

Who is this?

Find out on page B-4



Gateway to the Mountains

# Winters Express

69¢  
plus 6 cents for Arnold

Library prepares for move  
— Page A-2

Volume 126, Number 37 - Locally owned since 1884

Winters, Yolo County, California, Thursday, October 15, 2009

The hometown paper of Linda Hirst

## Buckhorn hits the big time

◆ First Buckhorn franchise will open in New York

By DEBRA DeANGELO  
Express editor

Start spreadin' the news — the tri-tip made famous by the Buckhorn will be available in Manhattan in a matter of months. Buckhorn owner John Pickerel is visiting the Big Apple this week, smoothing out the final details for the franchise. The franchisee will be David Kassling, who was smitten with Buckhorn fare while visiting the Buckhorn Grill in San Francisco.

Kassling spent months working at the Buckhorn Grill in Walnut Creek before taking on the franchise. Pickerel says he and Kassling both have high hopes for the new endeavor. Kassling owns the franchise for the entire New York City area, and Pickerel says if the first restaurant is successful, more may spring up.

Pickerel notes that the new franchise, which will be known as the Tri Tip Grill in New York, is not starting out in some back alley on a shoe-string. The first restaurant will be located at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, one of the most prestigious locations in the whole city. He expects the franchise to open in February.

“We got the best location in the city,” said Pickerel, adding that the bar of expectation has been set very high. “We have to do the best we’ve ever done, and be better than we’ve ever been.”



Photo by Charles Wallace

Community members, city staff, city council members, and Winters police and fire personnel dig in at the Winters Safety Facility groundbreaking, held at the Grant Avenue and Main Street site on Thursday, Oct. 8. The \$8.4 million project, which will house both the police and fire departments, is expected to be finished in about one year. The project was funded by a 2007 Redevelopment bond, as well as police and fire impact fees.

## We dig it!

◆ Community celebrates Winters Safety Facility groundbreaking

By DEBRA DeANGELO  
Express editor

It was just like a real party on Thursday, Oct. 8, when the community turned out with shovels in hand to break ground for the new police and fire department facility at the northwest corner of West Grant Avenue and Main Street. The party was complete with colorful balloons, cookies and even party poopers, in the form of protestors who turned their back on the service and the groundbreaking itself over a disagreement over the awarding of subcontracting work for the facility.

As representatives from District Council 16 Painters and Allied Trades held a union and American flag and turned their backs in protest on both the celebratory speeches and actual ground-breaking, most everyone else at the ground-breaking ignored them and visited the various stations that showed where everything



Photo by Debra DeAngelo

His shovel was bigger than he was, but that didn't stop Dennis John Pritchard from digging in at the Winters Safety Facility groundbreaking on Oct. 8. He is the son of Winters firefighter Sean Pritchard.

See FACILITY on page A-7

## City financial forecast frosty

By MOLLY DAVIS  
City editor

As seasons change and we adapt to the new forecasts, so will the City of Winters, as it buckles down and tries to keep the financial drafts out.

The Winters City Council recently reviewed its deficits and the efforts it can take to save money, and make money.

“In some ways, I hate to chase the dollar,” said City Manger John Donlevy, “but that’s a fact of life.”

He introduced a discussion item to the council, which would allow for reorganization to take place at City

Hall, following the resignation of the Recreation Coordinator, Traci Nakamura, and the pending retirement of Lynn Sullivan in the financial department. Donlevy recommended that the city modify the counter hours of the building department and limit inspection days to Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and by appointment.

He also suggested that to save money and prevent the need to layoff employees that the city shift portions of the building department to the financial management and water divi-

See FORECAST on page A-10

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Included in this week's issue are advertising inserts from:  
Lorenzo's Market,  
Tractor Supply Co.,  
Round Table Pizza

(Supplements are sent to Winters, Woodland, Davis, Capay Valley, Dixon, Vacaville and Fairfield.)

### WEATHER

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

Date	Rain	Hi	Lo
Oct. 7		81	48
Oct. 8		87	47
Oct. 9		80	47
Oct. 10		83	49
Oct. 11		84	48
Oct. 12		73	50
Oct. 13	1.22	70	55
Rain for week: 1.22			
Season's total: 1.32			
Last year to date: .06			
Average to Oct. 13: .65			

## First fall storm wallops Winters

Story on page A-8

### FUTURE SUBSCRIBERS

**HENRY JOSEPH GIRIMONTE** is the firstborn child of Nicholas and Phoebe Girimonte of Winters. Born Aug. 14, 2009 at Kaiser Hospital in Roseville, he weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Phillip and Lynn Nicholls of Volcano. Paternal grandparents are Susan Girimonte and the late Joseph Girimonte of Woodland. Maternal great-grandparents are Bertram and Betty Nicholls of San Carlos, and paternal great-grandfather is Nicholas Girimonte of Chico.

**RAEGAN PAIGE MARIE HURST** is the newborn daughter of Mason and Andrea Hurst of Winters. Born on Sept. 19, 2009 in Vallejo, she weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 inches long. She joins big sister Riley, 3. Maternal grandparents are Don and Traci Calvert of Winters. Paternal grandparents are Chuck and Marleen Hurst of Dixon and Bruce and Jean Bienkowski of Fairfield. Great-grandparents Larry and Peggy Kelley of Winters and Anita Basilere of Fairfield.

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**BUCKHORN**  
STEAK & BURGERS  
Restaurant: 795-4611 • Catering: 795-1728



# Library will close for move to new site

By BETH GABOR  
Yolo County  
Public Information Officer

The Winters Library will close for three weeks starting Friday, Oct. 23, to make the move to the newly constructed building at 708 Railroad Avenue. The library is currently located at 201 First Street. A building dedication for the Winters Community Library is planned for Friday, Nov. 13, and on the following day, Saturday, Nov. 14, a community grand opening will be held with special activities for families. The time of these events has yet to be announced.

"At almost 11,000 square feet, the new building will dwarf the old 3,700 square foot library," said Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong. "The new library has high ceilings, lots of windows and beautiful landscaping all around. The meeting room has electronic sound and display capabilities and the library has doubled the number of public computers."

During the three-week transition, Winters library users should be aware of the following:

~ Library materials can be returned in the book drop located outside the front door of the library on First Street. The new library's book drop will become available on Nov. 12.

~ One week prior to the closure, beginning Oct. 16, users will not be able to place holds on Winters branch materials, and inter-library loan requests for pick-up at Winters will be suspended. Library users will continue to place requests for items displayed in the online catalog, but will have to specify pick-up at another Yolo County Library location.

~ During the closure, Winters branch materials will temporarily be suspended from the library's catalog system. When the new library opens on Nov. 14, Winters branch library materials will again display in the online catalog and holds can again be placed. All suspended inter-library loan activity will resume at this time.

Yolo County, the Winters School District, the City of Winters and generous contributions from the Margaret Parsons Trust, the Winters Friends of the Library and private donors have allowed for construction of a new public library that will be Yolo County's first joint-use library. While functioning as a public library, it will also be the Winters High School library, located on the high school campus on Railroad Avenue near the pool.

For more information on Yolo County Library services call 666-8005 or visit [www.yolocountylibrary.org](http://www.yolocountylibrary.org).

## Weekly police report

### Sept. 28

~ 8 a.m., Elizabeth Anne Bryan, 43, of Winters was stopped at the stop sign on Hemenway Street facing southbound at Grant Avenue. She was waiting for traffic to pass so she could pull out safely westbound onto Grant Avenue. As she began to pull forward onto Grant Avenue, she struck a 16-year-old bicyclist who entered the intersection.

### Oct. 5

~ 12:40 p.m., 300 block of Russell Street, suspect and victim, who have a child in common, were involved in a verbal dispute. During the dispute, suspect pushed victim into a door frame, causing the victim to hit his back. The case is being forwarded to the District Attorney for complaint.

~ 5:37 p.m., Thomas Kieran Sears, 18, of Winters was arrested for possessing a narcotic or controlled substance. Sears was booked at the Winters Police Department and transported to the Yolo County Jail for incarceration.

~ 5:45 p.m., Blake Cody De Los Santos, 18, of Winters was issued a no-

tice to appear for being a minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage.

~ 5:50 p.m., a 15-year-old Winters juvenile was issued a notice to appear for being a minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage.

### Oct. 5-6

~ 6 p.m. to 10 a.m., 900 block of East Grant Avenue, a 10x20 foot tent with a frame was stolen. Loss: \$500.

### Oct. 7

~ 8:35 a.m., 100 block of Broadview Lane, an officer responded to an audible alarm that was activated by a repairman who was repairing the side garage door. The residence was secure.

### Oct. 10

~ 11:46 p.m., Martin Anguiano Oviedo, 43, of Winters was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol content of over .08%. Oviedo was booked at the Winters Police Department and released to a sober adult on a notice to appear.

### Oct. 11

~ 4:47 a.m., first block of East Main Street, parties were involved in a verbal domestic dispute.

## YESTERYEAR



File photo

Kathy Parker, right, representing Heart Federal Savings and Loan, presented a check for \$1,000 to the Winters Community Center Building Fund in September, 1980. Receiving the check are Lavinia Young, building fund committee chairman, and Cecil Padilla, design committee chairman.

50  
YEARS AGO

November 5, 1959

Voters of the Buckeye Elementary School District voted on Tuesday to annex that district to the Winters Elementary School District. The unofficial vote was 19 in favor of annexation, and 14 opposed.

The Winters City Council Tuesday night called for bids for construction of a new sewage treatment plant. Harry N. Jenks, consultant sanitary engineer, told the council that the treatment plant will take care of a population of 3,500 and can be expanded to take care of a population of 7,000.

The Wolfskill Mothers Club, meeting Tuesday at the schoolhouse, elected Mrs. August Bonillo as president, Mrs. John Collado, secretary and Mrs. Tony Garcia, vice president. Completing the slate of officers for the coming year are Mrs. John I. Ramos, treasurer, and Mrs. Harvey Hemenway, publicity chairman.

Mrs. Frances Bobbitt and her two sons, DeWayne and Bill, of Sheridan, Wyoming, arrived October 26th for a week's visit with the former's father, Mr. Elmer Anderson.

Robby Young, Glen Butler and Johnny Martinez attended the U.S.C.-U.C. football game in Berkeley last Saturday.

## Sell items at Farmers Market

The Next Chance Mercantile (flea market) takes place on Sunday, Oct. 18, adjacent to the Winters Farmers Market at Rotary Park. This is an opportunity for people to bring their "garage sales" downtown, to gather in one lo-

65  
YEARS AGO

November 3, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. O.C. Holmes, Sr., are this week announcing the engagement of their daughter, Mae Holmes, to Elwin Martin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Martin of Apricot District.

Born October 29, 1944, in Sutter Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. Gunnard Johnson, a daughter.

Mrs. E.W. Forwick, teacher at Union School, and pupils held a Hallowe'en party at the schoolhouse.

The Service Club reassembled Monday night with the new president, W.G. Brinck presiding.

Patricia, Mary Lou and Barbara Ann Crawley were hostesses at a party Tuesday night when costumes, games and appointments were all in keeping with Hallowe'en. Present were Sharon Cecil, Emily Lou Reiff, Elsie Griffin, Carlisse Franke, Betty Jean Sattazahan, Nina McAntosh, Marcia Long, Carol Lee Stith and Carolyn Merchant.

Joseph D. Biasi, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. Biasi, has been returned to the States after serving 18 months in the Pacific battle area. The Winters Leatherneck has been awarded the Purple Heart Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation as a member of the famed Second Marine Division.

100  
YEARS AGO

November 5, 1909

Miss Emma Goodin and Grandma Stiltz of Shasta County are visiting Mrs. R.L. Stiltz.

Henry Bowman's new mansion in the Wolfskill tract is nearing completion.

Ladies of the missionary society of the Presbyterian Church had a quilting bee at the home of Mrs. A.J. Henderson Wednesday.

A full crew of men are employed on the construction of Dry Creek bridge.

Roy Wyatt made a business trip to some of the bay cities during the week.

Native Sons will give a grand masquerade ball on Thanksgiving eve.

WANTED: At this shop, a job printer. Steady work for a good man.

**Winters Fire  
Department  
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Saturday,  
Oct. 17, 5 p.m.  
Call 795-4131  
for tickets and  
information.**

## Berryessa down .30 of a foot

The level of Lake Berryessa dropped by .30 of a foot during the past week with a reduction in storage of 4,688 acre feet of water, according to Mickey Faulkner of the Solano Irrigation District.

He reported Tuesday morning that the lake was 407.64 feet above sea level, with storage computed at 992,458 acre feet of water.

The SID is diverting 80 second feet of water into the Putah South Canal and 39 second feet is flowing in Putah Creek at the Diversion Dam.

Evaporation on Lake Berryessa averaged 104 acre feet of water per day during the week.

115  
YEARS AGO

November 3, 1894

It is reported that Griffiths and Hazelrigg have sold their store in Winters to A. Rummelsburg of Williams, Colusa County, who will take possession the 15th inst.

G.W. Hemenway is making some additions to one of his buildings on the corner of Main and First streets, to accommodate the Methodist society, which meets there.

Rev. J.T. Prior who formerly preached for the Baptist denomination at Buckeye, was a visitor in Winters last week, and was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. William Sims.

The Hotel DeVilbiss changed hands last Saturday, Mr. DeVilbiss selling it to L. Kauffman of San Francisco. There will be no change in the management of the hotel at present, as Mr. Hacke, the lessee, is satisfactory to the new proprietor.

We neglected to mention last week the letting of a contract by Supervisor King to B. Bertholet for building stone abutments to an iron bridge to be built across Buckeye Creek at L. Moody's farm. The work is now in progress and will be completed as soon as possible.

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Ad deadline, noon Tuesday

# BUCKHORN

Continued from page A-1

Although the Buckhorn has several Buckhorn Grill restaurants — three in San Francisco and storefronts in Napa, Walnut Creek, Emeryville and Sacramento — the Tri Tip Grill will be Pickerel’s first venture into franchising.

“We built the kit, now we’re selling the franchise,” said Pickerel via telephone from New York City. He admitted that it all seems a bit surreal at first.

“When you’re standing in Winters, it doesn’t seem real. It doesn’t seem real until you get here.”

Pickerel noted that former Winters resident Andrew Lindsay, now a New York resident, helped connect the various parties involved and pave the way for the franchise deal. Before any agreements were finalized, Pickerel had to prove his product to more than just Kassling. He had to impress some of the movers and shakers in New York, including the owner of the Empire State Building. Pickerel brought him a genuine Buckhorn tri-tip for sampling, and says networking is the way things happen in New York.

“It’s a collaborative

town. It’s the opposite of where we are.”

Pickerel says he is literally introducing char-roasted tri-tip to New Yorkers this week. While roast beef is commonplace, roast steak is “something unique.”

“It is a product they don’t have in New York. I think it’s going to do really well.”

How has tri-tip been received so far?

“I think I did a good job,” says Pickerel of his presentations.

Pickerel may have Lady Luck on his side as well in this venture. He notes that years ending in 9 seem to be auspicious for the Buckhorn. Pickerel took over the Buckhorn in 1979, expanded to the Buckhorn Grill in 1999, and now launches the Tri Tip Grill in 2009.

Besides these expansions, Pickerel opened Buckhorn Catering in 1983 and the Putah Creek Café in 1988, and along with his wife, Melanie, has maintained control over every detail for each one. Selling the franchise will mean trusting someone else with his product for the very first time.

“It’s like my kid going off to school,” said Pickerel, expressing confidence that his child will do just fine. He says the new franchisee is “sincere, believes in it, and will give it his all.”

Pickerel will round out his week introducing more New Yorkers to the joys of tri-tip, giving presentations on his product, and also searching for the best beef, produce and bread in the area to maintain the quality that is the Buckhorn’s trademark. In the midst of all this scurrying about, as well as the heady feeling of success, Pickerel says he has to stay focused on the many tasks at hand.

“It’s still not real for me. It’s going to be really hard to keep my feet on the ground.”

When asked how he feels about this huge venture in the midst of a stubborn national recession, Pickerel says he feels a bit like the underdog racehorse Seabiscuit, who became a champion despite the odds against him and did so during the Great Depression when everyone was looking for a winner. He says that succeeding isn’t necessarily defined by circumstance — it’s all about gumption.

“I like to say that there is no security in this life, only opportunity,” says Pickerel — words inspired by Douglas MacArthur. It’s all about opportunity, in the end, says Pickerel. You have to keep looking for it, no matter what.



Photo by Dawn Van Dyke

**Winters High School seniors (from left) Kayla O’Neil, Sarah Rominger, Max Van Dyke and Kyle Loop are ready to assist everyone dropping off their e-waste and paper for shredding at a Grad Nite fund-raiser planned for Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mariani Nut Co. parking lot between Abbey and Edwards Streets.**

## E-cycling event supports Grad Nite

Help the environment and support Winters High School Grad Nite 2010 by disposing of unwanted electronics on Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mariani parking lot between Abbey and Edwards streets, in Winters.

Volunteers will help unload electronics; participants don’t even have to leave their cars.

The following items can be dropped off for recycling, free of charge: computer monitors, televisions, desktop and notebook PCs, VCRs, stereo equipment, speakers, keyboards, mice, PDAs, digital cameras, zip drives, telephones, cell

phones, printers, copiers, scanners and fax machines.

For optimal security, CEAR Inc. shreds all computer hard drives. The secure facility is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by surveillance cameras.

CEAR Inc. will not accept household appliances including refrigerators, washers, dryers, furniture, household hazardous waste, fluorescent lightbulbs, batteries, paint, pesticides, used oil, cleaning supplies or tires.

This event is sponsored by CEAR, Inc. California Electronic Asset Recovery, a Cali-

fornia state approved electronic waste collector and recycler, and Allied Waste Services. For more information about CEAR, Inc. visit [www.cearinc.com](http://www.cearinc.com) or [www.disposal.com](http://www.disposal.com).

All funds raised at this event will benefit 2010 Grad Nite, a safe and sober celebration for graduating seniors and their friends.

Confidential document shredding is also available at this event. Bring a banker’s box of documents to be shredded for \$15 per box. Shredding takes place from 9-11 a.m. All documents are shredded on site for complete confidentiality.

## Couples communication class offered Saturday

Solano Community College will offer a couples workshop, “How Couples Communicate – or Not!” on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 1–4 p.m. in Room 708 on the Solano College Main Campus. The registration fee is \$40. This class is open to the public.

Anyone can come to

class alone or with their partner and learn to identify their own and their partner’s communication and decision-making styles. The instructor, Julie Yozamp, will explore how the similarities and differences in styles can benefit or stress a partnership.

The workshop also covers communication skills and stress management, helping students gain new insights into their relationships.

For more information, contact Community Education, 864-7115, or register online at [www.solano.edu/vistas](http://www.solano.edu/vistas), on the college’s website.

The Winters City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall



# Opinion

## LETTERS

## Park needs more patrol

I am writing regarding City Park at 4th and Main. It has become the hangout for several groups of teenagers, primarily boys. They make visiting the park uncomfortable and unpleasant. They drop the f-bomb indiscriminately despite the presence of very young children.

I cannot say whether it is these same children or not, but there have also been several times that I have found graffiti on park property that I would not want any child to read. There has also been vandalism, with benches broken and other structures damaged. However, the most troublesome trend lately has been my discovery of alcohol bottles in the park on a regular basis.

On one occasion I witnessed a young girl fall and land on a broken beer bottle. Luckily, she was not seriously injured. I find broken glass every day at the park and I can only hope no one else suffers a serious injury.

I have two purposes for writing this letter. My first is a request to the parents of teenagers in Winters to know where your child is and what they are doing. My second is to request that the Winters Police Department patrol this park on a more frequent basis.

It seems to me that patrols used to be more



regular, with officers shining their lights into the park and on occasion walking through the park. I know that the police department is stretched thin, but if additional patrols are possible it may cut down on the drinking in the park.

As for the groups of boys in the afternoons I don't suppose I can do anything to make them more civil and I think it's a sad reflection on our society that these children do not respect others when choosing to use profane language. If it were merely me being impacted by the noise pollution I wouldn't care as much, but my very young child doesn't need to hear the f-word and other offensive phrases as though they are normal everyday words.

NAME WITHELD

## So successful

Thank you to everyone who supported Waggoner School's fall book fair. A special "thank

you" to all our volunteers: Marge Sebastian, Linda Springer, Maria Rosa Serrano, Jill Aguiar, Suzanne Weiss, Liz Layne, Angie Stone, Kristie Oates, Ambi Gardner, Nan Williams, Robbie Otten, Angie Velasquez, and JoanE Jusell. We couldn't have done it without your help in setting up, running the cash register, counting all that money and taking down the book fair. Hours and hours of time and energy went into making this book fair so successful.

Our goal was to reach \$4,000 in sales and we exceeded our goal with actual sales of \$4,481.73 including tax. Our school library received several new titles for its collection and money to purchase a digital camera and an area rug for Jessica's Corner of our library.

Winners for our guessing game contest "Use your noodle, guess how many" included the following students for having the closest guess to the right amount. There

were 185 noodles in the container. The kindergarten winner with the closest guess of 162 was Easton Kennedy. The first grade winner with the closest guess of 191 was Katie Medina. The second grade winner with the closest guess of 180 was Darienne Hildebaugh. The third grade winners with the closest guess of 180 were Angelica Hernandez and Valeria Serratos.

We also had one parent winner with the closest guess of 184, and that was Suzanne Weiss. Our teacher with the closest guess of 180 was Fiorella Mendoza. Each winner received a book of their choice from the book fair.

RITA HOLDER  
Waggoner Librarian

## Good reason to fear Obama

I have no corrections to make to my previous letter as Mr. Stephens suggested. The text of a

See **LETTERS**, page **A-5**

## British think they have last word on English — whatever

So, the Brits took a poll and declared five words or phrases in the English language as the "most irritating." Who died and made them God of English? Whatever. Which, by the way, tops the list.

According to the Daily Mail online, "whatever" is a "colloquial response used to indicate a lack of interest" and is "the word that annoys people the most." And where did the Brits point the finger of blame? Directly across the pond: "The slang use of 'whatever' originated in the U.S. and was made popular in teen movies such as Clueless in 1995, which starred Alicia Silverstone as a spoilt high school pupil. It has since gradually seeped into widespread use."

Blaming Hollywood is so weak. That's what you do when you don't have any sane rationale for your position. (See: Republican party). And England? Nobody spells the past tense of spoil "spoilt" anymore. That's so five minutes ago. Which is another phrase so irritating that it's totally ten minutes ago. Where was that one on your little list?

Rounding out the official list are "You know," "It is what it is," "Anyway," and "At the end of the day."

I already nailed "at the end of the day" months ago. I even mentioned it in a column, because I was on the verge of self-combustion if I heard or read it just one more time. "At the end of the day" was witty and crisp the first time someone said it. And wilted and stinky by month's end, with about half the shelf life

of "Whazzzaaaaaap!"

I also spent some ink grumbling about "sexy," which thundered into vogue a year or so ago, used to describe everything from carpets to computers. Our city manager finally destroyed that word for me, describing some mundane public project as "sexy." What was it... street lighting? Underground PVC pipe? Really great asphalt? These things were not, are not, nor will ever be, sexy. Catherine Zeta Jones is sexy. New storm drains? Please. Not even if they're lined with Persian berber.

Another word that needs to be weeded out of conversation: Like. Not as in "I like you," or "kittens like milk," but as in, "Like, she called me up, and was like, 'I don't think so,' and I'm like, 'I think so,' and she's all like, 'What,' and I'm like, 'Whatever,' and she's all, like, 'Fine, beeyatch.'" Which, as those of us who've raised teenagers in last decade or so know, is the language teenage girls speak. And the only thing more unsettling than their language is when you realize you understand it — you've mastered TSL: Teenage as Second Language.

But "like" and "sexy" didn't make the Most Irritating list. Instead, "you know" and "anyway" got two thumbs down. Mmmm... not so fast. Those two still have a few miles left on them.

"You know" is annoying when someone ends every other sentence with it. But it's a great way to pad the beginning of a sentence rather than just declare someone up front to be a



complete nitwit: "You know, Barack Obama isn't really a secret Muslim Socialist alien." "You know" is a more civil way of saying, "Jane, you ignorant slut." Because sometimes nitwits need a little love too.

As for "anyway," that's a helpful little rudder for bringing a conversation back on course. Say you're all discussing the joys of the Farmer's Market, and someone hijacks the topic: "Oh, there was this one time, I bought a cantaloupe, and it had fruit flies, and one went right up my nose, and turns out, I'm totally allergic to fruit fly secretions and they had to be rush me to the hospital, and stab a needle between my ribs to restart my heart, and there was this bright light, and there was, and then, and there I was, and the angel said to me..."

The conversation must be reclaimed. As you listen to the prattle, you simply drop your chin and look up from under your eyelids as if you're thinking "Whatever," because you are, in fact, thinking "Whatever," and as soon as Chatty Cathy stops to take a breath, you yank the conversation back with, "Anyway. I just love having my choice of both red and green Swiss chard."

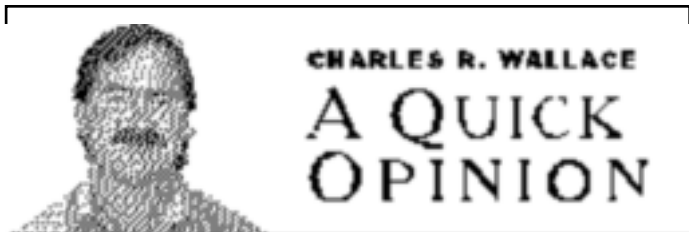
Nope, "anyway" can't be retired just yet. It's a linguistic Phillips screwdriver. You never

know when it'll come in handy.

As for "It is what it is," that's just a fluffy, stuffy English version of "Word." No, not Microsoft. "Word" is a complete sentence, an affirmation, a total acknowledgement of the obvious. Test it out on a teenager. When she says something like, "Omgod, she is, like, so totally, like, whatever, you know?" just say "Word." You'll have instant teen cred. She may even solemnly agree "Word" right back atcha. Congratulations. You're fluent. You not only understand TSL, you can speak it.

So, these are the five most irritating words and phrases according to the British. But not according to me. It's an egregious oversight that "troops" didn't make the list. Despite my whining and lamenting about using "troops" interchangeably with "soldiers," it continues. A troop is not a soldier anymore than a herd is a cow or a team is a football player or a school is a fish. But apparently I'm the only living soul on earth who convulses when I hear someone say "troops" when they really mean "soldiers." Like on the morning news a few days ago. Just before announcing the Most Irritating Words List.

Word.



**THIS COULD BE A WET YEAR.** With over 3 inches of rain falling by 4 o'clock on Tuesday, it looks like we are off to a great start in our annual rainfall. It may never rain again after this Friday, but the experts are saying that we are in for a wet year. I'll start the rainfall contest in a couple of weeks to let everyone get a better idea of what kind of rainfall we can expect.

While driving down to Ripon on Saturday it was pretty obvious that not all farmers were ready for this storm. I'm not sure ready is the word, when you are waiting for your crop to ripen. The tomato harvesters were in high gear with plenty of trucks waiting to haul the fruit to the processing plant, wherever that may be. I think about processing tomatoes as I pass tubs of tomatoes on the highways and biways of California. They can't all be heading for Williams, or can they?

I was asking a farmer about the walnuts and he just rolled his eyes. "If they are in the trees, they are probably going to be okay. If they are in wind rows, they are in trouble." I'm not sure how bad the rain is for the walnut crop, but it can't be good. We won't know until January or February when we start counting new pickup around town.

Driving to Davis on Tuesday morning was an experience. My van doesn't like the wind, and dodging limbs on the road isn't that much fun when the car coming the other way is drifting into your lane. Once I got to Davis, a car ran a stop sign and crossed my path. I foolishly swerved to miss her. It was my chance to get rid of the van, but it was not to be. The insurance company would probably only give me \$500 for it anyway.

People comment about my van from time to time, but I just tell them that it is paid for, starts every time and hauls a lot of junk around whenever you need to, not to mention newspapers. There was a mystery this week. When I went to gas up, I had to remove a gas cap. I lost the gas cap a couple of weeks ago when I was out of town and never got around to replacing it. I don't remember loaning my van to anyone, but I owe someone a favor.

One of the best parts of fall is my socks and blue jeans get softer. Clothes grabbed from a dryer are a lot softer than the ones you take off the clothesline. Once we start burning wood for heat, the socks start to stiffen up, just a tad, but they are nice and warm when you put them on. One of the joys of life, I guess.

If it stops raining, walk downtown and take a look at the scarecrows. Having merchants put out scarecrows was Howard Hupe's idea and he continues to be behind the annual chamber event. There are homes around town that should be rewarded, but I think the contest is only for merchant scarecrows. Maybe next year.

A subscriber — one of many — requested that we put in a calendar of events on a regular basis. We ran a calendar of events whenever we had the space, but not on a regular basis. We now have a sponsor, First Northern Bank, so the calendar should be running each week from now on. It is like our athlete of the week, sponsored by Pisani's Service. If you like the athlete of the week, or the calendar of events, tell Bob or Jessica that you saw them in the Express. I'll work on finding someone to sponsor my column next.

For those wondering about my mother, she continues to get better as her strength comes back. Her physical therapist insists she use a walker or her wheelchair to get around the house so she won't fall, but she tries to walk around the house anyway. She is starting to get stubborn, which is to say she is getting back to normal.

Have a good week.

## Tell them what you think

### FEDERAL

**President Barack Obama**, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20502; (202) 456-1111; fax: (202) 456-2461; e-mail: [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

**Senator Barbara Boxer**, 112 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; (202) 224-3553; e-mail: <http://boxer.senate.gov/contact/web-form.cfm>

**Senator Dianne Feinstein**, 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; (202) 224-3841; fax: (202) 228-3954; <http://feinstein.senate.gov/email.html>

**Representative Mike Thompson**, (1st District), 231 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515-0501; (202) 225-3311; district office: 712 Main St., Ste. 1, Woodland; 662-5272; <http://mikethompson.house.gov/contact/email.shtml>

### CITY

**Winters City Council**, Mayor Mike Martin; council members, Harold Anderson, Cecilia Curry, Woody Fridae, Tom McMasters-Stone; c/o City Hall, 318 First St., Winters, CA 95694.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Winters Joint Unified School District**, 909 West Grant Avenue, Winters 95694, 795-6100, Trustees, Jay Shepherd, president; Stephanie Atherton, Robert Nickelson, Rodney Orosco, Mary Jo Rodolfa, Matt Brickey, David Hyde.

# LETTERS

Continued from page A-4

final healthcare bill has not yet been posted on the internet. There is no final draft as of this writing.

Democratic leaders do not want you to have time to read any bill or have you or our representatives debate the contents prior to a vote. The Obama administration promised to post all bills 72 hours prior to a vote. Sadly, his word is as worthless as a Nobel Peace Prize.

Make no mistake, Obama and other Socialist leaders in Congress want a single government plan and control over our lives. They will approve anything that moves us toward that end.

I correctly said our rights are endowed by our creator and not given to us by any government or politician for that matter. I did not declare the source of that information. Following the Declaration of Independence was a contract adopted by our founding fathers called the Constitution. It established specific rights to individuals and designations and limitations to a central government. It is not a living, breathing document. It is a contract. It is also a roadblock for Socialists that consistently want to change our government. I recommend everyone read it and understand it.

The “pursuit of happiness” as defined by Mr. Stephens is false. Our government was not established to provide our every need or supply our happiness, although it does not surprise me to hear liberals justify almost anything. Mr. Stephen’s mistrust and description of corporations is most likely the result of leftist teachings and not personal experience.

The overwhelming majority of businesses value their employees enough to take good care of them. Taking care of them requires a profit. Profit is good for corporations but it is also good for employ-

ees, shareholders, their families and the public in general.

Why does the Obama administration ridicule those that pursue profit while he and his friends live high on our hard earned money? For one, they are attempting to divide and destroy what has made this country so great. Obama has proven in his words and actions just how much he loathes this country and what it stands for. Listen to him talk, read his books and look who he associates with.

We have good reason not to trust a government that uses our money to buy votes, spends the wealth of future generations, spends every penny of our retirement trust fund, shuts down industries for the false protection of animals or a mythical global warming at the expense of people, associates and appoints known Communists and radicals to powerful government positions without congressional oversight or constantly finds ways to gain control of our every day lives in the name of fairness.

Americans that value the Constitution and the freedom have good reason to fear the current administration. They are working diligently to bankrupt our current system so they can declare capitalism a failure and further establish a Socialist government.

Our current crisis can be easily traced to liberal government intervention, but why let facts interfere with a so-called progressive movement. I believe most people understand that current Democratic proposals have nothing to do with healthcare and everything to do with government control.

We can only hope there are enough honest Democrats to overturn a bad plan. I find it hard to understand how people can follow a cult leader but it is more amazing to me when they believe their own lies.

**BIL ATON**

## Win bike, fight breast cancer



Photo by Charles Wallace

**October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and JJ’s Saloon is doing its part to help by raffling this pink Pantera GTS bicycle. “Save the Tatas” raffle tickets are \$1 each, six for \$5, or 15 for \$10. Proceeds will go to breast cancer research. The raffle takes place on Saturday, Oct. 31. You need not be present to win. For tickets, visit Bartender Dawn (above) or any other employee at JJ’s Saloon.**

## Gardening workshops Oct. 17

Gardeners, now that you’ve harvested your summer crops, its time to clean up your garden, do your winter planting, and get your soil ready for next years garden. To help you prepare for this work, the Yolo County UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners are offering their Fall Gardening Workshops on Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m. until noon. This free event will be held at Woodland Community College, 2300 East Gibson Road in Woodland.

Four workshops will cover a range of garden-er-friendly topics. Participants will also have

the opportunity to purchase a variety of winter garden plants grown by students from the Woodland Community College Agriculture Department’s Greenhouse Propagation class.

~ 9-10:20 a.m. — Leading off the workshops will be a Backyard and Worm Composting demonstration

~ 10:30 a.m. — Fall Planting and Cleanup. F

~ 11:05 a.m. — Winter Cover Crops for a Healthy Garden.

~ 11:40 a.m. — Benefits of Mulch for Dry Climates.

For more information call the Master Gardeners, 666-8143.



# Community

## Plotting and planning



Photo by Debra DeAngelo

Bill Maynard (left), director of the Sacramento Area Community Garden Coalition, and Ana Kormos, coordinator for the Winters Community Garden, spent Friday, Oct. 9, mapping out the plots for the garden, which is located along Putah Creek just west of the sanitation station. Maynard volunteered his time to help as a consultant on the garden project. Last Friday, they measured the area, marked off the fence and irrigation lines, and measured the garden plot areas. Maynard also helped register the garden project for a couple of National Volunteer Days in order to get the irrigation lines put in. The next step will be to put up a fence, then the irrigation lines. Mike Briggs arranged for the donation of the fence materials from his employer, Pacific Coast Steel, and will be volunteering along with several others to install the fence. The garden is expected to be ready for the public to start planting in the spring.

## Fall hikes begin Saturday at Stebbins Cold Canyon

The goal of the Stebbins Cold Canyon Nature Outings program is to offer a diverse schedule of outdoor experiences in the local riparian habitat along Putah Creek. Most outings are interactive and experiential in nature.

"We hope you find something of interest, something to help you experience the reserve and continue to develop your relationship with the natural world," says Jeff Faly, program coordinator.

In addition to Stebbins Cold Canyon, outings will take place at Bobcat Ranch, and Lake Solano Regional Park. A suggested donation of \$5 per person and \$10 per family for each outing.

To attend an outing, register in advance, as most outings are limited to 15 participants and fill up quickly. Register by sending an email to jfaly@ucdavis.edu. Include your name, address, presentation date, phone number and/or e-mail address. Also, indicate whether you need directions to the site.

This year's fall outing schedule includes:

~ Saturday, Oct. 17, 6:30-9:30 p.m., "Stargazing — Tour of the Night Sky." Yes, stargazing in the fall. Bryn Bishop returns from her travels abroad to lead the ever popular stargazing outing. She'll focus on changes in the sky com-

pared to spring, point out planets, deep sky objects and constellations, and share stories on the mythology of the night sky. There is a 1.25 mile, slight uphill, hike to the meadow, where the group will observe the night sky. This outing fills up quickly, so register early. Wear appropriate clothing for evening; binoculars are optional.

~ Sunday, Oct. 25, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Photography & Nature." Take only photos leave only footprints. Do you want to develop some photographic technique and learn how to take fantastic nature photos? Join Daniel Ng as he guides you how to uniquely capture an image with film or a digital camera. Bring a camera and a sense of wonder.

~ Sunday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Cold Canyon — A Possible Future." Andrew Fulks will lead a loop trail hike that includes exploration of property at the Cold Canyon headwaters. Currently the property is privately owned, but Tuleyome, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting both the wild and agricultural heritages of the Putah-Cache bioregion, will talk about plans to purchase the property and add to the existing trail system. Andrew and the people at Tuleyome have a vision for

See **HIKES** on page **A-9**

## Ciao, bella



Photo by Debra DeAngelo

Rita Romagnoli has her nails done by Julie Lopez Rojas in preparation for a class reunion on Sept. 12. Romagnoli, a resident of Marche Polenza, Italy, was in Winters earlier this month visiting with friends. She is a former AFS exchange student (1979-80), and her host family was John and Sandy Vickrey.

## Banners will cheer military

The Winters Community Thanksgiving dinner committee wants to send an encouragement banner to all active members of the military serving abroad. The banner will be signed by all attendees of this year's dinner.

Call 795-4824 with name and contact infor-

mation. Committee members will contact military family members after the dinner and give them the banner in an envelope to mail to their serviceperson. To protect the confidentiality of each serviceman and woman, no information other than name will be asked.

## Free food available

The Food Bank of Yolo County will distribute applesauce, orange juice, peanut butter, tomato soup, spinach, and frozen deli turkey to eligible Winters residents on Monday, Oct. 19, at Yolo Housing, 62 Shams Way, from 3-5 p.m. and on Friday, Oct.

23, at First Baptist Church, 512 First Street, from 12-1:30 p.m.

Participants may receive food at only one site. Eligible participants are asked to bring a bag to carry their food home. For more information call the Food Bank, 668-0690.

## Calendar

### Thursday, October 15

**Winters Rotary Club meeting**, noon, The Buckhorn

**Winters School Board meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Winters School District Office, 909 W. Grant Avenue.

**Winters High School Volleyball game**, JV - 6 p.m., Varsity - 7 p.m., Gridley High School.

**Destination Imagination informational meeting**, 7 p.m., Shirley Rominger Intermediate School library.

### Friday, October 16

**Winters High School Football game**, JV - 5:30 p.m., Varsity - 7:30 p.m., Dr. Selter Field.

### Saturday, October 17

**Grad Nite e-cycling fund-raiser**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mariani parking lot between Edwards and Abbey Streets.

**Winters Fire Department Shrimp Dinner**, 5 p.m., Winters Firehouse, 10 Abbey Street.

**Knights of Columbus Tri-Tip Dinner**, 5 p.m. St. Anthony Parish Hall, 511 Main Street.

**Stargazing hike**, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Stebbins Cold Canyon.

### Sunday, Oct. 18

**Winters Farmers Market and Next Chance Mercantile**, 8 a.m. to noon, Rotary Park.

**Nature's Theater outing**, "Summer Won't Go," 10 a.m. to noon, Stebbins Cold Canyon.

**Berryessa Gap Bocce Bunch Tournament**, 1 p.m., Berryessa Gap Winery, 27260 Highway 128.

### Monday, October 19

**Free Food Distribution**, 3-5 p.m., 62 Shams Way at Yolo Housing.

**Winters Putah Creek Committee Meeting**, 7 p.m., council chambers at City Hall.

### Tuesday, October 20

**Winters High School Volleyball game**, JV - 6 p.m., Varsity - 7 p.m., Las Plumas High School.

**Winters City Council meeting**, 6:30 p.m., council chambers at City Hall.

(To list your non-profit local event on the Winters Express calendar, email information to [news@wintersexpress.com](mailto:news@wintersexpress.com) or call 795-4551.)

This community calendar is sponsored by:



# FACILITY

Continued from page A-1

in the new facility would be, from the location of the fire pole to the location of the holding cell.

Despite more excitement than usual, enthusiasm for the new project prevailed.

“This is a community facility,” declared City Manager John Donlevy. “This is important for you. This is your building. When you drive by, you should be proud of your community.”

Following an introduction from Mayor Mike Martin and a welcome from Donlevy, community members wandered around the various stations, then gathered together with shovels in hand for the traditional groundbreaking photo op.

Meanwhile, the protestors held firm with backs turned. Mike West, representative of District Council 16, explained that the union objected to the awarding of subcontracting work to the group that won in the bidding process and noted that the union included an unemployed Winters resident, John Tweedt, a glazer. Tweedt expressed concern that local people would not be hired to work on the project.

West also claimed that the union has a disagreement with the payment arrangement for subcontractors, and that the bidding process was unfair. However, West also said that the union didn’t approach the city council with their grievances, and communicated mainly with the contractor for the project, Bobo Construction.

Chris Baker, Bobo Construction’s project manager for the safety facility, had no com-

ment about the protestors’ claims, and said his company subcontracts to both union and non-union companies, which is legal. As for hiring local people and companies, Baker said Bobo Construction has already subcontracted part of the work to a local company, SW Mertz. He disagreed with the protestors’ claims that anything was amiss with the bidding process.

“It was a public bid,” said Baker, emphasizing that the lowest bid prevailed.

Donlevy said the issue was between the contractor and the union, not the city and the union.

“My understanding is that following the city bid opening, one of the protestors’ company approached Bobo to beat the price of the subcontractor who bid as part of the Bobo bid. Bobo said no to the company and that seems to be at the root of the issue.”

While the contractor and union settle their differences, work on the new Winters Safety Facility will continue, and is expected to be completed in about one year. Winters Police Chief Bruce Muramoto echoed the sentiments expressed by Donlevy at the groundbreaking.

“It doesn’t just benefit the police officers and firefighters, but the city as a whole,” said Muramoto. “The police department will have a facility to do better police work.”

Besides more square footage to work in — from the police department’s current 1,400 square foot space behind city hall to about 8,000 square feet out of the total 36,000 square feet in the new facility — Muramoto noted that in there will be more room at the new facility for property investiga-

tions, an upgraded security system, locker rooms, an exercise room, a meeting room, and a proper holding cell.

“We won’t have to chain people to the wall any more,” said Muramoto.

Muramoto also praised the “team effort” of city staff in making the new facility a reality, and in particular praised both Donlevy and City’s Director of Financial Management, Shelly Gunby.

“It’s not a police and fire project, it is a city project,” said Muramoto.

He added that a shared facility with the fire department may set an example for other small communities that are pressed to find room to jointly house their own police and fire departments.

Just like the police chief, Winters Fire Chief Scott Dozier says the fire department desperately needs a larger station. The current station was constructed in the late 1800s, and the Winters Fire Department has simply outgrown it.

Dozier notes that the office space is inadequate, no one has any privacy, and there isn’t anywhere to store equipment.

“Stuff is stacked on top of stuff,” says Dozier. “If we didn’t get a new facility, we’d have to do a major remodel on the facility we have now.”

Besides simply having enough room to work comfortably, Dozier says one of the big bonuses of the new station is a real sleeping quarters upstairs, with enough room for volunteer firefighters to sleep at the station too. Having enough firefighters on site and ready to go in an emergency will keep the

community safer.

“Our response times will be greatly increased,” says Dozier. He explains that the fire department has been having volunteer firefighters sleep at the station for the last few weeks as a trial run for the new facility, and they’re learning how to cohabitate under one roof in preparation for the big move, right down to the common chores.

“They learned that they don’t like to do dishes at the end of their shifts,” says Dozier.

Other safety bonuses of the new station include a central emergency operations center, which will help keep the community safe during natural disasters such flooding or earthquakes. He says the city does not currently have an official emergency operations center.

The new facility will also have a 140-foot radio tower, which will “greatly improve the emergency communications of fire and police in the southwestern area of Yolo County,” says Dozier. The tower will be accessible to other area police and fire departments, and will eventually support a microwave link that will serve most of Yolo County. Dozier says this will reduce the departments’ reliance on traditional land phone lines, which sometimes go down during storms, fires and power outages.

“The new facility will also have 100 percent emergency power generation in the event of a power failure,” says Dozier. It will power the entire station when the power is out. “Our emergency communications and phone lines will stay up.”

Like Muramoto, Dozi-

er has praise for all the city staff that worked on the new facility. He says he was impressed by the amount of time and effort it took to bring it all together.

“I can’t say enough about our architect Dennis Dong. He did a great job,” says Dozier, noting that Dong responded quickly to problems as they arose and even attended fire department fund-raisers to see firsthand what type of activities might take place in the new facility.

Improved safety and working conditions for both police officers and firefighters was the foremost priority in building the new facility, says City Manager Donlevy, noting that both departments have strained to deal with inadequate space for equipment and personnel for years.

“Of the many projects the city has worked on over the past few years, this is our most important project for the future of Winters,” said Donlevy. “Words cannot express the level of my respect for the efforts of the past chiefs, officers and firefighters who have struggled to make due in what have become inadequate and antiquated facilities. The police department and fire station have become unacceptable for the level of services the residents of Winters need and deserve.”

He notes that the new facility will also carry the community forward as it grows.

“The construction of the Public Safety Facility is strategically important for the future of Winters. In order to attract quality business and industry, Winters needs modern facilities which will help them provide the service levels businesses demand in order to locate here.

“As a community, we are getting older and the need for 24 hour service will be upon us, and the current fire station simply does not allow for fire personnel to be located there. Standards for police have escalated dramatically in recent years, and their ability to store evidence, book those arrested and coordinate law enforcement activities requires more than they have now.”

Donlevy was in hearty agreement with Muramoto regarding the need for a modern holding cell.

“The days of handcuffing those arrested to a pipe inside the station must come to an end!”

He once again noted that the entire community will enjoy the benefits of a larger more modern facility, which will be able to house all sorts of annual events, including the Toys for Tots fish fries, the Fourth of July pancake breakfasts, and a larger community room for other functions. He added that school children’s tours of the station will certainly be more enjoyable in a bigger, brighter facility and noted one feature in particular.

“The really cool thing about the fire station, especially for the kids, will be a fire pole which drops from the second story,” said Donlevy.

When completed, the city expects the safety facility to cost \$8.4 million. According to Gunby, the project is funded by Redevelopment bonds from 2007, as well as police and fire impact fees, and the money has already been secured. She confirmed that the expected grab of city and county redevelopment funds by the state to balance the budget won’t affect the new Winters facility.

## Miles for Meals Walk-a-thon benefits Elderly Nutrition

The 21st Annual Miles for Meals Walk-a-thon to benefit The Elderly Nutrition Program of Yolo County will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8-10 a.m., inside County Fair Mall in Woodland. This event is sponsored by Friends of Meals on Wheels.

Walkers will receive a T-shirt for a minimum pledge of \$25 and a sweatshirt for a minimum pledge of \$200. Prizes will be awarded for most laps walked, most money pledged, and oldest walker in different age, gender and group categories.

Participates who bring along canned goods will be eligible for door prizes. The

canned food collected will be distributed to needy seniors during the holiday season.

Walkers of all ages can enjoy refreshments, listen to lively music from a local disc jockey, be entertained by a clown and get in a little exercise at the same time. The Miles for Meals Walkathon is the only indoor walkathon in Yolo County, so rain or shine, all are invited to come out and help raise some funds to support the Elderly Nutrition Program in Yolo County.

To receive a registration packet or for more information, call Elderly Nutrition Program, 662-7035.

Getting married? Just had a baby?  
Announce it in the Express — it’s free!

Call 795-4551 for assistance or send  
information to [news@wintersexpress.com](mailto:news@wintersexpress.com)



# Furious fall storm wallops Winters

By MOLLY DAVIS  
Staff writer

It was a dark and stormy morning.

A freak rainstorm flooded the streets of Winters, causing much destruction on Tuesday, Oct. 13. The rain began early in the morning, filling gutters and totalling close to 3.5 inches of water, as of press time. The average rainfall for October is 1.02 inches, well below what the city saw this week.

The rain combined with severe winds created much havoc in town, uprooting several trees, including many that fell on residences. In addition, many gutters were flooded and debris from the storm, like leaves and branches, were seen all over the area.

The fire department was busy all day, helping with fallen power lines and general clean-up. In addition, Public Works employees were seen

driving around the downtown core and other parts of the city, helping to clear the debris.

"The Public Works and the Fire Department did a great job responding to dozens of calls," said Public Works Operations Manager Eric Lucero. "There were trees down on top of cars, on top of houses, in the streets and on sidewalks," he added.

Lucero also mentioned that for the past two weeks, South West Water Co. has been working in preparation for the storm, vacuuming drains, "which helped tremendously."

Few people were on foot today, but those who were carried umbrellas and donned raincoats to shield themselves from the cold drops. All seemed to wear the same grimace of those not yet used to blustery fall weather.



Photo by Molly Davis

A house on the 400 block of First Street suffered a broken window due to a fallen tree. Work crews were out in the rain, cleaning up branches so that the residents could get back inside.



Photo by Molly Davis

The sudden autumn storm uprooted a tree from a yard on Village Circle, causing the tree to fall on the house and an automobile in the driveway. Branches were strewn all over the walkway, obstructing access to the house. The Tuesday, Oct. 13 storm was the first rain the region has seen in some time, and kept a steady pace most of the day.



Photo by Molly Davis

Below, another uprooted tree was found on the corner of First and Baker streets. The furious Oct. 13 storm caused the tree to fall into a residential home, destroying a fence. Much debris was found around the city, and many gutters were flooded.

## Guide training at canyon offered

Everyone has a story to tell, something they are interested in or passionate about. Are you interested in sustainability, geology, flowers, yoga, water conservation, bilingual outings? The list of possible presentation topics is endless.

The Stebbins Cold Canyon guide training program helps participants identify possible topics and mold them into a presentation for the public.

The guide training program is a two part process. In the first part, participants receive an overview of the natural history of the canyon and the general logistics for running a group outing.

The second part of the training asks each participant to choose a topic of interest and give a mini-presentation to the group.

Group feedback is then given to further strengthen the presentation.

Training dates are Jan. 9, 16 and 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Stebbins Cold Canyon.

The training is \$15 per person for printing expenses), and is limited to 10 people.

To participate, email Jeff Falyn, jfalyn@ucdavis.edu. Include your phone number in the email.

It's choice — not chance — that determines your destiny.  
~ Jean Nidetch



# Keeping it clean



Courtesy photo  
**The Webelos Den from Cub Scout Pack 600 spent the afternoon of Oct. 7 cleaning up City Park. From left are Liam Allen, Alec Matheson, Jacob Roberts, Derek Reyes and Emmanuel Lopez. This service project helped the Scouts earn their Webelos Citizenship Activity Badge. Cub Scouts is the Boy Scout program for 1st through 5th grade boys. For more information about Cub Scouts, contact Angela Allen, 795-9582.**

# HIKES

Continued from page A-6

maintaining the natural beauty of the region while expanding recreational opportunities. The hike will be approximately six miles long with a 1,200 elevation gain, steps and boulder-hopping on the ridge

~ Sunday, Nov. 15, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., visit to Bobcat Ranch. To the northeast of Stebbins Cold Canyon is the 6,800-acre Bobcat Ranch. For decades the ranch was privately owned but a few years ago Audubon, California purchased the property for conservation, restoration and recreation. Currently the ranch is not open to the public but ranch manager, Alex Palmerlee, will lead a special outing into the inner reaches of the property and highlight the natural habitats and local wildlife inhabiting this region. The hike is moderate. The group will meet at Steady Eddy's in Winters at 8:30am

~ Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Basic Botany." Take an easy hike while learning about some fundamentals of plant anatomy that provide clues to identifying major plant families. With this skill you might be surprised

how many plants and wildflowers you can identify at the reserve and at home in your own backyard. Guide: Barbara Byrne

~ Saturday, Nov. 28, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Loop Trail hike. Hike the loop trail after Thanksgiving with opportunities along the way to learn about the reserve and to reflect on what you are thankful for. This hike is five miles, has a 1,200 foot elevation gain (with many steps) and offers distinctive changes in the plant communities and breathtaking views in all directions — look for waterfalls after the rain. Wear sturdy shoes, and bring at least a liter of water and a snack.

~ Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to noon, "Animal Tracking." It is easy to forget that the places we live and play are also home to foxes, mink, coyotes, and other mammals. Usually these animals stay out of sight, but they always leave behind clues to tell you they were there. Learn to read animal track and sign with experienced tracker Sean Clemenza and see the landscape through an animal's eyes. This outing meets in the day use parking lot at Lake Solano.

~ Sunday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Gesture Drawing." Gesture drawing trains the hand to draw what the eye is

seeing before the brain gets in the way. Learn basic techniques to help you capture on paper what you see in nature. Make holiday cards from your gesture drawings. Everyone is welcome. Bring a pen, marker, crayon, colored pencil, or other drawing implements. Guide: Alison Kent

~ Saturday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Botanical Drawing." Botanical illustration is a fun way to record the unique and diverse flora in your sketchbook. Botanist Ruth Williams will lead participants through the process of observing key details of flowers and forbs and show you how to create a visual, botanically accurate rendering of native plants. Materials will be provided, but you may bring your own sketchbook and pencil if desired. In case of rain, an umbrella is recommended.

~ Sunday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., "Winter Solstice Renewal." On this outing, the group traverses the canyon and experiences the reserve on the shortest day of the year. The winter solstice is a time for reflection and optimism. Participants will have the opportunity to focus on the seasonal changes taking place around them and within. Guide: Jeff Falyn

# Tax bill information now online

Yolo County Tax Collector Howard Newens announces fiscal year 2009/10 secured tax bill information is available for viewing and payment online at [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org) (select Prop. Tax/Parcel #). Bills will be mailed in early October to all property owners at the addresses shown on the tax roll. Owners of property in Yolo County that

do not receive a tax bill by Nov. 1, or those with questions concerning their property tax bill, should visit the Tax Collector's office at 625 Court Street, Room 102, in Woodland between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., or call 666-8625. Current law does not relieve property owners of payment responsibility or the imposition of penalties because of failure to re-

ceive a tax bill.

Taxpayers now have the option of paying property taxes by electronic check (no charge) or credit card (includes a 2.5 percent convenience fee). Payments can be made via the Internet at [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org) (select Prop. Tax/Parcel #) or by a toll-free call to (866) 895-5027.

Find us online: [www.wintersexpress.com](http://www.wintersexpress.com)

# Walk to Defeat ALS

While many associate Lou Gehrig's Disease with someone in their 50s or older, the ALS Association Greater Sacramento Chapter is seeing an increase of youth with ALS. To increase awareness of this generational shift in demographics and raise funds for program support, the local ALS Association Chapter is hosting its 9th Annual Walk to Defeat ALS on Saturday, Oct. 17.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with the walk beginning at 11 a.m. at William Land Park. The day's events include a free continental breakfast, face painting, clowns, and live music. The Rotary Club will be barbecuing lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ALS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as, "Lou Gehrig's Disease" is a progressive degenerative disease that causes the upper and lower motor neurons to die; leading to muscle weakness and atrophy. The ultimate result is partial paralysis; however, people with ALS (PALS) can

still see, hear, smell and feel.

"Once diagnosed the survival rate is 3-5 years, often times patients spend their final days in a glass coffin, unable to move even their eyes," said Amy Sugimoto, Executive Director of the ALS Association, Greater Sacramento Chapter.

Of the 125 people with ALS being served through the local Chapter nearly 20 percent are under age 45, with the youngest only 19.

The cause of ALS is unknown but is believed to be a combination of genetics and the environment. There is no cure for ALS. The focus of the Sacramento Chapter is to improve the PALS' quality of life through support group meetings, information, resources and referrals, loaned medical equipment and respite care so each individual may live their life with strength and dignity.

For more information about the local ALS Association Chapter, visit [www.alssac.org](http://www.alssac.org) or call Sugimoto, (916) 979-9265.



## FORECAST

Continued from page A-1

sions, as well as leave the positions vacated by Nakamura and Sullivan unfilled. Finally, he said that all counter services would be moved to the first floor of City Hall, in an effort to provide better customer service.

While councilmember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry expressed her concern with limiting hours and providing citizens with less service, councilmember Harold Anderson agreed with Donlevy, saying, "The economy's been down, and we have to adjust." The council voted unanimously, albeit with a reluctant Aguiar-Curry, to approve reorganization at City Hall, minus councilmember Tom Stone, who was absent.

In another effort to save the city money, the council also unanimously approved a new ordinance, changing the start time of city council meetings from 7:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Donlevy also gave the council a presentation on the fiscal sustainability of Winters, and the key hurdles we face in breaking even in this economy. He told the council that the business base is the same as it was 100 years ago. There are few businesses and less traffic going through town, provoking him to comment that Winters had a greater heyday in the 1950s.

Some of the main hurdles include extremely limited business-to-business activity, meaning that Winters businesses often are unable to regularly transact with one another. He also mentioned that the key traffic area, on Grant Avenue off the I-505, has one business that is valued at \$4 million dollars alone, while all of downtown's businesses combined are assessed at less than \$7 million.

And as far as taxes go, the city only sees a one percent return on the sales tax within the city, and 17.5 percent of every one percent of assessed property values. He advised the council to reconsider the city's economic corridor, which would be along Grant Avenue and the freeway, whose development could bring in much needed tax money for the city.

However, Donlevy brought to the council's attention that much of the city's land is undeveloped, undevelopable and highly costly to develop, due to flood overlay zones. However, getting utili-

ties like electricity and water out to these areas near the freeway will attract potential developers.

Council members Woody Fridae and Aguiar-Curry expressed their concern with attracting developers, especially with the Gateway Master Plan, an older document designed to build a commercial and light industrial park out on Grant Avenue and I-505.

"The Gateway Master Plan document needs to look dynamic," Fridae said, adding that the council should request more input on it from townsfolk.

Aguiar-Curry agreed, saying, "We should do public outreach. People do have some pretty innovative ideas."

The council also heard the first reading of an ordinance for water and wastewater services that is "basically a clean up of prior ordinances," explained Shelly Gunby, Director of Financial Management.

She explained that with the coming installations of water meters for residential properties, landlords have the option to meter tenants separately or to include that utility as part of monthly rents. This may encourage more people to conserve water, which is the reason the city is moving towards meters. New customers who have not had prior water service in Winters would be required to put down a \$200 deposit on service, up from \$100. Again, this would encourage residents to pay their bills on time as a cost-cutting measure.

Gunby also explained that once residents purchase meters, the meters become city property, so property owners are not required to maintain them.

The motion to adopt the new ordinance was approved 3-1, with Anderson voting no, and Stone absent.

Another moneymaker for the city is the Grant Avenue widening and safety improvements project, which is largely funded by money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The project fits in with the realignment of Walnut Lane, which will see new turning lanes with an island in the middle.

However, the council had a lot of questions for Donlevy about this project. While Mayor Michael Martin kept frowning at a somewhat confusing conceptual layout sheet, Aguiar-Curry asked where the crosswalk would be, adding that the lack of a

crosswalk would make her "nervous."

"Can I just assure you there will be a crosswalk?" asked Donlevy.

Anderson added his thoughts, saying, "I view this as a temporary measure. This whole area begs for a roundabout."

After Fridae asked Donlevy to bring the plan back with a visible crosswalk, the item was approved unanimously.

While on the topic of Grant Avenue, the city met as the Community Development Agency to discuss the 4.5-acre parcel the agency purchased on East Grant Avenue in May of this year. Donlevy asked for authorization to advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP), to get development going on the property. The parcel will look more desirable to developers now that Grant Avenue is being repaired, he explained.

"It's got shiny shoes on it now," quipped Martin.

The agency approved the RFP unanimously.

Finally, the council, minus Anderson, due to a conflict of interest, unanimously approved the much-discussed Form Based Code for Downtown Winters. To account for many concerns, Main Street has been divided into two zones, which allows for detached single-family residences with a conditional use permit.

The city council also heard an update on the Putah Creek Trout committee from Steve Karr, who said that fishing is down in the creek and other areas, prompting much unhappiness. Martin asked for this to be brought back as an agenda item.

Marie Heilman spoke to the council about the annual Community Dinner, which fed 641 people last year. This year, she requested \$1,000 from the council for food costs, which the council granted. The dinner is open to all citizens of Winters, regardless of need, Heilman explained.

At the end of the meeting, Donlevy gave a brief city manager's report, praising Winters and the city's staff, as well as the many projects happening right now, like the new library.

"It's really cool to be associated with the City of Winters right now," Donlevy said, adding, "Huge attaboys and attagirls to everybody."

The city council will meet again at its new time, 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Oct. 20, in the council chambers at City Hall.

## Farm-City Harvestfest tickets available

The Woodland Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its annual Farm-City Harvestfest Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29 at the Heidrick Ag History Center. Last year's luncheon, the first of its kind for the Chamber, featured grower Blake Harlan as the Agribusiness Person of the Year. The new format for the annual recognition of farmers and agribusiness men and women was highly praised, and this year's event promises to be even better.

The Woodland Chamber of Commerce will honor its 2009 Agribusiness Person of the Year, Richard Jenness. The Future Farmer Award and Scholarship Award will also be presented. Jenness, a Woodland native, attended Clover Elementary School (a one-room school house on County road 19) for eight years, and graduated from Esparto High School in 1957. Following high school he received his B.S. degree from California State University, Sacramento with a major in Civil Engineering.

Jenness worked 40+ years with Laugenour and Meikle Civil Engineers. He became Vice President and President of the firm and purchased the company from his former part-

ners. Jenness retired in 2007. Jenness and his wife just celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary.

He served as President of the California Council of Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, Sacramento Chapter, Board of Directors for Western Association of Engineers and Land Surveyors (later named California Council of Civil Engineers); Board of Directors and Ambassador of the Woodland Chamber of Commerce; Committee Member with the State Chamber of Commerce; and is currently Co-Chairman of the Water Committee with the Woodland Chamber.

Following the early formation of the Yolo Land Trust, Jenness joined the Board of Directors and served for over 18 years helping to preserve valuable agricultural land through the establishment of land conservation easements throughout Yolo County.

His career as a Civil Engineer offered many opportunities to aid individual farmers with irrigation, drainage and land grading activities. He was also engaged as District Engineer for over a dozen Irrigation, Drainage and Reclamation Districts within the five-county area in the Central Sacramento Valley.

The guest speaker for the luncheon will be Robert Tse, Deputy Secretary of Trade Development, California Department of Food and Agriculture. He will address global markets for California agriculture.

Tse's most recent trade accomplishments were facilitating the introduction of California strawberries to China at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing and successfully advocating for what became the 2009 organic standard equivalency agreement between the United States and Canada at the 2008 TriAccord Conference.

Tse holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Boston College Law School, a Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University and Bachelor of Arts Degree in American History from Brown University.

The luncheon will be catered by Cracchiolo's Market & Catering. To purchase a ticket for \$25, contact Cynthia at the Woodland Chamber of Commerce, or make a check out to the Chamber and mail to: 307 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695.

For tickets or more information, call 662-7327. Fax ticket orders to 662-4086. Tickets must be purchased by Oct. 23.

## Volunteers needed for Vitamin B-12 study

USDA, ARS Western Human Nutrition Research Center invites healthy men and women, ages 60 years or older, to participate in a study to learn more about how Vitamin B-12 is absorbed by the human body from fortified foods. Participants must not have anemia,

kidney disease, or gastrointestinal disease, and must be able to eat bread containing wheat.

This is an eight-day study with a total of 10 study visits on the UC Davis campus. Participants must be available for one 12-hour study visit and eight 30-

minute morning visits each day afterwards. There is a 60-minute screening visit prior to starting the study. The study includes assessment of Vitamin B-12 status and monetary compensation for participation.

For more information, call 752-5177 and press #7.

## Play Bunko, fight cancer

Bunko Goes Pink, a fund-raising event celebrating October as Breast Cancer Awareness month, will be held Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Solano College Campus Cafeteria, Building 1400. Doors open at 1 p.m. and start at 2 p.m.

Presale tickets are \$20 and \$25 at the door. There will be door and raffle prizes, along with refreshments provided by the local Fairfield/Vacaville Bunko group. Prizes will be awarded for most Bunkos and highest scores. Proceeds will be donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

For directions to the campus, visit [www.solano.edu/campus\\_info/campus.html](http://www.solano.edu/campus_info/campus.html) or for more information, call Tricia Meyer or Kathy Lara, (707) 864-7197 or (707) 448-4990.



# Entertainment

## Winters Theatre Company to present ‘Cinderella’

The Winters Theatre Company will open an eight-performance run of the wonderful and timeless story of “Cinderella” on Friday, Nov. 20. This musical version of the classic children's fairy tale will have all the charm of the original story and all of the familiar characters; Cinderella and her stepsisters, the mean stepmother, the fairy godmother and, of course, the handsome

prince. Add to this our wonderful mice and pumpkin carriage. “Cinderella” has the added charm of lyrics and music by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Performances will be at the Winters Community Center at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Nov. 20, 21, 27 and 28, and Dec. 4 and 5, and at 2 p.m. on Sundays Nov. 29 and Dec. 6. Tickets will be \$10 general, \$6 se-

niors/students, \$5 children under 12. The Sunday, Nov. 29, performance will be a special to support the Winters Education Foundation. Ticket prices for this show only will be \$15 general, \$10 seniors/students, \$8 children under 12. Send email to winterstheatre@gmail.com or call 795-4014 for more information and reservations.

## Fall Festival planned at Winters Farmers Market

The Winters Farmers Market will host a Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 8 a.m. to noon at Rotary Park, during the last market of the 2009 season. In addition to the market's food and produce, the festival will feature a Future Farmers of America pumpkin patch, an arts and crafts fair,

live music, activities for kids, and a Plein Air Paint Out. After the market, there will be a “Thank the Farmers” Community Potluck Lunch at Rotary Park. Bring a dish to share made from your favorite products from the market, a blanket and or chairs, and your own place settings

(plates, flatware and glasses) to help reduce waste. This is the community's chance to share a meal with Winters Farmers Market's farmers and their families, and thank them for their hard work throughout the market's first year. For more information, call Ana Kormos, 795-5200.

## Kirtan benefit concert planned

The Unity Center of Davis is sponsoring a special concert by Larisa Stow and Shakti Tribe, and invites the public to an evening of spiritual music that is “Yoga to the Ears.” The concert takes place on Friday, Oct. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Center, 14th and B Streets in Davis.

In the call-and-response style of the Kirtan, the group's music is an East meets West blend of songs in English and Sanskrit — a celebration for the spirit no matter the path traveled. Heart-opening messages, brilliant vocals and fine musicianship begin in delicate ancient Eastern Chants that move into pop-rock grooves and back again. It is an evening of powerful, magical, thought provoking and feel-good sound ushering in a new era of sacred world music. Tickets are \$15 advance, \$20 at the door, and \$10 for seniors



Courtesy photo  
**Kirtan musicians Larisa Stow and Shakti Tribe will perform at the Veterans Memorial Center in Davis on Friday, Oct. 23, at 7:30 p.m.**

and students. Tickets are available online at [www.unityofdavis.org](http://www.unityofdavis.org) or phone 758-2424. There will be chair seating for all or you may bring a floor cushion. A portion of pro-

ceeds will support World March for Peace. For more information, contact: Carrin Bennett, [carrinbennett@juno.com](mailto:carrinbennett@juno.com), or Lis Fleming, [LFleming@cal.net](mailto:LFleming@cal.net).

## Shrimp dinner set at firehouse

The Winters Fire Department is sponsoring an all-you-can-eat peel and eat shrimp dinner, complete with pasta, salad and bread, on Saturday, Oct. 17, at the firehouse, 10 Abbey Street. Cocktails will be served

from 5-6 p.m., and dinner starts at 6 p.m. The event includes a raffle and a gun raffle. Tickets are \$25 per person, and table reservations are available now. Only 200 tickets are available, and must be

purchased in advance. No tickets will be sold at the door. Doors will be closed at 6:30 p.m. due to the serving style of the dinner. For tickets or more information, call 795-4131 or 681-1626.

## Halloween Farm Tour planned in Capay

Fall is here beyond a doubt, and at Capay Organic, the leaves of the grape vines are starting to dry up and turn brown and the farm's equipment is buzzing with jobs. The summer's crops need to be cleaned up, disked in and re-bedded for winter; the cover crops in the orchards need to be seeded, and the buildings and equipment need to be readied for their winter dormancy. The public will have the unique opportunity to check out the farm's fall activity firsthand on Saturday, Oct. 24, when Capay Organic hosts its

annual Halloween Farm Tour. Owners Thaddeus Barsotti, Freeman Barsotti and Noah Barnes will lead farm walks at 11:15 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.; walks will end in the pumpkin patch, where guests can pick Halloween pumpkins and then make Jack-O-Lanterns in the farmhouse garden. Capay Organic is located in the Capay Valley at 23800 State Highway 16. This is a free event. For more information, call 796-6009 or send email to [contactus@farmfreshtoyou.com](mailto:contactus@farmfreshtoyou.com).

## Tri-tip dinner set

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a tri-tip dinner on Saturday, October 17, at 5 p.m., in the St. Anthony Parish Hall, 511 Main Street. Large plates are \$10 and small plates are \$5. For more information or to obtain tickets, contact Russ, 795-4119, or Al, 795-5255.

## Davis Farmers Market Fall Festival set for Halloween

Time to don your Halloween costumes for the Davis Farmers Market's Fall Festival, Saturday, Oct. 31 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Central Park at 3rd and C Streets in Davis. This year's Halloween-themed festival features fun-filled activities and harvest specialties for all ages. The Davis Farm to School Connection, a project of Davis Farmers Market Foundation, is sponsoring the annual Avenue of Scarecrows. There will more than 60 scarecrows for visitors to pose with for photos. The highest bidders at the Scarecrow Silent Auction — held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. — will take home their favorites. The scarecrows were created by Davis school students, and all proceeds sup-

port Davis public school gardening and recycling programs. The Pumpkin Patch, hosted by Soroptimist/Venture Clubs of Davis, is back by popular demand. Juggler Merrie Mary will perform on the Oak Tree Deck, and crowd-pleasing live music will be provided by the Peter Franklin Band. The children's area will feature hands-on crafts and science activities, including harvest head-dresses and hair braiding by Lambda Omicron Xi, chemistry activities and demonstrations by the UC Davis Chemistry Club and Explorit Science Center. Animals include piglets, raptors from the California Raptor Center, and farm animals from local 4-H clubs.

Also featured are a craft faire, plus gardening, cooking, recycling and composting exhibits from Davis Farm to School Connection. The third annual Central Park Gardens Open House from 9 a.m. to noon features a plant sale, benefitting the gardens, where you can buy vegetables, flowers and native grasses. Yolo County Master Gardeners will be on hand with eco-friendly gardening advice about selecting plants, composting, and least toxic pest management. All visitors to the Gardens will receive free wildflower seeds to plant now for spring blooming. This year's Festival Food Faire will feature fresh apple and pumpkin pie by the slice, pumpkin ice cream, and

seasonal delights prepared by our Market Chef, Jaymes Luu, plus tamales and burritos, Indian foods and fresh popped kettle corn. Market manager Randii MacNear says Fall Festival is the Market's most exciting event of the year. “It's our way of thanking customers for their patronage and support throughout the year. We hope everyone comes out for the fun, fabulous food, and the chance to celebrate the harvest with family and friends. It's a chance for everyone to come in costume and make the most of Halloween.” For further information, contact Davis Farmers Market office, 756-1695, or visit [davisfarmersmarket.org](http://davisfarmersmarket.org).

In the garden, Autumn is, indeed the crowning glory of the year, bringing us the fruition of months of thought and care and toil. And at no season, save perhaps in Daffodil time, do we get such superb colour effects as from August to November.  
~ Rose G. Kingsley



# Sports

## Varsity blows by Las Plumas 47-13

By ERIC LUCERO  
Express sports

The Winters Warriors varsity football team wasted no time in blowing out the host team Las Plumas High School on their homecoming night 47-13. Winters scored 27 points in the first quarter starting on the first play of the Oct. 9 game. Zach Higgins, back from a three-week shoulder injury stepped in at tailback took the pitch and then threw a bomb to Bryan Case who was wide open sprinting down the sideline for a 75-yard touchdown. Tony Brever kicked the PAT and the Warriors were up 7-0 in the first 10 seconds of the game. From that point on the Warriors never looked back scoring seven in the second quarter, and 13 more in the third. By the time the game was over the Warriors had five different players score touchdowns, had five different players with a sack and had three interceptions. Jacob Lucero got in the end zone three different times for the Warriors all in the first 15 minutes. Lucero ended the game with 71 yards on nine carries. Steven Warren had 77 yards on nine carries and scored a touchdown. Marcus Carrasco had 60 yards on 10 carries with a touchdown. Higgins had 20 yards on one carry. David Villagomez had 10 yards

on three carries and Ed Latimer had five yards on one carry. Higgins completed 8 of 10 passes for 162 yards and a touchdown, while Jared Ney completed 1 of 1 passes for a 41 yard gain. Case caught two passes for 86 yards and a touchdown. Dylan Ney caught two passes for 65 yards. La'Aka Drumwright caught one pass for 41 yards. Riki Lucero caught one pass for 28 yards and Warren had 16 yards on three catches. The Thunderbirds' first score came in the second quarter when they ran back a kickoff but that was soon forgotten when Latimer ran back their kickoff on the next play. Latimer caught the ball at the Warriors own 10 yard line, picked up a couple of good blocks and out ran the Thunderbirds for a 90 yard touchdown. The rest of the Warriors scoring came off the legs of Brever who had four PAT kicks and Colton Nichols who kicked one PAT for the Warriors. Defensively Warren had two interceptions and Carrasco had one. Fabian Sandoval, Juan Tovar, Thomas Boswell, Danny Silva and Carrasco each had a sack and David Damey recovered a fumble for the Warriors. Billy Rotenkolber totaled 14 tackles to lead the defense. Boswell had 11 tackles, Villagomez had eight, Latimer had seven, Je-



Photo by Eric Lucero  
**Jared Ney drops back for a pass during the Warriors varsity football game against Anderson on Friday, Oct. 2.**

sus Quirarte and Carrasco each had six, while Warren and Tovar each had five total tackles. The Warriors will host the Wheatland Pirates on Friday, Oct. 16, in what could be the championship game of the Butte View League. Winters and Wheatland both are 1-0 in league and know that this Friday's game will set the stage for their match up with Sutter. The Warriors will play Sutter next week and the Pirates will face them in their last game of the regular season. Winters, Wheatland and Sutter are the top three teams in the league and all three want the league title before they even think about playoffs.

## JV Warriors 6-0 after close game

By ERIC LUCERO  
Express sports

The Winters Warriors JV football team looked like they were going to get their first loss of the season last Friday, Oct. 9, in Oroville as they took on host Las Plumas High School on the Thunderbirds' Homecoming game. Winters quickly found themselves down 14-0 in the first quarter after making a few mistakes and missing a few tackles. But the Warriors didn't quit and started their push back toward the lead. Quarterback Nick Mariani found tight end Bubba Mayes sprinting up the middle of the field for a 39 yard Warrior score and cut the

lead to 14-6 to end the first quarter. Las Plumas scored again on the ensuing kickoff and increased their lead to 20-6. The Warriors responded though this time with a defensive score. Kendric Moore caused a fumble in the end zone and John Botro recovered it for a Warrior touchdown. Kyle Nichols ran in the two point conversion as the Warriors started their comeback with the score 20-14 at the half. Winters took the lead in the third period when Nichols ran in a 34 yard touchdown. Darby Borges kicked the PAT to put the Warriors up 21-20. The Warriors defense scored again to increase their lead after

the offense failed to get in on the four yard line. Botro caused the fumble this time and Borges recovered it in the end zone. Borges PAT attempt was good and Winters had a 28-20 lead. The Thunderbirds failed to give up and scored another touchdown halfway through the fourth and decided to fake the PAT and run it in. Winters didn't go for the fake and stopped the runner in the backfield to hold on to a 28-26 victory. "We made a lot of mistakes," said coach Tyson Allen. "Defensively we were doing a lot of standing around. In the second half we came out

See JV WIN on page B-6

## Gertz wins grid contest

Ann Gertz picked 23 out of 28 games correctly this week to win the \$30 prize in the Winters Merchants Football Contest. Four contestants had 22 games picked correctly, with winners for second prize based on the total points of the Arkansas-Auburn game. There were 67 points scored in that game, with Mina Felo and Joseph A. Borchard both selecting 47, Gordon Kemp, 43, and Bonnie Benshoof, 37. Felo and Borchard split the second prize of \$15. All of the other contestants had 21 or fewer correct selections. Another contest is in this week's Express.

### 2009 Winters High School Football Schedule

Date	Opponent
Location	TIME
Oct. 16	* Wheatland
Winters	5:30/7:30
Oct. 23	* Sutter
Sutter	5:30/7:30
Oct. 30	* Orland
Winters	5:30/7:30

## JV girls play solid in losses

By ERIC LUCERO  
Express sports

The Winters Warriors JV volleyball team lost to Wheatland and Sutter last week on the road but gave their opponents a good game. On Oct. 6, the Warriors played Wheatland and lost 25-9 and 25-15. "We started slow but got better as the match progressed," said coach Teresa Perkins.

The Warriors were back on the road again on Oct. 8, this time in Sutter. Winters lost the first game 25-15 but kept the second close with a 25-21 loss. "Even though we lost, this was the best match we have played this year," Perkins said. "Haley Tobler had several aces, she and Alex Balasek continues to make good improvement playing the front row."

## PISANI'S ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### Bryan Case



Bryan Case, a senior on the Winters Warriors varsity football team, is this week's athlete of the week. In last week's 47-13 Butte View League victory over Las Plumas, Case caught two passes for 86 yards and scored on a 75-yard reception on the first play from scrimmage. "Brian has been a huge asset to our team," said coach Daniel Ward. "He is a big part of the best trio receiving core along with teammates Riki Lucero and Dylan Ney that Winters has had in along time." Case now leads the BVL in receiving with 306 yards on 10 receptions and is tied for first in touchdown receptions with four.

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# Schools



Courtesy photo

The Winters Middle School champion volleyball team includes (from left) Karissa Karlen, Olivia Orosco, Angelica Arellano, Taelor Hausler, Emma Nicholson, Sarah Kimes, Alexandra Cushman, Lilly Manas, Dakota Norfolk, Cynthia Gutierrez, Taylor Biasi, Jaqui Placensia, Marlen Guzman and Dallas Norfolk.

## Sweet victory for WMS girls team

By RODNEY OROSCO  
Special to the Express

The Winters Middle School girl's volleyball team spent Oct. 10 fulfilling a dream: They became champions.

The eighth-grade team entered the Yolo County Athletic League volleyball tournament hoping for at least a second place. It was certainly a reasonable expectation — the Cardinals had beaten every other team in their eight-team league, except Lee from Woodland.

The day unfolded at Winters High school almost as scripted: a victory over CA Jacobs from Dixon, and a victory over surprisingly tough Harper from Davis, set up the championship game with, of course, Lee.

For any kid facing a championship game, the opponent always seems faster, bigger, and taller. For the WMS girls, such thoughts were not nervous exaggeration.

"Wow, those girls look like they should be in high school," Winters parents muttered in the stands as the Lee team took their warm-up time on the court. As the girls from Woodland easily thumped spike after spike into the floor, the pig-tailed, crazy-sock wearing kids from Winters tried not to get pummeled by the incoming leather missiles.

The referee blew the whistle to start the match and history seemed poised to repeat itself. Only three days earlier, the Lee team easily defeated Winters in two straight games.

After dominating the first 11 points, 10-1, Goliath seemed ready to grab the victory t-shirts and pick up some nachos before heading home after what appeared to be no more than a light practice.

Then, a kid with an old-school underhand serve came to the line.

When Lilly Manas finally ended her time at

the service line, the little team from Winters suddenly looked like it could.

The first game, in the best-of-three match, ended in a Lee victory, but not before the home team, with acrobatic saves, rocket serves and determined play, showed it had made it to the champion's bracket for a reason.

Game two ended in a blur of flopping hair, squealing girls, and hollering home fans: The Cardinals had forced a game three.

Time for a middle-school girl is measured in text messages, mouse clicks on the OMG website, and arguing over who is cuter today: a werewolf, or a vampire. But on one Saturday in October, time will forever stand still as the Lee-hit ball sailed out of bounds and a bunch of girls in pig-tails and not a matched pair of socks among them became the best eighth-grade volleyball team around.

## Destination Imagination is coming

It's a "DInamite" time to find out about Destination Imagination (DI). DI is a fun opportunity for kids to work together and be creative.

DI is a community based, school-supported program that works to build participants' creative problem-solving skills and teamwork. Teams will work on one large, Central Challenge of their choosing to prepare/build/present at the regional tournament in March.

The Central Challenge must be completely solved by the team with no outside help. This includes all ideas and construction. Teams will also practice rapid problem solving skills throughout the season in preparation for the Instant Challenge portion

of the competition.

For the Instant Challenge the team is asked to solve an unknown problem with few or unique supplies in a 5-10 minute time frame. This part of the program emphasizes rapid problem-solving, efficient cooperative decision making and teamwork skills. For more information on this program and this year's challenges, you can visit [www.idodi.org](http://www.idodi.org).

Teams are forming now. Each team of 5-7 kids and their team manager will meet once a week starting in November. More than 60 teams of students in elementary school through high school will compete in the regional tournament. The region extends from Winters to Lake Tahoe and every-

where in between.

Team Managers are needed for this program. If you like working with kids and watching them develop independence and confidence, or if you would like to participate on a team, get an application form in the SRIS office or the WMS office. Submit single applications alone and meet new friends, or submit it with a group of friends. The application deadline is Friday, Oct. 30.

An information meeting about Destination Imagination is planned for anyone interested on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Shirley Rominger Intermediate School library.

For more information, contact Janet Andersen, [andersenmom@gmail.com](mailto:andersenmom@gmail.com) or 795-5030.

## Halloween parade planned for youngsters

The Winters Parent Nursery School will host a Halloween Parade for children 6 years old and younger on Friday, Oct. 30, at 9:30 a.m. The children will stroll down the sidewalks of Main Street

and Trick-or-Treat with local merchants.

The parade of children in their Halloween costumes, will begin in front of the Pizza Factory sidewalk and start strolling at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to participate or come see the little ghosts and goblins of the community.

For more information, call WPNS, 795-4659.

## H1N1 virus talk set at school board meeting

The Winters School Board will meet on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Walnut Room at the school district office, located at 909 West Grant Avenue. All Winters residents are welcome to attend. The following items are on the agenda:

- ~ Dr. Joseph P. Iser, MD, Director-Health Of-

ficer of the Yolo County Health Department will give an update report on the H1N1 flu virus.

- ~ Recognition of Waggoner Elementary School students Jacqueline Ayala Lopez and Alaina Corliss, and parent Charlotte Mehl.
- ~ Communication and reports.
- ~ Proposed 2009/10

Lottery budget.

- ~ 2009/10 water and sewer charges.

- ~ District timeline for budgeting and restructuring.

- ~ Revised board policies and administrative regulation.
- ~ Consent agenda
- ~ Informal review of Governance Team's performance.

## Princesses for an evening



Courtesy photo

Homecoming was the perfect venue to spotlight Project Cinderella and the ladies from the Royal Homecoming Court did a fabulous job modeling just a few of the over 75 dresses from Cinderella's Closet. From left are Samantha Andrade, Luci Heines, Tyler Pearce, Morgan Wright and Taylor Hamilton. Winters High School is still taking donations of "Prom Appropriate" stain-free dresses in the office. The goal is to have a large enough selection of styles and sizes to dress any girl and make her Cinderella for a night.

## Nature's Theater brings children, environment closer together

Nature's Theater is an innovative approach to helping children develop a healthy relationship with the natural world. Through interactive stories, children explore Stebbins Cold Canyon with characters, like Summer, Glug Glug, Tree Spirit, Professor Planthead and Birdman.

The fall schedule for Nature's Theater includes:

- ~ Sunday, Oct. 18, 10 a.m. to noon, "Summer Won't Go," ages 4-8.
- ~ Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to noon, "Glug Glug & Water Boss," ages 5-10.

- ~ Saturday, Nov. 7, 10 a.m. to noon, "To Be A Tree," ages 5-10.
- ~ Sunday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. to noon, "Professor Planthead," ages 6-10.
- ~ Sunday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to noon, "Birdman," ages 4-8.

Nature's Theater programs are also available off site, such as at parks, private parties and at schools. As a way of introducing Nature's Theater to local students, coordinators Lyndsay Dawkins and Jeff Falyn are offering the program free of charge at local schools.

To find out more



Courtesy photo

**Father Winter (Ed Dawkins) sprinkles rain on Summer (Lyndsay Dawkins) in the Nature's Theater outing, Summer Won't Go.**

about the program or to attend an outing, send an email to [jfalyn@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jfalyn@ucdavis.edu). To register for a scheduled outing, include your name, address, phone number and/or e-mail address.



# Features

## Triglyceride levels linked to heart disease

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My 31-year-old son-in-law is 6 feet tall, weighs 185 pounds and is in good physical condition. His concern is triglycerides. His measure more than 600. His cholesterol is just a bit high. He eats very healthily, with little fast food. He drinks only diet soda and skim milk. He uses sugar substitutes in his coffee. He eats much Indian food. Any help is appreciated. —B.W.

ANSWER: Total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol (the bad kind) and HDL cholesterol (the good kind) have star billing when it comes to artery hardening and heart disease. The spotlight has begun to shine on triglycerides, and now they are sharing billing with cholesterol.

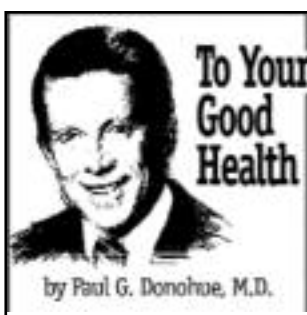
Triglycerides are fats. The whitish, yellowish stuff you see in a cut of meat is triglycerides. Guidelines tell us that a triglyceride level below 150 mg/dL (1.7 mmol/L) is ideal; levels between 150 and 199 (1.7-2.2) are borderline bad; levels from 200 to 499 (2.2-5.6) are bad, and anything over 500 (5.6) is very bad. Your son-in-law is in the "very bad" category.

For overweight people, weight loss is the first step in bringing down triglycerides. This doesn't apply to your son-in-law. He should severely limit rapidly absorbed carbohydrates, like sugar. They raise triglycerides. He also should cut back on red meat and full-fat dairy products. He has to steer clear of trans fats, found in some commercially prepared foods, particularly baked goods and many fast-food deep-fried items. He has to limit alcohol. Your son-in-law is doing all this, but his levels still are too high.

Three hours of weekly exercise can lower triglycerides. If this doesn't get the job done, then he should consider the medicine route. Niacin and gemfibrozil can bring down the triglyceride reading.

Diabetes, a low output of thyroid hormone, kidney disease and some medicines like beta blockers and thiazide diuretics raise triglyceride levels.

Very high triglyceride



levels can inflame the pancreas — pancreatitis. Your son-in-law is at the threshold of that complication.

The cholesterol booklet explains triglycerides and their link to heart disease. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 201W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

\*\*\*

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I need to know what is considered normal when it comes to menstrual cycles. Please tell me. —R.K.

ANSWER: Most women have cycles that last from 21 to 35 days. For 90 percent of menstruating women, bleeding lasts seven days.

A little more than 1 ounce of blood (30 to 35 ml) is lost with each cycle. That amount of bleeding requires three to five pads a day.

\*\*\*

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have diabetes, and a while back lost 25 pounds almost overnight. I cannot gain it back. What can I do? —Anon.

ANSWER: A sudden, unintended loss of 25 pounds demands an explanation. If your diabetes was out of control, that might explain it. All the same, you must report this to your doctor right away so a search for a cause can begin.

\*\*\*

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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## When to worry: real risks or false fears

Are you worried about dying from the new Swine Flu virus? Do you fear being killed in a terrorist attack? Are you afraid that vegetables or meat poisoned with salmonella will bring about your sudden demise?

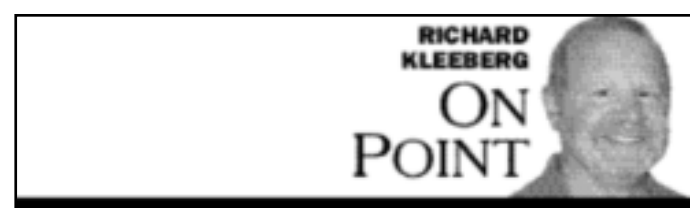
Calm down. You are not going to die that way. Really!

Every day, the government and media fan the flames about scary topics like these, instilling false fears in millions of people. But the truth is that the American public should consider, instead, the issues that are real risks.

What should we really worry about? How about dying in an auto accident? How about death from the old fashioned common flu that we get every year? What about drowning in a river, stream, lake or swimming pool? And don't forget death by electrocution or from multiple bee stings!

Perhaps you worry about dying from the Swine Flu. But do you realize you're actually at least 300 times more likely to succumb to the common flu we deal with each year? It's true. In an average month, about 3,000 Americans die from the regular, common flu! Yes, about 3,000! So compare the numbers: Swine Flu will kill about 10 Americans this month, while the Common Flu will kill about 3,000. Now which flu should you fear?

But perhaps, instead of Swine Flu, you worry about being killed in a terrorist attack. We all know that in 2001, nearly 2,900 people died in the terrorist attack in New York City. But that very same year about 36,000 American deaths were



caused by the common flu. Do the comparison: in the past eight years, nearly 2,900 Americans died in terrorist attacks, while almost 290,000 have been killed by the common flu. So why do so many people fear Osama Bin Laden more than they fear catching the common flu? Because they simply do not understand which killer presents the much greater risk.

Consider two of the frightful stories that have been in the news during the past few years. Remember the story that exploded in the media last year about the Salmonella infected tomatoes? Night after night, they made it sound like it was a major threat to millions of people. But actually, only two or three people in the entire nation died from that overblown salmonella tomato scare.

It's been a similar story for several years with the West Nile virus. Each West Nile incident is treated on the television news as if it's a national epidemic. Yet the combined death total in 2008 and 2009 from West Nile is less than 60 people. Compare that number to the more than 500 people who are electrocuted each and every year in the USA. It makes much more sense to worry about electrocution, than the West Nile virus. For that matter, even bee stings should worry you more than West Nile. Believe it or not, about 200 people die nationwide each

year from bee stings. Really.

One very important story about risky behavior that you will definitely not hear on the news is that ten more people died, today, by drowning. Yes, it's true! Each day in America, an average of 10 people die in drowning accidents. That's about 3,500 drowning deaths every year. More people drown each and every year in our rivers, lakes, streams and swimming pools, than all of those who died in the 9/11 terrorist attack.

And last, but certainly not least, death by automobile is the truly high-risk possibility that should worry all of us. More people die each year in auto accidents than from the combined annual death toll of the common flu, electrocution, bee stings and drowning. Auto accidents take about 42,000 American lives every year. That's about 115 auto accident deaths each day, and about 3,500 every month.

Since 9/11, more than 330,000 Americans have died in auto accidents. But nobody seems to worry, or even talk about the risk of driving.

So watch the national news tonight. And listen for the latest dramatic story of impending doom. Will it be a new disease? A secret terrorist plot? Or some strange chemical lurking in our peanut butter? Whatever it is, you can just about bet it will be a false fear, instead of a real risk.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Caution dominates the Sheep's monetary aspect this week. Rams and Ewes might want to shear their big spending plans until a more favorable financial picture begins to emerge by week's end.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Thrift counts both at home and at work. So you might want to rethink major purchases or investments. Also, be wary of a so-called revelation about a previous decision.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Both household budgets and workplace accounts might benefit from some judicious trimming of unnecessary expenses. A partnership could lead to an unexpected challenge. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A previously overlooked opportunity could re-emerge with a new travel-related matter. Check this out carefully to see if it's what you really want before you decide one way or another.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This could be the start of a new career-changing phase, so start marking down your many accomplishments for those who need to know how much you have to offer. Good luck.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It's not too early for the sometimes procrastinating Virgo to start making those long-distance travel plans. The sooner you decide where to go, when to go and how to go, the better. LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Financial matters once again figure in any major action you might take regarding career, travel or other endeavors. You'll want a ready reserve to help you back up those moves.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Trying to resolve a problem in a personal relationship could be more difficult than you'd expected. Look into the possibility that someone might be interfering for his or her own reasons.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A project you once rejected might be more attractive because of changes that you feel you can now work with. The weekend is especially favorable to family matters.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) This is a good week for the gregarious Goat to enjoy being with people you care for. You might even want to show off those creative kitchen skills you're so adept at.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A colleague might think your attitude is patronizing or even outright insulting. True. That might be his or her problem. But you might want to take some reassuring steps anyway.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) It's a good time to jettison those old concepts about a family matter you might have been holding on to. This will help make room for a new and more enlightened way of dealing with it.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like to analyze a puzzling situation before you try to resolve it. This makes you excel at getting things done the right way.

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## Pleased to meet you



**Name:** Valerie Engelman

**Occupation:** Owner of Wildflower Naturals — handcrafted soaps and aromatherapy candles

**Hobby:** Making soaps and candles

**What's best about living in Winters:** I love the people, and there's no traffic. There's no "bad traffic" day.

**Fun fact:** My dog Lily is really a stuffed animal brought to life by Christmas magic.

### King Crossword

ACROSS

1. Small town
5. Grier's
8. Feds
12. A-line
13. Mimic
14. Wash
15. Con
16. Revolver
17. Curved
18. Unimpaired
20. Ascending
22. Heavy
23. Tossed
24. Hilarious
27. Emerge
32. Oklahoma
33. Property
34. Vandal
35. Over
36. Overwhelming
38. Prostate
39. Part
40. Eureka!
42. Money-back
43. Ticker
44. Object of
45. Worship
46. Bill's
47. Partner
48. Nouveau

DOWN

2. Tennis
3. Teller's
4. Simpson's
6. Slender
7. Cate
9. Ironing
10. Angry
11. Vortex
12. Raw
13. Rock
14. Color
15. Jelly
16. Mellow
17. Cheese
18. Hopping
19. Fast
20. Greek
21. Sacred
22. Scene
23. Violin
24. Tissue
25. Nicole
26. Simpsons
27. Slender
28. Cate
29. Ironing
30. Angry
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### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTING

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. The dog is sitting on the floor in the first panel, but on the bed in the second panel.

2. The dog is looking at the cat in the first panel, but at the dog in the second panel.

3. The dog is wearing a red collar in the first panel, but a blue collar in the second panel.

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### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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# Nuestras Noticias



## La importancia de la lectura

Una de las acciones más importantes que los padres pueden tomar, aparte de ayudar a sus hijos a crecer sanos y felices, es ayudarlos a ser buenos lectores. No sería exageración decir que lo bien que los niños aprenden a leer afecta directamente no sólo lo bien que se desempeñan en la escuela sino el éxito que tendrán durante toda la vida. Cuando los niños aprenden a leer, poseen la llave que abre las puertas a todos los conocimientos del mundo.

Aunque es importante contar con maestros bien capacitados e instrucción fundamentada en estudios de investigación, las bases para aprender a leer deben sentarse mucho antes que los niños empiecen en la escuela. Los padres pueden tomar ciertos pasos para garantizar que sus hijos vayan bien encaminados a ser buenos lectores. No es conveniente que los padres pierdan la oportunidad de aficionar a sus hijos a la lectura porque los beneficios para ellos durarán toda la vida.

Como padres, lo más importante que podemos hacer es leer a nuestros hijos desde la infancia y con frecuencia. La lectura es el camino hacia el éxito en la escuela y la vida. Cuando los niños aprenden a aficionarse a los libros, aprenden a aficionarse al aprendizaje.

Los libros nos brindan conocimientos para alimentar nuestro espíritu. Siempre nos traen un mensaje, que antes de ser expresado en sus páginas, tomó largo tiempo para ser construido y procesado. No importa su categoría o clase, un libro es algo que se piensa antes de hacerlo. No se decide y se elabora al instante. El libro no es como la televisión, que nos trae mensajes que se producen en fracciones de minutos, como los enlatados que nos venden a través de los anuncios. La televisión no nos hace agentes pensantes, sino seguidores de consignas que tienen el objetivo de manipularnos.

Y bien que lo hacen, ya que, nos toman de sorpresa, cuando sentados en aquel sillón y al final de un largo día de trabajo, asaltan nuestra mente cansada y cuando no está lista para reaccionar o cuestionar aquello que nos presentan. La televisión, a lo contrario del libro, no enriquece el espíritu, sino que lo mecaniza y lo empobrece, lanzándonos basura como si nuestras mentes fueran zafacones de desperdicios. Y no nos da la capacidad ni siquiera para clasificarlos, como lo hacemos en el reciclaje al separar una basura de la otra.

Nos hace agentes del chisme barato, de la insulsa telenovela, de los superfluos mercaderes de la buena vida y de los perennes cultivadores de la mediocridad. Eso es lo común en la televisión. La información en la televisión llega por cápsulas y con la rapidez de segundos, creando una generación de peritos y sabelotodo, que se creen con la capacidad de cuestionar y saberlo todo solo por lo que ven en televisión. Cuando usted les pregunta acerca de la fuente de sus “conocimientos,” muy orgullosos dicen que la televisión, que sirve mas como entretenimiento que información.

La lectura que nos brinda el libro es la fuente primaria de conocimiento y del saber. No por otra razón, es que a través de la historia, los regímenes de fuerza, las dictaduras y los seguidores fanáticos de una sola verdad han reaccionado rabiosamente a la difusión del libro, echándolo a la hoguera y persiguiendo a sus creadores para eliminar la otra verdad. Con la lectura del libro no eliminamos la otra verdad sino que fortalecemos y enriquecemos la que poseemos. El libro de esa manera enriquece el espíritu y no importa de qué se trate, siempre hay en uno de sus rinconcitos una idea valiosa. Por eso, no hay libros malos o buenos sino lectores buenos o malos. El valor real del libro se lo da el que lo lee.

Muy frecuente se pone el aburrimiento como excusa para no leer. Eso se evita escogiendo libros que estén ligados a cosas que nos interesen y nos gusten. Nadie dice que el comer aburre si se comen alimentos buenos. Así pasa con los libros. Hay que buscarlos y escogerlos con temas que nos agraden y nos gusten. Así a la larga, la lectura se torna en un placer de lo mas reconfortante y placentero que usted puede experimentar.

El amor al libro hay que fomentarlo también entre nuestros niños. Si un niño nunca ve en su casa un libro, de seguro que le será difícil desarrollar interés hacia él. Se suele poner la excusa de que no se compra el libro porque es muy caro, sin embargo, gastamos dineros en un sinnúmero de cosas superfluas e improductivas y que no rinden beneficios para nosotros y nuestros niños.

Escoge un momento cada día para leer una página de un libro sobre la religión que practica, del deporte que te gusta, del país de donde vienes, de los bailes que te gustan, de los animales que te atraen, de la cultura y la historia de la nación en donde vives, de los movimientos políticos por los que simpatiza y por los que no simpatiza, de la complejidad del ser humano, de la belleza de la naturaleza, de las plantas, de los animales, de las guerras, del amor y de la grandeza de la humanidad.

Si no tienes para comprarlos, ve a la biblioteca que allí son gratis y te los prestan para llevártelos para tu casa hasta que termine de leerlos. Regálale a tu hijo un libro y verás que si lo llega a disfrutar, te lo agradecerá por toda la vida. Los juguetes se rompen y se olvidan, pero las ideas se aman y sobreviven por toda la vida.

## Recolección de basura gratis

La compañía que recolecta la basura en Winters, Waste Management estará aceptando la basura que no podemos tirar con la basura regular, y que son los artículos tales como aceite, pintura, televisiones, computadoras, monitores, focos fluorescentes, baterías y termómetros de mercurio. El día será el sábado 17 de Octubre, el horario es de 8 a.m. a 1 p.m. en los patios de la ciudad en el 19 East Baker st. Los residentes de Winters que cuenten con licencia o una identificación podrán dejar los artículos arriba mencionados.

Este servicio se ofrece a las comunidades en donde la compañía recolectora de basura presta sus servicios,

como un esfuerzo para embellecer y mantener limpios los vecindarios, además para evitar que se tiren artículos ilegales en los caminos vecinales. La compañía esta consciente de que muchos de sus clientes no pueden deshacerse de pintura o televisiones, y que por lo general esta basura la tenemos o en el garaje o en el patio de atrás de la casa. Y además se pide a los vecinos que animen a más gente para que se deshagan de estos artículos, y le dejen el trabajo de deshacerse de una manera segura a la compañía de la basura.

Para mas información puede hablar al teléfono 795-1201.

## La universidad un reto para los hispanos en esta economía

Un estudio que se dio a conocer la semana pasada nos dice que los jóvenes hispanos de entre 16 y 25 años tienen hoy más probabilidades de estar estudiando o trabajando que en 1970, pero sus esperanzas de lograr un grado universitario son aún modestas. El estudio señala que aunque nueve de cada diez hispanos jóvenes consideran que una educación universitaria es importante para tener éxito en la vida, sólo cinco de cada diez planean aplicarse y obtener un grado universitario.

Aún así, ocho de cada diez estudiantes universitarios hispanos califican su experiencia en la educación superior como “muy buena” y aseguran que están recibiendo una buena formación. Los latinos, cuya educación en Estados Unidos se ha caracterizado tradicionalmente por altas tasas de abandono y bajos índices de finalización de estudios, presentan dos tipos de desigualdades fundamentales en cuanto a sus aspiraciones formativas.

La primera desigualdad les separa del total de la población de su mismo grupo de edad, entre los que un 60 por ciento planea lograr un graduado universitario, en contraste con el 48 por ciento de hispanos. La segunda es aún mayor, y divide a los latinos inmigrantes, entre los que sólo un 29 por ciento quiere lograr un título, y los nacidos en el país, cuya proporción alcanza el 60 por ciento.

Los hispanos nacidos en el exterior, que constituyen un 35 por ciento de todos los jóvenes latinos, son los que más probabilidades tienen de ser padres de familia entre los 16 y los 25. La alta estima que los hispanos tienen respecto a la educación universitaria proviene en parte del énfasis que sus padres han puesto en la importancia de la misma, según un 77 por ciento de los encuestados.

Sin embargo, entre los latinos de más de 26 años de edad impera la sensación de que los padres de los estudiantes hispanos no se implican lo suficiente en el éxito de la educación de sus hijos. Ésta es la razón con la que un 61 por ciento de los encuestados de esa franja de edad justifica las deficiencias de nivel de muchos estudiantes latinos, mientras que un 58 por ciento las atribuye a los limitados conocimientos de inglés de la mayoría.

La parte positiva de este estudio subraya que, en comparación con los hispanos de hace tres décadas, los de ahora tienen más probabilidades de estar estudiando, trabajando o cumpliendo el servicio militar. Mientras que en 1970 un 77 por ciento de los latinos se dedicaban a alguna de esas actividades, en 2007 eran ya un 86 por ciento. El mayor mérito de ese aumento de actividad se lo llevan, según el informe, las mujeres hispanas jóvenes: casi la mitad están inscritas en un colegio o universidad.

Aún así, sigue habiendo un 19 por ciento de latinas jóvenes que no estudian ni trabajan, algo que se debe, en algunos casos, a la maternidad, aunque con menor frecuencia que en 1970.

## Apoyo a la nueva biblioteca

La nueva biblioteca comunitaria de Winters sigue en construcción y esperamos tener su inauguración en noviembre, será un lugar con muchos recursos para la comunidad, el presupuesto del edificio esta seguro, pero usted puede ayudarnos haciendo una donación para comprar nuevos libros, discos compactos, DVD para reemplazar los materiales

viejos y los dañados. Su donación nos ayudara a comprar computadores portátiles para la clase de educación para adultos. Necesitamos fondos para poder ayudar a mantener la biblioteca abierta mas horas y en los fines de semana. Si quiere hacer una donación envíela a WFoL new library fund, P.O. Box 963, Winters, 95694.

## Monopolio de las medicinas

Cuentan que en México y en Latinoamérica cuentan que cuando un médico tiene que dar una receta para una medicina, en vez de una, le da dos. Una de las recetas es para la medicina que usted necesita y la otra, para el ataque del corazón que le va a dar cuando le digan el precio de la primera. No sea si sea cierto o no pero esto nos indica el alto costo que hay que pagar por la medicina en cualquier país subdesarrollado.

Aunque usted no lo crea, esto también sucede aquí, en el país más rico de la tierra. Si usted no tiene un buen seguro, que es el caso de 44 millones de norteamericanos, tendrá que pasar la misma experiencia que anteriormente narramos. Usted se podría preguntar, ¿por qué sucede esto? ¿Cómo es posible que en el país donde existen las más grandes compañías farmacéuticas, los medicamentos sean los más caros de todos los países desarrollados y los menos accesibles para la población? ¿Por qué en Canadá las medicinas son más baratas, hasta un 40% menos, aun cuando se fabriquen aquí?

Las respuestas a estas preguntas hay que buscarlas en el sistema político que nos rige. En este país, aunque a muchos se les quiere hacer creer lo contrario, la

política está orientada y obedece a los intereses de los grupos más poderosos, o sea que aquí en los Estados Unidos al igual que en la mayoría de los países del mundo; La política es el arte de obtener dinero de los ricos y votos de los pobres, con el fin de proteger a los unos de los otros. Dentro de este contexto se explica por qué en Washington, en el caso de la medicina, se benefician las grandes multinacionales de los productos farmacéuticos aprovechándose de la situación económica de los pobres.

Los grandes fabricantes de medicinas, como ninguna otra industria, gozan del privilegio de una generosa política de protección de precios por el Congreso. Por esa razón, la industria farmacéutica ocupa año tras año el primer lugar en lo que a beneficios económicos se refiere. Los precios de las medicinas se han mantenido extremadamente altos sin que el Congreso o el gobierno los regulen, ya que, la industria farmacéutica es uno de los grandes contribuidores a las campañas políticas en tiempo de elecciones. En otros países los gobiernos regulan los precios con los suplidores y los mantienen accesibles a los ingresos de la mayoría de la población.

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## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

BIBLE TRIVIA  
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Hebrews in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" is found in what book? Psalms, Proverbs, Numbers, Jeremiah
3. What did Abel do for a living? Carpenter, Keeper of sheep, Tax collector, Tent-maker
4. Who was the first woman judge in Israel? Deborah, Sarah, Jezebel, Lydia
5. To whom did Jesus say, "Get thee behind me, Satan"? Andrew, Rizpah, Elijah, Peter
6. Who prayed three times a day at an open window? Daniel, Jonah, Stephen, Solomon

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Psalms; 3) Keeper of sheep; 4) Deborah; 5) Peter; 6) Daniel

Wilson Casey's new book, "Firsts: Origins of Everyday Things That Changed the World," is now available from Alpha/Penguin publishing.

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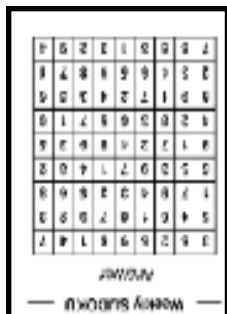
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## VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

### It Starts at the Top

I suspect that the level of care you get from the Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and clinics depends on who's at the top. Until the situation was exposed, you ran the risk of not getting correct treatment for prostate cancer at one medical center. At another, the equipment for colonoscopies was found to be contaminated. A third facility sent out scary letters to veterans indicating they'd had a diagnosis of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) when it was not true. But there's always a flip side to the horror stories. A friend of mine says he's had only excellent care at a certain department in the local medical center ... AFTER each and every person there was fired and new staff was brought in. Prior to the sweep, patients were subjected to inept treatment by surly medical and administrative staff and appointments that were either canceled without notice or made for the wrong day. Now, post-sweep, patients can call and get a pleasant person on the phone, get cooperation in the scheduling of appointments, and feel very positive about their care. Another friend who goes to a different department at the same facility can actually get doctors on the phone. So, what accounts for the differences in the level of care at medical centers and clinics across the country? Since everyone is working from the same VA playbook and manual of instruction, the only variables left are 1) the people who work there, and 2) those who manage them. The requirements for basic courtesy and competence come from the top. It's just like any other industry: If the boss doesn't respect the clients — in this case the veterans — staff further down the hierarchy won't either.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to [columnreply@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply@gmail.com).  
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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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  
★★★ HOT BOY!

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