


Who is this?

Find out on page B-4



Volume 124, Number 47 - Locally owned since 1884

Winters, Yolo County, California, Thursday, December 20, 2007

The hometown paper of Dean and Gloria Thomas

Citizen of the Year is for the birds

By **DEBRA LO GUERCIO**
Express editor

Retirement is supposed to mean that part of life when you relax and take it easy. Not so for this year's Citizen of the Year, Tom Stone. After 30 years as a battalion chief for the Fairfield Fire Department (29 years) and the Folsom Fire Department (one year), Stone stopped rescuing people and burning buildings, and started rescuing birds.

For the last year and a half, Stone has spent much of his time volunteering for Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue, which has members from Blue Canyon to Monterey and is devoted to rescuing a variety of exotic birds, such as cockatiels, macaws and parrots. Some of the birds have been found and never claimed, some are sick or injured, and some are just unwanted. Stone not only takes birds in himself, but helps train prospective rescue volunteers to take in birds in their own homes.

Sometimes, these res-

See **STONE** on page **A-13**



Photo by Debra Lo Guercio

Tom Stone, this year's Citizen of the Year, cuddles with his blue macaw, Horatio. He will be formally honored at the Winters Chamber of Commerce Year in Review celebration, planned for Saturday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. at the Community Center. Tickets are available in advance only, and cost \$35 per person. For tickets, call the Chamber of Commerce office, 795-2329.

Granite Bay project gets nod

By **JUSTIN COX**
Staff writer

Just in case you flipped to Channel 20 late in the broadcast of the Dec. 11 planning commission meeting, it's worth pointing out that the item up for discussion was the Granite Bay Holdings Commercial Project, not fast food restaurants or drive-throughs.

While the majority of the project was ultimately approved unanimously and the planning commission was in agreement as to its importance to the community's economic future, the potential inclusion of a drive-through "food-service location" was of concern to some of the planners.

As a result, this element was extracted and voted on separately due to a "lack of knowledge" as to its details and future implications. The remainder of the project was well-received and passed easily.

GBH representative Tyler Wade set the meeting in motion by giving a detailed PowerPoint presentation describing the project, which is expected to create seven commercial lots on the southeast corner of Grant Avenue and East Street, west of the Subway sandwich shop and north of the Winters II apartment complex.

According to the GBH presentation, their goal is to create a "pedestrian-oriented gathering place for local families and visitors while pro-

Staff, parents, students protest loss of block schedule

By **ELLIOT LANDES**
Staff writer

The Dec. 13 school board meeting agenda included a discussion of restructuring and cost reduction, and this filled the room with teachers, parents and students, many objecting to one item in particular — the proposed end of block scheduling at the high school.

The Restructuring and Cost Reduction Committee was created in September and is near completion of its task — how to cut \$487,000 out of the next two years of school costs to offset losses of state revenue due to declining enrollment. The final decision will be made in January by a board of trustees that includes two new members. This was the first meeting for Matt Brickley and David Hyde, replacing Kathy MacIntire and Rick Romney. Both new members had attended recent meetings, to help prepare for this very issue.

The committee developed a list of 122 cost reduction options with possibilities ranging from eliminating personal refrigerators (saving less than \$1000) to closing Shirley Rominger Intermediate School (saving \$182,000). Superintendent Dale Mitchell's recommended short list included the following for 2008/2009:

- ~ Transfer 50 percent of District Secretary costs from general fund to restricted routine maintenance funds, saving \$10,700.
- ~ Consolidate facility use at Waggoner to reduce custodial costs, saving \$18,000.
- ~ Add \$48,000 of employee rollover to declining enrollment reserves, saving \$48,000.
- ~ Restructure the high school schedule, saving \$150,000.

And the following for the year after:

- ~ Move the 6th grade to Shirley Rominger school and reduce the AP (advanced placement) position at the middle school, saving \$65,593.
- ~ Cut back on travel and con-

Mariani Nut Co. expands business

Express staff

Mariani Nut Co. has expanded its nut processing ability by adding an almond huller and more walnut storage at their new Buckeye Road facility, located about one and a half miles northeast of Winters. The new facility will allow Mariani Nut Co. to hull and shell almonds, with processing starting at the new site about two weeks ago.

According to plant manager Gus Mariani they process one grower at a time. Clean out the machines and start on the next grower. Gus went on the say that the plant will run for 100 days, "start to finish."

"It's something new — something we haven't done before," said company co-owner Jack Mariani, explaining that prior to opening the new facility, the company had to send almonds out to have them hulled and shelled. "Now we'll do it for ourselves."

The equipment was built and installed by LMC of Donaldson, Georgia, with some of the equipment manufac-



Photo by Charles Wallace

Justin Mariani checks on the flow of processed almonds from the new Mariani Nut Co. hulling facility on Buckeye Road.

See **MARIANI** on page **A-13**

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Included in this week's issue are advertising inserts from:
Longs Drugs,
Lorenzo's Market,
Round Table,
Vacaville Appliance Center
(Supplements are sent to Winters, Woodland, Davis, Capay Valley, Dixon, Vacaville and Fairfield.)

WEATHER

Weather readings are taken at 9 a.m. each day, covering the previous 24 hour period.

Date	Rain	HI	Lo
Dec. 12		59	33
Dec. 13		57	30
Dec. 14		62	29
Dec. 15		58	29
Dec. 16		57	32
Dec. 17	.12	56	36
Dec. 18	.45	52	45

Rain for week: .57
Season's total: 5.26
Last year to date: 3.69
Average to Dec. 18: 6.20

Early holiday deadlines

Because Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Tuesday this year, the submission deadlines for the Dec. 27 and Jan. 3 editions will be the prior Fridays at noon.

FUTURE SUBCRIBERS

AMELIA TEMPEST DAMON was born to Melinda Suzanne Essy and Brenden Charles Damon on Nov. 28, 2007 at 4:50 p.m. in the Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula. She weighed 8 pounds and 5 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. She joins sister Annabelle, age 4. Paternal grandparents are Dave and Deborah Damon of Winters. Paternal great-grandparents are Jack and Betty Damon of Burlington, Wa. Maternal great-grandmothers are Margaret Benck of Vallejo and Jeanette Cahill of Winters.

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Winters weekly police report

Nov. 30
 ~ On the first block of Main Street, a fictitious check was cashed at a business. Loss: \$290.
 ~ On the 100 block of East Grant Avenue, victim's checks were fraudulently cashed at a business. Investigation continues.

Dec. 1
 ~ On the 400 block of Edwards Street, property was stolen from the residential front porch. Loss: \$125.

Dec. 2
 ~ On the 400 block of Luis Place, an Officer responded to a welfare check of a young child found wandering outside after dark.

Dec. 6
 ~ A found bicycle was turned over to Police.

Dec. 10
 ~ On the 100 block of East Baker Street, parties were involved in a domestic dispute.

Dec. 11
 ~ Victim's identity was used to fraudulently obtain credit.
 ~ On the first block of East Main Street, an Officer responded to a residential audible alarm on two occasions. The residence was found secure for both responses.

Dec. 12
 ~ On the 100 block of Broadview Lane, forcible entry was gained to a vehicle and property was stolen. Loss: \$470.
 ~ On the 700 block of Valley Oak Drive, two tires were punctured on a vehicle.
 ~ On the 100 block of Grant Avenue, verbal threats were made toward victim.
 ~ Adrian Jose Gutierrez, 18, of Winters was arrested on an outstanding Winters Police Department bench warrant charging him with failure to appear on previous charge of two counts of violating a court order. Gutierrez was booked at Winters Police Department and transported to Yolo County Jail for incarceration.

Dec. 1
 ~ On the first block of Main Street, an Officer responded to an audible alarm. The business was found secure.

Dec. 13
 ~ A 14-year-old Winters juvenile was arrested for battery causing serious bodily injury. Juvenile was booked at Winters Police Department and released to a parent on a notice to appear.

Dec. 6
 ~ On the first block of East Baker Street, a license plate was stolen from a vehicle.

Dec. 15
 ~ Sean Kenneth Snow, 24, of Winters was issued a notice to appear for being an unlicensed driver, failing to stop at a stop sign and failing to have proof of insurance.

Dec. 15
 ~ Juan Gumaro Molina, 21, of Winters was arrested for driving with a suspended/revoked driver's license and possessing a narcotic controlled substance. Molina was booked at Winters Police Department and transported to Yolo County Jail for incarceration.

Dec. 16
 ~ On the first block of Main Street, an Officer responded to an audible alarm. The business was found secure.

Dec. 17
 ~ On the first block of Main Street, an Officer responded to an audible alarm. The business was found secure.

Master Gardeners offer rose pruning classes

A rose pruning clinic taught by local rosarian Albert Crepeau will be held on Jan. 5, from 10 a. m. to noon at Woodland Community College. Woodland Community College is located at 2300 East Gibson Road in Woodland. The rose pruning clinic will demonstrate how to prune modern roses such as hybrid teas and floribundas. Climbing roses and ramblers will also be treated.

Crepeau is a longtime member and past president of the Woodland Library Rose Club and is a member of the Heritage Rose Society and American Rose Society. A propagator, hybridizer, preservationist, and author, Crepeau has in the past 5 years begun entering his roses in the Yolo County Fair and as a result has won many blue ribbons as well as a best in show.

The Yolo County Master Gardeners will present another rose pruning clinic at Davis Central Park Rose Garden on Saturday, Jan. 19, from 10 a.m. to noon. Central Park is located at the corner of 5th and B streets in Davis. The clinic will be taught by local rosarian, Linda Parsons.

In addition to rose cleanup and pruning, Parsons will instruct students on tool use and care.

Participants in either clinic are asked to bring gloves and hand pruners, if available, and wear appropriate clothing.

Class reservations are not necessary but an RSVP to Cooperative Extension, 666-8143, is requested in case of class cancellation.

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YESTERYEAR




File photo

At the community tree lighting program held Monday, December 6, 1976, Heidi Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Erickson, of Winters, told Santa what she wanted for Christmas.

<h2>50</h2> <p>YEARS AGO</p> <p>January 2, 1958</p> <p>Thomas D. Fox, after 41 years of delivering U.S. mail in North Carolina and California, makes his last run Tuesday before retiring. During his long tenure as a rural mail carrier, he has never been involved in an automobile accident.</p> <p>Assemblyman Lolyd Lowrey of Rumsey will be the speaker at the January meeting of the Winters District Chamber of Commerce, to be held in the First Christian Church Monday, with dinner being served by the ladies of the church at 7 p.m.</p> <p>Graveside services will be held Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Winters Cemetery for Orvaill T. Salsbury (Happy Jack) 98, who died Saturday.</p> <p>At a family pre-Christmas dinner party, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Molina announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Gloria Molina, to Mr. Lorin Warren.</p> <p>Mrs. D. Bernard Walters and children of Vacaville, Miss Frances Walters and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Morando of San Francisco were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. D.B. Walters. Others joining them for dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pearse and son Tom, and Mrs. Bertha Young.</p> <p>Louis Invernion, a student at Sacramento State College and son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Invernion, of Winters, has been named as "first chair" in the clarinet section of the symphonic wind ensemble.</p>	<h2>65</h2> <p>YEARS AGO</p> <p>January 1, 1943</p> <p>Adding one more to the "all time" record of soldier jaunts to Reno, Sergeant Yolo Briggs and Miss Alice May Chapman pledged mutual vows there Thursday, December 24, in the "little church around the corner."</p> <p>Population of Yolo County at January 1, 1943 is estimated at 30,000, a gain of 2,800 since the 1940, according to the California Taxpayers Association.</p> <p>Mrs. Harry Sattazahn is expected to arrive home today from a holiday visit with relatives in Pennsylvania.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Fred Barker had a Christmas message from their son James to the effect that he is to be transferred from Fort Buckley, Denver, to Santa Ana.</p> <p>Bertram Coman, in U.S. Navy at San Diego was a holiday visitor at home.</p> <p>Bill Singleton left yesterday for his station at Victorville. He has been home on a ten day leave.</p> <p>Ensign and Mrs. William Carrick (Doris Munoz) of San Mateo were weekend guests with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Munoz.</p> <p>J. Foss Moore left Monday for his station at Fort Bliss, Texas.</p>	<h2>100</h2> <p>YEARS AGO</p> <p>January 3, 1908</p> <p>The creek has fallen this morning so that teams were crossing above the bridge. With good weather the lower ford ought to be passable in a day or two if not now.</p> <p>The thirtieth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. H.C. Culton was celebrated at the Winters Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. Mr. Culton's long service has been full of rich and interesting experience, and the romance of the founding of the local church is well told in an announcement which the present pastor has had printed for distribution among friends of the church.</p> <p>Miss Bertha Pearse and W.A. Young went to Woodland Tuesday and in the afternoon were married in the Congregational Church.</p> <p>Calvin Clare Stone and Clementine Oakey Culton were married at a beautiful church service New Year's Day by the bride's uncle, Rev. J.N. Crawford. Church decorations were by Sallie Wolfskill.</p>	<h2>115</h2> <p>YEARS AGO</p> <p>December 31, 1892</p> <p>B.R. Sackett came up from Alameda Tuesday and returned the same day. We are pleased to announce that Mr. Sackett will remove with his family, back here, and will reside on the place recently purchased from Mr. Seaman.</p> <p>Editor Hudson of the Guinda Independent was a passenger on the up train yesterday morning.</p> <p>Arthur North came up from Berkeley on Saturday morning to sped the holidays at home.</p> <p>John Cradwick is having a stable built in the rear of his residence on First Street.</p> <p>John McCoubrey had a kicking horse to shoe last Thursday, as the side of his blacksmith show readily shows.</p> <p>The telegraph lines leading from Winters were so damaged by the storm of last week that no messages were sent from here from Saturday until Thursday.</p> <p>W.H. Gregory informed the Express reporter Thursday morning that he had effected the sale of the Norman place, in the Udell grant, southeast of town, to John Sievers, at a price a little above \$60 an acre.</p> <p>The High School will open Tuesday, January 3rd, 1893. All who desire to attend are requested to be on hand, whether they are public school graduates or not, and arrangements will be made for the examination as soon as convenient.</p>
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Lake Berryessa drops .07 of a foot

The level of Lake Berryessa dropped by .07 of a foot during the past week with a reduction in storage of 1,208 acre feet of water, according to Mickey Faulkner of the Solano Irrigation District.

He reported Tuesday morning that the lake was 419.06 feet above sea level, with storage computed at 1,219,734 acre feet of water.

The SID is diverting 55 second feet of water into the Putah South Canal and 30 second feet is flowing in Putah Creek at the Diversion Dam. Evaporation on Lake Berryessa averaged 69 acre feet of water per day during the week.

Hospital volunteers sought

The Sutter Davis Hospital Auxiliary is recruiting new members who are in good health and over 18 years of age to volunteer in various capacities in the hospital. The volunteers must attend a general orientation on Jan. 31 and on-the-job training. For more information, visit www.sutterdavis.org/about/volunteering.html. Applications are available from the website or by calling the Hospital Information Desk, 759-7485, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Also, the public is invited to have their blood pressures checked every Wednesday in the Sutter Davis Hospital lobby at 2000 Sutter Place, Davis, from 10 a.m. to noon. The blood pressure check is free and provided by the Hospital and the Auxiliary.

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Opinion



DEBRA LO GUERCIO BECAUSE I SAY SO

THE EMAIL FROM FRANCES in Fairfield begins, “Dear Debra, would you explain more about FGM, since conversations that I have had with readers of newspapers are that they don’t get it! That is, (they) compared FGM with male circumcision; and does it happen in the US? If not, then (they’re) not interested, or (they show) apathy. I have read about FGM before various times during the past few years. It seems many people do not think of female circumcision as a cruel practice! I do hope that you can write about the practice in the U. S. as well now.”

Well, Frances, it’s like this. Former congresswoman Patricia Schroeder authored a bill in 1993 that outlawed female genital mutilation (FGM) in the U.S. Although it’s illegal, this doesn’t guarantee that it doesn’t occur under the radar amongst immigrant communities. The bulk of known FGM occurs on the African continent, where it’s done without anesthesia, usually with unsanitary, crude tools and even rocks.

I met with a Davis woman last week who’d traveled to Kenya on a mission to aid women, and she showed me a photo of a poster that hung on the office wall of a local sheriff. It made the hair on my arms stand up.

This sheriff is trying to end FGM in Kenya, and he drew a poster ranking the following African countries wherein FGM is practiced, correlated with the percentages of women who’ve had it done: Somalia – 98, Djibouti – 98, Eritria/Ethiopia – 90, Sierra Leone – 90, Sudan – 89, Mali – 80, Gambia – 80, Burkina Faso – 70, Nigeria – 60, Cote d’Ivoire – 60, Chad – 60, Liberia – 60, Guinea – 50, Guinea Bissau – 50, C.A. Republic – 50, Kenya – 50, Benin – 50, Togo – 50, Ghana – 30, Mauritania – 25, Cameroon – 20 and Tanzania – 20. (Egypt, where FGM is also known to be practiced, was not included on the list.)

The Kenyan sheriff estimated that 6,000 girls are mutilated worldwide every day, translating to 250 every hour. Your hair standing up yet?

Frances also mentions the confusion between male and female circumcision, likely because “circumcision” is an inaccurate word for FGM. The removal of the clitoris and inner labia is an amputation. The male equivalent would be to amputate the entire penis. When a male circumcision heals, there’s still a functional organ. Not so for a female. When she heals, there’s no organ left at all, only a thick scar.

In addition, in the U.S., males are circumcised under sterile conditions by physicians when they’re too young to remember. Females are brutally “circumcised” in early to mid-childhood by village women, without anesthesia. And they’ll never forget.

Is it horrifically vicious? Don’t take my word for it, read “The Hidden Face of Eve” by Nawal El Saadawi or “Infidel” by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. And multiply it by 6,000. And that’s just today.

All this delving into FGM prompted me to mull over male circumcision as well. When I had my son, 24 years ago, it was routine to circumcise male infants. I felt wrenched as I handed over my tiny, precious baby to have his foreskin sliced off.

“Will it hurt?” I asked the doctor. He replied that a newborn’s nervous system is immature and they’ll shriek over any new sensation. Besides, he won’t remember. Moreover, if he’s not circumcised, he wouldn’t look like the other boys in the locker room and he’ll get teased. And then there’s hygiene. Boys just can’t keep all those skin folds clean.

To which I reply — much too late — hogwash, hogwash and more hogwash! My own experience with newborns indicates that their nervous systems aren’t immature, they’re hypersensitive. Every sensation is amplified. As for getting teased, that would be a moot point if we stopped circumcising male infants unnecessarily. And hygiene difficulties? Girls have skin folds in their genitalia they must learn to keep clean, and do. The same can and should be expected of boys.

Twenty-four years later, I’m ashamed that I succumbed to cultural pressure and allowed my child’s body to be altered. I’m no better than those African mothers who allowed their daughters to be mutilated — it’s all a matter of degree. More pertinently, I had no right to authorize the alteration of my son’s body. That should’ve been no one’s decision but his.

Maybe Pat Schroeder’s bill should be expanded to outlaw circumcision of all infants and children, of both genders. Except when it’s medically necessary, make it illegal to alter anyone’s else’s body without their permission. Particularly when they’re too young to give it.



LETTERS

Empty Bowls still on display

Dear Editor,

I want to bring your attention to the fact that the wonderful Empty Bowls project, launched by our terrific art teachers Kate Humphrey and Molly Bentley at Winters High School, is now at the Winters Participation Gallery.

Empty Bowls Art is available for a \$15 donation that goes directly to STEAC to feed hungry families this season. Have someone with everything? Get them an empty bowl and donate in their name. If you cannot make the weekend hours we are open, call Valerie Whitworth at 795-2009 for a off hours appointment. Regular hours are Friday 5-8 p.m., Saturday 3-8 p.m. and Sunday noon to 3 p.m.

While you are at the STEAC show, don’t overlook the opportunity to shop locally at the 18 Main Street Gallery. We have wonderful prices on unique gifts for limited budgets during our holiday Usable Art show. Think of all the gas money and time you save, then look at our prices. They are a bargain! We have glass rod work by Kim Nyugen and her hand dyed wool and scarves, Carolyn Heines’ jewelry, Pat Dunn’s great sushi dishes, and Lynn Sechrist’s quilts, pillow cases, and other textile offerings.

Additionally, beautiful raku pottery, Debbie Pitts’ new tasty dog treats with monthly delivery, and the Soroptimist’s coaster sets (another

straight donation item so it is tax deductible too!) are available! We also have baskets, ceramic ornaments, and gourds made by a cancer survivor who donates part of her proceeds to cancer research. New items are entered weekly. Prices range from \$3 to \$100 with items for everyone on your list.

We are appreciative that the Buck Foundation has offered us a grant to support a half time program coordinator for the gallery. Thank you to the community and especially the businesses for your support in expanding and developing the Winters Center for the Arts/Participation Gallery in Winters, the only nonprofit art venue with art scholarships for Winters High School students. Look for our annual spring show of the high school works of art in conjunction with Lester Farm Baker in April and May.

Support this effort to celebrate art by supporting emerging and established artists and show appreciation for our new and wonderful art teachers for their dedication and effort. Buy your gifts locally and donate to the STEAC effort that our community-minded high school students have given to so generously.

We’ll see you at the gallery.

ERIC DOUD

President,
Winters Participation
Gallery
Center for the Arts

Basketball signups extended

Dear Editor,

Due to the lack of children signed up for the 2008 Winters Youth Basketball League, I have decided to extend the deadline to Friday, Dec. 21.

Grab your sneakers and basketballs — it’s time to sign up for the Winters Youth Basketball League. Signups are taking place at City Hall until Friday, Dec. 21. Cost per child is \$35 and a team T-shirt is included.

The league runs from Jan. 8 to mid March, games being played on Saturdays (game dates may be changed due to scheduling conflicts of the high school gym). Don’t let your child miss out on the opportunity to be part of a team and learn new skills.

If you are interested in being a coach, call me at 795-0128 (coaches are needed for all age groups).

JACKIE STOCKING

Generosity made it possible

Dear Editor,

It is with such gratitude that we thank the following sponsors for their generous donations to our “Bringing Joy to the World” Women’s Christmas Dessert Tasting at University Covenant Church on Dec. 7. A huge thank you to Buckhorn Catering, Cody’s Deli & Catering, Mariani Nut Co. and Steady Eddy’s.

Through their incredible gifts, individual donations and the sale of tickets, we were able to raise \$13,443 to finance the digging of a borehole well in Twachiyanda, Zambia through World Vision.

It has truly been a community event that has brought joy to the neediest of people.

**PAULA SIMPSON
SUE BRITTS**

**Early deadlines for the next two editions!
All submissions and display ads due
by noon on Fridays Dec. 21 and 28!**



CHARLES R. WALLACE

A QUICK OPINION

MERRY CHRISTMAS. Where did the year go? When you have small children they tell you that the days are long and the years are short. I’m not sure what they call it when you just feel old but haven’t quite gotten there, but the years do seem to be flying by.

My favorite daughter brought my favorite granddaughter over last weekend. Jenna is growing up faster than I’d like, but when the subject of Laura’s birthday came up, I was a little surprised to realize that she would be 29 on Monday. It is not possible that I have a child that is 29 years old. I’ll have to learn to adjust and think about her turning 39. Women don’t age after that, so it will be okay.

I’m heading into the digital age with a high definition (HD) television. Getting a big screen television was a big decision. I’ve been looking at them for a couple of years now, and after reading that analog television will be a thing of the past in 2009, this seemed like a good time to upgrade.

My permanent tenant started talking about re-designing our front room, which included buying a flat screen television to free up a corner of the room. It didn’t take me very long to get on board and start researching HD TVs. Someone mentioned a company called Vizio, a company that makes televisions in the U.S.A. I’ve been preaching about buying in Winters my whole life and buying local for years. As I’ve aged I’ve expanded my thinking to buying California-made products — everything from milk, cheese, raisins, prunes, nuts and wine.

I drive Fords and Chevys, felt guilty when I owned a Datsun pickup, and just a little guilty when Sherri bought a new Beetle. With cars made all over the world, I’m not sure you can say your Ford is made in America. It might be if you consider America includes Canada and Mexico. Vizio is headquartered in El Cajon, California, which is awful close to Mexico, but they are supposed to make their televisions in California. I hope that’s true.

Finding a television used to be simple. You just went down to Maier’s Appliance on Main Street and picked up a new television. Now you have to decide which out of town appliance dealer you want to visit. There are plenty out there, which is why Winters merchants are always in trouble, once people get in their cars and venture past the city limits.

Even after you find a television you can’t just hook it up, either to cable or rabbit ears. High definition televisions take a special converter box to transfer your regular cable to HD. I already had Charter Cable so I gave them a call. They must not be that busy because they showed up the next day and hooked me up.

Let me start by saying a 42” television set doesn’t sound that big, especially if you’ve been looking at your brother’s 60” set. If you put a 42” HD flat screen in a small house, in the words of the permanent tenant, “it’s huge.”

I don’t know if I call it huge, but it is nice and along with HD cable you receive extra channels. I don’t know what I’m going to do with hundreds of stations, 10 is about all I watch, but I found a channel that only shows old westerns. I don’t think the black and white era had HD, but Chuck Connors and The Rifleman look pretty good, up close and personal.

Here’s hoping Santa is nice to you, or at least to your permanent tenant.
Have a great Christmas.

Thank you to all participants

Dear Editor,

We express a warm “thank you” to all who participated in our Christmas Musical and Nativity Festival held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Dec. 8.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Lynn Secrist and the choirs from Winters Middle and Shirley Rominger Intermediate schools; to Geri Pederesen, Austin and Katelyn Hill and to all who participated in the beautiful musical program. Their performances brought smiles and warmed hearts.

We thank those who graciously brought their nativity scenes for all to enjoy, as there were over 90 on display.

Thank you to Brian Lee who arranged the musical program, Gerald and Cynthia Taylor and all who helped with the decorations, refreshments and planning of the event. It was truly a beautiful way to feel the spirit of Christmas.

Thank you also to the Winters Express for helping us to publicize this event.

Merry Christmas to all.
LOLA MORGAN
Activity chairman

Policy for Letters to the Editor

The deadline for Letters to the Editor is normally noon on Mondays for publication that week. Because of the Christmas and New Year’s holidays, the next two deadlines will fall on the Fridays prior, Dec. 21 and 28, at noon, sharp.

Letters may be mailed or hand-delivered to The Winters Express, 312 Railroad Avenue, Winters, CA 95694,

or emailed to news@wintertextpress.com. Letters should not exceed 500 words. Do not use all capital letters. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter.

Letters must be legibly signed by the writer. However, we may withhold writers’ names from publication if there is a legitimate reason, such as fear of reprisal.

Time to select Chamber board

Dear Editor,

The Winters Chamber of Commerce is preparing for the New Year, and it is time to select four new directors.

Chamber members who are interested in this exciting opportunity, and have a desire to work with a dynamic group of people can apply or nominate another

Chamber member.

We need all letters (or emails) of interested to be sent to the Chamber Office by Jan.9, and we will make the selection soon thereafter.

For questions or more information, please call the Chamber at 795-2329.

KATIE WHITMARSH
Executive assistant

Community

Casellis celebrate 70th anniversary

Marion and Gene Caselli celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Nov. 21 with their children and grandchildren at Disneyland. Two members of the Disneyland Dream Team escorted the family through the park and swore them in as honorary citizens of Disneyland. The ceremony was held at Disneyland's City Hall, and a framed proclamation signed by many Disney characters was presented to the couple.

The Casellis received a framed wedding picture along with a brick engraved with their names and wedding date. The brick will be placed in the Plaza between Disneyland and California Adventure for the next ten years. The team presented the couple with a book which was read to

them in a private garden in front of Sleeping Beauty's castle. The book was written as a fairy tale of their live together concluding with their own happily ever after.

The Dream Team escorted the couple on several rides and ended the tour with a special visit to Mickey Mouse's house in Toon Town. Each family member was given a Mickey Mouse hat with their names on it. The family met Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Pluto and Goofy. The family of fourteen enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner and several days at both parks.

Marion and Gene were married at St. Lucy's Church in Campbell. The couple lived in San Jose for their first eighteen years of marriage. They have spent the past 52 years in Winters.

Gallery recruiting docents

The Winters Participation Gallery/Winters Center for the Arts is recruiting docents for three-hour commitments once per month.

Seventeen reliable volunteers are needed for the next year so the gallery can remain open for its regular hours, which are Fridays, 5-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 3-8 p.m.;

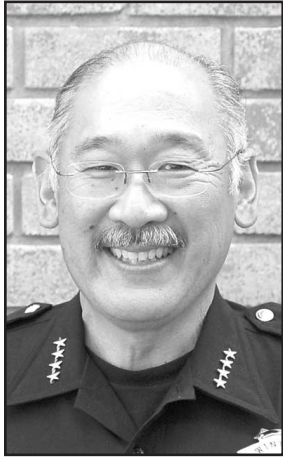
and Sundays, 12-3 p.m. The gallery is located at 18 Main Street, and currently is featuring "Usable Art."

Docent training begins in January and docents who register now will be included in the dinner with a California Native basket weaver.

For more information, call 795-0608 or 795-2009.



MARION and GENE CASELLI



BRUCE MURAMOTO
Police Chief

Who's who at City Hall

By JUSTIN COX
Staff writer

Police Chief Bruce Muramoto graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Sociology and Political Science on a Friday. He began his career as a police officer the following Monday.

Muramoto became interested in law enforcement in college after riding with a police officer as part of an assignment in his sociology and law class. He then began working as a reserve officer in Davis before graduating and joining the force full-time.

See WHO on page A-16

PLANNERS

Continued from page A-1

viding economic benefits to the city." The project has been designed to incorporate the familiar feeling of agrarian elements and natural materials, making it a good fit for the surrounding community.

The approved locations include a single-story financial-use building with a drive-through (likely tenant: Yolo Credit Union). The complex will contain five retail buildings (intended for multiple tenants), three of which will be two stories tall and include a second-level arcade, allowing movement between locations. These buildings, as well as an additional, will be available for office use as well. The last of the approved buildings will be a medical center.

The entire project has been designed incorporating a number of architectural strategies that will add character and blend the project tastefully into the community. It will contain features such as shutters, trellises, lanterns, grain silos, barn doors and awnings. The buildings' rooflines will be of staggered heights, giving the impression that each building is actually multiple buildings. This jilted effect "helps to break up the look," says Wade, whose company has paid special attention to the aesthetic design of the project.

"I think your group has done a very good job with the design," said Commissioner Pierre Neu. "It's good for both our tax

base and our economy."

Neu's concern however was that one of the drive-through buildings, the one that has been classified as a food-service location, would not be beneficial. He cited a number of reasons for how the project could in fact be harmful.

"Right now, a lot of kids walk to restaurants at lunch," said Neu. "With a drive-through, kids will be encouraged to drive. That drive through could be inundated with 30, 50, or 80 cars at a time. I hope that you've really worked out maximum flow.

"And as far as the entry to our town, I'm sorry there's even a possibility for fast food. This could be detrimental to Cody's and other restaurants downtown."

Chairmen Albert Vallecillo, while he expressed his approval of the of the GBH project as a whole, agreed with Neu saying that he feared the project's potential to "put the stake in the hearts of the businesses downtown."

Vallecillo asked WIGG what businesses were being discussed as possible tenants, to which WIGG responded that the main goal at this point is to first get the plan approved. They will be speaking with a city economic director as things progress.

Marcia Gibbs, Program Director for the Community Alliance with Family Farmers, spoke during the public hearing, sharing her concerns for the potential of a fast food restaurant.

"This can still be a great project without fast food," she said, not-

ing that many forward-thinking communities have begun banning drive-throughs all together.

She then quoted an article that appeared in the LA Times. "While limiting fast food restaurants isn't a solution in itself, it's an important piece of the puzzle. This is bringing health policy and environmental policy together with land-use planning.

"Is any modern convenience more loathsome than idling cars in a line of vehicles?" she read, suggesting drive-throughs may potentially become extinct in the near future (fuel-dependence and environmental concern). "It's smart and it's the wave of the future."

Gibbs was followed by Kathy Cowan, who began by saying that her opinion "couldn't be further" from that of Gibbs, suggesting that her family's line of work, and subsequently demanding lifestyle, require much time on the road.

"We eat out a lot," she said, citing the convenience offered by drive-throughs. "Sometimes (my family) gets in the truck and we decide where we're going," she paused, "across the bridge to Vacaville. We've done it all already this week. This town re-

ally needs a project like this."

This contrasting set of opinions clearly demonstrated the complexity of the issue, which is loaded with arguments in support of both sides. By voting separately on the drive-through, the planning commission kept this in mind and allowed the details and potential implications to be handled specifically rather than lump them in with a project that is seen as a largely positive addition to the community.

Planning Director Kate Kelly reworded the part having to do with the food-service location, saying that "without the knowledge of the intended end user of the building and the business practices associated with its future use, insufficient information exists to approve it" as it is currently written.

The planning commissioners approved the above-mentioned explanation in a 5 to 2 vote, with Cowan and DeVries voting against it.

The planning commission discussed the possibility of developing an ordinance that clearly defines the city's stance on fast food and drive-throughs so as to make this type of decision less difficult in the future.

**Early deadlines
for the Express
for the Dec. 27 and
Jan. 3 editions!
All submissions
due by noon on
the prior Fridays!**

Shepherd chosen school board president

By ELLIOT LANDES
Staff writer

At the annual organizational meeting for Winters School Board of trustees, trustee Rob Nickelson nominated current president Mary Jo Rodolfa to continue as board president, but rescinded when Rodolfa nominated trustee Jay Shepherd for the position. Shepherd was elected unanimously. Rodolfa was elected board clerk, and Superintendent Dale Mitchell was appointed secretary. The schedule for the new year was determined with meetings to be held on first and third Thursdays, with some exceptions, such as in January when the trustees will meet on

Jan. 10 rather than Jan. 3. New member Matt Brickey asked that meetings start at 6:30 p.m. instead of the current 6 p.m. The item will go on next month's agenda.

Recognitions

Rodolfa was recognized for her service as president with applause and a plaque, featuring the brass band from her gavel, for her service as president.

Principal Kate Helfrich of Shirley Rominger School presented a recognition plaque to student George Revell.

"George is an all around great kid," said Helfrich. "If I were the parent of a fourth grader, this is what I'd like my

fourth grader to be like. He's kind, he's considerate, he's responsible. He's just a genuinely nice kid. When George is grown up, he will be one of those people everyone around him looks to."

The board also recognized parent Julie Johnson, who has a child in fourth grade at the Rominger School.

"Julie is at school two or three times a week," said Helfrich, "and teachers have come to rely on her help because they know that she is going to be there, and that is a wonderful thing."

P. E. report

Physical Education teacher Sue Bridge presented a report on fitness that compared Win-

ters to surrounding communities, and was pleased to report good results. Winters was ranked highest in a number of strength and flexibility categories, compared to Fairfield, Vacaville, Dixon, Davis, Woodland and Esparto, in a number of categories, in all three of the tested grades, fifth, seventh and ninth. The only weak category was "body composition" which looks at height and weight.

Next meeting

School Board meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, Jan. 10, in the Walnut Room at the district office, 901 Grant Avenue.

You can find us online: www.wintersexpress.com

Nuestras Noticias



JUAN FERNANDEZ
EVENTOS Y
COMENTARIOS
HISPANOS

Feliz Navidad

Llega otra Navidad, y como siempre sucede, este es un tiempo de mucha actividad, para algunos es motivo de alegría, y para otros puede ser de tristeza. Lo cierto que es la época del año que la mayoría de la gente trata de disfrutar. Algunos se han dedicado a decorar la casa con adornos navideños, otros se han pasado buen tiempo, y gastado su dinero en la búsqueda del regalo perfecto para los amigos y familiares. Para muchas amas de casa ha sido tiempo de cocinar, con el amor y la dedicación de la familia latina.

Pero todas estas actividades no representan el sentido que tiene la Navidad, que es mas bien un sentimiento religioso, la Navidad no tiene que ver nada con las decoraciones, ni con el árbol de Navidad, ni con Santa Claus, ni con las compras, la Navidad celebra el nacimiento de Cristo.

La Navidad es mucho más que cualquiera de estas cuestiones en particular. La Navidad simboliza un nacimiento y por lo tanto un nuevo comienzo, que para mucha gente tiene un significado muy especial, ya que es la nueva oportunidad que tenemos de reparar con amor lo que hemos lastimado o dañado con anterioridad.

Cuando hablamos de Navidad, hablamos de reuniones familiares, hablamos de tradiciones, la Navidad es una invitación para abrazar al amigo, para abrazar a la persona con la cual estoy distanciado, es tiempo para decirle a nuestra familia que la queremos. La Navidad es también tiempo de recuerdos, cuando reconocemos nuestras tradiciones familiares y culturales y apreciamos nuestra historia.

En cada lucecita o adorno del arbolito ponemos nuestro afecto, nuestros deseos y nuestro reconocimiento, ya sea en el reencuentro con nuestros seres queridos, como en el desarrollo de nuestros proyectos o ideas, o en nuestra participación comunitaria. Como familias latinas, somos conscientes de las necesidades del prójimo e incluimos a quienes están solos en el país en nuestro ámbito familiar.

Así es como reconocemos que la Navidad es tiempo de estar juntos, de compartir y de brindar lo mejor que tenemos.

Con mucho respeto, y guardando las proporciones, podemos interpretarla tradición de los regalos, como los regalos que Jesucristo recibió de los miembros de su comunidad al nacer y se transforma en una forma de rememorar el sentimiento del Nacimiento. Reunirse para cenar ha sido siempre una tradición familiar latina, en la que nos encontramos para compartir nuestras vidas y celebrar nuestra unidad.

Si reflexionamos sobre todas estas costumbres, podemos identificar que todas involucren amor. Cuando ponemos la decoración, lo hacemos con alegría, para alegrar y disfrutar nuestra casa. Los regalos son una forma de dar y recibir amor, que si bien estamos todos de acuerdo que es una forma de consumo popular muy conveniente para el comercio, es parte de la sociedad en la que vivimos.

Al cocinar y preparar las comidas típicas de Navidad, también ponemos amor, principalmente cuando se trata de comidas tradicionales, y mucho más cuando la tarea se realiza conviviendo, compartiendo, creando juntos, posiblemente como nuestras familias lo hecho por generaciones.

Cualquier forma o tradición de celebrar la Navidad involucra amor, el amor que festejamos cuando celebramos el mensaje que simboliza la Navidad, el nacimiento de Jesucristo.

Festeje y disfrute la Navidad con sus seres queridos y con sus amigos, esta noche de Navidad es para dar y recibir amor y paz.

Cuidado con lo que come

POR MYRIAM GRAJALES

Seguramente ha oído hablar acerca de las grasas tipo trans y se preguntará, “¿qué son estas grasas y porqué se agregan a los alimentos?” Las grasas trans se crean por medio de un proceso llamado hidrogenación, en el cual se agrega hidrógeno a aceites vegetales. Así se obtienen grasas y aceites para freír que son muy útiles para la industria de los alimentos, puesto que ayudan a mejorar la perdurabilidad, el sabor y la textura de los productos. Sin embargo, investigaciones recientes han indicado que este tipo de grasas pueden ser nocivas para la salud.

Hay investigaciones en curso para determinar la cantidad de grasas trans que resulta dañina a la salud. Mientras tanto, la recomendación actual es mantener el consumo de grasas trans a un nivel mínimo.

¿Por qué son dañinas las grasas trans? Porque elevan el colesterol ‘malo’, conocido como “LDL”, por sus siglas en

inglés, y reducen el colesterol ‘bueno’, conocido como “HDL”. Las grasas trans aparentemente aumentan también los niveles de triglicéridos en la sangre y afecta la habilidad de las venas de dilatarse, incrementando el riesgo de desarrollar enfermedades del corazón. Por esto se considera que las grasas trans son más dañinas para el cuerpo que las grasas saturadas.

Las grasas trans en la alimentación. Algunos alimentos, como la carnes de res, puerco, cordero, así como la mantequilla y la leche, contienen de manera natural cantidades pequeñas de estas grasas hidrogenadas. Sin embargo, la mayoría de las grasas trans en nuestra alimentación provienen de alimentos procesados preparados con aceites vegetales parcialmente hidrogenados. Entre las fuentes más comunes están: algunas margarinas y la grasa para cocinar conocida en inglés como shortening; las mezclas preparadas para paste-

les y panecillos; las mezclas para hacer sopas; los pasteles, galletas, galletas saladas, donas y otros productos de repostería; y los bocadillos fritos como las papitas y hojuelas de maíz fritas.

Cómo evitar comprar alimentos que contengan grasas trans. Lea siempre la etiqueta de datos sobre nutrición (Nutrition Facts Label). Desde enero del 2006, la ley exige que esta etiqueta incluya los gramos de grasas trans que contiene cada porción. Esta información está disponible justo debajo de la información acerca de las grasas saturadas en la etiqueta de datos sobre nutrición.

Otra manera de lograr evitar comer grasas trans es leer la lista de ingredientes de los alimentos. Tenga en cuenta que hay varios nombres para estas grasas. Si la lista incluye ingredientes como: shortening, partially hydrogenated vegetable oil (aceite vegetal parcialmente hidrogenado) o hydrogenated vegetable oil (aceite vegetal hidrogenado), el ali-

mento en cuestión contiene grasas trans. El contenido es mayor si estos componentes se encuentren al inicio o cerca del inicio de la lista de ingredientes.

¿Qué es más saludable, la margarina o la mantequilla? El debate continúa. Aunque las margarinas tienden a contener más grasa trans que la mantequilla, la cantidad total de grasas trans y grasa saturada en la mayoría de las margarinas es menor que en la mantequilla. La mantequilla, además de contener bastante grasa saturada, también contiene colesterol. Por eso la mayoría de los investigadores prefieren las margarinas, especialmente las cremosas, en las cuales los aceites líquidos ocupan el primer lugar en la lista de ingredientes.

Para cuidar de su salud, evite comer grasas trans! El tiempo que invierte leyendo las etiquetas de nutrición y la lista de ingredientes bien vale la pena.

Mayoría, pero sin educación

El censo lo dice. En todas partes lo veo, lo oigo. Las minorías en Estados Unidos van creciendo. Y la población anglosajona, va disminuyendo. Un informe de la Oficina del Censo, dice que la población minoritaria en Estados Unidos ya sobrepasa los 100 millones de personas. Eso es casi la población de México. Y más que las poblaciones de España, Argentina, Colombia o Perú.

O sea, casi 1 de cada 3 personas en Estados Unidos pertenece a una minoría étnica, “no blanca”. Por supuesto de estos 100 millones, nosotros los hispanos somos la mayoría. Según el informe del Censo, nosotros sumamos 44.3 millones. O sea, el 14.8 por ciento de la población total.

Y en un futuro las minorías serán sin lugar a dudas mas que la población anglosajona en todo el país. Principalmente nosotros los hispanos seremos mayoría en estados como Texas y California, para el año 2050, uno de cada cuatro norteamericanos será de origen hispano.

Todas estas cifras nos las repiten en el radio, en la televisión, hasta en las protestas y manifestaciones proclamamos a los cuatro vientos que pronto seremos mayoría, pero una pregunta interesante sería ¿qué clase de mayoría seremos? Y lo digo porque además de

los números del Censo, hay otras cifras que preocupan.

Según el Centro Nacional de Estadísticas Educativas, el 44.2 por ciento de todos los Jóvenes de origen hispano se salían de la escuela sin graduarse en el año 2000.

Lo peores que estos jóvenes hispanos no pueden decir que se salen de la escuela por no saber inglés, o por no tener papeles, al contrario: Los hijos de inmigrantes recién llegados tienen menos porcentaje de abandonar la escuela (apenas en 14 por ciento) que los jovencitos hispanos hijos y nietos de ciudadanos americanos, según un informe del Departamento de Salud en 2005.

Por lo general los informes sobre educación con respecto a los hispanos siempre son desalentadores, ¿Para qué queremos ser una mayoría sin educación? Porque parece que entre más tiempo lleven los hispanos en el país, más facilidad hay de que no terminen la escuela. A pesar de ser ciudadanos y hablar inglés. Lo peores que esta tendencia ha ido en aumento desde 1970.

Sí, vamos a ser la mayoría. Vamos a ser muchos en el futuro. Pero, ¿qué clase de futuro vamos a tener? ¿Qué clase de mayoría vamos a ser, sin educación, y con pocas habilidades para

competir? Y la competencia no solo se va a limitar al país, sino a todo el mundo, la globalizacion nos esta haciendo cada ves más chiquitos, ahora vemos con mas frecuencia que las empresas americanas, ahora buscan ejecutivos o profesionales en otros países. Y la competencia será cada día más difícil.

Los asiáticos están aprendiendo tecnología, computación, ciencias, artes... En Asia y Estados Unidos (los hijos de inmigrantes asiáticos son los que más terminan la escuela, y son los inmigrantes que mejor ganan). Para nadie es un secreto que un diploma escolar permite ganar más. El Departamento del Trabajo afirma que en promedio, un graduado universitario gana hasta el doble que alguien que ni siquiera terminó la high school.

Pero si nuestros jóvenes siguen sin ponerse las pilas, siguen optando por hacer los trabajos más duros que no requieren de mucha educación, en ves de seguir en la escuela, ¿Qué clase de futuro vamos a tener, entonces? ¿Qué caso tiene ser una mayoría poco educada, que gana una miseria y trabaja mucho, comparado con los demás?

Sí, quizá los anglosajones, los asiáticos y hasta los afroamericanos van a ser menos que nosotros. Pero, ¿esto qué importa si van a

ganar más que nosotros?

Quizá ellos sigan siendo los jefes, los ejecutivos, los gerentes... y nosotros los empleados. Simplemente por no tener título. No estoy tratando de generalizar, sabemos que hay hispanos muy exitosos, que muchos hispanos se gradúan de escuelas universitarias, pero son tan pocos, Y lo peor es que no crecen al ritmo que quisiéramos.

Nuestros padres y abuelos, que emigraron a este país para mejorar, para ver a sus hijos y nietos avanzar, ¿estarían orgullosos de que éstos no terminaran la escuela, a pesar de hablar inglés y tener todas las facilidades que ellos no tuvieron?

O usted, si es emigrante, ¿qué sentiría si supiera que en el futuro, sus nietos o bisnietos seguirán trabajando de sol a sol, por un salario bajo, y sin posibilidades de avanzar... a pesar de hablar inglés y de ser ciudadanos americanos? Sería muy triste. Sería un futuro en el que habrá una mayoría racial (nosotros), trabajando duro, pero sin título, y controlada por una minoría educada y exitosa... blanca y asiática.

Lo importante no será que seremos mas, sino en ser cada vez mejores.

¿Debate o entrevista?

Revisando lo que paso en el tan anunciado debate en español de los candidatos republicanos a la presidencia de Estados Unidos, la pregunta sería ¿ fue un debate o una entrevista?. Creo que lo único que hicieron los candidatos fue aprovechar el tiempo de promoción que la televisora Univision les regalo. No ofrecieron nada nuevo de lo que ya han venido presentando.

Se les hizo la misma pregunta a cada uno de ellos, y se les permitió decir lo que quisieron, pero sin cuestionarlos, como quien diría tuvieron una noche tranquila. tampoco se les permitió a los precandidatos “debatir” entre ellos. Estuvo todo muy controlado, tal parecía

que los candidatos de antemano sabían las preguntas, porque como les digo nadie los puso en aprietos.

Los precandidatos republicanos parecían otros, totalmente distintos a los que hemos visto en las entrevistas (o “extremistas”, mejor dicho) de Fox News: Todo mundo hablaba de lo buenos, amables y “hard-working” que son los inmigrantes. Y todos pedían alguna “forma de legalización”, hasta los más enemigos de los indocumentados, como Mitt Romney. Parecían como lobos con piel de cordero

Rudolph Giuliani fue al contrario: Mientras que los propios republicanos lo ven como “el más liberal” de los precandidatos

(y lo critican por haber “ayudado” a los indocumentados cuando fue alcalde e Nueva York, según ellos) ahora se presentó como un “duro” en el tema de la inmigración. ¿Habrá quien se lo crea?

Sobre el tema de inmigración todos se saben la misma canción: “Antes de legalizar, debemos aumentar la seguridad interna, cerrar la frontera”... Como si los inmigrantes tuvieran que ver con los ataques terroristas. El único que se mantuvo más o menos leal con sus principios de siempre fue John McCain, quien ya había patrocinado una fallida reforma migratoria. Insistió en la necesidad de continuar el tema.

Lo más curioso es que el debate (que se anunció

con bombo y platillo como “en español”) no lo fue. Las preguntas las hicieron en español, es cierto, pero eso no es novedad. Jorge Ramos y María Elena Salinas siempre han salido en la tele en español. Los precandidatos respondieron en inglés, con intérpretes que traducían al mismo tiempo al español.

Irónicamente, los únicos que podrán votar en las elecciones del 2008 sólo serán ciudadanos (que por ley, deben hablar inglés). En cambio, la principal audiencia del debate (los que no hablan inglés) son inmigrantes recientes (o indocumentados) que no pueden votar. Más que debate, fue una entrevista múltiple.

STONE

Continued from page A-1

cued birds aren't so easy to place in a home for one reason or another. Such was the case with a blue macaw Stone rescued from the Martinez Animal Shelter. The macaw was found in the wild, turned in to the shelter and never claimed.

"We tried him in a foster home once, but he screeched uncontrollably the whole time, so I brought him 'home' for good," says Stone. "He's mine for life."

He named the macaw Horatio, after Horatio Hornblower, and the two are clearly fond of each other. Horatio perches on Stone's arm and happily leans over to give "kisses" when asked.

Collecting and delivering birds like Horatio and their very large cages all over the Bay Area sometimes takes Stone all day.

"On one illustrious day, I actually crossed over all three bridges," says Stone, adding that if you see a pickup truck driving along stacked with bird cages like the Clampetts, it's probably him on a rescue run. As if the "Liberal" license plate didn't give it away. Not only do people try to buy his license plate, it was even mentioned in the late Herb Caen's column. Stone says he's not ready to sell it yet. The label still fits.

"I do tend to lean to the left, politically," he says.

Those liberal leanings may be what encouraged Stone to support so many causes around town, from the bond effort to build a new library to helping the Winters Healthcare Foundation get off the ground. He has served on the Winters City Council twice for more than seven years total (he currently holds a seat) and is both a former mayor and vice mayor.

As a council member, Stone can often be scene volunteering at this or that event, like delivering dinners from the Community Thanksgiving Dinner or barbecuing hotdogs at the Winters Hispanic Festival. Besides volunteering, Stone's council membership gives him an opportunity to participate in shaping the town. One such opportunity in which he takes pride was the city's move to single stream recycling, which has proven to be a success.

"We are the only city that started single stream recycling and didn't have a contaminated load," he says.

Stone has volunteered on the Winters Healthcare Foundation board, the city of Winters Parks and Recreation commission, the Youth Day Com-

mittee (he now serves as their chairperson) and coached AYSO soccer, middle school girls soccer and Little League. He also spent seven years total as a Cub Scout pack leader and Boy Scout troop leader, and has done his time as a Winters Swim Team parent (he was also their starter at meets) and as a Studio C dance parent. In between all these activities, he managed to find time to volunteer as an AYSO referee and Little League umpire off and on over the years.

When not rescuing exotic birds, Stone has also eked out some of his retirement time to devote to the Winters Rotary Club, and recently helped out with installing an irrigation system at the Yolo Housing soccer field. Besides all the official capacities over the years, Stone can almost always be found at any community event, whether it's Youth Day or the Earthquake Festival. And, he says he attends all these functions not because he has to, but because he truly enjoys them.

"I'm very gregarious," he says, noting that although he most always attends events, he avoids attracting attention to himself. "I've learned to operate under the radar. I just go about enjoying living in this place."

Hmmm. Stone says he operates under the radar, but that doesn't balance with the 20-foot metal giraffe (currently decorated with Christmas lights) in his front yard, which he has been known to push down the sidewalk on occasion while offering "Gloria" as a mascot for various events, such as the Winters Hispanic Festival and the Winters Art Walk. She's kept company by a metal Komodo dragon atop the arch over his front walkway.

This likely qualifies Stone as one of the many local "characters," for which he expresses great fondness. However, he notes that getting to know all the characters has its downfalls, too. Over time, you get attached to people in a small town and become accustomed to seeing them at most every event. When they're gone, it pinches.

"You get attached to people. The ties go deep. Every time we celebrate those who are here, we're reminded of those who aren't here. Every event, every celebration, it's almost inevitable that someone's missing. You just don't forget. It's something to think about."

Which gives a hint about why Stone chose the name "Gloria" for such a fun and whimsical work of art.

One reason why Stone bumps into so many local

characters is that he is dedicated to doing business in town whenever he can.

"I believe in shopping locally. The average person (local) expenditure per year is \$1,700 to \$1,800. I spend at least twice that just at the hardware store."

However, it should be noted that this isn't so difficult, as Stone has been busy remodeling his home since retiring.

Involvement. That's what it's all about, says Stone.

"If you're not involved, it's not a community. What we have here is pretty darn special. I'll do anything I can do to keep it that way."

What are some of those special things? Being able to walk around the block to El Pueblo to get fresh meat for dinner and just pushing a hand-truck down to the hardware store rather than driving in your car to get what you need.

As for getting involved, Stone says he doesn't understand those who never attend a local event or even subscribe to the local newspaper.

"I'm always astounded when I see someone who doesn't subscribe to the paper or doesn't go to events. Where else do you get a chance to close down Main Street on a hot August night or celebrate the Hispanic community on the banks of Putah Creek, or celebrate youth from the days when (Governor) Earl Warren came here?"

Just show up, he says.

"Get involved. Go to events. It's most important that you participate."

He says participating in local events shows you what Winters is all about, and you get back more than you give. The Community Thanksgiving Dinner was a good example. Stone and his co-council members Mike Martin and Harold Anderson spent part of the evening delivering diners to those who couldn't attend the event at the Community Center.

"People were so thrilled to see us," he says, adding that the dinner itself was a nice snapshot of the community. "There were so many segments of the community represented, all getting together and just having a nice dinner together and chatting. That's what makes Winters special. You don't see those kinds of things in most towns."

Convinced yet? Then, just order tickets for the annual Winters Chamber of Commerce Year in Review event, at which Stone will be formally honored as the Citizen of the Year. The event takes place at the Winters Community Center, on Saturday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. This year's event will be catered by Catering by the Buckhorn. A no-host bar will be available.

Tickets are available in advance only, and cost \$35 per person. No tickets will be sold at the door. For tickets, call the Winter Chamber of Commerce, 795-2329.

MARIANI

Continued from page A-1

tured in California. The building housing the huller is approximately 35,000 square feet and is almost completely computer operated from scanners that sort nuts to machines that take out anything that was picked up in the field that is not an almond. When the almonds are finished being hulled and shelled they are trucked back into Winters for final sorting and packaging.

According to a press release issued by Yolo County, the addition of the new facility may have been facilitated by the county's "business-friendly" economic development initiative to

enhance customer service in the Yolo County Department of Planning & Public Works Development Services Division. County staff have been streamlining the permit review process and providing more information to the public.

The press release states that the use permit for the project was processed in four months, compared to the typical six months or more required for similar approvals. The first phase of construction was completed in less than one year, for a process that generally takes two years or more. It took 16 months from the time the application was submitted to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy.

Getting married? Just had a baby?

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Call 795-4551 for assistance or send information to news@wintersexpress.com

Entertainment

Davis is ‘Delovely’

Tickets are now available for “It’s Delovely!,” the 16th annual benefit concert for Citizens Who Care. Performances are on Saturday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 24 at 2 p.m. at the Veterans’ Memorial Center Theatre, 203 14th Street, Davis.

Some of the cleverest, funniest, and most romantic songs ever written came from the pen of Cole Porter. Songs like “What Is This Thing Called Love,” “I Get A Kick Out of You,” and “It’s Delovely,” became instant hits and remain classics today. His Broadway and Hollywood musicals such as Kiss Me Kate, Anything Goes, Silk Stockings, and High Society set the standards of style and wit for future composers and lyricists.

The concert will include wonderful songs like “You Do Something To Me,” “Anything Goes,” “Begin the Beguine,” “My Heart Belongs to Daddy,” “Don’t Fence Me In,” “So In Love,” “Too Darn Hot,” “Be a Clown,” “In the Still of the Night,” and “From This Moment On.”

The performers of these great Cole Porter songs are Joe Alkire, Bob Bowen, Gwyneth Bruch, Martha Dickman, Lenore Heinsen, Lenore Sebastian, and Peter Shack.

Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$15 for students. Tickets can be purchased through the Citizens Who Care office, 1260 Lake Blvd, Suite 208, Davis in the Westlake Plaza, Stonegate Executive Offices. For ticket reservation and purchase call 758-3704.

Citizens Who Care is a nonprofit agency dedicated to improving the quality of life of the frail elderly and their families through social support programs and services. Visit www.citizenswhocare.us for more information.



Courtesy photo
Linn Myer was the lucky winner of the Gingerbread Village raffle which benefited the Winters Friends of the Library. The Gingerbread Village was created by Shaunie Briggs, Jeanne Oster and Melissa Briggs of Briggs & Co, and was raffled off last week.

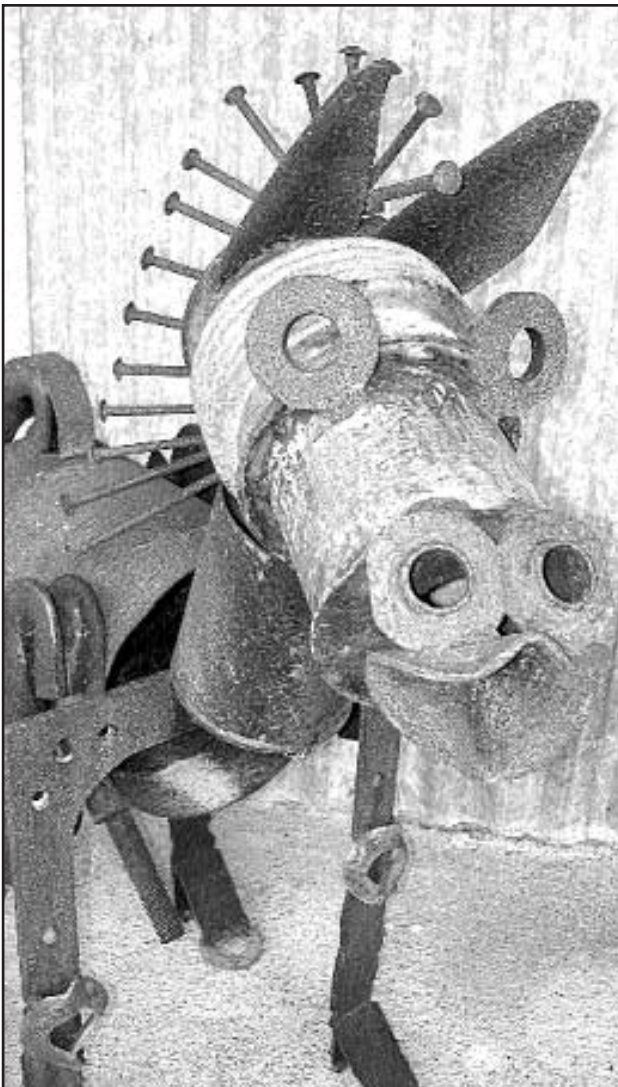
Holiday happenings at Briggs & Co.

Briggs and Co will have an “Ugly Xmas” sweater contest on Friday, Dec. 21, from 6-8 p.m. The evening’s festivities will include live music with the Putah Creek Crawdads. Briggs & Co is located at 820 Railroad Avenue.

Their regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information call 795-9505, visit www.briggsandco.com or email shaunie@briggsandco.com.

Courtesy photo
New art at Briggs & Co: Artist Steve Harrington joins Briggs & Co, bringing a little more rust to the garden scene by welding together bits and pieces of scrap iron and old farm implements into curious and wonderful creatures.



Nightcat New Year’s



Courtesy photo
Little Charlie & the Nightcats will rock in the new year at The Palms on New Year’s Eve, Monday, Dec. 31. The evening will include live music and dancing, a champagne toast and hors d’oeuvres. Tickets are \$40 and are available at Pacific Ace Hardware and at the door if not sold out.

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Coming up

- Friday, Dec. 21: Gene Taylor Blues Band
w/ Dave Alvin, John Bazz and Bill Bateman
- Sat., Dec. 29: The Trailer Park Troubadors
- Mon., Dec. 31: New Years Eve with Little Charlie & the Nightcats

WHO

Continued from page **A-5**

He worked as an officer in Davis for about seven years before being promoted to Sergeant, a position he held for seven more. During those 14 years he met his wife Susan and together they had two children, Jennifer (studies at CSU Dominguez Hills) and Jeff (studies at Sac City College).

In 1987, the city of West Sacramento incorporated and Muramoto joined on as a lieutenant in the city's first class of officers. He worked there for 17 years and in that time handled a wide variety of tasks such as patrols, traffic, K-9, boats, S.W.A.T., narcotics and internal affairs. Muramoto describes this experience, in addition to his time in Davis, as what "prepared me for my time in Winters."

Muramoto was recommended for his current job by his predecessor, Steve Godden, who he had known professionally for 15 years.

"Let me buy you lunch," Godden told Muramoto in a conversation that ultimately lead to the announcement of Godden's retirement and his subsequent recommendation.

"(Godden) described Winters as a wonderful community with a wonderful city manager and city council," says Muramoto. "I was honored and touched."

Hired on Nov. 4 of 2004, he describes Winters as "a great town to be a police chief in."

"I have everything I could want here," he says.

Having worked previously in West Sacramento and Davis, he brought with him 30 years of experience in Yolo County law enforcement, meaning he is very familiar with the county's officers and judges.

"It's advantageous to have known these people for so long," he says.

Muramoto's training took place in a small suburban environment similar to that of Winters, further enhancing his ability to meet the community's law enforcement needs.

When he's not busy upholding the law in Winters, he can often be found on the golf course, where he has dedicated himself to rediscovering the swing he had 30 years ago (almost as long as he's been a police officer), before he stopped playing the sport regularly.

He is also a member of the High Technology Crime Committee for the State of California. Upon receiving his masters degree in management from CSU Pajona in 1995, he did his thesis on the subject and has remained involved in the cause ever since.

With a total of 11 officers on his staff: one chief, two sergeants and eight police officers, Muramoto has settled nicely into his job in Winters.

"I am a lucky and fortunate person," he says.

Muramoto can be reached at bruce.muramoto@winterspolice.org or by calling the police station at 795-2261.

Antibacterial chemical may disrupt hormone activities

A new UC Davis study shows that a common antibacterial chemical added to bath soaps can alter hormonal activity in rats and in human cells in the laboratory, and does so by a previously unreported mechanism.

The findings come as an increasing number of studies of both lab animals and humans are revealing that some synthetic chemicals in household products can cause health problems by interfering with normal hormone action.

Called endocrine disruptors, or endocrine disrupting substances (EDS), such chemicals have been linked in animal studies to a variety of problems, including cancer, reproductive failure and developmental anomalies.

This is the first endocrine study to investigate the hormone effects of the antibacterial compound triclocarban (also known as TCC or 3,4,4'-trichlorocarbanilide), which is widely used in household and personal care products including bar soaps, body washes, cleansing lotions, wipes and detergents. Triclocarban-containing products have been marketed broadly in the United States and Europe for more than

45 years; an estimated 1 million pounds of triclocarban are imported annually for the U.S. market.

The researchers found two key effects: In human cells in the laboratory, triclocarban increased gene expression that is normally regulated by testosterone. And when male rats were fed triclocarban, testosterone-dependent organs such as the prostate gland grew abnormally large.

Also, the authors said their discovery that triclocarban increased hormone effects was new. All previous studies of endocrine disruptors had found that they generally act by blocking or decreasing hormone effects.

"This finding may eventually lead to an explanation for some rises in some previously described reproductive problems that have been difficult to understand," said one author, Bill Lasley, a UC Davis expert on reproductive toxicology and professor emeritus of veterinary medicine. More analyses of antibacterials and endocrine effects are planned, he said.

Consumers should not take this study as guidance on whether to use triclocarban-containing products, Lasley said. "Our mothers taught us to wash our hands well

before the advent of antimicrobial soaps, and that practice alone prevents the spread of disease."

The new study was published online this week by the journal Endocrinology ("Triclocarban enhances testosterone action: A new type of endocrine disruptor?") and can be found at <http://endo.endojournals.org/rep.shtml>

The nine authors are Lasley, Jiangang Chen, Ki Chang Ahn, Nancy Gee, Mohamed I. Mohamed, Antoni Duleba, Ling Zhao, Shirley Gee and Bruce Hammock. They are associated with these UC Davis programs: Center for Health and the Environment; Department of Entomology; California National Primate Research Center; Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the School of Medicine; Department of Nutrition; and the Cancer Center.

In their disclosure statement, the authors report that six of them have taken steps to patent their findings through the University of California. The research was supported by the Superfund Basic Research Program of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Volunteers are needed

BloodSource is seeking volunteers to deliver blood and blood components to local area hospitals at least once a week.

Volunteers will need a valid California driver's license, a good driving record, and the ability to lift boxes weighing around 30 pounds.

BloodSource will provide the delivery vehicles, fuel and hand trucks, as well as a free Hepatitis vaccine for interested volunteers.

To get started, call Jeri VanWinkle, (916) 453-3793.

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Sports

Freshman compete in JV tourney

By ERIC LUCERO
Express sports

The Winters High School freshmen boys' basketball team traveled to Willows on Friday, Dec. 14, and Saturday, Dec. 15, to compete in the Willows JV tournament. The JV team started the tournament and played in the first game on Wednesday, Dec. 12, and the freshmen finished up with the last two games.

On Friday, the Warriors played the Willows JV team and lost a close game 43-36. Winters had a big game from Sebastian Mahnke. Mahnke scored 19 points to lead the War-

A throw down

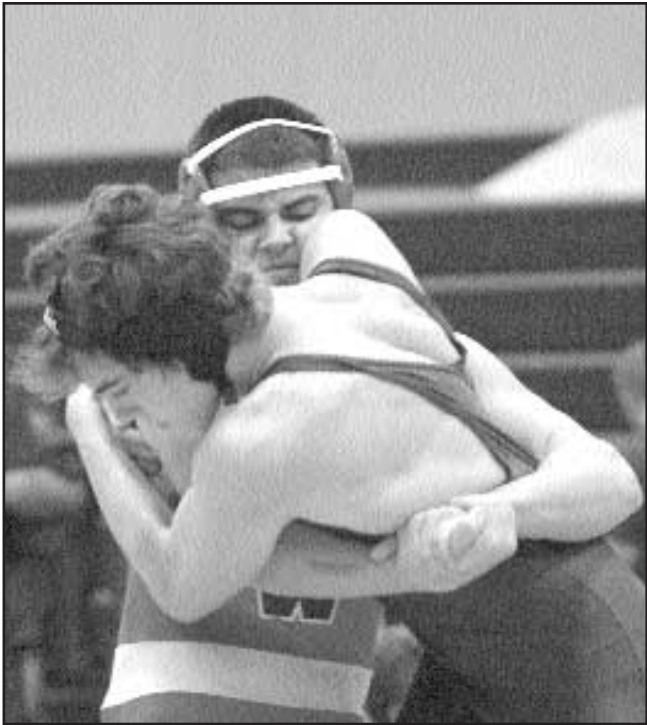


Photo by Rory Linton
Winters High wrestler Steven Pine locking up his opponent for a throw. Pine had a great day, going 3-2, and just missing the medal rounds at the Mraty Manges Invite, held at Casa Robles High School in Orangevale.

Campos puts up 23 against East Nicolaus

◆ Lady Warriors win three in a row

By ERIC LUCERO
Express sports correspondent

The Winters Warriors varsity girls basketball team won three straight last week starting with a victory over East Nicolaus on Tuesday, December 11. Winters jumped out to a 12-3 lead in the first period and never looked back. The Warriors pulled out the 53-47 win over the Spartans with Jenny Campos leading the way in scoring. Campos scored 23 points for the Warriors and grabbed four rebounds, had two steals and two assists. Tess Hyer scored eight points and had nine rebounds, with two steals and two assists. Rebecca Salas also scored eight points, had four rebounds, six assists and three steals. "Rebecca did a good job of running the team in all three games," said coach Matt Cooley. Chelsea Corrales scored eight points as well with two

rebounds, three assists and two steals. Taryn Jones scored four points, had eight rebounds, four assists and three steals. Alyssa Oxley scored two points and had a rebound and a steal. Amy Avellar had two assists and a rebound, while Megan Avellar had two rebounds for the Warriors.

On Thursday, December 13, the Warriors took on John Swett and pulled off a close 36-35 victory. After going into the fourth period tied up at 22 apiece, the Warriors out scored John Swett 14-13 in the fourth for the victory. Campos, again led the Warriors in scoring with 13 points and had eight rebounds. Hyer scored 11 points, had three rebounds and three steals. Salas scored six points, had three rebounds, five assists and two steals. Jones scored four points with four rebounds, two steals and five blocks. Megan Avellar scored two points and had two as-

sists. Oxley had three rebounds, Corrales had four rebounds and Amy Avellar had two rebounds for the Warriors.

Winters played St. Helena on Friday, December 14, for their last game of the week and won 44-23. Campos had 10 points, eight rebounds and a steal to lead the Warriors. Corrales scored 10 points grabbed four rebounds and had three assists. Salas scored eight points, had two rebounds, three assists and seven steals. Oxley scored six points and three rebounds. Hyer scored four points, had four rebounds and had two assists. Jones scored four points and had seven rebounds. Megan Avellar scored two points and had a rebound, Amy Avellar had a block and an assist, while Olivia Wingard grabbed a rebound for the Warriors.



Photo by Eric Lucero
Fabiola Silva (number 9) tries to block a kick during a Warriors recent game.

Girls soccer team ties Esparto 3-3

The Winters Warriors girls' soccer team lost to the Sutter Huskies on Wednesday, Dec. 12, by a score of 4-0. Sutter scored two goals in the first half and two more in the second half.

On Friday, Dec. 14, the

Lady Warriors were back on the field this time against Esparto. The Warriors took a 2-1 lead in the first half but allowed the Spartans to do the same to them in the second half as the game ended in a 3-3 tie.

Courtney Young, Aubree Cortez and Emma Hesz each scored a goal for the Warriors while Fabiola Silva and Alex Panattoni each had one assist.

The Warriors next game will be on Jan. 3, in Orland.

Varsity basketball loses two in a row

By ERIC LUCERO
Express sports

The Warriors varsity basketball team had a hard time keeping up with East Nicolaus on Tuesday, Dec. 11, as they fell to a 60-40 loss. The Warriors lost a one point game to the Spartans a few weeks ago but just couldn't close the gap in this match up.

Alex Huizar had a career night though as he scored 16 points to lead the Warriors. Kevin Rowell scored eight points. Aaron Geerts scored seven points. Donnie Garcia scored five points. Maurice Ackridge scored three points, while Riki Lucero added one point for the Warriors.

On Friday, Dec. 14, the War-

rriors were back on the bus headed for the Napa Valley as they visited St. Helena High School. Unfortunately, the Warriors came home with a 68-35 loss. St Helena jumped out early and controlled the ball the whole game.

Garcia and Geert each put in seven points for the Warriors.

Ackridge scored six points. Jules Damey and Huizar each scored five points, Rowell scored three points and Miguel Del Rio added two points for the Warriors.

The Warriors will travel to Woodland on Thursday, Dec. 20, to take on Woodland Christian.

CODY'S ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

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Tess Hyer



Tess Hyer, a freshman on the Winters High School varsity girls' basketball team is this week's athlete of the week. Not only was Hyer named to the All Tournament team in the Warriors first two tournaments, she also set a career record for herself with 28 points in the Pierce Tournament on Dec. 8. Hyer averaged 18 points, nine rebounds and three steals for the Warriors in the three game tournament.

FOOD FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
Each Cody's Athlete of the Week receives a FREE Lunch

Rally racers place in division



Courtesy photo

The Speed Secrets Race Team, a rally racing team based in rural Winters, have raced an entire August through November season at Thunderhill Raceway in Willows. Team members Jeff Baxman placed first and Rosie Ramirez placed second in their division. The pair drove a 1989 VW Jetta. In October, the race team entered the 24 Hours of Lemons Race at Altamont Raceway in Tracy. Out of 100 cars that entered the race, The Speed Secrets Race Team (named “Mach Schnell” for this event, which means “go fast” in German) placed 28th. “We survived the endurance race and that alone is a winning finish!” said Ramirez.

The team has an upcoming race at Thunderhill Racetrack on Dec. 29 and 30. After that, the team will compete again in an endurance 24 Hours of Lemons race. “It’s a longer, bigger course, so it means faster speeds—just what we love,” said Ramirez.

TOURNEY

Continued from page B-1

rriors and was named the player of the game by the tournament committee.

“Sebastian played a great game and was able to drive and get to the basket whenever he wanted to,” said coach Matt Baker. “We were actually ahead at half time. At the end of the second quarter, starting point guard Sam Newman was injured and didn’t play the second half. I felt that this slowed us up a little bit, but we hung around and played a tough game throughout the second half.”

Dagoberto Fierros scored seven points; Kevin Hyde scored six points, while Tony Breavor scored four points for the Warriors.

On Saturday, the Warriors returned to Willows and beat American Christian Academy 56-52.

“In this game we were outsized and during the first half they exploited us down low,” Baker said. “We were letting them have too many shots in close and way too many offensive rebounds. At half time we

talked about being more protective of our paint and forcing them to take shots outside the key. I think we did a good job in the second half executing what we talked about at halftime.

“Our team defense was much better in the second half and offensively we were able to run the ball, pushing it up the court and scoring in fast break situations. They had the height advantage but we were quicker and I think eventually, they tired out in the second half. The game was 54-52 with less than 10 seconds left, our ball. We knew they would try and foul so we set up an inbounds play for Kevin Hyde who was able to get the ball, avoid the foul to stop the clock and dribble in and score a lay-up as time expired.”

Hyde was named the player of the game for the Warriors and scored 13 points. Mahnke once again led the Warriors with 14 points. Darian Flores scored eight points. Breavor scored eight points, Fierros scored six points, Zach Higgins scored five and Jesus Quirarte scored two points for the Warriors.

Boys soccer team falls to Sutter

The Winters High School boys’ soccer team lost a league game to visiting Sutter High School on Wednesday, Dec. 12. The Warriors’ next game is scheduled for Jan. 3.

Girls Circle facilitator training offered

The Yolo County Probation Department will be sponsoring a Girls Circle facilitator training scheduled for Jan. 15 and 16 at the Sierra Health Foundation in Sacramento. The department will be funding full scholarships for 36 attendees, with financial support from the Law Enforcement Administrators Coordinating Council, which uses some of the monies from asset seizures taken during drug arrests by the Yolo County Narcotics Enforcement Team. Training for this program usually costs \$295 per participant.

Girls Circle is a nation-

wide program of structured support groups for girls age 9 through 18, designed to help them learn how to establish positive relationships with peers and adults, create a positive female identity, make healthy choices, and develop communication skills. Built into the program are activities such as role playing, drama, journaling, dance, and art which allow girls to express themselves creatively.

Girls Circle groups focus on gender specific themes and topics such as

friendship, body image, honoring diversity, individuality, and relationships with peers. The program is research-based and is recognized as a promising approach in the prevention of delinquency by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention. Studies have found that girls who participate in the program have shown an increase in self-efficacy, self esteem, body image and awareness of social support.

For more information on Girls Circle visit: www.girlscircle.com.

Schools

Outstanding 4th, 5th graders honored

At an assembly on Dec. 7, Shirley Rominger Intermediate School announced its Gold and Silver Honor Roll.

Gold Honor Roll is awarded to students who receive 95 percent or higher in both reading and math on their report card. Silver Honor Roll is awarded to students who receive 90 percent or higher in reading and math.

The following students were honored:

Gold Honor Roll
4th grade: Eugene Myers and Logan Kreun
5th grade: Tyler Anderson, Damon Burke, Chaney Coman, Sofia Evanoff, Grace Ferguson, Gabriela Gutierrez, Vic Maldonado, Caitlin Mazzoleni, Madison Nicholas, Melissa Nitzkowski, Matthew Ramos, Bertha Reyes, Emmanuel Silva, Tynam Spalding and Lesly Tejada.

Silver Honor Roll
4th grade: Jazmin

Aviña, Samantha Beltran, Annie Dunn, Marilyn Franco, Matthew Holmes, Jennifer Johnson, William Johnson, Brittany Knight, Vicente Marquez, Morgan Nicholas, William Nicholson, Luke Vice, Leanne Wirth, Jose Bermudez, Jacqueline Duran, Daisy Hinojosa, Adriana Jimenez, Avery Laukkanen, Andrea Martin, Ivan Martinez, Meghan Murphy, Isidro Pantoja, Alexis Soto and Lilia Walton

5th grade: Juan Alvarez, Adriana Banuelos, Paul Choonhaurai, Zachary Cox, Muhammad Fazel, Tiffany Gillespie, Nicholas Hernandez, Taylor Hoekwater, Hailey Lane, Vanessa Lee, Anna Lopez, Isabela Martinez, Chaz Matthews, Monique Medina, Rosiana Medina, Ashley Mendoza, Samantha Nichols, Claire Penzel, Karina Prado, Carina Prado-Garcia and Ryan Ramos.

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SCHOOLS

Continued from page A-1

ference costs, saving \$29,619.

~ Turn computers off on the weekends, saving \$16,000.

~ Reduce non-personnel general fund expenditures, saving \$33,500.

~ Reduce the 07/08 deficit by assuming the e-rate loss can be restored and the 07/08 election expense will not materialize, saving \$10,500.

For this agenda item, 16 people commented, including nine teachers, two students, a parent, a school employee and the high school principal. All objected to cuts, with all but one objecting to the high school block schedule item. Seven proposed delaying the decision till later, with some citing the new board members as a reason.

Originally the 2006/07 year was thought to need \$250,000 in cuts, but the predictions turned out to be wrong, with unexpected funding coming to the rescue. Some speakers cited this fact in favor of putting the decision for cuts off to a later date.

The high school item would be an undoing of the grand change to block scheduling the school undertook in the 1997/98 year. The plan created six 90 minute classes over two days, instead of the previous seven 45 minute classes spread over one school day. The superintendent's report spoke well of the block program, which brought into being the senior project and supported a large number of electives, including AP classes for advanced students and remedial classes for struggling students. The \$150,000 savings is the point, which is possible because the new schedule would need 3.5 fewer teachers.

Trustee Romney pointed out at the previous restructuring discussion that comments tend to say "don't cut me," without saying what to cut. At this meeting at least one person commented, teacher Liz Coman, who presented a written alternate plan with cuts specified.

"And here's a suggestion you're not going to like," said Coman. "You could reduce the reserve for economic uncertainty from 4.5 percent to the state mandated three percent. That would be a savings of \$220,000."

Her plan also suggested telling the five school principals how much to cut, and allowing them to decide how to do it, echoing a suggestion from teacher Jim Stark from a previous meeting.

Middle school teacher Rebecca Fridae quoted trustee Jay Shepherd calling last year's grueling restructuring "cutting to the bone."

"To carry the metaphor

even farther," said Fridae, "now we're amputating limbs." She said teachers do not see many board member visits to school sites. She asked the decision be delayed, with board members taking more time to visit and meet with teachers, to learn the ramifications of cuts.

Union representative Sue Bridge had a list of things not to cut.

"I would encourage you not to cut programs, not to cut personnel, not to relocate programs, and not to relocate personnel," said Bridge.

High School Principal George Griffin passed out a prepared analysis that said, "the proposed reduction will result in the elimination of 21 of the 51 courses in the master schedule that are advanced academic electives, intervention classes for struggling students or career technical electives."

"A range of offering is critical," said Griffin. "Students are successful when we find ways to hook them into school, and not every kid is hooked into school the same way — some by band, some by FFA, some by Academic Decathlon. I would submit that we are not overstaffed."

"Every student will feel the weight of these effects," said high school teacher Jim Stark. "It really is the heart of everything we've done to improve our site and our student achievement. "We've got to defend this thing as long as possible."

Originally, this item was described as a change in the senior project program, because one of the periods that teachers of seniors would lose would be for senior project. Stark thanked Mitchell for no longer describing it that way. Later, teacher Matt Biers-Ariel called this a "bait and switch."

"To challenge eleventh graders with subjects like the holocaust," said history teacher Jay Shuttleworth of his experience teaching shorter periods, "was almost impossible. By the time we got them engaged, it was time to go somewhere else."

Mitchell said the move in 1998 to block scheduling did not call for extra hiring because the effective ratio of students to teachers went up.

"I think they've done an outstanding job with the block schedule, and that has not been an area of concern," said Mitchell. Looking at the schedule from 97/98, Mitchell admitted there were less sections available than with the later block scheduling, but noted the schedule did have electives, including ROP, music, drama and government class.

"But yes," said Mitchell, "it still does cut elective programs. If our current financial situa-

tion applied in 98/99, it is likely it would not be approved, because we couldn't afford the staff at that ratio. The middle school wanted a similar program a couple years ago, and we did not do it because of increased costs."

Trustee Rob Nickelson said the best thing would be for kids would be to have the teacher teach seven classes and keep the block schedule, but this would require negotiating because of the heavier load. He was against cutting ag programs or remedial classes.

New trustee Matt Brickey suggested lesser alternative cuts that would impact students less, and waiting for more information after the end of the school year.

Trustee Mary Jo Rodolfa said the idea of slowing down seems very logical and tempting.

"When I hear the recent news out of Sacramento, with the budget deficit going from the analyst's estimate of nine billion to the governor's estimate of 14 billion, with mid-year cuts required, that's making me more nervous. We are seeing declining enrollment, with no new houses soon.

Trustee Tom Harding suggested the idea of reducing the reserve for economic uncertainty, as suggested by Coman.

"I always thought the reserve should be kept for something you don't know will be happening to you," said Rodolfa. "We do know we are in declining enrollment, and that means less dollars for us to spend. If you know you are going to have things happen, then you should be looking at other areas to cut."

"I don't want to rush things, and be in the situation of having to bring people back," said Harding, "as we did with janitorial staff after the site move last year."

New member David Hyde supported taking more time to decide and learn more about alternatives.

"The longer we wait to cut," said Rodolfa, "the harder it will be to do when the time comes."

"We need to talk about the cost of delaying," said board president Jay Shepherd. "One thing that has worked for this district, is that this board has not abrogated its responsibility. We've made the decisions in a timely manner, and we haven't gotten into the problems other districts have. A dollar saved this year is saving two next year, so there is a benefit to making timely decisions.

Mitchell said the timing of the process is in response to the complaint at the last restructuring that not enough time was available to make the change. Inviting the new board members to participate before they actually took office was part

of this attempt to make the decisions earlier.

"If the board decisions are going to result in layoffs," said Mitchell about the timeline, "there are procedural steps that will have to take place before March 15."

Trustee Rodney Orosco said delaying the timeline will make it easier to explain to teachers being cut that every avenue had been explored.

In discussion of what will take place at the final meeting in January, Rodolfa pointed out the superintendent is paid to make a recommendation, but members can modify or reject his plan.

The discussion at this meeting was for information only. Action is scheduled for the Jan.17 meeting.

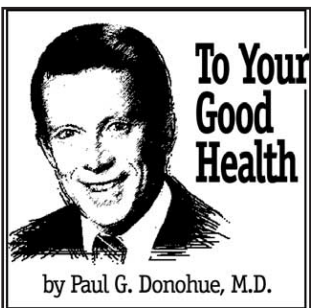
The next school board meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. in the Walnut Room at the school district office, 901 West Grant Avenue. All meetings are open to the public.

Features

Leg swelling might come from medicines

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have a problem that I don't understand, and my doctor is no help. My feet and ankles, and sometimes my legs, swell. I am 79, and the Lord has blessed me with good health except for high blood pressure. (I have attached a list of the medicines I take.) Is this just an old-age thing, or should I be concerned? — M.K.

ANSWER: When the feet, ankles and legs swell, it's edema (uh-DEE-muh). The causes for it are many. It comes from heart failure, liver disease and kidney malfunction. It would be hard to miss such causes because they have other, even more conspicuous signs. Some medicines cause edema. One of your four blood-pressure medicines — Norvasc — can, at times, cause such swelling. Speak with your doctor about this possibility, and see if a change or a reduction in the number of your blood pressure medicines can be made. This kind of swelling also comes from innocent conditions. Sitting for long periods with the feet dangling down allows gravity to draw fluid from the circulation, and the fluid oozes into the tissues of the legs and feet. Try a few self-help remedies for edema. Don't sit for long times without getting up and moving around. While sitting, prop your legs up on the seat of a kitchen chair. During the day, take three or four 15- to 30-minute breaks when you lie down with your legs propped up to a level higher than your heart. Cut way back on salt and salty foods to prevent your body from retaining too much fluid (and for your blood pressure). Elastic compression stockings can keep fluid in the circulation and out of the leg, ankle and foot tissues. The booklet on edema and lymphedema discusses this kind of swelling in detail and provides tips on its management. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 106W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money



order (no cash) for \$4.75/\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery. ***

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My daughter was recently home from college. Her skin looked funny to me. It had a yellow tinge. She said she felt fine and she was as active as she always has been, but I made her see our doctor. The doctor said she has Gilbert's disease. What does this mean for her? — L.O.

ANSWER: It means nothing to her. It shouldn't be called a disease. It's a genetic quirk. Every day, red blood cells are recycled, and in the process, the blood levels of bilirubin — a pigment — rise. The liver turns bilirubin into a product that can be eliminated. Your daughter's liver doesn't always process bilirubin the way it should. Blood levels build and turn the skin and the whites of the eyes yellow. It most often happens when a Gilbert's patient has not eaten for a long time or when he or she develops even a slight fever from cold or cough or whatever. Gilbert's will not shorten your daughter's life nor make her sick. ***

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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Where the heck is the Chamber of Commerce?

I've been troubled lately and I'm beginning to think that something is terribly wrong here in Winters. I have lived here for neigh on to 15 years and not once have I been nominated for "Citizen of the Year."

At first I thought it was an oversight but it seems to be happening over and over; every year. Every week there is a picture of someone in the paper who has won some sort of award. Well I want to know why I, a man of stature and taste, have never won anything. Wait a minute — I have to correct that statement because 35 years ago I won a trophy for "Worst Improved Bowler with the Lowest Average."

Now I read that some guy named McNamara has won an award for "Land Conservation." Why I'm twice as old as that guy. He was also given \$10,000 that he will probably spend on trees or something like that. I don't know where he comes from but everybody knows that when you win a prize, you spend it on yourself. I could spend that money a lot faster than he could, and I would have shared it with everybody, even the poor guys.

Things have got to change! Why do Charles Wallace and Keith Cary win every other award like they are taking turns? Well I have news for these guys too — I'm thinking of running for Mayor. Yes, you heard right, Mayor. When I am the head man you will see some changes around here. First of all, I would fire whoever's in charge of the Chamber of Com-



merce. They really messed me up! On Nov. 15, there was a letter in the paper with information about nominating exceptional citizens for just about every award there is to give. Then, at the end of the letter it said, "Oh, you only have one day to submit your nomination because they must be in by Nov. 16 at noon." What's up with that!

OK, so I type up my nominations for every award and put my name on all of them. There are a few typos because I only had one day to type it. Next, I'm running out the door with the paper flapping in the wind when it dawns on me that I don't know where the heck the Chamber of Commerce is.

I ran down Main Street in desperation and out of breath asking everyone I met, "Where is the Chamber of Commerce?" It goes to reason that the Chamber of Commerce would be somewhere around the commerce, right? Well as it happens, I never found the darn place; so once again I won't be the Citizen of the Year." Thank you very much, Winters Chamber of Commerce.

The next thing that I would do is get rid of all the guys down at the sewer plant. That would save us a lot of money; probably thousands of dollars. We don't need a stinking

sewer plant when we can just send it downstream and let the City of Davis worry about it. Those big underground tanks would make wonderful public baths, once they are cleaned up, of course. If we dump some sand down there we could have a little beach with some cabanas and lawn chairs.

I have a lot of other ideas too! Once I'm Mayor, we don't need two garbage cans. We can put all of our garbage in just one can. Why do we need two cans anyway? At my house there is always one can full and one can empty. As far as I'm concerned, all that crap can go downstream too. There is another savings of thousands of dollars.

You might think that, after all this thinking on my part that I would be nominated for something, huh! I don't think so because I didn't know where the Chamber of Commerce is. As a matter of fact, there probably is no Chamber of Commerce in this town. I've never seen one, have you?

That's the way I see things.

(Editor's note: The Winters Chamber of Commerce is located inside the Winters Community Center.)

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

HEBREWS 4:16

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign on shovel is different. 2. Window on door is missing. 3. Doorknob is added. 4. Man's hat is different. 5. Tree trunk is wider. 6. Man's nose is shorter.

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Pleased to meet you

Name: Santa Claus
Occupation: Manufacturing and parcel delivery.
Hobby: Making lists and checking them twice.
What's best about delivering in Winters: "There are no naughty kids here."
Fun fact: Can eat seven billion cookies in one day.

Want to be the next person of the week? Come to the Winters Express office and let us know!

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

CAP	AVOW	AVID
OIL	MIRO	MICE
DRAW	BACK	BEEN
YELL	BUDDY	
SABLE	MAYS	
OPAL	FAITHFUL	
DEC	GIMME	ERA
ARKANSAS	BEAD	
BATS	GODLY	
ELBOW	BLOB	
LIEU	ZWIEBACK	
AMEN	IOTA	COO
NERD	PEEN	KEN

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) An old adversary wants to make amends over the holidays. The decision is yours. But wouldn't it be nice to share the upcoming new year with another friend?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) As news of your work gets around, expect to receive a special holiday "gift" from influential contacts who could help you launch your new projects in the new year.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Instead of fussing over what you didn't do to prepare for the holidays, relax and enjoy the kudos for a job truly well done. A happy surprise awaits you early next year.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The best way to shake off lingering holiday blues is to join loved ones in the fun and festivities of this special time. A confusing situation starts to make sense in upcoming weeks.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Special emotional rewards mark this holiday time for Leos and Leonas who are able to open up to new relationships and the possibilities they offer in the upcoming year.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your efforts to make the holidays especially memorable for some people will be rewarded in some unexpected (but very welcome) ways in the upcoming year.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Be assured that your efforts to make this holiday special for everyone won't go unnoticed by those who could make some important changes in your life.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Lots of folks want you to light up their holiday parties. But try to take some quiet time 'twixt those glittering galas to spend with some very special people.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) While the current round of holiday revels has your social life on the fast track, someone special might want to keep pace with you next year as well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Enjoy all the fun you deserve at this holiday time. However, don't lose sight of the need to check out some of the changes the new year is expected to bring.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) What happens during this holiday time can help clear up some of the confusion jeopardizing a once-stable relationship. Follow your instincts on what to do next.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your holidays are brightened by new friends eager to become part of your life. But don't forget to spend time with that one special person. (You know who.)

BORN THIS WEEK: You have the ability to encourage people to reach their potential by setting an example with your own efforts.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Upper limit
4 Say confidently
8 Eager, plus
12 Tin Man's need
13 Picasso contemporary
14 Cinderella's horses, originally
15 Disadvantage
17 Existed
18 Holler
19 Pal
20 Dark-brown fur
22 Baseball's "Say Hey Kid"
24 October stone
25 True
29 Calendar abbr.
30 "I want it!"
31 Detergent brand
32 Tulsa's river
34 Droplet
35 Loony
36 Pious
37 Nudge
40 Sci-fi villain
41 Stead
42 Crisply toasted bread
46 Congregation's call
47 Tittle
48 Bill's partner

DOWN

1 Lutefisk
2 Melody
3 Hearing what you just recorded
4 Saunter
5 Test tube
6 Mythical monster
7 Stir-fry need
8 Surprise attack
9 Competed

10 On the rocks
11 Say it ain't so
16 Jack Benny interjection
19 Computer data measure
20 Pop
21 Unoriginal one
22 Half a 1960s quartet
23 Intentions
25 Puglist's weapon
26 After-the-fact opinions
27 Caspian feeder
30 Chew at
33 Teem
34 Nitwit
36 Accumulate, as information
37 Verve
38 Rickey ingredient
39 Homer's refresher
40 Nibble
42 Energy
43 Reason to say "alas"
44 Miller Sebastian
45 "— Tiki"

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Help Wanted

Production
Clorox
Production
Associates
When you touch the lives of millions of people around the world, nothing but the best will do. That's why The Clorox Co. & our subsidiaries look for people committed to work together toward common goals, while taking personal ownership for their decisions & actions. People who believe in maintaining the highest standards of business & professional conduct. People who share our values of strong competitiveness, measuring results & "doing the right thing."
If you want to make your mark in millions of homes & do it where you can feel proud about it, apply now for this opportunity:

The Clorox Products Mfg. Co. has openings at its Fairfield plant for Production Line Associates. Openings are on off-shifts. Safety & teamwork top priority. High speed packaging line & preventative maintenance exp. a+. Some computer work req'd. Occasional wknd. OT. Sal.: Entry level \$2513/mo. + bnfts. (incr. @ 6 mos. with skill demonstration).

Submit resume to EDD 12/17-12/21, 8A-4P at 320 Campus Ln., Fairfield, CA
Social security card & photo ID req'd. to submit resume at EDD.
NO PHONE CALLS, NO FAX. EOE/AA/D/V

Winter Break Work \$14-base appt. FT/PT sales /svc., no exp.,17+, cond. apply. 707 399-9932 www.workforstudents.com 45-4tp

REPOMAN F/T position avail. Must be flexible & avail. all shifts exp. helpful but not req. Fax resume 707-422-0979 46-4tp

Help Wanted

Restaurant Management
CARL'S JR.
Fairfield, Dixon & Vacaville
now hiring:
Asst. Mgrs....up to \$28K
Mgrs.....up to \$45K
Benefits avail., vacation + profit sharing
Also seeking PT/FT Shift Supervisors
Apply in person at
•4400 Central Pl., Cordelia
•289 Orange Dr., VV
•125 Gateway Blvd., Dixon
Or fax resume to
925-373-0517

Winters Joint Unified School District Classified:
Student Supv. Aide II
Continuation High 1hr/day; M-F in A.M. sick lv and pd hol. \$11.47-\$12.67/hr
Coaches Needed:
Varsity Girls Softball, Middle School: Boys and girls soccer
Substitutes also needed: Clerical; Student Supv Aide; Crossing guard, Instr Aides, etc.
Application Packets and add'l info at District Office, 909 W. Grant Ave. or call HR/530-795-6103

Start Today \$10 Kit.
Avon Ind. Sales Rep.
Ruth 707-438-7884.
youravon.com/
RJohnson7884

Drivers Teams earn top dollar plus great benefits. Solo drivers also needed for Western Regional.
Werner Enterprises 800-346-2818 ext. 123. 47-3tcc

DENTAL FT Office Manager with min. 7 yrs. exp. & FT exp'd. RDA for progressive, modern, fast paced office. Must be highly motivated & energetic. Great staff, great benefits. Fax resume to 707-422-7013 46-2tp

Classifieds

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Summons

County of Yolo, Plaintiff,
v.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE MATTER of the Issuance and Sale of Bonds for the Purpose of Refunding Certain Obligations that the County of Yolo Owes to the Public Employees Retirement System Arising Under PERS Contract and the Public Employees Retirement Law, and Certain Proceedings Leading Thereto, Including the Adoption of a Resolution that Authorizes the Issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds and the Execution and Delivery of a Trust Agreement Relating to the Issuance of Such Bonds, Defendants.

NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 21, 2008, WHICH IS TEN (10) DAYS OR MORE AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW.

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE MATTER OF THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS THAT THE COUNTY OF YOLO OWES TO THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM ARISING UNDER PERS CONTRACT AND THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT LAW, AND CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS LEADING THERETO, INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION THAT AUTHORIZES THE ISSUANCE OF PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS AND THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A TRUST AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS: Plaintiff has filed a civil complaint against you. You may contest the validity of the above matter by appearing and filing with the Court a written responsive pleading to the complaint not later January 21, 2008, which is ten (10) days or more after the completion of the publication of this summons. Your pleading must be in the form required by the California Rules of Court. Your original pleading must be filed in this Court with proper filing fees and proof that a copy thereof was served on Plaintiff's attorney. Unless you so respond, your default will be entered upon Plaintiff's application, and the Plaintiff may apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint. Persons who contest the validity of the matter described below and in the complaint will not be subject to punitive action, such as wage garnishment or seizure of their real or personal property.

You may obtain a copy of the Summons and Complaint in this matter by making a written request to counsel for the Plaintiff.

DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE MATTER THAT PLAINTIFF SEEKS TO VALIDATE:

The County provides its employees with a retirement plan under the requirements of the Public Employees Retirement Law, California Government Code section 20000 et seq. (the "Retirement Law"), pursuant to a contract, as amended from time to time (the "PERS Contract"), it has entered into with the Public Employees Retirement System (the "System"). The Retirement Law obligates the County, among other things, to: (a) make annual contributions to the System; (b) amortize the unfunded accrued actuarial liability of the County, which is the liability that has accrued but which the County has not yet paid to the System (the unfunded liability, hereinafter, the "Pension Obligation"); and (c) appropriate funds to meet these obligations.

The County currently must pay the System interest on the Pension Obligation at the rate of seven and three quarters percent per annum. The County understands and believes that, in the current market, it can issue taxable bonds at an interest rate of less than seven and three quarters percent per annum. Thus, the County can realize a substantial savings by issuing bonds, using the proceeds to refund its Pension Obligation, and thereby pay a lower interest rate on the bonds than the rate it would otherwise have to pay to the System.

On August 8, 2007, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution (the "Resolution") which authorized and approved the issuance and sale of the Pension Obligation Bonds for the purpose of refunding the Pension Obligation, and to pay costs of issuance, underwriter's discount, and original issue discount, if any, in connection with the Pension Obligation Bonds. The County also approved and authorized the issuance and sale of Additional Bonds from time to time in the future for similar purposes. The Pension Obligation Bonds will be in an aggregate principal amount which shall not exceed the principal amount of the Pension Obligation plus any underwriter's discount, original issue discount, and costs of issuance related to the Pension Obligation Bonds, and will mature not later than thirty years from the date of issuance.

The County filed this validation action to obtain a judicial declaration of the validity of the matters alleged in the County's complaint and described herein. In this action, the County seeks a judgment from the Court that, among other things, all proceedings by and for the County in connection with the Resolution, the Pension Obligation Bonds and any Additional Bonds, the Trust Agreement, and the other related agreements authorized by the County, were, are and will be valid, legal and binding, and were, are and will be in conformity with the applicable provisions of all laws and enactments at any time in force or controlling upon such proceedings, whether imposed by law, constitution, or statute.

YOU MAY SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY IN ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THE COMPLAINT OR THIS SUMMONS. SUCH ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED PROMPTLY SO THAT YOUR PLEADING MAY BE FILED OR ENTERED WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY THIS SUMMONS.

SIUSTED DESEA SOLICITAR EL CONSEJO DE UN ABOGADO EN ESTE ASUNTO, DEBERIA HACERLO INMEDIATAMENTE. TAL ABOGADO DEBERIA SER CONSULTADO PRONTO PARA QUE SU REPUESTA ESCRITA PUEDA SER REGISTRADA DENTRO DEL TIEMPO REQUERIDO POR ESTA CITACION JUDICIAL.

The name and address of the Court is (El nombre y direccion del Tribunal es):
Superior Court of the State of California
County of Yolo
725 Court Street
Woodland, California 95695

The names and address of Plaintiff's attorneys are (el nombre y direccion del abogado del demandate es):
Michael Weed
ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 3000
Sacramento, California 95814

12/20/07, 12/27/07, 1/3/08

Classifieds

Fictitious Business Name

FILED YOLO COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER
November 28, 2007
FREDDIE OAKLEY, CLERK
Kimberly Barklow, Deputy
FBN NUMBER 2007-1170
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: Express Tax Service
91 W. Main St. #1 Woodland CA 95695
Maria G. Bravo 437 Gibson Woodland CA 95695
Martha Cervantes 18204 Mallard St. Woodland CA 95695
This business classification is: Co-Partner

s/Maria G. Bravo, Martha Cervantes
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California, County of Yolo
FREDDIE OAKLEY County Clerk/Recorder
Liz Mahovick, Deputy Clerk
December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2007

Notice of Trustees Sale

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 07-40929
Doc ID #0001030717182005N Title Order No. 3435748 Investor/Insurer No. 103071718 APN No. 003-421-03-1 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 05/31/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER." Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by LAURA HODGSON, A SINGLE WOMAN, AND BRETT GUTIERREZ, A SINGLE MAN, AS JOINT TENANTS, dated 05/31/2005 and recorded 06/13/05, as Instrument No. 2005-0027823-00, in Book , Page), of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County, State of California, will sell on 01/07/2008 at 12:00PM, At the rear (North) entrance to the City Hall Building, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1000 HEMENWAY STREET, WINTERS, CA, 956941653. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$389,364.04. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. DATED: 12/01/2007 RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1757 TAPO CANYON ROAD, SVW-88 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: (800) 281 8219, Sale Information (805) 578-6618 By: Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. AS-AP# 939574 12/06/2007, 12/13/2007, 12/20/2007

Classifieds

Classifieds

Place your ad
in the Express Classifieds and
get placed on the web
wintersexpress.com

Fictitious Business Name

FILED YOLO COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER
November 14, 2007
FREDDIE OAKLEY, CLERK
Kimberly Barklow, Deputy
FBN NUMBER 2007-1140
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: Wyatt Jensen Squeeze Service
20820 Co. Rd. 79B Capay CA 95607
Wyatt Jensen 20820 Co Rd. 79B Capay CA 95607
This business classification is: An Individual

s/Wyatt Jensen
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.
State of California, County of Yolo
FREDDIE OAKLEY County Clerk/Recorder
Liz Mahovick, Deputy Clerk
November 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 2007

Fictitious Business Name

FILED YOLO COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER
December 5, 2007
FREDDIE OAKLEY, CLERK
Kimberly Barklow, Deputy
FBN NUMBER 2007-1201
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: Diamond Creek Investments, LLC
505 Ashley Ave., Woodland, Ca. 95695
Diamond Creek Investments, LLC 505 Ashley Ave, Woodland, Ca, 95695
This business classification is: An Individual

s/Aaron Gallegos
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.
State of California, County of Yolo
FREDDIE OAKLEY County Clerk/Recorder
Liz Mahovick, Deputy Clerk
12/20, 12/27, 2007, 1/10, 1/17, 2008

Notice of Trustees Sale

Trustee Sale No.: 20070134008437 Title Order No.: 1145349 FHA/VA/PMI No.: NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 6/6/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NDex West, LLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 06/14/2005 as Instrument No. 2005-0028029-00 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County, State of California. Executed By: Carol A Trejo, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check/cash equivalent or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). Date of Sale: 12/27/2007 Time of Sale: 12:45 PM Place of Sale: At the north entrance to the West Sacramento City Hall located at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA Street Address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 104 Orchard Lane, Winters, CA 95694 APN#: 003-491-15-1 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$372,971.65. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to sell to be recorded in the County where the real property is located. For Trustee Sale Information Please Call: Priority Posting & Publication 17501 Irvine Blvd., Suite One Tustin, CA 92780 714-573-1965 www.priorityposting.com NDex West, LLC as Authorized Agent Dated: 12/6/2007 NDex West, LLC may be acting as a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. P340087 12/6, 12/13, 12/20/2007

Classifieds

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Fictitious Business Name

FILED YOLO COUNTY CLERK/RECORDER
November 2, 2007
FREDDIE OAKLEY, CLERK
Lupe Ramirez, Deputy
FBN NUMBER 2007-1105
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: Woodland Club Volleyball dba Dynamix Volleyball Club
1742 Adobe Way, Woodland, CA 95695
P.O. Box 8929 Woodland, CA 95776
Michelle Lee, 1454 Garfield Ct., Woodland, CA 95776
Janene Scoonover, 1742 Adobe Way Woodland, CA 95695

This business classification is: An Unincorporated Association other than a Partnership

s/Michelle Lee, Janene Scoonover
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California, County of Yolo
FREDDIE OAKLEY County Clerk/Recorder
Liz Mahovick, Deputy Clerk
12/20, 12/27, 2007, 1/10, 1/17, 2008

Notice of Trustees Sale

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S.No. 1116436-02 APN: 03-502-03-1 TRA: 002000 LOAN NO: XXXXXX2707 REF: Williams, Anthony IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED April 24, 2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On January 08, 2008, at 09:00am, Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded April 27, 2006, as Inst. No. 2006-0016641-00 in book XX, page XX of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County, State of California, executed by Anthony Williams, A Single Man, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state: At the rear (north) entrance to the city hall building 1110 West Capitol Avenue West Sacramento, California, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: Completely described in said deed of trust The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1013 Hillview Lane Winters CA 95694 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$453,482.31. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. For sales information: Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm (619) 590-1221. Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, 525 East Main Street, P.O. Box 22004, El Cajon, CA 92022-9004 Dated: December 11, 2007 Trustee Sale Officer: Jeffrey A Ferrer. (R-159329 12/20/07, 12/27/07, 01/03/08)

Classified Ads - The Market Place for Winters

Services

TV, VCR, stereo & microwave oven repairs. Call Brad Chapman, 795-1026, evenings & weekends. tfn
Cortez IV Enterprises Demo, cleanup, hauling service. Reasonable rates 530 304-0077. 7-52tp
Is your checkbook a mess? Tired of trying to balance your checking account? Need help in doing payroll, payroll reports, and sales tax reports? Give me a call at (530) 795-4254.
Katherine's Bookkeeping Service
600 Railroad Ave. Ste.B
Winters, CA 95694
(530) 795-4254
REMODELING SPECIALIST
Kitchen & bath remodels. Room additions, major repairs, redwood decks, etc. Stan Clark Construction Co., Lic. # 503424. 795-2829.

Services

(530) 219-4067
STYERS CONSTRUCTION
HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING
Bathroom Remodels - Doors Windows - Siding Repairs Dryrot - Pest Reports - Drywall and Texturing - Decks Patio Covers - Fences and Much More. Lic#693168 38-tfn
Real Estate Photography Services Weekdays & Weekends (707) 425-2664; 290-6262
Yves Boisrame Constuction
For All Your Building Needs Call 795-4997
Custom homes, major remodels, storage, hangers, garages, all sizes, delivered or complete installation. 20 years Experience.
Full Satisfaction Guaranteed

Autos for Sale

1993 Chevrolet 3/4 T Diesel Pickup 104,000 miles good condition Must see \$6500 or best offer ph. 795-2553. 47-2tp
"94 Plymouth Grand Voyager Mini Van New alternator, battery & starter. Good cond. \$2200 obo. (707) 384-9587 44-4tp
'95 Ford Bronco, black ext., blue int. AT, AC, PW, PL, PS, 150K mi. Good cond. Must Sell. \$2500 obo. (707) 428-3828 44-4tp
'91 Ford F150 Ext. Cab, 4x4, 5Liter, all power, well maint. Smogged, great tires, dual exhaust, lots of fun. \$2550 obo. (707) 429-1533 44-4tp

Autos for Sale

'01 Ford F150 Lariat 4x4, white, leather tan int., CD, camper shell, 101K mi. Exc. cond., must see. Asking \$13,500 obo. (707) 330-6068 44-4tp
'02 Red Mustang coupe, 40K miles, one owner, regular maintainance, new tires, leather upholstery, CD player, A/C, runs great. \$9,500. Ph. (707) 425-8922. 44-4tp
'98 Suburban 1500LS, 2wd, 20" rims, fully loaded. Very clean in/out, smogged. Dual air. Tow package. 118K mi. \$4950 obo. (707) 280-6816 44-4tp
'99 BMW 740i V8 with sports pkg. 18" rims, fully loaded. 154K mi. Super Clean. \$8600 b/o. (707) 280-6816 44-4tp
'91 BMW 740i V8 with sports pkg. 18" rims, fully loaded. 154K mi. Super Clean. \$8600 b/o. (707) 280-6816 44-4tp

Autos for Sale

'03 PT Cruiser GT Turbo 31K mi., loaded, like new!
A/T, blue w/gray, leather int., moonroof, 6 CD, tint, spoiler & rims. Garaged. \$12,995. 707/421-9004 45-4tp
'99 Toyota Camry, 4 cyl., 4 dr., A/T, A/C, PS, PB, PL, CC. 163K mi. AM/FM, New tires. Exc. maint. cond. \$4800 obo. 415-215-9974. 45-4tp
'98 Plymouth Neon, AT, blow headgasket. Upgraded stereo syst., Ext., int. in good shape, new tires. \$550 as is. (707) 208-0134 46-4tp
1993 Chevy Silverado 2500 Pickup Truck. 305cc, V8, 2WD, long bed, crazy Kenwood snd. sys., alarm. \$4,500 OBO. Call (707) 628-6042. 46-4tp
03' Hyundai Elantra GT, 64k mi., burg. w/ dk. gray lthr int., auto, all power, new brakes & tires, sunroof, a/c, CD. Ext. wnty. \$7,200/obo (707) 864-8062 46-4tp
1988 Accord LXI, 5-Spd, Smog'd, P/S, Lthr, P/B, CD, 214k-mi. Reg. 08, Clean Title, Runs Great! (707) 480-4650 \$1,375.00 46-4tp
97 Chrysler LHS, fully loaded. White w/ gray leather int., new tires & battery, great condition! \$3,900 obo, (707) 864-0580 46-4tp
06 Honda Accord EX 4Dr. GPS, XM, voice comm, multi-CD, moon roof, power seats, cruise ctrl., etc! Blue w/ black leather. 14K mi. \$21,000. 628-6042 46-4tp
01' Dodge Neon SE 4-dr, Auto., 55,000 mi. Met. Blue, a/c, New stereo w/CD & I-Pod hook-up. Asking \$7,000 o/b/o 707-330-1230 46-4tp
91 Ford F150, Long bed, 6-cyl., 5-sp, new tires, runs exc., 08' tags, \$1850 obo, #6215 (707) 469-8044 46-4tp
2004 Honda Pilot EX SUV 4WD. 56k miles, metallic blue, clean title. \$19,000 OBO (916) 921-9774 46-4tp
2005 Ford Lariat 4X4 Crewcab, loaded, bed-liner, low miles, flow masters, priced below low bluebook (707) 428-1493
'88 Civic, Auto, Good Eng. @204k-mi, Nu F&R Brks., Nu T-Belt, Smog'd, 4-Dr, Regist. '08. \$1,425 (707) 480-4650
1988 Dodge Ramcharger V8, 4X4, 35" tires, 4" lift Great for 4-Wheeling! \$2400 or B.O. (707) 208-1967
1997 GMC Sierra 1500, V-6, Auto, great condition. Only 85k miles! CD, a/c, cruise control, tinted windows \$4,000 OBO. (707) 580-8823
03 Ford Explorer XLT, 4WD, Fully loaded w/DVD, white w/ gray int., seats 7, single owner, maint. records, exc. cond., 51k mi. \$15,500. (707) 688-6640

RV for sale

'89 Ford Escaper, Class C, 27' Immac. int., qn. bed, a/c, slps. 6, new awning, fully S/C, good tires, runs good, 24K mi. MUST SEE! \$8900. (707) 386-1131 45-4tp
'93 Fleetwood American Eagle 38' diesel pusher, with Garmin Street Pilot GPS, Jake brakes, rearview TV! New list \$203,113. travel 1st class! Make offer. (707) 864-8052 46-4tp
03 Sea-Doo GTX 4-Tec w/ trailer and all accessories. Full set-up! Low hours. \$5,000 (707) 688-6640

Motor-Home




88 Itasca Class A Motor-home. Sleeps 4. Self contained. Plus extras. Low, low mi. \$7,000. Call 707-428-1764. 43-4tp
Avail. Space
1122 Western St., Fairfield
Office space available for as low as .70¢ sf. (925) 228-9559
Dieters Needed
36 People Needed who are SERIOUS about losing weight! (707) 745-0535 bestdietprofessional.com

Classifieds

Classifieds

Classifieds

Pleasants Valley Equestrian Estate
Spectacular hilltop Mediterranean home with mountain and valley views, equestrian facilities and cottage on 20 acres of oak and pine studded rolling hills and level pastures. Main home features Saltillo tile floors, an open and inviting floor plan and plenty of windows to take in the breathtaking views! Lush landscaping and in-ground pool with retractable cover. All weather arena, fenced pastures and a 3-stall barn with tack room **\$1,497,000.00.**
Country Listing
Tucked away in the countryside just outside of winters is this unique and exciting home with spectacular views on 5 very private acres! Level ground for a horse setup or RV storage, while the home is hilltop with panoramic views. One story, 3 bedroom, 2421 sq ft with an enormous kitchen with a hand tiled island, wet bar and eat-in area. Two wood burning fire places. Large pond, several fruit/citrus trees and a great barn/shop with lots of storage. **\$975,000.00**
5 Acre Custom Home Site
This beautiful 5 acre parcel has panoramic views, lots of privacy and established oak trees. Choose your dream home site! Water available, electricity to property. 2 Homes allowed. **\$575,000.**

THE TROPHY PROPERTY TEAM

Curtis Stocking REALTOR (707) 761-3343
Bryant Stocking Ranch Specialist (707) 249-9642
www.ShowcaseProperties.com


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FEATURED HOME:
93 Rodondo Ave. Suisun City \$279,995
Large Price Reduction. Wonderful home offers 3 bedrooms and large den. with double door entry. Tile and laminated floors. Large patio/sun room 2 large sheds possible RV parking.

131 S. 2nd St. Rio Vista, \$399,000
Rare opportunity! This circa 1913 home features 3 separate living areas each with outside entrance. Main level with 2 bed. Lower level has bedroom bath, kitchen and livingroom. 3rd is a cozy bungalow.
137 Dover Way, Vacaville, \$419,000
Nice tri-level in quiet neighborhood 4 bedroom 2.5 bath. Wet bar and fireplace in family room.
950 Hillview Dr. Dixon \$550,000
Wonderful home in custom community! 3 bedrooms 2 baths upstairs 1 bed and bath downstairs. Great room with cathedral ceilings. Master suite with balcony. Park like yard with inground pool.
4127 Mountain View Ln. Vacaville, \$689,000
Country property at an affordable price. Completely remodeled 3 bedroom 2 bath. Stucco exterior, tile roof, dual pane windows, new HVAC, paved drive, small shop and storage shed.
135 Cotta Way Vallejo \$523,500
Beautiful home in Cimarrron Hills. This spacious 3 bed and loft with 2.5 baths is move in ready. Home has bamboo laminated flooring. Large backyard deck.
209 Demarest Dr. Vacaville \$355,000
Cute as button! Come and see this specious and well maintained 3 bed 2 bath home. New paint and laminated flooring.
255 Diane Place Dixon, \$498,000 Huge price reduction
Beautiful custom home in one of Dixon's most desirable areas, 3 beds, 2.5 baths, beautiful spacious kitchen and granite countertops. Bonus room, Huge backyard, inground pool and spa.
287 N. Alamo Dr. Vacaville, \$460,000 Huge Price Reduction. Desirable North Vacaville area. View of mountains and park like yard. Open floor plan has separate family room with bar and fireplace. Sun room with hot tub. 4 bedrooms 2.5 bath.
1125 McArthur Ave., Winters, \$334,500 Price Reduction
Motivated Sellers. Bring all Offers. Owner has redone everything on this 3 bedroom home. Huge backyard with storage shed.

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Misc. Auto

Custom wheels: New 22" rims & tires. Fits Charger or Chrysler 300. 5 lug, \$1000 with trade of your stock tires. (707) 372-1486

Reward

Reward for additional information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons responsible for acts of arson and terrorism at Russell and Buckeye Rd. on Nov. 17 between 8+9p.m. 795-0305. Ramos Ent.

Motorcycle

'07 RMZ 450 Very clean bike, low hours, Pro-cut pipe, VR1 suspension. Too much stuff to list. \$4500. 707/249-0138 46-4tp

'07 RMZ 250 Nice bike, very clean. Must sell. Extra parts to go with it. \$3500 (707) 580-0049 46-4tp

Home fire and carbon monoxide poisoning prevention tips

Winter weather brings more than colder temperatures, snowstorms and holiday celebrations. It also brings a significantly higher number of residential fires and accidental carbon monoxide (CO) poisonings, tragedies that can be prevented if appropriate safety precautions are in place.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), home fires are most prevalent in December and January and the number of CO related injuries and deaths increase in winter months when furnaces, space heaters and other fuel burning appliances are in use.

"There are several reasons for the increase in fires and CO accidents in winter months," says Debbie Hanson, director of external affairs for BRK Brands/First Alert, a manufacturer of fire extinguishers, smoke and CO alarms and other home safety products. "Candles and holiday decorations such as Christmas trees and lights, along with increased use of kitchen appliances for holiday cooking all contribute to the higher incidence of home fires," says Hanson. "Storm-related power outages and the improper use of supplemental or alternative heating sources play a big role in the number of CO poisonings. The consequences are often

tragic and our goal is to help folks protect themselves during this critical time of year."

Winter Fire Safety Tips

According to Hanson there are simple steps people can take that will greatly reduce the risk of fire-related injury and property loss, which is especially important in cold weather months.

- ~ Install smoke alarms with both Photoelectric and Ionization sensing technologies on every level of your home and in all sleeping areas for maximum protection.

- ~ Test smoke alarms at least once a week.

- ~ Change the batteries in smoke alarms every six months or when the low battery signal is heard.

- ~ Create and practice a home escape plan at least twice a year, making sure everyone is involved from kids to grandparents.

- ~ Keep a fire extinguisher or fire extinguishing spray in your kitchen and near other areas where a fire could occur, such as in a workshop, garage or near a fireplace.

Winter Carbon Monoxide Safety Tips

Often referred to as the silent killer because it can't be seen, smelled or tasted, CO is the leading cause of accidental poison-

ing in the U.S. It is a by-product of combustion produced by cars, stoves, water heaters, fireplaces, gas grills and a number of other appliances. The following safety tips will help residents avoid CO and other dangers associated with power outages and changes in seasonal temperatures:

- ~ Never run a generator indoors or in a poorly ventilated area, such as a garage or porch, and use the appropriate-size power cords to carry the electric load.

- ~ Install one battery-operated CO alarm (or AC-powered alarm with battery backup) on every level of the home and one in each sleeping area.

- ~ Ensure that CO alarms have working batteries installed.

- ~ Never burn charcoal or other outdoor cooking appliances indoors or in the garage.

- ~ Inspect and clean any soot and debris, such as bird nests and paper, out of the chimneys, flues and stacks.

Carbon monoxide is difficult to detect without the help of CO alarms. Outward physical symptoms of CO poisoning include headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion. To learn more, visit www.firstalert.com.

Feeding the hungry



Photo by Charles Wallace

Jim Hyer and Dave Egbert moved food into the Community Center on Friday, getting ready for the annual Christmas food basket giveaway held on Saturday, Dec. 15. The baskets contained almost 60 pounds of canned goods, sugar and other staples.



Photo by Charles Wallace

Les Tilden and David Lorenzo are shown with some of the food donated by Lorenzo's Town and Country Market. The store donated over \$1,300 worth of canned goods to this year's Christmas food baskets. According to Tilden the Winters Ministerial Association gave away over six and a half tons of food to 215 Winters families.

Have you had a baby? Graduated?
Celebrated an anniversary?

Put it in the Express! It's free. Call 795-4551