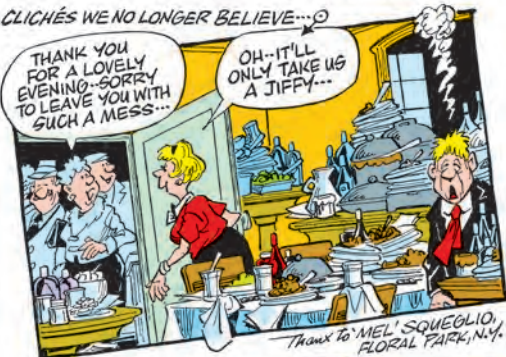
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

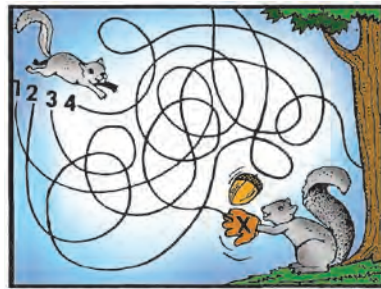


THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



HOCKMORE DIDN'T WANT TO SPEND THE FIFTY BUCKS THE LANDSCAPER WANTED TO CUT DOWN THE OLD TREE--SO HE DECIDED TO DO THE JOB HIMSELF AND SAVE MONEY. SOME SAVING, EH?



NICE CATCH! Which path does the squirrel take to catch the falling acorn? Take a guess, then trace through line or lines.

SHAPE UP! There's a box turtle, a square meal, an angworm, a conehead, arc welding, an archenemy, a round robin. Can you think of some more definitively shaped terms?

TAG LINES! What's in a name? Or, more specifically, what's in the six names that appear on tags in the diagram below? Well, if you are able to anagram the six names correctly, you can identify each individual's occupation. That is to say, letters can be rearranged to form names of jobs.

Hints: 1. Delivers mail. 2. Handles copy. 3. Serves food. 4. Plays in a band. 5. Uses a hammer. 6. Lends money.

What are the jobs?

Wishing Well

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

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MAGIC MAZE THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: SAUDI—

- Bahrain
- Cyprus
- Egypt
- Iran
- Iraq
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Syria
- Turkey
- Yemen

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Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF COIN SWITCH?

LIKE to switch things around? Try your hand at this old poser. P.S.: It has a catch to it, natch.

Arrange a group of 12 similar-size coins, as at left, alternating heads and tails.

Now then, see if you can rearrange the scheme of things so that each vertical row consists of all heads or all tails simply by touching and manipulating just one coin.

That is to say, rearrange the setup, for instance, so that the first and third rows are all heads, and the second and fourth row tails.

And all this by touching and manipulating one coin.

How is it done? Move first coin in middle row to opposite side and just entire middle row one coin to the left.

TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which TV cartoon show featured a Great Dane as part of the mystery-solving team?
- MOVIES: Which 1970s movie's tagline is, "You'll never go in the water again"?
- HISTORY: What was the nickname for American soldiers in WWI?
- MEDICAL TERMS: What is dysphonia?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many state capitals are named after U.S. presidents?
- ANATOMY: What part of the brain controls language and hearing?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented in metathesiophobia?
- GEOGRAPHY: How many countries are in the United Kingdom?
- FOOD & DRINK: What are the two main ingredients in a meringue?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is home to General Sherman, a sequoia more than 2,000 years old?

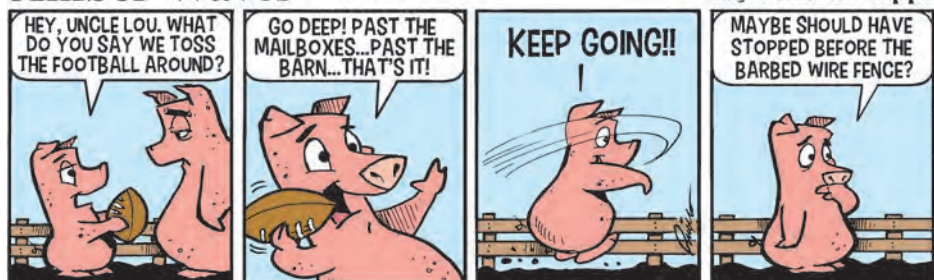
Answers

- "Scooby-Do, Where Are You?"
- "Jaws."
- Doughboys.
- Four (Jackson, Mississippi; Lincoln, Nebraska, Madison, Wisconsin, and Jefferson City, Missouri).
6. Temporal lobe.
7. Fear of change.
8. Four: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
9. Egg whites and sugar.
10. California.

Click on "Local News" at

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



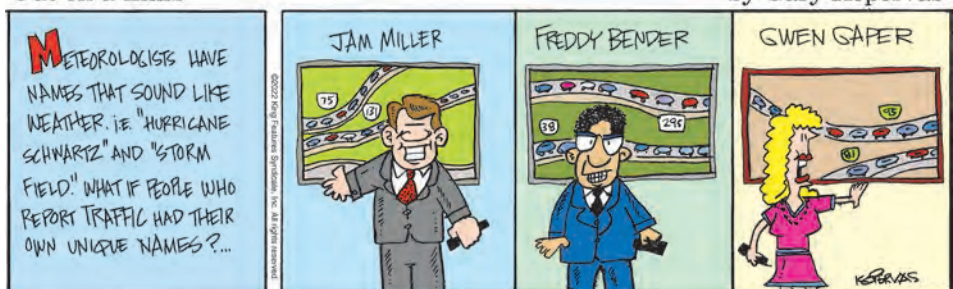
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

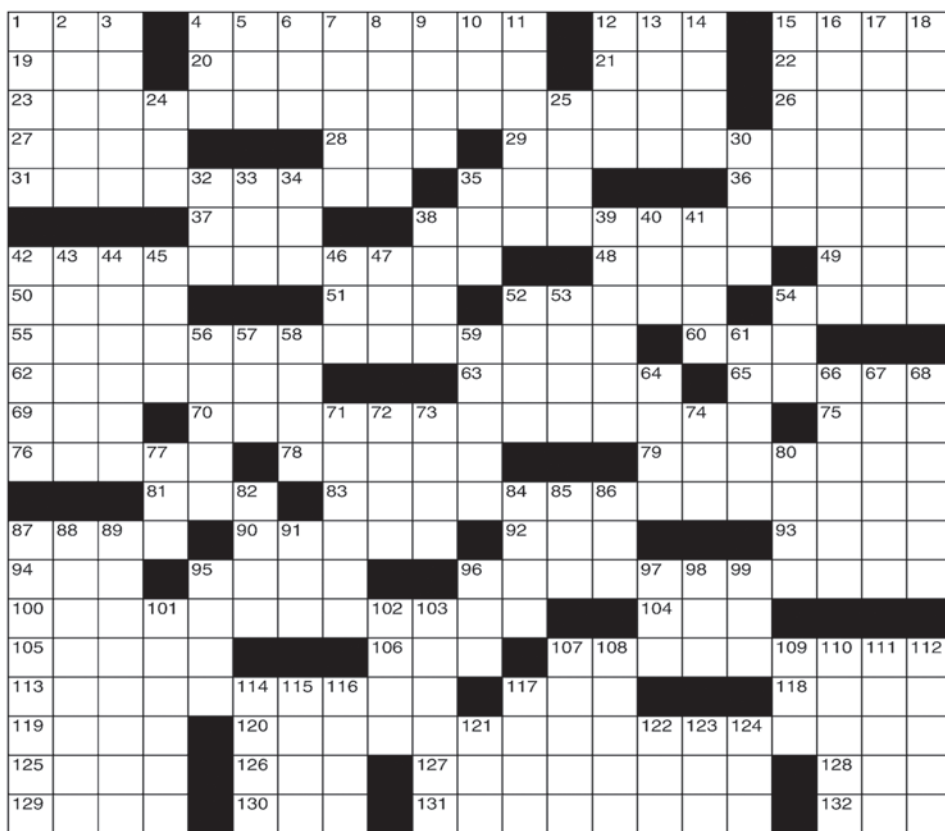
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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Differences: 1. Hair is different; 2. Plant is different; 3. Black eye is missing; 4. Stripes are missing; 5. Bush is different; 6. Number is different.

Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Cinch — (Hefty brand)
 - 4 Achy feeling
 - 12 Recede
 - 15 Sporty car roof feature
 - 19 "Just — expected!"
 - 20 "Babes in Toyland," e.g.
 - 21 What "U" may mean
 - 22 — Ridge (1972 Kentucky Derby winner)
 - 23 Birds for Yuletide dinners
 - 26 Some Pac-12 players
 - 27 Some antique autos
 - 28 Fr. woman with a halo
 - 29 Cuddly crib toys
 - 31 Letter holders
 - 35 Irritate
 - 36 Post office scale unit
 - 37 It flows in la Loire
 - 38 Vegetable pizza toppings
 - 42 Polling place containers
 - 48 Feels ill
 - 49 Weep audibly
 - 50 Zeno of — (Greek philosopher)
 - 51 Vie for the affection of
 - 52 Lies next to roof feature
 - 54 Guessing game for kids
 - 55 Garnishes for martinis
 - 60 Broody rock genre
 - 62 Nonbeliever in God
 - 63 Record half with the hit, usually
 - 65 Forces out
 - 69 Larry and Curly's pal
 - 70 Parts of respiratory systems
 - 75 "Fake-Out" co-star
 - 76 Zac of "The Lorax"
 - 78 "—: Battle Angel" (2019 action film)
 - 79 Grilled corned beef sandwiches
 - 81 "Yes" vote
 - 83 Things hanging from rims
 - 87 Put into a snug spot
 - 90 Base before home
 - 92 Oahu gift
 - 93 As straight as — (totally honest)
 - 94 Year, in Portuguese
 - 95 Speller's clarifying words
 - 96 Sewing kit accessories
 - 100 Chicks awaiting meals have them
 - 104 '16 Olympics host city
 - 105 "— a Letter to My Love"
 - 106 "Milk" director
 - 107 Bellhops' burdens
 - 113 Hard or soft Tex-Mex items
 - 117 Exhaust
 - 118 Socko review
 - 119 "Sure, sure!"
 - 120 Fact about 12 long answers in this puzzle
 - 125 100%, in Germany
 - 126 Winery cask
 - 127 People prettifying
 - 128 Unit of work
 - 129 Shopkeeper Oleson on "Little House on the Prairie"
 - 130 Hi-tech organizer
 - 131 Currently
 - 132 Cereal grass
 - 133 "— girl!"
 - 134 "No Exit" playwright
 - 135 Looked at
 - 136 Hopalong Cassidy
 - 137 William
 - 138 On the go
 - 139 Make level
 - 140 Female giant of myth
 - 141 Cultivate to excess
 - 142 Ticks away
 - 143 British verb suffix
 - 144 "Akeelah and the Bee" star
 - 145 Shopkeeper
 - 146 Conks on the head
 - 147 August sign
 - 148 Cereal grass
 - 149 Brit's bar
 - 150 U.S. tax org.
 - 151 An earth sci.
 - 152 Carsick feeling
 - 153 Deep hole
 - 154 Besides that
 - 155 Turned into
 - 156 Numerous
 - 157 Rakish guy
 - 158 Body of water
 - 159 Night hooter
 - 160 Losing row in tic-tac-toe
 - 161 Zipcar owner
 - 162 Hotel stock
 - 163 Debt slip
 - 164 Thin-toned
 - 165 White — sheet
 - 166 "— girl!"
 - 167 "Wicked" singer
 - 168 Game" singer Chris
 - 169 City in Iraq
 - 170 City in India
 - 171 Big name in tight trunks
 - 172 "The Adventures of —" (2011 Spielberg film)
 - 173 Lips off to
 - 174 White rat, say
 - 175 "Akeelah and the Bee" star
 - 176 War vet's affliction, for short
 - 177 Jellied fish
 - 178 Sturdy tree
 - 179 — B'rith
 - 180 Website for craft vendors
 - 181 Yalies
 - 182 What "X" may mean
 - 183 Pen choice
 - 184 Papeete native
 - 185 Of no avail
 - 186 Color-sensitive retina part
 - 187 That chap
 - 188 Song and dance
 - 189 Measures of acidity
 - 190 Geller of psychic acts
 - 191 Grab a chair
 - 192 Ad —
 - 193 \$1,000 bills, informally
 - 194 Unpretty
 - 195 From Florence, e.g.
 - 196 Israeli native
 - 197 Overture
 - 198 Pooch's bark
 - 199 Less perilous
 - 200 Each and —
 - 201 Bog plant
 - 202 URL starter
 - 203 Israel's Barak
 - 204 Singer Home
 - 205 White sheet?
 - 206 Fuss
 - 207 Body of water
 - 208 Give it a go
 - 209 Navy inits.

SEM CU

south east madera county united

Notice of Public Hearing - MD10A Madera Ranchos Pipe Replacement and Water Installation Project

A public hearing will be held by the Madera County Development Review Committee to consider adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the MD10A Madera Ranchos - Pipe Replacement and Meter Installation Project on Nov. 14, 2022 at 9 a.m. at the Madera County Planning Division located at 200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100 Madera, California, 93637.

All comments for the project must be submitted by no later than 5 p.m. on Nov. 10, 2022. Please contact Jamie Bax, Director at jamie.bax@maderacounty.com.

Please include your name, telephone number, email address and address in your comments. Comments can also be mailed to the address listed above. You can also call 559-675-7821.

**Until further notice, the
regular SEMCU meetings will
take place via teleconference.**

Our next meeting is Monday, November 21 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