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M Citrus Heights Messenger

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See's Candies to Consolidate Locations



Berkshire Hathaway owned See's Candies plans a megastore at 5499 Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights for the new 15-year lease agreement. The former drive-up banking lanes are shown removed on this exterior rendering. Image courtesy of Tallen Capital Partners

By Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Planned construction of a new See's Candies megastore at 5499 Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights, formerly home to a 10,621-square-foot Patelco Credit Union branch should move forward in early 2023 when revised drawings for a new interior floor plan are finalized and then submitted to the City of Citrus Heights for review, said the architect, Jeff Brandon, partner of Schuss Clark Brandon Architects in San Diego.

A building permit application by San Diego-based Schuss Clark Brandon Architects Inc. for interior improvements was originally filed

on August 11, 2020, on behalf of their client, See's Candies, headquartered in South San Francisco, and described as "tenant improvements to an existing building."

Schuss Clark Brandon has designed several ground-up retail centers and tenant improvement spaces, according to its website.

The permit application was returned to Schuss Clark Brandon on August 16th by the Citrus Heights building department with comment for further review.

"We're in the process of finalizing our architectural drawings which include these and other changes soon," Brandon said.

The interior construction permit

process is separate from overall exterior grounds improvements which are planned by the landlord-tenant, Citivest Commercial and Residential Real Estate of Newport Beach, Calif. and Tallen Capital Partners, LLC, of Del Mar.

Tallen Capital Partners has leased the entire building to Berkshire Hathaway owned See's Candies under a new 15-year lease agreement.

"By aggressively pursuing the leasing of this asset with our national, regional and local tenant and broker relationships, in record time, we procured one of the finest retailers in the country to occupy the building," said chairman and CEO, Terrence Tallen

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Flavored Tobacco Ban Begins In California

By Evan Symon,
California Globe

The statewide flavored tobacco and e-cigarette ban went into effect on Wednesday, (December 21, 2022) impacting retailers and consumers alike less than a week after a final attempt to stop it in the Supreme Court failed.

The battle over flavored tobacco in California dates back to January 2020, when then-Senator Jerry Hill introduced SB 793, to totally ban flavored cigarettes and e-cigarettes from sale in the state. The bill had much support, and easily made it through the Assembly and Senate, although a number of amendments were added, allowing certain exceptions. Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill shortly afterwards, with the ban set to take place at the end of the year.

However, tobacco companies quickly formed a coalition and set up a ballot referendum, collecting enough signatures in time by December to delay the ban. In early 2021, enough signatures were collected to put the decision up to California voters, with the referendum going to to the November 2022 ballot. Tobacco companies fought hard to fail the referendum, now known as Proposition 31, as many felt the ban went too far, and that it would hurt many businesses as a result. Those supporting pushing for Prop 31 to pass claimed a rise in youth tobacco consumption partially attributed to flavored tobacco being on the market.

Last month, Californians overwhelmingly voted for the ban to stay in place, 63% to 37%, or, 6.8 million for the ban and 3.9 million against. With the ban now set to begin later this month, R.J. Reynolds, as well as other tobacco companies, quickly filed an emergency application for a writ injunction with the U.S. Supreme Court, asking the court to stop the ban as a last Hail Mary attempt. In their application, the tobacco companies said that the ban will cause "irreparable harm, leading to substantial financial losses and a hit to customer goodwill and its reputation." Meanwhile, California argued that this was a state matter, and voters had already decided on it.

Flavored tobacco ban in CA begins

Without any quotes or other notes, all nine

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CSL Plasma Nears Opening Date

Story and photos
by Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Construction of a new plasma donation center has been largely completed on the site of the former Sacramento-based Dimples Records store at 7830 Macy Plaza Drive in Citrus Heights located across the street from Target and adjacent to the Dollar Tree store.

"We hope to open in early 2023, however, it is too early to comment on a more specific timeline," said Rhonda Sciarra, director of communications for CSL Plasma, headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida.

CSL Plasma is a division of CSL Behring, a global biotech leader headquartered in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The company operates more than 300 CSL Plasma collection centers across the U.S. and overseas, according to its website.

The 10,000-square-foot commercial building, built in 2005, had been vacant



The new CSL Plasma center is occupying the former Sacramento-based Dimples Records store at 7830 Macy Plaza Drive in Citrus Heights.

since September 2019. In early 2020, the building received an extensive exterior refresh with added parking spaces in anticipation of new commercial occupancy by the property owner.

Plasma typically collected at CSL Plasma collection centers is used to help manufacture life-saving therapies that are delivered to people

suffering rare and serious diseases in more than 100 countries, according to the company.

CSL Plasma posted available jobs in November on its website for Assistant Manager of Quality, Assistant Center Manager and Center Medical Director (CMD) at the new Citrus Heights center.

"Additional positions will be posted as we get

closer to opening on our careers section of CSL Plasma.com," Sciarra said in an email response.

Specific roles at the new Citrus Heights center will include medical reception and support technicians, phlebotomists, nurses (LVNs, LPNs and RNs) and paramedics, as well as Operations and Quality management. A

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Read More at www.CitrusHeightsMessenger.com

Spending Your Money



Gov. Gavin Newsom addresses a press conference where he unveiled his budget proposal for 2022-23 in Sacramento on Jan. 10, 2022. Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

By **Alejandro Lazo**
and **Jeanne Kuang**,
CALMatters.org

California faces a projected deficit next year even if the U.S. avoids a recession. Despite the expected shortfall, policymakers say they'll maintain spending on social programs though advocates are calling for more.

The Legislative Analyst's Office recently said in its annual forecast that Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Democratic Party-controlled Legislature are facing a \$24 billion projected budget deficit for the next fiscal year.

If the state enters a recession the outlook is even worse, with revenues predicted to fall short by \$30 billion to \$50 billion. The governor signed a record-breaking \$308 billion budget in June.

The legislative analyst attributes the projected shortfall to California's reliance on those whose incomes often ebb and flow with the price of stocks, real estate and other investments.

"Those are the same people who get a lot of their income from financial investments," said Legislative Analyst Gabriel Petek. "That volatility then gets transmitted directly to the state budget."

The governor will present a proposed budget in January and then a revision in May. The budget, which the Legislature must approve, will fund state government for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

H.D. Palmer, spokesperson for the state Department of Finance, declined to comment on whether social spending cuts might be proposed.

He did say, however, that the governor's priority was to not scale back programs that people have come to depend on, or to begin new ones. Some program expansions in later fiscal years could be delayed if there isn't enough revenue to support them, he said.

The goal is to avoid the kind of drastic program reductions enacted during the Great Recession that took years for the state to restore.

The state's Democratic legislative leaders have said they are not inclined to cut recently expanded programs, such as the extension of free health care to low-income undocumented immigrants, which began with older adults this year and is slated to open up to all ages in January 2024. The expansion is expected to cost more than \$2 billion annually.

The budget is in a much stronger position than it was during the state's last fiscal crisis, said Phil Ting, the Assembly budget committee chair from San Francisco.

"We have a significant amount of cash available, both in terms of reserves, but also in terms of liquidity," Ting said. "So this is a very different situation than the state faced in 2008-2009, where they were running out of cash."

The governor, nevertheless, has signaled he is being cautious. Newsom in October said he had vetoed 169 bills and saved taxpayers billions. Seventy-five of those vetoes were directly budget related, with many including boilerplate language that the state was facing "lower-than-expected revenues" and that it was "important to remain disciplined when it comes to spending, particularly spending that is ongoing."

Among the bills vetoed by the governor earlier this year were proposals to expand government-funded care for new mothers, expand free transit programs for California students and create grants for graduate students in mental health who commit to working at certain California-based nonprofits.

Newsom, whom voters elected to another four-year term, has used surpluses to pay down debts, build reserves and provide direct



California Governor Gavin Newsom is photographed at a press conference in Fontana on February 17, 2022. Photo by Alisha Jucevic for CalMatters

payments to millions of Californians.

Recently Moody's Analytics rated California one of the states most prepared for a recession, citing its reserves.

Nevertheless, California's budget enacted in June 2021 committed to \$3.4 billion in new ongoing spending and is expected to grow to \$12 billion in the 2025 budget year. The budget enacted in June of this year committed an additional \$2.3 billion, expected to grow to nearly \$5 billion by the 2026 budget year, the Legislative Analyst's Office said.

The state has \$37 billion in specific reserve funds. That includes about \$23 billion in a rainy-day fund voters agreed to strengthen in 2014 at the urging of then-Gov. Jerry Brown. The state also has \$900 million in a reserve account for safety net programs. The rest of those reserve funds are in school-specific and general operating reserves.

But, Palmer noted, the state can only draw down the rainy-day fund by half in any year. The Legislative Analyst's Office has advised the Legislature to slow down

or pause program expansions before dipping into reserves.

Ting's office contends the state has billions in unspent federal and state dollars in its coffers that could address a potential deficit. Using that money would avoid cuts to programs but delay other projects.

Anti-poverty advocates said in interviews they plan to continue pushing for program expansions, arguing the precipice of a downturn is the time to bolster social spending, not cut it.

Nearly 30% of California residents live in or near poverty, according to the Public Policy Institute of California. Experts expect poverty rates to increase after the end of a boost in federal cash aid, which came in 2021 in the form of an expanded child tax credit included in the American Rescue Plan Act.

Advocates are proposing that California mimic that federal expansion by opening up the state's Young Child Tax Credit, currently a \$1,000-a-year credit for low-income families with children under age 6, to include all children in low-income households.

They estimate 1 million children live in families that would qualify, at an additional cost of \$700 million a year.

Advocates said they also want the state to create an unemployment benefits program for undocumented immigrants and to include all low-income immigrants, regardless of immigration status, in its food assistance program.

"We know the projected budget shortfalls make it more challenging, but the past few years highlighted why something like this is so important," said Sasha Feldstein, economic justice policy manager at the California Immigrant Policy Center. "People who are excluded from our safety net have been the most adversely impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic and are the most harmed during times of economic downturn."

Lawmakers and Newsom this year allocated money to expand the California Food Assistance Program, a state version of food stamps, to include undocumented immigrants age 55 and older; the benefits are expected to become available late next year. Newsom vetoed a bill that would have tested an unemployment benefits program for undocumented immigrants, citing costs.

The projected shortfall is the state's first major fiscal challenge since Newsom's office predicted a \$54 billion shortfall in May 2020, when the country was in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic. After financial markets rebounded and the federal government provided unprecedented stimulus, the anticipated shortfall resulted in surpluses.

The Federal Reserve began hiking interest rates in March 2022 to cool inflation. Then housing sales, initial public stock offerings and stock markets fell. All are important sources of personal income

tax revenue.

In California, personal income withholding fell even as the job market recovered.

Over the last decade, California has increasingly relied on some of the state's highest earners to fund its budget which, among other things, takes aim at poverty and some of the nation's starkest income inequality.

Much of the state's general fund is paid for by its progressive personal income tax, which voters in 2012 raised on the state's highest earners after Brown warned of cuts to health and education. In 2016 voters extended those higher income tax rates through 2030 while also allowing a temporary sales tax to expire. The increases, meant for education and healthcare spending, have also paid for increased social safety net spending.

About 49% of the personal income tax paid in California in 2020 came from just 1% of tax filers, according to the state's finance department. And in the past decade, taxes collected from the most volatile form of income — capital gains — have doubled, making up a larger share of the state's revenue and tying the state's budget to particularly unstable economic cycles.

To address that, voters approved changes to the state's rainy-day fund in 2014. The changes serve as a check on spending, directing California to capture additional dollars in reserve when capital gains tax receipts are high.

Building reserves large enough for a state to ride through a recession is difficult, said Donald Boyd, a state finance expert at the University of Albany in New York.

"As a practical matter, it is very hard to build a rainy-day fund that's big enough to get you through a rainy season," Boyd said. "You need huge amounts of money to offset the effects of even a modest recession." ★

CSL Plasma Nears Opening Date

Continued from page 1

mature center (operating for about three years) employs approximately 60 full-time equivalent roles, or nearly 75 total jobs, including full- and part-time positions, Sciarra said in an earlier interview.

To donate at a CSL Plasma collection center, donors must be in good health, between the ages of 18-74, weigh at least 110 pounds, have no tattoos or piercings within the last 4 months, meet our eligibility and screening requirements and have valid identification and a permanent address, Sciarra said.

“It’s still too early to comment more on what (donor compensation) payment rates will be at the new center,” Sciarra said.

A complete list of donor requirements is available on the web at: www.cslplasma.com/become-a-donor

For a complete list of donation requirements, donors should contact a local CSL Plasma Center and ask to speak to a member of their medical staff. Here is additional information about a first donor visit: <https://www.cslplasma.com/become-a-donor> ★

Flavored Tobacco Ban Begins in California

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Supreme Court justices turned down the case last week, ending the last legal avenue to stop the ban and clearing the way for the ban to begin on the 21st. On Wednesday, all flavored tobacco products, including flavored cigarettes, flavored e-cigarette juice, menthol cigarettes, flavored tobacco enhancers, and all other related flavored tobacco products were officially banned. A few exemptions, such as flavored tobacco used in hookah bars, flavored loose-leaf pipe tobacco, and flavored premium cigars costing over \$12, are still allowed under the law, but will be closely regulated from now on.

While some retailers and users have been generally fine with the ban, others noted to the Globe on Thursday that it has already negatively hurt them.

“So we had to take out shelves of the products Tuesday night,” Duy Pham, a convenience store owner in Riverside, told the Globe Thursday, “A lot of customers have been lost and angry the last several days, and

I’d say we have lost hundreds in sales so far. We all knew this was coming, but it’s not great. This isn’t what we wanted at all.”

Others noted that, instead of discouraging users, it was only having them change products.

“We get a lot of teenagers and people in their early twenties here,” said Paul Stevens, a manager at a national convenience store chain. “When we told them what happened, some did get angry, but 99% of them just asked for another type of cigarette brand or something pure tobacco. Others said they’ll simply stock up on the next trip out of state and maybe give some to their friends. Whatever they thought would work, it hasn’t. And it looks like a work around is forming by having people bring it in out of state, so California is losing out in taxes in the end. I don’t think they realized what they did honestly.”

Other states and cities in the U.S. are currently considering similar bans. ★

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See’s Candies to Consolidate

Continued from page 1

in remarks describing the project on its website. A representative for Tallen Capital Partners did not respond to a request for additional comment.

According to Tallen’s project description, the new Citrus Heights See’s Candies will consolidate three other locations within its trade area for its first of a kind combination facility which include a traditional See’s Candies retail store, their corporate sales facility (business to business unit) and their regional offices.

In recent weeks, work crews have been visible conducting second floor demolitions and filling dumpsters in the rear parking lot with debris.

Susan McLendon, development services technician for the city building department said the City of Citrus Heights then had some specific concerns which the city wanted Schuss Clark Brandon to address and said she looked forward to their reply.

Separate physical exterior improvements by the landlord-tenant Tallen Capital Partners to existing landscaping are planned. The former drive-up banking lanes are shown removed on an exterior

rendering of the project posted on the Tallen Capital Partners website.

McClendon said the Citrus Heights city building department hasn’t yet received plans for the exterior phase of the project which will be reviewed by the city engineer before approval.

Patelco Credit Union in Citrus Heights closed its two-story branch office at 5499 Sunrise Boulevard at the corner of Uplands Way last July and has since moved to a new location in the Marketplace at Birdcage, 6100 Birdcage Lane, Suite 125.

Susan Portman, corporate director of public relations at See’s Candies corporate office did not respond to a request for further comment concerning the planned Citrus Heights new location.

See’s Candies was founded by Charles See, his wife Florence, and his mother Mary in Los Angeles, California in 1921. Its retail shop locations typically feature a candy counter where customers can either create their own custom-mixed box of chocolates and candies to order or purchase boxed chocolates, truffles, nuts and chews, lollipops, and sugar-free candy. ★

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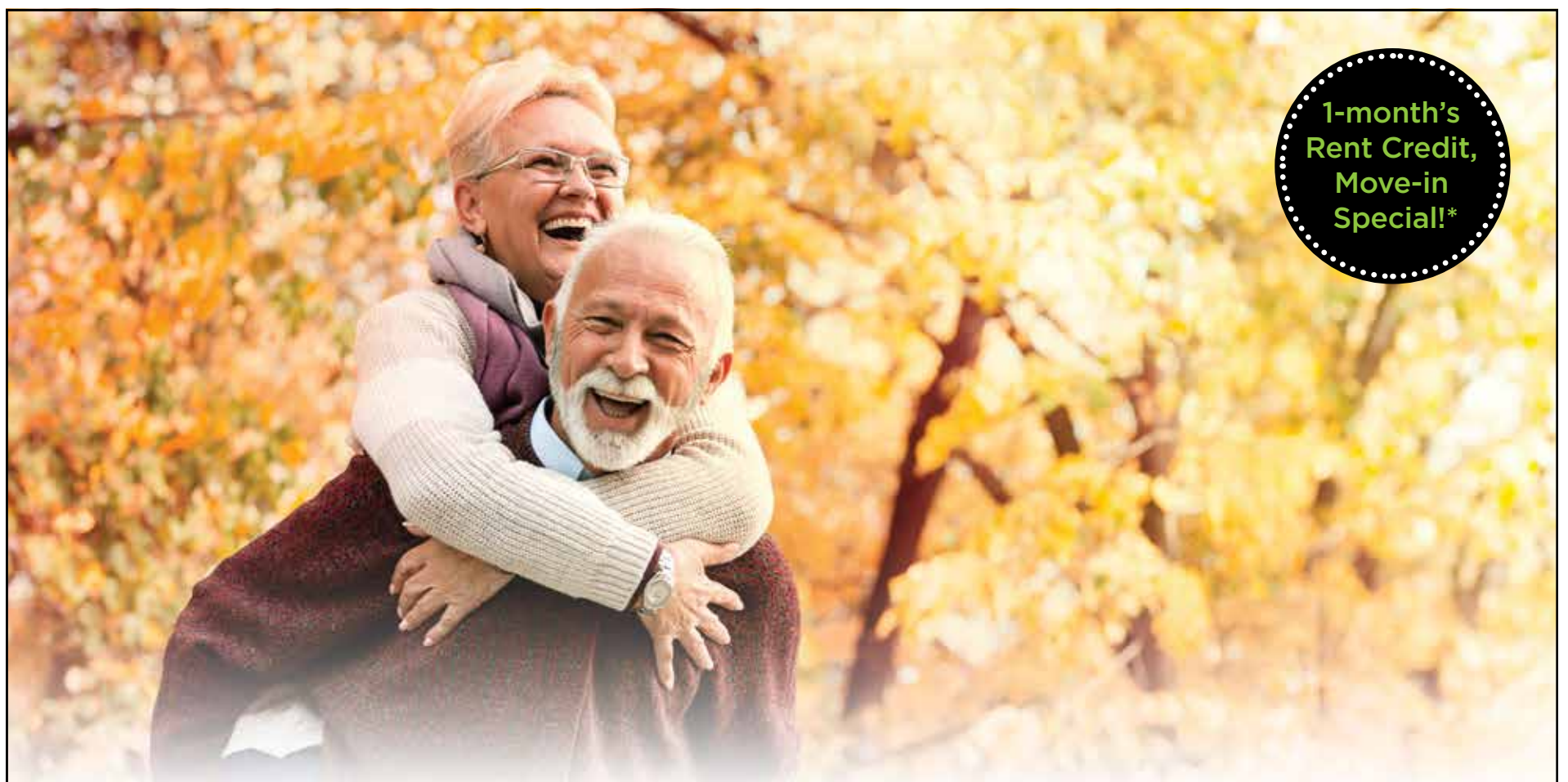


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Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Hold STEM Expo



Girl Scouts build a toolbox out of wood during the STEM Expo on November 6 at Camp Pollock in Sacramento. Courtesy photo



Girl Scouts problem solve how to build a structure with the pieces provided during the STEM Expo on November 6 at Camp Pollock in Sacramento. Courtesy photo



A Girl Scout looks through a microscope during the STEM Expo on November 6 at Camp Pollock in Sacramento. Courtesy photo

Girl Scouts HCC News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Girl Scouts Heart of Central California held their annual STEM Expo on November 6, 2022 at Camp Pollock in Sacramento with 142 participants in attendance.

The event featured a variety of hands-on activities designed to foster curiosity and confidence in participants with an eye toward the future in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Highlights from the array of experiences provided include:

- Solar bracelet making: Provided by event

partner SMUD, this creative project centered on understanding energy. (The beads used could change depending on light.)

Ecology and botany learning: Highlighting the Girl Scouts and UC Davis Arboretum's Public Garden Program, living plants were used in captivating games designed to teach plant identification while having fun!

Robot programming and play: Provided by event partner Code Ninjas, this hands-on experience encouraged problem-solving and analysis skills essential to tomorrow's thinkers.

- Paper rockets and DNA bracelet making: Provided by event partner



A Girl Scout makes a solar bracelet during the STEM Expo on November 6 at Camp Pollock in Sacramento. Courtesy photo

Americorps Fellows and the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California's Mobile STEM Center,

these tactile projects kept participants actively engaged while learning. One highlight of the day

was feedback received from a newly established local Daisy Troop. Having formed just one week prior, the STEM Expo was the troop's first Girl Scouts event. They arrived early and were some of the last to leave! Their enthusiastic troop leader made connections for future activities inspired by both the event itself and by other leaders in attendance. The troop is especially interested in working more with Code Ninjas.

Over the last 30 years, employment in STEM occupations has grown 79% with the promise of continued growth in the fields. Women comprise only 34% of the STEM workforce and have lower

median salaries than their male counterparts.

The future for women in STEM is far brighter, however, thanks to events like this that inspire tomorrow's thinkers and leaders. STEM is a foundational part of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, the four-pillar framework around which all our activities are built. Along with the other pillars (outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship) Girl Scouts is committed to providing opportunities for growth through STEM-focused learning.

For additional information about this impactful event, please contact: Andrea Fruchier, MarComm Senior Director. ★

Sacramento County Searching for Shelter Operator

Sac County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The County of Sacramento Office of Homeless Initiatives (OHI) is seeking interest from qualified organizations interested in operating a low-barrier, scattered-site interim 24/7 shelter program for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

The program will be inclusive of both operations and re-housing services. The shelter re-housing services provider may be the same as the shelter operations provider or will work closely with the provider if a separate entity.

Sacramento County funds and

supports operations of sheltering programs throughout the County, using a variety of approaches and physical buildings to address the unique needs of people living unsheltered. These shelters are low-barrier and come with access to services that help people stabilize their lives, including case management and rehousing support.

One of the core sheltering programs is the Re-Housing Shelter Network (RSN), also known as "scattered site shelter." The County typically shelters up to 155 clients in these shelters at any given time across the County. This model

utilizes existing residential homes within neighborhoods to support small (typically less than 5) sheltering programs.

The RSN allows sheltering for people who cannot be supported in traditional, congregate settings, and can accommodate varying household configurations and serve people with their pets. Each location has a 24/7 live-in site monitor that helps provide for clients' basic needs. With recent expansion in the RSN program, and the changing needs in the Sacramento shelter system, the County is seeking interest from community partners with expertise in shelter

operations and/or re-housing services.

The County has been running this scattered site shelter model since 2018. Clients appreciate a smaller environment that allows them to truly experience the transition off the streets and into a house setting while having their basic needs cared for and an on-site house monitor. Clients can bring their partners, pets and possessions to the house with them. This low-barrier model helps increase the chances that potential guests will say "yes" to the opportunity.

Once in the scattered site

shelter, clients have access to supportive services such as case management, rehousing services and resources to provide for one's basic needs. These supports are an important step on a client's pathway toward housing.

For more information about this particular partnership opportunity with the County of Sacramento, read the full Letter of Interest, including deadlines and pre-submission meetings that allow potential respondents to ask questions of County staff.

For more information about what the County is doing to address homelessness, visit the Homelessness Website. ★



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Left to Right: Ron Suter (Eppie's Wellness Foundation), Jenn Wilson-Marchino (Therapeutic Recreation Services), Liz Bellas (Regional Parks), District 3 Supervisor Rich Desmond, District 2 Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, Lisa Mangels (Eppie's Wellness Foundation), District 5 Supervisor Don Nottoli, District 4 Supervisor Sue Frost, and District 1 Supervisor Phil Serna. Courtesy photo

Sac County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Board of Supervisors, at its Nov. 15 meeting, voted to approve a resolution accepting a \$290,000 donation from Eppie's Wellness Foundation to support future Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) programming and the Gibson Ranch Sensory Playground Pathway to Play.

Of the \$290,000, \$140,000 will be placed in the Regional Parks' restricted funds to be used for future TRS program support over the next ten years. These funds will be used for the development of new programs or special funding requests such as scholarships or uniforms for the Sacramento Chargers sports teams.

The remaining \$150,000 will be used to complete construction of the Gibson Ranch Sensory Playground Pathway to Play project, which will create a play area specifically designed to be accessible and inclusive for all children, but especially for those who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The Pathway to Play area includes various play equipment and is specifically designed for inclusive play, providing access to a range of sensory experiences for children of different abilities. These pieces of equipment are spread out so that they can limit sensory overload.

Sacramento area restaurateur/entrepreneur Eppie G. Johnson was the founder of Eppie's Great Race, a Sacramento tradition that took place annually along the American River Parkway in collaboration with Sacramento County Parks. During his lifetime, he supported Regional Parks in numerous ways, including promoting the American River Parkway and bringing out park users to train and appreciate the jewel of Sacramento, the American River.

"Eppie had a deep appreciation for the American River Parkway, and he was an avid supporter of Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS), a recreation program offered through the Department, serving those with a variety of disabilities," said Liz Bellas, Director of Regional Parks. "We will

be forever grateful to Eppie and his family, and the tremendous generosity they have shown Regional Parks over the years."

Eppie founded the event in 1974, holding the first triathlon on July 27, 1974. The race featured a 5.82-mile run, a 12.5-mile bike and a 6.10-mile paddle held along the scenic American River Parkway in Rancho Cordova and Sacramento. This event provided an opportunity to race for all ages and abilities. The final race was held in 2018.

The proceeds from the event raised more than \$1.5 million dollars for causes within Sacramento, including over \$1 million specifically for TRS. Eppie's Great Race Foundation was incorporated by Eppie Johnson in 2004, and the Foundation was renamed by the Board of Directors to the Eppie's Wellness Foundation (EWF) in 2014.

The EWF Board of Directors decided to dissolve the foundation by the end of 2022, and in keeping with Eppie's historic support of Regional Parks and TRS, it decided to donate a majority of the remaining assets to Regional Parks. ★

How will California Deal with a Big Budget Deficit?



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

While California has a surplus of critical issues demanding political attention – housing, homelessness and water to mention the most obvious – it faces a deficit of financial resources to deal with them.

Gov. Gavin Newsom will soon reveal a proposed budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year that begins July 1, and it's likely to greatly differ from the 2022-23 version he and the Legislature adopted just six months ago.

The current budget reflected what Newsom said would be a massive surplus, thanks mostly to a flood of tax revenues from high-income Californians who were enjoying big gains on their investments.

Pegging the surplus at \$97.5 billion, Newsom bragged that "no other state in American history has ever experienced a surplus as large as this."

He and the Legislature enacted a \$300-plus billion budget that committed much of the supposed surplus to expanding an array of social and educational services, including what he said was achieving universal health care by extending coverage to all undocumented immigrants.

Just a few weeks later,

however, Newsom began acknowledging that the surplus might not be as large as he had boasted. He vetoed a number of spending bills, citing indications that a recession might be on the horizon.

In November, the Legislature's budget analyst, Gabe Patek, made the reversal of fortune official in his annual report on the state's finances, saying the healthy surplus that Newsom projected is really a "\$24 billion budget problem."

"The budget problem is mainly attributable to lower revenue estimates, which are lower than budget act projections from 2021 22 through 2023 24 by \$41 billion," Patek said, stressing that the deficit would occur even if there's no recession but would become worse if the economy does, indeed, "turn sour."

Whether the nation is headed for recession is a much-debated question. The Federal Reserve System has hiked interest rates sharply in hopes of cooling off the economy and lowering a soaring inflation rate. While it hopes for a "soft landing," some economists believe that it could become a full-blown recession.

California's budget is particularly sensitive to larger economic currents because it is inordinately dependent on taxing incomes of a relative few wealthy Californians. Income taxes are three-quarters of the state's general fund revenues and 1% of taxpayers generate nearly half of those taxes.

"Based on historical experience, should a recession occur soon, revenues could be \$30 billion to \$50

billion below our revenue outlook in the budget window," Patek said. Because of the looming threat of recession, Patek urged the Legislature to adopt a very conservative approach to the 2023-24 budget, balancing it without relying on the state's reserves.

It's good advice, but will the Legislature heed it? Backpedaling is a hard sell in a Legislature dominated by left-leaning Democrats and allies in advocacy groups that had been elated by the budget's provisions.

Initial indications are that legislators would prefer to continue the programmatic enhancements even if it means dipping into reserves or borrowing money to cover the deficit.

The Assembly Budget Committee said as much in a "budget blueprint" issued after Patek made his report. The document devotes much verbiage to self-congratulation about the current budget's largesse and calls for protecting it by using the "state balance sheet to continue key investments." That's defined as shifting some spending to special funds and "borrowing from special funds, especially if revenue situation worsens."

So where does Newsom stand between these two conflicting approaches? Will he adopt Patek's conservative advice or side with the Legislature, even if it means deficit spending and debt? We'll know in about a week.

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

Social Security Matters

Should I Claim Social Security Now?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am 68 years old, born in July 1954. I have the credits necessary to qualify for benefits. The Social Security website says that if I continue to work to age 70 with yearly earnings of \$206,000, my monthly benefit would be \$4,245. If I stop working now, and start taking benefits in January 2023, my benefit would be \$3778. The number of months between January 2023 and July 2024 is 19. Nineteen months of benefits for that period would be \$71,782. It looks like it would take about 17 years to make up the difference between taking the money in January vs. waiting until age 70, which would put me at age 85. I don't think that I would live much past that age, given my family history. Do you think it wise on my part to begin taking benefits in January 2023, and are my calculations correct? **Signed: Trying to Decide**

Dear Trying: Well, the

difference between your monthly payment at age 70 vs. your benefit amount in January 2023 is \$467, so it would take you about 154 months (just under 13 years) to recover that \$71,782. But that doesn't take future cost of living adjustments (COLA) into account. Average annual COLA over the last 20 years was about 2%, and if you factor average future COLA into the equation you would likely break even at about age 81 (if you wait until age 70 to claim). And this is where your life expectancy comes in.

According to Social Security, the average life expectancy for a man your age is 85, which means that if you claim at 70 and enjoy average longevity, you'll collect that higher benefit for an extra 4 years. That would mean more than \$22,000 in additional benefits over your lifetime. Of course, no one knows how long they will live, but if you'd like to get a more personal estimate of your life expectancy, I suggest you try this tool: www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/. This tool takes your lifestyle and current health status, as well as your family history, into account.

When to claim is always a personal choice, but in your specific circumstances - since you

apparently don't need the money right now and have a family history which suggests longevity - waiting until age 70 to claim could not only give you a substantially higher monthly benefit but also the most in cumulative lifetime benefits. And if you're married, it will also mean the maximum possible survivor benefit for your wife if you predeceased her because, as your widow, your wife would get the benefit you are receiving at your death instead of her own smaller amount. Thus, when you claim your benefit will also affect your wife's benefit as your surviving widow. In the end, it's your personal decision to make, after considering all of the above factors, especially your life expectancy.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★

Allowing Hallucinogenic Drugs Can Lead to More Violent Crime

CDAA News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Prosecutors in California strongly object to SB 58 (Senator Wiener), which seeks the wholesale decriminalization of many dangerous hallucinogenic drugs.

"This proposal recklessly puts policy before science for numerous psychedelic drugs that have proven to be highly unpredictable and have even been connected to violent crimes," said Greg Totten, CEO of the California District Attorneys Association (CDAA).

Unfortunately, the

authors of this bill are charting a path that would allow these dangerous hallucinogenic drugs to be legalized before they have been fully understood by the scientific and medical communities.

"If the proponents want more research, that's one thing," Totten said. "And if they are advocating for therapeutic use under medical supervision, that is also worth considering. But science does not fully understand these drugs and that's why this bill is so reckless, because it advocates for skipping that scientific scrutiny altogether."

"As for dealing with

drug cases involving users of hallucinogens, as prosecutors our focus has long been to seek treatment, not jail," Totten said. "We know that we can help people get on the right track by compelling them into treatment for drug addiction, and that is only possible if there are laws that govern these controlled substances."

The California District Attorneys Association is a statewide training and advocacy organization representing elected district attorneys, city attorneys with criminal divisions, and more than 3,500 prosecutors. ★



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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 - Baryshnikov's step
 - Back wound
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 - *Any high mountain
 - Tsar's edict
 - Means
 - Bishop of Rome's jurisdiction
 - Female water-elf
 - *Highest mountain
 - *Sea that is also the largest lake
 - A in MoMA
 - *Small island
 - Ignited
 - Lamborghini model
 - Extravagant
 - 15th of March, May, July or October
 - *Sketch
 - Technology expert
 - Novice
 - Damage one's reputation
 - Lil' Bow Wow's first name
 - Bette Midler's movie
 - *Pocus
 - "I'm ___ you!"
 - Unit of pressure
 - Denver breakfast choice
 - Big rig
 - ___ de Janeiro
 - Excessively abundant
 - Ensign, for short
 - *Great ___ Reef
 - *National Geographic
 - Gibson garnish
 - Arabic garment
 - D-Day beach
 - *Longest continental mountain range
 - Nada
 - Energy to motion converter
 - Golf pegs
 - Red Cross bed
 - Follow as a consequence
- DOWN**
- Surfer's "man"
 - Tel ___ Israel
 - Ditty
 - Extremist
 - Masters without t
 - Ghost of Christmas ___
 - Miller High Life, e.g.
 - Four-eyes' gear
 - Bypass
 - Uber alternative
 - *The largest continent
 - Past participle of "be"
 - Remove from political office
 - Eyelid infections
 - Opposite of nothing
 - Burning aroma producer
 - * ___ sphere, the solid earth
 - "She is pulling my leg," e.g.
 - 9 a.m. prayer
 - * ___ sphere, air surrounding earth
 - Sleeveless garment
 - Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
 - Harry Belafonte's daughter
 - * ___ sphere, all water on earth
 - Aretha Franklin's genre
 - Type of crime
 - Young Montague
 - Brown and yellow finches
 - Cravat or bola
 - Financial gain
 - 100 centimes
 - "Barefoot in the Park" playwright
 - Summer ride
 - "Green Gables" protagonist
 - Amusement park attraction
 - Sturgeon ___ and salmon ___
 - Table mineral
 - Chow or grub
 - Biblical pronoun
 - Ready and eager
 - * ___ sphere, all life on earth

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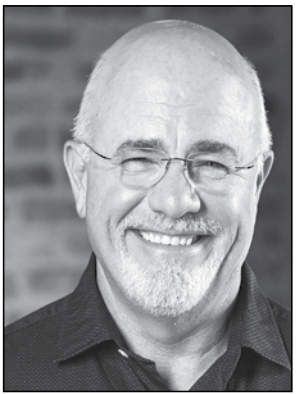
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Dave Ramsey Says Hospitals Finally Face the Music

File Bankruptcy? That's Really Bad Advice

Dear Dave,

My husband co-signed a loan for an old girlfriend four years ago. Apparently, she hasn't made a payment in almost two years, and a collection agency called him last week wanting the balance of \$3,000. We make about \$80,000 a year combined, and an attorney we spoke with recommended we file bankruptcy. Is this really the best thing to do?

– Scarlett

Dear Scarlett,

If you have the money, and you can pay it off without putting yourselves in a bind financially, do it. That's the right thing to do, both morally and legally. If you don't have that kind of cash on hand, try haggling with them. See if they'll agree to settle for \$1,500. At this point, they might even take less. But if they go for the idea, do not give them electronic access to your bank account. Make sure you get the agreement in writing, too, before sending them a penny.

Here's the deal. This collector bought the loan for pennies on the dollar. It's an old debt, and that means the expectation for collection is very low. At the same time, your husband did co-sign for the loan. They'll probably threaten to sue and whatnot, but my guess is you

can work something out. It might take two or three weeks – and a little patience – but that's a small price to pay if it saves you a bunch of money.

Oh, and the attorney you talked to? He doesn't sound very bright. A bankruptcy stays on your record for years. Trashing your financial life over \$3,000 would be stupid.

Good luck, Scarlett!

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show," heard by more than 18 million listeners. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, He also serves as CEO of Ramsey Solutions. ★



Commentary by Sally C. Pipes

Two Georgia hospitals were recently fined \$1.1 million for failing to publish their prices. The facilities had also ignored letters from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services asking them to publicly disclose what they charge for procedures.

It's about time. The federal government directed hospitals to publish clear, consumer-friendly charge lists by the beginning of 2021. Six months later, just 6% of hospitals nationwide had complied, according to a study published in June in the medical journal JAMA.

Hospitals shouldn't be able to get away with flouting the law. Price transparency empowers patients and payers to shop around for medical care – and ultimately allows them to leverage the power of competition to extract the best value for their dollar.

The Trump administration issued the price transparency rule in 2019. It required hospitals to publish standard prices for 300

of their most common services, including rates for insurers and those for individuals paying cash. The rule set daily fines for non-compliant institutions, which the Biden administration increased in November 2021.

Since the rule took effect, hospitals have been cautioned plenty. CMS has issued more than 350 warning letters requesting compliance.

Yet transparency has lagged. The biggest medical centers have been among the worst offenders. Just 0.5% of facilities owned by the country's three largest hospital systems were fully compliant as of early 2022, according to a report from Patient Rights Advocate.

Hospitals may be leery of revealing their prices because the results can be embarrassing. In one case, an Illinois patient received a \$15,000 hospital bill for an EpiPen. He later learned he could have purchased the same device from a pharmacy for \$320.

Or, take the recent experience of a couple in Fresno, Calif. According to reporting from NPR, the husband underwent cataract surgery with an in-network provider that cost over \$4,000. His wife, who has the same coverage, received the same exact procedure at a neighboring clinic – and only owed \$204. The two facilities were just a half mile from one another.

High-cost

providers wouldn't be able to get away with those wide spreads in price if patients and payers knew about them. That's why a 2021 RAND Corporation study projected that improving price transparency could reduce U.S. healthcare spending by up to \$26.6 billion a year.

Of course, some hospitals may be justified in charging more than others. Factors like quality, convenience, and reputation of doctors and hospitals always influence price. But patients and payers should be able to evaluate those factors on their own. Hiding prices deprives them of key pieces of information that help them make prudent decisions.

Opaque prices also undermine competition – and thus help healthcare providers avoid improving quality or reducing costs in order to attract customers at the margin.

The feds did the right thing by fining hospitals that aren't following the rules. But more needs to be done to make hospitals around the country do what businesses in every other sector do every day – tell potential customers what they can expect to pay.

Sally C. Pipes is President, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith Fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes. This op-ed originally ran in the Chicago Sun-Times. ★

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**By County
Supervisor Sue Frost**

Through the generosity of the Citrus Heights Messenger, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the community of Citrus Heights.

You may have seen some news recently about a controversial vote at the Board of Supervisors involving a debate between releasing more inmates and expanding the current jail facility. As we had an unprecedented amount of public input into this discussion, I feel compelled to use this opportunity in my monthly article to explain to you the details of what happened, and why I voted the way that I did.

Back in 2014, Sacramento County was notified by advocates about concerns regarding conditions of confinement in the jails. Then in 2019, a class action lawsuit against the County was filed to address those concerns. In 2020 a Federal Judge approved a court order (Consent Decree) resulting from the class action settlement. The concerns centered on medical care, mental health care, Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance. As a result of this, the County was left with an open ended question of how to proceed forward. The court order issued specific requirements within a timeline, but they allowed us flexibility in working within our budget and circumstances to satisfy the Consent Decree. They wanted to see that we were making a concerted effort, and our progress

Citrus Heights Community Update

Should Sacramento County Build a New Jail or Let Inmates Out Early?

was monitored by Class Counsel to ensure progress.

Over the years, the board would routinely meet to discuss how we should proceed. I was regularly of the mindset that the best path forward was to make updates to the jail as opposed to simply releasing inmates - something that I have very negative views on due to the State utilizing this method to disastrous effect locally. However, every time this came up for a vote, to my great frustration, the only people who would make public comments were those who did not want updates to the jail, and simply wanted inmates released - and a majority of the Board of Supervisors would vote to essentially kick the can down the road and defer action to a later meeting.

Fast forward to 2022, and the plaintiffs are justifiably getting frustrated at our lack of specific actions to satisfy their complaints. County legal staff have told us that if we do not act immediately, that we could risk being out of compliance and the Federal Government could come in and take over our ability to manage this issue. That would mean they make decisions with local taxpayer dollars without any input from the Board of Supervisors. This is not something that any of the Board of Supervisors were willing to allow to happen, and it forced us to finally take action earlier in December.

In the meeting on December 7th our Board was presented with a variety of options for ways to solve this problem. They ranged from building an entirely new jail, to adding a jail expansion building for mental health services, to releasing inmates into a variety of community programs, or some combination

of the above. While I would possibly be supportive of building a new jail, from a financial perspective we simply do not have the money needed to do this, and the impacts it would have on our budget to get a loan for the money we need would have extremely negative effects on other essential County services.

In the end, on December 8th the Board decided to do two main things. First, we agreed to build a jail expansion downtown specifically for mental health, medical services and inmate intake. And secondly, we agreed with county staff's recommendations that give alternatives to incarceration for some low level offenders. While I am not supportive of letting dangerous inmates out early, this was supported by the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office, and I believe these programs serve a community benefit.

I am overjoyed that the Board of Supervisors finally made progress on solving these issues so we could begin to satisfy the consent decree. While there is still more work to be done, this is real progress that until this point has seen nothing but delays. I will keep you updated in the future as more progress is made, but this is a great start that is extremely needed.

Thank you for reading - and as always, if you want to contact me, call me at 916-874-5491, or e-mail me at SupervisorFrost@saccounty.net.

Sacramento County Supervisor Sue Frost represents the 4th District, which includes the communities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Orangevale, Antelope, North Highlands, Rio Linda, Elverta, and Rancho Murieta. ★

Voting Mischief, They Did it Again, But How?



**Commentary
by Harold Pease, Ph.D.**

Yes, election mischief is old news, but with new proofs. (I am using words less likely to trigger algorithms for big tech censorship). Sometimes it takes a few months to catch new methods of manipulating elections. For liberty to survive we have to stop managed elections and we have to punish those corrupting them or we will never again have an honest election.

In the 2020 elections we now know that mail-in ballots, election laws permitting such, multiple days to vote, big tech censorship of conservative views and candidates, and Chinese influence via Dominion voting machines and Konnech administering elections programs were the primary tools of election mischief. We have previously published on these subjects and tools. In many states these methods and tools were still in place and used in the 2022 elections.

We focus on three of the most egregious new, or newly discovered, methods of fraud: databased latency, election manipulation using inactive voters, and Operation Bronze Griffin a secret combination between the federal government, via FBI, and Facebook. All to affect an election.

We begin with databased latency as explained by Jay Valentine, a noted authority on election fraud. "In a real-life example, this month, we found a county that changed 31,500 zip codes, yet the voter remained at the same address." These were changed on September 3, ballots went out that week. Those valid 31,500 ballots are undeliverable but retrievable later for their use. On September 15, those addresses are quietly changed back. The National Change of Address Database will not pick up those address changes. That does not happen because there is no history kept of this quick change. The 31,500 citizens were getting their mail just fine, except for ballots. Ballot addresses were driven by the county mail-in ballot database. The one that was changed, then changed back. The recipient

is none the wiser that they never received the mail-in ballots. They may vote in person. Oops, you already voted. Welcome to database latency" Many states send ballots to everyone allowing hundreds of thousand unused available to scammers ("Here is how they did it: Real-time Election Fraud," by Jay Valentine, American Thinker, November 30, 2022). This is the fraud equation "taking place across the country...Our teams in Wisconsin and Florida are discovering this scam by the truckload.

How does this method of gaming the system work in practice? "The ballot-gathering scammers know about latency - it's their ground game!" They "count the in-person votes on election day. Count the early in-person votes. Shut down the system (Atlanta water leak, Maricopa County, everything). Bring in undeliverable ballots gathered when you changed voter's names addresses, zip codes, then change them back. Determine the votes you need to win. Press the win button. Wait for the Republicans to file lawsuits months later." Fait Accompli!

Valentine continues, "floating ballots are the lifeblood Democrats need to win; and win they will. Ballot gatherers know Republicans use dumb technology - relational databases, SQL, NCOA, Melissa, all non-real-time, highly latent systems. Bad guys are happy to watch Republicans waste time finding ones and twos while the real action takes place by the thousands, invisible to these batch, latency-prone systems." So this is how they get away with it (Ibid.).

Next we look at utilizing the inactive voters ballots. Liz Harrington reported that a "Lawsuit filed in Maricopa County reveals 'steroid-like injection' of 225,171, 'inactive' voters just before November 8." This resulted in several things: "An inflated turnout rate, headaches for those deemed 'inactive' at the polls, possibility of throwing out votes if the arcane Election Procedures Manual, written by Katie Hobbs, was not followed by poll workers who were not trained on inactive voters." She asked, "Who was put on the 'inactive list? Might they be inclined to vote Republican?" (Liz Harrington@realLizUSA, December 1, 2022). People who seldom or never vote suddenly surfaced, a quarter of a million of them in one county.

Operation Bronze Griffin is the most serious of our

disclosed election mischief practices because it involves a marriage between the federal government through the FBI and Facebook to censor a political party and potentially all its messaging and messengers and was fully operational in both the 2020 and 2022 elections. The allegations for this originated from numerous FBI whistleblowers coming forth on their own volition to expose their own organization of creating "a secret Facebook portal through which authorities can request the deletion of alleged misinformation from the world's top social media platforms." If true, the government would be violating Amendment I of the Constitution and such a marriage between government and private corporations to overthrow an election would constitute treason.

The 1050 paged whistleblowers report claimed that FBI leadership demonstrated a pro-Democrat political bias and "alleged that it accepts private users information from Facebook without the user's consent or the legal process. The FBI otherwise would need to independently pursue such user related information. Furthermore, according to the whistleblowers, the information, the types of users content Facebook provides, have a partisan focus only concerning users from one side of the political spectrum. The FBI's willingness to accept this political speak information from Facebook outside the routine investigative pathways further threatens America's constitutional rights" ("Whistleblowers: What their Disclosures Indicate about the Politicization of the FBI and Justice Department, Republican Staff Report, Committee on the Judiciary, US House of Representatives, November 4, 2022).

Serious election mischief has and now exists more than ever. It can no longer reasonably be denied in 2020 or in 2022. America will not survive if we don't demand election reform NOW.

Harold Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years. Newspapers have permission to publish this column. To read more of his weekly articles, please visit www.LibertyUnderFire.org ★

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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

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, creditors, 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

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CHP Highlights New Laws in 2023

CHP News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As we head into the new year, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) is educating the public on traffic safety laws that were passed during this year's legislative season and signed by Governor Gavin Newsom. The laws take effect January 1, 2023, unless otherwise noted.



California Highway Patrol (CHP) is educating the public on traffic safety laws that were passed during this year's legislative season and signed by Governor Gavin Newsom. Photo courtesy of Michael Ludwig | Dreamstime.com

Public Employment: Peace Officers: Citizenship (Senate Bill (SB) 960, Skinner)

The law maintains that peace officers, including peace officer trainees, be legally authorized to work in the United States consistent with federal law and regulations, however, removes the requirement that they be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

Catalytic Converters (SB 1087, Gonzalez) (Assembly Bill (AB) 1740, Muratsuchi)

These laws specifically list who can sell catalytic converters to recyclers and require those recyclers to keep documentation such as the year, make, model, and copy of the vehicle title from which the catalytic converter was removed. The purpose of these laws is to help reduce catalytic converter theft.

Vehicular Manslaughter: Speeding and Reckless Driving (SB 1472, Stern)

This law expands the criteria for "gross negligence" as it relates to the crime of vehicular manslaughter. Drivers involved in sideshow activity, exhibition of speed, or speeding over 100 miles

per hour which results in a fatality could now be charged with Vehicular Manslaughter with Gross Negligence.

Motor Vehicle Speed Contests and Exhibitions of Speed (AB 2000, Gabriel)

Parking lots and off-street parking facilities are now included as locations where it is a crime to engage in a speed contest, exhibition of speed, or sideshow activity.

Endangered Missing Advisory: Feather Alert (AB 1314, Ramos)

The new "Feather Alert" allows law enforcement agencies to request the CHP to initiate an alert when an indigenous person has been kidnapped, abducted, or reported missing under unexplained or suspicious

circumstances, and specific criteria has been met to permit alert activation. Additionally, consistent with the Department's existing AMBER, Blue, and Silver Alert programs, this new "Feather Alert" program encourages the use of radio, television, and social media to spread the information about the missing indigenous person.

Hit-and-Run Incidents: Yellow Alert (AB 1732, Patterson)

This law authorizes law enforcement agencies to request the CHP to activate a "Yellow Alert" when a fatal hit-and-run crash has occurred, and specific criteria has been met to permit alert activation. The law also encourages local media outlets to disseminate the information contained in a Yellow Alert. The new law serves to use the public's assistance to improve

the investigatory ability for law enforcement agencies throughout the state when working to solve fatal hit-and-run crashes.

Online Marketplaces: Reporting (AB 1700, Maienschein)

This law requires the Attorney General's Office to create an online reporting system for users of third-party online marketplaces to report listings of suspected stolen items. The reported information would be available to local law enforcement and the CHP's Organized Retail Crime Task Force to assist with investigations.

Bicycles Omnibus Bill (AB 1909, Friedman)

Much like the move over or slow down law, this law provides for increased protections to

bicyclists by requiring vehicles passing or overtaking a bicycle in the same direction, to move over to an adjacent lane of traffic, if one is available, or slow down and only pass the bicyclist when safe to do so. The law also permits Class 3 e-bike riders to use approved bicycle paths and trails, bikeways, and bicycle lanes. The law prohibits local governments from requiring bicycle registration and allows local authorities to prohibit any electric bicycle on an equestrian, hiking, or other recreational trail.

Electric Bicycles: Safety and Training Program (AB 1946, Boerner Horvath)

This requires the CHP to work with other traffic safety stakeholders such as the California Office of Traffic Safety, to develop state-wide safety and training programs for electric bicycles. This training program, which will consist of electric bicycle riding safety, emergency maneuver skills, rules of the road and laws pertaining to electric bicycles, will launch on the CHP's website in September 2023.

Pedestrians (AB 2147, Ting)

This law prohibits peace officers from stopping pedestrians for certain pedestrian-specific violations, such as crossing the road outside of a crosswalk, unless there is an immediate danger of a crash. The CHP reminds all road users of the responsibility to travel safely and look out for one another on the road.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. ★

Retailer Brands 'Dollar N' More'

Story and photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Make your shopping dollars go further and discover a new independent discount store, Dollar n' More, which recently opened in the Citrus Heights Plaza at 7601 Sunrise Boulevard, at the intersection of Old Auburn Boulevard.

Dollar n' More is independently owned and operated by Patricia Wright of Roseville.

She received financing to open her own retail discount store through Liberty Opportunities, Inc., of Conway, AK, which specializes and assists entrepreneurs like Wright with both financing and merchandise support. The

national chain has over 2,000 stores and locations in all 50 states.

Wright, who enjoyed a career in multiple pathways as a paralegal and medical insurance professional, said she wanted to start her own business and the partnership with Liberty offered a solid foundation to start in retail.

"We leased the 3,360 square-foot space, 'as-is' in October, and opened just before the Christmas holiday," Wright said. Her store employs three, including her son Daniel.

The concrete floor needed repair and resurfacing before store shelving could be installed, she said. Her store is utilizing some 2,200 square feet of retail sales space for the time



Store clerk Rachel Dumbra, owner Patricia Wright (center) and her son Daniel Wright welcome new customers at the new Dollar n' More, located in the Citrus Heights Plaza.

being. Wright said she would like to offer a broader selection of food merchandise in the future.

Surrounding stores include Macy's Nail and Hair, Vanity Fur Pet Spa, Paradise Laundry, Safe Credit Union, Master Donuts, and The Human

Bean, a drive-thru coffee shop.

"We're trying to build walk-in traffic from customers... who are already shopping at other stores here in Citrus Heights Plaza," she said.

Wright, born in Jamaica, with a bright smile and

friendly manner, said she created her own brand name in Dollar n' More, and designed her own business logo.

Dollar n' More features a wide range of merchandise including cell phone accessories, food, and categories of kitchen, bathroom, garden, seasonal and special occasion merchandise for school, home, and business.

She said she enjoys getting to know all her customers on a one-to-one basis and knowing their individual needs, a personal approach which sets her store apart from other national "dollar" discount chain stores she has shopped in.

"As a business partner, Liberty Opportunities was great to work with, giving a new business owner like me, who wanted to operate their own business, the opportunity to provide a broad range of quality

discounted inventory which my customers really need and want at a very affordable price," she said.

"We'll be getting new seasonal merchandise regularly, in time for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day," she said. Average prices are between \$1.25 to \$1.49 for most items.

"I'm looking forward to meeting my customers and fulfilling their needs," she said. If there's an item we aren't yet carrying, and should, I want them to tell me."

Dollar n' More in Citrus Heights Plaza at 7601 Sunrise Boulevard, suite 11 near the corner of Old Auburn Road in Citrus Heights is open daily, Monday through Sunday from 9 am to 8 pm. Call (916) 242-0881 for more information. The new store is on the web at: dollar-n-more.business.site and also on social media. ★

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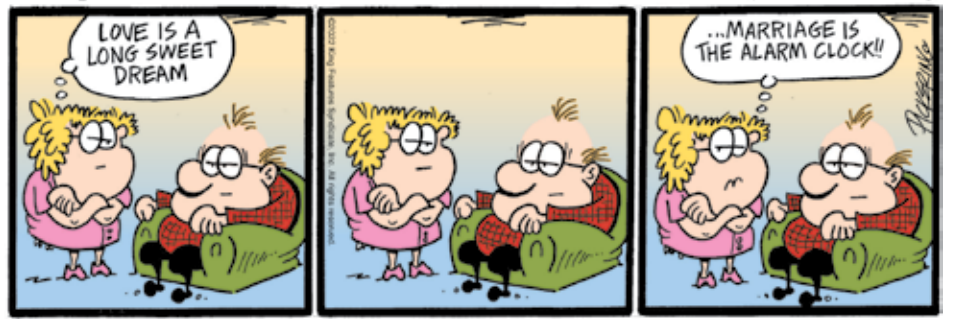


WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves



The Spats



Out on a Limb



R.F.D.



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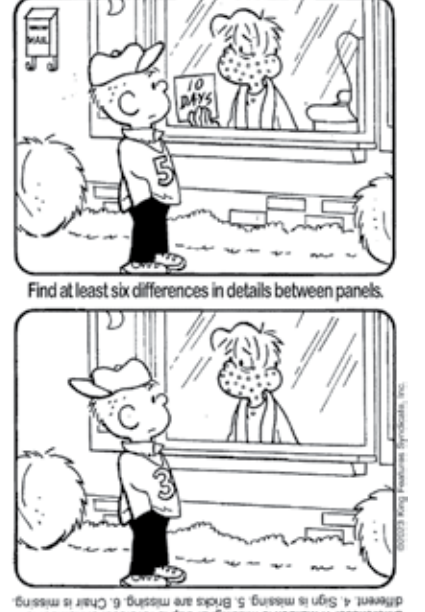
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FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD
5.5 Oz All Varieties
Limit 1 Case With Coupon
Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 1/4/23 - 1/10/23
ON SALE
Everyday
CHM PLU 367

BONUS COUPON
FRISKIES PARTY MIX CAT TREATS
2.1 Oz •Selected Varieties
Limit 2 Pkgs With Coupon
Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 1/4/23 - 1/10/23
\$1.49
CHM PLU 573

BONUS COUPON
ARM & HAMMER CAT LITTER DEODORIZER
20 Oz Box
Limit 2 Boxes with Coupon
Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 1/4/23 - 1/10/23
\$1.69
CHM PLU 422

Stealing is Stealing

By Katy Grimes, California Globe

A massive rise in retail theft is contributing to “shrinkage” at brick-and-mortar retailers, contributing to the growth of online sales.

“The National Retail Federation estimates that shrink—an industry term for loss in inventory—amounted to roughly 1.4% of retail revenue in 2021, or roughly \$94.5 billion. Most of that shrink is caused by theft, the Wall Street Journal reports.

The Globe reported on California’s retail theft last May:

The escalation of organized “smash-and-grab” robberies in cities around the country has been costly. CNN reported in January that retailers across America say shoplifting is now 2% to 3% of their total sales, forcing the retailers to install new security systems, video cameras and security staff.

A 2021 survey of retailers found 65% acknowledged an increase in violence, while 37% said Organized Retail Crime gangs were much more aggressive than in the past.

With every legislative solution killed by California’s Democratic supermajority, retailers and Chambers of Commerce formed Californians Against Retail and Residential Theft (CARRT), and launched a campaign to raise lawmakers’ and the public’s knowledge of the growing theft problem in the state. CARRT is a broad-based coalition of business associations, local groups, and victim organizations advocating for California officials to act now to undo the damage done by Proposition 47.

Not the Bee also addresses this shrinkage: the Covid lockdowns. “Whoever had the bright idea to shut down the entire U.S. economy, confine people to their homes indefinitely, foment open-ended hysteria about a respiratory virus, and drive inflation to sky-high record rates — congratulations, your strategy is bearing fruit,” Not the Bee reported.

“Brick-and-mortar retail’s indisputable edge over e-commerce is that consumers can get what they want immediately, and can touch and feel the product before buying it. Rising theft — and stores’ measures to prevent it — could dull that edge,” WSJ said.

The National Retail Federation report also found that the vast majority (89.7%) of respondents report that their Loss Prevention department is evaluated according to inventory shrink levels — in



Retail Theft is a \$94.5 Billion Crime Problem at American Stores. Retailers say Covid-19 has worsened the risk of crime. Photo courtesy of Dreamstime

other words, shrink reduction is part of their goals, objectives or performance measures. Just 10.3% reported that they were not.

“Retailers surveyed by the NRF said Covid-19 has worsened the risk of crime, partly because labor shortages have made it difficult to fully staff stores,” WSJ said. “Moreover, supply-chain shortages made certain products more susceptible to theft because they fetched high value in secondary markets.”

“Can you imagine a more predictable outcome from the pandemic policies we enacted to fight COVID-19?” Not the Bee asks. “We threw our entire way of life — our economy, our organizations, our social structures, our education — into a complete

and total tailspin.”

“Shrink can have a substantial impact on already thin retail margins. Target said that the rise in shrink, including theft, reduced its gross profit by more than \$400 million in the first three quarters of its fiscal year, compared with a year prior. For the full fiscal year, it estimates that its gross profit will take a \$600 million hit.”

“Although shrink is a perennial problem in retail, it really took off when the pandemic hit. In the five years leading up to 2019, retail shrink grew at a compound annual growth rate of roughly 7%, according to data from the NRF,” WSJ said. “In 2020, it jumped 47%, and rose another 4% on top of that huge jump in 2021. Some retailers, including Ulta Beauty and Target, have

said that shrink has gotten worse again this year. ‘When times get tough, shrink goes up,’ Ulta Beauty Chief Financial Officer Scott Settersten said on the company’s earnings call on Dec. 1. ‘We’ve seen that in retail over a long period of time.’”

And who will pay for these increasing retail costs? “Retailers will ultimately pay for shrink risk in some form or another—either on the top line if they want to keep stores completely accessible or on the bottom line if they spend heavily on labor and mitigation measures,” WSJ said. “Finding the right balance will be key to preserving brick-and-mortar businesses.”

And if you wonder why toothpaste, shaving cream and laundry detergent is under lock and key at many stores, it is a theft mitigation measure, according to retailers.

California’s nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California released a report that found a direct correlation between Proposition 47 and a marked increase in larceny thefts across California, despite many media reports attempting to refute the correlation, the Globe reported. As for any legislative support from the California Legislature, don’t hold your breath:

The California Assembly Public Safety Committee heard and killed Assembly Bill 1599 by Assemblyman Kevin Kiley (R-Granite Bay) in March, which sought to repeal Proposition 47, and “make crime illegal again.”

“Retail theft losses may be the straw that breaks the camel’s back,” said Julian Canete, President and CEO of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. “Something needs to be done before mom and pop stores are stolen from our communities.”

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KP International MARKET
 FOOD COURT NOW OPEN
 10971 Olson Drive
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
 916.853.8000
 Market 7 Days 9am-9pm
 Food Court 7 Days 11am-2:30pm
 Korean, Mex, Viet 7:30pm last call
 Chinese, Jap, Thai 7:00pm last call

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Swai Fillet (frozen) 2 lbs REG. \$9.99/EA \$7.99/ea	Yellow Croaker 50 / 70 g 3 lbs REG. \$12.99/EA \$8.99/ea
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WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

Beef Rump/Bottom Round Roast - Bnls Paipo Contra en Trozos sin Hueso \$3.49/lb	Beef T-Bone Steak Filet Chateaubriand de Tenderloin \$4.99/lb	Beef Porterhouse Steak Filet Bisteau de Tenderloin \$5.49/lb
Pork Spare Ribs (Single Pack) Costillas de Cerdo \$1.99/lb	Boneless & Skinless Chicken Thigh Meat Carne de Muslo Desahuesada \$1.69/lb	Pork Butt - Bone In Trozo de Puerco con Hueso \$1.69/lb
Pork Neck Bones Huesos de Cuello de Cerdo \$1.59/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 04 - JANUARY 10, 2023.</p>	

HAPPY HOURS Draft Beer \$2.50 & UP
Mon-Thu 4PM-9PM
Fri-Sat 2PM-9PM

KP KARAOKE SPECIAL
 Sun-Thu Come before 6pm (Valid Time)
 Fri-Sat Come before 5pm (Valid Time)

For 6 people \$85.00 3 Hours Karaoke + Pizza + Pitcher Soda + 2 Main Dishes (12 total)	For 12 people \$185.00 3 Hours Karaoke + 2 Pizzas + Pitcher Soda + 4 Main Dishes (24 total)	For 18 people \$275.00 3 Hours Karaoke + 3 Pizzas + Pitcher Soda + 7 Main Dishes (36 total)	For 24 people \$350.00 3 Hours Karaoke + 3 Pizzas + Pitcher Soda + 8 Main Dishes (48 total)	For 28 people \$420.00 3 Hours Karaoke + 3 Pizzas + Pitcher Soda + 9 Main Dishes (56 total)
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9 Dishes To Choose From: Fried Rice, Spicy Hotpot, Chicken Nugget, Fish & Chips, Fried Shrimp, Chicken Wings, Hamburger, Cheese Burger, Gyoza/Spring Roll.

FRESH PRODUCE

Potato Sunrise Medley 3 lb \$2.79/ea	Potato Honey Gold 3 lb \$2.79/ea	Sweet Mini Pepper 1 lb \$3.29/ea	Mexican Squash 79¢/lb
Mexican Papaya 89¢/lb	Chayote Squash 69¢/lb	Seafood Mushroom 150 g 2/\$3.00	Korean Singo Pear box \$27.99/box

AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

Tostitos Verde Salsa 2.2 lb \$9.99/ea	Petalin Ultra Resistant Both Tissue 4 rolls \$1.99/ea	Bob's Red Mill Crackers 4.25 oz \$3.99/ea	Woody's Cook-In Sauce 15 oz \$4.99/ea
Aluminum Souther Pot Set 6 sizes \$21.99 - \$66.99 +TAX	<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 04 - JANUARY 10, 2023.</p>		

ASIAN GROCERY

Super Q Golden Bihon 16 oz \$1.99/ea	TAS Sweetened Jackfruit Strip 21.5 oz \$2.29/ea	New World Fortune Cookies 16 oz \$3.99/ea	Dragonfly Holiday Jelly Cup 39.5 oz \$9.99/ea
New Year Candies 4 sizes 12.15/176/198 \$16.99 - \$23.99	<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 04 - JANUARY 10, 2023.</p>		

EUROPEAN GROCERY

Polinka Pickled Tomatoes 1587 g \$5.79/ea	Indo European Tomato Paste 24.6 oz \$3.49/ea	Spilla Breadcrumbs 900 g \$3.99/ea	Terrebonne Ginger-Turmeric 29 TB \$2.99/ea
Bertolli Avocado Oil Blend 750 ml \$5.99/ea	<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 04 - JANUARY 10, 2023.</p>		

KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

Onion White Rice Box 12 x 7.4 oz \$10.99/ea	Soybean Seaweed Olive Oil 12.7 oz \$1.49/ea	Korean Red Ginseng Tea 20 x 1.65 oz \$19.99/ea	Korean Red Ginseng Tea 20 x 1.65 oz \$24.99/ea	100% Soybean Oil 56 oz \$15.99/ea	Peanut Butter Spread 16 oz \$1.99/ea
Soybean Seaweed 0.75 oz \$1.59/ea	Golden Beer w/ Black Beer 3 x 2.0 g \$4.99/ea	Mazin Coffee 2.5 oz \$12.99/ea	Shrimp Crackers 14.1 oz \$5.49/ea	Chow Mein 750 ml \$15.99/ea	Shu Chika But Sake 507 ml \$7.99/ea
Onko Sake 720 ml \$24.99/ea	<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 04 - JANUARY 10, 2023.</p>				

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Korean Bap Bar 3 kinds REG. \$5.99/ea \$1.99/ea	Pan Roasted Turkey Breast \$8.39/ea	Open Roasted Chicken Breast \$8.49/ea
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EUROPEAN DELI

39oz Fried Kalamata Olives w/ Garlic & Pepper \$5.59/ea	Green Olives w/ Italian Seasoning \$4.69/ea
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