

Volume 5 Issue 06

Serving the City of Citrus Heights and Sacramento County

March 13, 2015

A Message from **Citrus Heights Mayor Sue Frost**



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Reset Your Life



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For the Love of Books



Rotary Crab Feed Raises Over \$60K for Non-Profits



Catherine Van Maren (second from the right), daughter of Citrus Heights' founding father and active Rotarian James Guy Van Maren who passed away in 2012, enjoys the evening with three generation of Van Marens and extended family. Photo by Elise Spleiss

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Close to 800 guests gathered for the 27th annual Crab Feed Fundraiser at the Citrus Heights Community Center on February 14th. Rotary President Jessica Mang set the tone for the Valentine's evening program as she said, "You don't find someone you can live with; you find someone you can't live without." For Rotarians worldwide, this perspective extends to their volunteer lives-they believe so strongly in the organization that they cannot imagine their lives without it. Special guest of the evening, Kenneth Behring, former owner of the Seattle Seahawks, was already a successful

businessman in the automobile and real estate industry when he found his true purpose in life while on a plane to Mexico. His experience made his life meaningful in a new way, which exemplifies a Rotary goal to find a need and fill it, anywhere in the world. In June 2000, Behring founded The Wheelchair Foundation, whose members give the gift of mobility as they work to deliver free bright red wheelchairs to every child, teen, and adult in the world that needs one and to, "promote awareness of the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities." Since 2000, they have supplied over 982,000 wheelchairs to disabled recipients in 150 countries.

Guests arrived early in the evening to examine and bid on over 125 silent auction items and 55 raffle gifts. Among the silent auction favorites were two painted princess and pirate children's Teepees by Jessica Mang and a diamond bracelet donated by Madison Avenue Diamonds.

Water Districts May Step Up Drought **Conservation Efforts** By Chris Gilbert

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Water customers in Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova should expect to continue conservation efforts this summer, with a fourth straight year of below-normal

precipitation. Suppliers will continue implementing emergency regulations issued by the State Water Resources Control Board last year. Those regulations currently prohibit using water to wash down hard surfaces like driveways, watering of outdoor landscapes that cause excessive runoff, and using hoses that don't have shutoff nozzles. Also, only recirculated water can be used for fountains or other decorative features.

And this year the Board is also proposing that all urban water suppliers that do not already have a limit on outdoor watering restrict it to no more than two days per week-including no watering during, and 48 hours following, measurable precipitation.

Rex Meurer is a conservation specialist for the Citrus Heights Water District, which serves about two-thirds of residents. He said education is still preferable to penalizing. But he said around 220 warnings were issued last year, mostly for broken sprinkler heads and automatic sprinkling systems running too long. However, only 12 residents received actual citations in the mail that feature \$25 fines, and Meurer said the fines have not actually been imposed.

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New this year, the wine toss brought competitors to the stage to win one of 80 bottles of wine, the proceeds of which will help fund yet another Rotary program.

Casa Robles High School Junior ROTC provided the honor guard. A special treat was having 95-year-old WWII veteran and honorary lifetime Rotarian Tony

Continued on page 3

The district currently does not restrict residential watering to certain days. "We've found over time that if you go to even-odd days, based upon your house number, people tend to use more water," Continued on page 2

Two Dozen Fake Contractors Nailed in Sting Op

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) one-day sting on February 24th - Two separate undercover sting operations conducted in Roseville

and Sacramento during the past week by investigators from the Contractors State License Board's (CSLB) Statewide Investigative Fraud Team (SWIFT) netted 23 individuals for illegal contracting.

"It's always important to call or check CSLB's website to make sure the contractor you're considering has a valid state contractor license," said CSLB Registrar Cindi Christenson. "But during good weather there's also an increase in home improvement projects and the number of illegal contractors who put you at risk."

CSLB investigators issued nine misdemeanor citations during a

at a home in North Sacramento. The Sacramento County District Attorney's office and California Highway Patrol assisted in the operation. A different SWIFT team cited 14 people for illegal contracting on February 18th and 19th at a home near the Placer County Fairgrounds with the assistance of the Placer County District Attorney's Office.

Investigators encountered situations that ran the gamut from the good, to the bad, and, unfortunately, the ugly. The good: a man caught in a previous sting earned his license and became a legitimate contractor. The bad: A revoked licensee in Sacramento tried to pass off his old license number and

did not have the required workers' compensation insurance. The ugly: A bogus contractor cited in CSLB's Roseville sting also showed up a few days later at the Sacramento operation. He was given an administrative citation to go with the criminal citation he received last week.

Investigators also confirmed that two individuals cited on the first day of the Roseville sting were registered sex offenders.

In both Sacramento and Roseville, SWIFT investigators used www.craigslist.org, business cards, print advertisements, and referrals to contact suspected illegal contractors. At the Sacramento home, bids were solicited for exterior painting, garage drywall work,

front and back yard sod, fencing, a concrete driveway, and a concrete pad for travel trailers.

All nine who turned in bids at the Sacramento sting were cited for a misdemeanor charge of contracting without a license (Business and Professions Code section 7028). Any home improvement job that costs \$500 or more in combined labor and material requires that a person have a state-issued contractor license. They also will face an additional misdemeanor charge of illegal advertising (Business and Professions Code section 7027.1). State law requires unlicensed contractors to state in all advertising they are not licensed.

In Roseville, suspected illegal contractors were invited to bid on

flooring, painting, and landscaping projects at the sting house. Six individuals were cited on the first day of the sting and eight on the next. All 14 turned in bids that, in most cases, far exceeded the \$500 limit and were cited for working without a CSLB license and for illegal advertising.

The nine Sacramento suspects have a June 29th court date in Sacramento County Superior Court, 720 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814. The 14 individuals cited in Roseville will answer to misdemeanor charges on March 17th at 8:30 a.m. in Placer County Superior Court, 10820 Justice Center Drive, Roseville, CA 95678.

Source: Contractors State License Board



State Senate Honors Women's Club for Tree Project

Story and photo by Elise Spleiss

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- A delegation of five leaders from the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) was recognized on February 26th on the floor of the California Senate for a conservation project that will soon benefit visitors to the Capitol Park from all over the country and the world.

CFWC President Chris Herzog of San Diego County received a Certificate of Recognition from Senator Joel Anderson for the work of the organization's members in donating nearly \$17,000 to purchase tree markers to identify every species of tree in the Capitol Park which covers 40 acres and spans 12 city blocks.

CFWC was organized in January of 1900 and became the 37th state to join the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) in May of the same



GFWC California Federation of Women's Clubs President Chris Herzog, (third from the right) poses with fellow CHWC officers and State Senators following recognition by the Senate for a conservation project to identify all species of trees at the Sacramento Capitol Park. From left to right: Sen. Ted Gaines, Toby Kahan, Pat Harvey, Dori Kelsey, Sen. Joel Anderson, Sonya Matthies, Chris Herzog, Sen. Jeff Stone and Sen. Mike Morrell

year. When the CFWC was conservation of the redwood founded, one of the two standing committees was the Forestry Committee. Its first project was

trees on our California coastline, helping to found the "Save the Redwoods League" in the early

part of the 20th century.

GFWC was also involved in the creation of the National Parks Service since its establishment.

Mary Bell King Sherman, the GFWC Conservation Chairman later to be GFWC president is credited with helping to found six National Parks & the National Parks Service during the Progressive era. She became known as the "National Parks Lady".

In 2011 CFWC made a commitment to the Capitol Park that they, as an organization, would purchase tree markers to identify every species of tree in the park. Their members have been working towards that goal since 2011 and will soon begin to see the result of their work as the trees in the park are identified.

Some of the trees were gifts to the people of California from other countries and governments, some are native to California, and some were planted in 1897 from Civil War battlefields while many others are still unidentified.

The cost of the tree markers will be entirely paid for with donations from the members and the clubs of the CFWC at a cost of \$15 per tree marker for 1,140 of trees at an approximate sum of \$17,100.

The state legislature has voted and passed that the Capitol Park may accept this donation of money for this express purpose of identifying all the trees in the Park for all visitors.

In a separate recognition by the County of Sacramento, it was declared by proclamation, "Be it resolved that the County of Sacramento declare the week of February 22 through the February 28, 2015 Capitol Park Tree Week to honor this donation."

It was further resolved, "That the County of Sacramento commend the CFWC for its tireless work on Conservation projects and this project to name all the trees in this Capitol Park that belongs to every citizen in the great state of California."

Water Districts May Step **Up Drought Conservation Efforts**

Continued from page 1 said District General Manager Bob Churchill.

On its website, the District tells customers that violating state regulations makes you a "careless water hog" and "irresponsible and selfish." But Meurer said residents have done a good job with keeping the city's conservation rate close to the state goal of 20%, although it dropped about three points in January to around 16%. "Our customers have been really good and responsive to our requests," he said. "We are very pleased with that trend and it's continuing."

In Rancho Cordova, where there has also been no watering restrictions, the conservation rate dropped from about 11% in December to -0.7% in January.

The Golden State Water Company also handles about two-thirds of total customers.

Manager Paul Schubert said this season goes, it could be their supply is more secure than some areas. "It's not contract water, it's actually a property right," he said. "But because we are a part of the region, we're asking our customers to conserve just like everybody else."

Both districts have fielded a steady stream of water-wasting complaints and take calls 24 hours a day. And volume is expected to pick up a lot more as the weather warms up. But Schubert says Golden State Water has not issued any citations.

Meanwhile, recreation will not be impacted. But the administrator for the Cordova Recreation and Park District, James Rodems, said users may find the landscape to be less green. "We're not at that point yet where we're saying we need to actually start taking turf out." he said. "But, depending on how

something that we take a look at next year.

Rodems also said the district's five spray parks will remain open since they use recycled water

In Citrus Heights, Sunrise Parks and Recreation District Administrator Dave Mitchell said they also plan to continue to reduce watering in non-essential areas. "People can live with lawns that aren't perfectly green all year long," he said, "as opposed to closing a swimming pool."

Data does indicate that only mandatory conservation can inspire water users to save on a more consistent basis. A recent Field Poll shows that mandatory rationing is now supported by more than one-third of voters. But a majority of voters still want a voluntary approach. \star

Illegal Weapons Nabbed at DUI Checkpoint

Bv John-Michael Kibrick

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) -Officers at a DUI checkpoint arrested 22-year-old Gage Young on February 20th after uncovering an illegal assault rifle and a loaded handgun in his possession.

Young's vehicle was one of 932 screened by CHPD officers near Antelope Road and Lauppe Lane from 8 p.m.-2 a.m. According to police, 4 individuals were tested for sobriety, but no alcohol related arrests were made at the checkpoint.

The illegal weapons arrest was the second in as many

days. On February 18th three arrests were made when Citrus Heights SWAT teams confiscated drugs and weapons in several raids. The weapons included dozens of automatic rifles and handguns.

CHPD said there was no connection between the SWAT raid and the checkpoint arrest.

"Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence and provide the greatest safety for officers and the public," said a police statement.

In addition, six drivers were cited for operating a vehicle

while unlicensed or while having a suspended or revoked driver's license. Five vehicles were also impounded as a result of the checkpoint and 17 citations were issued.

CHPD released a statement saying, "According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for sever \$1 spent. Ninety percent of California drivers approve of checkpoints."





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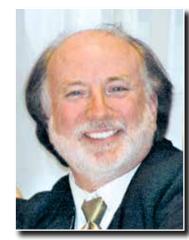


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Rotary Crab Feed Raises Over \$60K for Non-Profits



Hungry diners at the Rotary Club of Citrus Heights 27th Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser mingle as they wait for the festivities to begin. Photo by Jessica Mang

Continued from page 1 Bellacera lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the minestrone soup, salad, pasta, and bread the endless plates of fresh Dungeness crabs began streaming in and were devoured by crab connoisseurs. For those in need of something sweet, elegant homemade desserts were up for bid as were beverages for the evening.

Auctioneer and long-time Rotarian Walter Dahl, an attorney from Sacramento once again kept the ball rolling during the fast paced live auction. Dahl volunteers his auctioneering skills for five to ten non-profit fundraisers per year. He noted that the Citrus Heights Rotary is one of the largest events he has worked and he was impressed by the many one-of-a-kind live auction items.

Popular with bidders was dinner with Mayor and Rotarian Sue Frost and Police Chief Christopher Boyd at Frost's home. The winners of two separate evenings will be treated to dinner, a magic show and blackjack on an official table provided by Stone's Casino.

Always a favorite prize is the Sims Metal Tour for a handson experience behind the scene at the world's largest 'mega machine' car shredder. Lunch and tickets to a S.F. Giants game just behind the dugout along 3rd base closed out the perfect day.

Besides providing dinner and acting as dance music disc jockey at the end of the evening, Rotarian Carlos Verrett joined forces with Dahl to make parting with attendee's dollars entertaining and fun for both those contributing and onlookers alike.

An event of this magnitude cannot be carried out without many helping hands. Mesa Verde High School's Business Academy provided workers who were flawless in getting the many courses of the meal out to the hundreds of diners. Also volunteering their time and energy were members of Interact program from San Juan High School, and Rotoact Club members from Sacramento State. By the end of the evening participants had enjoyed another memorable Rotary fundraising gala, with totals raised expected to bypass the \$60K plus raised in 2014.

Eighty percent of funds will be used for the many programs throughout the community through the Rotary Foundation, including their annual scholarship programs and Polio Plus in Pakistan and Libya. The Wheelchair Foundation will reap the benefits of some of the evening's special mini-fundraisers.

Thanks went to Crab Feed Chair Justin Whitsell of Whitsell Wealth Management. Tina Shaw of Signs in 1 Day was the silent auction chair, and Ray Riehle of A-Applied Mailing and Diane Riehle acted as live auction cochairs. Rich Hale of Walt's Auto took on the job of obtaining the countless sponsors contributing to the evening.

Major sponsors of this year's crab feed were Dignity Health Mercy, San Juan Medical Center, Republic Services, and Sunrise Mall.

Local Website Brings the Stars to Citrus Heights

By John-Michael Kibrick

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - America's entertainment industry is perhaps unfairly centered in the infamous cities of Los Angeles and New York with signs of growth in Atlanta and San Francisco. One local man with a passion is changing the status quo and putting Citrus Heights on the entertainment map.

Sandwich John Films is an online treasure trove of the latest from the film industry and it's run by John Meneghetti, a Citrus Heights native.

"I started the site to get into Comic-con for free," Meneghetti told the Citrus Heights Messenger with a chuckle. "It was kind of a scammish thing I did, but it was also a passion."

For Meneghetti, that passion began much earlier than the 2009 launch of Sandwich John Films. In fact, his love for movies dates back to the first time he saw Star Wars as a kid and spending time with his father.

"My first time would have to be seeing it on betathat and Flash Gordon," said Meneghetti. "Bonding with my dad was what it really was. Every time we really spent time together was watching films and stuff like that."

Meneghetti was exposed to the arts early on in life through his father, who also spent some years acting in Japan where he was stationed with the U.S. military. A young Meneghetti even tried his own hand at acting before coming back to Citrus Heights for his high school years.

While running Sandwich John Films remains a hobby in the meantime, the website has brought Meneghetti some perks well beyond getting into Comic-con for free.



Meneghetti with actor Bill Paxton at an NBC party in San Diego. Photo courtesy of John Meneghetti

Meneghetti related the highlight of his exclusive interviews for the site saying that, "The biggest one was with George Lucas. That was like a dream come true. He did talk about the Star Was show that was coming out, so we got an exclusive on that."

With increasing success and readership, Meneghetti and his team of four volunteer writers have been invited to cover red-carpet events and granted access to exclusive screenings. Interviewing Clint Eastwood was also a highlight for Meneghetti, who even had the opportunity to have a personal bonding experience with Bill Paxton (known for his roles in Twister and Apollo 13), who was trying to escape a phalanx of fans. "It was like we were old buddies, talking for hours and hours about anything and everything," said Meneghetti. "We got along so well that his wife asked me to escort Bill back to his room and made sure I came back to hang out with her and all of our new friends that we made."

While Meneghetti enjoys the perks that Sandwich John Films has brought, he is a family man and finds time somewhere in between managing the website and working as a sales manager for Cobalt to bond with his kids the way he did with his father.

Visitors at Sandwich John Films can benefit from quality reviews, a lively entertainment podcast, and exclusive giveaways to local advanced screenings.





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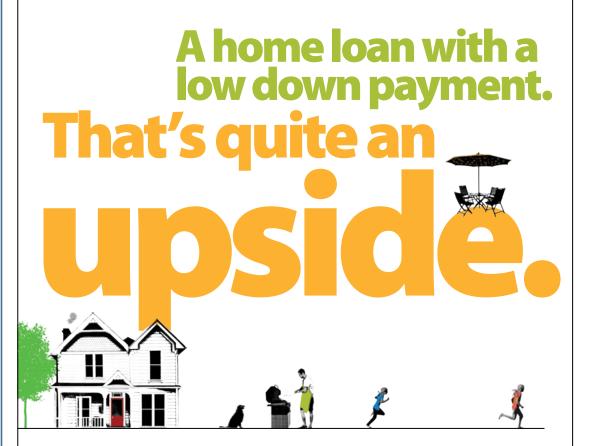
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Planning Commission to Report on City Hall Move

By Julia Baum

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) -The direction of projects for both a proposed new city hall and medical office building a lot of activity and public focus on Greenback Lane will be announced at a Citrus Heights Planning Commission meeting on March 11th.

The recommendations will help city council members decide how to proceed with plans for building a new medical office building on the current city hall location, as well as breaking ground for a new city hall site just several hundred feet away at Stock Ranch Road.

Leah Cox, recently reappointed to the commission, said in a phone interview that members will hear the environmental impact report and

recommend whether to move forward or make any changes to the city hall or medical office building relocation. In general, Cox said that the area has seen on it in the past year. She also encourages residents to attend more public meetings.

"Obviously the potential medical building and potential city hall is the most controversial issue," Cox said. "Participate, find out what's going on at City Council and have your voice be heard so even when things are controversial, we'd rather hear from citizens and what's working for them."

City council members are expected to deliver their final decision on the medical office building and new city hall location on March 26th.

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - With almost 10,000 square feet of outdoor area, the Lil' School daycare has always had a very large, grassy play area and enrolled children have had a lot of space to run. Now the daycare has remedied a lack of outdoor equipment with a project that promotes clean living and safe play.

Thanks to the ingenuity of a geodesics major, local tire shops, and volunteer workers, kids at Lil' School now have a fun and challenging structure to climb on.

Rather than getting generic equipment, parents, teachers, and owners wanted a fun community project with an educational meaning. Their research led them to the work of Curt Flowers who built a geodesic structure with used tires in the early 70's using his knowledge in the fields of geodesics, computer science, and environmental design.

With the plans he provided and 23 used tires donated by local tire shops, a team of



Lil' School Daycare Builds Unique New Jungle Gym

Kids play on the new tire turtle at Lil' School daycare. Photo courtesy of the Lil'

parents, teachers, and the owners of Lil' School go to work building a turtle with the geodesic dome of tires as a shell. After a at the points of contacts and

few awkward moments and a lot of laughter, the dome took shape. The tires are bolted together

the geodesic structure gives it an impressive sturdiness while keeping flexibility enough to be fun. The bottom-most tires are partially buried to provide anchorage.

The very next day, the structure was fully tested and approved by the children. Even though they still have access to all other playground equipment, the turtle of tires has become their favorite. Building something new and fun with discarded things is rewarding in itself, but it also demonstrates to young creative minds that the ready-built solutions are not the only options they have.

The Lil' School is an infant, preschool and kindergarten center located at 8089 Madison Ave #11, Citrus Heights. They serve Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks and Orangevale. They can be reached at (916) 962-2137 or by email at contact@thelilschool.com.

Source: The Lil'School

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CITRUS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY UPDATE



By Citrus Heights Mayor Sue Frost

In the aftermath of the worst recession in history, Citrus Heights remains strong with new homes, new jobs, new restaurants, and World Tennis at the Sunrise Marketplace!

In the past month the AutumnWood Homes by Watt Communities sold out their phase one and have a waiting list for phase two. These SMUD Smart Homes with no mello roos or home owner association fees may be popping up in other areas within Citrus Heights so be on the lookout if you are thinking of moving!

We're ramping up for another great summer in the City! Kathilynn Carpenter, Executive Director of the Sunrise Marketplace expressed enthusiasm this week, stating; "We look forward to having world class tennis here this July.

A Message From Citrus Heights Mayor Sue Frost

Look for the stadium to begin to accept the Dignity Health to rise at Sunrise Mall in June. We hope residents will support and get behind the new team, California Dream."

Don't miss the PAL Banquet! The Citrus Heights Police are friends to our local youth. To quote Police Chief Christopher Boyd; "The youth in our community remain a top priority for the Citrus Heights Police Department (CHPD) and our popular Police Activities League (PAL) has grown to over 500 children. PAL was created to foster positive relationships between law enforcement and the youth in our city. On May 16th we will host our 2nd Annual PAL banquet at which up to three Harley Davidson motorcycles from CHPD's original fleet will be raffled off. The event itself is a memorable evening and all proceeds go to the PAL program. Raffle tickets are available now and an Early Bird drawing will take place on March 26th." Raffle tickets may be purchased at the front desk in both CHPD and City Hall, or by calling (916) 727-4820.

March is a busy month for our City Council who is reviewing the Environmental Impact Reports and legal documents relating to the overall Dignity Health and New City Hall project. On March 26th we will be voting whether

Medical Office Building which could potentially bring 175 jobs to Citrus Heights and while providing much needed services, would also support our local retail and restaurants with added business.

Draught conditions continue to be a primary concern in California. I want to congratulate the residents of Citrus Heights! You're doing a great job with water conservation. Keep up the good work! Conserve water if you can. Try to limit outdoor watering, check for leaky faucets and toilets, take short showers, turn off your water faucet when brushing teeth, and try to reduce the water flow when rinsing dishes. Go to www.bewatersmart.info for more water saving tips.

As your Mayor I want to invite you to connect with your neighbors through the Residents Empowerment Association of Citrus Heights (REACH) This organization was established by our City Founders and is intended to give residents a voice, connect them with their local government and involve them in the public process. I live in Area 11. You can find more information at www.citrusheights.net, then go to "Our Community."

Sincerely, Mayor Sue Frost Sue Frost 916-207-7960 or sfrost@citrusheights.net





Front row left to right: Jill Van Bogart, Andrea Bucheli, Celeste Bradford, Toni Post, Linda McCollum/Greene. Back Row: Pat Burns, Marlo Maher, and Sherill Morton. Photo Courtesy Linda McCollum

By Jan Dalske

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Many of our readers enjoy playing in what has been called the senior softball capital of the world. Sacramento is the only city where 12 teams of senior men age 75 and older can play in leagues two days every week. They also encourage women softball players of any adult age from the area to join them in the Thursday morning league at Carmichael Park.

Women are invited because of their history of helping the senior men get started in the 1970s. In the 1960s and 1970s, women softball players had leagues that were comprised of female employees of the local radio and TV stations. There were the KRAK-KWET Radio teams (KRAK Kewties), the KSFM Radio Manhandlers teams, and players from K-108 FM Radio, KVIE Channel 6, and TV Channel 40. All of the women played in the newly formed Women's Media Softball League, which played at the Kenneth Avenue School diamond in the north area of town.

When the first Golden Senior Softball Men's Team began to play in 1976, they were looking for other teams to play at their level of skill. The only team that would play against them at that time was the new Women's

Media Softball League of young women players. The women soon earned the men's respect and deep appreciation.

Many women play softball in high school, college, and in co-ed leagues in their younger years. However, there are fewer leagues for them to play in compared to men. This is especially difficult as they grow older and the only time they are available to play is on weekday mornings when most young people are working. Women who had positive softball playing experience in their youth enjoy having a place to keep in shape and have fun at the same time.

Encouraging the women softball players to play in a league with the oldest senior men allows them to play the game at a level that they can really appreciate. The men like having a couple of the women on their team who often make better plays and get better hits than many of the senior men can. In the senior games, they focus more on having fun playing the game than on intense competition to beat the opponents. They are all good friends regardless of what team they are playing each season. Every season, new teams are drafted and their opponents from last year will become their teammates.

There is a social element of

playing a team sport and being cheered on that increases the enjoyment of working together. Some former players come to the games for the social contacts and to enjoy the company of former teammates.

Today, the women still play with the senior men teams. The games are played at Carmichael Park and are always entertaining to watch. The women all feel that it is a great honor and privilege to play in the league of some of the greatest legends of Sacramento softball. Some of them are wives, daughters, or granddaughters of the senior men, but most are just women who enjoy the game.

In appreciation of those women softball teams from our local radio and TV stations who helped their first senior team get started, the men now eagerly invite all women softball players who are available on Thursday morning for a couple hours to join their oldest senior league. All female softball players of any age are invited to join the men on Thursday mornings. The men are pleased that the women join them to fill out the teams so that the men can enjoy their retirement in good health.

To sign up for the 2015 season and learn more about the team, call Larry Campbell at (916) 485-4843.







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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for the Bipartisanship

From Elizabeth Vallafan, California Resident Dear Editor,

Without a doubt, Rep. Ami Bera is the new face of bipartisanship in Congress. Despite the gridlock, he's actively reaching across the aisle in an effort to improve healthcare and public policy. He's teamed up with Republican lawyer, Andy Barr of Kentucky, on solid forward-thinking, bipartisan healthcare legislation.

The Saving Lives, Saving Costs Act, a joint effort between Rep. Barr and Rep. Bera provides measured, reasonable liability protections to providers who follow that evidence-based medicine. More so, the legislation gives doctors who practice evidence-based medicine a legal "safe harbor" that reviews the case early on and gives both doctor and plaintiff a greater level of fairness and justice.

Sensible policies in this political environment are rare and it's great to see that Rep. Bera has come this far. His ideas are supported by notable organizations like the Healthcare Leadership Council, and the Center for American Progress, a who's who of Democratic health experts. Rep. Bera and Rep. Barr deserve much credit for their willingness to step forward and demonstrate that both parties can come together and agree on what's best for future generations.

Best, Liz Villafan





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Suduko Puzzle on Page 6

3	2	8	4	1	7	5	6	9
7	9	4	5	6	8	3	2	1
5	6	1	3	2	9	4	8	7
9	5	2	1	8	3	7	4	6
1	8	3	7	4	6	2	9	5
4	7	6	2	9	5	8	1	3
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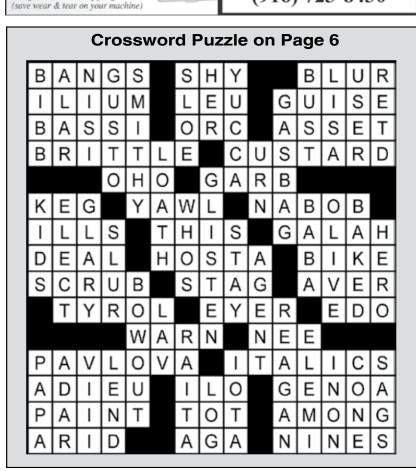
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By Pastor Ray Dare

God wants to say to some of you today, "Relax, you'll feel better". The Bible says, "A relaxed attitude lengthens a man's life." Proverbs 14:30.

Where do you get the confidence to relax? Psalm 23 tells us, "Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." No anxiety, no fear, no worry about tomorrow. We can relax. If the Lord is your Shepherd, here are three reasons why you can relax:

Because goodness will follow you. "Surely goodness ... will follow me all the days of my *life* ... " That doesn't mean that everything that happens to you in life will be good, because it won't! Life is hard. Bad things happen to good people. But because God is your Shepherd you can expect Him to bring good out of the bad that happens. Somehow, someway, God has a way of turning the bad things that happen to you into good.

Relax, You'll Feel Better

Because grace is working in you. "Surely... mercy will follow me all the days of my life ... " When you really understand God's grace and mercy, that God isn't out there trying to get even with you, it will change your life. If Jesus is your Shepherd, then He has taken the penalty for everything you've ever done wrong or will do wrong on the cross. He paid for it, so you don't have to. So when a bad thing happens you don't have to think, "Is that God getting back at me?" God doesn't "get even" for things that have already been paid for on the cross. When you understand God's grace and mercy then you have no need to fear the future.

Because Heaven is waiting for you. "And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." God says, "I've got this great life planned for you and surely goodness and mercy will follow you through it, BUT that's not the end! It gets better! I've got something else at the end!" He builds it to a crescendo. David ends this Psalm by saying "We're going to Heaven!" Jesus saves the best until last. With God it just keeps getting better and better.

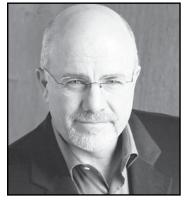
How can you be sure about these promises? Because God doesn't lie. He cannot tell an untruth or be inconsistent. He

never changes. He never breaks a promise. If He says, "surely goodness and mercy will be with you all the days of your life." They will! We get so worked up and worried about the future because we start "what if"-ing. Relax and trust God. God will be with you no matter what happens. He will help you out. God's goodness will supply. God's mercy will sooth. God's promise of the future will give you security.

If you know the Shepherd, you can relax. You don't need to fear poverty because He will provide for you. You don't need to fear loneliness because He will be with you. You don't need to fear mistakes because He will guide you. You don't need to fear failure because He will restore you. You don't need to fear the future because His goodness and mercy will follow you. You don't need to fear death because you will dwell in the house forever. So what do I need to worry about? Nothing! Absolutely nothing! That covers it all! You can just relax and trust Him and you'll feel a whole lot better!

Pastor Ray

New Beginnings Church YOU'RE INVITED, Sunday service at 10 am "We Do Church Differently" www.NBC4U.org



Serious about Getting Out of Debt?

Dear Dave. Should you budget for mad money,

- Aurora

Dear Dean, What really matters is the amount of mad money you allow yourself to have. Everyone needs a little pocket money. It's probably not going to throw you off too much if you put \$10 or \$20 in there. But \$100 or \$200? That's a bit much when you're scrimping, saving and supposedly working hard to get out of debt.

or ju--arrying around cash, when

you're trying to get out of debt?

Think of it as a safety valve, Aurora. Everyone needs a break and a little fun now and then. Whether it's grabbing lunch out, or going to a movie once in a while, you need to relax and let off little steam.



By Marlys Johnsen Norris,

Faith brings the two of these into proper relationship. Faith and common sense are as different from each other as natural life is from the spiritual life or impul-

siveness is from inspiration.

Dave Says

regular monthly budget, and stick to the amount. Little things like this will help keep your total money makeover moving in the right direction without wearing you out! - Dave

It's a Better Idea to Pre-plan Dear Dave,

My wife passed away last year, and she was just 43-years old. I paid cash for the funeral and all the arrangements. Now, I'm getting solicitations from the funeral home, wanting me to prepay my own funeral. I'm 45-years-old. Is this a good idea? Dave

Dear Dave,

God bless you and your family. I'm so sorry you have to go through this, but I'm glad to hear you were in good enough shape financially to handle the burden. That means you were both very wise with your money.

My advice is to pre-plan, but don't prepay. As you discovered, having to make important decisions in the midst of that kind of grief is a hard thing to do. Sometimes, people

Just make it part of your are so emotional during times like these that they make bad decisions. So, pre-planning and making selections ahead of time is a great idea.

But it's never a good idea to prepay for this kind of thing, and here's why. If you live to an average age, for what you'd prepay today at age 45, you could invest the amount, be self-insured for that kind of thing, and in all likelihood have a ton of money sitting there when your time comes.

Events like this make you realize the need for proper planning, but don't ever prepay them. Lots of people in the funeral industry don't like me for this stance, but that's just because they make lots of money on prepayment plans. - Dave

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover, EntreLeadership and Smart Money Smart Kids. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 8 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

Faith vs. Common Sense

Faith must be tested and tried real to us. Therefore, until we before it becomes real in a person's life. "We know that all things work together for good . . ." (Romans 8:28). God's providence transforms perfect faith into reality. Faith always works in a personal way because the purpose of God is to see that perfect faith is made real to His children.

In life, for every detail of common sense, there is truth God reveals to prove our practical experience about who we believe God to be. Faith is an active principle that always puts Jesus Christ first. A life of faith says, "Lord, You have said it and now I am going to step out boldly trusting in Your Word." Matthew 6:33 instructs one to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness with their whole heart and all things will be revealed to them."

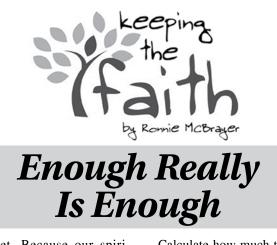
Turning intellectual faith into our personal possession is is never ending!

know Jesus, God is merely a "concept" and we can't have faith in Him. But once we hear Jesus say, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). One remembers the chapter in Genesis where they were ONE. And immediately one has something that is "real" and faith is limitless. Faith becomes real as belief of the entire person changes into a right relationship with God through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. One begins to understand why He had to die to save us from our sins that would put us into an eternal death in hell.

Prayers become an active part of this true faith. Growth, deliverance, and transformation occur and become a regular testimonial part of them as they proclaim the promises of God for guidance. God Almighty will never leave or forsake them and their journey

By Ronnie McBrayer

Last summer an unfortunate woman was found dead in the basement of her Connecticut home, found eventually, that is. It took rescuers several days to retrieve her body as the first floor of her house had col-



the street. Because our spiritual lethargy has nothing to do with a poor prayer life, the lack of reading the Scriptures, or any failure with other disciplines: We are carrying too much baggage, trying to manage too much stuff. We have too many possessions, too many obligations,

Calculate how much time and life it will cost to acquire these things. That's the real price tag. Quoting Thoreau directly, he said, "If your trade is with the Celestial Empire" (which apparently is his description for what Jesus called the Kingdom of God), "then very little is actually

Christian Author

Many good people have claimed to live their lives based on common sense, and I am no exception. However, common sense is mistaken enthusiasm and narrow-mindedness. It is in opposition to faith and demonstrates a mistaken reliance on reason as a basis for truth.

lapsed on her, apparently under the weight of all the stuff she had accumulated over the years.

Her possessions, stacked to the ceiling with only a narrow, labyrinth-like pathway through it all, quite literally smothered her. Her death certificate said so officially with the cause of death declared as "Accidental Traumatic Asphyxia." This is a dramatic example, of course, but accumulating those things that fall outside the realm of the necessary, will take your life just as certainly.

Jesus said it like this: "Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. But store your treasures in heaven. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else." These words are directed at every packrat, collector, hoarder, attic squirrel, and garage-gatherer among us. If you aren't using it - you don't need it. Hang on to it, and it will take your life from you.

I've often said that the most deeply spiritual thing that some of us could do is have a garage sale; or sell a property, or dump a portfolio, or write a big check to the homeless shelter down

and it's a recipe for misery.

The path to contentment is by way of less, not more. When we simplify, we are doing much more than getting rid of the weight of physical possessions. We are making space to breathe, to thrive, to live. By giving up some of the things we carry or hoard, we aren't losing, we are gaining; gaining freedom to pursue life.

This was Henry David Thoreau's motivation when he left his teaching career and retreated to the woods of Walden Pond. He lived there for two years in simpleness, wrestling with the question, "How much is enough?" and more importantly, "How much does it actually cost a person to obtain his or her possessions?"

His theory of personal economics came down to this: The cost of a thing is not the financial price tag attached to it. It is the amount of one's life it takes to get it. For example, if one wants a particular house, the sale price is not as important as the years it takes to pay for it. If one wants a car, a computer, a new iPhone, or designer label clothing; then the calculation involves more than the payments.

needed to live well and to be free.

"A modest home should be enough...plain clothes will do... instead of a hundred dishes, why not five; and reduce other things in proportion...Keep your accounts on your thumbnail...simplify, simplify... and once you have secured the necessaries of life, then you can confront the true problems of life with freedom."

And there Thoreau brings us to the universal human ambition: We all just want to be free and happy. It's all a search for satisfaction. Is a "spirituality of satisfaction" too shallow, too frivolous? No, not if one is seeking genuine, soul-sustaining fulfillment with one's self and life.

But getting more won't get it done, because more and more of what is not good for you will only smother you. As Thoreau concluded, "There is no more fatal blunderer than he who consumes the greater part of his life getting his living."

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, blogger, pastor, and author of multiple books. Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.me. ★

Nothing Jesus ever said is common sense, but revelation us into particular circumstances sense is complete, whereas common sense always falls short.

always a fight. God will bring to educate and purify our faith to make the object of faith very

Marlys Johnsen Norris Christian Author of 7 books Marlysin@gmail.com



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Most Important Issues for Buyer/Owner in 2015

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Issue Number One

Rising Interest Rates! Buy low and sell high is good advice in any market, but especially when borrowing money. Interest is what you will pay for the loan until paid off, so rising interest rates are key and a sparkplug that should fire up interest in finding your American dream now. The rate

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this year. This will make homes a little less affordable for buyers and put the brakes on some sales. When rates go up the market gets smaller, especially with rates that may hit 6 or 7%. Some of us remember when mortgages were lending at 17-18%, so acting while rates are low is a real incentive to both buying and selling your property. Please take advantage of our

expertise in making the right decisions for your home purchase or sale. It's easy, just email your question to us and we share the answer so everyone can learn from it in this column. We, of course, change the names to protect the innocent!

Ask a question - Email: ellenherrle@hotmail.com.

For those who get in touch each month you'll also receive one of three pamphlets on buying and selling strategies, and be entered in a random drawing for a dinner for two at one of our great Sacramento or Placer restaurants!

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Next time: The second and third most critical issues for buying or selling your property in 2015!

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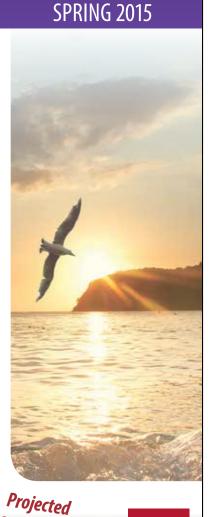
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RESET YOUR LIFE

Are we facing an epidemic? And no, it's not a virus. It's diabetes. Would you believe nearly 26 million Americans have Diabetes? And, there's a threat to an additional 80 million adults and children. The World Health Organization has tagged diabetes as the health hazard of the 21st Century. There are two types. Type 1 usually occurs during childhood. Type 2, the most common form of the disease, occurs in adults. Imagine controlling, avoiding, and reversing diabetes. Now you can. So what do we do? Dr. George King has come up with 8 strategies that are simple yet dramatically life changing. He has pulled together research conducted by the world's most respected and largest group of diabetes researchers from Harvard's Joslin Diabetes Center. He told me on my POPPOFF Radio Show that implement just one of the strategies and your Diabetes will

POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

improve. Go for all eight, and your body will reset its glucose metabolism. So comes his book "The Diabetes Reset." Let's get to those simple strategies that can change your life.

1) CUT YOUR FAT IN HALF, **DOUBLE YOUR FIBER.** Switch to a high-fiber diet of 70% complex carbohydrates, 15% fat, and 15% protein. He disentangles the myths and confusion surrounding carbs, fats, proteins, and fiber, and shows why all carbs are not bad and sugar is not the root of all evil.

2) INCREASE YOUR **MUSCLES' GLUCOSE-**ABSORBING ABILITY THROUGH AEROBIC EXERCISE AND STRENGTH TRAINING. 80% of the glucose circulating after a meal is handled by the skeletal muscles. Fat deposits in Muscles trigger harmful inflammation, which can be corrected with a balance of strength and aerobic training...and in turn increase glucose sensitivity.

3) ACTIVATE YOUR **BROWN FAT (WHY NOT** ALL FAT IS BAD FOR YOU). Brown fat is activated in the cold, and helps you burn up to 15% more calories. Brown fat activity is boosted fifteen-fold at 65 degrees F during exercise, when exposed skin meets the cold air.

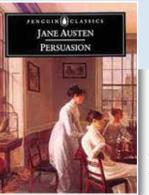
4)BECOME AN INFLAM-MATION FIGHTER. Chronic, low-grade inflammation is a major contributor to a host of issues including type 2 diabetes. Inflammation can be measured by C-reactive protein levels (CRP), easily checked in your annual blood test, and is crucial to interpreting your risk of Diabetes, and cardiac arrest.

I will get to the last four strategies in my next column, but keep in mind that, within each chapter of "The Diabetes Reset," **Dr. King** provides evidence to support the strategy and advice on adopting it into a daily routine. It also busts the myths that keep Americans from changing their habits, and outlines a clear twelve-week implementation plan with a tool to track your progress. Dr. King M.D. is research Director and Chief Scientific Officer at the Joslin Diabetes Center. He is one of the most sought-after speakers on diabetes and diabetes-related issues. Dr. King explains why preventive care is important for everyone regardless of current health or family history—including the surprising role of dental care and hygiene in Diabetes prevention. We'll get to the rest of the story in my next POPPOFF column. I don't want you to become a statistic!





For the Love of Books



Book Review by Amy Shane amy-shane@att.net

PERSUASION by Jane Austin

♦ Release date: 1818 ♦ Hardcover, 249 pages ♦ Intended audience: Adult ♦ Rating: ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

On the Book Jacket: Twenty-seven-year old Anne Elliot is Austen's most adult heroine. Eight years before the story proper begins, she is happily betrothed to a naval officer, Frederick Wentworth, but she precipitously breaks off the engagement when persuaded by her friend Lady Russell that such a match is unworthy. The breakup produces in Anne a deep and long-lasting regret. When later Wentworth returns from sea a rich and successful captain, he finds Anne's family on the brink of financial ruin and his own sister a tenant in Kellynch Hall, the Elliot estate. All the tension of the novel revolves around one question: Will Anne and Wentworth be reunited in their love?

Amy's Review: For Valentine's Day, I thought I would delve into a literary classic, surrounding myself within the world and styling of the early 19th century. While it is not customary for me to review a classic, I couldn't keep myself from taking a mere moment to share my thoughts upon one of the truly romantic classics by Jane Austin.

Persuasion, is a story of unrelenting love and sacrifice of a person's heart, when they allow it to be easily persuaded. Persuasion, captures readers, by transporting them into a time of carriages and top hats, etiquette and propriety. Written in a language that is as captivating, as it is beautiful in its respectability that has become lost throughout the centuries.

Miss Anne Elliot, is the twenty-seven year old middle daughter of Sir Walter Elliot, a baronet, who is more concerned with title and appearances, than his daughters. Often overlooked and underappreciated, the unmarried Anne, is forced to live within her families estate. Keeping secret that she once was engaged at the age of nineteen to Frederick Wentworth; however, was easily persuaded by their family friend to reject the proposal, due to his lack of prospects, connections, or title. Anne's decision, now forces her to live an unmarried life at home, since no other man can ever compare to the love she once felt for Frederick.

Now, eight and a half years later, Anne moves in with her frightfully anxious and dramatic sister Mary, due to her father losing his estate, due to overindulgence. As grievances soon ensue, Anne finds herself in the most unlikely of predicaments, when Captain Frederick Wentworth returns to the scene, as a quite rich and titled sea captain, looking to settle in marriage. Now, all the eligible girls swoon and try to capture the eye of the Captain, while Anne is left to contemplate over her emotions of the secret broken engagement, while watching him share affections for others.

Following her family and friends to Bath, Anne is finally able to step away from the heartache, until she is once again crestfallen, learning that Captain Wentworth is engaged. Left to now figure out what she is to do, Anne is once again persuaded to encourage the affections of her cousin Mr. Elliot, in her families hopes for her to marry. Fate however, once again, bestows itself upon Anne, when she learns that Captain Wentworth has come to Bath, unengaged and with new intentions of his own. This time, allowing Anne to choose love for herself, learning that she must never be persuaded to choose otherwise.

A love story that spans years, decades and even centuries, Persuasion takes a story that never gets old, for in love sometimes the entanglement of duty and honor can get caught in between the heart's true desire. Let Jane Austin's last completed work persuade you to fall for the love story of Anne and Captain Wentworth.

"You pierce my soul. I am half agony, half hope." Capt. Wentworth.

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34-Year-Old Arrested for Homicide on Greenback Lane

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Citrus Heights Police Department (CHPD) announced the arrest of 34-year-old Luther Frazier on March 7th in connection with a shooting that occurred the day before, resulting in the death of one subject.

Police said that the incident occurred at approximately 10:37 a.m. on March 6th and was a result of a fight between Frazier and his victim. Subsequent investigations showed that the

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Citrus two men knew each other and police would not initially iden-(CHPD) announced the arrest of 34-year-old Luther Frazier on twenties.

> Officers rendered medical aid on scene at the 6500 block of Greenback Lane until emergency medical personnel arrived, but the victim was later pronounced deceased.

> Frazier had fled the scene and was described by police as a, "Black male adult wearing a dark colored sweatshirt possibly

driving a silver colored sedan with damage to the passenger side."

Frazier was booked at the Sacramento County Jail under the charge of murder upon his capture the following day.

CHPD stressed that anyone with additional information or who may have been a witness to the shooting should contact the authorities at (916) 727-5500.

Source: Citrus Heights Police Department ★





Are You Carrying Bricks In Your Backpack?

Procrastination! Ugh! What a word that is. But, we're all guilty of it - whether it's putting off laundry or doing your taxes - it's usually related to some task or chore we just don't want to do.

The same is true about making final arrangements. Who wants to think about, or talk about, death. And with so many more fun things to spend our money on, who wants to pay for it?

Well, just like taxes, death is something unavoidable, and when it's done - what a relief that is. You can then unload that brick from your backpack and have some peace of mind. If you still need motivation, consider these points:

- You get to arrange what you think is best and not expect family members to know your wishes
- You can know that once your pre-arrangements are made, your wishes will be carried out
- You get to relieve your family from that burden of planning your funeral when they are grieving
- · You can minimize disputes between your well-meaning relatives
- You can set up affordable monthly payments so the financial burden does not fall to your surviving family members
- · You will show your love in a way your family will never forget

We hope these tips are useful. Call us today for an appointment and let us help you unload some bricks from your backpack!



Come to one of our Monthly Free Luncheon Seminars to find out more about how you can lighten your load and receive tremendous peace of mind.

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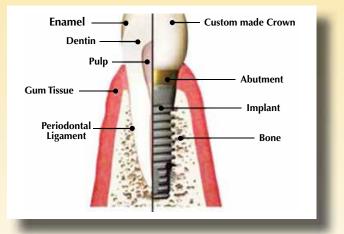
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