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**May 2007** 

The Official Publication of Southeastern Madera County

35¢

# **Flatlander's Day Parade Exceeds Expectations**

By Randy Bailey

After starting out on shaky ground almost 1 year ago, the Madera Ranchos' 17th Annual Flatlander's Day Parade far exceeded the expectations of those involved and has firmly cemented its place in the future of the Ranchos.

Sponsored by the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce, they key this year was volunteer participation. "This was one of the smoothest events

CONSTRUCTION

AHEAD

we've ever had," said Ollia Ridge, Chamber President.

With perfect weather to enhance the festivities, the parade began at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 5 and lasted until approximately 11:30. After (and even during) the parade, the crafters' booths set up in the Maywood Center by the Friends of the Madera Ranchos Library had a steady flow of walkers, talkers and gawkers and stayed

Please see **PARADE** on P. 9



Want more Flatlander's Day Parade pictures? Check out page 2!

# Where's Your Bond Money Today?

ed the addition of an art building and classroom building at

> Liberty High, the design and construc-

tion of the interim Ranchos Middle School, the design

and site approval for a permanent middle school including Madera County required road improvements and design fees for the Webster Modernization.

In 2006 the voters approved Measure S. This is a \$70 million bond intended to continue District Facility projects that were started with Measure G. Since the passage of the bond, the District Facility Department has been busy finalizing plans to start construction on a number of projects. The District can currently access \$37.2 million between the 1999

and the 2006 bonds which it will spend on five projects. They include:

• Webster modernization project with an estimated cost of \$4.4 million already in progress.

• Phase one of the Ranchos Middle School is estimated to cost \$28.6 million and construction is estimated to start in October 2007.

• Liberty High stadium lights are estimated to cost \$950,000, with construction starting in October 2007. Construction will not interfere with home games.

• The Webster parking lot improvement project, estimated to cost \$300,000, will start in June 2007.

• Avenue 12 1/2 road improvements are estimated to cost \$2.4 million, with no start date set.

• \$500,000 has been set aside for Sierra View improvements.

# "Hello, Madera Ranchos"

Sarah Koligian, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services at Central Unified in Fresno County has been selected to assume the Superintendent position for Golden Valley Unified School District beginning July 1.

# **GV** Superintendent Selected

After a statewide search that lasted several months, the Golden Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees has found a replacement for Superintendent Dr. Marilyn Shepherd. The new Superintendent will be Sarah Koligian, who at present is the Associate Superintendent of Educational Services at Central Unified in Fresno County. She is scheduled to begin her duties for Golden Valley on July 1.

After Shepherd was hired as Superintendent of Monterey Peninsula Unified School District in Monterey, Calif. at the beginning of this year, the Golden Valley Board retained expected to at least triple in the coming decade. The community surrounding the district is positioned for rapid growth with many developers ready to build single-family dwellings. The Board determined that Koligian's experiences assisting with building, staffing and opening five new schools in the past eight years and successful management of multi-million dollar budgets was exactly what Golden Valley Unified needed.

Koligian was born and raised in the Central Valley. She grew up on a ranch in the Sunnyside area and attended school in the Sanger Unified School District, where she graduated as Valedictorian from Sanger High School. She continued her post secondary education at California State University Fresno, earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. During her college career, she married local resident, Wayne Koligian, and moved to the family's westside ranch located within the Central Unified School District. Koligian continued her education at CSU Fresno, earning her Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential in 1986, Master's Educational Degree in Administration in 1991 and later earning her Administrative Services Credential in 1996, graduating with "highest honors."

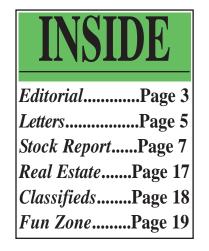
# By Pete Petersen

In 1999, the voters in the newly formed Golden Valley Unified School District approved Measure G. This was a \$30 million bond that was passed to finance the first phase of construction for a new high school and provide funding for other District Facility projects. Those projects includ-

# Vick Named Flatlander's Grand Marshal

The 2007 Flatlander's Day Parade Grand Marshal honor was bestowed upon area icon Merven Vick.

Vick became involved in the Ranchos area as a building contractor in 1976. He built



some of the first houses in the area and in 1988 he built Maywood Shopping Center at Maywood and Avenue 12.

Over the years he has served as a member of the Solid Waste Management Panel, the Madera Community Hospital Foundation and as an advisor to Senator Dick Monteith's office. Vick was instrumental in getting the Rancho's Library started and served as a member of the Friends of the Library. He has also belonged to the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Ranchos Patrol.

It was in 1990 Vick helped start the first Flatlander's Day Parade in the Ranchos. Each year he has set up the Annual Christmas Tree to support



2007 Flatlander's Day Parade Grand Marshal was Merven Vick. a Madera Ranchos icon.

Valley Childrens Hospital, which generated gifts for patients of the hospital.

In 2002 Vick hung up his nail bags, sold his business and retired.

Leadership Associates as search consultant throughout the process of finding a replacement.

After much consideration, the Board determined that Koligian's multifaceted background in K-12 instructional leadership, standards-based assessment, instructional technology, special education, support services, library media services, Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA), preschool, adult education and alternative education have prepared her well for the role of Golden Valley's Superintendent.

Since Golden Valley was formed in 1998, the district has continued to grow. At present, current enrollment is approximately 2,000 students and is

Please see **SUPER** on P. 16

# Flatlander's Day Parade 2007



convertible 1955 Chevrolet BelAir.



Bill Whyman, practiced his royal wave from the parade.



Grand Marshal Merven Vick led off the parade in style in a The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce's Volunteer of the Year, Liberty High School's marching band looked and sounded sharp as they led the parade down Avenue 12.



this group of Citizen Patrollers from the Sheriff's Dept.



Volunteerism was everywhere at this year's parade, including The Barr family pulled down a first place trophy for their restored The judges kept a keen eye open as they inspected all of the entries Model T Ford as it chugged down the parade route.



in the parade and then handed out 26 trophies.



The San Joaquin Gunslingers came shootin' into town and left District 1 Supervisor Frank Bigelow drove his restored Model A Sierra View Elementary won first place in the Children's Group bodies all over the street wild, wild west-style.



Ford and walked away with a trophy for the effort. Nice!



with their float depicting the key elements of character.









children along the parade route.

including this smiling one from Cobb's Ranch.



The Pizza Factory delivered a giant pizza guy to the delight of There was no shortage of restored fire engines at the parade, Students of Golden Valley Martial Arts went through their exercises and impressed the crowd by breaking boards with bare hands.



President Mark Huddleston as Faye Bailey looks on.

stop flow of people checking out a variety of goods and services. (center), Cheryl Hurst and Rachael Bailey.

Randy Bailey (left) enjoys a fine cigar with former GVUSD Board After the parade (and even during it) the crafter's area had a non- Trophies were handed out to deserving winners by Steve Krueger

Pictures courtesy of Don Foster and Bill Whyman

Page 3



### Editorial

# Sometimes, We Get It

By Randy Bailey

We don't always "get it."

I think back on just about 1 year ago and the conclusion of the 2006 Flatlander's Day Parade. I saw exasperated volunteers that had to plan the event, then they had to coordinate everything, then they had to be responsible for a million questions and THEN they had to clean up the whole mess. I remember sitting down with them and having them tell me that this was the last Flatlander's Day Parade they were going to do. It was just too much work and the community (for whom the event was created) wasn't responding by way of volunteering to help lighten the load. They weren't looking for someone to take it all over, just help here and there with the heavy lifting. Many hands making light work and all of that.

I had no idea putting on an event like this was so much work and I really didn't like the prospect of there not being a Flatlander's Day Parade next year, so I did the only thing I knew to do: I wrote about it.

I reported on the Parade but I added that if there wasn't help in the future it was

probably going to be the last one. I didn't get much response from the article so I figured the die was cast.

As the Parade drew nearer I ran some small ads on the front page of the Ranchos Independent that said "Flatlander's Day Parade CANCELLED! ... unless YOU help." I got the obligatory calls from that small group out there that never reads all of the article or all of the ad or all of anything. They just wanted to confirm that the Flatlander's Day Parade was indeed being cancelled. I said, "No - read the whole thing. It WILL be cancelled if people don't get involved."

Then a funny thing happened.

People started to care. They didn't want Flatlander's to die on the vine. They started calling the Chamber office and got involved. Middle school students. High schoolers. Moms. Dads. Grandmas and grandpas.

The Chamber is still getting compliments on how well the event ran this year. What made the big difference from just 1 year ago? A lot of people "got it" and I'm glad they did.

Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce · Ollia Ridge, President On behalf of the President and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, I want to thank everyone for the splendid job you all did helping with the Flatlander's Day Parade. It made the parade a huge success from set up to clean up to traffic control.

See you next year - and with the help of the community and business we can make it even a bigger success.

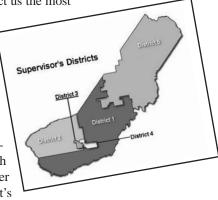
Thank you again, President Ollia Ridge



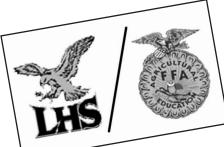
# **Random Notes**

How do you feel about the government? Specifically, Madera County government? You know, the stuff that tends to impact us the most

directly? Raymond resident Dale Drozen had one of those "Network" moments where he got "... mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore!" Drozen is the gentleman who filed the lawsuit against Madera County and the Madera County Board of Supervisors for transferring \$3.2 million of road funds from our area to a City of Madera project, all without the benefit of any public input, debate, discussion ... nothing. Drozen figured if they're that brazen with \$3.2 million, what are they doing on the smaller stuff? He's created a group called DOG (as in "let's dog these elected officials a little and keep their feet



to the fire") and it stands for "Demand Open Government." DOG is setting up an email account and a URL is being established along with designing a website. Incorporating into a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is also being pursued. The best part of all? The Ranchos Independent is going to have exclusive rights to what DOG is sniffing around and what DOG is chasing. Starting next month we're going to feature a regular column by Drozen that will keep us on top of what he's looking at in Madera County government and things about which we should all be aware.



I can't wait.

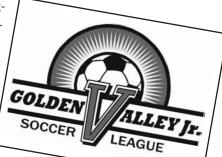
I wanted to throw out a quick congratulations to the Liberty High Future Farmers of America. On May 5, a group of four members traveled over to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for the FFA Land Judging State Finals. Now, I didn't even know judging land was part of FFA. I thought it was all about hogs and sheep and stuff like that. Of course, a little

common sense then kicked in and I realized that if you're going to be involved in agriculture it just MIGHT be necessary to judge the

quality of land you're considering planting ... duh! This was the first Liberty High FFA team ever to compete at FFA State Finals and they won the Silver award! Good work and congratulations go out to team members Nick Lampier, Chris Foster, Pat Foster and Pat Sparks. Also, hats off to their coach, Bill Jantzen. Way to go.

If you've been itching to get the kids out of the house and into some activity more challenging than PS2 or Nintendo, the Golden Valley Jr. Soccer League is registering players Saturday, June 2, 9 and 23 for the upcoming soccer season.

The league has a place for kids from 4 years old all the way up to 19. There's co-ed teams for the younger ones and specific boys' and girls' teams for the older kids. The cost is reasonable and ranges from \$65 for the younger ones to \$75 for the 10-19 group.



If you want more

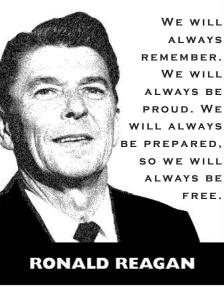
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Randy Bailey...... Editor Tina Shannon.... Advertising Sales 559-645-0634 37167 Ave. 12, Suite 5C • Madera, CA 93636 • ranchosnews@theranchos.com

# THE RAY GUN



information (like where to go to register and what times) call the good folks over at the Golden Valley Jr. Soccer League at 645-1006. Hurry - there's a \$5 late fee if you register after June 9!

Here's a heads up for those of you with businesses or organizations in the Ranchos. The Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce is working on a new Community Guide Book. The old one is at least five years old and pretty outdated.

Just like the old one, the new book will feature maps, history of the area, churches, organizations and a directory of local businesses. The book is then handed out FREE OF CHARGE to anyone who stops by the Chamber office. Additionally, all businesses that advertise in it will get as many copies as they want to hand out as they will. A lot of people keep the guide next to their phone books in the desk drawer as a year round reference source. Don't miss out! Call the Chamber at 645-4001 for more information.

# The Bookshelf Flatlander's Success Due to You

### By Ellen Mester

Page 4

Flatlander's was a huge success! The weather was fantastic, except for the wind, but hey, can't have everything. The community turned out in full force. It was a great day. Thanks to all of you who came for the parade, the craft show and the book sale. And a great big thank you goes to all those who participated in the planning, implementation and clean-up. The next Flatlander's is only 349 days away.

The Friends of the Ranchos Library and the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting on May 23, 2007, to look into the possibility of joining forces to promote the building of a Community Center and Library. This is the time to voice your ideas and opinions. Don't wait until after the fact to share your thoughts or suggestions. This is a dream that needs to be shared and planned together as a community. An architect's rendition and plans are available in the library. This is just one idea – not the final plans. It just gives us a glimpse at what could be built. We will be publishing

the results of the Library Survey that was sent out in March. For all of the Ranchos residents who responded

(about 2 percent of the 4600 surveys that were mailed) the NLP committee and the Friends thank you.

Kids and Teens: Get ready to solve some mysteries this summer. The Ranchos Library Summer Reading Program entitled, *Get a Clue @ the Library*, is getting closer. To be part of the program, come to the kick-off night on June 21 and sign up. I will be visiting the schools with my dog, Sandy, to tell more about it. Watch for some T.V. ads on Channel 47 and the PBS station and *GET A CLUE!* 

Reminders: Monday Story Time is 11 a.m. with Mrs. Anderson. The Friends of the Library meet the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. The New Library Planning Committee meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

### **Book Recommendations**

Juvenile Fiction: The Higher Power of Lucky written by Susan Patron. This book is the 2007 Newberry Medal winner and despite the fact that it is a wonderful book, it has been tinged by a bit of controversy because of the anatomically correct use of a particular word. The book covers a lot of hefty topics such as loss of a mother, fear of abandonment and admitting to having a "meanness gland" in your heart even when you're usually a good person. Lucky Trimble, age 10, lives in Hard Pan, Calif. in a trailer park with her guardian, Brigitte. Lucky's mother was electrocuted by a downed power line a few years back and her ashes are kept in a jar. Brigitte is her father's first wife and came all the way to Hard Pan from France just to take care of Lucky. Her father, having divorced Lucky's mother when Lucky was an infant, is not a part of her life. Lucky's big fear is

testimonies from recovering alcoholics, gamblers and smokers through a hole in the wall behind the Found Object Wind Chimes Museum. Because she has no control over her life, Lucky feels that if she could find her higher power it would somehow guide her. This is a good story for both children and adults. It's easy to identify Lucky's fears and why she feels the need for a higher power. It's a good starting

THE

RED BAL

point for lots of discussions on important issues.

Young Adult Fiction: The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane. I read this book years ago but didn't r e a l l y appreciate the complexity

of emotions that engulf Henry Fleming, a young boy going off to fight with the Union soldiers during the Civil War. He begins his military journey feeling brave and proud, and anxious for the fighting to begin. During his first battle, however, he is overcome with fear which leads to cowardice, confusion, disillusion and eventually anger. Inevitably he is wounded, but not by the enemy. Crane wrote this book in 1894 when memories of the Civil War were still fresh in many folks' minds. His vivid description of battle lets the reader feel the terror and confusion of war. Henry's shifting emotions become quite believable to the reader and finally as Henry becomes a seasoned warrior we see his initial pride and confidence return.

Juvenile Non-fiction: Vinnie and Abraham by Dawn FitzGerald with illustrations by Catherine Stock. Vinnie Ream was a courageous and talented young woman during the Civil War. Her heroism was not however in battle, but in art. She was a sculptor. Born to a poor family, at 14 she worked at the

Post Vinnie and Abraham

# Office in

Washington, D.C. In her free time she visited wounded soldiers and sketched their faces for them. Eventually

# Ride for the Cure!

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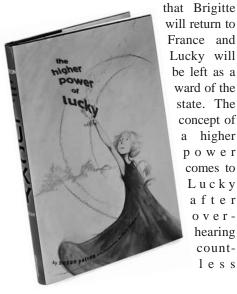
# SAT. JUNE 2 · 7:30 AM Enter to Ride!

All profits will be donated to Children's Hospital for the purpose of any activity that supports children with cancer or helps to find a cure.



RON or SUE SHAW 645-0199 or 232-3464 rgsfss@sbcglobal.net Ride will begin at 1st Southern Baptist Church Madera at 711 Nebraska and will end at Children's Hospital Central Valley.





she was hired by an artist and began sculpting faces of congressmen. News of her talent finally reached the office of the president, where at 16 years of age she was commissioned to do a likeness of Abraham Lincoln. As a long-time admirer of Mr. Lincoln, Vinnie was thrilled and worked long hard hours preparing her most important work of art. She went to Italy for the finest white marble that glowed in the darkness when illuminated be left as a by candlelight. One year later her work ward of the was complete and during the unveiling state. The ceremony the crowd gasped and then cheered. Her white marble statue of concept of President Lincoln still stands in the a higher Capitol Rotunda today. Written like a picpower ture book, this true story is beautifully comes to illustrated and shares a part of history that Lucky after few of us have heard. It's an interesting read for all ages. over-

hearing Check out these books and more at count- the library and remember your library card: l e s s don't leave home without it!

# Simply Irresistable Smiles!

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### Dear Editor:

After reading Mr. Cake's letter (*Nasty Neighbor Syndrome*, April 2007 – Belittlement of a lady exercising a request for common courtesy on a Saturday afternoon), I reflected back into my youth, as he says, "... to relive having fun!"

Let's see now, around my 8th or 9th birthday we made skateboards -a 2x4 with a half of a roller-skate nailed onto the bottom - and then road them on the big sidewalks in the only one-block downtown section of town. Very soon we were

banned from the downtown because some mean old town elders said when we fell off the flying skateboards we might injure some person. This was 1946 or so.

In my 14th – 15th year I went vermin hunting and target shooting in the

hills behind my house in San Clemente. Some old mean town elders said no more shooting because of the new housing tract. This was 1952.

At 16, with my driver's license in pocket, I took up surfing, going up and down the Southern California coast. Cities like Malibu, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Dana Point, Oceanside and Cardiff. Very soon lots of mean old town elders banned us from certain beaches, saying flying surfboards could cause danger to the increased number of swimmers. This was in 1956. Next came motorcycle racing, I rode every track in San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange and San Diego Counties. And one by one the old dirt tracks were closed down by new housing developments. This was in the mid-1960's.

Some recreations we choose to participate in and hold dear to our hearts just don't have a long lifespan due to the nature of the beast. It's kind of like a large curve that starts small, grows and grows and creates problems and then dies. People that move from small city lots to an acre and half to ride motorcycles/atvs are entering

I do believe that you and your neighbors should reevaluate your position and en masse go apologize to the lady.

My definition of a good neighbor is a person who would not intentionally do anything that would make a neighbor feel distress.

the sport on the very downside of that curve. When people move in the sport moves out and history repeats itself. A good neighbor, I believe, should have researched the use of off-road vehicles before making any purchase. The County of Madera

has all the county codes online for quick review by the general public.

Try telling a housewife that just spent hours cleaning her house and putting the laundry out to dry that an hour of dirt tracking upwind of her house a mile away is nothing she should complain about. Your hour's worth of "dust and dirt fun" just caused the housewife to have to do the laundry and housework all over again. Now is that being a good neighbor "... in your humble opinion"? I do believe that you and your neighbors should reevaluate your position and en masse go apologize to the lady.

My definition of a good neighbor is a person who would not intentionally do anything that would make a neighbor feel distress.

John Grauer Madera Ranchos

### Dear Editor:

I just finished reading the letter from Ranchos resident C. L. Cake. Having been through similar situations myself, I sympathize with the body of his letter. However, the opening lines made my blood boil. Like so many in this neck of the woods, Mr. Cake apparently blames drugs, gangs, graffiti, vandalism and all the rest of society's many ills on liberals. I'm really getting tired of this kind of stereotyping and rhetoric.

As a long-time resident of the Ranchos, I know that this is not exactly a hot-bed of liberalism, tolerance and openmindedness. But enough of this is enough. I'm a proud progressive (yeah, that means "liberal" – the dreaded "L-word" to the rest of you) and I'd just like to ask Mr. Cake and some of the rest of you a question: Just what is it that makes right-wingers so damned mean-spirited?

It's not just that you're sore losers. You guys were like this long before the last election. In fact, I've put up with this nonsense for most of my life.

If you want to assign political or philosophical blame for the mess we're in, I could just as easily blame our country's loss of decency and civility on you guys.

Moonlight Special

Steam Train, BBQ & Entertainment every Wednesday & Saturday Night. From my own perspective, I saw our society's decline really begin during the Reagan administration, with its crass materialism and "me-first-I'm-gettingwhat-I-want-and-to-hell-with-the-rest-ofyou" mentality. They didn't label it the "me" generation for no reason. Then it continued downhill with Newt Gingrich, his rabid rhetoric and his "Contract on America," bolstered along the way by loud-mouthed, lying propagandists like Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Bill O'Reilly and our own Ray Appleton.

**May 2007** 

Those liberals you so despise have championed Social Security, child labor laws, the minimum wage, the 40-hour work week and a host of other rights, protections and social improvements that we ALL benefit from every day of our lives. Virtually all of them were opposed by the

### Please see LETTERS on P. 13

**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.

Send your letters to:

The Ranchos Independent 37167 Ave. 12 #5C Madera, CA 93638

> or FAX 645-4002

or ranchosnews@theranchos.com

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# LHS Junior Headed for Boys State

Ranchos Resident Nate Swan is Selected to Attend 2007 California Boys State in Sacramento, June 16 through 23.

Nate Swan was selected to represent Liberty High School at the 70th Session of the American Legion Boys State, June 16-23 on the campus of California State University, Sacramento.

California Boys State is a leadership program where high school juniors selected from high schools across California participate in a mock government. Upon arriving in Sacramento, delegates are assigned to one of two political parties. Students participate in developing a government organization from the local precinct level to the state level, including party caucuses and conventions.

Delegates are selected based upon

qualities of leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service to their community. Applicants are encouraged to apply by their high school counselor. Students complete a written application and then

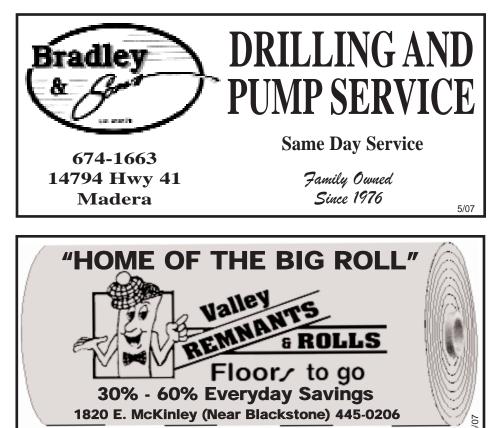
are interviewed by a representative of the local American Legion chapter, which then makes its selection.

The objectives of the program include developing leadership and pride in

Liberty High Junior Nate Swan will get to attend the 70th session of the American Legion Boys State, June 16-23 on the campus of Cal State Sacramento.

member of California Scholarship

California Boys State at www.calegion.org.

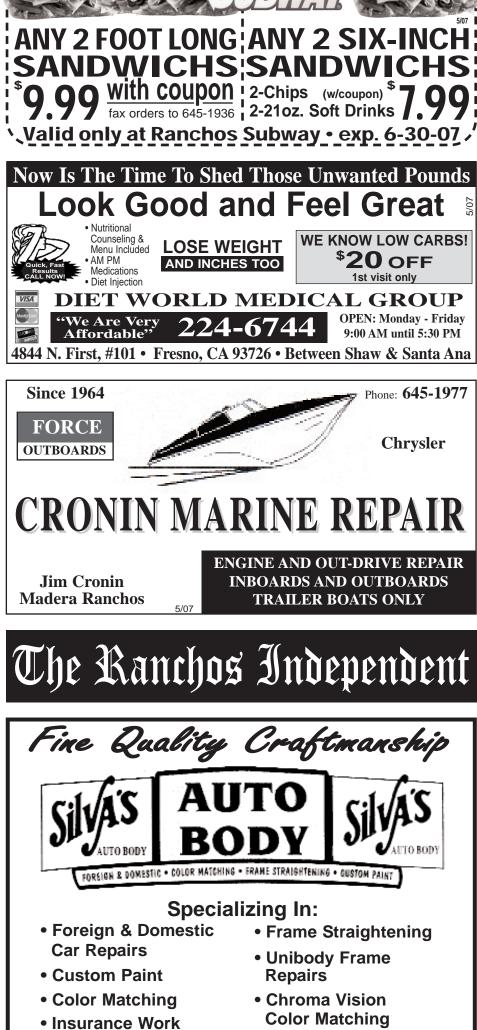




American citizenship and arousing an interest in the study of government. A key component of the program is learning by doing. Delegates are actively involved in developing their party platform, nominating members to run for office, campaigning, participating in elections and carrying out the duties of the offices or appointments they hold.

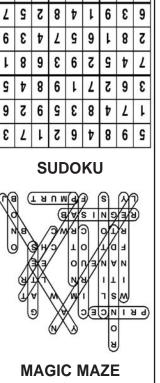
Nate was on the Principal's Honor Roll last semester. He plays for Liberty's varsity baseball team and is a

Federation. You can find more information about



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# The Stock Report

# **New Superintendent for GVUSD**

This school year is almost over.

Liberty High seniors are getting

ready for their graduation ... I wish

all of Golden Valley seniors the

very best and may all of your

dreams come true.

### By Audrey Stock

Hi neighbors,

I hope all of the mothers out there had a wonderful day. I know I am blessed with three awesome children. My first son was brought to me in a blue blanket as my first Mother's Day gift. Rick, my first son, was born on May 11. 1951 in Arcata, Calif. And now lives in Fresno. My second son. Bob. was born two years later on the hottest day of the year in Atascadero. He was 2 days old trict run smoothly.

when I drove him to Morro Bay to cool off and he has loved the ocean ever since. Seven years later I was the PTA president at Viking Elementary School

5/07

in Fresno when I got pregnant with my daughter Sue, who lives in the Ranchos. They are all special in their own way and I am proud to be their mother.

Your school board members are working hard to get the budget for 2007-2008 ready by the June 30 deadline. Every district in Madera has to have their budget to the Madera County Office of Education by that date. Then Madera County decides if your budget stays inside the amount of money that your district will receive to run the dis-



trict for the coming school year. Being a school board member isn't all fun – it is also a lot of work and long hours. School board members are entrusted with many responsibilities: We establish a vision for the community's schools; we maintain an effective and efficient structure for the school district if we do it right; we employ and support the superintendent and; we set policies for hiring other personnel.

We adopt policies to make the dis-

We adopt the curriculum.

We adopt the budget and oversee facilities issues.

We adopt collective bargaining agreements with the various unions. All of these

items cost money and I am always hoping that the information I receive is correct so that I can make a good decision when I vote.

The school board has a responsibility to the voters. We ensure accountability to the public by evaluating the superintendent, the policies to see if they are working, monitor student achievement and adopt program changes if needed, while we monitor and adjust district finances to make it all work. Another job of the school board members is to provide community leadership. This is a big job with lots of time spent at meetings.

I am so excited that Sarah Koligian, the new Golden Valley Unified Superintendent, will be joining us July 1. Sarah is coming to us from Central Unified School District. Sarah is a mother with four children and is married to a football coach. Sarah was born and raised in Fresno County and attended California State University Fresno where she completed her BS and MA in Business and Educational Administration and Supervision. Sarah brought her husband and three of her four children to the May 8 Golden Valley school board meeting to meet the community. Her oldest son is at Cal Poly going to college. Sarah has worked at Central Unified during the time that Central changed from a small county school district to a large growing school district. She is ready to guide Golden Valley as it grows.

On May 5 I attended the Sierra View Elementary Carnival and had a great time. There was lots of good food, booths to try your skills and I watched as school board member Steven Lewis got dunked in the Dunk Tank. He sure is a good sport. I walked the Cake Walk and for the first time they actually stopped on my number and I won not a cake but a pie. On Friday May 11 I was invited by the Sierra View Parent Club for a delicious lunch to honor Sierra View teachers and the support staff that works at Sierra View. Thank you Sierra View Parent Club for making your teachers feel special. May 7 through 11 was the Week of the Teacher and at each Golden Valley School teachers were treated special. This school year is almost over. Liberty High seniors are getting ready for their graduation. On May 31 the class of 2007 will walk into the next chapter of their life. It is exciting and scary at the same time. I wish all of Golden Valley seniors the very best and may all of your dreams come true.



# Senior Report

Page 8

# Senior Garden Sale Coming in June

# By Eleanore Burchell

The Ranchos/Hills Senior Center, located at 37330 Berkshire, has recently lost two of our members. Consequently, we would like to send our sympathy and respect to the families of Bob Vanderslice and Frank Pettit.

Again, we will be holding our monthly sale on Saturday, June 2. Our garden staff has been extremely busy with the plants and trees. There are several Japanese maple trees looking for a happy home as well as other varieties. Flats of pretty flowering plants are also available. The bake sale section will be held in the main building as well as the cookbooks and boutique items. What is one person's discard is another person's treasure and our Treasure House has everything you might be looking for so please come in and find your personal treasure.

The great Fourth of July raffle is getting closer and tickets are almost sold out so stop by soon and buy your chance to win-\$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. Members of the Ranchos/Hills Seniors will be selling tickets in front of the Ranchos Market until they are sold out. Prizes are a beautiful quilt, \$250 Ranchos Market shopping spree or a one-night stay at Bass Lake.

As one grows older, one can forget things more easily. As a quick reminder, here are the Three R's for senior citizens:

1. RESPECT YOURSELF - without respect for yourself, there is no capability to respect others.

2. RESPECT OTHERS - in one's advancing age, one reverts back to "me first" childhood habits.

3. Take RESPONSIBILITY - for all of your actions.

We don't want you to forget us during the week so remember the plant, produce and boutique sections are available Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday from 6 to 9 p.m. and Thursday evenings between 6 and 9 p.m.

Our next travel adventure will be Oct. 9 through Oct. 22. We will fly to the East Coast then board a bus and plan to see the fall colors of Eastern U.S. and Canada plus many other sights in the area. For more information or if you're interested in joining the group, call Joann at 645-4864 because an immediate deposit is needed to hold a spot for you. A Panama Canal cruise is in the planning for next April. Hopefully, more information will be available in next month's article.

The June Birthday and Anniversary celebration is scheduled for 11 a.m. June 23 at Yosemite Falls, 4278 W. Ashlan in Fresno. The May Birthday and Anniversary celebration was held on May 19 at IHOP in Madera.

If you need someone to laugh with, come join our Thursday evening potlucks with games played afterward. There is a lot of fun here and remember laughter is good for your body and soul and being happy does not mean everything is perfect - it means you have decided to see beyond the imperfections!

# **More Facts and Fun**

A nutritionally balanced lunch program is available Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. Suggested price for 60 years and older is \$1.75. Reservations are needed a day in advance so remember to call Joann at 645-4864. We have a growing exercise program being held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. The participants are getting more than just exercise by attending. They have fun and they share laughs. There is still room for you and you can attend all three days or just one or two of them. The Line Dancing class is also a great way to exercise. They meet on Fridays at 12:30 p.m. This combines fun and exercise. You do not need to be a member to attend these classes. There is always room for one more - you! Come to think of it, there is room for two: you and your friend. Come in and check these classes out.

# **Up and Coming Events**

Monthly Sale, Saturday, June 2, 8 a.m. to noon

Birthday and Anniversary celebration, Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m. IHOP in Madera.

# Weekly Events

Monday through Friday Lunch Program, 11:30 a.m. (reservations needed, call Joann 645-4864).

Monday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Pinochle, noon until?

Tuesday, BINGO, 5:30 to 9 p.m. (hot dogs, hamburgers, desserts and more available).

Wednesday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, noon to 1 p.m. card BINGO. Wednesday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Watercolor Painting Class.

Thursday, 6 to 9 p.m. Potluck then Hand & Foot, Pinochle or other games (please bring your own plate and silverware).

Friday, Exercise Class, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, 12:30 p.m. Line Dancing Class.

Please feel free to come visit our Senior Center and get acquainted with our members. We welcome you to come and be one of us as our organization offers and promotes social, educational and civic activities in order to provide a better quality of life for all senior citi-



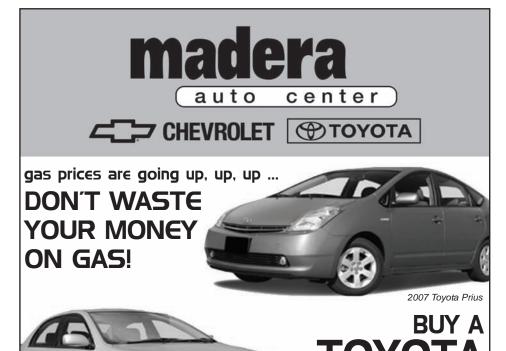


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# **Ranchos Youth Soccer Sign-Ups Now**

The Golden Valley Jr. Soccer League is registering players Saturday, June 2, 9 and 23 for the upcoming soccer season.

The league is divided into co-ed teams for the kids age 4-7, and specific boys' and girls' teams for ages 10-19. The fees for the 4-7 age group is \$65 per child and \$75 for the 10-19 group. All new players must have a copy of their birth certificates to be submitted along with their registration. Also, after June 10 a \$5 late fee will be added.

The registration locations are:

June 2 - Saturday at Table Mountain

Chevron, corner of Highway 41 and Avenue 15 from 10 a.m - 1 p.m.

June 9 - Saturday at Ranchos Market, 37405 Ave. 12 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

June 23 - Saturday at Ranchos Market, 37405 Ave. 12 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (\$5 late fee if you register at this date).

The registration costs include a full uniform for kids 10 and under.

The first games are in September and all players will begin practice on or before mid-July.

If you have any questions, please call 645-1006.

# LHS FFA takes Silver in SLO

Liberty High School Future Farmers soil affect plant growth and crop producof America (FFA) students traveled to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, on Saturday, May 5, for the

FFA Land Judging State Finals where they earned the Silver Award. This was the first Liberty High FFA team ever to compete at FFA State Finals and was comprised of Nick Lampier,

Pat Foster and

Pat Sparks.

tion. The amount of water and nutrients available to the plant, the aeration, tem-



Chris Foster, Liberty High FFA team ever to compete at FFA State

Foster, Pat Foster and Pat Sparks.

Finals was comprised of (from left) Nick Lampier, Chris

perature and drainage of the root zone are all crucial for growers to know. Many important soil physical properties can be estimated with reasonable accurathrough cy observation and judging soil requires analyzing the surface soil, subsoil and parent material

of the soil.

Attending with the team was volunteer Land Judging Coach Bill Jantzen.

Physical and chemical properties of and Vocational Ag instructor Lisa Tatro.

# **PARADE** cont. from P. 1

busy until almost 3 p.m.

With nearly 60 entrants in the parade, Including this year's Grand Marshal Merven Vick (see story on P. 1), the Chamber awarded nearly 30 trophies to participants. The Grand Marshal's Trophy was awarded to the Madera Historical Firefighters who brought a fleet of fire engines from the early 1900s through the 1950s. A handful of trophy winners have yet to pick up their awards and they are available at the Golden Valley Chamber of Commerce office at 37167 Ave. 12 #5C. Give them a call at 645-4001 if you have any questions. Check the following list and see if you've got a trophy waiting for you.

The other trophy winners and their categories were:

**Band** - 1st Liberty High.

Cars - 1st 1955 Chevy Convertible; Family.

2nd 1954 Jaguar; 3rd 1929 Ford Roadster. Children's Group - 1st Sierra View Elementary; 2nd (tie) Ranchos Youth Cheer and Liberty High Girls JV/Varsity Soccer.

Also attending with the winning Liberty

High Land Team were the Dairy Judging Team

Dance, Group - 1st Star Force Dance. Float, Business I - 1st Curves; 2nd CV Forklift; 3rd One Stop Shop.

Float, Business II - 1st King's Construction; 2nd Kellner & Sons.

Float, Non-Profit - 1st Golden Valley Soccer League; 2nd Cub Scouts Pack 119; 3rd Golden Valley Combined Choir.

Horse, Group - 1st Too Hot To Trot; 2nd Kylie and Kim Bowe; 3rd Red's Kids. Horse, Single - 1st Stephanie Blagen;

2nd Sierra Leyro. Novelty - 1st Pizza Factory; 2nd San

Joaquin Gun Slingers; 3rd Jack's Butane Service.

Single Entry, Adult - 1st The Barr

Page 9



Page 10

May 2007

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# Graduation & Father's Day is Coming!

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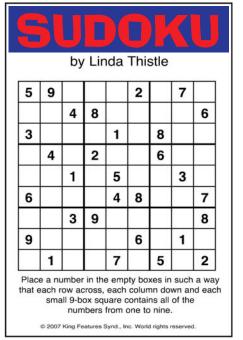
Sundays @ 9:30 & 11am Liberty High School phone: 790-0061 email: info@acts176.com

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# **At Last! Subway Drought Ends**

For lovers of the foot-long sandwich (and you know who you are) it was almost unbearable. When was the Subway sandwich shop at 37164 Avenue 12 going to open again? And what was wrong with it in the first place?

You can relax. Subway is open again.

All the small shop needed was a little sprucing up and the new look is absolutely beautiful. Gone is the old wallpaper that showed maps of New York's subway system and the guys who designed it way back at the turn of the *last* century. Everything now is gleaming ceramic tile and warm, earthy tones.

Now when you enter the shop you place your order at the right side of the counter and move left, which is just the opposite of the old set up.

The biggest change? You can now

actually watch them prepare your food. The old set up had a pretty high counter that only the 6-foot-and-over crowd could see over. Shorter people simply trusted that everything they asked for was being put on their sandwiches (which it was). The





new counter has clear glass all the way down to bellybutton height, accommodating to everyone except certain circus workers.

The other big change is the dining area. Before were those ridiculously small booths that seemed to *only* accommodate circus workers and contortionists. Now there are individual tables and chairs that will actually allow two people with different dimensions to sit down and eat lunch together between the very cool wall hangings and new wallpaper.

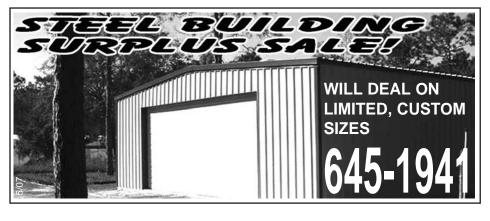
There's also a massive new fountain drink station for the thirsty among us.

If you've been missing your Subway, the wait is over. There's still a few little cleanup issues here and there - the kind that accompany construction - but other than that, lunch is served!





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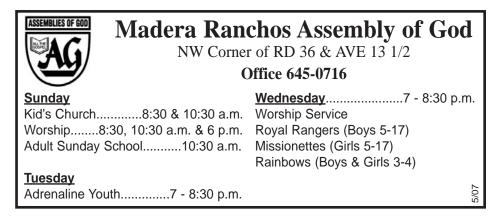


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From ORDINARY FXTRA ORDINARY

# **LETTERS** cont. from P. 5

Right. And the Republican Party has been on the wrong side of every significant civil-rights issue during my lifetime.

In the meantime, they have given us such admirable chapters in American history as the McCarthy witch-hunts, Watergate, the Iran-Contra scandal and our present quagmire in Iraq – a war based on lies and misinformation, replete with the most obscene proliferation of war profiteering we've seen in history – along with the outing of a CIA operative in an act of political vengeance which could easily be considered outright treason. And the socalled "Patriot Act" has been the single greatest assault on Constitutional rights and civil liberties we've seen in a very, very long time.

Oh, and by the way, they've also given us \$4 per gallon gasoline and the largest national deficit in American history, and they started with a substantial surplus just seven short years ago. I could go on, but I'm hoping you get the point. You on the Right have no right to point fingers at anyone.

editor over the years

and have various anti-Bush stickers on my truck. That's my right. In retaliation I have received numerous hateful letters and phone calls (all anonymous, of course); I've been shunned

by people I once thought friends; my house has been egged; my truck has been egged; the paint on my truck has been keyed and recently my paint was further ruined by a paintball attack. In each case, in the entire neighborhood, only my truck or home was targeted. I guess it was those damned liberals again - couldn't have been those God-fearing, morally superior conservatives.

Recently a boy I was giving a ride home to told me that he didn't like Democrats, but at least I was one of the "decent ones" who actually loved my country. It was all I could do to maintain my composure. I'm sure he's a good kid, but the brainwashing obviously started early and has been very effective.

So may I state, once again, what should be obvious to all true patriots: There is nothing un-American nor unpatriotic about standing up and speaking out against your so-called "leadership" when you know that it is leading your country the country you love – down the wrong path. Nor is it unpatriotic to speak out against incompetence and/or outright corruption. Indeed, it is among the most patriotic things any individual can do. What is (Name withheld upon request) truly unpatriotic and un-American is to Madera Ranchos

### May 2007

blindly follow and support a regime which you know – in your heart – to be rotten to the core, simply because they belong to your chosen political party.

Rick Hodgson Madera Ranchos

### Dear Editor:

The Webster's definition of a "thief" is one who steals or takes unlawfully what is not his or her own. Well this letter is to inform the good residents of the Ranchos that there are a couple of trespassing thieves among us. And yes, trespassing is also unlawful and an encroachment upon one's rights and it makes me spitting mad to know someone has been snooping around on our property and stealing from us.

According to a witness, a young Hispanic male and an African American female were seen leaving my home on bikes laughing as they rode off carrying a big black trash bag with something in it. A witness called out the Sheriff's Deputy to I've written numerous letters to the our house, and they were on site when I

> What is truly unpatriotic and un-American is to blindly follow and support a regime which you know – in your heart – to be rotten to the core, simply because they belong to your chosen political party.

came home. Initially nothing seemed to be missing, but later that week we realized our sack of recyclables were all gone. I thought my husband had cleaned up the recyclables and he thought we did. I

realize that stealing recyclables are not like stealing a bike, a car, or even priceless jewelry, but my kids were going to gather up our recyclables and turn them in for a little extra cash. Also, remember what I said about snooping thieves - these recyclables could not be seen from the street view; these "Tin Can Thieves" had to go looking around first to know what might be back there. I wonder - if they are so bold to try trespassing onto someone's property in the middle of the afternoon and run off with a largely noticeable black bag, what might they do next?

We've got great neighbors all around us and they are now all aware of this situation and we are all keeping a neighborhood watch on. The Sheriff is also keeping an eye out for any suspicious activities going on. If every one helps keep watch maybe these two people will get the drift that this behavior won't be tolerated in the Madera Ranchos.

"Shape up or ship out!" The Ranchos is a wonderful place to live and I want to help keep it that way.

A Ranchos Mom

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5/07



# The Bully, the Bullied and Solutions

By David Johnson

Safe & Sound

The profiles of school shooters Seung-Hui Cho at Virginia Tech and Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold at Columbine High School show a disturbing commonality: They were bullied by their classmates, sometimes for years.

Virginia Tech gunman Cho was bullied in high school, former classmates say, because of his race and accent. Cho's family emigrated to the United States from South Korea. In class, other students laughed and said "Go back to China" when he spoke.

"The best study ever completed on school shooters was done by the

Secret Service," said Dr. Michele Borba, an educational psychologist and author who regularly appears as a parenting expert on The Today Show. "They looked at school every shooter to see if they could profile who the next shooter would be," Borba said. "Almost always they were boys. Almost always they were middle

class. They had an easy accessibility to guns. The ONLY commonality for

Although many children who

ties in the mental health of children, and teach them to stop the cruelty before it escalates."

Steps to Combat Bullying

1. The key to helping your child cope with a school bully is to believe him or her when he or she tells you about the bully.

2. Take it seriously, and don't ignore your child - listen to the whole story.

3. After that, don't blame him or her. Explain that they are not alone - lots of kids get bullied for different reasons.

4. Don't assume he or she did something to provoke the bully. Don't say: "What did you do to aggravate the other child?"

"They looked at every school shooter to see if they could profile who the next shooter would be ... The ONLY commonality for every kid was that he'd been unmercifully bullied from a very early age."

- Dr. Michele Borba, of Building author Moral Intelligence: The Seven Essential Virtues that Teach Kids to Do the Right Thing.

your child to ignore the bullying - it's a serious problem and needs to be confronted. Often, ignoring the bullying can make it worse. 6. Find out

5. Never tell

when and where incidents the took place, how often they occur and how your child reacted.

7. Show empathy. Tell your child you're glad he or she was brave enough to

tell you about it.

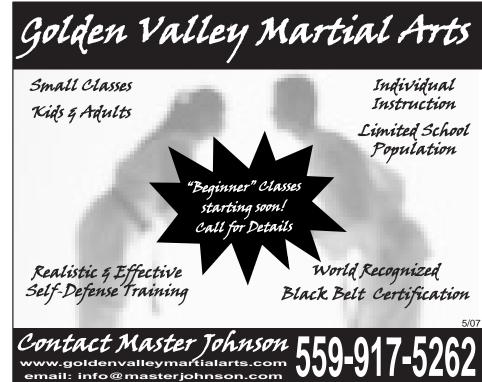
9. Teach your child Borba's

Cool down

with the support of friends.









# **Business Directory**





# SUPER Cont. from P. 1

In 1988 Koligian was hired as Resource Teacher at Madison Elementary, a large K-8 school in Central Unified. Seven years later she was recruited as a teacher on special assignment for state and federal programs working in Central's department of Curriculum and Instruction. Shortly after that she was hired into her first district administrative position as Supervisor of State and Federal programs. In 1999, she was hired as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and in 2006 she was promoted to Associate Superintendent of Educational Services which included the oversight of Central's 18 schools.

In addition to her duties with Central Unified, Koligian is also a member of the Foundation for Central Schools and currently serves on the Fresno Business Compact Steering Committee. She is an adjunct professor at Fresno Pacific University, teaching a course on Curricular Leadership in the accelerated Master's Program, is an Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) member and the recent recipient of the ACSA Region IX "Administrator of the Year" award for Curriculum and Instruction.

Koligian and her husband Wayne have four children, ages 10 to 22, and she is an active member of her church, serving as an elected member on the Board of Elders, Personnel Committee Chairperson and Sunday School teacher.

The Golden Valley Board firmly believes Koligian will bring vital leadership experience to her newly appointed role and is planning to formally introduce her as our newest Superintendent during a regularly scheduled board meeting.

### **BULLY** Cont. from P. 14

11. Tell your child to, if possible, avoid locations where the bully may be.

12. Don't promise to keep it a secret. You may need to report the bully.

13. Don't give your child the total responsibility for stopping the bully. You may need to take action by talking with a teacher or principal at your child's school.

14. When you meet with school authorities, give plenty of facts about your child's experiences.

15. Talk regularly with your child and the school staff to see if the bullying has stopped. If it persists, contact school authorities again.

16. Help your child meet new friends outside of school (like at your local Martial Arts School).

This information comes from Building Moral Intelligence: The Seven Essential Virtues that Teach Kids to Do the Right Thing by Dr. Michele Borba and Stop Bullying *Now!* a program from the Health

Resources and Services Administration. For other tips, go to www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov.

Research has shown and I have personally witnessed time and time again over the past 23 years that Martial Arts instruction helps THE BULLY eliminate the need to pick on others by teaching respect for themselves and others, self-discipline of their actions and by filling that void for needed acceptance and the feeling of importance. Research also shows that Martial Arts instruction strengthens and raises the level of self-esteem for THE BULLIED. They learn that they are of great value. They learn to carry themselves with confidence yet remain respectful to others. They learn to believe in their capabilities and realize that they can accomplish ANYTHING. A good suggestion is to enroll your child in a "self-defense school," and your local Golden Valley Martial Arts has beginner classes starting in June. It is also launching an "ADULTS ONLY" (over 30) training program on Saturday mornings. Space is lim-

1-Gold 1-Silver

1-Gold 1-Silver

1-Gold 1-Bronze

1-Gold 1-Bronze

1-Silver 1-Bronze

1-Gold 1-Silver

2-Golds

1-Gold

1-Gold

ited in both classes so check the website calendar for details or call Master Johnson at 917-5262.

Your feedback is vital and appreciated. Remember, since we are all in this together, let's make it a community project, have some fun, and increase our level of safety.

PARENTAL GUIDENCE: Spend some time with you're your children reviewing the following www.amw.com/kids, sites: tcs.cybertipline.com and www.missingkids.com/adcouncil.

SELF-DEFENSE TIPS: If someone makes you feel uncomfortable, turn and look him or her in the eyes with confidence and say so. Protect your space. Always stand at a slanted angle with one foot back spaced at about shoulder width. Hands should be relaxed and held between waist and chest level. KNOW YOUR ENVIRONMENT.

Master Johnson is a world recognized security and self-defense expert specializing in executive protection, hand-to-hand, multiple opponents and weapon disarms. He is listed in the "Who is Who" in Martial Arts and was named "Master Instructor of the Year" 1996 by the World Martial Arts Hall of Fame. He is the owner of Golden Valley Martial Arts, Tactical Training International, Dave Johnson Real Estate, and operates the World's only online self-defense and Black Belt training course at www.masterjohnson.com. He can be contacted at info@masterjohnson.com.

# Area Martial Artists Bring Home Gold

SPREAD THE NEWS!

Students from Golden Valley Martial Arts recently attended the "1st Annual City of Fresno Mayor's Taekwondo Championship" and brought home 20 medals and tied for Grandchampion honors. Medal winners included:

1-Gold 1-Silver James Lee Vivian Sanchez 2-Golds

Patricia Felix Frank DeAngelo Tiffany DeAngelo Austin Soltero J.T. Tombs Dawson Crop Colby Dubato **Ricky Sanchez** Karen Wong

Have friends or family who love the Ranchos Independent but live outside the area? Are you moving but you still want to keep in

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### Page 16



# **Real** Estate

B MLS



12314 Haven - The backyard looks like a park! Great custom home on 1/2 acre with new roof, new carpet, new dual pak. Inlaw/studio apartment, koi pond, gazebo, park benches and mature landscap-\$355,000 ing.



Office: 559-645-1102 Cell: 559-246-6688 36946 Ave. 12 #B Madera Ranchos, CA 93636



**BEAUTIFUL Decorator Touches 4** BD/2BA @ 35203 AVE 13 1/4. 2 acres zoned for horses, RV parking. Original owner. \$500,000.

**GREAT PROPERTY/GREAT PRICE - 3** BD/2BA @ 36954 Sparta. RV parking, newer comp roof, freshly painted in/out, security alarm, sprinklers front/back. Many extras. \$309,000.

3 BD/2BA @ 1019 W. Norwich, Fresno. Energy efficient w/triple pane windows, both real hardwood and aggregate floors, pool. Upgraded throughout. \$335,000.

398+ acres. Ave. 15 west of Rd. 35. Long range development. Williamson Act now. Full parcel Only. Owner/Agent \$19,500/acre. Related.

**GREAT INVESTMENT** - Great buy, 37+ acres in Ag Preserve. RD. 35 @ AVE. 11. Owner/agent. \$450,000.

INDUSTRIAL - 15+ acres, 3 houses, large office complex. RD 25 near Ave. 12. \$150,000/acre.

PISTACHIOS - 25, 36 and 38 acre pistachio orchards. Owner/agent. Call Tom for details at 706-3162.

# Kellner & Sons' Properties • 559-297-3770

Buyer should verify zoning, square footage and schools.

Your Neighbor, Your Realtor®, Your Friend!



# No one works harder than Judy Hart to make your home ownership dreams come true.

"A local resident in the Bonadelle Ranchos for the last six years, I am also a member of the Fresno Multiple Listing Service."

Judy Hart, Realtor

Judy Hart, Realtor • 559-479-1429 • onesterileort@hotmail.com

# tinental



# 4 Bed 3.5 Ba. \$499,000

36633 Cloverleaf

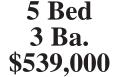
Fantastic 2,450 sq.ft. home on 1.25 acre lot with gorgeous pool and park-like yards. Home has vaulted ceilings, French doors, large dining nook and convenient kitchen. Master suite features two closets with tons of storage and adjoining spa tub. Tile flooring and quality carpeting throughout. Take a look!





Custom country home in tranquil setting on 1.75 acres. Open floor plan features great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Opens into spacious kitchen and dining area with lots of storage space. Charming master suite and entire house features ceiling fans and raised wood foundation flooring. Screened porch, peaceful yard and 3-car garage.





17194 Mark Road

Beautiful brand new home on 2.25 acres zoned for horses. Vaulted ceilings, fireplace, double door entry, vinyl windows and more. Open floor plan with great room, dining room and huge kitchen. Master suite has two huge closets and a spa tub in bath. Covered rear patio and front porch. Large 3-car garage. MUST SEE!





Over 2,500 sq. ft. on 2.25 acres zoned for horses. Great location features vaulted ceilings and brick fireplace, dining nook and great 50's-style game room. Kitchen has two breakfast bars, pantry and new flooring. Yard has covered patio and pool w/waterfall and diving board. Over 70 trees on property w/fenced horse enclosure, all just 15 minutes from Fresno.



4 Bed 3 Ba. \$499,000 5/07

14786 Road 35 1/2

Sharp custom 2,332 sq.ft, home on 1.25 acres. Fireplace in living room and vaulted ceilings in both living and family rooms. Deluxe kitchen with two ovens, space for two refrigerators and tons of counter space and cabinets. Master suite has two walk-in closets. Separate bedroom/bath perfect for home office or guest suite. Laminate wood floors and 3-car garage.

Call the listing office for all of the amenities of any of these properties

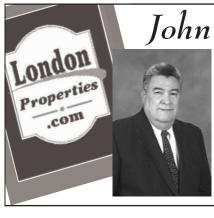
call Paul Sobaje at Continental Realty 431-7060 or 645-5450

# Say You Saw it in The Ranchos Independent • 645-0634

Page 18

**May 2007** 

# **Real Estate**



# John Herrera, Realtor I have lived in the Ranchos for 27 years. Currently, I am a member of Ranchos Kiwanis and am a retired law enforcement officer. I am a member of the Fresno and Madera Multiple Listing Services. Call me and I will explain our mar-

keting programs which start at 2%. If you or anyone you know is buying a home locally or elsewhere, I am a relocation specialist. The most important things in your house are the people. I don't sell houses, I work with people. You can search for homes at www.anyquestions.info. Give me a call today.

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559-217-8947





# **Nancy Watson**

The Ranchos Specialist, Working for "You"



645-5000 www.nancywatson.net

Nancy has been a Ranchos resident for 28 years and a full-time Real Estate Agent serving the Ranchos for over 17 years. She is a member of the Madera and Fresno Multiple Listing Service and is well known as a *Top Producer*. If you are interested in finding out the value of your home or know someone looking for a home, Nancy can help. Let the dedicated, experienced agent work for "You!" 5/07



**DAVID PARKER Realtor Associate** 

> www.davidparker.info 490-1989

A ranchos resident for 20 years, I am a full-time professional agent dedicated to serving our community's Real Estate needs. Allow me to show you how stress-free selling or buying a home can be. I worry with the details so YOU don't have to! Call me today or visit me on the Web and allow me to demonstrate how I can serve you. 5/07

# Classified

# **Alteration Service**

Molly's Alterations (now open later 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.) - tailoring, repairs, and leathers. Fast service. Located at 36619 Ave. 12 or call 645-5527.

# **For Rent**

For Rent - 3 Commercial Offices on busy Avenue 12. Ranging from \$500-\$800 per month. Call 559-706-0301 or 559-645-1102.

Rent For Gorgeous **Commercial/Residential** 2,200 sq.f.t 3bd/2ba home on Avenue 12. Office set up, \$1,350 per month. Call 559-706-0301.

For Rent - NEWER! 4bd/3ba. 2,170 sq.ft. 2.25 acres-vinyl fenced, auto landscaped. 16064 sprinklers, LaCanada, \$1,300 per month. Real Estate Network. Call 559-645-1102.

# **For Sale**

For Sale - Blue Rimmed PFALTZ-**GRAFF Stoneware Dish Set.** 8 place settings. Includes salt & pepper shakers, cream & sugar, 12 in. platter, vegetable bowl. \$50. Call 645-5825.

For Sale- 2007 Hot Tub. Loaded. Brand new. Therapy seats. Sacrifice \$2,475. Never used w/warranty. Call 559-360-9047.

For Sale - 7 pc. Bedroom Set. Solid cherrywood, sleigh bed, nightstand, TV armoire, chest. All dovetailed, Ethan Allen quality construction, New in boxes. Cost \$8k. Sacrifice \$1,950. Call 559-277-2511.

For Sale – 1 Brand New Full Pillowtop mattress/box. Cost \$400, sacrifice \$175. New in plastic. Queen cost \$600. Sacrifice \$195. Never used. Call 559-438-0248.

For Sale – California King Plush Pillowtop mattress/box. Brand new w/warranty. Cost \$800. Sacrifice \$475. Call 559-275-8813.

# **Gutter Service**

The Gutter Doctor specializing in both continuous and standard rain gutters. Unusual jobs. Air conditioning service also available. Yearly cleaning. 29 years working in the area. Call 559-822-2759.

Mobile home on land. Call 438-9999.

### **Painting Service**

Gerald Scheffing Painting. "Best in the West" for over 35 years. Call 674-2320. Lic. #313070.

Texture Coat Painting - Call Frank at 645-4113.

# **Tractor Services**

Tractor discing, grading, mowing, trenching, drilling, home irrigation systems. Call Tomas at 645-4932.

Tractor work, discing, rototilling, weed cutting. Bobcat work, drilling post holes, trees, trenching and clean ups. Call Neal at 645-1200 or 285-8211.

Tractor work, house pads, lot leveling, driveways, trenching and concrete work. Call 559-970-4476 or 559-645-1500.

Tractor work, lot discing, mowing and scraping. Call Thomas at 645-6068.



Credentialed teacher at the Homework House. Call Cathy Mosley at 645-0370.

# **Utility Service**

Underground utilities installed. Call 645-1500.

# Wanted

Looking for outdoor Little Tykes playhouses, new or used. Call 352-5441.

# Window Cleaning Service

Window cleaning special. Most windows \$5 inside/out. Screen and track included. Prices may vary for large, irregular or commercial sizes. Hard water stain removal available. Fully insured. Call Nick at 285-1723. Free estimates.



For Sale - Production Horse Sale at Lazy K Ranch, Chowchilla. Sat. June 2 70+ head, 45 head in price range of \$575 to \$975. Call 559-665-2908 www.lazyKranch.com.

For Sale - 1996 Chevy Tahoe. 195,000 miles. Very clean. Second owner. Runs good, handles great. 4 Door, 4X4, 6 passenger. 5.7L, Auto, tow pkg. \$4,700. Call 645-4155.

For Sale – 8' Cabover Camper. Excellent condition. \$4,700 O.B.O. Call 264-5688 or 960-6349.

For Sale – Horses AQHA Registered horses for sale. Call 559-645-5290 or 559-304-5073.

For Sale - 2007 Pool Table. Solid wood w/carved legs. Never used w/accessories, can deliver. Cost \$4,500. Sacrifice \$1,500. Call 559-230-0486.

### Handyman Service

Rancho Handyman - when you need a helping hand then you need the Rancho Handyman. Whether the job is big or small the Handyman can do it all. Call Ohan for estimates. Now available: house painting. Call 645-6924.

# **Housecleaning Service**

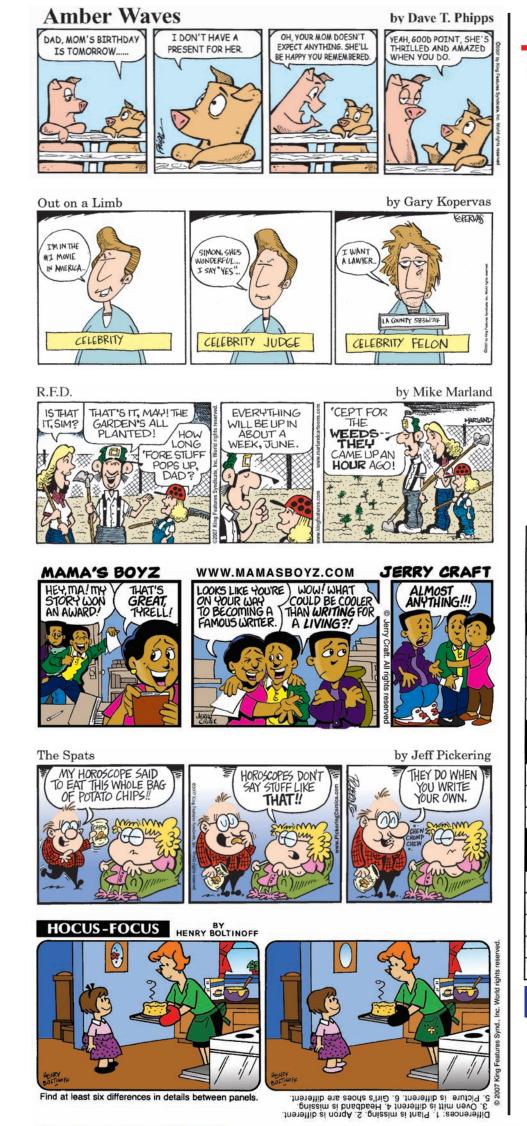
Jeannie's House Cleaning Ranchos area. Business owner over 10 years. Reasonable rates, good references. Will do blinds, fans and laundry. Fast and thorough. Call 801-2391 or 645-4117.

### **Investment & Loans**

Money To Loan Service - Oro Financial. Able to loan today. Credit not a problem. Cash for trust deeds.

# You're Not Just Anybody -You're Somebody Here.

COUNT **River Park** Madera 80 E. Nees 413 W. Yosemite Ave. 446-6350 662-2800



# Super Crossword

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# TRIVIA TEST By Fifi Rodriguez

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What 4. MUSIC: What else did singer Art does it mean to be polydactyl? 2. TELEVISION: What TV series career? spun off another series called "Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C"?

3. U.S. STATES: Which state has 6. LITERATURE: In Greek tragedy, only one syllable in its name?

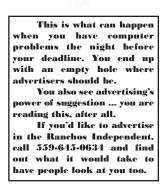
Garfunkel do for a living early in his

5. GEOGRAPHY: What U.S. city is also known as Beantown?

what does the tragic hero need to sess in order for the story to

		only one	synable in	nts name:	,	what does the tragte hero heed to
by Charles Bar	ry Townsend			BOOM	BY ERS	possess in order for the story to unfold properly? 7. GEOLOGY: What kind of rock can float?
5 5 Contraction of the second se	"LADDER" BUGS!	FOL.	GDAX	VSPN	KIF	8. ENGINEERING: What is a gird-
	In this type of puzzle you are given a word that must be		V S Q O P N L Y			er? 9. TIME: How long is a fortnight? 10. RELIGION: Who founded the
	changed into another word in a series of moves. In each move		CECY			Church of England?
DON'T LET THIS ONE BUIG YOUL YOU HAVE	you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form	POWS	SLMIM	KWIA	ТGЕ	Answers
DON'T LET THIS ONE BUG YOU! You have one minute to find two ladybugs that are exactly alike.	a new word. In our example, at left, we changed LADY to BUGS in four moves. See if you can	DBIT	IZRN	XWLT	RUT	AllSweis
OI pue th sond :snewsney Illustrated by David Coulson	change the following five words		NEUO			10. King Henry VIII
THE BLACKJACK MAGIC SQUARE! Rearrange the numbers so that the sum of any row, column, or 345	1. CORN to MEAL	10 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0	TFOT			8. A beam, usually made of steel 9. Two weeks
the two diagonals shall total 21. 678	2. BANK to NOTE 홈	AYR	Joxcr	WCWV	BNT	7. Pumice
Answer: Top row: 3, 8, Middle row: 5, 7, 9, Bottom row: 6, 11, 4.	3. TOLL to GATE 4. SIDE to WALK 5. HALF to TIME	SREC	GNISA	BRPC	NOL	5. Boston 6. Hamartia, or a fatal flaw
הדדדו	5. HALF TO TIME	KLYJ	SIFP	MURT	GBJ	4. He was a teacher.
A STAIRWAY TO WORD POWER! Each of the five words, needed to fill in our "word stair," contain the same	uks sau	Find the listed forward, back	words in the diagraward, up, down and	am. They run in a d diagonally.	all directions -	3. Maine
five letters. We give you one of these letters and plenty	4. SIDE, WIDE, WILE, WALE, WALK.	Basinger Bono	Couric Elway	Jobs Letterman	Ronstadt Trump	tıngers 2. "The Andy Griffith Show"
1. Slightest or tiniest. 2. Roofing material.	S. BANK, BANE, BONE, NONE, NOTE. 3. TOLL, TALL, TALE, GALE, GATE.	Cher Clintons	Fawcett Gates	Parton Prince	Winfrey	1. To be born with extra toes or
3. Petty complaints. 4. Having lost effervescence.	NADAN, MORN, MOAN, MEAN, MEAL.		King Features Synd.,		erved.	
5. Slang for a bargain. 1. Least. 2. State. 3. State. 5. Steat. 4. State. 5. Steat. 1. Least. 2. Slate. 3. State. 5. Steat. 1. Least. 1. Least. 2. State. 3.	:etewers:					© 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.





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