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Volume 3 Issue 22

Serving Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Carmichael, Orangevale & Gold River

Second Edition for November 2008

21st Annual Four-Wheel **Gold Country Toy Run**



Orangevale - Four-wheel drive owners from throughout the region are invited by the Orangevale-based Hi-Landers four-wheel drive club to join them for their 21st annual 4X4 Gold Country Toy Run on Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at Lake Natoma Park near Folsom.

According to Deann MacDougall, this year's toy run chairperson, the annual event benefits local children's charities.

better every year," said MacDougall, "and the less-fortunate children in the Sacramento region will have a much happier Christmas because of the generous efforts of our volunteers and our participants.'

There is no cost to participate in the parade-like toy run; however, each participant is asked to bring a new unwrapped toy with a minimum value of \$5. Last year, the toy run drew 225 four-wheel drive

and toys and 130 sleeping bags to needy children identified by a local non-profit organization.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the parade will start at 10 a.m. (rain or shine). The 4X4 Gold Country Toy Run will take participants from Lake Natoma, north on Hazel Ave. to Douglas Blvd. The group will then turn right on Auburn-Folsom Rd., continue over the historic Rainbow Bridge, through the town of Folsom to Hwy 50 and return to the park staging area. At approximately 11 a.m., the judging will begin for the best-decorated vehicles followed by a prize drawing at noon.

Coffee and hot chocolate will be available at the beginning of the toy run and food and drinks will be on sale at the conclusion of the trip. In addition, Santa Claus is scheduled to arrive at the park at approximately 11 a.m. to listen to requests from all the children.

MacDougall said that anyone wishing to simply drop off a gift is encouraged to visit the Lake Natoma staging area between 8:30 a.m. and noon.

"Our annual toy run is truly a joyous experience for everyone involved," said MacDougall. "Children often ask nothing for themselves, but will ask Santa to bring new shoes for little sister or a new coat for their mom."

For more information on the 21st annual 4X4 Gold Country Toy Run, contact Deann MacDougall at 916/813-4983 or dnnmacdougall@

We Haven't Forgotten!



Judy Jacques, Jenny Jacques and Cindy Jacques of Yellow Ribbons Now

Linda Budge Honored For Leadership with Planning Award



Rancho Cordova Mayor Linda Budge

PRESORTED STD. US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT 32 Rancho Cordova, CA

Rancho Cordova - Rancho Cordova Mayor Linda Budge, professional planning consultant, has received the 2008 Distinguished Leadership Award from the Sacramento Valley Section of the American Planning Association-California (APA-CA).

Mayor Budge was lauded for her impressive record of participation in community planning as an elected official. "From community activist to professional planner to elected official, Linda has participated at every level to promote sensible responsive community planning in the Sacramento area," said Leslie Z. Walker of Abbott & Kindermann, LLP, who made the presentation at a recent conference in Hollywood, Ca.

Budge has served as on the City Council of Rancho Cordova since its incorporation in 2003 and as mayor twice, including this year. She has been a citizen activist on teams that wrote Sacramento County's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, the County's Jobs Housing Balance, the Regional Transit District LRT (Light Rail) Station Area Re-Use Plans, and the Mather Regional Park Master Plan. She chaired the County's Subdivision Review Committee for more than 18 years.

As a consulting planner, she has represented dozens of clients in general and community plan amendments, rezones, use permits, design review, and other applications throughout the state and the nation.

Since entering public life more

than three decades ago, Budge has used the phrase, "Responsible, Responsive, Representative Government" as a guiding principle. She demonstrates this in her role in Rancho Cordova which is described as one of California's most diverse cities. Budge is vigilant to ensure that the City reaches out to all residents by translating City documents into the languages of its residents, encouraging the celebration of cultural traditions and incorporating local cultures into events, activities, and festivals.

"In my years as a City Manager, I have never had an elected official who was more technically and professionally capable in any field than Linda is in the field of planning," commented Rancho Cordova City Manager Ted Gaebler. "She regularly challenges the Planning Department to go the extra mile in fully developing creative plans and programs for our City."

APA-CA is an organization of professional planners, planning commissioners, students, and those in related professions who support the planning process. The seven annual awards honor and recognize the great work that is being done in the Sacramento Valley area.

The City of Rancho Cordova recently celebrated its fifth anniversary of incorporation. City Hall is located at 2729 Prospect Park Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670, phone (916) 851-8700, www.cityofranchocordova.org.

As a proud sister to four active military brothers deployed all over the world, Jenny Jacques started an organization called Yellow Ribbons Now to bring back the display of yellow ribbons on every tree across America. "Whether you agree with the war or not, our military are still there fighting for us. Let's show the men and women that we are here on the home front still honoring them, and the sacrifice they have made and are making for us, all of us." Jenny hopes that by displaying yellow ribbons, and keeping them displayed, we can show our heroes that WÊ HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN!

Her father served in the Vietnam War and told her how when he returned home he was treated with disrespect and how badly it felt. "I can't even imagine one of my brothers coming home from serving our country and being treated that way, it breaks my heart. So putting these yellow ribbons up is my way to welcome home our men and women with open arms and love and respect for each and every one of them."

Her aim is to get others to think about our military and to realize that when a soldier comes home, and is driving down the road after being gone for such a long time, they will see the yellow ribbons and know they are appreciated. It may not be a lot, but for one soldier, it just might make a difference.

Display of Yellow Ribbons, they send care packages to troops deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. They have shipped out Thanksgiving boxes to Iraq and are now working on Christmas care packages and a Christmas Toy Drive. "We are truly humbled by so many wonderful people, businesses, and organizations that stepped up and really showed their support for the Thanksgiving care packages." Jenny noted. They will continue sending boxes out every month. The boxes of care and support are intended to boost the morale of our men and women serving our nation. "We know there are a lot of wonderful people out there that want to do something for our military but just don't know how or where to go. We need to continue getting the word out to all communities and we hope that people use Yellow Ribbons Now as an outlet to get involved and help support our military.

They are an all-volunteer group, dedicated 100% to our military. Jenny stated "I do this because I love and miss my brothers every day. I wake up and I know that I'm not alone. Through Yellow Ribbons Now it's our way to give back. If people just understand one thing about what my family and I believe in and that is our love for all of our military, and how important they

Along with building a National are. The military are my family, each and every soldier walking through the desert with my brother. They, at any time, would protect him like I would if I was there.

Jenny offered a final comment, "What I really want to get across to everyone is that we all have our everyday struggles, but we sometimes tend to forget why and who makes it all possible for us to live in freedom and in this great country. Our military answer the call of duty, leaving behind their loved ones, for all of us. They do a job that is demanding, tiring. It's time we come together as a nation and put up our Yellow Ribbons and leave them

Updates of their new projects and how to help can be found on their website at www.yellowribbonsnow. com. You can also buy yellow ribbons on their website. All of the ribbons are handmade by family and friends. The proceeds from the sale of the Yellow Ribbons are donated to Never Forget Our Fallen. It is a local nonprofit organization founded and operated by Deborah Getz. She lost her son in Afghanistan. She is trying to raise 1million dollars to build a memorial wall for all of our fallen military in Afghanistan and Iraq. Visit www.neverforgetourfallen.com

Citrus Heights Offering Holiday Toys & Food **Assistance for Qualifying Low-Income Families**

• One from each of the following

o Proof of I.D. (picture ID, driver's

o Proof of residence (rent

o Proof of income (paycheck

• Income scale for qualifying

stub, SSI verification, student aid

receipt, current utility bill, mortgage

This holiday season, the City of Citrus Heights and the Citrus Heights Police Department are partnering with The Salvation Army to assist the less-fortunate in the local community by providing their families with food boxes and toys for the children (ages 12 and under). This assistance is limited to the first 200 families who qualify for the program. In order to qualify for assistance, families must meet certain household income criteria (see below). If you're interested in applying for holiday assistance for your family, you must bring the following items with you in order to complete your

• Birth certificate (or green card) or

Social Security card for each

person in the family OR Current Cal-

Works "Aid Verification Summary"

card AND Current photo I.D. from

the head of the household and person

application:

applying.

report card for each child.

categories:

statement)

verification)

license, or state ID card)

o 1 to 3 people in household: Monthly net household income is less than \$2,400 (Annual net household

income is less than \$29,000 o 4 to 7 people in household:

Monthly net household income is less than \$2,800 (Annual net household income is less than \$34,000) o 8+ people in household:

Monthly net household income is less than \$3,200 (Annual net household

income is less than \$38,000) To apply for holiday assistance,

please visit: Citrus Heights Police Department – front desk/lobby 6 3 1 5 Fountain Square Drive, next to Citrus

Heights City Hall Application Dates: NOW through November 26th

Application Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.Saturdays, November 15th and 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Toys and Food will be distributed from the City Council Chambers on Monday, December 22nd from 4:00 to

IMPORTANT!!!! Be sure to bring ALL of the required documentation with you in order to complete your application. If you do not have your documentation, we will be unable to process your application. Applicants need to apply BEFORE NOVEMBER Remember, this program is limited to the first 200 families who qualify!



To what do we owe our 20-pound Butterball turkeys, our highdefinition TVs, our spacious and warm homes this Thanksgiving? Something that won't be high on anyone's list of things to be grateful for, but undergirds our way of life -- a centuriesold economic revolution that changed the very terms of human existence.

In his eye-opening book, "A Farewell to Alms: A Brief Economic History of the World," Gregory Clark produces a chart tracking income per person throughout history. By Clark's account, it is essentially flat from 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1800, reflecting the crushing burden of providing for our material wants in an environment of economic stasis. Then, income per person explodes upward around 1800, coinciding with the Industrial Revolution that first arrived in England. Without it, most of us would still be living poor, nasty, brutish and short lives.

How poor? "The average person in the world of 1800 was no better off than the average person of 100,000 B.C.," Clark argues. "Life expectancy was no higher in 1800 than for huntergatherers: 30 to 35 years. Stature, a measure both of the quality of diet and of children's exposure to disease, was higher in the Stone Age than in 1800. And while foragers satisfy their material wants with small amounts of work, the modest comforts of the English in 1800 were purchased only through a life of unrelenting drudgery."

Throughout most of history, Clark argues, humankind was caught in a "Malthusian trap": Small economic advances were outpaced by resulting population growth that made it impossible for living standards to increase. The massive productivity gains of the Industrial Revolution -driven essentially by expanding

The Miracle of **Plenty**

knowledge -- broke the trap and created modern life as we know

"The richest modern economies are now 10 to 20 times wealthier than the 1800 average," Clark writes. In these economies, it is the unskilled who have benefited most. "Unskilled male wages in England have risen more since the Industrial Revolution than skilled wages," Clark writes, "and this result holds for all advanced economies." There have always been very rich people. What's changed in the past 200 years is the growth of wealth and its spread.

In his new book "God and Gold: Britain, America, and the Making of the Modern World," Walter Russell Mead picks up the story from a geopolitical perspective. England embarked on its capitalist revolution at exactly the time when "the country that mastered this new system would gather rewards that far outstripped all the treasures of any empire in the past." With that came world power. England reaped the benefits first, then its successor as a superpower, the United States.

And so the miracle that started 200 years ago marches on. "Currently, industrial societies appear to be doubling their rate of technological progress every 10 years," Mead writes. "If this continues, and there is every reason to suppose that it will, the 21st century will experience the equivalent of 20,000 years of 'normal' human progress."

So long as it remains an open and dynamic economy, the United States is positioned to stay at the heart of this progress. Thank goodness for that, and pass the drumstick.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Editorial





by Anthony Gregory

After requesting a \$7 billion loan from the U.S. Treasury, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is likely relieved now that the state has been able to secure \$6 billion in loans from the credit markets. Politicians had feared California's credit history would make such a loan difficult.

But the fact is, the loan was not nearly difficult enough. In a supposed era of tight and "frozen" credit markets, why is a government that goes further into debt every year, which finances its lavish operations with ever more bonds and budgetary trickery, able to get such an enormous loan? Credit is probably not as tight as is claimed, and governments in particular have far too easy a time obtaining more. In the long term, this is terrible for the taxpayers who have to pay the interest.

Furthermore, when a government borrows money, it competes with private borrowers for credit and drives up interest rates. This situation slows

Republicans Don't Even Pretend Anymore

down economic growth. Politicians, a notoriously spendthrift class with no sense of responsibility since they are borrowing on behalf of others, should be the last ones able to get loans.

What's notable here is that Schwarzenegger has given up even the thin pretense of being the budget hawk that he portrayed himself as five years ago. Since being elected he has foisted on the state economy bond after bond, spending increase after spending increase, in everything from education to infrastructure. He was onto something earlier this year when he contemplated releasing some nonviolent prisoners — people who shouldn't even be in jail in a free society, and whose detention annually costs the state tens of thousands of dollars each. Then the prison guard union went after

From the looks of the last budget, a staggering \$103.4 billion that was instituted almost three months late, prisons and schools are two areas where Sacramento will resist any cutting. But "those are the two services we spend the most money on," as state Senate President pro Tem Don Perata recently pointed out. With the police state and welfare state as the two third rails of local politics, it appears there's not really much else remaining to cut.

On the national scene, the Republicans have proven themselves equally devoted to big government across the board-devoted to the police state, the welfare state, and, of course, the warfare state. Everyone knows the Republicans stand for an ever-growing and exorbitantly expensive military apparatus and for incredibly pricy wars. But the insidious myth that they are otherwise for free markets persists.

President Bush came in and immediately began doubling the Department of Education budget and inaugurating the largest expansion of entitlements since Lyndon Johnson, in the form of the prescription drug benefit for seniors. In eight years he has doubled the national debt.

In the past month, both Bush and presidential candidate John McCain backed the most significant government intervention into the market in several decades, perhaps longer, when they signed and voted for the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. This act gave the Treasury virtually dictatorial powers and nearly a trillion dollars to buy up practically any American financial instruments it deems desirable, making it the biggest player in the market and essentially nationalizing the entire financial sector. McCain has gone on to propose

an enormous plan for Washington to buy up troubled mortgages directly, at a price tag of hundreds of billions of dollars by conservative estimates. He copied the plan almost exactly from Hillary Clinton, called her to ask her advice on it, and has pitched it as resembling her proposal. Even Barack Obama thinks it is unwise and reckless. Meanwhile, McCain continues talking about reforming earmarks, a drop in the bucket constituting half a percent of the national budget and probably some of the least absurd things the government finances.

The conventional wisdom is that Democrats are socialistic big spenders who love huge government programs and economic regulation, while Republicans are somewhat less profligate in their spending and somewhat more committed to the free

Well, at least that's half true.

Anthony Gregory is a research analyst at the Independent Institute, a policy advisor for The Future of Freedom Foundation, and a columnist for LewRockwell.com. His Website is AnthonyGregory.com.

Libertarian Party of California 14547 Titus Street · Suite 214 Panorama City, CA 91402-4935



by Jon Coupal

It is no surprise that fiscal at the breathtaking assault on taxpayers proposed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Both activists and elected leaders -- usually Republicans -have responded with either derision or laughter (with perhaps some expletives

Given that the Governor could find not a single legislator from either party to carry his last budget, it is safe to assume his latest proposed mix of cuts and revenue enhancements will receive similar treatment at the Capitol.

But his proposal to expand the sales tax to include a number of services has another problem: As currently outlined,

it would be illegal.

First, the policy objections. (Didn't we just have this debate?) Let's count the reasons why tax increases should be taken off the table immediately.

First, as students of California history know, tax increases don't always raise revenue. (See Wilson tax hike, circa 1991). It would be shame to slam California's working class with a regressive sales tax hike to see it succeed only in suppressing Christmas shopping without raising any significant revenue, or worse, that it actually results in less revenue. Yes, Virginia, tax hikes do hurt the economy.

Second, temporary taxes aren't. Like unicorns and Bigfoot, temporary tax hikes are mythical creatures. Permanent tax hikes are all too real, even if originally sold as their imaginary counterparts. Do the Governor and other liberal Democrats really believe that the tax-and-spend lobby will let the sales tax increase expire in three years without a fight? We can see the CTA multi-million dollar campaign now: It's for the children; it's just an extension of an existing tax, you heartless puppyHikes: Wrong and Illegal

Finally, California is in tax competition with other states and other nations. Low tax states have received a disproportionate share of economic growth in the last decade to the detriment of high tax states.

Why is this important now? Well, this recession isn't going to last forever and, as the nation emerges from the economic slump, businesses will have new opportunities to relocate and expand. Where will the bulk of the renewed economic activity take place? Business friendly states like Nevada, Utah, Texas or Florida? Or California, which ranks 47th out of 50 in business tax climate according the Tax Foundation?

Now, the legal problem. There is no doubt as to the legality of tax increases at the state level as long as those increases receive a two-thirds vote of each legislative house. But the Governor proposes to extend the sales tax to services -- according to the draft language we have seen -- "to all currently applicable state and local

But the state lacks the constitutional authority to do this. Proposition 218, a Jarvis-sponsored initiative approved by

the voters in 1996, provides stringent voter approval requirements for taxes at the local level. The state may be able to impose a sales tax on services for only that portion of the sales tax going to the state -- which the Governor want to raise from 5% to 6.5% -- but the local governments receive about 2.5% called the Bradley-Burns tax, along with some other local add-ons.

Would the state attempt to bifurcate the sales tax system so that the sales tax on services would be a state tax only? Although theoretically possible, it is very doubtful this would happen. Such a separate tax system would run into significant administrative difficulties.

In order for the proposal to extend the sales tax to succeed, the state would need 100% buyoff from all local governments receiving sales tax revenue to place that issue before local voters AND all local voters would have to approve the extension.

And the chances of that happening

Jon Coupal is President of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association - California's largest taxpayer organization - which is dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and promoting taxpayers' rights.



"Written by the people for the people" **Publisher - Paul V. Scholl**



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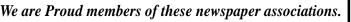
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Tips for Holiday Tech Toy Shopping

(NewsUSA) - Do you want a new computer, gadget or electronic "toy" this holiday season? If so, then listen up! Here are tips for shoppers looking to purchase new electronics:

Know what you want. Does your travelling partner need a smart phone or personal digital assistant (PDA) to access contacts, memos and e-mail from the road?

Perhaps your college-aged daughter wants a laptop that she can use for photos, music and videos. Knowing what an electronic device needs to do will determine the features and memory required.

- Just the facts. Each season, new gadgets and computers flood the market with bells and whistles designed to catch your eye, and your wallet. Shop smart. Before heading to the store, prioritize add-ons separating the features you need from those that "might be nice."

If your brother "might" need GPS on his new cellphone, skip it. Ignore extras that are tempting but not necessary, no matter what a salesperson says.

- Trust the pros. Read reviews to find out what gadgets live up to their hype. Check out reviews on Consumer Reports' (www.consumerreports.org/ cro/electronics-computers/index.htm),



Before purchasing an electronic gift, do your homework.

a non-profit, independent organization that tests products and services.

For technology equipment, visit computer-industry Web sites like CNET (www.cnet.com), PC World (www.pcworld.com) and PC Magazine (www.pcmag.com).

- Keep it all together. Mind the components and manuals that come with new gadgets. If the device needs to be returned to the manufacturer or store within the first 30 to 60 days, it might need to be repackaged exactly the way it came. Knowing where everything is also helps with troubleshooting and

- Give the gift that gives back.

For new computers especially, it's a nice touch to help loved ones protect their digital assets -; music, movies, photographs and documents. Consider software like Acronis True Image Home (www.acronis.com/homecomputing/ products/trueimage/), which for \$49.99 automatically backs up hard drives.

If there is a virus or other breakdown, backup software allows you to restore digital memories in a matter of minutes. When shopping, look for features that allow easy file transfer to a new device, and that will wipe an old device clean to remove sensitive information before it's recycled or donated.

Support the Troops This Holiday Season

(NewsUSA) - As families gather for the holidays, some will face a conspicuous absence - their mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, uncles, aunts or cousins can't make it home because they are serving abroad.

Military service requires sacrifice, but service members feel the distance between themselves and their loved ones most keenly on holidays. While families enjoy holiday feasts and gift exchanges, they should remember to support the members of the military whose jobs keep them far from home, in many different parts of the world, including Afghanistan, Korea, Japan, Germany and Iraq.

The USO (United Service Organizations) supports the troops through the year. Although most people do not realize it, the USO is a nonprofit organization that depends on individual and corporate donations. This grassroots funding and the support of 44,000 volunteers are the lifeblood that enables the USO to ease the burden placed on the troops and their families.

"Meeting these brave young men and women, I'm amazed at the great job they do, serving so far from home, family and friends, working tirelessly for months on end," says USO President Sloan D. Gibson. "As I visited with them and learned more about their lives, their children and their families, the sacrifices they make on our behalf, their stories become even more remarkable.'

The USO operates centers around the world to help support military members and their families. In 2007, more than 7 million troops and their family members received support from 135 centers around the world. The USO also sends entertainment tours overseas to lift troop spirits.

"We have created expeditionary programs to deliver to our troops serving in the most remote locations," says Gibson. "Programs like our new 'USO in a Box' provide them with the feeling of home away from home."

In addition to care packages, the USO hands out prepaid phone cards.



During the holidays, separation from their family members proves especially hard for servicemen.

When troops return home, USO volunteers meet them at airports, guaranteeing that they come home a hero. Other programs let deployed service members record videos of themselves reading stories to their

To learn how you can brighten the season for military members and their families, visit www.uso.org.

A Happy Pet for the Holidays

entertaining or traveling for the holidays, the change in schedule can negatively affect a pet's behavior.

Being left behind, having to get used to a new environment or dealing with different people in the house can result in inappropriate, unwanted behaviors.

"Animals have complex feelings," explains Margo Roman, DVM. "Pets can experience separation anxiety, anger, fear, boredom, loneliness, jealousy and other sophisticated

Many pet owners have discovered

the benefits of holistic flower essences, such as Rescue Remedy, when looking to naturally relieve emotional and behavior problems in

Rescue Remedy Pet is available in dropper format, allowing pet owners to easily administer it to their pets. Alcohol-free, it is suitable for use on pets of all shapes and sizes, including reptiles, fish (add to water), birds, cats, dogs, horses and rabbits. It is available nationally in Whole Foods and anywhere natural products are sold. It can also be purchased at www.rescueremedy.com/pets.

City of Citrus Heights - 12th Annual

Christmas Tree

Visit www.citrusheights.net for more information!



Natural remedies might help pets overcome changes in their routine that can cause anxiety.

Thursday, December 4th

7:00 p.m.

City Hall Parking Lot

7117 Greenback Lane

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Sing-A-Longs

Santa & Mrs. Claus

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Jon Simas - Manager

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Page 4 The Messenger

Second Edition for November 2008

Witnessing the Life of Christ POPPOFF!

Christ in a whole new light

Come see Jesus Christ in a way you've never seen him before.

The Reflections of Christ photography exhibit will be on display at Temple Hill located at 2100 California Circle, Rancho Cordova, California from Thursday, November 20, through Friday, November 28, 2008 from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. each day (closed on Thanksgiving Day). The exhibit will be open to the public and is a unique witness of the Lord Jesus Christ through the stunning realism of photography. (See a slide show preview at ReflectionsofChrist.org).

Photographer Mark Mabry's images of New Testament-era scenes from the life of Christ, including the Nativity, to his miracles, and to his death and resurrection, will make viewers feel like they are personally witnessing the Savior's most aweinspiring moments.

Mabry's images of Christ are fast-becoming internationally known to people of many Christian faiths. The 31-year-old photographer first displayed the project in Mesa, Ariz. last January and it was an immediate hit. More than 100,000 people saw it there, and more than 1.3 million from around the world have clicked online to see Mabry's images.

That led to a North American tour, a coffee table book of the images, a making-of DVD and a CD of the music that plays in the exhibit. The exhibit is currently touring Canada and the U.S., including stops in California, Idaho, Arizona, Texas, Utah, Massachusetts, Louisiana, and Washington D.C.



About the Author

Mark Mabry studied art photography at the Brooks Institute of Photography at Santa Barbara, California. He owns a photography studio and is a professional photographer focusing on family and commercial portraiture.

Reflections of Christ is his first book. Mark and his wife, Tara, and their three voung children live in Mesa, Arizona.

Reflections of Christ By Mark Mabry Published by: Reflections Media Group with Mary Jane Popp

FIND A HUSBAND AFTER 35

Do you feel out of the dating game because you passed over that dreaded 35 land mark? Do you ask yourself why you are still single? It doesn't really matter. Never fear. Now there is the ultimate 'single woman looking for a man' manual. Rachel Greenwald has one goal in mind...marriage to a wonderful man. But what gives her the moxy to come up with the solutions? She has an MBA from Harvard Business School, and her National Best Seller, "Find A Husband After 35" utilizes what she learned at Harvard. According to Rachel, drowning your sorrow in a pint of Hagan-Daz is not empowering. She says you have to be your own matchmaker. Using classic marketing tactics, she has created an innovative marketing program designed to help women ages 35-105 find a husband. The Program allows you to take matters into your own hands with 15 action steps.

By translating business lessons into the dating world, Rachel translates a variety of classic and creative business techniques to the exclusive purpose of finding THE ONE. Simply referred to as "The Program," her 15-step action plan shows women how to:

1) Package your assets which simply means how you look on the outside...your wrapping. And it goes from honest feedback to the Dow Jane Index and how well things are going in their appearance.

2) Develop a personal brand because a well-defined brand is absolutely essential for any successful

3) Advertising to promote your personal brand. A product can be the greatest item in the world, but unless it has an affective advertising campaign behind it, it can fail in the marketplace. And she goes into advertising from direct-mail to word-of-mouth.

These are just a few suggestions as Rachel goes through the whole litany of do's and don'ts. So look out world as you go from Marketing Focus and Support to Market Expansion, Online Marketing, Guerrilla Marketing, Niche Marketing, Telemarketing, Mass Marketing, Event Marketing, Product Life Cycle, (recharging yourself) Performance Review, Budget, Exit Strategy, and lots more including pay it forward to help others. Wait til you hear about what costs \$1.00 and you can "never have enough of" when husband hunting. And yes, she goes through the Date/Sex rule.

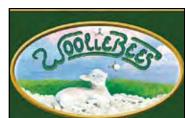
Rachel is the "Love Over 40" advice columnist on MSN.com and she conducts seminars called "Find A Husband After 35" in major cities along with working with private clients all over the country. And yes, she did it herself. Rachel is happily marries and lives in Denver, Colorado with her super hubby and three children.

It's called "Find A Husband After 35" and you can see more about the program at www.findahusbandafter35. com.

Good Luck, and have a little fun along the way.

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SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL of CITRUS HEIGHTS

The members of Soroptimist International of Citrus Heights would like to announce our current meeting times. SICH meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at Denny's on the corner of Greenback Lane and Sunrise Blvd. at 12:00pm. The mission of SICH is to promote the advancement of women through volunteer service to the community.

We are a group of women dedicated to the promoting interest and involvement in our community to better the lives of women and girls.

If you are interested in attending a meeting or finding out more about our club, please contact Sue Green, Membership Coordinator, at (916) 996-4349 or seg1seg@aol.com.

Job's Daughters Bethel 292 Parents' Club

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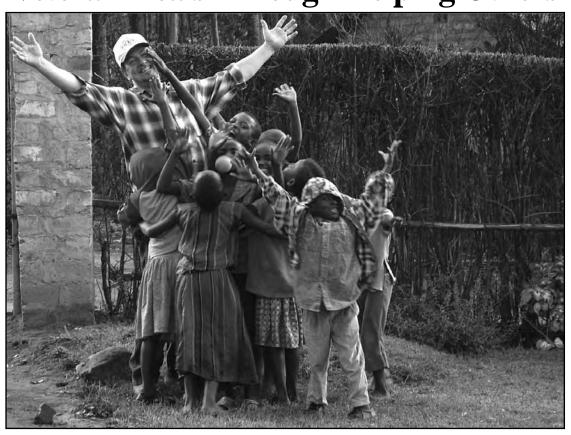
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Veteran Heals Through Helping Others



by April Dobbs

My husband, Rick Dobbs, was a Corpsman in Viet Nam, and, like many other veterans, suffers from PTSD. It took many years of broken relationships, lost jobs, various compulsive behaviors, and finally the onset of horrible nightmares almost 30 years after he came home to prompt him that he needed help. With the help of the Veteran's Service Center here in Sacramento he began counseling & spent a month in a program at Roseburg, Oregon which helped him tremendously. For the first time, he began talking about his experiences, his "survivor's guilt," the pain of not being able to save everyone, and other horrors of war. I felt I was finally getting to know him after almost 20 years of marriage, and I love him even

more if that's possible. But the story I want to share is something totally unexpected that happened that helped him more than anything else. After a series of events only God could have put together, our Pastor asked us to go to Uganda as husband and wife to represent our church as part of a "sister parish" program. Our church had sponsored the Pastor of our sister parish there to come here and meet our congregation. We have a guest room in our home, and I work at the church, so we hosted Rev. David Rurihoona at our home. After his visit to Roseville, he wanted to host someone from our church and let them meet the people in his parish in Uganda. Rick and I were chosen.

As we learned about the culture where we were traveling, we found that, if I wanted to have

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would wear only dresses. Also, women in Uganda do not whistle. I took only dresses, and stopped myself whenever I automatically started whistling. We learned that the Christians in Uganda believe it is wrong to smoke. Rick had been smoking since age 12 and had failed many attempts at quitting. At our last layover on the way to Uganda, in Dubai, Rick had his last cigarette, threw the rest of the pack in the trash, and hasn't smoked since (over two years ago!)

We came home totally changed from seeing the lives of the people, especially the AIDS orphans, there. Some of the landscape and houses reminded Rick of Viet Nam, but it didn't cause the problems he thought it would. Instead, after we came home we both began feeling more and more strongly that we were supposed to do something to help the orphans in Uganda. We made several more trips there on our own, and Rick became the hero of the local children. He would go out every day with pockets full of balloons and lollipops. The kids would swarm him, giving him hugs and vying for his attention. He got to know all their names, where they lived. He made up little games with them that they remember between our trips. When they hear we will be coming, they are all there waiting in front of the Pastor's home when we arrive. They mob the car and start chanting "Rick, Rick, Rick." He has been absolutely transformed by this. We felt God was calling us to build an orphanage in that town in Uganda. We spent our savings on buying a piece of property, setting up a non-profit to raise funds for the building and operation of the the respect of the women there, I orphanage. Rick sold his pickup

put the money in the orphanage account. He has quit smoking, quit gambling, even quit having as many war nightmares and sleepless nights. He is now president of our non-profit and working hard all the time to raise awareness about the orphans' plight and raise money to keep the orphanage going. And (this a really beautiful part), three of the biggest supporters of this project are brother Veterans. Rick has become really close friends with all three of these men. He has known them all for years as acquaintances, but it was this chance to do something to help the helpless that has brought them together as brothers. This is huge. Rick has never had any real friends or been close to anyone but me in the 22 years we have been married. Helping these kids has been so healing for Rick and the other veterans involved. I know I will never truly understand what he experienced, but I can see the healing and transformation this orphanage has brought with my own eyes and I thank God for it. Anyone who wants to know more, or help in any way with the orphanage, please check out our web site at www.shepherdslove. com. Or just send Rick an e-mail through the web site to say "way

truck and his Harley-Davidson and

to go, Doc!" I want to conclude by saying a big thank you to all the men and women who have served this great country by giving years of their lives in the military.

Proud to be the granddaughter of a WWI soldier, daughter of a WWII sailor, aunt of a Green Beret, and really proud to be the wife of a Corpsman.

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Look for Post-election Investment **Opportunities**



Kirk Camunez

Over the past few weeks, the country's attention has been riveted on the presidential election. Of course, we didn't exactly forget that we're in difficult economic times, but we did have something else on which to concentrate our thoughts and energies. Now, however, the election is over, and, for many of us, it's back to focusing on the economy and our investments. By taking a closer look at the current state of affairs, you may find that the situation is more promising than you remembered, back before your thoughts were diverted by polls and prognostications.

To begin with, let's look at what's been happening to an economic indicator that, while actually quite important, may not be well known to you or many other investors.

LIBOR (London InterBank Offered Rate) is the interest rate that banks charge each other for onemonth, three-month, six-month and one-year loans. This rate is initially charged by London banks, and is then published and used as the benchmark for banks rates all over the world. The LIBOR rate can matter to you in several ways. First, if you have an adjustable-rate loan, such as a mortgage, and your rate resets, it is usually based on the LIBOR rate. Even if you have a fixed-rate loan on, say, a credit card, and you pay it off each month, an increasing LIBOR will affect you by making all types of consumer and business loans more expensive. This reduces liquidity, which slows economic growth.

And that's why it's such good news that LIBOR has fallen steadily for the past few weeks. A lower LIBOR can significantly ease the flow of credit

and, as you'll recall, the frozen credit market was one of the chief culprits of the financial meltdown.

Apart from a falling LIBOR, what other positive developments have we seen in the financial markets? For one thing, talk about a coming "depression" has largely faded from the scene. Furthermore, stock prices, while still volatile, have shown some upward movement in recent weeks. Before the two-day plunge of November 5 and 6, the S & P 500 closed 17.7 percent higher than its low of 848.92, reach on October 27. A 20% rise would have technically marked the end of the current bear market and the beginning of a new bull market. But even after the sharp two-day drop, the S & P 500 was up nearly 10 percent from its October 27 low point.

Still, no one can say that the stock market has already hit bottom. With the economy struggling, it's unlikely that corporate profits will be robust in the months ahead — and corporate profits are a key driver of stock

But there may be a bright side to this picture: Based on traditional measures of value, stocks are now relatively inexpensive. Much of the poor economic news may already be reflected in current stock prices, so, based on today's price levels, highquality stocks could well provide attractive returns in the long run. Over the short term, though, be prepared for continued volatility, possibly including large day-to-day price drops.

These are challenging times for investors, but good opportunities are out there. To take advantage of them, you need courage, discipline and patience. Remember, tough times don't last — but smart investors do.

This article was written by Edward Jones for your Edward Jones financial advisor.

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How Many Times Do I Have To Say No? Letter from the President...



Opinion by Lonn Maier

Ants are peculiar creatures. They have colonized practically every corner of the earth, and have been existence since the dinosaurs roamed the earth. They form colonies, establish hierarchies, and somehow create division of labor for queens, drones, workers, and soldiers--all of which work in concert to effectively invade yards, garages, and homes, which can be invaded by thousands of the little hymenopterans in just a matter of hours. They have an admirable spirit. They never give up in pursuit of their goal: to invade. That is, unless acted upon by an outside exterminating force. No one wants ants. Ant Farms will never really sell as long as everyone agrees: ants are despicable pests. Admirable in their tenacity, but pests none-the-

less. Enough biology. The City of Rancho Cordova is planning to construct a structure not unlike an invasion of sorts. The proposed Rancho Cordova Parkway is a proposed multi-lane freeway interchange that will serve as the main traffic drain for at least 100,000 cars in the new urban area being created south of US Highway 50 in Rancho Cordova. It will dominate the landscape between Sunrise and Hazel on highway 50 in ways unheard of. A portion of the project is located in Gold River on an eight-acre parcel known as the Tenderfoot Meadow, just south of Tenderfoot Drive in Eureka Village. The invasive interchange will reach 32 feet in the air, and have lighting that shoots another 40 feet in the air. A multitude of irreversible adverse environmental impacts affecting Gold River will result from the

project. For starters, air quality emissions from cars include carbon monoxide. carbon dioxide (a putative greenhouse gas), nitrous oxides and sulfur oxide, not to mention particulate matter from diesel trucks and cars. Thousands of pounds of the toxic stuff will cloud homes nearest the interchange. Even those further away, as far as 1000 feet will be affected by the air emissions, according to statesponsored research studies. And there are dozens of studies that warn of the effects of auto emissions on

The City's own preliminary analysis (which has recently been determined to need revising) shows that under buildout conditions, uses in the Planning Area may produce 14,300 tons of reactive organic gases, 3,170 tons of nitrous oxides, and 8,420 tons of particulate matter 10 microns in size per year. That adds up to over 25,000 tons of emissions annually that the City of Rancho Cordova is willing to smother the Gold River community with. That's in addition to who knows how many dozens of tons of emissions are already generated by traffic from highway 50.

Why a concern? Hundreds of children and parents alike frequent the nearby Prospect Park, which is located a mere 100 yards from the proposed interchange. Soccer kids running their hearts out will be inhaling the emissions from the thousands of vehicles that pass through Tenderfoot Meadow every

Not surprising, the State's own Air Resources Board thinks that interchanges near homes are a bad idea. They recommend that homes not be sited more than 500 feet from freeways, let alone interchanges. Homes' backyards will be as close as 50 feet from the structure.

would think recommendation by itself might lead City leaders towards consideration of alternative locations for the behemoth emission-laden structure. Not so. In fact, no such alternatives have been identified publicly to date.

From 2005 to 2007 the City has held three public meetings to address Gold River residents concerns regarding the project. At least 100 residents attended each meeting. In addition, several meetings have been held with Gold River villages and the Gold River Community Association Board. The response of the community is not surprising: not one person, out of the hundreds informed, thinks the project is a good idea. In fact, the Gold River Board, which also opposes the project has proclaimed that the project "does nothing good for our community."

So, just in case anyone at the City is listening, everyone in Gold River opposes your plan to invade our community. No matter how many different ways you ask if the community will accept this behemoth structure, the answer is the same. I can't recount how many times my parents told me no when I persisted in having my way. My mother would in exasperation say "How many times do I have to say 'No?' No is the answer, and that's final.'

We applaud your vision for growth, and applaud your ambitious efforts to grow Rancho Cordova into a livable community. The economy will be revived to a point (and water supplies eventually made available) so your dream can be realized.

But as the ant is also to be applauded for its industrious nature, when it determines to build where it's not wanted, the end of its efforts will come; the exterminator will come and convince the ant colony to relocate somewhere else.

The City needs to re-evaluate where the interchange will best serve its needs while not creating a health and safety hazard to hundreds of people's lives. The City needs to consider the Hazel Avenue land south of highway 50 as their primary target for an interchange. Just think of the benefits of such a location: few if any impacts to an established residential community, and a project that will be the pride of Rancho Cordova. Anything else is subterfuge for a contentious approval process.

It's best for the ant to build where its efforts will be rewarded. To build in our back yard, we are saying 'No'. And as my mom would say, that's

Lonn Maier is a resident of Gold River and co-chair of the Gold River Interchange Committee. He can be contacted at gric@



Orangevale - Well, Brewfest was a blast! Thank you to all of those who came out to taste the many different beers from the brewer's and enjoy the yummy food. We had hot links, polish dogs and chili. A special thank you

goes out to the businesses that donated their time and talent to the event.

The year end is drawing near and it is time to reflect on the Business of the Year, Business Person of the Year, Ambassador of the Year and Volunteer of the Year and The Outstanding Community Service of the Year awards. Take a moment to decide who you would like to see get an award for their outstanding achievement in the

Our Juice newsletter will be taking on a new look these next few months. If you would like us to put in information about your business lets us know. We are always looking for ways to give



Just a reminder the membership renewal fee will change January 1st 2009. Renew early and save!

Please feel free to contact the office with any questions or concerns, we are happy to serve the businesses and the community. 916-988-0175

> Sincerely Yours, Lorraine Silvera

Business License Applications Now Accepted in East Area Service Center

Including Sacramento County Business Licenses, Fictitious Business Names and Information

Sacramento - Beginning Thursday, November 6, Sacramento County is adding business licenses to their growing list of services at the East Service Center located at 5229-B Hazel Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, near Madison Avenue.

'We're so pleased to be accepting applications for business licenses to serve our east area residents," said Keri Blaskoski, East Service Center Manager. "This is a great service to add and is part of the County's larger effort to bring services directly to the neighborhoods.

license applications, Business fictitious business name filings and general information can be obtained on Thursday from 9 a.m. -4 p.m. The Center's phone numbers is 916-876-

Other services available include: Assistance with Neighborhood issues and formation of Neighborhood Associations, Building Permits, Clerk/ Recorder Services, County utility payments, General information on County services and help with finding the right contact or department, Marriage Ceremonies, Intake for nuisances such as abandoned cars, illegal dumping, code enforcement issues, Transportation information - traffic, stop lights, road ways, and Zoning information.

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Pay for college without going broke

Fair Oaks man teaches free workshops to help parents save thousands in process

FAIR OAKS---Parents that are planning on sending a child to college in the next few years, but aren't quite sure how to pay for it can now rest a little easier.

Tary Farnholtz of Dollars for College, Inc. has been educating parents in the community about what to do if they haven't saved enough for college.

'It's really sad, but most parents that we talk to have done real well financially, but never found the time to save for college, and now they're facing a bill of \$18,000-\$45,000 a year, and they don't know who to turn to,' he says. 'Further, most of the time, all they hear is to not even bother applying for any aid because they make too much money. However, most of the time, that is simply not true...even if they make a sixfigure income.'

Tary's affiliation with College Planning Specialist of Carlsbad, CA who have worked with over 3000 families in the last 15 years ranging from single moms to corporate CEO's, swears he can help anyone get through the process and save a bundle....no matter how good of a student they have or how much money they make.

'Simply put, we show parents the truth that they aren't hearing anywhere else about how the college process really works, and how they can get their child into a top school, help that student pick a career that will suit them and pay them well, and save thousands of dollars in the process.'

Parents will have a few opportunities to hear Tary speak. He is teaching his class 'How to Give Your Kid a 4-Year College

Education...Without Going Broke!'

The workshop dates are Saturday, November 8th, 10:15-11:45am. held at the Fair Oaks Library, 11601 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Thursday, November 6th, 6:15-7:45pm. held at the Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608.

'We'll discuss everything from the greatest myths about the college process, to how to send your student to a fancy private school for less than the cost of a junior college...it'll be like learning how to get a brand new Lexus for the price of a used pick up truck,' he grins.

Topics will also include why private scholarships and 529 plans are a waste of time, how to double or even triple the amount of free money you receive from each school, and how to avoid the one mistake that will kill your chances of getting any money at all that almost every other parent will make this year, and much, much more.

'They will learn a ton, and I do my best to make the class fun,' he says. 'It's like I'm giving them a super bright flash light to navigate a pitch black cave, while all the other parents continue to stumble around blindly!'

Don't forget: the class is totally free, but seats are limited by the size of the room and many families have had to be turned away at the door of recent workshops due to no reservation being made. You can reserve a seat by calling (916) 966-8800 or schedule a FREE, no obligation, one-hour

Local Student Receives Imagine America Scholarship

Grassroots Newswire - Tuition costs should never prevent a student from achieving a dream to become a leader. With the help of the Imagine America Foundation, students who demonstrate a commitment to their education are breaking down barriers between themselves and their dreams.

Johnathon Heathcock of Citrus \$1,000 in tuition assistance from what the Imagine America Foundation

the Imagine America Foundation (IAF). Heathcock, a graduate of Bella Vista High School, will be attending Universal Technical Institute in Sacramento, CA. Heathcock is high school seniors, adult learners

enrolled in the Ford FACT program. "Johnathon is the type of student we have in mind when we talk about helping the next generation of leaders Heights (95610) has received the meet their career goals," said Robert Imagine America scholarship, L. Martin, president of IAF. "That's

The Foundation has provided more than \$37 million in scholarship and award support for graduating and U.S. military veterans attending career colleges nationwide through its award-winning Imagine America(r) programs. The IAF is a Washington, D.C.-based organization dedicated serving America's career

Fair Oaks Historical Society

Second Sunday Open House **Hours December 2008**

Fair Oaks - The Fair Oaks Historical Society invites you and your family to visit its History Center which will be open to visitors on December 14th, from 1pm to 4pm, during its annual Christmas Open House.

The History Center is located in the Fireside Room of the Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse, 7997 California Street, Fair Oaks. Docents will be available during this event to

to the History Center is free. For directions to History Center, please visit our website: www.fairoakshistory.org. To schedule a student tour or request further information please call Lois Frazier, Chief of Docents, at 967-2967.

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Rand K. Jacobs

The Messenger Page 7 **Second Edition for November 2008**

SMUD General Manager Fills Three New Executive Positions

Two new manager positions also filled

Sacramento Municipal Utility District's (SMUD) General Manager John Di Stasio continues to put in place his executive team. DiStasio has named Elisabeth Brinton director of Communications and Community Relations, Michael Gianunzio, Esq. director of Legislative and Regulatory, and Phil West director of Customer Services. Additionally, Frankie McDermott is the newly named manager of Enterprise Performance and Greg Augst will serve as manager of the newly configured General Services department.

In her new position, Brinton will support an increased effort to communicate effectively



Phil West

with all stakeholders about the changes in the utility industry. She will be responsible engaging customers, employees and others to be sure SMUD makes the transition to a low-carbon future as efficiently as possible. For the past two years Brinton headed the marketing and government affairs efforts for PRIDE Industries in Sacramento. She also serves as a member of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Gianunzio was promoted from manager of Regulatory Compliance and Coordination, a post he's held since March 2008. In his new role he will work to increase SMUD's influence in the development of energy-related legislation and compliance with new and significant energy reliability regulations. Gianunzio has 30 years of experience as an energy and utility attorney. Before coming to SMUD, Gianunzio served as General Counsel for the Snohomish Public Utility District.

SMUD GM fills executive positions

West, who has served for nearly five years as director of Distribution Services, returns to his former post as director of Customer Services. West has a strong background in marketing and program

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Michael Gianunzio, Esq.

design, which will be vital in achieving SMUD's goal to encourage ratepayers to reduce peak energy use and adopt energy-efficient ways to manage their electricity use.

In his role as manager of Enterprise Performance, McDermott will responsible for evaluating all of SMUD's business performance measures, making improvements and managing those measures. McDermott has been with SMUD since 2003 managing the utility's Supply Chain Services.

Augst has been with SMUD since 2005 and most recently served as manager of Protection, Safety and Environmental Services. In his new position, he will add General Services and Supply Chain to his current duties.

Protect Yourself, Your Family and Your Neighborhood

Local government prepares everyday emergencies. However, during a disaster, the number and scope of incidents can overwhelm conventional emergency services. Metro Fire's Community Emergency ResponseTeam(CERT)program is an all-risk, all-hazard training. This valuable course is designed to help you protect yourself, your family, your neighbors and your neighborhood in an emergency situation.

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· How to use "START Triage" and how to treat the "Three Medical Killers" by: opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock;

· How to provide basic medical aid;

· How to effectively search for and rescue victims safely;

· How to organize yourself and spontaneous volunteers to be effective as a team and collect disaster intelligence to support first responder efforts;

· Disaster Psychology;

· About Terrorism.

This training is held on a combination of (2) Thursday and (2) Saturday classes and is free to citizens who work or live in Sacramento County. Teenagers

are welcome with an adult or guardian. The next class begins Thursday, January 8, 2009. For more information or to register for an upcoming training, call the CERT messaging system at (916) 566-4381 or email the Metro Fire CERT Program at cert@smfd.ca.gov. Feel free to log on to the CERT website for additional information and registration forms at http://www. smfd.ca.gov/cert.htm.

Be Safe, Be Prepared, Be Empowered to Make a Difference!



Schools Financial Credit Union Hosts Youth Basketball Camps

Sacramento - For the second year, Schools Financial Credit Union will host three basketball camps at Ottoman Elementary School in Orangevale. The camps are designed to teach basketball fundamentals, teamwork and sportsmanship. Upcoming camps are scheduled for January 24th and March 14th. Each camp is free to participants and can

through sixth grade students.

In addition to learning basketball fundamentals, students will also participate in an obstacle course, incorporating all of the skills they learned. Each camp will conclude with a scrimmage game.

"Schools recognizes importance of supporting the youth of our community," said Nathan Schmidt, Schools VP accommodate up to 24 fourth of Marketing. "We are proud to

host an event that provides skills and tools that students can benefit from for a lifetime." Founded in 1933, Schools

Financial Credit Union serves more than 118,000 members and has over \$1.2 billion in

assets. Schools has 12 branches and offers Banking for

EveryoneSM in Sacramento and its nine surrounding counties.

Pack Up And Go With These **Holiday Travel Gifts**

Travel-Oriented Gifts Virtually Everyone On Your **Holiday List**

(NAPSI)-The holidays are here again, and even the most organized shoppers are looking for some helpful gift-giving suggestions for the hard-tobuy people on their list. Today, most people are interested in the practical gifts, but that doesn't mean it has to be boring. To help your pocketbook and still give great gifts, here are this year's

hot items: • Men on the move. Whether going on a family adventure or taking an end-of-year business trip, men need to make sure they look their best with the NIVEA for MEN Men's Travel Kit. This six-step head-to-toe grooming kit comes complete with Extreme Comfort Post Shave Balm, Energy Body Wash, Energizing Face Scrub, Revitalizing Eye Creme Q10 and NIVEA Kiss of Moisture, allowing men to pick up and go. Plus, it is packaged in a convenient plastic carrying case that can easily be stashed in carry-on luggage; all the containers conform to airline regulations for liquids. Visit www.

niveausa.com. Must-have for all drivers. Travel confidently and with less stress this holiday season with a portable GPS system from TomTom. The TomTom ONE 130S is a perfect gift with its distinct design, foldable mount, touchscreen and added features, such as 3-D display graphics, turn-by-turn spoken instructions and Help Me! emergency menu. This device also includes a feature called TomTom Map Share that allows users to make and receive instant map updates directly on the device. Priced at \$249, it is sold at



Many great holiday gifts are designed to help people along on

most major retailers including Target, Best Buy, etc. Visit www.tomtom.

• Iravelin'tweens. Young gamers can now enjoy any long road trip thanks to portable gaming consoles and Ubisoft, makers of enjoyable video games that are fun and wholesome. Perfect for any child, Ubisoft has different types of games, whether it is related to sports, fashion or animals. This holiday, pick up the latest, Ener-G, Imagine, and Petz brand games available for the Nintendo DS, all priced under \$30. Each game brings out children's inner creativity and interests. Visit www.ubi.

• World-class travelers. For the travelers who love to explore abroad or simply just brush up on other languages, the NYRIUS Global Digital Talking Translator LT12 is a handheld device that cross-translates between 12 international languages, allowing users to communicate with nearly one-third of the Earth's population, including most parts of Europe, Asia and South America. With its simple interface and easy-to-navigate menu, this convenient travel gadget priced at \$69.99 plays audio and displays commonly used preprogrammed phrases, allowing fast and effective communication. Users can easily sort through a total of 8,400 phrases to provide conversational assistance while traveling. Available at Amazon and ShopTronics online outlets. Visit www.nyrius.com.

 Holiday housewarming. For those grab-and-go moments or when you need to give a last-minute hostess gift, Nonni's Biscotti hand-painted ceramic jars are a great way to spread additional holiday joy this year--one treat at a time. A wonderful centerpiece for entertaining and parties, the specially designed ceramic jars encourage friends and family to treat themselves to a relaxing "biscotti break." These light and crunchy Gingerbread Pecan cookies that are deliciously dipped in white icing are sure to add holiday cheer to any gathering. Visit www. nonnisfoods.com.

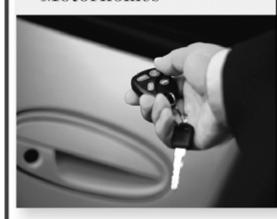
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a bloody, mutilated hand, "Scarce"

celebrates redneck cannibalism in a

remote Colorado cabin. Far more

laughable is the sight of female soldiers

infected by a virus and turned into "War

As a barometer of the fleeting

popular culture, AFM always features

a slew of films for the moment. For

now, it's global warming, and New

York features prominently. New York

is under water in 40 years in "Lost City

Raiders," when two brothers are sent on

a mission to find an ancient artifact that

may control the water levels. "NYC:

Tornado Terror" postulates that a giant

jet-stream vortex has centered over

Manhattan, leading to a twister that

cuts a devastating path of destruction.

After years of drought, "Ice Twisters"

ravages the Pacific Northwest with

shards of ice raining down on helpless

film world, AFM has its share of

quality films. In a perverse sort of

way, it's more fun to write about the

junk. But AFM should get its due for

promoting product that could easily

win awards. The curiously titled

"Men Who Stare at Goats" boasts a

cast headlined by George Clooney and

featuring star power like Kevin Spacey,

Ewan McGregor and Jeff Bridges in

a story about a reporter stumbling on

a mysterious military exercise. Mel

Gibson stars in "Edge of Darkness" as

a hardened Boston homicide cutting

through corruption and cover-up to

discover the truth of the murder of

his only daughter. These are the type

of AFM films most likely to come to

our local cinemas. And for even better

news, it is doubtful that an airhead

like Paris Hilton will have a role in

Representing the independent

Films and DVDs for the Whole Family Glamour Proves Elusive at American



by David Dickstein

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa rated G madagascarmovie.com

Alex the lion, Marty the zebra, Melman the giraffe and Gloria the hippo, along with their menagerie mates of the 2005 hit, are back for more animated adventure. Opting not to return to New York after being shipped to Madagascar, the talking animals attempt to fly to the mainland to make the plains of Africa their permanent home. Heard, but not seen are returning Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer and Jada Pickett

> The Boy in Striped Pants rated PG-13 boyinthestripedpajamas.com

Set during World War II is this story seen through the innocent eyes of Bruno, the 8-year-old son of a concentration camp commander whose forbidden friendship with a Jewish boy on the other side of the camp fence has startling and unexpected consequences. Based on the best-selling novel by John



Bolt Opens Nov. 21; not rated by press time (likely PG) disney.go.com/disneypictures/bolt

Disney is definitely going to the dogs this fall. A follow-pup to last month's "Beverly Hills Chihuahua" is this animated comedy adventure about a super-dog (John Travolta) who is accidentally shipped from his Hollywood soundstage to the mean streets of New York City, and doesn't realize that his amazing feats and powers aren't real. Miley Cyrus also joins the voice cast.

Family DVDs

Shrek the Halls (ages 5-11, Nov. 4, not rated): Ornery as ever before Christmas, the new daddy ogre learns the true meaning of the season in this half-hour animated feature, a ratings smash when it debuted last fall on ABC. Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz and Antonio Banderas return to voice their popular characters, adding to the familiarity and fun. Grade: B

WALL-E (ages 5 and up, Nov. 18, G): Man has long abandoned Earth, leaving behind one robot still collecting knick-knacks as he's been programmed to do. When WALL-E stumbles upon the key to the planet's future, an event that coincides with his discovering love in EVE, a female robot sent from space, the movie shifts from brilliant and amazing to brilliant, amazing and exciting. Pixar and Disney have done it again. Grade: A+

You're Not Elected, Charlie Brown (ages 5-10, now available, not rated): In the other major election this month, Charlie Brown, contrary to the title, isn't running for school president, but rather Linus. It's a close race, but hanging chads aren't what nearly undoes Linus' campaign. This TV special wasn't all that special when originally aired in 1972, but it's better than half the animated junk thrown at kids these days. Also new to DVD is a bonus feature from 2006, "He's a Bully, Charlie Brown." Grade: B-



by Tim Riley

After countless years of covering the annual American Film Market (AFM) in the relatively quiet California beachside town of Santa Monica, I realize that any encounter with the glamorous world of show business at a deal-making film marketplace is as elusive as getting a good suntan on a cloudy November day. People come to the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel from around the globe to buy and sell the rights to films, even ones that haven't started shooting yet. In the span of eight days, 513 motion pictures in 35 languages are being screened. Where's the glamour in this heavy schedule? Anyhow, who's got the time to see all these films?

Notwithstanding the massive load of films on display, the AFM is not a film festival. You won't find paparazzi incessantly flashing cameras in the direction of celebrities more often photographed for supermarket tabloids. Scantily clad starlets and wannabes are not strolling along the sand, the way it happens at the Cannes Film Festival. Instead, the hotel lobby is always teeming with faceless characters, many of them with barely a tangible connection to the business at hand. This is the sort of place that attracts all types of hustlers, quite a few of them conspicuous by the noticeable lack of a valid credential dangling around the

Open to the public, the lobby is not where anything meaningful happens. It's the equivalent of hanging out in the school cafeteria. That handy credential represents access to the hundreds of hotel suites where eager sellers ply their wares, operating what often looks like a swap meet. Inside these rooms, information is dispensed with colorfully slick flyers that announce the latest film project to which the name of yesterday's celebrity is often attached. Names like Corbin Bernsen, C. Thomas Howell, David Carradine, and Alexandra Paul. Sometimes they'll all be in the same movie, as if a slew of has-beens might magically sell the picture more easily in places like the Ukraine and South

A few years back, I made a game of spotting how many films feature one of the ubiquitous Baldwin brothers, from the better-know Alec to the obscure, forgotten Daniel. Oddly enough, not of them was discovered on my search this year. Instead, I was thrust into a new game not of my choosing, one that resulted in the fun of discovering that the slumping global economy and the sudden rise in the value of the dollar against many currencies combined for a one-two punch of an inhospitable reception among some sellers.

As I ventured into the Voltage Pictures suite, I was casually picking up flyers

Weekly SUDOKU -Answer 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 6 7 3 9 2 1 6 5 8 5 6 4 8 7 3 2 1 9 8 6 4 3 2 7 5 1 1 5 2 7 6 8 4 9 3 4 7 3 1 9 5 6 2 8 6 4 7 9 2 1 8 3 5 3 9 5 6 8 7 1 4 2 8 2 1 3 5 4 9 6 7

Puzzles are

on Page 12

Film Market Annual Meet

on instant classics like Steven Seagal's

"The Keeper" when some flunky

insisted on retrieving said promotional

items, noting that they didn't want the

press to write about their films. For a

brief moment, I pondered the absurdity of this assertion. After all, the sellers

should be in the business of getting

attention by any means. But the staff

person insisted the flyers cost too much

money, implying that a lowly media

scribe is not worth the meager expense.

Now that I have written about Voltage,

perhaps they were just employing an

apparently successful counterintuitive

More fun is to be had at the suite

of Troma Pictures, where they seem

really glad to see you even if you are

not a film buyer. These are the clever

folks who ecstatically embrace their

devotion to schlock cinema. Troma

gained its notoriety with "Surf Nazis

Must Die" and "The Toxic Avenger"

series. They won't let you out of the

suite without a fistful of flyers on

classics like "Redneck Zombies" and

"Class of Nuke 'Em High." Right

now, the Troma folks are pushing "Pot

Zombies," a story about toxic waste

making its way into weed, thereby

turning pot smokers into zombies with

a bad case of the munchies for human

flesh. I kid you not, but this film boasts

Despite all appearances, Troma

hasn't cornered the market on bad

taste or even horror films. The winner

of most grotesque flyer at the AFM

might be "Gnaw," which illustrates a

pie filled with severed body parts. Not

surprisingly, it's a story of a sadistic

family of cannibals who are set on

turning their dinner guests into their

next meal. Featuring the artwork of

that you can "see a hippie eating a cop.'

It's destined to be a midnight classic.

Trivia Answers

1. Fighting with knives

any of them.

2. Ali Baba in the story "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves"

3. Mikhail Gorbachev

4. Red wine, named after an Italian town

5. Crop production and land management

6. Questioning of prospective

7. Whip Inflation Now

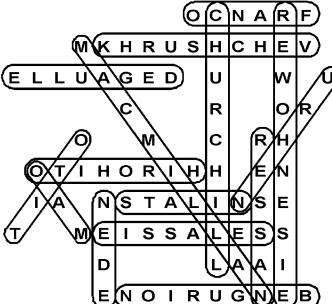
8. Neil Diamond

9. Four

10. Linda Blair

Magic maze

WORLD LEADERS IN THE 1950s



King Crossword **Answers**

Solution time: 27 mins.



Camellia City Flute Choir **Presents Holiday Concerts**

The Camellia City Flute Choir will participate in two concerts this December. The first is a shared concert with the Sacramento State Flute Ensemble, which will take place at 7 p.m. on campus in the Recital Hall adjacent to Capistrano Hall, the music building. Camellia Flutes will also play a concert at the State Capitol Rotunda, located at 10th & L in Sacramento, on Saturday, December.13th at 10:45 a.m.

Each program will feature Christmas music, as well as other festive selections, by Mozart, Saint-Saens, Brahms, Handel and Yon. At the Sacramento State concert, each flute choir will perform separately, and then combine for the last two

Martin Melicharek is the founder and conductor of Camellia City Flute Choir. There are currently 16 flutists who combine to play



5 types of flutes, ranging from contra bass flute up to piccolo. The CSUS Flute Ensemble is under the direction of Laurel Zucker and Bill

free! Free parking permits for the CSUS garage next to the music building will be available at the

Monday night concert.

Admission to both concerts is

Monday, December 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Recital Hall at CSU,

Saturday, December 13, 2008 at 10:45 a.m. Capitol Rotunda 10th Street & L Street

Sacramento

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Contact: Martin Melicharek Phone: 916/966-5784 E-Mail:

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by Pastor Ray Dare

In the Bible God reveals Himself to us through various names. Each name is a description of His character. For instance, in one verse God says, "I am Jehovah Shammah" which means, "I am the God who is always there." That's an amazing claim. "I am the God who is ALWAYS there". Regardless of your circumstance or the situation around you, He is the God who is always there. And because He's there, He cares.

Our problem is we tend to think that when things go good in our life, that means God is with us. But when things go wrong, when things go bad, that means God has left us; He's ignoring us. But that's not true! He never leaves you. You are never alone. You never go through a problem, a trial or a storm by yourself. God is always with you.

Part of that trust is realizing the fact that God doesn't always deliver

You Are Never Alone

you from the storms of life. Quite often, He delivers you in them. There's a story in the Old Testament where 3 Hebrew boys were ordered by a king to worship a false God, and because they didn't, the king threw them into a burning furnace. Notice what happened, "The king filled with anger commanded the furnace to be heated up seven times hotter than usual....They bound them with ropes and threw them into the furnace, fully clothed. But suddenly, as he was watching, King Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisors, 'Didn't we throw three men into the furnace?' They said, 'Yes, we did indeed.' 'Well look!' he shouted, 'I see four men, unbound, and walking around in the fire, and they aren't even hurt! And the forth, he looks like a god!" *Daniel 3:19-25* (LB) He was God! God doesn't always deliver us from our troubles, but that doesn't mean He's not there and He doesn't care.

You may be going through a very difficult time right now. If you are I'm sorry. I in no way mean to minimize your situation. You may be facing a conflict in a relationship right now. You may be facing a very serious health issue and you're not certain about your future or the future of a loved one. You may be hurting financially and you don't have the slightest idea how you're going to make it next month. What do you do? Realize that God is with you and He's going to care for you. David writes in Psalm 112, "Such a man (or woman) will not be overthrown by evil circumstances. God's constant care of him will make a deep impression on all who see it. He does not fear bad news, nor live in dread of what may happen. For he is settled in his mind that God will take care of him." I love that! When trouble comes your way, you remember God's constant care. You see, you can face anything when you know God is with you.

Is God with you? This is what He says to you today, "I will be your God through all your lifetime, yes, even when your hair is white with age. I made you and I will care for you. I will carry you along and be your Savior." Isaiah 46:4

See you Sunday, Pastor Ray New Community Christian Church www. YourNewChurch.org

more our love increases. Just as we only see our lover when in a close embrace. all we perceive is God's presence as we hold him close to us. And so our fears melt like wax

aren't human. Try these calming suggestions:

Acknowledge your fear. Difficult things happen.

Don't be distracted by rumors and sensational headlines. Keep perspective.

carry you through.

Most of our worries never materialize. So remember this sage advice. Don't be anxious about anything but in every situation pray and give thanks. Even though your world may be collapsing, be steady. Stay the course with God.

Christian living. Check them out at www.

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Two New Resources Available for Those Who Want to Help Victims of Abuse

by Samantha Nelson, Reaching the Hurting--A Biblical Guide for Helping Abuse Victims, covers a range of abuse situations and is available through The Hope of Survivors. This book makes a great personal, self-help healing tool as well as a workbook for small group Bible studies or a quick-reference for counselors.

Here's what one reader had to say: "God answered my prayer and gave me a miracle when He allowed the book, Reaching the Hurting to be a major tool in my HEALING. When I first received the book, I thought, 'great another book.' At this point in my life I was fed up with what people had to offer me; however as I began to read, it was evident that the words written in this book came directly from Heaven. The book is definitely a Biblical guide for helping abuse victims. I could relate to the pain of the author and at times I would have to stop and recompose myself. The book is extraordinary, the author did not want the reader to see her; but she wanted God to be glorified and to manifest himself to each individual. As I read the book, God revealed himself to me and restored my relationship with Him. The Bible studies at the end of each chapter are life changing; and, if the scriptures are studied and followed, there will be healing." - - Hope B., West Virginia

Do you like to lead small groups? Do you have a heart for sharing the pain of others? Have you ever wanted to be involved helping victims of pastoral sexual abuse (abuse by someone in the role of spiritual authority)? The Hope of Survivors has just released a new resource--THOS Support Group Manual. This manual provides step-

by- step instructions and guidelines for becoming a THOS Support Group Facilitator in your area.

For retail orders, please go to www.thehopeofsurvivors.com/

products.asp. For wholesale orders, please call (866) 260- 8958. Note: Purchase of THOS Support Group Manual does not automatically grant you permission to begin THOS Support Groups in your area. You must comply with the guidelines in the Manual and submit to a background check and review process before being approved as an official THOS Support Group Facilitator.

The Hope of Survivors is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping victims of pastoral sexual abuse and misconduct, as well as providing educational and informational materials and seminars to pastors and

California Bishops Comment on the Aftermath of the Passage of Proposition 8

Business Wire - The following statement can be attributed to the Executive Committee of the California Catholic Conference in the wake of continuing controversy following voter approval of Proposition 8:

"The recent vote on Proposition 8 and the reaction by some of those who opposed it make it very clear that there is a fundamental difference in the understanding of marriage between those who voted 'yes' and those who voted 'no.'

"We believe that marriage, which predates both Church and

government, is an institution that arose from the reality that the union of a man and a woman is necessary for the continuation of the human race. Those opposed to Proposition 8 believe marriage to be a 'civil right' analogous to the right to vote.

"As we said in our original statement of support for Proposition 8, same-sex unions are not the same as opposite-sex unions. The radical change in the definition of marriage to include same-sex partners discounts both history and biology and ignores how deeply marriage--as the union of a man and a woman--is embedded in our

culture, language, and laws and how foundational it is for the well-being of children and the flourishing of society. To change the definition of marriage to include any two adults diminishes the institution to mean only a legal partnership.

"Under present law domestic partners continue to have the rights and benefits of married couples in the State of California. It is our conviction that it is not necessary to change the definition of marriage to protect those rights and benefits. It is our hope that all those engaged in discourse on this issue will do so respectfully and in a civil manner."

LIVING FOR GOD TM



By Calvin and Lisa Wulf

"When Fears Rush In"

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

Coffee cups in hand, they find a quiet

I feel so worried, she says, holding her head in her hands. My husband's company is laying off again.

I know, laments her friend. The economy looks bleak right now, not to mention the world situation. Everything feels so uncertain and scary. Sometimes I just don't know where to turn.

Fear envelopes us like a dark cloud of impending doom. We're paralyzed in its grip as our worries close in on us. There's no security in sight and nothing we can do about it. Everyone's on edge as we spin out of control.

It's tough making decisions while we re staring at the headlines. Perhaps we should be glad it isn't our job to run the universe. Things may look genuinely bad right now, but God works everything for good for those who love him. He just needs a little time to get all the pieces in place.

Fear of the future leads to despair in the present. It steals the hope we desperately need. Genuine hope isn't just our own wishful thinking. It comes from God. Our eyes may be unable to see this hope, but it is always with us.

Ultimately, Christ's love carries us to safety. The nearer we draw to him, the If you've never been afraid, you

Give your fears to God. He can

Living for God (TM) offers resources on livingforgod.net or call (719) 578-8837.

ACLJ Urges Supreme Court to Protect Nation's Heritage in First Amendment Case



In oral arguments before the Supreme Court, Jay Sekulow, Chief Counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), today urged the Supreme Court to preserve sound precedent involving the well-established distinction between government speech and private speech in a case that could host of monuments, memorials, and other displays, including longstanding patriotic and historical displays, or else let all comers install privately owned monuments or displays, regardless of content.

"We're hopeful that the Supreme Court will reject a twisted view of the First Amendment that could create havoc in America over how local, state and federal governments choose to memorialize significant events," said Jay Sekulow, ACLJ Chief Counsel who presented oral

arguments before the Supreme Court on behalf of Pleasant Grove City, UT. "The basic question is whether a city gets to decide which permanent, unattended monuments, if any, to install on city property. The answer is 'Yes.' The fact is that government speech means the government can control its message. For example, accepting a Statue of Liberty does not compel a government to accept a Statue of Tyranny. We're hopeful the high court will uphold this important distinction between government speech and private speech."

The ACLJ is asking the high ourt to overturn a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit that ordered Pleasant Grove City, UT to accept and display a monument from a self-described church called Summum because the city displays a Ten Commandments monument donated by the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

The ACLJ contends that the Tenth Circuit made a serious error confusing government speech with private speech. In its briefs, the ACLJ argues that "a city's selection of which items to display in a park

- like its selection of decorations for government buildings - is government speech, and no private entity can claim a 'Me too!' right of access for its own preferred displays."

Numerous friend-of- the-court ("amicus") briefs have been filed supporting the ACLJ's position, including briefs from the United States government, fourteen states, nine cities (including New York City), veterans groups (including the American Legion and the VFW), and various religious liberty groups (including both Christian and Jewish organizations).

The case argued today is Pleasant Grove City v. Summum (No. 07-665) and a decision by the high court will come before the end of the term.

The ACLJ's written arguments have been filed with the high court. You can read the ACLJ opening at

Led by Chief Counsel Jay Sekulow, the American Center for Law and Justice focuses on constitutional law and is based in

Washington, D.C.

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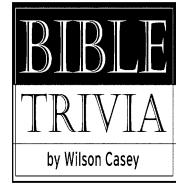
Come grow with us at Grace Baptist Church where the Old Time Gospel Message is still preached and God-Honoring music is still sung.

Grace Baptist still stands on the Principles, Doctrines and Separation, Found and taught in The Bible

Service Schedules

Sunday Schools (All Ages) 9:45 am Sunday Worship 11:00 am Sunday Evening 6:00 pm Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm

Come and Experience God's Amazing Grace (Located south of Madison; just east of Dewey) Call for More Information



- 1. Is the book of Mark in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. What words did Jesus use three times in resisting the temptations of Satan? My father above, God is love, It is written, Thou must repent
- 3. In II Peter 1, what were holy men moved by in regard to prophecy? Kindred spirit, Holy Ghost, Sins, Love of God
- 4. From Judges 6, what judge threshed wheat by the winepress? Gideon, Joash, Neco, Hosea
- 5. Who was Saul's daughter that married David? Jephthah, Oholah, Rahab, Michal 6. Whom was Shechem the son of?

James, Hamor, Jacob, Onan ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) It is written; 3) Holy Ghost; 4) Gideon; 5) Michal;

6) Hamor For more trivia, log on to www.TriviaGuy.com. © 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.

SANTA'S BREAKFAST and CRAFT FAIR **Sunday Dec.14th** 8:00 - 2:30 pm

Please come and have a great pancake breakfast for only \$4.00 \$12.00 for a family of 4 Amazing crafts – we have many new and

exciting vendors this year! Book fair – books make great gifts and

benefit our school! Pictures with santa \$2.00

under \$5.00 Kid's cookie and cupcake decorating table

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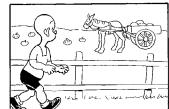
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The Spats



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

vase. 5. Piano is taller. 6. Mom's hairstyle is different.

black. 3. Mom's shoes are black. 4. Flowers are added to

Differences: 1. Pillow pattern is different. 2. Boy's shirt is

13

30

16

33

35

18

12

15

20

24

29

32

21





by Jeff Pickering

THE SAINT

BERNARD" REMARK JUST SLIPPED OUT.

Rodriguez 1. LANGUAGE: In its archaic usage, what is snickersnee? LITERATURE: Which character

which body of work? 3. HISTORY: Which Russian leader introduced the policy of "glasnost," which opened discussion of political and social issues and led to greater freedom of information?

utters the line, "Open sesame," and in

4. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of drink is Bardolino? 5. SCIENCE: What is the focus of agronomy?

6. LEGALLY SPEAKING: What is voir dire?

7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: In the 1970s, President Gerald Ford introduced a slogan and acronym that didn't catch on well in America. What did his "WIN" buttons stand for?

8. MUSIC: Which pop singer starred in the 1980 remake of "The Jazz Singer"? 9. ANATOMY: How many wisdom teeth does an adult usually have? 10. MOVIES: Who played the devilpossessed child in "The Exorcist"?

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10

14

17

34

31

19

36

22 23

25

11

28

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★ ★ ★ HOO BOY!

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WORLD MAGIC MAZE ● LEADERS IN THE 1950s

GNKIFCAXVSQOLJN HECAXVTROCNARFA PNLM(KHRUSHCHEV)M ELLUAGEDJUHFWDU BYXVTCRPORMKORR I G E O D B M Z X C W R H U T TOTIHORIHHRENQO NIALNSTALINSEJI TGFMEISSALESSDC AYXWDVTSRLAAIPO NLKJENOIRUGNEBI Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions -

forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

All Answers on Page 8

Contract Bridge

EAST

♦ Q 10 3 2

♣Q 10 9 2

East

Pass

+862

♥↓8

Ben-Gurion Churchill de Gaulle Eden

WEST STAGES AN

EXTRAVAGANZA

East-West vulnerable.

NORTH

SOUTH

♠ A 3

West

Pass

Pass

Opening lead — six of hearts

♥K94

♦ 9864

♣A K 7 5

North

3 NT

♥Ã2

♦ A K J

South dealer.

WEST

♥Q 10 7 6 5 3

♦ K J 10

The bidding:

South

1 NT

♦ 7 5

Eisenhower Franco Hirohito Khrushchev

Macmillan Mao Nasser

Selassie Stalin Tito

the play. Declarer wins East's jack of

hearts with the king and plays the ace

and another spade, West winning with

the king. Thanks to the favorable divi-

sion of the spades, South eventually

winds up making four notrump, and

But when the hand was actually

played, declarer went down one!

When South cashed the ace of spades

at trick two, West played his king on

it! This naturally caused declarer to

believe that the king was a singleton

and that East had started with the J-

South therefore abandoned further

spade leads and, with eight tricks now

assured, tried to score his ninth trick

by leading a diamond to the jack. East

won with the queen and returned a

heart to dummy's ace. Declarer then

cashed the A-K of diamonds, but

when the ten did not fall, he had to go

West's inspired play at trick two had

much to recommend it. He realized

that if declarer had the A-x or A-x-x of

spades, the contract could not be

stopped with normal defense.

Accordingly, when South played the

spade ace at trick two, West dropped

his king on it in an effort to divert

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10-8-6-2 of spades.

down one.

the players go on to the next deal

Wall-E

COUCH THEATER

"Wall-E" - Hands-down one of the best films of 2008. This animated comedy/adventure from Pixar tells the story of Wall-E, a wee trash compactor who has spent centuries on a post-apocalyptic Earth stacking cubes of garbage, collecting trinkets and watching "Hello Dolly." He discovers a new mission when he meets EVE, an environmental probe, and rises above his programming and in the process

There are various packagings, but all

will include a director's commentary

track, deleted scenes, the short film

"Presto" (which showed in theaters

before the feature) and a new short film, "BURN*E." The three-disc Spe-

cial Edition will have all that, plus even more deleted scenes, making-of

featurettes, a digital copy of the film

for portable devices, a documentary

"Tropic Thunder" — One of the

funniest and most controversial films

of the year --- and one of my favorites. "Tropic Thunder" stars Ben

Stiller, Robert Downey Jr. and Jack Black as a group of actors filming an "Apocalypse Now" Vietnam epic who

are exiled into the jungle to finish the film in a documentary style. Unfortu-

nately, they come across real-life drug lords. But the hapless crew thinks it's

all part of the film. Hilarity ensues.

The DVD will be released in theatrical

version and an unrated version with

"The Sisterhood of the Traveling

Pants 2" — America Ferrera, Blake Lively, Amber Tamblyn and Alexis

Bleidel star in the sequel to the 2005 Not having seen the film, I can only imagine the "heartache" to be the

Freshman 15. Look forward to 2010's "Sisterhood of the Traveling Slacks

"Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr. **Hunter S. Thompson"** — Filmmaker

with the Elastic Waistband."

DOCUMENTARY

on Pixar and other goodies.

ALSO THIS WEEK

Extra Naughty.

PICK OF THE WEEK

discovers love.

Alex Gibney ("Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room" and the Oscarwinning "Taxi to the Dark Side" chronicles the life and tragic death of the Dean of Gonzo Journalism, with special emphasis on Thompson's coverage of the 1968 and 1972 presidential elections, featuring in-depth interviews with George McGovern, Pat Buchanan, Ralph Steadman, Jan Wenner and Thompson's friends and family. "Gonzo" is possibly the best (and most even-handed) documentary on Thompson yet made.

TV SERIES RELEASES

"Bones" Season 3

"Doctor Who" Season 4

"Hawaii Five-O" Season 5 "The Odd Couple: The Final Sea-

"Daniel Boone" Season 6 "Star Trek: The Original Series"

Season 3 Remastered "Star Trek: The Entire Original

Series" Remastered, Boxed Set

"McHale's Navy" Season 4 "Spongebob Squarepants" Season

Answers on Page 8

= by Steve Becker :

declarer from the winning line of play, and he happily reaped his reward West leads a heart. If you look at all at the end.

almost certain to be overlooked when the crucial moment arises. This is usually because the play would not normally be made in most circumstances. For example, consider this case

There are plays in bridge that are

undoubtedly correct and yet are

where South is in three notrump and four hands, there seems to be little to

KING Crossword

ACROSS 1 River

- structure
- Hackman or Rayburn
- Got a glimpse of
- 12 Sapporo
- sash
- 13 Finished
- 14 Give a
- makeover to 15 BBQ wood
- 17 Use a
- teaspoon
- 18 Wrap, as a
- flag
- 19 Clergy
- counterpart 20 Homeric
- narrative

one

- 24 Make aspic 25 Creta-ceous
- or Jurassic
- of your life?
- 31 Popular card
- 32 Answer-ing
- machine's info
- 34 Impale
- 35 Doppel-
- ganger
- star
- 40 Kansas city
- 42 Crazy (Var.)

- 46 Incite
- 47 Neighbor of
- 48 Conclu-sion
- 49 Santa's
- 50 Satiate
- 51 Pair on
- 1 Comic
- **DeLuise**
- politician
- 20 Shiite leader

Aslan, e.g.

21 Theater box

Trawler need

Prior to

9 Bigfoot's

cousin

10 Tend texts

11 Hunky- —

19 Narnia's

16 Campus area

substitute

8 Poor

- - alternative 43 Right angle
 - 44 Wilde-beest

38 39 40 43 45 47 46 48 50 51 49 22 Hearts, for

- - 29 Time
 - 30 Refuge
 - game

 - "Oh, God"
 - Trembled
 - 41 Frau's mate

- Sask.
- sackful
- stage
- **DOWN**
- 2 Honest
- 3 Puts in the wrong folder
- Pumpkin or
 - cucumber Satan's field
- 22 Early evening 23 Works with
- 25 Creche trio
- 26 Not just
- peeved — instant 28 Corn eaters'
- Mall 33 units

30 War-

34 Enterprise officer

castoffs

monger

- 36 Heidi of TV's "Hotel"
- 37 Close 38 Medal earner
- 39 Rampant revelry
- 40 Ratio phrase 42 PC
- 45 Tokyo, once

Second Edition for November 2008 The Messenger Page 13

Front Page Sports

YOUR LEADER IN COMMUNITY SPORTS COVERAGE



Front Page Sports and the Messenger Publishing Group have joined together to bring you local sports coverage.

Front Page Sports Editor Mike Finnerty and his staff will provide coverage of high school sports from both Placer and Sacramento counties. We hope that you will enjoy the coverage in this newspaper and will visit www.frontpagesportsonline.com for their daily updates.

Defense, Big Plays Carry Laguna to Win over NU



Keenan Williams breaks out for Laguna Creek

from Front Page Sports

You can game plan for an opponent, but you can't always prepare for weather and field

Friday at Elk Grove High School, the Laguna Creek Cardinals (2-0) hosted the Nevada Union Miners (2-0) in a Halloween night battle for first place in the Delta Valley League, but it was the rain and mud that played a key role in the game making offensive execution a downright scary proposition.

Despite the difficult weather conditions, the Cardinals were able score on touchdown passes of 95 and 61 yards, and their defense locked down the prolific Miners offense to help lead the Cardinals to a 13-7 win and take sole possession of first place in the DVL.

The game didn't start well for Laguna Creek after fumbling away the opening kickoff. The early turnover decided field position for Nevada Union which camped out on Laguna Creek's side of the field for much of the first quarter. Nevada Union took advantage of the field position battle when junior quarterback Broughan Jantz hit Drew Hoskin on a 15-yard touchdown pass to put the Miners up 7-0 lead with 2:03 left to play in the opening quarter.

Just as they had done in the first quarter, the Miners continued to move the ball into Cardinals territory in the second quarter as

the elusive Jantz utilized his ability to get out of the pocket and finding open receivers.

Nevada Union's first two drives of the second quarter came up empty thanks to the big plays of the Laguna Creek defense. Junior cornerback Anthony Boyce intercepted a Jantz pass at the Laguna Creek 25-yard line midway through the quarter, and then the Miners coughed up the ball at the Laguna Creek 10 giving the ball back to Laguna Creek with 5:01 left to play in the half.

After a five yard penalty pinned the Laguna Creek offense in at their own 5-yard line, the Cardinals got their first big play of the game when senior running back Keenen Williams took a five yard screen pass, juke a few defenders, then turned it up field and ran 95 yard for a touchdown that tied the game

at 7-7 heading to halftime. In the second half, the rain continued and so did the turnovers. The play of Laguna Creek's defense got better as the game went on as they were led by senior linebackers DJ Hill (sack) and Terry Easmon (2 sacks, fumble recovery), as well as linemen Delvontae Hunt (sophomore) and Matt Hambrick (senior) who had Jantz on the run. The Laguna Creek defense came up with two monster stops when they shut down Nevada Union on a 4th and 1 at Laguna Creek 31 late in the third, and then again on a 4th and 16th fake punt that gave the

ball back Laguna Creek to start the fourth quarter.

Unable to get anything going on the ground, Laguna Creek went to their bag of tricks and pulled a surprise on Nevada Union with a half back option. Junior Diondre Batson took the handoff, ran to his right, then threw 40 yards down field to a wide open KJ Daniels who took it in untouched for the 61-yard, go-ahead touchdown that gave Laguna Creek the lead at 13-

Nevada Union was simply unable to capture the offensive momentum they had from the first half and had no answer for the Laguna Creek defense which held the Miners scoreless the final three quarters.

The win improved Laguna Creek to 6-2 overall, but more importantly the Cardinals now hold sole possession of first place in the DVL with a record of 3-0 with arguably the toughest part of their schedule behind them. With two games left, Laguna Creek will play at Valley (1-7, 0-3) then finish up at home

against Franklin (3-5, 2-1). Nevada Union still holds an inside edge on the second DVL playoff spot with a record of 2-1 (7-1 overall). Now tied with Franklin at 2-1, the Miners will play at home next week against Elk Grove (5-3, 2-2) and will wrap up the regular season at Davis (1-7, 1-2).

Playoff Stunner! Davis Upsets Jesuit



Davis' Smith goes up for the header

from Front Page Sports

Nothing like an old rival to come along and disrupt a perfect season, but such was the case Thursday night at Folsom High School.

It took a 80 minutes of regulation, a pair of 10-minute overtime periods, and a penalty kick shootout for the Davis Blue Devils to break a 1-1 tie and prevail over arch rival Jesuit by winning the penalty kick shootout 4-2 and move on to the Division I section title game.

Although Davis came into the Sac-Joaquin Section playoffs as the defending DI champion, Jesuit came in as the heavy favorite. The Marauders were the nation's No. 1 ranked boy's team, had perfect record of 27-0-1, and had already defeated Davis 3-0 earlier in the season. All those factors aside played no roll in the outcome.

Senior Nate Barr put Jesuit up

1-0 on a corner kick bender that found the upper right corner of the net with 27:05 left in the first half. Jesuit controlled the pace of play in the opening half and missed on a few opportunities to add to their score, but the Barr goal held until the halftime break.

In the second half, it was a different story for the Blue Devils who reversed the pace of the game and had the Marauders playing defense for much of the time. It took just nine minutes into the second half before Davis's Luke Parker put the Blue Devils on the scoreboard when Parker put a move on a Jesuit defender and then drilled a leftfooted shot to the right side of the Jesuit goal tying the score at 1-1.

The teams played physical throughout and the defensive play for both teams held the scoring in check ending regulation with a 1-1

tie. Two, 10-minute quarters of overtime play failed to break the tie and led to penalty kick shootout. Diving stops by Davis goalkeeper Kevin Monell thwarted Jesuit's first two penalty kicks attempts and opened the door for Davis's Andisheh Bagheri and David Smith who scored on Davis' first two attempts to put the Blue Devils up 2-0.

Corey Smith scored for Jesuit on their third penalty kick attempt, but Davis's Erik Hall made it a 3-1 lead for Davis. When Jesuit missed on their fourth try, the game was finally over as the Davis players and coaching staff rushed the field from the sidelines in celebration.

The victory advances Davis into Saturday's DI championship match against Merced, which also advanced with their semi-final victory on Wednesday.

St. Francis Masters the Links Once Again

For the third consecutive year, the ladies from St. Francis captured the girl's Sac-Joaquin Section Masters Tournament championship. The Troubadours delivered once again shooting an impressive 394 as a team on Tuesday at the Reserve at Spanos Park in Stockton. St. Francis finished six strokes ahead of second place

Daniela Okino and Tiffany Dong led the way for St. Francis with each player shooting a 1-over par 73. Briana Mao (76), Jennifer Moore (84), Nichole Cruz (88), and Sadie Strain (100) all contributed to the first place finish for St. Francis.

For seniors Dong and Moore, veterans of Masters Tournaments, it was their fourth straight appearance at the Masters as they now look to guide their team to a NorCal title on Monday when they travel to Salinas to play at Corral de Tierra.

Also advancing to the NorCal tournament will be Loretto and third place East Union (436). Jacqueline Williams had a team best 75 for Loretto, and Krysta Clark of East Union came up big for her team with

In the individual competition, it was

Whitney's Samantha Stockton who led the field with a round of 74 to advance to Monday's NorCal Championships. Joining Stockton at NorCals will be Christine Uhalde of Johansen (75), Kayla Riede of Dixon (76), and Sagee Palavivatana of Center (77).

Below are the results for this year's area Division title winners: DI - North, JT Park of Sheldon

DI - South, Shawnee Martinez of

Enochs (77) DII - Riley Sexton of Galt (91)

DIII - Samantha Freeman of

Briano Mao of St. Francis

DV-Megan McGrew of Woodland Christian (80)

More Than

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Best of Citrus Heights 2008 Winners

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Bauer's San Juan Car Wash Becky's Flowers

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Christmas in the Village



Coming December 6th!

The Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce invites you and your family to attend the 25th annual Christmas in the Village on December 6th. The festivities begin at 1pm and end with the singing of Christmas carols and the Tree Lighting ceremony at 6 pm. The activities, during the day, include

visits with Santa (1 pm - 3:30 pm);the St. Francis Episcopal Church choir (1pm - 2 pm); "Winnie the Pooh" at 2 pm in the village amphitheater (Free admission with a can of food); an exciting performance by the Cap City BMX Stunt Team at 3:00 pm; the Holiday Parade beginning at 4 pm; and then ending with the announcement of the winners of the Merchant's

decorating contest and the Tree Lighting ceremony at 6 pm.

All events will be held, rain or shine, near the Plaza Park in the Fair Oaks Village (Fair Oaks Blvd. at California Ave.). Admission is free. For additional information. please visit our website: www. fairoakschamber.com or call the Chamber office at 967-2903.



Christmas in the Village 2008

Bring the Family for Old-Fashioned Holiday Fun in Fair Oaks Village

> Schedule for the Village activities (Rain or Shine)

1pm – 3:30pm Visit Santa and Shop in the park 1pm – 2pm Band/Music **2pm** – **3pm** "Winnie the Pooh" plays in the

Amphitheatre (Bring one can of food for your FREE Admission) 3pm – 4pm Cap City Stunt Team (BMX stunt

team) 4pm - Parade

Right after the Parade please join us for caroling and the lighting of the Christmas Tree in the park

Event Sponsors

Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, Ships and Trips Travel/Trude Vasquez California Storage Centers Jafra/Diane Templeton Rockwood Designs/April Nitsons Roni Deutch Tax Center/Rich Bohrer Rumors Salon & Spa/Linda Moulding

> For more information go to www.fairoakschamber.com or call 967-2903

SCSO New 2008-2009 Mondavi Season Celebrates Haydn Bicentennial

Special to The American River Messenger by James Lajoie

On Sunday, November 9, the Sacramento Choral Society & Orchestra celebrated their move to the Mondavi Center for their 2008-2009 season with a stunning performance of the Lord Nelson Mass honoring the bicentennial of Franz Joseph Havdn.

It was clearly evident from the outset that the rich acoustics of the Mondavi Center enhanced the artistic product of this large chorus and orchestra conducted by Donald Kendrick and accompanied by four outstanding soloists: Heidi Moss, Soprano, Daniela Mack, Mezzo, Michael Mendelsohn, Tenor and Tod Fitzpatrick,

"Resonance is a key factor for a quality musical experience," says Conductor Donald Kendrick. "We are thrilled to have the option of performing at Mondavi, having performed on some amazing concert hall stages around the world, including Carnegie Hall, LA's Walt Disney Concert Hall, Beijing's Forbidden City Concert Hall and the halls in Munich, Prague, Vienna and Budapest."

The inaugural concert of the SCSO's first season at Mondavi was rounded out by a West Coast Premiere of English composer Jonathan Willcocks' "A Great and Glorious Victory" written in 1805 to celebrate the bicentennial Admiral



Donald Kendrick, Music Director, Michael Mendelsohn, Tenor, Daniela Mack, Mezzo-soprano, Heidi Moss, Soprano, Todd Fitzpatrick, Bass, greet the crowd after their performance.

Nelson in the Battle of Trafalgar. This contemporary work, written in 2005, was a perfect companion piece for the classical Haydn Mass. "It was like a breath of fresh air to pair the Willcocks with the Haydn," said concert attendee and SCSO Alumnus Tim McGeachy. "What a pleasure it was to sing along with the SCSO on the last couple of verses of this work."

Tenor Michael Mendelsohn shone forth in the Willcocks, finishing the piece in a dramatic fashion by "singing in the distance" off stage at the end of the

Projected supertitles enhanced the enjoyment of the audience in both works and the ensemble playing in the orchestra on the Mondavi stage reflected Conductor Donald Kendrick's crisp, clear, expressive conducting throughout the evening.

The SCSO continues its season with two performances on December 13 at 2 PM and 8 PM of their standing-room only Home for the Holidays concerts. These performances include candlelit processions, audience singalong, new and familiar choral orchestral arrangements and a special narrator appearance by television and radio personality Kelly

For tickets, call the Mondavi Box Office: 1-866-754-2787. For information. visit sacramentochoral.com.



James McCormick, SCSO President addresses the crowd on opening night.

Citrus Heights Board & Commission Appointments Now Open for Applications

Apply by December 5th!

Here's your chance to get involved in your local community and make an impact! The City of Citrus Heights has positions available on the following Commissions and Boards:

- Planning Commission (Four positions)
- History & Arts Commission (Four positions)
- Construction Appeals Board (Two positions available representing the following professions: Engineer or Contractor)

To qualify, you must be a resident of the City of Citrus Heights and at least 18 years of age.

Applications and the required supplemental questionnaires are due to the City Clerk's Office by Friday, December 5th at 5:00 p.m.

How to Apply:

Visit the City's Web site at www.citrusheights.net to download the application and questionnaire, or visit City Hall at 6237 Fountain Square Drive in Citrus Heights.

If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk at (916) 725-2448 or via e-mail at CityClerk@citrusheights.net



Applications due by December 5th

Please visit www.citrusheights.net for more information!



I am rethinking this whole "let your kids get bored and they'll be more creative" thing, and wondering if maybe it is a good thing for parents to control their every move.

It's a Thursday night and friends are visiting, who brought us a cow sprinkler (don't ask) that wags its tail to water the lawn. While we are trying to assemble it, our son Brandon and friends are in the family room, on the computer. In a couple of weeks he'll be leaving for college in San Diego, and his buddies will all be going away to school as well. Soon he asks if we have any dog crates. It's noisy, I'm busy with guests, and I tell him no, without realizing that this question is a CLUE. Next he announces that he and his buddies are going to pick up three large geese from a guy on Craig's List, who is giving them away for free. "Free" is another CLUE I miss. Brandon wants to know if he can bring them home.

Nicole literally leaps into the air. and I confess that I am excited at the thought of darling geese in our back yard. An immediate VERY LOUD debate ensues, during which Bob votes absolutely, positively no, and the rest of us vote yes. Brandon leaves with Bob shaking his head and the rest of us grinning. We set up with cow; it works.

Soon Brandon returns with three huge cardboard boxes, all of which are honking. Loudly. I have missed yet another CLUE. They are released into our back yard, which thankfully is fenced, and an immediate commotion begins. We have the wagging cow, water spraying every which way, two barking dogs running through the

Orangevale - Emeritus at Hazel

Creek will hold its 19th annual

Christmas Bazaar, Saturday,

November 22nd, from 10:00 a.m.

to 2:00 p.m. It is open to the public.

Come and enjoy shopping in the

comfort of the Hazel Creeks Library

Joni Hilton

Honk if You Love Geese

sprinklers, a houseful of company, plus Brandon and his cohorts and three SCREAMING geese. We have four neighbors who live very close by in our Rocklin tract, and can see into our yard

A helicopter flies overhead and our son, Richie, pretends to be speaking into a microphone. "This is the CC & R Police—You with the geese, put your hands up."

We decide to name them Uncle Waldo, Amelia and Abigail, after the Aristocats movie. The geese, not the police. Nicole and I discuss possible costumes and bows, and try to hug them. They run away, but then change their minds and decide to ATTACK.

Brandon explains that you have to chase the geese and take a swing at them with something, to keep them from getting aggressive and turning on you. This explains the "free" part. He and his friends go looking for golf

We decide maybe they're hungry, so we tear up some tortillas and scatter them on the lawn. We follow up with Corn Pops, wheat bread, and corn meal. No takers. It's 10:00 pm now, and we decide to get some rest, hoping the geese will also settle down. Brandon tells us they cannot fly (dang!) so we're planning to tell any complaining neighbors that they're leaving first thing in the morning.

Friday morning I peer out onto the patio and it looks like we've been straifed by white shoe polish. Everywhere. There is more goose poop than you have ever seen in your entire life, all combined together on our patio. Drying in the sun. It is physiologically impossible for three geese to create this much poop. Even three ostriches couldn't do it.

Now the mayhem starts all over again as the dogs begin barking anew,

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delighted that our guests have stayed overnight. Geese are running all over the yard, attacking the cow sprinkler and honking as if their lives are in danger, which they are. Bob, who has already left for work, calls and suggests I clean it all up. After all, he was against this from the get go, the mid go, the end go and the ego. I hang up on him. Brandon is still asleep in his cozy bed, unaware of the complete disaster this

Three ant colonies have discovered the uneaten corn pops, and the dogs are eating torn-up tortillas as fast as they can. I drag Brandon out of bed to gather his buddies again for a massive clean up, then a delivery to a local park with a lake in, which shall remain unnamed.

Two dogs are throwing up tortillas goose feathers, and I think to myself, How am I going to survive 13 and a half days until Brandon moves to San Diego?

Joni Hilton is an award-winning playwright, the author of 16 books, holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Professional Writing from USC, and is frequently published in major magazines. A former TV talk show host in Los Angeles, she is also a TV spokeswoman across the U.S. for various corporations, and highly in demand as a public speaker. She is Founder of Holy Cow, an organic line of cleaning products (holycowproducts. com), the winner of dozens of cooking contests, and a former model and Miss California. She is married to Bob Hilton, and they are the parents of four children. For book reviews, recipes, purchasing information about her books, and more, simply type Joni Hilton into Google or Yahoo.

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straight talk for teens

All play, no service makes Jane & John dull

by Lauren Forcella

Dear Straight Talk: Sure, this election brought youth out to vote, but there is still huge apathy among the young. Most high school and collegeage youth are focused on their next mocha, their next text, and looking "hot." They are barely interested in politics. In the '60s and '70s, we knew the names of congress members and how they voted. High school and college campuses were alive with political fire. Why is this passion lacking today? Your recent column (Sept. 10) showed that even the music from the '60s and '70s still rules. I worry! Without youth's abundant energy and free time, who will shake up society and demand needed changes? The middle-age are too busy supporting families and older folks are too tired. Without youth doing their part, we have nothing! — LA

From Kendal, 22, Arcata: The draft was why American youth in the '60s and '70s were so fired up. Without our friends taken from us, what goes on in Washington doesn't impact us the same. That era's political turmoil also came after fear from the anti-communist '50s and loss of faith in government. Today we know government isn't for our best interests; back then, people were just coming to this realization and were enraged about it.

From Ashley, 21, Auburn: The problem is we are encouraged to get that mocha, send that text, wear that hot outfit. It's how TV raised us. We are poorly informed on world affairs and don't know what to believe. Growing up, nobody said, "Pay attention. You have the power to change the world."

From Lennon, 22, Fair Oaks: The amount of media we are subjected to is confusing and distracting. Everyone is hooked to cell phones, computers, TV, video games. Commercials tell us to just worry about ourselves — but to fit into the herd as well. There is no music to inspire us, no amazing bands speaking what we feel. The '60s and '70s music is the best available. But it's not ours! And while we like it, we need

something that talks about problems we are experiencing now. We also don't know what to trust. News is twisted three or four ways and we are skeptical of every version. The Constitution states that we, the people, are the government. Yet we have been purposefully kept at a distance as government is increasingly secretive. Young people don't need corporate profits and payoffs to improve the world. We'd like to shut down the auto and power industries until they actually focused on green energy. We're here, we know right from wrong, we just can't grab the reins.

From Graham, 15, Fair Oaks: Yes, there is apathy, but there is passion, too. Tour any high school and see studentrun speech and debate clubs, rock bands and dance teams. Apathy is a mask to fit in, passion is underneath.

Dear LA: The panel has it right again. Can you imagine the unleashing of this 'passion underneath' if youth were being drafted for Iraq and Afghanistan? The draft is definitely the glaring difference between then and now. Today youth are asked for nothing, and so, in general, give nothing. The other huge difference is we are bombarded 24/7 with the slickest advertising for the unhealthiest products money can buy. Big Brother Media is out of control. Youth, especially, have been targeted to feel the pressure to achieve personal gratification at any cost. The economy collapsed when the free market wasn't regulated, and so will America if nonstop advertising of unhealthy products isn't regulated. We should be worried.

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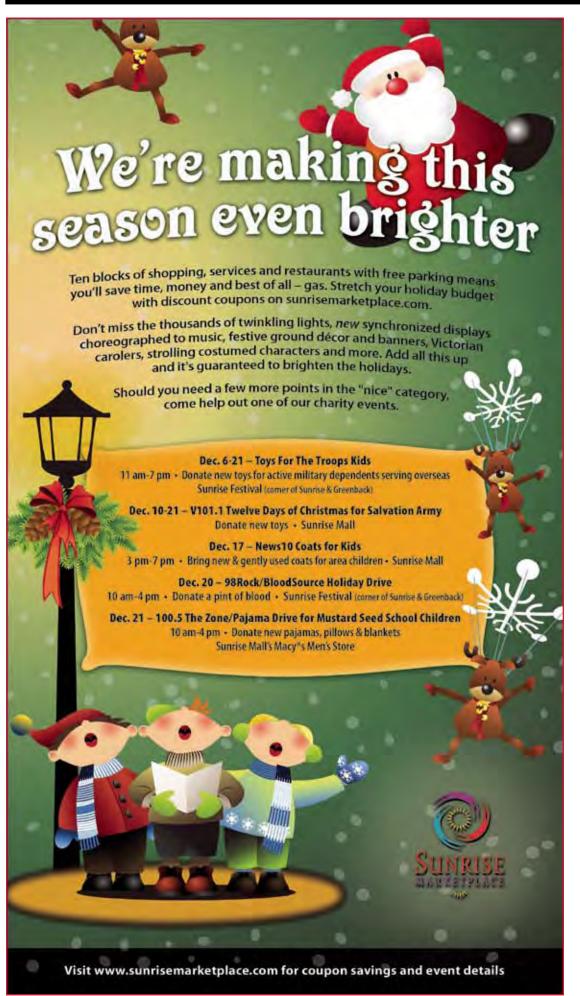
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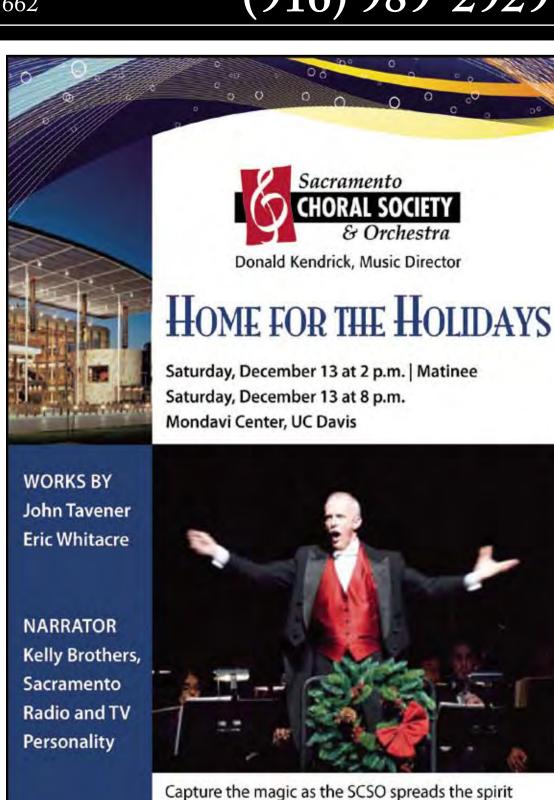
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