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Is There Anything to Celebrate on the Fourth?

By John Horvat II

The cloudy day set the mood for the Fourth of July barbeque. It was a family get-together but there was not much family to get together. Several members were too far away to come; others were on cruises. There were a few absent because they were no longer family since some marriages had turned ugly.

But the barbecue was lively as people gathered around the picnic tables eating plenty of ribs, potato salad, corn-on-the-cob and fixings. Not everything was homemade, much less homegrown — there was simply no time for that. As the night progressed, a discussion arose. Almost everyone agreed that Fourth of July was not what It used to be so happy. Everyone

could remember the times when they would get together and there would be plenty of food, conversation, outdoor games and fireworks. It was a real celebration. Now everyone seemed to be complaining about everything.

"The problem is big government!" one exclaimed. "We need to just get rid of big government and that will solve everything."

"It's taxes! That's what killing us. We need to cut taxes across the board. I can't make my new car payments, student loans or pay my mortgage."

"I can't make it anymore on my Social Security," an older baby boomer chimed in. "It's not

And so each had their own grievances, some complaining about too much government and others claiming not enough benefits.

At the end, someone made the comment that, with this government, there really wasn't that much to celebrate this Fourth of



A family of patriots watches a Fourth of July parade. Photo courtesy of Susan Skinner.

July.

With that, there was a lull in the conversation that left everyone uneasy. Some took advantage of the awkward interval to check their emails on their iPhones or make small talk. And as the talk died down, the grandfather unexpectedly spoke up.

He was now a frail old man, a World War II veteran who had known hard times and good times; economic depression and happy days. He had difficulty getting around and spent a lot of his days thinking and praying.

Now he stood before them with an air of dignity saying: "Yes, government has changed. But you

know something, we've changed,

"When I was growing up, families looked after their own members. We didn't need or want handouts. We managed, even if we didn't have the latest gadgets or the best car. When there were problems, everyone pitched in. Times were hard, but we were happier.

"Today, it's all about money. Back then, money didn't rule everything. People had honor. They were faithful to their spouses and family. People weren't afraid to be leaders and accept responsibility.

We knew the difference darkness was falling and lightning

between our government and our country. Politicians are one thing and America is another. Today, people treat our county like a corporation where they expect only dividends. When the going gets tough, everyone abandons her and sells off their shares. That's not right.

"No, America should be more like a family. When the family's in trouble, everyone pitches in.

I pitched in. I served my country because America is my country and I love her. Many of my buddies served too ... and some didn't return."

A silence hung over the area as

bugs were starting to appear.

The old man still continued: "I'm sorry for rambling on but I've been thinking a lot about this lately. We need to turn to God again. We used to say 'give us this day our daily bread' now everyone turns to the government - they don't even know how to ask God for things - or what to ask for.

"We complain about government but we've become just like the government we criticize. We've got the government we deserve. We should get our own ships in shape. We need to return to order."

Continued on Page 3

Knights of Columbus Fundraiser Generates \$2,500 for The Soldiers Project/Sacramento

ROSEVILLE – By honoring dear, old dad and enjoying a hearty breakfast, nearly 260 people raised \$2,500 for the local chapter of The Soldiers Project and increased awareness of the organization's heartfelt mission.

The record crowd turned out at St. Clare Catholic Church in Roseville for a Father's Day pancake breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus. "We normally serve between

120 and 130 guests for our monthly pancake breakfast," said Deputy Grand Knight Richard "Ricco" Ches, who helped organize the event. "Sunday we sold 258 tickets!"

Ches reported that \$1,100 of the amount raised came from ticket sales and \$1,400 resulted from

Becca Bettis, program director for The Soldiers Project/ Sacramento and Greater Placer, praised the St. Clare Knights of



Richard "Ricco" Ches, deputy grand knight of the St. Clare Council Knights of Columbus, shows off the certificate of appreciation awarded by The Soldiers Project/Sacramento and Greater Placer. TSP program director Becca Bettis, left, made the presentation at a Father's Day pancake breakfast hosted by the Knights to benefit TSP. Photo by

Columbus and the Sunday morning diners for their enthusiastic

"What a great event!" she said, expressing appreciation for the significant donation raised. "The money is fantastic, but more importantly getting the word out on both of our organizations, having positive recognition - that's what makes it all worthwhile."

Founded locally in 2008, TSP is a non-profit organization that provides free psychotherapy to active-duty military members and veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families. TSP's volunteer therapists – nearly 50 of them working in an eight-county region – focus on the treatment of post-traumatic stress and the symptoms of traumatic brain injury, problems that can arise long after veterans leave the service and come

One of the 258 diners who attended Sunday's pancake breakfast was Assemblywoman



Assemblyperson Beth Gaines (R-Rocklin), right, and her field representative Jeff Short spoke with two Soldiers Project volunteers, Art Robinson, seated left, and Carolyn Fink. Gaines praised the Knights of Columbus for recognizing the great work being done by The Soldiers Project. Photo by

Beth Gaines, R-Rocklin, who stopped in for a visit with her field representative Jeff Short. Gaines praised the Knights of Columbus for recognizing the great work being accomplished by The Soldiers Project.

For more information about

The Soldiers Project/Sacramento and its programs, visit www.tspsacramento.org. To be connected with a therapist, call locally 916-792-3728 or toll-free 877-557-5888 or e-mail Sacramento@ The Soldiers Project.org.

'Techies" to Attend Math/Science Camp



Pictured are from the top, L to R Alyse Sibley and Christine Tadlock Cassidy Andrasz, Paloma Acquistapace, Jamie Stroud and Alexandra Mantsch. Not shown, Rebecca Fenner and Alexis Heuer.

By Robin Martinez Rice

PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - American Association of University Women is pleased to announce that eight girls from area middle schools have been chosen to attend Tech Trek Science Camp for Girls. Tech Trek is a summer program for girls entering 8th grade who will get a preview of college life while learning that math and science can be fun. The eight girls selected from this area will live on the University of California, Davis campus which is opening its doors to this program for the first time. They will attend classes taught by credentialed teachers featuring hands-on experiments. Women who are professionals in the fields of math, science, and

technology will be guest presenters. AAUW volunteers serve as camp directors, health aides and chaperones.

Teachers nominate students to attend the camp and the local branch of AAUW provides the funding and makes the final selection of the attendees. AAUW has been supported in this endeavor by several local community organizations and foundations. The Auburn Branch of AAUW would like to thank the community for supporting the Chocolate Tasting in February and the Trivia Bee in March which help to fund Tech Trek as well as the many individuals, both members and friends of AAUW who made donations, both large and small which made it possible for us to send eight girls this summer.

The first Tech Trek was held at Stanford University in 1998, with initial funding from the AAUW Educational Foundation. This year there will be ten camps, including CSU-Fresno, Sonoma State University, UC-Davis, Stanford (2 camps) UC-Irvine, UC-San Diego, UC-Santa Barbara (2 camps) and Whittier College. Tech Trek is continuing proof that AAUW puts its mission - to support equity and education for all women and girls - into action.

To support programs like Tech Trek or to learn more about the AAUW, please contact Tech Trek Coordinator, CONTACT Carol Waechter at waechterc@ aol.com or by phone at 530-367-

Delta Planners Are Not Considering Upstream Water Needs

AUBURN, CA (MPG) --Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (June 20) voiced concerns that proposed solutions to problems of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta could bring serious impacts to upstream communities including Placer County.

PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs Einar Maisch said Bay-Delta planners have so far shown little understanding of upstream issues involving reservoir storage levels, water supplies and hydroelectric power production.

Maisch and General Manager David Breninger said that efforts to solve environmental issues in the overused Delta and ship more water to the south could impact water supplies across Northern California.

Maisch recommended that the agency's continued advocacy for the protection of Placer County water supplies be stepped up. He suggested funding for stream flow modeling studies, more public outreach,

collaboration with other agencies Creek, which runs for 33 miles on a response to the current Bay Delta Conservation Plan environmental impact report (EIR), and advance preparation for participation in region wide legal action.

Directors took no action on the request but instructed staff to continue to track the Delta process and prepare the agency's response. Further consideration and board action is anticipated in coming weeks.

In other business, directors:

• heard a briefing from Director of Technical Services Brian Martin on the agency's longrange water development plans. Martin said land development is resuming in the county after five years of slow growth and that he and his staff must be prepared to meet future water demand.

• heard a presentation from members of Save Auburn Ravine Salmon and Steelhead (SARSAS) on continuing efforts to reintroduce the fish to the upper reaches of Auburn Ravine

from Auburn to the Sacramento River.

· welcomed Beth O'Brien of The Auburn Journal and Gold Country Media who presented copies of the 2013 "Fire & Water" newspaper supplement of which PCWA is a sponsor. The publication, which is being distributed through much of western Placer County, includes valuable information on watershed protection, water supply and fire prevention.

The PCWA Board of Directors will next meet in adjourned session at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, 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. PCWA information is also posted at www.pcwa.net.

Source: PCWA

Auburn Aviation Association to Meet July 10th

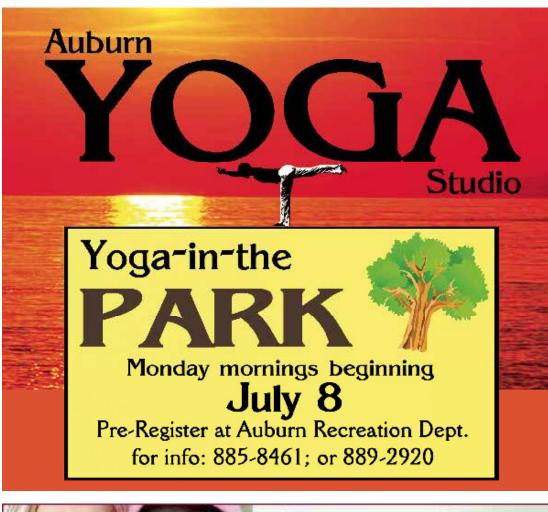
AUBURN, CA (MPG) -The attend. This meeting will be held Auburn Aviation Association will hold it's monthly dinner meeting at 6:00PM, Wed, July 10, at the Auburn Airport terminal building located at the end of New Airport Road. Anyone who has an interest in aviation or the local aviation scene is invited to

on the second Wednesday of July, so it will not overlap with Independence Day festivities.

Our speaker for the July meeting is Richard Kaufman, PhD, who will speak about his flight experience in the Korean war, flying a carrier-based AD

Skyraider. Dr Kaufman became a close friend of the author James Michener and is in his book, The Bridges of Toko-Ri.

Guests are welcome. For additional information, contact Bob Ferber at 530 885 1706





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It is the intent of the Placer Sentinel to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. We consider our Editorial and Opinion pages to be a public forum for our readers. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.



Publisher Paul V. Scholl First Issue of July 2013 Placer Sentinel • 3

Auburn AAUW Awards \$1000 Scholarships to Five Local Students AVOUND TOWN



AUBURN, CA (MPG) - The Auburn Branch of AAUW recently awarded \$1000 scholarships to four local high school graduates and one Sierra College re-entry woman. Pictured are Kellyn McDonald from Placer High, Amy Neideffer from Del Oro, and Deborah Dahl, re-entry student at Sierra College. Not pictured are Samantha Saccomanno from Colfax and Kelly Schostag from Del Oro. Applications for AAUW scholarships are available each spring through local high school and Sierra College counseling departments. For more information visit Auburn AAUW at www.auburnaauw.org. Source: Robin Martinez Rice

Is There Anything to Celebrate on the Fourth?

Continued from Page 1

The silence was now complete and everyone became pensive. The old man settled down in his lawn chair still apologizing for rambling on. Everyone in their heart knew that he was right.

At that moment, a rocket soared into the night and burst in air and the darkness was lit by a marvelous display of light and a mighty boom. There was

something grand about the way the fireworks exploded that stirred the hearts of those who watched and filled them with awe and pride. At least for an instant, they forgot about their own problems, and celebrated that special something called America.

John Horvat II is a scholar, researcher, educator, international speaker and author "Return to Order: From a Frenzied Economy to an

Organic Christian Society -Where We've Been, How We Got Here and Where We Need to Go," (www.returntoorder. org). His writings have appeared worldwide, including The Wall Street Journal, FOX News, The Christian Post, The Washington Times, ABC News and C-SPAN.

For more than two decades he has been researching and writing about the socio-economic crisis in the United States.





Labor Day Weekend - August 30th - September 2nd 2013 Marriott Hotel - Ranche Cordeva, CA - Highway 50 & Sundse Blvd.

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with Loyce Smallwood

continue to prevail in our Auburn hamlet where the Marketplace of Auburn Gallery continues to shine with outstanding arts and crafts including Marty Huber's custom planters and outdoor accessories including the carved calico cat-- repurposed from redwood fence boards--now happily overlooking the Smallwood vegetable garden.

Check out the gallery at 1462 Canal Street and immerse yourself in a stunning array of arts/ crafts including hand-carved gourds/Native American art/jewelry/needlecrafts and ceramics. Cross Highway 49 and drop off your gently used clothing/accessories/housewares and decor to our fav thrift shop, Assistance League thrift,1263 GV Highway in the Fiddler Green Center where the outgoing/dedicated volunteers are always at the ready to help sell donated goods and contribute back to our community needs.

Mark the calendar for Friday, August 2, starting at 9am for the huge parking lot Back to School Blowout including brand names, all for just \$2.00. Early July should see the reopening of our fav bakery--LaBou --around the bend in the Victorian Village Center where owners Tong/ Arlene and staff have been working day/night to restore our breakfast/lunch experience.

Across the way you'll enjoy the vintage shopping experience at Too Much Stuff where the choices are tempting; service friendly and inventory varied. Smooth out those body kinks and sign up with our fav Yoga Maven--Gwenn Jones--who continues to give forth at Auburn Yoga, also in the center down from LaBou.

Platinum Sentinel Stars to Avon beauty consultant Maria

Great variety and swift service and friendly service and knowhow to her many long-time customers includes Yours Truly. Contact Scoggins at 530-823-

Additional Sentinel Stars to skilled handyman Mike Kelley who saved the day with solid fence repair for the Smallwoods. And thanks also to Big Bob O'Brien for prompt service to the Smallwood plumbing and to Gold Rush Subaru, thumbs up for transportation to and fro and for the speedy turnaround for the Subaru repair.

Gratitude, also, tossed out to PC Expert Matt Cummins for his ongoing support and expertise. Appreciation sent to friendly Caroline Navarro at Avantgarden nursery on High Street DT where Caroline is always smiling and helpful with gardening tips/advice. Check out new and



exotic orchids and garden art including creations from local

Indulge across the street at Pellican's Roost where those shrimp tacos and tangy coleslaw continue to satisfy. Donate your gently used books/CDs/ DVDs and magazines to Friends bookstore--proceeds going to homeless felines-- at Raley's Center adjacent to the Foresthill Exit and, also in the Raley's Center, shop for your crafting/art supplies from the alluring selection at Dawn's Hallmark where the well-trained staff are friendly and attentive in this well-stocked, inviting store.

Dine/donate/shop and delight, sending comments to loycer@ suddenlink.net



Avon beauty consultant Maria Scoggins who continues to provide a variety of quality products and friendly service and know-how to her many long-



Tickets are available @ Fistey Fiste's Round Table Pizza Ticket Office or Ticketmaster.

A Little Carnival Inspiration Can Help Cruise Hold-Outs



The Carnival Inspiration offers three- and four-day cruises out of Long Beach every week. Photo by David Dickstein.

By David Dickstein

"Too expensive." "Sounds boring." "I get seasick." "I'll be claustrophobic." Nearly 80 percent of American adults have never been on a luxury cruise, according to the Cruise Lines International Association, citing these and other reasons for snubbing the chance to live the high life on the high seas. A lingering sour economy and sporadic news reports of norovirus outbreaks and ships losing power, sometimes running adrift for days, don't help the cause.

Even with all this baggage, what a shame that so many people are missing the boat. Once the \$23 billion cruising industry gets away from the front page and back to the travel section where it belongs, this avid cruiser hopes the most ardent of holdouts can join the club of converts as I did a decade ago with an unforgettable Alaskan cruise. Cruise No. 12 is just weeks away for this former land-only traveler.

As for concerns over claustrophobia, seasickness or boredom that are preventing some of the resistant from stretching their inner sea legs - true, a cabin can feel cramped, but the hope is to

spend little time there. True, nausea caused by rocking on water has been named the leading reason people don't cruise. Actually, the vast majority of cruises experience smooth sailing, but if the motion of the ocean is of great concern, consider spending a few dollars more for a stateroom located mid-ship and over-the-counter remedies exist. As for boredom, if people suffer from that while aboard these floating resorts, it's their own fault. Entertainment is omnipresent practically around the clock.

Not convinced? Then here's a suggestion for the uninitiated: Consider taking a short, easy and affordable cruise out of Long Beach or, starting in September, San Pedro. If you hate it, you've squandered only 3 or 4 days and a few hundred discretionary dollars. Like it, and the bug that bites you may cause serious swelling -- to your travel budget, that is.

But first things first for a firsttimer. After all, a fare of several thousands of dollars and being on water for too long a spell right out of the gate -- make that port -might be too much, too soon. For about \$400, less or more depending on such factors as the location

of the cabin and date of the sail, nautical novices can take a 3or 4-day introductory course to cruising in a classroom called the Carnival Inspiration. Through at least April 2015, the 2,052-passenger liner sets sail on Fridays for 3-day cruises to Ensenada and Mondays for 4-day voyages that make an additional call at Avalon on Catalina Island.

Take the shortest of the cruises. which I recently did with an old college buddy while the wives stayed home. These 3-day escapes pack pretty much all the on-ship activities of a longer Carnival sail, right down to the one formal night in the dining room. It's lobster and prime rib for everyone, and don't feel guilty asking for seconds. Or thirds. Really, it's OK. The food, thanks to Chef Jorg and his 100 cooks humming in the Inspiration's galley, was better than what I've eaten on many longer cruises.

Quickie cruises can serve as a parent's getaway as adult time is guaranteed with Camp Carnival, which offers organized fun for children by age group. While the supervised kidlets are swooshing down the 4-story, 300-foot-long Twister Water Slide, grown-ups while basking in a panoramic view off the bow. All that and unlimited food 24/7 is included in the price of the cruise, as is practically everything else outside the spa, casino, bars and shops.

Here's what a typical 3-dayer looks like aboard the *Inspiration*, which since October 2011 has sailed under the command of personable Capt. Pierluigi Lanaro, an Italian-born Southern California transplant who has been with Carnival for 37 years.

Friday is embarkation, a usually painless process, and upon boarding most people head to Deck 10 for a lavish multi-cultural buffet. Newbies are encouraged to take the guided tour of the ship to help get their bearings. After the mandatory safety briefing, the ship and the more fun-seeking passengers -the ones who give "booze cruises" their name -- truly come alive. Hang out with the party animals in the bars and nightclub. Or don't. Roll the dice with excited gamblers when the casino is open. Or don't. The *Inspiration* is by no means the largest ship in Carnival's fleet, but there's always lesser degrees of merriment at hand if that's more your speed. Other sail day highlights include karaoke, trivia, rum cake sampling, a dance lesson, sing-along piano music, bingo and a teaser show on the main stage.

Saturday is mostly spent docked in Baja's third-largest city. As destinations go, Ensenada isn't all that inviting or exciting. It's known for one super grande Mexican flag waving atop a 500-foot-high pole, shops carrying real Cuban cigars, a waterspout and a couple of popular cantinas. Strolling up and down touristy Ave Lopez Mateos is generally meh and so are the cruise-organized shore excursions. Several tours are built around a visit to La Bufadora, a natural blowhole. There are advantages to staying on a ship or returning early on port days, especially when a port is blah. Swimming, soaking and sunbathing during these offpeak hours are idyllic for those looking to relax, and the spa often runs port day specials. Evening

can work up a sweat at the gym entertainment includes stand-up comedy and a production show called "Fiesta Latina." First-timers are often surprised by the use of pyrotechnics and a live band, at least for the time being (read on).

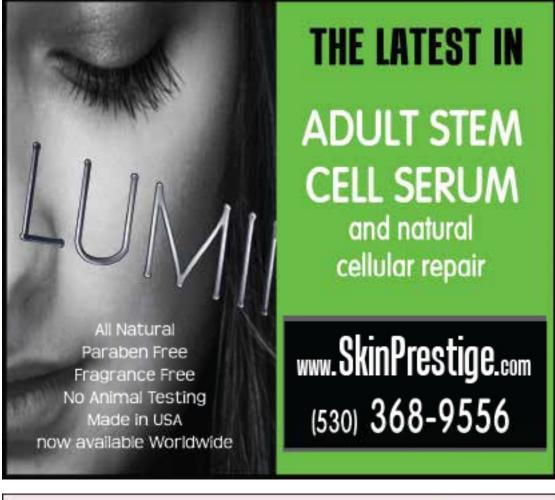
As the only full day at sea, Sunday has a jam-packed schedule. The 1 o'clock hour, alone, has five activities going on in different parts of the ship, presenting a serious dilemma for art-loving men with hairy chests who know their classic rock trivia and have a child dreaming of building his or her own teddy bear while doing Pilates. Opting for the art auction gets you free glasses of champagne and an education in art appreciation. Booze cruises don't usually bring out deep-pocketed serious buyers, but good deals can be found with a timely bid and a quality art auctioneer. The handembellished Duave giclee I won with Charles Warren's bang of the gavel arrived in perfect shape from Park West Gallery. Before passengers pack for the next morning's disembarkation (wait until sunup and you could miss out on breakfast), they are treated to more stand-up comedy and "Shout," the quintessential cruise ship revue. A mish-mash of choreography, music covering country, rock, gospel, surf, Motown, '50s do-wop and '60s psychedelic, an audience-participatory "Macarena," fireworks -- the only thing missing from this musical smorgasbord are tunes recorded after 1996.

Because everything is so new and exciting, first-time cruisers may not notice what's tired and dated about the Inspiration, one of the oldest ships in Carnival's fleet, but much of that is already being addressed by the cruise line. The Inspiration, which had its maiden voyage in 1996 and hasn't been refurbished since 2007, will be in dry dock for two weeks in November to receive "Fun Ship 2.0" upgrades. After tapping toes for nearly seven years, both "Shout" and "Fiesta Latina" are retiring in favor of new revues from Playlist Productions. Fresh shows are welcome, though we'll see if show-savvy LA audiences

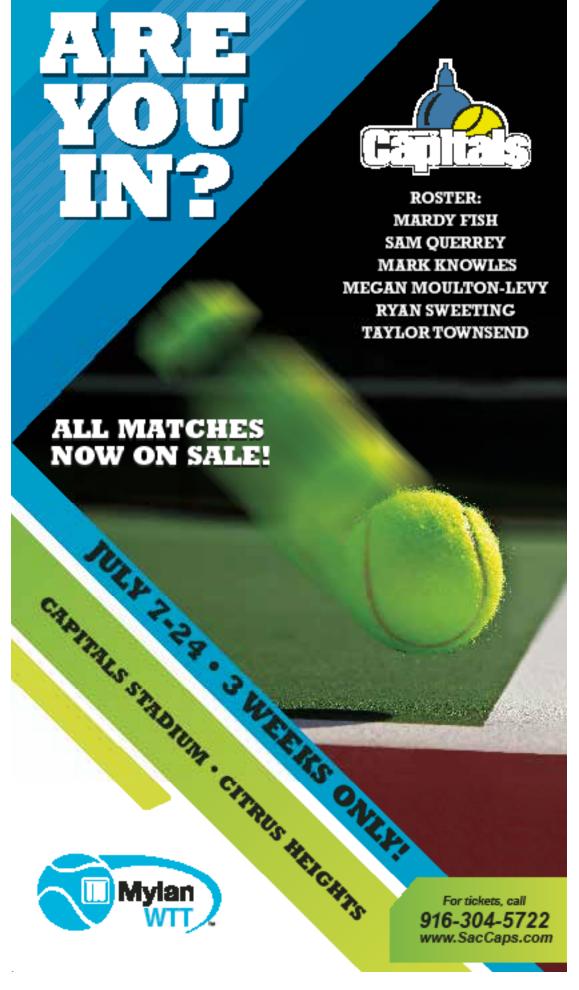
embrace the smaller cast and canned music that are part of the fleet-wide retooling of the main stage productions. Upgrades to the Punchliner Comedy Club include TV personality and comedian George Lopez welcoming audiences with pre-recorded voice and video messages as part of his responsibilities as Carnival's new "curator of comedy." Also coming is "Hasbro, The Game Show," an audience-participatory stage version of six popular games from the toymaker, including "Monopoly," "Yahtzee" and "Sorry." Aesthetic and mechanical repairs that can only be done in dry dock also are scheduled.

The first sailing of the newly renovated Inspiration is set for Nov. 22. Two months later the ship will be joined in Long Beach by her year-older Fantasy Class sister. Starting in late January, several months after being dry docked for Fun Ship 2.0 upgrades, the Carnival Imagination will make identical three- and four-day roundtrip runs on Thursdays and Sundays, respectively. Not to be shut out on the SoCal booze cruise market, Carnival's slightly pricier brand, Princess Cruises, is sending the Golden Princess to San Pedro from late September through early December for 3-day trips to Ensenada and a four-day that adds stopovers to either Santa Barbara or Avalon depending on the sail.

The cruise industry is making the graduation to more extensive cruises easy for Southern Californians. The 2,124passenger Carnival Miracle, a 9-year-old ship that will undergo Fun Ship 2.0 upgrades in 2015, will operate seven-day Mexican Riviera and 15-day Hawaii programs seasonally out of Long Beach from October through April 2014. From San Pedro, a dozen other cruise lines offer an array of voyages lasting a week and longer. The most extravagant currently being booked is a 116-day world cruise on the ultra-luxury Seabourn Sojourn. Brochure price: \$196,799. A booze cruise this ain't.







First Issue of July 2013



PLACER COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Superior Court of Placer County is announcing a return to normal operating hours at its clerks' offices beginning July 5, 2013.

In October 2012, the court reduced hours at the filing windows by two hours each Friday due to the ongoing State fiscal crisis and resulting funding cuts to the court. While the funding crisis for all California courts continues, the Legislature has included some limited restoration of funding in the Budget Act for fiscal year 2013/2014. The Legislature has asked that courts use this funding to restore or

Superior Court of Placer County Announces Change in Office Hours

preserve access to justice to the funding to be used to restore greatest extent feasible. We are optimistic Governor Brown will sign the Budget Act and retain this limited restoration.

The restored funding of \$60 million does not fully address the fiscal crisis facing the Judicial Branch or the Superior Court of Placer County in particular. The California superior courts are facing \$261 million in funding cuts effective July 1, 2013, along with \$48 million in unfunded cost increases. The additional \$60 million included in the Budget Act, while helpful and needed, reduces the impact of those cuts and unfunded costs but does not erase the fiscal challenges facing the court.

In recognition of the restoration of funding and the Legislature's desire for the

access to justice, the court is returning clerk's office hours to normal on Fridays beginning July 5, 2013.

"We are pleased to be able to announce a return to normal hours starting July 5," said Presiding Judge Alan V. Pineschi, "However, the ongoing funding reductions of the past several years leave the court with a structural deficit. We are hopeful that additional funding is made available to avoid these types of measures which reduce the public's access to the court."

For current clerk's office hours at each Superior Court of Placer County courthouse please see the court's website at www.placer. courts.ca.gov.

Source: Superior Court of Placer County



A Film Review by Tim Riley

WORLD WAR Z

(Rated PG-13)

The fact that World War Z is rated PG-13 may be more informative than the film's advertising about the frightening aspects of a global zombie invasion. Most zombie films are full of blood and gore.

World War Z, directed by Marc Forster, relies on suspense and gnawing tension the zombie contagion spreads quickly into an almost irreversible apocalyptic demise of the Earth.

This is not George A. Romero's Night of the Living Dead. It's not even what Quentin Tarantino would likely envision if he had the chance. The use of blood and gore is

The film opens with Brad Pitt's Gerry Lane, a retired United Nations investigator and global troubleshooter, making breakfast for his wife Karen (Mireille Enos) and two young daughters.

The morning TV news talks about a rabies outbreak in some desolate region of the globe. Nothing appears to be completely out of the ordinary, but we are left waiting for the proverbial shoe to drop, and it soon does.

All hell breaks loose during the morning rush-hour drive in downtown Philadelphia, as Gerry chauffeurs his family. At first, police helicopters cruise above and motorcycle cops rush through the streets.

Riley **Reviews**

ZOMBIE ATTACK IN "WORLD WAR Z" THRILLS WITH LITTLE GORE

Then complete panic and havoc reigns, as cars are overturned and hordes of zombies chase down pedestrians and pull people from their cars. The transformation to the undead state takes only a matter of seconds.

Gerry's experience with terrorism in global hotspots like Chechnya and Africa serves him well in getting his family to temporary safety outside the city.

His former employers beseech him to join their efforts to battle the zombie plague. But first, there's the terrifying matter of trying to reach a safe zone in Newark for a helicopter extraction.

Once onboard an aircraft carrier in the Atlantic Ocean, Gerry's family is granted sanctuary as long as Gerry agrees to join a task force to hunt down the source of the contagion.

Now bearded and long-haired, Gerry looks more like a surfer than the savior of the human race. There's no explanation as to why he's the essential guy to do a job that would seem to require scientific or medical training.

Nevertheless, Gerry is immediately dispatched to an Army base in South Korea, where it is suspected the outbreak began. Meanwhile, North Korea figured out a way to address the threat, one that would be a boon for dentures.

Apparently, zombies are stirred to action at the sound of the slightest bit of noise, and so Gerry barely makes it back on to his plane and safely out of

His next destination is Israel, a country that is faring well, for

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the moment, in the war against the undead – particularly in the walled city of Jerusalem.

In what looks like the siege of an ancient medieval city, the zombie attack on Jerusalem where the sheer number of the undead allows a pyramid of bodies to breach the wall – is one of the film's most chilling action pieces.

Gerry teams up with brave, yet wounded, female Israeli soldier Segen (Daniella Kertesz) to get to the airport, catching the last commercial flight out of a city that is rapidly falling into the clutches of the flesh-eating zombies.

With the help of his new colleague, Gerry is hoping to make it to a remote World Health Organization (WHO) facility, where reportedly a group of scientists have isolated themselves from other colleagues already infected.

The airplane ride turns out to be another exciting action piece, which is better left as a surprise. I will say, however, that riding first-class is a better idea than coach.

Okay, a very implausible thing occurs, but Gerry and Segen - against all odds make it to the WHO's medical research facility, where the key to saving the human race may be found in a lab occupied by zombies.

The trick, of course, is for Gerry to figure out a way to sneak into an undead-infested facility to retrieve toxic substances that may, or may not, prove effective in repelling the zombies.

Interestingly, the film's climax doesn't fit the chaotic, action-filled sequences that came before, when the fight against the zombies involved plenty of brute force.

And yet, World War Z

sustains its thrilling suspense to the very end. In fact, when Gerry inoculates himself and stares down a zombie madly clicking its teeth, the scene is just as exciting.

Farm Bill Falls Short, Future of Plan in Question

WASHINGTON, DC Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) and the vast majority of House Republicans on June 20th supported the 2013 Farm Bill reform package, which eliminated direct payments of subsidies to farmers, modernized supplemental nutrition and would have reduced spending by over \$40 Billion. The bill failed 195-234 on the house floor after two days of debate and votes on over 100 amendments.

"I am disappointed in the vote today," said Rep LaMalfa. "This proposal was the most significant reform in farm policy and nutrition since the mid-nineties. The bill eliminated direct subsidy payments, included a hard cap on total costs to taxpayers, and brought accountability and modernization into both the farm and food stamp programs."

The current farm bill extension expires in September and will



Congressman Doug LaMalfa

dramatically increase spending, as the law reverts to 1940's farm policy which placed strict price controls on many crops and would dramatically increase food prices for every American.

"This bill was not perfect, but it contained significant reforms and major spending reductions," continued Rep. LaMalfa. "Tomorrow we will continue the fight for a farm bill, because reverting to

anyone." Should the 1949 law go into

effect, Americans will see the

the 1940's isn't a good result for

Wheat prices will jump to a minimum of \$13.13/ bushel, a 238% increase over the proposed 2013 bill. This would cause drastic increases in prices for bread, cereal and other staples.

Milk prices would, at minimum, double from current in-store prices.

Soil and water conservation efforts would cease.

Substantial, across-the-board limits in food production leading to dramatic reductions of exports.

Congressman Doug LaMalfa is a lifelong farmer representing California's First Congressional District including Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou and Tehama Counties.

Senator Nielsen Issues Statement on Three-Judge Panel

20th on the early release of This Three-Judge Panel is telland local laws. The arrogance of these judges is outrageous. "This Three-Judge Panel is overstepping their authority. They are putting themselves above the executive and legislative branches, and more importantly, the people of this

SACRAMENTO – State Senator state. "There are other solutions. Jim Nielsen (R-Gerber) issued Compromising justice and pubthe following statement June lic safety are not solutions. "The safety of every Californian is put nearly 10,000 prisoners ordered at risk by this irresponsible deciby the Three-Judge Panel: sion, and it must be challenged." ### Senator Jim Nielsen repreing the Governor to ignore state sents the Fourth Senate District, which includes the counties of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity and Yuba. To contact Senator Nielsen, please call him at 916-651-4004, or via email at senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov.



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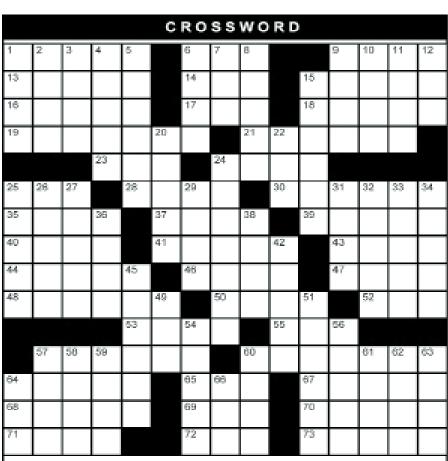
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CLUES

ACROSS

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- something 13. Quickly fry
- 14. Lennon's wife
- 15. Welsh dog breed
- 16. "That is," in Latin
- 17. Like arctic air
- of the law 18. Run
- 19. *Like the July 4th holiday 21. *March for the community
- 23. Be unwell
- 24. Boot
- 25. Triple 28. Treble
- 30. *Subject of Nathan's contest
- 35. Turkey dance
- 37. German composer Carl
- 39. *The whistle or crack of a
- firework 40. Dwarf buffalo

- 41. *"To prove this, let Facts

- - "Modern Family"
 - 71. Do over

 - 73. Don't take one's eyes off

- be submitted to a candid
- 43. Armor chest plate 44. Tear into shreds
- 46. *What fireworks do before
- exploding 47. Takes to court
- 48. Scraps
- 50. Def Leppard's "Rock of
- 52. Plays for pay 53. Be inclined
- 55. Hole punching tool
- 57. Mozambique's neighbor 60. *What we celebrate on
- the 4th
- 64. Lace loop 65. Australian runner
- 67. Moiave plant
- 68. Friend in a sombrero
- 69. Mitch's significant other on
- 70. Concentration of a solution
- 72. It's of the beholder?

- 25. *Symbolic of states
- 26. Bert's roommate
- 27. Take over, in a way
- 31. Three on sloth

- DOWN 1. "Dream on!" 2. Commanded 3. Wished undone
- 4. *Where French navy
- helped colonists battle British
- 5. Kind of unit
- 7. Mandela's organization 8. Beaver-like South American
- 9. Family room staple
- 10. Poking instrument 11. Fit of shivering
- 12. Not a thing
- of milk
- 20. Give permission 22. Campfire leftover
- 24. Like a dune buggy
- 29. Aphrodite's son
- 32. Excavate
- 33. Basketry stick

- 34. Canvas prep 36. Like a bow string 38. *Old Glory 42. Disconsolate
- salad
- 49. *Ross did this well
- 51. Gvm rat's garb
- 54. Daughter of a sibling 56. In accordance with law
- 57. One of no words
- 58. Battery fluid 59. Apple's apple, e.g.
- 60. Be furious
- 61. It's often crunched 62. Done
- 63. Insignificant 64. Golfer's goal
- 66. "I wish I ____, I wish I might..."

For Solution See Page 7

Dave Ramsey is America's most trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four New York Times best-selling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover and EntreLeadership. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 5,000,000 listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

No Deal Broken

Dear Dave,

Our son is about to graduate from law school. He took out a loan to cover the cost, but we've been paying on it for two years to help him out. Right now, the balance on the loan is about \$76,000. We could continue paying it off, but my husband is hesitant. How do you feel about this situation?

- Patty

Dear Patty,

It's not a bad thing if you guys decide to continue helping him out by paying off the rest of the loan. But I don't want you to feel as if you're obligated in any way. No deal has been broken here, and you haven't reneged on a previous agreement. But there's absolutely nothing wrong with a young lawyer earning a living and paying off his own debt. He can roll up his sleeves and clean up the mess he participated in making.

If you do decide to pay it off, that's an incredibly generous gift. In my mind, it should be met with much gratitude and appreciation. It should also be accompanied by a signed letter of agreement from him stating that he will never, except in the case of a 15-year, fixed rate mortgage,

Dave Says

borrow money again.

In other words, I'd want to see some kind of permanent commitment and recognition of the fact that you guys have changed your family tree. I'd want this kid to be affected in a deep and profound way by this gift; so much that his kids would also be affected in a positive way by your behavior and by his in the years to come!

- Dave

No Downside...if

Is there a downside to refinancing your home often? - Katrina

Dear Katrina,

There's really no downside to this, as long as each time you do a refinance you lower your interest rate enough to allow you to recoup closing costs before you move. In other words, you have to first make sure the numbers

First, calculate the amount of money you'll save as a result of a refinance. The way to do this is by multiplying the interest difference by your loan balance. If you have a \$200,000 mortgage on a 5 percent loan, and you

refinance to a 3 percent loan, that will save you 2 percent per year, or \$4,000. Next, look at the refinance costs. What are the closing costs in order to refinance? If it's \$10,000, and you divide that by \$4,000, that says it would take two and a half years to get your money back. If the costs are \$8,000, it would take you two years to get your money back if you're saving \$4,000 a year. That's pretty substantial!

What I just laid out is called a break-even analysis. Basically, it answers the question of how long it will take you to get back the money you spent on closing costs with the interest you save. That will give you the answer as to whether or not you should refinance again.

So, there's not really a "you've done this too often" rule. If you refinance three times in a year it would only be smart if interest rates have dropped significantly throughout that time. Doing a refinance to save an eighth of a percent won't work out well for

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	Orozaword Puzzle on Page 6													



By Ronnie McBrayer

My wife attended Lutheran Catechism. My neighbor went to an Adventist Sabbath class. My college friend was enrolled in a Yeshiva. And I attended Sunday School. I suppose these are all different names for a similar religious rite of passage: the formalized instruction of the

Now, I don't have very much experience with catechisms and yeshivas, but if college credit could be earned for hours spent in a Baptist Sunday School, I would have had a PhD before turning 10 years of age. In the pre-hyper-technological age of flannel boards, chalk drawings, and colorful construction paper, I learned the stories and doctrines of the Bible (in King James English of course); and I learned to ferociously compete with my classmates.

On the wall of my childhood Sunday School class was a giant, gridline poster board that looked sort of like a giant Excel spreadsheet. There was a place for each child's name, and then all of these vacant boxes running to the right, eager to be filled with gold stars. Did you bring an offering? Put a gilded check in the box! Are you staying for worship? A trophy is yours. Read your Bible every day this week? Another

Seeing Stars

star blesses you from heaven.

I always had a shining wall full of stars, hungry as I was for God's elusive approval, and I sometimes led the class. Besides, I could not let my twin sister get more celestial rewards than me. Then I would be shamed both at church and at home. And then there was Philip Johns, my most fierce competitor. He was a religious machine.

I could only beat him a few months out of each year, and in my daily prayers I had to often repent for wishing he would get struck with the flu, chickenpox, or leprosy – anything – so that he would be sidelined just long enough for me to squeak out the winning margin. Never mind the fact that he was the pastor's son, something that I felt gave him an unfair advantage.

It was that simple and that publicly calculable: Complete a religious assignment and get a star. Those with more stars were more dedicated, more spiritual, more committed, and obviously more beloved by God. Those with fewer stars, well, their faithfulness was suspect at best.

When we engrain a competitive spirit into faith – a culture of public shame and reward – is it any wonder we end up with some really faith-damaged adults? Adults that give up on faith all together; adults that hold God responsible for the way religious systems treated them; adults that grow nauseous at even the prospect of darkening the door of a

There is plenty to compete for and against in this world. There are plenty of winners and losers.

But Christianity is not one of those things. Spiritual formation is not a competition. Faith is not - or at least it should not be an instrument to humiliate those who just "can't measure up."

And then there are those of us who "won" the religious game, we who earned our bounteous gold stars with pride. We are no different than those who have given up on faith altogether, for we aren't living a very spiritual life either. We are committed - let there be no mistake about that - but committed to what, exactly? Obligation? Checklists? To the fawning cheers of the spectators? To seeing our name high and lifted up in heavenly constellations?

Our religious efforts and activities to please, praise, or placate God can become the very things that actually distract us from God. For if Christian faith becomes a work-based, blood-sweat-and-tears, incentive-driven, reward-acquisition staircase that compensates the winners and shames the losers, then the focus is placed on us and our rivals, not upon Christ.

I'm all for spiritual instruction a well-ordered method toward Scripture, prayer, and generosity to others. But we would be better served by approaching said disciplines with a non-compete clause squarely in place. The stars shine brighter in the sky than on the Sunday School wall.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

It Was a Murphy's Law Kind of Week

By Rev. James L. Snyder,

My past week was an open commentary on "Murphy's Law." Offhand, I'm not quite sure who come up with this concept, but they must have had a week somewhat like mine was

I had to go across town and endure all that traffic. It's not my favorite place to drive. Just as I turned onto a street, my engine sputtered a little bit. Then, much to my chagrin, the engine stopped completely. I hate when that happens.

I turned the key several times and then, I don't know why I did it, but I glanced at the gas gauge, and the arrow was pointing way beyond the E. It's bad to run out of gas, but the worst thing for me about running out of gas is calling the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and asking her for

Thursday also had its issues. My wife wanted me to go to the store and pick up something, and for some reason - I cannot remember it now – I used her car. Maybe it was because I didn't want to run out of gas!

I got to the store, paid for my purchase, came out and tried finding my truck. I walked up and down and my truck was nowhere in sight. The only thing I could think of at the time was that somebody had stolen my

I thought about calling the police, and then I thought better and decided I would call my

"I can't find my truck," I said trying to keep my voice as calm as possible not to get her upset. "I think somebody stole it. Should I call the police?"

Silence on the phone. Then I heard her say in a very calm voice, "Whoever stole your truck parked it in our driveway."

It was such a horrific week and was so deep in trouble with my Better Half, I decided to take her out Friday night for a nice meal on the town. I took her to her favorite restaurant. We ordered our supper, then set back and kind of sighed the week away. Maybe all that could go wrong has gone wrong, and the week was about to turn around.

We chatted; I tried to skew the conversation away from running out of gas and misplacing my

truck. Then the waitress came with our meal. I was ready to settle down, enjoy a scrumptious meal, and end the week on a happy note.

The waitress set my wife's plate in front of her and she smiled. Then the waitress set my plate in front of me and I freaked out. For some reason, the waitress got my order mixed up with somebody else's order, and right in the middle of my plate was a pile of broccoli.

The only hope I have is that it cannot get any worse than this. I think David, the psalmist, understood this when he wrote, "... weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5 KJV).

As bad as it gets, as a Christian I have some great things to look forward to in Jesus Christ.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamessnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamessnyderministries.com.

By Marlys Norris,

Christian Author

Do you know that your name is scribed in His book? You are on the heart of God and when you accept His beloved Son as their personal Savior and Lord, your name is scribed in His "Book of Life" forever. "He loves you with an everlasting love." (Jer.31:3) You have become His precious child and God is watching over you. He will never leave or forsake you..

God does His best to reach everyone – but some reject Him, therefore the opposite is true.

For one who rejects the divine plan of God when the end comes, each of us will stand before Him and give an account of our lives and why we rejected His Son. "And whosoever's name is not found written in the book of

Is Your Name Written in the Father's "Book of Life?"

life will be cast into the lake of fire" (Revelations 20:15)

Life for every human being is no accident! God knew all of us before the foundation of the earth. We must remember God is our Creator. He is Holy and Just, the great I AM.. He formed each individual in their mother's womb for birth to take place. And at the right specific moment in time called each one to be born-again and accept Jesus and their names are written in His "Book of Life!" Regardless of the event or their age or understanding, As God's Holy Spirit moves in each life His "Agape Love and Grace" saves them to the uttermost for eternity. He guides one to "know and love" the Father, Son and Holy Spirit with their heart and soul.

Once a name is written in the "Book of Life" it will never be blotted out even when some step out of the will of God and go astray. However, they must realize it is their choice they cannot blame God for the end result! Going out of God's will for their life, opens the door to the enemy of one's soul. And he will bring

circumstances into a life that hinders their walk with God. He brings deceptions and false teachings that lead to a false god. He will do anything he can do to hinder the personal relationship with Jesus someone might have had before this decision. His tactic is always to cause a person to dishonor God and take away every soul he can from the Heavenly Father.

Beware, because one who strays too far from God into a sinful life will surely die early. God will shorten their days here on earth and take them "home" to heaven rather than lose them to His enemy. He loves each one of His children so much He doesn't want to lose anyone. He loves completely! "He always has your best interests at heart." (Jer.29:11) Listen, He is calling your name so please return to Him NOW!

Marlys Johnsen Norris Award Winning Author Book: Recipes for a Happier Marriage Contact:

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Recently I wrote a piece about "procrastinating." Is this problem ever going to be out of my life? I'm beginning to wonder, even though I know it is not healthy and I don't like the feeling it gives me. Just a short time ago I can say again.... Oops! I did it again! I just wrote an article about this, but instead of depending on God and His timing, I tried to deal with it

Once again, because of supposedly – concern for the other party, it caused me to get really angry and frustrated to the point I was ready to explode. I wasn't getting the response I had expected in a timely manner, so once again, I knew I had to deal with it, but I didn't; I procrastinated. Satan sure likes using this emotion against me on a regular basis. Do you find yourself stuck in a vicious cycle when it seems like you're coming back to the same problem over and over again? When are we going to

Oops! I Did It Again!

get it through our thick skulls He has the ability to handle that doing the same thing over and over again is the definition of insanity?

Finally, I was complaining to an associate, expecting her to be sympathetic, and she says, "Why don't you write a brief note asking for the decision?" My response was, "Well, I'm tired tonight so I will write her in the morning, have a friend check my grammar, and then I would pray about it and send it the next day." I thought she would be in agreement. Instead, she said those words I hate: "STOP PROCRASTINATING!" Just write and send it.

I was shocked, but she was absolutely right. What is almost funny about this is that after I wrote and sent it, what a relief. All feelings of anger, frustration, and resentment were gone. It was like a full-ton weight was lifted from my heart. Once again, Satan's hold was broken on this incident.

I'm happy to report that everything worked out. God moved on the decision, and everything worked the way He wanted it. Praise God, but the question in my mind is still: Why did I wait so long? I didn't need to...God knew what was best, and He handled it.

Life would be so much easier if you and I would just turn to God first in every decision we need to make no matter the size.

everything. We just need to let Him.

His Word says, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." The Armor of God is such a powerful tool against Satan. Pray for that Armor every day.

Also make the following declaration coming from His Word: "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Then do the following: Hold up your Bible and repeat this confession of faith..." This is my Bible, it is untouchable. It is the indestructible, life source of the Word of God. I know that I am what it says I am. I have what it says I have. I can do what it says I can do. In Jesus' name... AMEN."

Now, dear ones, be strong and faithful in your battle, and know God is on your side.

PASSAGE: Ephesians 6:10-11 (NIV) James 4:7 (NIV) Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain. Her books are "Nikki's Tail-Waggin' Lessons" and "The Little Book of BIG Thoughts Series." Contact her through her website www.doablesteps. com/contact or follow her on

Facebook, Linkedin, and Twitter.



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SHAPING UP!!! Part II

How many times have you heard these excuses when you thought about weight loss? Perhaps you might have even used a couple of these yourself... like "I don't know how to get started" or I'm too exhausted" or I hurt too much." Well, it's time to get off your duff and do something about it and now. Last time we got through six of Lisa Lynn's exercise busters. Now it's time to get the next four so you can get your routine going. If you remember, Lisa Lynn specializes in metabolic disorders and personal training. She actually was personal trainer for THE Martha Stewart for some thirteen years and she is a regular contributor for the Dr. Oz show. So, let's get to the next four steps to take to get started losing that weight. By the way, Lisa told me this stuff is not negotiable. You've got to be dedicated. Hey, if Martha Stewart found the time to do it, so can we! Here goes:

7) Limit your fat to no more than 20 grams for women and 25 for men if you're serious about losing that excess fat you keep tugging at. Fat will never leave if your feeding it the foods it loves and fat cells love fat and carbohydrates! This includes all fats including the healthy ones. This is where most people get confused, but it's very simple. Your body needs a lot less fat

POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

than you think or want to admit. Start keeping track of ALL fats and write down the amount you eat daily. Be sure to count all fats including

Egg yolks Nuts and nut butters

Salmon and fatty fish Salad dressing

Cheese

Oils ALL!! Even olive and coconut oil!

Look at all omega 3 supplements as well. It counts toward your daily total.

Olives

Protein bars and protein shakes

Protein contains fat, so look it up and be precise. If you're eating 6 ounces instead of 3, your fat # will double. 6 ounces of chicken has 20 grams of fat! That's your female quota.

Chocolate including dark Creamers, coconut milks, soy milks (these usually have carbs and sugar too, so they are great for weight gain)

Look everywhere, even the most unsuspecting foods contain more fat than your body can metabolize...especially if you eat out!

8) Don't' drink alcohol when you're trying to lose weight. It's a metabolic nightmare. No matter how much you starve yourself or over exercise, it's a fat loss nightmare. You'll feel better and leaner! And no, not even carb free vodka. There is nothing good in alcohol. It's bad for your waistline, and it's a depressant. Need to relax you say? That's what exercise is for. It's THE best anti-depressant on the planet, and it won't make you belly fat!

9) You can't be fit unless you are spiritually fit. Be sure to nourish your spirit daily! You'll

feel totally healthy when your spirit is as fit as your body. Studies show that spiritual people are the happiest people above the fittest athletes! A belief in a power greater is crucial for results, especially if you have been stuck or can't seem to make changes. This is why it's crucial to curb all addictions including over exercising, shopping, or health food addiction. Addictions truly block us from true happiness. Any outside influence to curb inside feeling is an addiction, and that's why drinking is wrong on many levels. Trust me, you'll have more fun living a healthy lifestyle! You won't be sorry!

10) Supplement to end your struggle. Supplements are a huge help (aka miracle in a bottle as seen on Dr. Oz) when used in conjunction with a lean-clean diet and exercise. In fact, supplements can help rid your body of that unwanted fat that's been hanging around your stomach and thighs. I suggest starting with your priorities or your top struggles.

So here's the start with Lisa's Ten Tips to get started losing those extra pounds. She has lots more tips of the trade at her website www.lynfit.com.

She has been featured on Dr. Oz and numerous TV and Radio Shows across the country. When Lisa talks, the rich and famous listen. But you don't have to be rich and famous to follow her guidelines! It's a combination of body, mind, and soul. How can you miss?!!! In this case, losing is WINNING!!!

Join Mary Jane for the KAHI Noon News Monday–Friday and then again for POPOFF 10 PM – Midnight.



TAX HELP from a Tax Pro

Dean Alexander Sr.

Can I Change My Settlement with the IRS?

It depends. If you have an offer in compromise, you may not change the settlement unless you submit another offer. If you have an installment agreement, you may be able to change the settlement. But why would one change a settlement with the IRS after, presumably, struggling to get a tax resolution with Uncle

Why Should You Renegotiate **Your Settlement?**

There are basically three reasons as to why you should consider changing the agreement with the IRS. The first is just that you can no longer afford the agreement. The second is that the agreement amount is too high because it was based on the IRS estimate of the liability. The third is that new facts showing you don't owe this liability have surfaced.

How to Renegotiate an IRS Agreement

If you want to renegotiate your agreement because you can't afford it, you must submit all your financials again on Form 433, with all supporting documents. You must prove to

the IRS that your circumstances have changed and you can no longer afford the old agreement. It happens all the time. You can even be declared "uncollectible" instead of paying a large monthly installment that had previously been agreed upon.

The Problem of Substitute for Returns

If you have to negotiate an installment agreement with the IRS and the agreement is based on the substitute for returns, the amount that the IRS determines that you should pay is probably inflated. As soon as you file the actual returns and the assessment is made by the IRS, you can reopen the case and possibly renegotiate the agreement based on the actual amount, which is presumably a lower debt ... and therefore a lower installment.

CanIRenegotiateanAgreement Based on New Facts?

The answer is yes. In this case, it may be a long route to a final settlement. For example, if you discovered an error that inflated your income, you may have to file an amended return first. After the assessment, which will take

several months, you may be able to renegotiate your back taxes.

Can I Renegotiate an Offer in Compromise?

An offer in compromise is an agreement to reduce the tax debt once and for all, based on certain financial analyses and assuming certain compliance. The audit then has the air of finality. Accordingly, the offer is not renegotiable. Any renegotiation has to imply either a new offer or an amended offer. In the first case, the process may have to start all over again. In the latter one, you must submit the amended offer before it's closed.

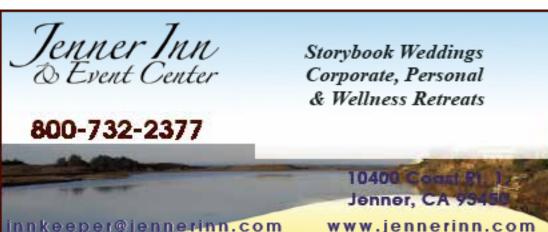
Again, the underlying reason for renegotiating the offer - or any other IRS settlement – is the discovery of new circumstances that shed light on a favorable situation for the taxpayer. Excluded from this possibility when you submit the offer is the benefit of reconsideration of substitute for returns. Substitute for return reconsideration has to be submitted before applying for the first offer. Therefore, that would not be a reason for attempting to negotiate amending the offer.

Dean Alexander is the founder and CEO of NFA Tax Help and has been helping clients with tax issues for over 35 years. Email dalexander@resolvemytaxes.

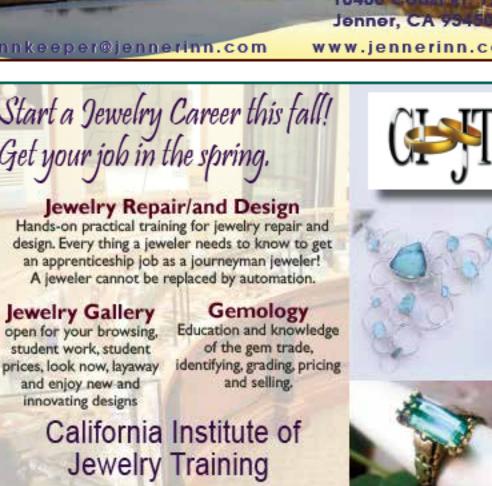


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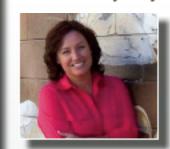






Weekdays 6 - 9am: The KAHI Morning News with Barry Stigers and the KAHI News Team 9am - Noon: The Andrea Tantaros Show The KAHI Noon News with Mary Jane Popp Noon - 1pm: and the KAHI News Team The Dave Ramsey Show 1 - 4pm: 4 - 6pm: The KAHI Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHI News Team 6 - 7pm: Sports Byline USA with Ron Barr 7 - 10pm: 10pm - 12am: Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp Saturdays 8 8 1 6 - 7am: A Time for Seniors 7 - 8am: The Swap Shop 8 - 9am: The KAHI Corral 9 - 10am: The Garden Goddesses Sinatra & Friends Music 10am - 7pm: 7 - 8pm: A Way With Words 8 - 9pm: Rewind with Jimmy Jay Sundays Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet 7:30 - 9am: The Crossroads Radio Show 9 - 9:30am: 10 - 11am: The Dew Sweepers Golf Show 11am - 12pm: The Get Excited Radio Show Sinatra & Friends Music 12 - 7pm: 7 - 8pm: A Way With Words 8 - 9pm: Hearts of Space

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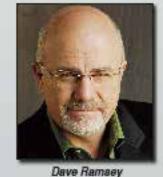


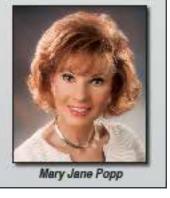
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First Issue of July 2013 Placer Sentinel • 11

What Does Our Flag Mean to You?

Commentary by Elise Spleiss

There was a time, not so long ago, when our flag – I believe – did not have as much meaning as it does today. It was just a part of our lives, and we took it for granted. I know I did.

Growing up in the '50s and '60s, I assumed it would always be around, always representing my country, and always respected by our citizens. But unfortunately, this did not happen, and the flag began to be treated badly. Allowed to fly unmanaged, never folded and brought in at night, many became dirty and tattered. Disgruntled groups burned others in protest. Yes, this is legal, but still sad. And our flag began appearing on

inappropriate items. I never realized it, but we are not supposed to "wear" a flag in any form, yet so many different items with this precious image are created to be wrapped around us, and worn on our body and feet. We have rugs we walk on, napkins to wipe our faces, and even cloth bearing this precious image on which we sit.

This misuse remains, but on Sept. 11, 2001, we found ourselves with a renewed respect and appreciation for our flag.

Following a catastrophic attack on our American values and freedom, our pride suddenly – once again –exploded.

We saw our American flag on homes, on posters in businesses of every kind, on numerous pieces of clothing – again, many inappropriate. I think we just did not know, but maybe for a moment it was all right.

Of course, many of us remember those mammoth flags fluttering from or mounted to the windows of cars and trucks. Today I'm beginning to once more see the fluttering flags attached to the windows of vehicles.

It felt good then, but it's too bad it had to take a national disaster to bring us a renewed appreciation of our flag.

Remember the photo, taken of three firefighters raising the flag above the rubble of the World Trade Center – Raising the Flag at Ground Zero? It was reminiscent of the famous 1945 WWII photo of six Marines raising Old Glory over Iwo Jima. Thomas E. Franklin, the photographer of the new photo, said of

it, "This was an important shot. It told of more than just death and destruction. It said something to me about the strength of the American people and of these firemen having to battle the unimaginable."

One of the three firemen in the photo, Dan McWilliams remembered that, as the flag was being raised, other fire personnel yelled, "Good job" and "Way to go!" He said, "Every pair of eyes that saw that flag got a little brighter." I think this pretty much confirms what our flag means to us.

It has been over 10 years since 9-11, so why is this topic becoming important again? I believe it's because everywhere we look today in this country, we see on TV, hear on the radio, and read in print how our borders, our

language, our American culture, and our way of life are being compromised in the name of "political correctness." We are being led to believe that when we're too proud of our own way of life, of our freedom and uniqueness, we are insulting another's "way of life." This is when it gets dangerous.

We still welcome all who desire to come to this country with integrity, as they embrace our culture alongside their own. We welcome them as they learn our language, and come to appreciate and love the American way of life that already exists here as much as we do. We learn from each other.

This is what our flag means to me. What does it mean to you?



"The flag of the United States is one of the most recognizable symbols on earth, more so than our monuments or presidents. From its creation, the flag has stood for freedom, liberty, and the prosperity of the United States. It was designed to accommodate the growth of a budding nation. Stars have been added, but it has retained the same significance. When you take your flag out to fly, hold it carefully, as it is a representation of our whole nation!" – Author Unknown



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