

SIGN ON...

I STARTED WORKING AT NORRIS MARKET, NOW MAPLE AVENUE MARKET WHEN I WAS FIFTEEN YEARS OLD. THAT WAS ABOUT THE TIME THAT RICK STORRE WAS BORN. HIS FOLKS LIVED IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, AND, I SUPPOSE, STOPPED THERE SOME. I IMAGINE RICK WAS ONE OF THE KIDS WHO STOPPED IN AFTER A DAY AT WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND BOUGHT ICE CREAM OR A CANDY BAR. ~~IN THOSE DAYS, WE WOULD GIVE THE KIDS AN OLD-FASHIONED HOT DOG WHEN THEIR MOM BOUGHT MEAT FROM THE OLD-FASHIONED BUTCHER SHOP AS THE MEAT DEPARTMENT WAS CALLED~~ IN LATER YEARS, RICK WOULD DROP INTO SAFEWAY, WHERE I WAS WORKING, ON HIS WAY TO OR FROM HIS NURSERY AT THREE CORNERS. HE BOUGHT THIS HOUSE HE WAS LIVING IN, AND KILLED IN, FROM A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE. SO, I HAD KNOWN RICK STORRE FOR A LONG TIME. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING ON AT THAT HOUSE LATELY, BUT OBVIOUSLY, IT WASN'T GOOD. SEVERAL THINGS ABOUT THIS TRAGEDY ARE CONFUSING. I AM NOT CASTING ANY ASPERSIONS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OR THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM AS I COMMENT, AS I KNOW THINGS GET CONFUSING WHEN SOMETHING AS DRASTIC AS A DOUBLE HOMICIDE (ALLEGED HOMICIDE), IS COMMITTED. AS FAR AS THE NEWS IS CONCERNED, IT ALL STARTED ON A WEDNESDAY WHEN A NEIGHBOR WENT TO CHECK ON RICK AND FOUND HIM SEVERELY WOUNDED. FURTHER INVESTIGATION ACCORDING TO THE MEDIA, FOUND ANOTHER INHABITANT DEAD, AND ACCORDING TO THE MEDIA, RICK WAS DECEASED ALSO. THEN IT WAS SAID THAT ~~THE~~ ^{THE SHOOTINGS} COULD HAVE HAPPENED AS EARLY AS MONDAY OF THAT WEEK, WHICH COULD MEAN THAT RICK HAD BEEN LYING THERE WITH A GUNSHOT WOUND. MOVING TO THE PERP- IF HE HAD SHOT THEM ON MONDAY, WAS HE LIVING WITH TWO DEAD, OR NEARLY DEAD BODIES? HE DIDN'T LOOK TOO UPSET AS THEY BROUGHT HIM OUT TO THE PATROL CAR - AS SHOWN ON TV. ACCORDING TO THE TIMES-STANDARD, HE HAD QUITE A HISTORY WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT, INCLUDING TRYING TO VANDALIZE A PATROL CAR IN FRONT OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE. HOW STUPID IS THAT? HE ALSO - ALLEGEDLY,

DID SOME MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE DOORS AT THE INCOMAR CLUB. APPARENTLY, HE HAD BEEN IN SEMPERVIRENS AND RELEASED. NOW, I KNOW THE POLICE, SHERIFF, AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OR HOLDING FACILITIES CAN'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO DO OR HOW THESE PERPS ARE GOING TO BEHAVE AFTER THEY ARE RELEASED. THE FATHER FREED CASE (I DIDN'T KNOW THE FATHER, BUT DO KNOW FRANK WEBER, WHO FOUND HIM), AND NOW THE STORRE INCIDENT, TELL ME THAT TIGHTER STANDARDS ^{NEED TO} BE PUT IN PLACE, AND PERHAPS LET THE OFFICERS OR PERSONNEL IN THE JAIL OR OTHER RESTRAINING INSTITUTIONS BE GIVEN MORE AUTHORITY TO HOLD THOSE WHO SHOW DANGEROUS TENDENCIES, A LITTLE LONGER, AND PERHAPS SEE THAT THEY GET EVALUATED MORE THOROUGHLY. (AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW, MY GRANDSON, NATHAN MADSEN IS ATTENDING FRESNO STATE AND IS ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM AS A DEFENSIVE END. HIS DEFENSIVE LINE COACH GAVE A GOOD ~~INTERVIEW~~ ^{INTERVIEW} TO THE FRESNO BEE, IN WHICH HE MENTIONED NATE AND HIS GOOD QUALITIES SEVERAL TIMES. WE ARE PROUD OF NATE, NOT ONLY FOR FOOTBALL BUT FOR HIS GOOD GRADES AS WELL. ~~WE KIND OF WORRY ABOUT HIS GREAT ART, BUT THE EQUIPMENT IS TOP NOTCH. WHEN HE PLAYED AT EHS, HE WAS BOTH OFFENSE AND DEFENSE AND WORE A SPECIAL HELMET, DESIGNED FOR PROTECTION. I HOPE FRESNO STATE HAS THEM TOO. A FATHER SENT ME EVERYTHING ITEM ABOUT A FORMER GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO WAS AT THE IWO JIMA MONUMENT IN WASHINGTON DC. HIS FATHER HAD BEEN AT IWO JIMA, WHERE OUT OF SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS WHO WENT ON THE ISLAND, ONLY 27 SURVIVED. HE ALSO BRIEFLY DESCRIBED THE AGONY AND MISERY AND HORROR THAT TOOK PLACE. WAR IS NOT GLORIOUS WAR IS HELL! WE NEED TO STAY OUT OF OTHER PEOPLES~~

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, THE EUREKA CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES, ^{SIGN OFF} PRESENTS THE BORCALIS STRING QUARTET - @ 7:30 PM AT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ACROSS FROM ALICE BURNETT SCHOOL. WITH A MEET THE ARTISTS RECEPTION TO FOLLOW - BE THERE!
SIGN OFF