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Eliminating the Deficit

Commentary by
Dr. R.B.A. DiMuccio
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A wise man once told me that when any tax-levying entity operates at a deficit, the possible causes number precisely two. Either it is taxing too little for how much it wants to spend, or it is spending too much for how much it wants to tax. It has either a revenue problem or a spending problem.

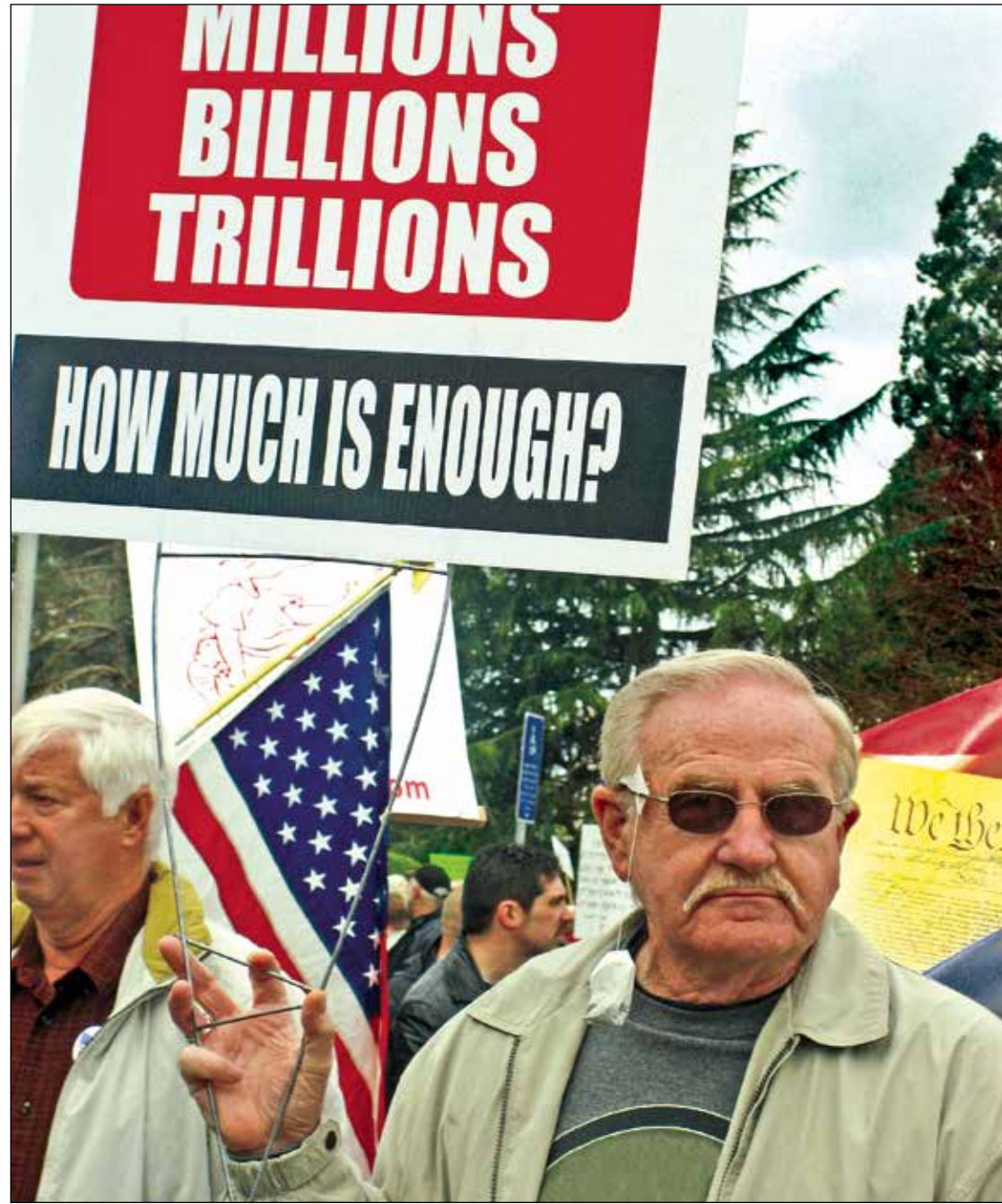
The problem for Republicans is that George W. Bush presided over massive increases in spending and the conversion of a budget surplus to a large deficit. According to Office of Management and Budget data, federal revenue in 2000 totaled just under \$2 trillion, while spending was about \$1.8 trillion—a \$200 billion surplus. By 2008, we had a deficit of \$500 billion because spending had increased 67 percent (to 18 percent of GDP) while revenue increased only 25 percent over Bush's eight years.

By 2012, Barack Obama's deficit settled in at about \$1.3 trillion, a 160 percent increase over 2008. OMB estimates for 2012 show that while annual revenue increased about 17 percent since Obama took office, annual spending increased 27 percent (to 24 percent of GDP).

So, is that a revenue problem or a spending problem? Well, if you ask Democrat leaders and pundits, it's definitely not the spending. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi doesn't believe we have a spending problem, nor does Senator Tom Harkin—to provide just two recent examples. As for pundits, count The Daily Kos, Mother Jones, and Paul Krugman amongst the "spending problem deniers."

Democrats seem pretty convinced of this. So, here's an idea: What if we just agreed that we have a revenue problem and tried to erase the deficit with new taxes alone?

What, then, would a \$1.1 trillion (the 85 percent share of



We could all be left in an endless loop that points inexorably to one conclusion.

the deficit made up by individual income taxes) "revenue" increase look like? We could try to eliminate the deficit "by getting millionaires and billionaires to pay a little bit more." There are approximately 250,000 households (less than 0.5 percent of all households) in America with annual income over \$1 million. Asking them to eliminate the deficit alone would add \$4.4 million in new annual taxes per household.

Well, it might not be practical to ask tens of thousands of Americans to pay an amount that is quadruple their total income. But if we expand the definition of "millionaires and billionaires" to households with incomes over \$200,000—we now have 4.2 percent of households to work with. If we reduce the incremental burden on millionaires to only \$500,000 per household, the additional per household tax bill on those making more than

\$200,000 goes up to, well, just over \$200,000.

Since our tax code is among the most progressive in the world, we could try to share the \$1.1 trillion equally among income brackets. This would add only about \$9,600 in new taxes for every household—including those in the lower two brackets (which together make up 47 percent of all households), whose federal income taxes would go

Continued on Page 9

Placer Superior Court Seeks volunteers for Grand Jury Service

PLACER COUNTY, CA – (MPG) The Superior Court of California, County of Placer is seeking applications from Placer County citizens interested in an opportunity to serve on the 2013-2014 Grand Jury. The Grand Jury's one-year term begins on July 1, 2013 and ends on June 30, 2014.

In order to meet the minimum qualifications for service on the Grand Jury, applicants must be United States citizens who are 18 years of age or older, and have resided in Placer County for a minimum of one year immediately prior to becoming a grand juror. Service on the Grand Jury requires a substantial investment of time, usually 25-30 hours per month.

For those interested in obtaining more information, the current Grand Jury will be sponsoring two Meet and Greet sessions on the following dates to discuss the workings of the Grand Jury:

- April 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Placer County Office of Education, Burns Room, 360 Nevada Street in Auburn.

- April 19, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at the Santucci Justice Center Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room, 2nd Floor, 10820 Justice Center Drive in Roseville.

Additional information and applications for Grand Jury service are available by contacting the Court Executive Office at (916) 408-6186, or by visiting the Court's website at: www.placer.courts.ca.gov.

Application Deadline: Friday, May 17, 2013 at 3:00 P.M.

Local Leo Clubs Make A Difference

By Paula Mosqueda

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) In 1957, Pennsylvania baseball coach, Jim Graver, conceived an idea that would give young people the chance to make a difference in their communities. Graver, a member of the local Lions Club, came up with the concept of the Leo Club.

The Lions Club International states that the objective is "To provide the youth of the world with an opportunity for development and contribution, individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local, national and international community."

The Leo Club motto stands for Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity.

Leo members learn how to conduct meetings, plan fundraisers, work together with a common goal, succeed, and serve others through community service.

The city of Auburn is fortunate



Garrett Jordan (left) receiving the Lions' "In a World of Service" award from Leo Club Coordinator Roy Kleger (right). Photo by Joe Clay.

to have more than one Leo Club active in the community. The Auburn Host Lions Club sponsored these clubs and continues

to mentor Leo members. Leo Clubs are present at Placer High School, Chana High School, and E. V. Cain.

Placer High School Leos, some 35 members strong, have conducted canned food drives for the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet, worked at the Meadow Vista Lions Annual Crab Feed, helped out at the annual Auburn Area Christmas Basket Program, and have rung the bell for the Salvation Army. They have made it possible for students with vision, orthopedic and Autistic issues at Placer and Del Oro High Schools to receive special aids to make their school experience less challenging. They earned \$1,000 to donate to the earthquake victims in Haiti, and \$2,000 for Camp Ross Relles, a wilderness camp for deaf children.

Garrett Jordan, 17, a 4 year member of the Placer High School Leo Club, states, "I've tremendously enjoyed Leo Club since I joined it. You meet new friends and engage in fun activities that directly help those who are less fortunate in the world. It

is a wonderful organization, and I thank it for many good memories."

Chana High School recently received their charter. The start-up group numbers about 15 members. They spend time with seniors who are suffering from dementia, visiting and singing to them. They are holding car-washes, bake sales and selling candy-grams. They have managed campus involvement for 'spirit week'.

E. V. Cain Leos have written letters to servicemen and have sent valentines to seniors in local convalescent homes. The 45 members have volunteered at Operation Mom, worked at the Meadow Vista Lions' Crab Feed, created table decorations for the Auburn Teachers Foundation dinner and worked to improve the school's community garden.

Auburn Host Lion Roy Kleger, Club Leo Coordinator, says this about the Leos, "Middle and High School kids are incredibly busy.

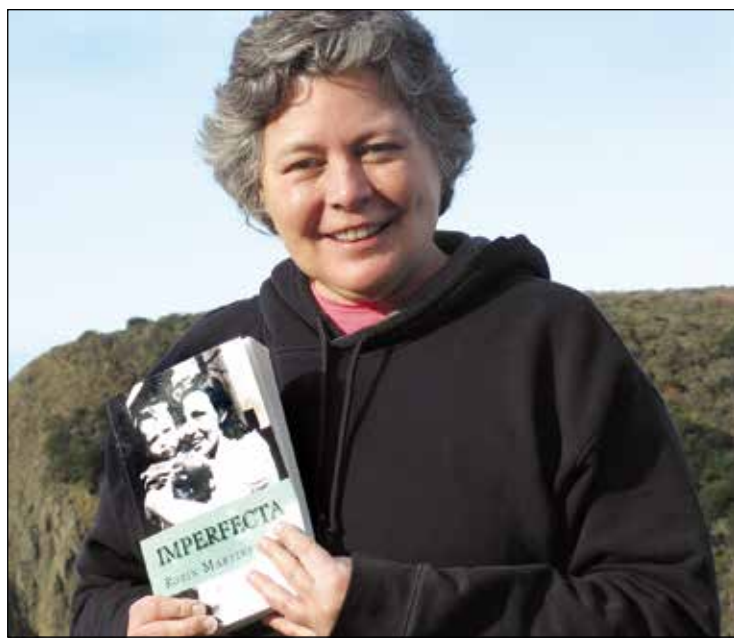
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Local Author Invites You to Pie and Books

Meadow Vista, CA – (MPG) Robin Martinez Rice of Meadow Vista will be signing her book - Imperfecta - on Thursday, March 7, from 4:30-6:30 at Mel's Original Diner at 1730 Grass Valley Hwy, in Auburn.

Robin worked as an Educational Psychologist in Placer County since 1989. She retired three years ago and now spends her time writing. Local book reviewer Marlene Koons says "Imperfecta is a delight to read as we follow along with Perfecta, from her teenage years to young adulthood, with many lessons learned along the way. Perfie (who renamed herself when she realized that she wasn't Perfect, but neither was the world) will win you over. You will laugh with her and cry with her and then cheer as she finds her way in her hard life. Other characters will also charm you, her children (proud and independent Roberto, winsome Arturo), her husband, Isaac and of course, her wonderful friend, Mary. You'll want to shake a few people silly but it does take all kinds.

Grab this book and it'll grab



Robin Martinez Rice will have a book signing on Thursday March 7 from 4:30 - 6:30 at Mel's Original Diner at 1730 Grass Valley Highway in Auburn. Photo courtesy of Robin Martinez Rice.

your heart. You will get a real feel for the times and flavors of the places Perfie experiences, from small-town living in New Mexico to big city coping in Oakland, California, from early 1920s to war years of WWII. Kudos to Robin Martinez Rice on her first book. We look forward to more!

Signing will be followed by Auburn's Open Mic for the Spoken Word, where local poets and authors share their work. Sign up to speak at 6:30, show starts at 7:00.

Robin is available to speak to book clubs and other groups. For more information contact her at contact@robinmartinezrice.com

Sutter Doctor Among First in U.S. to be Accredited in Obesity Medicine

John Hernried, M.D., Becomes Board Certified in New Specialty

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) – The American Board of Obesity Medicine conducted the first obesity medicine certification examination in Nov. 2012. John Hernried, M.D., medical director for the Sutter Weight Management Institute, is one of 226 physicians across the U.S. who is now board certified in obesity medicine.

"With more than 30 percent of the U.S. adult population obese, no field of medicine is immune from the complications associated with obesity. Physicians certified in Obesity Medicine are able to positively impact all systems of the body by incorporating weight management in their traditional models of medical practice," says Dana Rasis Brittan, Executive Director of the American Board of Obesity Medicine.

As obesity becomes a more prevalent social issue, it also becomes a more pertinent issue for physicians and health care.



John Hernried, M.D. is one of 226 physicians across the U.S. who is now board certified in obesity medicine.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than one-third of U.S. adults are obese. Obesity-related health conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, which are some of the leading causes of preventable death.

The ABOM goal is to create a highly skilled and diverse workforce of physicians who are competent in providing obesity care. The certification examination will assist physicians in attaining competency in this increasingly important and universally relevant aspect of medical care.

"I think this certification exam is the first step in the medical field in recognizing the importance of obesity as a complex, chronic disease," said Hernried. "Treating obesity requires competency in the genetic, biologic, environmental, social and behavioral factors that contribute to the disease."

As the medical director over the SWMI program, Dr. Hernried adds the certification exam to his specialty training in weight management and in his work to have a closer partnership with patients and their primary care physicians for the patients' greater health.

Source: Sutter Hospital

Keith Greeninger and City Folk to perform

AUBURN, CA.– February 22, 2013 – YES THEY ARE COMING BACK TO AUBURN! Keith Greeninger returns to Auburn along with the CITY FOLK trio featuring Keith, Kimball Hurd and Roger Feuer live on-stage at the State Theatre in Auburn on March 16th at 7:30, tickets \$20.

With his deep, textured voice and engaging songwriting, with nothing more than a guitar in hand and a song with a story to tell, Keith can completely captivate an audience. His aggressive acoustic guitar style offers more musicality and sensitivity than today's average rock band. Keith is that rare performer for whom people lean forward in their seats, eager to capture every note and every word.

The evening will also include Keith performing with the



Keith Greeninger will be performing with Kimball Hurd and Roger Feuer live in Auburn at the State Theater on March 16.

talented trio City Folk as they create "folk" in the traditional sense that it is music of and for the people with substantive and topical lyrics, yet with a contemporary urban edge. Their meticulous three-part harmony is underscored by intricate instrumental arrangements and their personal, honest and socially conscious songs. Whether a fan from years past or simply

an enthusiast of contemporary modern folk music, this original, innovative trio is sure to please you.

The evening promises to be a positive experience and a positively uplifting one for the entire family! If you enjoy Crosby, Stills & Nash, Van Morrison or Jackson Browne, then you'll love City Folk. Check out their unique style and sound at <http://www.cfolk.net/> and watch this video from YouTube <http://youtu.be/Vu43toayuA4>. Then hurry and get your tickets for this sure-to-sell-out concert!

Don't miss Keith Greeninger and City Folk downtown in Auburn at the State Theatre! Tickets available at www.livefromauburn.com, or phone the office at 530-885-0156, or go to Cherry Records on Lincoln Way in Auburn.

Greater Tuna to Perform in Auburn



Bring your family to the Mt. Vernon Grange Hall for an afternoon of fun and laughter.

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) Coming to a stage near you, is the hilarious comedy play of "Greater Tuna", a two man performance, Starring Ryan Harber & Owen Smith and Directed by Christopher Cook of the Green Valley (Grange Theater Company).

Greater Tuna is the first in a series of 4 comedic plays, each set in the fictional town of Tuna, Texas, the "third-smallest" town in the state. The series was written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears, and Ed Howard. The plays are at once an affectionate comment on small-town, Southern life and attitudes but also a withering satire of same.

The plays are notable in that two men play the entire cast of over twenty eccentric characters of both genders and various ages. Greater Tuna debuted in Austin, Texas, in the fall of 1981, and had its off-Broadway premiere in 1982.

Mark your calendar for April 21, 2013 then come to Mt Vernon Grange Hall located at 3185 Bell Rd. in Auburn to

enjoy this popular comedy play about Tuna, the "third smallest town in Texas," where the Lions Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. This hilarious comedy play features two of Green Valley Theatre's veterans who portray nearly every one of Tuna's residents in a one-stop, irreverent romp through classic Americana. This show runs approx. 1 hour 35 min and is appropriate for all ages.

Mt. Vernon Grange Hall is proud to present this performance as a fund raiser to benefit both the Auburn Grange and one lucky local charity. This fund raiser is part of an event that will be followed up in June 15, 2013.

The June event is a Placer & Nevada County Grange and Local Charity Awareness Day that will help promote all of the local Granges as well as several charities including Red Cross, Disabled American Veterans, and Scooter's Pals, Gatekeepers, What Would Jesus Do, St Vincent de Paul, just to mention a few. One of

the attending charities in June will share the proceeds from the April performance through a random drawing. The winner will be announced during the June event.

Contact the Grange Office at 530-885-3974 for ticket information or go on line to www.MtVernonGrange.org.

What: Greater Tuna Comedy Play (Fundraiser)

Where: Mt Vernon Grange Hall, 3185 Bell Rd., Auburn, CA 95602

When: April 21, 2013 2:00 pm

Why: Fundraiser - Grange Awareness/Charity Awareness Day Proceeds from this fundraiser will be split 50/50 with a selected Charity by impartial drawing of attending charities at our Awareness day schedule for June 15, 2013.

Contact Info: www.mtvernon-grange.org
Tickets: \$10.00

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Publisher's Statement:

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

Fishing Lake Pardee with Cal Kellogg



Cal Kellogg who will cover trolling and bait fishing tactics for Kokanee and Trout Fishing at Pardee Reservoir. Photo courtesy of RTFC.

Cal Kellogg, Editor of The Fish Sniffer magazine, has spent more than 40 years in the woods and on the waters of California. Cal was fishing and hunting with his father when he was 3 years old. Cal is considered an expert when it comes to fishing for both saltwater and freshwater species throughout California. Cal's favorite species include trout, kokanee, king salmon, striped bass and lingcod. While Cal's yearly travels in search of big fish take him from Alaska in the north and Cabo San Lucas in the south, many of his readers consider him to be the "everyman's" outdoor writer, because most of his work is focused on fishing and hunting on the same highly pressure waters and tracts of land that his readers ply.

The 30 year old, 165+-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 pres@roostertailsfishingclub.org.

AUBURN — (MPG) The Rooster Tails Fishing Club breakfast meeting will be held on Friday, March 15 at the Auburn Elks Lodge, 195 Pine St., Auburn, CA 95603. The doors at the lodge open at 7:00 AM with a fantastic \$12 buffet breakfast served from 8:00

to 9:00. A presentation begins at 9:00 sharp with a seminar by Cal Kellogg who will cover trolling and bait fishing tactics for Kokanee and Trout Fishing at Pardee Reservoir. The Rooster Tails monthly, third-Friday, breakfast meetings are "Open to the Public."



Around Town with Loyce Smallwood

For those retirees out there seeking some camaraderie and community connection, volunteer. The Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice Thrift, now located at 1260 GV Highway and managed by cheerful Marin Boggs, is in need of donations but especially thrift store volunteers so call Marin at 530-887-0561 and/or visit the store Tuesday through Saturday. The Hospice Thrift is open until 7pm Friday evenings and owes special thanks to the enterprising Eric Nordby, Hilda's Bakery owner, who generously donates his tasty pastry for the Friday night shoppers which recently drew artist Juan Pena and Wife Kay. Highly recommended at Hilda's are the plump jelly donuts, fruit fritters, decadent cream puffs and choco brownies along with luncheon fare of grilled tuna/cheese on a bagel topped off with that mellow, hot coffee. Hilda's is located on Lincoln Way across from Get Dressed vintage shop just down from the Auburn State Theater. Enjoy the sunny

weather with a walk over to the DT Gold Country Mall where Tea Maven Betty Thompson is now serving up her tasty treats along with gourmet teas and gift items in her brightly decorated shop Thompson's Gold Rush Emporium next door to the colorful artist Juan Pena who invites the public to reserve space for his Landscape Watercolor Workshop March 15 and 16. The lively Pena says his workshop is designed for beginners or a refresher for the advanced. Call Juan at 530-637-5250 to reserve space. Pena and Wife Kay have given a bright facelift to the former bookstore and The Penas invite the public to stop by and enjoy the art gallery scene. Sentinel Service Stars to Strings Cafe, Bell Road in the Rock Creek Center, where the service and the food are exemplary especially the shrimp pizza and curry pasta; and ditto to long-standing Pizza Express where the food is tasty and the service prompt. Love the tasty breakfast sandwich served up at LaBou down the way in the Belair Center where the family and staff provide friendly service and tasty breakfast, lunch,

pastries, coffee drinks and smoothies. The Burrito Place in the Raley's Shopping Center at Foresthill rates Super Sentinel Stars for prompt service, extra sauce and salsa. Smallwood fav is the oversized fish taco packed with beans and rice. Work off the calories a few doors down at Friends of Placer County Bookstore where book and/or feline lovers will enjoy camaraderie and personal satisfaction organizing donated books and media with all proceeds going to care/maintenance of homeless felines who are housed and ready for adoption on the premise. Remember to gather up your gently read books and donate, bookstore open daily from 10am. Congrats sent to dynamic go-getter Kim Herman, The Red Chair consignment store owner, store location 10934 Combie Road, Auburn. Kim has opened yet another store, a co-op, across the Holiday Market parking lot where individual spaces are rented for sale of furniture, home accessories and art; and the co-op already has a waiting list! See a need and fill it, indeed. Comments to loycer@suddenlink.net.



Artist Juan Pena (right) and wife Kay.

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Placer County Sheriff Special Report

Placer County Sheriff's detectives are seeking the public's help in identifying a burglar whose image was caught on surveillance video inside a Loomis barn early Saturday morning.

The white male suspect had blond or gray hair, wore black jeans and a black hooded sweatshirt with a brightly colored pattern on the front, and black gloves. He was seen on video walking through the barn on Creekside Lane in Loomis at 3:34 a.m. He is believed to be about 40 years old and weighing 150-180 pounds.

Anyone who can identify this suspect is asked to call Detective Ryan West at (916) 652-2423. Anyone who has



Detectives are seeking the identity of the suspect seen at the bottom left of this photo, which was taken during a burglary at a barn in Loomis early Saturday morning.

information and wishes to remain anonymous is asked to call Placer County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-923-8191, or make an anonymous tip online

at www.placercrimestoppers.com. Information leading to an arrest could earn the tipster a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

Deputies out in Force for Zero Tolerance

The Placer County Sheriff's Office is continuing its enforcement of cell phone laws from February 25 through March 8.

The enforcement is part of a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to eliminate motorists' hand-held cell phone use and texting. The effort is a special federally funded pilot program using the region to test tactics that may be employed nationally in the future.

Deputies will be out in force in the city of Colfax, north Auburn and Loomis during this second phase of the

enforcement to issue tickets to drivers using hand-held cell phones or texting.

"Talking or texting on a cell phone while driving on the streets of Placer County is dangerous to everyone on the roadways," said Sheriff Ed Bonner. "Deputies will be out looking, and will be ticketing with zero tolerance."

California's distracted driving law bans all drivers from using hand-held devices and texting while operating a motor vehicle. Yet, in 2011, the California Department of Motor Vehicles reported 460,487 handheld cell phone convictions, up from 361,260 in 2010.

Distracted drivers in Placer County talking on a hand-

held cell phone or texting will receive a first-time ticket costing a minimum of \$159, with a second offense costing \$279. But the goal of the special enforcement operation is not to issue tickets, but to raise awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

- Turn off your phone and/or put it out of reach.

- Include in your outgoing message that you can't answer while you are driving.

- Don't call or text anyone at a time when you think they may be driving.

Bel Tempo Handbells March 17th



Bell ringers say there are no limits to the music handbells can play. Photo courtesy of Bel Tempo.

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) Pioneer United Methodist Church is presenting the Bel Tempo Handbells in concert on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, 3 p.m. at 1338 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

Bel Tempo is an auditioned, Sacramento community-based handbell group that is sponsored by Northminster Presbyterian Church. They were organized in 1983 by Director Mary Balkow for a European concert tour with the River City Chorale. They recently completed their eighth such tour traveling in Western Canada.

Its fourteen members, ringing

five-plus octaves of Schulmerich handbells, perform regularly for the Greater Sacramento area in venues ranging from church services to public and private events. They appear annually with the River City Chorale at its Christmas concerts.

The members come from a variety of backgrounds. Their careers include teaching, biology, environmental science, accounting, veterinary services, hospital marketing and rocket science. They share one common passion-Handbells!

Bell ringers say there are no limits to the music handbells can

play. If it can be put on paper, it can be played on these beautiful bronze musical instruments. Bel Tempo has a repertoire as broad as the occasion requires. They play everything from Bach, Brahms and Beethoven, to Jerome Kern, Henry Mancini and the Beatles. An Irish tune will be played in honor of St. Patrick on March 17th. The audience will be invited to participate

Tax deductible donations will be gratefully accepted for the Pioneer Church Building Restoration fund.

Information: 530-885-4196 or 885-9009.

Newcastle Business Group Offers College Scholarships



2012 NABA Scholarship winners: (L to R) Tavis deGlymes, Mandarin Festival Executive Director Gary Gilligan, Max Fefer, Serena Kaveney, and NABA President Joe Irvin. Not pictured is scholarship awardee Ashlee Lopez. Photo: NABA

Newcastle, CA – (MPG) Applications for the annual Newcastle Area Business Association scholarships are now available. Four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to college-bound seniors who

reside in the Newcastle-Ophir-Penryn area. The application and instructions can be found online at www.newcastlebusiness.org. The scholarships are a hallmark of NABA tradition, funded by proceeds from the Mountain

Mandarin Festival.

Students must submit an application no later than April 5, 2013, and be available for interviews April 8-18. For more information, please contact NABA at (916)417-9537.

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This is our 5th year of our outreach program helping veterans and their families, in the Sacramento and the surrounding communities. We feed over 100 Veterans and their families through this program. In addition we provide advocate representation that gives the veteran access to legal services, helping in acquiring V.A. benefits, Medical access with transportation, and our Naturopath life Coaching program that combats Bio chemical addiction empowering the veteran to have a healthy body, and mind. We help the homeless, elderly, disabled, PTSD, veterans. We provide in the field services for the homeless veterans and their families. We provide an alternative approach to PTSD with our unique Coaching program that gives the veteran behavioral tools to change their negative thinking caused by bio chemical addition and not be dependent on drugs or alcohol.

Forgotten Warrior is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization committed to helping all veterans in need. Now that we are growing so fast we are in need of your help to help, in office functions, such as promotional and public relation work, advocate to work with the homeless and disabled veterans. We need people that can do community fund raising events, and we really need of a Grant writer.

Call Wind at 916-969-4387 or office manager Monica at 916-728-8162 or email us at windwalker1313@gmail.com.

Forgottenwarrior.org

Local Leo Clubs Make A Difference

Continued from page 1

They've got academics, sports, music and a multitude of other activities pulling at them, and yet the make time to help others. They are absolutely amazing."

Leo members are boys and girls, 12-18 years of age. They are energetic, busy, creative, willing to learn, and willing to serve. They are guided and mentored by a school advisor and an advisor from the sponsoring Lions Club.

It is a rewarding experience

for all involved.

Any individual, no matter what age, can make a difference. Becoming a Leo, or a Lions Club member, offers the opportunity to make that difference. If you are still in school, seek out the Leos. If there isn't a Leo Club where you are, contact a local Lions Club, and start one. If you are past school age and wish you could serve others in your community, contact a local Lions Club. The Auburn Host Lions

Club and the Auburn 49er Lions Club are both based in Auburn. You will find others there who share your same goals.

To learn more about the Leo Club and/or their sponsor, the Auburn Host Lions Club, visit their web-site at www.auburn-hostlions.org.

To find out about the activities of the Auburn 49er Lions Club, call 530-863-7503.

PCWA Board Adopts Martis Valley Groundwater Management Plan

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) Directors of the Placer County Water Agency on Thursday (Feb. 21) adopted a new groundwater management plan for the Martis Valley in eastern Placer County.

The board's action followed adoption a day earlier (Feb. 20) by directors of the Truckee Donner Public Utility District and the Northstar Community Services District, PCWA's local partners in the two-year project.

Each of the participating agencies supplies water drawn from the groundwater basin. Truckee Donner Public Utility District and PCWA had older management plans but there had been no overall plan for the entire 57 square-mile basin.

The goal of the new plan is to ensure the long-term quality and availability of groundwater in the Martis Valley Basin, a two-county area that straddles the Placer-Nevada county line near Truckee.

Project coordinator Tony Firenzi, a senior engineer with PCWA, said the collaborative effort was aimed at promoting good regional water management and aligned water policy. Objectives include management of groundwater to maintain established and planned uses, and management in accordance with the existing Truckee River Operating Agreement.

Firenzi described the new plan as a framework intended to support regional groundwater planning and management.

The plan was prepared for the agencies by the Sacramento-based consulting firm of Brown and Caldwell. Local shares included Truckee Donner Public Utility District, \$150,000, Northstar Community Services District, \$60,000; and PCWA, \$40,000. As a countywide water resources agency, PCWA served as lead agency in the planning effort.

Preparation of the plan dovetailed with a concurrent effort of the federal Bureau of Reclamation, which is leading and funding 50% of a \$1.7 million effort to study sustainability in the same watershed. The bureau's Truckee River Basin study and climate change modeling project is expected to be completed in the next two years.

In other business, PCWA directors:

- reviewed a Feb. 18 letter from the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) to Gov. Brown, urging the governor to extend the protection of upstream water rights as the state seeks to solve issues surrounding the Delta. PCWA and other members of the MCWRA remain concerned that

Delta solutions could seek more water from upstream areas such as Placer County.

- heard a presentation from Risk and Safety Administrator David Rowe on the agency's Worker's Compensation insurance program. Agency officials are considering a cost-saving self-insurance program. Directors instructed Rowe to provide further financial information on the proposed change.

- welcomed Nevada County garden writer Carolyn Singer, whose new book, "The Seasoned Gardener," is focused on gardening in the Sierra foothills and includes advice on irrigation and water efficiency. The book is available at Eiseley's Nursery in Auburn and is expected at other local locations soon.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA board will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 7, 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.

Annual Crab Feed Held to benefit Placer High School band and Choir

AUBURN, CA. – The Placer Music Boosters will hold its annual Crab Feed and Silent Auction Saturday, March 9 at the Placer Building in the Gold Country Fairgrounds. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Proceeds from the event fund the Placer High School (PHS) Music Department band and choir programs.

PHS's Music Department currently serves 150 students including award winning vocalists, musicians, and more. Award winners include: Evelyn Yee, Bassoon; Tani Thomsen, Percussion; Andre Sacalxot, Alto saxophone; Hannah Brown, Clarinet in the NorCal - Northern California Band Directors Association (NCBDA), which includes choir directors, Honor Band and Honor Choir. Additional awards went to Evelyn Yee, Bassoon; Tani Thomsen, Percussion; James James, Tenor saxophone, and Hannah Brown, Clarinet in the California Music Educators Association, Capital Section Honor Band. Evelyn Yee, Bassoon, also took All State, California Band Directors Association (CBDA) and Kayla Lardner, Sierra Womack, Eric Ivins, Sarah Beverly and Jessi Fry California Music Educators Association, Capital



Crab Feeds attendees can look forward not only to the all-you-can-eat event.

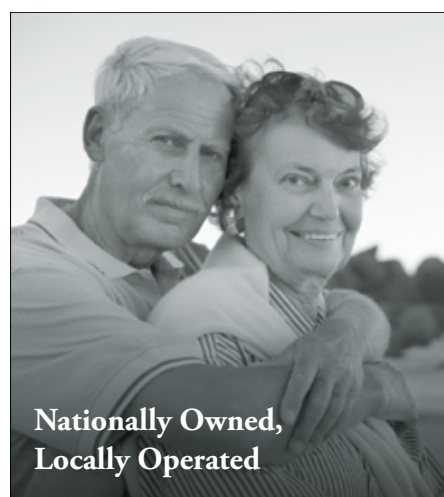
Section Honor Choir. Chaileen Smith also received Straight Superior at North Section Solo/Ensemble.

PHS band members march in parades for the Auburn community like festival of lights and play at the Veteran's Day events. Preparation and presentation tap the Placer High School's (PHS) Music Department budget which is extremely tight. Repairing an instrument costs between \$60-\$250; a new piece of music for any of the bands/choirs is \$60-150; the busses used to take the band to the Napa Marching Competition cost \$1,600. Proceeds from fundraisers provide marching shoes, additional dresses for choir, repairs on the percussion instruments, a new set of congas and a professional

grenadilla wood piccolo – total of \$17,000 worth of instruments, software, and choir needs in the summer of 2012. The funds also pay a large portion of the salaries of both PHS choir pianist and Drumline coach.

Crab Feeds attendees can look forward not only to the all-you-can-eat crab along with salad, spaghetti, clam chowder and shrimp Louie but also a performance by the PHS Jazz Band followed by a silent auction with emcee Dave Rosenthal from Auburn's own KAHN 950 AM.

Tickets are \$40 each and can be purchased by visiting www.placermusic.org, calling (530) 820-5022 or at Eiseley's Nursery on Nevada Street in Auburn.



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Animal Spay and Neuter Clinic Offers Free Sterilizations for Feral Felines in North Placer County

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) To humanely manage feral cat populations in the community, Animal Spay and Neuter a Non-Profit Clinic, located at 3524 KOA Way, Auburn, Ca. 95602 is providing free spay and neuter surgeries in North Placer County for feral felines, thanks to a grant from PetSmart Charities®. Rabies vaccine is included (if age appropriate) and a \$10 co-pay will cover another vaccination. Other low cost vaccines are also available. Zip codes covered by this grant include: 95602, 95603, 95604, 95631, 95650, 95658, 95663, 95703, 95713, 95722, and 95736.

"We are very pleased that PetSmart Charities has decided to partner with Animal Spay and Neuter, a Non-Profit Clinic through this generous grant of \$57,000," said Dede Shaw, Co-Founder and Clinic Director. "We believe this will go a long way in helping control the feral cat population of North Placer County."



Surgeries are performed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays by appointment. The cats must be brought into the clinic in a humane trap. All feral felines will have the tip of their ear removed during their spay/neuter surgery and while under general anesthesia to indicate they have been sterilized. Humane traps may be rented for a refundable deposit or trapping assistance may be provided.

Animal Spay and Neuter, a Non-Profit Clinic is a 501(c)3

organization that relies on grant funding and donations to offer free to low-cost sterilization services for pet owners in the community.. Animal Spay and Neuter, a Non-Profit Clinic sterilizes more than 10,000 pets annually and relies solely on community support and grant funding to operate their clinic. The primary goals and objectives are to provide a source for affordable animal sterilization for the general public, decrease domestic animal overpopulation in Placer County and surrounding areas, decrease the occurrences of animal cruelty and inhumane treatment by reducing the number of unwanted domestic animals, provide animal care expansion services such as low cost vaccinations, and to provide educational services to inform and instruct the public on the importance of domestic animal sterilization. For more information, call 530-889-8800 or check the website at www.animals-payneuter.com

SEDCorp CEO Retires in August

AUBURN, CA – (MPG) The Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp) is a joint-powers authority which fosters economic development within the counties of El Dorado, Nevada, Placer and Sierra. SEDCorp's overall mission is to alleviate unemployment and underemployment while preserving the quality of life in the Sierra Nevada.

After six plus years as CEO of SEDCorp, Brent Smith will retire in August and completes his career working for the public sector. Now that brings us to the challenging task of finding his successor.

We are seeking candidates for the office of CEO. In this role, you will oversee regional planning and economic development initiatives, supervise public

relations, educational activities of SEDCorp, ensure compliance of and timely grant administration, and manage the financial welfare of SEDCorp. The ideal candidate must be an excellent communicator, leader, and fund raiser, with a sound grasp of the principles and practices of business, industry and government. Annual salary is \$65,000 - \$70,000 DOE.

Comprehensive benefits

package. Interested candidates are asked to contact SEDCorp for the application packet at 530-823-4703 or info@sedcorp.biz. Application deadline: April 30, 2013. For more information on SEDCorp, visit www.sedcorp.biz.

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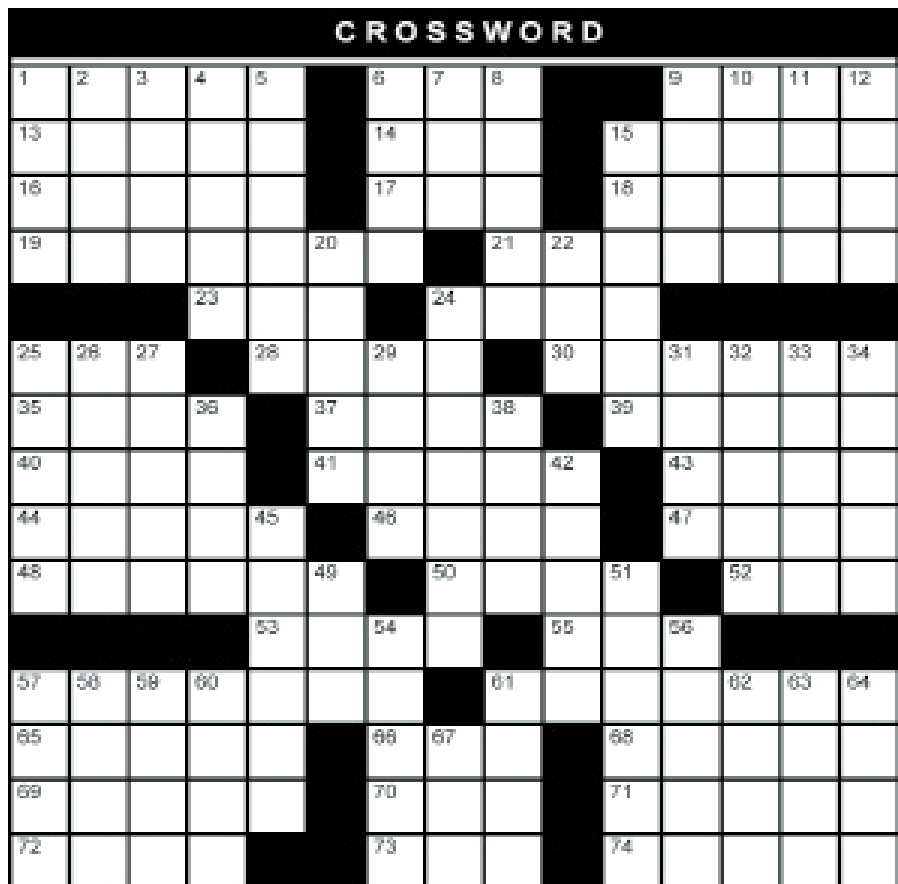
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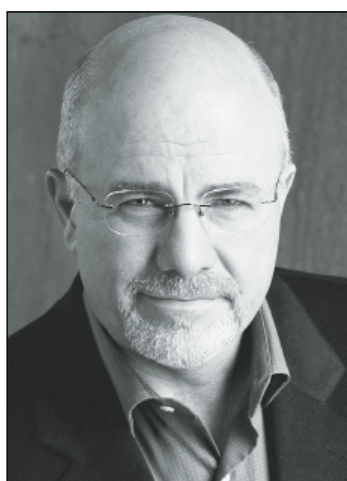
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CLUES

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|---|---|--|---|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Squirrel away 6. Young newt 9. They put the bitter in beer 13. Jousting pole 14. Tap choice 15. Bone-chilling 16. Cast member 17. Greater than the whole? 18. Dismal 19. "Cotton gin inventor 21. Do this for a waltz, e.g. 23. * Isaac Newton 24. Shirts on their backs, e.g. 25. Farmer's ____ 28. Turkish honorific 30. Lots 35. Brother of Jacob 37. Uh-oh 39. Poet's "below" 40. Slash mark 41. Fine-tune 43. A fit of shivering 44. Sarong 46. Therefore 47. Connecting point | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48. Acquiesce 50. * ____ Tupper, inventor of Tupperware 52. Actor's domain 53. "Null and ____" 55. Payment for an eye 57. *Corn Flakes inventor 61. *Motorcycle inventor 65. Eskimo boat 66. a.k.a sodium hydroxide 68. Pleasant Island 69. Electron tube 70. Goon 71. Barry Bonds formerly was one 72. Large pots 73. Choose instead 74. Wintry mix <p>DOWN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deli side 2. Dash gauge 3. Opposed to 4. *Alexander Graham Bell and John Boyd Dunlop 5. Possible consequence of heavy lifting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. No problem 7. Common winter bug 8. Time in Italian 9. German title 10. Cream-filled treat 11. "La Vie en rose" singer 12. Owned by the lord 15. *He saw the light 20. Cereal killer 22. Often preceded by a time period 24. Gradually diminished 25. *Namesake of electric car maker 26. Singular form of "asci" 27. Indian cuisine staple, pl. 29. *Sewing machine inventor 31. * ____ Kamen, inventor of the Segway 32. Chief port of Nigeria 33. Short composition for solo instrument 34. ____ music 36. Instinctive motive 38. It's a long story | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 42. Land of "Gangnam Style" 45. Conjure up 49. Clothe 51. Pinocchio's fabrications 54. Inuit shelter 56. Modern letter 57. Spiral-horned African antelope 58. Arabic for commander 59. He gets bigger share? 60. Boys 61. Adroit 62. Molokai party 63. Sea eagles 64. * ____ Handler, Barbie doll inventor 67. Small dog's bark |
|---|---|--|---|

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 Entrepreneurship. 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.

In-laws and Out of Debt

Dear Dave,
I'm 27 and married, and we have two kids. I make \$90,000 a year, but we have \$80,000 in consumer debt—\$48,000 of which is in car loans. The rest is credit card debt. My wife's parents have offered to let us move in with them so we can get out of debt faster. Do you think this is a good idea
- Kevin

Dear Kevin,
If I were in your situation, I would *not* move in with the in-laws. You've got an absurd amount of money wrapped up in those cars. I'd sell the stupid things, start living on a budget and paying down debt, and keep my dignity.

In my mind there are only two scenarios where you'd even consider taking the in-laws up on their offer. One is where they're absolutely wonderful people and you have a great, non-toxic relationship with them, where everyone involved knows their boundaries. Even then, I'd only consider this if it were for a very short, agreed-upon amount of time.

The second scenario would be if moving in with the in-laws were the only way to accomplish your goal. And you don't pass

Dave Says

that test. You guys can get out of debt pretty quickly if you'll just lose these ridiculous cars! Think about it. If you had two little paid-for beaters, your lives would be so much different. You could even save a little money on the side while you were paying down debt and buy a better car as soon as the debt was gone.

If you can't tell, I'm pretty big on maintaining dignity. You might love your cars so much that you're unwilling to make the sacrifice. Not me. The money going into your automobiles is insane, and that's your biggest problem
- Dave

Dave's Thoughts on HARP

Dear Dave,
What do you think about the HARP program, and what exactly is it?
- Ivy

Dear Ivy,
The Home Affordable Refinance Program is designed for people who have made their payments on time but are underwater on their mortgages. Being "underwater" means they owe more on their homes than the homes are worth. So basically it gives them the opportunity to

refinance their home loans. The HARP program is the only part of the Making Home Affordable program that actually worked. And to be honest, it has worked well. In contrast, the recent Home Loan Modification program is a piece of junk and all about political posturing. About 93 percent of the people who applied for a home loan modification didn't get one. It was just another case of the government pretending to do something.

I'd advise looking into the HARP program if you've got a good credit history and you're underwater on your current home. Lots of HARP program applications are being approved, and the deals are closing. That's what really matters when you find yourself in a situation like this.
- Dave

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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For Solution See Page 7.

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By Ronnie McBrayer

God Said It... And That Unsettles It

Thus, "believing the Bible" can create hard-hearted, judgmental, graceless religionists who patrol society with their personalized weapons of rigidity and arrogance. In such cases, both belief and the Bible have been misappropriated. Christians can become "settled" for sure, but are simultaneously nothing like their namesake, Jesus Christ.

I think there is a more principled approach to dealing with the Scriptures (even if my suggestion is shaped by my own unique set of assumptions): What if we begin to read the Bible descriptively rather than just prescriptively? That is, what if the Bible describes the human search for the Holy — and the Holy's interaction with the human — rather than simply prescribing religious behavior?

Such a change would allow us to be set free from stagnant dogma that "settles it," and instead put us on a journey of faithful exploration. We could then read the Scriptures, not to confirm our righteousness and others' wrongness, but looking for clues to how we can better know God.

After all, that's what I believe the Bible is all about: God spoke through the lives, experiences, and writing of those who went before us, so we could know him. And he is best known in the person of Jesus. Everything before Jesus is prelude, everything we read about him is gospel, and everything we read after him is reflection.

So we can see that the goal of the Scriptures is not to give us

ideas about religion; not to help us form sharper or better doctrinal statements; or to build theological armaments against those who believe differently than we do, or to answer all of our questions. It is to bring us face to face with Christ, and to become like him.

Consequently, we must be cautious not to fall more in love with the statues of the Scriptures than the actual Subject of the Scripture. We must guard against being more committed to our presuppositions about God than the Person who came to show us who God is and who we can become. We cannot be more smitten with the Bible than we are with Jesus, as strange as that may sound, for that is nothing less than a subtle form of idolatry.

Our faith isn't built on the Bible. It is built on a Person. There is only one foundation for Christian faith (the Bible says as much!), and that foundation is Jesus Christ. Upon him our faith rests, upon him the church is built, and he is what the Bible is about.

I'm not advocating setting the Bible aside, but to actually embrace it, and see to whom it points. This may be an unsettling way to approach the Scriptures, but being "settled" isn't the point; knowing and becoming like Jesus is.

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.

As Brilliant Schemes Go, Mine Didn't

By Rev. James L. Snyder, D. Litt

Throughout the years, I have come up with a few schemes. None of which has ever done me anything good, and yet I still spend the energy to try to come up with one that will.

It all began quite innocently enough as a Christmas present. When it comes to shopping for Christmas presents I just flop triumphantly. I was not made to go shopping. When I get into a mall, I begin to feel the walls closing in on me. I develop a panic, begin sweating profusely and then head for my car without looking back.

About the Christmas present. Aha, that was the solution to my Christmas shopping and a brilliant scheme that would benefit both of us.

This past Christmas I purchased for my lovely wife a round-trip ticket to New York to visit her family for a week. A week of her enjoying her family and they reciprocating the enjoyment. I did mention it was a "round-trip ticket." I do not mind sending her away as long as it includes a plan to return.

Now, the brilliant side of my scheme.

While she is in New York visiting with her relatives, I would be king of the castle. I have been looking forward to this for a long time. She gets to have fun with her relatives, and I get to have fun with myself.

For the week, I will turn our rather pleasant little domicile into a rip, snorting man cave. Ah, the thought of it was wonderful. The house would be mine for a week, and nobody would be supervising me. Nothing I like more than a week of no supervision. Oh sure, I could get into a lot of trouble, but what's life for if we cannot sample a wee bit of trouble occasionally.

For one, I would be in charge of the menu for the week. I was really looking forward to this.

Before she left, my wife made me promise that I would eat my fruits and vegetables and I would have a balanced diet every day. With a twinkle in my eye, more twinkly than normal, I agreed to her stipulations. I had my diet already planned in my head.

For a whole week, there would be no such things as salads for every meal. How she can come up with the variety of salads she serves is beyond my aching head. She honestly believes that a salad makes the world go round. Now, no salads in this house, correction, man cave, for a whole week. I love it when a plan comes together.

I shall be faithful to the fruits and vegetable regimen she made me promise. After all, one woman's vegetable is another man's speculation.

My main vegetable of the week would be [drum roll] carrot cake. Don't try to tell me carrot is not a vegetable. I will sick Bugs Bunny on you if you do. I plan to have a carrot every day of the week.

And for fruit? You guessed it. Apple fritters. You know the old saying, "An Apple fritter a day makes any man happy." I have made every plan to be happy this week. I am not sure if the bakery is going to be able to keep up with my orders this week. A man has to have his fruit.

My basic philosophy during this week is summed up in the old saying, "The world could end at any minute. Eat dessert first!" My dessert of course is fruit by nature. A banana split. Any meal that begins with a banana split is going to be an awesome meal to be sure.

It was only Thursday when I became aware of something. There was this smell in the house. I looked into the kitchen area and

dishes were piled upon the counter. The table where I usually sit down to eat was filled with all kinds of stuff. I do not want to know what it was. I looked in the bedroom, the laundry basket was full and overflowing and I could not see the bed.

I thought to myself, why are these things piling up? They would not do that if my wife were here. Are they trying to embarrass me or what?

I stood in the kitchen with my hands on my hips and I was about to give this man cave a good piece of my mind. Then I stopped. At that moment, I realized I had become my wife.

Perhaps, and I am just making a suggestion here, I have gained a new appreciation for my better half. Things just do not happen around the house. Somebody has to make them happen.

By Friday, I had come to my senses and realized the old saying I did not quite appreciate until this week. "Two can live cheaper than one." I am not sure about the cheaper part of it, but I know two can live cleaner than one, especially if that one is Yours Truly.

I thought of a Bible verse throughout the week, "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered" (1 Peter 3:7).

After all these years, I am just beginning to understand what it means to "dwell" with my wife.

The 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 (352) 687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

It "God said it, I believe it, and that settles it." This slogan is one of today's all too common bumper sticker defenses of the Bible. The phrase is sometimes amended to read, "God said it... and that settles it," to reflect that personal belief is inconsequential in the matter.

Proponents of this view caricature the Bible as a divinely dictated book of statutes whose truth is crystal clear to anyone who has sense enough to simply read. Of course they fail to clarify that what they call the "truth" is their view of the truth, shaped by their unique set of circumstances, experiences, and presuppositions.

I often encounter fervent, sincere, Bible-believing people who say things like, "We need more of the Bible around here." I don't disagree, but the sense I get is that what some people really want are for their interpretations of the Bible to be upheld, validated, and shouted at everyone else in the room.

They want the preacher to hit all the hot buttons on all the hot issues — and hit these buttons with some zing — so that they can shout "Hallelujah, we are right and everybody else is wrong!" Then they can continue with business as usual, celebrating their own spiritual beauty and criticizing the ugliness of those with whom they disagree.

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By Karen Anderson

It bothers me when I keep hearing others talk about how bad life is and everything is sooo tough. Now, don't get me wrong, in this day and age life is a challenge. But where is your attitude getting you? The person that thinks this way has got to be the most miserable person alive. When everywhere all you see is doom and gloom, I believe that is all you will ever see. You may think you want something different but your mind and heart are not working together. God is telling me that He wants you to get the two connected. You also need to take control of that evil little organ in your body that has destroyed so many lives including your own...YOUR MOUTH. Yes, I

I'm OK

will say it again; that mouth can either change your life forever in a positive way or it can keep you in that life of doom and destruction forever. That doesn't sound very appealing to me. Which one do you really want?

We have all heard the statement when something goes wrong that "Murphy's Law" strikes again. Here is what the law says, "Nothing is as easy as it looks, everything takes longer than you expect; and if anything can go wrong, it will—at the worst possible moment." I saw where a writer had taken this "law" and changed it to be "God's Law." Now that is a novel idea to take a negative and turn it into a positive. Get the "Negative Nellie" out of your life forever. I think this is a really good exercise. Today, I want to you to write God's Law for your life and change that sour attitude to a POSITIVE according to God. Here is a scripture to encourage you:

"A twinkle in the eye means joy in the heart, and good news makes you feel fit as a fiddle."

Are there times when

"Negative Nellie" peeks out and causes you to become discouraged and you just don't know what to do with her? Did you know that this is actually the enemy in women's clothing to trip you up? Do as I do; find your special scripture, say it out loud and the enemy in all his disguises will flee from you! The other thing I will do is force myself to smile and say, "I'm Okay!" The trick is that you have to believe it. With God's help and my believing Him with all my heart, I am truly OKAY.

What are you doing today to change your Negative Nellie attitude to a God-inspired attitude? Change your Murphy's Law into a life following YOUR "God's Law."

Proverbs 15:30 (The Message)

Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain. Receive a copy of her latest book, "Nikki's Tail-Waggin' Lessons" and "The Little Book of BIG Thoughts" series. Leave a message or questions for Karen through her website www.doablesteps.com/contact.

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The Basement Beneath the Wage Floor

Commentary by Jeffrey Tucker
Laissez Faire Today
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Publisher's Note: Read the entire story to get the real message.

There are certain sounds that tend to make people crazy. Think of nails on a chalkboard. An infant screaming nonstop on a long flight. A piercing whistle that won't go away.

Now we need to add another: a U.S. president who thinks he can legislate high wages into law. For anyone who knows the basics of economics -- not distorted by a bogus central-planning mentality -- hearing this is like torture. It's painful. It makes you crazier and crazier until you finally want to yell, "Make it stop!"

This is how I felt when President Obama said the following:

"Let's declare that in the wealthiest nation on Earth, no one who works full time should have to live in poverty, and raise the federal minimum wage to \$9.00 an hour. This single step would raise the incomes of millions of working families."

Why stop there? Let's also declare that everyone should make \$9,000 or \$9 million per hour. If

all that stands between us and total riches is the word of a president and an action by Congress, let's get on with it!

Does Obama really not get what's wrong with this approach? I've long disagreed with him, but I've never really thought he was ignorant. But even from the earliest interviews I've read, he does seem to have a tin ear on economic topics. He doesn't seem to get where wealth comes from. He doesn't seem to understand how prices work. And now we can be certain that if he understands how wages work, he isn't willing to let on.

Of course, he could also be lying. It wouldn't be the first time a politician did that.

Much of the current problem with youth unemployment is due to the high minimum wage increases we've seen over the last five years. When the crisis hit in 2008, the minimum wage was \$5.85. Lots of jobs got shaken up. Low-wage workers hit the road. When things settled down again, they went knocking on doors. The next year, they found that it was illegal to accept a wage less than \$7.25. And we wonder why so many people are unemployed? It's not a mystery. The huge increase in the wage floor is not the whole reason, but it is a contributing factor.

A wage floor of any sort traps people in the basement. The higher the floor, the larger the basement. Today, millions are rattling around down there, unable to find their way out. And now the U.S. president, in the name of creating jobs, wants to make more of the unemployed more permanently unemployed.

I feel a particular frustration with this issue, and it's not because of the economics texts I've read alone.

My first real job was working maintenance at a department store. I was 15 (yes, I lied about my age; you could do that back then). My job was to clean toilets, crush boxes, pick pins out of the dressing room closets, wax the floors in the china shop, vacuum the place, and shine the glass.

It was a great job. I mean, truly great. I loved it because it was a hugely important job. If I didn't clean the bathrooms well and replenish the toilet paper and towels, customers the next day might be grossed out and never come back. I played a big role in ensuring the profitability of this store.

I especially loved my co-worker. His name was Tad. The department store would close, leaving just the two of us to have so much fun doing all this wonderful work. We would sing together, thrill to the danger of the wax machine,

gross out at the mucky bathrooms, and just have that wonderful feeling that comes with having a real work partner.

You see, Tad was not a normal kid. He had some physical deformities. His face was oddly shaped and had what looked like a large stain on half of it. He couldn't move around that well, really. I had to help him and assign tasks carefully. He was also mentally retarded. He spoke in a muffled way, and you had to be very clear about instructions.

But I tell you what, when he was happy, it made me happy. To see that big smile come across his face when I would praise the way he shined up a counter just gave me a huge lift.

One day, a poster appeared in the workroom. It was from the Department of Labor. The minimum wage was going up by 50 cents. Tad pointed the sign out to me. He said, "Look, we are getting a raise!" I was a bit suspicious.

I was pretty sure that the boss was the one who set the wage, not some weird distant government thing. I didn't quite believe it was true. Still, I was happy that he was happy.

The next day, I showed up at the usual time after school. I was getting the mop ready, running hot water in the pail and prepared to do the thing. Tad wasn't there. I asked the boss, "Where's Tad today?"

Well, he explained that he had hired Tad only because he was a boy he knew from church. He needed work. He knew that he would require a lot of help, which was one reason he was excited that I was able to work with him. In the end, he said, this was charity, because he knew that I could do the job by myself. It worked for us to be together so long as he could afford it, but this new minimum wage changed things. The store's profit margins were very thin, and he had to make a hard decision.

The long and short of it: Tad had to be let go.

I was devastated. I stared at the Department of Labor sign again. Cursed thing! That sign just ruined a kid's life. It stopped a great act of charity. And look what it did to me. I now had to work alone.

Management left, the lights dimmed, and I heard the familiar click of the doors leading to the outside. I would have to clean alone today. I did all the tasks I had to. But there was no more music, no more laughter, no more clowning around, and no more beautiful smiles. Tad was somewhere else, probably at home, confused and sad.

He died a few years later. This is what the minimum wage means to me. So you can say that I have a vendetta. When the president announces that he is raising wages to make everyone better off, I can't help but think of the millions of Tads that will lose that opportunity to do wonderful things in this world and with their lives.

Governor Brown Announces Appointments

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. recently announced the following appointments.

Sanford Ballou, 46, of Grass Valley, has been reappointed to the 17th District Agricultural Association, Nevada County Fair Board, where he has served since 2008. Ballou has been owner of Sierra Saddlery and Mercantile since 2004 and owner of Emigrant Springs Ranch since 1997. He was manager of Big River Packing from 1993 to 1997 and produce broker, shipper and packer at

Oregon Onions from 1990 to 1993. Ballou has been a member of the Nevada County Farm Bureau since 2004 and was president from 2011 to 2012. This position does not require Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. Ballou is a Republican.

Jeanette Royal, 60, of Grass Valley, has been reappointed to the 17th District Agricultural Association, Nevada County Fair Board, where she has served since 1993. She has been a realtor at Network Real Estate since 2003. Royal was

a financial consultant at A.G. Edwards and Sons from 2000 to 2003. She was a realtor associate at Alta Sierra Real Estate from 1995 to 2000. Royal was the owner and facility manager of Royal Oaks Arabians from 1982 to 1996 and was an adult education teacher for the Grant Union High School District from 1977 to 1980. This position does not require Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. Royal is a Republican.

Source: The Office of Governor Brown

The Pentagon Budget as Political Football

Commentary by Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson
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The Pentagon's budget occupies center stage in the sequestration drama. Defense spending comprises approximately 18 percent of the 2013 federal budget, but it accounts for 50 percent of federal spending cuts stipulated in the sequestration agreement.

Why is there such a disproportionate impact on the defense budget? The primary reason is that neither party has the stomach to address the elephants in the federal budget—the three entitlements (Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid) that together account for 48 percent of FY 2013's federal expenditures.

Is there waste and inefficiency in the Pentagon budget? Of course there is, but this is because the Pentagon is a bureaucracy, not, as the left seems to believe, because it is tasked with national defense. As Ludwig von Mises explained so clearly in his book, "Bureaucracy," waste and inefficiency are inherent in the bureaucratic model of organization (note the reports of hundreds of billions of fraud and waste in the Medicare bureaucracy, for example). Such results are inevitable, due to the absence of a profit/loss calculus. The important lesson to be taken from Mises' penetrating analysis is that no society can afford to assign many tasks to government bureaucracies.

What is the "right" amount of money to spend on national defense? I haven't the slightest idea, nor do the experts, since nobody knows with certainty what threats will arise in the future. Rather than try to settle this impossible question, let me concede to those who wish to slash defense spending that history has not dealt kindly with geopolitical superpowers that have overextended themselves militarily and

fiscally. And to those who favor maintaining or increasing defense spending, it is indisputable that we live in a dangerous world and that—when it comes to military matters—it may be prudent to err on the side of over-preparedness rather than under-preparedness.

Ideally, what all of us, hawk or dove, should want with regard to defense spending are two things: one, that the brave Americans who have volunteered for military service be supplied with what they need to carry out their assigned tasks effectively and with the fewest possible casualties; and two, that Congress, the president, and the Pentagon leadership identify our country's defense needs and establish a coherent set of policies to meet those needs.

Practically speaking, both of those objectives may be reasonable, but they are problematic, especially the second one. In our debased political system, parochial interests too often trump national security. Seeing the way politicians determine the Pentagon's budget brings to mind Bismarck's comment that people would sleep better at night if they didn't know how sausages and laws were made.

The Pentagon's budget has become a political football. Congress and the president are treating it more like a bargaining chip in partisan deficit-reduction strategies rather than as their most solemn constitutional responsibility.

The football analogy is particularly apt, since footballs are "pigskins," and many of our elected national office-holders forget all about national security and use the Pentagon to procure pork for political constituencies.

President Obama has exhibited a pronounced tendency to place politics above national security in his treatment of Pentagon spending. Even though he clearly wants a less muscular military (e.g., fewer ships and jet fighters, massive reduction in nuclear weapons), the president now

claims that we can't afford the projected Pentagon spending cuts.

I think his reasons are transparent. First, there is his well-known preference for public-sector jobs and his desire to keep people on the public payroll; thus, he views the Pentagon as just another federal jobs program. Second, since government spending is the key to government power, as a matter of ideological principle, he dislikes cutting government spending. Third, President Obama loves to reward his political allies and punish his opponents, so you can expect him to try to rescue some defense-related jobs and let others in "hostile states" like Texas be terminated.

Nobody should assume that Obama wants to rescind the sequester deal's spending cuts out of a concern for military strength. He'll find a way to beat the Pentagon's swords into plowshares. Last year he ordered the Pentagon to buy higher-priced renewable energy to support his green-energy boondoggles.

We all should be embarrassed at the way national defense has been degraded to a political football. As cynical as the treatment of national defense has been, though, we, the people, should be feeling even more cynical about the hysterical, sky-is-falling rhetoric about sequestration. Even if the stipulated cuts in future spending somehow manage to stick, they will be so modest that it may end up being a case of winning a battle while losing the war against runaway federal spending.

Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson is an adjunct faculty member, economist, and fellow for economic and social policy with The Center for Vision & Values at Grove City College.

See www.VisionAndValues.org | www.VisionAndValuesEvents.com

Editor's note: A version of this article first appeared at Forbes.com.



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Eliminating the deficit...

Continued from page 1

from 0 percent (or even below 0 percent) to at least 20 percent and in most cases much higher.

What's the point of all of this? The first point is that there is, in fact, no feasible scenario wherein you can eliminate a \$1 trillion-plus deficit with taxes alone.

Democrats understand that you can't confiscate all or most of the income of the wealthy and have no intention of asking the lower 47 percent of households to begin paying federal income tax. And even if you increased the corporate federal tax share from 15 percent of the total to, say, 20 percent (a 33 percent increase), individual households still would have to plug a \$1-trillion deficit with new taxes (instead of \$1.1 trillion).

The more fundamental point is that progressives' rhetoric on this

topic is cynical and dishonest. Their reactions to the "sequestration" in early 2013 tell the truth of the matter. Best estimates on the proposed "cuts" show they could amount to about 2 percent of the total budget, barely a drop in the bucket. And the reality is that overall federal spending will still increase over last year, and in every category except maybe defense. But even this is being mercilessly demagogued by Democrats, proving that no actual spending cuts are acceptable to them. Of course, economic growth would help. But even Obama's first chief economic adviser understands that huge tax increases cause economic contraction, not growth.

So, if you're not willing to reduce spending and you recognize that there's no way to eliminate the deficit through tax increases alone, you are left in an endless loop that points

inexorably to one conclusion: you don't actually care one iota about the deficit, or the resulting debt, or the economic crash that is sure to result from this whole absurd mess.

Dr. R.B.A. Di Muccio is a guest commentator for The Center for Vision & Values at Grove City College. A former assistant professor and chair of the international relations program in the political science department at the University of Florida, he is now vice president of research and advisory services for a global business advisory firm. He received his Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Southern California.

Editor's note: A longer version of this article first appeared at American Thinker.

See www.VisionAndValues.org



A Case in Point The Case of the Bad Brakes

By David Graulich, Esq.

President Harry Truman kept a sign on his desk that said, "The Buck Stops Here." Truman believed that certain responsibilities were the exclusive domain of the President and could not be delegated.

California has a similar legal concept, although the phrase is less colorful than "the buck stops here." Lawyers and judges call this concept "a nondelegable duty." Here's an example of how it works. I'm using fictitious names, but the story is based on an actual case called *Maloney v. Rath*:

Lucy brought her car to Fred's Repair Shop to have the brakes overhauled. Lucy picked up the car, paid Fred for the work and drove around town without any problem.

About three months later, Ethel was driving to Raley's for her weekly grocery shopping. She stopped in a left-hand turn lane on Sunrise Avenue to wait for the traffic signal to change. Lucy, en route to a yoga class, pulled into the left-hand turn lane behind Ethel. When Lucy stepped on her brake pedal, the brakes failed, and Lucy's car collided with the rear of Ethel's car. Ethel suffered neck and spine injuries and sued Lucy for damages.

After the accident, the brakes on Lucy's car were examined by

her insurance company. It was determined that the failure was caused by a hole in the hydraulic hose, which caused the hose to rub against the right front wheel. After three months of friction, the hose ruptured, without warning, and the brakes failed. That's when Lucy could not stop her car and hit Ethel. The rubbing against the wheel resulted from the faulty installation of the hose at Fred's when the brakes were overhauled.

Lucy's attorney asked the judge to dismiss the case against her. Lucy neither knew, nor had reason to know, that her brakes were defective until the moment of the accident. The brakes had given no warning of their imminent failure. The hole in the hose would have been apparent only to a mechanic, not to the average person. Lucy was abiding by all traffic laws when she collided with Ethel and had a good faith belief that her car was fine. Why should Lucy, rather than Fred, be liable to Ethel?

Here's where the nondelegable duty entered the case. The court's decision was that Ethel definitely could sue Lucy for liability. The vehicle owner is liable for injuries caused by defective brakes – even if a service garage supposedly repaired the brakes but did a negligent job. California's Vehicle Code

imposes on the vehicle owner the duty to maintain the brakes in good working order, and that duty is nondelegable.

The law's reasoning is based on a concern for public safety. If the work in question involves a grave risk of bodily harm or death, liability is assigned to the person who selects the contractor. The vehicle owner can select a reputable repair shop that provides a customer with indemnity (i.e., the repair shop will reimburse the customer for loss or damages resulting from the repair shop's negligence.) Although Lucy may be liable to Ethel, Fred may be liable to Lucy.

There are other nondelegable duties in everyday life. A property owner has a nondelegable duty to keep his or her property reasonably free from hazards. An apartment building landlord has a nondelegable duty to keep the lobby, elevators and staircases safe. A trucking company is liable for the negligence of an independent contractor drivers if he or she causes a traffic accident. Surgeons have a nondelegable duty to remove sponges and clamps from the patient's body when finishing an operation. The bottom line is that an improperly maintained car poses a grave risk of serious bodily injury or death. California



POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

home, then we sit in the car, and we sit at our computers at work, back to the car and home again to park it in front of the TV set. Movement is minimal, and the body was not made for that lifestyle and doesn't like it.

In the past, we were mobile and active because we had to be. Now our low activity causes the muscles in our body to atrophy from the big muscles like biceps to structural muscles that keep your body properly aligned. It's actually pretty simple. When your muscles turn to mush, your body falls out of alignment, increases pressure on your joints, in the wrong way, and voila...PAIN!!!

Then we turn to surgery or pain meds, and the results are not encouraging. Patrick, a Division One college athlete with a degree in Kinesiology and Biomechanics has developed a program called Postural Alignment Therapy, PAT for short. PAT is physics-based and uses software to measure your individual alignment. Then that same software determines your misalignments and recommends specific exercises to correct them. Each person has a tailored exercise program that you do in the privacy of your own home for about fifteen minutes, twice a day, over a four-month period. After that, you transition into a maintenance program to fit your particular time commitment.

And here's the most exciting news. I have to tell you, it was a major surprise for me. Symmetry for Health has hit a home run for my situation. I began the program about three

months ago. Why? I was told by my docs that I was losing bone mass at a much too high a rate. My fear...osteoporosis. And I didn't want to take meds that have some possibly terrible side effects. I approached Patrick with my dilemma, and he said, "Let's give it a try." At about two months into the program, I took another test, and you are not going to believe what I discovered. My bone loss dropped in half, and I still had two of the four month program to go. I was thrilled, and so was my doctor. I know it works for me personally, and I think it might work for you too. You won't know til you try. And I can tell you, the exercises are not all that hard or painful.

I want to make a difference in your life, so I got Patrick to agree to give you a full evaluation and consultation absolutely free, if you mention POPPOFF. I am personally looking for a long-term solution without medication, and I think I've found it. You can too. Check out *Symmetry for Health* at www.symmetryforhealth.com and then call Patrick at 916-467-7764 to make your appointment today. It's free! All you have to lose is your pain. I always want to keep you informed about new technologies to keep you pain free! I'll keep you up to date on my progress too! Pain is a warning! No pain is good health!!! Let's get there together!

Join Mary Jane for the *KAHI Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPPOFF 10 PM - Midnight.*

Community 1st Bank Appoints Peter Raffetto to Board of Directors

PLACER COUNTY, CA – (MPG) Community 1st Bank has announced the addition of long-time banking executive Peter Raffetto to the Bank's Board of Directors.

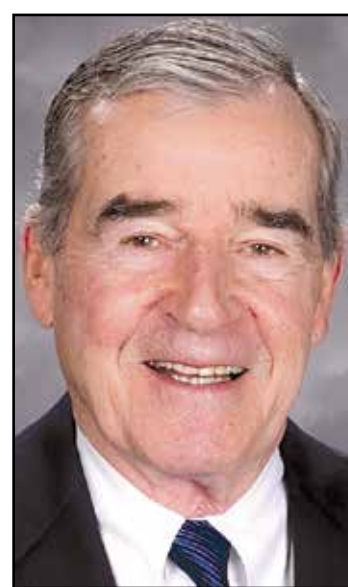
Raffetto grew up in Auburn, graduated from Placer High School, and earned a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in finance at University of California, Berkeley.

He enjoyed an extensive and prestigious banking career in the Sacramento region that spanned more than 35 years.

"We are honored to welcome someone of Peter Raffetto's stature to Community 1st Bank. He brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise regarding the banking industry to our Board," said Robert Haydon, President and Chief Executive Officer.

"This is an exciting time to join the Board at Community 1st Bank, a challenging time for the banking industry and the market I served through my entire banking career," Raffetto said. "It's wonderful to join a team that is not only fulfilling the banking needs of local businesses and individuals, but is also a community-based organization that provides a major commitment to civic involvement."

Raffetto was a stock broker for several years before beginning his banking career in 1975



Peter Raffetto.

when he was named President and Director of River City Bank. During his 18 years at River City the bank grew from \$20 million in assets to approximately \$400 million and was considered a premier performing bank.

In 1995, Raffetto served as the Regional President for Truckee River Bank, which had branches in Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Reno and Sacramento. Truckee River eventually became Sierra West Bank and later merged with Bank of the West.

In 2001, Raffetto successfully initiated the startup of Calnet Business Bank, where he worked with Community 1st Bank's

Chief Financial Officer, James Kim, and Senior Vice President of Business Development, Gretchen Eischen. He later helped complete the \$40 million sale of Calnet to Commercial Capital Bank. Raffetto remained with Commercial Capital until retiring in 2006.

Raffetto has served as Director of both California Independent Bankers and California Bankers Association. While a member of the Board of Trustees for the UC Berkeley Foundation, he received the "Trustee Award" for outstanding service.

Among Raffetto's many civic-oriented leadership roles was serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Jesuit High School and residing on the Advisory Board for the Haas Business School at UC Berkeley. Raffetto is currently a director with California Waterfowl Association and previously was a director and treasurer for WEAVE.

Raffetto lives in Sacramento with his wife, Sue. The couple has three grown children.

Community 1st Bank, the only locally based bank in Placer County, has offices in Auburn, at 649 Lincoln Way, and at 2250 Douglas Blvd. in Roseville.

Source: Halldin Public Relations



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6 - 9am:	The KAHI Morning News with Barry Stigers and the KAHI News Team
9am - Noon:	The Laura Ingraham Show
Noon - 1pm:	The KAHI Noon News with Mary Jane Popp and the KAHI News Team
1 - 4pm:	The Dave Ramsey Show
4 - 6pm:	The KAHI Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHI News Team
6 - 7pm:	The Drive Home Show with Dave Rosenthal
Wednesday:	Wealth Strategies with Hunter William Bailey
7 - 10pm:	Sports Byline USA with Ron Barr
10pm - 12am:	Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp
Saturdays	
6 - 7am:	A Time for Seniors
7 - 8am:	The Swap Shop
8 - 9am:	The KAHI Corral
9 - 10am:	The Garden Guru
10 - 11am:	The Dew Sweepers Golf Show
11am - 7pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
7 - 8pm:	A Way With Words
8 - 9pm:	Rewind with Jimmy Jay
Sundays	
7:30 - 9am:	Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet
9:00am - 7pm:	Sinatra & Friends Music
7 - 8pm:	A Way With Words
8 - 9pm:	Hearts of Space

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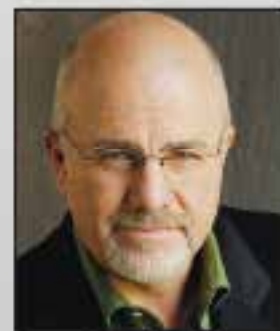
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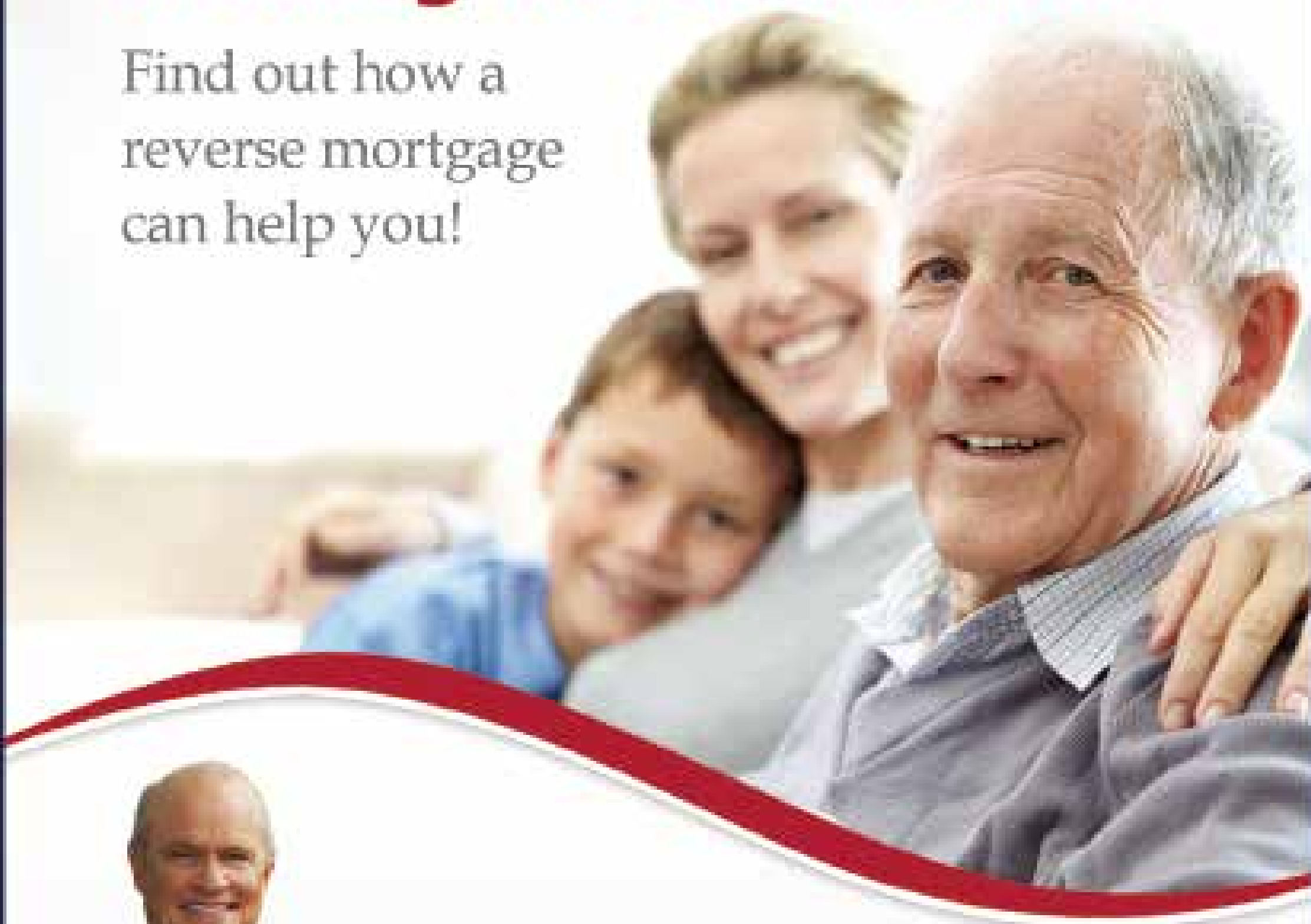


Mary Jane Popp



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