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# Placer • Sentinel

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Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987

First Issue of September 2012

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# Koinonia Celebrates 10 Years of Keeping Families Together



Koinonia's crisis resolution center will celebrate 10 years keeping families together. The event will include food, entertainment and presentations by county officials and families.

LOOMIS – Local residents can help celebrate Koinonia Homes for Teens' 10th anniversary of the Crisis Resolution Center that has helped more than 1,000 Placer County families stay together. The free event will take place 4:30-7:30

p.m. on Sept. 19 at Koinonia's Crisis Resolution Center, 3751 Magnolia Street, Loomis, and will include live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres and presentations from county officials and families who have received help. Koinonia's Crisis Resolution

Center is funded through Placer County and works to resolve family crises and reunify Placer County youth ages 12-17 with their families. The Crisis Resolution Center provides counseling and referral services, as well as six beds for short-term residential

services when youth need somewhere to stay while a family crisis is being resolved. Ninety percent of families at the Crisis Resolution Center stay together.

"We are proud of the people who, over the last 10 years, have worked hard to rebuild their families at the Crisis Resolution Center, and we're grateful to Placer County for keeping this resource available to local families," said Bill Ryland, director of Koinonia Homes for Teens and the Crisis Resolution Center. "The anniversary event will provide a great opportunity for people to hear some inspiring stories and to celebrate the center's great achievements over the last decade."

Koinonia Homes for Teens, a division of Koinonia Family Services, works with teens in several specialized programs. With six homes located in Placer and Sacramento counties, and a Community School and Treatment Center in Loomis, Koinonia is one of the premiere adolescent substance abuse treatment programs in the state. Each home is staffed with caring professionals that bring a home-like atmosphere and quality treatment during this difficult out-of-home placement. For more information, visit <http://teens.kfh.org> or [www.kfh.org/services/crc.cfm](http://www.kfh.org/services/crc.cfm).

For more information, call (916) 652-0171.

Source: Thébaut Communications

## Illegal Fire Tax Bills on Their Way



By Senator Ted Gaines

Despite my efforts to stop it by referendum and legislation, the illegal fire tax is being assessed on more than 825,000 rural Californians starting this month, including 1,199 in Sacramento County.

This so-called fee was passed in 2011 to extract up to \$150 per habitable structure from property owners. The tax will not provide any more fire protection and will actually make it harder for local fire agencies to raise the money they need to keep people safe. It's a lose-lose proposition for the people in my district and for anyone concerned with public safety and the rule of law.

This tax should have been subject to a 2/3 vote in the legislature just like every other tax, but the Democrats called it a fee to get around that requirement. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is planning to file a lawsuit disputing the fee's legality and I hope it gets overturned as soon as possible.

Until that happens, though, the State Board of Equalization (BOE) has already begun mailing the first bills for the new fire tax this month and hopes to have all bills sent by December. The BOE has also begun mailing an advance notice to the affected property owners to warn them that the bills are coming, and to provide them with a brochure explaining the "fee."

No matter how many mailers or explanations or warnings any agency sends out, it doesn't make this tax any more right or more legal. It was, is and always will be a shakedown of rural property owners that takes their money every single year but gives them zero in the way of additional fire protection.

Wildfires are currently raging out of control across the North State and they won't be put out by the phantom protections promised in this bogus tax. We need more firefighters, bulldozers, trucks and the other equipment that does the hard work of fighting these wildfires and protecting us, our homes and our property. This tax leaves us no safer, only poorer and more skeptical than ever of a government that takes and spends taxpayer dollars with no regard to the law or to fairness.

I wanted to share with you several resources you can use to equip yourselves with information. Visit [www.calfirefee.com](http://www.calfirefee.com) to see if you live in a "State Responsibility Area" and will be paying this tax. For questions regarding your bill, contact (888) 310-6447. For more information regarding the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association efforts, visit [www.firetaxprotest.org](http://www.firetaxprotest.org).

Senator Ted Gaines represents the 1st Senate District, which includes all or parts of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento and Sierra counties.

# California Eliminates 7,112 Nonessential Vehicles

SACRAMENTO – The Department of General Services today announced that Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.'s Executive Order to eliminate unnecessary state vehicles has led departments to cut 7,112 vehicles from the state fleet.

The reduction included 4,204 passenger cars and light duty trucks, which alone is expected to save the state more than \$12.6 million annually in fuel, insurance and depreciation costs. "We have made tremendous strides examining every mobile asset and cutting the size of our state fleet," said DGS Director Fred Klass.

"Moving forward, we will use the methodology established to drive this reduction to help prevent unnecessary increases to the state fleet in future years." The Governor's order also called

on departments to eliminate all nonessential and cost-ineffective permits that allow thousands of state employees to commute to and from work in a state vehicle.

The cuts resulted in 3,246 vehicle home storage permits being eliminated, a 45 percent reduction from the number of permits departments had issued in January 2011, and eliminating more than 1,000 permits that were called for in the Executive Order.

These cuts are expected to save an estimated \$3 million annually in fuel costs, as employees are no longer commuting in those vehicles. Governor Brown's fleet reduction Executive Order called on the Department of General Services to conduct the first-ever examination of all mobile assets within the state fleet and eliminate any nonessential vehicles.

The eliminated vehicles include passenger cars, trucks, vans, buses, heavy equipment, boats, trailers, planes and other mobile assets. The cuts represent a 14 percent reduction of the state's fleet.

When combined with cuts made by the prior administration in 2010, more than 20 percent of the state fleet has been eliminated in four years.

The largest reductions come from the following 10 departments:

Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation	2,263
California Department of Transportation	1,322
California State Parks	586
California Department of Fish & Game	494
California Highway Patrol	457

Department of Developmental Services	312
CAL FIRE	240
California Department of General Services	241
California Department of Water Resources	218
Prison Industry Authority	105

The Department of General Services acts as the business manager for the State of California. DGS helps state government better serve the public by providing services to state agencies including procurement and acquisition solutions, real estate management, leasing and design services, environmentally friendly transportation, and architectural oversight and funding for the construction of safe schools.

# New Law Requires Out-of-State Retailers to Collect Use Tax

## Consumers to See Tax at Point-of-Sale for Online Purchases

SACRAMENTO – Beginning September 15, 2012, a new law takes effect (Stats. 2011, ch. 313 (AB 155) that expands the types of out-of-state retailers required to register with the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) and requires them to begin collecting and remitting use tax on sales of tangible personal property to California consumers. The law applies to out-of-state retailers that have substantial nexus with California consumers. This includes any

out-of-state retailer that has sold more than \$1 million to California consumers in the past year and has had more than \$10,000 in sales referred by an affiliate operating in California.

"This new law may require some out-of-state online retailers to start collecting tax, but others will remain completely unaffected," said Board of Equalization Member George Runner. "The good news is that rather than engage in a costly, drawn-out legal fight, Amazon.

com has decided to voluntarily invest in California and bring thousands of jobs to our state. I applaud their decision and hope other out-of-state companies will consider doing the same."

The BOE is sending letters to more than 200 out-of-state retailers notifying them about the new law. Retailers will be able to easily register online with the BOE's secure and innovative electronic registration system (eReg) and remit the tax collected by e-filing their returns. AB 155 does

not create a new tax — the California Use Tax has been on the books since 1935. It expands the types of out-of-state retailers required to collect the tax.

When AB 155 takes effect September 15, some additional out-of-state retailers, including Internet retailers, will collect the use tax at the point of sale, and California consumers will begin to see a tax on their bill. However, if out-of-state retailers do not collect the tax, California consumers must continue to

report and pay their use taxes.

Consumers can pay directly to the BOE using eReg or pay on their California income tax returns with the option of using the Use Tax Lookup Table.

AB 155 is expected to help the BOE collect tens of millions of dollars in use tax that will help pay for services such as public safety, schools and health care. The BOE does not have a precise estimate because AB 155 is a new law.

Source: BOE Newsroom



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# Need An Outlet for Your Singing Talent? Sierra Gold Chorus is the Place for You!



AUBURN – Sierra Gold Chorus, the Auburn Chapter of Sweet Adelines International, dressed in holiday attire to prepare for Christmas! They invite women of all ages to join them as they prepare for their annual Christmas show. You are invited to attend the Christmas rehearsals beginning Monday, September 17, at 6:30 PM. at Burbank Hall, De Witt Center, 11577 E Avenue, in Auburn. The Christmas show is December 8, 2012. For more information, please call Carol

530-478-0130, Barb 530-885-4202, Bev 916-663-2105, or visit the website at [www.sierragold-chorus.org](http://www.sierragold-chorus.org).

Today's Sweet Adelines sing exciting a cappella, four-part harmony music, barbershop style. Whatever tone your voice, there is a singing part for you. Members say that singing the satisfying sounds of barbershop provides a rich rewarding experience.

The Sierra Gold Chorus has a membership of over 40

women from Nevada City to Sacramento to Sparks, Nevada! Sweet Adelines International, a highly respected worldwide organization of women singers, is committed to advancing the musical art form of Barbershop harmony through education and performance.

The women in the chorus agree that there isn't anything they would rather do on a Monday evening than to spend it singing with their Sierra Gold Chorus' sisters. Come and join the fun!

# 49er Lions Celebrity Chefs Event

For 26 years, the city of Auburn has enjoyed the culinary talents of its area cooks at the Celebrity Chefs Cooking for Community Service event. On Thursday, March 7, 2013, at the Placer Building of the Auburn Gold Country Fairgrounds, local cooks will once again tempt visitors with the enticing aromas and savory flavors of their favorite edible creations.

Each year, the 49er Lions partners with another local non-profit organization to raise funds which will be put back into our community. The 49er Lions are currently in search of such an organization. If you are a member of a group that would like to be considered, please contact Andy Gonzales at Auburn 49er Lions Club, P.O. 5703, Auburn, Calif. 95604, and provide information about your group by Nov. 27, and be available to speak at a Lions Club meeting.

Past recipients include the Forgotten Soldier Program, Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice, the Interfaith Food Closet, 4-H, the



Joe Rawson & Jim Ryan of the Auburn Host Lions.

American Cancer Society, and the Auburn Symphony.

Auburn 49er Lion Andy Gonzales is heading up this year's event. He expects the evening to be delicious fun, as always.

If you would like to demonstrate your cooking talents and join other celebrity chefs on that

evening, or if you have any questions about this event, call Paula at 530-863-7503.

The 49er Lions have served the Auburn Community for over 40 years. If you would like to learn more about the activities of the Auburn 49er Lions Club, contact them at [auburn49er-lions@gmail.com](mailto:auburn49er-lions@gmail.com).

# County Sheriff's Receives Grant to Combat Underage Drinking

PLACER COUNTY - The Placer County Sheriff's Office recently received a grant from the State of California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for 2012-2013. Agencies who will participate along with the Sheriff's Office in the grant are Auburn, Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville police departments.

The grant, totaling \$99,760, will be used to combat underage drinking and alcohol sales to minors countywide. The grant will also assist the Sheriff's Office in providing awareness

and training in alcohol-related crimes and their impact for school staff, parents, students and the community.

Throughout the year, the Sheriff's Office will aggressively target problematic ABC licensed establishments that sell alcoholic beverages to minors and obviously intoxicated adult patrons. Minor-decoy and shoulder-tap operations will also be conducted countywide to minimize alcohol access to minors.

Deputies and police officers will also identify problematic

areas and businesses where alcohol use is causing problems. They will inspect operations at those locations and at randomly selected establishments to ensure licensees are operating within the standards required by ABC.

Two training sessions will also be held for businesses that possess alcohol licenses. These sessions will provide a review of the rules and regulations governing the service of alcohol.

Source: Placer County Sheriff

# Governor Brown Announces Starr Appointment

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. recently announced the appointment of Mark Starr, 56, of Rocklin, as deputy director of the Center for Environmental Health at the Department of Public Health. Starr has been the director of community health, clinics and animal services for Placer County since 2007. He served in multiple positions at the California Department of Health

Care Services from 1995 to 2007, including chief of the Division of Communicable Disease Control.

Starr has been a volunteer clinical professor in the Master of Public Health Program at the University of California, Davis since 2004 and was a lecturer on Health and Safety Studies at California State University, Sacramento from 1996 to 2000. He was chief epidemiologist at the Sacramento County Department of

Health and Human Services from 1990 to 1995. Starr. He earned a Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine degree and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from University of California, Davis and is board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$140,004. Starr is a Democrat.

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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**

# American Presidents Convene in Nevada City



From Dave Carter

NEVADA CITY – All 44 presidents in the history of the United States, from George Washington to Barack Obama, will gather in the picturesque Sierra foothills village of Nevada City, California on Sunday, Sept. 9, to march together in the town's 46th Annual Constitution Day Parade.

This annual special appearance is believed to be the singular time and place on the planet where all American Presidents gather together, partisan politics aside, to celebrate the U.S.

Constitution, freedom and the American way of life.

Founded in 1988, the Marching Presidents are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year, with a theme of "Silver in the Gold Country."

Accompanied by their First Ladies and cadres of trench-coated secret service agents, the Marching Presidents are made up of citizens from all walks of life. This is their only annual appearance, although they have received several requests to march in other parades.

The 46th Annual Nevada City Constitution Day Parade

moves a down a flag and bunting-draped Broad Street through historic downtown Nevada City at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 9. The Marching Presidents are among more than 80 expected entries.

The Marching Presidents is a fun-loving and educational group that portrays all 44 U.S. Presidents with reverence, good humor and varying degrees of historical accuracy. To learn more about the group, see [www.marchingpresidents.org](http://www.marchingpresidents.org). For reliable information on U.S. Presidents, see [www.america-president.org](http://www.america-president.org).

## Around Town with Loyce Smallwood



Auburn abuzz with grand openings, celebrations and fundraisers including DT Gaia's Basket, 937 Lincoln Way, a new store which lays claim to "A Healthy Food Store offering organic produce and is located near three-months celebrant/store owner Kat Stewart who's packing in the stunning Western Scully fashions along with hand-made leather skirts, vests and beaded leather bags at her Kat's Country Korner across from Tango, our fav frozen yogurt stop, home of the Key Lime delight.

Ro Sham Bo vintage shop owner Jessica Woods—next door to Kat's at 923 Lincoln Way—at this date will have celebrated her one year anniversary and if you want to celebrate in your home and/or garden, wander up Lincoln Way to Avantgarden which is packed with alluring garden, home and fashion décor all overseen by a cheerful and helpful staff and big thanks to long-time owner Kim for her wonderful garden ornament donated to the Oct 6 ACTV silent auction/fundraiser overseen by Yours Truly.

St. Luke's celebrates 125 years on September 29 with dinner,

carnival games, puppet shows, music and dancing. Check out St. Luke's thrift DT on Lewis Street around the corner from the town square. Remember to contact the industrious Auburn Community TV staffer Bill Mael at [billmaels@att.net](mailto:billmaels@att.net) to participate in the Gong Show segment of the fundraiser; email [loycer@suddenlink.net](mailto:loycer@suddenlink.net) to volunteer and/or donate in the silent auction to be held at the Placer High auditorium with donations forthcoming from the talented ceramist Tony Natsoulas; painted art from zany Maija Peebles Bright; sculptured jewelry by Jay Stargaard, hand blown glass from Shannon Morgan; felt figure by Ellen Hulls along with painted porcelain by Edna Sparks and hand quilted craft art by Jane Haworth. Participants will also have a chance to bid on health experiences with gift certificate donations from The Ridge Golf Course; yoga instructor and ACTV volunteer Gwenn Jones and Reiki Therapist and Senior Care Specialist Therese Johnson whose ambitious daughter Grace Silva is building her own business with gusto.

Looking to donate those book shelves and display units, call Unity Church Thrift Shop at 530: 888-6489 and drop off your gently used clothing, house wares and jewelry at the thrift shop



Quilter Jane Haworth

on High Street where Stephanie Langley and Edna Sparkes cheerfully volunteer their time/efforts.

And to those stalwart volunteers and pet advocates Betty and Susie, special Sentinel Stars for your devotion to our homeless pets at the Friends of Placer County bookstore in the Raley's Center at Foresthill where book donations; home décor and fashions, collectibles and jewelry are needed along with more volunteers to provide homes for needy pets.

More friendly and dedicated volunteers will be on hand to make the AL Thrift Back to School Blowout sale on September 8 at the Fiddler Green location just across the street from Piece by Peace thrift which offers up a variety of alluring sportswear and career clothing for the active/productive women of which there is no shortage in Auburn, indeed!

# Tax Hikes Don't Level the Playing Field

By George Runner

I can think of a lot of things that might help level the playing field for California businesses. A billion dollar tax hike isn't one of them. But supporters of Speaker Perez's legislation, AB 1500, would have you believe otherwise.

In 2009, the Legislature adopted a tax cut that actually did help level the playing field for California businesses.

That change allowed companies to choose from two corporate tax formulas commonly used in other states: one based on property, payroll and sales; the other based on sales only.

Since the tax cut just became effective last year, we have yet to see its full impact. But there's no doubt it's helping many companies brave enough to do business in California.

Conversely, AB 1500 picks winners and losers. It eliminates the older property, payroll and sales formula and leaves the newer sales-only formula as the mandatory one-size-fits-all option. Not surprisingly, the only CEOs applauding AB 1500's recent approval by the California State Assembly are the ones who won't be forced to pay higher taxes.

But that's okay, according to the bill's supporters, because the

companies using the older formula don't count as California businesses since their corporate headquarters are located out-of-state. Imagine how high California's unemployment rate would be if we drove out all "non-California" businesses—like Barnes & Noble, Home Depot, Microsoft, Starbucks, Target and Wal-Mart.

By imposing a billion dollar tax increase on "out-of-state" businesses like Chrysler, General Motors, International Paper and Kimberly-Clark, AB 1500 seems to miss the fact that these "out-of-state" companies employ thousands of middle-class Californians in good-paying jobs.

How many Californians care whether their company is headquartered inside or outside the state? Few, if any. Most are just happy to have a steady paycheck and health coverage. But if they lose their jobs as a result of this legislation, they'll start caring.

Proponents of AB 1500 claim that somehow raising taxes will create more jobs in our state. Next time someone says that, ask them to provide a specific example of a company that will create one more job in California if this bill passes. They can't.

What's more likely is that companies faced with a higher tax bill will downsize their California-

based operations, costing us jobs we can't afford to lose.

In short, AB 1500 grows government and punishes the very job creators we should be trying to attract to our state.

If Democratic lawmakers really want to level the playing field for California businesses, they could do it anytime—and they'd have plenty of Republican support. They could start by repealing California's onerous greenhouse gas regulations, which are driving up energy costs for all Californians.

They could lower California's corporate tax rates, which are the highest in the West. They could repeal labor laws found only in California that make running a business in our state more costly than just about anywhere else on the planet. They could also enact real regulatory reform to streamline government and reduce needless burdens on the small businesses owners who power much of our economy.

AB 1500 doesn't accomplish any of these needed reforms. In the meantime, the playing field for California businesses remains anything but level.

*Elected in November 2010, George Runner represents more than nine million Californians as a member of the State Board of Equalization. For more information, visit [www.boe.ca.gov/Runner](http://www.boe.ca.gov/Runner).*

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Friday, Oct 19, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

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**PRESENTER: Mel Osborne**

Tuesday, September 25, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 31, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 29, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: St. Francis Community Hall**

6700 Verner Ave., Sacramento, CA 95841 (I-80 @ Greenback)

RSVP to LISA WEST @ (916) 732-2020

**PRESENTER: Josh Tuttle**

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# NID: 4% Rate Increase for 2013

GRASS VALLEY – Nevada Irrigation District water rates will increase by an average 4 percent at the first of the year but will remain among the most affordable in the region.

The NID Board of Directors on Wednesday (Aug. 22) reaffirmed their support for the modest rate increase as called for in the district's five-year financial plan, which is designed to bring NID's revenues more in line with its costs, and to more evenly balance rate structures among treated water and irrigation water users.

The board also voted to conduct new water rate and cost of service studies and authorized staff to seek proposals from independent consulting firms. The studies are expected to begin in early 2013.

Under the 2013 rate schedule, which takes effect Jan. 1, a typical treated water customer using a standard 5/8-inch meter will pay a base rate of \$18.55 per month, up from \$17.84. The usage rate (per hundred cubic-feet) will increase from \$1.47 to \$1.53.

Increases for irrigation water customers will average 4 percent for all but the smallest and largest users, who will average slightly more. The increases vary as NID seeks to flatten the curve among smaller and larger users. A typical raw water customer using 1 miner's inch of water will pay \$573.90 for the entire six-month irrigation season, up from \$551.52.

Board President Nick Wilcox said the district would continue to offer its existing 5 percent discount to irrigation water users who pay for the season in advance.

Even with the rate adjustments, NID water rates compare favorably in the region. Finance Manager Jim Malberg said the district's rates for treated drinking water are lower than those charged by Nevada City, Grass Valley and the Placer County Water Agency.

The rate adjustments are projected to raise \$637,000 toward NID's 2013 Water Division operations and maintenance budget, which is expected to be

in the \$24 million range.

In other business, NID directors:

- authorized staff to contract with Rocklin-based consulting firm ECORP to conduct instream flow and sediment studies on the Bear River and Deer Creek. The studies are needed as part of NID's ongoing effort to license its permitted water rights on the two waterways.

- heard a presentation from Stuart Satow, senior executive recruiter with CPS HR Consulting in Sacramento. Directors are expected to contract with the firm to conduct an executive search for a new general manager to succeed Ron Nelson, who has served as the district's chief executive for the past decade and plans to retire later this year.

The next regular meeting of the NID Board of Directors will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 12, at the NID Business Center in Grass Valley. NID board meetings are open to the public.

# Music of the 30s and 40s

LOOMIS – The First United Methodist church welcomes Julie Rigali and the Been There, Done That, Jazz Band. Come reminisce to a mix of Dixieland, Blues, and Ballads. This performing group has been welcomed at many elder care facilities, Sun City events, and various community events such as the Lincoln Clayfest. They are all very accomplished musicians!

What a wonderful opportunity to listen to some enduring standards from the 30's and 40's, such as: Moonlight in Vermont, Bye Bye Blackbird, Sentimental Journey, and a little St. Louis Blues. Treat yourself! Featured will be Laurie Steele, Charles Murray, Frank Propersi, Bab Mafke, Julie Rigali, and Paul Daher. **When:** September 9, 2012 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM. **Where:** 6414 Brace Road, Loomis, 95650.



F: Laurie Steele, Charles Murray, Frank Propersi. B: Bab Mafke, Julie Rigali, Paul Daher

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# The Environmentalists' Misguided Plan to Repeal and Replace Fossil Fuels

Commentary by **Merrill Matthews**

The Republican slogan for what to do about President Obama's health care reform is "repeal and replace." Similarly, environmentalists have long engaged in their own repeal-and-replace effort.

They want to "repeal" traditional energy sources—coal, oil and natural gas, which are abundant and economical—and replace them with so-called green energy sources, such as solar and wind power and biofuels.

But exactly how realistic is the environmentalists' vision? At least for the next quarter-century, not realistic at all.

According to the federal government's Energy Information Administration, oil, natural gas and coal were responsible for 83 percent of U.S. energy consumption in 2010. Nuclear power accounted for 9 percent.

Biofuels made up 1 percent and all other renewable sources represented 7 percent, for a renewable energy total of 8 percent—not much with which to build a dynamic, competitive economy.

But at least green energy sources will grow, right? Probably, but not by much. The Energy Information Administration estimates that

by 2035, biofuels will provide 4 percent of U.S. energy consumption and renewable sources like solar and wind will make up 11 percent—for a total of 15 percent.

These estimates, meanwhile, come from the same administration that thought we would have 1 million electric cars on U.S. roads by 2015. Thus there is reason to doubt whether we will come anywhere near those Energy Information Administration projections by 2035.

Let's see why.

- Solar Power: Solar is the clean-energy darling. On the positive side, the solar industry predicts that the U.S. will install about twice as many solar panels this year as in 2011. Prices have been declining rapidly, thanks largely to an explosion of Chinese-made panels.

There's trouble ahead, though. The Obama administration says the Chinese are dumping cheap solar panels in the U.S. market and has slapped on new tariffs ranging as high as 250 percent, according to a Wall Street Journal report.

Never mind the political embarrassment for an administration that has poured billions of tax dollars into subsidizing our own solar industry, often with disastrous results like the Solyndra bankruptcy. Increasing

the price of Chinese-made panels will depress the solar-power expansion the Obama administration is depending on.

- Wind Power: If you are driving in places like West Texas, you will likely encounter a convoy of trucks hauling massive wind turbines to their destination. But take a closer look and you'll notice they always seem to be heading in the opposite direction of the nearest urban area.

Most people don't like seeing or hearing those huge wind turbines. The not-in-my-backyard problem for wind power is especially acute.

Then there's the inefficiency. Because the wind doesn't always blow, the turbines produce only about 20 percent of the energy they could if they were able to operate 24/7. During calm intervals, the power companies have to turn to more reliable sources—traditional fossil fuels.

Plus, the wind turbines have become a bird-killing nightmare. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that wind turbines kill about half a million birds a year, including raptors like eagles. That carnage is another, albeit indirect, cost of this as yet inefficient and expensive energy.

- Biofuels: Congress has mandated the use of corn-based ethanol as an additive to gasoline

for years. Ethanol was supposed to be cleaner than fossil fuels. But then we learned that producing ethanol requires a lot more water, which is often in short supply. Plus it takes fossil fuels to harvest and transport it.

Oh, and using so much corn for fuel drove up demand and therefore the price, which made it unaffordable for millions of poor people in countries that depend on corn products, like Mexico.

In order to find another source, President George W. Bush, along with a Democratic Congress, decided to mandate the use of cellulosic fuel such as from switchgrass—500 million barrels by 2012. But then the central planners discovered that the industry simply couldn't meet any of its goals, even with billions of taxpayer dollars in subsidies.

The day may come when we can transition to clean energy, but not for decades. Until there is a real "replace" vision, environmentalists should quit trying to "repeal" fossil fuels, which are cheap and abundant, create real high-paying (non-subsidized) jobs, and are getting cleaner all the time.

*Merrill Matthews is a resident scholar with the Institute for Policy Innovation in Dallas, Texas.*

# Governor Brown Announces Pension Reform Agreement

LOS ANGELES—Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. outlined on August 28th a sweeping pension reform agreement that saves billions of taxpayer dollars by capping benefits, increasing the retirement age, stopping abusive practices and requiring state employees to pay at least half of their pension costs.

"These reforms make fundamental changes that rein in costs and help to ensure that our public retirement system is sustainable for the long term. These reforms require sacrifice from public employees and represent a significant step forward," said Governor Brown.

"If the legislature approves these reforms, public retirement benefits will be lower than when I took office in 1975," said Governor Brown. "Additional changes would require a vote of the people," he added.

The pension reform agreement includes substantial benefit rollbacks for public employees. It requires all current state employees and all new public employees to pay for at least 50 percent of their pensions and establishes this as the norm for all public workers in California. Importantly, these new reforms eliminate state-imposed barriers that have prevented local governments from increasing employee contributions.

Further, it bans abusive practices used to enhance pension payouts.

"No more spiking, no more air time, no more pensions earned by convicted felons," said Governor Brown. "We're cleaning up a big mess and the agreement reached with Legislative leaders today is historic in its far reaching implications."

Public Employee Pension Reform Act of 2012

**Caps Pensionable Salaries**

Caps pensionable salaries at the Social Security contribution and wage base of \$110,100 (or 120 percent of that amount for employees not covered by Social Security).

**Establishes Equal Sharing of Pension Costs as the Standard**

California state employees are leading the way and are paying for at least 50 percent of normal costs of their pension benefits. Requires new employees to contribute at least half of normal costs, and sets a similar target for current employees, subject to bargaining.

Eliminates current restrictions that impede local employers from having their employees help pay for pension liabilities.

Permits employers to develop plans that are lower cost and lower risk if certified by the system's actuary and approved by the legislature.

Provides additional authority to local employers to require employees to pay for a greater share of pension costs through impasse proceedings if they are unsuccessful in achieving the goal of 50-50 cost sharing in 5 years.

Directs state savings from cost sharing toward additional payments to reduce the state's unfunded liability.

**Unilaterally Rolls Back Retirement Ages and Formulas**

Increases retirement ages by two years or more for all new public employees.

Rolls back the unsustainable retirement benefit increases granted in 1999 and reduces the benefits below the levels in effect for decades.

Eliminates all 3 percent formulas going forward.

For local miscellaneous employees: 2.5 percent at 55 changes to 2 percent at 62; with a maximum of 2.5 percent at 67.

For local fire and police employees: 3 percent at 50 changes to 2.7 percent at 57.

Establishes consistent formulas for all new employees going forward.

**Ends Abuses**

Requires three-year final compensation to stop spiking for all new employees.

Calculates benefits based on regular, recurring pay to stop spiking for all new employees.

Limits post-retirement employment for all employees.

Felons will forfeit pension benefits.

Prohibits retroactive pension increases for all employees.

Prohibits pension holidays for all employees and employers.

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By Ronnie McBrayer

## A Hollywood Revival

an annual time of repentance whether they needed it or not.

As I made my way to the front door I passed by a long line of Harley Davidson motorcycles. These were not the Baby Boomer playthings so many graying men and women ride today as a hobby or youthful escape. No, these were hardcore, gang-style cycles.

And just inside the church, occupying the back pew, lo and behold, there sat the gang. Leather, studs, rippling arms, ponytails, tattoos: It was the complete Hell's Angels package, sitting in a Baptist church in Hollywood, Georgia. Being a young, eager revivalist myself, I said to my friend, "Good. Maybe these heathen will get saved tonight." And I meant it.

I sat several pews away from them and found myself piously praying for their salvation because I just knew they were seconds from splitting hell wide open. After the service got started, the pastor called on one of the deacons of the church to come forward and offer a prayer and word of introduction. One of those wicked bikers rose from his seat and started down the aisle.

At first I thought the call of his bladder had merely coincided with the pastor's invitation. And being a biker and all, I was certain he was short on manners and he did not know that prayer time was an inappropriate moment to visit the latrine. When the big mountain of a man turned for the pulpit, my pulse quickened as I thought he was going forward to cause a disturbance.

He caused a disturbance alright, but not like I thought. This chaps-wearing biker with a beard to his waist was the aforementioned deacon. I found out later that this biker-deacon was a self-financed missionary to the road houses, biker bars, strip clubs, and truck stops of America.

Up and down the highways with his fellow laborers – his motorcycle gang – he rode his horse of steel and entered places that good Christian people would never be caught, not even to share the gospel. He went to places where people drank too much, showed too much skin, engaged in too much sensuality, and waged too much violence. But there he shared Jesus, led Bible studies, prayed for those who thought they didn't have a prayer left, and even baptized a few souls in the truck stop showers when necessary.

I left that Hollywood church thinking that it would have been better to give the revival budget to this biker's ministry rather than spending it on some flamboyant evangelist with a bouffant hair-do and expensive cuff links. And certainly I left with a lesson scorched deep in my conscience: Never point a finger or a prayer at those you consider sinners. They may be more holy than you can imagine.

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](http://www.ronniemcbrayer.net).

## Solving the Mystery of Picking a President

By Rev. James L. Snyder

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were casually sitting on the back porch enjoying our evening coffee together. Suddenly, the conversation turned to things political. This does not happen very often so at the moment I was a little surprised by this turn of current events.

My wife does not spend much time keeping up with political news or events. Therefore, I was a little surprised when she made some comments in this area. It began when my wife said, "Why is it every politician running for president insists that Washington is broken and they are just the ones to fix it?"

Well, she had me there. Most politicians worth their pork barrel payment have the audacity to believe they are political prophets able to see what is wrong with everything in this country, particularly those things in Washington, DC. Not only can they see what is wrong but also they know the exact way to fix it. However, no two solutions are alike.

They look at the Washington, DC area and view it as a fixer upper. Then they go around the country hammering away with the promise that they can fix it and fix it for good. All these politicians have "fixed" our government for sure, but not in the way they think. It is more along the line of when you take "Lucky" to the veterinarian to have him fixed. The results are the same in both situations.

Then my wife made this observation. "If these politicians are so all fired up about fixing problems, I would like to show them our plumbing problem."

Of course, what my good wife does not realize is politicians can only fix hypothetical problems not real ones. And the more hypothetical the more eloquent they are in their speeches about it. Whenever you hear a politician waxing eloquent in his speech

you always know you are listening to an airbag.

It was my turn to astonish my wife.

"I have solved the mystery of picking the president of the United States," I said rather arrogantly. I was waiting for her response. And I did not have to wait long.

"You what?"

Then I laid out for her my scheme for picking the president. "It's very simple. People pick a president about the same way they pick their nose."

I knew from her astonished look I would have to explain what I meant. But it is true, nevertheless, picking a president is like picking your nose.

The first thing is that nobody gets to select the nose they will have for the rest of their life unless of course they submit to plastic surgery. I have seen some noses that if it were mine, it would not be mine for long. We may owe plastic surgeons quite a lot for saving the on looking public the excruciating pain of looking at ugly noses.

It is the same way nobody gets to choose the list of potential presidents they will have to decide on in the upcoming election. We all have to learn to live with the one or the other that has been given. Sad to say, in both areas, most of us have truly blown it.

In this area of picking, some do it openly and unashamedly. They do not care who sees them or hears them for that matter. They firmly believe as Americans they have the constitutional right to do this plainly and blatantly.

Of course, there are always those who deny they even have a nose let alone stooping to picking it in public. Some things, according to them, are better done in private, behind closed doors. Whoever invented "closed doors" has probably done society more benefit than any other invention. I must admit with some people it is

quite hard to ignore the fact that they have a nose. It is the most prominent feature of his or her face but everybody has the right to live in the wonderful land of denial.

Then I come to the more technical aspects of this matter of picking. Some prefer the left over the right while others prefer the right over the left. Then of course there are those who do both at the same time confusing everybody watching them.

It is very confusing talking with these people because one time they are on one side and the next time they are on the other side. I know both sides are equally significant but I hate being confused.

These, I think, would be called "equal opportunity pickers." They do not prefer one side to the other but both sides, in their opinion, is good. It is hard to argue with logic like that. It is the same kind of logic that your wife uses when she asked you, "Does this dress make me look fat?"

No matter if you are picking the president of the United States or your nose, you always end up with the same thing.

There is only one selecting process that is devoid of any frustration at all. Jesus mentioned it, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." (John 15:16 KJV).

God's choice has eternal ramifications.

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](mailto:jamesnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).

When I was a young college student I had the opportunity to go with a friend to a "revival" in the town of Hollywood, Georgia. That's right, there is such a place: Hollywood, Georgia. "On a clear night you can see all the stars," the locals say (Go ahead and groan). In reality, Hollywood is more of a county crossroads than a mecca for the rich and famous. It has a diner, a church, and not much else.

In the South a "revival" has at least two very different things. First, it is a spiritual awakening, a holy renewal where those who have wandered from the straight and narrow return to the fold. Second, it is a church event, a scheduled series of meetings. So a "revival" can be something deeply spiritual that people pray for, and it is a traditional ceremony placed on the congregational calendar. Whether or not the two different meanings of this word cross paths is always up for debate.

This revival was the typical affair. It was a week-long gathering when people of the community crammed their families into the pews to sing rousing gospel songs, to hear the pleadings, exhortations, and condemnations of the best visiting evangelist the church could afford, and for everyone to have



By Marlys Norris, Christian Author

## Honoring God With Your Life

central theme that unifies us as the Church. Another place during the end times, we are called the "Bride" of Christ and Scripture tell us that those who believe will be invited to the Lamb's supper after we have put on white garments for the celebration. It is an exciting time to be a part of the Body of Christ (The Church) and to love and care for those in any denomination because we are "One" just as God is: the Father, the Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are "One". Each having powerful

roles, but equally important to reach, guide and teach us.

When I was young it was very confusing meeting people of different denominations and the demeanor they displayed was superiority over people who were not of their particular persuasion in a different denomination. It was hard for me to appreciate this attitude of superiority and it probably was the cause for me delaying the decision to accept Christ and becoming a part of any church. And this was evidenced by my own parents being brought up in two different protestant denominations prior to their marriage and never attending either for over eighteen years. I wonder if it could also be a cause for some people today delaying their decision to join some churches.

Occasionally I will hear someone knock another denomination and it makes me sick inside because it is a sinful and unloving act against God's people that dishonors God Almighty. I think about how God must feel when a person makes a statement against someone just because they are not of their persuasion spiritually. The central theme of all Christian churches surrounds the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Doesn't the Bible clearly tell us to "watch our words" and one day we will be held accountable for every idle word we speak? (Matthew 12:36)

Our lives as believers are to please Almighty God! We are to be concerned and/or to mourn over the very same things that make God sad! Conviction is a good thing, because it cleanses the soul, changes the direction we are going and brings one closer to God. Thereby, Let us all be honoring Him with our lives.

My question for them involves asking "if" they even have known the words of Scripture that guide and direct lives to bring honor to God? They will never enjoy the love, joy and peace that come in really knowing God intimately. It's Time... do not waste another day!

God yearns for you to love Him with your heart and soul, because that is how He loves you!

Marlys Johnsen Norris

First Book: "God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle"

[Marlysjn@gmail.com](mailto:Marlysjn@gmail.com)

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By Karen Anderson

## ANTICIPATION OF WONDER

In your imagination, go further than what I have described, because God is so much bigger and grander than any fjord or mountain top. You should stand in awe and wonder at how 'BIG' your God is. All creation declares who He is and there is no excuse not to believe He is who He says He is.

GOD'S EXISTENCE...

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."

You may have an understanding of God, but when you open up to His magnificence, you cannot help but be humbled and grateful for whom God is. Don't let anyone, even yourself, talk

you out of knowing, and really experiencing God. I am not talking the head knowledge of Him but a heart and soul knowledge. REALLY KNOW GOD! You should be saying statements like... "God is who He says He is and He can do what He says He can do." Now it is your turn to JUSK ASK Him to be with you forever. Holding His hand, now take your next step into the life of wonder and awe knowing God is beside you all the way.

PASSAGE:

Romans 1:20 (The Message)

Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain and has a local TV show, *Move Your Mountains*. Contact Karen at [www.doab-lesteps.com](http://www.doab-lesteps.com), or 916-961-4765.

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**Crossword Puzzle on Page 8**

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P	I	T	T	S	E	C	S	T	E	E	L	

**Sudoku Puzzle on Page 8**

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





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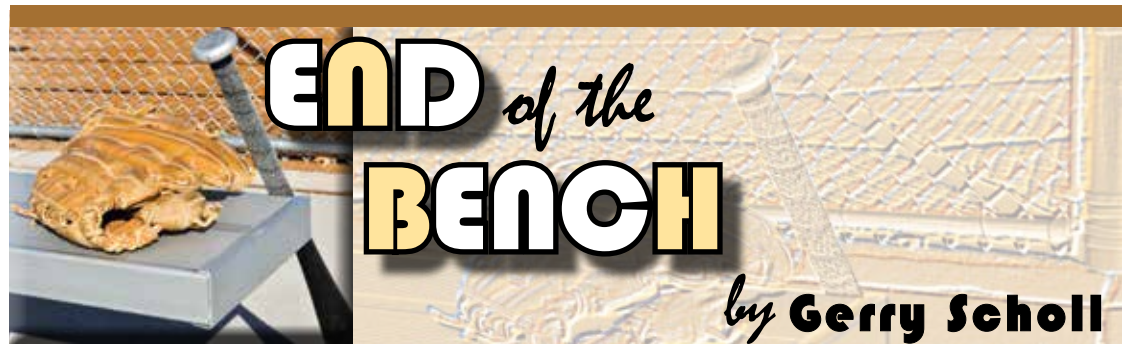
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by **Gerry Scholl**

## Have No Pity on the Working Man

It's the Oxymoron Holiday. Labor Day, and almost no one is working.

I am one of the exceptions... doing this. But this is a labor of love, so it doesn't count. Have no pity on this working man.

The three-day holiday weekend (for most) is a good time to take a short break and a long, deep breath, just in case you are not quite ready for some football... and some more football... and some more and more and more...

Of course, we realize the football has already started. But the NFL preseason isn't real football. And the first week of college games are usually pretty dubious affairs as well.

Thought defending national champion Alabama against No. 8 Michigan might be a game to watch. Recorded it. 'Bama blew 'em out, 41-14. Didn't watch. Erased it.

That's how most of Week One goes. The nine winners in the top ten in preseason polls crushed the opposition by a combined score of 392-142. It would have been more than a 30-point-average differential had not the Oregon Ducks removed their webbed feet from the throat of Arkansas State after leading at the half, 50-10. None of that was very interesting.

It was a bit unnerving that the Andrew Luck-less Stanford Cardinal barely got by San Jose State, 20-17, and Cal's enigmatic Bears fell to Nevada, 31-24, in the first game in renovated Memorial Stadium, disappointing a capacity crowd of 63,186. Go, Bears!

The real thing kicks in this coming weekend when the San Francisco Forty Niners open the season at Green Bay, Sunday,

and the Oakland Raiders host San Diego on Monday night.

Facing a first-place schedule after winning the West and advancing to the NFC Championship Game while going 13-3 last year, the 49ers will be hard-pressed to duplicate that record this season. They must face top quarterbacks Aaron Rodgers (Packers), Drew Brees (Saints) and Tom Brady (Patriots) all on the road. The good news is that they will do so with a top-rated defense that returns all eleven starters.

The Forty Niners have risen from the depths of a 2-14 record just four years ago to being tabbed as a 7-1 probability to reach the Super Bowl.

"We must always be humble. We can't get ahead of ourselves," star tight end Vernon Davis said on a season preview show.

"You're only as good as your last game," said quarterback Alex Smith.

The Niners lost their last game, that NFC title game to the New York Giants, in disappointing fashion. So improvements had to be made.

It's clear the defense will still be strong and deep. That unit led the league in takeaways and rushing defense a season ago, was a close second in fewest points allowed, fourth in total yards allowed and seventh in sacks. The pass defense was a middle-of-the-pack 16th, but with added experience and a full preseason with the coaching staff (something missing in the staff's first year due to the lockout) it could be improved, making the total defense an ominous group.

The offense, which had its

struggles on third down and in the Red Zone, and ranked 29th in passing yards, added multiple threats in the off-season, led by the signing of 35-year-old wide receiver Randy Moss (153 career receiving touchdowns, second all time to Jerry Rice at 197). Also added were WR Mario Manningham and RB Brandon Jacobs from the Giants, and draft picks RB LaMichael James (Oregon) and WR A.J. Jenkins (Illinois).

Led by QB Smith, who had a career year last season (99.7 QB-rating and only five interceptions, though just a modest 3,144 passing yards in a pass-happy league), and stars RB Frank Gore and TE Vernon Davis, along with rising stars WR Michael Crabtree and RB Kendall Hunter, the offense may be on the verge of surprising its many critics.

The Raiders, meanwhile, will be adjusting to new leadership since the passing of long-time owner Al Davis, including his son, Mark, new GM Reggie McKenzie and new head coach Dennis Allen.

Veteran QB Carson Palmer, who joined the fray during the season last year, said there is "a new energy...a different feel" around the Raiders. They will need it after setting a league record with 163 penalties in 2011.

They say they must play with more discipline and not beat themselves with penalties and mental errors. "The results will speak for themselves," said Allen. We'll see...

In the words of Forty Niner linebacker Patrick Willis, "Bring it on!"

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## Auburn Community Concerts Presents Foothill Chamber Winds

From Karen Killebrew

AUBURN – In cooperation with PlacerArts, Auburn Community Concerts presents Foothill Chamber Winds on Thursday, September 13.

Members Kirsti Powell, Murray Campbell, Henry Hansen, Cameron Kopf and founder Cathy Collings have performed with InConcert Sierra, Music In the Mountains, the Auburn Symphony, the Sacramento Symphony, Sierra Nevada Winds, Nevada County Composers' Cooperative, Music Circus, Sierra Stages, and other ensembles in North America, Europe and Asia.

Enjoy this intimate concert amidst the artwork of The Arts Building Gallery. Placer County wines available by the glass. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased online at PlacerArts.



Foothill Chamber Winds

org or at The Arts Building. Individual tickets will be sold at the door on a space available basis. Seating is limited and only 100 tickets will be sold. The concert starts at 7:00 pm at The Arts Building Gallery, located at

808 Lincoln Way in downtown Auburn.

Tickets are available at PlacerArts' Online Box Office at [PlacerArts.org](http://PlacerArts.org). Contact PlacerArts at (530) 885-5670 or [office@placarters.org](mailto:office@placarters.org).

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# POPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

## SHIFT FOR SUCCESS

You know what you want to do, and you have defined success for you. Then why can't you lose that extra ten pounds or make that career change? All you have to do is change your behavior, but easier said than done. You have to know how. That's where **Beverly Flaxington** comes into the picture. Business Coach, Behavior Expert, and Hypnotist, she tells you how in *"Make Your Shift."* There are five powerful moves you can make to get where you want to go. So let's go.

**1) Look where you're going.** Name your desired outcome. Put pen to paper and record, specifically, where you want to go next in your career. Give yourself a date by which you want to accomplish this goal. Does your current position help or hinder you in reaching your goal? Writing your vision helps you articulate where you'd like to be and may help you identify why you're stuck.

**2) Name what's stopping you.** Write down the obstacles that are standing in your way. What's bugging you about the

job? Take a few minutes to air all your grievances (to yourself) in writing. Next, organize them in three categories: those within your control, those you may be able to influence, and those out of your control. Put a big slash mark through the obstacles that are out of your control entirely. Now, brainstorm what you can do to overcome the remaining ones. Focus on what you can do, rather than what you can't.

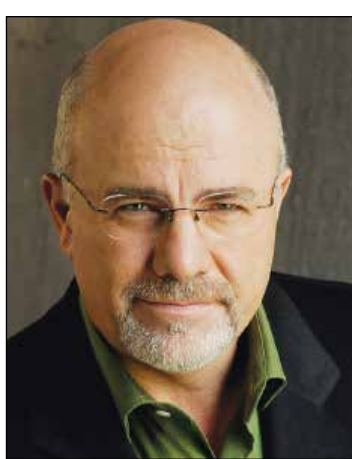
**3) Adopt a new communication style.** Pay attention to your own communication style. Are you assertive? Are you a quiet thinker and planner? Do you talk before you think? Next, pay attention to your boss's style. If your boss is direct and "get it done" but you need time to process information and plan, you may come across to him or her a slow, procrastinating, or even resistant to feedback or authority. Modify your approach to match the boss's style. Use the same words the boss uses, match the tone and approach to the degree you can. Mismatched communication styles lead to many misunderstandings.

**4) Try on a new you.** Trying different things to see what works and what doesn't can be fun, if you take the attitude that this is an opportunity to learn. Seek outside experts or inside mentors to talk to about your options for change. Ask for advice and feedback on what you are doing right and where you might need to modify your behavior. To get new ideas and pick up tips, be

like a curious detective. Take a look around the culture...who succeeds and why. Try out a new behavior...such as coming in early, or volunteering for a hard task...and observe how others react and how it makes you feel. **5) Don't be a Debbie Downer.** Think the boss is a jerk? Hate the company culture? Can't stand the people in the corner office? The more you tell yourself how horrible they are, the more you will respond negatively in your behavior. Remember that most people, including company leaders, haven't had the chance to learn good leadership skills. They are often doing the best they can. Try to give them a break. Make it your job or your role to be helpful to them and to the company overall. If you just can't stand the person or people in charge no matter what you try, it might be time to find another job. Remember that we often control the perception of people around us more than we think.

So, if you find yourself in a professional rut and think career-limiting behavior might be holding you back, consider these five tips and get all the details from **Beverly Flaxington** in *"Make Your Shift."* Want to check out Beverly, then go to [www.understandingotherpeople.com](http://www.understandingotherpeople.com). And bets of luck to you in your dream adventures!!!

**Join Mary Jane for the KAH1 Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPOFF 10 PM - Midnight.**



# Dave Says

*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.*

## Fix it or sell it?

Dear Dave,  
My old car has been having lots of problems lately. Do you have any advice on how to decide when it's best to just fix an old car or get a newer one instead?

- Kristin

Dear Kristin,  
This is a good question! Mathematically, the first thing to look at is the car's worth if you don't make repairs. Should you spend \$1,000 to increase the value of the vehicle \$500? Dumb question, right? At that point, you sell the car as-is and put the \$1,000 it would take to fix it toward something newer. On the other hand, let's say

you've got a little hooptie worth \$1,000 but by putting \$500 into it, you can have it up and running again. Suddenly it's worth \$2,500. That's money well-spent, because what you've done has significantly increased the value.

The other side is that at some point, the hassle factor of an old car can turn it into a money pit. If you can't get anywhere because the car's always busted, then you need to find something else for the sake of safety and reliability. If this happens, though, you should still pay cash for a better car. Even if you're not taking a step up in price or fanciness, it's still better than taking on a car payment. I'd walk or ride a bike everywhere before I did that!

- Dave

## You lacked clarity

Dear Dave,  
About 17 months ago, my wife and I allowed a lady who had lost her home to a fire to move into an empty house we own and had thought about selling. During that time she's made no effort to pay rent. My wife wants to write it all off and just give her the house and title, but I think she owe us something for putting a roof over her head. What do you think?

- Thomas

Dear Thomas,  
Honestly, I think you handled this situation poorly from

the very beginning. From what you're telling me, you put her there originally on a charity basis, and now you want to change the deal. You didn't say anything about giving her a house, but you didn't set up a rental agreement either. And now you're acting like she owes you 17 months of back rent. I don't think so. I think that's on you.

Now, you have some decisions to make. Were you providing free housing to someone who was struggling, or were you providing a free house to someone who was struggling? I understand this lady has experienced a terrible tragedy, but even with that, I'm not hearing lots of evidence that she's moving toward gaining control and getting her life back together. You may be giving a drunk a drink, if after 17 months of this situation she's not back on her feet again and out on her own.

If it were me, I'd sit down with her and have a gentle talk. Let her know the last 17 months were a gift, but you want to see her making her way and winning at life again. Set a reasonable time limit, whether it's six months or even a year, and tell her you'll be selling the house at that point. This is fair to her and to you guys as well.

- Dave

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

# Hillary Commits to UN Gun Ban



Commentary by Senator Rand Paul

Dear Fellow Patriot,

Gun-grabbers around the globe believe they have it made. And as much as some want you to think differently, the UN Gun Ban is proving harder to kill than a horror movie killer!

As you know, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama continue to work hand-in-glove with the UN to pass a new "Small Arms Treaty." But the "Small Arms Treaty" is just one of the UN's countless blades poised to slash our Second Amendment rights.

I don't know about you, but watching anti-American globalists plot against our Constitution makes me sick. At this very moment, they're plotting to use the UN "Programme of Action Against Small Arms" to bypass Congress and implement global gun control on American Citizens.

That's why I'm helping lead the fight to defeat the UN Gun Ban in the United States Senate and anywhere else Hillary and her gun-banning cronies intend to implement it.

And it's why I want your help today. Will you join me by taking a public stand against the UN's outright assault on our national sovereignty by signing the Official Firearms Sovereignty Survey right away? (See <http://www.nagr.org>).

Ultimately, UN bureaucrats will stop at nothing to register, ban and CONFISCATE firearms owned by private citizens like YOU. So far, the gun-grabbers have successfully kept many of their schemes under wraps. But looking at previous attempts by the UN to pass global gun control, you and I can get a good idea of what's likely in the works.

You can bet the UN is working to FORCE the U.S. to implement every single one of these anti-gun policies:

- Enact tougher licensing requirements, making law-abiding Americans cut through even more bureaucratic red tape just to own a firearm legally;

- CONFISCATE and DESTROY ALL "unauthorized" civilian firearms (all firearms owned by the government are excluded, of course);

- BAN the trade, sale and private ownership of ALL semi-automatic weapons;

- Create an INTERNATIONAL gun registry, setting the stage for full-scale gun CONFISCATION.

I'm sure I don't have to tell you that this is NOT a fight we can afford to lose.

Ever since its founding 65 years ago, the United Nations has been hell-bent on bringing the United States to its knees. To the petty dictators and one-world socialists who control the UN, the United States of America isn't a "shining city on a hill" -- it's an affront to their grand designs for the globe.

These anti-gun globalists know that as long as Americans remain free to make our own decisions without being bossed around by big government bureaucrats, they'll NEVER be able to seize the worldwide power they crave.

The UN's apologists also know the most effective way to finally strip you and me of ALL our freedoms would be to DESTROY our gun rights. That's why I was so excited to see the National Association for Gun Rights leading the fight to stop the UN's assault on our Constitution!

The truth is there's no time to waste. You and I have to be prepared for this fight to move FAST. The fact is the last thing the gun-grabbers at the UN and in Washington, D.C. want is for you and me to have time to mobilize gun owners to defeat this radical agenda.

They've made that mistake before, and we've made them pay, defeating EVERY attempt to ram the UN Small Arms Treaty into law since the mid-1990s.

But now time may not be on our side. In fact, we're likely to only have a few weeks to defeat them when they make their move. And worse... the UN Small Arms Treaty is no longer the only UN scheme threatening our gun rights. More and more of the UN's radical agenda is slipping through covertly, under the cover of domestic legislation.

Not long ago, Obama told Sarah Brady from the anti-gun Brady Campaign, "I just want you to know that we are working on [gun control]. We have to go through a few processes, but under the radar."

In fact, Hillary Clinton's State Department recently bragged that Project Gunrunner and Operation Fast and Furious are implementations of the UN Programme Against Small Arms! And I'd place a wager that Obama's M1 Rifle Re-importation Ban was also the UN Programme dutifully executed by his administration. Anti-gun UN policy that NEVER received a single vote in the United States Congress!

I've been told by sources inside the UN that the anti-gun gang is going after the UN Programme Against Small Arms "like a snarling pack of hyenas." And this is just one of the weapons they have at their disposal.

The UN General Assembly will also meet soon, and UN insiders expect them to grant a renewal or extension of the "Small Arms Treaty" mandate. But even worse than a renewed mandate, the General Assembly could vote by simple majority to implement the "Small Arms Treaty." This would bypass any further meetings and would allow them to insist that member states ratify the treaty immediately.

So if you and I are going to defeat them, we have to turn the heat up on Washington now before it's too late!

1. Do you believe the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Second Amendment are the supreme law of the land?

2. Do you believe any attempt by the United Nations to subvert or supersede your Constitutional rights must be opposed?

If you said "Yes!" to these questions, please sign the survey the National Association for Gun Rights has prepared for you on their web site.

But I hope you'll do more than just sign your survey today. With your help, the National Association for Gun Rights can continue to turn up the heat on targeted members of Congress and others who are working to implement the UN Gun Ban. Find out how at [www.nagr.org](http://www.nagr.org). Thank you in advance for defending our Second Amendment rights.

For Freedom,  
Rand Paul  
United States Senator, Kentucky



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9am - Noon:	The Laura Ingraham Show
Noon - 1pm:	The KAH1 Noon News with Mary Jane Popp and the KAH1 News Team
1 - 4pm:	The Dave Ramsey Show
4 - 6pm:	The KAH1 Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAH1 News Team
6 - 7pm:	Monday: The Good Life, Live with Gary Moffat Tuesday: Law Talk with David Frank Wednesday: Wealth Strategies with Hunter William Bailey Thursday: Leaders Without Limits with David McCauley on Asset Protection Friday: The Drive Home Show with Dave Rosenthal
7 - 10pm:	Sports by-line USA with Ron Barr
10pm - 12am:	Popoff with Mary Jane Popp
Saturdays	
6 - 7am:	A Time for Seniors
7 - 8am:	The Swap Shop
8 - 9am:	The KAH1 Corral
9 - 10am:	The Garden Guru
10am - 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
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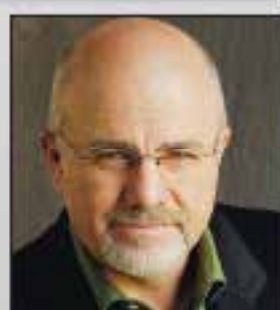
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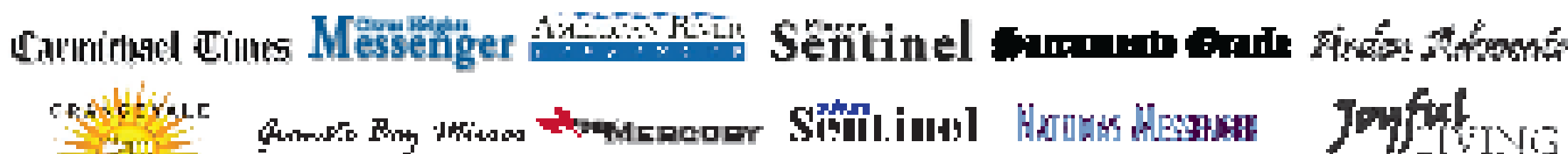
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