

Placer Sentinel



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Second Issue of August, 2011

Airshow to Thrill and Inspire



Aerobatic champion Patty Wagstaff will be performing at the 2011 California Capital Airshow. Photo courtesy of CCA.

Sacramento Region – The California Capital Airshow, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the importance of aviation for continued economic growth, inspiration and educational opportunities for today's youth, and enhancing awareness for the service and sacrifice of our military men and women, today announced the current Airshow highlights, which will exhilarate, thrill and inspire fans of all ages. The Airshow, located at Mather Airport, thunders into Sacramento on September 10-11, 2011, and will honor important anniversaries. 2011 marks 100 years of Naval Aviation, an achievement the Airshow will note by featuring a demonstration by the US Navy F-18 Super Hornet.

"Each year we strive to bring new and exciting performers, unique aircraft, and interactive displays to Sacramento, and this year will be an event that you will never forget!" said Darcy Brewer, executive director of the California Capital Airshow. "Tora!Tora!Tora! is making its first trip ever to Northern California and fans will not be disappointed. Tora is a choreographed, living history lesson with pyrotechnics and precision flying all set to music, but the show certainly doesn't stop there. We will have something for everyone and every age – from exhilarating military jet demonstrations and aerobatics soaring overhead to a Kids Zone with interactive, educational exhibits – it's going to be an incredible show that will leave you begging for more."

In addition to the F-18 Super

Hornet, Airshow fans will experience the raw power and extreme capabilities of the F-15 Strike Eagle Demonstration Team, the electrifying Patriots Jet Team, aerobatic champion, Patty Wagstaff, and a USAF Heritage Flight. Rounding out the lineup will be the Shockwave Jet Truck, Otto the Helicopter, Dan Buchanan, local air show pilot, Tim Decker, fighter jet demonstrations and some of the largest transport jets on Earth, warbirds, vintage aircraft, and so much more!

Tickets to the 2011 California Capital Airshow are now available online and can be easily purchased at the Airshow web site or at all SAFE Credit Union locations throughout the region.

The California Capital Airshow web site will be updated regularly

with news, attraction information and more. Community members and attendees can also follow the Airshow on Facebook and Twitter (#calcapairshow).

Established in 2004, the California Capital Airshow has become one of the largest and highly-respected airshows in the nation. As part of its community relations, the non-profit organization has awarded over 70 scholarships to deserving students from our region with an interest in science, technology, engineering, math, aviation, aerospace, and aeronautics. For more information about the California Capital Airshow, please visit www.californiacapitalairshow.com or join us on Facebook.

Sierra College Foundation Creates \$1 Million Fund to Support Student Scholarships

Money will fund 50 \$1,000 scholarships in perpetuity

Placer County – The Sierra College Foundation announced today that donors contributed more than \$660,000 for student scholarships. When combined with matching funds from the Osher Foundation, this will provide \$1 million to create 50 annual \$1,000 scholarships in perpetuity.

The \$1 million is the largest scholarship fundraising effort in the Foundation's nearly 40-year history.

"This endowment will create a permanent fund for 50 scholarships, offering long-term help for students," said Sonbol Aliabadi, Executive Director of the Foundation. "We are thrilled and grateful to receive such support from our community."

The 50 scholarships were funded by a variety of individuals and organizations in the community, many of whom wanted to recognize a friend, family member or noted community leader.

The scholarships include those in memory of:

- Rocklin Police Officer Matthew Redding, who was killed on duty in 2006.
- Former Placer County Supervisor and Roseville Mayor Bill Santucci, who died in 2008 after more than 20 years as an elected official.
- Leslie Miller, a former Sierra College student who left most of his more than \$1 million estate to the college in 2006.
- James Levoy Sorenson, a Sierra College-educated entrepreneur who went on to establish successful health care businesses.

Other scholarships recognize members of the community, including longtime Sierra

College Trustee Barbara Vineyard, who served on the board for 28 years; former Sierra College Athletic Director and Coach George Goto; former Sierra College President Kevin Ramirez and his wife, Vicki; Sierra College alum Wilbur Wallace and his wife, Mary; Will S. Cluff; Donald L. Sall Sr.; and Ben and Nora Ferrari, to name just a few.

Organizations and businesses that funded scholarships include: Wells Fargo; Kaiser Permanente; Nevada County Coordinating Council for Sierra College; Rotary Clubs of Western Nevada County; Sutter Medical Center; the Nevada County Law Enforcement & Fire Protection Council; Sierra College Accounting Advisory Committee; and The 2011 Sierra College Foundation Board of Directors.

"It is so gratifying that so many in this community were willing to support our local students pursuing higher education," Aliabadi said. "With school about to begin, this is great news for students."

While the Osher Foundation matching program has ended, Aliabadi said the Foundation continues to establish new scholarships and welcomes the opportunity to work with donors to create new scholarship opportunities for students.

For more information, please visit www.SierraCollege.edu/foundation, or call the Foundation office at 916-660-7020 or email Foundation@SierraCollege.edu

Source: Halldin Public Relations

Californians Volunteer Over 900 Million Hours in 2010

Sacramento Region – During a time of economic recession and high unemployment rates, volunteers continue to provide a powerful economic and social benefit to communities across California. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) released their annual Volunteering in America Report this week, illustrating that citizens in California volunteered nearly 27 million hours more than the previous year.

In 2010, nearly 7 million Californians performed 964.7 million hours of service through or for a nonprofit or community organization. The amount of hours contributed is valued at \$20.6 billion, using the Independent Sector's annual estimate of the average value of a volunteer hour, which was \$21.36 in 2010. Additionally, 7.4 percent of California residents volunteered informally (working with neighbors to address or fix a community issue), totaling over 2.1 million individuals.

The volunteer rates increased from 2009 numbers in the



The value of volunteerism within the State of California for 2010 was estimated at \$20.6 billion.

San Jose, Riverside and San Francisco Metropolitan Statistical Areas. In addition, over the last four years, the retention rate for volunteers in San Jose and San Francisco has surpassed the national retention rate of 64.5 percent.

Economic Downturn Drives Demand and Opportunities for Volunteers

Across California, organizations are serving the state's

most vulnerable using fewer resources. Between 2008 and 2010, citizens volunteered in a range of vital areas to bridge the gaps left by budget cuts and unemployment.

- Nearly half of volunteers devoted their time to working with youth through tutoring and teaching (19.3 percent) or the collection and distribution of food (20.9 percent).
- About one-quarter of

volunteers (24.5 percent) participated in fundraising activities or sold items to raise money for an organization.

• Over half of volunteers (approximately 54.6 percent), were born during the Baby Boomer generation.

"The nonprofit sector has experienced a one-two punch – the increase in demand for services and the decrease in donations," said Secretary of Service and Volunteering, Karen Baker. "The renewed interest in volunteers couldn't come at a more critical time. With unemployment up during these tough economic times, volunteering can provide individuals the opportunity to hone skills, learn new skills, make contacts and stay engaged. By becoming a volunteer, you can help yourself while helping others."

Metro areas are ranked yearly on their volunteer rate. These are the rankings in California according to the rates provided by the Volunteering in America Report for 2010. #1 San Francisco at 30.1%, #2 San Jose at 29.8%, #3 San Diego at

23.9%, #4 Sacramento at 22.8%, and #5 Los Angeles at 21.5%.

The Volunteering in America Report is made possible by a partnership between CNCS, the United States Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data is collected each year through a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) September Volunteer Supplement. The Volunteer Supplement collects data on the volunteering activities of adults aged 16 and older. Volunteers are considered individuals who performed unpaid volunteer activities through or for an organization at any point during the 12-month period, from September 1 of the prior year through the survey week in September of the survey year.

To view the report in its entirety, please visit: www.VolunteeringInAmerica.gov.

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and

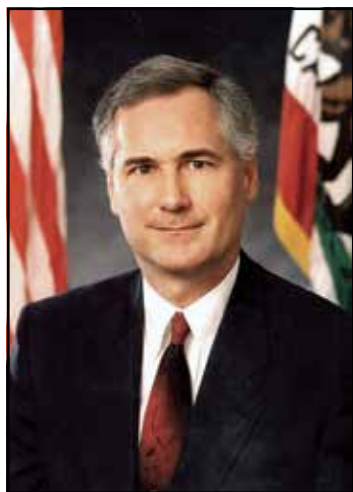
volunteering. Through its innovative web site, individuals and families can find more than 50,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state involving the arts, education, animals, disaster preparedness, the environment and other areas of interest. Karen Baker, the nation's first state cabinet secretary of service and volunteering leads the organization. For more information, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.



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Cruise Control Act of 2011

By Congressman Tom McClintock



Congressman Tom McClintock

Federal spending has ballooned 28 percent during the Obama Presidency while the government has amassed more debt than it acquired from the first day of George Washington's administration to the last day of George H. W. Bush's.

Our nation is racing toward a fiscal cliff. Yet, as Sen. Jim DeMint noted, instead of hitting the brakes, Congress and the President just set the cruise control.

"The Budget Control Act of 2011" offers an object lesson in exactly the sort of empty compromise that has gotten our nation into its present mess. Faced with the devastating consequences of unprecedented and unsustainable federal spending, both parties agreed on only one thing: to lock in that spending for at least the next two years.

Bypassing the normal legislative process, the deal was written behind closed doors and dumped it into the laps of both houses under the threat that failing to pay the government's bills would jeopardize the nation's triple-A credit.

Unfortunately, the deal didn't just pay our current bills – it gave the most spendthrift administration in history an open credit line to continue its spending spree beyond 2012. Ironically, it ended up costing the United States its triple-A credit rating by failing to rein in spending significantly.

Indeed, Standard and Poor's had explicitly warned for the last two months that \$4 trillion had to be cut from the projected ten-year deficit to preserve the nation's credit. Even if the plan works perfectly, it doesn't come close.

Yet the same politicians who ignored these warnings were shocked-just-shocked when Standard and

the debt deal already assumes restoring Clinton-era tax rates, it's a good bet that tax increases are on the way. After all, since Congress has essentially frozen spending at record levels for the next two years, we're going to have to pay back the trillions of dollars of new borrowing somehow.

Central to the deal is the success of the bipartisan super-committee (the 18th bipartisan commission since 1982 to solve the deficit, for those keeping score).

Set aside, for a moment, the constitutionality of sidelining 523 elected representatives of the people while 12 handpicked appointees of the legislative leaders convene in their place. If a bipartisan group of current members of Congress (which we often call, 'the Congress') can't summon the political will to reduce spending to sustainable levels, why would we place far greater confidence in the proposed bipartisan panel of – wait for it – current members of Congress?"

To its credit, the House adopted two plans that met Standard and Poor's criteria for preserving the nation's triple-A credit rating: the House Budget Resolution (also known as the Ryan Plan) passed in April, and the Cut, Cap and Balance Act passed in mid-July. Both would have eventually balanced the budget, both would have ultimately paid off the national debt and both died in the Senate.

This simple fact highlights the unfinished work remaining before the American people. Ultimately, they must decide whether they want to restore the traditional American principle of constitutionally limited government, or whether they are content to summarize this generation's stewardship of the American Republic with the chilling epitaph of Louis XV's reign, "After us, the flood."

Poor's lowered the boom four days later. Instead, they blamed the "Tea Party" that has been sounding the same alarm for more than two years.

Apologists for the debt deal claim that they "cut a dollar of spending for every dollar of debt increase." Actually, Congress voted to "cut" annual federal spending from \$3.7 trillion this year to \$5.4 trillion by 2021, and to "cut" the national debt from \$14.3 trillion down to \$22.7 trillion. Washington defines this as a "cut" because it would rather spend that much more.

Even adjusting for such charming Beltway colloquialisms, most of the "cuts" don't take place until after 2017 while the debt increase all happens this year. In the words of the great economist J. Wellington Wimpy, "I will gladly pay you a dollar of cuts ten years from now for a dollar of debt today."

At least we didn't get any tax hikes, right? We'll see. The so-called "super-committee" that does the heavy lifting is charged not with cutting spending but with reducing the deficit – two very different things.

In Washingtonese, "tax increase" means the same as "spending cut" when referring to deficits. Since

CSLB Revokes License of Once-Prominent Area Restaurateur and Developer

Settlement requires restitution and repayment by company president

Sacramento Region – The Contractors State License Board (CSLB) officially revoked the license of Stonegate Construction, Inc.'s license (#766777) on August 12, 2011. Stonegate Construction President and Responsible Managing Officer Abolghassen "Abe" Alizadeh signed and accepted the terms of a stipulated settlement agreement on August 5, 2011, in response to a CSLB investigation that concluded Alizadeh had diverted construction funds, and failed to pay subcontractors and materials suppliers.

As part of the agreement, Stonegate Construction's license is revoked for at least one year. Before the license can be reinstated, or another license issued to Alizadeh, he must:

- Pay CSLB for the cost of its investigation and enforcement (\$16,386.05);
- File a disciplinary bond valued between \$15,000 and

\$125,000 for at least two years; and

- Prove that restitution has been made to subcontractors, or demonstrate that these debts were resolved civilly or successfully discharged in bankruptcy.

CSLB opened its investigation in 2009 after complaints were filed by more than 20 subcontractors and materials suppliers who had not been paid. CSLB partnered with the Franchise Tax Board, Board of Equalization, Employment Development Department, and Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, to whom Alizadeh also owed millions in unpaid fees and taxes. Alizadeh was arrested in January 2011 on grand theft and other felony charges related to that part of the investigation.

"CSLB hopes this sends a clear message that there will be serious consequences for licensees who

do not follow state laws," said CSLB Registrar Steve Sands. "Mr. Alizadeh must be held accountable for these violations of state contracting and other laws before he is ever allowed to contract again."

The Contractors State License Board operates under the umbrella of the California Department of Consumer Affairs. More information and publications about hiring contractors are available on the CSLB website or by calling 800-321-CSLB (2752). You can also sign up for CSLB email alerts at www.cslb.ca.gov. CSLB licenses and regulates California's more than 300,000 contractors, and is regarded as one of the leading consumer protection agencies in the United States. In fiscal year 2010-11, CSLB helped recover nearly \$45 million in ordered restitution for consumers.

Source: V. Stromberg
CSLB Public Affairs Office

Bad Hair Bandit Robberies

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County – The woman arrested Monday for robbing the Bank of the West in Auburn is believed to be the "Bad Hair Bandit" responsible for up to 20 other bank robberies in Washington, Oregon and Montana.

Around 2:25 p.m., Cynthia Van Holland entered the Bank of the West at 13422 Lincoln Way. She passed a note to a teller demanding money and stating that she was armed. She was given an undetermined amount of money and left the bank.

Witnesses in the busy shopping center saw the woman run from the bank and get into the getaway car that was parked behind the bank. The driver, Christopher Alonzo, 26, then drove off. A very observant witness gave deputies the vehicle description and



Cynthia Van Holland



Christopher Alonzo, 26

a possible license plate number.

Minutes later, deputies who were staking out Interstate 80, spotted the vehicle near Rocklin Road. The pair was arrested without incident.

Placer County detectives identified Van Holland as a possible suspect in the "Bad Hair Bandit" robberies after examining

evidence and surveillance photos. A joint investigation was started with the FBI and is continuing at this time.

Any questions regarding the bank robberies in Washington, Oregon and Montana should be directed to the FBI office in Spokane.



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Bouncing Back From Adversity



have to believe you can and you have to want to. Although this appears to be obvious, there are people who don't think it's possible to get back up or do not have the drive to do so.

Hitting bottom is emotionally and physically draining. You may find yourself devoid of ambition or lacking enthusiasm. Staying at the bottom, wallowing in self-pity, is not an option. Regardless of why you hit bottom, or how long you have been there, you need to immediately begin the process of bouncing back.

Bouncing back involves several components: desire, determination, action, perseverance, and an open mind. The process starts with desire. You have to want to improve your situation. If you don't, you won't. Saying something to yourself similar to, "I guess it would be nice if things were better but I don't know if it's possible," will not work. Your mindset must be, "I'm going to do whatever it takes to improve where I am and how I feel."

Next you need a plan. A clearly

defined and understood set of steps is essential. You don't have to formulate a plan on your own. Being at the bottom can impact your perspective along with the ability to think clearly. Look to people who have gotten themselves out of the same predicament you are facing. You can learn a lot from them as to what strategies are most effective.

Devise as many steps as necessary. Each one needs to be small enough to avoid being overwhelming. There is a natural tendency to avoid tasks that are too large. A plan with steps you won't take is of no value.

Now you are ready for action. Begin with the first step in your plan. No step is too small. Getting started is the key. The slightest bit of forward progress is significant. Give yourself credit for each accomplishment. Without action, nothing happens. If you stop, all progress ceases.

Bouncing back takes effort but suffering is no picnic either. Since whatever path you take requires energy, it makes sense to choose a course which will lead you to a desirable destination. The more effort you put into implementing your plan, the more effective you will be.

You are not going to bounce back in one step. The journey is a progression that takes place one step at a time. Patience is required. Frustration is a common component of the process. Giving up is not an option. Persistence is the key to getting to where you want to be.

You may experience setbacks. It doesn't matter. Pick yourself up and get back on track. Concentrate on your destination rather than your current situation. Forward is the only direction that's important.

You can bounce back from hitting bottom. People do it all the time. You need desire, a plan, and then action. There is no magic involved. When you find yourself at a low point, it's only a detour, not a final destination. It is never too late to change direction.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com or your bookstore. Bryan is a self-development expert, syndicated columnist, and professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com. Copyright 2011 Bryan Golden

By Bryan Golden

There may be a time in your life, perhaps more than one, when you hit bottom. It may feel as if your situation can't get any worse. There may be one event that stresses you out or a cumulative series of circumstances. Regardless of the cause, if you hit bottom you can bounce back. But you

Assemblywoman Gaines Testifies Against New Costly Stormwater Permit



Assemblywoman Beth Gaines

Sacramento – Assemblywoman Beth Gaines, R-Roseville, testified today before the State Water Resources Control Board against a new burdensome stormwater permit that is estimated to cost the State billions of dollars and have a detrimental effect on local businesses and governments.

According to new standards being proposed by the State Water Resources Control Board, commercial businesses and industrial facilities would be required to undergo major structural changes in order to comply with new strict regulations for waste management and stormwater runoff. Under the current draft, stormwater program costs are estimated to triple or quadruple for existing permit holders.

"Water is the lifeblood of our state and improving water quality and protecting this precious resource should be done effectively and efficiently, but this extreme pursuit of environmental purity is leading to Economic Armageddon," Gaines said.

"Unemployment hovers around 12 percent and our economy remains unstable. By asking our local businesses and governments to comply with billions in new State unfunded mandates, we are kicking them out the door and encouraging them to seek friendlier business climates elsewhere."

Joined by officials with the City of Roseville, Assemblywoman

Gaines asked the Board Wednesday to withdraw the draft permit and suggested any future drafts include the assistance of a special committee made up of municipalities and businesses. But ultimately, the responsibility to set new requirements should be left up to local jurisdictions, she said.

"Instead of pushing excessive solutions that will hurt working families and businesses in their pocketbooks, unelected, unaccountable boards should let local elected officials decide for themselves what works best for their communities, not pass ridiculous and extreme measures like this one," Gaines said. "I remain committed to working with my colleagues to find ways to ease these burdensome requirements on those already suffering from taxation and regulation overload."

Beth Gaines, R-Roseville, represents the 4th Assembly District, which includes portions of Placer, El Dorado, Sacramento and Alpine Counties.

Senators Gaines and Hernandez Hospital Cost Transparency Bill on its Way to Governor

Senate Bill 751 clears both houses with bipartisan support

Sacramento – Senator Ted Gaines (R-Roseville) and Senator Ed Hernandez (D-West Covina) today announced that their bill – Senate Bill 751 – has cleared both the Assembly and Senate with bipartisan support and is now on its way to Governor Brown.

Senate Bill 751 is a straightforward measure that will give California consumers access to cost and quality information regarding hospitals in their communities. Consumers will be able to use this valuable information to determine which hospital will provide the best care for their ailment.

"This bill is based on one simple principle...consumers have

the right to know what the actual costs are for the health care services they are paying for," said Gaines. "By giving consumers access to this data, we are empowering them to make informed decisions about their healthcare, which I believe is one part of the equation to stem the tide of escalating costs."

Current law allows consumers to receive price information after their medical service has been rendered. SB 751 will now ensure consumers receive access to this information before they receive their care.

"With healthcare costs continuing to grow at a rate faster than both general inflation and wages, health insurance is

increasingly difficult for individuals to afford and for employers to offer," said Hernandez. "That is why providing this cost comparison information, allowing consumers to make an informed decision about care, is so important."

Senators Gaines and Hernandez plan to send a letter to the Governor encouraging him to sign their legislation.

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

Patricia Diane "Trish" Scholl

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PCWA Meeting Update

Auburn – The Sacramento-based Regional Water Authority (RWA) is taking an active role in the policy-making process as state and federal agencies seek a long-term solution for water supply and environmental issues surrounding the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

This was the message from RWA Executive Director John Woodling, who attended Thursday's (Aug. 18) meeting of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors to provide an update on his organization's activities.

Founded in 2001 and marking its 10th anniversary, the RWA includes 20 water providers who supply nearly 2 million people in the greater Sacramento region. PCWA is an original and longtime active member.

Woodling said the RWA is guided by the concept that its member agencies can accomplish much more by working together than separately. He said the RWA has been taking this collective approach to the ongoing Bay-Delta planning process.

Woodling said the current Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which will soon be under environmental review, will impact 90 percent of the people in California and the biggest impacts may be for "those of us in the upstream areas."

Agency General Manager David Breninger emphasized, "PCWA and RWA area water suppliers are extremely concerned that solutions proposed by the Delta Plan will be done for the benefit of Delta water exporters while sacrificing our region's water supply and at the expense of our local economy."

PCWA legal counsel Janet Goldsmith added, "The RWA's effort



PCWA Board Chairman Lowell Jarvis holds the award at Thursday's (Aug. 18) board meeting. Also pictured, from left, are consulting engineer Frank Helmick of West Yost Associates, PCWA Director of Technical Services Brian Martin, and PCWA Director of Field Services Mike Nichol.

has been extremely valuable to the region to bring awareness and advocacy of Sacramento regional water issues to the Delta planning process."

In other business, PCWA directors:

- congratulated staff for receiving a Project of the Year Award from the Sacramento Section of the American Public Works Association (APWA). The award recognizes PCWA for its rapid response and creative system modifications following the failure earlier this year of the PG&E Bear River Canal this past spring.

- heard a presentation from Carol Arnold, general manager of the Foothill Farmers' Market. Arnold previewed a new promotional video on the market created by the Placer County Department of Agriculture Ag Marketing Program.

- heard an update from Resource Administrator Andy Fecko on the current federal relicensing program for the Middle Fork American River Project. Fecko said the agen-

cy's application has been accepted and declared complete by the federal government, that environmental analysis is scheduled for 2012, and that the new license is anticipated in 2013.

- approved the sale of the former PCWA Power System headquarters on Harrison Street in Foresthill to the County of Placer for \$200,000. The county plans a public use for the 1.8-acre site located between Foresthill Memorial Hall and Memorial Park. Last year, the PCWA Power System moved to a larger corporate yard site on Sunset Drive.

The next regular meeting of the PCWA Board of Directors will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 1, at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn.

Information on PCWA board meetings may be obtained through the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. PCWA information is also posted at www.pcwa.net.



Around Town with Loyce Smallwood

his variety of books on colorful men and women of the Old West. Stay tuned as this very successful author joins with CONNECTIONS on September 19 to guide those interested in penning their own memoirs.

Mark the calendars on September 12 as author Art Sommers talks up his book on Auburn history, Sommers also sharing local history at our favorite courthouse for the Heritage Trail event a few Sundays back. Time on your hands and itching to learn more about Placer County history? Call Ralph Gibson at the Auburn Courthouse and sign up for history classes and become a docent at one of the three museums in Auburn and/or lead the Saturday walking tour of OT Auburn.

And speaking of volunteering, Auburn Community Television Manager Paula Johnston continues to seek out those who would like to assist with show production and/or produce their own shows. The lively Johnston radiates enthusiasm; is planning some start-



Loyce as a young girl

up training and invites the public to drop by the station to chat with Johnston after 3pm or call or email her at the station at Placer High. I look forward to launching a local history program and an authors show and seek volunteers to help with production and programming and throw out a big thanks to City Council Member Mike Holmes and KAH1 Radio PSA dynamo Victoria Beninga for helping to spread the word. Help us make it happen. Reference www.connectionsloyce.com; email to loy@foothill.net

Penryn Book Sale Fundraiser


Penryn – A book sale fundraiser will be held for Grass Valley's Scooter's Pals www.scooterspals.org on August 27 and 28, 8am-noon. Thousands of items will be sold including 10,000+ books,

CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and audio books. The sale will be held at 2166 Swetzer Rd., Penryn. Donations of books, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes and audio books are welcome.

For more information about the sale or directions call (916) 663-1608 or email lyn4animal@aol.com.

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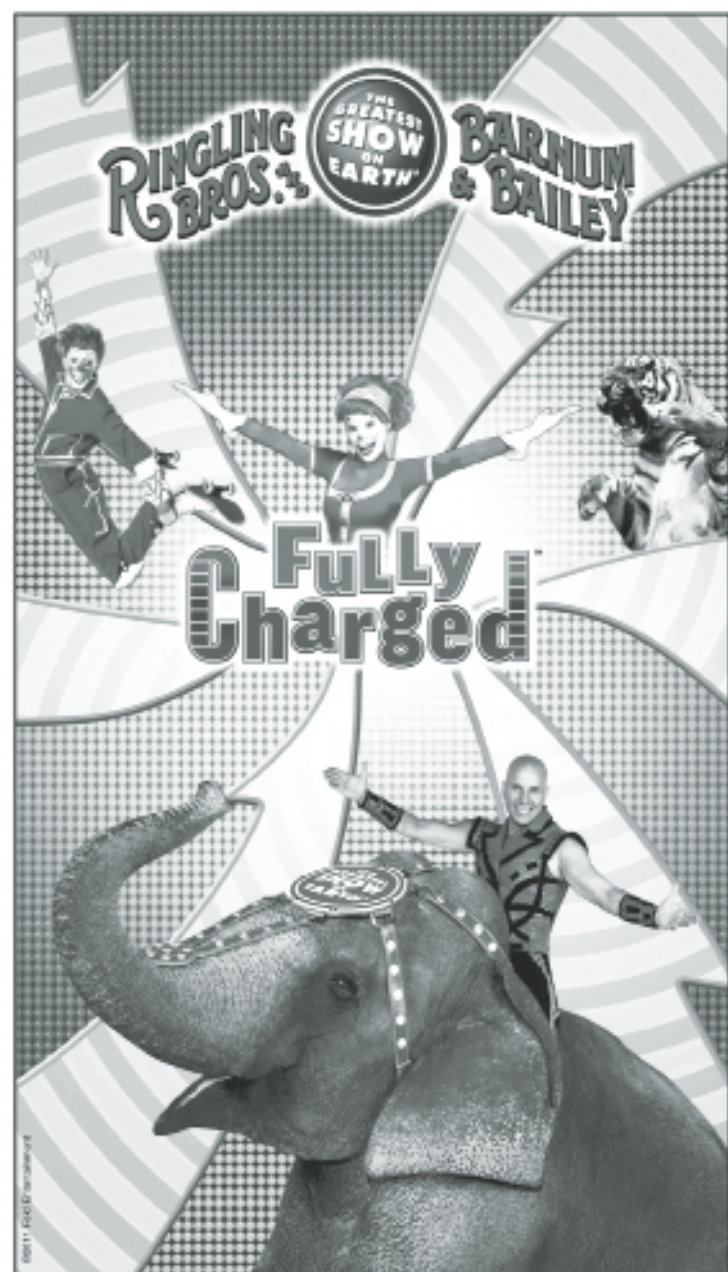
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PlacerGROWN Launches Master AGvocate Program

Auburn - PlacerGROWN will launch the Master AGvocate Community Agricultural Leadership Program on Wednesday, August 31.

The three-month program will educate community members about Placer County agriculture through a series of farm visits and workshops presented by agricultural organizations, farmers and ranchers.

Participants will get an in-depth look at the history of agriculture in Placer County and the economic contribution that agriculture makes to our county, learn directly from farmers and ranchers about their businesses, and explore the diversity of products grown and raised in Placer County.

Program areas will be offered in seven sessions through November, 2012, which will cover all aspects of agriculture in Placer County, including farmers' markets, livestock, produce & orchards, mandarins & citrus, and wine & wine grapes. A 500-word essay and one community service project are a requirement for graduation.

Graduates will receive a Certificate of Achievement from PlacerGROWN and will be available to make presentations to civic organizations, volunteer at community events and to help create and enhance programs that promote the region's local food system.

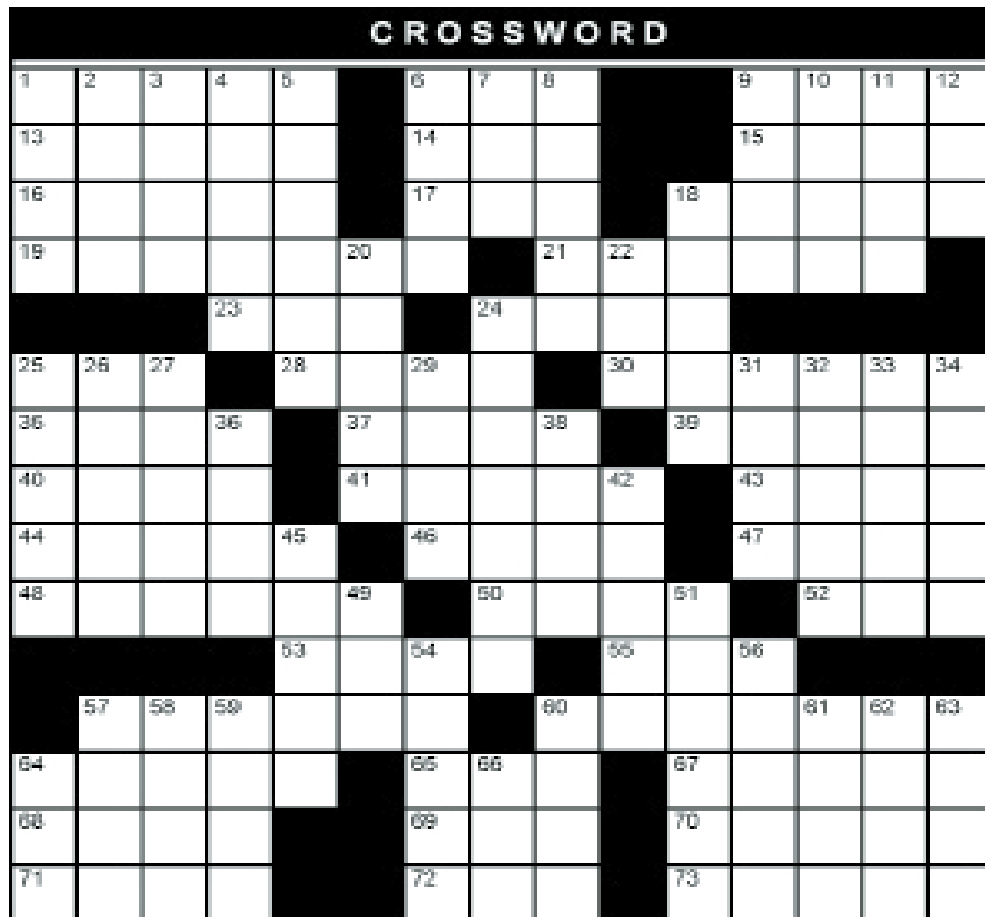
Program registration is \$75, and includes PlacerGROWN Community Membership for 2012, course and reference materials.

The first session, Introduction to Placer County Agriculture, presented by Roger Ingram, UC Cooperative Extension, and Keith Kohler, Placer County Agriculture Department, will be held from 5:30 to 7:30pm on Wednesday, August 31 at Tsuda's Too Café at the Flower Farm, 4150 Auburn Folsom Rd., Loomis 95650.

To register, email placergrown@gmail.com or call (530) 889-7398. Payment by check will be accepted at the August 31 meeting.

The mission of PlacerGROWN is to assist Placer County agricultural producers to market their products; provide educational information to both the community and producers; and to bring farmers, ranchers, community members and organizations together to support agricultural endeavors in Placer County. For more information,

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • THEME: FAMOUS INVENTIONS



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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Ulysses S. Grant's first name
 - Second-largest bird in world
 - Expel
 - Sun-dried brick
 - "___ a moment too soon"
 - Helper for some elderly
 - Acquire knowledge
 - Contend
 - Abrupt increase
 - *Inventor of electric motor
 - *Cyrus McCormick's invention
 - Brooks or Gibson, e.g.
 - Small stream
 - Sometimes hard to find in city
 - Traditional spot for an earring
 - Front of a building
 - Like dental surgery
 - Vagrant
 - 13 in baker's ___
 - Average
 - Hill or Baker, e.g.
 - Just below roof
 - Gives off
 - ___ drab
 - Wedding cakes often have more than one of these
 - Leader of a Muslim state
 - Russia's Peter the Great, e.g.
 - ___, the Beloved Country"
 - Dam
 - Hippocrates' promise
 - Theatrical prompt
 - Not dense
 - *Allen/Gates invention
 - Wallop
 - Neither
 - Affected by wear
 - Masseuse's office
 - African chieftain
 - Movie "The Way We ___"
 - Clairvoyance
 - Form of Japanese poetry
- DOWN**
- 50 percent
 - *An invention usually starts with a good one
 - Serengeti sound
 - Biblical Abraham's original name
 - *"Father of Genetics"
 - One turns green with it?
 - "Me," in Paris
 - Wombs
 - Fish found off Atlantic coast of U.S., aka porgy
 - Decrease gradually, often precedes "down"
 - Short for engineer
 - Just a ___ bit
 - Sometimes comes tossed
 - Often comes with a lei
 - Rudolph's friend Hermey, e.g.
 - Resurrection of the dead
 - Ratio of hypotenuse to opposite side of right-angled triangle
 - Scent
 27. Russia's St. ___ Cathedral
 - *Character Q provided great inventions to him
 - *Inventor of revolver
 - Pre-life
 - Postpone
 - Diary item
 - Lesotho money
 - *Inventor of "hoisting apparatus"
 - Olden day calculators
 - Not quite a spoon and not quite a fork
 - ___-been
 - Streamlet
 - Past, present or future
 - Organ swelling
 - If it fits...
 - She survived her infamous husband Henry VIII
 - Bane of teenager's existence
 - Tortilla sandwich
 - Baker's baker
 - Song "Eight Days a ___"
 - "Que sera ___"
 - *Huge network
 - Roman goddess of plenty

For Solution See Page 6

Widowed Person's Association Holds Monthly

Auburn - Widowed Person's Association of California will hold its monthly "Get Acquainted" dinner on Thur. September 1, 2011 at 4:30 PM at the Sizzler Restaurant in Auburn. Call (530) 878-1728 for reservations by Tues. August

30, 2011. If you are new to WPAC this is an appropriate time to meet people who are also widowed.

All Widowed People are invited to attend three activities of this organization prior to joining our membership. Other activities include: card playing, luncheons, bingo, bowling, trips to Reno, coffee klatches and special activities.

For a free newsletter call (530) 878-1728. For one-on-one grief support call (530) 885-8298.

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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.
 Come back every week for Sudoku! For Solution See Page 6.

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"Keeping the Faith"
By Ronnie McBrayer

Of Boxes and Baggage

it fit in there!), an attic to expunge (why did we keep all this junk!), and more heavy-lifting than any human being should ever be subjected.

The situation is complicated further by the varying approaches my wife and I take to moving. My spouse tends to keep everything, never knowing when she might need it in the future. I prefer to get rid of everything not used in the last three months, so a great deal of energy is spent on this tug-of-war instead of loading boxes.

I adhere to a wonderful proverb that our Czech friend Alana shared in the midst of these moving days. She said, "In my country we have a saying: 'The best move is a fire.'" I chuckled when Alana first shared this. After consuming a mega-bottle of Ibuprofen for my sore back and shoulders, I understand the wisdom of her words.

Moving is hard; physically, emotionally, or spiritually. We settle into the usual state of affairs, lulled into contentment with the way things are, and we rarely move/change/grow without somehow being compelled into it. Sometimes the compulsion to move comes to us as a gentle nudge, like a youngling pushed from the nest (or the declining health of parents), an opportunity to grow and mature.

Sometimes we re-sort and change our lives because of a major crisis: A divorce, a pink slip, a sickness, or a financial collapse. And sometimes we get knocked off of dead center like a smack of lumber to the head – we change, simply because

we have no other choice.

The truth is few of us would grow toward maturity without such pressure. The effort it takes to work through all of our stuff is just too back-breaking. For our attics are filled with stowed away anger, resentment, and unforgiveness, kept in mothballs because we cannot bear to let these go.

Into the basements of our hearts we have shoved our hate, fear, and distrust toward God, and we have locked the door, never wishing to handle these things again. And our cupboards and closets are running over with unresolved regrets, personal disappointments, and the tyranny of "what-might-have-been."

Pushing the analogy to its limits, the moving truck into your future is plainly not able to hold all of your junk. To move on, all of these stores and stocks have to be dealt with. Yes, I think the Czech proverb is correct; we would all prefer a fire. That would be easier. Just start life fresh and clean, without all the boxes, baggage, disassembly and disorder.

But a do-over is not one of our options. We must begin with where we are, with who we are, and with what circumstances we have been blessed or cursed, and from there move into the future. It's not easy, but it is the only way.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author. His books include "Leaving Religion, Following Jesus" and "The Jesus Tribe." Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

On joining the Over-the-Hill Gang

Rev. James L. Snyder

A friend of mine said to me recently, "Old boy, how's it feel to be a member of the Over-the-Hill gang?" I mumbled something as politely as I could, but on the inside, I was a little furious. I may be getting older, but I definitely am not old! In fact, I plan to get older every day.

Once I got my blood pressure under control, I looked into this a little more closely. I am not quite sure I want a membership in such an organization. I checked out the dues and I am not quite sure I am up for it.

In order to be a part of this elite group, if elite is the word I want, there are certain dues required of each member. I understand that every organization has its dues, but some dues may not be worth the membership.

Here are some dues associated with the Over-the-Hill gang.

First, I must complain about something every day. I know there are most days where it is easy to find a half a dozen things to complain about. But what about those days when everything seems to be going right? What about those days, rare though they may be, when there is nothing to complain about?

According to the rules manual, I must find something to complain about every day I get out of bed and the more vehemently I complain the better. This may explain why many members of this infamous Over-the-Hill gang stare into space with a faraway look in their eye. They are trying to find something to complain about.

There is a little secret here about the complaining aspect. If I do not remember complaining about something yesterday, I am fully entitled to complain about it today. This, also, may explain why so many people in this membership complain about the same thing every day.

The second rule has to do with matters of health. In order to be a part of the Over-the-Hill gang, a member must become proficient in medical sounding terms and words. I use the word "sounding," because they do not have to be real medical terms or words; all they have to do is sound like medical terms and words. This is also a reason why many of the members mumble a lot.

Everyday I must find something wrong about my health. If I do not have anything wrong with my health, I need to make something up.

"How are you feeling today, Jake?"
"I'm not quite sure," Jake responds, "the day's early and there's plenty of time for things to go wrong."

Personally, I really do not like talking about health issues. For one reason, I do not have any health issues to talk about. There is a question about my being sound in mind but there is no question about my being sound in body. Actually, my body makes more sounds than I am comfortable with, especially in public.

I have no health issues to complain about when I am in pub-

lic. If I suspect someone to be part of the Over-the-Hill gang, I avoid him or her like the plague. I know as soon as I say hello, that will open the floodgates for complaining about health issues. What I hate the most is when somebody goes into great detail in explaining his or her health problems. I'm not a doctor. Some things should be kept between the patient and his or her doctor.

If another old person, and I say this most respectfully, tells me their surgery was worse than anything their doctor had ever seen in his life, I'm going to start complaining for real. To take at face value what some of these old people say, we have some pretty inexperienced doctors in this country.

Another membership due is the constant referring to the "good old days." I am at the age now when I remember those "good old days" being referenced. The only good thing about those days is the fact that they are gone. I think when you get old a person's memory filters out negative things and all you can remember is how wonderful those good old days were. The fact being, they were not wonderful then and they are not wonderful now and the only pleasure I get in their regard is the fact that they are long gone.

I was at the point of tearing up

my membership application to the Over-the-Hill gang when a certain incident happened. I was walking in to a store to get something and I must have looked a little absent-minded to the public. I probably was thinking of what I was going to get and if I had enough money to get it. Whatever the case, as I reached for the door, it suddenly opened and a very cheerful voice said, "Here, Sir, let me help you with the door."

A very lovely young woman stood there holding the door open for Yours Truly. She smiled so sweetly at me and I thanked her and immediately pulled out my application for the Over-the-Hill gang and filled it out.

This getting older is going to be great fun. As the Bible says, "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness" (Proverbs 16:31 KJV).

I am now proud to be a full-fledged member of the Over-the-Hill gang.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

How to Manage Money as a Couple

Combine the expectation of divorce for new couples hovering around 50 percent with a variety of studies that suggest money is the most divisive topic for couples, and you get a formula for disaster. But one expert thinks it doesn't have to be that way.

Jane Honeck, CPA and author of *The Problem With Money? It's Not About the Money!* (www.the-problem-with-money.com), believes that while a SmartMoney Magazine survey revealed that 70 percent of all couples talk about money at least once-a-week, the communication isn't very effective. Honeck has some good advice that can help couples make arguments about money a thing of the past.

"Focusing on an overall vision and money plan will keep both of you moving in the same direction," she said. "Once you have done that, the small everyday decisions about what to spend your money on take care of themselves with little or no effort. When we have clear communication and know why we do something, the 'what to do' with our money is easy."

Honeck's tips include:

Talk -- Talk, talk talk. Money like sex is still a taboo topic and we often don't have a clear idea about how our partner thinks or feels about money.

Find Balance -- Balance power around money. One person making all the decisions and having all the control is a recipe for disaster. Find ways for you both to be equally engaged in all money decisions.

Make Decisions -- Decide together what is mine, yours and ours. Most couples have their own hybrid system for what works best. Find the one that is best for both of you.

Define Your System -- Have a clearly defined money management system all the way from who handles the mail to who sends out the checks. Without a well thought-out operational plan, things fall through the cracks.

Address Problems -- When things get tough, address problems immediately (no secrets allowed). Avoiding the issue only makes it more toxic and drives a wedge in the relationship.

Perform Checkups -- Schedule an annual money checkup with each other. Things change and just like

our physical health, money management needs an annual checkup to keep it healthy and relevant.

Talk a Little More -- Talk, talk and talk some more. The most important thing is to have open communication with no blame and shame. We all have hang-ups around money. Treat your partner with compassion.

"At the end of the day, couples need not argue about money," she added. "And it's not just about communication. It's about making a plan, and sticking to it together. Information gives you power over your finances. Not talking about them, not making a plan and not coordinating as a team makes you a victim of your finances. If you control your finances, they will never control you or your marriage."

Jane Honeck, CPA, is a money coach who specializes in tax and financial planning for professionals, small businesses and individuals. She is also a Certified Empowerment Trainer and has developed CentSible Living financial workshops and money coaching sessions to help her clients make meaningful and lasting change in their financial lives.

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

Sudoku Puzzle on Page 5

Enjoy Sudoku Every Week

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 5



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Politicians in a Panic

By Sheldon Richman

You can almost see the panic on their faces. The politicians, central bankers, and court economists seem to be thrashing around like bad swimmers caught in a rip tide. Despite all attempts — stimulus spending, increased borrowing, the Fed Reserve's low-interest-rate policy, presidential jaw-boning — the economy refuses to recover. Unemployment remains over 9 percent, investment is stagnant, and even the previous paltry growth is fading. People increasingly see the government as impotent.

If it weren't for the innocent victims, this would be satisfyingly entertaining. After all, these are the reputed best and brightest, who assured us they know how to fix and run an economy. Now they are at wits' end, and they're running out of time. The election is next year.

Had they heeded those who said no government can run an economy but it can run one into the ground if it tries, neither they nor we would be in this mess.

Of course the policy elite try to maintain a façade of confidence. If government stimulus spending hasn't worked, the "experts" say, it's only because government hasn't spent enough. If you believe that, you'll believe anything. The government already owes about as much as the economy can produce in a year.

Political-economic faith resists evidence. There's always a reason — other than government itself — for its policy failures. Those of us who believe that markets (when allowed to work) are morally and economically

superior to bureaucracies are called "market fundamentalists." It is true that when markets seem to fail, we point to the government intervention responsible. If that is market fundamentalism, what should we call those who believe government never fails and prescribe more government whenever it appears to do so?

President Obama's most ardent government-fundamentalist supporters say that focusing on the deficit and debt is a mistake. The only thing the president should be thinking about, they say, is jobs. That means more government spending, along with a few tweaks of the Tax Code. Debt and deficit be damned.

But haven't our overlords already done that, with nothing good to show for it? The ruling elite don't appreciate such skepticism. Leave them alone. They'll get it right next time. They promise.

Despite what Obama, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, and the rest of the ruling elite say, their policies are the poison not the antidote. Monetary, financial, and housing policies created an unsustainable boom and set the stage for the bust we continue to suffer. Since the bust, the Bush-Obama policies have worked against the emergence of a vibrant economy. Instead of getting out of the way and permitting the liquidation of policy-induced bad investments, government has piled intervention on intervention in a foolhardy attempt to recreate the pre-bust world. That is idiocy: The boom was a politically generated series of economic distortions. Restoring that situation makes no sense. Rather, the mistakes must be revealed through market revaluation of assets, insolvent firms must

be allowed to fail, and we all must adjust to reality. Then the economy will grow. To date, the government's policies have been aimed at denying reality. No wonder they have failed.

"What should be done?" is the wrong question. The right question is: What should be undone? The answer is: Lots of things. A good start would be for the government to stop sucking scarce resources out of the private economy. Every penny government spends — whether taxed or borrowed — is a penny taken from potential private investment. Government spending — particularly welfare and warfare — must be zeroed out and its borrowing must stop. That should be accompanied by an end to all subsidies, privileges, and barriers to competitive entry. The tax code, which aims to manipulate our economic activities as well as raise money, must be repealed.

But, the policy elite say, if no one is investing their money now, why would they invest if they could keep more? Investors are afraid to move because of uncertainty about what government will do next. The policy unknowns — sources of which include rules yet to be written for Obamacare and Dodd-Frank — make waiting on the sidelines the smart bet. Credibly ending the threat of government intervention would do wonders for the economy.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) and editor of The Freeman magazine. Address postal inquiries to: The Future of Freedom Foundation, 11350 Random Hills Road, Suite 800, Fairfax, VA 22030.

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Sugar Plump Fairies Show their Support at Celebration



Christina Barnes-Elkins, Amanda's sister, is embraced by her husband Steve Elkins. Along with Amanda's mother Debbie Ward and Amanda's father Keith Barnes, they are surrounded by the Sugar Plump Fairies and their endless hugs and kisses. Photo by Paul V. Scholl

Auburn – The Sugar Plump Fairies have been delighting the Greater Auburn area with their philanthropic antics since 1997. Drawing attention to themselves for worthy causes is their calling. Whether ringing bells during the holidays, selling raffle tickets for fund raisers or soliciting donations for disaster relief, they always elicit a smile and an open wallet.

The "Fairies" jumped on board to help with a recent fundraiser to help a local family in need.

The Old Town Auburn's historic Firehouse #2 re-dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony, on

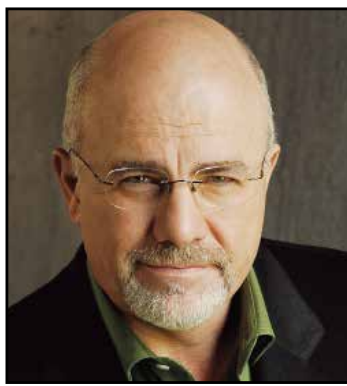
August 15th, was expanded to include a street party, dancing, barbecue and fundraiser for Amanda Barnes, the young Auburn woman paralyzed by a hit-and-run driver in Emeryville, California. Amanda Barnes, a Placer High graduate, has been an inspiration to those caring for her. The Auburn community came together at this event to help raise funds for her support.

The Sugar Plump Fairies and Linda Robinson of Sun River Clothing hosted the fundraiser along with Jackie Weston of Auburn Printers & Integrated

Marketing.

The Barnes family and Auburn Mayor Dr. Bill Kirby have established the Amanda Barnes Reward Fund at Community 1st Bank, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the driver causing the accident. When the initial goal of \$5,000 is reached, any additional donations will be used to aid Barnes' recovery. There has also been a second "fund" set up with all proceeds from this event going directly to Amanda.

For further information go to www.oldtownauburnca.com.



Dave Says

someone to accept your offer—even if it's a little less than what they want for the item in question.

The third thing is patience. Don't get all hot and bothered about a certain item at a certain place. Calm down and be willing to wait for a deal. You lose your ability to negotiate a great deal—not to mention your walk-away power—if you get all worked up and married to something before you know what else is out there!

- Dave

Will Paying Early Help?

Dear Dave,

Will it improve my credit score, and help my ability to buy home later, if I pay my rent 30 days early for the next two or three years?

- Tanner

Dear Tanner,

No. Your landlord probably isn't going to report early payments to the credit bureaus. Just make sure you pay it on time. It is smart to pay a few days early, though - maybe seven to 10 days ahead of time, but for a different reason. That way if something goes wrong at the bank, you've still got time to fix the problem. Chances are your credit score won't be impacted by your rental payments unless you're late, and especially if you have several late payments. That could sure become a black mark against you later!

I'm not a big fan of the FICO score, because it doesn't measure things like assets, income or net worth. It's really just an indicator of your interaction with debt. This is one of the reasons

why it's really dumb for companies to base lending decisions solely on a FICO score.

Fortunately, you can still find lenders that provide mortgage loans based on manual underwriting procedures. But they're getting harder and harder to find!

- Dave

It's Just Another Gimmick

Dear Dave,

I've got my \$1,000 emergency fund in place, and I'm working toward paying off my debt. I was wondering what you think about credit card insurance offered through the card companies? It doesn't sound like a bad deal if they'll make the minimum payment for you if you become disabled or unemployed.

- Terri

Dear Terri,

Credit card insurance is just another gimmick, so I think I'd pass on that if I were you. I don't buy gimmicks.

Here's the deal. You should already have long-term disability insurance through your employer. If you don't, then you need to get it today. That way you're already covered and can make the payments if you happen to become disabled somewhere down the road.

Remember, you're also working your way out of debt and building your emergency fund. So in a sense, you're going to use your emergency fund as insurance against bad things happening while you knock out that debt and beyond!

- Dave

For more financial help,
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with Mary Jane Popp

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3) **Serve your meals on smaller plates.** Most of us are used to seeing our plates full. Anything less makes us feel like we're not getting enough.

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4) **Park farther away.** Park at least two rows away from the entrance to your workplace, the grocery store, or any routine place. No driving around to find a closer space. You'll walk off the pounds in the process.

9) **Move the candy bowl.** If sweets are available at work or at home, put them in a place that isn't within eyesight. Don't set yourself up for mindless eating. Get them out of view.

5) **Take the stairs.** Going up one level? Don't use the elevator. By climbing just one flight of stairs every day, you can burn an extra 5800 calories a year.

10) **Eat a protein bar.** Instead of munching on a snack that's empty calories, grab a low-calorie, low carbohydrate protein bar. It's nutritious and will help suppress your appetite for hours.

6) **Brush your teeth after dinner.** Who doesn't like to have minty-fresh breath and clean teeth? Instead of waiting til bedtime, do it right after you finish dinner. Don't have anything but water the rest of the night. This simple step helps avoid mindless late-night munching.

That should get you started, but there's lots more where that came from in "Doctor's Orders" like fitting simple weight-loss techniques into a hectic lifestyle and how to avoid rebound weight gain, and lots more. Say goodbye to carrying the weight of the world. Well, maybe a few pounds can make a big difference.

7) **Keep a record of the calories you don't eat.** Did you skip the Doughnut at work this morning? That's 250 calories you won't have deal with. How about potatoes without gravy? That's 150 calories saved. It empowers you to know you saved hundreds, even thousands

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

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

Diets don't work! I know you've heard that one before. Now, if you google "weight loss expert", Dr. Kent Sasse is often the #1 result that comes up on your computer. He is a renowned pioneer in the field of medically supervised weight loss. Now he offers 101 medically proven tips for losing weight in "Doctor's Orders." These are solutions beyond food—surprising solutions—that get at the heart of how we think, why we eat, and what to do about it. Here are ten simple steps to get you started.

1) **Start a food log:** Keep an accurate record of everything you eat. You become much more aware of the food and drink you're consuming. In time, this heightened mindfulness will help you to make—and stick with—healthful; changes in your diet.

2) **Weigh yourself everyday.** Studies show that, when trying to lose weight, we are most successful

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Arts, Entertainment and Other Fun Things to do!

Playoff Tickets on Sale as River Cats Battle for Division



remarkable four PCL Championships (2003, 2004, 2007 and 2008) and two Triple-A Championships (2007 and 2008) in the franchise's first 11 seasons.

Should the River Cats qualify for postseason play, the team will host games 3, 4 and 5 (Sept. 9, 10 and 11) of the five-game Pacific Conference Championship Series at Raley Field (Games 4 and 5 if necessary). Games 1 and 2 would be played on the road.

If the season ended today, the River Cats' first-round opponent would be the rival Reno Aces (Triple-A affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks), who own a 5.5-game lead in the North Division.

If the River Cats advance to the PCL Championship Series (also a best-of-five format) they would again host games 3, 4 and 5 (Sept. 16, 17 and 18) at Raley Field (Games 4 and 5 if necessary). Games 1 and 2 would be played on the road. If the River Cats were to win this series and be crowned Pacific Coast League Champions, they would then play the International League Champion in the Triple-A Baseball National Championship Game in Albuquerque, NM, on Tuesday, September 20.

Sacramento Region – Playoff tickets are now on sale for the Sacramento River Cats, who currently hold a 9.0-game lead over the Las Vegas 51s in the Pacific Coast League South Division. With 22 games remaining in the regular season, fans should secure their Pacific Coast League playoff tickets early. Tickets are now on sale at the Raley Field Ticket Office, www.rivercats.com/playoffs and www.ticketmaster.com. Individual game tickets are available as well as full six-game playoff strips, which provide the best value.

The River Cats "magic number" to clinch their 10th division title in 12 years is 14 ("magic number" refers to the number of River Cats victories needed to clinch the outright division title). The River Cats have won a

Bowling for a Cause: Local Fundraiser for Youth Scholarships



Miss Placer County 2011, Shawna Bruce with Brad and Josh Dawson from the Diane Dawson Foundation.

Placer County – Diane Dawson Foundation is pleased to announce another successful fundraising event in support of local scholarships for children who have lost a parent to cancer or other terminal illness. On Saturday, August 13, 2011 the foundation hosted their annual "Bowl-A-Thon" at Strike's Family Entertainment Center in Rocklin, California. The fundraiser was well attended with the 2011 scholarship recipients, survivors of Diane Dawson, and Miss Placer County 2011, Shawna Bruce.

The event started at 12:00 pm with registration followed by a 1:00 pm presentation including memorable video, introduction of the scholarship recipients, and more. Throughout the event, participants could bid on silent auction items, spin a prize wheel, enjoy the kid's raffle, and bowl while dining on fresh delicious pizza. Bowlers could support the organization with a small contribution to host a bowler "in memory of" a lost loved one.

The Bowl-A-Thon also appeared on Sunday, August 7 in Denver, Colorado to support local students of the community where Diane

Dawson was born and raised. The foundation serves this community of youth in the form of generous scholarships.

Special thanks are extended to the Dawson family for starting the foundation in memory of Diane Dawson who spent a decade in the Roseville and Granite Bay community. Her encouragement touched many during her life while her legacy lives on through her belated husband, Scott Dawson, and

two sons, Brad and Josh Dawson, who are actively involved in the organization. Many friends of Diane Dawson serve on the board in a volunteering capacity like the 2011 Bowl-A-Thon Chairperson, Larry McElwain.

To learn more about the Diane Dawson Foundation, visit their website at www.dianedawson-foundation.com or email dawson-foundation@surewest.net.

Cats 301: "Job Fair" for Placer SPCA Grads



Placer County – As many people return to school, the cats at the Placer SPCA are looking forward to graduating from shelter life into permanent homes. The 20 homeless cats who have been waiting for adoption for 90 days or more are especially ready to bring their life experience and education into a full-time job: being a member of a family.

Beginning Tuesday, August 23, the Placer SPCA will be holding daily Job Fairs for placement of these tenured felines. Adopters will receive degree certificates along with their adoption paperwork.

Long-term cats will be identified with diplomas they have earned, including MS (Master of Snuggling), AA (Absolutely Adorable), or MM (Marvelous Meows).

"Our long-term kitties are just as

wonderful as those who are adopted right away," said Placer SPCA volunteer Julie Phelps. "But once someone sees a cat has remained here for over a month, they begin to think there's a reason they have been left behind."

All of the Job Fair candidate cats are available with no adoption fee. All adoptions from the Placer SPCA

include spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a voucher for a free veterinary exam.

The Job Fair for Degreed Kitties will take place during all business hours of the Placer SPCA Companion Animal Care Center through the end of August. The center is open Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm, closed Monday. The Placer SPCA is located at 150 Corporation Yard Road in Roseville.

Please contact the Placer SPCA, your local companion animal welfare experts, at (916) 782-7722 or (530) 885-7387, visit www.placer-sPCA.org, or email customer-care@placersPCA.org.

Bringing Their Voices to Auburn: Frankie Armstrong and Linda Allen



Linda Allen

Auburn – "I first heard Frankie sing on a PBS special in the mid 1970s. I was blown away with the sheer power of her voice back then. She was singing 'I'm Gonna Be An Engineer,' the classic feminist anthem that appears on her album "Out of Love, Hope and Suffering". Linda Allen organized the Bellingham Threshold Choir. We have a chapter here in Auburn, and I have had the pleasure of singing with them. Linda's passion is to help people find their physical, creative and spiritual voices. To have these two women performing here is truly an honor and a privilege. This will be a very special house concert." —Sharon Carl

British singer Frankie Armstrong has sung professionally in the folk scene and the women's and peace movement since the 1960s. She pioneered community voice workshops in 1975. She continued her previous trade as a trainer in social and youth work



Frankie Armstrong

for a decade, before focusing exclusively on voice workshops and singing. www.frankiearmstrong.com

Linda Allen, from Bellingham, WA, is one of those rare performers who combine story and song into a rich and generous flow. Her songs are rooted in tradition and honed by years of commitment to an art that both informs and transforms. She has released nine original recordings and two Northwest

song book collections. www.lindasongs.com

Reservations are required. Suggested donation is \$20, or what you can afford. Your entire contribution goes to the artist. Doors open at 7:00 pm, Friday, August 26, music starts at 7:30 pm. Call (530) 885-4292 or email info@AuburnHouseConcerts.org for reservations and directions.

AAUW Meeting Announced



Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery

You are invited! On September 10, Auburn Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold their 2011-2012 Kick Off Luncheon at the Regional Park Lakeside Room, 3770 Richardson Drive, Auburn.

The keynote speaker will be Supervisor Jennifer Montgomery speaking about re-districting as well as about women in elected office. Following a catered lunch, the eight junior high girls who the Branch sponsored for Tech Trek

Camp this summer will speak briefly about their experiences. The lunch is scheduled to begin at 11am and the per person cost is \$18.

AAUW is a national organization that works to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and social change. Registration for the event is due September 1. Please send checks made out to AAUW-Auburn Branch to Barbara Gerletti-Weiss, 15000 Crocket Road, Auburn 95603 or call (530) 888-1273.

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Why Capitalism Is Worth

Commentary by
Anthony Gregory,
Whiskey & Gunpowder,
Reprinted by Permission

As Obama demonizes the wealthy and pitches a dozen plans to restructure the economy, opponents of this program need a reminder of what exactly we're fighting for. We are resisting bureaucracy, central planning, and encroachments on our freedom and communities. Yet this does not get to the heart of the matter. We are not only an opposition movement, countering the president and his partisans' agenda. More fundamentally, we stand in defense of the greatest engine of material prosperity in human history, the fount of civilization, peace, and modernity: Capitalism.

Many regard it a dirty word and it is tarnished most of all by its supposed guardians. Wall Street giants fancy themselves capitalists even as they live off the taxpayer and thrive on the state's gifts of privilege, inflation, and barriers to entry. In the military-industrial complex they champion it by name as they produce devices of murder for the state. In the Republican Party and every conservative institution they talk it up while making such vast exceptions to the principle as to swallow it whole. When many think of capitalism, they think of the corporatist status quo, leading even some who favor economic freedom to abandon the term.

But we should not abandon it. For one thing, most opponents of capitalism do not merely oppose Goldman Sachs or Halliburton or even McDonalds. Rather, they oppose free enterprise as a matter of principle. They object to employers' liberty to hire and fire whom they want, at whatever wage is mutually arranged. They protest the right of entrepreneurs to enter the market without restriction. They disapprove businesses designing infrastructure; providing energy, food, water and other necessary commodities; and running transportation without government meddling. They lament the rich getting richer, even through purely peaceful means. They oppose the freedom to engage in short selling, insider trading, hostile takeovers, and corporate mergers without the central state's blessing. They begrudge the worker who dissents from the labor establishment. It is exactly the anarchy of the free market they despise, not the consolidated state-big business nexus they most want to smash. For every liberal who hates monopoly capitalism for anything approaching the right reasons, there are ten who deplore the capitalism part of it more than the monopoly.

It is simply a fact that capitalism, even hampered by the state, has dragged most of the world out of the pitiful poverty that characterized all of human existence for millennia. It was industrialization that saved the common worker from the constant tedium of primitive agriculture. It was the commodification of labor that doomed slavery, serfdom, and feudalism. Capitalism is the liberator of women, the benefactor of all children who enjoy time for study and play rather than endure uninterrupted toil on the farm. Capitalism is the great mediator between tribes and nations, which first put aside their weapons and hatreds in the prospect of benefiting from mutual exchange.

A century ago the Marxists acknowledged the productivity of capitalism and its preference to the feudalism it replaced, but predicted that the market would impoverish workers and lead to greater material scarcity. The opposite has happened and now the leftists attack capitalism mostly for other reasons: it produces too much and is wasteful, hurts the environment, exacerbates social divisions, isolates people from a spiritual awareness of their community, nation, or planet, and so on.

Yet all the higher, more noble, less materialistic aspirations of humankind rest on material security. Even those who hate the market, whether they work in it or not, thrive on the wealth it generates. If Marx's buddy Engels hadn't been a factory manager, he would have lacked the leisure time needed to help concoct their destructive philosophy. Every social sciences grad student, every Hollywood limousine liberal, every Christian-left do-gooder, and everyone for whom socialism itself is the one religion; every anti-market artist, scholar, philosopher, teacher and theologian screams atop a soapbox produced by the very capitalist system he disparages.

Everything we do in our lives – materialistic or of a nobler nature – we do in the comfort provided by the market. Meanwhile, the very poorest in a modern capitalist system, even one as corrupted by statism as the United States, have it much better than all but the wealthiest people a century ago. These blessings are owed to capitalism, and unleashing it further would finally erase poverty as we know it.

There is a myth that capitalism is the dominating doctrine. It seems almost everyone believes this, most finding it at least somewhat unfortunate, which itself should tell you there's a problem with assuming capitalism's unchallenged popularity. In fact, capitalism has few authentic defenders. Conservatives pretend to support it, but make exceptions for education, energy, agriculture, labor, central banking, borders, intellectual property, and drugs, to say nothing of national defense and criminal justice. Even worse, many conservatives of the anti-corporatist, localist variety are more protectionist and economically nationalistic than the establishment right. They will sacrifice property rights for their cultural preferences on guns, religion, so-called family values, and certainly patriotism. With friends like these, capitalism needs truer allies.

Progressives and socialists are downright hostile. They claim to have made their peace with the market but have a new scheme every day to restrain it, punish it, manipulate it, and beat it into submission. Liberals insist they don't want to rid of it, only refine it, only save it from itself. But if capitalism needs saving, it is not from itself, but only from liberals and conservatives.

Libertarians will speak up for capitalism, but often with some reticence. It has gotten such a bad name, and it is so despised by the liberal culture, that many do not wish to defend it outright. It is indeed crucial to be clear and precise in explaining what we mean by capitalism. But this great force for progress deserves our bold support, not our qualified testimony. It has given us everything we have. The least we can do is not pretend we're embarrassed of it.

For the last century, capitalism's most ardent defenders – the school of Mises, Hayek and Rothbard, and even the less radical followers of Rand and Friedman – have been clear that they mean the individual's freedom in property rights and exchange, and almost everyone understands this. The enemies have mostly meant the same thing, when they weren't disingenuously conflating free enterprise with state-sanctioned privilege.

Mises said "a society that chooses between capitalism and socialism does not choose between two social systems; it chooses between social cooperation and the disintegration of society." Hayek believed "the preservation of what is known as the capitalist system, of the system of free markets and the private ownership of the means of production, as an essential condition of the very survival of mankind." While always careful to critique state capitalism for its interventionism and violence, Rothbard espoused "free-market capitalism [as] a network of free and voluntary exchanges in which producers work, produce, and exchange their products for the products of others through prices voluntarily arrived at." Capitalism and freedom go hand in hand, and it is no wonder that the enemies of the market target libertarians as the most extreme proponents of what they loathe, rather than mostly focus on the corporatists and social democrats that dominate the modern left and right.

Some libertarians worry that "capitalism" puts too much focus on capital, but this is in truth no problem. Only through deferred consumption can we build civilization, by the amassing of higher order goods and the lowering of our orientation toward the present. This is the essence of the capitalist emphasis. Maybe it takes longer to explain ourselves when we adopt the battle cry of capitalism – it also takes longer to be a capitalist than only a consumer. In the long run, however, it is worth it. Libertarianism is a long-term struggle, and so why not take the long-term view of capitalism, both as a term worth embracing and a label for the economy we envision? Anarchism, too, is a hard pill to swallow, a tradition with a mixed history where a plausible case can be made that its conventional meaning does not always encompass the values we hold dear, but rather a

lack of social order. Yet libertarian anarchists embrace the term, as we should the term capitalism.

Rothbard was particularly sensitive to the fact that the term was coined by its enemies, and many today believe that defenders of free markets should not allow the opposition to define the debate. Yet this point leads me to a very different conclusion. First, even insofar as the word has negative connotations in popular culture, we might still want to adopt it. The anti-Federalists were initially opposed to the label affixed to them by the Hamiltonian statist. But now I would uphold that descriptor with pride. This is an area where we can take a cue from the gay rights activists who were smeared as "queer," only to proudly appropriate the term for their own uses.

Second and more important, if Marx and his ilk – whose ideas, to the extent they have been implemented, have yielded unparalleled human misery, starvation, and slavery – position themselves as the adversaries of capitalism, we should be so lucky to have these be the terms of the debate. The socialists of all stripes argue that real socialism has never been tried, and some say we market radicals are stuck with no better a response than to say that real capitalism has never been tried, either. However, unlike "real socialism," which Mises demonstrated was impossible on a large scale, capitalism simply exists wherever it is left unmolested. It is the part of the market that is free. But regardless of how we define it, in terms of feeding the masses and sustaining society, I will take flawed capitalism over flawed socialism any day. I will take state capitalism, crony capitalism, or corporate capitalism over state socialism, democratic socialism, or national socialism.

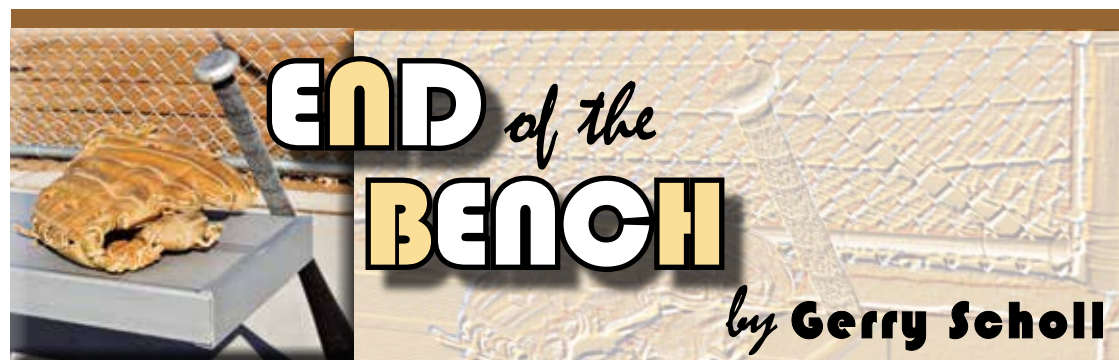
Yet we need not make that choice, since opposing state capitalism is part of the capitalist cause, as should opposing state religion be the calling of every religious anti-statist, opposing state schools be the goal of every libertarian who loves education, and opposing state law and order be the creed of those who endorse the natural law and peaceful social order.

The capitalist portion of state capitalism is the part that works. The fruits of capitalism can be used for evil, and they are surely used this way by the state. For instance, the military-industrial complex's evil is due to the socialist state military feeding off the production of semi-capitalist businesses. The one downside to capitalism is that the state becomes richer in absolute terms than with any other system. If the military were fully socialist it would be less effective – this is true. But this is merely a practical and moral indictment of the state, not the concept of capitalism.

If this is the only real confusion that confounds capitalism's detractors we should simply ask them: Are you for a complete separation of capitalism and state, then? Of course they are almost to a person violently opposed to such a prospect. For them the problem is not the state having weapons and law enforcers and soldiers and national boundaries. Instead, the problem is unfettered entrepreneurship and the inequality of profit. Anti-capitalism is best defined, to paraphrase Mencken, by the fear that someone, somewhere, is getting rich. Looking at the warfare state, the anti-capitalists object to someone making money off the militarism, and indeed they should be embarrassed that the state institutions they favor can only successfully mount a military machine by exploiting the profit system. Yet, tellingly, their primary objection is often not with the profiteers' war; it is with the war's profiteers.

Some words are harsh and the concepts they embody seem harsher. Some notions seem too idealistic for many cynics. Peace, love, and freedom are all words that get a bad rap as head-in-the-cloud concepts that don't describe reality as it actually exists. But we do know that in a world where not all is peaceful, love is sometimes hard to find, and freedom is always in peril, all of these ideals, insofar as they are allowed to flourish, point the way to a future of harmony and plenty. The same is true of capitalism. Don't let its enemies spoil a good word for the greatest economic system in the history of the human race.

Regards,
Anthony Gregory



The NFL – A Mental Institution

What in the wide, wide world of sports is going on here?

If you have any plans to attend a pro football game in the Bay Area this season, cancel them, unless you have a bullet-proof vest and a hockey goalie's helmet in your closet.

A couple of weeks ago in this space I wrote about That Fighting Spirit in sporting events — among the participants. That is all bad enough, but with the reports of the wild violence that took place among fans Saturday at Candlestick Park at the 49ers-Raiders game—two shootings in the parking lots; a brutal beating in a restroom; many, many fights in the stands — the fighting mentality has escalated out of control.

I'd hate to think these things are a microcosm of our society as a whole — though there is more than enough violence in our world. In many everyday ways violence is sensationalized and even promoted. The gang element, which is a part of the mix at these events, is all about violence.

One can't say these issues are limited to the NFL when there have been recent incidents such as the Brian Stow beating at Dodger Stadium in April and the Georgetown University-China basketball melee a couple of weeks

ago. But, in the NFL, the problems are prevalent; violent activity is an every-game occurrence.

Pro football is an extremely violent endeavor. Violence breeds violence, and it is overflowing into the stands. The league looks to control the ill effects of the violence on the field with improved equipment, rules changes, medical precautions and the like, but has clearly not done enough to control things beyond the field.

Flowing testosterone and ignorance joining with a raging river of alcohol produces a flood of uncivilized behavior. Many teams claim to adhere to a "zero tolerance policy," but fail miserably enforcing it, while cashing in big time with a status quo approach.

Raiders CEO Amy Trask and 49ers President Jed York had considerably weak responses to the issues on the morning talk shows.

The Raiders have promoted their "tough guys" image for decades and have embraced fans who identify with it. Some 49ers fans, insulted by the "wine and cheese crowd" tag, feel a need to prove their manhood as well with a tough response.

It's a bad mix to have a good number of these fools sitting side-by-side in the same stadium. The league is considering, and should

adopt, a plan to cancel the annual 49ers-Raiders preseason match up in the future.

And — so much for the "new shared stadium" idea. These events are likely to jeopardize progress on any new stadium plans. Who wants these sorts of things going on in their backyard?

I like watching the NFL on TV like millions of other fans and have rooted for both Bay Area teams through the years — and that's ok. Sometimes some of the violence bothers me, but the players know what they are in for when they play the game. I don't want to see players getting hurt, I want to watch them play. I never feel like hitting or shooting anybody because they are a fan of the opposition. Apparently there are those who do.

I wasn't very impressed the couple of times I attended games in person anyway. I couldn't see the action very well; no great replays like those on TV; the play stoppages were unbearable; far too many idiots in attendance — not that much fun.

Lucky for me the games are better on TV. I think I'll play it safe and watch from the recliner.

My recommendations: Stay home. Stay healthy. Sell the vest and helmet at your next garage sale.

Brown's Decision to Sign National Popular Vote Bill

Bill effectively guts Californians' ability to hold Washington DC accountable

Senator Doug LaMalfa (R – Richvale) released the following statement regarding Governor Brown's decision to sign AB 459, the National Popular Vote Compact:

"I am disappointed that Governor Brown would eliminate Californians' choice in selecting the President of the United States," explained Senator LaMalfa. "With this bill, Californians lose their absolute right to have their votes count in Presidential Elections, by circumventing the Electoral College and awarding California's

electors to the winner of the National Popular Vote. Now, regardless of whom Californians support for president our state's electors will go to whomever this new 'club' selects."

"This law eliminates 220 years of American tradition that protects the fabric of our country from fractionalization and mob rule. Under this plan, large urban population centers will dominate the elections for President. Rural America and rural California will no longer be spoken to in campaigns and will be a reduced factor in national

politics. Our Founding Fathers created the Electoral College to balance rural and urban interests. Yet now, short minded politicians seek major structural changes to our system of government for temporary political gains."

Senator Doug LaMalfa is a lifelong farmer representing the fourth Senate District including Shasta, Tehama, Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Siskiyou, Sutter, Del Norte, Placer, Trinity, Yuba and Nevada counties.

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