

Placer Sentinel



Come Enjoy the American River Confluence Festival!

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Volume 22 Issue 11

Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987

First Issue of June, 2011

Youth Enjoy "Pilot for a Day" Cemetery Vandals Plead Guilty



It's not just about aviation; it's about the imagination, spark and the look on a child's face. Photo from California

Placer County – The California Capital Airshow (CCA) and the Auburn Municipal Airport community opened its hearts, arms, and hangar doors on Saturday, May 24th, in celebration of International Learn to Fly Day. Inspired by Experimental Aircraft Association's highly successful Young Eagles program, International Learn to Fly Day is an annual event where aviators from all across the globe share their time and passions with as many young people as possible in order to inspire the next

generation to seek greatness. Statistics show that exposure to thrilling experiences, such as this event, expands a youth's imagination and broadens their outlook on life, as well as their view of the world and its endless opportunities and possibilities.

Dozens of experienced pilots explained the basics of aerodynamics, preflight inspections of the aircraft, and identified the parts that control the airplane. Then over 200 young aviators buckled up and took to the skies

for a whole new view of the earth and sky — most even got a chance to take the controls! The flight lasted approximately 20 minutes and each of the participants will remember this experience for the rest of their life.

As part of the program, each student pilot received a printed 'Flight Briefing Package' and a 'Certificate of First Flight' including the date, aircraft flown, airport identifier, and pilot's signature. The pilots were happy to answer questions, share more about

flying, and explain the many careers and educational opportunities available in aviation. In addition, pilots were on hand to discuss and identify the many different types of airplanes that were on the ground and in the air.

Hidden treasures were displayed all around the airport including colorful, unique, vintage, warbird, and experimental aircraft and everyone was welcome to explore. It was a day of family fun with inspirational, educational displays, endless aviation stories, with a BBQ rounding out the day. The event was free, open to the public and organized completely by volunteers.

"This was truly an amazing event sponsored by the CCA and several dedicated community partners. The pilots and coordinators for the event were Airshow team managers, local flight instructors, Airshow performers, and volunteers who offered their own private planes to thrill the kids," said Darcy Brewer, executive director of the California Capital Airshow. "This was just a small, highly interactive glimpse of the big excitement to come, and the profound dedication of the people involved who organize the California Capital Airshow each September at Mather Airport. It was one of the most rewarding events that we've ever been involved in. It's not just about aviation; it's about the imagination, spark and look on each child's face as they experienced something truly magical and beyond their wildest dreams."



Next of kin urged to contact the district attorney's office regarding

Placer County – Three young men accused of seriously vandalizing the Manzanita Cemetery in Lincoln have all pled no contest to a felony charge of vandalism.

In November of 2010, the defendants— Cody Piland, 19, Robert McCutcheon, 20 and Steven Warn, 20 engaged in a "JUST FOR FUN" vandalism spree that the cemetery estimates total damages to run close to \$1.5 million. Approximately 60 grave stones and markers, some 100 plus years old, were damaged or destroyed when they were knocked over and pulled from the ground. Several of the burial plots had decorations or mementos that were thrown about or broken with no regard for

family and friends of the deceased.

The defendants are scheduled to be sentenced on Thursday, June 30, 2011, at 1:30 pm at the Placer County Superior Court House, Department 13, located at 2775 Richardson Drive in Auburn, California. The defendants face a maximum of 16 months in prison. Additionally, the District Attorney's Office will seek a restitution order requiring the defendants to compensate those families for the damages caused. Any next of kin are urged to contact the District Attorney's Office so that they may be awarded the appropriate amount.

Please contact the Placer County District Attorney's Office at (916) 543-8000 for more information.

Auburn to Celebrate Party in the Park



Come and enjoy great music and a great time out with family and

Auburn - On Friday June 17th, Auburn's Party in the Park will be celebrating it's 10th Anniversary in a big way! With 2 headlining bands, the grandest Kid Zone yet, the Foothills biggest and best BBQ Pit, Beer Garden & Food Court, and of course numerous craft and demonstration booths. Party in the Park started out as an idea for families to enjoy top notch live music, but still have fun with their children. With concert ticket prices skyrocketing, the cost & hassle of babysitters, as well as other roadblocks, a night at a concert for most of us were far and few between. The Auburn Recreation and Park District

(ARD) was on board immediately as they not only saw the benefits listed above, it would also create an opportunity for folks in the community who might not otherwise use our parks to come out and enjoy some fun in a non-traditional recreation way. Of course to keep it free, we needed to find some sponsors, for which many have come forward and helped out. 10 years later, the fun of Party in the Park is better than ever, as it has become the premier concert and family event in the Foothills.

As always, music is the centerpiece for the party, and this year could prove to be the best combination yet. Mumbo Gumbo who was there on day

one, returns as co-headliners of this years show. If you somehow have not heard or enjoyed a Mumbo show, do not miss this chance. Mumbo brings together a combination of influences styles, incredible vocals & a ton of fun. From Zydeco to Reggae their infectious sound makes it next to impossible to not get on your feet and get loose! Joining in the fun and sharing the main stage, is the Nationally touring & recording artists Great American Taxi (GAT). While former Leftover Salmon front man Vince Herman leads the show, this is truly a team effort of incredible musicians, vocalists and songwriters. Not only

does GAT headline venues and festivals across the country, in their spare time they are also the backing band for "folk-rock legend" Todd Snider. GAT again combines & blends a variety of sounds from Jamgrass pickin' to New Orleans-Cajun-Swamp-Boogie. This is their first visit to Auburn and a rare chance to catch them for FREE!

Again, Party in the Park is free to attend! The natural amphetheatre at ARD's Regional Park provides the perfect setting for a sunset concert and while folks can bring their own treats (no alcohol) we hope they will leave the cooking and dinner to us. By supporting Party in the Park vendors, you are helping some great non-profit causes & Service Organizations, as well as keeping the party free. There is something for everyone, from Tri-Tip Sandwiches to veggie treats & home-made ice cream. Of course to stay cool beverages of every sort will be on hand – from Margarita's to Slurpee's! Supporting the Kid Zone helps too, there are wristband



and individual tickets available, from a petting zoo to carnival rides, there is a ton of fun for kids of all ages.

I hope you all circle your calendar and come up to enjoy the heapin' helpin' of hospitality' the ARD and Co-Hosts have for you & get ready for an incredible night of great music, great food, great company and a

ton of fun! Feel free to visit www.PARTYINTHEPAK.NET or call the ARD at 530-885-8461 for more information. I hope to see you there, in the mean time and as always.....

Keep Smilin'
Scott Holbrook, ARD Board member,
as well as Party in the Park Pied Piper & Purveyor of Fun

All Pics courtesy of Kurt Bertilson



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Come Enjoy the American River Confluence Festival!



Club of Cool Swing-Jazz Band, Loping Wolf Cedar Flute Ensemble, <http://www.lopingwolf.com/> Placer Buddhist Taiko Thunder Drummers; and the River Plump Fairies making river magic. When: Sunday, June 12, 9am to 4pm at Overlook Park

For more information and a schedule of events please visit PARC's website <http://www.parc-auburn.org/>, or contact Andrea @ 530-887-9314, email parcauburn@yahoo.com

PARC - Working to build community through education, conservation, stewardship, and responsible recreational use of our American River resources. PARC - PO Box 9312 - Auburn, CA 95604.

Auburn - The American River Benefit Silent Auction kicks off with Wine & Beer Tasting featuring wines from Auburn area wineries and beers from Sierra Nevada Brewery. Enjoy cabaret swing-jazz music provided by the Tepid Club of Cool and tasty finger foods for a \$15 donation.

This year we will be featuring recreational gear, fine art work and dozens of other items and services. PARC is fundraising through the silent auction to promote permanent river protection, to provide river education programs, sponsor river clean-ups and help build a new shade structure for the Confluence Visitors Area. The silent auction bidding concludes on Sunday afternoon. When: Saturday June 11th 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Overlook Park

Join Protect American River Canyons, PARC, for the Twentieth Annual Free AMERICAN RIVER CONFLUENCE FESTIVAL at the American River Overlook Park on Pacific Avenue in Auburn. PARC's annual river festival features family-friendly nature, art, and canyon recreational activities, a rock climbing wall information booths and vendors, and

delicious food in a shaded river village atmosphere. The Confluence Festival is an opportunity to learn more about the recreational and educational opportunities the river and canyons have to offer and how we can responsibly care for and protect the natural resources of the American River.

The American River Stage features continuous music and entertainment including multi-instrumentalist Joe Craven; fashions from recyclables by Haute Trash <http://www.hautet-trash.org/>; Wild Things will bring our favorite canyon animals <http://www.wildthingsinc.org/>; The Tepid



Women Gain Confidence and Shooting Skills



Placer County - The Coon Creek Trap & Skeet Club in Lincoln will host a National Rifle Association (NRA) Women On Target Instructional Shooting Clinic on the Saturday of Father's Day Weekend, June 18, 2011. This clinic for women-only participants, directed by Patricia McLelland-Merydith, will introduce the sport of trapshooting using a 12 gauge shotgun. Patricia will be joined by a number of competitive trap shooters volunteering their time to provide women participants with one-on-one instruction.

NRA Women On Target Instructional Shooting Clinics are among many programs designed for women included within the

NRA's Women's Programs, they create more opportunities for women to learn about firearms, and to gain confidence in newly-acquired shooting skills. Women learn to safely handle, store and shoot firearms, and learn a sport they will enjoy for a lifetime.

Patricia McLelland-Merydith began directing Women On Target Clinics in 2004. This clinic on June 18, 2011, will be Patricia's ninth clinic. Participants will enjoy the company of other women, be provided loaner shotguns, shotgun shells, targets, eye protection, earplugs, breakfast and a complimentary gift from the NRA. Women wanting to learn how to safely handle a 12 gauge shotgun and learn the sport of

trapshooting should call Patricia at (530) 852-9719, or email her at wot.patricia@yahoo.com. The registration fee is \$85.

Patricia is a Certified NRA Shotgun Instructor, American Trapshooting Association (ATA) Shotgun Coach, competitive trap shooter and former firearms saleswoman. In addition to directing Women On Target Clinics, Patricia also provides private and group trapshooting lessons at Coon Creek Trap & Skeet. Patricia credits her father, Bud McLelland of Auburn, for teaching her how to shoot and hunt.

For more information on the NRA's Women's Programs, go to <http://www.nrahq.org/women/>.

Grief Support for Widowed People

will hold a meeting on June 10, 1:00PM for anyone interested in helping other widowed people work through the grief process and find redirection in their lives.

This organization has trained volunteers who help widowed people understand the trauma of losing a spouse.

It has been in the South Placer

area since 1986 and is funded by local community organizations.

For location of this meeting or other information call 530-885-8298.

Navy League of the United States Meeting

The Placer County Council of the Navy League will hold monthly meeting beginning at 6 PM, on Monday, June 20th, at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 100 East Street, Auburn. This month's speaker is Francis Ferry, World War II Naval

Aviator who will discuss his role in the sinking of the Imperial Japanese Battleship Yamato in April 1945. Cost of the dinner is \$12.00 payable at the door. Advance reservations are required.

The Navy League membership

is open to all those who support the sea services: Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. No prior military service is required. Please contact Bonnie Potter at 530.823.2820 for further information.

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Dollars and Sense

by James J. Scherer, MBA, CPA

"Show Me the Money" Part

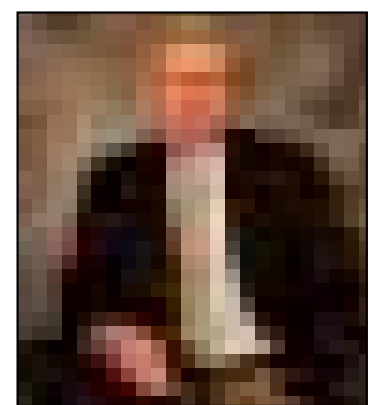
As markets change we must, also, change, in order to be comfortable in the weather we find ourselves. In the 1990's investors wore summer clothes. That's because we were in a structural bull market. Investing was easy because the market drove almost everything up. In the 1990's the strategies of asset allocation and portfolio rebalancing worked well. Now, however, we are in a new season and we need to adjust our investment strategies to give us a better probability of success.

One way, I believe, to increase our odds of success, is using relative strength tools. Relative strength is like an arm wrestling match. The competitors are cash, fixed income, domestic equities, international equities, commodities and foreign currencies. Each day we conduct an arm wrestling match to determine the top two winners. Once this is determined we overweight portfolios into these two areas. From time to time during the year the winners will change. This gives an indication that money is on the move and

flowing to one or more of the other four areas. This helps us find the sweet spot of the markets and helps reduce risk. Remember, markets seem to have their own mind and there is no indicator that is infallible. However, I believe, one thing is certain. The buy and hold strategy of the structural bull market of the 1990's will not work in this current season of investing. Something more is needed.

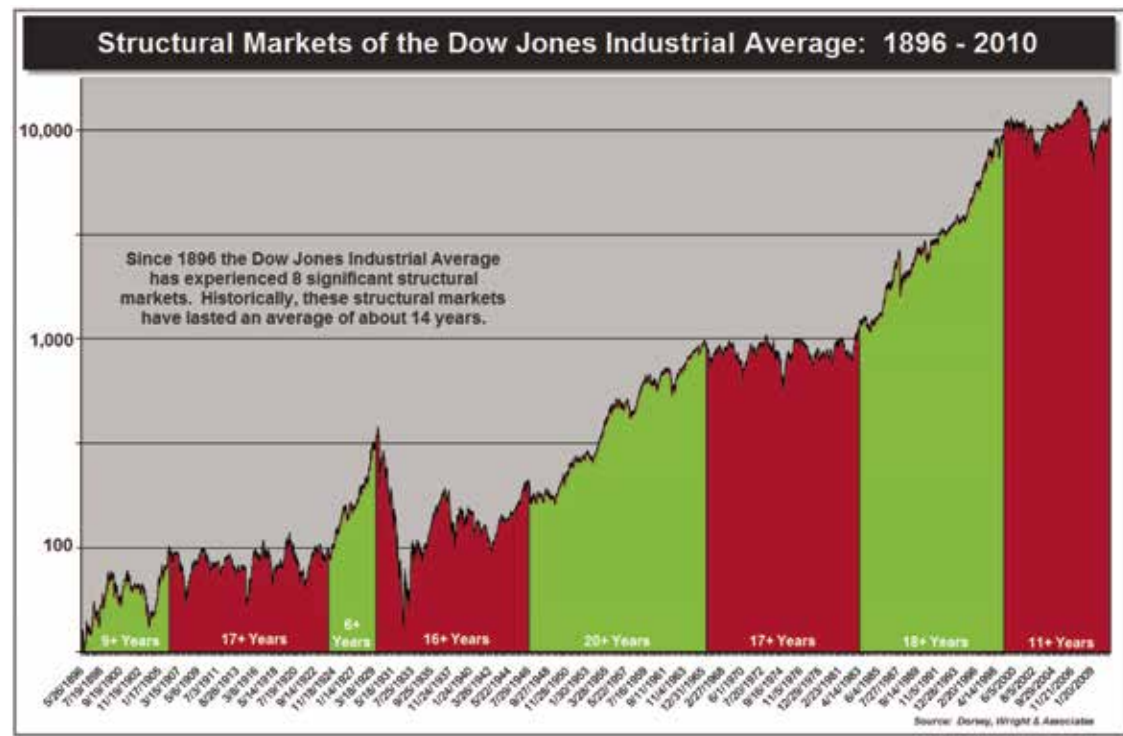
This article is not intended to provide specific investment or tax advice for any individual. If you have specific questions consult your financial advisor, tax advisor, or give me a call.

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In our last article we stated that since 1896 the Dow Jones Industrial Average has experienced eight structural markets. Four have been bull markets and four have been bear markets. Since 2001 we have been and currently are in a structural bear market. This means the markets are going sideways to down. I have attached a chart that shows this (complements of Dorsey Wright & Associates). The green areas represent structural bull markets and the red areas represent structural bear markets.

Each season of the year calls for us to wear different clothing. In summer we shed our overcoats for swimsuits. So it is with investing.



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Around Town with Loyce Smallwood

Auburn - More delights on the menu in the quest for zest in our own Auburn backyard what with the delicious new addition of shrimp tacos to the fare at The Burrito Shop at the Raley's Center. High marks here along with the lip-smacking vegetarian burrito at this popular tourist/ local stop.

Grab a selection and amble over to our favorite used book store—Friends of Placer County—and drop off your book donations and purchase some to go. Here you'll find hard-working volunteers giving their all for a great cause with proceeds going to homeless pets. Kudos to dedicated, veteran Friends volunteer Betty Dillman who can also be found along with

good pal Barb Diemer donating time at the Cancer Discovery Shop in the Belair Center.

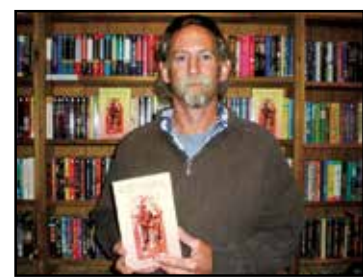
Congratulations to our fav letter carrier/ ceramist/donor/Hawaiian shirt enthusiast Kevin Mix who made the cut for his ceramic entry in the Sacramento State Fair.

And thanks to WILD INSIDE author Brian Jones who launched the first book signing in the six-event series held at A Book X Change book store in the Fiddler Green Plaza. Hope to see Jones soon at our CONNECTIONS exchange meeting Mondays at 11am at LaBou in the BelAir Center, Auburn.

Seeking some local visual delight? Take a stroll down the mall in OT Auburn where you'll be stimulated by owner Michelle Sandoval's Omiyage, a colorful shop filled with Japanese teas, books, dishes and kimonos.

Further down the hall on the left you'll be dazzled by Ragtime Silk, where owner Roberta Lynn has amassed a trove of antique, Victorian silk lampshades and collectibles. And speaking of collectibles, our fav costume designer Joyce Silva invites quality donations for the really big 1st Congregational Church of Auburn rummage sale June 24/25.

Questions/comments to loy@foothill.net; www.connectionsloyce.wordpress.com



Brian Jones, author

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Military Graduates



Air Force Airman Breanna A. Aiderson graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Caroline Daniels and granddaughter of Clara Daniels both of Magenta Drive, Roseville, Calif.

Aiderson graduated in 2009 from Wood Creek High School, Roseville.



Air National Guard Airman 1st Class David M. Penman graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Theresa Penman of Frontier Road, Auburn, Calif., and brother of Desiree Hill of 12th St., Knob Noster, Mo.



Air Force Airman Lindsey A. Tannehill graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the grandson of Stan Jennings of Pacific Ave., Auburn, Calif.



Air Force Reserve Airman Cori L. Plunkett graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training

earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Teresa Plunkett of Langs Hill Road, Newcastle, Calif., and Dana Plunkett of Loomis, Calif.

Plunkett graduated in 2009 from Placer High School, Auburn, Calif.

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Riley Reviews

THE FIRST CLASS PREQUEL OF "X-MEN" SUPERBLY ENTERTAINS

A Film Review by Tim Riley

X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
(Rated PG-13)

That the original "Star Wars," released in 1977, was one of the best action adventure movies of all time is nearly indisputable. The prequels that came later, well not so much.

"The Phantom Menace" and "Attack of the Clones" are, to be charitable, forgettable. Few would even likely recall the name of the actor who played Anakin Skywalker before he became Darth Vader.

Why do I bring this up, you ask? Simply to illustrate that prequels are often inferior to the real thing. Yet, "X-Men: First Class" stands, on its merits, as a forceful argument to the contrary.

Without any doubt, "X-Men: First Class" is so far superior as a prequel to the "X-Men" franchise that I would only consider viewing the sequels once again out of a vague sense of curiosity.

For a comic book series that had become increasingly tedious, "X-Men: First Class" is a refreshing boost of adrenaline, injecting much needed vitality into a bland exercise of superpower heroics.

I only fear that the brilliance of this newest "X-Men" may be wasted on a younger generation largely ignorant of Cold War history and the frightening relevance of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

It's possible to imagine that some of the dots walking among us may come to think that nuclear Armageddon was averted solely due to the manipulations of the mutants with superpowers.

For those who know history, you may have figured that the setting of "X-Men: First Class" is circa 1962, when tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union are at a fever pitch.

A brief prelude set during World War II introduces a young Erik Lensherr as a concentration camp internee subjected to brutal treatment by the Nazi camp doctor (Kevin Bacon).

Meanwhile, a young Charles Xavier befriends a young Raven when she breaks into his suburban New York mansion in search of

food. The lonely Charles adopts her as the sibling he's never had.

Moving forward to the Sixties, Xavier (James McAvoy), the future Professor X, is completing his doctorate at Oxford and uses his brilliant academic observations and telepathic powers to court the ladies.

When not tweaking her brother Charles, Raven (Jennifer Lawrence), struggles to find her place in the world, as her shape-shifting tendency to turn into blue-skinned mutant Mystique is off-putting to mankind.

Bent on revenge, the adult Erik (Michael Fassbender) hunts down old Nazis in Argentina. An explosive scene at a pub frequented by ex-pat Germans demonstrates the extent of Erik's pent-up rage, whose power to bend metal puts him on track to become Magneto.

The former Nazi doctor turns up as villainous mogul Sebastian Shaw, whose partner in crime is the sexy Emma Frost (January Jones, who looks really hot in white lace underwear and garters).

Like one of those larger-than-life James Bond villains in search of world domination, Shaw's evil scheme is to start World War III as the result of a showdown in the Caribbean seas.

Plucky CIA agent Moira MacTaggart (Rose Byrne), after going undercover in her lingerie at a Vegas strip club, argues with her oblivious superiors that it is necessary to recruit Xavier and other mutants.

Working with another offbeat CIA agent (Oliver Platt), Moira brings Erik and Xavier together in a concerted effort to pursue the malevolent Sebastian Shaw.

A remote CIA facility becomes a training camp for all kinds of mutants, including a sonic screamer, a fire breather, a storm-tossler, an adaptive chameleon and a human fly.

The CIA-trained mutants get the chance to put their full talents on display, but unfortunately learn that they must fight a group of bad mutants who have been seduced by Shaw's spiel of a dominant race soon to take world power.

"X-Men: First Class" is at its best for the formative character development of Xavier and Erik leading up to the adversarial relationship that is inevitable to come between Professor X and Magneto.

Insofar as this prequel has much to do with conjuring the psychological underpinnings of the mutants' developing awareness, there is still an extremely effective focus on the sheer energy of their nifty physical talents.

On an emotional and effects-laden basis, the ultimate showdown during the Cuban Missile Crisis is undeniably thrilling. The resultant mayhem is well orchestrated by director Matthew Vaughn.

"X-Men: First Class," a really great blockbuster thriller, has a terrific overall cast, made all the better by Kevin Bacon's deliciously twisted arch-villain.

A Tribute to Seve

By Terry Fisher

The recent, sad passing of golfing icon Seve Ballesteros has been almost universally announced as the end of an era - For this "Brit," I see it as the beginning of an era.

The beginning of a European dominance in golf has been brought to life by seeds sewn back in the late 1970s, and 1980s. Currently six of the top 10 players in the official World Golf Rankings are Europeans: Lee Westwood (England), Luke Donald (Eng.), Martin Kaymer (Germany), Graeme McDowell (Northern Ireland), Rory McIlroy (NIR), and Paul Casey (Eng.). Much of the credit for the emergence of Europe as a force can be laid squarely at the feet of Seve, widely seen as the best European golfer of all time.

At a time when the Great Britain and Ireland Ryder Cup team were getting shellackings by the bellyful, Seve emerged with the newly constituted European team as leader of Spain's "golfing armada," with partner Jose Maria Olazabal.

The heartbeat of the European team, he shone with the team's

successes on the U.K. home course The Belfrey in 1985 and 1989. He continued in the winning teams on U.S. soil in 1987 at Muirfield Village, Ohio and in 1995 at Rochester, New York.

His brilliance provided so much more than just the points he achieved. He gave the Europeans that included U.K.'s Nick Faldo, Scotland's Sandy Lyle, Welshman Ian Woosnam and German Bernard Langer, total belief. They were not only equal to the Americans they could actually beat them!

Yes, it was Seve who first travelled to the U.S. and won multiple tournaments on the PGA tour. He became the first European to break the USA dominance in the Open and became the first European to win the Masters at Augusta.

Even before Tiger Woods emerged as a great shot maker, he was predated by Seve who made birdies from "impossible" locations where only bogeys seemed the only outcome.

Robert Green, editor-in-chief of Golf International and author of Seve:

Golf's Flawed Genius, exclaimed in his book that Seve had an "extraordinary imagination," adding: "delicacy of touch and range of shots around the green that he possessed were legendary, a consequence of learning the fundamentals of the game with just one club, and that a three iron."

I believe his inspirational qualities and never-say-die spirit live on in the hearts of the Europeans. They are an amazingly close knit group of golfers, some of whom often travel together to ever-increasing exotic courses on the European PGA Tour.

I can't see the American top guns taking a back seat for too long. There are too many great and talented young golfing stars waiting to have their day in the sun. When will this happen? Perhaps, we should look in the tea leaves!

Terry Fisher is the head golf professional and Director of Golf at Black Oak Golf Course, Auburn; former PGA, National Federation of High Schools certified coach; First Tee of Sacramento assistant coach, and member of the Chartered Institute of Journalists (est. 1884).

Auburn Area Republican Women Federated to Host

Auburn - The Auburn Area Republican Women Federated will host their June luncheon on Friday the 10th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sizzler located at 13570 Lincoln Way in Auburn. The first

guest speakers is Cheryl Bly-Chester, discussing the environmental bill AB32 and it's negative impact on the California economy. AARWF members Leah Cavanagh and Brenda Dabovich will be discussing the latest

guest speakers is Cheryl Bly-Chester, discussing the environmental bill AB32 and it's negative impact on the California economy. AARWF members Leah Cavanagh and Brenda Dabovich will be discussing the latest bills moving through the legislator. Lunch is \$15 at the door. The public is invited. Check-in-time is 11:15 a.m. For reservations call Paula at 530-885-1428.

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 11

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2			6		8	5	4	
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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 7.

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Ronnie McBrayer

Enough is Enough

the most troubled soul, winning \$30 million would set things right. We often think that getting what we want will solve all our problems, but not so. Sometimes what we want only increases our troubles. No, this isn't true in every case, but it is true enough times to give us pause.

Maybe we should view wealth, not as something evil, but certainly as something dangerous; because wealth can fool us into thinking that it is the source of our happiness, that it can give us satisfaction. Yes, having financial resources can make life easier, but it is a poor substitute for personal peace.

Like Abraham Shakespeare, if you have inner turmoil before holding the giant cardboard check for the cameras, you are sure to have that same turmoil afterwards, but with compounding interest.

There is a Hebrew proverb that says, "A meal of bread and water eaten in contentment is better than a banquet spiced with quarrels." The point is clear: Greater satisfaction is found in simplicity, especially if the banquets and winning lottery tickets bring nothing but trouble, ulcers, and conflict.

So when is enough, enough? Where is that line that marks simple contentment from complex materialism? I don't know. There is no formula for such a calculation. We must listen to our lives and become aware that all we can acquire and all we can earn may be appreciated blessings, or these things may rob us of the contentment of the simple life.

For example, a person making minimum wage that chases after and eventually buys the newest and most expensive SUV on the market will be happy - until about the second payment - then her happiness quotient will decrease exponentially. A father who takes a high-paying job, but a job that takes him from home 300 days a year, may provide plenty of luxuries for his children, but may not have a very happy life.

Buying a house at the beach might be the greatest financial investment a couple could make, and such a venture might bring great happiness. But it might also become a terrible albatross around the couple's neck, cursing them with debt, conflict, and unnecessary economic burden.

No, I don't know when enough is enough for each and every situation, but I do know that when we lose the satisfaction that comes from simplicity, it is time to lose those other things. When the stuff we once sought to own begins to own us, it is time to let these go. It is time to simplify.

The great G. K. Chesterton said, "There are two ways to get enough. One is to continue to accumulate more and more. The other is to desire less." Let us be careful, that in the effort to grab more, we do not lose our grip on the simple and contented life we can have now.

Ronnie McBrayer is the author of "Leaving Religion, Following Jesus." He writes and speaks about life, faith, and Christ-centered spirituality. Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

I've got bad news and good news. The bad news is you probably won't win the lottery. The good news is you may be better off if you don't. Lottery winners, according to some studies, are no happier than when they were broke. Some, in fact, are worse off in the end than in the beginning.

Consider the story of Lakeland, Florida resident Abraham Shakespeare. When Shakespeare was 13, he was arrested for robbing a convenience store. For the next thirty years he was in and out of trouble, in and out of jail, job-to-job, and living hand-to-mouth.

Poverty, assault charges, drug abuse, restraining orders, back child support; fresh out of jail in November 2006, he was lucky to have an \$8-an-hour job unloading boxes from a tractor-trailer. With two of the last five bucks in his wallet he bought two quick pick lottery tickets. Three days later he was a millionaire thirty times over.

Three years later, with most of his money already gone - spent frivolously and on all the some old habits as before - his body was found buried in a concrete slab, the alleged victim of an apparent con-artist.

You would think, that even for



By Marlys Norris,
Christian Author

Are You Feeling Lonely?

of loneliness, they live in a midst of darkness created by the enemy of their soul and everything about their life is clouded by it. They hibernate and begin to spend more and more time isolated from people. They begin to sit on a symbolic "pity pot" thinking only about themselves, depressed and incapable of maneuvering even into the smallest group of people. They are so consumed with "self" they forget about any faith they may have had prior. To tell you the truth, at this point they have made a god out of those "self" emotions and the darkness of the enemy has consumed them. Until they are ready to pray and ask God for His help they could exist in this horrible state of mind for a long period of time.

Good News -God has a way of escape! God has a better plan for their life and they need to discover what it is. They need to pray asking

God to direct them into His divine and perfect will for their lives. God's Word calls them to - "Trust in the Lord and do good; (think about others and do something for someone) so shall thou dwell in the land and verily thou shall be fed.(spiritually and physically) Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. Psalm 37:3-5" - Salvation, healing and deliverance become the reality of one who follows in the Way of the Lord for He said, "I will never leave or forsake you." You will never be alone again. Begin to live again.

Marlys Johnsen Norris, Author
Marlys5934@sbcglobal.net
"Intimacy Begins Going God's Way"
"God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle"

When Trouble Comes A-knocking, Don't Answer the

By Rev. James L. Snyder

For as long as I can remember, I have always looked forward to Monday. Throughout the years there have been very few Mondays that I have missed, although there are some Mondays I miss. After a long weekend of labor, I enjoy the slow pace that Monday brings with it. I can sleep in as long as I want, do anything my little heart desires and just simply enjoy the day.

It is the one day of the week when the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and Yours Truly can just take it easy and enjoy the day together. Sometimes we enjoyed the day together and sometimes we enjoy the day going our separate ways. Usually, my way goes by the bakery to sample a freshly baked Apple Fritter. As an Apple Fritter connoisseur, I need to constantly study and keep up-to-date on the world of Apple Fritters. Since this is not on my wife's diet, I save her the awkwardness and only go there when I am by myself. It is not that I am trying to hide it; I am just thinking of her.

Lately, something has been messing with my Mondays. In fact, it is becoming a little bit to the point that I am about to mark Mondays off my calendar. Then see what Monday will think of that.

It began several weeks ago. It was a Monday afternoon and I needed to visit someone in the hospital. Usually I do not do this sort of thing on a Monday, but sometimes you have to do what you do not normally do. I went to the parking place and discovered there was only one parking slot, which was just as I went in through the gate. It was a tight squeeze, but I finally got my truck parked. Everything seemed in good order.

After making my hospital visit, I returned to my truck to leave. I knew I was in a tight spot but, after all, I have been driving since Henry Ford said, "Let's take this buggy for a spin." With the care that years of experience have afforded me, I backed out of my parking space and just as I did, I heard something crack. I pulled forward and much to my chagrin, I had backed into the gate and broke it in half.

I parked my truck and went into the hospital to turn myself in to the hospital guards. They came out, looked at the damage and discovered I had broken the gate in two. After two hours of filling out paperwork, taking photos and generally standing around admiring the damage, I was free to go home. It was late Monday afternoon and I was ready to call it a day. Oh, what a day it was.

It took me almost a week to recover from that. On the following Monday I got up as usual to enjoy the pleasantries of the day. It was late in the afternoon and I was at a small strip mall to do a little shopping. I went in to a West Indian store to buy an ice-cold soda. It was one of those hot days begging for a cool drink.

I got my soda out of the refrigerator and went to the counter to pay for it.

I greeted the young woman behind the counter, we exchanged a few pleasantries and then I crossed the line. I do not often cross the line, but for some reason I did. I asked her how her day was going. I should note that this is an absolute no-no, especially on Monday.

"Oh," she said with a cheerful bounce, "this has been a wonderful day. Nothing has gone wrong today and I'm most grateful for that."

I should not have done it, but I did it without thinking. I smiled at her

and said, "I sure am glad for you." I then handed her a dollar to pay for my soda. She opened the door to give me a quarter change and as she did, she pulled the entire money drawer out of the register and everything went all over the floor.

All I could say was "keep the change." I could have waited around for her to collect the money and put it all back into the register drawer but then, what more damage would I cause in that store in the meantime? The best part of valor at that point was to vamoose.

And, vamoose I did, valiantly. How well I remember the time when I looked forward to those carefree Mondays. Now, I go to bed Sunday night with a certain level of apprehension for what the next day will bring forth. My Mondays are not quite as carefree and peaceful as they used to be.

I remember what my father used to tell me. "Son, when trouble comes a knocking, don't answer the door." At the time, I had no idea what he was talking about, but now, after several Mondays of what some might call misfortune, I am beginning to understand what he meant.

I have something new to look forward to, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2 KJV).

No apprehension here at all.

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 jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Book Sale Fundraiser for A New Hope Animal Foundation of

Penryn -- A book sale fundraiser will be held for A New Hope Animal Foundation of Loomis on June 25 and 26, 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

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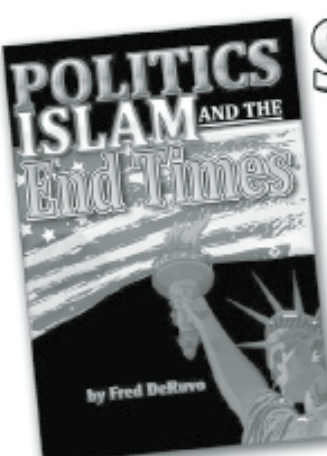



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Real Estate

Early Prisoner Release is Not a Solution for the Safety of Californians

Commentary by
Senator Doug LaMalfa

"The formula for releasing prisoners and cutting cops is not a smart one." Attorney General Jerry Brown, Los Angeles Times, August 9, 2009.

I agree, and I trust that now-Governor Brown will stand behind those words. For without a doubt, the principle responsibility of government is to protect its citizens from those who would do us harm.

Yet, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that California must somehow reduce its prison population by approximately 33,000 inmates, and the first question becomes: Which ones?

Felons convicted of murder, manslaughter, violent or serious crimes against the person total 63,500. There

are 19,000 inmates that are in prison for kidnapping and/or sex-related crimes. Property and theft related offenses account for 30,000 inmates. For drug related crimes, of the 23,000 serving time, 15,000 have been convicted of manufacturing or dealing drugs. Other offenses include arson, felons found in possession of firearms and driving the under influence.

Almost 60 percent of all inmates were on parole or probation at the time they committed their most recent felony. Tens of thousands of inmates currently serving time for other (perhaps non-violent) offenses have violent criminal histories. These numbers belie common assumptions that our prisons are full of petty thieves and drug addicts.

More than 70 percent of felons will commit another crime within three

years of their release. On average, fourteen percent of re-offenders will commit 13 felonies before being re-apprehended, and 20 percent of those felonies will be violent.

Let's take a closer look at just a handful of these "non-violent" offenders.

In 2003, Rogelio Carlos-Zaragoza and Leonel Carlos-Zaragoza were arrested on charges of kidnapping, rape and gang rape. In a plea bargain the charges were reduced to one misdemeanor count of soliciting a prostitute, the other charges were dropped, and they were sentenced to two years of informal probation. In 2009, the men were again arrested for kidnapping with intent to commit rape; however, the prior case could not be used against them as evidence.

In July, 2009, a Kerman couple in

their 60's was killed in a home invasion robbery in Fresno County by Jose Alfredo Reyes and three others. The 19-year-old man was in custody for vehicle theft and had been released from the Fresno County jail three days before the killing because of overcrowding.

Charlie Samuel was classified as a "non-violent" offender due to his most recent conviction for petty theft with a prior. Having been given a pass to temporarily leave a drug rehabilitation center, within hours he abducted, robbed and brutally murdered 17-year-old Lily Burk.

Anthony Sowell served 15 years in prison for choking and raping a 21-year-old woman, was a registered sex offender who conscientiously checked in with the sheriff's office. He was not on parole or probation after his

release from prison, so agents had no authority to check his home. In 2009, he was accused of rape and felonious assault. When officers went to his home with an arrest warrant, they found the bodies of six other women in various states of decomposition.

Sadly, there have been other similar accounts in the news. I refuse to support efforts that promote early release of convicted felons or to weaken state laws regarding penalties for serious or violent crimes.

There is an obvious alternative to releasing convicted felons: adding to our housing capacity. We have known for years about overcrowding and have pursued avenues to relieve overcrowding while keeping the public safe. In 2007, the Legislature approved Assembly Bill 900, which provided

\$7.4 billion in lease revenue bonds for construction to provide 50,000 new jail and prison beds. Four years later, it is reported that eleven jail projects have been approved, but only two have broken ground and none have been finished. What are we waiting for?

Our previous Governor let all Californians down when he and his Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation purposefully stalled construction of these projects. They had ample financing and direct legislative authority, yet failed to act.

Now is a time for action, not calls for more taxes or platitudes for more programs. We have a new administration and two years to demonstrate progress in meeting the high court's directive. Let's not wait to find out what the alternatives might look like.

The High-Stakes Showdown Over Medicare Reform

Commentary by
Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson

The trustees of the Medicare system recently reported that the program will go broke in the year 2024—five years sooner than was projected just last year.

The millions of Americans who have been counting on Medicare to be a reliable, stable guarantor of affordable healthcare in their senior years should be asking themselves, "Who is responsible for this predicament?" The short answer is "lots of people," but let's start by looking in the mirror.

The shameful status of Medicare brings to mind a sequence in the movie "Animal House." A freshman pledge, Flounder, let some upperclassmen in the fraternity use his brother's brand-new Lincoln for a road trip. Naturally, the brothers trashed the car. As Flounder

wept in regret, the suave, smooth-talking senior, Otter, put his arm around Flounder's shoulder and explained the facts of life to him: "You [goof]ed up; you trusted us." ("Goof" replaces the original R-rated verb.)

"We the people" have goofed up big time, trusting a government bureaucracy to oversee our healthcare.

When will we learn that gigantic bureaucracies—undisciplined by the profit-motive and insulated from the normal competitive pressures of the marketplace—are inherently inefficient?

And when will a majority of Americans take a sober look at Uncle Sam's track record and recognize his chronic incompetence? Consider:

Government meddling, abetted by misregulation and a compliant Federal Reserve, generated the housing bubble/

bust that has caused the market value of most Americans' most valuable asset—their home—to decline, plunging millions into negative equity.

Chronic federal overspending has impelled a weaker currency and higher prices of daily necessities.

The quackery of government stimulus spending has produced anemic economic growth; the usual result when the government share of a country's GDP dramatically expands.

The government-run Social Security Administration will henceforth operate in permanent deficit—a grotesque malfeasance that would have resulted in the imprisonment of private executives who perpetrated such a swindle.

With a record like this, how could anyone trust government to get it right on healthcare? The big question now is:

Why are so many Americans opposed to Congressman Paul Ryan's attempt to put Medicare on sounder financial footing?

Part of the resistance to fixing Medicare may be simple partisan loyalty—i.e., Republicans are the enemy; oppose everything they propose.

Part of it may be fear of change.

Part of it may be the seductive belief of "the free lunch" and a corresponding belief that Congress simply has to raise taxes on somebody else to obtain necessary funds.

Part of it may be that Americans believe, "We paid for it, so it's ours." Well, yes, we've been paying for Medicare via payroll deductions for decades, but no, our promised benefits remain unfunded due to government mismanagement. (We [goof]ed up; we

trusted them.)

Part of it may be what economists call "short time horizons"—that is, focusing on the short run instead of the long run. Many seniors tend to do this. So do many politicians with their fixation on the next election. In economics, short-time horizons are highly correlated with poverty; in other words, ignoring the long term is why many people are poor.

Many of those on the extreme left oppose reforming Medicare for another reason entirely: they desire a state-run monopoly of healthcare. They prefer a socialized healthcare model. To attain that goal, the left needs to merely block reforms to Medicare. Gridlock and stalemate will assure Medicare's eventual bankruptcy and therefore its subsequent nationalization (a la Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac).

Early polls show stiff resistance to Congressman Paul Ryan's proposed Medicare reforms. If the Republicans can sell the public on the need for reform, then Medicare's solvency may be prolonged. If the public repudiates Ryan's plan by returning a Democratic majority to the House while re-electing Barack Obama to the White House, then a government takeover of the healthcare industry is all but assured.

The stakes in the next election are enormous. The Medicare reform contest could be the one for all the marbles.

Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson is an adjunct faculty member, economist, and fellow for economic and social policy with The Center for Vision & Values at Grove City College.

See www.VisionAndValues.org or www.VisionAndValuesEvents.com

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Water Emergency Continues in PCWA Customers Asked to Reduce Usage by at least 25 Percent

Auburn – The PCWA water shortage emergency in western Placer County is expected to continue until mid-June, it was reported at Thursday's (May 19) meeting of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors. The water agency has been pro-actively managing the water shortage emergency in wake of the Apr. 19 sudden failure of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Bear River Canal. A landslide took out a section of the canal (which is located above the Bear River canyon about a mile south of Rollins Reservoir and a mile west of Colfax.) When this occurred, water supplies ceased flowing to PCWA. The Agency and its customers are heavily dependent upon this supply as are approximately 150,000 people. PCWA had to immediately devise and implement numerous alternatives for securing temporary water supplies and enact bold water conservation reduction actions. PG&E spokesman Brian Jensen said, at the board meeting, the company is making very good progress in repairing the canal and expects to have normal deliveries restored by mid-June to PCWA. Meanwhile, he said, the company has begun pumping a small amount of water from the Bear River

into the PG&E canal (downstream from the break) for PCWA's use. The company also has plans, he said, for a second temporary water supply that may be flowing by the first of June to PCWA. In the meantime PG&E has also been trucking water to PCWA's Lake Arthur and to other locations to supplement agency supplies. (PG&E has initiated a livestock watering program coordinated with Placer County Resource Conservation District.) The trucks have delivered more than 3.1 million gallons of water to date, Jensen said. The agency is also relying on many other alternate sources of water from neighboring water entities. PCWA is also pumping water from the American River to supplement supplies for the duration of the emergency. PCWA has instituted a wide range of water shortage emergency management actions since April 19. Staff also enacted an aggressive customer outreach program since the day of the emergency. These include direct mail to all customers, telephone and e-mail communications, news media coverage, advertising campaigns and presentations at governmental, civic and community meetings. Rocklin Fire Chief Bill Mikesell attended the agency board meeting

and said PCWA has done an "out-standing job" in communicating with his department and keeping water available for fire protection purposes. PCWA General Manager David Breninger said, "With public understanding, a 'patch quilt' pattern of many temporary water supplies that have been pieced together like dominos and aggressive water conservation reduction actions by our customers, I'm hopeful that adequate flows of water can be sustained to serve our customers throughout our vast distribution system until this emergency ends." PCWA directors will continue to review the status of the situation at each meeting. The board's next regular meeting is scheduled at 2 p.m. on June 2 at the PCWA Business Center, 144 Ferguson Road, in Auburn. Information about PCWA board meetings is available from the Clerk to the Board at (530) 823-4850 or (800) 464-0030. The PCWA website is updated daily on the water emergency and actions to be taken to reduce water usage. Customers can stay up to date at www.pcwa.net. The PCWA Customer Services Center may be reached by e-mail at customerservices@pcwa.net or by calling (530) 823-4850 or toll-free (800) 464-0030.



TURN BACK THAT FAT

Summer is just around the corner. Can't hide those rolls anymore. 66% of American adults are overweight. Can your unbalanced hormones be a culprit? You bet says **Dr. Eric Berg**. We count calories to the micro-ounce. We exercise til we drop. Yet, we still can't shed those pounds. Dr. Berg has specialized in weight loss for some years, and published several books including "The 7 Principles of Fat Burning" in which he states we can activate our fat-burning hormones with a tailor-made eating and exercise plan for our body type. I guess we need to figure out what body type we look at in the mirror each day:

- 1) *Adrenal Type:* Pendulous abdomen. Midsection weight. Fat pad at the upper back and lower neck area. Thinner legs and arms. Fatigue, weakness, lethargy, depression, sleepiness, insomnia, nervousness, atrophy of breasts, high blood

POPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

pressure, and facial hair are just a few of the symptoms.

- 2) *Ovary Type:* Weight gain in hips, thighs, and buttocks, with a lower stomach bulging. Ovarian cysts, cyclic fatigue, brain fog, pain in the lower back or hips, pain in the knee, lack of libido, acne, night sweats, along with hot flashes and on and on.
- 3) *Thyroid Type:* Weakness, high cholesterol, sagging skin under arms, chin, or midsection. Need for afternoon naps. Craving bread, pasta, chocolate, and sweets. Loss of libido, voice deeper, There's more too.
- 4) *The Liver Type:* Potbelly, poor joints, brown spots on backs of hands and body, constipation, hemorrhoids, cravings for fried and sour foods, headaches, arthritis, high blood pressure, spider veins, and on and on.

Dr. Berg also said we can be a combo of these types, and there are so many more symptoms that I did not have the space to name them all, but they are all in his book. But I did want to get in the 7 Principles of Fat Burning:

- 1) There are the four types of body shapes. Each influenced by hormones.
- 2) Calories are insignificant compared to fat-burning hormones.
- 3) You have to be healthy before you can lose weight.

- 4) Environmental hormones and chemicals mimic your hormones.
- 5) You have to heal your glands and hormones to KEEP the weight off.
- 6) Fat-burning and fat-storing hormones have their own triggers.
- 7) Incorrect exercise prevents fat burning.

Finally, here are the Fat-Burning Hormones:

- 1) Growth Hormone (GH)
- 2) Insulin-like Growth Factor (IGF)
- 3) Glucagon
- 4) Adrenaline
- 5) Thyroid Hormones (T3 and T4)
- 6) Testosterone

And now the Fat-Storing hormones:

- 1) Insulin
- 2) Estrogen
- 3) Cortisol

In "The 7 Principles of Burning Fat" Dr. Berg has the information for you to find your own body-type or combo-type, and then deal with what has to be done. You can also check out his website at www.bergdiets.com. The good doctor also said that stress can cause the body to store fat, so remember to kick back and relax once in awhile. Gotta' smell the roses and enjoy life along the way!

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Weekdays

6-9am: The KAHl Morning News with Barry Stigers and the KAHl News Team

9am-Noon: The Laura Ingraham Show

Noon-1pm: The KAHl Noon News Plus with Mary Jane Popp and the KAHl News Team

1-4pm: The Dave Ramsey Show

4-7pm: The KAHl Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHl News Team

7-10pm: Into the Night with Tony Bruno

10pm - 12am: Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp

Thursdays 7pm - 9pm: Thursdays With Bassil

Saturdays

6 - 7am: A Time for Seniors

7 - 8am: The Swap Shop

8 - 9am: The KAHl Corral

9 - 10am: The Garden Guru

10 - 11am: Take Charge!

11 - 11:30am: The Auburn Honda Gold Country Golf Show

12 - 12:30pm: Study-Grow-Know

12:30 - 7pm: Big Cletus Country Music

7 - 8pm: A Way With Words

8 - 9pm: Rewind with Jimmy Jay

Sundays

7:30 - 9am: Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet

9am -4pm: KAHl's Jammin' Juke box

4 -5pm: A Way With Words

5 - 8pm: The Insana Quotient

8 - 9pm: Hearts of Space

Tune into KAHl Radio each weekday for seven hours of locally produced and locally focused programming plus the best in nationally syndicated talk radio programming.

KAHl is also the foothills home of Sacramento Kings Basketball, Oakland A's Baseball, San Jose Sharks Hockey, and Oakland Raiders Football.

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Laura Ingraham



Dave Ramsey



Mary Jane Popp



All I really need to know, I learned from baseball.

#4

Don't let obstacles get in the way.

JUNE 9-12
vs TACOMA RAINIERS
AFFILIATE OF SEATTLE MARINERS

JUNE 17-20
vs FRESNO GRIZZLIES
AFFILIATE OF SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

Father's Day

Package

Sunday, June 19

1:05 p.m. game time

Celebrate Dad's Day with Baseball & BBQ!

COST: Adult - \$36 Child - \$30 (10 & under) *ticket included

For the complete game schedule and promotions visit rivercats.com. Tickets available at the Raley Field Ticket Office or ticketmaster.com. Call 916.371.HITS (4487) for information on season tickets, suites, and hospitality areas.

Arts, Entertainment and Other Fun Things to do!

Auburn Family Night Out 2011

Save This Date...June 18th

Auburn – A safe and sober evening is planned for the 12th Annual Auburn Family Night Out. The event this year is underwritten by the Auburn Recreation District with all net proceeds to benefit their youth programs.

Between the hours of 5 and 9 p.m., on June 18th, the longest Saturday night of the year, this mile long event promises to have something for everyone. More than 15 locations will follow a path between Old Town and Downtown, bringing these historic districts together again.

Entertainment abounds with the PUHSD Summer Theatre Academy's production of their current musical,

dancing and demonstrations at the Clock Tower; a historical display of wagons at the Courthouse, the "Safety Zone" behind City Hall has many activities planned. A children's area including rock climbing, pony rides, and the S.P.C.A. Pet Mobile, a petting zoo, face painting, "Never Cry Wolf" Rescue, a carnival provided by ARD, vendors, and, by popular demand, our annual "Chalk-A-Lot! Art contest for ages 3 to 15. Chalk Art contestants meet at the Union Bank lot on High Street at 5:15pm. In addition to the "Chalk-A-Lot! Art, we are introducing a new "Street Chalk Art" contest this year. For an application, go to www.auburnrec.com

The Pioneer Methodist Church will provide a variety of walk-around food, an ice cream social and non-alcoholic beverages again this year. Visitors will use a "passport" to help them work their way through the mile long event along Lincoln Way and High Street, which will also qualify our visitors for grand prizes donated by the community. "Passports" can be picked up at the Clock Tower or any numbered location.

The event is free. For information or a vendor application contact: Linda Robinson 530/888-1585 or sunriver@inreach.com. For a downloadable application go to: www.auburnrec.com

"African Queen"

Auburn - The Auburn Placer Performing Arts Center announces its Third Thursday Film Series selection for June 16th and 19th, 2011 at the State Theater - the 1951 film African Queen.

Starring Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn, and directed by John Huston, the film won an academy award for Bogart (Best Actor) and nominations for Hepburn (Best Actress) and Huston (Best Director; also nominated for an Oscar for Best Writer and Best Screenplay.

The film takes place in Africa in WWI where Bogart plays a gin-swilling riverboat captain who is persuaded by a strait-laced missionary (Hepburn) to use his boat to attack an enemy warship. This is a must-see for any fan of classic movies, and so timeless that you can also enjoy watching it numerous times.

Showtimes for the film are as follows: Thursday June 16 – 7PM; Sunday June 19 – 2PM matinee. Box office opens one hour before showtime. Admission is \$8 and tickets can also be purchased



online at: www.LiveFromAuburn.com.

Come early and enjoy a specially prepared dinner in the Marquee Room off the State Theater lobby beginning at 5:30PM on Thursday. Starting this month, our featured restaurant for

the Third Thursday Film Series will be Marybelle's in Old Town Auburn. Meal cost is \$8; beverages may be purchased separately at the State Theater beverage bar.

For a full schedule of upcoming films at the State, go to: www.LiveFromAuburn.com.

Is Your Life In Balance,

Introductory Presentation on Meditation and Positive Living

Auburn – Introductory Presentation on Meditation and Positive Living.

People just like you have been practicing this form of self-alignment with the positive energies of the universe for thousands of years. Simple changes in the way you live now will make all the difference in the world. You will be happier and healthier when you learn how



to stay connected to the positive energy.

Introductory talk (given by an authorized speaker), Sunday, June 26th, 3 – 4 p.m., at the Auburn Public Library (Community Rm.), 350 Nevada St., Auburn. For information call 530-823-3886 or visit www.santmat.net. Always Free, never a charge.

Recreation Rocks

Auburn – After a long cold winter, in the words of the Beatles, "here comes the sun". The pools are open and a plethora of programs are available. Make sure the children are sign up for swimming lessons; morning and evening classes are available at both the Sierra and Placer Hills Pools. Water aerobics, the low impact exercise class for men and women starts June 13 in our 80 degree pools. New this year are inner tube water polo

workshops and an inner tube water polo league with family as well as adult divisions. As always, public swim is available every day during the summer months.

We are pleased to announce our partnership with our local nursery Easley's. Earlene Easley-Freeman is teaching a Houseplants for Health class in June and July. This is a special treat because a tour of the indoor plant greenhouse accompanies the class. Earl Easley will be teaching

a class on Winter Gardening this August. Learn what grows best in the foothills, how to prepare your soil and selection of vegetables.

ARD has a variety of classes for children of all ages and with a variety of interests from art to computer animation and sports. These programs and many more are available on line at www.auburnrec.com; or call 530-885-8461 and ask for summer activity guide. Come spend the summer with us.

Be "In the Know" on July

What are the early signs of Alzheimer's disease? Is Alzheimer's fatal? How likely am I to inherit this disease?

On July 9, 2011, an Alzheimer's Awareness event will be held at East Lawn Memorial Park (43rd Street & Folsom Blvd.), in East Sacramento. Titled the "Un-Run for Understanding," it will be a day of information, guest speakers, updates on the latest research, resources for caregivers needing respite care, and the unveiling of the "Wall of Honor."

The "Wall of Honor" will be a permanent memorial for those who have lost a loved one to Alzheimer's disease or who want to honor someone who is suffering from it. Family and friends can have a name inscribed on

the "Wall," which has the inscription, "Never Alone, Never Forgotten." The Wall will feature a grandmother holding the hand of a grandson.

Why the name, "Un-Run for Understanding?" Glad you asked! This event will serve as a springboard for next year's inaugural Fab 40's 5K Run/Walk, which will benefit local Alzheimer's agencies. It's important to note that the proceeds from this Run/Walk will not only help those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease, but will also go to fund respite care for the caregiver. As many families know, time off from caregiving

duties is welcome and necessary to "recharge the batteries," but caregivers often do not have the necessary support or financial resources to take a break.

Please take a moment to visit our web site, Fab40s5k.org, for more details. On July 9, bring your entire family...and your neighbors, friends and, more importantly, anyone who can benefit from the information we'll have available. A free barbeque will be provided.

Please put this "Un-Run for Understanding" on your calendar—you'll be glad you did.

the **CATCH ACTION**

You've never seen tennis like this!

- Fast-Paced Matches
- Cheering Fans
- Upbeat Music
- Beer, Wine & Food
- Fun For All Ages

Visit www.Saccaps.com for Tickets

Ticket prices start at \$20 adults, \$10 Kids

Experience the energy, excitement and action of Sacramento Capitals World Team Tennis (WTT)

Watch top-ranked and world renowned tennis players including Serena Williams, Martina Hingis, Mardy Fish and the Bryan Brothers.

Capitals 2011 Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	THEME
July 8 th	New York Sportimes	Caps Come Home featuring Martina Hingis
July 9 th	Washington Kastles	Drop Shot Diva Day featuring Serena Williams
July 10 th	Newport Beach Breakers	Play Tennis Sacramento
July 12 th	Kansas City Explorers	Family Night featuring the Bryan Brothers
July 15 th	Newport Beach Breakers	Catch the Wave featuring Mardy Fish
July 20 th	Boston Lobsters	Caps Go Green
July 21 st	Springfield Lasers	Fan Appreciation Night

Sacramento Capitals Ticket Office, 6023 Sunrise Mall, Citrus Heights. (916) 488-5000

Fab 40's "Un-Run for Understanding"

An Alzheimer's Awareness Day

Saturday, July 9, 2011
Location: East Lawn Memorial Park, 43rd St. and Folsom Boulevard
Time: 9:00 AM – Noon

Calendar of Events:

9 AM - Welcome, and a light breakfast.

9:30 AM - Panel discussion featuring Hospice Care, a Neurologist, family members who have cared for a person with Alzheimer's disease and family members who are dealing currently with Alzheimer's disease, and an Elder Law Attorney.

10:30 AM - Unveiling of the "Wall of Honor." A place where people can create an inscription in honor of or in memory of a family member who has suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

10:45 AM - Untimed one-mile walk within East Lawn.

11:30 AM - Free luncheon.

There will be a variety of children's activities and a photo booth for your family's memories. *We will be having a kid's race as well!*

There will be many vendors at the event to answer any questions you may have.

Visit our website at: www.fab40s5k.org for details

Groups Hope for "Booming" Sales

By David Dickstein

Christmas, Halloween and the Fourth of July share a commonality unique to California in that each holiday is represented by a symbol enjoyed aglow by people patronizing a parking lot.

Since it's too early in the year for Christmas tree lots and pumpkin patches, 'tis must be the season for fireworks stands. And for cash-strapped churches, athletic groups, youth organizations and service clubs, it couldn't come too soon. Unlike buying pumpkins that often become illuminated jack-o-lanterns and evergreens destined to be strewn with festive lights in certain homes, fireworks in the Golden State can only be sold by non-profit organizations. It's an ordinance extending statewide and one that adds an industry-estimated \$40 million to the treasuries of more than 3,000 501(c)s in California.

Locally, the opportunity to make green out of red, white and blue is being seized by groups hopeful for bang-up business from patriotic and/or pyro-loving customers who snap, crackle and pop in honor of America's 235th birthday. They can do so because Carmichael, Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Gold River, Lincoln, Orangevale, Rocklin and Roseville are communities where state-approved fireworks are permissible from June 28 through July 4.

Lincoln

"We all know that budget cuts get tougher and tougher every year, which means community support of ours and anyone's fundraisers is more and more critical," said Barbara Green of Lincoln High Boosters. "Our fireworks fundraiser helps pay for uniforms, trophies, equipment - it would be a hardship without it."

Green, the school's secretary, said the boosters will run two booths with proceeds allocated based on the number of hours worked by parents representing a club or sport. Students are handling marketing, including advertising, signage and selling scrip.

The school's booths, both Phantom, will be in the school's parking lot next to the football field and at Zebra Town Liquor, 102 G St.

A block away, Lincoln Lions Club will be carrying the torch - check that, a California candle - for its parent organization, Lions Club International, by selling TNT fireworks for vision-related causes in the parking lot of Rainbow Market, 255 G St.

"We provide eyeglasses to anyone in need," said club president and Lincoln resident Kris Knutson, principal of Sheridan Elementary School. "On average we spend about \$3,500 to \$5,000 a year on eyewear, and we make sure the children of Western Placer [Unified School District] are taken care of first."

Harvest Time Church will split proceeds made from its TNT stand with the child and youth ministries. About 35 kids in all will be able to go to summer camp thanks to fireworks sales, according to five-time fireworks chairman Darren Scott, with surplus going toward such causes as the church's fall harvest festival. Harvest Time Church will hold its 20th anniversary fireworks fundraiser on its own property at 671 East St.

Also getting in on the patriotic action is Lincoln Girls Softball, which relies heavily on folks keeping with a tradition credited to John Adams who urged Americans to celebrate independence from England with "bonfires and illuminations."

"Without fireworks we couldn't provide as many girls with the opportunity to play softball," said Heather Mitchell, first vice president of the league that draws about 250 girls each season. "They money we get provides scholarships for girls who can't afford the league fees to participate."

Mitchell, a first-time fireworks chairwoman, will run the league's TNT stand in the Safeway parking lot at 405 South Highway 65.

Snakes, spinners and smoke balls sold last year helped get a new shed and playground equipment for Lincoln's Heritage Community Christian School, reported Scarlette Osman, a



parent volunteer who will run the non-profit's Phantom fireworks stand in the Gladding, McBean parking lot at 601 7th St.

Rocklin

Monies raised by the Rocklin Girls Fastpitch Softball League at its Phantom fireworks stand will go toward lighting a diamond at Lone Tree Park, scholarships, buying balls and sending players to nationals should they qualify, according to Keith Irby, president of the 550-girl league. The Rocklin resident is hoping a new location and an improving economy lead to more of the community coming to bat for the local recreational softball league.

"Last year we didn't do great," Irby said. "We were at the Lutheran church next to Lone Tree Park and the combination of not a lot of traffic and sales being generally down for everyone. Now we're at the Blue Moose Cafe (5895 Pacific St.), and not only are they not charging us for rent, the location is on a major thoroughfare. Traffic will easily double or triple."

Hoping to hit a home run with fireworks sales is Rocklin Little League, which will use the money for such costs as field maintenance,

uniforms and equipment. A portion of last year's profits helped send an all-star team to a tournament in Southern California. Cris Barnette, in her 11th year chairing the league's fireworks fundraiser, said the kids rely on the community stepping up to the plate.

"With the economy the way it is right now, the league has had less sponsors and less ways to raise money for the things that are needed to run the league properly," said Barnette, who will run a TNT stand in the Save Mart shopping center, 3021 Stanford Ranch Road. "The fireworks sales are a big fundraiser that supports the activities of the league."

A couple of miles south, at 2600 Sunset Blvd., Crossroads Community Church will be running a TNT stand to benefit its high school and middle

school youth programs. Proceeds also are earmarked for the South Placer Teen Center it runs so that local youth can, as 7-year fundraiser chairman Mark Crowe puts it, "enjoy friendship, mentoring, tutoring and various elective classes with our main emphasis on leadership."

Crowe said he's got a good feeling about this year's fundraiser.

"I believe the sale of fireworks will increase over last year," he said. "With recent military victories ... Americans have great reason to celebrate this year."

Roseville

Volunteers of Knights of Columbus, Council 4540 will be sweating in July so that needy families won't be sweating it out for food and Christmas toys

come December. Funds raised at the club's TNT stand in the Trader Joe's parking lot, 1117 Roseville Square, will help fill about 325 holiday food baskets and give Santa some relief. John Huwe of Antelope is optimistic about the fundraiser he's chairing, saying, logically, "I'm upbeat because any income is better than none."

Sgt. Karl Dyer, director of the Roseville Police Activities League, said money from selling Phantom fireworks will help officers build stronger relationships with local youth by engaging in a variety of year-round recreational, athletic, social and cultural activities and programs.

"We do white-water kayaking, mountain biking, hiking, paintball, boxing, martial arts - we're in the process of starting a cross-training program for youth and officers can engage in more non-competitive activities, and so much more," said Dyer, RPAL director and the group's fireworks chairman for a third straight year. "The fireworks sale is our biggest fundraising event of the year and we appreciate all the strong support of the community," he added, noting that Sonic and Taco Bell have donated the space for its stand at 913 Pleasant Grove.

Over at the Bel Air Supermarket at 1039 Sunrise Ave., Friends of Roseville will sell Phantom fireworks to subsidize the 29,000 hard-copy newsletters that are distributed quarterly to nearly every household in town, according to group Chairman Phil Ozernick. Proceeds also enable FORE to award two \$1,000 scholarships to students who are pursuing college degrees in journalism, governmental studies or political science.

Foresthill Road Bridge Construction



Photo: Michael Kahn.

Placer County - As part of the Foresthill Bridge Seismic Retrofit and Paint Project, construction crews will begin evening work in addition to current daytime activities. Traffic controls will be in place.

Beginning Sunday, June 5th through Friday, September 30th, motorists can expect one-way traffic control each evening Sunday through Thursday, from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am. During the night shift, construction crews will be erecting steel stringer beams and demolishing the existing concrete barrier for the purposes of widening the center deck.

The current day time lane closure hours will remain in effect from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (Monday through Thursdays) and 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Fridays through the Labor Day holiday.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your cooperation and patience as Placer County continues work on the new Foresthill Bridge Renewal Project.

For updates, questions or concerns, please contact the project hotline at (530) 889-5873 or visit the project website at www.foreshillbridgere-newal.com and sign up to receive traffic alerts and progress updates.

Visit www.foreshillbridgere-newal.com for more information.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • THEME: FATHER'S DAY

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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72						73				74			

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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Pivotal
 - Cul de ____
 - Kitty ____, famous for flight
 - Ancient Greeks' assembly spot
 - ____ Wednesday
 - Home of Darfur
 - Pine or long
 - Snowmobile runner
 - Cast ____
 - Departure from Egypt, e.g.
 - "Popular dad gift"
 - Malia and Sasha's dad did it in 2008 election
 - Party
 - "Father/child divide"
 - "George W.'s famous dad had the same first one"
 - "Dad, e.g."
 - Showing age, especially having gray hair
 - "Portnoy's Complaint" author
 - Dolphin home
 - Aquarium show star
 - "What dad did to the lawn"
 - What Arnold used to do for a living?
 - Shorthand
 - Mosaic piece
 - Food for later consumption
 - Tea tax, e.g.
 - Christmas abbreviation
 - Form of Anna
 - Apartment
 - Clothe
 - "Founding Father"
 - Crowd
 - In front of
 - ____ "Te Ching," book
 - Deadly contest, pl.
 - One from Croatia
 - Lennon's wife
 - Perfect
 - Noisemaker, especially in the city
 - Nada or nothing
 - "Maggie Simpson's first word"
 - "King Kong" (1933) actress
 - S-shaped molding
 - Sweet-talk into something
 - Cupid's ammo
 - "He played Laura Ingalls' Pa"
 - Mouth off
 - "____ not what your country can do for you..."
 - This shop is not a place for a bull
 - Corn cob cover
 - Miners' passage
 - Dry riverbed
 - On one of these when popping big question?
 - Chief Massasoit, aka Great ____
 - To take away, as in gun
 - Sixth sense
 - In the interval
 - "Hamlet's father"
 - Kind of artery
 - Indianapolis ball player
 - Debatable point
 - Falling out
 - Beauty parlor
 - Last letter of Greek alphabet
 - "This President made Father's Day a national holiday"
 - The feminine of raja
 - Position of leadership
 - End of the road?
 - Counterbalance
 - ____ Rida, rapper
 - Dirty or sleazy
 - Author Chekhov
 - Red-skinned cheese
 - Speed of an object divided by speed of sound
 - '70s hairdo
 - Point of entry
 - Iraq neighbor
 - "Popular DIY dad gift"
 - Pauper's permanent state
 - Feeling happy
 - Tropical American cuckoo
 - Stallone

For Solution See Page 5

Woman Arrested for Willful

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County - A Loomis woman was arrested Monday night on charges that she poisoned her husband.

Rachel Melody Bettencourt, 53, was booked at the Placer County Jail on charges of willful poisoning and of inflicting corporal injury to a spouse. She is being held on \$100,000 bail.

Placer County Sheriff's deputies were called to Sutter Roseville



Rachel Melody Bettencourt, 53

Medical Center at 8:30 Monday night at the request of South Placer Fire officials. Firefighters had responded to Bettencourt's Tudsbury Road home and found the situation suspicious.

The male victim, who remains hospitalized, told rescue personnel that he became ill after consuming a beverage. Evidence collected at the home will be analyzed. The investigation is ongoing and there is no further information available.



Jeremy Ray Baker of Roseville

Roseville Man Arrested for Multiple

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County - Placer County Sheriff Detectives arrested Jeremy Ray Baker (DOB 06-12-79) of Roseville for the murders of Nanette Florance, John Camara and Lawrence Fay. Deputies responded to a residence on Rachel Lane in Loomis Saturday morning

and discovered the three victims. Two victims died at the scene and one victim died at the hospital. All three victims died from gunshot wounds. Suspect Jeremy Baker knew the victims but any motive for the killings is not being released at this time. Jeremy Baker is being held without bail at the Placer County Jail in Auburn. The investigation is on-going.

Get the Most Bang for Your Buck:

By David Dickstein

Sacramento Region – The diversity of consumer fireworks sold in honor of America's Independence Day is wide, not unlike the Melting Pot whose birthday they symbolize. What's new? What's loud? What's colorful? Is that \$30 fountain really worth the money and how long is it?

As sure as Betsy Ross could sew, a trip to a fireworks stand can be a puzzling pyrotechnic experience.

To help you get the most bang for your buck this Fourth of July, we present our 2011 fireworks buyers guide. Every new state-approved fountain was put to the test along with selected returning items. TNT and Phantom, which enjoy a duopoly in Northern California, have more than a dozen new items between the two.

Fireworks were rated on a 5-star scale for performance, duration, distinctiveness and overall comparative value. Judges included firefighters of Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, Station 65, who graciously provided the test site. Products are listed in order of price, high to low.

A tip: Shop early or risk having to choose from items not good enough to make this list, meaning, except with the new stuff, they didn't score at least 3 1/2 stars.

Let the sparks fly!

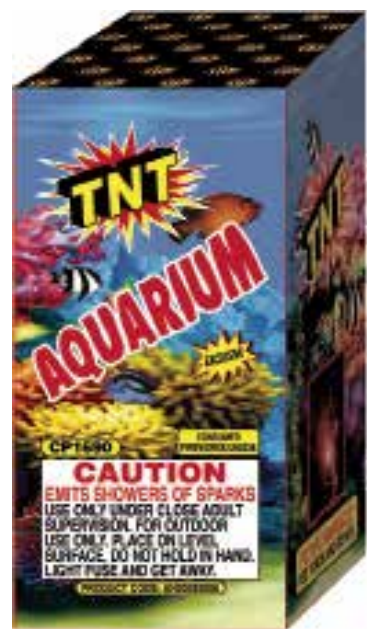
New for 2011

Festival of Lights (Phantom), \$49.99 – A synonym for "festival" is



"fair," and a homonym of that is an adequate assessment of this so-so 500-gram newcomer. Has all the standard effects except whistle, but when you can buy six Apache Firedances of similar performance for just a few dollars more, well, you do the math. 148 seconds. 2 1/2 Stars

Star Voyager (TNT), \$29.99 – Earns "best new finale" honors with a long-lasting, 500-gram performance of bright and crackling titanium bursts that reach the 10-foot-high legal limit (maybe even surpassing...shhh!). 146 seconds. 4 1/2 Stars



Phantom Crown Jewel (Phantom), \$29.99 – Dazzling 500-gram display of white flowers, colored pearls and crackles, gold chrysanthemums and silver crackle. Packs a wallop, but that also reduces burn time. 84 seconds. 4 1/2 Stars

Bonsai Pipeline/Magma Glow Fountain (Phantom), \$29.99 – Terrific burn time and the tallest of the freshman class, if size matters to you, but a far better pick from Phantom at this price is Brew Haha. The cylindrical newbie goes by both names and different labeling. 119 seconds. 3 Stars

Jumbo Purple Rain (TNT), \$24.99 – TNT's best-selling Purple Rain gets super-sized, offering up juiced-up gold, purple and crackles. 89 seconds. 3 1/2 Stars

Pyropalooza (TNT), \$19.99 – Excellent height, crackle and vivid



hues – a vivacious visual. 115 seconds. 4 1/2 Stars

Main Squeeze (TNT), \$19.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Pleasing red, white, orange and pink sparks spew from cute, unique packaging that gives this fountain its name. 90 seconds. 3 1/2 Stars

Phantom Night Owl (Phantom), \$12.99 – An instant classic is hatched among the growing category of fountains with an internal glowing feature. Three loud screeches and an exciting overall performance make this nocturnal newbie a hoot. 65 seconds. 4 1/2 Stars

Radiant (TNT), \$10 – Top of the



class of 2011, this low-priced beauty pushes the legal limit for spreading sparks. One of the few fountains living up to its name. 82 seconds. 5 Stars

Home Run (TNT), \$9.99 – Middling crackle finish, low altitude, OK burn time for the price. Despite its name, score this one a double. 105 seconds. 2 1/2 Stars

Snakes in the Grass (Phantom), \$5.99 six-pack – Clever name and having those black pellets in a canister keeps fingers clean, but these snakes that grow while aglow are better when free range. 2 Stars

Viva El Futbol (TNT), \$4 – Terrific altitude and crackle for the price. 43 seconds. 3 1/2 Stars

Aquarium (TNT), \$3 – So-so stars and red globs. Nothing memorable. 24 seconds. 2 Stars

Orchid (TNT), \$2 – Don't blink or you'll miss an impressive burst of crackling sparks. 17 seconds. 2 Stars

Best of the Rest (4-5 Stars)

New York Harbor (Phantom), \$39.99 – Stellar burn time and multiple effects, including some of the finest chrysanthemums for a consumer firework. 195 seconds.

Brew Haha (Phantom), \$29.99 – Beer stein-designed 500-gram fountain brims over with effects, including a loud opening whistle and a cavalcade of color. 145 seconds.

Rock Around the Clock

(Phantom), \$24.99 – Unique spinning hands are hard to see at night, but this clock-designed novelty-fountain is a stunner with a powerful fan-like spray. 84 seconds.

TNT Fountain (TNT), \$23.99 – Long-burning, powder keg-shaped fountain has a colorful, crackling performance. 154 seconds.

American Spirit (TNT), \$19.99 plus bonus – Offers up a patriotic blend of red, white and bluish stars, gold showers and super-loud whistles and crackles. Comes with the boisterous, multi-colored Sizzler Fountain (90 seconds). Super deal. 125 seconds.

Molten Pot (TNT), \$19.99 – Entertaining combo of colorful globs, titanium crackles, fish, glitter and chrysanthemums. 73 seconds.

Alpha Wolf (Phantom), \$19.99 – Green and purple droplets, gold shower and crackling stars finale are awesome. No whistles, doesn't need them. 83 seconds.

Triple Gemini (TNT), \$17.99 – Impressive pink and gold fish, and crackles that sound like a string of titanium-laced firecrackers. 85 seconds.

Apache Firedance (Phantom), \$17.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Low altitude is more than compensated by a super-long burn time and marvelous sequence of crackles, whistles, white flashes and multi-colored sprays. Up \$2 from last season, but still a solid combo deal. 210 seconds.

Hasta La Vista Baby (Phantom), \$16.99 – Like color and hate whistles? Then this is a solid pick with a screech-



free spectrum of fast-changing colors. 125 seconds.

Funky Monkey (Phantom), \$15.99 – This pyrotechnic primate features red pearls and a solid overall performance. 80 seconds.

Mad Dog (TNT), \$14.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Amazing crackles, whistles and multi-color sparks are improved by TNT again making this a two-for-one item. 80 seconds.

Firecracker Fountain (Phantom), \$14.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Lives up to its name with a remarkable



crackling barrage among multi-colored pearls. 106 seconds.

Flying Stars Fountain (Phantom), \$12.99 – Fantastic fish-featuring fountain that, because it's noiseless, is also friendly to pets and fuddy-duddy neighbors. 97 seconds.

L.O.L. (TNT), \$12.99 – The happy 3-D face on the package features a red mouth and blue eyes that glow from within, making for loads of fun. 80 seconds.

King of Bling (Phantom), \$10.99 – The crackles heard during the final third sound just like popping popcorn. Majestic chrysanthemums and whistle. 90 seconds.

Night Treasure (TNT), \$12.99 – Looks like a fan fountain, and it is, albeit only for the final half-minute. Still, a reliable, fair-priced item. 113 seconds.

Volcanic Vortex (Phantom), \$10.99 for three – Cones usually produce more yawns than sparks, but not this awesomely intense trio. 45 seconds each.

Luck of the Irish (TNT), \$9.99 – This classic fountain features gold and silver spray, red and green balls and some super-loud whistles. 80 seconds.

Painted Desert (Discount Fireworks Superstore), \$8.99 – Pretty thing with gold, copper and green flashing stars, and orange and pink globs. 76 seconds.

Lil Red Devil (TNT), \$8.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Packs plenty of heat for the size and price. Titanium crackling sparks spread out an impressive 9 feet. 30 seconds.

Electrical Shock (Phantom), \$7.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – Red and green showers give way to a raucous whistling and crackling finale. 40 seconds.

Pink Diamonds (TNT), \$6.99 – Not much pink in the fireworks marketplace, so props to this unique, modestly priced item. 61 seconds.

Phantom Mystical Magic (Phantom), \$8.99 (buy-one-get-one) – Fleeting duration, but love those multi-colored, marble-sized blooming globs. 24 seconds.

Phantom Dragon Slayer (Phantom), \$5.99 – Got some white, blue and lemon chrysanthemums, rowdy crackles and red stars going on. 66 seconds.

Moondance Fountain (Phantom), \$3.99 for two (buy-one-get-one) – 4-inch dynamo spews loud crackles, purple pearls and glittering gold and white sparks. [Note: Identical to



TNT's Purple Rain, \$5.99 for two.] 45 seconds.

Honorable Mentions (3 1/2 Stars)
Komodo 3000 (Phantom), \$49.99, 240 seconds; **Delirium** (TNT), \$45.99, 94 seconds; **Blooming Flower** (Phantom), \$29.99, 70 seconds; **Hexagon Magic** (Phantom), \$19.99, 104 seconds; **Jade & Butterfly Duo** (Phantom), \$4.99, 28 seconds each; **En Fuego** (TNT), \$4, 31 seconds; **Black Widow** (TNT), \$3, 42 seconds.

For more information, visit: TNT Fireworks (www.tntfireworks.com) and Phantom Fireworks (www.phantomfireworks.com).



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