



High-Speed Charging Hub Ready

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Carmichael Times

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JUNE 30, 2023

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HOMELESS WORLD SOCCER USA REVEAL LOGO



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Flights of Independence



Three's company. Papa Bald babysits three eaglets hatched in the American River nest this year. All three recently made their first flights at about 12 weeks old.

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Gales, hail storms, a surprise late hatch and dramatic tumbles were among pre-flight adventures for the 2023 American River bald eagle family.

By now, all three of Mama and Papa's eaglets have fledged. Storm, Providence and latecomer Fortune are winging to independence (note: these names are unofficial and coined by this eight-year observer. Scientific records identify the eaglets as eaglets 14, 15 and 16.)

Run ragged by months of incubation and providing, their parents will soon restore their battered eyrie and anticipate a 2024 breeding season. Such is



By moonlight, Mama Bald watches over her American River babies.

their existence. Like most wild animals, our beautiful national bird lives only to enjoy freedom and sustain

its species.

Built in 2016, their eyrie was considered the closest to Sacramento in recorded

history. The phenomenon of their breeding in unaccustomed territory underscored a comeback for a species that hovered near extinction in the 1970s. The American River nest has since been sanctuary to 17 babies.

The parents courted and coupled in January and February. Alpha eaglet Storm hatched during tempests in early March. The second arrived providentially in peaceful days that followed. Then an eagle-cam installed by Friends of Folsom and Lake Natoma revealed a third fluff-head. I called this surprise baby Fortune.

Eaglets fly at around 12 weeks after hatching. To achieve adult size in less than three months, they must be fed non-stop. Their

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CAL FIRE Encourages Safety this Fourth of July Holiday

CAL FIRE News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - With the Fourth of July holiday around the corner, state fire officials are stressing the dangers and consequences of using illegal fireworks. This Fourth of July, remember to celebrate responsibly. Protect your community by preventing fires and injuries caused by fireworks. Before you think about buying fireworks for your celebration, make sure they are permitted where you live. Fireworks purchased out-of-state are illegal in California without a license. Why not let the experts handle the fireworks show? You can easily grab a blanket, head to local fireworks show, and find the perfect patch of lawn to kick back and enjoy.

"With fireworks causing over \$25 million dollars in property loss in 2022, preventing fires and injuries caused by fireworks begins with you" said Chief Daniel Berlant, Acting California State Fire Marshal. "Don't be the reason your Fourth of July holiday goes up in smoke".

If Safe and Sane fireworks are legal in your area and you choose to use them, it's important that you follow these safety tips:

Never use illegal fireworks; Make sure the firework has the State Fire Marshal "Safe and Sane" seal on it; Make sure the "Safe and Sane" firework is purchased from a licensed fireworks booth; Never allow young children to use or handle fireworks; Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol; Never hold a lit firework in your hands; Never light fireworks indoors; Only use them away from people, houses, and flammable materials; Never point or throw fireworks at another person or animal; Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks; Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for an extended time before discarding; Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.

To learn more about fireworks safety, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org/more/fireworks-safety/ ★

Retired Teachers Award Students

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Seven American River College students have received \$1500 grants from the California Retired Teachers Association, Division 75.

The recipients were recently applauded at a North Ridge Country Club luncheon. The organization assists students in fields that include healthcare, teaching, and technical studies. Grants are enabled through a scholarship program funded by member benevolence.

"Support of ARC students is one of our most important projects," said CARTA Vice President (and former San Juan School District teacher) Ralphene Lee. "Students of all ages experience challenges during their time at school.



Students Ivana Liatavska (left) Jerry Kennedy and Nataliai Safi (far right) are among recipients of American River College Retired Teachers Association scholarships. Marti Gohring and Ralphene Lee (fourth and second from right) and Los Rios Colleges Foundation director Kirsten DuBray (third from right) support the presentations.

This is our way of helping future classroom teachers."

2023 awardees are: Theint Theint Thu; Iana Liatavska; Jerry Kennedy; Aubrie Moore; Nataliai

Safi; Alaric Holly and Christopher Billings.

Division 75 of the California Retired Teachers Association meets regularly for luncheons.

New members from any professional field are welcome, including currently working teachers. For information, call (916) 204-2413. ★



4th of July Holiday: Keep it Safe, Keep it Fun!

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - With Independence Day coming up, it's always a good idea to know the risks of fireworks, only use legal fireworks and stay safe when using them. If you see or suspect illegal firework usage, please report it!

The County has teamed up with cities, fire and law enforcement jurisdictions to share information on how to celebrate safely, how to spot a safe and sane firework and how to report illegal fireworks usage.

Illegal Fireworks or Sales Will Result in Fines

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors adopted a social host ordinance that levies fines, starting at \$1,000, against property owners that either use or allow the use of illegal fireworks on their property, in addition to fines for use in places like the American River Parkway. Read more about the Social Host Ordinance.

"Host," as it relates to this ordinance, means a person who knowingly permits or allows fireworks to be lit, exploded or sold on private property owned or controlled by the person.

Penalties for violations are as follows: \$1,000 for the first violation; \$2,500 for the second violation within one year of the first violation; \$5,000 for each additional violation within one year of the first violation; \$10,000 for each violation that occurs within the American River Parkway

When to call 9-1-1

Calls for service throughout the County increase dramatically on July 4, and emergency response resources are stretched extremely thin.

During the holiday weekend, please use 9-1-1 for emergencies only -- like an

active fire or injury or immediate threat to persons or property. Each jurisdiction has provided an alternative method to report illegal fireworks sales and usage.

Know the Risks

The unsafe use of fireworks can cause severe burns, amputations, blinding and even death; Damaging fires may occur when children use fireworks unsupervised by adults; Parents are responsible for any property damage or injuries caused by all fireworks.

Keep it Legal

All legal fireworks in California are called Safe and Sane Fireworks and must bear the State Fire Marshal's seal; Safe and Sane Fireworks may only be used and sold from noon on June 28 through midnight on July 4; Any firework that goes up in the air or explodes is illegal and dangerous.

Keep It Safe

Always have a non-combustible bucket of water to dispose of fireworks and leave them in the water overnight before disposing; Always have an available hose connected to water in case of fire; Do not use fireworks near dry grass or other flammable materials; Do not use fireworks while under a canopy, covered balcony, covered patio or under a tree or bushes.

How to Report Illegal Sale and Usage

Unincorporated: 916-874-5115 or reportfireworks@saccounty.net
Sacramento: 916-808-FIRE or the Sacramento Fire Department App Folsom: fireworks@folsom.ca.us or seeclckfix.com/folsom
Elk Grove: 916-714-5115 or fireworks@elkgrovepd.org
Rancho Cordova: 916-362-5115
Citrus Heights: 916-727-5500
Galt: 209-366-7000

Aren't sure who or how to report? Call 3-1-1 to be connected to the right place.

Together, we can ensure that Independence Day celebrations are fun, safe and do not cause undue injury or fire in our communities. ★

Loaves and Fishes Mercy Clinic Offers Healthcare for the Unhoused

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)

Sacramento County's homeless population faces numerous challenges, from lack of housing to limited access to essential healthcare services. Recognizing the need for medical assistance in this community, the Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic offers primary care services. Operating under the Health Care for the Homeless program, this clinic has been a vital lifeline for those in need.

The clinic operates during the first part of the day Monday through Friday. Staff provide wound care, tuberculosis testing, and help people navigate health services. The dedicated team of doctors and Public Health Nurses ensure the medical needs of their clients are met.

The current form of the Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic was established in 2020. However, workers with Sacramento County's Primary Care and Public Health Departments have been offering medical assistance to the unhoused for decades.

Located within Loaves & Fishes, the clinic serves as a beacon of hope for those who have fallen through society's cracks. The location allows unhoused individuals to easily access care where they are. The clinic also serves as a reminder of Sacramento County's long-standing commitment to helping the homeless community. The clinic's experienced professionals understand the unique challenges faced by this population, and they strive to ensure everyone gets the care they deserve.

"I truly believe that healthcare is a basic human right and that everyone, regardless of their housing status, deserves access to care," says Dr. Kirti Malhotra.

Dr. Malhotra has been working with the unhoused population for more than a decade. And she is not the only friendly face clients are welcomed with when they go to the clinic. The entire team at Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic echoes Dr. Malhotra's sentiment. Leading the team is Dr. Susmita Mishra, an experienced physician dedicated to serving the



Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic is located at 1321 N C St #22, Sacramento, CA 95811. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

homeless population. Her leadership and expertise help drive the clinic's mission of providing compassionate care. The team also puts a heavy emphasis on building trusting relationships. Many patients have experienced a lack of trust in the system due to past negative experiences.

"So many of our patients come to us and they've had so many things happen to them, so they don't trust the system," says Dr. Malhotra. "We want them to know that we will work with them and that we care about them. We are there to support them and not judge them."

Part of that support goes beyond offering medical services. The clinic collaborates with community resources and shelters to help unhoused individuals seek comprehensive care. Transportation vouchers are provided to facilitate visits to labs and radiology services. Medications are available at the clinic based on insurance coverage. The staff considers not only the immediate needs but also the long-term well-being of its clients. The team looks at the patient's ongoing health requirements. Unmanaged chronic diseases and mental health conditions are common among the unhoused population.

"We often have to be very resourceful in the way we manage patients because they may not have access to the same things as other people. They might not have access to a fridge for their medication," explains Dr. Malhotra.

Because of the wide range of individual needs, the team creates individualized care plans that address each patient's needs. It's not a one-size-fits-all approach but rather tailored care that respects the limitations of unhoused individuals.

"We build rapport and trust. You have to listen to them. So often, they are being rushed to one place

after another. Incorporating that into our care goes a long way. Patients come back," says Dr. Malhotra.

Even though the clinic has been operating for years, the doctors and nurses still want to get the word out so they can assist more people in need. All unhoused patients are welcome at the clinic. Patients simply sign their names at the front of the clinic and are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Once they are signed in, a nurse will introduce themselves, take vitals, and accompany the patient to a doctor.

In cases where clients are seriously ill or have serious injuries, physicians quickly assess the situation. Depending on the severity, they either arrange for an ambulance or taxi to pick up the patient so they can get more extensive medical treatment.

The doctors and nurses at Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic understand that access to proper medical and mental health care is essential for the homeless population to find and sustain housing. When homeless individuals are healthy, they are more likely to be in a better mindset to seek and engage with housing services, helping break the cycle of homelessness.

"Just knowing that there is a place for them to go if they need support or care makes a significant difference," says Dr. Malhotra.

By addressing the healthcare needs of the homeless and breaking down barriers, the Sacramento Loaves & Fishes Mercy Clinic offers hope, healing, and a path toward a brighter future for all it serves. The clinic's unwavering dedication to the community sets an inspiring example for compassionate healthcare provision, and it underscores the importance of extending support and care to those who need it most. ★

California Farm Bureau Applauds Supreme Court WOTUS Decision

California Farm Bureau News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On May 25, 2023, California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson is applauding the U.S. Supreme Court's decision rejecting the Biden administration's Waters of the United States Rule.

"California Farm Bureau appreciates the Supreme Court's decision," Johansson said. "Our farmers and ranchers have faced years of confusion over what waters are regulated by the federal government. Today's decision brings greater clarity."

The court's ruling in Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency reins in the EPA's authority under the Clean

Water Act to regulate water bodies on private properties.

In a majority opinion, the court wrote that under the Biden administration's rule, landowners "potentially face severe criminal and civil penalties" even for accidentally discharging pollutants into navigable waters.

"Agriculture is intrinsically tied to the earth," Johansson said. "Our farmers and ranchers have a strong interest in effective, efficient and reasonable rules for the protection and management of the nation's water and land resources."

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 29,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.3 million Farm Bureau members. ★

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Chamber Hosts Inaugural Golf Tournament Fundraiser for First Tee

Carmichael Chamber of Commerce News Release

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Registration is currently open for the 1st Annual Golf Tournament “Paradise in Carmichael”, which benefits First Tee. This year’s tournament will be held on Monday, August 28th, 2023, at Ancil Hoffman Golf Course in Carmichael, CA.

The 4-person scramble will tee off at 8:30 am at Ancil Hoffman Golf Course located at 6700 Tarshes Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608.

“It’s always been my passion for Giving Back to my community and others,” said Izzy DeLancey, Carmichael Chamber Board President. “The Inaugural golf tournament is a way for all of us to give back.”

First Tee – Greater Sacramento enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. By seamlessly integrating the game of golf with life skills curriculum, we create learning experiences that build inner strength, self-confidence, and resilience that kids carry to everything they do.

Fees are \$150.00 per player. Individual golfers and twosomes will be paired into foursomes. Fees include green fees, cart, range balls, a breakfast burrito, and a ticket to

the awards luncheon.

Registration is open until August 11, 2023, and sponsorships are also available. For information about the Paradise in Carmichael Golf Tournament, visit www.CarmichaelChamber.com or call Izzy DeLancey at (916) 271-2100.

First Tee — Greater Sacramento uses golf as a vehicle to teach core values, life skills, and healthy habits to young people and help give them the skills they need to flourish in their lives today and in the future. They serve juniors from the ages of 3-18 with a variety of programs, including summer camps, after-school outreach, Special Olympics, adaptive physical education classes, a competitive junior golf tour, Swing Club for the Blind, First Tee School Program, First Tee Community Program and much more. To learn more about First Tee - Greater Sacramento, visit www.FirstTeeSacramento.org.

The Carmichael Chamber of Commerce is the leading organization dedicated to serving Carmichael’s businesses and helping the community prosper through advocacy, access to leaders, building relationships amongst businesses and Carmichael’s citizens, economic development, and business education. Learn more at www.CarmichaelChamber.com ★

Flights of Independence



Dinner is served in the eyrie. Eaglets are fed a diet of fish, fowl and land kill.

Continued from page 1

parents worked in relays to deliver prey and at first, the hatchlings were delicately beak-fed. As they grew, they learned to tear at flesh unaided. Fish and waterfowl were on the menu most days.

Alpha Storm was first to scramble outside the nursery and begin the process of branching. Flapping and building flight muscle, she navigated the tall pine. Early in this process, an incoming adult caused near-disaster by knocking the baby off her limb. Hanging by a talon, she clung to the nest underside – upside down – for 10 minutes. Eaglet resilience triumphed as she scrambled uphill, regained the basket and lunged, squealing, at dinner with her siblings. No peril, it seemed, dulls eaglet appetite.

One June morning, second sister Providence missed her footing and plummeted. Unready for flight, she nevertheless broke her fall with a few flaps and landed in brush a hundred feet below the nest. For a day, she flapped and flailed among flimsy buck-eye branches.

When she eventually hit ground level, the refugee hop/flitted across a shallow ravine to ascend an oak for her second night on the lam. She awoke hungry and managed a first deliberate fight to bluff-top trees. Later, still unfed, she ascended a pine snag and screamed to the heavens. Arriving in Papa’s talons, a squirrel was

served picnic-style. When a second squirrel came hours later, survival seemed sure. Strengthened by unshared provisions and continuous wing exercise, she flew home four days after her fall. A fat trout was the incentive. You can only eat so much squirrel.

Alpha Storm’s fledge – a fast lateral loop and flawless re-landing – went almost unnoticed during the middle-sibling’s drama. Baby Fortune flew the coop about 13 days after the eldest eaglet’s on-time flight. Their future includes gradual weaning from parental provisions and finding new territory. In time, I predict, there will be eagles up and down all Sacramento river systems.

The comeback of our national bird from near-extinction in the 1970s cannot be better illustrated than by this American River family. During seven seasons – in territory where their species was previously unknown – one couple has hatched and dispatched 15 eaglets to continue their resilient line.

Like the nation whom their image represents, these babies are bred to be resourceful, independent and above all, free.

God Bless nature. And God Bless America.

Footnote: in the interests of safety for these protected birds, the nest location is not revealed. ★

Sacramento County Stands with Jewish Community



Rich Desmond
Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Following is a statement from

Sacramento County Board Chair and Third District Supervisor Rich Desmond: “Hundreds of hate-filled leaflets, targeting members of our Jewish community, have been distributed in Arden Arcade and in the City of Sacramento over the last two days. I am monitoring the situation closely with the Sacramento County Sheriff and community leaders.

“We firmly stand in solidarity with members

of Sacramento’s Jewish community, offer our unwavering support and affirm that discrimination and prejudice in any form is unacceptable. Such acts of hate and ignorance have no place in our society. We believe in fostering a community that embraces diversity, promotes understanding, and celebrates the richness of all cultures and religions. Together, we can continue to work towards a future free from bigotry and intolerance.” ★



Make our communities bright with our Shine Awards. Nonprofits can apply for a chance to receive funding for projects that support and revitalize local communities in the Sacramento region.

We’re seeking proposals that promote zero carbon workforce development, environmental justice and equity, inclusive economic development and STEM education. Shine projects align with SMUD’s goal of eliminating all carbon emissions from our power supply by 2030, so all our customers will live in a Clean PowerCitySM.

As your community-owned, not-for-profit electric service, we’re always looking for ways to make our communities shine!

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62nd Annual Carmichael Elks ★☆☆

4th of July Parade

“Community Spirit in America”

Parade Kick Off: 10:30 A.M.

Grand Marshal:
Izzy Delancey, Carmichael Chamber of Commerce President

Parade Route: Fair Oaks Blvd from Marconi to the Elks Lodge on Cypress Ave.

Fair Oaks Blvd Closed to through traffic 10 A.M. to 12:00 Noon
Use Garfield-California for alternate North/South Traffic

*After the parade, celebrate the 4th with free swimming, children’s games, food available for purchase, air-conditioned indoor live music and dancing to the “Crystal Image Band” live music at the Carmichael Elks 5631 Cypress Ave.

To Enter Your Float Or Organization in the Parade contact
Email: Carmelks@Mycci.net

High-Speed Charging Hub Ready



From left: SMUD Board Vice President Rosanna Herber; Sacramento Regional Transit General Manager and CEO, Henry Li; SMUD Board President Heidi Sanborn; GiddyUp EV Power Mike Corbera; Mike Calise, Tritium America's President; Chris Jerome, GiddyUp EV Charging, Founder and CEO. Photo courtesy of SacRT

SacRT News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- On June 14, 2023, the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) along with GiddyUp EV Charging, Inc. and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) officially unveiled a new high-speed electric vehicle public charging hub at the Power Inn light rail station.

This public-private partnership offers a state-of-the-art charging solution for Sacramento's emerging electric vehicle market, aimed to meet the region and state's sustainability goals, and provide a revenue sharing model for SacRT.

The Charging Hub is a large-scale network of Level 3 charging stations that provides the ability to charge both passenger and commercial vehicles simultaneously, and dramatically faster than the Level 2 chargers found in the majority of public charging stations. The new Charging Hub occupies 20 underutilized parking spots in the Power Inn light rail station. The

Charging Hub will serve everyday drivers and commercial fleets alike, with several spots designed to accommodate large fleet vehicles such as buses and semi-trucks.

SMUD estimates that there will be nearly one million electric vehicles in the region by 2040.

"California continues to lead the nation in setting big, bold climate goals and building the clean energy infrastructure required to make the transition from fossil fuels," said California State Treasurer, Fiona Ma. "Projects in local communities, like the Power Inn station charging hub, make electric vehicle adoption more attractive and charging more convenient for existing owners. It's projects like this that help California solidify its position as the country's leader in zero emissions vehicle integration into our way of life. Congratulations to SacRT, SMUD, and GiddyUp EV Charging on a successful public-private partnership!"

As a member of the State Assembly in 2011,

Ma authored AB 631 which placed into law a California Public Utilities Commission decision not to regulate EV charging stations as utilities.

"This public private partnership is delivering state of the art charging solutions to help us meet the region and state's sustainability goals, while providing revenue sharing for SacRT. Offering a mobility hub for multiple transportation modes at our light rail stations is an excellent way to connect riders and enhance our stations," said SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li.

"It's projects and partnerships like this that will increase EV deployment and help us expedite the transition to a carbon free economy," said SMUD General Manager and CEO Paul Lau. "Locating a fast-charging hub along a major thoroughfare helps increase access to varied forms of clean transportation. At SMUD we are partnering with our customers and community to bring electrification to under resourced communities, and this hub provides a bridge to get there."

GiddyUp EV Charging, Inc. is financing the purchase and installation of some of the fastest DCFC/Level 3 chargers in the industry, which will have the ability to recharge light and medium vehicles simultaneously in minutes compared to Level 2 chargers that may take hours. The Charging Hub is brightly lit and offers customers a high-tech security system using high-definition video cameras and real-time monitoring.

Learn more at sacrt.com/charginghub ★

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INDOOR PICKLEBALL



Come join us at the La Sierra Community Center for indoor pickleball. Our Johnson Gym has 5 indoor courts for drop-in play.

DAYS AND TIMES:

- Starting November 29th
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

- La Sierra Community Center (5325 Engle Rd)
- Johnson Gymnasium

FEES:

- \$5 for a day pass or \$40 for a 10-day punch card
- Purchase passes/punch cards at the La Sierra Community Center Recreation Office (5325 Engle Rd, Suite 100)



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-Senior VP, Sacramento Area business

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3988 Orval Way, Carmichael | Offered at: \$788,500



Fantastic Opportunity for multi-generational housing or an investment property that will cash flow! This spacious 2,500 square foot house has 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. This home has a separate living room, family room, and huge sunroom. The kitchen/dining combo offers plenty of storage space. Attached with a separate entrance is a 2 bedroom and one bath home. Each home has its own 2-car garage and backyard. Zoned Rd-10, it is possible to convert this home into a triplex. Great location just minutes away from excellent shops, restaurants, and schools.



8178 Sundance Drive, Orangevale | Offered at: \$595,000

Welcome home! This charming home is situated in a fantastic neighborhood in Orangevale. Enjoy a bright and airy floor plan with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and spacious living areas. The living/dining combo has vaulted ceilings and great natural lighting. The family room opens up to the private backyard and features a wood-burning fireplace. The updated kitchen is appointed with granite countertops and has plenty of storage space. The roomy master features vaulted ceilings and a step-in shower. Enjoy those long summer days ahead in the backyard with a sparkling pool, spa, and pergola.

4768 Hamilton Street, Sacramento | Offered at: \$535,000

This custom-built home is tucked away on a private lane in a wonderful neighborhood just steps away from Hamilton Street Park. Enjoy an open floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Large living room, formal dining room, and designated bar area. The kitchen is appointed with stainless steel appliances, oak cabinets with built-in desk/shelving, breakfast nook, and more! The master suite has vaulted ceilings, private access to the backyard, a large walk-in closet, and separate vanity area. Updated ceiling lights and fans, a laundry/hobby room addition, and garden room are just a few additional highlights. The backyard is nicely landscaped with shade trees and several fruit trees.



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New Fund Provides Support and Protection for Prescribed Fire and Cultural Burning

CALFIRE News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On June 19, 2023, the State of California will roll out a first-of-its-kind approach to curbing the state's catastrophic wildfire problem by providing new protections for prescribed fire and cultural burning practitioners. The \$20 million allocated for the "Prescribed Fire Liability Claims Fund Pilot" will cover losses in the rare instance that a prescribed or cultural burn escapes control.

California Senator Bill Dodd authored the 2022 bill (Senate Bill 926) that made this fund possible, continuing his many years of leadership on wildfire and prescribed fire-related legislation.

"Prescribed fire is a cost-effective way to minimize the scope and severity of wildfires," said Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa. "It's a tool that has been used for millennia by Native American tribes and one that will continue to play a big role in wildfire prevention. The rollout of this fund is a big step toward keeping California communities safe."

The use of prescribed fire and cultural burning—sometimes collectively called "good" or "beneficial" fire—is a key component of wildfire risk management in California. These projects reduce hazardous fuels, help restore ecological and cultural values, and make our communities safer and our ecosystems more resilient to wildfire. However, lack of liability insurance for practitioners has been a major barrier to increasing the use of prescribed fire, even as firefighters, fire scientists, at-risk communities, and state, federal, and tribal leaders call for more.

"The Prescribed Fire Claims Fund pilot project removes a significant barrier to obtaining insurance for potential damages from a prescribed fire or cultural burn conducted by a certified prescribed fire burn boss or a cultural fire practitioner," said CAL FIRE Director/Chief Joe Tyler. "As we continue to focus on increasing the resiliency of the state's forests, creating a pathway for private burn bosses to have the significant protection this claims fund provides is a critical step toward reaching the goals of the Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan."

The fund will provide up to \$2 million in coverage for prescribed fire projects led by a qualified burn boss or cultural practitioner. The fund is meant to demonstrate that prescribed fire, when carefully planned, resourced, and implemented, is a low-risk land management tool that mitigates the larger, more damaging risks of high-severity wildfires. The fund is the first of its kind nationally and is the result of several years of collaboration by a diversity of partners working with Senator Dodd's Office, including The Nature Conservancy, CAL FIRE, the University of California Cooperative Extension, the California Department

of Insurance, Tribal representatives, and many others.

"Launching this program is a key step in scaling ecologically based forest management to reduce the risk of megafires. We appreciate Senator Dodd's leadership and the expedient work of CAL FIRE and beneficial fire practitioners to develop this fund as the next fire season quickly approaches," said Dan Porter, The Nature Conservancy's Forest Program Director.

The fund will also advance cultural burning, helping Indigenous Californians restore their connection to fire.

"Cultural burning is an essential practice to meet diverse objectives, including biodiversity stewardship, ecological health, and community safety. The availability of this pilot fund provides cultural fire practitioners a safeguard against financial risk in the unlikely event of an escaped burn. This is a significant incentive to support revitalization of burning traditions following the legacy of policies banning such practices," said Don Hankins, Professor of Geography and Planning at CSU Chico and co-founder of the Indigenous Stewardship Network.

This fund is part of a larger vision for restoring beneficial fire across California's fire-adapted ecosystems. Last year, the state released its Strategic Plan for Expanding the Use of Beneficial Fire, which identified this claims fund as a priority. The state has also rolled out a state-certified burn boss program, changed the liability standard for prescribed fire, and made investments in prescribed burn associations, agency staffing, and other related efforts.

"We are using every tool to protect Californians, including using prescribed fire to fight wildfires," said Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara. "The Prescribed Fire Claims fund will be critical to assisting our tribal groups, nonprofits and private landowners who are leading the way. This is an example of government being innovative and leading by example. The data that we get from the claims fund is going to be essential to our on-going education with insurance companies to support insuring this important work."

Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Fire Network Director for the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, says the recent momentum is unparalleled.

"Californians are desperate to have a better relationship with fire, and only with innovative approaches like this Claims Fund will we be able to unleash the good work that needs to happen," said Quinn-Davidson. "It's a challenging time to be working on fire in California, but also an incredibly inspiring time."

More information about the Pilot Prescribed Fire Claims Fund can be found on the CAL FIRE Website including frequently asked questions and an enrollment form for practitioners. ★

Deputies Respond to Call Regarding Antisemitic Literature Distributed

Sacramento County Sheriff's Dept. News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On June 18, 2023, at approximately 9:45 pm near Clinton Road in North Sacramento County, deputies responded to a call for service regarding antisemitic literature distributed at several homes throughout the neighborhood. Multiple homes had been left with different flyers, but all contained the same type of message and appeared to advertise the same website.

Just after 8:00 am on June 19, 2023,

deputies responded to a neighborhood on Laurel Drive, where a resident found two Ziploc style plastic bags containing white supremacist literature at their home.

Bias-Based crime detectives are actively investigating both incidents, and it is unclear if they are related. Detectives are asking anyone with information about this incident to contact the Sheriff's Office at (916) 874-5115 or Sacramento Valley Crime Stoppers at (916) 443-HELP. Tip information may also be left anonymously at www.sacsheriff.com or by calling (916) 874-TIPS (8477). ★

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The End of Copper Wire Landline Service is a Step Backwards

My mother relies on her landline to communicate. She has a cell phone, but she has trouble using it, and often misplaces it. She needs a phone that always works and that she's comfortable using; it's why she's kept her landline, even as prices have gone up over the past 10 years.

That's why I was skeptical when her landline provider "upgraded" her service to "digital home phone service" – a landline alternative that tied her phone to her internet rather than old-fashioned copper wire.

It brought her bill down significantly, but it came with a cost. The call quality is terrible, and since her internet is spotty, her phone often doesn't work at all.

When we couldn't get her old service back, I discovered that last August, the FCC deregulated the telecom industry, and authorized phone companies to shut down traditional landlines nationwide and switch users to internet-based services.

Landlines are lifelines for 2.5 million seniors aged 55 and over in California. Having to rely on expensive landline alternatives that have poor call quality, stop working during power outages, puts seniors like her at risk.

I understand that landlines may not be "profitable" for the phone company to provide anymore. But this is why our Government exists – we regulate essential industries like telecommunications because not doing so leaves our most vulnerable people in the dust.

If the FCC won't look out for our seniors, the Carmichael Government should step up. I implore our local leaders to advocate for the most vulnerable members of our community, and fight to keep true landline phone service alive.

Thanks,
Kyle Billings

Art and Music Festival

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With Mary Jane Popp

Fun Bang Day

HAPPY (BANG BANG) 4TH OF JULY!!! It's here and time to celebrate the birth of our nation, or Independence Day, when the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence. It actually happened on July 2, 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was adopted. But what's a couple of days anyway. And it's been a federal holiday since 1941. So it is that the United States and Great Britain parted ways. Here are a few fun facts connected with that fateful day.

Only John Hancock signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. All the others signed later. The Declaration was signed by 56 men from 13 colonies. The average age of the signers was 45 from the youngest Thomas Lynch from South Carolina at 27 to the oldest Benjamin Franklin from Pennsylvania at 70. One out of eight signers was educated at Harvard...7 total. The only two signers who later became President of the United States were John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. The stars on the original American flag were in a circle so all colonies would appear equal. President John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe all died on the fourth. Adams and Jefferson died on the same day within hours of each other in 1826. Benjamin Franklin proposed the turkey as the national bird, but was overruled by John Adams and Thomas Jefferson who recommended the Bald Eagle. In 1776, there were 2.5 million people living in the new nation. Today the population is over 330 million. Fireworks are part of the tradition of celebrating this national holiday.

But please only legal fireworks and be respectful of where you shoot them off. Always enjoy BBQ and hot dogs to chicken and ribs. Every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped (not actually rung) thirteen times in honor of the original thirteen colonies. Traditions place the origins of the song "Yankee Doodle" as a pre-revolutionary War song originally sung by British military officers to mock the disheveled, disorganized colonial "Yankees" with whom they served in the



French and Indian war. It's believed the tune comes from the nursery rhyme Lucy Locket. The tune of the National Anthem was originally used by an English drinking song called "To Anacreon in Heaven." The words have nothing to do with consumption of alcohol but the melody was what Francis Key had in mind when he wrote the words we sing today. But it is kind of funny they originated as the melody for a song praise of wine.

We are better today than we have been for the last three and a half years with regard to the pandemic. But it's not all gone away and we should still be mindful there are viruses still hanging in the air. Did you know the Spanish Flu as it was called in 1918 is still with us? Let's say a prayer that we do not have to face another covid ever. Stay safe and celebrate to the MAX, but keep in mind it's the birthday of our nation!

HAPPY FOURTH!!!

UCSF Study Unpacks Root Causes of California's Homelessness Crisis



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The timing could not have been better.

A massive UC San Francisco study of California's worst-in-the-nation homelessness crisis was released Tuesday as Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders were negotiating details of a new state budget, with homelessness spending as one of the knottiest issues.

The study bolsters previous research which concluded that California's chronic shortage of housing, which imposes crushing costs on low-income families, lies at the heart of the crisis.

About a third of California's 40 million people live in poverty or near-poverty, United Ways of California recently reported. Sudden illness, an accident, a layoff or an unexpected car repair bill can easily lead to unpaid rent, eviction and a lack of shelter.

Homelessness, the UCSF study found, often leads to – or exacerbates – alcohol or drug dependence, mental health problems and violence, indicating that its victims need more than just roofs over their heads.

"Something goes wrong, and then everything else falls apart," the study's lead researcher, Dr. Margot Kushel, the director of the Benioff Homelessness and

Housing Initiative at UCSF, told the New York Times. "Everything in their life gets worse when they lose their housing: their health, their mental health, their substance use."

"This is a problem of this toxic combination of deep poverty and high housing costs," Kushel added. "We're a state, like every state in this country, that has a lot of very poor people, and we just don't have the housing for them."

The study recommends a wide array of services and projects to help those experiencing chronic homelessness to get off the streets and protect others from the same fate.

It would seem to bolster the demands of city and county officials not only for additional billions of dollars to help homeless Californians escape their plight, but for a multi-year state commitment to provide continuity.

While Newsom has been willing to provide local governments with some funds, he's been highly critical of their homelessness efforts and so far unwilling to make long-term commitments.

That conflict was evident when the state seemingly had oodles of money, and has become even sharper now that Newsom and legislators must contend with deficits that could continue for the remainder of Newsom's governorship.

Interestingly, the Benioff study was requested by Dr. Mark Ghaly, Newsom's secretary of health and human services, who said, in a statement, "this study reinforces the importance of comprehensive and integrated supports," which is what

local officials advocate in their demands for additional state aid.

The state plays only a tangential role in providing housing and social, medical, addiction and mental health services to those in squalid encampments that have become unwanted California symbols and fodder for political and media critics.

City governments are the main overseers of housing construction and joust with the state incessantly over zoning, building permits and other hurdles for projects to house low-income families and individuals – the ones most in peril of becoming homeless.

Meanwhile, county officials provide welfare, medical and mental health services with local, state and federal funds and often squabble with their city counterparts over how those programs are sited and administered in urban centers.

The Benioff study tells us that contrary to popular belief, those lacking shelter are overwhelmingly Californians, not migrants from other states, who largely remained in their communities after falling on hard times.

California's crisis will not be resolved without the "comprehensive and integrated" approach Ghaly advocates and that means state, county and municipal officialdom must set aside fingerpointing and blame-shifting to work cooperatively. Otherwise, we'll just waste billions of more dollars and the crisis will continue to worsen.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for more than 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★

Social Security Matters Working Widow Seeks to Maximize Social Security Benefits



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I was widowed years ago and, when I approached age 60, I looked into Social Security survivor benefits based on my late husband's record. He started receiving Social Security shortly before he died at \$1,200 per month. My income at age 60 was \$42,000 and, since Social Security would keep \$1 for every \$2 above the limit (around \$15,000 at that time), I did not apply. Next year I will reach my full retirement age of 66½, but I plan to work until I am 70. Will I be able to receive full survivor benefits next year if I continue to work? I plan to switch to my own Social Security benefit at age 70, which will be higher than my husband received. Since I am waiting to apply for survivor benefits, will there be an increase in the amount I receive? I am a municipal employee and when I retire, I will collect from the state retirement system. I paid into the state retirement system and also paid Social Security taxes, so will my state pension have any impact on my Social

Security? **Signed: Still Working**

Dear Still Working: Congratulations on having an excellent strategy for maximizing your survivor benefit as well as your personal SS retirement benefit. Once you reach your full retirement age (FRA) next year, you are no longer subject to Social Security's "earnings test" and can collect Social Security benefits without those benefits being affected by your work earnings.

Your surviving spouse benefit will be more because you are waiting until your full retirement age to claim it. At your FRA you can claim your full survivor benefit from your deceased husband (without reduction) and collect only that while still allowing your personal SS retirement benefit to grow to maximum when you are 70. Then, at age 70, you can switch from your smaller survivor benefit to your maximum SS retirement benefit and collect that higher amount for the rest of your life. Essentially, your survivor benefit reaches maximum at your FRA and your personal SS retirement benefit reaches maximum at age 70.

Note that you should apply for your benefits a couple of months before you wish them to start. For example, if you reach your FRA in May of next year you can apply for your survivor benefit in February or March, specifying that you wish your

survivor benefit to begin in May 2024 at your full retirement age. Just be sure to emphasize that you are applying only for your survivor benefit and wish your personal SS retirement benefit to continue to grow by earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) until you are 70.

You cannot apply for your survivor benefit online, so you will need to call Social Security, at either the national number (1.800.772.1213) or your local Social Security office, to make an appointment to apply for your benefit as your husband's widow.

And to answer your last question, your state pension won't affect your monthly Social Security payments because you paid Social Security FICA payroll taxes from your municipal earnings.

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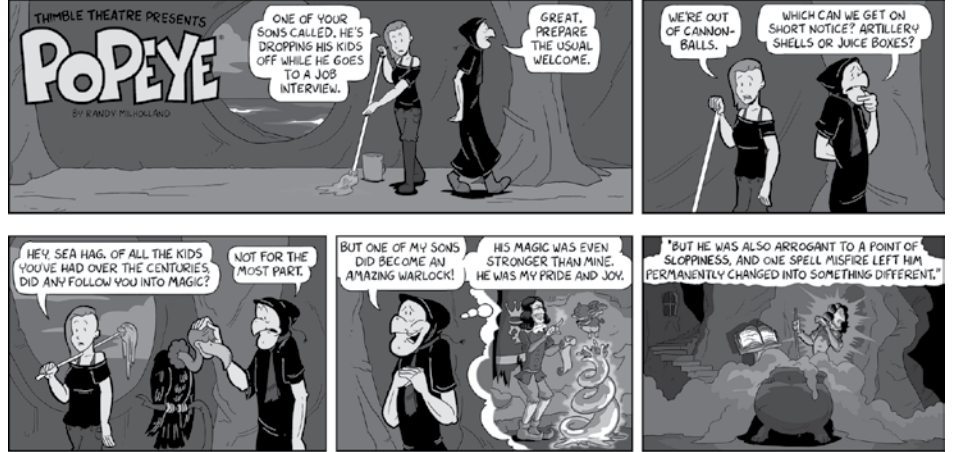
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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

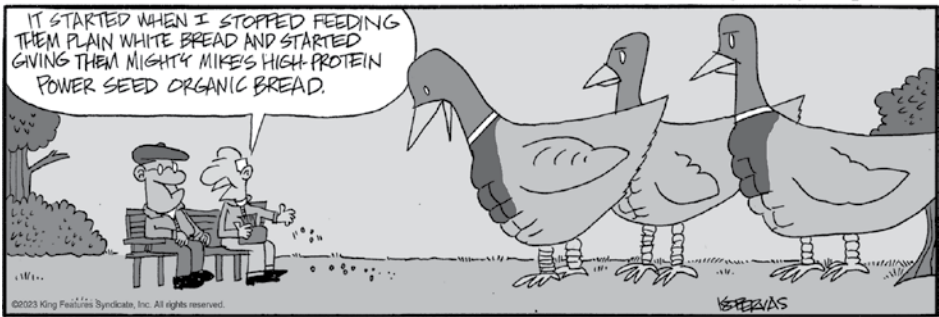


Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

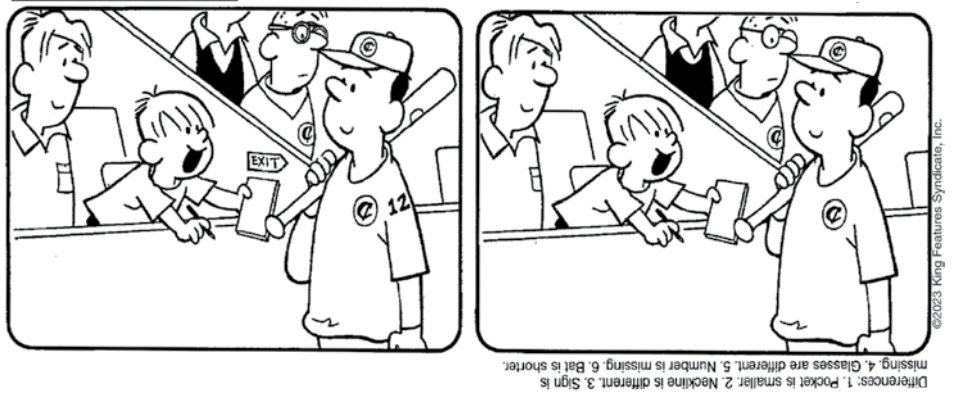
Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



TIGER



by BUD BLAKE

GRIN THE BEAR IT



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by Dave T. Phipps



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • BIOLOGY 101

CLUES

ACROSS

- *Lactuca sativa dish
- Banned insecticide
- Doorframe part
- *Group of #3 Down
- Top seed number
- *Blood ____, diabetic's concern
- *Food poisoning-causing bacterium
- Galley tool
- Sushi restaurant staple
- *Giant sequoia, e.g.
- *Measure of energy
- Auction call
- Animal coat
- Tolstoy's first name, in Russian
- *Plural of cecum
- *Fastest growing woody plant
- Footnote acronym
- Mosquito net, e.g.
- Attention-seeking
- Skier's aid
- Certain saxes
- Sheltered, nautically speaking
- *Wife's mother, e.g.
- *"___ we forget"
- Christian of haute-couture
- Based on two
- Colorado's neighbor
- European Nuclear Society
- Beauty salon sound
- Official language of Laos
- *Dissolving agent
- *CSH1206
- *Relating to trunk, neck and head
- Lamb's momma
- With clear mind
- Itty-bitty
- The Weather Girls' "It's Raining ___"
- Fill with spirits
- Ceases
- Get the picture
- Ascended

DOWN

- Design detail
- Big name in gasoline stations
- *Genus Panthera member
- Improvise
- Godlike
- Point of entry
- *Genetic information carrier, acr.
- 8.9 a.m. prayer
- Saturn's daughter, Roman goddess
- *Petri dish gel
- The Wise Men
- French appetizer
- Scheherazade's listener
- Swelling of human organs
- Priestly garb
- Book cover prototype
- *Fatty acids
- Piano key material
- Pancho of Mexican Revolution fame
- *Basic unit of life
- Fermented honey libation
- Misrepresent
- Theater, to Socrates
- Deed hearings
- "Wanted!" option
- *Parasite's ride
- Stable room
- Sagely
- Major news network, acr.
- Cargo carrier
- Agenda entries
- Round openings
- Fill to satisfaction
- Ox, pl.
- What Pinocchio did
- Popular walking shoe brand
- *Basic unit of heredity
- South American tubers
- Web location
- Paradise garden
- Like Willie Winkie

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Homeless World Cup and Street Soccer USA Reveal Logo for Tournament

Street Soccer USA News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - With less than 50 days until hundreds of athletes from around the world gather together at California State University, Sacramento, to bring hope, healing, and inspiration to communities around the globe struggling with homelessness, the Homeless World Cup and Street Soccer USA today unveiled the Sacramento 2023 Homeless World Cup logo slated to represent this tournament's inaugural trip to the United States.

"We are proud to step up and host the Homeless World Cup, but we could never do so without the resolve of the leadership and grassroots community in Sacramento" said Lawrence Cann, Street Soccer USA. "The event logo captures the character and spirit of the people of Sacramento, and memorializes this moment when Sacramento, the city of trees, out-reached all others to host the greatest sport for social impact event in the world."

"We are truly excited that the Homeless World Cup will be played in the United States - in Sacramento - for the first time in its 20-year history. From Paris to Cardiff and Melbourne to Cape Town, this world class tournament has been played in some exceptional cities and venues to bring awareness and understanding to this global issue- homelessness," said Mel Young, Co-Founder and President of the Homeless World Cup Foundation. "With less than a month to go until the world will focus on the fantastic soccer, the outstanding venue in Sacramento State, and our inspirational players and Member Countries from across the globe, we are proud to launch this unique logo and brand identity for Sacramento 2023, as we celebrate the tournament's 20th year."

"The Homeless World Cup tournament identity symbolizes progression, inclusion, and unity which were all essential components to this new tournament logo and brand identity for Sacramento 2023," said Chris Payne, an award-winning football brand designer who created the identity and unique

logo. "We also wanted to highlight Sacramento's proud history as 'the City of Trees.' The tree represents strength, growth, opportunity, and deep-rooted connections. The design also features an abstract footballer joyfully running forward with the ball - a representation and focus on the athletes who are participating that through hope and healing, they have the momentum and ability to move forward and connect, no matter the journey that initially led them to be homeless. These athletes are resilient, strong and confident and will take their ball, and journey with them, to help others."

The new logo, which can be found here, uses green and yellow which can be used interchangeably. "The yellow symbolizes hope while the green represents growth and healing, as well as the city's abundant trees," continued Payne. "However, we also will use a 'carnival of colors' to represent every nation participating in the Homeless World Cup 2023."

Hosted at California State University, Sacramento, the Homeless World Cup will take place July 8-15, welcoming athletes from across the world to compete and bring awareness to the global issue of homelessness. It is the first time the event has been hosted in the United States. For content and updates surrounding the competition, audiences can also follow #playformore and #Soccermento23. For more information, please visit 2023homelessworldcup.org

The Homeless World Cup is an annual, world-class, international football tournament. Every year, teams of men and women who are homeless or have experienced homelessness get the chance to represent their country during the weeklong street soccer competition.

Street Soccer USA is a national 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to fighting poverty and strengthening community through soccer in more than a dozen U.S. cities. Street Soccer USA holds Cups, builds Street Soccer Parks, and develops programs in the least served neighborhoods across the country, increasing access to the world's most popular game and using soccer as a tool for youth and community development. ★

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<p>FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD 5.5 Oz Selected Varieties ON SALE Everyday Limit 2 Cases Per Family Effective 6/28/23 - 7/4/23</p>	<p>FUSSIE CAT PREMIUM CANNED CAT FOOD 2.8 Oz. •Black Label •Gold Label ON SALE Limit 2 Cases Per Family Effective 6/28/23 - 7/4/23</p>	<p>TIDY CATS SCOOPABLE CAT LITTER 20 Lb Jug •Regular •Unscented Limit 2 Jugs Per Family ON SALE Effective 6/28/23 - 7/4/23</p>	<p>HI-COUNTRY WILD BIRD SEED 20 Lb Bag (Kaytee, 20 Lbs - \$10.99) (Audubon Friends, 20 Lbs - \$9.99) \$9.99 Limit 2 Bags Per Family Effective 6/28/23 - 7/4/23</p>

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