

## Letters to the Editor -- Published Sept. 28, 2009

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### Tracy has taken too many blows

Tracy has recently been reported as one of the safest cities in California, which for the past months seems hard to believe. Three of the most bizarre and tragic events have recently gripped Tracy, receiving both local and national media coverage. Who could have imagined before December 2008 that we are now awaiting trials (likely to be scheduled in 2010) for seven suspects accused of capital torture, mayhem, murder and rape?

First, Mike and Kelly Lau Schumacher were accused in December of the bizarre kidnap, torture, and aggravated mayhem of a 17-year-old boy in their home. A next-door neighbor is also an accused participant.

Second, we have the case of Melissa Huckaby, 28, a Sunday school teacher, accused of the rape and murder of 8-year old Sandra Cantu in March 2009. She is further accused of poisoning a 7-year-old girl and a 37-year-old man.

Third, Robert and Jorge Morgan, domestic partners and three-time losers, are accused of the vicious murder of Cynthia Ramos, a beloved grandmother who was stabbed in her own home in August.

These lurid, outrageous crimes sadly will be recanted in intricate details during the trials to come. Tracy may not compare with 16th century Transylvania, but it is hard to believe evils of this magnitude could have been worse for our small San Joaquin Valley city.

**Mike Kaelin**

*Tracy*