



-Your News of the Future - Today!-

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WORLD BRIEFS

Nation: Populist survey results from congressional candidates are always interesting. This season's use of free-form answers to pointed questions sent to the upcoming slate of legislators has been tabulated, the most oft-cited responses by far were 'These aren't the druids you're looking for' and 'Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain'.

California: Piracy is making a comeback: Following the lead of its Somali-based fiscal consultants, the Treasurer's Office of the State of California today began conducting raids on cash-rich organizations. First to be targeted: the State's own Franchise Tax Board. Despite repeated pleas from the FTB, there have been no offers of rescue. Cable Streaming Service providers are said to be studying the tactic.

Bullet Train Suddenly Economical



State budget analyst Jon Prsha announced today that a recent revisit of the cost-overrun plagued California High Speed Rail, also known as the Bullet Train, now makes it appear to be a favorable economic travel choice. "When the current cost of gasoline and jet fuels are factored in, the CHSR is the clear winner in terms of commuter costs" says Prsha. Consumer advocate Linda Brown quickly debunked the claim, pointing out that the apparent economics are not the result of lower CHSR costs, but of yet higher-cost alternatives. Still, Brown admitted, the CHSR remains the better alternative to the cost of recharging the electric vehicles now required in the state.



Department of Consumer Affairs Attempts Bold Move To Regulate Wine-Making Industry

California's Department of Consumer Affairs unveiled its plan today for the regulation of the state's wineries, under its recent declaration that wineries and distilleries were fundamental to the state's economy, served the public good and are, therefore, within its regulatory jurisdiction for public oversight. An entire new agency is to be created under this plan. First

CURE FOR COVID ANNOUNCED!



The research team of Lee and Terri (nee Tackaberry) Ewin today announced that after 50 years of research, a cure for Covid has been found. The cure is an apparent side-effect discovered during their five-decade quest to develop a treatment for workplace stress. The treatment consists of both a chemical-based concoction and certain environmental conditions. Those environmental conditions consist of supine reclination and sensory suppression while exposed to a wide-spectrum high altitude solar light source for periods of up to eight hours each day. The chemical component consists of an oral dose of a fairly specific combination of a glucose syrup obtained from the Agavoideae (Agave) plant, citric extract of lime, and the alcohol compounds conveniently found in a good quality tequila, all chilled between -2 and -4 °C. A salt trace at the edge of the container and the addition of small amounts of Cointreau or Grand Marnier are said to enhance the curative effect.

Ewin and Ewin have been conducting the research on their own and are now seeking grants to replicate the procedure and find optimal locations for the test environment. Cyclical audio susurrant input similar to ocean surf and the aromatic inhalation of spindrift salt spray, in ambient temperatures between 21 and 33 °C at 1 atm have proven significantly beneficial to the efficacy of the cure. The team intends to spend up to ten years testing various locales throughout the world in search of recommended therapy sites.

in line for the newly created position of Chief of the Wine and Spirits Tasting Division is Veronica Meyers. Her plan to evaluate all tasting rooms in the state lends new meaning to the term 'Consumer Affairs'. Next on the Department's list of businesses necessary to the survival of the state economy: Indian Gaming.

Writers' Strike After-Effects

Outfall from the Hollywood Writers' strike of 2007 continues to be felt. With the possibility of a 2023 repeat, the major studios this week unveiled the Blabmaster-3000, an automated wonder which could be used to churn out program scripts for television and the big screen. "The Blabmaster-3000 works 24/7, doesn't need breaks, doesn't strike, and best of all, doesn't ask for residuals", said Dennis Wickham, president of Uni-Lu Studios. The Blabmaster-3000 was originally developed for use as a political speechwriter's tool, crafting candidate policy statements and responses to news conferences, a feat which went unnoticed for at least a decade because, according to makers of the Blabmaster, "the stuff made no sense". Repackaged in early 2022 for the entertainment industry, the Blabmaster-3000 recently received the Turing Award for its demonstration of artificial intelligence. "We'd like to have had a machine that could demonstrate

actual intelligence", says Wickham, "but it turns out nobody here knows what that is".

Talk is Cheap, Supply Exceeds Demand

State investigators Dan Zorn and Larry Boggeln today released their long-awaited study on the plentiful supply of political commentary, with the title "Blathering Liberal Oratory With Hardly Any Redeeming Dialog", popularly known as the BLOWHARD report. On the plus-side, noted the study, the excess supply of hot air is soon to be tapped in order to power the nearly 50 low-profile power plants needed to replace the abandoned San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station (SONGS). Capitalizing on the double-dome arch motif, the site is now the world's largest McDonald's

Last Open Space in North County is Paved

This week marked the completion of the new east-west I-678 freeway, set to open after striping of its 32 lanes next month. I-678 joins the twelve other North County freeway corridors, bringing the total capacity for commuter traffic to 296 lanes. "This new corridor was definitely needed", says CalTrans Director Joe Bunn. "It only took eight years to complete, making it one of the speediest highway projects to be completed in North County history.

After the subdivision of the San Pasqual Preserve and the completion of the Wild Animal Park High-Density Condominium project, it became imperative to provide transportation access to the 85,000 new residents of the area."

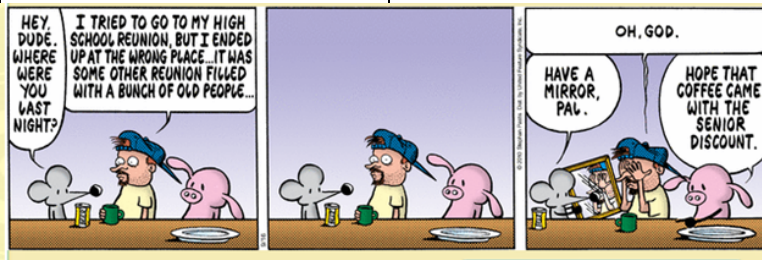
Construction of I-678 marked the demise of the last acre of open space in San Diego County, as required by the Compulsory Housing Land Use Act of 2020. When opened, the daily commute between San Marcos and Oceanside is expected to drop to 3 hours.

Where Are They Now? A look at once-famous faces

Mike Gray, famed medical author, capitalizing on changing consumer tastes, publishes the more salacious 'Fifty Shades of Gray's Anatomy'.

Larry Mulvaney, paroled in 2012 for having fixed the California State Lottery, was recently charged with manipulation of the Bitcoin blockchain algorithm. He was exonerated after it was found that with the subsequent Bitcoin crash Mulvaney had actually lost \$143million.

Joseph Shanberger, Major League Baseball Commissioner, announces that under new MLB rules using Artificial Intelligence models, Dodger season ended two weeks prior to opening day when the regular season forecast mathematically eliminated the team from the playoffs. Vegas oddsmakers had campaigned against the action, Yankees fans rejoiced.



Commentary Ad Nauseam will return next decade. *Pete Girard* has retired.



EL CID RIDES AGAIN!

Saturday
August 4, 2012

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WORLD BRIEFS

E-mail Lost For 24 Milliseconds Reappears, Reunites Old Friends

Thought to have irretrievably vanished, a long-lost e-mail message emerged from the ether after an interminable 96 thousand cycles and was delivered to Linda Brown Cervantes, rekindling an old correspondence with sender Terri Tackaberry Ewin.

ReSurFacebook IPO

Riding a wave of success over the recent USDHS 40th reunion, the team of Zorn & Schanberger have announced an IPO for their joint venture, ReSurFacebook. The website provides reunion services (contact searches, event planning, collection agent and bail bonds) once each decade. The first client is rumored to be long-time Uni rival, Saint Augustine High.

Ewin To Host Oscars

After his acclaimed appearance as emcee of the widely-viewed UNI '72 40th Reunion, Lee Ewin has been tapped to host the 2014 Academy Awards. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has been searching for a popular host replacement since Billy Crystal last appeared. Said AMPAS president Mary Jo Campbell Lau, 'Ewin should be the perfect replacement for Billy, he's almost as tall and his jokes are just as bad!'

Mars Rover 'Curiosity' On Errant Mission

Larry Boggeln, Project Director of the Mars rover Curiosity, admitted today that the exploratory vehicle had touched down just a bit off its planned course. After three months of sending stunningly detailed images of a vast, barren wasteland in its unsuccessful search for intelligent life, it was discovered that the lander had not settled near

APPLE INTRODUCES NEW iBRO

Apple CEO Veronica Valdisera Meyers today introduced the iBro2, the long-awaited upgrade to its popular tablet computer. Internally code-named 'iMplant' for the manner in which it is attached to users, the miniaturized iBro taps directly into the user's central nervous system, giving the device clairvoyant-like properties. The iBro2 is equipped with Eerie, the descendent of the anthropomorphic assistant Siri. Eerie gathers data from the user's unconscious thought processes and, akin to the Genius functions in the companion product iTunes, sends subliminal messages through the nervous system designed to satisfy the user's personal tastes in entertainment, dining and travel.



During the last economic downturn, Apple was seized and placed under federal control, drained of cash resources and renamed ObamApple. Under the direction of government regulators, the iBro was given a ground-up technology refresh "to better meet public needs". Chief among those improvements is an upgraded operating system dubbed 'Orwell'. At first a voluntary purchase by consumers, the Affordable Care Act now requires each person to undergo the iBro implant at birth in compliance with the recent Supreme Court decision which determined that the government could compel such a purchase, justified by federally-sponsored studies which concluded that 'everyone needs one'.

This ultimate marriage of the digital and biological network has rendered the need for federal programs such as TARP unnecessary, as the administration can now simply redirect consumer behavior to target particular products, investments or political candidates. A minority of vocal opponents cynically point out that it has given the term 'Federal Stimulus' an entirely new meaning.

Continuing its long-standing policy of corporate secrecy about new product releases, ObamApple Chief of Product Development Steve Meyers is silent on the rumors of a 'BigBro'.

its intended site, but had in fact touched down in Sacramento. Embarrassed mission controllers also have belatedly confessed that the Mars vehicle has apparently been stripped.

pension obligations which have finally exceeded all forms of revenue, adopted their own local income taxes averaging this past year at 12%. Apparently, no one is doing the math.

scientists, however, was the appearance of the Twilight novels during the first week.

IRS Needs Calculator



The Buffett Rule, introduced in 2012 as an election-year ploy, has during the last twenty years become a popular IRS revenue stream.

While once billed as a tax on millionaires at 30%, the tax rate has since been raised to 61%, while the minimum income has also been dropped to \$10,000, meaning that even those once classified as 'poverty level' now retain just over a third of their income.

Not to be outdone, within a year of the passage of the Buffett Rule, California instituted its own version in what rapidly became called the 'Moonbeam' tax, which is now at 37%. As businesses continue to flee the Golden State and reduce its tax base, individual cities, faced with

World's Smallest Tsunami Strikes Fiesta Island, No One Notices

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A Million Monkeys

Testing the old adage that a million monkeys at a million typewriters would eventually turn out the works of Shakespeare, scientists at IBM programmed 1024 installations of the supercomputer Watson to simulate just such a scenario. Lead researchers Dennis Wickham and Terri Ewin reveal the conclusion of the test showed that the first sonnet would appear after approximately 426 thousand years, meaning that normal evolutionary processes would overtake the test and further demonstrated that Shakespearean literature, even for intellectual and self-aware beings, is intricate and masterful. A great surprise to the

Where Are They Now? A look at once-famous faces

Dave Lau, famed paparazzi of the rich and famous, last seen on quest to photograph the rare and elusive California Conservative.

Jon Prsha, former head of Solyndra, receives a \$6 billion federal grant for patent of 'green' electrons, retires to Monaco.

Larry Mulvaney, recently released from house arrest at his Bel Air mansion after fixing the California State Lottery.

Mike Ripley, invents eBuy-the-Bay, a website intended to market bankrupt California cities. Starting with Mammoth Lakes, Stockton and San Bernardino, the site eventually included San Francisco, Los Angeles and Oakland, but recently folded after failing to attract any bidders.

This Day In The Future

April 1, 2015: San Diego's last remaining civic employee retires, bankrupts pension system.

August 4, 2020: First-ever Jamaican Olympic Water Polo team misreads rulebook, four ponies drowned.

June 22, 2051: YouTube acquires California Assembly, draws no viewers, closes government. Subscribers rejoice.

Commentary Ad Nauseam will return next week. *Pete Girard* is on vacation.

