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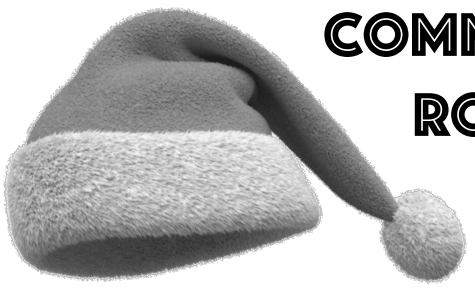
Round Valley Reader

This activity is funded in part by the California Arts Council, a state agency, through the Upstate California Creative Corps program.

FREE FOREVER | Vol 1, Issue 19. *Past* Present* Future** *December 22, 2023*

Present Present Present written by Michelle Peñaloza **Present Present Present**



COMMUNITY NEWS ROUND UP FOR ROUND VALLEY 12.22.23

Toys for Tots in Covelo

Christmas is coming! The Toys for Tots handout is on Saturday 12/23 from 12pm-4pm and will be held at the Covelo Fire Department, in between Golden Oaks Motel, and Dans Market. It's been a rough year for so many. REMINDER, they are only going to be in Covelo for 4 hours. 12pm-4pm. You will need your ID, AND verification for each child. Verification can be medical card, tribal id, birth certificate, social security card, p-ebt, school ID. If you have none of the above and feel you may have verification but unsure. Please contact, Jason -707-354-1656 or Tracy 707-621-2559, if you are picking up on behalf of somebody else's child you will need their verification AND a note from their parent.

Community Events Calendar

Upcoming Events

DEC 1 — December 1 – December 31 — **Holiday Art Exhibition and Sale**

DEC 21 — 1:00 pm — **RVUSD Early Dismissal**

DEC 22 — December 22, 2023 @ 8:00 am – January 7, 2024 @ 5:00 pm — **Round Valley Unified School District Winter Break**

JAN 6 — 11:00 am – 2:00 pm — **Round Valley Library: Seed Library Work Parties**

JAN 12 — 6:45 pm – 8:30 pm — **Free Documentary Film at the Library – "Exposure"**

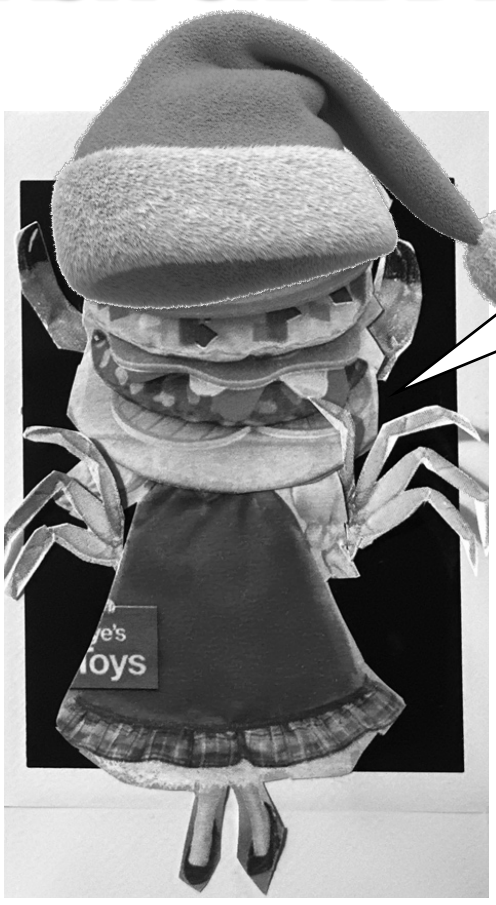
Christmas Day Fundraiser for Legion Hall

On December 25, Christmas Day, volunteers Gail and Howard Harris with assistance from Steven Wenz, will be cooking and serving food from 1pm to 4pm as a fundraiser for the Legion Hall. On the menu: Ham with Orange Glaze, Turkey with Stuffing and Gravy, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Candied Yams, Sauteed Mixed Veggies, Brownies, Little Individual Squash Pies, and Sourdough Bread. They're asking for a $20 donation per plate with all proceed going to Legion Hall to keep the hall open and pay for upkeep expenses such as propane and heat, etc.

Round Valley Skatepark Project Raffle

📣🎅🎄 Exciting News! 🎄🎅📣 Support The Round Valley Skatepark Project by participating in their fantastic raffle! 🎟️🌟 Head over to The Walnut Grove Cafe at the Library Commons to grab your $5 tickets and secure a chance to win a GoPro Hero Black, valued at $300! They will select the winner December 23 and announce the winners via Facebook at 7pm.

ASK CRABBY!



Do you need advice? Crabby is here to help! Questions will ALWAYS be kept anonymous. Don't be shy—seek your advice from Crabby at coveloarts@gmail.com or drop them in the box at the library, to the right of the main entrance, located by the back issues of *The Round Valley Reader*

Dear Crabby—

I've been invited to a several different holiday celebrations and some of them overlap and conflict with each other, with some folks being invited to some and not to others. But, also, I, of course, want to go to everything! What should I do?

—Harried for the Holidays

Dear Harried for the Holidays,

Ah, what a lovely problem to have, to be invited to so many celebrations! It can be a bit daunting to prioritize which events to go to and for how long when your dance card is already so full. My advice this week is two-fold, as I think you can really go one of two ways, here. You can make an appearance at everything, always making sure to bring something with you to contribute to the festivities (a dish, a bottle of wine, some cookies); this way might be a bit harried (which you already are anyway!) but guarantees you having some engagement with every invitation. The other decision you could make, which might be much less harried: choose the invitation that means the most to you and prioritize that one above all others, sending your sincerest regrets to the other folks who invited you to their parties. It's a busy time of year! People get it! Either way, do your best to enjoy yourself and try not too worry too much about it—there's always next year!

ꝑ DC

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FREE FOREVER | Vol 1, Issue 18. *Past Present Future* *December 22, 2023*

FUTURE FUTURE FUTURE FUTURE

written by Jenn Procacci *(with thanks to community members who share their concerns and ideas with us at Farmers' Market on Friday's and by submitting to the *future ideas* box in the Round Valley Library! If you have dreams and ideas for the future of Round Valley, dear reader, we'd love to write them! Email us at coveloarts@gmail.com, come chat with us at the Round Valley Farmers' Market on Fridays, or drop off your ideas at The Round Valley Public Library!)*

Attention reader – the following article is fictional and does not represent current or past happenings in Round Valley (but it could represent our future!)

LOCAL WOMAN SHELTERS AI DOG, IGNITES CONTROVERSY AMIDST FBI INVESTIGATION

February 14th, 2028 *Covelo, CA - In a small town twist that has captivated the nation, 59-year-old Stacy Paladino of Covelo, California, unwittingly took in what she believed to be a stray dog during a seasonal storm four months ago. The heartwarming story took a bizarre turn when veterinarians discovered that the canine companion was, in fact, an artificial intelligence creation.*

Stacy Paladino, known locally for her love of animals and compassionate nature, opened her home to the mysterious dog, whom she has since named Bolt. Bolt seemed like an innocuous guest at first- a brindle mini pit with brown eyes and a sweet, calm disposition. They blended right in with Ms. Paladino's menagerie of birds, cats, and dogs. Completely unaware of the dog's artificial origins, she treated Bolt as one of the pack. It wasn't until Bolt's peculiar habits—such as the absence of eating, drinking, and bathroom needs—raised major concerns that Stacy sought the advice of local animal rescue owner, Sharon Nevatni.

Mrs. Nevatni, who runs BONES Animal Rescue (a Covelo institution that she took over from the retiring founders 2 years ago), immediately suspected something unusual, and contacted veterinarians for a closer examination. To everyone's surprise, Bolt was revealed to be an AI creation, leading investigators to question how Stacy remained oblivious to the dog's true nature.

Ms. Paladino, genuinely shocked by the revelation, maintained her innocence during questioning. "I let Bolt out to go potty, and I thought they were just going behind a bush or something. My dogs spend a lot of time outside on the property, so they could have been going wherever. I didn't see them eating much, but I thought they were just light eater. With so many other animals around, food gets eaten up pretty quickly."

Despite the controversy surrounding Bolt's origins, Ms. Paladino adamantly refused to part ways with her AI companion. The FBI stepped in, citing national security concerns tied to the mysterious disappearance of a 4th generation local family from the village of Mendocino, linked to Bolt's creation. Ms. Paladino described the night she first encountered Bolt.

"It was a dark and windy night." she explained. "I heard a dog whining out in the yard, but all my dogs were inside with me. When I looked out the window, I saw Bolt shivering in the rain. It was your typical lost dog scenario. I thought maybe someone would claim them, but there are lots of strays around here. They fit right in with my other animals, and I didn't really give it a second thought until all the AI stuff came up. If it looks like a duck, and quacks like a duck… "she trailed off.

Media outlets, including The Today Show, MSNBC, Zewe, and others, have clamored for interviews and appearances featuring the unlikely duo. However, Bolt's new owner turned down all offers, citing her deep connection with Bolt and her reluctance to jeopardize them. In a rare interview with local newspaper The Round Valley Reader, she explained, "Covelo has a long-standing spirit of eventual acceptance, even in the face of radical differences. This remote valley has been a refuge for independent folks, those who want to live a different kind of life. Maybe that extends to animals too, artificial, or not. If I were to send Bolt out into the world, they might be exploited or otherwise harmed, and most importantly, we would miss each other. I love Bolt. They are a member of our community."

Details surrounding Bolt's physical makeup and artificial intelligence capabilities have yet to be shared with the public. Amidst the ongoing FBI investigation into the vanished Mendocino family, whose identity remains undisclosed, Covelo now finds itself at the center of a national debate on the treatment of artificial intelligence and the ethical considerations surrounding their existence. Stacy Paladino's steadfast refusal to part with her AI companion has only deepened the intrigue, leaving the nation eager for updates on this extraordinary tale. The Round Valley Reader will continue to cover this story as it develops.

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This selection from a former Covelo newspaper was made by Michelle Peñaloza. We hope for these reprintings of the past to help our community—you, dear readers!—reflect on where we have been so that we may dream and realize where we want to go. Do you have old copies of Covelo newspapers We would love to borrow them for this section of *The Round Valley Reader*! Contact Jenn & Michelle at coveloarts@gmail.com or visit us every Friday at The Round Valley Farmers' Market in the Walnut Grove.

Supes Vote Against Diuron ...Special Holiday Events ...Youth Poets Honored

The Round Valley View

Covelo's Community Newspaper

75¢

DECEMBER 13, 1996-JANUARY 9, 1997 *Special Holiday Issue* VOLUME NO. 3 • ISSUE NO.25

photo by June Marie, electronic enhancements by Ed Farris

Happy Holidays From *The View* to You!

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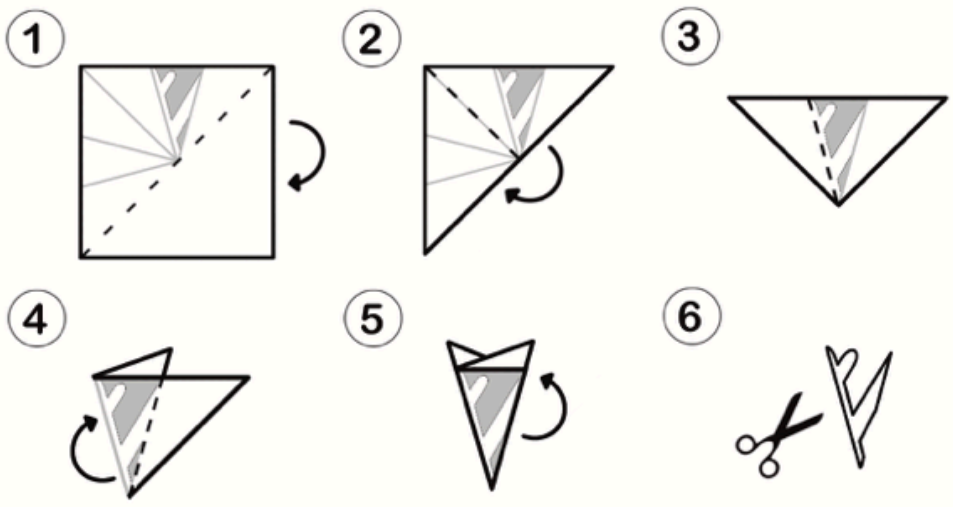
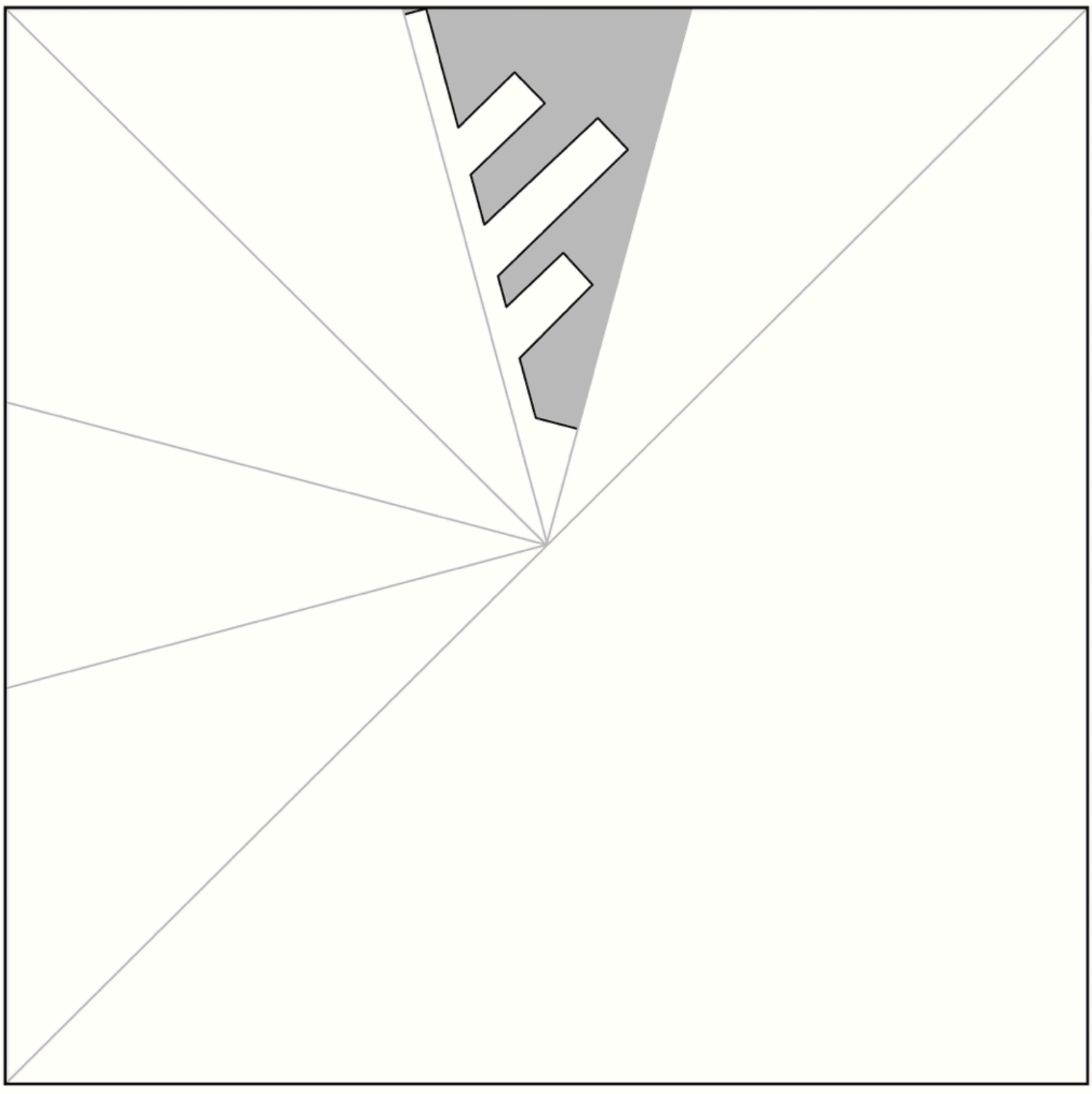
Happy Holidays from The Round Valley Reader! <3 Jenn & Michelle

TURN YOUR ROUND VALLEY READER INTO A HOLIDAY SNOWFLAKE!

Design

Instructions:





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