

### Greetings from Jimmy The Kid ...

Sorry it took me until Sunday to get this to you, but this is a very, very busy holiday season for **TDMM** and **The Kid**, what with the enjoyable round of seasonal gatherings we are attending and our need to pack a bunch of bags for our journey next week (see **Whaddya mean sabbatical?** below). We took a walk in to the Plaza on Friday night for dinner with friends at the girl and the fig, and the town seemed to be very merry and bright, with restaurants and drinking establishments full and lots of friends on the sidewalks enjoying a brisk, dry, sparkling pre-holiday evening. What a treat! Tonight marks the return of another of our favorite annual treats ... it's the first night of **Chanukah** (or Hanukkah ... I never have decided what might be the "preferred" spelling, although the "Ch" does seem to signal the proper pronunciation in Hebrew). So, light that light, fry those latkes, spin that dreidl, gather that gelt, and read the following for an understanding of what this happy holiday is about (hint: it's not just about the oil): [Hanukkah, Unabridged - NYTimes.com](#) We'll be celebrating with the family on the 4th night, and we wish all of our friends out there who are members of the tribe a very happy holiday.

For those of you who may not have gotten my note about Thursday's show (a great one with **SuperLou** and **Chuckles**) with the links to download it, here they are again:

#### **The following links to each hour of yesterday's show:**

5-6 PM [https://dl.dropbox.com/u/42807729/TYWIS 2012-12-06 Lou and Chuckles 5-6 PM.mp3](https://dl.dropbox.com/u/42807729/TYWIS%202012-12-06%20Lou%20and%20Chuckles%205-6%20PM.mp3)

6-7 PM [https://dl.dropbox.com/u/42807729/TWIS 2012-12-06 Lou and Chuckles 6-7 PM.mp3](https://dl.dropbox.com/u/42807729/TWIS%202012-12-06%20Lou%20and%20Chuckles%206-7%20PM.mp3)

"Right click" (for you Windows folk) on the above or copy to your browser to either play or download to your computer. Enjoy!

**Please join us next week ...** for a show that will be my last for a while. We'll do our annual **Best and Worst of 2012** review with the whole **TWIS Team** on board. We'll also be naming our choice for Sonoma's **Person(s) of The Year**. If you want to nominate someone for this great honor, **hit reply to this email** and let us hear it.

**In two weeks ...** it's **Rickey's Holiday Extravaganza**, a holiday treat you will not want to miss.

Before I get down to the business of this week's letter ...

**Happy Birthdays** this past week to Eden Brown, Mother Ruth Lewis, Gary Saperstein, Ginny Krieger (saw her celebrating with Larry in La Haye Friday night), Joely The K (he's been celebrating with Joyous in Tahiti), Coleen Rothenberg (dinner tomorrow night with her and Brother Irv), Mike Gillaspie, and the irrepressible Barbara Gardner (Bobby's mom), who turned 96. Also **Happy Anniversary** to the Rouses, celebrating 25 years.

And text messaging turned 20 this past week.

See **Milestones** below for more.

**A Shoutout to ... Ken Brown**, aka MFL Brownie, who is once again, for the umpteenth time, mayor of our little city. We're only half kidding when we say that we think he's been on the council since kindergarten ... it only seems that long. We wish him a great year, and we are (as always) grateful to him for launching our careers at the mighty Sun FM.

**Whaddya mean sabbatical?** ... **Peter from Peoria** writes that my use of the word "sabbatical" in last week's letter struck a bit of fear in his heart, because, at our age, that word can mean something other than a voluntary withdrawal from one's normal patterns. I reassured **PfP** that nothing could be further from the truth. On the contrary, **TDMM** and I are thriving and, as part of our continuing exploration of life beyond Sonoma, have decided to take a break and take our "show" on the road for a while. We're going to spend much of the next few weeks in Naples, FL (the home of **Jim and Bettie Hall**, but that's only one reason we're going). Like many of our friends and family in the East, we're going to be "snowbirds" (only, for us living in Sonomaville, it's more like "graybirds" or "rainbirds") choosing to spend the heart of the Winter in a warmer clime. **But the show will go on** ... with **Rickey** in command on the radio for the next few weeks and yours truly pitching in with production and phone reports from the land of grits, gravy, grouper and Key Lime pie. Plus, I will continue with **The World According To Jimmy** for our thousands of readers out there, although you may not see it with quite the frequency you do when I'm in town. And then, after a suitable period of rest and relaxation and exploring new parts of our United States, I will return in 2013 with fresh new ideas and experiences to share on **TWIS** and in this weekly brain dump. So, that's what I mean by sabbatical, **Peter**.

**But before I go** ... we've got one last show this year with the full **TWIS Team** on board ... **Rickey, Da Queen of Kultcha, Simon J, Ace** and yours truly ... and we're hoping for a visit from **SenatorBubbaJoe**, too. We'll be picking our top stories of 2012, playing our favorite new music of the year, and naming our choice for **Sonoma Person(s) of The Year**. You do not want to miss this one.

**PS** ... many think that the **Mayans** prophesied that our world as we know it would end on **12/21/12** (maybe they did, maybe they didn't). So, if we don't go over the fiscal cliff and I don't return, that may be why.

**PPS** ... we are so grateful to the folk who will be living in and caring for our casa while we are away. It's great to have such wonderful friends and supporters. I'm not sure the house will miss us at all, what with all the attention it will be getting. And thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help. You are the best!

**Now on to The World According to Jimmy ... in Sonoma and beyond:**

**Here are the big stories of the past week as seen from my perch.**

**The fiscal cliff aka Cliffocalypsemageddonacaust (thank you Jon Stewart):**

**Boehner** and **Obama** (aka Thelma and Louise) talk at the WH today as members of Congress head home for the holidays. Some GOP reps are moving away from tax cut opposition. What's the deal here? What if we go over? See **Krugman** in **Reads**.

Kate is preggers ... has severe "morning" sickness that puts her in hospital for a few days. Goes home, feeling better, thank you. But this may be our last look at her for a while:

See **Train Wrecks** for the hospital hoax with a tragic ending.

**Morsi blinks ...** and you might too if you saw this:



Rescinds some of his dictatorial edicts but still calls for referendum on Islamist constitution. The opposition is not appeased.

**Jobless rate drops ...** to 7.7%, largely on drop in those looking. 146,000 new jobs created in November, but consumer confidence drops.

**Syrian rebels unite!** ... agree on a unified military command and are closing in on Damascus airport. U.S. is worried about AQ Iraq's participation.

**POTUS** and **Hillary** sound warnings on chemical weapons. See **Quotes**.

**Watmaugh Bridge ...** county supes say: we hear you squawking, now build a new one.

**Supreme Court ...** will hear same-sex marriage cases. Supporters are both excited and apprehensive.

**Here's more of what we've been talking about and looking at this week** (with thanks to Rickey, Ace,

Bubba and TDMM for their editorial contributions):

Palestinians sit in UN ... and Israel will build more settlements and freeze taxes collected.

Drake's Bay Oysters ... 40% of CA production, gone, gone, gone. Interior wants marine sanctuary.

Tamoxifen ... treatment for breast cancer - take for ten years, cuts risk in half.

Recreational marijuana now legal in Washington ... shortage of Fritos.

AA pilots agree on a contract ... now, to merge or stay independent?

Iran has a drone ... it's not one of ours, military says.

Words of the year ... Merriam-Webster chooses socialism and capitalism. [Merriam-Webster Online](#)

Why you may not want to go to Doyline, LA anytime soon:



Acres of old munitions and explosives waiting to be "disposed of."

**You Can't Make These Up! ...** the first repeated for those who did not see it in my note Friday:



Before



After

An 18th century chateau among the Bordeaux vineyards owned by a Russian millionaire was “accidentally” knocked down by Polish builders. The 140,000 sq ft Château de Bellevue was one of the most eye-catching sights in Yvrac, a small wine-making village, an area northeast of Bordeaux, nestling among its famous vineyards. The chateau received a renovation permit and was due to be restored to its former glory. But instead ... oops!

(See the small building behind the bare ground on which the chateau formerly stood?

**That** was the one that was supposed to be knocked down.)

And **Black Ivory Coffee** ... \$500 a pound made from seeds extracted from elephant poop. No kidding!





From this ...



to this!

### **Some names in the news ...**

Joanne Sanders ... seems like she went out with a bang at last week's Council meeting.

We'll miss having her to kick around.

Jim DeMint ... SC Senator resigning to head conservative think tank (is that something of an oxymoron?).

Stephen Colbert ... lobbies to be named to replace DeMint.

Charlie Crist ... former FL gov jumps to Democrats.

Anderson Cooper ... goes blind for 36 hours - sunburned eyeballs.

Enrique Pena Nieto ... new Mexican prez sworn in.

Chavez ... cancer is back (probably never totally went away).

Lincoln ... re-imaging a venerable auto brand.



The ladies admire their phone photo at the Kennedy Center honors.



A Labrador retriever-sized animal that lived 243 million years ago and sported a five foot-long tail may be the oldest dinosaur ever found.

### **Heroes ...**

Justin Kievit, 12, and Jared Stevens, 13 ... the latter has cerebral palsy but wants to wrestle. The former agrees to a match. After Jared is gently laid on the mat by a coach last week, Justin bends down to shake his hand. When the whistle blows, Justin slides underneath Jared, pulls his arm over him and is pinned to the mat. Very inspiring story of two young men with very big hearts.

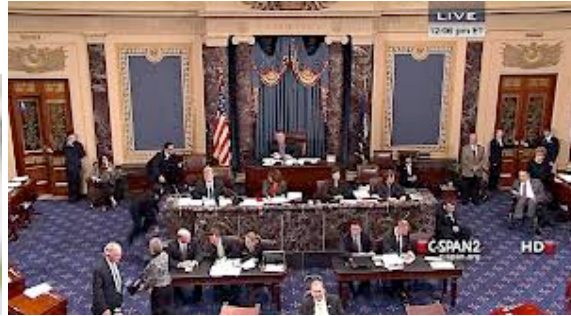
[Wrestler With Cerebral Palsy Wins Wrestling Match After Opponent Allows Jared Stevens to Pin Him | Video - ABC News](#)

Johnny "Football" Manziel ... first to win the Heisman as a freshman. A delightful young man and a helluva football player. And we have three more years to watch him play in the SEC.



**Lou** and **Rickey** nominate The Bell Ringers ... those standing in front of various local businesses for the next few weeks raising money for those in need.

## Train Wrecks



The GOP in the Senate ... despite the appearance of Bob Dole, a disabled veteran himself, in a wheelchair, 38 vote against UN treaty on outlawing discrimination based on disabilities. **Rick Santorum** (see **Quotes**) misreads the treaty and rallies his red-meat-eating paranoids.

The King Edward VII Hospital hoax ... nurse falls victim to hoax when Australian DJ impersonates Queen to get info on Kate. "When is a good time to come and visit her coz I'm the Queen and I need a lift down there ..." Says the nurse: " "She's quite stable. She hasn't had any retching and she's been sleeping on and off." Person who put the call through dead of a presumed suicide on Friday.

John McAfee ... arrested in Guatemala after someone grabbed the GPS coordinates attached to this cell phone photo:



PM of Belize describes him as "bonkers".

Karl Rove and Dick Morris ... FOX News says "grab some pine, meat". Reduces their involvement to a whisper.

Ann Romney ... friends say she believed up until the end that ascending to the White House was their destiny. They say she has been crying in private and trying to get back to riding her horses. What a tragedy!

## The Trash Heap

Mitch McConnell ... encourages Harry Reid to bring a vote on allowing president to raise the debt ceiling. When it appears Reid has the votes to pass, **Mitch the Mouth** filibusters his own bill. Here's the full story:

[Mitch McConnell Objects to Himself. So Do We. - NYTimes.com](#)

Marton Gyongyosi, an MP for the far-right Jobbik, Hungary's third-largest party ... called for authorities to compile a national list of Hungarian Jews, especially those in parliament and government, who represent what he described as a "national-security risk". Thousands protest. Scary.

### **Stats**

183% ... of normal rainfall to date in Sonoma v. 54% last year at this time.

\$60.4B ... POTUS asking Congress for storm relief.

1.15 million ... new households created 12 mos. thru Sept. 30, back to pre-crash levels.

Record high ... carbon dioxide emissions in 2011; even higher expected in 2012.

\$296,680 ... given by Speedway Charities to 38 organizations in Sonoma Valley in 2012.

30,000 points .... Kobe becomes youngest to achieve. Wilt, Kareem, Malone and MJ only others.

1,500 ... more Starbucks in U.S. in next five years.

11,000 ... Citi to lay off.

75% ... amount of lion habitat lost in last five decades. Population down to 32,000 from 100,000.

68+ ... average age of Rolling Stones, greater than that of Supreme Court.

\$750 million ... price of a trip to the moon. Ralph Kramden offered it to Alice for less.



### **Quotes**

"Today I want to make it absolutely clear to Assad and those under his command: The world is watching. The use of chemical weapons is and would be totally unacceptable. And if you make the tragic mistake of using these weapons, there will be consequences and you will be held accountable." Obama. Now, there's a red line!

"When the president of the United States cocks the pistol, he must be ready to fire it." former Defense Secretary Gates re: Obama's warning to Syria.

"That is a bad strategy for America, it's a bad strategy for your businesses and it's not a game that I will play." Obama to business leaders on GOP picking another fight over the debt ceiling.



"The numbers actually aren't that far apart. Another way of putting this is: We can probably solve this in about a week. It's not that tough. But we need that conceptual breakthrough." Obama on the fiscal cliff and the GOP's need for a breakthrough on raising taxes on the 2%.

"(There's) no path to an agreement (without) Republicans acknowledging that rates have to go up for the wealthiest Americans." Geithner

"The American people re-elected him - and they re-elected us. That's not a mandate to raise tax rates. It's a mandate to work together." Boehner

"I don't believe in holding the American people hostage to this debate. Some people think this is leverage. I think that's wrong. You don't consider people's lives as leverage." GOP rep. Tom Cole

"The speaker has the full support of the conference to move forward and to get something done for the American people." Louisiana Republican Charles Boustany

"(These guys) went to Washington not to limit government but to stop it." Alan Simpson on the Tea Party.

" Now what he did was he gave some people here an excuse to hide behind ... when they know that there are people who hate the United Nations, who don't want any United Nations treaty, and so they gave them a reason to be able to say, 'this is why I'm voting against it. He either simply hasn't read the treaty or doesn't understand it or he was just not factual in what he said because the United Nations has absolutely zero, zero, I mean zero ability to order or to tell or to even - I mean they can suggest - but they have no legal capacity to tell the United States to do anything under this treaty. Nothing." John Kerry on **Santorum's** misreading of the UN treaty banning discrimination based on disabilities. "If you want to know how broken, how partisan our Congress and our government has become, all you need to look at is this one day in Washington ... Senator John Kerry called this one of the saddest days he's seen in close to three decades in the U.S. Senate." Brian Williams on NBC Nightly News.

"Folks I know you're not happy with where this is going, but you cannot say you have not been heard. You can say we don't agree with you. You can say we're putting public safety over historic preservation. But the day I say public safety does not come first for me is a very sad day and one where I can't sleep in bed that night." Valerie Brown on the replacement of the Watmaugh Bridge.

"It's time for us to have an adult conversation with folks in rural America. Why is it that we don't have a farm bill? It isn't just the differences of policy. It's the fact that rural America with a shrinking population is becoming less and less relevant to the politics of this country, and we had better recognize that and we better begin to reverse it." Secty. of Agriculture Tom Vilsack

**And, from one of the most chilling speeches of the week:**

"Palestine is ours from the river to the sea and from the south to the north. There will be no concession on any inch of the land. We will never recognize the legitimacy of the Israeli occupation, and therefore there is no legitimacy for Israel, no matter how long it will take. We will free Jerusalem inch by inch, stone by stone. Israel has no right to be in Jerusalem." Khaled Mishal, political leader of Hamas. So, how long will this cease fire in Gaza last? And how do you negotiate with this?

**A few reads this week ...**

Brinkley [Egypt's Morsi sides with terrorists - SFGate](#)

Krugman [Grand Old Planet - NYTimes.com](#) and [The Forgotten Millions - NYTimes.com](#)

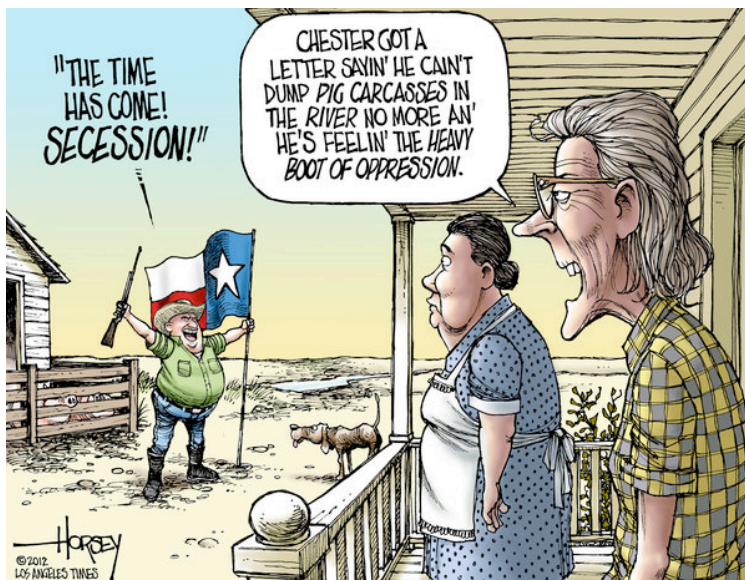
Dowd [Make Up Turned Break Up - NYTimes.com](#) and [Mighty Morphin Hillary - NYTimes.co](#)

Brooks [The Party of Work - NYTimes.com](#)

Dionne Jr. [E.J. Dionne: Why sane bargaining looks strange - The Washington Post](#)

Rubin [Trudy Rubin: Why Susan Rice is wrong - San Jose Mercury News](#)

**Some favorite cartoons ...**





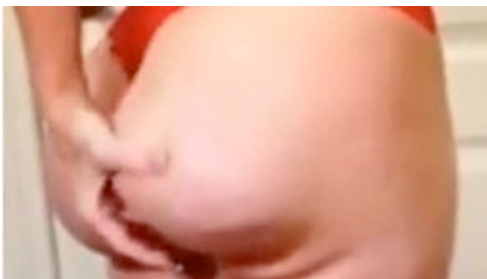




**Pictures of the Week ...**



**Who is this?**



**Be careful what you ask for. A butt implant gone terribly wrong.**





NASA unveils stunning new satellite pics of of the world at night.

### **Kultcha**

**DQ reports** ... The Sippys are back! Well, at least for one performance this weekend in Fort Lauderdale. Is this their "Hell Freezes Over"? Will we see more? Watch this space.

And listen to this week's show for **DQ's** comments on:

**Grammy Nominations** ... **TWIS** picks our best of the year on next week's show.

[GRAMMY.com](http://www.grammy.com) | The Official Site of Music's Biggest Night

[Grammy® Awards: Watch Episodes and Video - CBS.com](http://www.cbs.com/grammy)

**Big Week in Zep history** ... released their first Top 40 hit in U.S. this week (*Whole Lotta Love*) in 1969, announced 11 years later (to the week) that they were disbanding after the death of drummer John Bonham, and ... this week:

**Led Zeppelin, Dustin Hoffman, David Letterman, Buddy Guy and Natalia Makarova** are this year's Kennedy Center Honors recipients.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/kennedy-center-honors-2012/2012/09/12/e8f65a3a-fce7-11e1-b153-218509a954e1\\_gallery.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/kennedy-center-honors-2012/2012/09/12/e8f65a3a-fce7-11e1-b153-218509a954e1_gallery.html)

**We watch so you don't have to (unless we think you should) ...**

**News from The Kid's Top Ten TV ...**

*Homeland* ... last two episodes tonight and next week. Renewed for 3rd season of 12.

*Treme* ... finale tonight. Still OD. One final season of five episodes coming.

*Hunted* ... finished first season Friday night. Still OD. May not come back.

*Glee* ... terrific "homecoming" episode last week. Worth watching for opening number, Kate Hudson's performance, and numbers by Rachel and Kurt. Holiday show this Thursday.

**Oscar Buzz** ... *Argo*, *Flight*, *Life of Pi*, *Lincoln*, *Les Misérables*, *Zero Dark Thirty* (*Hitchcock*, *Moonrise*, *Silver Linings*, *Beasts*)

Directors ... Affleck, Hooper, Russell, Lee, Spielberg

**Coming for the holidays:**

*The Hobbit*

opening

Friday

*The Guilt Trip* (Rogen and Streisand), *Zero Dark Thirty*

19th

*Jack Reacher* (Cruise), *Monsters Inc.*, *This Is Forty*, *On The Road*

21st

*Les Miserables*, *Django Unchained*, *Parental Guidance*

25th

**LA Critics** ... *Amour* is best of the year. Most awards to *The Master*.

**JTK is reading**... *Telegraph Avenue* by Michael Chabon. Not impressed yet, 100 pages in.



**Shania's back** ... and Caesars has her. Still the one.

**Sport**

**Heisman** ... Johnny's got it. See **Heroes**. Te'o of ND is runner up.

**49ers** ... What is it with the Rams? Too many mistakes and a tough St. Louis defense do in the '9ers last week.



**Kaep** is still the man despite this...

Who called this play down there at that point in the game?

**Today** ... Kaep runs, throws for big yardage as '9ers beat Dolphins and the spread.

Coming up: @Pats (preview of Super Bowl, says **SJ**), @Seahawks, Cardinals.

Gotta keep winning to get home field!

And what about the **Raiders**, you say? ... 49ers 9-3-1, Raiders 3-10. 'Nuff said.

**If the NFL playoffs started today (not including results of this weekend's games) ... in seed order:**

Falcons, 49ers, Packers, Giants, Bears, Seahawks

Texans, Broncos, Pats, Ravens, Colts, Steelers

**Let's Go Bowling ... and here are some key games:**

Championship

Alabama - 9.5 v. Notre Dame

Fiesta

Kansas State v. Oregon - 8.5

**Rose**

**Stanford -7 v. Wisconsin**

Outback

Michigan v. So Carolina -4

Chick-fil-A

Clemson v. LSU -4

Capital One

Nebraska v. Georgia -10

Gator

Northwestern v. Mississippi St. -2

Holiday

UCLA -1 v. Baylor

See the full schedule at [College Football Bowls - CBSSports.com](http://CollegeFootballBowls-CBSSports.com)

**Stanford** ... three BCS bowls in a row and in the top ten academically. A football super power that actually graduates its players!

**Rose Bowl** ... Alvarez will coach Badgers on departure of prior coach for Arkansas.

**Cal** ... Sonny Dykes from La. Tech is new coach - a redneck in Berkeley. This should be interesting. Lots of offense, little defense there.

**Conference musical chairs**... Maryland and Rutgers to Big Howevermany (aka Big Ten to some); Louisville, Syracuse and Pitt to ACC; Houston, SMU, Tulane, UCF, Navy, SD State, Boise State and Memphis to Big East (East?); La Tech to USA; SJ State to Mountain West. Who's next? SEC and Pac-12? Big 12? It's all about the money!

**Giants** sign the big three ... Affeldt, Pagan, Scutaro. The line-up remains intact for 2013!

**NCAA Men's Hoops leaderboard** ... Indiana, Duke, Michigan, Syracuse, Louisville, Florida

[NCAA College Basketball Polls](#), [College Basketball Rankings](#), [NCAA Basketball Polls - ESPN](#)

**Stanford women** .... continuing to win, still #1.

**Warriors** ... win three in a row on the road, now 13-7. Who are these guys?

### Videos of The Week ...

And it's Bambi down the back stretch ... deer run onto PA track, and the announcer calls the race:

[Raw: Deer Take Over Pa. Racetrack - YouTube](#)

*Thrill-Bent* ... a book reading to die for. **Dynamite Danny** shoots a promo with the author of a new novel on the Giant Dipper at Santa Cruz.

[Thrill-Bent, a novel by Jan Richman -- Book Trailer - YouTube](#)

### Milestone Songs of the Week ... from John Lennon, RIP 12-8-80

John Lennon - Happy Xmas (War Is Over) - YouTube

[John Lennon - Imagine \(official video\) - YouTube](#)

### Milestones

**Happy Anniversary** to the Rouses, 25 years

### Birthdays

96     Barbara Gardner  
89     Ruth Lewis  
70     Joely The K  
11     Eden Brown  
       Gary Saperstein  
       Ginny Kreiger  
       Coleen Rothenberg  
       Mike Gillaspie

97     Eli Wallach  
96     Kirk Douglas  
84     Dick Van Patten  
82     Maximillian Schell  
82     Buck Henry  
80     Ellen Burstyn  
80     Little Richard  
79     Wink Martindale  
78     Joan Didion  
74     Deacon Jones  
71     Beau Bridges  
70     Dick Butkus  
65     Johnny Bench



65	Gregg Allman
65	Tom Daschle
63	Tom Waits
63	Tom Kite
63	Jeff Bridges
60	Sen. Susan Collins of Maine
59	Kim Basinger
56	Larry Bird
55	Andrew Cuomo
55	Donny Osmond
55	Art Monk
48	Teri Hatcher
48	Marisa Tomei
46	Sinead O'Connor
45	Judd Apatow
43	Jakob Dylan
43	Jay-Z
39	Tyra Banks

### **Passings**



Besse Cooper, 116      Oldest living person.



Dave Brubeck, 91

Jack Brooks, 89

Feisty Texas Congressman



Mickey Baker, 87

Oh Mickey? Yes, Sylvia.

Rick Majerus, 64

Jacintha Saldanha, 46 Nurse who took crank call from Australian DJs (see **Train Wrecks**)



Jovan Belcher, 25                      KC Chiefs linebacker, a suicide.  
Kassandra Perkins, 22   His girlfriend and mother of his child.

1980   John Lennon, 40

1988   Roy Orbison, 52



Wolf 832F (on left), the alpha female of a Yellowstone pack, killed when she wandered out of the park.

The one on the right was killed earlier. Heartbreaking.

## Retired



USS *Enterprise*, the world's first nuclear-powered carrier, after 51 years of service.

### It happened this week in ...

- 1776 First scholastic fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa, forms at William and Mary.
- 1776 Washington's army crosses the Delaware from NJ to PA in retreat.
- 1783 Gen. George Washington says farewell to his offices in NYC.
- 1787 Delaware is first state to ratify the Constitution.
- 1790 Congress moves from NYC to Philadelphia.
- 1793 NYC's first daily newspaper, the American Minerva, is established by Noah Webster.
- 1835 The Republic of Texas captures San Antonio.
- 1848 President Polk starts gold rush by confirming gold discovery in California.
- 1907 Christmas seals go on sale for first time; proceeds to fight tuberculosis.
- 1923 First radio presidential address delivered by Coolidge to Congress.
- 1933 Prohibition ends as Utah ratifies 21st amendment repealing the 18th.
- 1941 China declares war on Japan, Germany and Italy.
  - Pearl Harbor .... Japanese warplanes attack. More than 2,300 killed.
  - U.S. enters WW II declaring war on Japan.
- 1945 Senate approves participation in the U.N.
- 1947 *A Streetcar Named Desire* opens on Broadway.
- 1947 Everglades National Park is dedicated.
- 1955 AFL and CIO merge.
- 1957 America's first attempt to launch a satellite blows up on the pad.
- 1958 John Birch Society is formed in Indianapolis.
- 1961 Adolph Eichmann found guilty on 15 counts.
- 1963 Videotaped instant replay used for first time ... in Army-Navy game.
- 1964 Police arrest 800 students at Cal Berkeley after sit-in.
- 1964 *Rubber Soul* released.
- 1967 Surgeon Dr. Christiann Barnard leads first human heart transplant.
- 1967 The Chicago Limited makes its final run.
- 1969 Rolling Stones' concert at Altamont results in deaths of four.
- 1972 Apollo 17, the last moon mission, blasts off from Canaveral.
- 1973 Ford sworn in as VP after Agnew resigns.
- 1978 Dianne Feinstein becomes mayor after assassination of Moscone.
- 1979 Eradication of smallpox is certified, the first and, to date, only human disease driven to extinction.
- 1980 John Lennon is shot to death outside his apartment building.
- 1980 Led Zeppelin announces its disbanding.
- 1984 Bhopal disaster ... 4,000+ die from Union Carbide gas release.
- 1987 Reagan and Gorbachev sign a treaty calling for destruction of intermediate-range nuclear missiles.
- 1991 AP correspondent Terry Anderson is released after seven years captivity in Lebanon.
- 1991 Russia, Belarus and Ukraine declare the Soviet government dead.
- 1993 Charles and Diana announce their separation.
- 1993 Clinton signs NAFTA.



- 1994 Newt Gingrich chosen as speaker of the House.
- 1995 Grateful Dead announce breakup after death of Garcia.
- 2000 Supreme Court orders temporary halt to Florida presidential vote count.
- 2002 Iraq denies to UN that it has weapons of mass destruction.
- 2002 Trent Lott praises Strom Thurmond; uproar leads to his resignation from Senate leadership.
- 2002 UA files for bankruptcy, the biggest in aviation history.
- 2004 Karzai sworn in as first popularly-elected president of Afghanistan.
- 2006 Bipartisan Iraq Study Group concludes that Bush's war policies failed in almost every regard and called the situation "grave and deteriorating."
- 2007 Bonds pleads not guilty to perjury charges.
- 2008 Blago is arrested.
- 2008 O.J. sentenced to 33 years in prison for armed robbery.
- 2009 Comcast and GE announce joint venture in NBC Universal.

**Go See and/or Do this week ... and beyond:**



At the Sebastiani.

[A Royal Affair \(2012\) - Official Trailer - YouTube](#)

*A Christmas Carol* ... A.C.T.'s annual holiday production thru December 24.

<http://www.act-sf.org/1112/christmascarol/index.html>

**Cave Dinnner** for SIFF ... at Benziger Thursday. [Sonoma International Film Festival](#)

**Nutcracker at SF Ballet** ... thru 12/28.

<http://www.sfballet.org/tickets/production/overview/nutcracker>

**Glitz and Gatsby** ... Mentoring's annual New Year's Bash at The Lodge.

<http://www.sonomamentoring.org/newyearseve.html>

**Coastal Echoes and The Art of Handmade Paper** (curated by our own Simon J) ... at SVMA thru December 30.

**The Paley Collection** ... A Taste for Modernism at the de Young..

**Jasper Johns** ... at SFMOMA thru February 3.

**Ezra Jack Keats** at Contemporary Jewish Museum, SF thru Feb. 24

<http://www.thecjm.org/on-view/currently>

**Valley of the Moon Chamber Ensemble** ... aka "The Singing Docs and Friends", annual holiday concert December 16 at Andrews.

***Book of Mormon*** at the Curran thru December 30. Sold out but pre-show lottery daily.  
Check: <https://www.shnsf.com/online/bookofmormon>

**Chris Isaak** ... Uptown, Dec. 16.

**Aaron Neville** ... Palace of Fine Arts, SF, December 16.

***The Lion King*** ... at the Orpheum thru January 13.

***Anything Goes*** ... at the Golden Gate Jan 8 - Feb 3.

***Wicked...*** returns January 23.

Check here for these three: <https://www.shnsf.com/online/>

### **The TWIS Glossary ...**

**TWIS (ab)** ... This Week in Sonoma ... and beyond

**JTK** ... Jimmy The Kid

**RTW and TWM** ... Rickey The Wynnemaster aka The Wynnemaster

**TDMM** ... The Divine Ms. M aka Marcia aka Mrs. JTK

**FOR** ... Friends of Rickey

**TWHOF** ... Train Wreck Hall of Fame

**THHOF** ... Trash Heap Hall of Fame

**DQ and DQOK** ... Da Queen of Kultcha

**HTSQ** ... Heroes, Train Wrecks, Stats, Quotes

**SOW , MSOW, CSOW** ... Song of the Week, Milestone SOW, Country SOW

**SGSG** ... Special Guest Sports Guru

**SGCH** ... Special Guest Co-Host

**SGQOK** ... Special Guest Queen of Kultcha

**SoCo** ... Sonoma County