



Monster Trucks Return to the County Fair!

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Grapevine Independent

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MAY 19, 2023

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UNITED WAY GALA RAISES FUNDS TO HELP KIDS EXCEL



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NEVER HAVE JUST ONE

By Dave Ramsey



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A Journey Around The World



Students from the Victoria Mendoza School of Dance provided show-stopping performances of Mexican Ballet Folklorico in a dazzling display of color and cultural pride. Photos by Rick Sloan

Cordova Community Council News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - Rancho Cordova's vibrant iFest international festival returned with an explosion of color and music Saturday as thousands of happy attendees celebrated world cultures.

Sponsored by the Cordova Community Council, and packing Village Green Park, iFest is intended to showcase and celebrate the rich cultural diversity of Rancho Cordova by encouraging cultural groups to display their heritage.

They did. Stage performances featured native dance and music from ten countries, including China, Korea, Croatia, Ukraine, India, Lebanon, Egypt and Mexico.

An energetic "Carnivale" finale was presented by



Tiny performers from First Position Dance Academy waited patiently for their turn to share their talents at Rancho Cordova iFest Saturday. Photos by Rick Sloan

the Brazilian Center of Sacramento, complete with pounding drums and performers wearing head-dresses with two-foot plumes. The ever-changing entertainment was hosted by Andy Gee, who guided the audience on a musical world tour around the globe.

Korean Plaza International Market sponsored tastes from around the globe at "Wines of

the World," while families posed for green screen photos from exotic global destinations. Visitors were adorned with Henna art, smiled for caricature artists and even had their fortunes told. Pony rides entertained children, who could also get up close to llamas and reptiles from around the planet.

The Sacramento Children's Museum, inspired by the novel

"Kite Runner," set in Afghanistan, helped children make their own kites. And Rancho Cordova Arts member assisted youngsters paint African-inspired masks.

"No other event showcases the warmth and welcoming hearts of Rancho Cordova than does iFest," said Shelly Blanchard, executive director of the Cordova Community Council. "It's a day to embrace not only our differences, but what we have in common. It's fun, and it's beautiful, and always a great day for Rancho Cordova."

Rancho Cordova's rich cultural diversity was the inspiration for iFest. The city is considered to be the 29th most diverse city in the United States, with more than 90 languages spoken at local schools. It is the only local celebration

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Supporting Foster Youth Through Health Services

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - May is National Foster Care Month. The recognition month brings awareness to the issues foster kids face. The month also highlights the work done to help children who enter the foster system. This year's theme is "Strengthening Minds. Uplifting Families." The theme highlights the need to take both a holistic and culturally responsive approach to support the mental health needs of foster youth. In Sacramento County, there are dedicated staff members who uplift families by making sure youth in Sacramento County's Child Protective Services (CPS) get access to health care. Staff members also help make sure foster youth have access to mental health services.

Within Sacramento County's health services departments, many different resources are dedicated to providing the best care possible to children in Child Protective Services. These services include Emergency Response, Informal Supervision, Hearts 4 Kids, Courts/Permanency, and Psychotropic Medication. These programs cover a broad number of services that collaborate with social workers to ensure that children at risk have a strong advocate for their health and well-being.

Public Health Nurses in the Emergency Response program provide direct services to families as well as consultations with Social Workers. These Public Health Nurses conduct assessments, provide interventions and make referrals for services. Public Health Nurses work with families to make sure developmental issues are addressed.

Informal Supervision serves children with open cases who remain with their biological parents. The goal of this program is to keep children in their homes with their biological parents if possible.

Hearts 4 Kids is a program that visits children and their siblings at their foster-care placement. During this visit, the Public Health Nurse conducts assessments, provides guidance, and links families to resources.

The Public Health Nurses in Courts/Permanency provide assistance for children placed in foster care. The Courts/Permanency nurses interview biological families

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May Is Bike Month in Rancho Cordova

City of Rancho Cordova News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - May Is Bike Month is an annual month-long event to celebrate bicycling. Bicycling is not only a fun activity, but it's also great for your physical and mental health and the environment! So, get ready to hop on a bike with family and friends, and enjoy over 26 miles of beautiful bike and pedestrian trails in the City of Rancho Cordova.

Ways to Celebrate May Is Bike Month in Rancho Cordova

Join an upcoming Bike Maintenance Class or a Community Ride. For a list of events, visit CityofRanchoCordova.org/Bicycling or sign up for our e-newsletter at CityofRanchoCordova.org/ENews; Bike to your favorite Rancho Cordova business, restaurant or trail. Take a photo of your ride and tag

the city on Facebook and Instagram at [@CityofRanchoCordova](https://www.facebook.com/CityofRanchoCordova) or on Twitter at [@CityofRCordova](https://twitter.com/CityofRCordova); May is also Bicycle Safety Month, so make sure you know how to share the road safely:

Tips for Bicyclists

Ride Focused: Never ride distracted or under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Don't text, and make sure one ear is tuned in to traffic when listening to music; **Ride Prepared:** Avoid hazards, such as rocks or grates that may cause you to fall. Don't ride too close to parked cars; **Safety First:** Always wear a properly secured bicycle helmet. Wear brightly colored clothing. Put lights or reflectors on your bicycle for night-time riding. If there's a bike lane, use it; **Ride Like You're a Vehicle:** Cycle in the same direction as traffic. Obey street signs, traffic lights and road markings. Use hand signals to indicate where

you're turning or stopping. Yield to pedestrians.

Tips for Drivers

Slow down and follow the speed limit. Be careful traveling through intersections; Look carefully for bicyclists and pedestrians before making a turn or opening a car door near streets or bike paths; Be patient when traveling behind a bicyclist and give them space when passing. California law requires drivers to change a lane, when possible, to pass bicyclists; Never drive distracted or impaired.

Help educate others—your neighbors, family, new bikers —by sharing safe biking tips. Take personal responsibility for the safety of our community because the safety of our community is personal. Your actions could help save your life or the life of someone you know.

To learn more, visit CityofRanchoCordova.org/Bicycling. ★

Monster Trucks Return to the County Fair to Crush the Competition!

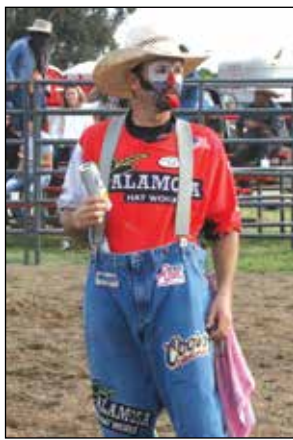


Geronimo is owned and operated by Brandon Swick and has recently started picking up wins on the All Star Monster Truck Tour and Live A Little Monster Truck Tour! Photo courtesy of Sacramento County Fair

Sacramento County Fair News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - If you haven't already, you will soon feel the rumblings of Monster Truck mayhem making its way to the Cal Expo Fairgrounds. On Thursday, May 25th at 7 p.m., some of California's toughest Monster Trucks take over the grandstand to give fairgoers a non-stop thrill ride. That's right, real, full-sized 1,500 horsepower monster trucks are back and BIGGER than ever at the Sacramento County Fair!

Fairgoers will witness iconic monster trucks go head-to-head as they battle through obstacle courses, ramp over cars, perform freestyle stunts, and much more! Guests will not want to miss the main attraction as GERONIMO, HILLBILLY,



Oakie is from Oakdale, California and is one of the funniest Rodeo & Motorsport Entertainers! Photo courtesy of Sacramento County Fair

SKULL KRUSHER and SCATTERED jump, smash, crush and backflip to take home the freestyle trophy. In addition to the monster trucks, the show will also feature Youth RZR Racing, where young locals will have the opportunity to race their off-road vehicles

around an extreme course. And with our special guest OAKIE providing laughs and entertainment, the entire show is sure to keep you on the edge of your seat.

"The big boys are here," says Chuck Plumlee, the producer of Monster Truck Extreme 2023. Matt Cranford, CEO of the Sacramento County Fair is just as eager to have these 'big boys' return to the Fair. "What better way to kick off Memorial Day weekend than with some of the toughest monster trucks anywhere at the Sacramento County Fair? Trucks are louder and BIGGER than ever, bringing kids of all ages the classic Fairground entertainment that we all crave," says Cranford.

Gates open at 6 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets for the Fair and Grandstand events will be available for purchase online at www.sacfair.com or at the Sacramento County Fair office. Kids 12-and-under are FREE every day of the Fair. Adult tickets are \$12.00 and arena admission for Monster Truck Mayhem on May 25th is \$25.00. Be sure to check out the pre-sale for select events online.

Over 100,000 guests will enjoy the Sacramento County Fair Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-29, 2023, at Cal Expo. Nearly 10,000 school children will enjoy educational school tours. 5,000 local Sacramento residents will compete for awards in the livestock and competitive exhibit programs. This year's fair theme is "Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow." ★

City's First Youth Poet Laureate, Paola-Marie Eulie, Selected



Rancho Cordova's first Youth Poet Laureate is celebrated. From left to right: Evangelina Vargas, Runner Up; Cheryl Gleason, Art Director and Curator at The MACC; Paola-Marie Eulie, Newly Crowned Youth Poet Laureate; Performing Artist Oke Junior; Lara Gularte, El Dorado County Poet Laureate; Anu Aaltonen Bond, MACC Volunteer; Nikki Meta, Artist and CSUS Faculty Member. Photo courtesy of the City of Rancho Cordova

City of Rancho Cordova News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - With support from the city's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund, the city's first Youth Poet Laureate, Paola-Marie Eulie, was crowned. Paola-Marie was selected after competing in the final competition where she wrote and performed her own poetry at The Mills Station Arts and Culture Center (The MACC).

The Rancho Cordova Youth Poet Laureate program began in 2022 and is a registered partner of the National Youth Poet Laureate program run by Urban Word. Paola-Marie is also eligible to compete among 70 cities for the National Youth Poet Laureate title. The purpose of the program is to empower youth poets who have

a history of artistic success, civic and community engagement, social impact and youth leadership.

Join us in congratulating Paola-Marie! The Kiwanis Club of Rancho Cordova, also with support from the city's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund, has been working hard to distribute books to families in Rancho Cordova. In six months, they distributed just over 2,300 books to youth enrolled with the Rancho Cordova Police Activities League (PAL), at the Rancho Cordova Youth Center (RCYC), at Kids Day in the Park and more. Learn more about the Kiwanis Club at KiwanisClubofRanchoCordova.com.

To learn more about the city's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund, visit CityofRanchoCordova.org/CommunityEnhancement. ★

Supporting Foster Youth Through Health Services

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to get health history and then focus on access to care and help coordinate primary, dental, and specialty care if needed. They collaborate with CPS and advocate for the child until the case is closed or the child is adopted.

If children in foster care are prescribed psychotropic medications, they are followed by a nurse who ensures the medications are court approved and

collaborates with the Social Worker and foster parent to monitor for side effects in the home.

You can read more about services provided by Sacramento County's public health nurses by clicking on this link. You can read about Sacramento County CPS by clicking on the link provided here. For information on Sacramento County's Mental Health Services, visit <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Mental-Health-Services.aspx> ★

Summerset's Memorial Day BBQ

MAY MONDAY 29 2:00 PM

COLOR GUARD PERFORMANCE BY JROTC AT 2:00PM

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A Colorful Journey Around The World

Continued from page 1

which showcases the many cultural traditions which make Rancho Cordova the melting pot it is.

This was the 14th celebration of iFest, which has been part of the Cordova Community Council

event line-up for more than a decade. The celebration took a two-year hiatus during COVID, but made a strong comeback last year, which continued into last weekend.

Rancho Cordova iFest is supported by numerous sponsors and

organizations, including a grant from the Sacramento County Transit Occupancy Tax (TOT), Councilman David Sander, City of Rancho Cordova, SMUD, Cordova Recreation and Park District, Sacramento County, Rancho Cordova Family Tae

Kwon Do, Rancho Cordova Fiber City, Rancho Cordova Arts, Rancho Cordova Food Locker, Republic Services, Heritage Community Credit Union, Aurora Apartments, Golden State Water, Belka & Hagan Families, River City Christian, Visit Rancho

Cordova, California American Water, Rancho Cordova Rotary Club, RC Healthcare, Rancho Cordova Moose Lodge, Sunrise Orthodontics and Folsom Cordova Unified School District. ★

Photos by Rick Sloan



A new generation of Ukrainian performers sang in their native tongue of their heritage, accompanied by musicians playing the uniquely Ukrainian Bandura, a stringed instrument.



Dancers from Rancho Cordova-based Grupo Folklorico Tonatzin shared the beauty of Nahautl traditions in a series of Mexican folk dances with roots in ancient Aztec culture.



Rancho Cordova's rich cultural diversity is the inspiration for the iFest celebrated this year on Saturday, May 13.



Always an audience favorite, the exuberance of youth and beauty of Mexico were on display from the Victoria Mendoza School of Dance.



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WE CANNOT ACCEPT: large household appliances (i.e. refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.), vacuum cleaners, furniture, solar panels, Hazardous Household Waste including batteries, car batteries, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies, fluorescent light bulbs, water heaters, tires, etc.

Proceeds go to raise funds for continuing education & benefits the Rancho Cordova Chamber Ambassadors.

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California Supreme Court Dismantles No-Bid School Construction Contracts



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Last week, the California Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision in a very complex – but very important – case that had been percolating for more than a decade, dealing with how local school officials evade competitive bidding on construction projects.

The case began in 2010 when Fresno Unified School District persuaded its voters to approve a bond to build new schools and upgrade old ones. In 2011, the district sold more than \$100 million in bonds from that issue and an earlier one, and in 2012 awarded a \$36.7 million contract for a new middle school to Harris Construction Co.

The contract with Harris, which had been a major contributor to the bond issue campaign, was structured as a “lease-leaseback” deal in which the district leased the school site to Harris for a nominal sum, Harris built the school and the district then leased the completed facility from Harris.

“Lease-leaseback” arrangements have been common for years, providing a way for school systems to build new facilities without borrowing money themselves. Typically, the “leaseback” runs for several decades, after which the district becomes the owner.

In the Harris project, however, Fresno Unified made payments to the contractor and once the school was completed in 2014, it used bond funds to immediately acquire ownership from Harris. Meanwhile, another contractor, Stephen Davis, had sued the district alleging that the Harris lease-leaseback deal was a subterfuge to avoid competitive bidding.

The district won two rulings from a local trial judge that the deal was legitimate, but both were overturned by a state appellate court and eventually Fresno Unified asked the state Supreme Court to determine whether the Harris deal was a legitimate contract protected under state law. Last week, the court declared that it was not, sending the case back down the legal ladder to determine what damages will be assessed.

San Diego attorney Kevin Carlin, who represents Davis and has carved out a niche career of challenging questionable school contracts, says that Harris Construction may be forced to pay back the \$36.7 million it received for building Gaston Middle School.

The case has reverberated in other ways. The superintendent who approved the contract, Michael Hanson, was fired by the school board after the suit was filed. Critics cited Hanson’s close personal relationship with Harris Construction’s president, Michael Spencer, including the firm’s sponsorship of a gala event to honor Hanson, and the hiring of Harris as a consultant before the contract was awarded.

The FBI launched an investigation, although

nothing official came of it. However, when Davis started winning his case, it sent shudders through other school districts that had used lease-leaseback in the same questionable manner.

In 2015, just a week after an appellate court ruled against the Harris contract, a lawyer for affected companies, P. Randolph Finch, outlined a plan “to mitigate our losses” by seeking legislation to legitimize questionable contracts.

“We have clients with well over a half-billion dollars of current backlog,” Finch wrote, “and another billion in completed projects, at risk on the Davis case. Consequently, we need a devoted industry effort to press these legislative changes.”

Using a parliamentary loophole known as “gut-and-amend,” a bill to absolve contractors of liability was drafted, but never enacted.

In 2004, the staff of the State Allocation Board, which parcels out school construction money, had described how lease-leaseback rules were being distorted, questioned the legality, declared “the integrity of the use of general obligation bonds... must be above reproach,” and suggested that the lease-leaseback law be clarified.

Officialdom ignored that warning but now the Supreme Court is telling school officials and contractors to play fairly or suffer the consequences.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★



Never Have Just One

Dear Dave,

I’m hearing more and more about “de-dollarization” and how several countries are moving away from the U.S. dollar as their basis of international trade. Will this affect the strength of the dollar, and should I be concerned about how I’m saving and investing because of this?

– Zack

Dear Zack,

First and foremost, I care enough about you to say you may be spending way too much time on the internet, buddy. You’re drifting into the realm of conspiracy theories here, so let’s slow down and take a look at some facts.

China, Brazil and Russia are the three main players in all this. They already don’t use the U.S. dollar as their basis

Dave Ramsey Says

of international trade—all three have their own currency, and there’s a conversion rate between all those currencies and the U.S. dollar. Those three countries, along with some of the oil-producing countries from the Middle East they’re trying to get on board with the idea, are talking about developing one currency they all use. In international trade, that currency would be converted back and forth to dollars—much like what Europe did with the euro. Which, by the way, really hasn’t worked out so well.

Are those countries going to be able to devalue the dollar by doing that? No. Why? Because while those countries take up a lot of land mass, they don’t take up a lot of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the world. The United States still represents the vast majority of the world’s GDP. Sure, China’s big in that regard. But Russia doesn’t bring much to the table, and Brazil is barely scraping by in a failed economy. Plus, they’re tiny as far as economics are concerned.

I mean, Texas probably has a larger GDP than Brazil.

In other words, they just don’t have the muscle to take down the dollar mathematically speaking. Now, if they do manage to put this idea together, it still won’t end in “de-dollarization.” The dollar will not be done away with. Even if they create their own currency, they’re still going to have to trade with the 800-pound gorilla, which is America. And they’re going to have to trade with us in dollars.

Am I worried about this, Zack? Not one bit. And you shouldn’t be either.

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of “The Ramsey Show,” heard by more than 18 million listeners. He has appeared on “Good Morning America,” “CBS This Morning,” “Today,” Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, He also serves as CEO of Ramsey Solutions. ★

Robert Craig Films to Donate \$1M Plus 50% Net Proceeds for Homelessness

Atherton Public Relations News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Robert Craig Films announced on Monday, May 11, they will give one million dollars plus 50% of net proceeds of their movie No Address, their documentary Americans With No Address, a novelization of the screenplay No Address, an educational curriculum and a music album, coined The Big 5.

“The Big 5 GIVEBACK” is a philanthropic initiative and will be shared with nonprofits in the homeless space towards the end of the year. This is geared towards creating more awareness to the homeless crisis in America, a call to action and to bring humanity back to the unsheltered.

The full-length feature film No Address, a dramatic movie with celebrity cast members including Billy Baldwin, Xander Berkeley, Beverly D’Angelo, Ashanti, Lucas Jade Zumann, Isabella Ferreira, Patricia Velasquez and Ty Pennington. The film is about a group of people that fall into homelessness and realize they must bond together as a family if they are going to survive the streets.

Producer Robert Craig has learned through producing The Big 5 that homelessness can happen to anyone.

Jennifer Stolo, CEO of Robert Craig Films, recently joined the team due to her extensive experience supporting the non-profit community. Her passion for helping those in need and her expertise in the industry make her an invaluable addition to the team.

“Hearing the heartbreaking stories of how everyday people can fall into

homelessness stirs my heart with empathy,” replied Jennifer. “I’m thrilled to leverage my background to help nonprofits partner with Robert Craig Films through entertainment and educational platforms we are developing, so together we can effect change for those experiencing homelessness.”

The company wants to partner with local and national charitable organizations and churches that are helping those experiencing homelessness and bring solid solutions for reducing the growing epidemic.

Nonprofits are encouraged to partner with Robert Craig Films and promote The Big 5 through their newsletters, websites, and social media to create further awareness together. This will help bring larger audiences to theaters and create significantly more impact.

The film is directed by Hollywood veteran Julia Verdin of Rough Diamond Productions. Other key players are Robert Marbut, who serves as an executive producer, and producers Robert Craig, Sally Forcier, Julia Verdin, Angela Lujan and Jennifer Stolo and director Julia Verdin.

For nonprofits that want more information or to apply for donations from The Big 5, visit <https://www.NoAddressMovie.com>.

Robert Craig Films is a film company located in Placer County, California, with a mission to develop, create and produce high-quality, entertaining movies that inspire the audience to engage with greater empathy, compassion, and generosity in the communities they live in. Visit www.RobertCraigFilms.com for more information. ★

Enter in the New US Chamber of Commerce Small Business Awards Program

Capitol Corridor SCORE News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the launch of a new awards program for small businesses: America’s Top Small Business! Accepting applications now!

Formerly known as the Dream Big Awards, America’s Top Small Business (ATSB) aims to recognize small businesses doing big things in their industries and communities through innovation, job creation and a commitment to being an integral part of a thriving business ecosystem.

We’ll be choosing Top Small Businesses across America (10 in each of seven regions). The highest scoring business in each region will be named one of America’s Top Small Businesses and one finalist will win America’s Top Small Business of the Year Award – a \$25,000 cash prize!

All applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on Friday, July 7, 2023.

Find out everything you need to know about the ATSB program, including who is eligible to apply, how winners are chosen, important dates and deadlines, and more on our FAQ page. ★

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			FIREWORKS FOR ALL FANS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GAME		



And Another Thing

The Memorial Day Celebration will be on Monday, May 29 at the Performing Arts Theater

By Bob McGarvey

Children in our Folsom Cordova Unified School District are ready for the 2022 -2023 school year to be completed. We have three grandchildren going to school in the FCUSD and I am sure they are as ready for their summer days with no school work, as are all of the other kids. I would like to think they have all the fun they are looking forward to. Summer time is when kids in the past, present, and future have had the most free time they have all year.

Yesterday we were very fortunate to get tickets to the Sacramento Choral Society when they presented "Carmina Burana." It is a cantata composed in 1935 and 1936 by Carl Orff. According to the Encyclopedia, "it is a manuscript of 254 poems and dramatic texts mostly from the 11th or 12th century, although some are from the 13th century. Twenty-Four poems in Carmina Burana were set to music in 1936 by Carl Orff. His composition quickly became popular and a staple piece of classical music repertoire."

I believe that sharing the background information may help understand the performance on Saturday. The Sacramento Choral Society & Orchestra was led by Dr. Donald Kendrick, the Music Director. The program was introduced by Dr. James McCormick the President and CEO of the Sacramento Choral Society. In addition, he said "Tonight, we celebrate all of the Mothers in our audience.

Thank you for bringing into the world so many talented singers, musicians, and conductors."

He also said, "We are thrilled to welcome back a recently-revitalized Sacramento Children's Chorus to our Carmina Stage this evening." One of our grandsons, Ryan McGarvey, was singing in that chorus and he sang in that very elaborate performance. We were all very proud of him, and he truly enjoys singing. We will have to watch him as he grows up and develops more.

I hope everyone's mother had a wonderful Mother's Day weekend. In the United States the holiday is celebrated on the second Sunday in May. Over 40 international countries also celebrate Mother's Day. Some of them celebrate the holiday on different days, and I hope the mothers in those countries were able to celebrate their day too.

Something which is coming up very soon will be the Memorial Day celebration on Monday, May 29 at the Performing Arts Theater at Cordova High. I was thinking of working on moving our celebration back to the VA Hospital at Mather. With the weird weather we have had this year I decided to wait until next year. The Memorial Day celebration this year, in addition to honoring all Veterans, will be focusing on Vietnam Veterans. More information will be coming up about that in my next column..

From Bob McGarvey, God bless, and see you next time. ★

"A Stanford Spring" Highlighting the Lives of Jane & Leland Stanford

T-Rock Communications News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- Three Sacramento area museums are collaborating to present "A Stanford Spring," a limited-time offering that showcases the lives of Jane and Leland Stanford with unique artifacts on display at the California State Railroad Museum, Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park and the Sacramento History Museum. The remarkable artifacts are on display now and will remain up through June at the three participating museums.

Plus, special offers, promotions and events are planned to further highlight the experience and connect with museum visitors, including:

California State Railroad Museum – On special display is an historic Central Pacific Commissioners' Car that traveled to Promontory, Utah – with Central Pacific Railroad President and former California Gov. Leland Stanford and the priceless ceremonial Golden Spike on board – for the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. Plus, a special "Travel in Style" excursion train ride is planned on May 27 at 4 p.m. (for guests ages 21 and over) that will include light appetizers, wine, and a souvenir wine glass to take home. Train ride guests will enjoy a scenic 45-minute ride down the Sacramento River in a first-class rail car (elegant attire is encouraged).

Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park – A cherished cookbook owned by Jane Stanford titled Mrs. Hale's New Cook Book published in 1857 is on special



The historic Central Pacific Commissioners' Car that traveled to Promontory, Utah – with former California Gov. Leland Stanford for the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. Photo courtesy of the California State Railroad Museum

display. Plus, two free and open to the public Garden Tours are planned for May 14 at 10 a.m. and June 15 at 10 a.m. for California State Parks Week, all ages are welcome and advance reservations are not required.

Sacramento History Museum – An opulent special occasion dress worn by Jane Stanford is now on display on the third floor of the museum. Made of silk and lavender in color, the beautifully ornate 1860s dress is on loan from the Center for Sacramento History's impressive collection.

Open hours for each of the three museums are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Visitors can receive half off admission at the Sacramento History Museum by showing their same-day receipt from the California State Railroad Museum. Admission to Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park is always free. Tickets to ride the "Travel in Style" excursion train ride are \$40 and space is limited. More details about "A Stanford Spring" are

available at www.california-railroad.museum/stanford.

For more information about upcoming activities offered by Sacramento area museums, "like" them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SacMuseums, follow them on Instagram and Twitter @SacMuseums or visit the user-friendly website at www.SacMuseums.org. Those interested can also sign up for emails to learn more about your Sacramento Area Museums via the website at www.sacmuseums.org.

Comprised of approximately 25 greater Sacramento area museums, SAM's mission is to raise awareness of local museums by giving the community the opportunity to discover the region's fine art, history, and science treasures. SAM achieves its mission through implementing cooperative promotions and developing strategic marketing alliances, by encouraging sharing of knowledge and resources among its partner institutions. For more information, visit www.SacMuseums.org. ★

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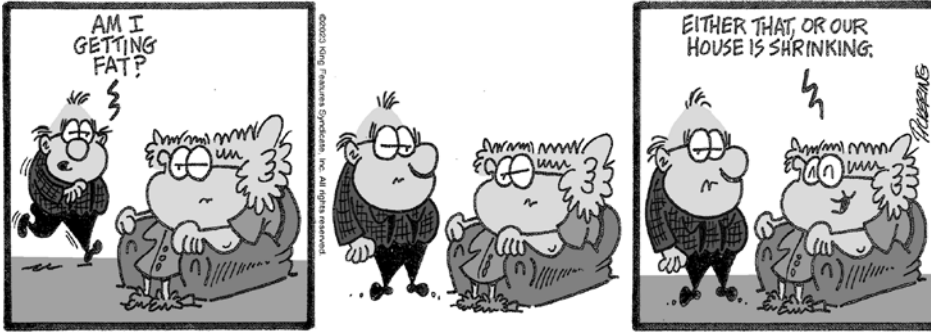
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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

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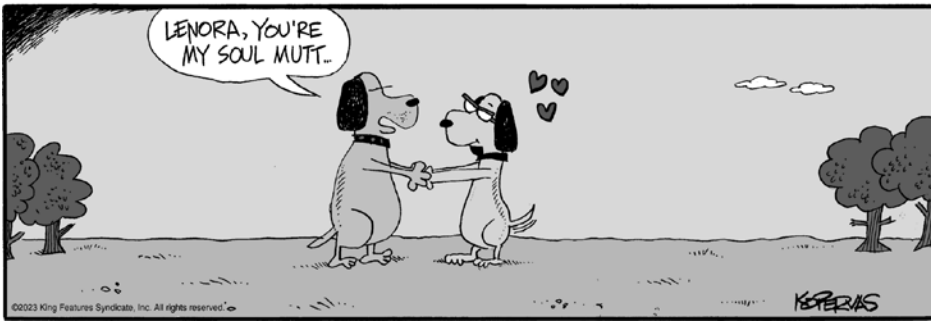
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

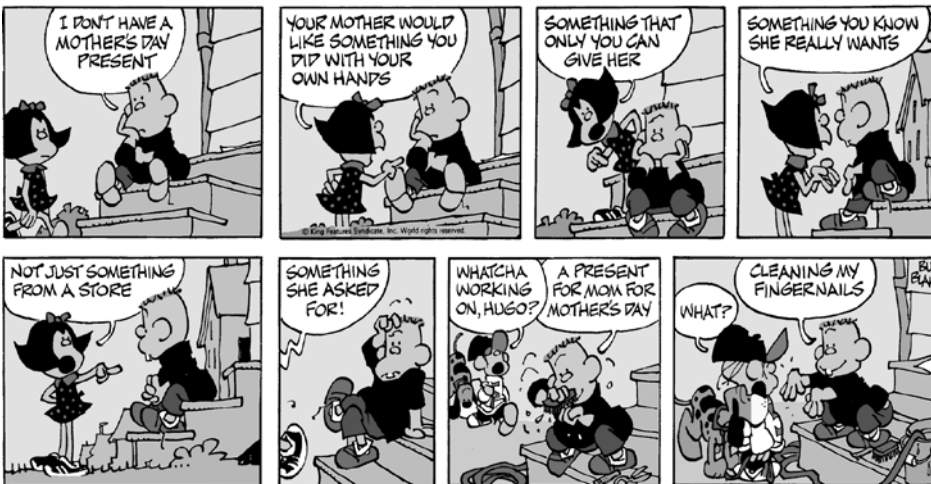
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN and BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



A	B	Y	S	M		P	O	P			M	A	N	A		
C	R	E	P	E		E	E	L			M	I	L	A	N	
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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • THE 1990s

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Deep cavity
 - Weasel-related onomatopoeia
 - Supernatural life force
 - French treat
 - Snake-like fish
 - Major Italian city
 - Ring around the sun, pl.
 - Pitcher's stat
 - Donated part
 - "Russian President 21. "Nevermind" band
 - "Walkin' on the ___" by Smash Mouth
 - Google search tool
 - Took the bait
 - Between larva and adult
 - Data input device
 - U in I.C.U.
 - Dems' opponents
 - One of Florida Keys
 - Be furious
 - "Canada/Mexico/U.S. trade agreement acronym
 - Agitate
 - Between free and freest
 - Molokai party
 - "Telephone Tammy or Sky Dancer
 - Unquestioning ones
 - Greek muse's strings
 - Slightly insane
 - Messy substances
 - Santa ___ winds, CA
 - "TV show with Central Perk
 - "Popular Disney movie with a genie
 - Caterpillar precursor
 - Accompanies wisdom?
 - "Pinky or The Brain
 - Architectural projection
 - Crème de cassis plus wine
 - Un-written exams
 - ___ pool or ___ pit
 - One or some or all
 - Find new tenant
- DOWN**
- "___ Breaky Heart" by Billy Ray Cyrus
 - Highlands hillside
 - Raise the roof
 - Leopard marks
 - Bungle (2 words)
 - Part of a hammer
 - "___ the land of the free..."
 - Heathrow craft
 - Type of missile, accr.
 - Aquarium organism
 - Indian bread
 - "___ Keremina" by Tolstoy
 - Breadcrumbs, e.g.
 - Contain the ashes
 - Pen juice
 - Amount in one's lap, pl.
 - "The Vampire Slayer
 - Accustom
 - "A ___ to Kill" and "Nick of ___"
 - Bell sound
 - Front or back one
 - Factual evidence
 - Quick and nimble
 - "First cloned mammal's

CROSSWORD

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Quacks and Oinks



The All-Alaskan Racing Pigs competition is a popular, crowd-pleasing event suitable for all ages at this year's fair. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento County Fair



Watch the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs jump obstacles and race to the checkered flag at this year's Sacramento County Fair. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento County Fair



Above and left: The All-American Duck Races show off the high-speed capabilities of the mallard at the 2023 Sacramento County Fair. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento County Fair

Sacramento County Fair News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County Fair is excited to announce that the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs and All-American Duck Races will be performing at the 2023 fair. These popular events feature adorable racing pigs and ducks competing in high-speed races. The shows are suitable for all ages and are always crowd-pleasers.

"We are thrilled to have both the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs and All-American Duck Races at our

fair this year," said Fair CEO Matthew Cranford. "Their shows are always a hit with our guests, and we can't wait to see them in action."

Though a cross-species race offers some interesting possibilities, attendees do NOT have to choose between which species to root for. Both the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs and All-American Duck Races will have multiple FREE performances daily. Don't miss your chance to see these cute and talented animals in action and root your favorite on to victory. But even if your

pick doesn't win, you'll delight in their hilarious defeat.

These events also offer a fun opportunity for Bart Noll, leader of the All-Alaskan Pig Races... crowd-watching. Says Noll, "I don't even watch the races anymore. I watch and listen to the crowd. There's no better sound than the kids' excited laughter. And some of those kids are in their 80s and 90s!"

Adds Cranford, "So, that's getting to watch and enjoy three species for the price of one. And the price is right. All free with your Fair admission." Mark your

calendars for the 2023 Sacramento County Fair and come see the All-Alaskan Racing Pigs and All-American Duck Races.

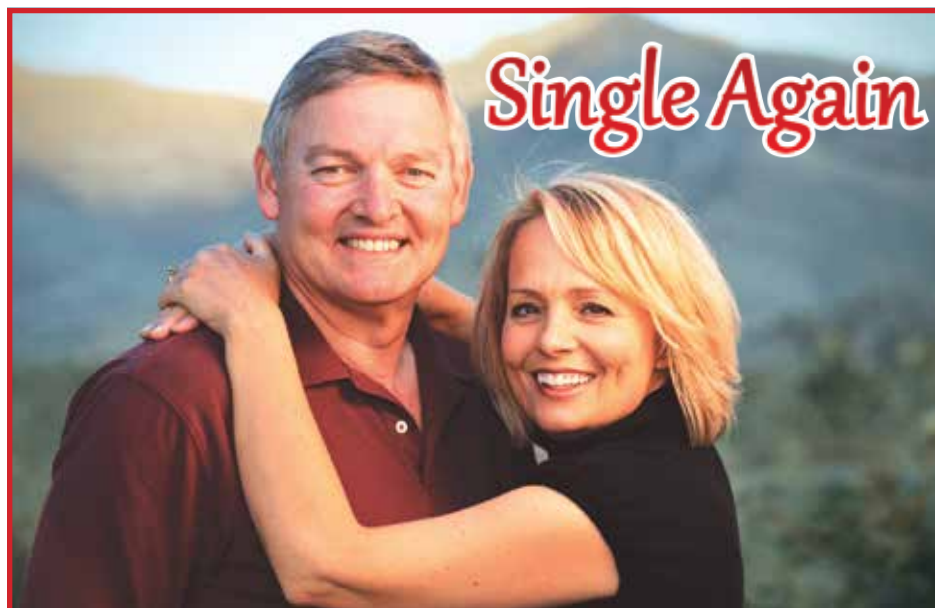
For more information about the fair and to purchase tickets, visit www.sacfair.com.

Established in 1937, the Sacramento County Fair is dedicated to the safe and fun education of the greater Sacramento community and its youth in agriculture, business, and technology. A value-driven family event, Fair guests enjoy the friendly atmosphere, traditional county fair competitions, agricultural displays, hands-on

activities, carnival, specialty food and festival-style entertainment. Close to 10,000 school children take advantage of free educational school tours and over 5,000 compete for awards in the livestock and competitive exhibit programs. The theme of 2023 Fair is: Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow.

For more information, please visit www.sacfair.com.

Share the Fair with #SacCoFair and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SacramentoCountyFair/>, and on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sacfair> ★



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