

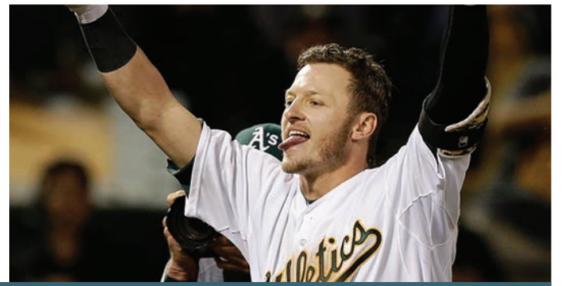
Lodi News-Sentinel

Thursday, May 29, 2014

www.lodinews.com

An independent and locally owned newspaper since 1881

50 cents



Google: Look world, no hands!

Google hopes to have truly driverless cars — without steering wheels or pedals — on roads by next year

By Justin Pritchard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Google plans to build and launch onto city streets a small fleet of subcompact cars that could operate without a person at the wheel.

Actually, the cars wouldn't even have a wheel. Or gas and brake pedals. The company says the vehicles will use sensors and computing power, with no human needed.

Google Inc. hopes that by this time next year, 100 of the two-seaters will be on public roads, following extensive testing. The cars would not be for sale and instead would be provided to select operators for further tweaking and have limitations such as a 25 mph top speed.

The announcement presents a challenge to automakers that have been more cautious about introducing fully automated driving and to

government regulators who are scrambling to accommodate self-driving cars on public roads. Other companies are working on the technology but none as large as Google has said it intends to put such cars in the hands of the public so soon.

To date, Google has driven hundreds of thousands of miles on public roads and freeways in Lexus SUVs and Toyota Priuses outfitted

PLEASE SEE GOOGLE, PAGE 3

GOOGLE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

This image shows a version of Google's prototype self-driving car.



NEWS-SENTINEL PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAN EVANS

Above: Water from the Woodbridge Irrigation District stands in a shallow canal on property owned by Henry Van Exel. Below: Henry Van Exel, a Woodbridge Irrigation District board member and local dairyman, opposes Senate Bill 1168, which would require stricter groundwater management.

State groundwater reform opposed by Lodi-area growers

By Wes Bowers
NEWS-SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

Henry Van Exel has about a dozen groundwater wells that run as deep as 150 feet at Exels Holsteins, his operation west of Lodi.

The water is used for both irrigation and for many of the 1,500 head of Jersey and Holstein cattle he owns.

A Woodbridge Irrigation District board member, Van Exel thinks pending legislation focused on managing local groundwater supplies is a terrible idea.

"Literally, this is about trying to steal our water," he said. "It's our area's most valuable asset. Why would we allow anyone to tell us how to use it?"

"(Water is) our area's most valuable asset. Why would we allow anyone to tell us how to use it?"

HENRY VAN EXEL
BOARD MEMBER,
WOODBIDGE
IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Van Exel and other directors of the irrigation district are opposed to State Senate Bill 1168, which would impose new management plans on groundwater managed by local agencies like the Woodbridge district.

In addition, the bill, written by State Sen. Fran Pavley, D-Calabasas, would authorize the state to take control of groundwater management when local or regional agencies are unable to protect a water source.

Pavley has called her bill a "work in progress" in the past,



and to date no specific criteria have been outlined for local or regional agencies to follow.

Van Exel has questioned how the state legislature can consider passing a bill that has no explanation of how the management plans would be

adopted. He said the county has already done a great job in conserving water, noting that groundwater levels are actually higher than in previous years.

PLEASE SEE WATER, PAGE 3

Company's Galt move will bring 75 jobs to city's industrial area

By Jennifer Bonnett
NEWS-SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

GALT — A wood products company has acquired a 20-acre industrial site in Galt to construct a 220,000-square-foot wholesale distribution center. EL & EL Wood Products Corp also plans to bring 75 new jobs to the city.



BEHRMANN

City Manager Jason Behrmann says the company will be a perfect fit in the city's industrial park. He chalks up the company's decision to the Galt City Council's decisions to streamline permitting processes, reduce fees and create a development- and business-friendly environment in order to create jobs in Galt.

"It is always exciting to see results," Behrmann said in an announcement by the city Wednesday.

The company, which currently employs 255 people and manages its own fleet of trucks throughout California, Nevada and Arizona, plans to use the Galt site to manufacture its line of moldings, doors and other building materials.

The yet-to-be constructed building at 700 Industrial Dr. will also allow EL & EL to consolidate all of their Northern California distribution under one roof.

"We chose Galt for its business-friendly atmosphere, reasonable land costs and centralized proximity to serve all of Northern California," Cathy Vidas of EL & EL Wood Products said in a press release. "We thank the City of Galt for welcoming our company with excitement and enthusiasm."

EL & EL, which initially expanded into Northern California in 2005, has been in business since 1966. It currently has a site in Elk Grove.

Contact reporter Jennifer Bonnett at jenniferb@lodinews.com.



NEWS-SENTINEL MAP

MAYA ANGELOU

'We are much stronger than we appear to be'

Maya Angelou, who vividly detailed the black experience, dies at 86

By Elaine Woo
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Maya Angelou was a diva of American culture: an actress, singer, dancer and film director as well as an essayist and Pulitzer-Prize-nominated poet, whose mainstream magnetism led her to write verses for Hallmark and recite one of her poems at the 1993 inauguration of President Bill Clinton.

Her most celebrated achievement, however, were the stories she told about herself in "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" (1969), the first in a series of bestselling memoirs. Universal in its themes yet compellingly particular in its details about being a black girl in a white world, it is a sto-



Poet Maya Angelou smiles in Washington on Nov. 21, 2008. Angelou, a Renaissance woman, has died.

GERALD HERBERT/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTOGRAPH

ry of survival that exposed the ugliness as well as the beauty in a prodigiously inventive life.

A staple of high school and college reading lists, the book made Angelou a frequent target of parents and others concerned about its graphic descriptions of racism and sexual

abuse. But it established her as a clear-eyed interpreter of the black experience with a message of hope and transcendence that resonated with a vast, multiracial audience.

"In all my work, in the movies I write, the lyrics, the poetry, the prose, the essays," she told Paris Review in

1990, "I am saying that we may encounter many defeats — maybe it's imperative that we encounter the defeats — but we are much stronger than we appear to be, and maybe much better than we allow ourselves to be."

Angelou, who wrote more than 35 books over five decades, died Wednesday at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she had a lifetime appointment at Wake Forest University. Her death at 86 was announced by her son, Guy B. Johnson. He did not give a cause, but Angelou had a number of health problems in recent years.

Noting that she was the reason his sister was named Maya, President Barack Obama said in a statement Wednesday that Angelou filled many roles over a "remarkable" life. "But above all," he said, "she was a storyteller — and her greatest stories were true."

PLEASE SEE ANGELOU, PAGE 3

insidetoday

STATE

California secession still in cards?

Two counties in the state's far north will vote on moving ahead with plans to form a new state next week. **15**

WORLD



Latest coup raises worries in Thailand

The mood in Thailand after last week's coup is much tenser than when the military last seized power in 2006. **16**

Index

Local 2, 7
Opinion 4

Business 5
Panorama 6

Obituaries 7
Election 8

Sports 9-11
Classified 12

Nation and
world 15-16

Weather

87

53

Mostly sunny today. Mainly clear and cool tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday. Monday: plenty of sunshine. Full report, Page 16.

