



"Psss. Hey, buddy, can you spare 25 billion?"

RICK WAGONER
GENERAL MOTORS CEO, TESTIFYING BEFORE CONGRESS ABOUT THE NEED FOR AN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY BAILOUT

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CARBOLIC SMOKE BALL HEADLINES

Santa Barbara wild fire spreading like ... real fast

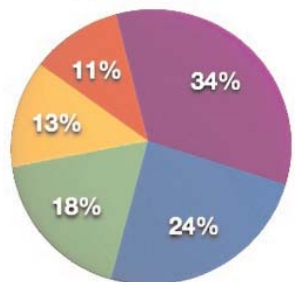
Space Shuttle crew stymied by gremlin on the wing

Obama to send Sacheen Littlefeather to take oath for him

Bush cites executive privilege, refuses to lower toilet seat

Conservatives protest same-sex heart transplants

READERS RESPOND:
Where Will You Do Your Black Friday Shopping This Year?



- Family Dollar
- 7-11
- The Goodwill Outlet Store
- The nearest Sheriff's Sale
- The cars at the far end of the parking lot

TURKEY PARDONED BY BUSH: 'NO SECRET DEAL'

WASHINGTON — The turkey pardoned by President George W. Bush in the White House's annual Thanksgiving ritual dating to the Truman administration thanked Bush from his retirement compound in San Clemente, Calif., and denied rumors circulating in the turkey community of a "secret deal" for his pardon.

"Let's be honest: What could I offer the President by way of a deal? I'm just a turkey!"

The turkey revealed that he and Bush hit it off, saying, "We're on the same wavelength." But he chided the press for treating the annual turkey pardon in a lighthearted manner. "For me, this is life or death; for you, it's just a punchline."

The turkey revealed he intends to devote his retirement years to writing his memoirs and acting as an elder statesman on poultry matters.



Shuttle mission going 'smoothly' after bumpy start

After a bumpy liftoff, the flight of the Space Shuttle Endeavour has enjoyed smooth sailing, but NASA's Mission Control warned the crew not to allow any parts to malfunction.

"This spacecraft is 16 years old, so the warranties have run out on practically



everything," NASA spokesman Samuel Blatchford told the crew.

"If something breaks, fiddle with it yourselves, because if we have to send a repairman, it's going to cost us half a billion dollars just for him to walk in the door."

Experts: Nation's trees underperforming, fall foliage called 'lackluster'



Tree experts Prof. Bob Haas and Dr. Carol Murray say the downturn in the gross domestic leaf production started in the fourth quarter of 2007 and will last into the spring of 2009.

Hear da JUDGE



By the Hon. Rufus Peckham
Editor of Carbolic Smoke Ball

Dear Judge: On Thanksgiving, we're having my wife's wretched relatives for dinner. I want to make this the quickest dinner ever. Any advice on letting these people know they're not welcome?

— Timmy, Pleasant Hills

Dear Timmy: Excellent question. I provide the following tips as a public service, in the true spirit of the holiday.

First, before they enter the house, tell them to empty all metal objects from their pockets and then have them pass through a metal detector. This will let them know, "I don't trust you!"

Second, have the food, such as it is, on the table waiting for them when they arrive. Order them to sit down and start. While they eat, you stand off to the side with your arms folded. Every few minutes, holler out, "Finished?" About halfway through, start to clear the plates. If they rebuke you, just say, "Sorry, I was hoping you were finished."

Third, after no more than 15 minutes, announce in a clear voice, "I have to go watch my show, 'The Flintstones.' Show yourselves out." Then go upstairs.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

'Twilight' tells tale of famous Americans as youths

This past weekend, young people across America flocked to see "Twilight," the story of a young woman who falls madly in love with a vampire.

Unlike other films of the genre, the heroine is unafraid of her boyfriend's bloodthirsty needs, and she wants to be just like him.

"Twilight" is the true story of how the Clintons met.

