

Happy New Year!

Carmichael Times

Volume 35 • Issue 01

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

January 02, 2015

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Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

One Thousand Men Sought for 2015 Record-Breaking March



WEAVE's 2015 fundraising event, scheduled for Sunday, May 3, 2015, is slated to top last year's efforts; their goal is to have 1,000 men participate. This will not only bring additional money to the group, but it will break a world record. The organization is accepting registration forms now. Photo courtesy Tia Gemmill

By Linda Harper

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

Walking in someone's shoes is not always an easy thing to do, especially if you're a man marching in women's high heels. That's exactly what 620 men did last spring to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault at WEAVE's 2014 Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event. Through sponsorships, they raised over \$237,000 to fund many programs the organization provides to victims of abuse.

WEAVE's 2015 fundraising event, scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd, 2015, is slated to top last year's efforts; their goal is to have 1,000 men participate. This will not only bring additional money to the group, but it will break a world record. The organization is accepting registration forms now.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes is an international event in which men embrace the opportunity to raise awareness about the serious causes and effects of sexualized violence, which has reached epidemic proportions in every city

in our nation. Between 2001 and 2012, 6,488 troops were killed in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 11,766 women were murdered by current or former partners—that's nearly double the amount of casualties of war.

Domestic violence is not a singular incident. Statistics show us that it's a continuous problem, deeply rooted in our culture for decades. This black mark on our moral report card is as American as apple pie. Too many women and children have been held captive for too long by physical violence, financial abuse, emotional abuse, or all three. Organizations such as WEAVE are working tirelessly with law enforcement, social services, health and welfare, and many other federal, state and private sector institutions to serve victims, identify abusers, and educate the public in an effort to combat future tragedies.

According to the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, approximately 40% of women experience some form of partner violence in a lifetime. Young women 18-24 years

of age were significantly more likely (11%) to be victims of physical intimate violence in the past year. A report made by the California Student Survey (CSS) showed a prevalence of teen dating violence. At least one incident was reported by 5.2% of 9th grade girls and 8.2% of 11th grade girls. Additionally, among students with steady boyfriends, the rates of dating violence increased to 8.8% in the 9th grade and 12.8% in the 11th grade. These figures are disturbing, and they warrant educational intervention.

The hope is that early education of these young men about these issues will help them change their ways and prevent them from becoming adult abusers. Although domestic violence and sexual assault can happen to any woman in any relationship and circumstance, there are specific groups that should be noted. In a survey conducted by the American Psychological Association, it was discovered that over 40% of women with disabilities were more likely to experience severe partner

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Therapeutic Recreation Scores Big Since 1975

Story and photo by Ryan Meza

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Providing recreation services to community members with disabilities since 1975, the Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) program offered by the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks is a fun-filled atmosphere that includes activities such as "Monster Mini Golf and Dinner" and "Ridin' on the River."

With an active team of more than 200 athletes who compete in a variety of sporting competitions including the Special Olympics, TRS provides year-round training to all who participate in five different sports: basketball, soccer, swimming, track and field, and floor hockey. Almost everybody who trains in a sporting activity ends up competing in their Special Olympics Team called the Chargers. The Sacramento County Chargers was founded more than 30 years ago. Chargers athletes have received many awards for various sports and competitions hosted by the Special Olympics. Over the past years, the Special Olympics have also honored several of the coaches and volunteers who participate.

"It is our goal that our participants gain their highest level of independence and valuable lifelong skills that will benefit them in their everyday lives. It is our hope that participants gain improvements in communication, making choices, community awareness, social skills, learn money management skills, and develop new friendships," said Jenn Wilson, recreation specialist for TRS.

TRS is staffed by two full-time employees, 10 part-time employees, 20 regular volunteers, up to two recreation therapy interns per year, and more than 50 community volunteers from local high schools and colleges. With increasing participation, TRS

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Top New Laws for California Businesses

California Chamber Releases Its 2015 List

SACRAMENTO REGION (MPG) - The California Chamber of Commerce has released a list of new laws that will affect California businesses in 2015. Some of these, such as mandatory paid sick leave, make significant changes to the state's legal landscape. Others will have more limited impact. Here are some highlights.

Mandatory paid sick leave: AB 1522, the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014, requires employers to provide paid sick leave to any employee who worked in California for 30 days. Employers can limit paid sick leave to 24 hours or three days in each year of employment and can put a maximum cap on total accrual of 48 hours or six days. The effective date for the paid sick leave benefit is July

1st, 2015. Unpaid interns and volunteers: AB 1443 adds unpaid interns and volunteers to the list of individuals protected from harassment and discrimination under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), and it extends religious belief protections and accommodation

requirements to anyone in an apprenticeship training program, unpaid internship, or any other such program.

Driver's licenses: AB 1660 makes it a violation for an employer to discriminate against anyone who presents a driver's license issued to undocumented persons. Such actions

constitutes national origin discrimination under FEHA. The law also makes it a violation of FEHA for an employer to require a person to present a driver's license unless possessing a driver's license is required by law or the employer's requirement is otherwise permitted by law. Any driver's

license information obtained by an employer must be treated as private and confidential.

Public assistance recipients: AB 1792 prohibits discrimination and retaliation against employees receiving public assistance. It also requires state agencies to prepare an annual list

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Maus Lady Makes Creatures Small and Smaller

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Of the 10,000 shoppers who swarmed the recent Holiday Show of Hands fair at St. John the Evangelist Church in Carmichael, hundreds made a bee-line for the "Maus Haus" booth.

A vendor at every St John's fair for 36 years, Diana Boud (55) basked in the "oohs" and "aahs." The tiny mice and bunnies that crammed her miniature shelves were objects of mass affection.

The former Carmichael, now Auburn, resident grew up stitching clothes for her Barbie dolls. As a St John's parishioner, she offered rodent creations at the church's first craft fair. "I'm a dreamer," she admits. "I'd always loved little animals—the mice in Cinderella were my favorites. My sister passed away in an auto accident, and I found crafting to be very therapeutic. I saw the first St. John's show advertised in the church bulletin. I didn't know whether anyone would like my miniatures." At the debut 1979 event, every whiskered unit sold. Boud had accidentally cornered the craft market on adorable. Noses twitching, pink-eared and toothy, her Beatrix Potter-like critters scuttled straight into sentimental hearts. To regular customers, she is known simply as the Maus Lady.

She sewed full time for years, hitting up to 15 street festivals annually. Now, employed as a Sutter Hospital medical assistant, Boud supplies only two events: her St. John favorite and a Grass Valley Christmas show. Each fair bespeaks around 200 critters and 600-plus hours of sewing.



"Maus Lady" Diana Boud's Lilliputian creations were a hit at the recent St John's craft fair.

Boud is constantly challenged to raise the bar from cute to cuter. A mouse in a nurse's uniform and a bunny housecleaner are recent creations. A ballerina mouse twirls in pink tulle. A mommy mouse hauls a swaddled baby. From her diaper bag peeks a microscopic bottle.

"Seldom more than four inches high, Boud's critter bodies are cut from felt. Tutus and frou-frou follow. As every stitch is hand set, each creation requires more than three hours in the sewing room."

For seasonal appeal, Boud produces Easter bunnies, broomstick-riding Halloween mice, pilgrim Thanksgiving mice (yes, they landed at Plymouth Rock), and inevitably, a Christmas

Santa Maus. A macabre head-hunter mouse was once commissioned. It sported a grass skirt and a string of shrunken mouse heads.

Seldom more than four inches high, Boud's critter bodies are cut from felt. Tutus and frou-frou follow. As every stitch is hand set, each creation requires more than three hours in the sewing room. Mouse prices range from \$24 to \$34, and at fairs, collectors jostle four-deep to wave credit cards with abandon. "Perhaps I should charge more," Boud mulls. "Two of my bunnies sold for over \$80 each on e-Bay. But I don't like to seem greedy. And I love that so many people can enjoy my work. Hearing the oohs and aahs makes up for all those lonely hours sewing."

Beginning with mice, the crafter progressed naturally to bunnies (longer ears make them an inch bigger than mice) but the menagerie stops there. "I've tried bears," she laments. "But my bears somehow ended up looking like mice. I guess I'm the Maus Lady and that's that." ★



Three inches in height, a mommy mouse sallies forth in crinoline and apron.

Upcoming Events at the Carmichael Library

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - The Carmichael Library hosts several fun events in January. Here's what's happening over the next week:

Knitwits: Do you knit, crochet, or do needlework? Do you want to learn? Are you an expert who can help others? To participate in this event, bring a project to work on and a snack to share on Friday, January 9th at 11 a.m.

After School Book Club: Join us on the second Friday of every month to talk about the book, play trivia games, and have fun. The book is *The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder. This month's gathering is January 9th at 4 p.m.

Carmichael Second Saturday Audio Book Club: Is this a good book? Is this a good audio book? Bring a snack and your perceptions to share as we discuss the story. This month's title is *Mr. Mercedes* by Stephen King, read by Will Patton. The event is Saturday, January 10th at 10 a.m.

Read to a Dog: Specially trained therapy dogs are waiting for children to come read to them. For kids ages 5 to 10 years old that are reading. Earn credit for the time spent reading and earn a book too. The free event is Tuesday, January 13th at 3:30 p.m.

Chess Club: Do you want to learn to play chess? Do you already know how to play? All skill levels are welcome to join us at our Chess Club. We will have an instructor to teach beginners. All supplies will be provided. Bring a snack if you like. This event is Wednesday, January 14th at 4:15 p.m.

Stay and Play: Parents and caregivers are invited to bring in their babies, toddlers, and other children to "stay and play". We will put out toys for the children to play with while their parents socialize. This event will be held Thursday, January 15th at 11:45 a.m.

Movie Matinee: Bring your friends and enjoy a movie at Carmichael Library. The event is free. Visit Carmichael Library at www.saclibrary.org for a list of upcoming movie titles.

All events are held at Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Avenue in Carmichael.

Source: Carmichael Library ★

Events for Carmichael Seniors

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - The Carmichael Recreation and Park District hosts several events this month for seniors, including the following. "Living with Arthritis" runs on Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., January 14th to February 18th. Taught by licensed chiropractor Dr. Tony Barratta, the course will teach participants how to manage arthritis with exercise, diet, and natural forms of treatment and prevention. The fee is \$20 if registered in advance. "Estate Planning: Wills, Trusts and Probate" will be presented on January 22nd from 10 to 11 a.m. Attorney Julia Himovitz of Generations Law will be discussing the documents that everyone should have to transfer wealth from one generation to the next. The event is free, but registration is required. Call (916)483-7826 to pre-register.

Both events are held at La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael.

Source: Carmichael Recreation & Park District ★



Happy Holidays

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Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

One Thousand Men Sought for 2015 Record-Breaking March

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violence than those without disabilities. Many of these victims are in wheelchairs or suffer from conditions that prohibit them from running or defending themselves, making them the most vulnerable. Another group of women who suffer at the hands of their male domestic partners are female veterans. It has been found that women who served in the military may experience higher rates of interpersonal violence, sexual trauma, and related health challenges than those who have not served. The leading cause of murder among pregnant women is intimate partner violence. Victims of sex trafficking are perhaps the largest growing segment of male and female casualties due to sex slavery. Children are also an at-risk group; the average age of forced prostitution through trafficking is 13. Statistics show that some 300,000 young boys and girls are being forced into the sex industry, and the number is increasing. According to FBI

“Between 2001 and 2012, 6,488 troops were killed in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 11,766 women were murdered by current or former partners—nearly double the amount of casualties of war.”

published information, criminals who normally would deal in illegal drugs or weapons have now turned to human trafficking. A measure of dope or an illegal gun can only be sold once, whereas a young boy or girl can be sold 10-15 times a day.

We don't have to be victims of domestic violence and



Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families in the United States. If you're a man who wants to take advantage of an impactful way to ensure women in your community are protected from a life of fear and violence at the hands of their partners, don a stylish pair of heels and "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes!" Photo courtesy Tia Gemmill

intimidation, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking to feel the effects of it all. There's a financial element to this growing crime segment. Nationally, women lose eight million days of paid work every year because of the abuse perpetrated against them by current or former male partners. This loss is equivalent to over 32,000 full time jobs. When a woman is treated for intimate partner violence, the cost of initial care is approximately \$948. Domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families in the United States. Between 1995 and 2005, the cost of domestic violence against women in the nation was \$5.8 billion. Today, that number has advanced with more than a 30% increase in domestic violence, and unfortunately the numbers are rising.

In 1978, WEAVE opened as a grassroots private organization to serve survivors and families of domestic violence in Sacramento County. Their services were used by countless victims who until

then had nowhere to turn. Most thought abuse was just a way of life. The members of WEAVE realized that abuse has many facets. In 1988, they began serving victims of sexual assault, and today it's the sole rape crisis center in Sacramento County. Five years ago, WEAVE became part of Sacramento's Rescue and Restore Coalition to provide services to domestic and international victims of human trafficking. Through dedication and hard work, the organization has grown into a nationally recognized agency. Their critical services include a 24-hour support and information line; a confidential, emergency safe house; walk-in triage services including a lethality assessment and therapeutic counseling services; legal advocacy; youth and community prevention education programs; and more.

WEAVE encountered an increased need to house families surviving violence while they worked to make new lives for themselves. In 2009, they

built a 12,000-square-foot safe home featuring 18 family suites with onsite support services and a charter school complete with a Nature Explore classroom. To further serve survivors, WEAVE initiated construction of Next Step Housing Village, a long term housing option for families graduating from the safe house programs. In 2013, WEAVE received a \$1 million grant from the Emergency Housing Assistance Program to purchase

and renovate eight apartments to use as emergency shelter options for victims with unique barriers such as service animals. 2013 also saw the launch of Low Bono, a low-cost legal assistance program.

For the past 15 years, WEAVE's Suited for Success program has provided professional clothing and career development to hundreds of women in Sacramento County who have experienced violence. The program grew from the need to assist victims of violence in attaining economic independence. Lack of financial freedom is a common factor that binds abused women to their abusers. Many of WEAVE's clients leave all their belongings behind when they flee their threatening situation; they often arrive with only the clothes on their backs.

Suited for Success awards clients \$100 worth of professional work clothes from WEAVE Works Recycled Fashion, a professional attire thrift store operated by WEAVE volunteers. This addresses the catch-22 faced by many women who need to rebuild their lives: if a woman does not have a job, she cannot afford career clothing, yet without proper attire for an interview, she cannot get a job. Obtaining employment is a critical step for victims working to reclaim their lives and support their families.

This article was written to bring awareness to the national problem of domestic violence, not to paint a picture where every man is an abuser. The fact is, most men are kind, generous, and loving toward their female companions. Still, it is what it is, and the statistics are staggering. To combat this problem in our neighborhoods, everyone needs to be on board. If you're a man who wants to take advantage of an impactful way to ensure women in your community are protected from a life of fear and violence at the hands of their partners, don a stylish pair of heels and "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes!"

To learn more about WEAVE or to obtain fundraising event information, visit www.weaveinc.org or call (916) 448-2321. If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, call WEAVE's 24-hour support and information line at (916) 920-2952.

Sources: www.fbi.ca.gov; World Health Organization; CA Women's Health Survey; CA Partnership to End Domestic Violence; American Psychological Association; Vanity Fair, "Sex Trafficking of Americans—the Girl Next Door" 5/11; Huffington Post, "30 Domestic Violence Facts..." 10/23/14. ★

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The Beauty of Divine Beings Dancing

Chinese Troup to Perform in Sacramento



Shen Yun was founded in 2006 by practitioners of Falun Gong, the spiritual discipline, with the mission of reviving "the essence of 5,000 years of Chinese culture." They feel that it was nearly destroyed by the Chinese government. Performances around the world are hosted by local Falun Dafa Associations. All rights reserved. Photos courtesy © 2014 Shen Yun Performing Arts

By Jan Dalske

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Shen Yun Performing Arts will entertain audiences at the Sacramento Community Center, 1301 L Street, on January 13th and 14th. The company performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance with orchestral accompaniment and solo performers. Shen Yun means "the beauty of divine beings dancing."

Shen Yun was founded in 2006 by practitioners of Falun Gong, the spiritual discipline, with the mission of reviving "the essence of 5,000 years of Chinese culture." They feel that it was nearly destroyed by the Chinese government. Performances around the world are hosted by local Falun Dafa Associations.

Shen Yun describes their show: "Heavenly realms and timeless legends spring to life through classical Chinese dance. Dazzling costumes, thunderous battle drums, and powerful flips fill the stage with color and energy. Exquisite melodies and animated backdrops uplift your spirit and transport you to another world."

They are a performing arts and entertainment company



based in New York and were formerly known as Divine Performing Arts. The show's acts and production staff are trained at Shen Yun's headquarters in Cuddebackville which is in Orange County, New York.

The group is composed of three performing arts companies: The New York Company, The Touring Company, and the International Company. There

are more than 200 performers. For seven months a year, Shen Yun Performing Arts tours to over 130 cities across Europe, North America, Oceania, and Asia.

Shen Yun's shows have been staged in several leading theaters, including New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, London's Royal Festival Hall,

Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center, and Paris' Le Palais de Congrès. The company has performed extensively in Taiwan, but has yet to perform in Mainland China or Hong Kong.

For more information, please visit <http://ShenYun.com/CA> or call 1-888-633-6999.

Source: <http://ShenYun.com/CA>



Mission Oaks Welcomes 2015

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Mission Oaks Park District beat the Holiday rush by welcoming 2015 a day early with a dance at the district's community center.

The December 30th event hosted over 200 seniors dressed to the nines and jittersbugging to music from the Eddie Lovato Band. The festivities began at 1:15 p.m. and included party favors, refreshments, and a 2:30 p.m. balloon drop.

With the final balloons popped and the last cupcake consumed, revelers cheerfully swore off dancing till the next

year. Daylight ensured a safe and sober drive home.

The Mission Oaks Community Center is located at 4701 Gibbons Drive. For more information on the New Year celebration, visit www.morpd.com. Photos from previous event. ★



Youth Sports Leagues Start Winter Schedules

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - The La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road, Carmichael, will be the site of two youth sports leagues that commence their winter seasons this month. Pee Wee Basketball is open to boys and girls in first and second grades, and playing short games using lowered hoops. It begins January 7th and concludes March 8th. Girls Middle School Basketball is for girls in grades six through eight and includes twice-a-week practice, as well as Friday and/or Saturday games. It runs from January 28th through March 27th. To sign up or get more information, call (916) 483-7826 or visit www.carmichaelpark.com. Source: Carmichael Recreation & Park District ★

Young Jazz Musicians Blow Their Horns

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Some of the best youth jazz musicians in the state can be heard at the 33rd Annual Wayne Reimers Jazz Festival on Thursday, January 22nd at 6 p.m. The event will be held at Rio Americano High School, 4540 American River Drive, Sacramento. It will include various bands from the San Juan Unified School District middle and high schools. The event is free for all ages and is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael and San Juan Unified School District. Concessions will be available, with all proceeds going to support student scholarships to Camp Winthers Music Camp. For more information, please call (916) 971-7512. Source: Carmichael Recreation & Park District ★



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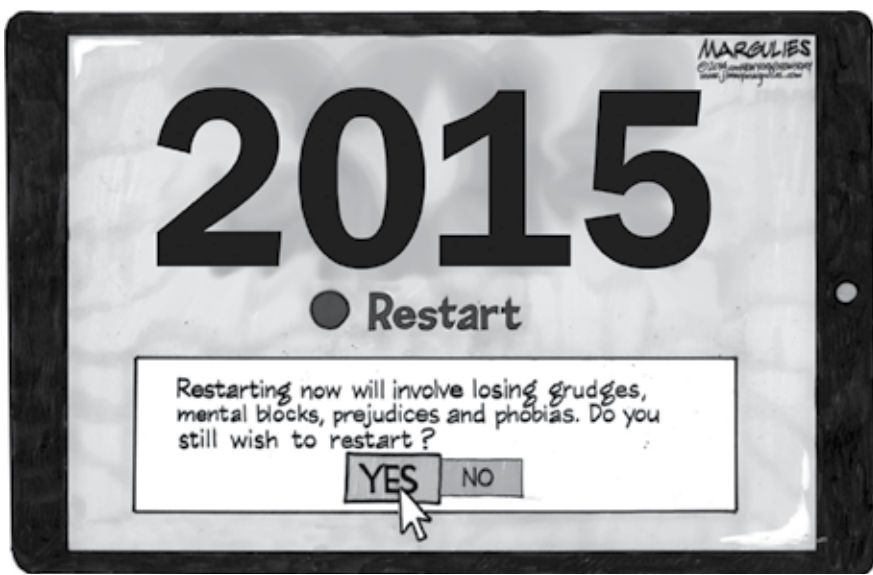
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THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN
By Rich Lowry

Feinstein's Travesty

The Senate Intelligence Committee spent roughly \$50 million on its investigation into the CIA and apparently couldn't find Michael Hayden's phone number.

The committee portrays Gen. Hayden, the former CIA director, as a liar who deceived Congress about the agency's interrogation program, yet the committee couldn't be bothered to interview him.

That's because the committee, led by California Democrat Dianne Feinstein, didn't bother to interview anyone. The committee didn't want to include anything that might significantly complicate its cartoonish depiction of a CIA that misled everyone so it could maintain a secret prison system for the hell of it.

The Feinstein report scores some points. It makes plain that the CIA

program wasn't adequately controlled, especially at the beginning, that it went too far, and that the agency became too invested in defending it.

But the thrust of the report is devoted to the proposition that torture, or harsh interrogation, never works. This is important to critics of the CIA program because they are almost never willing to say that torture is wrong and that we should never do it -- even if it sometimes works and potentially saves lives. They lack the moral conviction to make their case solely on principle.

Even though its executive summary runs more than 500 pages, the report lacks basic context, specifically an account of the post-Sept. 11 environment in which nearly everyone expected another attack and wanted to do everything possible to avoid it. This is why the likes of the impeccably liberal Jay Rockefeller, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, could say after we captured Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in 2003 that we should be "very, very tough with him."

The harsh methods that the CIA adopted don't, in isolation, shock the conscience. There's nothing, for instance, about throwing someone up against a flexible wall, grabbing and shaking him, keeping him in a tight space or slapping him that is clearly out of bounds.

It is cumulatively, over an extended

period -- as with Abu Zubaydah -- that the methods take on a different complexion. Reasonable people can disagree about whether we went over the line of what we should do to anyone in any circumstance. But in making a totalist case against the CIA program, the Feinstein report implausibly asserts that it had no benefits whatsoever.

It points out, as though it settles something, that terrorists lied when they were subjected to coercive interrogations. Of course, terrorists also lied when they weren't subjected to coercive interrogations. The standard shouldn't be if the CIA program produced 100 percent truthfulness, but whether it produced intelligence that otherwise wouldn't have been available as quickly or at all.

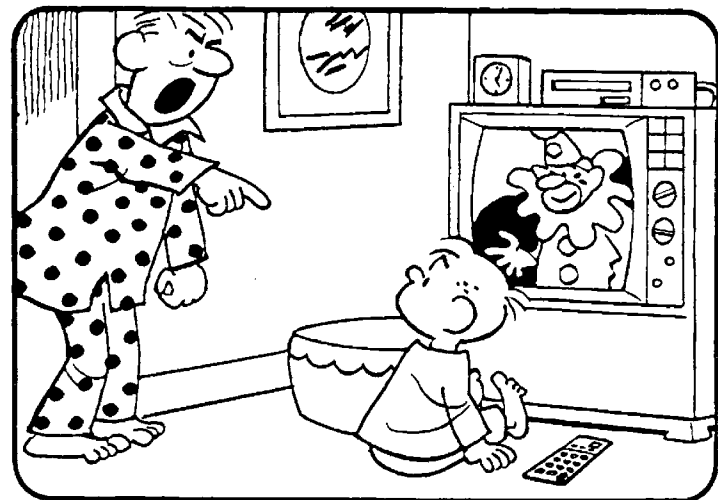
The overall contention of the report is that we would have achieved the same results in the war on terror with less information, rather than more. Not only does that defy common sense, it is a bet no one would have been willing to make in 2002.

Nor would anyone have guessed 10 years ago that it would be considered more in keeping with American values to assassinate people from drones rather than capture them and ask them questions under duress.

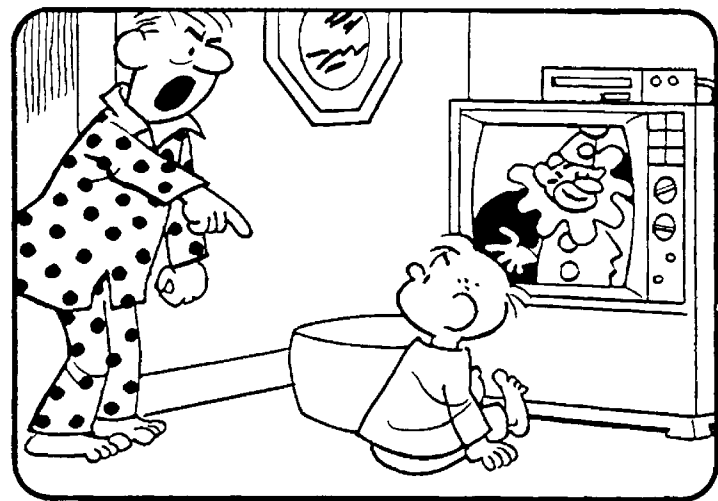
Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Greater Sacramento Municipal Employees Earned Average of \$110,000 in 2013

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Transparent California has released previously unseen 2013 public employee compensation data—complete with names, pay, and benefits—for 400 cities and 826 special districts statewide on www.TransparentCalifornia.com, the state's largest public sector compensation database.

The data show that average full-time compensation for employees of 26 Greater Sacramento cities was \$109,785 in 2013, with hundreds earning more than \$200,000 a year and over 70 making at least \$50,000 in overtime alone. Such compensation is significantly higher than that of peers in the private sector.

To view the comprehensive compensation database for municipal employees of Greater Sacramento and the rest of California, as well as for special districts like fire and water, visit www.TransparentCalifornia.com.

Notable 2013 findings showed that 319 Greater Sacramento municipal employees earned at least \$200,000: Roseville City Attorney Brita J. Bayless earned \$362,433, Roseville City Manager Raymond J. Kerridge earned \$356,208, and Citrus Heights City Manager Henry Tingle earned \$360,098.

In just overtime pay, 73 Sacramento municipal employees earned at least \$50,000: Sacramento Fire Engineer Jeffrey Alan Ivy earned \$127,280 in overtime and \$249,770 in total compensation, Sacramento Fire Captain Gregory L. Quick earned \$119,863 in overtime and \$270,253 in total compensation, and Sacramento Firefighter Chad Paul Chase earned \$118,064 in overtime and \$240,851 in total compensation.

Notable 2013 statewide findings

showed that the average full-time municipal employee compensation statewide was \$120,569; 11,203 municipal employees took home over \$200,000 with 3,661 making over \$50,000 in overtime.

For other regions in California, the average full-time municipal employee compensation was \$130,172 in North Bay; \$141,739 in South Bay; \$99,678 in the Central Valley; \$119,462 in Greater Los Angeles; \$114,329 in Greater San Diego; \$108,269 in Northern California; and \$111,784 in the Central Coast.

Notable 2013 special district findings showed that the average full-time special district employee compensation was \$106,592. The average full-time special district compensation for the top five districts were \$245,624 for San Ramon Valley Fire Protection; \$237,424 for Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District; \$214,363 for Montecito Fire Protection; \$211,998 for Woodside Fire Protection District; and \$208,583 for Central County Fire Department.

"Sacramento civil servants averaging \$110,000 a year in compensation means that the term civil servant is no longer appropriate," said Mark Bucher, president of the California Policy Center. "Meanwhile, comparable workers in the private sector have seen their compensation stagnate as an ever-greater amount of their take-home pay is diverted to fund these lavish government compensation packages."

Transparent California also released summary pages for individual cities and counties, which include median government employee and cost per resident. Those pages are available by going to a city or county page and clicking the "View Summary" link.

Transparent California is the largest database of California public employee and retiree compensation with listed names and now contains over 7.7 million records from over 2,000 California government agencies.

Source: *Transparent California* ★

Governor Brown to Be Sworn In January 5th

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. will take the oath of office as Governor of California and deliver his inaugural address in the Assembly Chamber on Monday, January 5th, 2015.

The event, which is open to invited guests only, will begin at 10 a.m. and will take place at the California State Capitol, Assembly Chamber, at 10th Street between L and N Streets, Sacramento.

The inaugural address will also serve as the Governor's constitutionally required annual



Governor Edmund G. Brown

report to the Legislature. Source: *Governor's Press Office* ★

Sacramento County DA Reports

Recent cases of interest



CASE: Marcaill Wormley (12/19/14)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Carlton Davis, Gangs & Hate Crimes Unit

District Attorney Jan Scully announced that Marcaill Wormley was convicted by jury of first degree murder, hit and run, evading police and witness intimidation for the benefit of a criminal street gang.

During the early morning hours of December 23, 2013, Wormley got into a fight with the victim, Branden Anderson. Mr. Anderson left the scene after winning the fight. When he returned several minutes later to retrieve his phone and jacket, Wormley shot him numerous times. Wormley was arrested several days later following a high speed police chase. He then tried to intimidate witnesses from testifying.

Sentencing is set for January 30, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Department 38 of the Sacramento Superior Court.

CASE: Daniel Cartwright (12/19/14)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Valerie Brown, Homicide Unit

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Sharon Lueras sentenced Daniel Cartwright to 40 years to life in prison. On November 21, 2014, a jury convicted Cartwright of second-degree murder. The jury also found true firearm allegations on the murder charge.

On November 6, 2012, Daniel Cartwright shot and killed his father, Richard Cartwright.

CASE: Dereck Jermaine Sanders (12/19/14)

PROSECUTOR: Supervising Deputy District Attorney Rob Gold, Adult Sexual Assault Prosecution Unit

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Steve White sentenced 41-year-old Dereck Jermaine Sanders to 396 years to life in prison. On October 15, 2014, a jury convicted Sanders on all 28 counts of sexual assault and kidnapping charges.

Coined the "Roaming Rapist," Sanders committed a series of 10 violent sexual assaults in the city and county of Sacramento between 1998 and 2003. These cases were all linked through DNA matches to the same unknown assailant.

In 2012, the District Attorney's Crime Lab requested the California Department of Justice perform a familial DNA search. The search returned a DNA match to DNA already in the database from a close relative of the unknown perpetrator. Using that relative as a lead, further investigation and subsequent DNA analysis identified Sanders as the Roaming Rapist.


CASE: Tony Yao (12/18/14)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Jeanne McCullough, Insurance Fraud Unit

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that former California Highway Patrol (CHP) Officer Tony Yao was convicted by jury on felony charges of failure to disclose a prior motor vehicle accident and resulting injury, making false statements in support of his workers' compensation claim and filing a false claim.

Yao was a CHP officer working in the Commissioner's Support Unit when he alleged a work injury to his back. The claim was administered by the State Compensation Insurance Fund. The CHP's Internal Affairs Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit investigated the claim. Evidence proved that Yao failed to disclose and concealed a motor vehicle accident in 2005, which caused injury to the same part of his back that he alleged he injured in his workers' compensation claim. Yao claimed he was unable to work because he could not bend, twist, walk without a cane and needed help with every day activities such as washing and dressing. Video surveillance showed Yao was able to walk normally without a cane, bend and twist with ease, and he was able to pound stakes in his front yard to mount a flag. Yao also claimed he mistakenly gave the wrong date of when his injury occurred on his workers' compensation claim form and filed an amended claim to change the date. Evidence proved Yao changed the date to conform to information contained in his medical records in an effort to conceal his pre-existing back injury from the State Compensation Insurance Fund.


Yao faces a maximum potential sentence of 7 years and fines of up to \$250,000 (or double the amount of the fraud, whichever is greater). Sentencing is set for January 28, 2015 in Department 22 before the Honorable Russell Hom.



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Therapeutic Recreation Scores Big Since 1975



TRS volunteer attempts goal during the Chargers' last soccer practice before Special Olympics competition.

Continued from Page 1

staff works hard to find new places to visit as well as offer more activities and sports for participants to enjoy.

"Activities are fun, and you get to meet a lot of friends.

The staff is cool, and they really make it fun for us," said Hermanda Seals, a TRS participant.

In addition to county funding, TRS receives donations from Eppie's Great Race, Pathways to Recreation, and individual

donors. During the last fiscal year, TRS received close to \$50,000 in outside donations. If you wish to donate or become a volunteer, send TRS an email at TRS@SacCounty.net.

Source: Sacramento County ★

Top New Laws for California Businesses

California Chamber Releases Its 2015 List



Continued from Page 1

of the top 500 employers with the most number of employees enrolled in a public assistance program. The reports will be made public and will be prepared starting in January 2016.

Harassment prevention: AB 2053 requires employers that are required to provide mandatory sexual harassment prevention training to supervisors to include a component on the prevention of "abusive conduct." The law does not allow employees to sue for abusive conduct in the workplace unless the conduct becomes discrimination or harassment against a protected class; it merely requires training on prevention of abusive conduct.

Farm labor contractors: SB 1087 imposes specific sexual harassment prevention training

requirements on farm labor contractors. It places restrictions on licenses for farm labor contractors who have engaged in sexual harassment, changes the exam requirements, and increases licensing fees, bonding requirements, and penalties.

Several new laws will increase employers' wage-and-hour obligations in 2015. AB 1897 holds employers liable for wage-and-hour violations when they use staffing agencies or other labor contractors. If a contractor fails to pay its workers properly or provide workers' compensation coverage, the "client employer" can now be held legally responsible. AB 2288, the Child Labor Protection Act of 2014, provides additional penalties for violations of California laws regarding employment of minors, including a penalty of \$25,000 to \$50,000 for "Class

A" violations involving minors 12 years of age or younger. The statute of limitations for claims that arise from violations of employment laws is now delayed or suspended until the minor is 18 years of age.

Other laws include AB 1650, which requires contractors who bid on state contracts involving on-site construction-related services to certify that they will not ask applicants to disclose information concerning criminal history at the time of an initial employment application; and AB 1852, which requires businesses that provide specified services to minors to provide a written notice to the parent or guardian of the minor receiving those services, including the business's policies relating to employee criminal background checks.

Source: California Chamber of Commerce ★

Free Weekend Activities at Effie Yeaw Nature Center

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - The Effie Yeaw Nature Center (2850 San Lorenzo Way) is hosting a series of free, fun, and informational events this winter season. There is a \$5 per car county entrance fee into Ancil Hoffman Park (free to members). Donations are gratefully accepted.

New Year's Stroll: On Saturday, January 3rd at 10:30

a.m., join a Naturalist for the first guided hike of the year! You may hear the splash of a fish, the call of a circling hawk, or maybe the ruby-red head of an acorn woodpecker will catch your eye. You never know what kinds of sights and sounds await you on a hike through the Nature Preserve.

Animal Tracks and Signs: There are many animal-made

signs in the woods that reveal who traveled the trail before you. On Sunday, January 4th at 1:30 p.m., become a nature detective and search for some animal tracks, scat, and signs in the Nature Preserve. All ages are welcome.

Source: Effie Yeaw Nature Center ★

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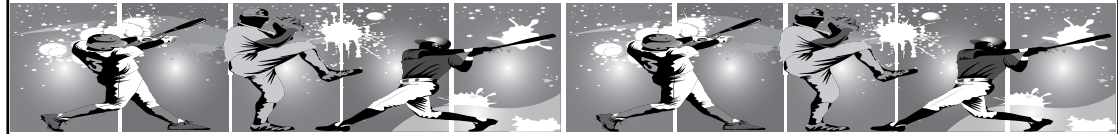
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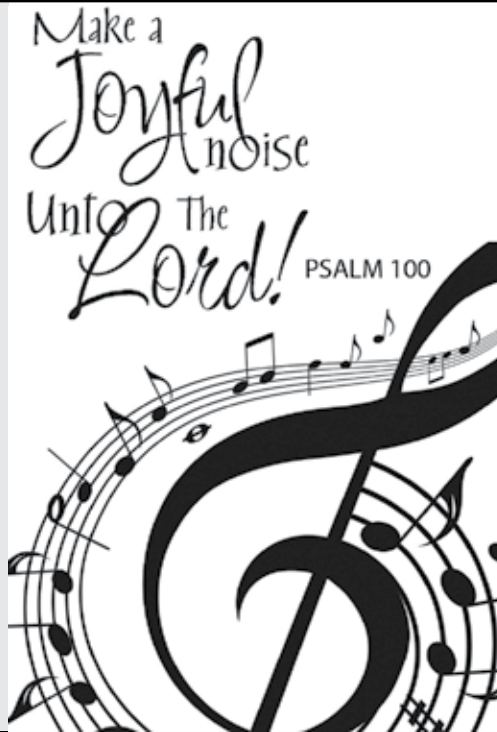
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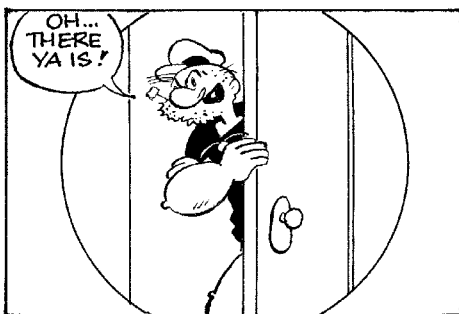
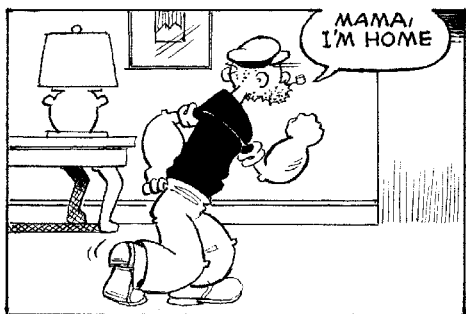
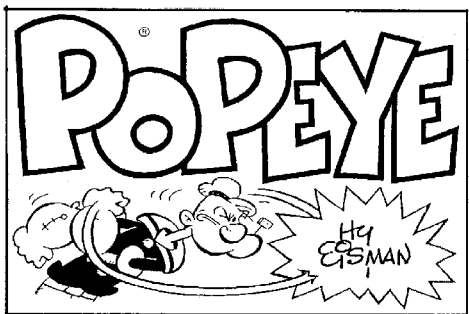
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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

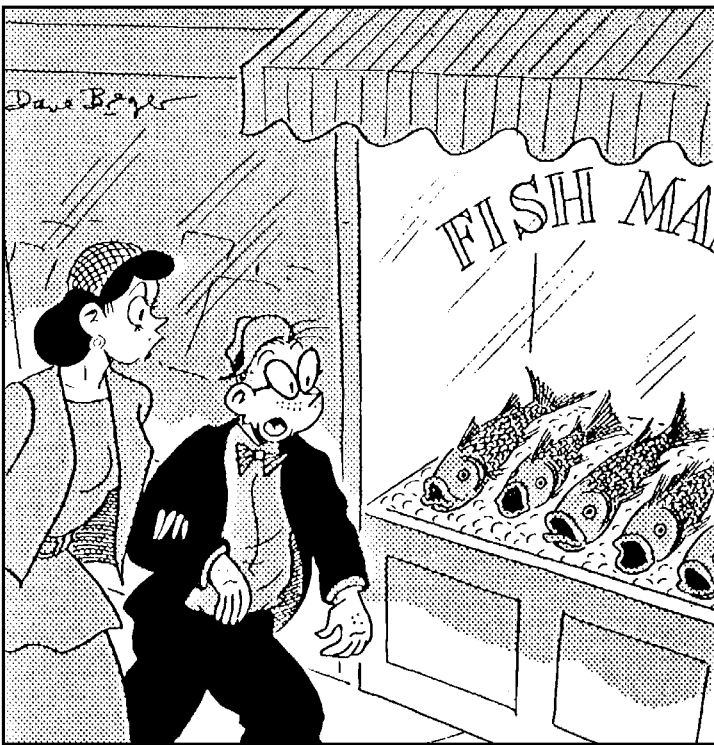


HUBERT - - By Dick Wingert



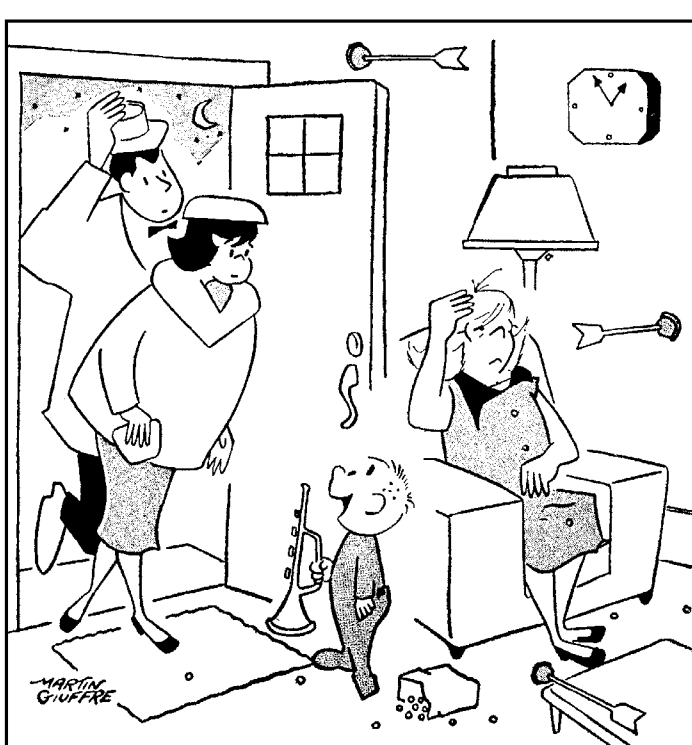
"We were just passing by when we saw the light in your refrigerator go on."

MISTER BREGER By Dave Breger



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LAFF - A - DAY



"I'm glad you're home. Grandma's been cranky!"

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Events could inspire adventurous Lambs looking to make a major career or personal move. But as always, get all the facts before rushing into any sort of deal or commitment.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) What seems to be a great opportunity could cause even usually practical Taureans to ignore their inner caution cues. Best to move carefully to avoid falling into unseen traps.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Need a holiday now that the seasonal festivities are behind you? Good idea. Plan to go someplace wonderful. You'll return refreshed and more than ready for a new challenge.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Progress continues to be made on that pesky workplace problem. Meanwhile, don't assume a personal situation will work itself out. Best to get more involved earlier than later.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Catnaps are definitely recommended for Leos and Leonas who had been going at a hectic pace over the holidays. Adding relaxation time to your schedule helps restore your overdrawn energy reserves.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Sure, some of the new friends you made over the holidays might move out of your life at some point. But at least one might show significant "staying power" with some encouragement.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Encourage family members to join you in supporting a relative who could be facing a difficult emotional challenge in the New Year. Showing your love and concern helps keep his or her hopes up.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) While a long-deferred decision suddenly might take on some urgency after news on a related matter, you still need to weigh all factors carefully before deciding one way or the other.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good time to reassess the earlier plan you made for the New Year. Some elements you felt you could depend on to make it work might no longer carry that assurance.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Forming a renewed connection with a former associate is only the first step toward working out your new plans. Be prepared for problems, and deal with them as soon as they arise.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A romantic situation that was going smoothly not too long ago might take a new turn. Be honest about your feelings before you decide whether to follow it or take another path.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The wise Pisces (that's you, of course) will make sure everyone knows you plan to keep your options open and listen to all sides of the situation before making any decisions.

BORN THIS WEEK: *Your honest approach to life and living is always an inspiration for others fortunate enough to know you.*

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COUCH THEATER -- DVD PREVIEW
By Sam Struckhoff
EDITOR'S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column will be available in stores the week of January 5, 2015.

PICKS OF THE WEEK



Ellar Coltrane, Ethan Hawke in "Boyhood"

"Boyhood" (R) -- Over the course of 12 years, director Richard Linklater made a film about growing up in which we get to see an actor age. Mason (Ellar Coltrane) lives with his mom (Patricia Arquette) and his spastic older sister (Lorelei Linklater). Every so often, their rolling-stone dad (Ethan Hawke) comes back around to teach the kid a lesson about being a man or voicing his feelings. It's a big story told in a series of small moments.

Starting when he was just 7 years old, Ellar Coltrane worked on the film shoot with Linklater for a little while each summer. The result is Mason's coming-of-age story, in which we see how a contemplative boy caught between his estranged parents changes over years. It may not be the most life-altering story, but it truly is a unique movie-watching experience.

"Get On Up" (PG-13) -- James Brown, the Godfather of Soul, lived one of those lives made for musical biopics. He grew up impoverished in a dusty part of Georgia with an abusive father (Lennie James) and a mother who walked out (Viola Davis). Chadwick Boseman (the lead in last year's Jackie Robinson biopic, "42"), brings Brown to life with a crackling

energy and fervent commitment. Director Tate Taylor ("The Help") shows the highs, lows and explosive performances that defined the man. Behind the scenes, Brown could be a tyrant and a monster consumed by drugs and ego, but a completely different vision comes out when he's breaking himself down on stage. The wild use of flashbacks and uneven pacing can be difficult, but Boseman's performance keeps you watching and caring.

"Horns" (R) -- Ig Parrish (Daniel Radcliffe) and Meri Williams (Juno Temple) are two little lovebirds, until Meri's body is found brutalized in the woods. Ig, even with his boy-next-door looks, becomes the prime suspect and the most hated guy in town. Depressed and reviled over a crime he didn't commit, Ig starts to grow horns, literally. As Ig's visage becomes more devilish, people around him feel compelled to spill their darkest desires to him, seeking permission to do the bad things they really want to do. It's a dark fantasy thriller comedy with a new twist, but it's so distracted that it can't settle on a tone. A lack of tonal clarity makes it hard to laugh at jokes or gasp at drama.

"Left Behind" (PG-13) -- This is a religious disaster flick that goes light on the religion and comes out as an overall disaster. Nicolas Cage (oh yes) stars as Rayford Steele (cool name, bro), a morally impure airline pilot who gets left behind when the biblical rapture takes all of the good people to heaven. He's flying a commercial jet over the Atlantic ocean when a bunch of people disappear, leaving only empty clothes behind. Rayford has to safely land the plane -- which seems pretty difficult, even though he's a pilot -- while his college-age daughter wanders a partially emptied New York City.

TV RELEASES

- "Glee: Season 5"
- "Archer: Season 5"
- "Black Sails: Season 1"
- "The Cosby Show: Seasons 5 & 6"
- "Girls: Season 3"
- "The Bridge Season 2"

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By Samantha Weaver

• It was novelist Mary Ann Evans — better known by her pen name, George Eliot — who made the following sage observation: "Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving wordy evidence of the fact."

• In the five-year span between 1946 and 1951, television ownership in the United States jumped from 10,000 to 12 million.

• You probably don't know the name Clara Peller, but if you were watching TV in the 1980s, you would almost certainly recognize her as the "Where's the beef?" lady from fast-food chain Wendy's incredibly successful ad campaign. You might be surprised to learn that Peller wasn't an actress; she was a manicurist. A commercial producer named Joe Sedelmaier was shooting a different ad when he realized they needed a manicurist on site, so an assistant ran to a local beauty shop and returned with Peller. As soon as she greeted Sedelmaier with a gruff "How ya doin'?", the producer realized that she had potential. He convinced Wendy's to create an entire campaign around the octogenarian. The gamble paid off; the restaurant's sales jumped by 15 percent almost as soon as the ads began to run.

• TV's Gilligan's Island was created in the middle of an artificial lake at CBS Studios in Hollywood. The cost of construction was \$75,000.

• The next time you're at a hockey game, be sure to watch out for stray pucks; they travel through the air at speeds of up to 100 mph.

• There is a species of ant found in Australia and Tasmania that, in some cases, can kill a human with a single sting.

Thought for the Day: "I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong them." — Ian L. Fleming

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Coming to Your Table: Ugly Fruit, Matcha Tea

Americans' food preferences in the year ahead will be driven by a continued interest in global cuisines, balanced nutrition, community connections and a desire for adventurous eating experiences, according to research by the Sterling-Rice Group. Here are its top culinary trends that will stand out on restaurant menus, expand onto grocery shelves and attract consumer attention across the U.S. in 2015.

Advanced Asian: From Filipino food to a new generation of Thai, not one but a host of more complex and true-to-region Asian foods will dominate in 2015.

Matcha Madness: The never-ending quest for wellness and energy will lead many to Japanese matcha, a nutrient powerhouse green tea now hitting the market in convenient formats like lattes, sodas and ready-to-drink cans.

Hop-Free Suds: Channeling their medieval predecessors, craft brewers are making unhopped beers with herbs, spices and bitter plants yielding unique and intriguing flavors instead of hoppy bitterness.

Incendiary Charcoal: Look for more excitement around Asian styles of super-hot-burning charcoal, as well as charcoal coloring and enhancing breads, crackers and even cosmetics.

The Local Grain Network: Products made from freshly milled flour are making their way to consumers thanks to the growing network of farmers, bakers and chefs committed to local grain production.

Coconut Sugar Sweetness: Boasting a lower glycemic index than white sugar makes coconut sugar popular among consumers -- from natural

New Year's Food Trends



food fans and sweets-loving Paleo to Southeast Asian food lovers -- looking for better-for-you foods.

Farm to Table Kosher: With keeping kosher on the rise, kosher food businesses are addressing consumer demand to eat in more sustainable, conscious and cultural ways.

The Hunger Games -- Restaurant Edition: Dining concept incubators create lively experiences where curious diners test experimental eateries and vote with their forks in revolving pop-up settings or hip dining parks.

The Ugly Fruit & Vegetable Movement: Misshapen and funny-looking produce will no longer get picked over as food resourcefulness and efforts to combat hunger come into sharper focus.

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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- French pancake
 - Trig function
 - The steam ___ motive drove Western growth
 - Flotsam and jetsam alternative
 - Earned at Kellogg School of Management
 - In any degree at all, archaic
 - Discrimination against elderly people
 - Black gold
 - Traction aid
 - *Spaghetti ___
 - *Precursor to cowboy
 - Type of tree
 - Cough syrup balsam
 - Contrary conjunction
 - Heracles' wife
 - Methane or carbon dioxide, e.g.
 - "Put a lid ___!"
 - Russian mountain chain
 - Lorry in America
 - Capital of Norway
 - Special Administrative Region of China
 - Tubular pasta
 - Rock bottom
 - * ___ Party, Manifest Destiny opponent
 - Norse deity and husband of Frigg
 - Shoe hole
 - Audio bounce-back
 - Lt.'s inferior, in the Navy
 - Frequenter
 - ___ de Triomphe
 - *Type of Wild West wagon
 - Metallurgy factory
 - Run off to wed
 - Female sheep
 - " ___ two shoes"
 - RAF member
 - Spring mo.
 - Plural of ostium
 - A chronic drinker, pl.
 - Billy the Kid's was less than 20 when killing his first
 - Lofty homes

DOWN

- Bird weapon
- Angry display
- Shining armor
- Fusilli, e.g.
- Catch in a net
- Ke\$ha's 2012 hit
- ___ Wan
- Artillery burst
- Beauty or babe
- Curved molding
- Blacken
- Football great ___ Graham
- *Jury did it to Wild Bill Hickock after famous gunfight
- Watery discharge from eyes or nose
- Priestly garb
- *She often worked in one room in Old West
- *The Wilderness Road trailblazer
- "Take it back!"
- Found over "n" in Spanish
- Brightly colored and showy, Scottish
- Rice-like pasta
- *Sacagawea, e.g.
- To ___ a play
- *They were often traded
- Work hard
- Nonclerical
- Early Irish alphabet
- Bemoan
- Triple ___ loop in skating
- * ___ Trail, spanning east-west
- Swelling
- Intimate
- Large edible mushrooms with a brown cap
- Assortment
- Unit V
- "Iliad," e.g.
- Bone-dry
- Marines' toy recipients
- Prep for publication
- Swedish shag rugs
- Tail action

CROSSWORD

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

For Solutions See Page 11

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The whole thing began right after the first good snow this year. Herb Collins was looking out his window at the point on his small farm where Lewis Creek cuts through a rather steep hill. Neighborhood kids were sledding up there and trying to avoid rocks and one gnarly tree that stuck out. He also noticed that if the kids were successful in avoiding death and destruction, they came to an immediate and violent halt at a submerged log next to the creek.

He brought this up at the next unscheduled-but-daily-anyway meeting

of the World Dilemma Think Tank down at the Mule Barn. Some executive decisions were made rather suddenly, and construction began the following day.

Jim Kennedy showed up driving a Bobcat, Doc brought a chain saw, and Steve had his four-wheel-drive pickup with a big chain in it.

At the end of three hours, a long, sloping gentle run began up by the road and looped around two turns, and ended in a gentle upslope on the far side of the frozen creek.

Of course, this activity ruined what snow cover there was, so the kids looked disappointed.

But last week it snowed hard, a good six inches, and the kids went running down to try the new sled run.

It wasn't all that exciting for them. So when Doc and Herb and Dud and Steve showed up, one of the kids politely pointed out to Mr. Collins that they couldn't really get going very fast down that hill on the new run.

"I know that," said Herb. "But see all

those other steep runs you have? You can go break your neck on any of them. This run is for a special purpose."

"A special purpose, sir?"

Herb nodded. "Steve? If you please."

And Steve brought out the toboggan from his pickup truck, and the old guys took turns being kids once more down their own sledding run.

Brought to you by "Strange Tales of Alaska," by Slim Randles. Now available on Amazon.com. ★

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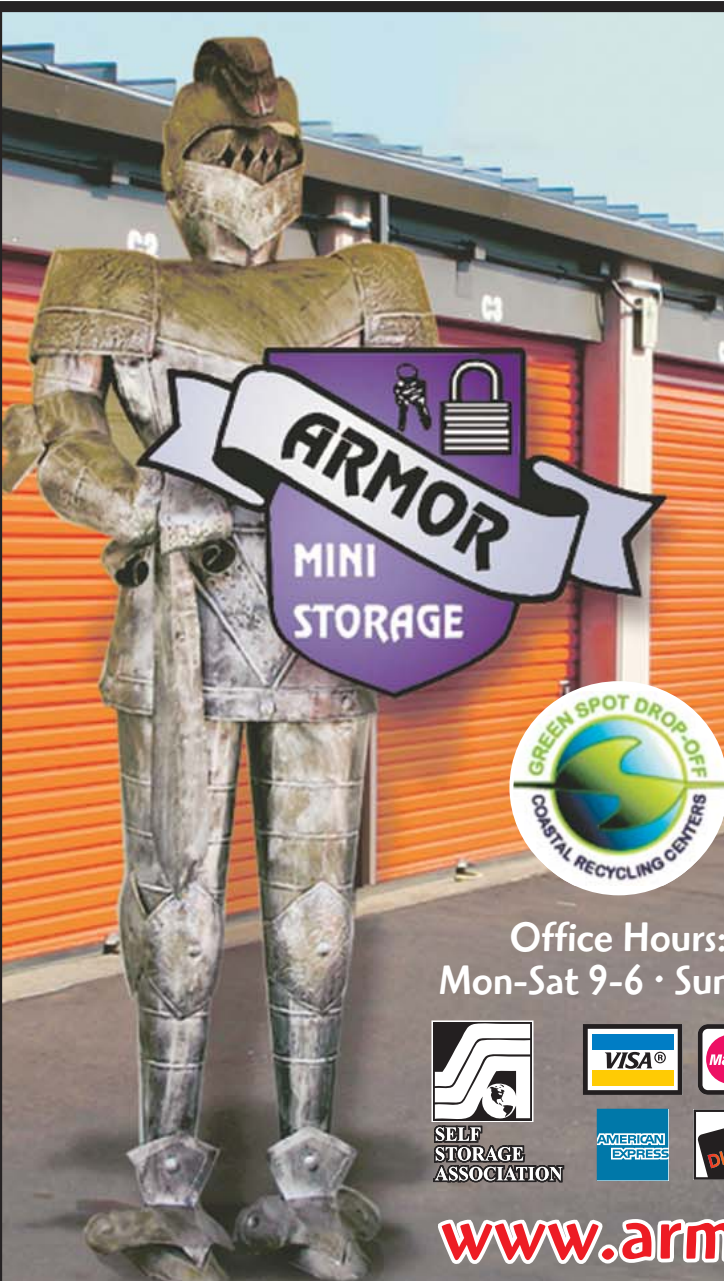
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Jamaican Chicken & Couscous

Servings: 4

- 2 tablespoons dry Jamaican seasoning
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 cup canned Dole Pineapple Juice
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 package (5.6 ounces) toasted pine nut couscous mix
- 1 1/2 cups Dole Frozen Mango Chunks, thawed
- 1/3 cup green onion, sliced
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 2 teaspoons black sesame seeds

Combine Jamaican seasoning and curry powder in small bowl. Place each chicken breast between 2 sheets of plastic wrap and pound (with meat mallet) to 1/4-inch thickness. Remove wrap. Brush both sides of chicken pieces with 1 tablespoon oil and sprinkle both sides with curry mixture. Cook chicken in oil over medium-high heat, 3 to 4 minutes per side or until brown and no longer pink in center. Meanwhile, stir together juice, water and pine nut seasoning mixture from package in medium saucepan; bring to boil. Stir in couscous; remove from heat. Let stand, covered, 5 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Fluff with fork. Stir in mango chunks, green onions and lime juice. Cut chicken in 1/2-inch slices and serve over couscous mixture. Sprinkle with sesame seeds.



Pineapple Pumpkin Pie

Servings: 6

- 1 can (8 ounces) Dole Crushed Pineapple
- 1 1/2 cups canned Dole Pineapple Juice
- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- 1 1/2 teaspoons granulated Sucralose sweetener or sugar
- 1 cup canned pumpkin pie mix
- 1 cup thawed whipped topping
- 1 (9-inch) low-fat graham cracker pie crust
- Ground cinnamon, optional

Drain pineapple well; reserve juice. Combine reserved juice with pineapple juice in measuring cup. Add water to make 2 cups. Combine juice mixture and gelatin in saucepan. Let stand 1 minute. Stir over low heat until completely dissolved. Stir in sweetener. Pour into bowl. Chill just until starts to set, about 1 hour. Fold in pineapple, pumpkin and whipped topping. Pour into graham cracker crust. Chill 5 hours or overnight. Serve with whipped topping and ground cinnamon, if desired.

Pineapple Upside Down Mocktail

Servings: 2 (3/4-cup)

- 1 cup canned Dole Pineapple Juice, chilled
- 1 tablespoon caramel sauce
- Ginger ale, chilled
- 2 teaspoons grenadine syrup
- Brown or turbinado sugar and maraschino cherries, optional garnish

Wet just the rim of a martini glass with a little water; dip rim in brown sugar or turbinado sugar for added garnish.

Combine pineapple juice and caramel sauce in shaker over ice. Shake vigorously; strain into martini glasses or other favorite glasses. Top off with ginger ale. Slowly pour in grenadine. Garnish with cherry, if desired.

Note: For alcoholic variation, combine 3 ounces cake-flavored vodka or vanilla vodka, 1 ounce Frangelico or amaretto liqueur, and 6 ounces canned Dole Pineapple Juice in shaker over ice. Shake vigorously; strain into martini glasses. Slowly pour in grenadine; garnish with cherry, if desired.



Holiday Kale Salad

Servings: 4

- 1 package (4.5 ounces) Dole Baby Kale and Greens
- 2 ripe firm pears, halved, cored and sliced
- 1/2 cup red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup pistachios, chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup canned Dole Pineapple Juice

- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Combine salad blend, pears, red onion, cranberries and pistachios in large bowl.

Whisk together olive oil, pineapple juice, garlic and ginger in small bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour over salad mixture; toss to evenly coat.



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