

The Bakersfield Californian

\$1

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015

BAKERSFIELD.COM

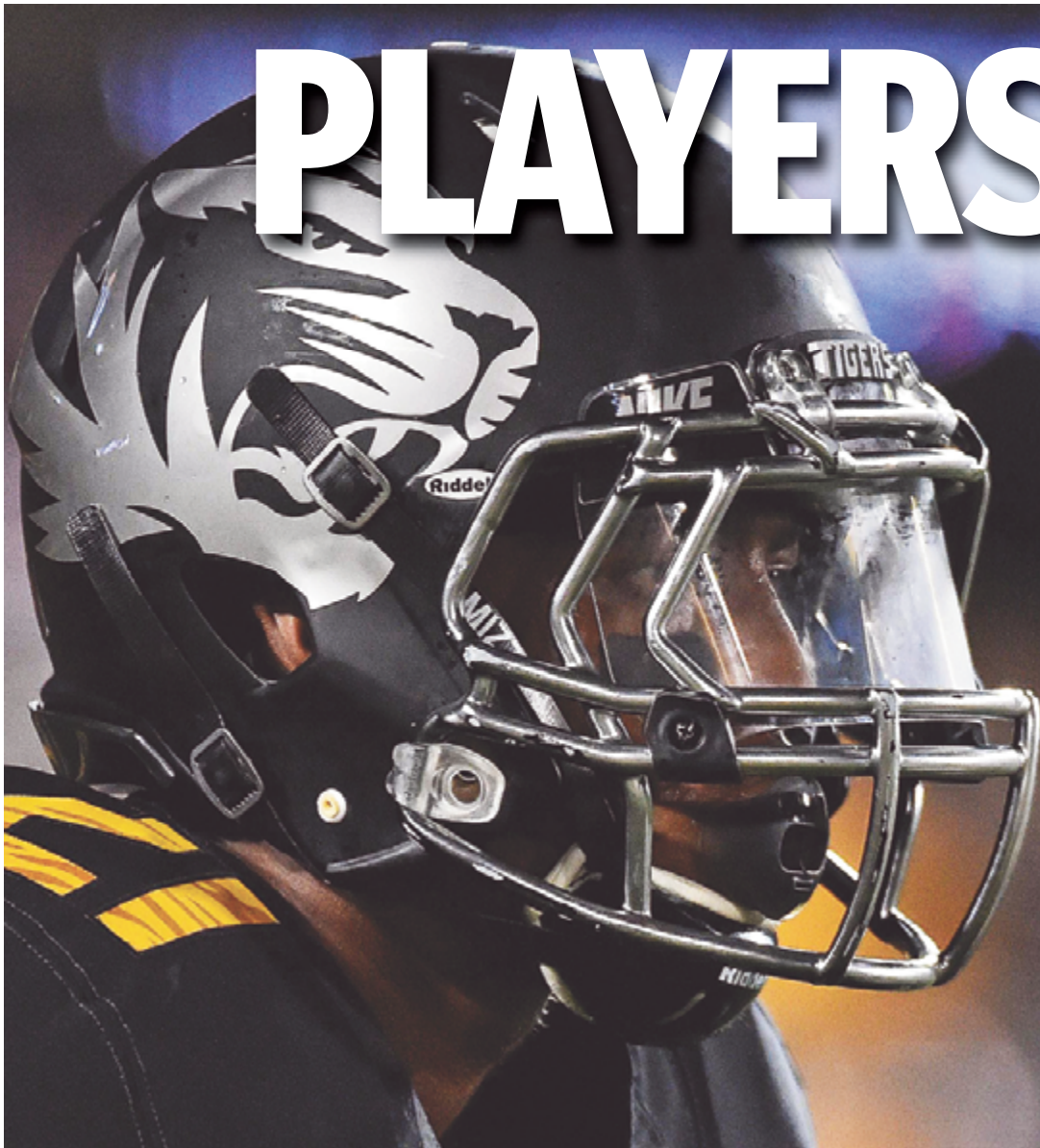
TBC
MEDIA



ADVICE 25 • COMICS 26 • OBITUARIES 13 • OPINION 24 • PUZZLES 28 • SPORTS 30 • TV 24 • USA TODAY 16 • WEATHER 7

PLAYERS STRIKE

Protesting racism on campus, 50 University of Missouri players won't participate in team activities **USA TODAY | 16**



Missouri head coach Gary Pinkel made it clear Sunday that the players threatening to boycott team activities and games have his full support. "The Mizzou family stands as one. We are united. We are behind our players," Pinkel said.

USA TODAY

CSUB MEN

SEASON PREVIEW

Roadrunner basketball team might be best in Division-I era

SPORTS | 34



ASK TBC

Origin of cement post draws lots of answers

LOCAL | 3

SHERIFF

Deputy drug testing awaits negotiations

LOCAL | 10

STEVE FLORES

San Antonio's River Walk is a pilgrimage of love for the family

LOCAL | 5



**BUY A
LARGE COFFEE
& GRANDMA'S
COOKIE**



**for only
\$2**

Expires 1/5/16

FASTrip
We're On Your Way!

Advertised price subject to change at any time.



Subscriber services

392-5777, 800-953-5353 or
customer@bakersfield.com



62/47

To report a news tip

395-7384, 800-540-0646
or local@bakersfield.com

Local

Ask TBC

What's that cement post downtown? Answers abound

THE BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN

Last week we published a question by the marketing director at law firm Chain | Cohn | Stiles asking what a concrete pillar outside his offices at 18th Street and Chester Avenue was used for. We had no clue, and so asked readers what they knew.

We got a big response: more than a dozen emails and phone calls. We received several different answers, leading us to believe maybe the post has had more than one use.

But it's pretty clear what one use has been given the number of people who offered up the answer and who they are.

"I believe it used to hold a small USPS letter mailbox," wrote in Stephen Montgomery, whom The Californian frequently taps for local history.

Five other people answered the same, including Shirley Prigmore, who made a special trip downtown to check out the post before giving her two cents. (Love that.)

"I looked around and inspected it," said Prigmore, who noticed red and blue markings on the post. "And I said, 'A ha! Mailbox.'"

Ed Arie, a former policeman whose beat was downtown, gave

Please see **ASK / PAGE 4**



COURTESY OF JORGE BARRIENTOS

This post stands outside the Chain | Cohn | Stiles building at 18th Street and Chester Avenue downtown. Anybody know what it is?



My Kids love Total Woman too!

What I love about Total Woman is that there is something for every woman. Whether it's the great classes that are offered from Gravity to spin, the pool, free weights and more. My kids also love Total Woman because they have kid care where they can play with others and watch television. Because they enjoy it so much, it makes it easy for me to get my workout in. Total woman is a great gym for the entire family!

Try us for
14 DAYS FREE!

No obligation, no commitment, no kidding!



5329 Truxtun Ext. 325-0208
9901 Hageman Rd. 588-8931
www.twfitness.com

Tile From Around The World

Bill Ray

TILE

Ceramic Tile Center, Inc.

BUY DIRECT AND SAVE
WE MAKE CERAMIC TILE AFFORDABLE

Do You Love Arts & Crafts?

Come See Our Big Selection Of Mosaics

Service • Experience • Quality

6301 E. Brundage Lane
(661) 366-3255 Bakersfield

Signature Properties, Signature Service

- Golf Course Properties
- Luxury & Estate Properties
- Corporate Relocation



Country Living

17502 STOCKDALE HWY.



\$1,500,000

COUNTRY LIVING ON 2.4 PRIVACY-GATED ACRES

6210 sq. ft MAIN RESIDENCE plus 2 BDRM DUPLEX GUEST HOUSE

Grand single-story 5 bdrm split-wing floor plan has huge rooms, tons of built-ins, 3 fireplaces, hardwood floors, gorgeous granite kitchen with every amenity. Enormous windows-amazing views of beautifully landscaped grounds w/pool, gazebo, 3-car garage. Large 2-bdrm suite guest house at back. Perfect for extended family living! Additional adjacent acreage parcels available for your family compound, horse stable, arena, tennis court, more!

Virtual Tours at

www.MaryCRealtor.com

34 Years of Service Excellence to both Buyers & Sellers

Mary Christenson
REALTOR®



661.301.6279

CalBRE Lic. #00818891

Local

'Tis the Season for an Amazing Auto Loan



Get pre-approved* with AltaOne.



Premier Plus Rate
AS LOW AS
1.79%
A.P.R.*
MODEL YEARS 2010-2016, FOR 48 MONTHS

Rates effective November 9, 2015
to December 20, 2015.

**Don't wait. Apply for
your loan today!**

Call, visit or apply online at AltaOne.org

BAKERSFIELD
(661) 397-2555
6501 Ming Ave.
MF 9-5, Sa 9-2
Corner of Ming & Ashe

BAKERSFIELD
(661) 664-2515
11211 River Run Blvd.
M-Th 9-5; F 9-5:30
River Walk Complex



*A.P.R. = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates effective 11/9/15 through 12/20/15. Offer good on auto purchases or auto refinances from other financial institutions. Premier Plus Rate as low as 1.79% APR for up to 48 months on vehicles 2010 and newer. No payments for up to three months. You must notify AltaOne of your desired payment start date at the time of loan closing. Start date must be within 90 days of loan closing and no later than the 27th of the month. All rates and policies are subject to change without notice. Credit approval required. Other restrictions may apply. Call 1-800-433-9727 for additional details. **Existing AltaOne auto loans not eligible.



ASK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

the same answer.

"I can see the mailbox sitting up there," said Ariey, who was born and raised in Bakersfield and turns 80 on Christmas Day. We got some other interesting answers.

Three people said the post was probably used back in the day to tie up horses.

"The iron rings buried in the concrete curbs were used to tie horses up," reader Michael McAlister wrote in. "I believe the short concrete posts were used to tie up a team of horses that pulled a surrey or wagon."

"I remember Charlie Dodge and my dad leaving their horses tied to some rings on the north side of Brock's department store while they went Christmas shopping. It sure befuddled the meter reader! When they found out who Charlie and my dad were (retired Kern County sheriff and my dad was on the sheriff's posse), they quickly canceled their tickets! Heh! Heh!"

Others discounted the notion the post was used to tie up horses.

And then there's Roger Steelman, a local architectural design draftsman, who thought the post was a surveyors boundary monument "used to locate a point on a lot, tract or parcel of real property also called a surveyors bench mark."

We shouldn't discount it. Here's a description of one type of surveyors monument on the website eHow.com:

"Stone obelisks are frequently used as survey monuments. Once set in place, they

"I believe the short concrete posts were used to tie up a team of horses that pulled a surrey or wagon."

— Michael McAlister

are inscribed with the date of placement as well as the latitude and longitude. If made of a heavy stone such as granite and left undisturbed, this type of survey monument will last for centuries."

Sure enough, the post at Chester and 18th has "1950" inscribed on it. Was it a surveyors monument before a mailbox was affixed to it? Could be. We didn't see a latitude and longitude inscribed.

Whatever the answer, this was a fun question and thanks to everyone who weighed in.

Q: What is the purpose of the large hole being dug on the southeast corner of 24th and Oak streets?

— Steve Ramsey

A: The City of Bakersfield is expanding the capacity of the stormwater retention basin on the southwest corner of 24th and Oak, said Public Works Director Nick Fidler. The expansion will help alleviate potential flooding within the downtown area, he said.

Ask TBC appears on Mondays. Submit questions to asktbc@bakersfield.com or to The Bakersfield Californian, c/o Christine Bedell, P.O. Box 440, Bakersfield, CA 93302.



**IT'S MORE THAN JUST A HOLIDAY PARTY.
IT'S THE STUFF OF OFFICE LEGEND.**

**BOOK YOUR EVENT BY NOVEMBER 15TH & RECEIVE A
FREE BAR PACKAGE UPGRADE!***

Make this year's holiday party the kind of event
that will be talked about at next year's party.

GET THE PARTY ROLLING—BOOK TODAY!

SOUTHWEST LANES (661) 834-2695
WESTCHESTER LANES (661) 324-4966

*Minimum spend required. Event must be booked by November 15, 2015. Subject to rules and limitations available at amf.com/terms-and-conditions. Please mention "BARBONUS1115" to redeem.

AMF.COM/HOLIDAY