## FINS N FUR II

Continued from A1

are most proud of is handfeeding the birds that we sell, with the exception of the Parakeets," he explained. "The Cockatiels and Conures are all handfed, they are used to people, they want to be on your shoulder. They want affection from you."

Also available in abundance are fish. This makes sense, given the pair got their start with a backyard Koi pond business years

"About 15 years ago, we had a pond business in our backyard," Paul Wheeler said. "We sold lots of pond supplies and lots of Koi fish and we really enjoyed

"It started with fish," he

"We know fish, it's what we know best," Kindi Wheeler added. "It is a passion for both of us.'

When that business

closed, they eventually decided to open Fin N Fur II. "We always wanted to have a little fish store," he said. The purchase of some fish tanks when the old Walmart closed led to an expanded vision and Fin N Fur II was born.

"It blossomed into this,"

Paul Wheeler said. He added with a laugh that Kindi knows more about pets than he does.

"My wife is much more knowledgeable than I am. So I am nice to people and I ask her questions," he said with a laugh.

"Growing up I always had pets," Kindi Wheeler agreed. "My father would bring home raccoons! He taught us a lot when we were kids about all our animals."

As luck would have it, customer Kelly Wilson walked up during this part of the conversation. Wilson said she purchased Koi pond supplies from the couple at their former business and was shopping Friday for water lilies for her pond.

She spoke enthusiastically about the pond, which she described as a oasis of peace and tranquility for

The store held a soft opening a couple of months back, and the owners have already gained a reputation for wanting to help customers be good, responsible pet owners. They walk potential pet owners through the process and make sure they are ready to take on the responsibility. They have even been known to discourage ownership of certain pets, if they feel the new animal would not fit in with the pre-existing household.

The Netherland Dwarf rabbits for example are completely house trainable. A free-roaming rabbit, however, is obviously a nono in a house with a cat. Not all pets fit in with all families, Paul Wheeler said.

When the Wheelers set a family up with a pet, they make sure they are ready to go when they leave the store.

"We want them to have everything they need," Paul Wheeler said.

"And be educated, making sure it's going to fit in with your home and with your family," Kindi Wheeler added. "If you don't have a cage, we will set that cage up for you. From the bedding to the food, before you leave, we will make sure you understand how to care for the pet."

One thing you won't find at Fin N Fur II is cats and dogs. "We don't do anything dog and cat," said Kindi Wheeler. "We specialize more in exotic pets."

Fin N Fur II is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. Saturday the store closes at 5 p.m. Check the store for new pets Wednesdays.

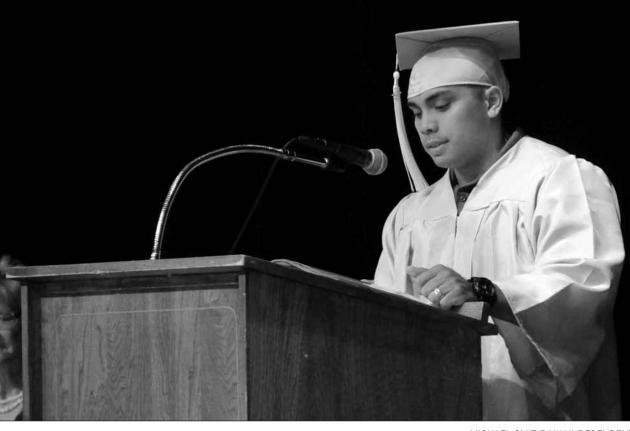


WESTON/DAILY INDEPENDENT

Above: Breanna "Bree" Rubin holds a white guinea pig during the grand opening of Fin N Fur II on West Ridgecrest Blvd. Friday.

**Right: Robin Dunlap intro**duces daughter **Brooklyn Calvi** to a Netherland Dwarf rabbit.





Sierra Sands Adult School graduating student Christopher Rabaya speaks at his graduation on Friday. "My kids were my main reason for going back and completing my high school diploma," he said. He continued to say that he explained to his 6-year-old daughter that she had to complete her education to make something of her life, but she asked him why he didn't need to finish his. He said he knew right then he had to go back to earn his diploma for her. Every single graduate here has faced many obstacles and had different motivations, whether it's employment, wanting to go to college, or a 6-year-old cracking wise with you," he said.



MICHAEL SMIT/DAILY INDEPENDENT

Ligia Johnson glances back at friends and family as she accepts her diploma at the Sierra Sands Adult School graduation on Friday evening.

### For the Record

Clarification: The story "Aquatic Center project begins strategic phase" in the May 25, 2017 edition of the Daily Independent should have stated that the Counsilman-Hunsaker contract is for \$30,000 and is nominally for a 120 day period of performance. A date for the consultant's first meeting and visit to the community is not set, but may happen before the end of June.















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## NATION&WORLD

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

# New Dem Party chairman Perez pledges to repair, unite party

By Hope Yen and Bill Barrow
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Newly elected Democratic national chairman Tom Perez pledged on Sunday to unite a fractured party, rebuild at all levels from "school board to the Senate" and reach out to chunks of rural America left feeling forgotten in the 2016 election.

Speaking in television interviews, Perez indicated that an important first step was joining with vanquished rival Minnesota Rep. Keith Ellison, who agreed at Perez's invitation to serve as the Democratic National Committee's deputy chairman. Perez said the two would work hard to put out an affirmative party message while opposing President Donald Trump's policies, adding that he and Ellison were already getting a "good kick" that Trump was stirred to tweet that the DNC election was "rigged."

"We lead with our values and we lead with our actions," Perez said, describing a party focus that will emphasize protecting Social Security, Medicare and "growing good jobs in this economy."

"You know, our unity as a party is our greatest strength. And it's his worst nightmare," he said. "And, frankly, what we need to be looking at is



Former Labor Secretary Tom Perez, who is the newly elected Democratic national chairman, speaks during the general session of the DNC winter meeting Saturday in Atlanta. [BRANDEN CAMP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

whether this election was rigged by Donald Trump and his buddy Vladimir Putin."

The former labor secretary in the Obama administration acknowledged that swaths of the U.S. had felt neglected, saying he had heard from rural America that "Democrats haven't been there for us recently."

"That's exactly what we're going to do," Perez said, stressing grass-roots efforts in all 50 states. He pointed to

Democrats' success Saturday in one of their strongholds, Delaware, where they found themselves in an unexpectedly competitive race. Stephanie Hansen won a

special election for a state Senate seat after vigorous party campaigning that helped preserve Democrats' control of the chamber.

As DNC chair, Perez must now rebuild a party that in the last decade has lost about 1,000 elected posts from the White House to Congress to the 50 statehouses, a power deficit Democrats have not seen nationally in 90 years.

On Saturday, the DNC elected Perez as its chair in a competitive race that took two rounds of voting — unprecedented in recent memory for either major party. They picked Perez, who was backed by former President Barack Obama, over Ellison, backed by liberal Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

CORRESPONDENT'S DINNER

Aide: Trump not elected to spend time with reporters, celebs

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House says that when President Donald Trump skips the White House Correspondents' Association dinner, expect him to spend that Saturday night in April "focused on what he can to do to help better America."

The dinner attracts politicians, journalists and celebrities and is typically attended by the president, who's often roasted.

Trump isn't saying why he won't be there. He has railed against "the fake news media," saying it is "the enemy of the American people."

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders says it's "kind of naive of us to think that we can all walk into a room for a couple of hours and pretend that some of that the couple of hours are tend that some of the couple of the couple

She tells ABC's "This Week" that Trump wasn't elected "to spend his time with reporters and celebrities."



Donald Trump, left, and Melania Trump arrive for the White House Correspondents Dinner on April 30, 2011, in Washington. [ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO]

### Daughter to bury father missing for 50 years in Vietnam

SAN DIEGO (AP) — More than half a century ago, Deborah Crosby was sent home from the first grade to find military officers in her living room and her mother distraught: Her father's Navy plane had been shot down in northern Vietnam, and he was presumed dead, though his body had not been found.

Her mother could never talk about that day, but she gave Crosby and her three brothers a binder with articles about her father's plane zooming low through the clouds on a bomb damage assessment mission before it was gunned down by North Vietnamese ground forces in 1965. The 31-year-old pilot was armed only with cameras, his daughter acid

Crosby and her grandmother made a pact to someday bring home the remains of Lt. Cmdr. Frederick P. Crosby and bury him in his hometown of San Diego.

A year ago, military investigators found his remains. On Friday, Deborah Crosby fulfilled that promise to her late grandmother by receiving her father's casket at the airport in San Diego.

the airport in San Diego.

Passengers watched

through the windows of a Delta Air Lines jet as the flag-draped casket was removed from the hold by six

Deborah Crosby walked forward, touched the casket and embraced her three brothers. The aviator's elderly sister, Sharon, and brother, David, also hugged, and he wiped an eye. "It's nice to be able to let out the tears and have some relief in our hearts," Deborah Crosby said.

The sailors saluted before the casket left in a hearse.

On Sunday, Frederick Crosby will be buried at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery with full military honors and a Navy flyover.





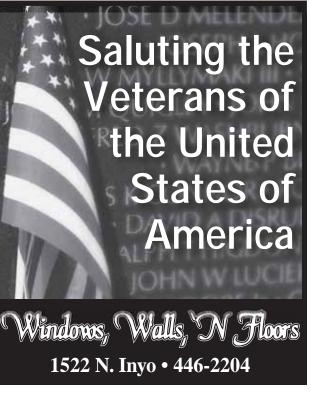


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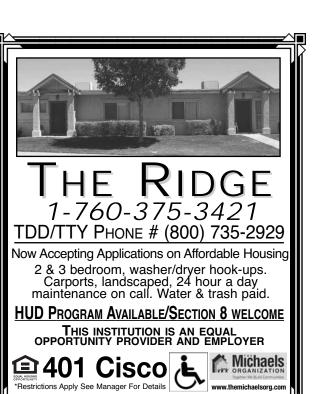
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## **60 MINUTES**

Continued from A1

both an enjoyable and educational opportunity, and certainly one I'll never forget. First, I wanted to know all the details about how my work would be displayed, and what the basic message was before I would even agree to usage. She stepped right up to the plate and gave it to me with both barrels, and straight between the eyes. Needless to say, trust was established right off the bat. That paved the way for a better program I believe. It's been a real pleasure working with

DI: What all did you initially include in your contribution to 60 Min-

DJ: Initially Joyce contacted me. Based on what they had seen online which was the same thing I contracted previously with CBS, they were ready to go with that source alone. But I sweetened the pot a little. is published with what we call "the bug" in the upper right hand corner of the screen. Whether it's this or that news service or a person's name, whatever. Credit. But I offered to send all of the raw material on DVDs for them to pick and choose whatever shots they needed that molded their story to fit the message. As it turned out, that was a huge hit with the producers. Clean video. The cleaner it is, the better the program looks. And I wanted it to look as good as possible along with me, so I provided them with HD video and got the credit too which is very rare.

DI: The anniversary of the Erskine Fire is roughly a month away. What are the impressions/takeaways of the incident, especially the damage done by the fire, and the local communities that helped support those impacted by the fire?

DJ: June 23 of any year after 2016 will be remembered. I believe I can say with confidence that everyone from the evacuees and the first responders all gained a new respect for fire that day. The property clearance date was changed fines for first offenses have gone up. All of that is fine as long as people get the message. But there will always be some form of contributing factor that spells out cipe for disast

In the case of South Lake, it was a combination of a Wind Advisory which was in effect, and an ember landing in the wrong place. With so many mobile homes and the way they were lined up including the wind, it was essentially the same thing as lighting one edge of a book of matches and watching it work it's way to the other side. Matches are quicker, but it was essentially the same concept. Fuel, heat and a spark.

So although better preparations could be made to aid firefighters in saving property as well as saving your own, help yourself and your neighbor if you spot a po-

tential problem. Unless everyone works together this will happen again. Maybe not in the Isabella area or anytime soon, but it's just a matter of time until all the right elements for a major fire come together in the wrong place. Although there will never be any right place. I'm sure the efforts made here in Ridgecrest and other surrounding communities in the area made a big difference in recovery. I know that because I talked with people who benefitted from that. But I also think the people working the recovery centers were affected in a painful way as well. You could see the pain in the victims' eyes. I think everyone developed a deeper understanding of fire principals after Erskine, and many found a better way of life after helping the victims of that fire.

The understanding I came away with was everyone who helped in any way was affected one way or another. Watching people come together in such a crisis was bittersweet. Watching people who were affected and watching people helping people who were affected was amazing in itself, and I witnessed and documented a lot of that as well. I didn't just shoot the fire, I also collected hours of aftermath and some of the recovery assistance, too.

Having said all of that, the short answer to your question is; nobody will ever forget June 23 in the Lake Isabella area. Practically everyone who lives there knows someone who lost their homes. I think we were all impressed that day of how fast fire can move, and what you can't do when you have limited resources. When everything is on fire, what do firefighters do? Especially when water is limited because power was lost in the valley, thus preventing wells from replenishing. But I guess the takeaway is never say it can't happen to you, because it can. Whether you're living in a stick built home or a mobile, given the proper conditions something like this could happen

All affected can see that now, but it's unfortunate it took two people's lives and several homes for that to happen. People will continue to come together in such a time, and especially around here. The communities around here are very strong and supportive. More times than not, I think that makes the differ-

#### tions?

DJ: When I shot the Chimney fire I was more afraid I would witness someone lose their home after I got them evacuating all their personal belongings, but thankfully that never happened. Erskine was a lot different. There was nothing anybody could do. Power was cut by the fire, so the wells weren't replenishing. Who couldn't see that scenario played out, right? But knowing that while I was shooting didn't help. I knew I was going to see a lot of [stuff] burn, and witness a lot of property loss. And it wasn't an easy thing to do then, anymore than it is to watch it again now. If I said I haven't shed a few tears over the Erskine Fire, I'd be a liar. Sometimes all it takes is the mere mention of the word "Erskine" to trigger an emotion or

I am giving 60 Minutes first crack at the incident, and I'll follow up with the documentary I'm working on after that. I guess I was in the right place at the wrong time, I don't know. Sometimes it feels that way.

Here are a few things Joyce said to me. "I appreciate the editorial value you bring to the process" after me offering raw clips, and, "I am happy to be able to tell you that our piece is airing this upcoming Sunday. "Our piece?" I guess it essentially was. I mean after all, it's not every day you get to watch a mobile home erupt into flames, and propane tanks blowing up and catch it on video. Normally I would flinch, like take my viewfinder off the action to actually witness it. But I didn't. Maybe that made all the difference in the world to them, that I stayed on target. But it was very difficult to do.

Joyce said she thought I'd like the finished result, although I'm not yet certain whether or not I'll be able to watch it. Don't get me wrong. I'm sure the story is good. So good in fact that I won't really realize what all I captured until it's displayed in a broadcast format. I just wanted to keep it clean and as professional as possible. I think that really played its part in the structured relationship we've attained. Although I am not thankful that I actually caught history in the making, I am satisfied with the thought that people might actually get something from the segment.

DI: Any other reflec-Remembering

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Six Feet Over hits the patio at Xin Bowl concert series



Six Feet Over performs at Xin Bowl in the courtyard Friday night. The band performed as part of Xin Bowl's Outdoor Summer Concert Series.

## BLM initiates Stage 3 fire conditions in the California Desert District

Calif. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has initiated Stage III Fire Restrictions for BLM-managed public lands within Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, and San Diego counties. The restrictions will remain in effect until further notice.

"Despite heavy winter rains, restrictions are needed due to current hot and dry weather conditions and an abundance of dry grass that could be easily ignited," said California Desert District Manager Beth Ransel. "These types of hot and dry weather conditions can lead to wildfires that would threaten public land visitors, adjacent private lands and communities, and natural resources."

Stage III Restrictions state that setting, building, maintaining, attending, or using open fire of any kind is prohibited in designated areas. Controlled flame devices, such as portable stoves fueled by petroleum or liquid petroleum gas products, are allowed only by permit. Smoking is only permitted within enclosed vehicles or camp trailers. The possesincluding "safe and sane", as well as the use of floating sky lanterns, fire balloons or acetylene balloons is prohibited. The 2017 Fire Restriction Order and a fire restriction map is available

www.blm.gov/programs/p ublic-safety-and-fire/fireand-aviation/regionalinfo/california/fire-restric-

In addition, the BLM has initiated restrictions for recreational target shooting within western Riverside and San Diego counties for public lands managed by the El Centro and Palm Springs-South Coast Field Offices beginning May 26, 2017, and continuing until the end of fire season is declared. This order closes approximately four-million acres of public lands to recreational target shooting. Violation of this order is punishable by a fine up to \$1,000 or imprisonment of up to 12 months, or both. A map of the recreational shooting closure can be viewed at the website above. The BLM greatly appreciates the public's cooperation in helping to minimize the number of humancaused wildfires. The public is reminded to exercise extreme caution when using fire and to follow these precautions:

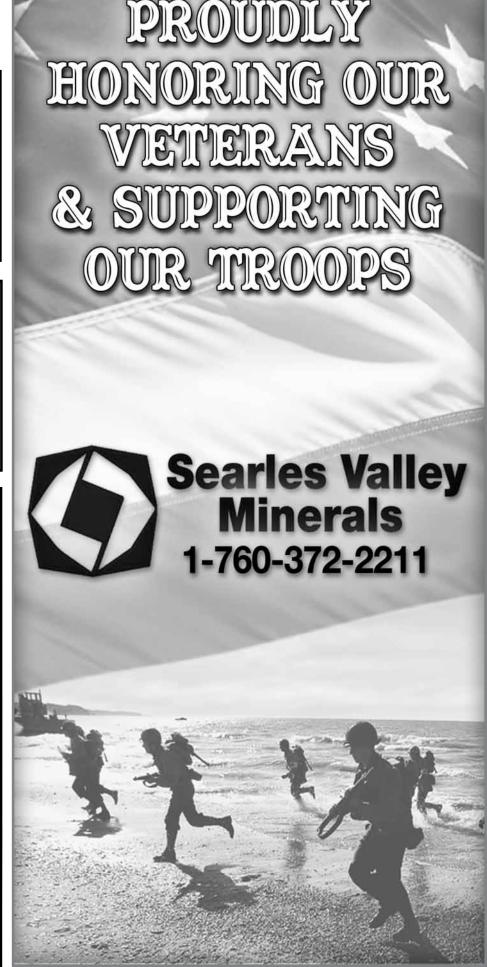
- Make sure you have a five-foot circle cleared around your campfire.

Be sure to have a shovel and plenty of water on hand and put the fire DEAD OUT before leaving. – Make sure cigarettes or

cigars are put out when finished and disposed of prop-Park motor vehicles

away from locations where exhaust could cause grass or other combustibles to ig-The public can find addi-

tional information about wildfire on Cal Fire's website at http://www.readyforwildfire.org/One-Less-Spark-Campaign/. For more information about wildfire prevention from the BLM, please contact: California Desert District Office (951) 697-5200, Barstow Field Office (760) 252-6000, El Centro Field Office (760) 337-4400, Needles Field Office (760) 326-7000, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office (760) 833-7100 or Ridgecrest Field Office



**QUESTIONS?** Contact Managing Editor Jack Barnwell at 375-4481 or at jbarnwell@ridgecrestca.com

#### **OBITUARY**

# Irwin 'Bud' Shull: Seabee, Sailor, family man

Irwin "Bud" Shull, 95, a World War II veteran, died in Ridgecrest May 4, 2014. Bud was born Sept. 20, 1921 in Lawrence, Kansas and later moved with his family to Tucson, Arizona when he was three years old.

During the Great Depression Bud's mother worked as a secretary for the Agricultural Adjustment Ådministration Organization that paid farmers not to grow crops. This created a need for surveyors to measure cropland not used. Bud's mother got young Bud a job surveying cropland earning \$4 a day to help support the family. This job along with his aptitude for science and mathematics convinced bud to become a civil engineer.

After graduating from Tucson Senior High School, Bud attended the University of Arizona where he majored in civil engineering. He was required to take Army ROTC. He was in the Horse Calvary as a cadet for the first two years of college until authorities discovered he was colorblind.

As a result he left the University of Arizona his junior year to enter the Navy V12 Officer Training Program at Notre Dame University, which had become naval reserve midshipman school. Graduating as a 90-day wonder, he was commissioned a line duty officer in the U.S. Navy on Jan 20, 1944.

Despite his engineering degree the Navy initially planned to make him a ship driver and wend him in on the invasion of Italy. But the very next day the Navy changed his designator

from the star of a line officer to the crossed oak leaves of the Civil Engineering

Bud appeared to be destined for a career with the Naval Construction Battalions, the "Seabees." He was sent to camp Perry, Virginia for training. While he was stationed there, he married Dorothy Jean Poor his grade school sweetheart and they were married for 63 years!

After training, Bud received orders to report to the Ninth District in Chicago, Ill. He was to travel to all of the naval stations in this largest naval district to inventory heavy construction equipment, which was in short supply, for shipment to the Seabees. This proved to be futile as most stations were short of equipment.

But Bud felt it was a personal success since Dot was allowed to go with him so the Navy paid for his honeymoon!

New orders soon came directing Bud to Camp Parks, California for more training in preparation for assignment to a construction battalion heading to the pacific theater. Once again circumstances changed his assignment.

As two ships were being loaded with ammunition at the Port Chicago Naval Ammunition Depot on July 17, 1944, a massive explosion at 10:18 pm precipitated one of the worst stateside disasters in U.S. history.

The 1,200-foot long wooden pier, the locomotive and boxcars, both ships with crews and 320 workers were lost. A total of 386 men died in the explosion, which was heard over 200

miles away; one completed ship was vaporized.

The Navy convened a board to investigate claims from property owners and businesses in the vicinity of the explosion. Bud and 11 other junior officers were each teamed up with a chief petty officer with years of construction experience to investigate the numerous claims. Oakland and San Francisco were only about 30 miles away and suffered relatively minor damage. Most people patriotically took care of any damages and didn't apply for government help. In a few exceptional cases individuals thought the Navy would pay for some obvious old defects. The investigation team did not allow any such claims. After completion of the assignment Bud received orders to report to Port Hueneme to be shipped out for the Okinawa invasion, which was to be the biggest invasion ever.

Halfway to the Hawaiian Islands, the ship transporting Bud blew its boiler and was diverted to Pearl Harbor for repairs. This delay caused all on board to miss the initial invasion of Okinawa but they did arrive in time for the mop up.

So, Bud became part of the 40 Seabee battalions on Okinawa, 40,000 men with all the necessary equipment and supplies for the final invasion of japan. This was the most Seabees gathered in one place at the same time. The Seabees, a major element in the invasion of Japan proper, would no doubt have suffered terrible casualties.

The atomic bombs dropped on Japan on Aug.

6 and 9th made the invasion no longer necessary.

Bud said those two bombs might have saved 2 million lives! Including his own. He had nightmares of his body washing up of the bloody shores.

Now World War II was over but not for Bud. He had to stay long enough to ditch hundreds of pieces of heavy equipment into the ocean, Bud finally came home was discharged from the Navy but later joined the naval reserves.

In 1951 Bud and his fam-

In 1951 Bud and his family moved to China Lake and began life as a civil servant for the Naval Ordinance Test Station. In 1954, along with Cmdr. Fran Cunniff, also a WWII CB officer, Bud was instrumental in starting the first Seabee reserve battalion at China Lake. Bud was the first commanding officer and served until 1961. The unit completed moving tons of earth to create what is now the China Lake Golf Course.

Bud retired from the active reserve in 1969. As a civil servant at China Lake, he served as branch head in the aviation ordinance test department, then became a division head in the public works department, where he worked for twelve years.

In 1971 Bud was sent on a three-year assignment to Washington, DC.

On a presidential survey committee group whose purpose was to eliminate the military's underutilized real property.

Bud completed this assignment so well he received another three-year assignment in Washington, this time in the office of the director of navy labora-

Irwin "Bud" Shull

tories where he worked on planning the future of RDT&E activities.

After retirement in 1978 Bud and dot retired. They were able to travel extensively abroad and in their airstream trailer.

They became involved with habitat for humanity, Buds' personal life ministry in 1993 caravanning from affiliate to affiliate helping low income families build their own homes.

In 1998 they returned to Ridgecrest and helped start Habitat forHumanity of the After his beloved wife Dot of 62 years passed away Bud married Dorothy Jean Shary. He spent 8 wonderful years with "D.I."

ful years with "DJ."

Bud went peacefully to his great reward on May 4, 2017 with family at his bed-

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity IWV and High Desert Haven Memory Care.

A celebration of his life will be held at the Immanuel Church on China Lake Blvd at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 5.

# A Memorial Day memory

BY JAMES F. BURNS MORE CONTENT NOW

A tear welled up in Hal's eye, a deep sadness etched across his face as he recalled the moment. Omaha Beach, the day after the D-Day invasion. Hal had been tasked by his company commander to go back down onto the beach and retrieve some equipment. A farm boy from Iowa now deep into his 60s, he shared this memory with me, his words below.

"It was a beautiful day the sun was out, the sky blue, the water calm. But there on the sandy beach stretching out before me on down the beach were the bodies, the carnage from the day before. It was so peaceful and quiet and...and..." Hal's voice trailed off into muted silence as he slowly shook his head, his emotions overwhelmed by that graphic, gripping image from forty years earlier, still as real to him as the day he had experienced it. All gave some, some gave all.

If Memorial Day is about remembering the past sacrifices of our men and women in the military, Hal's five minutes of emotional recall was the best and most real Memorial Day I've ever had. On that 6th day of June in 1944 when Hal stood alone on the beach at Normandy — alone in the company of fallen comrades — I was five years old, my mother preparing me for kinder-

garten that fall.

I would be free to go to school, salute the American flag in the corner of our classroom, and sing "My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty." But only because, "while all gave some, some did give all" making the ultimate sacrifice that allowed fathers to go to work, mothers to care for their children, and kids

like me to go to school.



The wars that purchased our freedom at the price of the blood and bravery of men and women we likely never knew were largely fought overseas. 130,000 American soldiers, sailors, marines, coast guardsmen, and airmen are still there, buried under foreign soil or waters where they repelled an enemy intent on taking away the freedom we enjoy today. That's "paying forward" like no other debt was or ever could be their sacrifice measured starkly in numbers. 116,500 died in WW I; 405,300 in WW II; and another 101,000 in Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

But behind the numbers are the faces. An article about the USS Arizona on the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor last December ran in several papers with a sketch of that massive ship sinking, a large grey cloud in the background. But only when you looked more closely at the sketch could you see that the cloud was composed of faces, perhaps a hundred or more, symbolizing the thousand-plus men who went to a watery grave that day and still lie en-

tombed there.
Personalizing such faces
makes Memorial Day deeper if you have the honor of
being linked to someone

who served. My link was remote — my parents bought our first house in Ohio from a man who lost two sons — his only children — on the USS Arizona. They were still teenagers, robbed of the rest of their lives that we might have ours free and clear.

And I also think about David Acheson and Jeffrey M. Wershow, both outstanding college leaders who left school to serve their country. David died at Gettysburg at age 23. He surely would have been a leader, likely a lawyer and judge like his father and grandfather, had he lived. And Jeff, who died in Iraq in 2003 at age 22, was nicknamed "the General" because of his confident and purposeful manner. He would have excelled in any field — had he only lived. These two fine young men and thousands more represent the true cost of war

what might have been. Make this Memorial Day as personal as you can — by visiting a grave and leaving flowers, a flag, or a prayer; by asking a veteran, perhaps a family member or neighbor, to share what they're willing to share about their service experiences. My friend Hal, who has since passed away, gave me a rare gift by sharing a vivid memory of historic sacrifice for our country. "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." Many did just that for the country they loved. May we never forget.

James F. Burns is a retired professor at the University of Florida.

The views expressed are those of the columnist and do not necessarily represent the official stance of the Daily Independent.



JOHN D. BENNETT/DAILY INDEPENDENT FILE PHOTO

Rotary Club of China Lake walk members walk a wreath honoring men and women who died in service to the U.S. during the May 30, 2016 Memorial Day ceremony at Desert Memorial Park. This year's ceremony will be May 29 at 10 a.m.

## Memorial Day ceremony set for May 29 at Desert Memorial Park

STAFF REPORT

The American Legion Post 684 will hold its annual Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 29 at 10 a.m. at the Desert Memorial Park on San Bernardino County Line Road. The guest speaker will be Cmdr. Matt Conliffe, executive officer of Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake. Master of Ceremonies will be the Ameri-Legion's Llewellyn, who has participated in the event for 28

According to Al Hill, with the Legion, the organization has been conducting the Memorial Day service since 1965. Prior

to that, the service was held at the post starting in 1947.

The service will include the opening ceremony and prayer, followed by the guest speaker and a wreath laying ceremony.

"This consists of all the organizations in the valley putting up wreaths for past veterans," Hill said.

A buffet reception will be held at the American Legion, 641 Inyokern Road, following ceremony. The event traditionally draws a few hundred people each year, and is coordinated through volunteer effort.

Memorial Day honors and remembers the men and women who died wile serving in the armed forces. It originated Decoration Day following the Civil War, in which the "the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war

dead with flowers."

Memorial Day came about after World War II (officially recognized by that name by Congress in 1967). Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday under the Uniform Monday Holiday Act in 1968, which took effect in 1971. The act established Memorial Day as being the last Monday of May, moving it from its traditional May 30 observation.



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# Day, stay true to our values

This Memorial Day weekend we should all pause to remember the brave men and women who have given their lives in defense of our nation. The summer air may have turned dryer and the temperature is warmer. It may seem like another summer weekend, but it is not. It is a time for reflection. As Americans, we must slow down and remember our fallen, those who have paid the ultimate price to protect the freedoms and liberties we hold dear.

As I reflect on this weekend, I turn to Ronald Reagan and his famous Memorial Day speech from 1982: "Our first obligation to them and ourselves is plain enough: The United States and the freedom for which it stands, the freedom for which they died, must endure and prosper. Their lives remind us that freedom is not bought cheaply. It has a cost; it imposes a burden. And just as they whom we commemorate were willing



## VINCE FONG

to sacrifice, so too must we -in a less final, less heroic way -- be willing to give of our-

Many things have changed since Memorial Day was established on May 30, 1868. It is impossible to ignore the schisms that impact our country today, but we are united by a foundational truth: we are all free Americans. In our own community, we in Ridgecrest and China Lake and throughout Kern County understand that patriotism, service and sacrifice are not mere words but a calling - we know that freedom is not free.

Our country values many

things, but as we reflect on our freedom we must not forget those courageous individuals who answered the call generation after generation and laid down their lives for us. Let this weekend remind us of the importance of staying true to our values, for staying true to those who are no longer with us, and to not take for granted the tremendous privilege we have as a result of the bravery and patriotism of those who fought for our country.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Managing Editor

Jack Barnwell at 375-4481 or at jbarnwell@ridgecrestca.com

For every day we are free, there has been sacrifice. All of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, make this Memorial Day a day to remember, and a day to reflect. Reflect on those we have loved and lost, for those who have fallen with the greatest honor and those we must pay tribute to on Memorial Day, and every day.

-Assemblymember Vince Fong serves the 34th Assembly District, including most of Kern County.

## Remember the brave this Memorial The nation pauses to remember the bravest Americans' that went before us

Each Memorial Day, the nation pauses to remember the bravest Americans that have gone before us. It is a day we proudly and solemnly look up to see American flags, the symbol of freedom that hundreds of thousands have paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect and defend, wave in commemoration and celebration. We hear taps playing from decorated cemeteries in memory of those who paid all on the battlefield. Masses gather in honor of loved ones and strangers who have fallen to secure the blessings of liberty for



**KEVIN MCCARTHY** 

their families, neighbors and fellow Americans.

The significance of Memorial Day grows with each passing year as more brave men and women put their lives on the line for each one of us and the future of America. Our debt of gratitude will never diminish. I, along with our nation and community, hold the utmost admiration for our courageous service mem-

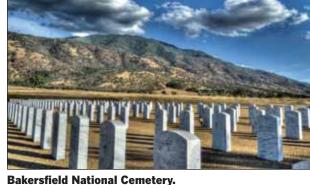
Lest we forget the contributions they have made for America, we hold them in our hearts and are thankful for their service on more than just this holiday, but every day. May God bless our fallen heroes, veterans, military and America.

Congressman Kevin McCarthy (R—Bakersfield) is House Majority Leader, serving the 23rd California Congressional District.

## Bakersfield National Cemetery ceremony today

Cemetery Support Committee invites the public to attend a ceremony to pay tribute to our nation's heroes who were killed in service to our country, on Saturday May 27. The ceremony begins at 9:00 a.m. and is expected to last approximately 45 minutes. Flag placement by family members on their loved one's gravesite will take place prior to the ceremony, at 8 a.m. Immediately following the 9 a.m. ceremony, all remaining gravesites will have an American Flag placed on them. The Bakersfield National Cemetery is located at 30338 Bear Mountain Blvd/SR223 (approximately one half mile south of SR58),. Arvin, CA 93203, and is approximately a 25 minute drive from the junction of SR-99 and SR-

Barry Zoeller of Tejon Ranch will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. Tejon Ranch donated 500 acres for the establishment of the Bakersfield National Cemetery. Bakersfield National Cemetery Support Committee president, Tom Pasek



will welcome guests at this patriotic event which will include presentation of the colors, National Anthem, a flyover by the Kern County Fire Department Vietnamera Huey helicopter, playing of Taps, and a rifle salute.

Kern County Fire will have a fire truck displaying the extra-large Garrison flag as well. Zack Scrivner, Chairman of the Kern County Board of Supervisors will be the keynote speaker.

Pasek said, "We are honored to have such a supportive community, one that shows patriotism and gratitude for the brave men and women who lost their lives defending America."

The Associated Veterans of Bakersfield and the Sons of the American Revolution will provide honor guards, and the Bakersfield Freedom Riders will provide their motorcycle salute and flag line. Music will be provided by the Arvin High School Band and Eric Dyer, as well as Linda Snoddy on bag-The goal of the Kern

County Veterans Service Department remains the same today as when it was first established in 1944: To assist veterans, their dependents, and survivors to obtain the benefits they have earned as a result of their honorable military service.

# Remembering our fallen

Memorial Day is a time we set aside to remember ad appreciate the values for which so many of our fellow citizens gave their full sacrifice for our country.

It's a time to cherish and to realize we are free, and that sacrifices will continue to be made to value our freedoms as a country.

- Supervisor Mick Gleason serves the Kern County First District, including Ridgecrest. He is former commanding officer of Naval Warfare Center Chi-



**MICK GLEASON** 

## Memorial Day an opportunity to reflect

Memorial Day is an opportunity to reflect upon those lives that were lost to protect our freedom, preserve our liberty and promote peace throughout the world.

It is a day to show gratitude for the huge debt we owe to these fallen heroes and their

Since the creation of our great nation, our Armed Forces have been the leading force in the pursuit of ensuring our God-given rights remain protected, promoted and a priority. My district represents mil-

itary families from all of the

**JEAN FULLER** 

branches of our military. I have seen the pride in which they send their loved ones off to serve our country, I have felt their sorrow at Memorial events around the state, and I have witnessed the outpouring of love that a grateful public has expressed for their service and sacrifice.

Collectively, we have an opportunity this Memorial Day to remember those members of our military that made the ultimate sacrifice. As part of this remembrance, please join me in praying for their surviving family members and let us show our appreciation for our current servicemen and servicewomen who stand upon the foundation built by our fallen heroes.

State Sen. Jean Fuller (R— Bakersfield) represents California's 16th District.



We join with all Americans in a Proud Salute to America's Heroes



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This Memorial Day we encourage you all to take time to honor and thank all who serve us to protect our freedoms

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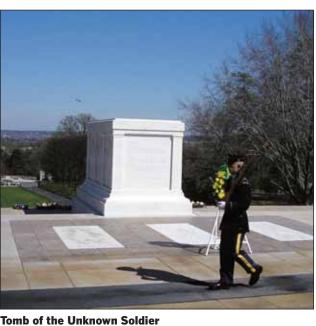
Let us remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great nation. I want to express my sincere gratitude to those brave patriots who defended our country throughout our nation's history.

We are a grateful community and are truly thankful to those heroes who fight to protect our freedoms.



Paid for by Kevin McCarthy for Congress

# A look at the national memorials



### Tomb of the Unknown Solider, Arlington **National Cemetery**

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery stands atop a hill overlooking Washington, D.C. On March 4, 1921, Congress approved the burial of an unidentified American soldier from World War I in the plaza of the new Memorial Amphithe-

The white marble sarcophagus has a flat-faced form and is relieved at the corners and along the sides by neoclassic pilasters, or columns, set into the surface. Sculpted into the east panel which faces Washington, D.C., are three Greek figures representing Peace, Victory, and

Valor. The six wreaths, three sculpted on each side, represent the six major campaigns of World War I. Inscribed on the back of the Tomb are the words:

"Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

The Tomb sarcophagus was placed above the grave of the Unknown Soldier of World War I. West of the World War I Unknown are the crypts of unknowns from World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Those three graves are marked with white marble slabs flush with the plaza.

–Arlington National

## **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

Located north of the Lincoln Memorial near the intersection of 22nd St. and Constitution Ave. NW, Vietnam Veterans Memorial is free to visit and is open 24 hours a day.

The memorial includes the names of over 58,000 servicemen and women who gave their lives in service in the Vietnam Conflict. The memorial also includes "The Three Servicemen" statue and the Vietnam Women's Memorial. When a visitor looks upon the wall, his or her reflection can be seen simultaneously with the engraved names, which is meant to symbolically bring the past and present together. One wall points toward the Washington Monument, the other in

the direction of the Lincoln Memorial, meeting at an angle of 125° 12′. Each wall has 72 panels, 70 listing names (numbered 1E through 70E and 70W through 1W) and two very small blank panels at the extremities. There is a pathway along the base of the Wall where visitors

The main part of the memorial, which was completed in 1982, is in Constitution Gardens adjacent to the National Mall, just northeast of the Lincoln Memorial. The memorial is maintained by the U.S. National Park Service, and receives around 3 million visitors each year. The Memorial Wall was designed by American architect Maya Lin.



Vietnam Veterans Memorial at sunrise.

### USS Arizona Memorial, Honolulu, Hawaii

The USS Arizona Memorial, at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii, marks the resting place of 1,102 of the 1,177 sailors and Marines killed on USS Arizona (BB-39) during the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and commemorates the events of that day. The attack on Pearl Harbor and the island of O'ahu led to the United States' direct involvement in World War II.

The memorial, built in 1962, is visited by more than

two million people annually. Accessible only by boat, it straddles the sunken hull of the battleship without touching it. Historical information about the attack, shuttle boats to and from the memorial, and general visitor services are available at the associated USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, which opened in 1980 and is operated by the National Park Service. The battleship's sunken remains were declared a National Historic Landmark on May 5, 1989.



**USS Arizona Memorial.** 

NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM The Korean War Veterans Memorial.

### Korean War Veterans Memorial Remember over 5 million

American veterans who fought and those who gave their lives for the cause of freedom at The Korean War Veterans Memo-

From 1950 to 1953, the United States joined with United Nations forces in Korea to and against deemed a threat to democratic nations worldwide. At war's end, a million and a half Amer-

ican veterans returned to a peacetime world of families, homes, and jobs - and to a country long reluctant to view the Korean War as something to memorialize. But to the men and women who served, the Korean War could never be a forgotten war.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial honors those Americans who answered the call, those who worked and fought under the trying of circumstances, and those who gave their lives for the cause of free-



NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

The Atlantic side of the World War II memorial.

### World War II Memorial

The World War II memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world. It will inspire future generations of Americans, deepening their appreciation of what the World War II generation accomplished in securing freedom and democracy. Above all, the memorial stands as an important symbol of American national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and awesome power that can flow when a free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and

### **World War I** Memorial

The memorial honors citizens of the District of Columba who fought in World War I. It was authorized by Congress in 1924, but funding to construct the memorial came exclusively from people and businesses in the District and no federal funds were used. Construction began in the spring of 1931, and it was dedicated on November 11, 1931 (Armistice Day).

The Neoclassical memorial was designed by architects Frederick H. Brooke, Horace W. Peaslee, and Nathan C. Wyeth. It's 47 feet tall, and features a circular peristyle of 12 Doric columns, each 22 feet high, supporting a drum. Atop the drum is a corbelled dome (a series of horizontal , each one of which is slightly cantilevered inward).

A four-foot high, 43-foot, 5inch wide marble base has



War World I Memorial

steps cut into it on the north and south. Inscribed on the base are the names of the 499 D.C. residents who lost their lives in the war, and medallions representing the

branches of the armed forces.

The concrete foundation of the structure is set deep into the earth, supported by pilings. Slate walkways lead to and from the structure on the north and south side, and surround it.

- Tim Evanson

















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5-A-SIDE LEGACY TOURNAMENT BEGINS TODAY

As Memorial Day Weekend approaches, the IWVSC will be hosting the 5-A-Side Legacy Tournament - formerly the Matt Armstrong Memorial Tournament - at Burroughs High School beginning Saturday.

Games begin at 8 a.m., with the final game of the day at 5 p.m. Sunday's championship rounds will begin at 8 a.m. as well and will go to around 3 p.m.

MAY 27-28, 2017

Golden State Warriors' Zaza Pachulia (27) and Cleveland Cavaliers' Tristan Thompson (13) fight for a loose ball in the

# **Cavs-Warriors Part III joins** past championship trilogies

second quarter on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 at Oracle Arena in Oakland, Calif.

**BY JOSH DUBOW** 

RIDGECREST CA.COM

AP Sports Writer

It never happened between Magic Johnson's Lakers and Larry Bird's Celtics. Same for Michael Jordan and Karl Malone or Jerry West and Bill

While there have been 14 rematches in NBA Finals history, this year's meeting between LeBron James' Cleveland Cavaliers and Stephen Curry's Golden State Warriors will be the first trilogy in league history.

After the Warriors beat the Cavs for their first title in 40 years in 2015, Cleveland got revenge last season with a comeback from 3-1 down to give the city its first major championship since 1964. Now they meet for the rubber match starting June 1 in

While this may be unprecedented in the NBA, it has happened once before in the NFL, NHL and Major League Baseball with matchups that included some of those sports' biggest stars.

There was Babe Ruth vs. Frankie Frisch in the 1920s and then a pair of memorable three-peat matchups in the 1950s featuring Otto Graham against Bobby Layne in the NFL and Gordie Howe against Maurice Richard in the NHL.

Here is a look at other major pro sports championship trilogies:

#### New York Yankees vs. New York **Giants 1921-23**

In his second season in New York, Babe Ruth led the Yankees to their first World Series berth in 1921 against the Giants. The entire series was played at the Polo Grounds, home to both teams that season. The Giants won the Series 5-3 in the final best-ofnine matchup as a banged-up Ruth got just one plate appearance during

the final three games, all won by the

John McGraw's Giants won the rematch the following year 4-0 with one tie before Ruth gave the Yankees their first title the following year to cap the first season at Yankee Štadium. Ruth had three homers in the Series, including one in the decisive sixth game. The big star for the Giants that year was future Yankees manager Casey Stengel, who hit an inside-the-park homer in the ninth inning to win Game 1 and drove in the only run in Game 3 with

#### Cleveland Browns vs. Detroit Lions (1952-54)

These teams that have spent much of the post-merger days near the bottom of the standings were the cream of the crop in the 1950s led by star

**SEE TRILOGY, B3** 

## From Harper to Puckett, Grand Junction a junior college baseball mecca

AP Sports Writer

A few years before Bryce Harper was hammering home runs at big league ballparks, the slugger had dreams of bashing baseballs in western Colorado.

Getting to Grand Junction means you've made it to the JUCO World Series. And for every junior college player, that has been the dream destination since 1959, with Suplizio Field

and its majestic mountain backdrop serving as host.

'When I look back, I can say one of my favorite times I ever had on the baseball field and one of the greatest years of my life was playing JUCO," Harper says of playing in 2010 for the College of Southern Nevada in the upcoming book, "JUCO's Journey."

"And the JUCO World Series," he added, "was icing on the cake."

Kirby Puckett played

there in 1982 with Triton College, years before he won two World Series with the Minnesota Twins on his way to the Hall of Fame. Long before his bloody sock became the stuff of Red Sox legend, Curt Schilling took the mound for Yavapai College in 1986.

The likes of Gary Gentry, Kurt Bevacqua, Jim Leyritz, Eric Gagne, Travis Hafner, Cliff Lee, John Lackey, Adam LaRoche and Brandon Belt are also on the list

of more than 120 future major leaguers who have played on junior college baseball's biggest stage.

Similar to its NCAA Division I counterpart in Omaha, Nebraska, the JUCO World Series is fully embraced by Grand Junction, a city of about 60,000 located nearly 250 miles westsouthwest of Denver. The weeklong celebration of baseball has been in the

SEE JUCO, B3

### **MLB CAPUSLES**

## A quick look at Friday's MLB action

ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### **DODGERS 4, CUBS 0**

LOS ANGELES (AP) -Alex Wood allowed two hits over five scoreless innings, Chase Utley and Adrian Gonzalez homered, and the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Chicago Cubs 4-0 on Friday night in the series opener. Wood extended his ca-

reer-high scoreless innings streak to 25 1/3, longest in the majors this season. The left-hander began the season in the bullpen, got a chance to sub for some of the Dodgers' injured starters and has remained in the rotation since. Wood (6-0) struck out

eight and walked two. The Dodgers have won

nine of their last 11 at home, and their 19-8 home record is second-best in the majors. Jake Arrieta (5-4) con-

tinued to struggle for the World Series champions, whose three-game winning streak ended. The righthander gave up four runs and five hits in six innings, struck out nine and walked

## NATIONALS 5, PADRES 1

WASHINGTON — Max Scherzer struck out 13 and gave up three hits over 8 2/3 innings, leading the Washington Nationals over the San Diego Padres 5-1 on Friday night. Bryce Harper, Trea Turn-

er and Michael A. Taylor homered for the Nationals.

Scherzer (5-3) got pulled by acting manager Chris Speier in the ninth, and Koda Glover got his fourth save. Speier is filling while manager Dusty Baker is away this weekend to attend his son Darren's high school graduation in Califor-Luis Perdomo (0-2) al-

lowed three runs over six innings.

#### **ROCKIES 10, CARDI-**NALS 0

DENVER - Rookie Antonio Senzatela threw eight sharp innings to grab a share of the major league lead in had a homer and RBI single as part of an eight-run eighth for Colorado.

Fresh off a 7-3 road swing, the Rockies kept right on rolling behind Senzatela, who joins Clayton Kershaw, Dallas Keuchel and Ervin Santana with seven victories.

Senzatela (7-1) scattered five hits and showed plenty of poise as the 22-year-old escaped trouble courtesy of four double plays.

Carlos Martinez (3-4) gave up three runs in 71/3innings.

**ASTROS 2, ORIOLES 0** 

HOUSTON — Jake Marisnick and Carlos Bel-tran each homered for Houston to back a solid start by Joe Musgrove.

DAILY INDEPENDENT **B1** 

Musgrove (4-4) allowed four hits in seven innings before the bullpen closed it out to send the Orioles to their season-high fifth straight loss. Ken Giles threw a perfect ninth for his 14th save.

Kevin Gausman (2-4) yielded eight hits and two runs in  $6 \frac{2}{3}$  innings.

## **BLUE JAYS 7, RANGERS**

TORONTO - Devon

Travis hit his second career grand slam and Toronto posted its fourth straight Smoak and Kendrys Morales also con-

nected for the Blue Jays, who activated star infielders Josh Donaldson and Troy Tulowitzki off the disabled Aaron Loup (2-0) pitched 1 1/3 innings. Roberto Os-

una struck out Mike Napoli for his eighth save. A.J. Griffin (4-2) was forced to leave in the second

after suffering a strained left intercostal muscle. Texas has lost four straight.

#### **METS 8, PIRATES 1** PITTSBURGH - Neil

his return to his hometown and Jacob deGrom gave New York's bullpen a needed rest. Walker, who grew up in

Walker homered twice in

Pittsburgh and played seven seasons for the Pirates, had three hits and drove in four runs. DeGrom (4-1) became the

first Mets starter to get an out in the eighth inning since last June, pitching 8 1/3 innings and striking out 10. He also got two hits. Chad Kuhl (1-5) took the

### **RAYS 5, TWINS 2**

MINNEAPOLIS — Chris Archer struck out 11 while pitching into the eighth inning and Tampa Bay hit three home runs. Archer (4-3) gave up two

runs and five hits in 7 2/3 innings and reached double digits in strikeouts for the fourth time in five May starts. Logan Morrison, Kevin Kiermaier and Steven Souza Jr. all went deep, and Alex Colome got four outs for his 13th save.

Hector Santiago (4-3) gave up three runs and four hits in 5 1/3 innings.

#### **DIAMONDBACKS 4,** BREWERS 2, 10 IN-**NINGS**

MILWAUKEE - Jake Lamb homered in the fourth inning and hit an RBI dou-

SEE MLB, B4











### **QUESTIONS?** Contact Sports Editor Christopher Livingston at 375-4481 x111 or at clivingston@ridgecrestca.com

# ASCAR THIS WEEE Kelly & Ken Willis have covered NASCAR for nearly 60 years combined. godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

The Daytona Beach News-Journal's Godwin

#### **SPEED FREAKS**

A couple questions we had to ask — ourselves

Will All-Star win start a roll for **Kyle Busch?** 

**GODSPEAK:** Busch finally broke the seal. He's going to win on a regular basis now.

KEN'S CALL: The guy wins all the time on Saturdays, and it doesn't always translate to Sunday checkers. So, no.

Have we moved past the "need" for a 600-mile race?

**GODSPEAK:** No sense breaking from tradition. The race teams don't seem to mind the extra 100 miles. Stay with it.

KEN'S CALL: Probably, but it's a unique event and worth keeping as is. Not much is untouchable these days, but I wouldn't mess with the Coke 600.

**How much of Sunday's 1,100 miles** of racing will you watch?

**GODSPEAK:** The entire Indy 500. Start to finish. After that, we go to the DVR for the 600. Projecting 700 miles total.

**KEN'S CALL:** I never miss the lead-up and start of Indy, but I'm in and out after that. All told, I'm guessing 750 miles.

#### **CUP STANDINGS**

1. Kyle Larson

2. Mai tiii ii uex Ji.	431
3. Brad Keselowski	408
4. Chase Elliott	361
5. Jamie McMurray	354
6. Kevin Harvick	347
7. Kyle Busch	325
8. Jimmie Johnson	323
9. Joey Logano	320
10. Clint Bowyer	317
11. Ryan Blaney	291
12. Denny Hamlin	289
13. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	276
14. Trevor Bayne	250
15. Kurt Busch	246
16. Kasey Kahne	242
17. Ryan Newman	238
18. Matt Kenseth	233
19. Daniel Suarez	217
19. Frik Jones	217

### WHAT'S ON TAP

**CUP SERIES:** Coca-Cola 600

**SITE:** Charlotte Motor Speedway (1.5-mile quad-oval) TV SCHEDULE: Thursday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 2 p.m.), qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 7 p.m.). Saturday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.). Sunday, race (pre-race coverage begins on Fox Sports 1,

XFINITY: Hisense 300 **SITE:** Charlotte Motor Speedway TV SCHEDULE: Thursday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 10 a.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 1

4:30; green flag, Fox, 6:15 p.m.)

## **ALL-STAR RACE**



Has the All-Star Race overstayed its welcome at Charlotte Motor Speedway? [NASCAR GETTY IMAGES/SARAH CRABILL]

## THREE THINGS WE LEARNED

#### 1. Not 1992

Charlotte Motor Speedway was hoping to capture the magic of the 1992 All-Star Race, which ended with a crash at the finish line. Instead, the race was won by Kyle Busch, who went to the lead at the start of the 10-lap shootout and separated himself from the field. Now there's talk of moving that race to other tracks.

### 2. Who's talking?

Kyle Larson and Jimmie Johnson both made mention of it. Johnson said, "There's some that argue, line us up at Bristol for an All-Star Race and we'll have the wildest night of racing." Larson added, "It would be cool to switch it up every year." It looks like change might be coming.

### 3. Gumball tires

One of the interesting twists in the All-Star Race was the sticky set of tires given to each team. The gumball tires had more grip. Johnson used his set in Stage 2 to gain track position for Stage 3. "So it just had a bit more grip and went faster for a short period of time," Johnson said.

- Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

## THREE THINGS TO WATCH

#### 1. Switching gears

NASCAR teams now have a week to switch mindsets from a no-points sprint race to Charlotte Motor Speedway's stock-car marathon, the Coca-Cola 600. Kyle Busch won his first All-Star Race on his 12th try, and his crew chief Adam Stevens has high hopes for Sunday. "Hopefully this is a little bi of momentum, a little bit of wind in our sails, something we can build on for next week," he said.

### 2. Gibbs wins, but

Joe Gibbs Racing has notched two victories this season, but neither were regular-season Cup Series races. Denny Hamlin captured the second Can-Am Duel at Daytona, which is a qualifying race for the



Kyle Busch creates a ring of tire smoke after winning Saturday night's All-Star Race at Charlotte. [NASCAR

Daytona 500, and Busch captured last weekend's All-Star event. JGR is 0 for 11 in regular competition. "This couldn't come at a better time for us," Gibbs said. "As we all know, we got off to a slow start."

## 3. Where's Junior?

Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished 18th in the All-Star Race, his final appearance in that race with retirement looming at

season's end. In a postrace Periscope session with fans, Earnhardt was not happy. "You got to smile to keep from crying because that was ridiculous and pretty embarrassing," he said. "It's unfortunate our last All-Star Race will be memorable for how bad we ran." Time to peek at Jimmie Johnson's car.

Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@ news-jrnl.com

#### **OUESTIONS** & ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers

#### **With Memorial Day** approaching, back to the soapbox?

Yes, it continues to boggle the mind why the NASCAR and Indy people don't see the advantages of moving this weekend's major events off the same day. Move either the Indy 500 or Coke 600 to Saturday and you create an easier route for racers to do the "double" and create headlines for an industry always searching for them. If it wasn't such a logistical nightmare and a tight needle to thread, some big names would certainly be tempted to try it. Too bad.

#### But we'll watch anyway?

Oh, yeah, especially those final 15 minutes or so before the start of the Indy 500. No one does pomp and circumstance any better. As a bonus, it seems Indianapolis might have found a permanent replacement for Jim Nabors. For the traditional singing of "Back Home Again in Indiana," they're bringing in Jim Cornelison, whose classic anthem singing before Chicago Blackhawks games have made him a tenor legend. Enjoy.

### **FEUD OF THE WEEK**





**Johnson** 

Larson

## JIMMIE JOHNSON VS. KYLE

**LARSON:** Larson did a slide-job pass on Johnson on the last lap to nab second-place honors in Saturday's All-Star Race. Johnson used a "hand gesture" to show his displeasure.

**GODWIN KELLY'S TAKE:** I look at it as tomorrow's top driver getting the best of today's top driver. "I slid Jimmie into three there on the last lap," Larson said. "He was a little upset with me after the race."

#### **GODWIN'S PICKS** FOR COKE 600

WINNER: Martin Truex Jr. **REST OF TOP 5:** Kyle Busch, Kyle Larson, Kevin Harvick, Jimmie Johnson

FIRST ONE OUT: Regan Smith DARK HORSE: Dale Earnhardt Jr. **DON'T BE SURPRISED IF:** Truex defends his 2016 Coke 600 victory, but maybe not such a dominant fashion (led 392 of 400 laps).



KEN WILLIS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS





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**QUESTIONS?** Contact Sports Editor Christopher Livingston at 375-4481 x111 or at clivingston@ridgecrestca.com

# All eyes on Alonso in a wide-open Indianapolis 500 field

AP Auto Racing Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — One of IndyCar's all-time greats will lead the field to green at the Indianapolis 500.

All eyes, though, will be one row behind Scott Dixon as Fernando Alonso makes his debut in "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing." Alonso has never raced on an oval before, never raced an Indy car and hasn't done a rolling start in 20 years and that was in a go-kart.

So, yeah, Alonso lingered long after all the other competitors in the final driver meeting before Sunday's race. The two-time Formula One champion peppered race director Brian Barnhart with questions for a solid 15 minutes before riding off through Gasoline Alley on his skateboard .

He's as ready as he can possibly be, and ranked fifth

- the fastest rookie — on the speed chart during the final day of practice. Alonso has enjoyed every minute at Indy, but he's not letting the hype around his quest to win racing's version of the Triple Crown — he's already won at Monaco in F1 and would like to someday run Le Mans — distract him from his mission.

"There is still no emotion. Until Monday, there are no emotions allowed to enter your mind," Alonso said. "The mind is so focused on the race. There is no space for the emotions That's the intensity it will

take to win the 101st running of the Indy 500. Still, it is Dixon who should be the favorite to win.

The New Zealander had the fastest qualifying effort in 21 years to win the pole, and he'd like to drink the victor's milk for the second

time in his career. Dixon won this race in 2008, he's a four-time series champion and ranks fourth on the alltime win list behind only A.J. Fovt, Mario and Michael Andretti.

'In my generation, he's the best," said Tony Kanaan, the 2013 winner of the Indy 500 and Dixon's teammate.

It doesn't hurt that Dixon this year is in a Honda, which has dominated the buildup to Sunday over rival Chevrolet. The Chevy camp — particularly Team Penske has been dramatically overshadowed so far but finally showed better speed Friday. Three-time Indy 500 winner Helio Castroneves, veteran of the Penske camp, was fastest on Carb Day.

"We keep working, digging, obviously finding a Castroneves said. "We're going to fight extremely hard out there and showing a little bit of speed certainly. We're going for the big one on Sunday."

Team Penske has four of the top five drivers in the IndyCar standings, has won the last three races of the season, and added two-time 500 winner Juan Pablo Montoya to its lineup for Sunday.

Still, a win by a Chevy driver might be considered an upset based on how strong Honda has been. Although reliability on the Honda engines has been spotty - James Hinchcliffe had a failure during Friday's practice — the speed is there and Honda won last year with Alexander Rossi, a rookie who coasted across the finish line on fumes.

Rossi is part of the massive effort from Andretti Autosport, which expanded to six cars when it took on Alonso last month. Most teams might have flinched at taking on such a heavy workload for the biggest race of the year, but the Andretti camp did not back

"It has to make sense from a business standpoint," said Marco Andretti, son of the team owner and a driver eager to win his first Indy 500. "At first I was like, 'Man, six cars?' Then I found out who it was, and I was like, 'Well, we have to do that.' It's a lot for the team. But it's all good things, man. It's good for the sport."

There has certainly been a buzz around the Brickyard for Alonso, and worldwide television ratings should get a significant boost Sunday. IndvCar drivers are smart enough to understand that Alonso is good for all of them right now.

With no clear favorite, questions about Honda's reliability, Penske's power and Alonso's lack of experience in this race, there could be a

homers and nine RBIs in

Roger Penske believes could be even more exciting than

last year's historic 100th running. Kanaan, a driver who had his heart broken repeatedly at Indy before his breakthrough victory four years

ago, can't predict what

might happen. The track is a she, first of all, and she picks the winner." Kanaan said. "I mean, look how many chances I had, not just me, but good drivers, led races. We can make a list of people who should have won this race, and then all of a sudden

something happens. "That's why every time I drive into the track, I say, "Hello, beauty" and kind of kiss the asphalt, don't do burnouts in the parking lot, and try to treat her nice. Every time I get to the track, I just give her a little french

Larry Jackson roaming the Trojans' outfield.

#### FRANKLY FANTASTIC

Howard College (Texas) won the 1991 championship behind Frank Rodriguez, a shortstop and right-handed pitcher who won the Dick Howser Trophy as college baseball's top player that vear. He hit .333 in Grand Junction and struck out 17 in the title-game win over Manatee (Florida).

**KING GEORGE** Pima College (Arizona) infielder George Arias holds the record with three grand slams in 1992, including two in a 17-5 win over Wallace State College (Alabama). He drove in 17 runs in that series, one off the alltime mark set by Greg Geren of Cleveland State in 1980.

## **JUCO**

Continued from B1

leadoff spot for a few generations of residents, fans, players and coaches alike. "The quest to get to

Grand Junction is the lifeblood of junior college baseball," former San Jacinto College-North (Texas) coach and current Rice skipper Wayne Graham said in "JUCO's Journey," written by Patti Arnold with Richard Rosenblatt. This year's 10-team field

begins play Saturday in the double-elimination tournament and includes five-time champion San Jacinto, last year's runner-up which holds the tournament record for titles and is in the JUCO World Series for the 22nd time; two-time win-

College Cowley (Kansas); first-time participants Dyersburg State (Tennessee), Florence-Darlington Tech (South Carolina) — which launched a GoFundMe page to help pay for travel expenses and Wallace-Dothan (Alabama), whose coach is former big league catcher Mackey Sasser; Chipola (Florida); McLennan (Texas); Wabash Valley (Illinois); Crowder (Missouri);

Harper's squad. "Congrats and good luck to the CSN Covotes baseball team on getting back to Grand Junction!" Harper wrote on Twitter earlier this week. "Get you a title boys???? #Yotes #JCWS."

and Southern Nevada, mak-

ing its first appearance since

Here are a few things to know about the JŪCO World Series, past and pres-

#### **JOURNEY TO JUNC-**TION

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the first world series, which was played in Miami, Oklahoma, with Cameron State College (Oklahoma) defeating Northeastern Oklahoma A&M 9-6. After rain kept attendance low, the NJCAA Division I tournament moved to Grand Junction on a trial run for one year with the caveat that Mesa College, the local team, automatically qualify to draw fans. Mesa College, now Division II Colorado Mesa University, never won, but the tournament was so wellreceived one year turned into three. Several renewals later, a 25-year contract was signed to keep the JUCO World Series there through

the 2035 season.

### **HOW TO GET THERE?**

Teams qualify for the JUCO World Series by advancing from regional tournaments and district championships. There are 10 districts geographically spread around the country. Teams from Texas have won it 20 times, while Arizona-based teams are second with 13. One team from New York has won the title: Nassau Community College in

#### **HARPER'S HEAVE**

The talented slugger was just 17 when he helped lead Southern Nevada to the series. The Washington Nationals outfielder was a catcher back then and he even caught his brother, Bryan, in a win. Harper, who hit .462 with two

the series, was ejected in the Covotes' fourth game for arguing a called third strike with an umpire. He was suspended two games and Southern Nevada was eliminated with a loss in its next game. Harper had to watch his team's season end on a computer from his hotel room. It wasn't all bad news for him, though; he was the No. 1 pick in the draft a few weeks later. **TRITON'S TITANS** 

## Puckett had an incredi-

ble performance in 1982, going 11 for 16 for a .688 batting average that is tied with three others for the JUCO World Series record . He wasn't the only notable player on that Triton

team, though, with future All-Star Lance Johnson and second-round draft pick his innocent looking shot

series because of a suspension for slashing Boston's Hal Laycoe in the head and punching linesman Cliff Thompson. Detroit didn't win another Stanley Cup

for 41 years. With Richard back, the Canadiens won the following year in five games with the Rocket getting the game-winning goal in the clincher. That was the first of a record five straight titles for the Canadiens.

## TRILOGY

quarterback Graham and innovative coach Paul Brown in Cleveland and Lions Hall of Fame passer Layne and running back Doak Walker. In the first championship

meeting in 1952, Layne and Walker ran for TDs to give the Lions a 17-7 win and their first championship since 1935.

Detroit became the league's third repeat winner in the championship game the following season when Layne threw a 33-yard TD pass to Jim Doran with just over 2 minutes remaining for a 17-16 victory.

The Browns came out on top the following year, ending a run of three straight title game losses (they also lost to the Rams in 1951).

The Lions won the regularseason finale the week before the title game and scored first on a field goal by Walker.

But it was all Browns after that with Graham throwing three TD passes and running for three more in a 56-10 win.

Montreal Canadiens vs. **Detroit Red Wings** (1954-56)

The first matchup of this

trilogy started with one of the most memorable in 1954. In a series full of megastars like Howe, Terry Sawchuk, Ted Lindsay and Red Kelly in Detroit and Richard, Jean Beliveau, Doug Harvey and Boom Boom Geoffrion in Montreal, it was an unsung player who became the hero.

In overtime in Game 7. Red Wings forward Tony Leswick got credit for the series-clinching goal when

from the point was deflected by Harvey past Gerry McNeil for a 2-1 win 4:29 into OT. There hasn't been a Game 7 overtime since in the Final. The Red Wings won the

rematch in an all home team seven-game series the following year. Howe set a record with 12 points in the round and Lindsay scored four goals in a Game 2 win. Richard missed the

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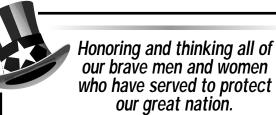
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Continued from B1

ble in Arizona's two-run 10th, and the Diamondbacks extended their winning streak to five games.

Chris Owings scored the first run in the 10th on a wild pitch by reliever Wily Peralta (5-3) before Lamb added the insurance run by doubling to the right-field

Chris Iannetta had tied it for Arizona with two outs in the ninth, hitting a solo homer off a 98 mph fastball from closer Corey Knebel. T.J. McFarland (2-0) got

the win after pitching a scoreless ninth. Fernando Rodney picked up his 13th save by tossing a scoreless 10th, but provided a couple nervous moments after allowing two flyouts to the warning track.

#### **MARLINS 8, ANGELS 5**

MIAMI - Giancarlo Stanton homered off the retaining wall behind the center field fence, a shot estimated at 460 feet, to lead Miami.

Stanton hit his 12th homer his first since May 8. Justin Bour and J.T. Realmuto also connected for the Marlins and Christian Yelich hit three doubles.

Dan Straily (3-3) got the win and A.J. Ramos picked up his fifth save.

Jesse Chavez (4-6) allowed five runs in 3 2/3 innings. The Angels became the final major league team to play at Marlins Park, which opened in 2012.

#### **ATHLETICS 4, YAN-**KEES 1

NEW YORK — Masahiro Tanaka struck out a career-high 13 to rebound from the worst stretch of his major league career but wound up a hard-luck loser when reliever Tyler Clippard's wild pickoff throw sparked a go-ahead, two-

Sean Manaea (3-3), starting because Kendall Graveman was scratched with a sore pitching shoulder, matched Tanaka and allowed four hits in seven innings.

Tanaka (5-4) left with the game scoreless after allowing Adam Rosales' one-out single in the eighth.

## **RED SOX 3, MARINERS**

BOSTON — Eduardo Rodriguez pitched six scoreless innings and Boston won its season-high fifth in a row.

Rodriguez (4-1) went six

innings and Craig Kimbrel

Yovani Gallardo (2-5) went 5 1/3 innings for Seattle, which has won just one of its last seven.

## **ROYALS 6, INDIANS 4**

CLEVELAND - Jorge Bonifacio's two-run double off Andrew Miller broke an eighth-inning tie and lifted Kansas City.

Brandon Moss hit a three-run homer in the fourth and Mike Moustakas' solo home run in the fifth tied the game.

Lorenzo Cain started the winning rally with a single off Bryan Shaw (1-1).

Mike Minor (2-1) pitched two scoreless innings. Kelvin Herrera got his 10th

#### **REDS 5, PHILLIES 2**

PHILADELPHIA — Tim Adleman tossed eight innings of one-hit ball and Adam Duvall and Scott Schebler homered for

Cincinnati. Andres Blanco's first-inning single was all Philadelphia got off Adleman (3-2). The Phillies are 5-21 since

an 11-9 start. Raisel Iglesias struck out Maikel Franco with two runners on for his ninth

Aaron Nola (2-2) went six innings.

**MAY 27** 

**MAY 28** 

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Dateline NBC Fam. Guy Crime W.

FeelSexy

Paid Prog.

Access Hollywood

Nip&Tuck Movie: Soul Men

run eighth inning for Oakearned his 13th save. **Quality Service You Can Trust!** 

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7:30

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Two Men

1st Look

8 PM

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News

11 PM

News

News

KTLA 5 News at 10

11:30

J. Osteen

News

12 AM

Fam. Guy Celebrity

Insider

12:30

(:45) CSI: Miami

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## SATURDAY

News

KNBC

KTLA

5:30

CBS News

6 PM

6 PM

CBS News CBS 2 News at 6PM

NBC News | NBC 4 News

Two Men

ARC New

6:30

**7 PM** 

Dateline NBC

Ninja Warrior

60 Minutes

News

NBC News NBC 4 News

6:30

Paid Prog.

**7 PM** 

Entertainme

House

## **EVENING/LATE NIGHT**

Movie: Fast & Furious 6 Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson

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(:29) Saturday Night Live

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## SUNDAY

News

**KTLA** 

#### **8 PM** NCIS: Los Angeles Elementary Madam Secretary American Ninia Warrior "All Stars

**EVENING/LATE NIGHT** 

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## **MONDAY**

## 5 PM | 5:30 | 6 PM | 6:30 | 7 PM | 7:30 | 8 PM | 8:30 | 9 PM | 9:30 | 10 PM | 10:30 | 11 PM | 11:30 | 12 AM | 12:30 | 1 AM | 1:30 | 2 AM |

**EVENING/LATE NIGHT** 

**MAY 29** 

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KNBC	2017 Stanley Cup Final Nashville Predators at TBA.							Extra	. ,	Dateline NB		News	Tonight Sho		Seth Meyers		Daly	(:07) Steve I				
KTLA	America's V		News at 6		Two Men				Whose?		KTLA 5 Nev		News				Last Man	Middle		Crime W.		
KABC	News				Jeopardy!		The Bachelo				(:01) Still St		News	Jimmy Kimm		3		Millionaire	ABC World N			
KCAL	The People's				Broke Girl		KCAL 9 New	VS .	KCAL 9 Nev				Mike	Mike	ET	,		Cleveland	PiYo Wor.			
KTTV	Five News				Mod Fam		Gotham		(:01) Lucifer		News				TMZ Live		News		Pastor Melis			
KCOP		3 -			Big Bang		Law & Order		Law & Orde				King		Harry		The Dr. Oz 9		Darkspots			
KCET	News		BBC News		Calif. Gold	Calif. Gold				Calif. Gold		Calif. Gold			Agatha Rais		Death in Par		The Coroner			
A&E	Leah Remin		Leah Remin		Leah Remin		Leah Remin			i: Scientology			Leah Remin		Leah Remin				and the Afte	rmath		
,	Better Call S			Call Saul "Wit		(:20) Better				(:28) Better		(:35) Better		(:40) Better				ie: Black Hav				
AP	River Monste		River Monst		River Monst		River Monst		River Monst		River Monst		Expedition N		River Monst		River Monst		River Monste			
BRAVO	Southern Ch		Southern Ch		Southern Ch		Southern Ch	narm	Southern Ch		Southern Ch	harm	Watch			Southern Ch	arm	(:32) Southe	rn Charm	Southern		
CSPAN	Public Affairs		Medical Tec		` '	and Public F	, ,			Public Policy	,				Public Affairs							
CSPAN2				Tyson" Astrop					Writer, Sailo		My Life With Bob		Democracy			The New Url			Sex and the			
DISN							Andi Mack					Andi Mack				Andi Mack		Best Fr.		Jessie		
DLC	Schizophren		Born Schizo		Boy- No Bra		Schizophren		Born Schizo		Boy- No Brain		Cue Vapor		Paid Prog.				0	Memory?		
	Street Outlaws Street Outlaws				ws: Full Throt			Street Outla					(:17) Street				(:34) Street		Auction			
ESPN							SportsCente				SportsCente					MLB Baseball: Nationals at Giants						
ESPN2	E:60 E:60			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			E:60					Baseball: Tigers at Royals			SportsCente							
FOXSW												World Poker MLB Baseball: Braves at						Paid Prog. Paid Prog.				
FREEFRM				Hallows: Par							e Black Pearl The 700 Club				Movie: Abduction Taylor Lautner,				Paid Prograr			
FX		vn Ups 2 Ada				vn Ups 2 Ada			Movie: Just Go With It Adam Sandler, Jennifer And						SkinCare							
нво							Movie: Sully Tom Hanks.							e Wizard of Lies Robert De Niro.					og Millionaire Dev Patel.			
HIST	American Pi		American Pi		American Pi		To Be Annou			omised Land			(:03) American Pickers To Be Annou									
	Toni Braxto			ney Yaya Da													arching for Neverland		Michael Jackson: Icon			
MAX	All-Presider		Movie: Platoon Tom Berenger, Willem Dafoe.								(9:50) Movie: Everest Jas				(11:55) Movie: The Sign				Cocktail Tor			
NICK						Henry Dang						Full House			Friends					Prince		
SHOW	(4:25) Movie			The America				The Return '				: The Return '				ge of Spies 7				Mr Brooks		
SPIKE				Furious: To						ker, Jordana												
STZENC	( - )	Obsessed Id	,		, ,					erty "Independ		(:31) Movie:		action, Glenn Close								
SYFY				lis, Billy Bob										Lake Placid			(:06) Movie: Piranha El					
TBN	Praise						Praise		J. Osteen		Your Best					t If? Konkona				S. Furtick		
	0	,	Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy		Fam. Guy			Fam. Guy	Amer. Dad		Conan		Angie	Conan			Broke Girl	Broke Girl		
TLC					My 600-Lb.				My 600-Lb.				My 600-Lb.				My 600-Lb.					
	(4:00) South			No Escape													haal, Forest Whitaker.  Law & Order		Brokeback Mountain			
TNT				d Cavaliers a			Inside the NBA		Sneak Peek					Beouf, Tyrese Gibson, Josh					Law & Order			
TOON	The LEGO I				Steven Univ					Amer. Dad	Burgers			Fam. Guy					Amer. Dad			
USA	,	,	,	,	,	,		ay Night RAV					, ,	Tykes: Steel		CSI: Crime S		CSI: Crime S		CSI: Crime		
UNI	Primer Impa				Rosa de Gu		La Reina de		Vida E Carri		La Piloto				Contacto De		Vida E Carri		La Piloto	D : I D		
WCN	Movie: Man on Fire Denzel Washington, Dakota F						MOVIE: Man	on Fire Dena	zei Washinati	on Dakota Fa	nnına		Parks	Parks	Raising	Raising	⊓aw & Ordei	r "Pro Se"	Supernat	Paid Prog		