

A publication for Rotarians and all community minded people

🙆 Networker

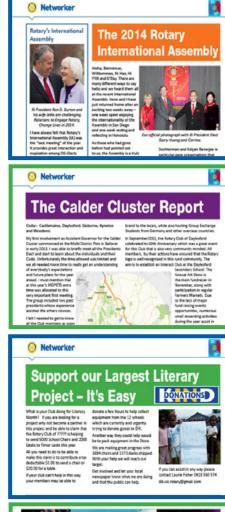


COUPLE'S \$1.1 MILLION GIFT BOOSTS PUSH TO ERADICATE POLIO











In this issue:

Issue 23 and DG Ross and his team are resting up after a great weekend was enjoyed by all who attended the District Conference in the Gold Coast last weekend.

Congratulations to the committees involved, these things can take years to evolve so take a break, check out the pics, there's more where they came from and we'll do it all again in June for the International Conference.

Phew, what a year it is being.

PS: Got any good jokes, or an opinion you're just dying to share. Send them to Clarice.

www.rotarydistrict9800

Contact the Editor

Clarice Caricare

Do you have a letter for Clarice? Is something on your mind?

Send Clarice an e-mail at clarice@ rotarydistrict9800 .org.au





Every month of our Rotary year has a focus of service or fellowship and these are the reasons why Rotary exists. We have a special opportunity as Rotarians to engage with each other and with like-minded organisations to make a difference to other people's lives. March has a focus on Literacy – at home and abroad, to change our children's lives and to encourage books and reading into their world.

Last year at our District Conference in Albury our Literacy Committee gave us all the opportunity to collect and donate books to the indigenous communities in Northern Australia. Many hundreds of were books collected, despatched and most appreciated. The logistics at the Gold Coast Conference encouraged the committee to relocate the opportunity this year to the District Assembly in May. I hope all Rotarians can support the cause.

One of the big duties for every District Governor is the annual delivery of our District Conference and yes, we have now concluded the honour of Hosting the 2014 District Conference on the Gold Coast. Now I might be a little biased but the event went without a hitch and many delegates have made a point of passing on their compliments and positive thoughts.

I was pleased with the Rotary content and especially pleased with the Cluster Presentations of Club projects offered within our District, the range and focus of projects and programs were outstanding and I received many comments over the weekend to this effect.

Our Speaker Program was varied to cater for a variety of tastes and all had a very real connection to what Rotary does and identified with the efforts of our Rotarians. While numbers may have been a little soft the enthusiasm of all those there made up for any lack of numbers and the attendance of 78 first time delegates to the Conference was special, a first within our District and augers well for the future.

Special thanks must go to the two committed groups of people who made the event what it was. This year was the first truly District Conference Committee representing nine Clubs, led very ably by Chair Paul Perrottet, and they worked hard for two years to deliver an outstanding event.

The second important group of wonderful Rotarians were the members of the Rotary Club of Melton Valley with their smiling faces and Hawaiian shirts they worked all weekend supporting, guiding and lighting up the Convention Centre, a very large Thank You to all those involved.

If you missed this year's conference can I remind you it is one of the most significant learning and fellowship opportunities within Rotary, where many of us have had a special lightbulb moment and I am sure DGE Murray and his team are keen to have you on board for next year and show you a wonderful time down in Hobart.

Before then however we have another unique opportunity to attend the Rotary International Convention in Sydney and this only occurs once every 10 to 15 years in Australia so I hope you can take advantage of this and attend with Annette and I and discover the true internationality of Rotary. These events are special and we hope to see you in Sydney in June. We still have bookings available including seats on our District Dinner Cruise to kick off the Convention in style and details are available on the District website.

Best wishes to you all and a very







LARGE THANK YOU for what you each do in the name of Rotary as you go forward and Engage Rotary Change Lives.

DG Ross

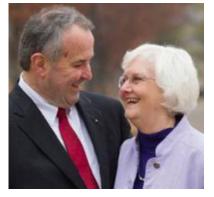


District 9800 Governor Ross Butterworth and Annette









RI President Ron D. Burton and his wife Jetta are challenging Rotarians to Engage Rotary, Change Lives in 2014.

I have always felt that Rotary's International Assembly (IA) was the "best meeting" of the year. It provides great interaction and inspiration among DG-Elects from over 200 countries. It was recently held in San Diego, California USA on 12 to 18 January 2014 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

The International Assembly is more than just a training meeting for the incoming class of district governors. It's an opportunity to gain inspiration, exchange ideas, and discover new perspectives as the Governors prepare for their term.

In addition to being the first to learn the RI president's plans for the upcoming year, the attendees also have the chance to share their own district's goals and activities with fellow classmates. It's an exciting, fun, and informative week that will motivate the DG-Elects for the work ahead.

"I had the knowledge. The difference is that now I know how to use it and I have the motivation to use it."

Syed Shahab Balkhi (District 3271), describing his International Assembly

The 2014 Rotary International Assembly

Aloha, Bienvenue, Willkommen, Ni Hao, Hi Y'All and G'Day. There are many different ways to say hello and we heard them all at the recent International Assembly. Irene and I have just returned home after an exciting two weeks away – one week spent enjoying the internationality of the Assembly in San Diego and one week resting and reflecting in Honolulu.

As those who had gone before had pointed out to us, the Assembly is a truly remarkable experience. 530 District Governors Elect from around the world, their partners, our trainers and RI directors, around 1200 in total, met in an incredible atmosphere of friendliness and goodwill that is hard to imagine in such a large group. Despite our varied backgrounds, conversations flowed easily at meal times, in workshops and even in the elevator. Business cards and small symbols of national pride were exchanged readily. Many new friendships were made.

The speakers at each of the plenary sessions were outstanding. Past RI Presidents such as Richard King, Cliff



Our official photograph with RI President Elect Garry Huang and Corrina.

Dochterman and Kalyan Banerjee in particular gave presentations that were truly inspirational. The carefully constructed workshops worked well despite regional differences in knowledge and approaches to Rotary.

The special dinners in the evening were a lot of fun and you'll be pleased to know that during the Festival of Nations night, the Aussie DGE's and partners presented a very stirring and well received version of the popular song "I Am, You Are, We Are Australian".

RI President Elect Gary Huang from Taiwan began each session by urging the audience in unison to do what he called the "happy clap". He also had a



The Australian contingent.





The 2014 Rotary International Assembly

choir of Rotarians from Taiwan trying to teach us to sing his theme song for the 2014-2-15 Rotary year. While neither of these is likely to catch on in Australia, his theme "Light Up Rotary" was very well received. It works on so many different levels. I'm looking forward to seeing what the District Leadership Team and our incoming presidents think of it.

Several past governors had recommended a stay in Honolulu on the way home. This proved to sound advice. It was a great way to unwind and to think about the tremendous week we had just experienced, thanks to Rotary. We stayed in the small, well located hotel, overlooking Waikiki beach that several of our predecessors and their wives had used.

A highlight of that week was a visit, along with two other Victorian DGE's and partners, to the Rotary Club of Honolulu where we were warmly welcomed.

Irene and I would like to thank DG Ross and Annette and the past governors for their advice and warm support as we prepared for this important visit. Your guidance was invaluable and the genuine interest in our activities from you and many other District 9800 Rotarians was touching. We have many plans for the forthcoming year and we look forward to sharing them with you at the forthcoming DLT Training Day, the Multi District PETS and the District Assembly. Thank you for your support and friendship.

Kind regards Murray Verso (Irene) D9800 Governor 2014-2015.



Clowning for Peace in Nepal

The recent passing of Royce Abbey, President of Rotary International, 1988-89, has drawn attention to the presidential theme during his term in office – "Put life into Rotary – Your Life".

One person who has put her life into Rotary's endeavours is Susan Carew. Back in 1998, Susan dreamed of teaching peace. The dream changed her life, leading her to become a World Peace Clown. Ten years later, Susan was chosen as a Rotary Peace Fellow to attend a 3-month program in peace and conflict resolution at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.

Susan's initiatives for Peace have ranged from in-school programs throughout Australia to travelling the world. Her 8-week schools program promotes Peace, Conflict Resolution, Nonviolence and Anti-Bullying, guided in true Rotary style be an acronym - REAL HOPES, embracing Responsibility, Empathy, Awareness, Love, Honesty, Oneness, Peace, Enjoyment and Service.

On the international front, Susan has travelled solo to 19 countries across Asia, India, Egypt, Europe, UK, Ireland, USA, Central and South America, presenting herself as a World Peace Clown. She was invited by Patch Adams, the famous clown doctor, to spend two weeks with him and 40 others clowning in Russia.

Susan now has the opportunity to take her message to Nepal. She responded to the recent (Jan 26) Networker article to "Play with the Kids – in Nepal" – an opportunity to travel to remote villages to bring joy and happiness to the children there. Recently torn by ten years of Maoist guerrilla warfare, the country is on a painful path of learning conflict resolution (five years of political haggling have yet to yield a Constitution).



Susan's problem is that promoting Peace is not a remunerative occupation – in fact she works mostly as a volunteer, though Australian Rotary clubs have from time to time assisted her by covering her travel expenses.

This opportunity has arisen again, with the Nepali Village Initiatives Project (RAWCS project 43/2009-10) keen to utilise her skills in teacher training and children's holiday programs to be delivered in April.

A small group of volunteers will leave for Nepal on 14 April, returning 13 May. For less than \$2,500 travel expenses you could join the group. No special skills required – simply an interest in working with children, giving them valuable contact with native English speakers.

If you can't participate yourself, then maybe you or your club could contribute to Susan's expenses so that she can make the trip? Rotary has helped to change Susan's life, concentrating her focus on World Peace. By supporting Susan you can change the lives of children in Nepal.

For more information visit www. nepalaid.org.au and www. worldpeacefull.com; read Rotary Downunder July 2012; or call Peter Hall, RC Kyneton, on 03 5424 1453.





The Calder Cluster Report

Clubs:- Castlemaine, Daylesford, Gisborne, Kyneton and Woodend.

My first involvement as Assistant Governor for the Calder Cluster commenced at the Multi District Pets in Ballarat in early 2013. I was able to briefly meet all the Presidents Elect and start to learn about the individuals and their Clubs. Unfortunately the time allowed was limited and we all needed more time to really get an understanding brand to the locals, while also hosting Group Exchange Students from Germany and other overseas countries.

In September2013, the Rotary Club of Daylesford celebrated its 60th Anniversary which was a great event for this Club that is also very community minded. All members, by their actions have ensured that the Rotary logo is well recognised in this rural community. The aim is to establish an Interact Club at the Daylesford

of everybody's expectations and future plans for the year ahead. I must mention that at this year's MDPETS extra time was allocated to this very important first meeting. The group included two past presidents whose experience assisted the others novices.

I felt I needed to get to know all the Club members as soon as possible. After attending all the Club changeovers and attending many weekly dinner meetings, I became aware of the great connection that existed with their local communities. The Calder Cluster clubs are quite unique compared to metropolitan clubs as they regularly join with Lions, SES, CFA and other service groups to service their communities. This characteristic appears in



Secondary School. The Annual Art Show is the main fundraiser in November, along with participation in regular Farmers Markets. Due to the lack of major fund raising events opportunities, numerous small rewarding activities during the year assist in this group to achieve great results. It seems there are always projects that this Club initiates that will assist some individual or group to have a better future. Each year the Club provides an Agricultural Scholarship to a student to further their education to eventually benefit the farming community.

A recent project was to add interpretive signage to

numerous projects that I wish to highlight in a summary of activities in each Calder Cluster Club.

The Rotary Club of Castlemaine will celebrate its 80th Anniversary in June 2015 and has very strong links with all sectors of the community. In November last year it celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the well known Truck Show attracting some 300 professionally presented trucks of all sizes and makes from all parts of Australia, raising \$45,000 for various community projects. Involvement of other service groups in the operation of the two day event was encouraging. The Annual Art Show is another project that has operated successfully for some years with the same great benefit to the community. Recently Castlemaine Rotary became more involved with DIK to assist sourcing equipment for hospitals in Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste. Annually Castlemaine Rotary distribute many thousands of dollars to a variety of groups such as guides, scouts, cricket clubs and fire brigades to mention just a few. Castlemaine is very active in promoting the Rotary

the Avenue of Honour, which was one of the first planted to commemorate WW1 Servicemen and Women.

The Rotary Club of Gisborne are actively involved in a variety of educational, overseas health projects and building projects in East Timor. The Club is aiming to establish an Interact Club at the Gisborne Secondary College this year and has received encouraging feedback from the College Principal. Rotarian Samantha Turner, a qualified nurse, has travelled to Mongolia to train locals in Maternal Health with great success. Two Rotarians were part of a larger group that worked in East Timor constructing brick buildings at a local orphanage in Hera some 20kms east of Dili. The Club are involved in the management of many sporting events in the Macedon Ranges to raise funds.

The Rotary Club of Kyneton is a very busy club with many activities happening and a close working relationship with its community. The Annual Daffodil and Arts Festival Parade is the main event of the year





Calder Cluster Continued

and the club entering a float in the parade to publicise Rotary. The Rotary Club of Kyneton famous Men's Choir continues to perform at functions during the year, providing enjoyment to many. The Live4 Life Youth Mental Health programs are supported by the club as well as working with other service groups to care for the elderly. A variety of support programs are provided to assist schools in the town, with great results. The club organised a local community dinner for service groups in the area at which Supreme Court Justice Jack Forrest was the guest speaker, and Lions, PROBUS, RSL and Zonta representatives joined with their Rotary colleagues to celebrate their achievements. The club has also been active in East Timor with Rotarians regularly participating in building projects in East Timor or gathering shoes and other items in Kyneton to be sent to the struggling country. A Women in Rotary function was another successful project this year.

The Rotary Club of Woodend is a rural club comprising local business persons, city commuters and retirees. Projects undertaken included, developing an exercise track, distributing copies of a local newspaper to 3500 readers, supporting the Scouts, promoting the Australian Day celebrations and funding a 'Peace Park' for disadvantaged children. Local non-Rotarians assisted in a project to improve the town entrance, by refurbishing a fence and planting trees. The club conducted a popular Halloween event in a safe environment .Rotarians prepared and distributed free sausages and drinks to more than 800 members of the public and all children provided a bag of sweets.

Finally, it has been an enjoyable experience to be able to work with some wonderful Rotarians in these clubs and I look forward to building a closer working relationship to assist in expanding these great Clubs into the future.

GSE Welcome Dinner

Another successful GSE Welcome Dinner was held at Milano's Brighton Beach Hotel to welcome the German Team from District 1860. Hosted by RC Brighton Beach, around 100 Rotarians & Partners attended on the night including the D9800 outbound GSE Team.

District Foundation Chair PDG John Wigley opened the evening on how the GSE program was still alive and well thanks to the generosity of D9800 Rotarians & Clubs in their contributions to The Rotary Foundation. He went on to inform the guests that 15,380 teams from 106 countries at a cost of \$US 119 million have participated in GSE since its inception in 1965.

PDG John then introduced German Team Leader Beate Holzwarth and in turn the team introduced each other. Oliver Ludwig, Tobias Beer, Susanne Melchert, Ingrid Schenk & Cora Janik

The German's presentation was very professional and informative on Economy, Work ethics, Business rankings & operations, Food, Wine & Beer, Arts & Music and of course Sport especially their support of Football (Soccer).

At the end of their presentation the

team sang a German song followed by Waltzing Matilda in German, then again in English with the entire gathering joining in.

DG Ross Butterworth was called to address guests reiterating his passion for the GSE program and expressing his appreciation on the German Team presentation.

The traditional exchanging of Club Banners took place and Annette Butterworth pinned the Rotary D9800 Kangaroo Lapel badge on all team members.

Next our D9800 Outbound team led by Bendigo Rotarian Phil West were introduced to the guests and received their scarves or ties from DG Ross.

Once all formalities were concluded Pres. RC Brighton Beach Grant Wishnowsky closed the meeting and Paparazzi Guru Gordon Cheyne took over see photo link below.

Photos of the GSE team Welcome Dinner Germany are at <u>https://plus.google.com/</u> photos/106224275621582639712/al bums/5984331605154896865?authk ey=CIPJxdeAkri3Ww Kon Vazguoz, D0800 GSE Chair

Ken Vazquez, D9800 GSE Chair







Support our Largest Literary Project – It's Easy

What is your Club doing for Literacy Month? If you are looking for a project why not become a partner in this project and be able to claim that the Rotary Club of ????? is helping to send 5000 School Chairs and 2000 Desks to Timor Leste this year.

All you need to do to be able to make this claim is to contribute a tax deductable \$5.00 to send a chair or \$20.00 for a table.

If your club can't help in this way your members may be able to

donate a few hours to help collect equipment from the 12 schools which are currently and urgently trying to donate goods to DIK.

Another way they could help would be to pack equipment in the Store.

We are making great progress with 3694 chairs and 1373 desks shipped. With your help we will reach our target.

Get involved and let your local newspaper know what we are doing and that the public can help.



If you can assist in any way please contact Laurie Fisher 0428 550 574 dik.vic.rotary@gmail.com

COUPLE'S \$1.1 MILLION GIFT BOOSTS PUSH TO ERADICATE POLIO



Rotary member Terry Caster and his wife, Barbara, gave \$1.1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio.

Photo Credit: Alyce Henson/Rotary International

Rotary member Terry Caster and his wife, Barbara, announced a \$1.1 million gift to Rotary to help eradicate polio. What's more, their gift will be matched two-forone by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3.3 million in new funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

The Casters' gift is one of the largest-ever individual contributions to Rotary for polio eradication. In addition to supporting our No. 1 goal of a polio-free world, the couple gave \$750,000 to the Rotary Peace Centers to fund a peace fellow's studies every other year. Both gifts were made to The Rotary Foundation in December. "Barbara and I are blessed to be fruitful in our family business, A-1 Self Storage," said Terry, the company's founder and a member of the Rotary Club of La Mesa in California. "We've always felt it is important to give back and help others, so we are involved in numerous charities.

"But as a Rotarian, I can think of no cause more worthy than Rotary's work to end polio and promote peace," said Terry, who received Rotary's Service Above Self Award in 1993 for his humanitarian work.

Since the 1960s, the Casters have actively supported humanitarian efforts in San Diego and across the border in Tijuana, Mexico. They founded Serving Hands International in 1982 to help the poor in Baja California. After meeting Mother Teresa, the couple were inspired to expand SHI's work in Mexico.

Rotary is a leading partner in the fight to end polio. Through our advocacy, fundraising, and public awareness efforts, Rotary has helped reduce polio cases by 99 percent worldwide. The End Polio Now, Make History Today fundraising campaign makes contributions work three times as hard with matching funds from the Gates Foundation.

The announcement of the Casters' gift was made in San Diego at Rotary's International Assembly, an annual training event for the incoming class of governors who represent Rotary's 537 districts worldwide.

By Dan Nixon, Rotary News 14-JAN-2014













NOTICES AND EVENTS

ROTARY CLUB OF BENDIGO

^{March} 21 NIGHT GOLF

BENDIGO GOLF CLUB 6.30 pm assembly and BBQ 4 person Ambrose hit off around 7.30 so play 4 holes in the pitch black with LED glow balls.

FRIDAY MARCH 21

A charity event in support of Operation Cleft Operation With over 148 cleft operations over the last 5 events come along and change the life of a family.

Cost to play for each team is 1 operation - \$250. Contact: glennreilly@my.betta.com.au



Violence Free Families, District 9800 endorsed project

^{March} ³⁰ Mad Hatters Tea Party

Sunday, 30 March - 2-5 pm AND WE NEED YOUR HELP

Spread the word at your club and encourage members to come along and support the event. Don't hesitate to contact Kerry Kornhauser 0411 597 690 or kerry@rotarywomen.og.au or Kate Strain 0400 600 169.



Rotary Club of Brimbank Central

Community Fun Day Saturday, 5 April - 11 am to 9 pm. STATION ROAD, DEER PARK (Next to Brimbank Shopping Centre)

- Show rides for all ages Animal Farm
- Food and market stalls Car Display
- Non-stop Entertainment on two stages





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NOTICES AND EVEN TS

ROTARY CLUB OF TOORAK

April **BOOK SALES**

> **Toorak/South Yarra Library** 340 Toorak Road, South Yarra (Access via Cromwell Road) Melway Ref: Map 58, F3

Next book sale Saturday, April 12 10 am to 2 pm



Children's Books .50 cents, Soft covers \$1 and Hard covers \$2.

Between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the Saturday of our Book Sales, we pack the books into boxes (up to 60 boxes at a time) and the Library requires us to distribute them to charities or within the Rotary Network.



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GMHBA Wyndham Rotary ^{pril} FUN RUN/WALK

Sunday, 2nd March **Chirnside Park, Werribbee Raise funds for GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL and** other local charities.



10km/5km RUNs 8km/4km WALKs



April 16

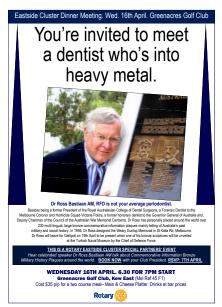
ROTARY EASTSIDE CLUSTER SPECIAL PARTNERS' EVENT

Dr Ross Bastiann Wednesday, 16 April - 6.30 for 7 pm

Greenacres Golf Club, Kew East

Cost \$35 p/p for a two course meal. Main & Cheese Platter - Drinks at bar prices Dr Ross Bastiaan AM will talk about Commemorative Information Bronze Military History Plaques around the world. **BOOK NOW with your Club President. RSVP: 7TH APRIL**

In 1995, Dr Ross designed the Weary Dunlop Memorial in St Kilda Rd. Melbourne. Dr Ross will leave for Gallipoli on 19th April to be present when one of his bronze sculptures will be unveiled at the Turkish Naval Museum by the Chief of Defence Force.







Abbott and Costello - Updated

You have to be old enough to remember Abbott and Costello and too old to REALLY understand computers, to fully appreciate this. For those of us who sometimes get flustered by our computers, please read on...

If Bud Abbott and Lou Costello were alive today, their infamous sketch, Who's on First?' might have turned out something like this:

COSTELLO CALLS TO BUY A COMPUTER FROM ABBOTT

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you? COSTELLO: Thanks I'm setting up an office in my den and I'm thinking about buying a computer. ABBOTT: Mac? COSTELLO: No, the name's Lou. ABBOTT: Your computer? COSTELLO: I don't own a computer. I want to buy one. ABBOTT: Mac? COSTELLO: I told you, my name's Lou. ABBOTT: What about Windows? COSTELLO: Why? Will it get stuffy in here? ABBOTT: Do you want a computer with Windows? COSTELLO: I don't know. What will I see when I look at the windows? ABBOTT: Wallpaper. COSTELLO: Never mind the windows. I need a computer and software. ABBOTT: Software for Windows? COSTELLO: No. On the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and run my business. What do you have? ABBOTT: Office. COSTELLO: Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything? ABBOTT: I just did. COSTELLO: You just did what? ABBOTT: Recommend something. COSTELLO: You recommended something? ABBOTT: Yes. COSTELLO: For my office? ABBOTT: Yes. COSTELLO: OK, what did you recommend for my office? ABBOTT: Office. COSTELLO: Yes, for my office!

ABBOTT: I recommend Office with Windows.

COSTELLO: I already have an office with windows! OK, let's just say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need?

ABBOTT: Word.

COSTELLO: What word?

ABBOTT: Word in Office.

COSTELLO: The only word in office is office.

ABBOTT: The Word in Office for Windows.

COSTELLO: Which word in office for windows?

ABBOTT: The Word you get when you click the blue 'W'.

COSTELLO: I'm going to click your blue 'W' if you don't start with some straight answers. What about financial bookkeeping? Do you have anything I can track my money with?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: That's right. What do you have? ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: I need money to track my money?

ABBOTT: It comes bundled with your computer.

COSTELLO: What's bundled with my computer? ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: Money comes with my computer? ABBOTT: Yes. At no extra charge.

COSTELLO: I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much?

ABBOTT: One copy.

COSTELLO: Isn't it illegal to copy money?

ABBOTT: Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money.

COSTELLO: They can give you a license to copy money? ABBOTT: Why not? THEY OWN IT!

(A few days later)

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you? COSTELLO: How do I turn my computer off? ABBOTT: Click on 'START.'

STILL SPOTS AVAILABLE. - CLICK THROUGH TO THE WEBSITE