

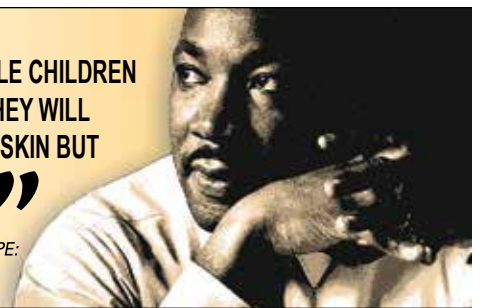


Survey Shows Storms Provided Big Totals

PAGE 2

“ I HAVE A DREAM THAT MY FOUR LITTLE CHILDREN WILL ONE DAY LIVE IN A NATION WHERE THEY WILL NOT BE JUDGED BY THE COLOR OF THEIR SKIN BUT BY THE CONTENT OF THEIR CHARACTER. ”

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., A TESTAMENT OF HOPE: THE ESSENTIAL WRITINGS AND SPEECHES



Grapevine Independent

VOLUME 57 • ISSUE 2 PROUDLY SERVING RANCHO CORDOVA & SACRAMENTO COUNTY SINCE 1968 JANUARY 13, 2023

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CRIME
REPORT



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WHAT'S
TO BE IN '23

By Mary Jane Popp



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GIFTS FROM
THE HEART



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Flooding Continues



The state has established emergency shelters in Sacramento County and has stockpiled 3.7 million sandbags. Photo courtesy of DWR

By Julie Cart and Alastair Bland, CALMatters.org

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA - Raising questions about whether California's elaborate system of flood protections will hold, another dangerous storm is barreling toward the Sacramento Valley, where rains already punched through some levees and floods killed at least one person.

Last weekend's storms have already tested the flood-prevention infrastructure across the region, which sits at the confluence

of two major rivers and bears the brunt of heavy rains. "It's a bathtub, basically," said Beth Salyers, deputy district engineer for the federal Army Corps of Engineers in Sacramento.

An estimated 1.3 million people and \$223 billion worth of property in the Central Valley are protected by the state-federal systems of levees, dams and other structures.

California spends \$48 million annually for operating flood protections but needs much more — "\$3.2 billion over the next five years of implementation," according to the state's

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, a document produced in 2012 and updated last month. Of that, the state's responsibility ranges from \$1.8 billion to \$2.8 billion.

An estimated \$25 to \$30 billion in funding over 30 years could help the state "avoid the astronomical cost of catastrophic flooding in the Central Valley estimated to be as high as \$1 trillion, in addition to an incalculable toll on lives and public well-being," the plan says.

So far, this winter's storms have been severe but not catastrophic: The

New Year's Eve storm "stalled out" over the watershed of the Cosumnes River. Portions of privately owned levees on the river gave way, flooding nearby areas. The levees, constructed to reclaim the land for agriculture, are generally rated only to handle a 10-year flood, according to Sacramento County officials. The breaching of the levees shut down Highway 99 and stranded motorists.

But the region's two major reservoirs held, and the Sacramento and American rivers did not experience major floods.

Continued on page 3

Update on Outreach and Sheltering of Unhoused

Sac County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County opened a second location to shelter unhoused individuals coming off the American River Parkway due to flooding and park closures. The Howe Park Community Center (2201 Cottage Way) opened Wednesday, January 4, and currently has three individuals one dog sheltering there. This location has cots, blankets, water and snacks for guests, as well as crates for pets. Persons coming off the Parkway are being provided rides through transportation contracts managed by our non-profit partners.

In addition to an evacuation center, Howe is welcoming unhoused individuals in search of weather respite from the City of Sacramento. Regional Transit is providing direct service to the Howe Park Community Center for persons coming from downtown Sacramento and providing transport back to downtown when they are ready to leave.

Howe Park Community Center has capacity for up to 50 people, as well as pets. The duration these locations are open will be evaluated based on weather conditions.

Howe Park has been added to a list of other respite locations opened by the County and the City for unhoused that are either being evacuated off the Parkway, or in search of weather respite.

Additional locations will be opened as needed.

The County of Sacramento activated its motel voucher weather respite program ahead of the original storm on New Year's Eve and is currently sheltering more than 200 people.

In addition, the County increased capacity at its North A Shelter (Dec. 31) an additional 55 beds, which have been filled, but will welcome new guests as beds are vacated. Both these locations accommodate pets.

The City of Sacramento activated weather-respite operations at both its Outreach and Engagement Center and the North Fifth Street Shelter lobby on Wednesday through at least Saturday morning.

The Outreach and Engagement Center (3615 Auburn Blvd.) opened as a 24-hour weather respite center at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday. Walk-ups are accepted, and the space can

Continued on page 9

New Mayor, Vice Mayor Sworn In

Rancho Cordova News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - Rancho Cordova City Council Members Linda Budge and David M. Sander, Ph.D. assumed the roles of mayor and vice mayor, respectively, at the December 19, 2022 Rancho Cordova City Council meeting, after a unanimous vote by their Council Member colleagues.

Incoming Mayor Budge was sworn in by longtime friend and colleague Supervisor Don Nottoli, who will retire this month as Sacramento County Supervisor after serving District 5 since 1994.

Supervisor Nottoli had sworn in Mayor Budge as a newly elected City Council Member nearly 20 years ago at the city's inaugural City Council meeting. He thanked her for her leadership and dedication to the city and its people.

"Good things have



Incoming Vice Mayor David M. Sander was sworn in by his wife, Dr. Margaret Parsons with his teenaged son also present for the oath-taking. Photo courtesy of Rancho Cordova



Incoming Mayor Budge was sworn in by longtime friend and colleague Supervisor Don Nottoli. Photo courtesy of Rancho Cordova

continued to happen here and obviously folks have returned you to office on several occasions,"

Supervisor Nottoli said. "I congratulate you and thank you for allowing me to do the duties here this evening."

Incoming Vice Mayor David M. Sander was sworn in by his wife, Dr. Margaret Parsons, with his teenaged son also present for the oath-taking. Both he and Mayor Budge will hold the roles of mayor and vice mayor through 2023.

Both Mayor Budge and Council Member Gatewood had, earlier in the evening, also been sworn in for a new term on the City Council that runs through 2026. Both were re-elected to four-year terms by Rancho Cordova residents in the November 2022 general election.

Following the swearing in ceremony, outgoing Mayor Donald Terry was presented with an engraved gavel plaque by Mayor Budge, who thanked him for "piloting our little ship of state through the year." ★

Snow Survey Shows Storms Provided Big Totals

DWR Special Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the first snow survey of the season on January 3 at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 55.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent of 17.5 inches, which is 177 percent of average for this location. The snow water equivalent measures the amount of water contained in the snowpack and is a key component of DWR's water supply forecast. Statewide the snowpack is 174 percent of average for this date.

California is expected to see continued rain and snow over the next seven days, with the threat of flooding in parts of California. Conditions so far this season have proven to be strikingly similar to last year when California saw some early rainstorms and strong December snow totals only to have the driest January through March on record.

"The significant Sierra snowpack is good news but unfortunately these same storms are bringing flooding to parts of California," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "This is a prime example of the threat of extreme flooding during a prolonged drought as California experiences more swings between wet and dry periods brought on by our changing climate."

One year ago, the Phillips survey showed the seventh highest January measurements on record for that location. However, those results were followed by three months of extremely dry conditions and by April 1 of last year, the Phillips survey measurements were the third lowest on record.

More telling than a survey at a single location are DWR's electronic readings from 130 stations placed throughout the state. Measurements indicate



Despite heavy rain and snow, relief from drought conditions still depends on coming months. Photo courtesy of needpix.com

that statewide, the snowpack's snow water equivalent is 17.1 inches, or 174 percent of average for this date. This January's results are similar to results in 2013 and 2022 when the January 1 snowpack was at or above average conditions, only for dry weather to set in and lead to drought conditions by the end of the water year (September 30). In 2013, the first snow survey of the season also provided promising results after a wet December similar to today's results. However, the following January and February were exceptionally dry, and the water year ended as the driest on record, contributing to a record-breaking drought. In 2022, record-breaking December snowfall was again followed by the driest January

through March period on record. "Big snow totals are always welcome, but we still have a long way to go before the critical April 1 total," said DWR's Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit Manager Sean de Guzman. "It's always great to be above average this early in the season, but we must be resilient and remember what happened last year. If January through March of 2023 turn out to be similar to last year, we would still end the water year in severe drought with only half of an average year's snowpack."

On average, the Sierra snowpack supplies about 30 percent of California's water needs and is an important factor in determining how DWR manages the state's water resources. Its

natural ability to store water is why the Sierra snowpack is often referred to as California's "frozen reservoir." A below-average snowpack impacts water users across the state, putting further stress on the environment and critical groundwater supplies.

Due to these increasing swings from dramatically wet to dry conditions, Governor Newsom's recently released "California's Water Supply Strategy, Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future" calls for investing in new projects and technologies that will modernize how the state manages water. In alignment with the Administration's strategy, the recently adopted 2022 Update to the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan identifies actions needed to

adapt much of California's flood infrastructure to a rapidly changing climate. Current climate research indicates the state will see bigger swings from extreme heat and dry conditions to larger and more powerful storms that deliver temporary large boosts to the state snowpack as well as flood risk.

DWR encourages Californians to visit SaveOurWater.com for water saving tips and information, and to continue to conserve California's most precious resource, rain or shine.

DWR conducts five media-oriented snow surveys at Phillips Station each winter near the first of each month, January through April and, if necessary, May. The next survey is tentatively scheduled for February 1. ★

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 916.853.8000
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 Food Court: 7 Days, 11am-2:00pm
 Korean/Mex/Viet: 7:30pm to 10:00pm
 Chinese/Japanese: 8:00pm last call

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

	Seven Seas Seafood Mix 24 oz REG. \$11.99/EA \$6.99/ea		Clam Meat Cooked 1 lb REG. \$6.99/EA \$4.99/ea
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WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

	Beef Cross Rib/Shoulder Roast Asado de Costillas Cruzadas de Carne y Asado de Hornos sin Hueso \$3.99/lb		Beef Ribeye Roast - Boneless Chuletón de Ternera Asado \$6.59/lb		Beef Ribeye Steak - Boneless Filete de Chuletón de Ternera \$6.99/lb
	Pork St. Louis Ribs - Single Pack Costillas de San Luis \$2.99/lb		Chicken Leg Quarters Piernas y Muslo de Pollo 79¢/lb		Pork Loin Chops Bone In Chuletón de Cerdo con Hueso \$1.79/lb
	Pork Hocks Carne de Piernas de Cerdo \$2.29/lb	<p>GEORGES 40 lb Case \$29.99</p> <p>ibp \$2.99/lb</p>			

Advertised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 11 - JANUARY 17, 2023.

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	Red Potato 89¢/lb		Whole Cactus Cleaned 1 lb \$1.99/ea		Cactus Diced 1 lb \$1.99/ea		Raw Peanuts \$1.79/lb

AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

	Gold Medal All Purpose Flour 5 lb REG. \$7.99 \$5.99/ea		Santitas Flour 8.5 lb REG. \$17.99 \$15.99/ea		Corazon Sea Salt 14.04 oz REG. \$2.39 \$1.99/ea		Special Value Foam Plate 40 x 22.5 cm REG. \$2.49 \$1.89/ea		King of the Hill Original Braggs 16 lb REG. \$14.99 \$12.99/ea
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ASIAN GROCERY

	LXK Seafood Flavored Soy Sauce 16.9 oz REG. \$3.89 \$2.99/ea		JANS Crackers 5.84, 6.07 oz REG. \$2.49 \$1.99/ea		Jades Coconut Jelly 74 oz REG. \$2.49 \$1.99/ea		Three Elephant Thai Jasmine Rice 2023 20 lb REG. \$25.99 \$21.99/ea		Coffin Coffee 3 kinds 7 oz REG. \$2.99 \$2.29/ea
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EUROPEAN GROCERY

	Sofal 100% Pure Avocado Oil 2 Liter \$16.99/ea		Sofal Pure Avocado Honey 32 oz \$10.99/ea		Tea India 32 oz \$10.99/ea		Loyd Tea 50 T/B \$4.99/ea		Vital Processed Cheese Spread 195 g \$3.19/ea
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KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

	Cooked White Rice 12 x 24 oz \$13.99/ea		Instant Coffee 2 kinds 100 x 0.1 g \$9.99/ea		Honey Bun 5.15 oz \$2.49/ea		Lambton Meat 340 g \$2.99/ea		Rice Parfait - Abalone & Vegetable 9.88 oz \$2.99/ea		Roasted Sesame Seed 2 kinds 8 oz \$2.99/ea
	Scorched Sesame Oil 0.75 oz \$1.59/ea		Cooked Rice 3 x 220 g \$4.99/ea		Sea Salt 2.5 kg \$9.99/ea		Shrimp Crackers 141 oz \$5.49/ea		Pocky Almond & Strawberry 1.85 oz 99¢/ea		Gallica Cray 81 oz \$2.49/ea
	Dark Salt 720 ml \$2.49/ea	<p>ibp \$2.99/ea</p>									

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

	Shrimp Raw Whole \$1.99/lb		Pan Roasted Turkey Breast REG. \$8.99 \$8.39/ea		Open Roasted Chicken Breast REG. \$8.99 \$8.49/ea
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EUROPEAN DELI

	Pine Roasted Olives w/ Garlic & Pepper REG. \$5.99 \$5.59/ea		Green Olives w/ Italian Seasoning REG. \$4.99 \$4.69/ea
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Flooding Continues

Continued from page 1

“The investments we’ve made to the flood system have absolutely helped,” said Gary Lippner, the Department of Water Resources’ deputy director of flood management and dam safety. “At the larger scale, our system is much more ready for high-water events.”

The Central Valley has a long, painful history of deluges: The Great Flood of 1861-2, triggered by weeks of rain and snow, is still remembered as the worst disaster to ever befall California, inundating the entire valley, killing thousands of people statewide and devastating the economy.

The state’s capital city was built in a floodplain and requires an extensive system of dams and levees to protect it. Even now, federal, state and local authorities are in the midst of upgrading those defenses, particularly in the Sacramento region, where multi-year, multi-billion-dollar projects are underway.

Major improvements have been made in the region and more are underway, thanks to about \$1.8 billion in state and federal funds. The Army Corps and state have been upgrading about 45 miles of levees over a 5-year period, and work on the final 2.8 miles is scheduled to begin in the spring.

Among the structural upgrades are raising levee heights, boring as deep as 150 feet to reinforce levees to prevent seepage and piling rocks on riverbanks to reduce erosion.

“All of the work that we’ve done along the American and Sacramento Rivers are helping the current situation. We are not seeing flooding off these rivers,” Salyers said. The completed projects are now weather-tested, she said, and “performing the way we wanted them to.”

State officials expressed confidence that the Central Valley’s



Another dangerous storm is barreling toward the Sacramento Valley, where rains already punched through some levees. Photo courtesy of DWR

levees and bypasses will contain the deluges coming tonight and next week.

“We do have a significant amount of capacity within the bypass system in that 1,600 miles of levee, and I don’t anticipate ... there to be emergency management needs,” Lippner said.

But every flood-protection system has its limits.

Michael Anderson, a climatologist with the California Department of Water Resources, noted that impacts from the upcoming storm system could escalate to a “worst-case scenario” if it “becomes an unrelenting series of storms.”

Forecasters are warning residents in the Sacramento region and the Bay Area to prepare today and Thursday for yet another assault, this time from a “bomb cyclone” spinning in the Pacific that will not make landfall but will amplify rain, wind and frigid temperatures along the coast and foothills.

Forecasters are expecting more atmospheric rivers — the powerful streams of tropical moisture that deliver most of California’s winter rainfall.

In the mountains that supply California’s reservoirs, snow levels are now above average. The Department of Water Resources’ first snow survey of the season took place on Tuesday at Phillips Station, in the Sierra Nevada, west of Lake Tahoe. Scientists measured 55.5 inches of snow and a snow water equivalent of 17.5 inches. That’s 177% of average for this location. Statewide, snowpack levels are at 174% of average for that date.

Statewide, this is the best start to the snow season in 40 years, according to Department of Water Resources officials.

It would be hasty, though, to assume the ongoing storms and wet forecast mark an end to the prolonged drought. In 2021, record rains and heavy snowfall arrived between October and December. Then, California experienced its driest January-through-March — typically the state’s wettest months — in recorded history.

Experts say consecutive storms are made more dangerous by an already-soaked landscape’s inability to absorb more water. In addition to creating swollen

creeks and mudslides, incessant rain reduces soils’ ability to hold vegetation, and California’s millions of drought-ravaged trees can easily fall over. Areas with wildfire burn scars are at risk of flash-flooding, officials said.

The state has established emergency shelters in Sacramento and San Mateo Counties and has stockpiled 3.7 million sandbags.

Some experts think the flooding from the incoming storms could be tempered by the fact that the developing system is relatively cold. This will translate into more snow and less rain, at least at high elevations.

Last weekend’s storm was relatively warm and produced rainfall at high elevations, where the liquid water fell on several feet of snow, melting it and magnifying the runoff into streams and rivers.

The flood board updated Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, released last month, warns of “1,000-year storm events ... and the need to act with renewed urgency and purpose before the next large flood event occurs in the Central Valley.”

The plan calls on nature-based

solutions, like restored floodplains, and infrastructural improvements, like fortified levees near urban areas, to help reduce the impacts of higher-energy storm systems expected as a result of the warming climate.

Most of the historic floodplains along the Central Valley’s rivers have been separated from the water by levees. Scientists now say that restoring floodplains can be an effective flood control strategy by allowing surging rivers to spill their banks and shed their energy on unpopulated flatlands, rather than bursting through aging levees surrounding populated areas. Floodplains also provide fish and wildlife habitat and serve as groundwater percolation beds.

“It takes a lot of time for that water to find a way out,” said Mark Dickman, associate director for data at the U.S. Geological Survey in Sacramento. “There’s just nowhere for it to go.”

It’s a persistent and familiar challenge: What to do with water when there’s too much and how to manage when there isn’t enough.

“We are built for this,” said Jeffrey Mount, a water specialist at the Public Policy Institute of California. “We built the system around the notion that we get occasionally wet years and mostly dry years. But, unlike the Colorado River Basin, where they can capture and control four years of runoff, we are full after one year. Our ability to store surface water is limited.”

The ongoing rains are already boosting California’s water storage system. Major reservoirs are rising, some rapidly. Folsom Lake was 29% full on Dec. 20, and as of Jan. 2 it jumped to 61%. The much larger Lake Oroville jumped from 29% to 38% in the same window — an increase of more than 300,000 acre-feet. ★

RANCHO CORDOVA RECOVERY GRANTS

Rancho Cordova Recovery Grant Applications are Now Open!

Rancho Cordova Recovery Grants support local nonprofit organizations that are experiencing economic hardship from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City Council approved \$500,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funding for grants to nonprofit organizations that are located in the city and serve our Rancho Cordova community. Multiple grants are available.

Organizations are required to submit documents verifying their nonprofit status, such as IRS designation and Secretary of State reports.

Application period:
Monday, January 9, 2023 at noon through Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 5 PM. Applications may only be submitted electronically.

Apply now and learn more:
CityofRanchoCordova.org/RecoveryGrants

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Gifts from the Heart



Gifts from the Heart seeks volunteers throughout the year to aid the work culminating during the holiday season. Photo courtesy of Sac County

Sac County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Each year, tucked away inside a Sacramento warehouse, you'll find a different kind of Santa's workshop. Instead of elves, volunteers are spending long hours wrapping presents. And in place of Santa, people of all ages spare their time to deliver gifts to those who otherwise might not get anything during the holiday season. It's all part of Sacramento County's Gifts from the Heart program.

Gifts from the Heart is a gift-giving program developed to provide presents for babies, kids, teens, disabled adults, and seniors. The program serves individuals in Sacramento County's Child Protective Services and Senior and Adult Services. This holiday season marks 34 years for the program. At the head of it all is Volunteer & Student Intern Services Coordinator Tonja Edelman.

Gifts from the Heart works with community partners, religious organizations, and professional groups to help thousands of people each year. Dozens of volunteers dedicate their time to help pick up toys, organize donations, and drop off gifts. Tonja estimates the program will provide gifts to about 3,500 clients this year.

While people get to see the magic during the Gifts from the Heart holiday giving campaign, the program begins well before winter. Each year, Tonja starts recruiting volunteers in late summer.

After more than 30 years, there are still needs to be met. Tonja wants people to remember that it's not just children who need

holiday gifts but also teens, babies, seniors, and those aging out of foster care.

"The need is always there," said Tonja.

Gifts from the Heart volunteers say they always need delivery drivers to drop off the presents. Several of their elderly clients do not speak fluent English, so they would love to see multilingual volunteers help out.

"People really just want to feel that connection and share their culture with someone who can relate," said one volunteer.

Kendra Flin has volunteered for the program for several years in a row. After finishing a busy master's program, she still found time to help out this year. She hopes sharing her experience will encourage others to give back.

"The people that volunteer are so fun and amazing and supportive," said Kendra.

A volunteer shift starts with Kendra receiving her delivery route. Each person who is receiving a gift is marked down on a sheet of paper. When Kendra goes on a delivery route, she drops off a gift for half a dozen to ten people, sometimes delivering a couple of gifts per person.

During a recent volunteer shift, Kendra's list included several seniors living throughout south Sacramento. She loaded up a car with gifts – many so large she had to use both hands to carry them while she walked slowly to houses and apartments.

"You are delivering directly to the client and they are just really grateful," said Kendra.

Despite juggling large boxes and sometimes driving by homes several times before coming to the right stop – Kendra

kept a smile throughout her route. And everyone smiled back. She wished each person a happy holiday as she dropped off their gift. And with each gift, she gave them something else – a joyful experience that made many of their days.

"You got me something but I didn't get you anything," one elderly man joked when Kendra placed his present down in his living room.

But, he did give her something. He reminded her why she loves participating in Gifts from the Heart.

"It's about being able to give to people around the holidays," said Kendra.

And that was not the only rewarding experience on her route. Kendra knocked on the door of an apartment where a woman with white hair and a Christmas sweater answered. When Kendra explained that she had been referred to the program by her social worker, the woman broke out into tears. She was beyond grateful that anyone had thought of her this holiday season.

"Thank you so much and bless you," she told Kendra while pulling her in for a hug.

"That's why we do this," said Kendra.

After Kendra finished up her day of delivering presents, she had a message for anyone who is thinking about giving back during the holidays.

"It's so rewarding. It's so much fun. So, just do it," said Kendra.

So, next year, whether it's volunteering your time or donating, consider giving a gift from your heart.

For more information on Gifts from the Heart, including how you can become involved, visit the GFTH Questions and Answers webpage at Sac County. ★



What's to be in '23

Another year passes and we begin anew. What better time to check in with the stars to see what's to be in 2023. So where do we start? Born of a Greek background and firmly grounded by her astrological studies in Greece, **Constance Stellas**

has been an astrologer for over twenty-five years and written some thirty books. She has been featured in countless newspapers and magazines as well as being the astrologer for the Huffington Post. I invited her to my POPPOFF Radio Show and here's her star insight.

After 25 years of studying astrology, I am keenly aware that predictions yield possibilities and, depending on many factors, can change. With the most positive mindset possible for 2023, let's look at what the stars suggest. The economic problems that we are facing globally will remain. Supply chain delays along with a general malaise about commerce remains. Statistics say we are doing better, but people don't feel that is true as they shop for groceries. This is what I call the Stress Dome. It's a bubble of cumulated stress that interferes with the feeling of optimism. The cause of this, astrologically speaking, is the Pluto return for the USA. On Feb 21, 2022, Pluto directly connected with the position of Pluto when this country was founded July 4, 1776. We have never experienced this planetary event. Pluto was, in mythology, the god of the Underworld and reigned over power and uncovering dark secrets and corruption. Pluto was also the ruler of spiritual transformation



which could help a person or a nation to face trauma and heal. This is not a quick process. And we have been in a tug of war politically, economically and personally between the desire for society to remain the same, and the imperative to move forward. The time

period from January 11th to January 21st 2023 will be fraught with angry protests, the random crime we have been facing in our cities, and enraged media headlines. The crimes will diminish as 2023 progresses. So what's going to happen? Pluto will move in Aquarius on March 24th through June 11th. We will start to see new ways of handling societal problems. The focus for 2023 will be on domestic issues. I predict new discoveries in health care and emphasis on healthy living. Who knows, maybe the food shortages we could experience will encourage people to eat better. 2023 will bring new businesses where employees have a stake in the company. Changes in architecture, fashion, urban planning, and preserving nature areas will bring an "eco" sensibility to the arts. New safer housing construction will bring protection from the dramatic weather events we will continue to experience. Our attitudes and feelings will change. There will be a feeling that all of US will create a better society. If we heed these attitude adjustments, 2023 will begin to enlighten us. As dark as some of the days have been, the coming times can be equally as light!

You can check out **Constance Stellas** at www.ConstanceStellas.com. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

✝ CHURCH DIRECTORY ✝

<p>SUN RIVER CHURCH 11223 Trinity River Drive Rancho Cordova (916) 635-9000 9:00 AM Sundays : Youth and Adult classes 10:30 AM: Worship Gathering Nursery and Children's programs available at both 9:00 and 10:30 AM</p> <p>NEW LIFE CENTER A-G 2451 Zinfandel Drive Rancho Cordova Lead Pastor Lance Feliciano Phone (916) 635-8287 Sunday Service is 10:30AM Wednesday night Bible 6:30pm www.newlifecr.net</p> <p>SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH RANCHO CORDOVA Serving the Anatolia Community at the Anatolia Clubhouse 11828 Chrysanthy Blvd. On Sunday mornings at 10:30 am www.RCSunrise.org (916) 710-0142</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Rancho Cordova 10720 Coloma Road (916) 635-4672 Bible Study for All Ages 9am Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am Sunday Awana Children's Program Sunday 5-7pm (September - May) Mid-Week Prayer & Encouragement 6pm Wednesday with Pastor Tom Jones Music Director: David Black</p> <p>BIBLE FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 9900 Horn Road Sacramento, CA 95827 Phone: 916-368-5878 Sundays 10 am Bible Study 11 am Worship Service 6 pm Evening Worship Service Wednesday - 7 pm Prayer and Bible Study Loving Nursery provided all services aboutfbfc.com Pastor: Dennis Blankenship</p>
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And Another Thing Good Luck in your Retirement Don!

By Bob McGarvey

The weather which began last fall was what we were hoping for because there was so little rain after 2022 began. A few days ago, I heard weather forecasters say that we received more rain in the last part of December than we received the first six months of last year. As a matter of fact the rain we received on New Year's Eve and New Year Day was more than we received in January, February, and March. The flooding and winds and rain of that storm was unbelievable. The storms have continued, and tonight (Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023) will be more stormy weather. The Northern California forecast is that there will be strong winds and heavy rain again tonight. I also hope that the levees don't break any more and flood more of our citizens.

My wife and I drove to the Rossmoor entrance to the American River parkway, and the water from the river was getting closer to the parking lot there. With the storm which is predicted tonight, more people who are homeless and are living along the American River have been asked to accept assistance which is offered to them. I am very happy that we were able to build the apartments and the 50 transitional beds at the Mather Veterans Village. That has placed 160 former homeless Veterans out of the weather and given a roof over their heads.

I believe every voter in our country is watching the congress-members, new or

re-elected, who are finally ready to start doing the work they were hired to do by the voters. I hope representatives and Senators will look at what is important to the citizens and get the work done. I am sure that I am not the only voter who is waiting for the elected officials to do their job.

Going back to the weather, especially the rain. We have many new homes and new businesses which are being built in the City of Rancho Cordova, and I heard quite a few people question those new homes or businesses because of our current drought. The next 10 days have rain in their forecasts. I just want to see the rain continue to come here, but not with any flooding. This weekend I know there were many trees that were knocked down by the wind with that storm. I hope we are out of the drought, but without any flooding.

Last night we were able to go to the retirement party for Don Notolli. He was very involved in serving his community and many other communities for 44 years. I was very glad to be able to thank him for all of the wonderful things he did for Rancho Cordova. The most current event he in which he was very helpful in Rancho Cordova was working with us in building the Mather Veterans Village. Since that was done, he helped us in many other things, but the county was involved in controlling most of the property at Mather. He helped us get 160 homeless Veterans off of the street. Good luck in your retirement Don!

From Bob McGarvey, God bless, and see you next time. ★

How Environmental Law is Misused to Stop Housing



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

It's well known that the California Environmental Quality Act, signed by then-Gov. Ronald Reagan in 1970 and meant to protect the natural environment in public and private projects, is routinely misused to stop or delay much-needed housing construction.

Anti-housing NIMBYs in affluent communities misuse it to stymie high-density, multi-family projects, arguing that their neighborhoods' bucolic ambience would be altered. And construction unions misuse it to extract wage concessions from developers.

It's a long-running civic scandal and a major factor in California's chronic inability to reduce its severe housing shortage, one that cries out for CEQA reform, which former Gov. Jerry Brown once described as "the Lord's work." But neither Brown or any other recent governor has been willing to take on the task, which would mean confronting environmental groups and unions, two of the Democratic Party's major allies.

In the absence of comprehensive reform, governors and legislators sometimes grant CEQA exemptions for particular projects, such as sports arenas, or narrow categories of housing. However, CEQA misuse continues

and the courts have become venues for battles over its application.

Two recent state appellate court actions in the crowded San Francisco Bay Area – one expanding the use of CEQA by those who oppose housing projects and another that restricts its use – underscore the law's chaotic role.

Just before Christmas, one panel of the First District Court of Appeal issued a preliminary ruling that could open a new avenue for using CEQA to halt projects. It declares that a University of California student housing development in Berkeley violates the law because UC didn't consider the impact of having more people – 1,100 students – in the neighborhood, citing the potential of late-night parties and other gatherings that could worsen a "persistent problem with student-generated noise."

In other words, the court said that the presence of more people is an environmental impact – a novel theory that could hand anti-housing groups everywhere a potent weapon.

As UC law professor Chris Elmendorf tweeted about the draft decision, "The court's reasoning is devastating ammunition for racist white homeowners who would leverage CEQA to keep poor people and minorities out of their neighborhoods."

For example, he continued, "using the court's statistical-associations logic, white homeowners could argue that CEQA requires affordable housing developers to analyze and mitigate putative 'gun violence impacts' from any lower-income housing project in an affluent neighborhood. The homeowners would point to statistics

showing that poor people, and African Americans and Hispanics, are statistically more likely than affluent people and whites to be victims of gun violence."

A few days later, another panel of the same appellate court rejected efforts by a group opposing a 130-unit project in downtown Livermore, called Save Livermore Downtown, to employ CEQA. Attorney General Rob Bonta had interceded in the case, supporting the city's approval of the project and its win in Superior Court.

"Timing is critical for affordable housing projects, which often rely on time-sensitive funding sources like tax credits to finance development," Bonta said while intervening, adding, "Our state is continuing to face a housing shortage and affordability crisis of epic proportions. CEQA plays a critical role in protecting the environment and public health here in California. We won't stand by when it is used to thwart new development, rather than to protect Californians and our environment."

After the appellate court action, Bonta tweeted, "CA's housing crisis is dire. We won't stand by and let people misuse our laws to avoid being part of the solution."

The outcomes of both cases underscore the need for a fundamental CEQA overhaul to reinstate its original purpose, rather than continuing wasteful project-by-project skirmishes.

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

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 46. Mischievous sprites
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 12. Looker or ogler
 15. Capable of movement
 20. One of the Muses
 22. Shoshonean
 24. Railyard worker
 25. Gabbana's partner
 26. Relating to bees
 27. Edward Teach's facial feature
 29. *Prepared food department
 31. Contributes
 32. Get ready to drive (2 words)
 33. Type of wheat
 34. *Ricotta and eggs section
 36. Semiaquatic tetrapod, for short
 38. Sips from a flask?
 42. Bar by estoppel
 45. Novelist Honoré de
 49. Blackbird dessert
 51. Paragons
 54. Galactic path
 56. Pomp
 57. Be unsuccessful
 58. Dramatic part
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SMUD Special Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento region was hit by heavy rains and 70-mph winds by the latest storm that ripped through Northern California overnight. Storm damage knocked out power to more than 345,000 SMUD customers at its height around 2 AM. As of 3:45 PM, approximately 60,000 customers remain without power.

The most recent storm was the worst storm in more than 30 years, eclipsing last week's New Year's Eve storm. So far, SMUD has identified more than 80 downed power poles and dozens of downed trees impacting utility equipment. These numbers will grow significantly as assessments are completed.

SMUD line crews, troubleshooters and other field personnel will work 24/7 to restore power to customers if it's safe to work. Crews made steady progress throughout the day Sunday to assess damage, make repairs and restore power. Thanks to partnerships with other local utilities and contract crews, SMUD has nearly doubled the typical number of crews in the field working to restore power from 16 to 30. Additional mutual aid crews are incoming, which will bring total crew count to approximately 40 on Monday.

Due to extensive damage, many customers will experience lengthy outages that last overnight, and many will last well into the coming week. SMUD is contacting customers we expect to be out of power overnight directly so they can make arrangements.

When storms knock out power, SMUD works around-the-clock to restore electric service as safely and as quickly as possible, but restoration efforts can be slowed when winds are too high for crews to

safely work, or access is limited or not possible due to floods.

SMUD prioritizes where crews will be sent during a storm: Public safety hazards (power lines down, poles down); Hospitals and critical flood control pumps; Areas with large numbers of customers out of power; Scattered, smaller outages.

Safety is a top priority and SMUD is providing tips for customers to stay safe.

If the power goes out; Check to see if the lights are out in neighboring homes — if so, it's likely a larger outage; Report the outage at smud.org/outages.

If you are the only one without power, visit smud.org/storms for instructions on safely checking/resetting your main breaker.

If stormy weather knocks down a power line; Stay away and call SMUD at 1-888-456-SMUD (7683) or 911 immediately; Assume the line is "energized" and stay away and warn others to do the same; Do not remove fallen tree limbs or other debris from power lines. Tree limbs and other objects can conduct electricity that can shock anyone coming in contact with them.

SMUD urges people to check on family, friends and neighbors who may experience outages. For those experiencing prolonged outages, SMUD is working with its customers on an individual basis to provide for specific needs during the storms. In case of extended outages or for those with medical needs, SMUD urges customers to have a back-up plan for accommodations if needed.

While homes can get cold without power, SMUD warns customers **not** to heat homes with propane heaters, grills, hibachis or BBQs. They produce carbon monoxide, a clear, odorless gas that can be fatal to humans and animals.



SMUD crews were out in full force to repair damage caused by the high winds. Photo courtesy SMUD.



Downed power lines were found throughout Sacramento County during the latest storms. Photo courtesy SMUD.

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Could Monoclonal Antibodies Replace Opioids for Chronic Pain?

By Lisa Howard, UCD

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - During the pandemic, physicians used infusions of monoclonal antibodies — antibodies made in a lab — to help patients fight off COVID-19 infections. Now, researchers at UC Davis are trying to create monoclonal antibodies that can help fight chronic pain. The goal is to develop a monthly non-addictive pain medication that can replace opioids.

Vladimir Yarov-Yarovoy and James Trimmer, professors in the Department of Physiology and Membrane Biology at the UC Davis School of Medicine, are leading the project. They have assembled an interdisciplinary team featuring many of the same researchers who are also trying to turn tarantula venom into a pain medication.

Earlier this year, Yarov-Yarovoy and Trimmer received a \$1.5 million

grant from the National Institutes of Health's HEAL Initiative, an aggressive effort to speed scientific solutions to stem the national's opioid crisis.

People can become addicted to opioids due to chronic pain. The CDC National Center for Health Statistics showed an estimated 107,622 drug overdose deaths in the United States in 2021, an increase of nearly 15% from the 93,655 deaths estimated in 2020.

"Recent breakthroughs in structural and computational biology — using computers to understand and model biological systems — have set the stage for applying new approaches to create antibodies as superior therapeutic candidates to treat chronic pain," said Yarov-Yarovoy, the principal investigator for the award.

"Monoclonal antibodies are the fastest growing sector of the

pharmaceutical industry and have many advantages over classical small molecule drugs," Trimmer said. Small molecule drugs are drugs that can easily enter cells. They are widely used in medicine.

Trimmer's lab has created thousands of different monoclonal antibodies for various purposes over many years, but this is the first attempt to generate antibodies aimed at pain relief.

Monoclonal antibodies are already being used for migraine

Although it may seem very futuristic, the Food and Drug Administration has already approved monoclonal antibodies to treat and prevent migraine. These new medications act on a migraine-associated protein called calcitonin gene-related peptide.

The project at UC Davis has a different target — specific ion channels in nerve cells known as

voltage-gated sodium channels. The channels are like "pores" on the nerve cell.

"Nerve cells are responsible for transmitting pain signals in the body. Voltage-gated sodium ion channels in nerve cells are the key transmitters of pain," explained Yarov-Yarovoy. "We aim to create antibodies that will bind to these specific transmission sites at the molecular level, inhibiting their activity and stopping the transmission of pain signals."

The researchers are focused on three specific sodium ion channels associated with pain: NaV1.7, NaV1.8 and NaV1.9.

Their goal is to create antibodies that can fit into each of these channels like a key into a lock. This targeted approach is intended to stop the channels from sending pain signals but not interfere with other signals sent through the

nerve cells.

The challenge is that the structures of the three channels they are attempting to block are incredibly complex.

Software programs help create virtual models

To address this, they are turning to software programs called Rosetta and AlphaFold. With Rosetta, the researchers are designing complex virtual models of proteins and analyzing which ones might best fit the NaV1.7, NaV1.8 and NaV1.9 nerve channels. With AlphaFold, the researchers independently validate proteins designed by Rosetta.

Once they identify several promising proteins, they will create antibodies that can then be tested on lab-created neural tissue. Human testing would be years away.

But the researchers are excited by the potential of this new approach. ★

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ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00331881

Isaac James Whiting has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Isaac James Whiting to Isaac Andrew Johnson.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 29, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: December 28, 2022
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023
ISAAC 1-27-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00331889

Ramnit Kaur has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ramnit Kaur to Ramnit Kaur Bajwa.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 30, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: December 27, 2022
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023
RAMNIT 1-27-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00331969

Ghulam Hazrat Khalili and Jamila Ahmad Zai have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Moh Elias Khalili to Mohammad Elias Khalili; Moh Idrees Khalili to Mohammad Idrees Khalili.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: December 28, 2022
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
KHALILI 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00329448

Jessalynn Gabrielle Pastran has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Jessalynn Gabrielle Pastran to Jessalynn Gabrielle Flores.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 8, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: November 8, 2022
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
JESSALYNN 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00332111

Cadalyna Vang has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Cadalyna Vang to Alina Grace Scott.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: December 30, 2022
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
CADALYNA 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2022-00332052

Jasmeet Kaur has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Jasmeet Kaur to Jasmine Puri Sharma.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: December 29, 2022
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
JASMEET 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2023-00332528

Richard Joseph Stibich has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Richard Joseph Stibich to Katsu Joseph Terasaki.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: January 6, 2023
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
RICHARD 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2023-00332369

Abdul Wase Faiz and Fawzia Faiz have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Negar Faiz to Aila Negar Faiz.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 5, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: January 4, 2023
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
ABDUL 2-3-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#34-2023-00332359

Manila Suhbati has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Manila Suhbati to Monazzah Maher.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 4, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

Dated: January 4, 2023
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 2023
MANILA 2-3-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF HENRY JOSEPH FELL III
CASE NO. 34-2022-00331393
To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-

tors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Henry Joseph Fell III, deceased.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Michael Romanishin, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Michael Romanishin be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows May 9, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Michael Romanishin,

1911 Douglas Boulevard, Suite 85383, Roseville, CA 95661; 916-412-4242
Publish: Dec 30, 2022; Jan 6 & 13, 2023
FELL 1-13-23

SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF ORANGE
INDEX NO. EF003741-2022
EDWARD HIRSCH, Plaintiff, against GAIL ANN LENHART as REPRESENTATIVE and BENEFICIARY OF THE ESTATE OF LAURENCE ALAN LENHART, Defendant.
TO THE DEFENDANT: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to the Decision and Order of the Honorable Maria Vasquez-Doles, J.S.C., a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Orange, dated December 16, 2022, and filed with the Complaint and other papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Orange at Goshen, New York.
This is an action pursuant to New York State Real Property

Actions and Proceedings Law Article 15 to quiet title to certain real property commonly known as 48 Old South Plank Road, Town of Newburgh, County of Orange, State of New York, Section 52, Block 1, Lot 11 into the Plaintiff, Edward Hirsch and forever barring the Defendant and all persons claiming under the Defendant from all claims to an estate or interest in the real property. In case of your failure to appear, judgment may be taken against you together with the costs and disbursements of this action. The property involved in this action is described as follows: 48 Old South Plank Road, Town of Newburgh, County of Orange, State of New York, Section 52, Block 1, Lot 11. Dated: New Windsor, New York December 20, 2022
/s/ Veronica A. McMillan
Arciero McMillan & Burgess, P.C., Attorneys for the Plaintiff
Edward Hirsch, 299 Windsor Highway, New Windsor, New York 12553; 845/420-7877
Publish: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023
HIRSCH 1-27-23

NOTICE OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE

The following is a summary of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Rancho Cordova at its meeting of **January 3, 2023**:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE RANCH SPECIAL PLANNING AREA

Passed and adopted on the 3rd day of January, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: Gatewood, Pulipati, Sander, Terry, and Budge
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The full text of the proposed Ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office, 2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

Printed in the Grapevine Independent on **January 13, 2023**.

NOTICE OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE

The following is a summary of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Rancho Cordova at its meeting of **January 3, 2023**:

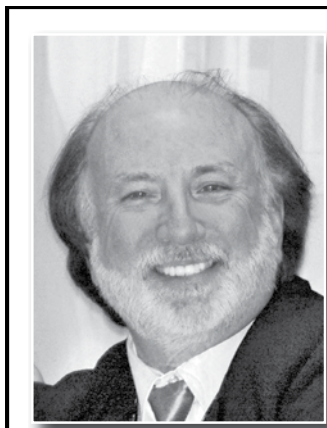
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE SUNCREEK SPECIFIC PLAN PROJECT NO. PLND-0322-0032

Passed and adopted on the 3rd day of January, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: Gatewood, Pulipati, Sander, Terry, and Budge
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

The full text of the proposed Ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office, 2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

Printed in the Grapevine Independent on **January 13, 2023**.



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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MPG ENPA CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

Update on Outreach and Sheltering of Unhoused

Continued from page 1

accommodate 50 people, with families and pets welcome.

The North Fifth shelter lobby (700 North Fifth St.) is operating from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. It also will accept walk-ups and has space for up to 20 people. (Please note that North Fifth is for adults only and is unable to accommodate pets.)

Regional Transit is providing free shuttle transportation to both the Outreach and Engagement Center (OEC) and the North Fifth Street Shelter. The pick-up location is City Hall on 10th Street between I and H streets, with shuttles arriving at 2, 4 and 6 p.m. The route includes a stop at the North Fifth Shelter, which also is serving as a pick-up location for the OEC (shuttle space permitting).

In addition, people can use SacRT light rail and buses for free to go to and from any weather-respite location. The SacRT light rail station at Watt/1-80 station connects to bus Route 1, which has a stop near the City's OEC. ★

Thank A Veteran Today

Defendant Sentenced for Shooting Murder

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Curtis Fiorini sentenced Lorenzo McCoy to 25 years to life in prison.

On March 30, 2022, a jury convicted McCoy of the second-degree murder of Onaje Lynch. The jury also found true a personal use of a firearm allegation.

On December 7, 2020, McCoy and

the victim got into an argument behind the Wienerschnitzel in Del Paso Heights. McCoy approached the victim and put a loaded, cocked pistol to his chest. A struggle ensued and the gun fired, hitting and killing the victim. At the time of the murder, McCoy was on probation from a 2019 felony assault and was prohibited from possessing a firearm. The firearm used in the murder was never recovered. ★

Repeat DV Offender Convicted of DV, Assault, Battery w/Serious Injury

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Eduardo Godinez was convicted by a jury of domestic violence, assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury and battery with serious bodily injury.

The jury also found true great bodily injury enhancements and the aggravating factor that Godinez engaged in violent conduct that indicates a serious danger to society. It was also found true that Godinez has a prior 2019 felony domestic violence conviction.

Godinez and the victim began dating in February 2020. The victim reported that Godinez started physically abusing her

in the summer of 2021, but she did not report the past abuse. On February 14, 2022, Godinez became angry with the victim and repeatedly called her names and accused her of cheating.

Godinez then forcefully hit the victim in the back, causing her extreme pain. The victim went home without seeking medical attention. The next day, the victim became dizzy and passed out. She was taken to the hospital where it was discovered that one of her ribs was fractured, her spleen was lacerated and she had internal bleeding caused by the blow to her back. The victim remained in the hospital for several days.

Godinez faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison. ★

Defendant Sentenced for 41 Counts of Child Molest

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Steve White sentenced Michael Leonard to 775 years to life in prison.

On March 3, 2022, a jury convicted Leonard of 41 counts of various child molestation and exploitation charges involving 12 victims. The jury also found true a multiple victim enhancement.

For nearly 16 years, Michael Leonard lured children into his home where he molested and exploited them. He met many of the victims at different children's events and venues he would frequent. Several of the victims were between the ages of 8 and 13 years old.

Leonard also communicated with minors for illegal purposes, spoke

inappropriately to children about sex and attempted to conduct an inappropriate video filming of a child. A citizen contacted law enforcement about a video Leonard wanted to make, which ultimately led to his arrest. This case involved multiple investigating agencies.

Nearly a dozen victims provided victim impact statements to the Court or attended the sentencing. Many of the victims have been haunted by his actions. Some indicated today's sentence will provide some closure.

Leonard's criminal history involving allegations of inappropriate conduct with minors goes back to the late 1990's, including two prior convictions for felony and misdemeanor annoy or molest of a child. ★

Defendant Sentenced for Fatal Stabbing in Carmichael

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Stephen Acquisto sentenced Stephen Jackson to 26 years to life in prison.

A jury convicted Jackson of the first-degree murder of Jaitu Keys. The jury also found true the allegation that Jackson personally used a knife in the commission of the murder.

On November 9, 2019, Jackson and a friend went to a high school football game

together. After the game, Jackson asked the friend to come inside his house but she declined. He then hid a device with GPS tracking in the trunk of her car. The friend left and went to meet the victim in Carmichael.

The victim joined the friend in her car and sat in the front passenger seat to talk. Jackson approached the car, smashed the front passenger window and stabbed the victim four times, including once in the heart. The friend drove the victim to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. ★

Defendants Sentenced for Abusing 2-Year-Old Boy

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Shelleyanne Chang sentenced Yanik Kryshthal to 12 years and 8 months in prison on May, 20, 2022.

Laura Freitas was sentenced to 180 days county jail and 4 years formal probation. On April 8, 2022, Kryshthal pled to three counts of felony child abuse and admitted to personally inflicting great bodily injury. Freitas pled to one count of felony child abuse.

On June 13, 2020, a 2-year-old boy was taken to the hospital with numerous bruises all over his body. A CT scan confirmed he suffered blunt force trauma and had fluid around his pancreas, healed linear scars, burns on his leg, injuries inside his mouth, skin abrasions and burns on his hands. Child abuse doctors opined the injuries were not accidental. Witnesses confirmed Kryshthal hit and kicked the victim, sometimes using a belt or dog leash.

Kryshthal also locked the

victim in dog crates as a form of discipline, and on at least one occasion had the victim sleep outside in a dog crate overnight. Kryshthal tied the victim's arms or legs to door knobs and crib railings with handcuffs, dog leashes and necklaces. Freitas was aware of the abuse and also put the victim in dog crates as a form of punishment. Sacramento County sheriff's detectives found that Kryshthal also poured boiling water on the feet of a 3-year-old girl in 2014, which resulted in permanent scarring. ★

Defendant Sentenced for Shooting Murder, Attempted Murder on Truxel Road

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Delbert Oros sentenced Adrian Castillo on March 11, 2022, to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On November 19, 2021, a jury convicted Castillo of the first-degree murder of Kenyatta Dawson and attempted murder. The jury also found true the special circumstance that the murder was committed during a drive-by-shooting and a personal use of a firearm allegation on both counts.

On November 8, 2019, Castillo and his juvenile friend arranged to sell a ghost Glock to a gun buyer. The parties met in the Natomas Marketplace parking lot and exchanged the gun for an envelope. When Castillo realized the buyer had shorted him, he directed his juvenile driver to follow the buyer's car. There were two other males and two females who were also in the buyer's car, with Mr. Dawson driving. No one else in the car had any interest in the gun

purchase. When Castillo's car caught up to the buyer's car on Truxel Road, Castillo opened fire with a .45 caliber Glock.

This gun had been illegally altered to be fully automatic and Castillo fired 10 rounds in a matter of seconds. Mr. Dawson was killed instantly and the victims' car sped out of control until it hit another vehicle. With the victims' car disabled and all five occupants still inside, Castillo's car approached again and he fired six more rounds into the victims' car using a second gun. The gun buyer was shot through the jaw, breaking both jaw bones, and shot through both legs.

The victims' car contained the gun bought from Castillo, but no ammunition. There was no evidence that anyone from the victims' car returned fire. Castillo fled the scene but was captured by Sacramento police detectives less than four days later. Investigators recovered both guns used in the shooting and both guns were legally purchased and registered to Castillo. ★

Defendant Sentenced for 1st-Degree Murder of Girlfriend

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Ernest Sawtelle sentenced Damion Horton to 76 years and 4 months to life in prison.

On September 13, 2021, a jury convicted Horton of the first-degree murder of Dajha Richards, discharging a firearm causing death and felon in possession of a firearm. The allegation that Horton suffered a prior 2016 strike conviction for attempted robbery was also found true.

On January 8, 2019, a 12-year-old boy called 911 to report that his 19-year-old sister, Dajha Richards, had been shot in the

chest. When sheriff's deputies arrived on scene, the victim was able to report that the father of her child and boyfriend, Damion Horton, was the person who shot her.

The victim was quickly transported to the hospital, where she was pronounced deceased. Immediately after the shooting, Horton fled the scene with the gun leaving the victim alone with their 4-month-old son and her brother. Horton turned himself in more than 24 hours after the victim's death, but the gun was never recovered. During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that Horton had an extensive history of domestic violence with the victim. ★

Defendant Convicted of Sexually Assaulting Child in Two Counties

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Roberto Lopez was convicted by a jury of two counts of forcible lewd act upon a child under 14 years old and two counts of rape of a child under 14 years old by a perpetrator more than 10 years older than the victim.

The jury also found true that the victim was vulnerable and Lopez took advantage of a position of trust when he sexually assaulted the victim.

Lopez was a family acquaintance and father figure to the victim. Lopez raped the victim when she was 12 years old, and again when she was 13 years old. The

first rape occurred in Sacramento, the second rape occurred in Yuba City. In both instances of rape, Lopez held the victim down and forced himself on her. In the final incident which lasted longer than the first, he inflicted painful physical trauma to the victim which lasted for days.

An allegation that Lopez has a prior strike conviction for possession of drugs for sale for the purposes of a criminal gang and additional aggravated circumstances will be determined at the sentencing hearing.

Lopez faces a maximum sentence of 65 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for December 9, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 36 before the Honorable Stephen Acquisto. ★

Defendant Sentenced for Sexually Abusing 5-Year-Old Child

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Steve White sentenced Jose Navarrete to 126 years to life in prison. On June 11, 2021, a jury convicted Navarrete of 10 counts of child sexual assault charges.

Navarrete committed multiple substantial sexual assaults against the victim when she was approximately 5 years old and continued to do so for approximately three years. In August of 2018, the victim and her family reported the abuse to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office. ★

Defendant Sentenced for Assault at Homeless Camp

Sac County DA News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Honorable Shama Mesiwala sentenced Jeffery Cross to 25 years to life in prison.

On March 2, 2022, a jury convicted Cross of assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, criminal threats and intimidating a witness. Allegations that Cross has prior strike convictions for involuntary manslaughter with the use of a firearm, criminal threats and first-degree burglary were also found true at sentencing.

On May 31, 2021, Citrus Heights police officers responded to a report of an assault at a homeless camp on Greenback Lane.

One victim knew Cross and stated Cross kicked him, which may have caused him to lose consciousness.

Officers observed dried blood on the side of the victim's head and a red mark in his rib area. A witness saw Cross punch and kick the victim multiple times. The witness told officers that Cross then also punched him in the face, causing him to fall backwards onto the ground. In follow-up investigations, both victims identified Cross as the person who had assaulted them from a photo line-up. One of the victims also indicated that Cross threatened him, telling him to keep quiet. ★

WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

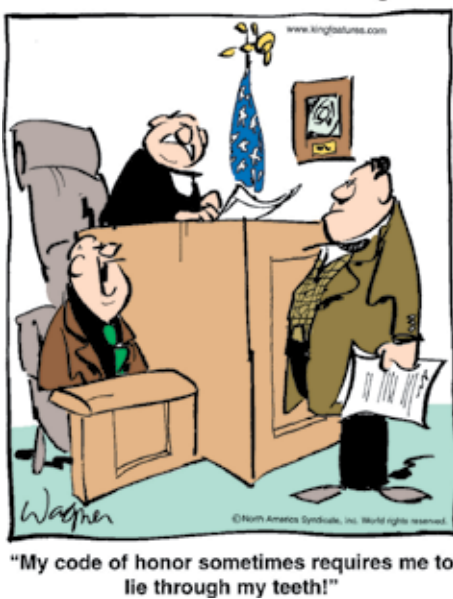
by Mike Marland



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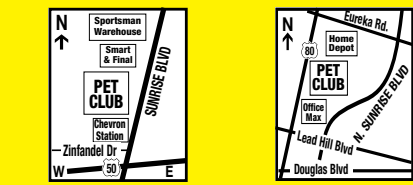
by Dave T. Phipps



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Everyday
CHM PLU 361

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JONNY CAT PREMIUM CAT LITTER
10 Lb Bag
Limit 2 Bags Per Family
Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 1/11/23 - 1/17/23
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CHM PLU 365

BONUS COUPON
WHISKAS TEMPTATIONS CAT TREATS
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Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
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CHM PLU 569

SAFE Credit Union Partners with Financial Literacy App Zogo

SAFE Credit Union Press Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - SAFE Credit Union has partnered with Zogo, a financial technology company, to bring the Zogo financial literacy app to its members.

The app guides people through more than 400 bite-sized financial educational modules. As users successfully answer questions, they accumulate points they can redeem for gift cards and other rewards.

“Fostering financial wellness is at the heart of everything we do,” says Community Relations AVP Rebecca Delmundo. “We are so excited to partner with Zogo and bring fun and engaging financial education to our members and community.”

The gamified financial literacy app rewards users for completing financial literacy lessons on intelligently saving, spending, and managing their money. The app includes modules in 22 topics, from

opening a bank account to saving for retirement – and everything in between.

The app is geared to all ages and can be particularly useful for teens and young adults to learn financial basics in an engaging and rewarding way. Zogo’s content meets the national standards for financial literacy education.

Bolin Li, CEO, and co-founder of Zogo, says, “With Zogo, we wanted to create a financial education experience our peers would actually use. We are excited to partner with SAFE Credit Union to bring this vision to life.”

The Zogo app is now available to SAFE Credit Union members at no cost and can be downloaded from the Apple App and Google Play stores. Use code SAFE when signing up.

For more information on SAFE’s launch of Zogo, please contact Senior Public Affairs Specialist Ashley Tate at 916-496-4067 or ashley.tate@safecu.org. ★

Flood Risk and Preparedness

Commentary by Thomas Slater

In California, extreme weather patterns are cyclical, with floods often following a drought. Over the last 20 years, every county in California has been declared a federal disaster area at least once. With climate change, we anticipate extreme weather events will be more frequent and intense. A study released by scientists at UCLA in August 2022 shows that climate change will make catastrophic flooding twice as likely, and they predict that extreme storm sequences are projected to generate 200% to 400% more runoff by the end of the century. Contemplating these higher risks is timely as October 22-29 is California Flood Preparedness Week.

In the early part of the 20th Century, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a vast flood protection system in the Central Valley, comprised of 1,600 miles of levees, seven relief bypasses, and numerous pumps to efficiently evacuate floodwater from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and tributaries out to the ocean. Turned over to the State of California in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s for ongoing operation and maintenance, these now aging State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) facilities require constant work to maintain the original design standards, deal with seasonal levee repairs after storms, and in recent years levee improvements in order to meet modern design standards and to protect against larger flood events than the original system was intended to handle.

The flood risk in the Central Valley has long been recognized as being amongst the highest in the nation. We have been fortunate to have avoided the flooding disasters experienced in Louisiana, Texas, and Kentucky. After witnessing the devastating impacts of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, voters in California subsequently approved \$4 billion in bond funding for improved flood management in the Central Valley. In 2012, a Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) was adopted to guide flood risk reduction actions, and a deadline was set to achieve the new standard

of 200-year level of flood protection for urban communities with more than 10,000 residents.

A flood control system is only as strong as its weakest link. The majority of the 1,600 miles of SPFC levees are in rural areas protecting small disadvantaged communities and habitat for terrestrial, avian, and aquatic species. Most small communities protected by SPFC levees do not meet FEMA 100-year standards, and this rural levee system is in need of significant investment to meet U.S. Army Corps standards necessary to be eligible for federal levee repair funding after storm damage. Currently, only two of the eight urban metropolitan areas protected by SPFC flood control system meet the State’s 200-year urban levee requirements; and five of these do not meet the state urban levee standard or the federal FEMA 100-year requirements, and one has only a 7-year level of flood protection.

The Newsom Administration has taken the first step in recognizing the state’s vulnerability to natural disasters under climate change when it hosted a “Drought to Flood Symposium” on October 17, 2022. Now it is time for us to take the next step and seize the opportunity to mitigate impacts anticipated from more intense atmospheric river events, before disaster happens in a changing climate. We need to be proactive and increase the pace of implementing shovel-ready flood risk reduction projects, but multi-year flood control construction projects cannot start and stop due to changing political priorities or lengthy bureaucratic permitting processes. Local flood management agencies hope the Administration’s recent formation of a Climate Executive Team will lead to expedited implementation and increased, consistent State Budget appropriations to advance flood risk reduction priorities outlined in the state’s 2022 CVFPP Update.

Thomas Slater is an Elected Trustee and Acting Manager of Reclamation District 999, and President of CA Central Valley Flood Control Association Board of Directors. ★

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