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Rising Temps Prompt Safety Warning



"We ask those enjoying the outdoors to be careful near mountain streams, rivers and reservoirs," said Randy Livingston, PG&E's Vice President of Power Generation. "Water flows will fluctuate with the warming and cooling of the day, so always be prepared for a change in conditions."

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Water enthusiasts should take serious precautions against cold temperatures and swift currents when in or near water this spring. Despite this year's below-normal snowfall, the spring snowmelt can still result in swift and cold river flows that can create treacherous conditions for all recreationists—waders, swimmers, paddlers, boaters, anglers, and even hikers cooling off at the water's edge. Lower water levels can also expose hazards or make them closer to the surface. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), California State Parks and its Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) caution that even though the water content of California's mountain snowpack is below normal, the snowpack is rapidly

melting as mid-spring temperatures continue to rise. As warmer weather and longer days speed up melting snow in mountainous regions, water temperatures will continue to drop and flows can change suddenly in waterways and reservoirs. "We ask those enjoying the outdoors to be careful near mountain streams, rivers and reservoirs," said Randy Livingston, PG&E's Vice President of Power Generation. "Water flows will fluctuate with the warming and cooling of the day, so always be prepared for a change in conditions." "Never get too comfortable around water when recreating, no matter how low the levels are," said Major General Anthony L. Jackson, USMC (Ret.), Director of California State Parks. "This

year we are asking water enthusiasts to adjust with water-related activities to the drought conditions. Water conditions in some waterways are low enough to make for hazardous boating. It is also critical for everyone in or around the water to wear life jackets at all times, no matter if water levels are low." "Spring is a wonderful time to recreate in California's waterways," said Sylvia Ortega Hunter, DBW's Deputy Director. "But please read the safety tips in this water safety warning because making a mistake could threaten the life of a loved one."

Water safety tips:
Know the Water
 • Sudden immersion in cold water can stimulate the "gasp reflex," causing an involuntary

inhalation of air or water. It can even trigger cardiac arrest, temporary paralysis, hypothermia and drowning. When faced with swift water, even the strongest swimmers may be easily overwhelmed.
 • Cold water entering the ear canal can cause vertigo and disorientation. This may confuse swimmers, causing them to venture deeper into the water.
 • Recreating in PG&E canals and flumes is strictly prohibited. Stay out of canals and flumes, which are very dangerous due to slippery sides and fast moving water.
 • Lower lakes and rivers can expose hazards like rocks and trees, or make them closer to the surface.

Continued on Page 2

First-Ever Youth Citizen's Academy to be Held in Auburn

AUBURN, CA (MPG) - The Placer County Sheriff's Office is hosting its first-ever Youth Citizen's Academy on two consecutive Saturdays, July 19th and July 26th, in Auburn, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The academy is for kids who have a strong interest in a career in law enforcement. The youth program is modeled after our popular Citizen's Awareness Academy, which is held twice a year. The Youth Academy is geared for kids ages 12-17, and will focus on educating them on how the sheriff's office functions and offer insight into what a career in law enforcement entails. They will visit many of the sheriff's office facilities and meet staff members. During the two-day experience, kids will be treated to presentations and tours from the following divisions: patrol, investigations, evidence, K9, training, bomb squad, boat patrol, search & rescue, dispatch, Special Enforcement Team, and the jail. This unique experience is open to kids who reside in Placer County. The academy is limited to 35 attendees, so sign up now to reserve a spot. Pre-registration is required, and kids must agree to attend both days. A signed waiver by a parent or guardian is also required. Kids will need to bring a sack lunch. Classes will be held at the Placer County Sheriff's Office, 2929 Richardson Drive, Auburn. For further information or to make a reservation, please contact Deputy Victoria Skellenger at (916) 652-2425, or email her at vskellen@placer.ca.gov ★
 Source: Placer County Sheriff

Job Demand Hiring Trends Show Promise in the 3rd Quarter

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A robust market in California's capital city expects to add as many new workers as it hires for replacements within existing workforces in the 3rd quarter of 2014. In a direct telephone survey of Sacramento's top regional employers, fifty percent (50%) say hiring is motivated by expansion of existing workforces, and eleven percent (11%) also attributed seasonal demands for seeking workers in July, September and October. Attrition, or replacements among the existing workforce motivated the other half expecting to see applicants. Pacific Staffing discovered just twenty-nine percent (29%) of Sacramento companies contacted directly between May 21st and June 11th are not hiring. While service and manufacturing companies were driving the majority of hiring anticipated in the third quarter, construction firms were almost evenly split, and just one retail firm surveyed was not looking for help. Also signaling continued robust employment in the area, not one company noted any plans for layoffs in the next quarter. Several firms also mentioned that retention of current workers



A robust market in California's capital city expects to add as many new workers as it hires for replacements within existing workforces in the third quarter of 2014.

was a growing concern and noted finding adequate numbers of qualified applicants as another challenge.

Skills Demand?
 Demand for technical skills continues to drive recruiting out of the Sacramento area as firms report they

can't find qualified applicants in sufficient numbers to meet demands for IT needs. Sales and customer service are in demand with employers in the Sacramento market also looking for workers to manufacture, warehouse, and ship products in the third quarter. A significant shortage of drivers for route and

delivery needs was also noted among companies across the board.

Sacramento Regional Top Companies Polled By Industry:
 40% are Service, 31% are Manufacturers, 21% are Construction, and 8% are Retail.

Special Report on Veteran's Employment Opportunity in Sacramento
 As conflict winds to a close in Afghanistan, as many as 30,000 military men and women are expected to return from service each year to re-enter the California job market. Sacramento employers answered without reservation and are unanimous in saying they will hire a qualified veteran when asked. Thirty percent (30%) say they have a veteran hiring program or policy. Regional companies deserve a salute as more than half of those surveyed, or fifty-four percent (54%), say they have hired a veteran to go to work in the last year. How does this quarter compare to last quarter, or last year? Find out for yourself. For more information, employment blogs and market surveys go to www.pacificstaffing.com. ★
 Source: Pacific Staffing

Gina Giamb Bruno Joins Placer Land Trust Board of Directors

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Placer Land Trust is pleased to announce the addition of Loomis resident Gina M. Giamb Bruno to its Board of Directors.

Giamb Bruno recently worked with Placer Land Trust and San Jose State University to study and promote the health benefits of conservation and outdoor recreation. She will graduate with a Master's Degree in Public Health in August.

"I want to complement the great work of Placer Land Trust and be a part of the legacy that provides open space for habitat preservation, recreation, spiritual growth, solitude and reflection," said Giamb Bruno. "Placer County is an extraordinary place to live and play, and I strongly believe the health of our environment is directly related to our overall physical and mental health."

Giamb Bruno's support of the trust involves the promotion of its trails campaign, working with private-sector partners such as Kaiser Permanente and NorCal Ultras, campaigning at Hidden Falls, and creating a video and brochure that depict the health



Gina M. Giamb Bruno

benefits of spending time in nature.

"We are very pleased to have Gina join the Board," said Placer Land Trust Board President Fred Yeager. "Her energy and determination is inspirational, her knowledge of health and recreation issues will help us connect with a larger audience, and she'll be a great asset to the organization."

In her role at Kaiser Permanente, Giamb Bruno implemented a Youth Fit Program

at Sierra Gardens Elementary School in Roseville, and as a certified running coach she coaches Kaiser employees for marathons, half-marathons, and 5Ks. Currently, she's working toward becoming a personal trainer with American College of Sports Medicine. She has a background in business administration with a focus in land use. In her personal time, Giamb Bruno volunteers for Citizens Involved Means Better Living, Placer County Food Bank, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and Trekking for Kids.

Placer Land Trust is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1991 and dedicated to working with willing landowners and conservation partners to permanently protect natural and agricultural lands in Placer County. To date the Trust has preserved 7,766 acres across Placer County for current and future generations. For more information, call (530) 887-9222 or visit www.placerlandtrust.org.

Source: Placer Land Trust

Gaines: Tesla "Gigafactory" to CA?



In response to Texas Governor Rick Perry's recent visit to the California State Capitol driving a Tesla, Senator Gaines discussed how California is going to compete for those jobs and pull out all the stops to get the factory built in the Golden State. Photo illustration courtesy Ted Gaines

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In an effort to attract, retain and grow California businesses, California State Senator Ted Gaines, Republican Caucus Chair, visited the Texas State Capitol recently to discuss his efforts in promoting California as the premier destination for business relocation, business expansion and economic development.

"California has some advantages for business that no other state can match," said Senator Gaines. "We are a state of innovators and groundbreakers. We are the venture capital hub of the planet, with unmatched universities and the largest consumer market in the country."

At the center of the discussion is Tesla Motors Inc., a California-born electric automobile company that is about to build a massive battery factory, the "gigafactory," that will result in a \$5 billion capital

investment and 6,500 new jobs.

In response to Texas Governor Rick Perry's recent visit to the California State Capitol driving a Tesla, Senator Gaines discussed how California is going to compete for those jobs and pull out all the stops to get the factory built in the Golden State.

"Everything is on the table - tax credits, investment credits, hiring credits. We need to show Tesla that we'll cut through the red tape that frustrates California companies and prove that we are open for business," said Senator Gaines. "There's no excuse. I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in getting this done immediately."

Senator Gaines and Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) recently introduced Senate Bill 1309, a bipartisan bill that would entice Tesla to build the large-scale battery factory in California. The bill

declares the legislature's intent to utilize financial incentives, changes to regulatory and environmental processes, and other possible tools to expedite construction in California.

"A few weeks ago, Governor Perry drove up to our Capitol in a Tesla. I was planning to do the same thing here in the spirit of healthy competition but it was impossible to even get a Tesla in Texas. That's not the case in California. They are already everywhere. I look forward to their expansion in my state and seeing them driven all over the country soon."

Senator Gaines' visit to Texas also included meetings with the business community to discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the Texas business climate, which will help inform future California legislation.

Source: Office of Ted Gaines

Rising Temperatures and Spring Snow Melt Prompt Water Safety Warning

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Know your Limits

- Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool—people tire more quickly and can get into trouble.
- Cold water causes impairment leading to fatalities. It reduces body heat 25 to 30 times faster than air does at the same temperature.
- Many unseen obstacles can be lurking below the water's surface. Swift water can make these obstacles even more treacherous. Guided trips for inexperienced paddlers are recommended.

Wear a Life Jacket

- Conditions change quickly in open water and even the best swimmers can misjudge the

water and their skills when boating or swimming. Wearing a life jacket can increase survival time.

- A life jacket can provide some thermal protection against the onset of hypothermia and keep you afloat until someone else can rescue you.

Parental Supervision

Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Appoint a designated "water watcher," taking turns with other adults. Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a pool, they need to be aware of uneven surfaces, river currents, ocean undertow and changing weather.

Know the Law

- Every child under 13 must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket when on a moving vessel that is 26 feet or less in length.
- A Coast Guard-approved life jacket must be carried for each person on board a boat. This includes rigid or inflatable paddlecraft.
- Every person on board a personal watercraft (popularly known as "jet skis") and any person being towed behind a vessel must wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
- It is against the law to operate a boat or water ski with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or more. You can be arrested even when your BAC is less than 0.08 percent if conditions are deemed to be unsafe. ★

Fatal Collision Involving Automobile vs. Bicyclist

CHP Report

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On July 3rd at approximately 0642 hours, CHP Auburn Area received a call of traffic collision involving a bicyclist and a vehicle, westbound on Foresthill Road, west of the Foresthill Bridge. Upon arrival it was determined that the bicyclist had sustained fatal injuries due to the collision. The driver of the vehicle, David Lee Correa (age 37 of Foresthill, CA) was located at the scene.

The female bicyclist, identified as Barbara Lane Crowell (age 52, Dutch Flat, CA) was riding her bicycle westbound on Foresthill Road west of the Foresthill Bridge on the right shoulder. Correa was driving a 1988 Toyota pickup truck westbound on Foresthill Road west of the Foresthill Bridge, approaching the bicyclist. For reasons which are still under investigation, the right front of the Toyota struck the bicyclist from behind, causing fatal injury to the bicyclist.

Correa exhibited symptoms of intoxication at the scene and was subsequently arrested for suspicion of felony Driving Under the Influence. He was booked into the Placer County Main Jail.

The California Highway Patrol Auburn Area Office is requesting the help of the public in identifying any possible witnesses of this incident. Anyone having relevant information is encouraged to contact the Auburn CHP Area at (916) 663-3344. ★

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Publisher Paul V. Scholl

No Charges Filed Against Whitney High School Students Arrested in Relation to Alleged Threats of Campus Violence

From Placer County District Attorney

ROCKLIN, CA (MPG) - After reviewing the case submitted to our office by the Rocklin Police Department, our office has determined that no criminal charges will be filed against Justin Herrmann, 18, of Rocklin or against any of the juveniles arrested for their involvement in the case. This decision is based on an analysis of applicable law and the evidence obtained from the investigation conducted by Rocklin Police Department detectives.

The evidence presented showed that Mr. Herrmann had posted a message on social media in April that a friend of his was going to "shoot up the school." Mr. Herrmann later admitted to investigators that his friend never made such a statement. That statement was forwarded by other students on a social media site in May just before the end of the school year and was eventually seen by Rocklin Police and school administrators when a concerned parent reported the post.

Rocklin Police and school administrators reacted quickly to investigate if there was a legitimate threat to the school. When Mr. Herrmann was initially contacted, he denied any knowledge or any involvement in the posting of the message. The school's principal took steps to notify the parents of the situation via a recorded phone message.

After learning of the announcement made by the principal, the juveniles arrested began to post a series of messages which were attempts at humorous commentary concerning the announcement. The posts included comments such as "I am the real shooter", "wear neon and Kevlar today", "it's shoot up the School day" and other similar posts. A rumor was even perpetuated that there was a "hit list" of students who would be targeted. There was never any such list. These juveniles making these posts were never associated with nor had any connection to Mr. Herrmann or his post.

In order to be convicted of a threat on a school or on another person, the District Attorney's Office must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Herrmann or the juveniles possessed a criminal intent in that they intended that the treat be taken seriously and that it was intended to place others in fear. A review of the evidence clearly indicates that none of the individuals possessed any such intent.

While Mr. Herrmann may not have committed a crime or posed a threat to the school, it is clear that his delay in cooperating with officers directly related to the escalation of a volatile situation. It is clear that if he admitted what he had done when first confronted by law enforcement rather waiting until the situation had escalated, the response of the Police and school administrators to protect the students may

have been unnecessary. Those juveniles who responded to the announcement of the Principal on social media should have been mature enough to understand that such comments are not humorous, not responsible, and not appropriate. The sarcastic commentary, again, escalated an already tense situation that forced the Police and school administrators to act quickly.

It is clear that the actions of those students arrested were socially irresponsible and placed the school administration and the Rocklin Police Department in a situation to act in order to protect the student and teachers. It should be clear to everyone by now, including high school students, that after the tragedies we have watched unfurl on campuses around our nation, the smallest of comments suggesting impending campus danger will not be dismissed but met with a prompt response to keep our schools safe. Police agencies and school administrators who dismiss such information would be derelict in their responsibility to our community and would risk having to endure the pain of watching students and staff losing their lives. Fortunately, the school administration of Whitney High School and the Rocklin Police Department acted quickly to ensure the campus was safe for our students and teachers and, after a thorough investigation, determine the truth behind the social media postings. ★



By Gerry Mifsud

I'm a first generation American born in San Francisco in 1945. What a city to grow up in. What a time for the Baby Boomers in San Francisco, the epicenter of the Peace and Love movement and Cultural Revolution. But how San Francisco molded my life is another story, another article.

Speaking of something for another story, there's something I've always wanted to get off my chest: "Frisco." In the old days, people only used the word Frisco in a derogatory way, and it still affects me when I hear it today.

NEVER GIVE UP

San Francisco Memories

for your desired cut, as much as you want.

Golden Gate Park sets a peaceful tone away from the bustling city. A walk or bike ride in the park is wonderful. The DeYoung Museum, Japanese Tea Garden, and The Arboretum (plant world) are there. There's a Disc Golf course (Frisbee), as well as a nine-hole golf course there as well. I also enjoy a stroll around Stow Lake.

Golden Gate Park ends at Pacific Ocean Beach. Many a tranquil moment did I spend watching the Pacific Ocean. The Cliff House and Seal Rock have a great view and history. Going towards the ocean in the Sunset district is the best Pizza and Italian food dollar for dollar. Pasquale's Pizzeria is at the corner of 8th Ave. and Irving St. by

for authentic Chinese food.

If you're tired of the crookedest street in San Francisco called Lombard Street, there's another equally crooked street called Vermont Street. That street has cobblestones and fewer houses along the way.

There's a uniquely structured castle shaped restaurant called Julius Castle at 302 Greenwich St. that serves the elite of San Francisco. The restaurant is at a dead end with a long staircase coming down next to it that leads up to Coit Tower. Walk off the staircase and sit on the side of the hill overlooking the spectacular Bay. Downtown has many great restaurants, one of which is Tadich's and Klueto's.

You want views of San Francisco? Try the Top of The Mark at the Mark Hopkins Hotel



I have many fond memories of looking out to the bay and seeing the beautiful sail boats.

I can handle banter with people who dislike the Giants or the 49ers, but I don't like that word; I find it to be crude and insulting. To understand this generation's intention when using the word Frisco, I asked my 23 year old son, Joe. He said, "Forget about it," that this generation doesn't mean anything derogatory when they say it. I'll try to forget about it, but please reconsider using the word Frisco.

I call Joe *The Professor* because of our long father/son debates. Funny thing is, my father called me *The Philosopher*. My father and I clashed because he had a stone-age mentality, and I came of age in San Francisco during the Age of Aquarius.

A walk down Haight Street brings back many fond memories. On Van Ness Avenue are two of my favorite restaurants. "Tommy's Joint" is the best Hofbrau ever. Freshly cut in front of you is a full array of meats to be piled into fresh sourdough French bread plus beers from around the world. Also on Van Ness is the House of Prime Rib; it's a little high end but it's prime rib, not a turkey sandwich. They wheel around a cart, inside of which is enclosed the prime rib

Golden Gate Park.

Who wouldn't like chocolate and Ghirardelli Square? One foggy night I ran smack dab into a lady's face by the stairway at Ghirardelli Square. It was the wife of Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall. After the collision, she angrily straightened herself out and looked at a smiling me. I said, "Oh, Miss Bacall," and she said, "You foolish man," and brushed me aside. I was star struck in the face.

There's nothing like the smell of steaming fresh crabs at Fisherman's Wharf. "Scoma's" at the wharf, has great food and a gorgeous setting surrounded by seals. The fresh aroma of baked sourdough French bread that comes from nearby Boudini's is to die for.

Nearby is the North Beach Italian district with Grant Street's Cafe Trieste, where little old Italian men chat and sip away as the aroma of fresh espresso fills the air. Try Little City in the neighborhood. Before there were hippies, there were beatniks and bohemians in the jazz clubs on Grant Street. Next district to North Beach is Broadway St. with dancing girls and night clubs. Then comes Chinatown, I liked the Great Eastern Restaurant

on Nob Hill. Their top floor bar and restaurant is pricey, but what a spectacular view. Another hill-top view is Twin Peaks in the center of the city. A personal special moment atop Twin Peaks was when my dear friend Mike died at the age of 25. Days after his passing I climbed up one of the Peaks and danced and prayed to honor Mike from atop this San Francisco hill.

It was time for a change for me. I moved on to the next phase of my life to Reno, Nevada. I settled down and found my Soul Mate "Genna" and started a family. I periodically return to enjoy the City by the Bay; high from a hill, the city still calls to me. The foggy cool nights and the music and cultural awareness are but a foggy memory.

When I pass on, I told my children to toss my ashes from the Golden Gate Bridge, or if they can't afford the cremation, just throw my old body over the side into the San Francisco Bay. This is my home town, one great city to be called nothing less than San Francisco. Go 49ers and Giants. I'll Never Give Up On You.

Gerry Mifsud
TV Host/San Franciscan ★

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FAMILY FEATURES

There are many reasons people choose to rent over home ownership. Whether saving up for a dream home, you're having difficulty affording one or you simply enjoy commitment-free, hassle-free living, renting certainly has its perks. For those who choose to rent, having adequate protection is a must — and with advances in the industry, finding the right coverage is easier than ever.

Protecting your assets

For many looking to rent a home or apartment, the thought of renters insurance may seem less important with so many other things to think about. Though not all landlords require it, many do, and for good reason.

"Though you never hope you have to use it, insurance is so valuable to the protection of your family, your belongings, and, overall, your peace of mind," said Kathy McDonald, senior vice president at Assurant Specialty Property. "Many returning to the rental market will be pleased with how the insurance industry has evolved, which makes acquiring the best coverage easier than ever."

Advancements in the industry

The conveniences brought on by computers, tablets and smartphones have greatly improved the services insurance providers now offer. With easy-to-follow websites, apps and customer service chats, one can check the status of a claim 24 hours a day.

Keep a home inventory

To evaluate the amount of coverage you need — and assist if you ever need to file a claim — keeping a well-documented list of your possessions is important. A recent survey conducted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) stated 59 percent of consumers do not have a proper listing of their possessions in the event of a fire, robbery or other loss incident.

"All renters and homeowners should develop a home inventory," said McDonald. "Whether it is electronics, furnishings, collectibles, jewelry or clothing, families need to know what they own and how much it's worth."

■ Use tracking tools

Put down the pen and paper and get out your smartphone. Many new apps are available to properly keep track of every item in your home. Some even allow you to track every belonging room-to-room with bar codes, pictures, photos or scans of receipts and descriptions. This helpful tool also can create a back-up file — just in case.

■ Update your list

According to the survey, 59 percent of those who do have a list of their belongings admit they haven't updated the list within the past year. That can fail to account for many gifts and purchases throughout the year. Make a mental note to add to your list after each birthday, the holidays or other similar occasions.

■ Note valuable items

Make sure you get sufficient coverage for expensive belongings such as artwork or collectibles, which may be subject to policy limits. As many policies only cover \$1,000 for jewelry, you may need additional coverage, considering many jewelry items exceed that amount.

■ Consider everything has value

Many items have more value than you think. To better understand this, consider how much it would cost to replace every item in one load of laundry. Sometimes, it's the little items that add up. Jot down everything — clothing, shoes, kitchen gadgets and power tools.

In-depth information on renters insurance is available from providers. For information on renters insurance from Assurant, visit www.renterssecurity.com.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Did you know?

Through the simple act of listening to the needs of their customers, insurance companies are finding real solutions to increase customer satisfaction. A recent survey conducted by Assurant Specialty Property revealed that many long-time renters didn't know they could transfer policies from one rental unit to another. Instead of beginning a new policy each time they move, the company advises these renters to simply update their address and they can keep the same policy.

5 things to look for in a rental property

Along with choosing the best renters insurance coverage to fit your needs, there are other things to consider. Before you sign your name on the line, make sure you take into account these five important items to look for when searching for that perfect apartment or rental home.

■ Affordability

Add up monthly rent, utilities and all other costs to ensure you can afford it with your current budget.

■ Safety

It's important to find out about crime occurring in the neighborhood in which you are interested. Contact the local police department for information and police reports on robberies and other crimes in the area. An evaluation of the property's safety is also essential, such as the lock features on doors and windows and working smoke detectors.

■ Environment

Make sure your fellow residents match your own lifestyle. For example, an older community is typically quieter, while an apartment complex with college students may involve some loud, late nights. Choose an area that fits your personality and your needs.

■ Amenities

Check out the features of the property and determine what is important for your family and lifestyle. Does the facility have a gym, an area for walking your dog or that porch you've always wanted? Keep these ideas in mind as you will likely be living here at least one year.

■ Appliances

One major deciding factor of rentals should be the appliances that are included with the unit. Ensure the stove, oven and refrigerator are all in working order. Other essential devices, such as air conditioning, heating, hot water heaters and, if applicable, washer and dryer units, should be tested beforehand.

Sierra Watershed is Key to State Water Supply



"The Sierra Nevada is the backbone of the state's water supply but there are still many people who are unaware of this," said Geologist and PCWA consultant Marie Davis, who noted several things, including forest health, vegetation management and sedimentation, can affect water runoff and quality.

AUBURN, CA (MPG) - Water supplies in California are dependent upon the health and productivity of the Sierra Nevada watershed but local officials are not sure that this message is clear around the state.

The importance of local watershed was the subject of a presentation at Thursday's (July 3) meeting of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors.

Geologist and PCWA consultant Marie Davis screened a slide show that PCWA has been using to brief water industry and elected officials from around the region and state.

"The Sierra Nevada is the backbone of the state's water supply but there are still many people who are unaware of

this," said Davis, who noted several things, including forest health, vegetation management and sedimentation, can affect water runoff and quality.

Davis and PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs Einar Maisch said state leaders need to recognize the value of the state's headwaters areas.

In other business, PCWA directors heard a staff presentation on PCWA drought management. Through June, water use in PCWA service areas was below the agency's target levels but has been increasing in recent warm weather. "Our customers have been doing a very good job," said drought project manager Tony Firenzi. The agency continues to urge all customers to reduce usage by 10-20 percent

until the drought is over.

Directors also held a recognition ceremony for Canal Operations Supervisor Jamie Buland of the Field Services Division who is marking 30 years of PCWA employment this year.

The next regular board meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on July 17 at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. PCWA board meetings are open to the public.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. For drought updates and water conservation information, see www.pcwa.net. ★

California Sees Increase in Sexually Transmitted Diseases

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Dr. Ron Chapman, director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and state health officer, says the number of reportable sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in California increased in 2013 according to data made public today.

"Sexually transmitted diseases can cause major health problems for people over time," said Dr. Chapman. "This increase is concerning, particularly because STDs are preventable."

The data show that almost 168,000 cases of chlamydia, over 38,000 cases of gonorrhea, over 3,500 cases of primary and secondary (P&S) syphilis, almost 2,900 cases of early latent syphilis, and over 3,600 cases of late latent syphilis were reported in 2013, for a total of 216,000 reportable cases of STDs.

In 2013, the rates of gonorrhea and P&S syphilis (the most infectious stages) increased substantially compared to 2012. In 2013, the gonorrhea rate increased 13 percent to 100.4 per 100,000 population, and the P&S syphilis rate increased 18 percent to 9.3 per 100,000 population. In contrast, in 2013 the rate of chlamydia cases decreased slightly for the first

time in almost two decades, to 439.5 per 100,000 population. Chlamydia is the most commonly reported disease in California.

STD rates continue to be highest in young people 15-24 years of age, especially for females, with over 66 percent of female chlamydia cases and over 54 percent of female gonorrhea cases being in this narrow age group. Young women are the most vulnerable to infertility and other long-term reproductive health problems caused by STDs.

"Any sexually active person can get an STD through unprotected sex," said Chapman. "They should talk with their health care provider and ask if testing for STDs is appropriate." An online directory of test sites is available at findstdtest.org. Many clinics offer free tests.

Chapman pointed out that in addition to getting tested regularly, individuals can reduce their risk by using condoms, reducing their number of partners, being in a monogamous relationship or practicing abstinence.

Profound racial disparities persist. In 2013, the African-American gonorrhea rate of 351.1 per 100,000 was 6.2 times the non-Hispanic white rate of 56.9 per 100,000.

CDPH has been working to address health disparities in STDs. The STD Control Branch has identified census tracts with high numbers of gonorrhea cases and significant racial disparities and has focused interventions in these areas. In addition, the Branch is collaborating with the Centers for Disease Control and California's Department of Education to reduce the high rates of STDs among youth through supporting comprehensive sex education, improving access to sexual health services, and helping schools build supportive environments for all youth, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students.

CDPH trains medical providers to assure that they are assessing their patients' risk for STDs, screening appropriately, and using the most effective treatments. CDPH also works closely with local health jurisdictions to coordinate disease prevention and control efforts statewide, including helping identify infected individuals and assuring that they and their partners get treated.

For more information, visit CDPH's www.cdph.ca.gov. ★

Source: California Department of Public Health

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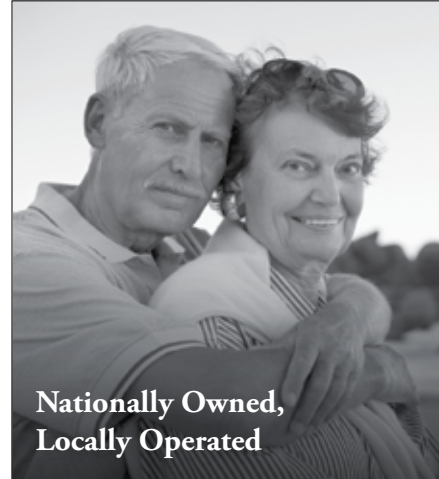
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Online Predator Nabbed Placer County Sheriff Announces Promotions

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) -

Placer County sheriff's detectives didn't have to go far to arrest and book their latest suspect who befriended them through an online ad and agreed to meet – in the Placer County Jail parking lot - for a sexual rendezvous.

Tuesday afternoon, Daniel Eugene Kirschner, 28, of Auburn, became the fourth suspect since February who has been arrested after placing an online ad that was answered by a Placer County sheriff's detective. Detectives have responded to ads as a 13-year-old girl. In Kirschner's case, he placed an ad seeking a girlfriend on a popular website. He did not stop corresponding when the "girl" told him she was 13 and emailed with the detective for one week.

Detectives, posing as the 13-year-old, told Kirschner that



Daniel Eugene Kirschner, 28, of Auburn, became the fourth suspect since February who has been arrested after placing an online ad that was answered by a Placer County sheriff's detective. Photo Courtesy of Placer County Sheriff.

she'd meet up with him at the jail while her mother was there



for her boyfriend's court appearance. Kirschner didn't hesitate to meet her there. As soon as he arrived, detectives confronted him, arrested him and walked him into the jail.

He was booked on charges of communicating with a minor for purposes of committing a sexual act and attempted lewd and lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14. His bail was set at \$100,000 and he bailed out at 1:30 Wednesday morning. His court date is set for Aug. 4 at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 31. ★

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Placer County Sheriff Ed Bonner is pleased to announce two promotions.

Lt. Dennis Walsh has been promoted to the rank of captain



Lt. Dennis Walsh has been promoted to the rank of captain. Photo Courtesy of Placer County Sheriff.

and has assumed command of the North Lake Tahoe Station. Captain Walsh most recently led the transition team that coordinated the recent opening of the

South Placer Adult Correctional Facility. His steady leadership served him well during that demanding time.

Captain Walsh started working at the Placer County Sheriff's Office in 1993, when he first worked in corrections and patrol. He was promoted to sergeant in 2003, and worked assignments in patrol, corrections and supervised the Crimes Against Persons Unit in investigations. He promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 2010, and has worked in corrections since then.

Sgt. Carol Walsh has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Carol has been at the Placer County Sheriff's Office for 19 years. She started as a deputy and worked in corrections and patrol. She was promoted to sergeant in 2009 and was assigned to the North Lake Tahoe Station until October, 2012. She has been a patrol sergeant in Auburn since then. Carol also supervises the



Sgt. Carol Walsh has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Photo Courtesy of Placer County Sheriff.

Critical Accident Response Team (CART). She will now oversee court services. Her administrative skills and attention to detail will serve her well in her new assignment.

Lt. Dave Powers will replace Captain Walsh, and will transfer from the courts to operations at the South Placer Adult Correctional Facility. ★

Canceling the Tomahawk is a Gamble We Can't Afford

Commentary By Michael James Barton

Once again, our military leaders face a tradeoff. Can the United States meet the serious new security challenges we face while staying within strict budget limits?

To do so, policymakers will have to make some very tough choices that leverage our existing capabilities while also planning for the future. Foreign threats to America and her allies will not diminish simply because of American fiscal restraints.

Indeed, Iran and North Korea are both well on their way toward developing the capability to deliver a nuclear warhead on target. Violence is spreading throughout northern Africa and the Middle East. Terrorist

groups continue to cultivate the next generation of dangerous radicals.

The United States military needs to be able to both meet these threats and stay on guard for new ones. Yet budget cuts could compromise our ability to accomplish either goal.

One way the Department of Defense can make the best use of limited funds is by investing in battle-tested technologies. A case in point is the Tomahawk cruise missile. By upgrading rather than replacing the iconic Tomahawk, policymakers can improve America's military capabilities in a way that is both strategically sound and fiscally responsible.

Military technology has long been shifting toward greater precision from greater distances.

No longer do we have to take out entire city blocks, or even entire buildings, to hit our target. And like the Athenians employing archers against the Spartans, long range missiles allow our troops to keep a safe distance when engaging the enemy.

Given that this is the nature of modern warfare, sophisticated and accurate weapons like cruise missiles will play an increasingly large role in national defense

That's why Tomahawk missiles have been a mainstay of the U.S. arsenal since Operation Desert Storm in 1991. The missiles launched during that conflict allowed our forces to carry out precise strikes on sensitive targets without putting military personnel in harm's way.

In 2011, Tomahawks were once again used in the NATO mission against the forces of Libyan tyrant Moammar Gadhafi. And they are standing by as the weapon of choice if the United States needs to launch a mission to protect America's interests.

Some policymakers have expressed support for replacing the Tomahawk program with an alternative weapons system known as the Long-Range Anti-Ship Missile (LRASM), which has half the range of the Tomahawk and is more expensive.

LRASM proponents hope to start putting it on aircrafts by around 2018, but delays could push this date back even further. And as the Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile program

demonstrates, a number of factors ranging from technical problems to cost overruns consistently push back the operational dates for new defense weapons.

The Tomahawk, meanwhile, is already fully integrated with all major U.S. combatant ships and submarines. And work is already underway to improve the Tomahawk to meet the next generation of threats our nation will face.

Fortunately, some high-ranking lawmakers now recognize the danger in replacing the Tomahawk wholesale. A recent appropriations bill from the House Armed Services Committee registered members' concern with the prospect of "terminat[ing] procurement...of the Nation's only

long-range, surface-launched land-attack cruise missile" with a replacement "not planned to be operationally fielded until 2024 at the earliest."

The bottom line? Upgrading the Tomahawk system is less expensive and less risky than phasing it out in favor of a missile still at the early stages of development. Going "all in" to a new system is a gratuitous risk we should not be taking when we already have an effective weapon in our arsenal. ★

Michael James Barton served as the deputy director of Middle East policy at the Pentagon from 2006 through 2009 and is currently a director at ARTIS Research.

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8

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

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By Ronnie McBrayer

Hitting the Road

“goin’ places that we’ve never been; seein’ things that we may never see again.” Yet, we don’t always understand faith this way. Look at how we have structured it, however, and it is easy to see why we most often view Christianity as an incorrigible, fixated fortress rather than a living, dynamic movement.

Our doctrines, constructed and accumulated over thousands of years, stack up like heavy stones. They are unassailable, infallible, and immovable. The buildings that contain our worship services are almost always built of rock, granite, or the hardest and heaviest material we can find – and there those buildings sit in the same place for centuries.

Then, try being an idealistic reformer who seeks to change a church’s policy or its strategy to meet the world where it now is. If you’re not taken out behind the vestry and quietly crucified, you will find that change in the church usually moves with all the terrifying speed of a melting glacier.

This betrays our roots and the trajectory set for our faith from its beginning. With his last conversation with the disciples before his death, Jesus described himself and his personal faith like this: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” Put more accurately, “I am the true and living way.” This had such a profound effect on the first followers of Jesus that the earliest self-description of Christianity was “The Way.”

The term “Christian,” referenced only three times in the entire New Testament, was used by outsiders. It was a moniker attached to this cult, this sect

of troublemakers. But the first “Christians” didn’t call themselves “Christian” at all. They called their life and faith, “The Way.”

It was the Path. The Road. It was the constantly evolving, winding, opening arc that took this “band of gypsies down the highway.” It was an animated, breathing ethos; certainly not hardened codices of legalistic dogma.

So it doesn’t appear that Jesus came to establish an inflexible, competitive religion that would be pitted against other belief systems. No, Jesus came to initiate a way of redemptive and gracious living. He came to show us how to live the life of redeeming love, love for God and for others. He embodied all that the Divine requires, that is, “to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”

There’s nothing about walking this humble Way that should be turned into cold-blooded institutionalism. It should never be used to exclude, marginalize, or be employed as a tool of separation. This Way can only unfold and expand, taking us further down the road and deeper into the loving heart of God.

This isn’t religion. This is the true way to live. And while love is often “a road less traveled,” it is the worthiest of journeys. So let’s hit the road. ★

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, pastor, and author. His newest book is “The Gospel According to Waffle House.” You can read more at www.ronniemcbrayer.me.

Have A Blessed Day; Now Fire Me If You Dare!

Dr. James L. Snyder

I must confess to a severe case of poverty. I never took a vow of poverty; it just seems to have worked out that way for me. I am so poor the church mice have packed their bags and moved on. If I knew where they moved to, I might join them.

Being poor can have its advantages, but I have yet to run across any.

I am so poor I am not able to pay attention, especially when watching some television program with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. This has caused no small problem with my wife. We love an evening of unwinding before the TV watching some of our favorite programs. I must confess those programs are getting less and less each year. Soon we are going to have to go back to reading books.

Together we will be watching a program, and when I say “we,” I do it with certain modifications. My wife will get up and go to the kitchen for something and when she returns, she asks me a question, “What happened?”

I look at her with one of my infamous quizzical looks and respond, “Where?”

She then explains she is talking about what happened on the TV program while she was away. I then tell her, “I’m sorry, I wasn’t paying attention.”

This seems to be a source of real frustration for her.

“If you can’t afford to pay attention,” she will say sarcastically while rolling her eyes, “couldn’t you at least rent some attention some time?”

I tried explaining to her that old age is making me a little more forgetful. She, however, is not buying it, so there goes my income stream.

For me, watching television is not an obsession; it is more like a distraction. I do not follow every little bit on the television screen.

For me it is not a matter of life or death, it is just a matter of recreation. I know that nothing on TV is real. We can be in the middle of the next program and I do not realize that the first program has ended. Talk about confusing!

When something does catch my attention, boy does it have my attention.

“Did you,” I ask my wife, “hear that?”

Then it is role reversal in prime time. I will not say she acts like me, just that it comes pretty close to it. Not quite Oscar material, but close.

“What?” She said with a very confused look on her face.

So I had to explain the news story that I just happened to catch. I do not know all of the details, I was not paying that much attention, just that someone was fired from their job for saying to a customer, “Have a blessed day.”

I have met many customer service people that said things that I would want them to be fired from, but this has never been on my list.

My wife then asked the question I was thinking. “What is wrong with telling someone to have a blessed day?”

I could not figure it out. It is like at Christmas time some places do not want their employees to say to the customer, “Merry Christmas.” The reasoning is, it might offend someone. What about us who are offended when somebody does not say Merry Christmas to us? This matter of being offended can go both ways. There should be an equal offended person law. There is a law for everything else.

I just would like to meet the person who is offended by somebody saying to them, “Have a blessed day.”

Later that evening I was watching a new crime/detective story on TV and all of a sudden, I heard some words that were offensive. They were saying curse words that I have never heard on TV

before. I have always believed that if you have to use curse words, it is because your vocabulary is drastically lacking in intellectual responses to the world around you.

Here is my dilemma. Why can you say curse words on TV, which everybody knows is scripted, but you cannot say, “Have a blessed day,” without getting fired?

If I was in business I would want my employees to greet my clients with a cheerful, “Have a blessed day” and not some awful curse words.

I was complaining about this to a friend of mine who explained to me that curse words on television are considered “literary license.” Who is paying for that license I am wondering.

All of this has to do with the PC syndrome in our country today. The problem is what was PC yesterday is no longer PC today. Who knows what tomorrow’s PC will be.

What I cannot accept is the fact that being crude and rude is PC and saying something nice is not. Have we reverted to the caveman mentality? Is being nice no longer acceptable behavior?

I like what David says, “Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name” (Psalms 103:1).

Perhaps the reason people are offended by that phrase is because they know that only God has the power to bless. If I am being blessed by God, I am going to turn around and bless people around me.

So, for those offended by that phrase let me say, “Have a blessed day. And fire me if you dare.” ★

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, P.O. Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 866-552-2543 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.

Here we are, deep in the throes of the rituals of summer. School is out, vacation days are being cashed in, and picnic baskets are being packed. Barbqueues are firing, pools are splashing, and ice cream trucks are rolling. Meanwhile, thousands, yea millions, are taking to the great American highway.

Seventy percent of the U.S. population will hit the road this summer – off to visit grandma, the beach, the closest roller coaster, or a national park. We just love to feel the breeze on our faces and road beneath our wheels. We can’t stop ourselves from being a traveling people. We always have been.

In prehistoric times we hoofed it, walking out of Africa scientists tell us, to every point on the globe. Then we built boats, domesticated horses, constructed wagons, engineered planes, trains, and automobiles – not to mention submersibles and space ships – so that no corner of creation has been untouched by the human foot, it seems. We keep moving, rolling, and running, so much so that the theme song of human history might well be Willie Nelson’s, “On the Road Again.”

True to form, Christianity is a fluid faith for a pilgrim people. It is a spirituality of sojourn, of

Just a Pinch

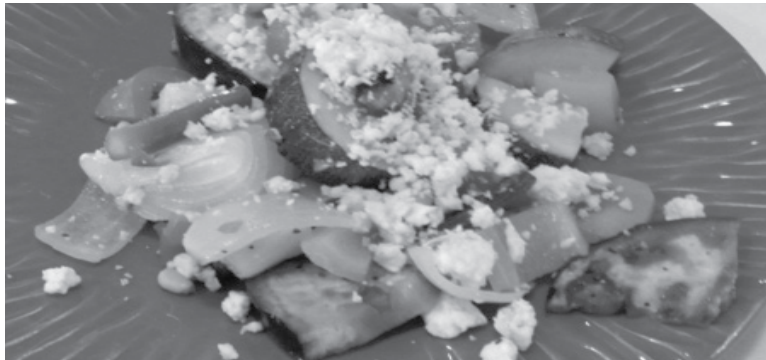
Sharing Hometown Recipes, Cooking Tips and Coupons

By Janet Tharpe



Scrumptious Grilled Veggies with Goat Cheese and Balsamic

“This never makes it to the table!”



If your garden is like mine, it’s bursting with summer vegetables. Denise Lepard’s Grilled Vegetables with Goat Cheese and Balsamic is a wonderful way to enjoy all those veggies! We’ve both roasted and grilled them at different occasions and they turn out deliciously either way. Enjoy!

See step-by-step photos of Denise’s recipe plus thousands more from home cooks nationwide at:

www.justapinch.com/veggies

You’ll also find a meal planner, coupons and chances to win! Enjoy and remember, use “just a pinch”...

- Janet



Denise Lepard
Old Bridge, NJ
(pop. 80,482)

Grilled Vegetables with Goat Cheese and Balsamic

What You Need

- 1/2 c olive oil (approx)
- 2 large onions
- 4 zucchini - sliced about 1/2 inch thick circles
- 4 peppers (any pepper you like); stemmed, seeded and quartered
- 1 eggplant - sliced about 1/4 inch thick circles
- 3 or 4 carrots, sliced
- 1/2 c balsamic vinegar
- 8 oz goat cheese (or soft cheese of your choice)
- Kosher salt and pepper, to taste
- Handful of pine nuts (opt)

Directions

- Wash and cut all vegetables. Place in a large bowl or plastic bag.
- Add 1/2 the olive oil, salt and pepper. Mix well. Place in the refrigerator for at least 1 hour.
- If grilling outside, preheat your grill to medium-low and brush grate with olive oil. Place vegetables on grill for 2-4 minutes each side.
- If roasting in the oven, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly coat pan with olive oil and cook until each side has a nice golden brown color.
- While veggies are grilling/roasting, heat balsamic vinegar in saucepan and reduce by at least half.
- Arrange cooked veggies on platter, top with goat cheese and drizzle balsamic vinegar over the top. Add nuts (optional).
- Serve with crunchy bread, soft pita or flat bread.

Submitted by: Denise Lepard, Old Bridge, NJ (Pop. 80,482)

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CLUES

- CROSSWORD**
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| 68 | | | | | | 69 | | | 70 | | |
| 71 | | | | | | 72 | | | 73 | | |
- ACROSS**
1. Food contaminant
 6. Convex and used for cooking
 9. To be obedient
 13. Italy’s renowned actress
 14. “Fat chance!”
 15. Wear away
 16. Mineral made of hydrous silicates of aluminum or potassium, pl.
 17. It opposed British rule
 18. What library does
 19. *Bird of prey
 21. *Indonesian dragon
 23. Perfect score?
 24. Calf-length skirt
 25. Band aid
 28. Bread pocket
 30. *Scorpion’s domain
 35. Amount of work
 37. Ashley Wilkes’ “Twelve ____”
 39. Petrus ____, influential French humanist
 40. Absorbed by
 41. Yuletides
 43. Known for its wine
 44. Set of values
 46. *It eats both water and land based insects
 47. Capital of Ukraine
 48. Get cozy
 50. *Some are on this point of food chain
 52. *Zodiac sign, king of the jungle
 53. Thumbs-up
 55. Before, in verse
 57. *What predators did?
 60. Go places
 63. Politician Palin
 64. Spring mo.
 66. Part of a plane
 68. Pond buildup
 69. Duvel, e.g.
 70. Swelling
 71. Hammer part
 72. Eighty-six
 73. *Used when hunting ducks

- DOWN**
1. “A Nightmare on ____ Street”
 2. Coconut fiber
 3. *Black and white swimmer
 4. Jumped or bounded
 5. Part of a foot
 6. Sound of a fan
 7. Argo propeller
 8. Uniform shade
 9. Sweet sandwich
 10. Fleming’s spy
 11. Taro plant
 12. Word for a nod
 15. Having more elm trees
 20. Tear jerker
 22. Roulette bet
 24. “____ for Ducklings”
 25. *Sagourney Weaver hunted it
 26. Mountain in Italy
 27. Trails
 29. New Mexico art colony
 31. Went under

32. Inbox message
33. Indian coin
34. * ____ lions
36. “Just ____”
38. Prelude to a duel
42. Show contempt
45. Drape with cover
49. ____ out a living
51. Photographed at the doctor’s office
54. One in advertising
56. Elude paying taxes
57. Exhibiting good health
58. Craving
59. Indian cuisine staple
60. *Cretaceous predator
61. Senior manager
62. Car with a bar
63. Tree juice
65. “When We Were Kings” subject
67. Declare

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Come back every week for Crossword and Sudoku!

Jeff Goodwin Plugs for Salmon



Jeff Goodwin shows a recent catch. Photo Courtesy Rooster Tails Fishing Club

The Rooster Tails Fishing Club breakfast meeting will be held on Friday, July, 18 at the Auburn Elks Lodge, 195 Pine St. at Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603. The doors to the Lodge open at 7:00 AM with a fantastic \$12 wide-selection buffet breakfast served at 8:00 AM. The presentation begins at 9:00 AM sharp featuring Jeff Goodwin, USCG licensed guide and owner of Jeff Goodwin's Guide Service. The breakfast meeting is open Jeff Goodwin has been fishing the Pacific Northwest and Northern California rivers for over 25 years. He offers year-round guided sport fishing trips on the Upper Sacramento

River near Redding for salmon, wild rainbow trout, steelhead and striped bass. Jeff's specialty is "plugging" for these powerful, often chrome-bright big salmon. With all the new colors and designs of salmon plugs, the audience will learn which combinations are the most effective ways to rig and fish them. Jeff can accommodate clients at every skill level and will do everything he can to ensure that his clients have a great time on the river.

The 30 year old, 175+-member Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc. is a non-profit organization that meets the third Friday of each

month to educate, entertain, and enhance a fishing experience.

Unlike many bass and fly fishing clubs that concentrate on very specific types of fishing, the Rooster Tails Fishing Club provides a balanced mix of fishing techniques presented by fishing experts targeting a variety of fish species on multiple types of waters. Further information can be found at www.roostertailsfishingclub.org.

For more information on attending Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc. meetings, contact Jim, Club Chairman, at 530-887-0479 or info@roostertailsfishingclub.org. ★



TAMMY (Rated R)
A Film Review by Tim Riley

As far as can be recalled, the last time Susan Sarandon had a starring role in a road-trip movie it was definitely not a comedy. "Thelma & Louise" involved travels in a vintage Ford Thunderbird that ended very badly for its titular characters.

This time around, Sarandon is oddly teamed up with comedic sensation Melissa McCarthy for a road trip full of misadventures, but one that is supposed to be a comedy. Sad to say, even with the considerable presence of McCarthy, "Tammy" does not hit on all comedic cylinders.

Before even the unspooling of the first frame, "Tammy" offers hope and promise of funny things to come. That's because Melissa McCarthy, following hit comedies like "Bridesmaids," "Identity Thief," and "The Heat," knows how to deliver the laughs.

Expectations rise even higher, knowing that McCarthy, in collaboration with her real-life husband Ben Falcone (also the film's director), wrote the screenplay for "Tammy." At this point, it seems like almost a sure thing as California Chrome to win the Triple Crown.

As the titular character, McCarthy's Tammy is a walking disaster. On her way to work at a crummy fast food joint, Tammy has the misfortune of hitting a deer, causing her rusted Corolla to be totaled and eventually consumed by engine fire.

Naturally, arriving late to work, Tammy is summarily fired

Riley Reviews

LAUGHS LIMITED, SUBDUED FOR COMIC MISFORTUNES OF "TAMMY" R

from her job. She throws a tantrum, tossing packets of ketchup at the obnoxious manager and manhandling food items so as to make them inedible, all the while making snide remarks about Topper Jack's.

The trifecta of bad news comes when she arrives home early to find her spouse (Nat Faxon) entertaining the next-door neighbor (Toni Collette) with a romantic dinner. She complains that her louse of a husband never cooked nice meals for her.

Deciding to pack and leave her Illinois hometown, Tammy first visits her mother Deb (Allison Janney), who lives only two doors away. A practitioner of tough-love, Deb refuses to loan a vehicle to Tammy, even her absent father's old pick-up truck.

With no money or wheels, Tammy's only way out of her miserable small town experience is to hook up with her alcoholic and diabetic grandmother Pearl (Susan Sarandon), who just happens to have a roll of cash and a Buick sedan perfect for road travel.

The catch, of course, is that Tammy is now stuck with Grandma Pearl, a randy character who hasn't quite left behind a past of indulging in sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll adventures. Pearl claims to have slept with the wrong member of the Allman Brothers and to have once made a pass at Tammy's father (Dan Aykroyd).

Seeing McCarthy and Sarandon together as members of a family two generations apart, it's hard to see past an age difference not that wide, even though Sarandon's Pearl wears a frizzy wig and has ankles inflamed

to the size of tree trunks.

Thoughts of Johnny Knoxville's "Bad Grandpa" sweep into the mind, as Grandma Pearl does her best to be outrageous, though she doesn't have any body parts stuck in a vending machine. However, she lets herself get seduced in the back of the sedan by an equally randy and drunk Earl (Gary Cole) that she meets at honky-tonk bar.

Meanwhile, as if it to bring a tender, softer touch to the proceedings, Tammy is introduced to Earl's responsible, mature son Bobby (Mark Duplass), who appears shy and reserved, quite the opposite of his freewheeling, boozy father.

Plenty of wacky things happen in this movie. Tammy wrecks an expensive rented jet ski by slamming into a dock. Grandma Pearl ends up in jail on a drug charge, and Tammy unwisely holds up a Topper Jack's to get bail money.

Later on, the duo attempts to destroy all incriminating evidence with the help of Pearl's savvy cousin Lenore (Kathy Bates), who happens to be very wealthy and lives in a lake-side mansion with her partner Susanne (Sandra Oh).

Then there's Lenore's lesbian Fourth of July BBQ bash to which the only non-females to show up are Bobby and Earl. The movie's full of detours, and there's a stint where Tammy ends up in prison for the hold-up and other assorted crimes.

With the help of friends, Tammy and Pearl finally make it to Niagara Falls, where the film's saving grace is that, contrary to some idle chatter, nobody decides to make a jump to the bottom.

"Tammy" is the kind of film that requires a leap of faith in its creative and acting team to have come up with something truly hilarious. Regrettably, it doesn't happen, though there are humorous scenes, which are practically inevitable when you have Melissa McCarthy involved. ★



POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

so many wonderful stories about her life and the greats she worked with and knew as friends.

After the passing of June's very dear friend, mentor, and vocal coach to the stars Barbara Klein, she told me Barbara had encouraged her to tell her stories. She asked if I would help. I hesitantly said yes, but I had no idea it would be a seven year journey to hear all her stories and pick out the pictures and get her memoirs published. It all happened with "Marilyn, Joe and Me" June DiMaggio tells it like it was. June and I remained friends til her passing late on the eve of Marilyn Monroe's birthday June 1. It was so fitting. She dearly loved Marilyn and wanted

I talked with her for just a few minutes every morning just to say hi and how are you, and I will treasure those few moments we had together. We also shared many holidays at my home with family and friends. And June could still belt out a song from her repertoire anytime someone suggested it. She starred in some eleven Sacramento Music Circus productions as well as all her performances in Hollywood on TV and movies. She always enjoyed the Romanian food we prepared, and always had a doggy bag with goodies to take home. June was also a generous and loving friend who always wanted to know how Rick and I were doing, and if we had any medical

LOST TREASURE

I met her in early 1980. How? After I had done a radio show about Marilyn Monroe. I had a guy on who claimed he was married to Marilyn for about two and a half minutes, and then got a quickie dissolution in Mexico. What tales he had to tell about her. After the show, I got a call from this disembodied voice who, in no uncertain terms, told me this guy was full of it! I asked her who she was, and she told me she was Joe DiMaggio's niece and that her mother and father, Tom and Louise owned "DiMaggios" Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco. Her name? June DiMaggio.

I invited her to come on my show and share her side of the story, which she did. Luckily, I had the opportunity to meet her mom and dad when we had dinner with them at "DiMaggios." I say luckily, because her dad passed away later that year. Suffice to say, we became good friends, and oh the stories she had to tell about Marilyn, Joe, and her own life during the glory years of Hollywood. She knew so many stars like Barbara Stanwyck, Ann Sothern, and Carol Channing to name just a few, but especially Marilyn Monroe. She knew Marilyn for some eleven years from the time Joe was dating the starlet until the day she died. She actually saw Marilyn that fateful day. Over the years, I heard

fans to know the lovely Marilyn she called her dear friend, not the sex goddess they all thought she was. June would have been 91 June the eleventh, and I can tell you she lived life to the fullest. She loved to travel and visit with friends, and she dearly loved a party. I am so pleased we got to cruise together a few years back and we traveled the country on tour with our book.

issues, called upon her church to say prayers for us.

June, I will miss your loving smile and your good nature, but I will always be grateful that I knew and loved you my dear friend. You are a lost treasure, but some of that glitter will always remain with me! Rest in peace and sing a song for me in Heaven! ★



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4 - 6pm:	The KAH1 Afternoon News with Mary Jane Popp and the KAH1 News Team
6 - 7pm:	Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp
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12 - 7pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
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8 - 9pm:	Rewind with Jimmy Jay
Sundays	
7:30 - 9am:	Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet
9 - 9:30am:	The Crossroads Radio Show
10 - 11am:	The Dew Sweepers Golf Show
11am - 5pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
5pm - 6pm:	Talk about Guns
7 - 8pm:	A Way With Words
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Two Local Swimmers Placed on 12 and Under National Team

From Placer Valley Tourism

ROCKLIN, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Synchronized Swim Team has placed two of their swimmers on the 12 & Under USA National Synchronized Swim Team. Swimmers Nicole Meza (10) and Noelle Song (11), were chosen out of 150 other swimmers in their age group to try-out for the National Swim Team. In the final stages of tryouts, they competed against 18 other girls at Stanford University on Memorial weekend.

Meza and Song are set and ready to compete with other swimmers from Walnut Creek, Santa Clara, Los Angeles, and Massachusetts at the UANA Pan American Synchronized Swimming Championships in Riverside, CA from August 12th - 17th, 2014. They will compete against other nations such as Brazil, Colombia, and Canada.

Their accomplishments don't stop there. Meza and Song, along with Mackenzie Schoel (11), competed at the Age Group Nationals in Federal Way, WA on June 27th-July 1st and won 1st place in the Trio Finals, and finished 3rd overall in the Duet Finals.

The next step for Meza and Song is to raise \$2,000 so they can compete and train with the National Team at an elite training camp in Riverside. Photo Courtesy Placer County Tourism

Nicole Meza is 10 years old from Sacramento, CA and has been participating in synchronized swimming since she was 6 years old. She has placed at the Age Group Nationals for the last 3 years. This year she took 1st place in every competition she



The next step for Meza and Song is to raise \$2,000 so they can compete and train with the National Team at an elite training camp in Riverside. Photo Courtesy Placer County Tourism

entered including her Solo, her Duet with Song, and Trio performances with Song and Schoel.

Noelle Song is 11 years old from Sacramento, CA and has been participating in synchronized swimming since she was 7 years old. She has also qualified for Age Group Nationals in the past 3 years and has won all of her Duet performances with Meza as well as her Trio

performances with Meza and Schoel.

Placer Valley Tourism [PVT] is made up of the 23 hotels in Roseville, Rocklin and Lincoln, California. PVT recruits and supports hundreds of annual events with grants, marketing, volunteers, and other services as needed. Visit www.playplacer.com or call (916) 773-5400. ★

Lincoln Highway Monument Dedication Ceremony

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - About 60 people gathered in Ophir Thursday morning, June 26, for the dedication of a new Lincoln Highway (U.S. 40) Monument. The ceremony was hosted by the Placer County Water Agency, which placed the monument as part of a major pipeline project along the highway route, which is now known as Ophir Road.

Among those in attendance were PCWA directors Mike Lee, left, and Joshua Alpine, right, holding recognition certificates from local elected officials. They are pictured with Donner Summit's Norm Saylor, a leader in the local effort to preserve Old U.S. 40, and Bob Dieterich, director of the California chapter of the Lincoln Highway Association. Saylor holds a 1956 California license plate presented by the office of U.S. Rep. Doug LaMalfa

Source: Placer County Water Agency



About 60 people gathered in Ophir Thursday morning, June 26, for the dedication of a new Lincoln Highway (U.S. 40) Monument.

Dry Creek 4-H Club: Reaching Out in Roseville through Community Service

ROSEVILLE, CA (MPG) - Placer County 4-H is spreading the word about the positive impact of what our local clubs are doing within their communities. The fourteen clubs of Placer County 4-H all incorporate community service into their efforts towards delivering positive youth development for local communities within Placer County. Dry Creek 4-H Club of Roseville recently had an opportunity for youth to make tie-dyed items and visit the local senior living facility of Alta Manor.

Youth members brought smiles to many seniors and heard numerous stories of the many seniors who participated in 4-H as a youth. In conjunction to regularly visiting seniors, Dry Creek 4-H Club is very active in other community service projects. Youth and adults have participated in the Feed My Starving Children Program, written valentine cards for veterans and seniors, caroled during the holidays, and much more.

Adult Leader Michelle Doty, reflecting on the youth participating in community service, "I believe that if we plant a seed of selflessness and compassion in our kids, you'll be amazed to see the great leaders you sowed. It was very rewarding to me to witness all the acts of kindness the kids had displayed in the project. For example: How they engaged with the elders, bingo games, listening to the stories the elders had shared about their past, card making to tie dyed handkerchiefs. The best part for me was to see the 4-H members and elders grinning from ear to ear."



Dry Creek 4-H Club of Roseville made tie-dyed items and visited the local senior living facility of Alta Manor. The fourteen clubs of Placer County 4-H all incorporate community service into their efforts towards delivering positive youth development for local communities within Placer County. Photo courtesy of UCCE Placer/Nevada County Farm and Home Advisor

Youth Member Janelle Turpin also reflects on her time doing community service, "I am very proud to be part of my 4-H community service project team that is working hard to give back to our community. Helping someone in need is very rewarding and has taught me that every little bit makes a difference."

Source: UCCE Placer/Nevada County Farm and Home Advisor

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Are We Doomed to Polarization?



Commentary By
Lee H. Hamilton

of issues where decisive action may be impossible: abortion, gun control, climate change, a host of budgetary and economic problems, the death penalty, tax reform, immigration, drug laws. These issues don't just divide Congress; they divide the nation, with no clear path forward.

Our admired political system, in other words, is not working well. In Pew's survey, the extremes make up just over a third of the American public, but because they're disproportionately active they drive our politics. The larger, more diverse center can't agree on a direction for the country, but its members are united by their distaste for the tone of politics and the unwillingness of politicians to compromise and break the stalemate. We are not getting the politics we want.

So how do we resolve our dilemma?

There are many procedural steps that can ease the gridlock on Capitol Hill. Among them, the House and Senate could schedule themselves so that they're in session at the same time. Congressional leaders and the President ought to meet at least once a month. Congress needs to work the same five-day week that the rest of us do, and reduce its centralized leadership by empowering committees. Open primaries would help moderate the nation's politics, as would bipartisan redistricting commissions capable of doing away with gerrymandered districts. Increasing voter participation and improving the integrity of our elections would also help. Limiting the Senate filibuster and allowing minority parties in both chambers more of an opportunity to offer amendments, would open up debate and forestall endless stalemates.

But resolving our dilemma is unlikely to happen quickly. It's hard to see either side in this

partisan divide winning or losing decisively in the elections immediately ahead. Even if one party wins both houses in Congress, it's not easy to move when the White House is in the control of another party. With the need for 60 votes in the Senate, the minority party can always find ways to slow things down.

Still, it's worth remembering that American politics is dynamic, not static. Change occurs, sometimes quickly, but more often slowly. We won't forever be this evenly divided, because public opinion will eventually evolve and the system will respond.

Which raises my final point. Even when our frustration with division and discord spills over into impatience with the system itself, our obligations as American citizens remain the same. We face complex problems that don't have simple solutions. They demand a willingness to exercise the values of representative democracy: tolerance, mutual respect, accepting ideological differences, working to build consensus.

Our core values accept that the differences in opinions among us will continue, but also compel us to find a way through them so the country can move forward. By accepting the challenges that come with living in a representative democracy and renewing our confidence in it, we can lay the groundwork for change. In the end, we created our political dilemma and are responsible for working our way through it.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years. ★

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Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored four New York Times best-selling books: *Financial Peace*, *More Than Enough*, *The Total Money Makeover* and *EntreLeadership*. His newest book, written with his daughter Rachel Cruze, is titled *Smart Money Smart Kids*. It will be released April 22nd. *The Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 6 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Dave Says

home pay on a 15-year, fixed-rate mortgage.

When it comes to buying a house, the goal is not to live in the Taj Mahal or have something so expensive you end up being "house poor." When buying a home, especially for first-time homebuyers, you should look for something nice — in a decent area — that you can get paid off as quickly as possible.

It's really not a big deal if you cheat a couple of percentage points one way or the other. But 25 percent is a good rule of thumb to ensure you'll still have money left over to live on, save and invest!

- Dave

Be Very Kind and Very Grateful

Dear Dave,

My mom and dad took out a whole life insurance policy for me when I was born. The cash value is \$2,500, and my husband and I want to cash it out and put the money toward paying off debt. We already have larger term life insurance policies in place, but I'm worried that doing this will offend my parents. What should I do?

- Laura

Dear Laura,

I think the real question is how many toxic things will you do

because you're afraid you might offend them. Whole life policies are financially toxic. They're a bad product, and keeping it for no better reason than it might hurt their feelings a little bit isn't much of a reason — especially when the alternative is paying down debt and getting your financial life in order.

I know this is mom and dad we're talking about, so you'll have to be nice about everything. But at the same time, your parents have to realize it's your life and you make the decisions. Try sitting down with them and gently explaining that while you appreciate and love them for their generosity, you're going to cash it out and use it to get out of debt. Let them know you're not wasting their gift, and that you're using it to make a positive impact on your lives.

You're not doing anything disrespectful, Laura. Just be very clear about the reason and loving with your explanation. Then, if they chose to become a little emotional or resentful, that's on them. If they get really upset and want the money back, you can do that too. But getting your financial house in order is much more important than hanging on to a bad financial product you don't need in the first place.

- Dave

*For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com. ★

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- Ryan

Dear Ryan,

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