

The Ranchos Independent



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The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

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THE 2016 ELECTION
what a long, strange trip it's been

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Ranchos gets Peek at State's SGMA

By Karen Petryna

Thursday night, Sept. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m., approximately 50 Ranchos residents came to the Town Hall meeting held by District 1 Supervisor Brett Frazier at the Ranchos Middle School cafeteria to listen to the County's new Director of Water and Natural Resources, Julia Berry, talk about what effect the state's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) might have on the Madera Ranchos. Berry, who has been on the job as the director of the County's new department for about five months, gave a PowerPoint presentation on how the Act will be rolled out as a plan to achieve sustainable groundwater management goals within prescribed time-frames.



Julia Berry (left) Madera County's Director of Water and Natural Resources, presents the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act at a Town Hall at Ranchos Middle School as District 1 Supervisor Brett Frazier looks on.

SGMA's Already Surfaced

In this year's January issue of the Ranchos Independent, Tim Jones, part owner of Riverstone at Avenue 12 and

Highway 41, described how that development is already on track to meet the new SGMA requirements.

Jones said Riverstone and Root Creek Water District will meet SGMA and County water balance requirements, to take out no more groundwater than they put back into the ground partly by using the District's In Lieu Groundwater Recharge pipeline, which runs under Ave. 12 from the Madera Canal's Lateral 6.2 on the north side to the District's agricultural land on the south side. "[The water is] all part of the same basin or District," Jones said, further explaining that using surface water taken from the Canal, the

District will provide 3,400 acre-feet of groundwater recharge on a five-year rolling average to reduce groundwater pumping by the same amount. Referring to SGMA, Jones said, "Everyone in Cali-

Please see **TOWN HALL** on P. 20

Supervisors Decide "Yes" on Quarry

By Randy Bailey

On Monday, Sept. 12 at 9 in the morning, the Madera County Board of Supervisors began a meeting that was decided 11 hours later by a vote of 3-2 in favor of the controversial Austin Quarry to be located on the southwest corner of Highways 41 and 145. Supervisors David Rogers, Rick Farinelli and Tom Wheeler voted "yes" while Supervisors Max Rodriguez and Brett Frazier voted "no." The vote, the final step in the approval process by the County, followed a similar, earlier 3-2 approval vote by the County's Planning Commission.

With more than 200 people filling the Supervisors' chambers to capacity, arguments were presented both for and against the quarry on issues of water, traffic, pollution and noise.

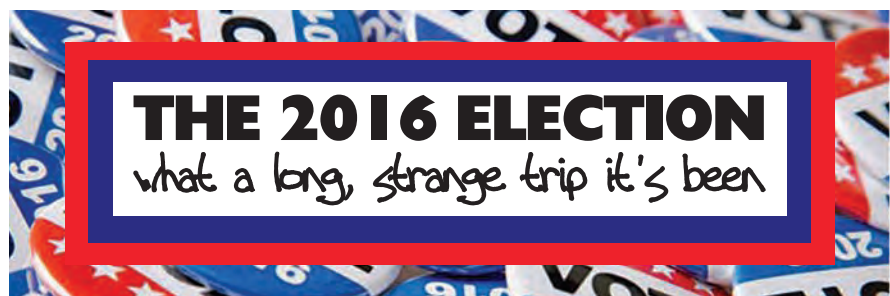
On water, the County estimated a usage of about 105 acre-feet per year with Vulcan agreeing to provide 500 acre-feet to replenish that use every five years. They also figured most of the water would be recycled. But the lawyer for the opposition, David Hale representing the Madera Oversight Coalition, contended that the numbers were closer to 2,700 to 4,000 acre-feet per year and that the digging necessary for mining aggregate would tear through the existing groundwater filters and fractures and alter the water coming to the Ranchos.

Opposing the quarry are the Madera Quarry, the Madera Oversight Coalition, the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians and many local citizens. Supporting the quarry are the Madera Unified School District, Madera County Economic Development Commission, Caltrans and many local citizens.

It is expected that the next step will be a lawsuit against the project.

Low-Cost Flu Shots

Annual low-cost flu shots, sponsored by the Madera County Department of Public Health, are coming to the Ranchos Thursday, Oct. 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Ranchos Market, 37405 Ave. 12. The cost is only \$5 or FREE with a Medicare card. You must be 12 years old or older. For more info call 675-7893.



The only election specific to the Ranchos is the contest between Warren Parr and Andy Wheeler for the GVUSD Area 3 Trustee position to replace Mike Kelly. As is our custom, the pages of the Ranchos Independent are thrown open to the candidates to tell us absolutely everything we need to know about them in their own words. An overview of the whole election is located on page 20.

-- The Editor



Warren Parr

Thank you Editor Bailey for the use of this forum and allowing me to express my concerns and lay out my vision for the future of Golden Valley Unified School District.

My Platform is simple: 1) Restore the Budget Reserve/ Rainy Day Fund; 2) Bring traditional Career Vocational Education to GVUSD; 3) Restore Local Control and Traditional Values.

The best indicator of what someone will do in the future is what they have done in the past. I HAVE A RECORD, a 24-year record of service to public education. Below is a diverse sample of my public record of accomplishments and my vision for the future. My motto is "If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse." – Jim Rohn

I HAVE A RECORD: Before there was a GVUSD.

In 1996 I ran for the school board of Madera Unified School District. My number one issue was the completion of Madera High South Campus. Although I lost a close race to Trustee Robert Garibay, the narrow loss demonstrated the community's commitment to the completion of the South

Please see **PARR** on P. 18



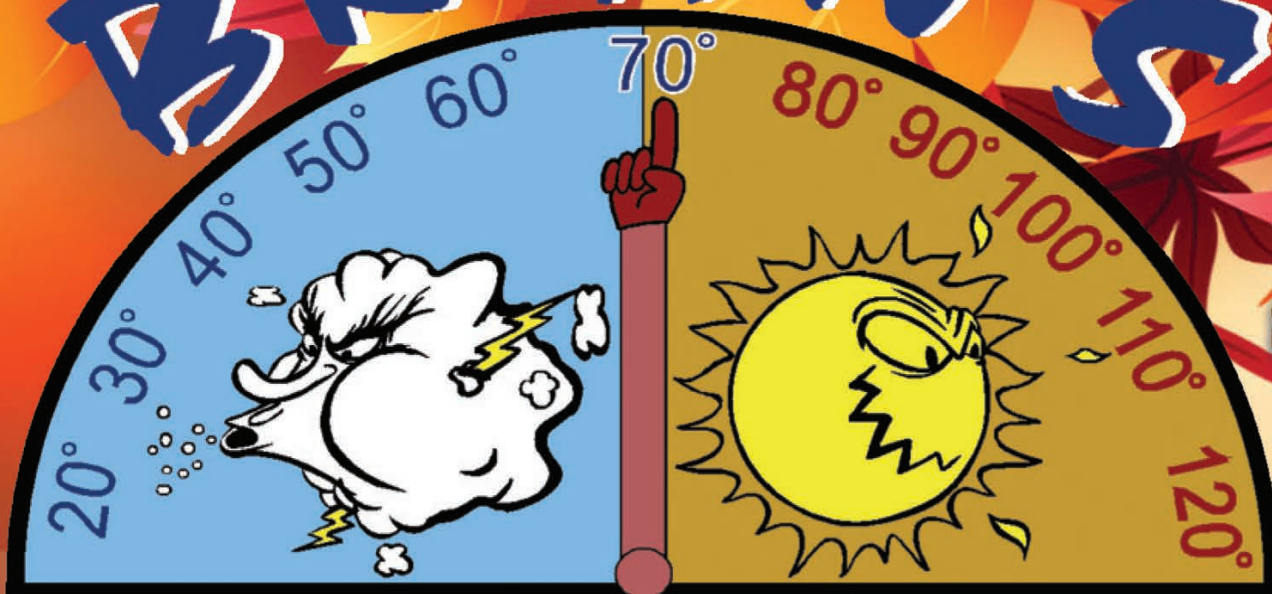
Andy Wheeler

My name is Andy Wheeler, and it is an honor to be running for the GVUSD school board. I have been a resident of the Madera Ranchos for 18 years. We moved to the Ranchos when my oldest son was just one year old. My wife, of 20 years, and I have been lucky enough to have both of our boys start in the district at Webster and working their way through and to the high school. My oldest, Brockton, has graduated and currently attends Fresno State, and my youngest, Maxwell, is starting his freshman year at Liberty High. My job as a financial advisor for 17 years has given me some great insight to the financials aspect of the district, especially as it pertains to public bonds and budgets. This combined with my desire to listen to what others' ideas or concerns are will be invaluable as a board member. I realize that my job will be to represent this community as a whole, so with my involvement here as a parent and coach, I believe I am approachable.

As a long-time resident of the Ranchos, I have had the pleasure of watching this district grow and develop. We have witnessed the transition from being an offshoot of Madera Unified to the thriving, successful district GVUSD is today. This

Please see **WHEELER** on P. 18

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Dear Editor:

Please pardon me while I wipe the go-dawful slime off my face after it was shoved into the cesspool of greed and selfishness I just experienced. I have never seen the level of political garbage I witnessed Monday [Oct. 12], at least not since I last bothered to watch the farce at the federal level play out on television. Look out Trump and Clinton, you "ain't seen nothing yet" until you've seen the Madera County Planning Department and Board of Supervisors act in concert to get what they crave, that being MONEY!

At the end of the special hearing on the Austin Quarry, with microphones still running, Mr. Wheeler could be hearing saying that Vulcan had to get their business license as soon as possible, so the County could be sure they would get the sales taxes they would be due. After over nine hours of testimony, the only thing Wheeler could think about was the MONEY! Now others in the County could see what those of us who have struggled to make sense of where our County is going for years know to be the truth – those in power here just want the money; give me the MONEY!

Want to know why the County is approving project after project with highly questionable "water balance" numbers? Follow the MONEY! Just so you truly understand the situation, Norm Allinder's precious Planning Department is "self-funded," not paid out of County general funds; they live and die by the fines, permits, government funds and miscellaneous fees they can get their hands on. When these departments act as "lead agency" for any project, they take at least 15 percent of any grant or loan a special district is given and they don't want that 15 percent to be on some puny amount. How do you think the Dublin Well cost \$2.5 million, when the original estimate was \$800,000? Calculate the difference between 15 percent of \$800,000 or 15 percent of \$2.2 million ... bingo, MONEY! Why does Public Works want to force the Rolling Hills homeowner's association to get a State LOAN (not a grant) for \$5 million and hook up to Riverstone? Why are they trying to sneak through a \$15.5 million LOAN to put in new pipes in the Ranchos water system? We are already \$750,000 in the hole to Madera County and their plan includes meters on our wells that will raise your water bill and allow them to cut off your water if you don't pay fast enough. Yup, it's MONEY of course.

There is a procedure laid out for special districts to get citizen approval of any County plan; it's called a PROP 218 election. But that means Planning and Public Works would have to TALK to us and give us the real cost of any project and they sure don't want that,

so they get around it any way they can. It skates very close to crossing the line on legality, but the less the public knows, the better as far as the County staff is concerned. What can we, as citizens, do about all of this? Well, to quote Supervisor Rogers at the July, 2015 budget hearing: "If people can't afford to pay to live here, they should find themselves another place to live and move there." Can you feel some of that "slime on my face" I mentioned? (Check this out by watching the video of the 7/27/2015 public budget hearing for special districts, about 1 hour and 30 minutes into the recording).

We don't have to just sit there and accept the even more egregious half-truths the LAWYERS for Vulcan threw down Monday. Here are some points to ponder:

Why did Supervisor Wheeler's district alter the layout of the districts, specifically between Districts 1 and 5, along Highway 145 at Highway 41? If you look at the district maps, the original line ran east and west, straight along Highway 145, on the north side of the road. Look at the current boundaries and you'll see the boundary dips south of 145 right at the Vulcan quarry site and follows the Vulcan project outline and the "Park and Ride" lot to Highway 41. Makes me wonder ... when did Mr. Wheeler first know about the Vulcan Project? How could he be considered to be a neutral judge of a project he, the County and specifically his district benefit from so greatly? Why move it out of District 1, which will be severely impacted by the quarry? Did Mr. Wheeler benefit in any other way from his "pre-knowledge" of what Vulcan wanted to do?

The real slick lawyer for Vulcan showed us overhead shots of million dollar homes in Pleasanton placed very close to a Vulcan plant; his point was why they tolerated a quarry while we, with our piddling little house values (see the MONEY tie again?), would not? Well, I would like to know how many times and how much money was spent trying to get the quarry removed before and long after those homes were built? Could it be Vulcan's 100-year lease made it impossible to challenge or remove the quarry? What would those houses be worth without the quarry being present?

A real zinger in the lawyer's speech was the mention of the sacrosanct "private property rights" Mr. Urrutia has in this great country of ours. But I ask you: Why do his rights supersede OUR property rights, especially to quiet enjoyment of our homes? What about the property rights of the cattleman just across the street from the quarry? Their cattle will be breathing silica dust just like we

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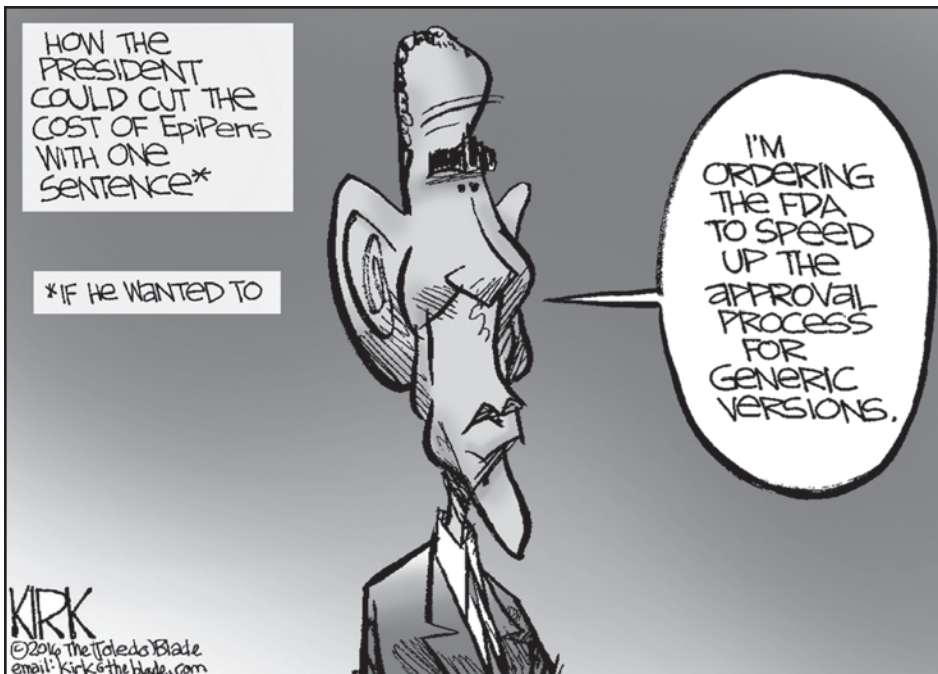
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Editorial

What a Long, Strange Trip

By Randy Bailey

On Tuesday, November 8, one of the weirdest election seasons in my memory will finally come to fruition. There are many who have had enough of both Hillary and Donald and can't wait for it to be over. There are others, the political "junkies," who are loving every minute of it. I call it the weirdest because things have happened during this campaign that I have never seen before and don't know if I'll see again.

You may be wondering why I'm addressing this now when the election is almost six weeks away. That would be because of the absentee ballot. Just like the Christmas displays that keep popping up earlier each year, absentee ballots come out better than a month before the election. This year they can be returned as early as October 10. Since the majority of voters vote absentee, a newspaper about the election written right before the election would be an exercise in futility. It would be like showing up at a New Year Eve's party wanting to exchange Christmas gifts. Sorry, we did that last week.

Weirdness #1 -- The divisiveness. In elections past there has always been the chance that your guy wouldn't make the final cut. Alan Keyes comes to mind for me. Oh yeah, I

voted for a black guy for president WAY before it was trendy. Why? I liked his ideas. Go figure.

But when Keyes didn't make it through the primary process there was no "Anyone but Bush" or "Never McCain" nonsense. You licked your wounds and went ahead because your second choice or third choice was better than the other side's first choice. If you had tried that back then people would have looked at you and politely asked, "What? Are you nuts?"

Weirdness #2 -- the primaries. I have always believed in the system. The will of the people will be heard and there's nothing you can do about it ... *maybe*. This year I saw Bernie Sanders win a state and get a handful of the available delegates then I would see Hillary win a comparable state and she would seemingly hit the jackpot. Huh? OH, the "super delegate." Right right right. It was like some kind of double *secret* probation out of *Animal House*. It hit me that the Democrat powers that be were NOT going to have any of this Bernie business, voters be damned.

Then I started seeing similarities in the Republican primaries. Trump was winning state after state in a pretty crowded field, and all of a sudden it started to trickle out that the Republican powers that be were not going to have any of *that*. There were their preferred candidates that they wanted selected (you know, like Dole, McCain and Romney in the past) and Trump didn't fit the mold. Fortunately the Republicans didn't do to Trump what the Democrats did to Bernie.

Weirdness #3 -- the one-party primary. This is a California nightmare all the way. The people voted it into existence so now we get the top two vote getters from the primaries as the candidates in the general election. But wait ... what if they're both from the same party? Gives "lesser of two evils" a whole new meaning, doesn't it? For our U.S. Senator this year we get to choose between a Democrat and a Democrat. It's OK. They're replacing a Democrat.

Weirdness #4 -- third party infatuation. How should I put this? I know: "You're WASTING your vote!" You felt the Bern now feel the Johnson? Puh-leeze.

The Ranchos Independent

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Stick a Fork in Chivalry

I know the whole equality among the sexes thing basically means that I should open my own door and be happy about it, but does anyone else miss chivalry? Anyone?

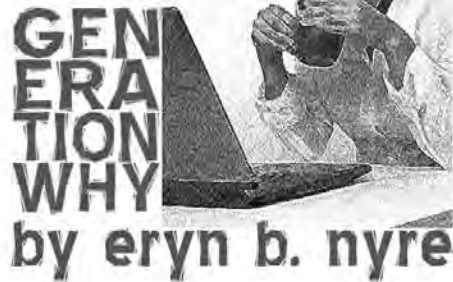
No? Just me then.

Personally, I'm more of the "woman can do anything they want" type, but nowhere in my contract does it say that in exchange for fair treatment, equal pay and respect I must give up the archaic institution of chivalry. I was raised to be a strong woman, to pursue my dreams and know that my gender isn't the defining factor in my success, but I appreciate certain aspects of being a woman that maybe I'm not supposed to talk about.

Why can't a man still hold a door open for me, or pull out a chair, or pick up the check? Does that really set back the women's liberation movement? Are there really women out there that believe this? If so, wow. If not, then where have all the gentlemen gone?

I don't know if it is a matter of parents not raising gentlemen or perhaps the general overbearing nature of the more extreme feminists have beat the gentlemen out of the younger generations. Whatever the case, I would like to call a nationwide vote to bring it back.

Just the other day I was walking up to my apartment building with my arms full of groceries and these two guys, very early twenties, unlocked the building door walked in and let it shut behind them. I know they saw me because we made eye contact and even though I was merely a few steps behind them there was no sense of common courtesy so I had to put my grocery bags down and unlock the door, load up and make my way down the hall. Thanks guys. If that wasn't bad enough, I reached the elevator



just as it was ascending to the next floor. They couldn't even be bothered to wait for a woman with her arms full of bags. A gentleman would have held both the door and the elevator. Heck, a gentlewoman would have done the same. Obviously this has more to do with just a lack of common courtesy but I see it

Lesson here is, we really need to start teaching our sons to be gentlemen again, and also, using a lady as a human shield will never get you the girl.

every day. Countless times I've come to a door at the same moment a man has reached it and unless he is in his forties he usually just walks through it without a

second glance my way.

This carries over into dates, as well. In all honesty I've never really been a "pull the chair out for me" kind of girl, but I would like him to open my car door for me. That's not just chivalrous, it is romantic. I can't remember the last time that happened for me. The last time I was on a date he beeped the car door open for me while I was climbing in. I know it probably seems silly to many girls today, the thought of a man opening the door for you to get into the car, but I miss those days. I enjoy being treated like a lady, and I don't think that you have to give that up to be thought of as an intelligent and productive member of society capable of contributing every bit as much as a man.

This all sort of hit me when I had a "damsel in distress" moment where the white horse-riding knight had to save the day.

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



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GEN WHY cont. from P. 6

Spoiler alert, it turns out I was the white knight. Once again the scene is set at my apartment complex where I was coming home after a girls' night out. If you know me at all you know I don't like bugs and during the summer I am never without bug spray in my purse. Yes, I carry a big purse. As I made my way to the complex door there was a man I didn't know standing there, apparently waiting for someone to let him in. (As a side note, I am not afraid to use my bug spray on humans either). As I approached him I saw a giant beetle just taking up space on the concrete step. I asked the dude if he would step on it, to which he replied, "Ewww." Never one to leave the enemy free to attack, I whipped out my bug spray and blasted the beetle who immediately ran toward us. I will never understand this about bugs: they always run toward the bug spray. Are they suicidal? Is it a last minute ploy to

scare their attacker into dropping the bug spray and running in the opposite direction? Someone should look into this.

So there I am in a dress, heels and a huge flower in my hair with my bug spray and a determined expression. As the bug makes its advance, the dude squeals like a three year old and jumps behind me.

Now, seriously.

You don't want to kill a bug, fine. I'll think less of you, sure, but what do you care. But jumping behind the girl like a human shield, this is not gentlemanly. Once the bug keeled over I put the bug spray back in my purse and made sure the princess was okay. Lesson here is, we really need to start teaching our sons to be gentlemen again, and also, using a lady as a human shield will never get you the girl.

This column originally appeared in the September 2015 issue of the Ranchos Independent.

-- Editor

LETTERS cont. from P. 4

will and their pregnant cows will be subject to constant blasting. We are being robbed of our rights, to fill the coffers of Vulcan and the County and THAT violates the laws and rights we were given at birth. The rights of the many are being sacrificed on the altar of MONEY!

Those of you who live in the Bonadelle north homes serviced by Sierra View Elementary have benefitted from the largess of Vulcan for over 10 years; one woman even called the Vulcan employees "lovely, lovely people." I have a question for you though: Have you ever asked yourselves why? All the extras voluntarily added to the EIR as mitigation, purchases of FFA beef, sponsorship of school events; these are not acts of kindness by a humanitarian company. They are purely acts of greed disguised as generosity. It was a calculated ploy to win favor and it gives you an idea of what kind of money is to be made off of Madera County, not for charity, but for pure greed and profit. How can we be angry with those nice Vulcan people when they are being so

nice? The fact is they have been making calculated moves for 10 years to insure their precious project would be a go. See how generous they are when you go to them seeking \$30,000-\$40,000 for a new well after Vulcan blasts and severs your water source and you have no water. Experience shows they get real tight with a buck once their quarry is up and running. They could give a flip about what the citizens of this county think of them then; they believe themselves to be above such pettiness as air quality or water loss.

Four alternatives were presented in the Final EIR that could slow or minimize the "significant environmental impacts" of the quarry. Number three proposed to cut the lease to 50, not 100 years and reduce the amount of aggregate (and thus the blasting and truck traffic we all fear) to "less than significant." While the EIR states this is by far the best alternative to the destruction and harm the quarry will bring to our lives as it is proposed, it is also stated clearly that it is NOT an acceptable option. Why, you ask?

Please see **LETTERS** on P. 19

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Favorite Recipes for a Favorite Niece



Are you as happy to see this summer gone as I am? At my age I know I shouldn't be wishing away time, but this summer will be well forgotten! As Dolly said in a recent Family Circus cartoon (one of my favorites), "I'll be happier when this day is yesterday." To begin with it was the hottest summer on record, and you all know how I hate hot weather, then I had one of the worst summer colds I can remember. It took weeks to finally get rid of, then I had car problems from hell: After just over four weeks and

in two different shops it is back "on the road again"— thank God for family and plastic! Thanks to Randy and my sister Maxine for being my taxi. Then the crowning blow to our family, our dear Brenda passed away. Brenda was my nephew Barry's (Randy's younger brother) wife. They had been married just over 38 years. Barry's job had taken them to New Mexico several years ago so we didn't get to see them very often, but I really enjoyed our phone calls. Brenda was a Breast Cancer survivor, she had Fibromyalgia and a couple of other problems that I'm not sure about and sometimes recently she was in such pain she would simply just have to go to bed. But regardless of when you called her or how she felt, she was always eager to talk and find out about what was going on with the family in California. What a warrior!

One of my first memories of Brenda was when she, Barry and their daughter Eryn were visiting my mom during the summer and my mom's garden was flourishing with tomatoes. Brenda loved fried green tomatoes so mama told her to go out in the garden and pick some and she'd fry them for her. Brenda did-

Brenda loved people. She had a smile that was contagious – you couldn't help but smile with her. I don't think she ever met someone that she couldn't talk to ... I was thinking of her the other day where she is now. She is out of pain, walking on the streets of gold.

We miss you dear!

n't have to be told twice – out to the garden she went! She said she was in "hog heaven."

Fried Green Tomatoes

- 4 Green Tomatoes, sliced in 1/4 inch slices
- Salt and Pepper
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 C dried bread crumbs (or Panko)
- 1/3 C butter or margarine
- Melt butter in large skillet.
- Dip tomato slices in egg then in

crumbs. Add tomato slices to heated pan and cook until gold-en brown, turn only once until brown on other side. Season to taste.

Brenda loved spaghetti, and her favorite was Mom's (her mother in law – my sister Faye) Simple easy:

Mom's Spaghetti

- 1 pound hamburger
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 Can Italian Stewed tomatoes
- 1 jar marinara sauce
- 1 envelope Spaghetti Seasoning mix (any brand)
- Salt and Pepper
- 1 pound favorite spaghetti noodles
- Grated Parmesan cheese
- Heat a couple tablespoons of oil in the bottom of a large pot, cook onions until translucent. Add hamburger and cook until done, drain off any excess fat. Add stewed tomatoes and marinara sauce. Fill marinara bottle with water and add to pot. Add seasoning mix and salt and pepper to taste. Turn heat down, and let sauce simmer until it thickens. Fill large pot with water, when

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 11

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Hello 93636,

I want to again thank the many of you who have come by the shop to check us out and personally say hi. I also want to thank the many more who visited us on Facebook. Thank you 93636 for all your support.

I chose this article's topic because I believe it is interesting, informative and enlightening. This type of vehicle may soon be parked in your driveway, if not already. I also want to give the 93636 "Do-it-Yourselfers" crowd a heads up so they avoid the mistake we made with our first replacement of an electric power steering unit.

Three weeks ago a 2010 Ford Fusion came into the shop with a "no power steering" complaint. The steering was electric so we connected a scanner and retrieved trouble codes to begin the diagnostic process. The electric steering gear was defective so we recommended replacement. The steering gear is a rack and pinion type. We did our due diligence and all the information we generated indicated the replacement unit was a "Plug and Play;" just bolt it in and go. The defective gear assembly came out and the replacement was installed without incident, or so we thought.

The new gear didn't work.

Again we began diagnostic only to find the new steering gear needed to be programmed. If that information would have been available to us in the beginning, we would have removed the memory from the failed unit while it was still in the vehicle and connected to the vehicle's network. The defective unit is now laying on the shop floor. We have to reprogram the whole darn car. No problem. After the programing everything worked fine, it just took several hours more then it needed to.

"Do-it-Yourselfers," again I'm sorry to say, it's very unlikely that you will be able to complete this repair by yourself. If you are going to give it a try anyway, make sure the memory is extracted BEFORE you remove the steering gear or it will increase your time and be expensive. Don't feel bad though – heck, I only know of a hand-

ful of independent shops that can handle this repair.

Let's discuss the advantage of electric steering. Hydraulic steering uses a hydraulic pump to deliver pressurized fluid to the steering gear to decrease steering effort. The pump is driven by a belt connected to the gasoline engine. As long as the gasoline engine is running there is a power steering pump load on the engine, even if you are driving straight ahead. Motorized electric steering only creates a load when turning. Soon most gasoline engine loads will be transferred to small electric motors controlled by the PCM (computer), not just the steering. In addition, the systems operated by electric motors will continue to operate even when your vehicle's engine is turned off during a stop. YES, that's right, soon your vehicle's engine will stop running (stall) when coming to a stop. The gasoline engine will automatically restart when you depress the gas pedal to drive away. I'll bet some of you are thinking this will create a lot of wear and tear and increase failure rates for batteries and starter motors. There are a lot of variations but the concept is the same. Your vehicle will use a much larger battery and starter motor. The starter motor is massive and in many cases doubles as the vehicle's alternator. It will recharge the batteries while the gasoline engine is running and restart the gasoline engine when it's off. The larger battery will also facilitate higher voltages. The increased voltage output will increase starter speed by more than seven times. The gasoline engine starts immediately when you depress the gas pedal to drive away.

The air conditioning compressor and the power brake booster will no longer be directly connected to the gasoline engine. Both systems will be powered by electric motors and continue to function when the gasoline engine is turned off during a stopping event. You will need that BIG battery while you are waiting for that train that is parked on the tracks, during a summer evening, while the air conditioning is running, the radio or entertainment system is playing and the headlights and brake lights are on.

About two years ago I worked on a Karma Fisker. These automobiles do not use transmissions. The gasoline engine powers a generator which powers two electric traction motors in the rear

Please see **ELECTRIC** on P. 12



Tea Time

Grab a shovel. The politicians are piling it higher and deeper!

By Betty Van Valkenburg

Piling up taxes – Most politicians never met a tax they didn't like. The U. S. Tax Code contains over 74,000 pages, which would fill 150 reams of paper and stack over 24 feet high. And aside from raiding our wallets, which is bad enough, the Code imposes worse consequences to our liberty and self-determination by manipulating every facet of our lives.

As quoted in the Washington Examiner from the Tax Foundation's book, Putting a Face on America's Tax Returns: "... lawmakers have increasingly asked the tax code to direct ... social and economic objectives, such as encouraging people to buy hybrid vehicles, turn corn into gasoline, purchase health insurance, buy a home, replace that home's windows, adopt children, put them in daycare, purchase school supplies, go to college, invest in historic buildings, spend more on research and the list goes on."

Piling up rules and regulations – Politicians in congress pass law after law and

then walk away while unelected bureaucrats at HUD, EPA and dozens of other alphabet-soup agencies bury us with rules and regulations to implement the laws. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) alone has promulgated a mountain of regulations which have the force of law and which our elected legislators have neither read nor approved. According to the EPA's website: "Regulations are mandatory requirements that can apply to individuals, businesses, state or local governments, non-profit institutions, or others." In other words, they regulate everything!

A check of the Federal Register for just one day's activity shows 19 brand new EPA rules on such diverse subjects as "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Sacramento River, Sacramento, CA" and "Energy Conservation Standards for Dehumidifiers." A quick word search of the Register yielded 11,566 mentions in at least a thousand regulations just for "coal."

Piling up campaign money – How many emails or phone calls did you receive today asking for contributions to this campaign or that

political PAC? The stacks of campaign money are impossible to measure, but we know that they're frequently big enough to be a corrupting influence. And the bigger the elected office, the bigger the influence and corruption.

Piling up lies, more lies and despicable lies -- "If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor." "Read my lips: no new taxes." "We will balance the budget." "High speed rail will be great." "What emails?" "Trust me!"

Tying strings to piles of grant money. "Take this grant money – it's free." Grants from government entities are not free. The money ultimately comes from taxpayers and burdens our grandchildren with additional debt. But more importantly, each grant dictates how the money must be used (the strings), thus bribing states and localities to comply with far-away politicians' wishes, circumventing local elected bodies and ignoring the voters. Consider just how powerful these grants are when recipients cower into submission at simply the mention of cutting off other or future grants, such as happened with the "anyone can go anywhere" bathroom debacle. As a case in point, you might ask the Fresno mayoral and council candidates how much of the city's budget is grant funded and directed, and how much the

council and mayor actually control. The answer might be enlightening.

Shovel 'em out with your vote.

Politicians will never clean up the muck of their own creation, so it's up to us to do so. Let's shovel out the barn this election by

voting out those who have made the mess and those who are likely to pile on more of the same. Then let's help to elect and retain any principled conservatives whose barns are pretty clean already by donating to their campaigns or volunteering to help. Once they're elected we can let them know that we have our shovels ready – just in case they want to add to the piles of corruption, overregulation, over-taxation and unconstitutionality.

See you at the polls in November. Please note that election observers recommend voting in person rather than sending an absentee or provisional ballot through the system. If you have an absentee ballot, you can "surrender" it at the polling place and you will be given a regular ballot to vote. The poll worker will then write "surrendered" on the absentee ballot envelope and place it in a special receptacle. If they do not know about this provision, you can ask them to look it up or check with an official.

For information and resources, please visit www.teaparty patriots.org.

Politicians will never clean up the muck of their own creation, so it's up to us to do so. Let's shovel out the barn this election by voting out those who have made the mess and those who are likely to pile on more of the same.

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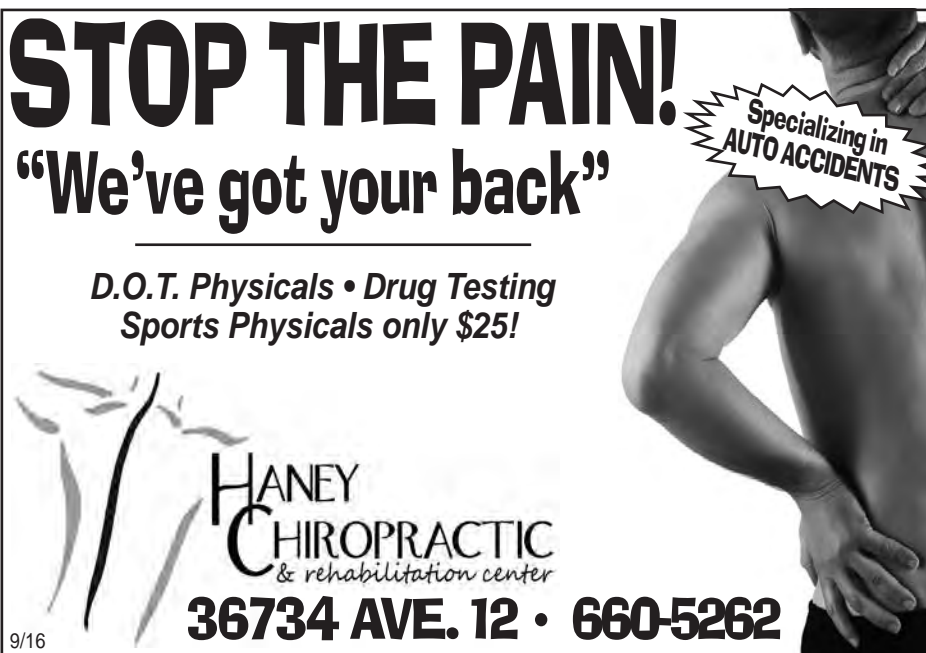
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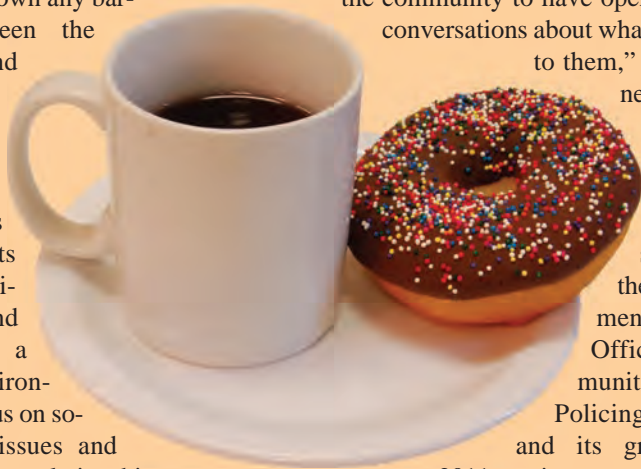
Varney Offers Donut with a Deputy

Madera County Sheriff Jay Varney is inviting the community to join him and the deputies to discuss community issues during monthly events he's dubbed "Doughnut with a Deputy." Based on the popular "Coffee with a Cop" format, the objective is to increase communication and break down any barriers between the public and the Madera County Sheriff's Office. The focus of the events is to put citizens and deputies in a neutral environment to focus on solutions to issues and build working relationships.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend these agenda-free events. Come out and get to know your local law enforcement, discuss issues, have a dough-

nut or just hang out. Sheriff Varney has announced the first event will be Sept. 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. at Zanders Coffee at 35300 Highway 41 #10 in Coarsegold.

"These events are a great opportunity to eliminate some of the communication obstacles and make ourselves available to the community to have open and honest conversations about what's important to them," Sheriff Varney said.



The Coffee with a Cop program is supported by the US Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and its growth since

2011 continues at an exponential rate. Coffee with a Cop was highlighted in the Final Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing as a way to build community trust and confidence.

RECIPE cont. from P. 8

boiling, add salt and noodles and cook according to package directions. There are several types of noodles you can use; Faye's favorite was Fettuccini. Mix sauce with noodles and top with parmesan cheese as desired.

Brenda's favorite dessert was "Republican Dessert."

Republican Dessert

Heat oven to 350

1 C. flour

1 stick margarine

1/2 C, chopped nuts

Mix together like pie dough.

Press into bottom of 9 x 13 pan. Bake in preheated oven for 10 minutes.

1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese-softened

1 C. Powdered sugar

1 large container Cool Whip

Cream together softened cream cheese and powdered sugar. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread on top of cooled crust and freeze.

2 small pkg. instant chocolate pudding mix

2 1/2 C. Milk

Mix pudding and milk together as package directs - DO NOT add

any more milk.

Spread on top of cream cheese layer and return to freezer.

1 small pkg. Cool Whip - Spread on top of pudding layer.

Top with toasted coconut or chopped nuts if desired.

Freeze until ready to serve.

This recipe can be tweaked to your liking - Eryn said when she and her mom made it, they added more cream cheese. And if I were making it, I would put the chocolate pudding on half of it, and lemon pie filling on the other side.

Brenda loved people. She had a smile that was contagious - you couldn't help but smile with her. I don't think she ever met someone that she couldn't talk to. A few years ago she had a karaoke business that really wasn't a business to her because she had so much fun helping people and watching them have fun. I was thinking of her the other day where she is now. She is out of pain, walking on the streets of gold. If you know Brenda like we do, I can just see her teaching Jesus karaoke - after all I do think he has a sense of humor.

We miss you dear!

Thank you Eryn for the help in this article.

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The Bookshelf

Celebrate Family History Month

By Amanda Judd

Thank you all for helping the Ranchos Library celebrate Library Card Sign-Up month all through September. Remember to put those cards to good use and that you must have your library card with you in order to utilize the public computers and to check out library materials. Don't forget, you may also now request items from different libraries at no expense. Items received are no longer subject to the 50 cent hold fee. Request to your heart's content.

These weeks have been passing by very quickly and in a short time there will be lots of holiday shopping and planning going on. Did you know that AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Madera Ranchos Library every time you shop, at no cost to you? To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will need to select Friends of the Ranchos Library as your organization in order to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation of .5 percent of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping and handling, gift wrapping fees, taxes or service charges.

Celebrate your family during Family History Month which is observed during the month of October. Take time to educate and play by drawing a picture of your family, trace people-shaped cookie cutters onto paper, cut out the shapes and decorate to look like your family. Discuss your family genealogy, family health history and share stories. You could also preserve family photos and, better yet, create a family cookbook. A family is a wonderful thing to celebrate.

We would also like to advise that at Story Time on Thursday, Oct. 27 children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes.

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ELECTRIC cont. from P. 9

differential housing. It's very possible in the near future transmissions will become obsolete just like carburetors.

The primary reason for the addition of electric motors is they are more energy efficient than gasoline engines and thereby improve fuel mileage and decrease emissions.

It's my hope to bring Career Vocational Education classes to Golden Valley Unified School District. When we build the curriculum it would be my preference that it be forward-thinking and innovative, not repackaged Vocational Education from the past. As always, I'm looking for ideas to write about. If you have suggestions or have a question about a vehicle, please contact me at complete_car_care@hotmail.com or the Complete Car Care Facebook page.

God Bless America and God Bless 93636.

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Senior Report

October Brings 'Big Things' to Seniors

By Patti Groh

A while back, in the comic strip Pickles by Brian Crane, the retired character, Earl, talks about his inability to remember people's names. If you read the strip, you know that Earl is a kind of crusty, old guy. He thinks he has developed some kind of a syndrome. He asks Jose what it is called when you can't remember people's names, but you just don't care. The man he is talking to says that his name is not Jose, but Clyde. "Who cares?" Earl replies. Okay, it is funny for old Earl but, hey, I care! I just hate it when I see someone and can't greet them by name because I can't remember it. I like for others to greet me by name. I have even gone so far as to have had two necklaces made with my name on them. My husband teases me that I can just look down if I forget my own name. (He thinks it is funny just like old Earl.)

At the Center we have name tags on lanyards for all the members. You are fined 25 cents if you don't wear them to board or general meetings, but otherwise members tend not to wear them. I'm suggesting that we all try to wear them when we are at the Center whether it is a social function or a work session. I hope we all care.

Big things going on at Ranchos/Hills Seniors in October. We are going to nominate people for the offices of president, vice-president and two board members at the October general meeting on the 11th at 6:30. Please think about serving and talk to the current president, Ethel Hansen.

The monthly sale at the Center is Saturday, Oct. 1 with baked goods for sale, the Treasure House and the Boutique will both be open with great stuff available. It is open at 8 a.m. Members, remember we need donated homemade baked goodies.

The October birthdays and anniversaries will be celebrated Saturday, Oct. 15 at Huckleberry's restaurant located at Perrin and Champlain, off of Friant Road. Please be there at 11:15 for service at 11:30.

On Sunday, Oct. 16 the proceeds from the Oddfellows breakfast will be donated to Ranchos/Hills Seniors so we are encouraging everyone to go have a wonderful breakfast there. It is served at the Oddfellows Hall from 7:30 to 11 a.m. The Oddfellows Hall is at the northwest corner of Road 29 and Avenue 15. It is good food (and a lot) with juice and eggs and meat and biscuits. There could be more that I have forgot-

ten but "wow." And the proceeds come to the Center. It is a win-win deal.

And finally, our Halloween potluck will be on our regular potluck night, Thursday, Oct. 27. We encourage everyone to come in costume. There will be judging and prizes.

There will be some games and decorations. This event starts at 6 p.m. Bring your own table service.

Lunch continues to be served every weekday at the center. Please call before 11 a.m. on the day before you plan on eating there. Exercise class is M-W-F at 10 a.m. It is very well attended and a good place to also meet people and hear what is going on in the center and community.

If anyone would like to teach crafts or whatever at the center, we'd love to hear your ideas. Or what would you like to learn? We are very open to new ideas. Call the center at 645-5864 to receive or give information.

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Less Toys + Good Organization = More Play

What would you rather have, a zillion things to choose from on a menu or a dozen things that you know you really like?

Jane Porter in Why Having Too Many Choices is Making You Unhappy tells of searching for a toilet brush on Amazon. With over 1,000 to choose from the process drained her and she ended up at her neighborhood Dollar Store where they had exactly one to choose from. Porter says, "Too many choices exhaust us, make us unhappy and lead us to sometimes abscond from making a decision all together. Researcher Barry Schwartz calls this 'choice overload.' It's not just insignificant details like which brush to wipe the inside of the toilet with — having too many choices in our creative and professional lives can lead us to avoid making important decisions."

If we, as adults, struggle with choice overload, imagine our children entering their bedrooms or playrooms piled with a plethora of toys. Entering that chaos, it's no wonder children prefer the ease of sitting in front of the TV.

Today I posted a question about toys to a moms' group on Facebook. In the first four responses, two of them said they had recently downsized and found their children spending more time playing with fewer toys in their bedrooms and playrooms.

In addition to the ease and enjoyment of play, there's the element of learning that takes place. Kathy Sylva, professor of educational psychology at Oxford University conducted a study with 3,000 children ages 3-5 years old. Sylva reported, "When they have a large number of toys there seems to be a distraction element and when children are distracted they do not learn or play well."

And, guess what? When there are fewer toys, there's less to clean up! Yay! This is a great bonus for kids learning to pick up after themselves and for the mom or dad who's doing the training. (Notice I didn't give the option of parents cleaning up after their kids.)

So how do we transform chaos to this

utopia I speak of? *Start with some intentional observation.* Clue into how and where your kids are spending their playtime. Do they prefer playing near you or do you find them happy to be alone with their Legos? What are they playing with most? It may be that they play with the same thing because it's the only thing they can find in the mess, but it also might give a clue as to the type of toy your child prefers.

Based on your findings, determine how and where to store the toys. You might choose to store some in the family room if they are things you play together and if your child is more social. You may decide to have the playroom be the boundary for toys so there are fewer places to clean up at the end of the day. There's no one right place or way to do it. You're the expert when it comes to knowing what's best for your family.

The one overarching goal is to not have more toys than your children can comfortably manage and choose from. When I organize children's rooms, the first step is always to purge. Some no-brainers are things they no longer play with or things they haven't grown into yet (store elsewhere), broken toys or toys with missing pieces and too many of one thing.

Keep those things that you observe them, or other kids their age, enjoying. Be selective based on your space and your goals for your kids' development. Depending on their age, include them in the process so that they can develop organizing skills. If there are some debatable items, put them away in a bin to be rotated in at a later date, or donated if not missed.

The next step is deciding how much space you want to use for storing toys (now that keeping them scattered all over the floor is no longer an option). You will also want to choose a storage system or containers that make toys easily accessible both for play and clean up. This is where some Pinterest, Ikea, DIY and Amazon ideas come into play.

Keep in mind putting like things together, containerizing and labeling, and if there are still more toys than will fit in your new system — purge some more.

If you're stuck or want some specific storage and maintenance ideas, my services are available at the contact information below, or attend one of my Family Management classes.

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

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9/16

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 10:30a Worship Service & Kidz Church
 Tuesday: 9a Dorcas Sewing Circle
 Wednesday: 6:30p Life Apps for ALL Ages
 Thursday: 6pm Women's Ministry
 1ST Saturday of the Month -
 Men's Ministry FREE Breakfast

9/16

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9/16

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9/16

Say you saw it in the *Ranchos Independent*

Say you saw it in the *Ranchos Independent*

Say you saw it in the *Ranchos Independent*

Tacherra Celebrates Endorsements

Sixteenth Congressional District representative Jim Costa's campaign saw a collapse around Labor Day when five local labor unions, historically supportive of Democrat candidates, all endorsed farmer Johnny Tacherra.

On Sept. 9, Tacherra announced that he had received the endorsement of the Communications Workers of America Local 9408, Northern California Carpenters Regional Council (servicing 46 Northern California Counties), Carpenters Local 701, Carpenters Local 152 and Drywall Lathers Local 9083 in his campaign to replace Congressman Jim Costa. In addition, Tacherra was also endorsed by the Madera County Tax Payers Association.

Tacherra's expansion of support across all geographic and demographic portions of the 16th District reflects how far his campaign against Costa has come in just two short years when he ran the closest race on the West Coast despite zero

funding from the National Republican Congressional Committee.

In their endorsement, CWA Local 9048 stated that they "... will not support [Costa] in his final run for office because he is against good American jobs." They then endorsed Tacherra to replace him in Washington, D.C.

"I am ecstatic to be able to bring people in the Central Valley together who might not always agree but know we need to fix our communities because Washington is a disaster," Tacherra said. "Jim Costa has failed this district, our country and even those who have supported him in the past. All parties must come together to fix our nation and our Valley. It is time for a new generation of leadership for Fresno, Madera and Merced counties. I am honored that organized labor has shown the courage to join me in our fight for our families' future and I will fight for them every day to get this economy growing and the water flowing."

Tacherra spokesman Carl Fogliani called this a defining moment in the 16th District race. "Everybody forgets that many overlapping or neighboring seats now currently in the GOP column have similar registration percentages where Democrats far outnumber Republicans," specifically Hanford's David Valadao and Andy Vidak, and Ceres' Anthony Cannella. "Johnny Tacherra has built support from across the district spectrum to build a majority while Costa's support shrinks after barely surviving the last election," Fogliani said. "Now the fact that he can't even maintain the support of organized labor is a further indicator that change is coming to the 16th Congressional District in November."

I have an oil for that!



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9/16

PARR cont. from P. 2

Campus. Two years later the "Why Not Madera?" campaign began. Today Madera South Campus is a comprehensive high school with one of the best Career Vocational Education facilities and programs in California.

I HAVE A RECORD: Why not Liberty High School?

The following is an excerpt from a letter of recommendation by Madera Unified School District (MUSD) Trustee Robert Garibay: "I have known Mr. Parr since the early 1990's. An advocate for quality education in Madera. Mr. Parr played a key role in MUSD's effort to pass a general obligation bond to build schools. His leadership and enthusiasm was infectious; he had the ability to win over the community in the successful bond attempt. Mr. Parr is the kind of man you would want in your corner."

I HAVE A RECORD: GVUSD recall.

I managed the successful recall campaign that was supported by 82.7 percent of the 42.1 percent who voted in the special election. Our superintendent and the direction of GVUSD was restored. I endorsed, contributed to or campaigned for every current school board member except Trustee Kelly. He ran unopposed. If you like the direction of our current school board, you will like me.

I HAVE A RECORD: Local control.

The California Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the federal Clean Air Act. When California failed to meet its federal Clean Air targets around 2006, it was clear the bureaucrats had no real world experience or understanding of the industry they were tasked to manage. The management model they created was insufficient. As an experienced emission technician, I worked for three years within California's bureaucratic system to create a more efficient monitoring and enforcement model. California's Goldshield program (Test Only Centers) was replaced with the new STAR program in 2013. I will use my experience, knowledge and understanding of the Sacramento bureaucratic system in my effort to restore some Local Control to GVUSD.

The following are excerpts from a letter of recommendation by California Bureau of Automotive Repair Chief, Patrick Dorais: "You have demonstrated a commitment to the Smog Check Program and overall support of its clean air objectives ... you have actively participated in several of our statewide workshops to improve the program over the last few years. In particular, your support and ideas on the STAR Program have been instrumental in helping us prepare and launch this new program."

My Platform

1) **RESTORE THE BUDGET RESERVE/RAINY DAY FUND:** Due to the recession and declining student enrollment (drought), GVUSD has spent down its budget reserve/rainy day fund to support student education at the highest level possible. In my opinion the budget reserve is critically low. My vision is to rebuild the budget reserve and restore financial stability to the district by dedicating a portion of the new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) revenue to the budget reserve.

2) **CAREER VOCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY IN GVUSD:** Thirty-four years ago I was involved in a racing accident. Over the course of a two-year recovery I lost my job. I began repairing cars out of my home to contribute to the family income. As it turned out that was the humble beginnings of Complete Car Care which officially opened September 1985. Eleven years prior, I took a simple Automotive Vocational Education Class during my senior year in high school. It became my passion and hobby. **I SUPPORT Career Vocational Education.** Madera County is ranked the #1 county in the United States for manufacturing job growth. Madera county has experienced a 59.8 percent increase in manufacturing jobs from 2009-2014. Additionally, Madera was ranked No. 49 nationally on Forbes list of the Best Small Places for Business and Careers. Sadly, GVUSD does not provide vocational pathways to prepare our students for these local career vocational jobs.

Early in 2016 the GVUSD Board of Trustees approved a new Career Technical Education facility. The facility is a comprehensive Ag and Vocational Education complex on 10 acres at Liberty High School. An architectural firm was selected but that's where it sits for lack of money. We need \$800,000 to move forward. Let's use developer fees. I would like to enter into a financial arrangement with the Riverstone development (example: pre pay developer fees/50-50 district match) to help fund the architectural fees. The benefit for the developer is his development is more attractive to buyers. The Career Technical Education facility will be good for students and good for business.

On this November's election ballot is Proposition 51. Prop. 51 authorizes \$9 billion for school facilities. Traditionally this money is used for matching funds. Our best chance to qualify for these matching funds is to get in the front of the line with approved Department of State Architect shovel-ready plans. We need to move NOW. I have identified several other sources of revenue that can be used to financially support the building of the Career Technical Education facility: 1) In 2006 the voters of GVUSD passed the \$70

Please see **PARR** on P. 20

Wheeler cont. from P. 2

growth has not always been easy, but as a community, we have ensured that growth and progress has taken place. We now sit on the precipice of another large period of growth. With the new housing developments being started, like them or not, the new houses and residents are coming. With this growth, great possibilities for us as a district are present, but great oversight is needed to ensure that what our community has started continues to be a source of community pride. This is my goal as your next trustee, to ensure your voice is heard and that our children benefit.

Currently, our schools score very well in comparison to our neighbors on academic test scores. This achievement is great and needs to continue. We need to challenge our children and prepare them for what their future brings. Those that are college bound need to have strong college prep courses that not only enable them to enter college prepared, but hopefully, ahead of the game with some of the credits needed already under their belts.

It is not enough anymore to solely focus on the pure academic courses. As we see the district grow, we need to encourage more programs that allow students to see how the skills they are learning can impact them in their future careers. Programs like Ag need to be supported and grown. This district has set this as a priority, and I plan to ensure that there is follow through. In my opinion, we need more vocational education in order to give our students possible directions after high school. I have seen the Ag program not only teach the science of agriculture but leadership and responsibility, skills that will aid those students in all of their future endeavors. I am excited to see the courses that can grow from this starting point.

I think all of us will agree that Eric Burger has raised the bar in our music program, and if you see him give him a big pat on the back and words of encouragement. The development of a marching band this year has allowed our students to show off the talent they have to a much broader audience. With ongoing support, I anticipate a program that will draw students from outside our district lines. I am excited to see what will come in the future at all grade levels with a developed fine arts program. I believe seeing a thriving fine arts program will bolster our students' academic achievements.

For our size of district, we have seen our athletic teams really flourish. The student involvement with our athletic teams has been tremendous. In the past four years alone, we have seen our student athletes compete in 16 valley championship matches. This great showing has brought tremendous pride and recognition to us as a community. We have

had several of these students then take the skills developed here on to compete at a collegiate level. What has been even more amazing to see is the number of students who earn scholar-athlete awards at the end of each year. To me, this shows the well-rounded young adults we are sending into the world.

There are a lot of future growth wants above but none of this will take place without stability in our teachers. The last several years have devastated our teaching ranks. We have been able to rehire but at the cost of seniority. As a district, we must find a way to retain and develop our teachers' ranks. I would love to see our teachers stay with GVUSD until retirement because this allows for continuity and growth. To do so, we need to support them when they are new and continue to support them as they grow through their seniority.

I have spent a lot of ink talking about where we are and where I would love to see us go. I am not blind to the fact that this all takes funding. We have accomplished an awful lot on a very tight budget. The state has not made it very easy on us, and yet, we have had success. It must be recognized that all of these things cannot just pop into existence without the dollars to back it. We have to be responsible with our budget, and we can only spend the funds that we know we have. I, for one, do not trust what the state says will be there in three, four, or even 10 years. We have been challenged by the cutting back in the already meager funding we receive. Our student population is much smaller than most of our neighbors like Fresno Unified and Madera Unified, and we receive on average roughly 20 percent less state funding dollars per student compared to those districts. That being said, the growth that is coming plus continued responsible acts will allow some or all of these plans above to come into existence. No stone can be left unturned in the approach to teaching our students.

I believe my experience in finance, as well as being a parent with a child still in the district, makes me the best candidate for the position. My ability to see the school not only from the business side but at the same time from the perspective of a parent separates me from others. As a parent of a special education child, I have learned to look at benefiting kids where they are as an individual and not as a group, something that I think we can carry into all areas of education. I look forward to representing ALL of the Golden Valley Unified School District in January. I am aware that will only take place with your vote and your support, which I hope to earn. I encourage you to reach out to

Please see **WHEELER** on P. 20

Click on "Local News" at

LETTERS cont. from P. 7

Yeah, it's that darn 'ol MONEY thing again. In fancy language, it notes Vulcan will not be able to make enough money in only 50 years and fewer tons of rock and so cannot be considered. How do you feel, after living here for 20 to 40 years, to discover the impacts on your life and home must happen because Vulcan has to make lots and lots of money? Our supervisors will protect Vulcan so far as to drive citizens whose sweat, money and effort have made Madera County what it is today out of the County and even the Valley. There are other places where normal citizens are not on the firing line for the sake of MONEY, but it is NOT possible here it seems.

There ARE alternatives, but it will be an arduous and expensive task. We could get a measure on the ballot, where we could all vote as we wish and speak with a united voice. Lawsuits are also possible, as MD 95 has proven. We all know the County has NOT "done right" by us for many, many years and if you want water to come out of your tap for as long as you live, if you want air that doesn't choke you and you don't want your wives, husbands, children and friends to be sacrificed by road accidents right here close to home, you will have to decide NOW to do what it takes to protect what's yours. The County staff and Vulcan have proven beyond any doubt they do not care about our welfare; you and you alone and with others who feel as you do will have to stand tall and insist your lives and health matter just as much as MONEY! This is not healthy, free commerce Vulcan is practicing, it is greed, pure and simple.

Michele V. Roberts
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to present excerpts of the Aug. 11, 2015 Fresno Bee article titled "Madera County Tops Small-Market Ranking for Manufacturing Job Growth."

"A surge in manufacturing activity in the past couple of years has propelled Madera County to the unlikely top spot in a national ranking for manufacturing job growth among not only Small Metropolitan Areas, but all metro markets in the country. Madera County's weighted index of 74.4 also placed the area tops among all 421 metro areas reported across the United States, regardless of size. The economic development blog NewGeography.com analyzed metro areas nationwide."

The report documents a 59.8 percent

growth rate in manufacturing jobs from 2009-2014. Additionally, Madera was ranked No. 49 nationally on Forbes list of the Best Small Places for Business and Careers under their Job Growth Ranking. Madera is the only MSA in the Central Valley that was included in the Forbes list.

Sadly, Golden Valley Unified School District is the only public school district within or surrounding Madera County that I'm aware of that does not have vocational pathways to prepare our students for these career vocational opportunities.

Recently I was interviewed by the Madera County tax consultant studying the March 2017 proposed Sales Tax Increase Measure for Public Safety. I presented my argument for keeping tax rates low. The consultant's comment was there is a shortage of law enforcement officers in the Valley and supply and demand will play a role with regard to wages and taxes. I see job opportunities all around. Let's add law enforcement to our list of lost career vocational opportunities.

The state of California several years ago increased K-14 funding by way of its new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). LCFF increases revenue to school districts to pre-recession levels by 2021. GVUSD's share is several million dollars per year by my estimation. In addition, district revenue from developer's fees and increased student attendance will also increase via the new development. I support moving forward with the Career Technical Education facility at the earliest opportunity. From the beginning it was a dream of this community to build a comprehensive high school district. Liberty High is now 16 years old and that dream is unfulfilled.

Soon we will have an opportunity to make that dream a reality. It will continue to remain just a dream unless we have proactive, prepared, dedicated school board members who will seize this opportunity. Please support Career Vocational Education in GVUSD.

Warren Parr, Candidate for GVUSD Trustee Area 3
Madera Ranchos

Dear Editor:

This is to all Rolling Hills residents and rate payers.

The residents of Rolling Hills are having a gun held to their heads by the State Water Resources Board, (Kassy D. Chauhan) and Madera County.

Our Supervisor, Brett Frazier, seems to be of little help. He appears to simply go along with what he is told and then tells us we have to pay. He warned us we will not

be happy with him when we vote on the 218 election.

If we follow what the County is insisting on we will be asked to raise our water rates to between \$200 plus per month in my estimation.

Our current bill is \$70. \$5.1 million (\$15,000 and change per house) is \$62 per month if it is zero interest. Paid back over 20 years, that's \$2 million (minimum) for the new well to get off of restrictions (at \$6,000 per house) at an additional \$25 per month again with no interest. That is \$157 per month plus the County says we are not paying enough for maintenance – or a reserve fund – let's call that \$47 per month for an even \$200 per month water bill.

I hope my numbers are wrong but I can only guess when the County treats us like mushrooms (keep us in the dark and feed us BS).

As you know, Rolling Hills has always paid its way but there are a lot of folks concerned about the direction things have gone lately. At the meeting recently we were told we will be on stage 3 water restrictions until we are able to meet a flow equal to 1.5 times the average daily flow for the heaviest flow month of the past year, and must meet these requirements with our highest producing well off line.

One and a half times the highest usage day required all year is one heck of a padding on our needs, when you add a requirement of the highest producing well-being off line it becomes too much.

The State of California water resources has adopted, California Waterworks Standards. The state is a 500-pound Gorilla when it comes to these regulations; they do not have to be realistic they simply need to be adopted.

WE need to: Submit the correct figures on our well capacity. Both of our wells are running at less than capacity because they will last longer that way. The production requirements being demanded of us are inflated to cover any feasible need. We should be using true maximum output figures for the wells, not what they are currently putting out while being throttled back.

Well number two output was reduced because of dirty water complaints. We have old mains; if you increase the flow it will stir up sediment in the water lines that has accumulated over the years. Stirred up silt is by no means a predictor of pump capacity. If the wells are reported at maximum output figures we may well meet the standards as we are. With that said we will still need another well in the near future.

The second issue is the water meters. Water meters will be required on all connections by 2025. We are being forced to comply now, and only being given one option. We are being told the County will spend \$5.1 million because they will not let us put me-

ters on the water main running through our property in an easement. The County is insisting we move the water mains to the street in front of the homes and we must somehow get our water supply line to the house moved from the front to the rear. For some reason the County refuses to back off on this requirement, and insists it be done now.

I did a little research on smart meters. They are placed in any location and transmit water usage data by radio to the base. They can report as often as every hour if you want. The cost of the unit is between \$300 and \$400. The city of Glendale (not disadvantaged by any scale) received about 25 percent in grants from the Federal Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission.

We have options! We need to explore these options before letting the County use scare tactics to force us into compliance nine years before it is required.

We also need to take a long hard look at how Madera County Special Districts has been managing our District. The administration fees have been increasing and we really have no idea how much of the money is being spent. Auditing and bookkeeping over the years have been sketchy at best. We have an Auditor Controller who seems to be on top of things now. I am hoping the Grand Jury can pull enough together to give us an idea of the problems.

We need to research options other than Madera County operating the system for us. It has been my experience that very few things done by government are done efficiently.

Again, we have time – nine years – before the meter mandate. We must not let ourselves be forced to act before we have had a chance to explore our options.

Thank You,

Dale Drozen
Rolling Hills

The Ranchos Independent welcomes your letters. Whether you're a fan or someone looking for something to line the birdcage, we want to hear from you. The only rules? Sign it, be civil or forget about it.

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TOWN HALL cont. from P. 2

fornia will be required to produce a water balance by 2020. Riverstone is ahead of the game.”

Surface and Groundwater Connected

With the drought ongoing, Madera Irrigation District’s (MID) General Manager Tom Greci said MID was continuing to try to make the best of a bad situation by supplying as much surface water to its clients as it could. But, even when there is plenty of surface water, some areas and groups, including the residents of both the City of Madera and the Ranchos, rely completely on groundwater. The advantage of using the Madera subbasin groundwater is that it needs very little filtering or additives, if any, to be potable or drinkable. If only surface water were available for drinking, it would require treatment at a dedicated and permitted facility first — a very expensive proposition. So, to the extent that MID can make it cheaper and easier to get surface water to growers, that reduces the amount of groundwater pumping and overdrafting of the aquifer’s potable water that the plants and trees don’t require but people do.

SGMA Defined

Made up of three bills signed by Governor Brown in September 2014 and a fourth in September 2015, SGMA:

- Provides for sustainable management of groundwater basins
- Enhances local management of groundwater consistent with

rights to use or store groundwater • Establishes minimum standards for effective, continuous management of groundwater • Provides local groundwater agencies with the authority, technical, and financial assistance needed to maintain groundwater supplies • Avoids or minimizes impacts for land subsidence • Improves data collection and understanding of groundwater resources and management • Increases groundwater storage and removes impediments to recharge • Empowers local agencies to manage groundwater basins, while minimizing state intervention.

According to Brown, “A central feature of these bills is the recognition that groundwater management in California is best accomplished locally. Local agencies will now have the power to assess the conditions of their local groundwater basins and take the necessary steps to bring those basins in a state of chronic long-term overdraft into balance.”

To help meet the regulatory requirements of the act, the state established the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program with a fund of \$100 million -- \$500,000 of which has already been awarded to Madera County primarily to develop the plan to address the state’s 6th most critically overdrafted subbasin.

Current Reality

In the meantime, at Frazier’s Sept. 22 Town Hall, comments were made about how:

Large corporations, in particular, con-

tinue to plant thousands of acres of almond trees and other high water-usage crops throughout the Ranchos and the rest of the County, effectively exporting our groundwater, which is illegal;

Farming operations, large and small, account for 97 percent of the groundwater withdrawal from our “underground lake,” the Madera subbasin;

The Madera subbasin has been known to be critically overdrafted for more than four decades; and

The Board of Supervisors will not likely reconsider putting a halt to either plantings of certain crops or installation of more pumping wells, despite their authority to do so.

Toward the end of the meeting, after accepting several gestures of welcome and gratitude from Ranchos residents for whatever her department could do to help, Berry said she thought SGMA would be a good thing. But, as many remarked, there may not be any groundwater to sustainably manage by the time the State-mandated SGMA plan is put in place in 20 years.

Also present at the Town Hall was County Public Works Director Ahmad Alkayyat, who said the delay in the Valley Teen Ranch – MD-10a consolidation project, originally scheduled to be completed by now, has been delayed by further auditing requirements of County records by the state.

PARR cont. from P. 18

million Measure S bond. According to district bond council, by 2021 GVUSD may be able to access an additional \$5 million due to increased assessed property values within the GVUSD boundaries; 2) In 2013 California increased K-14 funding by way of its new Local Control Funding Formula. In my estimation, GVUSD’s share is several million dollars per year by 2021; 3) GVUSD currently receives approximately \$8,200 per student. Every 122 new students generate 1 million new LCFF dollars; 4. It’s been estimated that 18 students per year transfer out of GVUSD due to lack of Career Vocational Education opportunities. 18 x \$8,200 = \$147,000 per year.

From the beginning it was a dream of this community to build a comprehensive high school district. Soon we will have an opportunity to make that dream a reality but it will require vision, dedication and leadership.

3) **TRADITIONAL VALUES:** The ACLU earlier this year contacted GVUSD to inform us that our district’s board policies are out of compliance with newly enacted California gender expression laws. The ACLU requested the district revise its current board policies (example: gender neutral dress code, common use restroom and locker room facilities) to reflect the changes in the law. This is an attack on our community, our culture and our family values. I support traditional values and the right of our families and community to raise our children with the values, ethics and morals of our religious convictions. California law has no standing in this regard in my opinion but the U.S. Constitution does. The 1st Amendment of the Bill of Rights states in part: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof ...” Texas and 10 other states are suing the Obama administration over its directive to U.S. public schools to let transgender students use the bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender identity. I am actively monitoring these lawsuits for their progress and success. If successful, we may be able to use their arguments and model to regain local control in this area. I will fight for our constitutional rights.

Please vote Warren Parr for GVUSD Board of Trustees Area 3.

Wheeler cont. from P. 18

me with any questions or concerns. Together we can ensure that this district keeps on a path toward greatness. I can be reached on my cell at 559-243-6228 or via email at abcmwheeler@gmail.com. Please join me on my Facebook page “Andy Wheeler for GVUSD School Board.” As always my campaign is “For our kids, For their future.”

2016 VOTER’S GUIDE
ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

PRESIDENT

Donald J. Trump

US SENATE

Both Democrats, the lesser (and not by much) of these two evils is Loretta Sanchez. Hold your nose on this one. Choose NOT to vote and you elect Kamala Harris. You DON’T want that.

US REPRESENTATIVE, Dist. 16

Johnny Tacherra

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY, Dist. 5

Frank Bigelow

GVUSD TRUSTEE, Area 3

Warren Parr or Andy Wheeler.

PROPOSITIONS 51 - 67

51: NO Authorizes \$9 billion in general obligation bonds for schools. Kill the High-Speed Rail and you’d have enough money for this 7 times over.

52: YES Requires voter approval to change use of hospital fees or funds.

53: YES Requires statewide voter approval before any revenue bonds can be issued or sold by the state for certain projects if the bond amount exceeds \$2 billion.

54: YES Require that every bill is published in print and online at least 72 hours before each house of the legislature can vote on it.

55: NO Extends by 12 years the temporary personal income tax increases enacted in 2012 on earnings over \$250,000. Instead of a fair tax system we get this.

56: NO Increases cigarette tax by \$2 per pack, with increases on other tobacco products and electronic cigarettes containing nicotine. Government’s cash cow. Enough!

57: NO Reducing criminal sentences, juvenile criminal proceedings and sentencing. The WORST prop. on the ballot. Their solution to too many criminals in jail? Turn them loose on us.

58: NO Repeal 1998 Proposition 227, the “English in Public Schools” Initiative.

59: NO Overturn Citizens United Supreme Court ruling.

60: NO Require condoms in porno films. Really? Is this what we’re spending our time on?

61: NO State prescription drug purchases tied to V.A. pricing. There goes your availability.

62 & 66: 62:NO, 66:YES Both death penalty related. 62 wants to ban it, 66 wants to enforce it. Sometimes you’ve got to take out the trash.

63: NO Permit to buy ammo and no large magazines. They HATE the 2nd Amendment.

64: NO Legalizing recreational marijuana. The argument is always, “But alcohol is legal.” Have you seen the damage alcohol does to lives? Guess what the number two substance people go to rehab for, after alcohol? Marijuana.

65 & 67: NO on BOTH Both have to do with grocery store “one use” bags. 65 wants to keep the ban in place but take part of the money charged by grocers and give it to environmental groups, while a “no” vote on 67 will overturn the ban.

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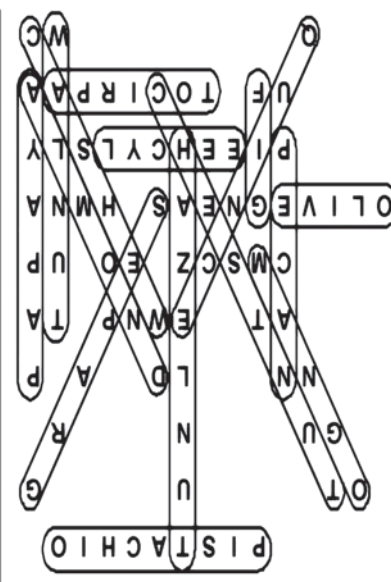
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ANSWERS

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

BERNESE	TONER	LIVENE	ALIF	WALING		
ANINTS	ALERO	ISOLATE	ALIF	WALING		
ROMOWAS	NTBUIL	INSADAY	ALIF	WALING		
CHARD	BEGS	SNO	SUTURE	ALIF	WALING	
DAS	ANEND	SENT	ALIF	WALING		
WHATCOU	LD	BESSA	IDOF	HIM	ALIF	WALING
MOTRIN	LEN	PROG	TRA	ALIF	WALING	
ALOE	ULNAS	HOSTS	FUEL	ALIF	WALING	
ALLTHOSE	MUSCLES	SLOTS	ALIF	WALING		
MAS	CEDE	NOS	ANNASUI	ALIF	WALING	
SAN	DEVELOP	OOH	ALIF	WALING		
PASTEON	TIM	AIDE	RST	ALIF	WALING	
MITER	INSHAKES	PEARETO	ALIF	WALING		
ANNS	GYRES	SHAUN	ALSO	ALIF	WALING	
ROE	FRAU	NAE	ISSUER	ALIF	WALING	
TIMEFOR	T	HAT	CHARACTER	ALIF	WALING	
IDOP	FACTS	MAGI	ALIF	WALING		
PEDALS	OUT	SERB	LANES	ALIF	WALING	
SINCEI	T	TOOK	QUITE	ALONG	ALIF	WALING
ADORERS	VICAR	ESTONIA	ALIF	WALING		
GOCARTS	ALIF	WALING	ALIF	WALING		

22	21	18		
2	7	+	x	18
x			x	
5	1	+	x	13
+			x	
6	2	+	x	21



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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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

	x		+		21
+		+		x	
	x		+		13
x		x		÷	
	x		+		18
22		21		18	

1 2 2 4 5 6 7 8 9

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9/16

Say you saw it in the Ranchos Independent

Strange BUT TRUE
By Samantha Weaver

- It was Colombian novelist, short-story writer, screenwriter and journalist Gabriel Garcia Marquez who made the following sage observation: "Words are not created by academics in universities and suchlike; rather it is the man in the street

who does so. Dictionary compilers almost always recognize them too late and embalm them in alphabetical order, in many cases when they have lost their original meaning."

- You might be surprised to learn that the first printing press in North America was not anywhere within the present-day boundaries of the United States. The very first one was set up in Mexico City, back in 1539.
- In the Talmud, a central text of Rabbinic Judaism, sneezing is called "pleasure

sent from God."

- The largest single dormitory in the world is at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. With 4.8 miles of corridors and providing 33 acres of floor space, Bancroft Hall provides a home for the school's entire brigade of 4,000 midshipmen.
- Many people harbor a fear of snakes (which, incidentally, is known as *ophidiophobia*), but venomous bites and constricting squeezes aren't the only ways a snake can kill. For instance, in the 1990s a man in Iran,

while trying to capture a snake, placed the butt of his shotgun against the snake's neck behind its head. In attempting to escape, the snake wrapped the length of its body around the gun, pulling the trigger in the process -- and killing its would-be captor.

- According to historians, Native Americans who lived on the Pacific coast often weaned their babies on caviar.
- Thought for the Day: "Distrust any enterprise that requires new clothes." -- Henry David Thoreau

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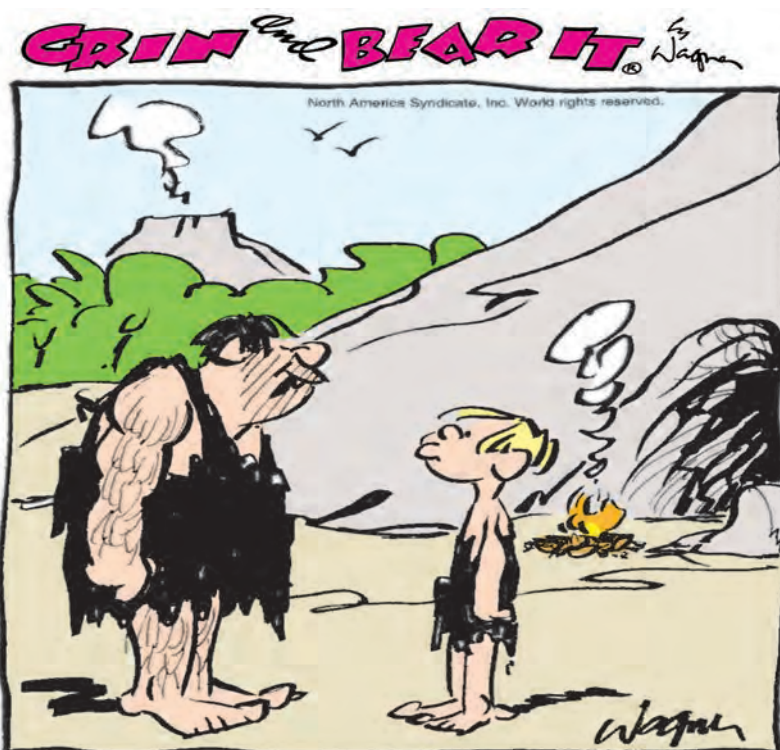
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



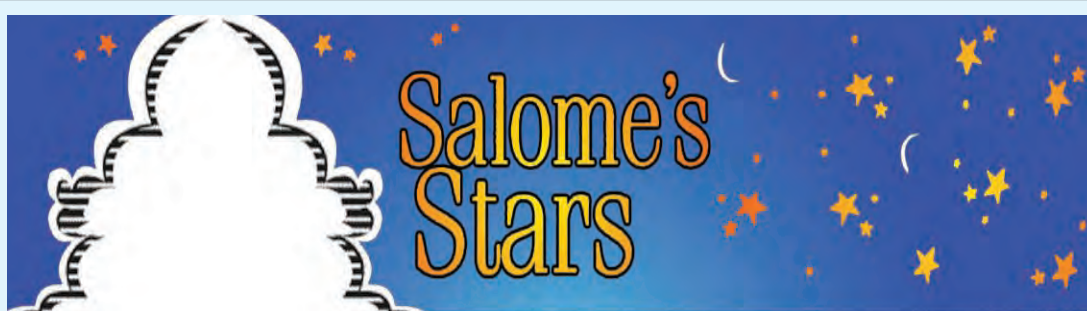
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**"I think we know enough words to have that
father-and-son talk now."**

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) After much traveling this year, you're due for some settled time with family and friends. Use this period to check out situations that soon will require a lot of serious decision-making.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Keep that keen Bovine mind focused on your financial situation as it begins to undergo some changes. Consider your money moves carefully. Avoid impulsive investments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll need to adjust some of your financial plans now that things are changing more quickly than you expected. All the facts you need haven't yet emerged, so move cautiously.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal and professional relationships dominate this period. Try to keep things uncomplicated to avoid misunderstandings that can cause problems down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) That elusive goal you'd been hoping to claim is still just out of reach. But something else has come along that could prove just as desirable, if only you would take the time to check it out.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to get away for some much-needed rest and relaxation. You'll return refreshed and ready to take on the workplace challenge that awaits you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Confidence grows as you work your way through some knotty situations. Watch out for distractions from well-meaning supporters that could slow things down.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Consider spending more time contemplating the possibilities of an offer before opting to accept or reject it. But once you make a decision, act on it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You're in a very strong position this week to tie up loose ends in as many areas as possible. Someone close to you has advice you might want to heed.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Congratulations. This is the week you've been waiting for: After a period of sudden stops and fitful starts, your plans can now move ahead with no significant disruptions.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You're in an exceptionally strong position this week to make decisions on many still-unresolved matters, especially those involving close personal relationships.

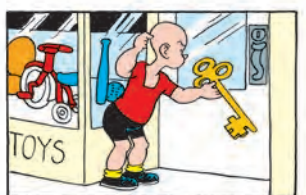
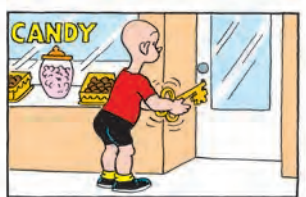
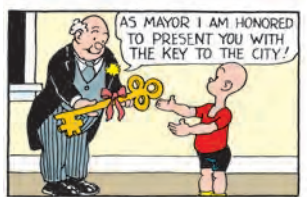
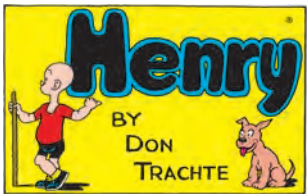
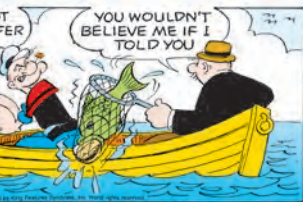
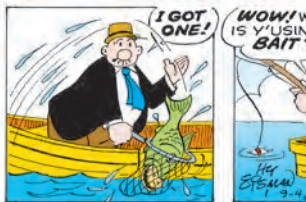
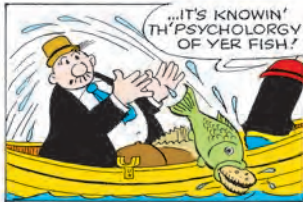
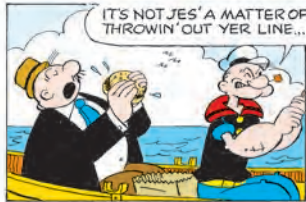
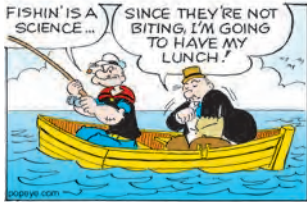
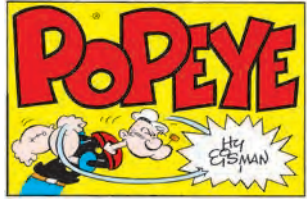
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The new moon starts this week off with some positive movement in several areas. A special person becomes a partner in at least one of the major plans you'll be working on.

Born this Week

You work hard and get things done. You also inspire others to do their best. You would do well heading up a major corporation.

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FUN PAGES



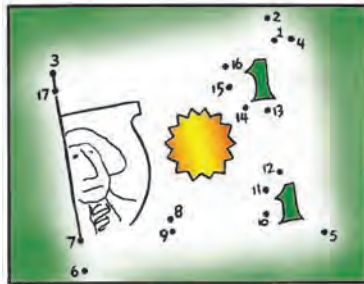
THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? FINDING OUT THAT YOU MISCALCULATED and HAVE JUST ENOUGH PAINT TO COVER ABOUT HALF THE ROOM... P.S. THE PAINT STORE IS CLOSED FOR THE WEEKEND.



CONNECT THE DOTS and find out the surest way to double your money!

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

DON'T LET THIS PUZZLE SCARE YOU!



POLE
PALE
PATE
PATS
CATS

Try to "bark" out the answers to these Ladder Puzzles in less than five minutes. You are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, change one letter in the previous word to form a new word. We changed POLE to CATS in four moves. Can you change the following words in four moves each?

1. BURN to COOK
2. GOLD to BARS
3. HARD to LUCK
4. LEAD to MINE
5. WIND to SAIL

FIND THE HIDDEN ISLAND in the announcer's introduction!



IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 5 through 14 to fill in this Magic Number Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 51. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you. Use trial and error — and a good eraser!

15	19	
18		16
	21	
		20
[51]		

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- Answers:
1. BURN, BORN, BOON, BOOK, COOK
2. GOLD, BOLD, BARD, BARS
3. HARD, HARK, LARK, LUCK
4. LEAD, LEAD, LEAD, LEAD
5. WIND, WAND, SAND, SAID, SAIL

Wishing Well

7	8	6	7	5	3	8	3	4	3	7	6	3
E	W	M	N	M	L	R	O	E	V	J	I	E
4	3	6	4	3	6	8	5	7	3	5	3	4
X	A	N	T	B	D	A	A	O	O	R	U	E
8	7	5	4	3	2	5	6	7	5	2	5	2
P	Y	I	N	N	P	T	O	H	A	R	L	O
3	6	7	8	6	2	4	7	6	5	6	3	4
D	V	U	U	E	G	D	M	R	B	M	S	K
8	7	5	4	7	2	4	2	8	2	4	8	5
P	O	L	N	R	R	O	E	L	S	W	O	I
8	4	8	5	2	4	2	6	4	2	6	4	5
O	L	S	S	S	E	I	A	D	S	T	G	S
6	4	6	2	8	6	2	8	2	8	2	8	8
T	E	E	M	E	R	A	E	D	N	E	D	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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CALIFORNIAN MAGIC MAZE ● FRUITS AND NUTS

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

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

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Almond | Fig | Mango | Pistachio |
| Apricot | Grapes | Olive | Quince |
| Cashew | Hazelnut | Papaya | Walnut |
| Chestnut | Lychee | Pecan | |

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the name of the dam that created Lake Mead?
2. LITERATURE: Who wrote essays about attempting to speak French, titled "Me Talk Pretty One Day"?
3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What political party did President Zachary Taylor represent when elected?
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many time zones does China have?
5. MOVIES: Who starred in the movie "Mommie Dearest," and what actress did she portray?
6. FOOD & DRINK: What ingredient gives gin its distinctive taste?
7. MYTHOLOGY: The Minotaur and his labyrinth were said to be located on which Greek island?
8. ACRONYMS: What does ROM stand for?
9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: About how many eggs can a queen bee lay each day?
10. TELEVISION: What was the name of the family dog on "The Simpsons"?

Answers

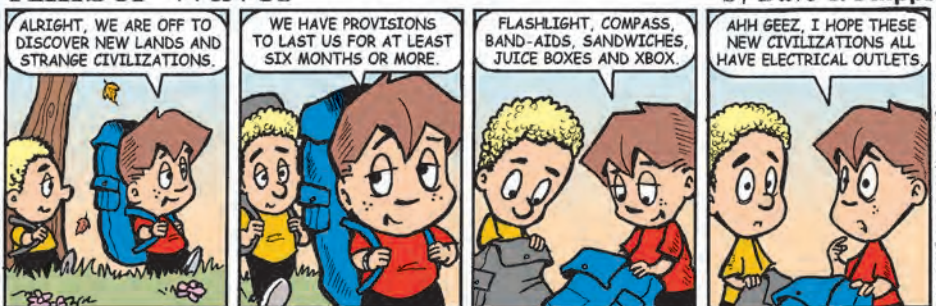
1. Hoover
2. David Sedaris
3. Whig
4. One
5. Faye Dunaway as Joan Crawford
6. Juniper berries
7. Crete
8. Read-Only Memory
9. 2,000
10. Santa's Little Helper

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Click on "Local News" at

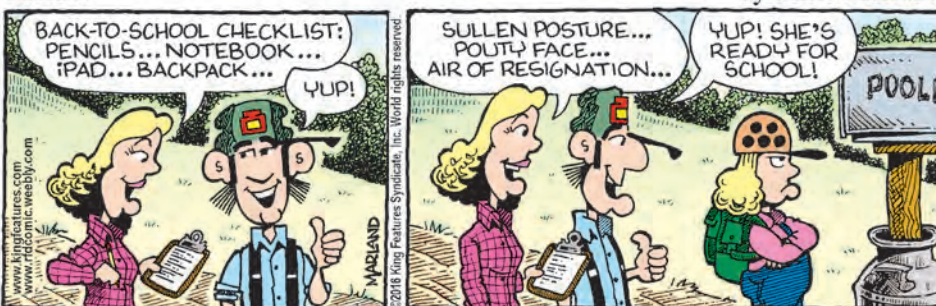
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



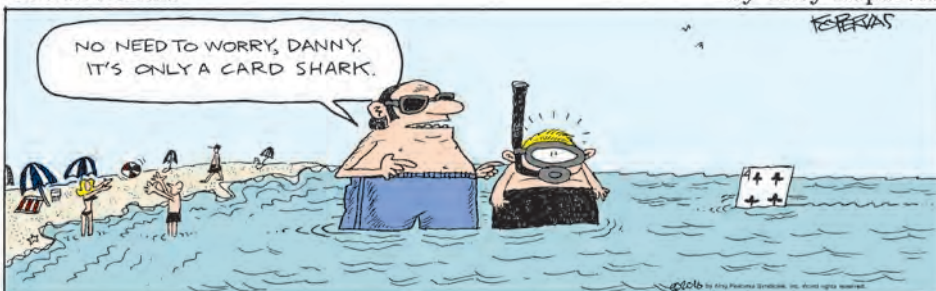
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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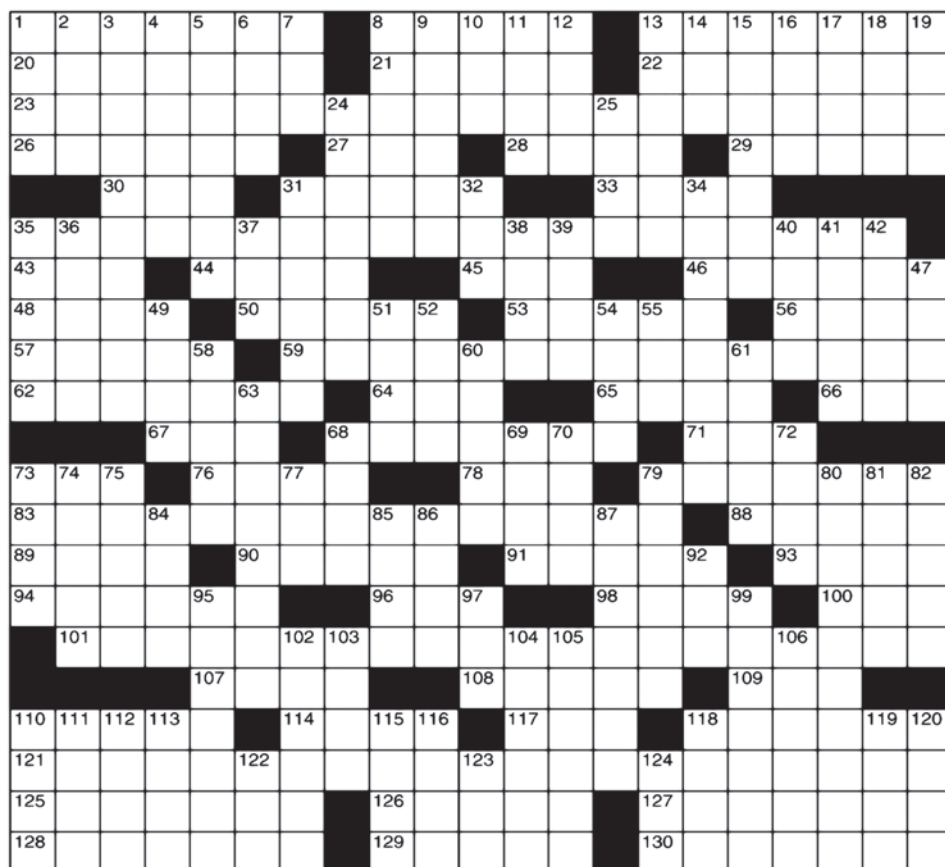


Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign is missing. 2. Bow is missing. 3. Umbrella is smaller. 4. Plant is missing. 5. Leash end is moved. 6. Mailbox is missing.

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Super Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Kids' racers
 - 8 "Need —?" (driver's offer)
 - 13 Lamenting loudly
 - 20 Very devoted fans
 - 21 Ecclesiastic deputy
 - 22 Tallinn locale
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Bicycle pair
 - 27 Diamond cry
 - 28 Novi Sad native
 - 29 Bowling alley lineup
 - 30 Oath affirmation
 - 31 Covenants
 - 33 Nativity kings
 - 35 Riddle, part 2
 - 43 Beluga eggs
 - 44 Herr's Mrs.
 - 45 Burnsian negative
 - 46 Magazine printer, e.g.
 - 48 Sothern and Dvorak
 - 50 Spirals
 - 53 1970s teen idol Cassidy
 - 56 "On top of that ..."
 - 57 Abbot's hat
 - 59 Riddle, part 3
 - 62 Attach with glue
 - 64 Apple's Cook
 - 65 Hill staffer
 - 66 Post-Q queue
 - 67 Part of SFPD
 - 68 Riddle, part 4
 - 71 "How exciting!"
 - 73 Women native
 - 76 Surrender formally
 - 78 Responses of rejection
 - 79 Rock Me! is one of her fragrances
 - 83 Riddle, part 5
 - 88 Coin-op openings
 - 89 Sunscreen additive
 - 90 Elbow-to-wrist links
 - 91 Party givers
 - 93 Coal, e.g.
 - 94 Advil rival
 - 96 Sportscaster Berman
 - 98 — rock (Jethro Tull's genre)
 - 100 Nonsense song syllable
 - 101 End of the riddle
 - 107 Shipped
 - 108 Put — to (stop)
 - 109 "— Rheingold"
 - 110 Swiss — (beet type)
 - 114 Pleads
 - 117 Hostess — Balls
 - 118 Doc's stitch
 - 121 Riddle's answer
 - 125 Puts holy oil on
 - 126 Old Oldsmobile
 - 127 Cut off
 - 128 Of Switzerland's capital
 - 129 Copier need
 - 130 Stirred up
 - 6 Baseballer Speaker
 - 7 Old booming jet, briefly
 - 8 Affirm frankly
 - 9 Ray of "Blow"
 - 10 "Ewww!"
 - 11 Online help sheets
 - 12 See 72-Down
 - 13 Place for suite spirits?
 - 14 Ending of enzyme names
 - 15 Right-leaning type
 - 16 1970 Kinks hit
 - 17 Wise to
 - 18 Three trios
 - 19 Chokes
 - 24 Perfectly
 - 25 — la Douce (film title role)
 - 31 Social protest with supplication
 - 32 Depot: Abbr.
 - 34 Got closer to, in a race
 - 35 Disney dog
 - 36 Old Aegean Sea region
 - 37 Kin of .com
 - 38 Wine holder
 - 39 Sly laugh syllables
 - 40 99-Down, for one
 - 41 Calculus pioneer
 - 42 Lies dormant
 - 47 Tooth part
 - 49 Court units
 - 51 Opposite of west, to Juan
 - 52 Thug's blade
 - 54 Lickety-split
 - 55 Major news agcy., once
 - 58 Get to
 - 60 Church service cries
 - 61 Seeming eternities
 - 63 A sixteenth of a pint
 - 68 Celebrity cook Paula
 - 69 Sea arm, to a Scot
 - 70 Norway port
 - 72 With 12-Down, only partially accurate
 - 73 Sir's partner
 - 74 Give the OK
 - 75 Poky animal
 - 77 Fast Net connection
 - 79 Pippi creator Lindgren
 - 80 Juba is its capital
 - 81 Prenatal places
 - 82 Shia's faith
 - 84 Start for byte
 - 85 Galleria
 - 86 Found a purpose for
 - 87 Madrileño's language
 - 92 Lay turf on
 - 95 "The end!"
 - 97 Magic's gp.
 - 99 Old Russian ruler Boris
 - 102 Safe, to a ballplayer
 - 103 Runnin' Rebels' rivals
 - 104 Guarantee
 - 105 Golden ager
 - 106 Femme —
 - 110 Sourpuss
 - 111 Refine
 - 112 Ovid's love
 - 113 It pulls a bit
 - 115 Black fly, e.g.
 - 116 French town W. of Caen
 - 118 "Yes, yes!" in 87-Down
 - 119 Per-unit price
 - 120 Gawked at
 - 122 Lb. and kg.
 - 123 Still of films
 - 124 Up to, in brief

FUN PAGES

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