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50¢



Was it preventable? Will it happen again?

By Edward Ring

Photo Courtesy of National Park Service

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Was it preventable? Will it happen again?

By Edward Ring

The catastrophic fires that have immolated millions of acres of forests in the Golden State were preventable, and for decades, everyone knew what had to be done.

Millions of acres of California forest have been blackened by wildfires this summer, leading to the usual angry denunciations from the usual quarters about climate change. But in 1999, the Associated Press reported that forestry experts had long agreed that “clearing undergrowth would save trees,” and that “years of aggressive firefighting have allowed brush to flourish that would have been cleared away by wildfires.” But very little was done. And now fires of unprecedented size are raging across the Western United States.

“Sen. Feinstein blames Sierra Club for blocking wildfire bill,” reads the provocative headline on a 2002 story in California’s *Napa Valley Register*. Feinstein had brokered a congressional con-

sensus on legislation to thin “overstocked” forests close to homes and communities, but could not overcome the environmental lobby’s disagreement over expediting the permit process to thin forests everywhere else.

Year after year, environmentalists litigated and lobbied to stop efforts to clear the forests through timber harvesting, underbrush removal and controlled burns. Meanwhile, natural fires were suppressed and the forests became more and more overgrown. The excessive biomass competed for the same water, soil and light a healthier forest would have used, rendering all of the trees and underbrush unhealthy. It wasn’t just excess biomass that accumulated, but *dried out and dead* biomass.

What happened among California’s tall stands of Redwood and Ponderosa Pine also happened in its extensive chaparral. Fire suppression along with too many environmentalist-inspired bureaucratic barriers to controlled burns and un-

Please see **FIRE** on P. 16

Covid Cloth Masks for Wildfires? Disease Group says “Not So Fast ...”

By Randy Bailey

As a result of the millions of acres of forests that have burned in California so far this year, our air quality has become horrendous in the Ranchos. Couple that with the ongoing concern about COVID-19 and the disease’s potential effect on our lungs, and the question is raised as to whether or not the state-mandated cloth masks we are wearing for the pandemic are also helpful with the air from the fires. According to the Centers for Disease

Control the answer is: Not really.

In a message on the CDC’s webpage, they say, “Cloth masks that are used to slow the spread of COVID-19 by blocking respiratory droplets offer little protections against wildfire smoke. They do not catch small, harmful particles in smoke that can harm your health.” The problem with wildfire smoke, according to the CDC, is “Wildfire smoke can irritate your lungs, cause inflammation, affect your

Please see **MASKS** on P. 18

ELECTION 2020

THE RANCHOS INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

(The following suggestions are provided by SaveCalifornia.com. These are merely suggestions with which the Ranchos Independent agrees. While this is still America, vote how you please.)

12 Propositions on California's November 3 Ballot

Once you receive your mail-in ballot around the first of October, you'll have the chance to vote for law and order and against crime in California. The three “good” propositions are Prop. 20, 22 and 25, even though you have to vote “no” on 25 to “pass” this referendum on SB 10.

Here are SaveCalifornia.com's initial recommendations and brief analyses of the 12 statewide propositions on California's 2020 general election ballot.

Prop. 14 NO: \$7.8 BILLION in taxpayer dollars for more research on embryonic stem cell (from aborted babies) which has been an utter, unethical failure. No more of our money!

Prop. 15 NO: As much as \$12.5 BILLION every year in higher property taxes imposed upon owners of commercial and industrial properties, and costs handed down to tenants.

Prop. 16 NO: Would permit every government entity in California to engage in race- and sex-based discrimination in employment, schools, and public contracts. Eliminates Prop. 209 from 1996, which eliminated so-called “affirmative action” in California.

Prop. 17 NO: Permits voting by as many as 40,000 convicted criminals who were released early (paroled) by Democrat Governor Gavin Newsom and the Democrat-run California Legislature. Is there any question of how these criminal minds would vote?

Prop. 18 NO: Permits 17-year-olds to vote in California primary elections. Deemed a child and legally irresponsible, giving them the privilege of voting is unnecessary and foolish.

Prop. 19 NO: Would hike property taxes by as much as \$2 BILLION per year. These new taxes would be imposed on property transferred between parents and their children, mostly done through inheritance. Prop. 19 would abolish both Proposition 58 from 1986 (excludes from property tax reassessment most transfers between parents and children) and Proposition 193 from 1996 (if parents are dead, excludes from property tax reassessment most transfers between grandparents and grandchildren) unless recipient children live in the property as their primary residence for at least one year. Overall, this proposed constitutional amendment is part good and part bad. While stealing from family wealth, Prop. 19 also offers significant property tax protection to Californians ages 55+ who sell one primary residence and buy another anywhere in the state (current law only provides this 55+ protection for same-county transfers). Yet Democrat politicians put this on the ballot to grab a lot of money from families, so please vote no.

Prop. 20 YES: The tough on crime statutory initiative would restrict early parole for more violent crimes and would permit more mostly non-violent crimes to be treated as felonies, rather than misdemeanors. This initiative would reverse much of the damage of foolish Propositions 47 and 57, along

Please see **SUGGESTS** on P. 15

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Ray

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Randy

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K. M.

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Dennis



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The Bookshelf

Library Re-Opening in October

By Jerrica Edmundson

The moment you've all been eagerly awaiting is finally here: I have information regarding our official re-open to the public.

More information will be available via our Facebook page as soon as I have it, but Public Health has officially given us the go-ahead to start a gradual reopening to the public as of October 5. Hours will be adjusted, and it will only be a few days a week to start in order to allow for cleaning and sterilization to properly keep the

community safe, but we have a date.

We will be implementing a senior hour program to allow for health-compromised individuals to have a time to come in exclusively as well. Masks will be a requirement for entry to the building and we will have temperature and contact tracing available for patrons that come through. If you are unable to wear a mask for whatever reason or refuse to wear a mask, your entry will be denied to the library, although curbside pickup is available

Please see **LIBRARY** on P. 17

Putting Your Children First

I will work hard to make sure that every child in Madera County, with a particular focus on those living in our more rural communities, has the same opportunity to be the absolute best they can be. Please be sure to vote on November 3 and when you do, vote for

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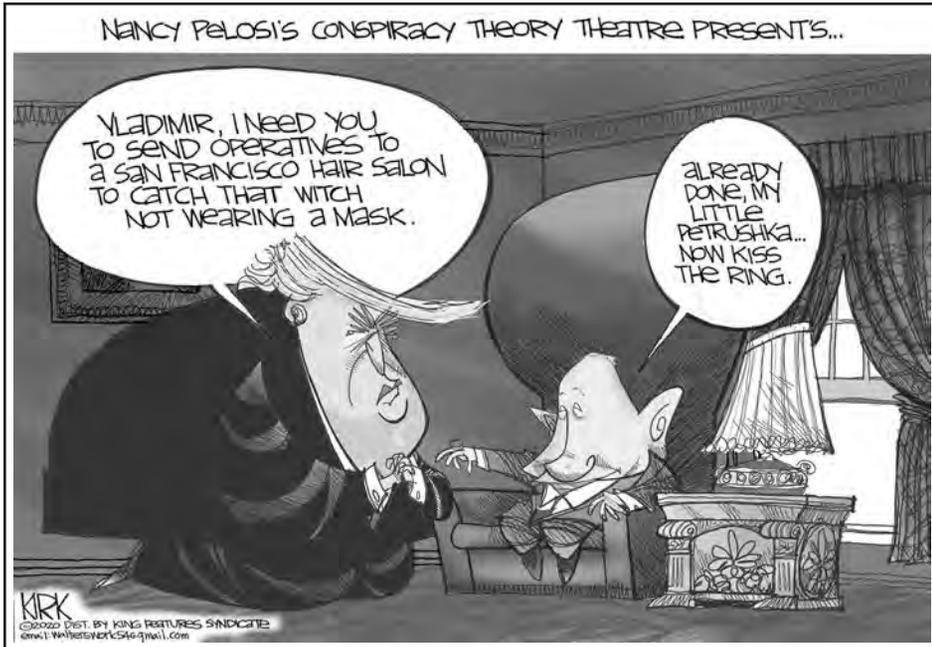
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Editorial

The Most Important Election?

By Randy Bailey

I am trying to remember the last national election we had that *wasn't* touted by someone from *either* side as being "The most important election of our lives!"

I understand that as an election trick, using fear to get the voting masses worked up into a frenzy to motivate them to the point that they feel they absolutely, positively **MUST** get out and vote -- after all, their very way of life depends on it! But in every election since Richard Nixon in 1972, almost the last 50 years, the turnout has averaged right at 53 percent. Almost half of the voting population has found something else to do on election day. The last monster turnout we had -- 81.8 percent showed up to vote -- was in 1876 for the race between Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel Tilden. Tilden ended up winning the popular vote with 50.9 percent, but Hayes carried the electoral college ... by ONE vote.

I offer up this history lesson because it's interesting, but also to point out that through it all, the American system has always been able to weather the storm of jockeying political parties and ideologies. Hayes and Tilden were from different sides of the aisle, but basic beliefs in the Constitution, God and country were very similar. There was not a huge chasm of difference in

core beliefs between the two men. Probably the most striking difference was Hayes, the Republican, who was a staunch abolitionist from Ohio who had overseen trials for escaped slaves.

But our election today *is* different from those in the past. I don't know what caused it to culminate at this exact moment in time; I can't point any fingers at a Pearl Harbor-like attack or Gulf of Tonkin incident or Bay of Pigs debacle, but something has happened. It's almost like Ephesians 6:12 in the bible is coming true: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Sound like 2020 to you?

The two elements that I am seeing repeatedly in our culture today -- and that I find most distressing -- are our seeming embrace of socialism and anarchy.

I have discovered with my own children, who are all in their late 20s, that their perception of socialism is that it's just a "different" political party. "Johnny's a republican and Suzie's a democrat and Horszt over there is a socialist." I have tried repeatedly to explain that socialism is much more than an American political party. Few political parties have as their end-goal world domination, subjugation and total control, but I guess I could be wrong.

The anarchy thing has been around for a while, but never quite at this level. And NEVER with such tacit approval from governors and mayors across the country. I, along with the vast majority of Americans, have no problem with the rights of free speech, expression and peaceful assembly. What we are seeing today is none of those things. You do not have the right to assemble to burn down a building. You do not have the right to assemble to loot a business. You do not have the right to gather to ambush a policeman.

I remember in 1968 when I was 13 watching the democrat convention in Chicago. I remember the protesters closing it down because they wanted something else, and they wanted it NOW! I remember thinking, "That's not how it works in America."

George Santayana said "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." I fear America is having a Santayana moment.

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Hacksaw Ridge Revelations

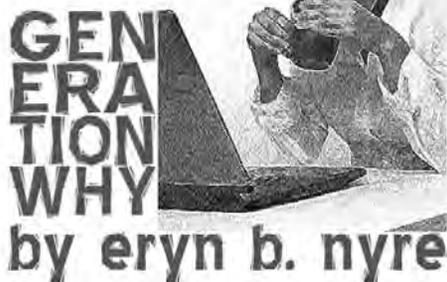
My dad and I watched the movie *Hacksaw Ridge* the other day. It's a great movie. Heavy, disturbing at times, but utterly moving and inspiring. If you haven't seen it, I highly recommend it. As we watched, my dad hit pause, as he often does, to interject a little color commentary. This is why he prefers to watch movies at home, paying theater patrons wouldn't be as forgiving of this practice as his family. Not that we have a choice; he guards that remote like the Ark of the Covenant.

Anyway, he paused the movie and turned to me to ask, "Do you realize how many of those soldiers were kids?" To someone of my dad's advancing years (I'm kidding dad, no need to update the will) a kid could be a 40-year old, so I looked it up. According to multiple sources the average age of a soldier in the U.S. Army during World War II was 26.

Which could mean there were as many 18-year olds as 34-year olds. This was a sobering thought. I remember who I was when I was both 18 and 26 and at neither point was I mature enough to handle the terrors of war. Yet, these young men marched forth into battle and protected their country with their lives.

Much of the setting of this movie surrounded the taking of a Japanese stronghold called Hacksaw Ridge, which called for the soldiers to scale a steep cliffside. I'm sure you can imagine the dangers of climbing up the side of a cliff with zero visibility straight into the awaiting enemy army. Yet, these soldiers, these kids, took a breath, said a prayer, and climbed to almost certain death because that's what needed to be done.

This raised the question: How would we have fared in WWII if it had been fought with the young people of today? The thing is, I'm honestly not sure how to answer that. If what's happening in the country today is any indication of the state of mind of our youth, I don't think we would have taken



Hacksaw Ridge nor any other critical battle that ultimately led the Allies to victory. I know that seems like a scathing diatribe against young people in America, but I'm specifically referring to the sense of patriotism and duty that seems to have waned in younger generations. This is evidenced in both the rioting and looting perpetrated by some and in the complaisance found in others.

Our young adult population seems far less concerned with the idea of protecting and defending our country than previous generations, especially the Great Generation. Instead of trying to find a solution together, there is discord and division, which for some is the exact desired outcome. Now there's even a push for a separate national anthem. One country, indivisible ... not anymore.

Some will say that there is always civil unrest when groups of people are pushing for social change. To those I say there is a difference between demanding change through loud and strong demonstrations and attacking your fellow citizens. Burning down a small business is attacking your fellow citizens. Damaging someone's car with a crowbar is attacking your fellow citizens. Shooting police officers while they are sitting in their car is attacking your fellow citizens. And quite frankly, brushing all of this off as just examples of protests is, if only through complaisance, attacking your fellow citizens.

Furthermore, making the state-

Please see **GENWHY** on P. 7

... a soldier in the U.S. Army during World War II ... there were as many 18-year olds as 34-year olds.

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GENWHY cont. from P. 6

ment that violence is righteous because it is the only way to affect change is not only preposterous, it's offensive to everyone. First, it suggests that one side of the argument is incapable of engaging in debate and reasoned discourse; that they are unqualified to present clear evidence in a rational argument. I'm offended on behalf of that community and don't understand why they aren't equally appalled by the insinuation. Additionally, accepting violent demonstrations as the only way to be heard also suggests that the rest of the population is unable to understand or unwilling to listen simply because of the color of the speaker's skin. I find this equally offensive. I'll listen to anyone who wants to have an honest dialogue on race relations in America. I'm even open to changing my opinion if presented with real, concrete evidence.

Most people would.

Suggesting that violence is the only answer is offensive to every one of us.

I've also read that some excuse the violence against businesses because insurance will help them recoup their losses. First of all, I didn't realize it was acceptable to destroy other people's property as long as they have insurance that will replace it. Does that hold up in court? Can someone slash my tires if I park too

close to the line at the grocery store because they made sure I have good insurance? Let's go one further – may I break someone's kneecap with a baseball bat if I know he has insurance to cover a knee replacement? The problem with that opinion, beyond the obvious precedent, is that insurance doesn't always make people whole and we haven't even talked about deductibles yet.

Let's not forget that the business owners themselves are not the only victims. When a business goes down in flames, either figuratively or by the hand of some hateful rioters who need to get a real job, the employees lose their livelihoods as well. Who knows how long it will take to rebuild and reopen so the suppliers have lost a customer and therefore revenue which could lead to layoffs in their organizations as well. This is a vicious cycle that is being perpetrated by a group of reprehensible people who won't be tasked with the cleanup, physically or financially.

So, to bring it all back to the original premise, how would we fare if WWII were to be held today and a portion of our 18-34-year olds were deployed to take Hacksaw Ridge? I'm afraid I wouldn't have a lot of hope. Too many people don't seem to value our country at all, and I can't see them putting their lives on the line for it, especially since so many don't even value other lives over their own opinions.

By Wyatt Morgan & Corinna Martinez

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



Sierra Shadows 4H Club

The Creek Fire is being fought not too far away from us in the Sierra Nevada. We have been contributing to those brave souls that have been wrestling those big fires destroying our communities.

On Monday, Sept. 7, Sierra Shadows collected donations for the firefighters. Our members collected items such as individually packed food and snacks, bottled water and drinks -- such as Gatorade -- personal items and toiletries. We dropped the items off at the Poore residence and Dana, our 4H Club Leader, delivered the donations to the firefighters.

We are here to say "Thank You" for contributing to the firefighters

and for just being a good person to everyone around you.

Additionally, next month we will be having a drive-thru enrollment on Tuesday, Oct. 13. You will have a chance to meet 4H leaders and talk about the different projects offered. Everything you will need to begin enrollment will be there. Time and location are not set yet. New information will be coming out on our Facebook page, Sierra Shadows 4H. You can also email sierrashadows4h@gmail.com with any questions.

1, 2, 3 BAKE!

(September 2010)

Editor's Note: With the passing of Aunt Jean, I have decided to bring you a "Best Of" of her recipes over the past 10 years. Good recipes are timeless and I hope you enjoy them all over again. Aunt Jean passed away one year ago this month on Sept. 23, 2019.



chef in the short term to help pay her way through college. She went to a local trade school and their fees are – ready for this? – \$18,000 for a six month accelerated course. That's more than I paid for my car!

I told Rachael we would put some of her recipes in this month's article and see how she does. Maybe we have a new pastry chef among us.

The first recipe she wants to share, she got from her Grandma Faye. No matter who is baking it, it is yummy!

Apple Kuchen

Preheat Oven to 350
13x9 baking dish

- ½ C Butter or Margarine, Softened
- 1 Package Yellow Cake Mix
- ½ C Flaked Coconut (Optional)
- 1 Can (20 oz) Pie Sliced Apples

(I use the pie filling kind)
½ C Sugar
1 tsp. Cinnamon
1 C Sour Cream
1 Egg
Cut butter into dry cake mix until crumbly, add coconut and pat mixture lightly into ungreased baking dish building up slight edges. Bake 10 minutes.

Arrange apple slices on warm crust, using a fork to line apples in rows. Won't completely cover crust, but don't worry about it.

Mix sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle on apples. (If using canned apple pie filling, you may want to cut down a little on the sugar and cinnamon). Blend sour cream and egg together and drizzle over

Please see **RECIPE** on P. 9

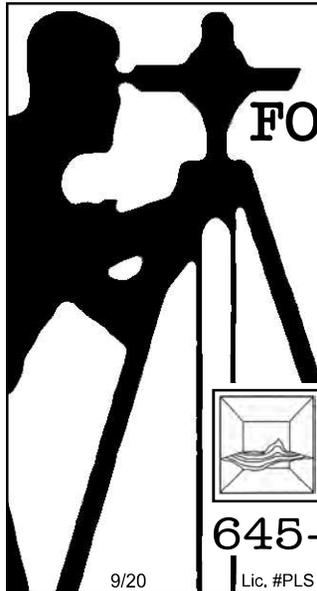
When Rachael first started baking, the first thing she baked was Snickerdoodle Cookies ... now she knows the recipe by heart.

his heart; interest on the loan didn't start until I was out of school and working.

The reason I'm telling you this is I hadn't realized how much things have changed in those 50 years. Oh, I know you can't buy a loaf of bread and a gallon of milk for 50 cents anymore, or a gallon of gasoline for 35 cents, but my gosh! Cost of education is outrageous! Every time Fresno State fees go up, I feel sorry for the students and don't think much more about it. But now, with Randy and Vicki's two girls trying to go, I'm a lot closer to it.

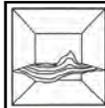
A Baking Alternative

Rachael, their oldest daughter, wants to be a psychologist but she knows college is going to be a long ordeal. She loves to bake so she got the idea to be a pastry



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9/20

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RECIPE cont. from P. 8

apples. This will not completely cover the apples, so drizzle is what they mean.

Bake 25 minutes or until edges are light brown. (Do NOT over bake)

Serve warm. Makes 12 to 15 servings.

Can be spooned out, but much nicer if sliced like a loaf cake – and try a scoop of vanilla ice cream on it.

Ever since Rachael was able to choose her own cookie, it was always Oatmeal Raisin – the other kids would pick Chocolate Chip but not Rachael. So it is no surprise that she would include her recipe for ...

Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

¾ C Margarine or Butter –

Softened

- 1 ¾ C All Purpose Flour
- 1 C Brown Sugar – Packed
- ½ C White Sugar
- 1 Egg
- 1 tsp. Baking Powder
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- ¼ tsp. Baking Soda
- ½ tsp. Ground Cinnamon –

Optional

- 2 C Rolled Oats
- 1 C Raisins

Preheat oven to 375

In a mixing bowl beat margarine or butter with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for about 30 seconds. Add about half of the flour and all the brown sugar, white sugar, egg, baking powder, baking soda and the vanilla and cinnamon if using. Beat in remaining flour. Stir in oats and raisins.

Drop by rounded teaspoon 2 inches apart onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 9 minutes or until the edges are golden. Cool cookies on a wire rack. Makes about 4 to 4 ½ doz.

If you or your family don't like raisins, they can be omitted, and you could add 1 cup chopped walnuts.

The First Cookie

When Rachael first started baking, the first thing she baked was Snickerdoodle Cookies, and she has baked them so many times for her family and friends she now knows the recipe by heart.

Snickerdoodles

Preheat oven to 375

- ½ C Butter or Margarine
- 1 ½ C All Purpose Flour
- 1 C Sugar

- 1 Egg
- ½ tsp. Vanilla
- ¼ tsp Baking Soda
- ¼ tsp Cream of Tartar

In a mixing bowl beat butter or margarine with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for 30 seconds. Add about half of the flour, sugar, the egg, vanilla, baking soda and cream of tartar. Beat until thoroughly combined. Beat in remaining flour. Cover and chill for one hour.

Combine 4 Tablespoons sugar and 2 teaspoons cinnamon in a small bowl. Shape dough into one inch balls. Roll balls in sugar mixture and space about 2 inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 9 minutes or until the edges are golden brown. Cool cookies on wire rack. Makes about 3 dozen cookies.






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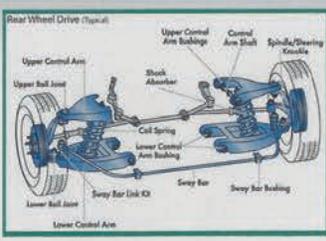


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Just Do It Doesn't Always Work

When my twin granddaughters began buckling themselves into their car seats, I had flashbacks of my kids at that age. One twin found a cracker left-over from another car ride and decided before buckling would be a good time for a snack. The other got half-way into her seat and began a conversation about where we were going — no buckling going on there. Being grandma, I have a little more patience, but sometimes I'd rather say, "Just do it!"

"Just do it" doesn't compute to a two year old. Actually, it doesn't work for us so well either. Many people struggle with not getting things done in a timely manner, or at all. Unfortunately, society isn't so forgiving when you're a grown-up.

We wouldn't say a two year old procrastinates, because we tend to associate procrastination with a conscious decision to put something off. Procrastination isn't a conscious decision for many adults, either. We may experience stress, guilt and shame, but not identify or link it to procrastination. When we bring it to our consciousness and alter our course, we can experience more peace and productivity.

Challenge #1 - Menial Productivity. We fill our days with tasks that come easy and avoid those we don't like to do. Since we're being productive, we don't consider that we're procrastinating until the shoe drops and the consequences hit. Maybe it was putting off the home maintenance calls and now it's raining and the roof is leaking.

Choice #1 - Meaningful Productivity. Make a list of those things that you've been avoiding. Schedule one per day to lessen the overwhelm. Make it the first thing you do in the morning to reduce the dread. Then, you can relax and enjoy the tasks you like to do.

Challenge #2 - Distractibility. With our phones ringing and texts dinging it's not surprising we get sidetracked from the tasks that need our attention. One look at our email or Facebook and we can lose focus for hours. We're not deliberately avoiding, but subconsciously succumbing to a world of distractions.

Choice #2 - Disconnect. Intentionally create a place conducive to focus. Turn off notifications and let those in your office or household know you're unavailable for a designated time. Set a timer and choose to stay on task until the timer rings. Break for 15-30 minutes. Check email etc. and then reset a timer for focus. Breaks are important but must have boundaries.

Challenge #3 - Fear. Without some self-analysis most of us wouldn't say we procrastinate out of fear. Past failures can trigger fear. Connected to that is the fear of what people might think or say. Sometimes it's fear of the outcome of completion. Putting off taking a medical test, or even something positive like completing a Masters degree can arouse fear because of the changes that may mean.

Choice #3 - Foresight. Compare the benefits and consequences of completion and incompletion. Realize that in the end, procrastination limits your choices.

Challenge #4 - Perfectionism. Many are stopped in their tracks due to perfectionism. It's often hard to identify because things are so chaotic that it seems contrary. If the task can't be performed perfectly, it's not done at all. Or the task never ends because the level of perfection is never attained.

Choice #4 - Plug it. Parkinson's Law says that "Work expands to fill the time available for its completion." If you don't have an external deadline, create one. Decide ahead of time that done is better than perfect. Break down the project into pieces, schedule time to work on it and choose to stop when the deadline hits.

Don't wait — do it now! Choose the choice that will benefit you most and begin today.

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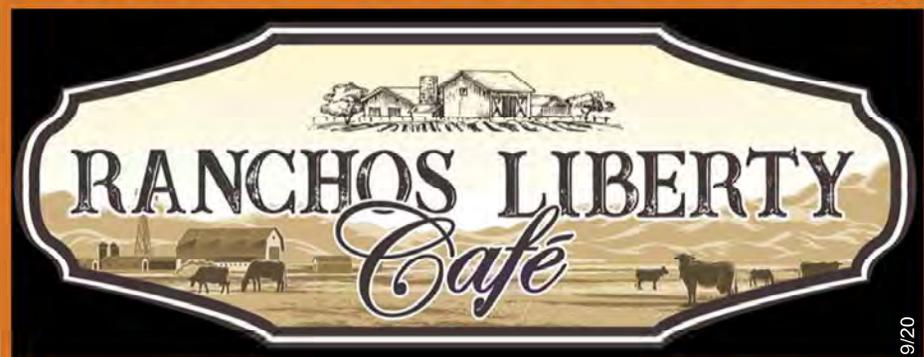
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Senior Report

Founding a Ranchos Landmark

By Margaret Tynan

As we leave a very difficult September, the Ranchos/Hills Seniors Center extends best wishes and hope for the future to the community and all our California neighbors who are affected by the terrible fires. We are very thankful to the first responders and all who have pitched in during this unprecedented crisis. It is what community is all about.

In preparation for this edition of the Senior Report, I called Helen Lowell, who has been a member since the very beginning. Helen and her husband built their home in Madera Ranchos and moved from Fresno in 1981.

Helen got to know many of her neighbors and two of them, Ellen Wilcox and Joanne Stern, were avid walkers who often passed by Helen's home while she was doing work in her yard. They

regularly began enjoying coffee with Helen after their walk and began enthusiastically sharing their dream of a senior center in the Ranchos. Helen told me their enthusiasm was contagious: she caught the "fever."

Soon, a meeting over coffee and donuts was arranged at Pete's Drive-In (now Lee Kitchen) to explore community interest. A nucleus of community members, including Jim Barrow, met on a regular basis to organize and plan. They met at backyard patios, a local church and Webster School. Through lots of hard work doing research, preparing documentation for nonprofit status, developing By-Laws, and raising necessary resources, Ranchos/Hills Seniors became a reality. The next goal was to find a permanent site for the organization. In 1997 members, with the knowledgeable help of Ethel Pronin, found the current location and the building was purchased. Each member bought and donated a chair and contributed funds for a table or two and a coffeepot to begin furnishing

the new space. Over the years, membership grew and the Center evolved into what it is today. It provides seniors 50 + years a place to meet new friends, enjoy exercise, crafts, educational and recreational activities. It also serves as the Madera Area Agency on Aging congregate meal site.

Helen shared, "It's amazing how a group of people, with teamwork, can have fun and get things done. The Center is a place to enjoy fellowship and keep involved."

She went on to invite seniors in the community to "come see what we are all about." Helen is a valued member of the Center. She has served a term as both Vice President and President and has been a member of the Board for several terms over the years. She currently is the Center's Parliamentarian. She is engaged in many of the Center's activities and especially enjoys



Ranchos/Hills "co-founder" Helen Lowell during a craft class at the center.

joys crafts, exercise and game nights. She loves and enjoys her two granddaughters and her three great-grandchildren.

The Center will open the garden area and Treasure House for an outdoor sale on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 8 to 11 a.m. Please wear a mask and maintain physical distancing while shopping.

Donations are welcomed and appreciated. Make your check out to Ranchos Hills Seniors and mail to 37330 Berkshire Dr., Madera, CA 93636. Please note: At this time, we are only able to accept donations of physical items by appointment at 645-4864.

There is still time to nominate yourself or a fellow member for the positions of President and two Board members. All current members of the Center are eligible to serve. Members wishing to nominate please call the Center.

Thought for October: "A problem is a chance for you to do your best."
— Duke Ellington

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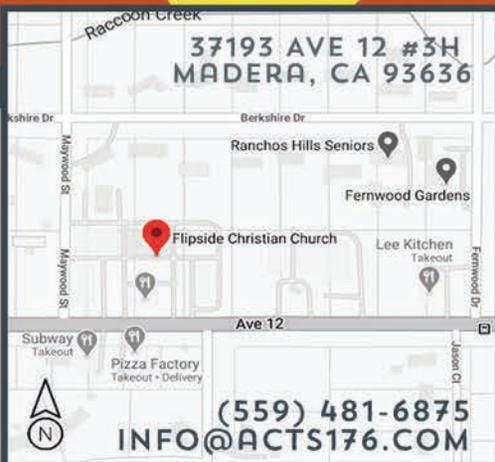
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3. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce requires financial support in order to perform its job of increasing the economic prosperity of the Ranchos.
4. Because the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce unifies the public spirit of the Ranchos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

When’s the NEXT Chamber of Commerce Meeting?

The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce would love to see you at our next meeting, Wednesday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m., 37167 Ave. 12 Suite 5C in the Maywood Center. Come join us and see what’s going on in your community. Call us at 645-4001.

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SUGGESTS cont. from P. 2

with the Democrat state legislators' AB 109, all of which kept criminal minds out of jail, out of prison and in our communities.

Prop. 21 NO: We've been here before when voters rejected statewide rent control in 2018. Rent control motivates more landlords to sell, which results in fewer rentals and higher rents, thus hurting more California individuals and families. Want to lower rent in California? Vote to eliminate or lower developer fees, prohibit environmental thresholds and lawsuits that are strangling many developers, and deport illegal aliens who have dramatically increased housing demand. All these ills are the Democrat politicians' doings.

Prop. 22 YES: The Democrat politicians are constantly destroying jobs and businesses, which is the socialistic, communistic way. Last year, the ruling Democrats passed AB 5 to eliminate much of the freedoms independent contractors previously enjoyed. So the

popular app-based driving and delivery businesses DoorDash, Lyft, Uber, Instacart and Postmates combined to qualify for the ballot a statutory initiative to exempt their drivers from AB 5, permitting them to continue working with flexibility as independent contractors. Although this initiative won't protect all Californians, it would restore the liberties of some, which is still good.

Prop. 23 NO: We've also been here in 2018, when California voters rejected heavy regulation of outpatient kidney dialysis clinics. This is life-saving treatment and the most outpatient clinics for people in need, the better. Yet Prop. 23 would have the effect of financially shutting down many small clinics, reducing treatment, and losing lives.

Prop. 24 STILL STUDYING: This proposition would increase privacy of personal information for online consumers. We're still researching whether the penalties are just or unjust, and whether the greater growth of state enforcement is wise or dangerous.

Prop. 25 NO: This referendum to keep the cash bail system, if successful, will ensure most accused criminals will show up for their court hearings instead of skipping town. The referendum aims to protect the bail system, which was eliminated by the Democrat-controlled California Legislature in 2018. Yet the private-company bail agents, threatened with extinction, worked hard to collect signatures to place the Democrats' bad law on hold. To keep and protect the bail system, you'll need to vote NO in order to "veto" the Legislature's SB 10, which is our recommendation.

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FIRE cont. from P. 2

dergrowth removal turned the hillsides and canyons of Southern California into tinderboxes.

In 2009, after huge blazes wiped out homes and forced thousands to evacuate, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich observed: “The environmentalists have gone to the extreme to prevent controlled burns, and as a result we have this catastrophe today.”

In 2014, Republican members of Congress tried again to reduce the bureaucracy associated with “hazardous fuel projects” that thin out overgrown forests. True to form, the bill got nowhere thanks to environmental lobbyists who worried it would undermine the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the law that requires thorough impact assessments ahead of government decisions on public lands.

In a blistering report published in the *California Globe* on how environmentalists have destroyed California’s forests, investigative journalist Katy Grimes interviewed Representative Tom McClintock, a Republican who represents communities in and around the Sierra Nevada mountains of Northern California. McClintock has worked for years to reform NEPA and other barriers to responsible forest management.

“The U.S. Forest Service used to be a profitable federal agency,” McClintock told Grimes. “Up until the mid-1970s, we managed our national forests according to well-established and time-tested forest management practices. But 40 years ago, we replaced these sound management practices with what can only be described as a doctrine of benign neglect. Ponderous, Byzantine laws and regulations administered by a growing cadre of ideological zealots in our land management agencies promised to save the environment. The advocates of this doctrine have dominated our law, our policies, our courts and our federal

agencies ever since.”

But these zealots have not protected the forests. They have *destroyed* them. The consequences are far-reaching.

Decimating the Timber Industry, Disrupting the Ecosystem

Few people, including the experts, bother to point out how overgrown forests reduce the water supply. But when watersheds are choked with dense underbrush competing for moisture, precipitation and runoff cannot replenish groundwater aquifers or fill up reservoirs. Instead, it’s immediately soaked up by the trees and brush. Without clearing and controlled burns, the overgrown foliage dies anyway.

A new activist organization in California, the “California Water for Food and People Movement,” created a Facebook group for people living in the hellscape created by misguided environmentalist zealotry. Comments and posts from longtime residents of the Sierra foothills, where fires have exploded in recent years, yield eyewitness testimony to how environmentalist restrictions on forest management have gone horribly wrong.

Examples: “I’m 70, and I remember controlled burns, logging, and open grazing.”

“With the rainy season just ahead, the aftermath of the Creek Fire will challenge our water systems for years to come. Erosion will send toxic debris and sediment cascading into streams, rivers, and reservoirs, reducing their capacity to carry and hold water. Dirty air, dirty water and the opposite of environmentalism are on full display right now, brought to us by the environmental posers who will no doubt use this crisis to unleash a barrage of ‘climate change did it’ articles.”

“Many thanks to Sierra Club and other environmental groups. You shut down logging/brush removal and had a ‘don’t touch’ approach to our forests. You shut down access roads and let them get overgrown, so

now they can’t be used for fire suppression and emergency equipment. You fought ranchers for grazing, which helped keep the forest floors clean. You made fun of Trump when he said we need to rake the forest. Trust me, these forest rakes and logging would have prevented the devastating fires we see now.”

The economics of responsible forest management, given the immensity of America’s western forests, requires profitable timber harvesting to play a role. But California has no commercial timber operations on state-owned land. And since 1990, when the environmentalist assault on California’s timber industry began in earnest, its timber industry has shrunk to half its former size. Reviving California’s timber industry, so the collective rate of harvest equals the collective rate of growth, would go a long way toward solving the problem of catastrophic fires.

Instead, California’s environmentalists only redouble their nonsense arguments. Expect these fires to justify even more “climate change” legislation that does nothing to clear the forests of overgrown tinder and everything to clear the forests, and the chaparral, of people and towns.

Expect these fires to fuel a new round of legislation containing urban growth while mandating suburban densification, with increased rationing of energy and water.

Expect the “climate emergency” to accelerate in synergistic lockstep with the pandemic emergency and the anti-racism emergency. Expect all three of these emergencies to become issues of public health, thereby eliminating inconvenient constitutional roadblocks to swift action.

Misdirected Union Priorities

Meanwhile, tragically, expect California’s politically powerful firefighters’ union to do little or nothing to support the timber industry or rural inhabitants who don’t want to move into urban condos.

As Steve Greenhut explained in a re-

cent column in the *Orange County Register*: “Frankly, union power drives state and local firefighting policies. The median compensation package for firefighters has topped \$240,000 a year in some locales. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection firefighters earn less, but their packages still total nearly \$150,000 a year. The number of California firefighters who receive compensation packages above \$500,000 a year is mind-blowing.”

No wonder firefighters are overwhelmed during California’s wildfire season. The state can’t afford to hire enough of them.

And when these firefighter unions could have been pushing for legislation to clear the forests back in 2019, where instead did their leftist leadership direct their activist efforts? They marched in solidarity with the striking United Teachers of Los Angeles. The teachers’ unions have done to California’s public schools what environmentalists have done to California’s forests.

If an honest history of California in the early 21st century is ever written, the verdict will be unequivocal. Forests that thrived in California for over 20 million years were allowed to become overgrown tinderboxes. And then, with stupefying ferocity, within the span of a few decades, they burned to the ground. Many of them never recovered.

This epic tragedy was the direct result of policies put in place by misguided environmentalist zealots, misinformed suckers who sent them money and the litigators and lobbyists they hired, who laughed all the way to the bank.

Edward Ring is a senior fellow of the Center for American Greatness and co-founder of the California Policy Center, which he co-founded in 2013. This article originally appeared in American Greatness at amgreatness.com. It was written on Sept. 9, 2020.

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

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SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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MASKS cont. from P. 2

immune system and make you more prone to lung infections, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that cause COVID-19."

All is not lost, however. The CDC says that N95 respirators – when properly fitted – do protect against smoke from wildfires, but they are in short supply as a result of the pandemic and are being used primarily by health workers. To that end, the State of California has produced guidelines that state, "Most people should wear a cloth mask. This is so there can be enough surgical masks and N95 respirators for medical personnel."

Although extremely limited in efficacy, the consensus of many medical professionals is that a cloth mask is better than nothing – although not by much. The problem is they don't keep out the microscopic particulates of smoke. Surgical masks are also an option, but the CDC hasn't provided any information on the use of surgical masks to limit smoke inhalation.

At this point, the collective advice is stay indoors in air-conditioned air and avoid the smoke as much as possible.

• Cooking a recipe with garlic and onions to start? Invite me to dinner! But first, remember to let the onions cook to nearly translucent before adding the garlic, which cooks much faster. If you put



both in at the same time, the garlic will burn before the onions have a chance to deepen their flavor.

- Every so often, use a very diluted bleach solution to rinse out your reusable water bottles. Put them on a bottle rack to air dry completely before sealing them back up.
- Things you should wash with soap and

water more often than you think: hairbrushes, eyeglasses (and sunglasses) and keychains. Think about how often they get handled and how infrequently they get cleaned.

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

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Where do YOU Stand?

By Betty Van Valkenburg

Democrat Party Liberal-Progressive-Socialist	Republican Party Conservative-Constitutionalist	You ?
<p>For RAISING TAXES</p> <p>The Democrat platform supports a more “progressive” income tax and would amend the state Constitution to make it easier to raise new special taxes or assessments by requiring only a 55 percent vote rather than a two-thirds vote. Would raise corporate property taxes, which would be passed on to consumers in higher prices. (Prop 15)</p>	<p>For BALANCED BUDGETS & LOWER TAXES</p> <p>The California Republican Party “believes that California taxes are too high and that our state government spends too much.” It supports the two-thirds vote requirement, making it harder to increase taxes. It calls for a constitutional ban on any bonded indebtedness to cover general operating deficits and opposes unfunded federal and state mandates.</p>	<p>?</p>
<p>For GREEN NEW DEAL</p> <p>The Democrat platform promises to “implement a green new deal with hiring preferences for formerly incarcerated ... peoples.” Demands reduced-driving targets. Supports bicycling and high-speed rail. Limits freeway construction. Adopts plant-based food and organic farming. Opposes fossil fuels, nuclear energy and fracking.</p>	<p>For SOUND SCIENCE & COMMON SENSE</p> <p>Calls for common-sense regulations that both protect and allow for prosperity while considering the effect on workers and the economy. Discourages dependence on foreign energy sources. Believes the United Nations approach has been fundamentally flawed.</p>	<p>?</p>
<p>For ABORTION & ASSISTED SUICIDE</p> <p>Supports the unrestricted right to and taxpayer funding of abortion and funding of Planned Parenthood. Supports doctor-assisted suicide, calling it ‘death with dignity,’ and payment to doctors for end-of-life ‘care.’ Democrat presidential candidate Joe Biden says: “Protect the constitutional right to an abortion.” Rep. Jim Costa won Planned Parenthood Action Fund’s sole endorsement in 2019.</p>	<p>For SANCTITY of LIFE</p> <p>Supports protection of innocent life “because we believe life begins at conception and ends at natural death.” Supports protecting unborn children from abortion and adoption as an alternative. Opposes taxpayer funding of abortions and Planned Parenthood. Opposes legalizing assisted suicide.</p>	<p>?</p>
<p>For DISARMING CITIZENS</p> <p>Supports gun control and confiscation. Joe Biden, while protected by armed Secret Service agents, proposed banning “assault weapons” for American citizens. He vowed to name former candidate Beto O’Rourke his Gun Czar. As a candidate himself, O’Rourke declared: “H*ll yes, we’re going to take your AR-15 and AK-47,” and described how police officers would manually confiscate unlawful weapons. [Would this be de-funded police officers?]</p>	<p>For THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS</p> <p>The Constitution guarantees our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The Second Amendment guarantees the right to own guns with which to protect all other rights. Republicans oppose further gun control legislation and support the right of all citizens to own and bear arms and ammunition for any lawful purpose. Candidates oppose defunding or disbanding police protection.</p>	<p>?</p>

Information is taken from party platforms and candidates’ statements.

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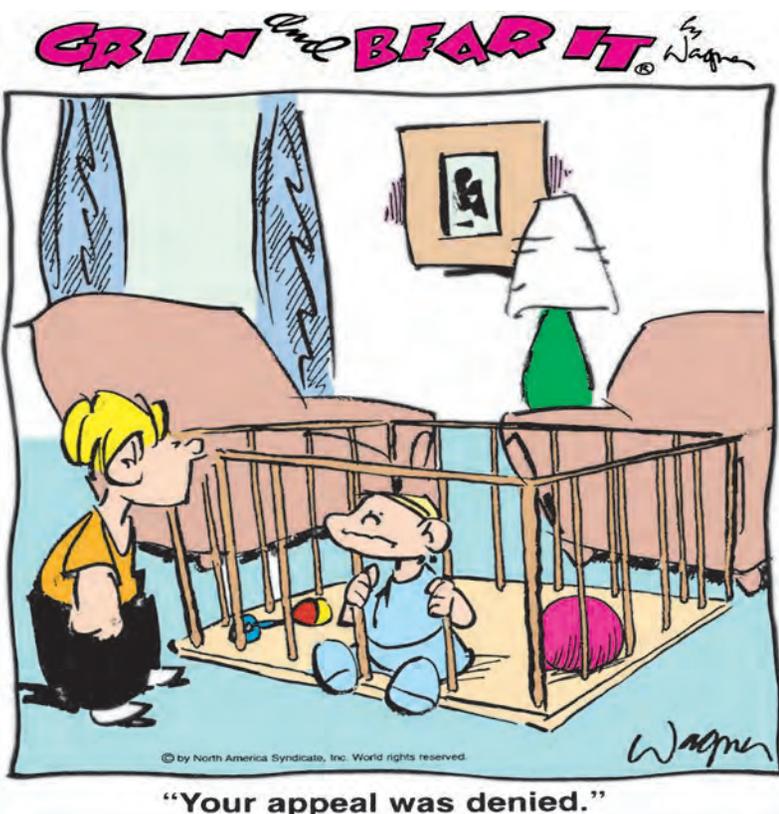
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps




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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Personal matters claim a good deal of the Lamb's time in the early part of the week. But by midweek, pragmatic considerations (work, school, job-seeking, etc.) begin to take priority.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The seasonal shift ignites the Bovine's creative aspects. You could do well if you try to combine your penchant for innovation with the more pragmatic demands of the week.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Ideas come easily to you this week. And never mind that some might suggest they're unworkable and/or impractical. It's your vision that counts. Work them out and see what turns up.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Personal matters continue to dominate the early part of the week. By midweek, more workaday issues once again begin to emerge. Balance your time to give both the attention they need.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A new contact could provide an expanded opportunity. But be sure you get all the facts before you consider signing on. Ask questions, and be wary if you don't get the right answers.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An unexpected development could cause some supposedly resolved disagreements to reignite. Deal with the situation before it leads to some really serious problems.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A clash of work-linked viewpoints needs to be discussed openly, honestly and calmly by all concerned before it can impede progress on an ongoing project.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The Scorpion's pragmatic side helps you accept the possibility that a change of plans might be the wise thing to do. Be sure to weigh all your considerations carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Some people might not take no for an answer. Never mind. Keep your resolve if you're sure you don't want to be involved in a potentially sticky situation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) All other facts and figures aside, it's what you learn about potential colleagues that can be most helpful in assessing any decisions you're likely to make regarding a new project.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might want to reconsider some of your outside commitments if they continue to demand more time than you can spare. Be honest with yourself when making a decision.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Pay attention to that inner voice of Piscean wisdom counseling you to remove those rose-colored glasses and take an honest look at any decisions you might face this week.

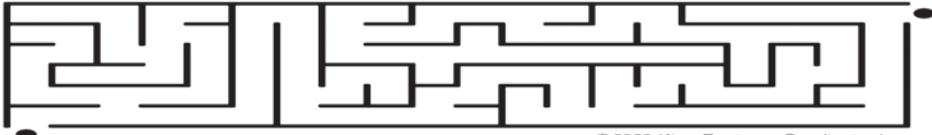
Born this Week

You have a penchant for persuasion that would make you a fine candidate for a political career.

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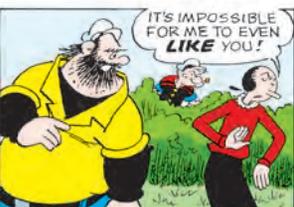
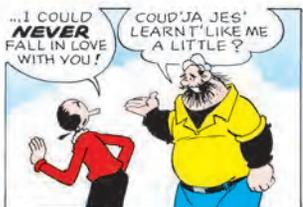
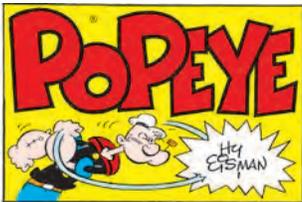
FUN PAGES

Kids' Maze



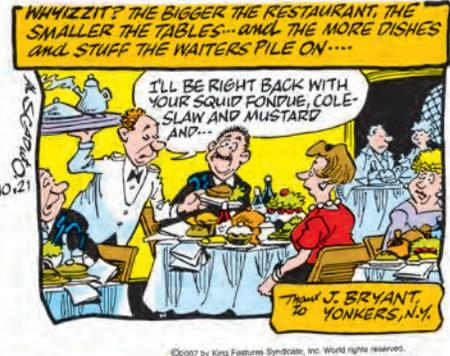
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TIGER



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



JUNIOR'S PARTY IS OVER AND DAD IS PANICKY... WHY, YOU ASK? BECAUSE EACH GIFT CARTON HAS THE THREE MOST DREADED WORDS A PARENT CAN SEE. THAT'S WHY!



TURN-AROUND RIDDLES

1. Turn around full of things and get introduced to.
2. Turn around a food and get to stupefy.
3. Turn around a flood and get to refine.
4. Turn around toys and get a small stain.
5. Turn around a measurement and get a cart.

To solve, turn around the letters in the first word to get the second. Example: Garb-brag.

TWO QUICKIES!

1. How can you add 10 to nothing and end up with a large animal?
2. How can you subtract one from 19 and end up with a larger number?

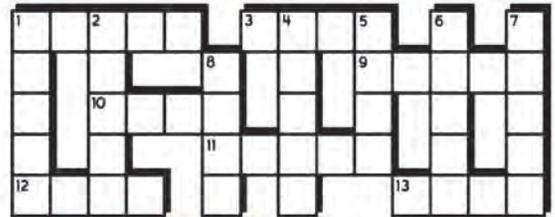
A PROBLEM FOR THE AGES!

In this puzzle, all of the words we are searching for contain the word "AGE." The following hints should help you to "AGE" with dignity.

1. AGE (given)
2. One who is wise.
3. Measuring instruments.
4. Public respect.
5. Lists of things to do.
6. Corridors.
7. An enclosure.

Junior Whirl!

by Charles Barry Townsend



BAKING FUN! Above is a crossword puzzle grid. Below are words pertaining to baking and bakeries that you will need to complete the puzzle, using the trial-and-error method. Try to finish before the slice of pie disappears.

- 4-letter words: HEAT, OLEO, PANS, POTS, SALT, TART
- 5-letter words: ANGEL, APPLE, FLOUR, SPICE, TREAT, WAFER, WHEAT, YEAST

Answers: 1. Age 2. Sage 3. Ages 4. Homage 5. Agenda 6. Passages 7. Menagerie

Wishing Well

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

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

MAGIC MAZE ● END OF TIME

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: After Sunrise, Before Sunset

Airtime Flextime Mistime Teatime
 Anytime Halftime Onetime Uptime
 Bedtime Lifetime Pastime Wartime
 Downtime Mealtime Ragtime

TRIVIA TEST

- By Fifi Rodriguez
1. U.S. STATES: Where is the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame located?
 2. LITERATURE: Which famous novel begins with the line, "You better not never tell nobody but God"?
 3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the nickname of Tulane University's athletic teams?
 4. MUSIC: Acorn, drop, ball and barrel are all types of what?
 5. MOVIES: Which animated Disney movie featured the theme song "A Whole New World"?
 6. GAMES: How many strikes must one throw to achieve a perfect 300 score in bowling?
 7. ANATOMY: Which human organ filters blood, removes waste and regulates salt levels?
 8. HISTORY: How many people survived the sinking of the Titanic in 1912?
 9. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the island of Palau located?
 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of rhinoceroses called?

Answers

1. Cleveland, Ohio
2. "The Color Purple"
3. The Green Wave
4. Drumssticks
5. "Aladdin"
6. 12
7. Kidneys
8. 706
9. Oceania
10. A crash or herd

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



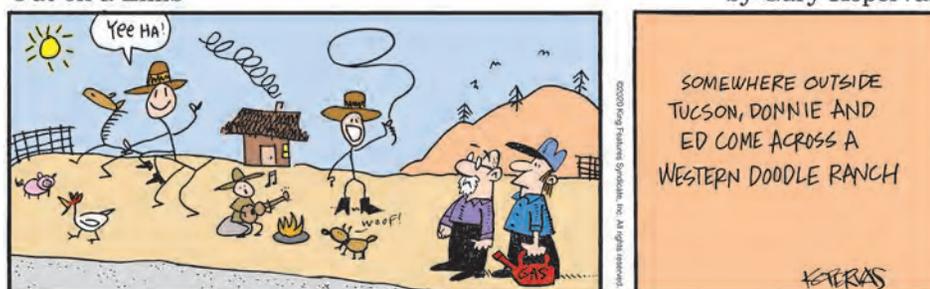
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Intelligent Life

by David Reddick



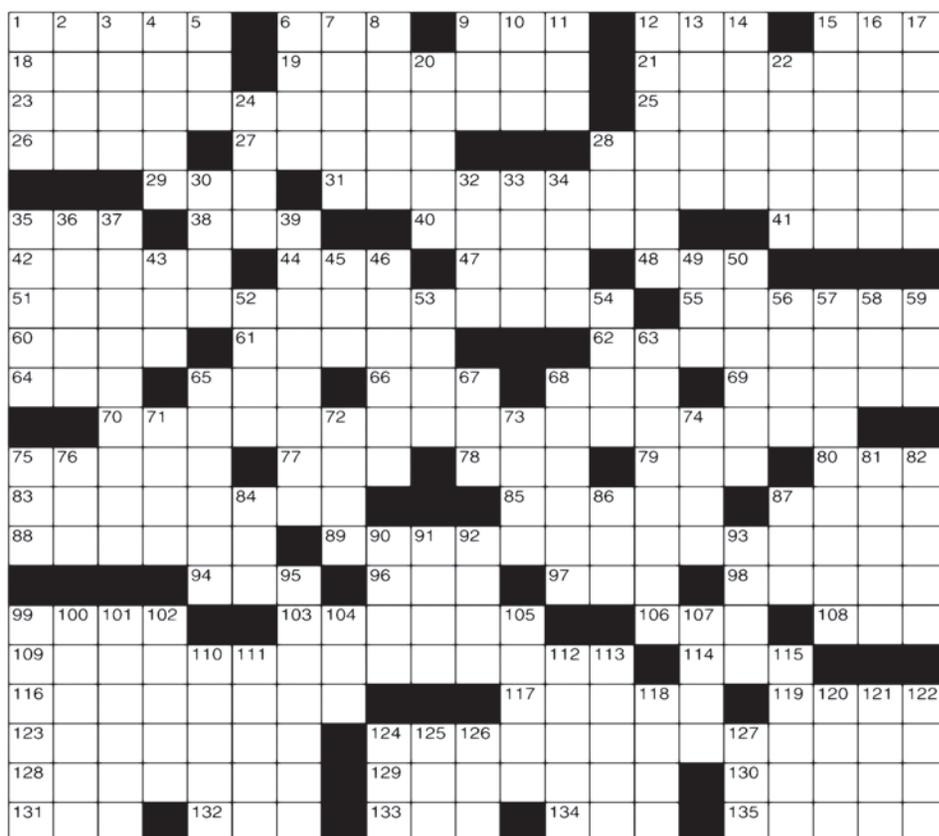
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels. Differences: 1. Tree is larger. 2. Fence is missing. 3. Hubcaps are different. 4. Earring is different. 5. Windshield is gone. 6. Wall has been extended.

Super Crossword



- | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 61 Mix up | 103 Provide with a new outfit | DOWN | 45 Plus | 87 Mo. #10 |
| 1 Singer Judd | 62 "It's my guess ..." | 106 Not-so-great grade | 1 Unclad | 46 Postpones | 90 Paul Anka's "Eso —" |
| 6 1960s war zone | 64 Workshop | 108 La. neighbor | 2 Bone-dry | 49 Hub: Abbr. | 91 Butter-and-flour mixture |
| 9 Old Glory's country | 65 Ending for opal | 109 Laurel and Hardy film | 3 Certain woodwind | 50 Grow incisors, e.g. | 92 "Dream on!" |
| 12 Morse click | 66 "Quantico" network | 114 "Woof!" | 4 Divine food | 52 Nation | 93 — -do-well |
| 15 For each | 68 Overwhelm | 116 Effective use of language | 5 B&B, e.g. | 53 Jack of "Dragnet" | 95 Glorified |
| 18 City-related | 69 Be inviting to Lou Grant | 117 Lascivious guys | 6 Pond dweller | 7 "Robin —" (Irish ballad) | 99 Diva |
| 21 Haifa native | 70 Former Fleetwood | 119 Cuba's Mac guitarist | 7 "Rubio" | 8 Senator | 100 Resounded |
| 23 "Alfie" singer | 75 Belt holders | 123 Spanish dances in 3/4 time | 9 Bi- less one | 9 Fuzzy fruit | 101 Turtles' tops |
| 25 Boasted of | 77 They often show DOBs | 124 Race held every May | 10 Min. division | 54 Voyaging | 102 Private pupil |
| 26 Idyllic spot | 78 — chi | 128 Let go | 11 La. neighbor | 57 Feeling blue | 104 "That kinda thing": Abbr. |
| 27 City east of Syracuse | 79 Not-so-great grade | 129 "Being Julia" star Bening | 12 Very varying | 58 Energize, with "up" | 105 Rich cake |
| 28 Not inert | 80 Greek "H" | 130 Diglyceride, e.g. | 13 Designer Mizrahi | 59 Figure out a #2, say | 107 "Piece of cake!" |
| 29 See 71-Down | 83 Zagreb native | 131 Some inserts | 14 Fight stopper | 60 Foot arch | 110 Virtuous |
| 31 Longtime porcelain brand | 85 Part of a flight of steps | 132 Steered | 15 Pint-size | 67 Loin or chop | 111 It isn't poetry |
| 35 Hitter Ripken | 87 Aesir god | 133 Topiary tree | 16 Nine and two | 68 Watchdog breeds | 112 Travel plan |
| 38 Fish-fowl link | 88 Walk shakily | 134 Suffix with shepherd | 17 Bill add-ons | 69 Straisand | 113 Body tubes |
| 40 Some linens | 89 Follower of James Buchanan | 135 English county (it can be added to the ends of this puzzle's seven longest answers) | 20 Vacillates | 70 Resounded | 115 Smart-alecky |
| 41 Desires | 94 Energize, with "up" | | 22 Restless | 101 Turtles' tops | 118 Barely earns, with "out" |
| 42 Typeface option | 96 Dawn deity | | 24 Irish money | 102 Private pupil | 120 Intro painting class, maybe |
| 44 Gave birth to | 97 You, in Germany | | 28 Decompose | 104 "That kinda thing": Abbr. | 121 Rival of Lyft |
| 47 Put — show | 98 Piano exercise | | 30 "To Live and Die —" (1985 film) | 105 Rich cake | 122 Old stringed instrument |
| 48 Outer: Prefix | 99 Optimal | | 32 Sailor's call | 107 "Piece of cake!" | 124 Singer Starr |
| 51 City on the eastern shore of Lake Erie | | | 33 Joker Jay | 110 Virtuous | 125 Suffix with ethyl |
| 55 Pouch near a kettle | | | 34 Put on | 111 It isn't poetry | 126 Florida-to-Indiana dir. |
| 60 Aid in crime | | | 35 Plotters' plot | 112 Travel plan | 127 Moines lead-in |
| | | | 36 Caribbean island | 113 Body tubes | |
| | | | 37 Vital factor | 115 Smart-alecky | |
| | | | 39 Zimbabwe, before 1979 | 118 Barely earns, with "out" | |
| | | | 43 Astern | 120 Intro painting class, maybe | |
| | | | | 121 Rival of Lyft | |
| | | | | 122 Old stringed instrument | |
| | | | | 124 Singer Starr | |
| | | | | 125 Suffix with ethyl | |
| | | | | 126 Florida-to-Indiana dir. | |
| | | | | 127 Moines lead-in | |

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