

# Placer Sentinel



Find the Love  
of a Lifetime  
at this SPCA  
Valentine's Event

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Celebrate  
Mardi Gras  
in Historic  
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Let's Celebrate!  
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Volume 22 Issue 3

Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987

First Issue of February, 2011

## County Fairs Getting a "Brown Out"

## Work Set To Begin on Foresthill Bridge



It's not all smiles and laughter! Governor Brown's Budget Proposal puts 29 California Fairs at risk of closure. His plan also threatens \$126 Million in Annual Tax Revenue to State's General Fund.

From [www.westernfairs.org](http://www.westernfairs.org)

**Placer County** – The Brown Administration's plan to eliminate annual funding for California state-wide network of fairs is expected to put 29 of them at risk of closure and could end up costing the General Fund \$57.4 million in lost annual income, the California Fairs Alliance warned last week.

"The fair network generates more than \$126 million in direct tax income for the state every year," said Stephen Chambers of the California Fairs Alliance (CFA). "That represents nearly a four-to-one return on the state's overall \$32 million investment. In this light, the budget plan actually dries up an income stream that flows to the state from California fairs."

Along with potential net income loss, the proposal could drive 29 fairs—including dozens of primarily rural fairs—completely out of business. This would result in a major economic ripple effect by killing jobs and related economic activities, according

to CFA, which today also released the list of the 29 at-risk fairs and the formula for determining their status.

"Fair funding is seed money that creates a foundation from which the fairs are able to build up their true economic impact. While larger fairs may no longer need the platform provided by the funding, the majority of small and medium fairs do," said Chambers. "If you destroy this foundation, the whole network is disrupted. If the 'fair return' to the state in tax revenue is reduced by just 30 percent, this aspect of the Governor's budget proposal will bleed red ink from the General Fund."

Placer County Fair CEO Joan Bartosik quoted, "We are concerned about the impact that a loss of funding will have on the Placer County Fair, and have already begun to take steps to trim our budget. We will implement year-round paid parking during events, and will reach out to the communities we serve for their support."

CFA noted that the financial

impact of California fairgrounds is well documented by the state of California, which recently issued a report, California Fairs: Statewide Economic Impacts, which found its economic contributions to be significant, including: \$2.8 billion in consumer spending, \$855 million in income, 25,000 full-time jobs and \$126 million in state and local taxes.

Absent proposed budget cuts, the fair network appears healthy. The fair network experienced a strong 2010 season with an overall growth in attendance and revenue. Budgets for the 2011 season are approved and funded and industry leaders expect another successful fair season as fairs continue to provide affordable, local, family recreational and educational experiences.

"We anticipate the state's direct return on its investment to fairs to top \$150 million in 2011 plus the added benefit of more than 30,000 full-time job equivalents," said Chambers. "That income,

those jobs and the future of 29 fairgrounds will be in serious jeopardy in 2012 unless we find alternatives to the Governor's proposal."

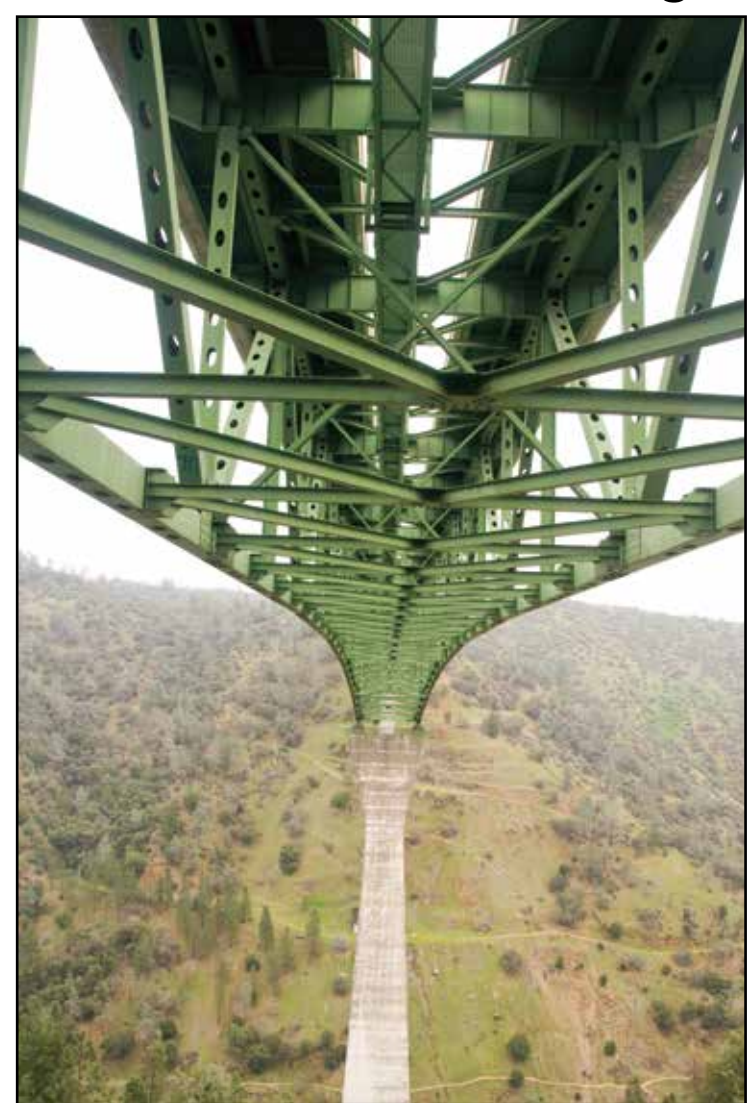
For these reasons, California fair officials have contacted Governor Brown's office and legislators, said Chambers, to explore ways to trim fair funding and provide alternative funding mechanisms that won't compromise the ability of fairgrounds to generate revenue for state and local governments.

"We are hopeful that with a more strategic combination of budget reductions, as well as greater local control and flexibility, we will be able to protect the fair network and increase income to state and local governments," Chambers said. "Furthermore, a more thoughtful plan will ensure the survival of the thousands of small businesses and nonprofits that rely on fairs and fairgrounds in California."

The California Fairs Alliance will be presenting their concerns and proposing alternative solutions during the legislative budget hearings next week.

Gold Country Fair Interim CEO Laurie Johnson said "Gold Country Fair was on the fair closure list in the late 1960's, and with tremendous support from our community, we rallied. Governor Reagan proclaimed Gold Country Fair (then known as Auburn District Fair) as "The Little Fair That Wouldn't Die". With that continued community support and strict budget cuts we intend to persevere again."

The California Fairs Alliance (CFA) is a subsidiary of the Western Fairs Association, a Sacramento-based nonprofit trade association representing fairs and fair-related businesses in the western United States and Canada. The CFA consists of 76 California fairs divided into seven geographic areas. The Alliance provides training and information to the California fair network as well as legislative advocacy on behalf of California fairs.



Approximately 89 percent of the funding for the project comes from the Highway Bridge Program portion of the Federal Highway Trust fund. Photo Credit Michael Kahn.

From **Placer County Community Outreach**

**Placer County** – Work on the \$74.7 million seismic retrofit and painting project for the Foresthill Bridge is set to begin. The Placer County Department of Public Works is reminding residents and travelers that they can register for e-mail traffic alerts for the project.

The contractor, Golden State Bridge, has begun staging equipment and construction trailers at both ends of the span in anticipation of actual construction work. The work that will begin in the coming weeks includes: strengthening the bridge abutments at both ends; installing work platforms on the underside of the bridge; and replacing the pedestrian railing.

Traffic across the 2,428-foot span, which spans the North Fork of the American River, will be routed into one lane for short periods beginning the end of February. The shifting of vehicular and pedestrian traffic will be done on alternate sides as work on the pedestrian railing is performed. There will be no parking permitted on the side of the road where railing replacement is taking place. This is intended to prevent pedestrians from parking on one side of the roadway and then crossing traffic to get to the other, open side of the bridge.

Golden State will be using the pull-out areas closest to the bridge for its staging area. Recreational users have to use pullout areas further away from the bridge. While this may create an inconvenience for some users, it will help ensure the safety of construction workers, the traveling public, and area recreational users. Trailheads will remain accessible to the public when it is safe to keep them open. The project will not result in new

bike lanes. However, when complete, there will be 8-foot shoulders on the bridge, in addition to separate, 5-foot sidewalks.

To strengthen the bridge abutments, the contractor will have to create openings beneath the bridge deck in the concrete boxes at both ends of the bridge that house the abutments. These openings are necessary to get equipment to the abutments to perform the work.

Over the spring, most of the work will center on providing access for the contractor to perform the work including the installation of work platforms under the bridge. There will be two temporary platforms installed under the bridge for use during construction. These platforms, which will be in place for about three years, will be used to perform the seismic strengthening, installing the new catwalk and prepping and painting the bridge.

Approximately 89 percent of the funding for the project comes from the Highway Bridge Program portion of the Federal Highway Trust fund, which is derived from federal fuel tax. The remaining 11 percent, including Placer County's \$3 million share, comes from State Proposition 1B bond funds. These bond proceeds are funneled through the state to the County for use only on transportation projects. The federal funding can only be used on bridges. The Foresthill Bridge is on a mandatory seismic retrofit list. If Placer County does not use the federal funding, it would be given to another jurisdiction with a bridge on the retrofit list.

To sign up for traffic updates, offer comments and read about project, visit the website: [www.foresthill-bridgerenewal.com](http://www.foresthill-bridgerenewal.com). Comments can also be left on the project comment line: 530-889-5873.

## Business Development Center Now Offering Online Courses

**Auburn** – Northeastern California (NECA) Small Business Development Center (SBDC) – Greater Sierra recently announced it now has a program that makes it easy for you to take high-quality, noncredit online courses no matter where you are located. Through a partnership with ed2go, NE CA SBDC – Greater Sierra offers hundreds of courses on just about every topic.

Through well-crafted lessons, expert online instruction, and interaction with fellow students, you'll gain valuable knowledge at your convenience. You'll have the flexibility to study at your own pace combined with enough structure and support to complete the course. The courses can be accessed 24/7

from anywhere with an Internet connection.

New sessions of each six-week online course start monthly, with two lessons released weekly (for a total of 12). Each high-quality course includes comprehensive lessons, quizzes, assignments, and a discussion area. Dedicated instructors facilitate every course; pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback, and facilitating discussions.

Popular course titles include: Business Management, Grant Writing, Computer Applications, Creating Web Pages, Accounting Fundamentals, Health Care, Speed Spanish, Medical Terminology, and Real Estate Investing. New courses are introduced monthly, so there's

surely something to fit your needs.

SBDC consulting services include, but are not limited to; assisting small businesses with cash flow, break-even, cost control, tax planning, loan packaging, public relations, e-commerce, business plans, bookkeeping procedures, accounting, marketing, feasibility studies, international trade and procurement. All consulting services are confidential and provided by professional consultants with expertise in their specific area of interest at no cost to you.

To learn more about the ed2go online courses, visit the website at <http://www.ed2go.com/sbdcconline-pro>

The NE CA Small Business Development Center is partially

funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Los Rios Community College District. All SBA programs are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. In addition, the NE CA SBDC – Greater Sierra has partnered with local public and private organizations to leverage resources and help deliver quality services.

The NE CA Small Business Development Center – Greater Sierra office is located at 560 Wall Street in Auburn. To schedule a consulting appointment or learn more about the types of services offered through the SBDC call 530-823-4230 or email [info@sierrasbdc.com](mailto:info@sierrasbdc.com). A schedule of workshops currently offered is available on the SBDC website: [www.sierrasbdc.com](http://www.sierrasbdc.com)

# County Helps Parents in Preventing Underage Drinking and Teen Drug

Placer County - Several Placer County agencies are teaming up to assist parents in preventing underage drinking and teen drug use, thereby reducing a host of wide-ranging and devastating consequences.

Through a grant from the Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association, parents can now purchase 10-panel drug screening tests and saliva alcohol screening tests at discounted rates. The tests are available for parents to purchase at their local high school and at the Sheriff's Offices. The 10-panel drug tests are \$10. (Similar tests sell at local pharmacies for up to \$40). The alcohol screening tests are \$2. The drug tests will give presumptive positive tests for amphetamines, methamphetamines, cocaine, opiates, PCP, marijuana, ecstasy, methadone, barbiturates, and benzodiazepines. The tests also check for adulteration (tampering with the sample with the intention of altering the test results), such as diluting the urine sample or adding agents to the urine which destroy the drugs in the sample.

The tests are available for purchase from the School Resource Officers at the following high schools: Granite Bay, Del Oro, Chana, Colfax, Foresthill, and North Tahoe. Tests are also available at the Placer County Sheriff's offices in Auburn, Loomis, and Tahoe. Checks, money orders and exact change only will be accepted as form of payment.

Parents wishing more comprehen-

sive diagnostic testing on the sample can then take the test to the Placer County Public Health Lab at a reduced rate. The Placer County Public Health Lab is offering FDA-approved diagnostic testing services for drugs of abuse to residents, schools and businesses throughout the county. The lab fee of \$21 includes a panel of three different drugs for each specimen tested. Additional drugs per specimen can be ordered for a fee of \$7 each. The Placer County Lab is located at 11475 C Avenue, Auburn. Drug screening tests are available on a walk-in basis Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All test results are strictly confidential. The reports are given only to the individual or agency that submitted the specimen. The Public Health Laboratory does not collect urine for testing; you must bring your sample with you to the lab.

Underage drug and alcohol use by teens is not inevitable and we are not

powerless to stop it. New research shows that teens who use alcohol/drugs are more prone to impulsive behaviors that put them at risk of injury and doing something they will regret when they are sober, including driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, fighting and unprotected sexual activity. When teens drink or are high on drugs they are at higher risk to be victims of sexual assault. Drug and alcohol use by teens inhibits their ability to learn new information, hampers memory and retention, and limits achievement in the classroom and on standardized tests. Young people's ability to concentrate and retain information is affected. Students who drink and use drugs are more likely than their peers to drop out of high school than non-users. Marijuana use affects teens' mental health and can lead to depression, paranoia, and schizophrenia.

By partnering parents, schools, and law enforcement, we can help our youth make good choices about alcohol and drugs. We can all work together to stop alcohol and drug use by young people. For more information on the drug and alcohol tests contact Deputy Bettencourt at 530-308-1552.

*A Joint Press Release from Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association, Placer County Sheriff's Office, Placer County Office of Education, Placer County Public Health Lab, Coalition for Placer Youth.*



# Read About It...Then Do



By Linda Frederick Yaffe

Reading changes lives, in big and small ways. Every day – by intent or simply by chance – readers discover new worlds. Reading leads us to new interests, better jobs, absorbing hobbies...and pure pleasure. Consider:

- The newspaper article that inspired a reader to create a new invention
- A reference book that revealed a student's exciting future career path
- A travel book that led a reader to learn a new language
- The magazine piece that moved two friends to volunteer and make a difference

I was trying to put together my first nonfiction book manuscript. The ideas were there, but they were unpolished and disorganized. I needed guidance. How do would-be authors get their thoughts into readable order, then move the manuscript to the right editor at the right publisher...and finally into print? Reading a book showed me how to organize, then present, my work. How to Write a Book Proposal, by Michael Larsen, guides inexperienced writers from here – a jumble of ideas and notes – to there – a published book. I read How to Write a Book Proposal through once. Then I read the book again, more slowly, one chapter at a time, and followed the author's clear instructions. Without this information, my project might not have gotten off my desk and into print.

How many people's lives have been helped and inspired by reading exactly

the information they needed? The words might have been found through deliberate research, or read while glancing at a poster in the street...one of the hundreds of bits of information that we read every day. And how many people who cannot read miss all of these happy chances?

Adults who cannot read are living only a part of the full life that most of us enjoy. They do not have the information that readers absorb throughout every day: in books, newspapers, and magazines, and on the internet, billboards, street signs, labels, and maps. Imagine that you had never learned to read. Instead of fully enjoying a publication in the morning, you can only look at the images and wonder about the stories they illustrate. You can't read the instructions on the box of pancake mix. You cannot understand the label on your new prescription medication and are too embarrassed to ask your doctor or pharmacist. Your daily hours at work are a nightmare... because you can't let anyone know your secret. Your supervisor asks you to drive to an address and you must ask for landmarks: "what buildings are near that one?" In the evening, your children ask for help with homework, or your grandchild begs you to read them a story; and once again you make excuses, disappointing them – and yourself.

Reading is the keystone that supports so many other aspects of life. The inability to read causes stress, low self-esteem, and affects people's ability to take care of themselves and their families. Have you noticed adults in your life who struggle with reading, writing, grammar, and/or spelling? A struggling reader could be someone you know well...or an individual you are meeting for the first time. The inability to read is a hidden problem; it is often unnoticed, even by those close to the non-reader: family, friends, or employers. Non-readers, through years of daily practice, become adept at cleverly concealing their problem.

Listen for repetitions of some of the following signals:

- Could you read this for me? I've forgotten my glasses
  - I don't bother with reading; I'm an action person
  - Tell me what it says; I remember better when I hear things
  - My eyes are bothering me; I have a headache; the lighting is bad
  - I'll take this home and get back to you; I want my spouse to look it over
  - Watch for these repeated signs:
    - Avoids activities that require reading or writing
    - Asks a child to read it aloud, "so he can practice his reading"
    - Always orders "the special" in a restaurant or, without looking at the menu, asks others to order for them
    - Pays all bills in person using cash
- One in five adult Americans, Americans whose first language is English, has a reading problem. Non-readers come from every socioeconomic background. They might be as young as 19 or as mature as 90 years old. When you notice someone with poor – or nonexistent – reading, writing, grammar and/or spelling skills, gently encourage him or her to call for help. Once they take the courageous step to ask for help, they are on their way to a better, more independent, and far more self-confident life. They can set and meet their own goals, at their own pace, as they receive confidential, one-on-one FREE READING HELP from Placer Adult Literacy Service (PALS): 530-886-4530 or 1-888-SOS-READ.

# Farm and Ranch Business Planning Short Course Starting February 10th


Auburn – On February 10th, the fourth annual UC Cooperative Extension Farm and Ranch Business Planning will be held at the DeWitt Center in Auburn, California. The course is an in-depth, six-week class on economic and organizational strategies and tools for a successful farm business. Topics covered during the short course include: determining mission and vision, three secrets to profitability, conducting an economic analysis, cash flow planning, developing an operations calendar, marketing

analysis, and action planning.

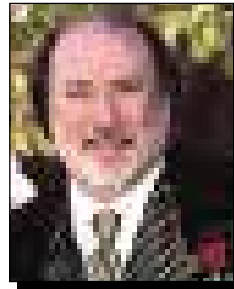
Sessions are scheduled for February 10, 17, 24 and March 3, 10, and 17. Each session is three hours and features many hands-on activities. There is homework between each course to help you develop a plan for your farm or ranch. The course features presentations from other local farmers and ranchers. This short course can help you realistically assess your plans. The short course has helped put several farms and ranches on more sound economic footing, even in these

challenging times. The cost is \$40 per farm or ranch, scholarships are available, contact Roger Ingram for more information.

For more information and to register, contact Roger Ingram at 530.889.7385 or rsingram@ucdavis.edu. USDA – Risk Management Agency, is providing grant support for the Farm and Ranch Business Planning Short Course. You can registration on-line at <http://ceplacernevada.ucdavis.edu>.



**Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987**



**Publisher—Paul V. Scholl**

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**Widowed Persons Association of California, Inc.**

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Widowed Person's Association of California will hold its monthly luncheon meeting on Fri. Feb. 18, 2011 at 12:00 PM at the Sizzler Restaurant in Auburn. Call Jeanette at 888-6880 by Feb. 16, 2011 to make reservations. All Widowed People are invited to attend three activities of this organization prior to joining our membership. Other activities include: card playing, luncheons, dinners, bingo, bowling, trips to Reno, Koffee klatches and special activities. Koffee Klatch will meet at Breakfast Club at the Elm Center on Mon. 2-21-2011 at 9:00 AM. Hope to see you there. For a free newsletter call 530-878-1728. For one on one grief support call 530-885-8298.



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# 49er Lions Partner with Local Hospice

Auburn - On Thursday, March 3, 2011, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Auburn 49er Lions Club will present the 25th annual Celebrity Chefs Cooking for Community Service event. This silver anniversary gala smorgasbord will take place at the Placer Building of the Gold Country Fairgrounds in Auburn.

It was recently announced that the recipient of the proceeds from this yearly event will be the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice. The hospice program provides quality

and caring service to terminally ill individuals and their families who live in Auburn and the surrounding foothill communities. All patients are served regardless of their ability to pay.

The Auburn 49er Lions Club has served the community for over forty years, and is looking forward to partnering with the Hospice team.

The Celebrity Chefs event is a family favorite. A wide variety of flavors may be sampled from the eclectic collection of chefs,

each offering his or her special dish.

If you would like to become a chef and share your favorite dish with the community or simply secure tickets to come and sample the tasty food, write to the Auburn 49er Lions, care of Norm Kendall, P.O. Box 5703, Auburn, Calif. 95604, or call (530) 613-8255. Tickets are \$15.00.

If you would like to learn more about the activities of the Auburn 49er Lions Club, go to auburn49erlions@gmail.com.

# Navy League Monthly Meeting

Placer County - The Placer County Council of the Navy League will hold monthly meeting beginning at 6 PM, on Monday, February 21st, at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 100 East Street, Auburn. This month's speaker is Robert Proano, US Naval Academy

Blue and Gold Information Officer, who will discuss requirements for entry to the Naval Academy and the procedure for getting an appointment. 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.

# Dollars and Sense



by James J. Scherer, MBA, CPA



## The Bond Market Crash of 2003

In the summer of 2003 you had to hunt for the news of the bond market crash, and could hardly find it. Within a three month period bond portfolios lost upward of 20% in value. Ouch! (And you thought the stock market was a race car.) Here's a snapshot of what happened, and what could happen in today's interest rate environment.

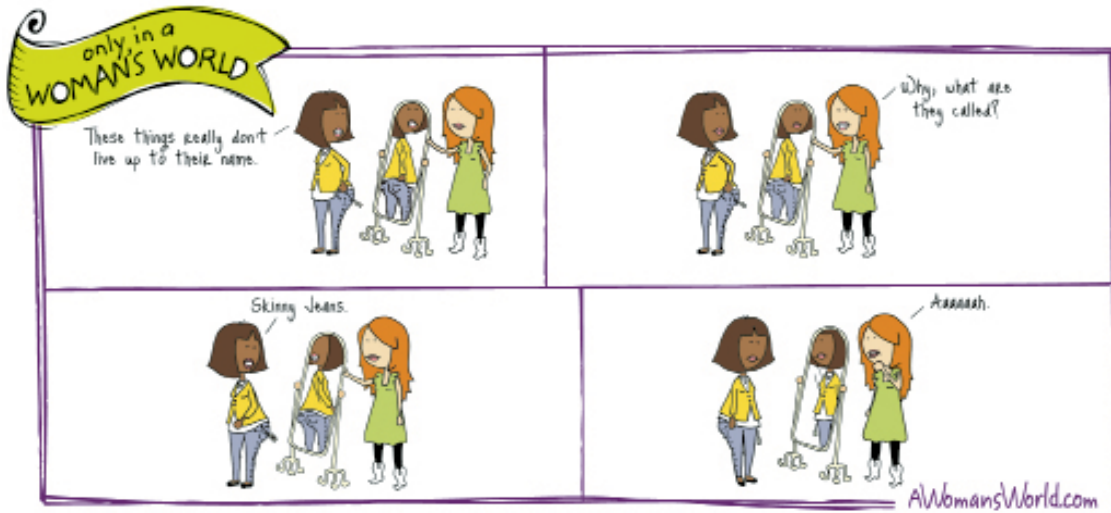
In response to a weak economy the Federal Open Market Committee began a series of fed fund rate reductions from a high of 6.50% in May of 2000 to a low of 1.00% in June of 2003. The ten year treasury yield followed suite over the same period and went from 6.40% to 3.10%, which was a forty year historical low. Then bond yields jumped. By August 2003 the ten year treasury yield jumped to 4.37%, which was a 40% increase. Remember that when bond yields increase, bond values decrease. This 40% spike in bond yields devastated bond portfolios. Investors lost over 20% in value.

History is a great teacher so let's learn for it. In October 2010, the ten year treasury yield was 2.33%, which is below the June 2003 levels. As Yogi Berra said, "It's déjà vu all over again!" It could be. What if bond yields quickly spike upwards once again? Here are some suggestions of what to do. (1) Don't be in a hurry to buy new bonds at this time. History tells us bond yields may return to

normal levels and may present us a better buying opportunity; (2) If you feel you must be a buyer, consider high quality short duration bonds; and (3) If income is not a factor, consider selling your existing bonds that have unrealized gains. And be sure to get advice from you financial advisor and tax professional before buying or selling securities.

*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.*

*James J. Scherer, a registered principal of Scherer Wealth Management, Inc., is, also, a financial advisor with, and securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC (CA Insurance License 0C20370. He can be reached at 916-797-1188 or email at james.scherer@schererwealth.com. His web page is www.schererwealth.com.*



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# Around Town

with Loyce Smallwood

to display your own art treasures. Continue down Lincoln to Winston Smith Books where you can browse through an amazing selection of books from fiction to biography to art. On Sunday, head to OT Auburn for the Annual Taste of Chocolate Fundraiser and savor a vast array of decadent chocolate confections while delighting in the mirthful

tunes of our very own Placer County StringAlong ukulele group led by the dynamic Vic Yeakle accompanied by drummer Barb Yeakle and harmonica player Jan Kahler in the uke mix. During the breaks, do feast your eyes on the scintillating pottery/jewelry/glass and textiles in the OT Auburn Art Gallery. Now that's the perfect weekend, for sure.



Ann Rivero of Art Accents Framing

Auburn – Stay the weekend in Auburn and immerse yourself in the ultimate Auburn experience. Downtown on Lincoln Way you can enjoy a fine lunch at The Monkey Cat Bistro while you enjoy the stimulating dining experience inside or out on the sunny patio. Next door stop in for a visit with friendly Creative Urges owner Kathryn Santiago who's always at the ready to share the latest about her newest buys and ongoing craft workshops including jewelry making and knitting. While walking off lunch calories, treat yourself to dessert at the Chocolate Shop filled to the brim with delectable delights and alluring gift items and cards. Continue to the rear and grab a chat with cordial framer/artist/musician Ann Rivero, owner of Art Accents, who--surrounded by artwork, glass and shimmery jewelry--provides a wide inventory of frames

## Find Your Love of a Lifetime at this Valentines Event!

Placer County – Looking for love during the Valentine's holiday? Come to the Placer SPCA on Saturday, February 12 and Sunday, February 13 for Love Fest Speed Matching. Extra volunteers will be on hand to help potential adopters check their compatibility with each animal with just a few short questions.

Take a chance on love, and come by to meet all the wonderful dogs, cats, and rabbits waiting for forever homes. You may be surprised to find out just who your match will be! Also enjoy sweet treats and Valentine's fun during your visit to the Placer SPCA Companion Animal Center.



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contact the Placer SPCA for expert relationship advice and behavior tips when it comes to sharing your home with a companion animal by contacting the Behavior Hotline at (916) 782-7722 or (530) 885-7387, extension 258, or behavior@placerspca.org.

All adoptions from the Placer SPCA include spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a voucher for a free veterinary exam. Please visit www.placerspca.org for more information.

WHERE: Placer SPCA, 150 Corporation Yard Road, Roseville

WHEN: Saturday, February 12 & Sunday, February 13, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm



**Rosemary McDaid, or "Rosie,"** was born Rosemary Pestarino in Santa Clara in 1947, the third of six children born to her parents, Angelo and Lucille. She moved to Foresthill in Placer County in 1974 and lived in the same house until her death on January 31 at sunset. She began her career as a special education aide in the Kindergarten class of Jim Roberts at Foresthill Unified Elementary School in 1979, and is fondly remembered by a generation of children as "Missus McDaid."

### O B I T U A R Y

## Rosemary McDaid

November 27, 1947 - January 31, 2011

She later worked for the Placer County Office of Education at both the Secret Ravine and Pineview School campuses in Newcastle, where she loved working with special needs children. She also worked in later years at the Monte Verde Inn in Foresthill, where she enjoyed preparing for weddings and events.

Rosemary had three children: Justin McDaid, age 40, Farrah McDaid Ting, age 37, and Joss McDaid, age 36, and three grandchildren: Adah Ting, age 4, Ezra Ting, 21 months, and Daisy McDaid, 21 months. She is also survived by two brothers: James

Pestarino of Santa Clara and Steven Pestarino of Foresthill, and two sisters: Katherine Souci of Paradise and Mary Brown of Foresthill. She enjoyed playing with children, gardening, and taking walks, and had a special affinity for black cats. A memorial service will be held at the Monte Verde Inn at 18841 Foresthill Road, Foresthill, CA on Wednesday, February 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. Condolences may be sent to P.O. Box 226, Foresthill, CA 95631, and memorial contributions may be sent in Rosemary's name to Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice at 11775 Education Street, Suite 201, Auburn, CA



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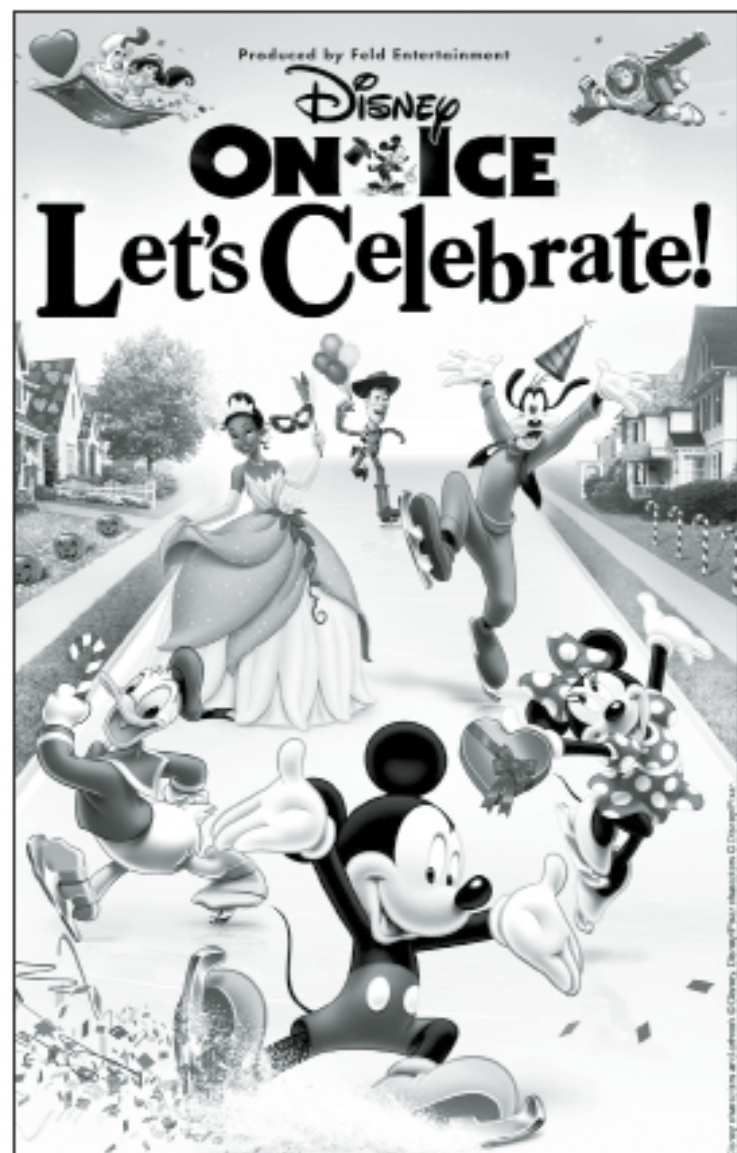
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11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
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Wed. FEB. 16	Thu. FEB. 17	Fri. FEB. 18	Sat. FEB. 19	Sun. FEB. 20	Mon. FEB. 21
7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM
11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM	2:00 PM
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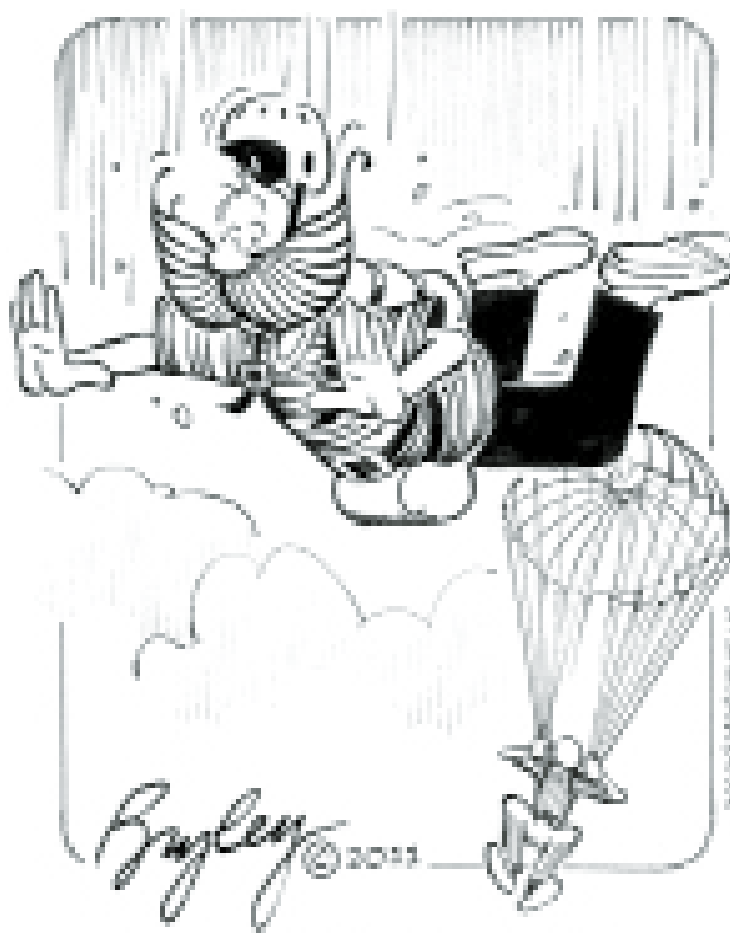
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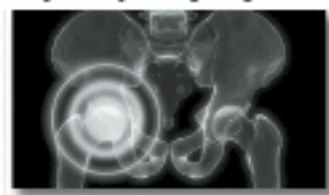
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# IRS to Start Processing Delayed Returns on Feb.

**14** Taxpayers using commercial software can check with their providers for specific instructions. Those who use a paid tax preparer should check with their preparer, who also may be holding returns until the updates are complete.

Most other returns, including those claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), education tax credits, child tax credit and other popular tax breaks, can be filed as normal, immediately.

The IRS needed the extra time to update its systems to accommodate the tax law changes without disrupting other operations tied to the filing season. The delay followed the Dec. 17 enactment of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, which extended a number of expiring provisions including the state and local sales tax deduction, higher education tuition and fees deduction and educator expenses deduction.

Beginning Feb. 14, the IRS will start processing both paper and e-filed returns claiming itemized deductions on Schedule A, the higher education tuition and fees deduction on Form 8917 and the educator expenses deduction. Based on filings last year, about nine million tax returns claimed any of these deductions on returns received by the IRS before Feb. 14.

People using e-file for these delayed forms can get a head start because many major software providers have announced they will accept these impacted returns immediately. The software providers will hold onto the returns and then electronically submit them after the IRS systems open on Feb. 14 for the delayed forms.

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**"Keeping the Faith"**  
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## A Remembrance for Robin

families and individuals. Not the least of who was a young, life-and-loved-filled woman named Robin. Robin, my friend of two decades, was a wife, mother of four school-aged children, and one of the loveliest people I have ever known.

Before her death this winter she asked me to speak at her memorial service and comfort her family. It was an impossible task as I needed comfort myself, for her six-year ordeal with cancer perplexed me. It was so unjust and unfair.

Now, I don't believe for a minute that God was responsible for Robin's cancer, but the sovereign God and I sure did wrestle about these things (and we still do). I have shaken my fist, finger, and prayers at him about it, and that's okay. He's not intimidated by me. I throw all my frustrations at him because I can't take it - not sitting down any way - yet He can.

And while I have a place to cast my exasperating questions, I know I'm not going to get any answers for Robin's death in this current life. I have to live with the question mark and must accept that countless numbers of good and godly people - like Robin and her family - have suffered inexplicable injustice. Why? Because they possessed an inferior faith, a faith not big or strong enough to get them out of trouble? No.

They suffered because of their good and great faith, not an absence of it. The writer of the book of Hebrews concludes that those who suffer this way are "too good for this world." As C.S. Lewis once asked and answered: "Why do the godly suffer? Well, why

not? They are the only ones who can handle it."

In this life we will not experience the healing every of cancer, the reversal of very injustice, the correction of every wrong, or an answer to every question. All of creation - cancerous bodies, broken hearted-families, widowed husbands, grieving children, those of us with more questions than answers - all must wait for God's new creation and redemption to come.

Our faith informs us that one day God will set all things right. He will exercise complete justice and mercy, and the "knowledge of the Lord will fill the earth like the waters cover the sea." At the end of our lives, even at the end of this world, it will not be the end at all. Through the resurrection of our bodies and the recreation of heaven and earth, it will be the beginning.

There will be no more cancer patients, no more doctor visits, no more hospice consultations, no more anguished families, and no more unanswered questions. The Father himself will "wipe every tear from our eyes," and there will be no more death, mourning, crying or pain, and no more words worth hating.

*Ronnie McBrayer's weekly newspaper column, "Keeping the Faith," began as a devotional article for his local newspaper. It is now a past Florida Press Association award winner in Religion, and is nationally syndicated. He is the author of multiple books and publications including Leaving Religion, Following Jesus, published by Smyth and Helwys.*

There is a word and condition I have grown to hate like few others: Cancer. The mere mention of the name produces in me a kind of muted, frustrated resentment, that kind of feeling you get when you hear the name of someone against whom you hold a grudge.

Cancer was named by Hippocrates, first treated by the ancient Egyptians, and today is warred against by chemotherapy, radiation, and clinical trials. It has been a long-standing enemy worthy of our scorn.

When I was young, I paid cancer little attention, blissfully unaware of its dangers. I thought cancer was something that only struck old people, a penalty for living too long in the first place, because everyone I knew who had cancer was as old as Methuselah.

Even after my brother spent months in a children's hospital and I was exposed to the bald heads, IV poles, and fuzzy cartoon slippers of those my own age being treated for malignancies, leukemia, and other diseases, strangely, I still viewed these cases as unique and accidental. Now in midlife, I realize that cancer is no respecter of persons.

As a church pastor and former hospital chaplain, I have seen the grim effects of cancer on far too many

## Grand Jury finds a Failure in Oversight by Placer County

*The Placer County Grand Jury finds a failure in oversight by Placer County in their agreement with the Placer County Fair Association that operates the Placer County Fairgrounds and the All American Speedway in Roseville, California.*

Auburn - The Placer County Grand Jury released a report, (February 4, 2011) finding Placer County failed to protect the health and safety of citizens living near the All American Speedway in Roseville, California. The Placer County Fair Association operates the Placer County Fairgrounds and the Speedway that resides on the fairgrounds by way of written agreement. The Fair Association violated the written agreement by enlarging and modifying the Speedway in 2006 without permission from Placer County. The

enlarged speedway has since resulted in numerous complaints by nearby residents.

The Grand Jury's report finds that the Fair Association made the modifications without obtaining county and state permits as required by law and as stipulated in the terms of the agreement between the County and the Fair Association. The report also finds that the Placer County Facilities Department failed to demonstrate fiduciary responsibility by not executing a new operating agreement with the Fair Association

that would establish greater oversight. Additionally, the Grand Jury finds that the Placer County Board of Supervisors failed to initiate an investigation to assure required permits were issued after they were notified of the Speedway improvements.

The report is available at the <http://www.PlacerGrandJury.org>.

The Placer County Grand Jury is an investigatory body with the authority to act as a watchdog on local government, investigate citizen complaints, and assist in criminal matters at the request of the district attorney.

## Like Water for Chocolate

### "Cinema at the State" - Third Thursday Film Series

Auburn - The Auburn Placer Performing Arts Center (APPAC) presents the 1992 film Like Water for Chocolate on Thursday, February 17th at 7PM. A second matinee showing will be on Sunday, February 20th at 2PM.

Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun-Times, in his review of this classic film which was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film at the 1993 Golden Globes, says: "Like Water for Chocolate" creates its own intense world of passion and romance, and adds a little comedy and a lot of quail, garlic, honey, chiles, mole, cilantro, rose petals and corn meal."

The Washington Post, in their review, said:

"The title may be a mouthful but "Like Water for Chocolate", is a feast for the soul. Hauntingly and exquisitely prepared, this Mexican adult fairy tale is garnished with mystery and wonder. It's the best movie to establish the spiritual link between food and the human condition since "Babette's Feast" or "Tampopo."

Bring a Valentine's date and come early for a pre-movie dinner served by Maria's Mexican Restaurant starting at 5:30PM on Thursday in the Marquee Room across from the box office, along with a no-host bar right

up until showtime.

The dinner cost is \$8, and beverages can be purchased separately. Movie-only admission is \$8 at the door. The box office will be open 90 minutes before showtime for both the Thursday and Sunday performance. A limited number of movie tickets can be purchased in advance on the APPAC website: [www.LiveFromAuburn.com](http://www.LiveFromAuburn.com).

To see the entire Third Thursday film schedule for the rest of 2010, look for our colorful posters displayed at area merchants or go to the APPAC website.

## Sexual Purity Before Marriage Grows Internationally for Eighth Annual Day of Purity

[www.LC.org](http://www.LC.org)

Washington, DC - International interest has quadrupled this year as 37 countries have volunteers who support the Day of Purity on Valentine's Day. Thousands of youth and people of all ages from around the world will celebrate the eighth annual Day of Purity. This event is a call for youth of all ages to remain sexually pure before marriage and loyal within marriage. The Day of Purity is designed to counter the cultural message that young people should and must have sex early, often, and with many.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 19 million new cases of STDs each year in the United States and noted that the treatment for STD's costs more than \$16.5 billion annually. Liberty Counsel advocates that the only safe choice is sexual purity.

National advocacy organizations, such as Planned Parenthood, encourage youth to explore their sexuality at an early age and then profit from terminating any unintended pregnancies. In 2006, 750,000 teenage girls became pregnant, and 32 percent of those pregnancies ended in abortion.

Liberty Counsel promotes this day for pro-family reasons as well. Ninety-eight percent of parents want young people to receive information about sex from their parents. One recent study by the Journal of Adolescent Health found that a majority of parents believe their children obtain most of their information from friends and the media. This is greatly concerning, considering the overt sexualization of younger children by Hollywood and a deceptive lack of the appearance of consequences.

The Day of Purity presents the

opportunity for millions of youth to stand up for self-respect and purity. The Day of Purity website, [DayOfPurity.org](http://DayOfPurity.org), allows anyone to download a free planning guide, along with informative flyers on a variety of topics, request a LivePure wristband and Day of Purity T-shirt, and link to other valuable resources. You can also interact with us through Facebook and Twitter.

Amber Haskew, Coordinator of the Day of Purity, said: "The Day of Purity gives youth a message of hope for their future and a goal of a healthier life. It is the day to stand up against cultural expectations shoved on them through multimedia and strive for something better. We are encouraging youth to respect themselves and their friends, and we've received thousands of e-mails from youth in America and around the world

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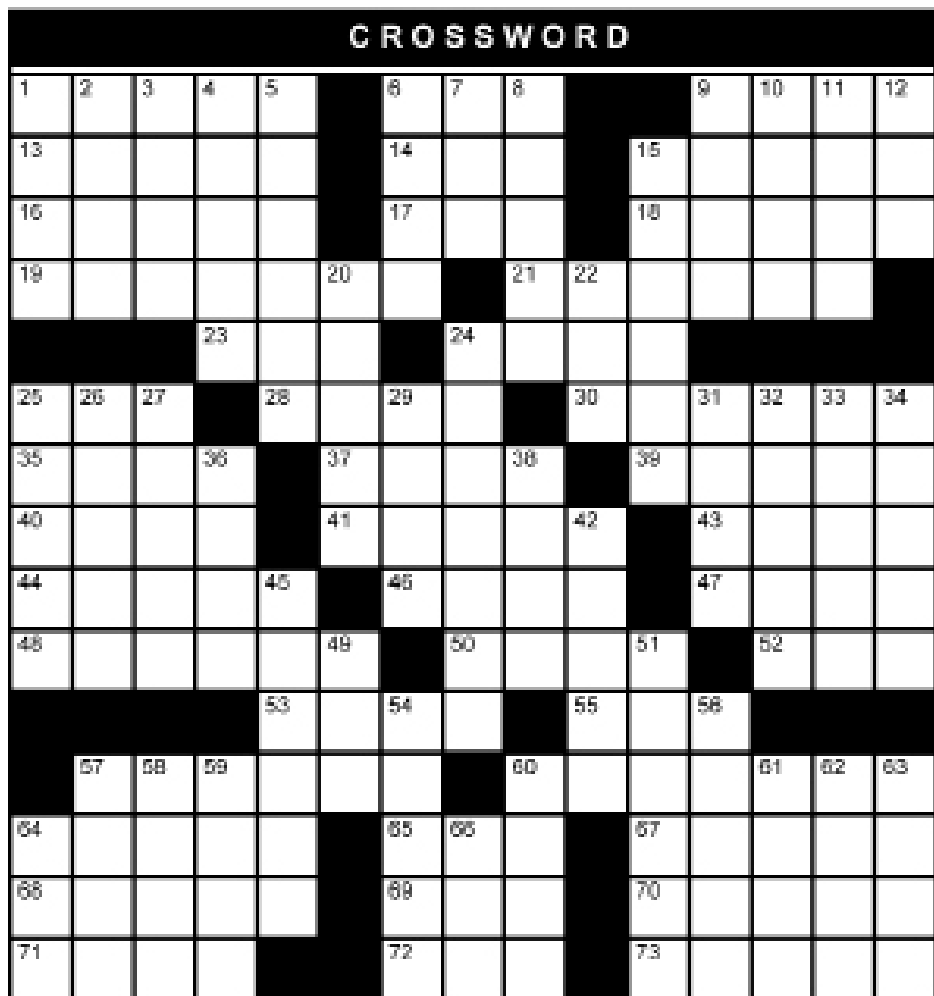
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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Seemingly unaffected by pleasure or pain
  - \* \_\_\_ Shop Boys, nominated for 2010 Electronic/Dance Album
  - Attention grabber
  - Supermodel Evangelista
  - Consumed
  - Las Vegas is a popular spot to do this
  - TV classic "\_\_\_ the Family"
  - Type of sweet potato
  - "What a Grammy award celebrates"
  - "Halo" nominee
  - Bret Michael's glam metal band
  - High rocky hill
  - "Petula Clark won a Grammy for "\_\_\_ town"
  - Globe or eyeball, e.g.
  - Language of Tupi people
  - Late actor Heath
  - Action word
  - Rolling stone gathers none of this
  - "Danger \_\_\_", nominated for Producer of the Year
  - Male version of Emily
  - "Haven't Met You Yet" singer
  - Lice eggs
  - Wealthy man in the Orient
  - False
  - "Nominated cast
  - Metal money
  - As opposed to gross
  - NYC time
  - Archaic exclamation of surprise
  - Caviar
  - Bottle for corrosive liquids
  - "Nominated former "Idol"
  - This name is repeated twice in a song title
  - Major time period
  - Small inlets
  - Mistake
  - Relieve from
  - "8-time R&B winner Baker
  - Annoying biting fly
  - "I \_\_\_" game
  - "Demon of Screaming
- DOWN**
- Block of granite, e.g.
  - Kitchen or bathroom floor covering?
  - "Hall of Fame Award recipient "\_\_\_ the Lonely"
  - "Green Day's "American \_\_\_," 2004 winner
  - Unable
  - Pay as you earn, British system of withholding tax
  - Estimated arrival
  - Pace of music
  - Arithmetic operation of summing
  - Neither good nor bad
  - What DJs do
  - Short for detective
  - "He won a Grammy and Oscar in 2002
  - Pigeon food?
  - Harry Potter's mail carrier
  - "The Beatles won for "Let It Be" the year they did this
  - Bakers' bakers
  - Make another map
  - Grease one's palms
  - On Marie Antoinette's head
  - Ding-\_\_\_
  - Shrewdness
  - \_\_\_ Park, CA
  - Button on electrical outlet
  - Eastern \_\_\_
  - Uncontrolled swerve
  - It often preceded, "Read all about it!"
  - "Best New Artist" nominee discovered online
  - Between id and superego
  - Male cat
  - "The Soloist" protagonist Nathaniel
  - Black wood
  - Maize
  - Radiant light
  - '80s band "Quiet \_\_\_"
  - "Describes Antebellum or Gaga?"
  - Diabolical
  - Network of intersecting nerves
  - Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
  - A dark meat
  - Popular acronym on Halloween

For Solution See Page 11

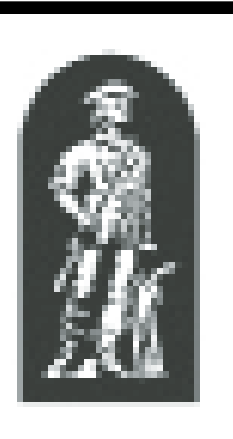
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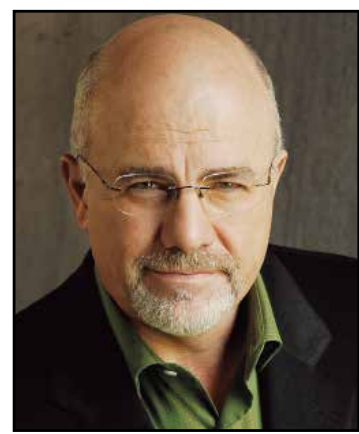
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# Dave Says

their way through college. I worked 40 to 60 hours a week in college, and I still graduated in four years.

Having a college fund set aside by your parents is really nice, if they can afford that kind of thing. But you can go to school by getting good grades, applying for scholarships, working your tail off, and choosing a school you can afford. I believe in education, but there are lots of ways to get a college degree other than having your parents foot the bill.

The last time I checked, there aren't any good ways to retire except for getting yourself ready for retirement. I mean, you can always live off Social Insecurity and buy that great cookbook, "72 Ways to Prepare Alpo and Love It," but I don't consider that a plan.

In short, college funding is not a necessity. That's why it follows saving for retirement in the Baby Steps. Should you try to save up for your kid's college education? Sure, if you can. But there are lots of parents out there who won't be able to pay a dime toward someone's college education. And that doesn't make them bad parents

- Dave

### Why Insurance and Not Warranties?

Dear Dave,

Can you explain how you view the difference between warranties and other types of insurance?

- Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

The purpose of insurance is to transfer risk that you cannot afford to accept. Let's look at life insurance as an example.

I recommend having about 10 times your annual income wrapped up in a good, level term life insurance policy. If you make \$50,000 a year, have a family, and you don't have \$500,000 saved up, then your family cannot afford the risk of you dying and losing that income. In cases like this, you buy insurance to transfer the risk. Now, once you have that kind of money saved up, and especially if you have no debt, you won't need the insurance policy, because you're self-insured.

When it comes to items like warranties on things, I look at it this way: If you can't afford for the item to break and pay out of your own pocket to have it fixed without it crushing you financially, then you can't afford that item. Don't go out and buy some big, fancy computer if you can't afford the repair shop bill if it crashes.

You shouldn't be buying stuff if you're that broke. Period!

- Dave

For more financial help please visit [daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com).

Dave Ramsey is a personal money management expert, popular national radio personality and the author of three New York Times bestsellers – *The Total Money Makeover*, *Financial Peace Revisited* and *More Than Enough*. In them, Ramsey exemplifies his life's work of teaching others how to be financially responsible, so they can acquire enough wealth to take care of loved ones, live prosperously into old age, and give generously to others.

### Why Retirement Before College?

Dear Dave,

I noticed that your Baby Steps list puts saving for retirement before saving for your kid's college fund. Sending your kids to college would come first on the timeline, so why do you suggest this?

- Jen

Dear Jen,

I advise this approach because everyone is going to retire someday, unless, of course, they happen to die before reaching retirement age. Retiring and eating are necessities. College is a luxury. Lots of people succeed in life without going to college, and thousands have worked

# Placer County Sheriff Reports

## Two Arrested for Burglary and Vandalism

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County – On February 4th, 2011 Placer County Sheriff Deputies arrested two suspects for the December 13 burglary and vandalism of New Hope Lutheran Church in Foresthill. Sean Junkins (D.O.B. 05-20-1991) of Foresthill was booked into the Placer County Jail on felony burglary and vandalism charges. His bail was set at \$50,000. The second suspect, a 16 year old male from Foresthill, was booked



at Juvenile Hall. Two other juvenile suspects have been identified and criminal charges have been sent to the District Attorney's Office for review.

During the December 13th burglary the suspects caused thousands of dollars in vandalism and destroyed the set for an upcoming children's Christmas play

Sean Junkins, of Foresthill, arrested on felony burglary and vandalism charges.

## Lincoln Men Arrested for Cemetery Vandalism

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County – An anonymous tip to Placer County Crime Stoppers provided Placer County Sheriff's detectives with leads that resulted in the arrest of two young Lincoln men for causing massive damage to the Manzanita Cemetery near Lincoln in November.

Cody Lee Piland and Steven Robert Warn III, both 19, are cooperating with detectives in the crime spree that resulted in more than \$100,000 in damages to the old cemetery. Some of the tombstones were more than 100 years old. An estimated 100 to 150 tombstones had been turned over, pulled out of the ground or broken into pieces. The vandalism occurred between Nov. 12 and Nov. 14, 2010.



Cody Lee Piland



Steven R. Warn, III

Both suspects have been charged with felony vandalism and conspiracy. Piland was arrested Jan. 19 and was released Jan. 24 on bail of \$50,000 and is on electronic monitoring. He was scheduled to appear in court Feb. 7, at

8:30 a.m. in the jail courtroom. Warn was arrested Jan. 28 and was booked at the Placer County Jail. Detectives asked for and were granted a bail enhancement for Warn. His bail is set at \$50,000. The investigation is ongoing.

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- Noon - 1pm: The KAHI Noon News Plus with Mary Jane Popp and the KAHI News Team
- 1 - 4pm: The Dave Ramsey Show
- 4 - 7pm: The KAHI Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHI News Team
- 7 - 10pm: Into the Night with Tony Bruno
- 10pm - 12am: Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp

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### Saturdays

- 6 - 7am: A Time for Seniors
- 7 - 8am: The Swap Shop
- 8 - 9am: The KAHI Corral
- 9 - 10am: The Garden Guru
- 10 - 11am: Take Charge!
- 11am - 12pm: Your Life and Your Money
- 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

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- 7:30 - 9am: Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet
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- 5 - 8pm: The Insana Quotient
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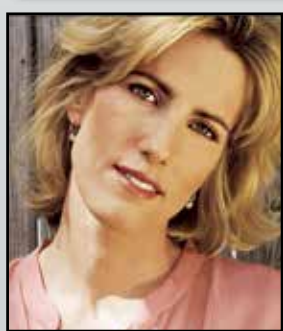
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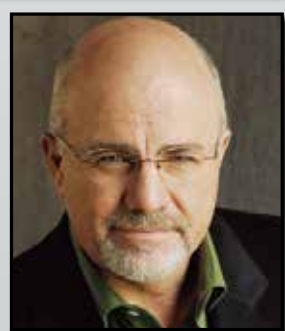
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Laura Ingraham



Dave Ramsey



Mary Jane Popp

## ID Theft "Pioneer" Arrested



Joseph Kidd

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Auburn – Since 1993, Larry Smith has been arrested numerous times, been sent to state prison, paroled,

obtained welfare and Medicare benefits and gotten married. Only he isn't really Larry Smith, he's Joseph Kidd, an Auburn area transient.

The real Larry Smith's 17-year nightmare ended yesterday (Feb. 1st) when the Placer County Sheriff's Office, with the help of the Sacramento Police Department, arrested Kidd along New Airport Road. Smith resides in Florida and has been subjected to 17 years of trouble at the hands of Kidd, 56, who was booked at the Placer County Jail Tuesday afternoon on charges of identity theft, welfare fraud and grand theft.

The case was brought to the attention of Placer County Sheriff's Detective Jim Hudson on Tuesday morning. After reviewing welfare records, it was determined that Kidd

had filed for benefits using a false name. Further investigation quickly unraveled Kidd's two-decade-long crime spree. Deputies familiar with Auburn-area transients immediately recognized Kidd's mug shot as a man who called himself Larry Smith. Within minutes, the deputies found Kidd and he was arrested.

The real Larry Smith, 67, who has no criminal record, told Hudson that he was jailed for eight days, had liens placed against his taxes, was denied medical care had his driver's license suspended and many other atrocities committed against him by Kidd. Smith has contacted law enforcement agencies across the country in an attempt to straighten out the identity theft, to no avail.

**Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra**  
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 2010 - 2011 Season

**Verdi Requiem**  
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 With projected supertitles

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Fall in love again with this new Broadway tribute to the music of Richard Rodgers, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter and Andrew Lloyd Weber in an evening packed with famous melodies and lyrics including — *All the Things You Are*, *I've Got You Under My Skin*, and *With a Song in My Heart*.

Tickets: Mondavi Box Office 1-866-754-2787 or [SacramentoChoral.com](http://SacramentoChoral.com)

# Arts, Entertainment and Other Fun Things to do!

## Celebrate Mardi Gras in Historic Nevada City

Nevada City – Gaily masked characters, wacky parade entries and Cajun cookin' come to the Sierra foothills March 5-6 as Mardi Gras 2011 is celebrated with Old West style in historic Nevada City, California.

Nevada City's main drag, Broad Street, becomes a West Coast Bourbon Street as merry spectators fill the downtown historic district for the annual Mardi Gras parade.

The Sunday afternoon (Mar. 6) family parade moves down Broad Street beginning at 2 p.m. Colorfully masked and costumed characters and societies ride, march, dance and strut through an appreciative crowd, handing out beads, trinkets, bangles and more. Everyone is encouraged to wear their own festive Mardi Gras attire.

This year's 19th annual celebration kicks off on Saturday night (Mar. 5) with the annual Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball in historic Miners Foundry at 325 Spring Street. The masquerade ball runs from 8 p.m. to midnight and features dancing to the live southern rock of the Holcomb Brothers Band. Traditional Cajun food will be available, including Cajun sausage sandwiches, chicken and sausage gumbo, southern style cole slaw, red beans and rice, bread pudding and Manale Prawns.

Masquerade ball tickets are only \$10 in advance and (if available) \$15 at the door. The event usually sells out so advance tickets are recommended.



**Kim Wellman of the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce is ready for Mardi Gras. Are you?**

Contact the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce at 132 Main Street, call (530) 265-2692 or (800) 655-NJOY or see [www.nevadacitychamber.com](http://www.nevadacitychamber.com).

Activities surrounding Sunday's free family parade include a Mardi Gras Street Faire from 11- 4 p.m. Food, drink, craft and clothing vendors will set up booths on North Pine and Commercial streets, with plenty of room for families with children and baby strollers.

Nevada City is known for its classic small town spirit and lively community events. With a population of just 3,000, Nevada City swells to thousands more for the annual Mardi Gras celebration.

Visitors should plan to arrive early to get a good vantage point along the parade route. Out-of-town visitors should book local accommodations early.

Nevada City is located on the scenic western slope of the Sierra, midway between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe. From Sacramento, take eastbound Interstate 80 to Auburn and Highway 49 north to Nevada City. From Marysville and the north valley, take eastbound State Route 20. From Reno, take westbound I-80 and westbound State Route 20.

Sponsors of the 2011 event include KNCO AM 83 News Talk Radio and Star 94 FM, The Grass Valley Union, Waste Management, SPD Supermarkets of Nevada City and Grass Valley, Nor Cal Beverage, Distributors of Bud Light; and Sierra Nevada Pale Ale; brewed in Chico by The Sierra Nevada Brewing Company.

Additional sponsors include McGee's Annex, Nevada City Winery, The National Hotel, Boozefighters Motorcycle Club, Charter 6 of Grass Valley; Larry and Gladys Birdsong, The Nevada City Advocate, The Fur Traders, Cooper's Ale Works, Susan Sotelo, Realtor; Fashion Sunglasses and Auburn Printers.

For more information, contact the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce at (530) 265-2692 or (800) 655-NJOY or see [www.nevadacitychamber.com](http://www.nevadacitychamber.com).



## Wings, Wine and Art

Gold Country - High Hand Nursery, nestled at the base of the Sierra foothills and located in the historic High Hand fruit sheds is hosting a benefit for the Gold Country Wildlife Rescue, an organization dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating injured wild animals.

The benefit is Saturday, February 19, 2011, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. inside our fruit sheds. Admission is \$10.00 and includes an art



exhibit by artists of High Hand Art Gallery, a chance to win raffle prizes, light hors d'oeuvres, a complimentary glass of wine and a presentation with rescued birds of prey, including a bald eagle.

Tickets may be purchased online at [www.highhand.com](http://www.highhand.com), [www.goldcountrywildliferescue.org](http://www.goldcountrywildliferescue.org) or in person at High Hand Nursery, 3750 Taylor Road, Loomis, CA. Call (916) 652-2065 for questions.

**Friday, February 11**  
**6:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

**Dinner: Swiss steak**

**Entertainment provided by:**  
**Dave Channell's**  
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*University of California, Cooperative Extension, Nutrition BEST Program*

**Placer Nature Center Series PCOE Annex Bldg • 365 Nevada St, Auburn**  
Using tools and inspirational ideas, educators & parents learn to facilitate nature study while weaving themes into other indoor activities. Learn methods and strategies to nurture children's natural curiosity and innate sense of wonder in your outdoor environment.

**Eat What! 6:30pm - 8:30pm • PCOE Annex Bldg • 365 Nevada St, Auburn**  
Please join PCOE for an evening of healthy and maybe not-so-healthy insight, as we learn the true nutritional value of the foods and drinks that are encountered on a daily basis. Based on the book "Eat This Not That FOR KIDS" by David Zinczenko and Matt Goulding.

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# Mahayana Buddhism and the Practice of Serene Reflection

*Applegate* - A series of Buddhist classes is being sponsored by the Bear River Meditation Group. This group is affiliated with Shasta Abbey, (shastaabbey.org), a Buddhist Monastery in Mt. Shasta and follows the tradition of Soto Zen Buddhism. The four classes will be held on Monday evenings at the Applegate Community Center, 18014 Applegate Rd., Applegate, from 7-9 p.m. A Saturday retreat will follow the class series for those interested in learning more about meditation practice and how to incorporate it into daily life. The first Monday class and the Saturday retreat will be led by monks from Shasta Abbey. The other classes will be led by Andrea Spark and Pam Johnson, Lay Ministers with the Bear River Meditation Group. Each class will also include a short period of meditation, tea and refreshments, and a time for

questions and discussion. On February 21st, Reverend Master Daishin Yalon, Vice Abbot of Shasta Abbey, will open the series by talking about the Buddha's life and His first teachings on the Four Noble Truths, which remain as the foundation of all schools of Buddhism today. He will introduce the practice of Serene Reflection Meditation (also called "Silent Illumination") which is central to Zen Buddhism. On February 28th, Lay Ministers Pam Johnson and Andrea Spark will investigate the fourth Noble Truth of Buddhism which is the Eightfold Path. Within an exploration of its groupings of Wisdom, Morality, and Concentration (panna, sila, samadhi), there will be an emphasis on the relationship of the Path to the Buddhist Precepts and using them as a guide in daily life. On March 7th, we will look at the

historical movement of Mahayana Buddhism which started in India, then traveled to China. From China it spread to Japan emphasizing the teachings of Bodhidharma and Dogen, two honored ancestors in the lineage of Soto Zen. We will see how these two ancient Masters influenced the course of Zen Buddhism. You may join us for all of the classes, or come for just part of the series. These classes are open to everyone and are free of charge. Donations are always gladly accepted and are used for monk's transportation and lodging, meditation supplies, and rental of the Center. For more information, call Pam or Andrea at 530 878-2629, email [bearrivermeditationgroup@gmail.com](mailto:bearrivermeditationgroup@gmail.com), or go to <http://www.bearrivermeditationgroup.org>.

## Employers Courting Job Candidates

*Sacramento* - With Valentine's Day approaching, love is in the air, and sweet success may be in store for jobseekers at Sacramento's HIREvent on Wednesday, February 23, from noon to 4pm at the Holiday Inn Northeast, near I-80 & Madison. This free job fair will feature a variety of employers actively hiring for entry-level to management positions in a wide range of fields.

Jobseekers will enjoy a rare opportunity to rendezvous with recruiters and make valuable contacts with public and private-sector organizations. Employment experts will also be on hand, providing free personal resume consultations. Jobseekers shouldn't miss this timely, cost-effective way to meet with many employers in a single afternoon, all looking to hire. Prospective applicants should

dress for success, bring plenty of resumes, and arrive early enough to meet with every recruiter, because all the employers will be eager to fill immediate openings. Sacramento's HIREvent is sponsored by Entercom, Telemundo 33 and Job Journal. For more information on this and other HIREvents, visit [JobJournal.com](http://JobJournal.com) or call 888-THE JOBS (843-5627).



**ROCK DOC**

By Dr. E. Kirsten Peters

The rates of China's economic growth are often reported in a wide variety of sectors. But China is experiencing another bonanza, too. It doesn't get the headlines commanded by economic figures, but it catches the attention of geologists and anyone with an interest in the history of life on Earth. What's at issue is the absolute tsunami of fossil specimens that are dug up in China and make their way around the world. The main period for discovering important fossils in the U.S. is probably in the past. To be sure, there are dinosaur finds in Montana from time to time, and other fossils come to light on occasion around the nation. But simply because we've had scientific expeditions looking for fossils within our national boundaries for well over a century, the rate at which we discover significant fossils these days is rather small. In contrast to the U.S., China didn't have people looking for fossils within its borders until quite recently. Locked in poverty and separated for a time from much of the world through the Cold War, the Chinese had other issues to deal with besides trying to unravel the ancient history of life on the planet.

## The Downside of Good Fortune

But all of that has changed in recent years. Both scientific and private efforts have been mounted to find fossils in certain Chinese rocks, and the efforts have been enormously successful. The flood of fossils that has emerged is flowing into Chinese museums, into museums overseas, and into the hands of private collectors. There's a lot of money at stake these days in the world of fossils. A complete specimen of a transitional type of species of a dino-bird fetches a king's ransom on the international market. Ditto for certain specimens of enormous swimming reptiles or pretty nearly any other species that's large, interesting or fierce-looking. But here's a simple fact about fossils. Usually what you find in a rock is only part of one individual's remains. In other words, it's not so hard to find a part of a dinosaur - I stumbled across one isolated dino bone myself when I was younger. But it's truly rare to find all the bones and teeth of a particular individual, laid out neatly and just waiting for you. There often is real scientific value in just a part of a fossil. Incomplete specimens can mean a lot to experts. But, for obvious reasons, the price of a complete fossil is extremely high compared to the price an isolated bone or tooth will fetch. Many of the fossils being found today in China first come to the attention of farmers who simply find a rock in their field with part of a fossil in it. From the point of view of some farmers, adding to that first rock with part of another is not so difficult. Just for example, imagine you and I both become fossils in

the same siltstone bed, but the fossil version of me ends up missing an arm because a predator carried it off after my death. It might occur to a farmer to "add" an arm to my fossil remains from another specimen - like you. This creates a mixed fossil, one that represents the same species, but that has two individuals in it. Even more problematic is that a farmer might not have another human bone to complete the fossil version of me. In that case, he might add whatever he has on hand that seems most suitable, something from another species of animal. This creates a chimera, an animal that never lived at all. Farmers and local fossil dealers can fetch high prices for specimens they create in such a way. And according to a recent article in the journal Science, it looks like the majority of fossil specimens coming out of China have been doctored. It's all a crying shame. It would be better to have incomplete evidence of an animal than to have "specimens" that have been carved, forced together, or otherwise corrupted. I surely don't begrudge Chinese peasants any extra income they can get. But I do regret the loss of scientifically meaningful evidence of life's rich history on Earth. Dr. E. Kirsten Peters, a native of the rural Northwest, was trained as a geologist at Princeton and Harvard. Follow her on the web at [rockdoc.wsu.edu](http://rockdoc.wsu.edu) and on Twitter @ [RockDocWSU](http://RockDocWSU). This column is a service of the College of Sciences at Washington State University.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every  
Come back every week for Sudoku! For Solution See Page 7.

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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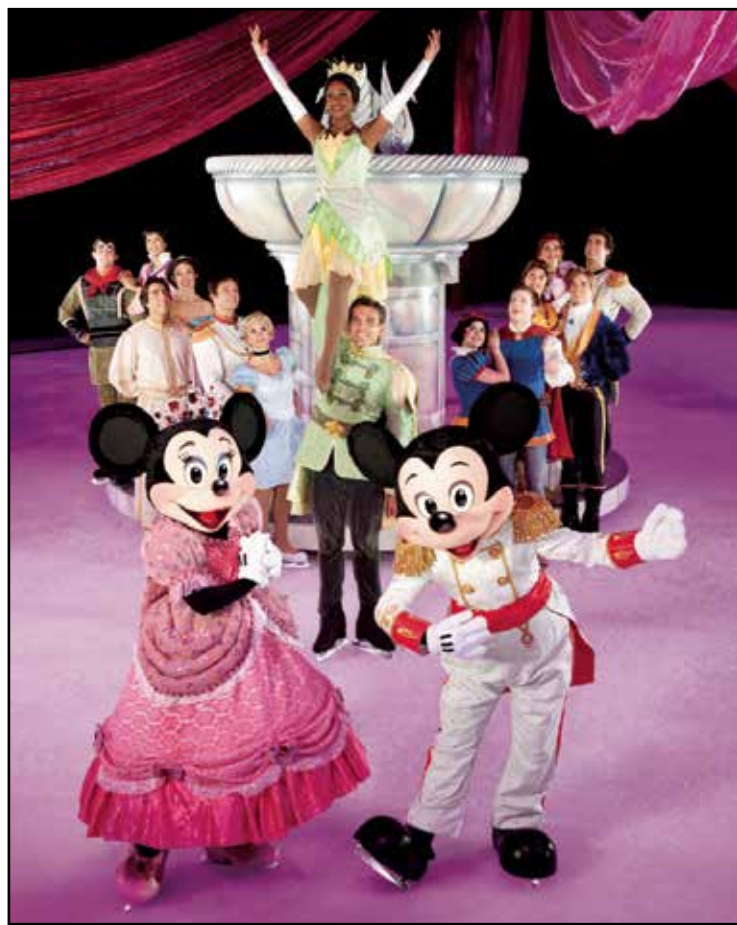
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# Disney On Ice Presents Let's Celebrate! Brings A Colossal Party on Ice to Audiences Across the Country

All-New Production Showcases A Magical Medley of Holidays and Celebrations With More Than 50 Disney Characters



Sacramento Region - Feld Entertainment invites families to turn an ordinary day into an extraordinary one at its new ice extravaganza, Disney On Ice presents Let's Celebrate!, featuring more than 50 classic and contemporary Disney characters in a captivating compilation of favorite holidays and celebrations from around the world.

Audiences will experience the ultimate celebration of celebrations as they join Mickey Mouse and friends on a delightful tour of festivities jam-packed with fun surprises, spectacular skating and vibrant costumes. The production's original storyline transports audiences to exciting events with their favorite Disney characters, including a Valentine's Day Royal

Ball with the newest Disney Princess, Tiana; a Very Merry UnBirthday Party with Alice and the Mad Hatter; Jack Skellington's frightfully festive Halloween party with the Disney Villains; and a Hawaiian luau with Lilo and Stitch.

Drawing upon their own holiday experiences for research, the production's creative team was able to envision a show with an abundance of colors, warmth and spirit to evoke the pleasant memories of the holidays for the audience. "At the beginning of the show we invite everyone to 'Be Our Guest,' and we want the audience to feel like they are participating in the show, not that they are merely watching it," says Director Patty Vincent. "The audience gets

to be a part of what we experience on the ice—they'll feel like they went trick or treating with Mickey and spent Valentine's Day with the Disney Princesses."

"Let's Celebrate! is all about experiencing the holidays through the eyes of the Disney characters. We have a variety of celebrations from all over the world," adds Vincent. "With Mickey's Digital Global Destinator, we are able to travel to far-off places like China for the Chinese New Year and to Brazil for Carnival."

"The show takes on a contemporary perspective with new music, choreography, costumes and video technology that pumps incredible energy into every moment of the show," says writer Jerry Bilik. "Mickey even causes a few mix-ups with his Digital Global Destinator, but in the end everything wraps up in one of the happiest celebrations ever!"

As Mickey and pals travel through each special time of year, Scenic Designer Robert Little sets the ice with iconic props that embody the essence of each celebration. An

illuminated cherry blossom tree depicts the beauty of the Japanese Cherry Blossom festival, Sakura; a tree-like structure wrapped in gleaming white lights descends from the ceiling as snowfall blankets the scene of a Winter Wonderland; and an elegant canopy of shimmering fuchsia chiffon drapes the ice for a Valentine's Day Royal Ball.

"I tried to design pieces that encompassed what comes to mind when you think of that particular celebration," says Little. "For the Halloween scene, I visualized an eerie environment with an iron gate surrounded by giant spider webs and spooky jack-o-lanterns. The entire arena will feel the Halloween spirit regardless of what time of year it is."

From twisting and fire-twirling Hawaiian luau dancers to the zombie-like movements of the ghoulish groupies in the Halloween segment, choreographer Cindy Stuart adds high-energy and a unique style to each performance number. "We really stepped out of the box with the choreography for this show,"



says Stuart. "The production numbers revolve around the celebrations which are not necessarily part of the Disney stories we have worked with in the past. Every number is new and different from the others."

Audiences get a taste of New Orleans, where Tiana's story takes place, in a Mardi Gras performance that is packed with upbeat jazz-influenced choreography and music. In the Valentine's Day segment, seven extraordinary pairs of Disney Princesses and Princes skate to contemporary remixes of classic songs from each princess story and then come together for a large number to "That's How You Know" from Walt Disney Pictures Enchanted. At a Very Merry UnBirthday Party, a

fast-paced skating frenzy ensues as the characters toss around the Mad Hatter's hat. Then a uniquely choreographed precision skating number follows with Sorcerer Mickey bringing 15 skaters in broom costumes to life and sweeping across the ice in a synchronized formation.

With a contemporary flair and eclectic mixture of creative elements, Disney On Ice presents Let's Celebrate! is an incredible party that will inspire families to celebrate year round.

To discover more about Disney On Ice, log on to [www.disneyonice.com](http://www.disneyonice.com), or visit us on Facebook and YouTube.

Photo Credits: Feld Entertainment



See Ad on Page 5 for Showtimes

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