



Building Value For 60 Years

# THE Raymond Report

Winter 2016



## The Newest State-of-the-Art Design Center

*Owner*

DCV Development Dallas, LTD  
Houston, Texas

*Architect*

Azimuth : architecture, inc.  
Dallas, Texas

*Civil Engineer*

Spiares Engineering  
Plano, Texas

*Featured Project*

## Wisenbaker Building Services, Inc.

788 Canyon Drive  
Coppell, Texas

**W**e are thankful to have been chosen as the general contractor by Wisenbaker Building Services, Inc. to build their new showcase/showroom for the metroplex.

Wisenbaker provides interior finish solutions to builders all across Texas in addition to providing support through their company-owned and operated design centers.

*On behalf of the entire Raymond Construction staff,  
we wish you a healthy and prosperous 2016.*



The cows were tested in a T-shaped maze similar to those used with mice and rats.

## Moo! Cows May Be Smarter Than You Think

What's the smartest animal you can think of? Dolphins and chimpanzees may spring to mind quickly, but don't neglect one often-overlooked farm animal: the cow.

College students at the University of Sydney (as reported by *The Huffington Post*) conducted experiments with dairy cows and found that our bovine friends are capable of quickly mastering a maze to find food, and thus may possess better problem-solving skills than previously known.

The cows were tested in a T-shaped maze similar to those used with mice and rats. They learned to follow a sound through the maze to get to their food, with one of them reaching its goals within the first 20 seconds of the test.

The results suggest that cattle farmers could train cows to obey specific sound signals to come in for milking, producing greater efficiency on dairy farms.

## Don't Listen To The Critics

If you worry that your work is unappreciated, consider that even notable critics make mistakes. From *Rotten Reviews: A Literary Companion*, edited by Bill Henderson (Penguin Books) come these examples of reviewers who missed the mark when evaluating various "failures":

- **Emily Dickinson.** In describing poet Emily Dickinson for an 1892 review in *The Atlantic Monthly*, Thomas Bailey Aldrich noted his belief that "an eccentric, half-educated recluse in an out-of-the-way New England village—or anywhere else—cannot with impunity set at defiance the laws of gravitation and grammar."
- **William Faulkner.** *The New Yorker's* Clifton Fadiman didn't mince words in his 1936 review of William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!* Fadiman declared it "the final blowup of what was once a remarkable, if minor, talent."
- **Rudyard Kipling.** A *San Francisco Examiner* editor summed up the paper's view of *Jungle Book* author Rudyard Kipling in an 1889 rejection letter that read: "I'm sorry, Mr. Kipling, but you just don't know how to use the English language."
- **Charles Dickens.** And in 1859, the *Saturday Review* made this bold prediction of Charles Dickens, author of *Great Expectations*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Oliver Twist*: "We do not believe in the permanence of his reputation."

"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."

William Arthur Ward

—from *mental\_oss*

Which single recorded by Jan and Dean was the first surf song to top the U.S. Billboard pop chart?

## Trivial Matters

1) Advertising executive Gary Dahl was responsible for which of the following short-lived fad items?

- Mood Rings
- Pet Rocks
- "Baby On Board" Signs
- Troll Dolls

2) "Conrad" was the first name of the founder of which hotel chain that still bears his surname?

- Sheraton
- Radisson
- Marriott
- Hilton

3) Which of the following singles was recorded by Jan and Dean and was the first "surf" song to top the U.S. Billboard pop chart?

- Surfin' U.S.A.
- Surfin' Safari
- Surf City
- Surfer Girl

4) The late Stanley Ann Dunham is the mother of which U.S. President?

- Barack Obama
- Bill Clinton
- Jimmy Carter
- Lyndon Johnson

5) By what name was Shelly Duvall's character, Winifred Torrance, known in the 1980 thriller *The Shining*?

- Winnie
- Willa
- Wendy
- Wanda

Answers: 1) b; 2) d; 3) c; 4) a; 5) c



## Tuscany Center At Walnut Creek

8024 Exchange Drive  
Austin, Texas

*This 90,331-square-foot office/warehouse was built for CH Realty VI/I Austin Tuscany, L.P. of Dallas, Texas.*

*Architect*

David L. Carson, TAG International, LLP  
Austin, Texas

*Construction Manager*

Pritchard Associates, Inc.  
Dallas, Texas

*Site Manager*

Johnny Palmer  
Raymond Construction

## Owners' Corner

Are you considering new construction or a renovation?  
Give us a call. We can help you navigate the process.



*Charles Raymond*



*David Schlimme*



*Justin Deming*

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We're doing our part. This newsletter is printed on environmentally-friendly paper.



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**The Raymond Report** with you.