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# Citrus Heights Messenger

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## Merry Christmas



**Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over this Holiday Season**

**MADD California News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - This holiday season, the California region of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is partnering with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and local law enforcement to share the message about the dangers of drunk driving.

MADD, NHTSA, OTS and local law enforcement partners want all drivers to remember this lifesaving message: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. Drivers will see officers working together December 14, 2022, through January 1, 2023, looking for drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

The holidays are one of the most dangerous times on our nation's roadways as more people travel to celebrate with friends and family. According to NHTSA, California had the largest increase of any state in the number of lives lost in alcohol-impaired driving crashes in 2020 – an alarming 20% increase in the number of fatalities from 2019 to 2020. During the month of December 2020, 937 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes, accounting for 29% of all traffic deaths. This is why MADD is working with local law enforcement to remind the public that drunk driving is not only illegal, it is a matter of life and death. As you head out to the holiday festivities, remember: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

"We know everyone is rushing around during the weeks leading up to the holidays, preparing for holiday gatherings and getting into the seasonal mood," said Patricia Rillera, MADD California State Executive Director. "If you plan to head out to festivities, make sure you plan a sober ride home because driving drunk should never be an option. Even one drink is one drink too many if you're the driver." Rillera said.

**Understand the Risks**  
Nationally, it is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher. If you're caught drinking and driving you could face jail time, lose your driver's license and your vehicle, and pay up to \$22,000 in attorney's fees, fines, higher insurance rates, and lost wages, according to the Automobile Club of

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## Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church Celebrates 60 years

*By Thomas J. Sullivan*

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - Members of Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church celebrated their 60th anniversary in Citrus Heights on Sunday, November 20th with a cake cutting ceremony between services and a fond look back at shared memories with an eye towards the future.

Pastor Bob Yule is celebrating 27 years as a pastor of Celtic Cross this month, serving his congregation for almost half its history.

Reflecting its philosophy of "Real People, Real Stories," Celtic Cross is a growing community of people committed to following Jesus Christ.

"Our goal is to be a church that raises up entire families in discipleship and empowers people to



**Norm and Carol Allen at a service at Celtic Cross in 1963.** Photo courtesy of the Allen family

be messengers of Christ in their community," Yule said.

Celtic Cross offers both in-person services and services by livestream, Yule said.

Church member Norm Allen, 90, his wife Carol, and their four children first joined Celtic Cross in

1963. He looked at a black and white photo of himself and Carol as young parents, with fondness.

"I've been blessed," he said.

"Norm and I were very active in nearly all aspects of the church from the beginning," recalled Carol Allen. "Celtic Cross is



**Pastor Bob Yule (right) celebrates with congregation member Norm Allen the 60th Anniversary of Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church.** Photo by Tom Sullivan

known for its friendliness as well as its love for our Lord, Jesus Christ. It always will be," he said.

In September 1963, the Allens came to Celtic Cross for a church service at 11 am, not knowing the service started at 9 or 9:30. They went to

*Continued on page 5*



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# Helping Santa Deliver Holiday Cheer Since 1984

## Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Santa's workshop isn't the only place churning out toys for kids this time of year. The Sacramento Sheriff's Toy Project has been helping to build and deliver toys to children in Sacramento County since 1984, all while providing important hands-on job skills and education to inmates from Sacramento County's correctional facilities.

The Sacramento Sheriff's Toy Project functions as the charitable arm of the Sacramento Sheriff's Department. Participants of the Sheriff's Work Project spend their court-ordered jail sentence making toys and furniture, sewing and embroidery work and learning bicycle repair on donated bicycles.

"Even though we're called the Sacramento Sheriff's Toy Project, we're not all about toys; that's just how it started," said Chief Deputy LeeAnne Dra Marchese, who serves as the President of the Sheriff's Toy Project. "Sheriff's Toy Project is a year-round program supporting the less fortunate children and families in the Sacramento area."

"We support area schools with after-school programs, school supplies, computers, clothing, shoes, jackets, bikes for transportation, summer kid's camps and support scholarships for college-bound students."

The Sheriff's Toy Project donates to more than 7,500 children and families



The Sacramento Sheriff's Department Annual Toy Drive on November 19, 2022, with Walmart. Left to right: Deputy Kristy Walls (far left front), Deputy Nick Thompson (far right front) with teenagers with our Sheriff's Explorer's Program and Youth Leadership Council. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Sheriff's Department



Sacramento Sheriff's Toy Project at their Annual Toy Drive in November with Walmart. Left to right: Deputy Anna Vo, Lt. Rodney Grassmann and Sheriff's Record's Officer Brianna Chuong. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Sheriff's Department

during the holiday season. In addition to their annual holiday toy and food giveaway, the Sheriff's Toy Project helps fund the Santa Claus Project where Sheriff's Deputies distribute stockings and gifts each Christmas Eve to individuals experiencing homelessness and to children in area hospitals.

Toy Project also provides emergency relief and special request items

throughout the year for families in crisis, like those who have lost their homes to fire or other disasters.

According to Chief Deputy Marchese, "The participants in the Sheriff's Toy Project oftentimes find the experience so fulfilling that they come back to volunteer, even after they've been released."

To learn more about the Toy Project, visit [toyproject.org/](http://toyproject.org/) ★

# SAFE Awards \$20K to Sacramento Food Bank

## SAFE Credit Union News Release

**FOLSOM, CA (MPG)** - SAFE Credit Union is doing its part to help curb childhood hunger by supporting Sacramento Food Bank & Family Service's No Student Left Hungry program as the demand for food assistance climbs in the region.

SAFE is donating \$20,000 to the nonprofit's effort to provide food for an average of 4,200 students per month who are living with food insecurity within seven school districts and four colleges throughout Sacramento.

"Due to the pandemic, rising inflation and other factors, the need for food assistance is as great as ever, and we wouldn't be able to meet that surge in demand without the support of big-hearted organizations like SAFE Credit Union," says Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services Director of Programs Karen Strach.

Since March, food bank officials say they have seen a 40 percent increase in the number of people they are serving each month.

"When children experience hunger, they are more likely to get sick and are at higher risks of health conditions like anemia and asthma," Strach says. "They are also more likely to miss school and receive poor grades."

The food bank grant is awarded as part of SAFE's grant program seeking to promote the health of residents in the greater Sacramento region.

"Supporting the No Student Left Hungry program is one meaningful



Food is distributed at Greer Elementary School as part of the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services No Student Left Hungry program. Courtesy photo

step we can take to help in addressing inequities in our communities and help improve the health of individuals and those in our region as a whole," says SAFE Community Impact Manager Amanda Merz.

This grant will help fund grocery distribution to students attending schools in the Center Joint Unified, Elk Grove Unified, Galt Joint Union Elementary, Robla Elementary, Sacramento City Unified, San Juan Unified and Twin Rivers Unified school districts plus Sacramento State, American River College, Cosumnes River College and Sacramento City College. The districts and colleges were determined to each have a high concentration of students in need of supplemental food assistance.

Strach says school-based food distributions remove many barriers to accessing food. "When students get the food they need, they have improved concentration, school performance and mental and physical health. And are more likely to thrive," she says.

A program that has evolved for several years, the No Student Left Hungry program reaches up to

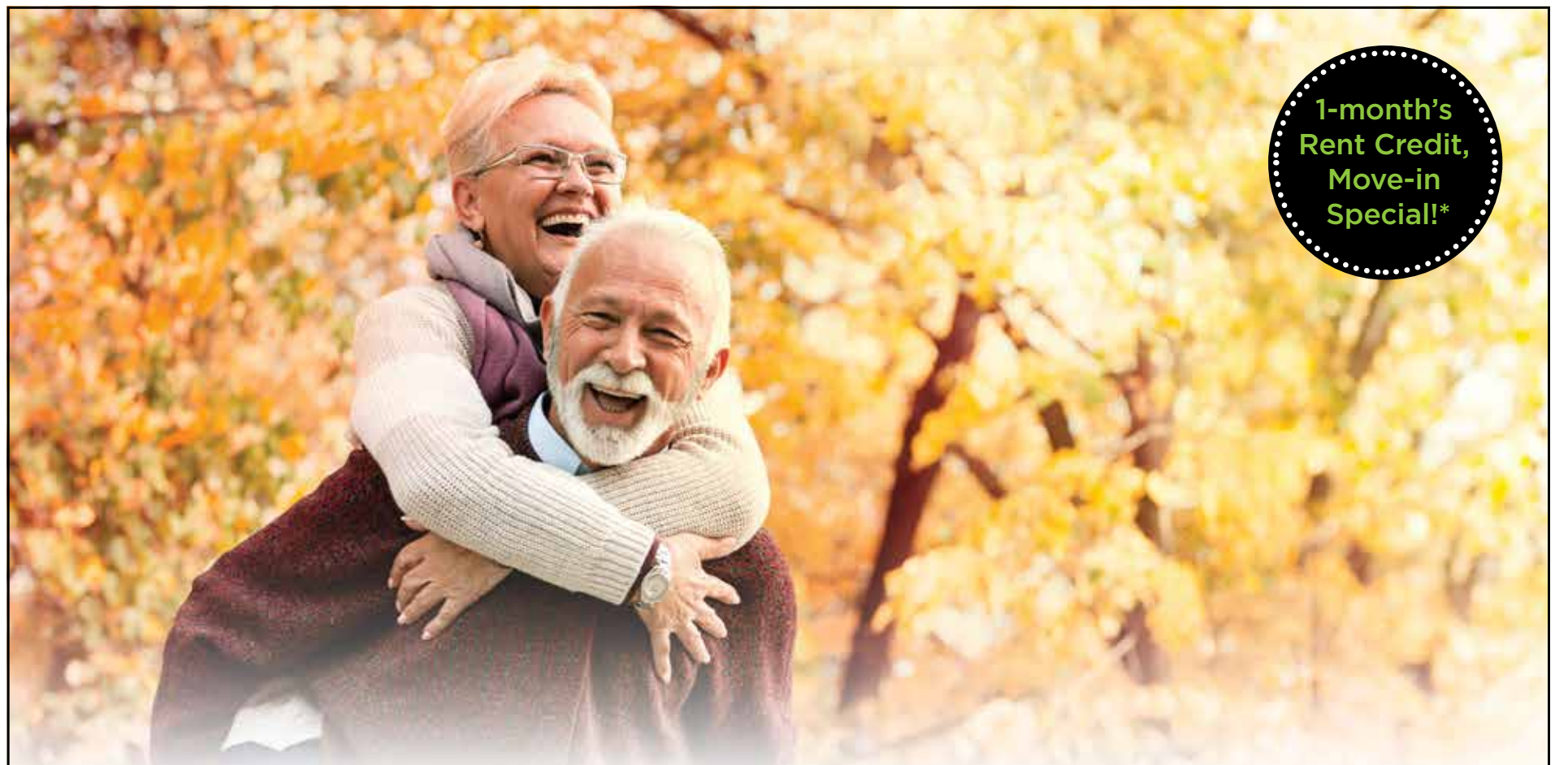
116,000 people per year. According to Feeding America's most recent data from 2020, more than one in six children in Sacramento County live in food insecure households, a rate that is higher than both the state and national averages.

The grant is one of two SAFE Credit Union awarded for the third quarter of 2022 to organizations dedicated to promoting the health of residents in the greater Sacramento region. This month, SAFE is also awarding \$5,000 to the Alchemist Community Development Corporation's Community Gardens project.

SAFE annually awards \$120,000 in grants in four phases focusing on its three pillars of philanthropy: veterans, healthcare, and education. For more information on SAFE Credit Union's grants program, go to <https://www.safecu.org/community/community-impact/funding>.

For more information about the No Student Left Hungry program, contact Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services Director of Communications Kevin Buffalino at [kbuffalino@sacramentofoodbank.org](mailto:kbuffalino@sacramentofoodbank.org).

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# Wreaths Across America Observed at Mount Vernon

**Story and photos by Thomas J. Sullivan**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Each Saturday, December 17th, on National Wreaths Across America Day, throughout the United States at 10 am in every time zone, the mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach" is carried out by coordinated wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 3,400 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. In all, some 2.7 million evergreen wreaths were placed at cemeteries across the nation.

The annual remembrance was observed in the Court of Honor at the Mount Vernon Cemetery at 8201 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks.

The ceremony, which was held in front of the Court of Honor at the Mount Vernon Cemetery, included the placement of individual wreaths in honor of each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the U.S. Space Force, with a shared message related to the importance of veterans in the history of the United States.

Members of the U.S. Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) from Del Campo High School in Fair Oaks presented the national colors. A moment of silence was observed before opening remarks by Wreaths Across America regional coordinator Celeste Cox which were followed by guest speaker, Sacramento County Supervisor Sue Frost and member of the local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) General John A. Sutter Chapter, who honored the sacrifice and service of service men and women throughout the world to preserve, protect and defend the freedoms we enjoy today.

Some 400 wreaths were individually placed beside memorial stones by family members, local Scout troops, the DAR and other community groups who sponsored them, said coordinator Celeste Cox, a regional location coordinator for the nonprofit.

"In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country," she said. "We are proud to show our veterans and their families that we will not forget. We will never forget." ★



Community members in the Sacramento region celebrated the National Wreaths Across America Day at Mount Vernon Memorial Park and Mortuary on Saturday, December 17th.



The U.S. Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) from Del Campo High School in Fair Oaks joined in saluting those resting at more than 3,400 additional locations throughout the U.S. on December 17th.



Sacramento County District 4 Supervisor Sue Frost was a guest speaker at the Mount Vernon Memorial Park and Mortuary Wreaths Across America celebration.



The service was graced with a rendition of Taps which solemnly called to remember those who fought for the freedoms Americans hold so dear.



Cemeteries across the nation hosted the National Wreaths Across America Day on December 17th.

## Important Holiday Recycling and Trash Collection Service Notice

### HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION

From **December 26 until January 13**, Citrus Heights residents can recycle their live-cut tree at no additional cost! Recycle your tree one of these ways:

- Cut your tree into pieces to fit inside your organic waste cart with the lid shut on your organic waste collection day.
- Set your live-cut tree at the curb on your trash collection day.

*Please no artificial trees, flocked trees or trees with decorations.*

#### Attention Citrus Heights Residents:

Your normal recycling, trash and organic waste collection day will NOT be affected by the upcoming holiday season.

For questions, please call  
**916.638.9000**



# Home Is Where the Heart Is

## Mitchell Family Recalls 70 Years of Life Together

By Elise Spleiss

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - Robert (Bob) and Irene Mitchell of Citrus Heights celebrated 70 years of their life together on November 29, 2022.

When asked their secret to a long, happy marriage it came down to never saying 'no' to an opportunity, helping others, traveling so you realize and appreciate what you have, and always working together whenever possible. Irene was quick to say, "you never feel sorry for yourself, that's for sure." This philosophy has taken the Mitchells all over the United States and to Spain, Africa, and to China for Bob.

They met on a Greyhound bus. Bob had been drafted during the Korean War and was at Fort Ord for basic training. Preparing to ship out he had been home for the weekend with his family in Glendale, California and was returning to his base. Irene had just come to California from Maine and had found herself working the Christmas season with a friend at the Three Rivers (dude) Ranch near Visalia and Sequoia National Park. Hired for the next summer, she was returning to San Carlos to get her belongings.

The only seat left on the bus was in the back row, next to Irene. Bob got her phone number and the rest as they say "is history" leading to the creation of a long family history. Eventually, they were married in Glendale, California on November 29, 1952. Mary was 22, Bob was 23.

A highlight of any young



The extended family of Bob and Irene Mitchell with over 46 members stands as strong as Bob and Irene stood some 70 years ago, when they first met. Photo courtesy of the Mitchell family

bride's life would be to have a famous personality sing at her wedding. Irene enjoyed that moment. Opera star, actress and Disney legend Mary Costa grew up and lived in Glendale. Bob's brother John and Costa attended high school in Glendale and Bob, John and Mary were in the same youth group at Glendale Baptist Church. They also sang in the church choir where Mary sang solos.

Bob says their whole life has been a blessing. Learning the history of each family puts their outlook on life into perspective. Both parents' families homesteaded, arriving in western Nebraska in 1936, with practically nothing, working hard to be

part of opening up this new land. As a child of six, Bob's father traveled on a covered wagon from western Missouri to western Nebraska. His mother's family arrived by railroad.

Bob sees his outlook as his heritage, "everyone helping everyone else." You don't think about it, you just "do what you need to do to support your family." Bob notes that "every place you visit has its own interesting things to take advantage of."

Following graduation from UC Davis in 1955, Bob's 30-year career with Del Monte began in San Francisco in 1957. He worked his way up to manager in the corporate office being transferred to New Jersey, Minnesota,

and Illinois. He has worked as staff or a manager in every cannery in the country. His relationship with Del Monte later took him to China to help with the opening of a creamed corn factory.

Irene turned what might have been a hardship for others into an adventure for her family when Bob was transferred to New Jersey in 1969. While Bob was settling into his new job, Irene used this opportunity to introduce her children to as many national parks across the country as she could. She packed up her five children, ages 10 to 15, and a 12-person tent into their station wagon and set off.

From Crater Lake to

Yellowstone to the Dakotas, the Badlands and Mt. Rushmore, the family all worked together during this three-week long adventure.

Not ready for a quiet retirement from Del Monte in 1985, Bob did retire but took his resume to the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) which works with the government and Rotary to send volunteers to "foster private sector development in the economically developing world." They went to Zimbabwe where Bob worked with a food company.

In 1989 their next move was to Citrus Heights where they are now enjoying their five children, 13 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren from near and far. ★



Bob and Irene continue the commitment they began 70 years ago by celebrating their anniversaries regularly. Photo courtesy of the Mitchell family



The family of Bob and Irene Mitchell celebrating a recent anniversary. From left to right: Betty Jo Gish, Lloyd Mitchell, Mom (Irene) Mitchell, Dad (Robert) Mitchell, Shirley Dahlberg, Robin Weigel and Shari Petersen. Photo courtesy of the Mitchell family



Bob (23) and Irene (22) married on November 29, 1952, in Glendale, California. Photo courtesy of the Mitchell family



The Mitchell family in full bloom at mid-century. Top: Robert (Bob) and Irene Mitchell. Bottom left to right: Shirley, Betty Jo, Robin (bottom center) Lloyd and Shari. Photo courtesy of the Mitchell family



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# Audacy and Hyundai Collect Toys for Local Children



Audacy Sacramento staff pictured from left to right: Myki Angeline, Mollie Kendrick, Catalina Lira, DJ Squintz, Justin Case, Katie and Gavin, Pat Martin, Damien Barling, Karla Zaragoza, Kenny Caraway, Charlie Mallonee and Zephyr. Courtesy photo

## Audacy News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Audacy Sacramento teamed up with Roseville Hyundai, Elk Grove Hyundai and Folsom Lake Hyundai for “Delivering Christmas,” a toy drive benefiting local children in the foster care system. All toys collected benefit Stanford Sierra Youth and Families, who will distribute toys to children throughout the Sacramento area.

From November 21 to December 10, ALT 94.7 (KKDO-FM), 96.9 The Eagle (KSEG-FM), 98 Rock (KRXQ-FM), 102.5 KSFM (KSFM-FM), 106.5 The End (KUDL-FM), and ESPN 1320 (KIFM-FM) devoted on-air programming to encourage listeners to deliver new, unwrapped toys to Hyundai locations throughout the region. The campaign culminated with an event at Folsom Lake Hyundai on December 10, featuring stations’ on-air talent who were present to help spread cheer for those that came to make donations.

“We’re extremely proud to have collaborated with some of our local Hyundai dealers to help make the holiday season a little brighter for the children of our community,” said Stacey Kauffman, Regional Vice President, Audacy Northern California. “Events like these demonstrate radio’s ability to leverage its voice to bring listeners together in times of need, and this event is a testament to the local connection our brands have with them.”

“There are so many families in need here in our own backyard,” said Chris Shaffer, President, Sacramento Hyundai Dealers.

“The Sacramento Hyundai Dealers were happy to partner with Audacy and Stanford Sierra Youth and Families to help fill those needs and make the holiday a little bit brighter for some Sacramento children.”

“We filled up two vehicles of toys and we are so thankful for those that provided toys and cash donations,” said Karla Zaragoza, Community Engagement Manager, Stanford Sierra Youth and Families. “Items collected will go to serve children in of our mental health of foster care programs.”

Supporters can continue to make monetary donations by visiting [www.ssyaf.org/donate](http://www.ssyaf.org/donate).

Stanford Sierra Youth & Families provides a continuum of care to empower youth and families to overcome challenges together, as well as connects youth in foster care to the permanent loving families they need and deserve. They support the entire family with professional treatment and compassionate care, so every youth has the opportunity to thrive at home, in school, and in the community.

Audacy is committed to supporting the health and success of the communities that are the heart of its business. “Delivering Christmas” is a part of Audacy Serves, the Company’s social impact platform that raises awareness of social issues and brings communities together for good. Audacy unites with its listeners and brands to support sound communities through several pillars of impact: mental health and anti-bullying, veterans and service members, children’s health, the environment, civic education, and diversity, equity and inclusion. ★

# Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church Celebrates 60 years

Continued from page 1

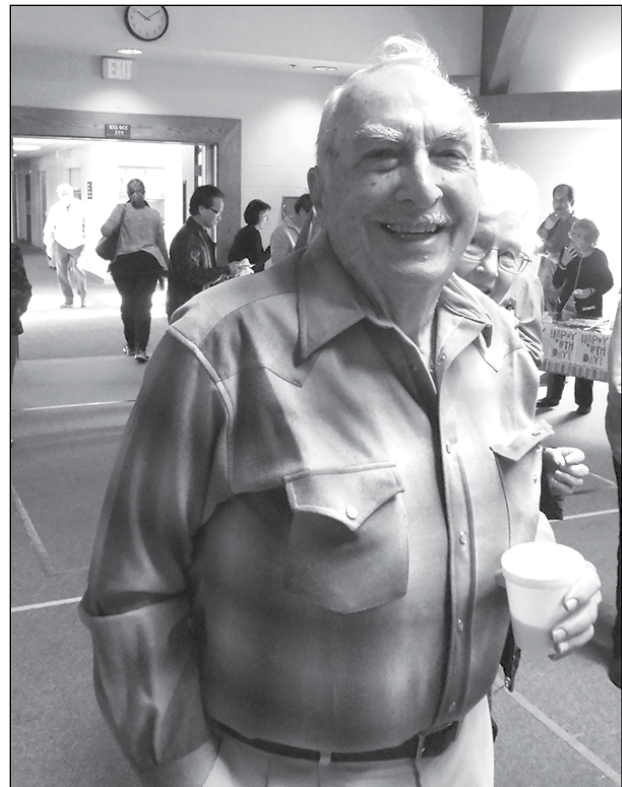
another church with their four young children where they weren’t made to feel welcome and came back to Celtic Cross the next week. Two of their children’s families still call Celtic Cross home.

Yule and Allen also posed for a photograph in the office lobby where they were surrounded by framed photos of multiple generations of church members who have participated in its missions and activities through the years.

Celtic Cross was organized as a presbyterian church on February 25, 1962, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Sacramento. Rev. Frank von Christierson was installed as the first pastor of Celtic Cross Church, and the first multi-purpose unit was built and dedicated on a 4.5-acre site located at 5839 Dewey Drive in Citrus Heights.

Its physical footprint has expanded steadily with the addition of a new Christian education building which was dedicated in February 1965. By 1966, membership within Celtic Cross more than doubled.

By the early 1980s, an architect was hired to draw up plans for a new sanctuary/administrative building. When Celtic Cross celebrated its 25th anniversary, in 1987, Celtic Cross broke ground for Phase 1 building – the administrative core and



Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church member Norm Allen has been attending at the Church on Dewey Avenue for almost 60. Photo by Tom Sullivan

parking lot expansion. All five original pastors who served Celtic Cross from 1962-1987, including Rev. Robert V. Ball, interim pastor during 1986, were participants in this service.

Additional construction followed with the completion and dedication of the administration and Celtic Cross-shaped sanctuary for occupancy in March 1989.

Celtic Cross Pastor Bob and Patty Yule and their son, Josh, make their home in Fair Oaks. He describes the 27 years which he’s served as pastor of Celtic Cross as being especially fulfilling for himself and his family.

“I’m thankful for the people of Celtic Cross who have shared the gospel of God’s love,” Yule said to those attending the 9 am service. “Our church is not a building, but of people truly coming together to fully share the gospel in our community.”

Celtic Cross offers a 9 am Traditional Service and a 10:30 am Modern Service with a kids and youth program.

Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church is located at 5839 Dewey Drive in Citrus Heights. For more information visit: [CelticCross.Church](http://CelticCross.Church) or call 916-967-1414. ★



# County Honors Supervisor Nottoli Upon Retirement

## Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - After a 44-year career with Sacramento County, District 5 Supervisor and Board Chair Don Nottoli has banged the gavel for the last time as a County elected official, upon his retirement.

Nottoli closed the Dec. 14 Board meeting—the last meeting of the year—with thanks to colleagues, constituents, County residents and friends for their support over his long and storied career.

Nottoli was first elected to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in November 1994. Prior to the election, he served as chief assistant to former Fifth District County Supervisor Toby Johnson for 16 years.

The Supervisor represented the County’s Fifth District, which encompasses 650 square miles and includes the cities of Elk Grove, Galt, Isleton and Rancho Cordova, as well as rural farming areas and communities in the southern portion of Sacramento County and the Delta.

Nottoli is the longest-serving supervisor in the County’s history.

The Board Chambers was packed with well-wishers for the Dec. 14 meeting, in which the Board presented a resolution honoring Nottoli on the occasion of his retirement.

Comments from Nottoli’s colleagues on the Board, County staff and the public noted his



Sacramento County Supervisors Sue Frost (D4), Patrick Kennedy (D2), Board Chair Don Nottoli (D5), Phil Serna (D1) and Vice Chair Rich Desmond (D3) stand together as the Board of Supervisors for the last time on December 14. County Clerk of the Board Florence Evans joins them on the far left. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

kind and caring nature, his tireless work and dedication to public service, his compassion and advocacy for animals and vulnerable residents and his service on many boards and commissions.

“You are a very caring, compassionate human being,” said County Executive Ann Edwards. “You really listen and you are always respectful. We will miss you.”

Some notable accomplishments for Nottoli include the development of Mather Veterans Village; establishment of a senior safe house for elderly residents; investments in the Bradshaw Animal Shelter to improve care for the animals and achieve a greater than 90% live release rate; and his advocacy for the



The Sac County Board of Supervisors celebrated Supervisor Don Nottoli’s 44 years of service. Chief of Staff Rebecca Sloan (left) and Special Assistant Jasmine Osmany flank the Supervisor. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento Delta. Sacramento County Supervisors spoke at the meeting, bidding a fond farewell to their respected colleague.

“You and I are more

than just colleagues; we’re close friends,” said District 1 Supervisor Phil Serna. “You have proved to be an invaluable mentor. I think County governance is a special call to service. You

really have taught me a great deal about the import of public service.”

“One of the joys of my public life, in 30 years of service, has been the eight years I spent serving with you,” said District 2 Supervisor Patrick Kennedy. “Thank you for your service, friend.”

“You epitomize what it means to be an elected official,” said District 3 Supervisor and Vice Chair Rich Desmond. “It’s not only your direct service to the public, but your devotion to good government.”

“I want to thank you for your consistent inspirational leadership and your help along the way,” said District 4 Supervisor Sue Frost. “I know you’ll enjoy [retirement], and I wish you every happiness.”

Nottoli closed the meeting with thanks to all whom he worked with over the years, and with appreciation for the support and love of his wife and family. “This [career] has exceeded my wildest expectations,” said Nottoli. “I will treasure the comments and reflections... that are emblematic of a life shared with all of you and many others.”

“It’s been a tremendous honor, it’s been a tremendous privilege, to serve the people of this County. Thank you all so very much.”

With that, after a standing ovation from all in chambers and the bang of a gavel, concludes the extraordinary service of a dedicated Sacramento County public servant. ★

# Which California School Districts are Run Well?



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Gov. Gavin Newsom is fond of characterizing his state as a national — or even global — model in all things good, from economic clout to fighting climate change.

One conspicuous absence on his list of California's virtues is its public education system, for good reason.

In statewide and nationwide tests of K-12 academic achievement, California lags badly behind. Learning is especially deficient among children from poor families, but even kids from affluent California families tend to lag behind those in other states.

To the extent that this educational crisis receives any attention in the state Capitol, the discussion is almost always confined to money, on the fanciful notion that spending more will automatically increase academic attainment.

One reason money doesn't solve the problem is that the state provides very little oversight on how the money is spent, including the extra funds that local school systems receive specifically to close the achievement gap. State education officials intervene only when local systems are flirting with insolvency.

Some school districts spend their money wisely and effectively and some

don't and outcomes largely hinge on the quality of their governance. Those with engaged and committed boards and administrators tend to have better outcomes than those with inconsistent, politics-driven and often chaotic governance.

That's why a massive effort to judge how well California's local school systems are structured and managed is welcome.

Arun Ramanathan, CEO of Pivot Learning, an Oakland-based non-profit organization that advises school systems on improving instruction, created a series of benchmarks to gauge how well school districts are prepared to embrace reforms. He also created a website that allows the public to view the results for every school district with at least 2,500 students.

"Despite billions in investment and decades of effort, new reform efforts rarely have intended impacts at the district, school and classroom level, and sustained improvement is rare," Ramanathan told EdSource, a website of education journalism. "There are rarely insights into why. The District Readiness Index resulted from that questioning."

The ratings cover five "domains" — community relations, finance, leadership, personnel policies and workplace conditions. Users can see how the districts score in each, with overall ratings designated by colors. Blue is the best, yellow is in the middle and orange is the worst.

The grading process resulted in about half of the 420 districts getting yellow grades and about 40% blue marks with roughly two dozen placed in the orange

category, meaning they have "few foundations" for achieving needed reforms.

Some of the state's largest districts are colored orange, including Los Angeles Unified, whose enrollment approaches 10% of the state's 6 million public school students.

It's not surprising that LA Unified, Oakland Unified, San Francisco Unified and Sacramento Unified received low marks because all have been in constant political turmoil and financial distress of their own making.

Three of the large districts — San Diego Unified, Elk Grove Unified and San Juan Unified — escaped the orange designation and are marked as yellow.

A few large districts achieved blue status for being well prepared, including Fresno Unified, Long Beach Unified and San Bernardino Unified. But most of the blue districts tend to be either in affluent suburbs — no surprise there — or in rural areas.

Most interestingly, the blue list includes a number of districts with large numbers of poor students, such as Brawley and Calexico in poverty stricken Imperial County.

The District Readiness Index provides new ammunition for the school reform movement in California, which seeks to elevate students' welfare over the petty politics, particularly in Los Angeles Unified and other large districts, that sabotage their educations.

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

# States Must Do Better Protecting Unborn Life

Commentary by the Liberty Counsel

**ORLANDO, FL (MPG)** - Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has overruled the Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey abortion decisions, several states had ballot measures involving abortion. Three states added abortion provisions to their state Constitutions. Two states voted down measures that would restrict abortion.

California voters approved Proposition 1, introduced by Gov. Gavin Newsom, which explicitly protects abortion and contraceptive rights in the state Constitution.

Michigan voters also passed a ballot initiative to fortify abortion rights. Proposal 3 affirms a woman's right to make decisions "about all matters relating to pregnancy," including contraception, fertility, abortion and childbirth.

Vermont's Proposal 5 overwhelmingly passed and creates a constitutional right to "personal reproductive autonomy."

Regarding states attempting to protect unborn life, Kentucky's Amendment 2 was defeated which would have amended the state Constitution to explicitly state it doesn't "secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion."

In addition, voters in Montana voted against Legislative Referendum 131 which would expand rights for infants who are "born alive" after failed abortions, and

allow healthcare workers to face punishments if they don't give them proper medical treatment.

Liberty Counsel has filed amicus briefs at the state Supreme Courts in Indiana, South Carolina, Kentucky and Oklahoma on behalf of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference (NHCLC) and the Frederick Douglass Foundation to uphold there is no right to abortion within the states' Constitutions and defend pro-life laws that limit the killing of innocent unborn children.

The NHCLC and Frederick Douglass Foundation represent millions of African Americans and Hispanics. These minority communities have been the direct target of abortion, and most Planned Parenthood's abortion clinics are in black and Hispanic neighborhoods. Liberty Counsel also filed an amicus brief on behalf of the NHCLC and the Frederick Douglass Foundation at the U.S. Supreme Court in the Dobbs abortion case. In overturning Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey, the High Court cited to this brief acknowledging that abortion has disproportionately impacted the black community.

Liberty Counsel's Founder and Chairman Mat Staver said, "It is shameful that any state would vote to kill innocent unborn children in the womb. We must do better and make the womb a safe place — once again." ★

# Roundtable Responds to Newsom's New Oil Profit Penalty Tax

California Business Roundtable News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable, issued the following statement on December 5, 2022, in response to Governor Newsom's oil profits penalty tax proposal:

"Let's be clear, the governor's proposed profit 'penalty' is just a tax by another name and will raise the price at the pump even higher for hardworking California families. The Energy Commission, industry experts, and economists have all pointed to actions by the state—including the more than \$1.08

per gallon of taxes and fees—as the main culprit for California's persistently high gas prices. But instead of addressing the costs his and previous administrations have added to gasoline as a result of their energy policies, Governor Newsom is trying to distract with a political ploy that will make our gas price crisis even worse. The governor is sending a message to investors and companies across the country that California now intends to start micromanaging business decisions, in addition to the myriad and growing regulations, high taxes and policies that continue to make California the worst place in the nation to do business." ★

# Bera Helps Secure \$15.2 Million for County Health Department

Office of Representative Ami Bera, M.D.

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On November 29, 2022, Representative Ami Bera, M.D. (CA-07) announced that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has awarded the Sacramento County Health Department \$15,264,533 in funding to improve its public health infrastructure and strengthen its ability to recruit and retain public health care workers. The funding is provided

through the American Rescue Plan, which Rep. Bera championed and voted for in March 2021.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of having a public health infrastructure that can prevent, detect, and respond to emerging health threats," said Representative Bera, who previously served as Chief Medical Officer for Sacramento County. "As a doctor, I am proud to help secure over \$15 million in federal funding to help Sacramento County

improve our health care services and keep our communities safe and healthy."

The CDC Public Health Infrastructure Grant Program provides flexible awards directly to state, local, and territorial health departments, to help ensure they have the people, services, and systems they need to promote and protect health in their communities. The grant includes significant resources that Sacramento County can use to recruit, retain, and train its health care workforce. ★

# Social Security Matters Retired Federal Employee Has Small Social Security Benefit



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** When I started getting Social Security at 62, I was told by the SS office I would get a smaller monthly amount because I worked for the Federal Government and received a Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) pension. I paid into Social Security for about 20 years working outside the government, and I now receive only about \$280 a month in Social Security. It just seems like I should be getting more. How can I look into this matter that Social Security calls a "windfall?" **Signed: Federal Retiree**

**Dear Federal Retiree:** From what you've shared, you didn't contribute to Social Security while earning your CSRS pension, but you did contribute to SS while working elsewhere, thus earning a Social Security retirement benefit in addition to your CSRS pension. Those who receive a federal pension under the old Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) are affected by Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which reduces any Social Security benefit they become entitled

to through other work outside the Federal government, and this is the reason your SS benefit is only \$280 per month. For clarity, federal employees who retire under the newer Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) are not affected by WEP because they contribute to Social Security.

The formula for computing Social Security when WEP applies is rather complicated and depends on the number of years you contributed to Social Security from the private sector. With 20 or fewer years contributing to SS you incur the maximum WEP penalty for your "eligibility year" (the year you turned 62), but with more than 20 years contributing to Social Security the WEP reduction is mitigated, and with 30 or more years contributing to SS, WEP no longer applies.

If you were receiving your CSRS pension when you claimed Social Security, your WEP-reduced SS benefit was computed at that time and has continued. But if you had additional years working and contributing to Social Security after you first claimed, it's possible that you now have more than 20 years contributing, in which case you may be entitled to a smaller WEP reduction and thus a higher Social Security benefit. The only way to find out if you're now entitled to a higher benefit due to additional years contributing is to call Social Security, either at your local office or at the national number (1.800.772.1213) and ask


them to review your current benefit under WEP. If you now have more years contributing to Social Security than you had when you first claimed, you may be entitled to a benefit increase.

Before calling SS, you may wish to first review your lifetime earnings record on file at Social Security and determine how many years of contributions from substantial SS earnings you actually have. You can get a copy of your lifetime SS earnings record from Social Security, most easily from your personal online "my Social Security" account. If you don't yet have an online account set up, you can easily do so at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount). Then, you can review your lifetime SS-earnings against the chart at the following link which shows what your earnings must have been each year to count under WEP: [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10045.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10045.pdf).

So, to recap: if you continued to work after starting your WEP-reduced Social Security benefits, you may be entitled to a smaller WEP reduction and thus a higher Social Security benefit now, but you will need to contact Social Security to evaluate your current status (and, if appropriate, increase your Social Security benefit).

*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).* ★

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# Volunteers to Spend Christmas with Unhoused Community, Providing Essentials

## Elevate News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - As the season of giving begins and many in our community have been financially impacted by inflation, local Facebook Group, Christmas in the Park Sacramento, is encouraging community members to not forget Sacramento's most vulnerable population - the unhoused, this holiday season.

"I have been doing Christmas in the Park for 23 years and I will continue to do it every year, for the rest of my life because helping Sacramento's homeless community has become my family tradition," said Judy Serafini, Founder of Christmas in the Park Sacramento. "I am grateful for our Facebook group and its members who come together to reach more people and coordinate this incredible team effort."

When Judy began Christmas in the Park in 1999, she gathered a few close friends and family to scrape together small reusable bags with essential items people experiencing homelessness often need. On top of each bag was a dollar bill. Through the years, the donations got bigger and bigger, growing from a small bag to a shoe box to a backpack overflowing with donations. The \$1 bill she put on each

bag has also grown - now it's always a \$5 bill.

Christmas in the Park Sacramento is now a public Facebook Group with nearly 200 local members, many of whom have been participating in the event for years and others who will be participating for the first time this Christmas. Volunteers coordinate these donations through Facebook and fill backpacks with the donated supplies. Judy's found the most effective way for her to get the items needed in each bag is to post an Amazon link for members of the group to order from and send the package directly to her house. On Christmas morning, the group meets at Caesar Chavez Park in Downtown at 7am and begins handing out the backpacks, along with a \$5 bill.

With Christmas quickly approaching, the group is still in need of donations to be able to provide each unhoused individual with a backpack. Those who are interested in donating items are encouraged to join the Christmas in the Park Sacramento Facebook group. If individuals are not able to donate or volunteer, they are still encouraged to show up and take in the beautiful feeling of being a part of a local tradition on Christmas morning that will fill anyone's heart with goodness and gratitude. ★

# Christmas is in your Heart

## Commentary by Dr. Glenn Mollette

Christmas once started for me when the JC Penny and Sears catalogs came in the mail. They came early in the Fall, and I wore them out looking at the toy section. By December the catalogs were in shambles.

My mother used to order clothes and other stuff from those catalogs. I don't remember her ever ordering toys. They usually came from the five and dime store in our town of Inez, KY or G.C. Murphy's store in Paintsville. Yet, the catalogs were fun and gave me ideas of the latest items for which to wish and hope.

I think my mother would enjoy the Internet today. She could order online like many of us are doing. Having Internet in the country is like having an updated Christmas catalog every day. There is always a means to shop and order. Back in that day ordering was tedious and arrival took weeks. Shipping back a dress that didn't fit was a long ordeal.

As a child there was always much more that I

saw, dreamed of and wished for than I ever received. Some Christmases were lean, and others were more abundant. Life is like that most of the time. We have hopes and wishes that never come true and some that do. It's nice when one or two come true.

We hope for good health and enough money to pay the bills. We hope for our children to have meaningful lives and to be independent. We hope for peace and to see positive results from our efforts in life. We would all like to be compensated well for the jobs we do. Being stuck in a job that is restraining with little hope of better wages is discouraging. Everyone deserves a life where internal inspiration can lead to reward and a better life.

The hardest part of life is when we feel hopeless. A terminal illness. Hard work with little to no reward. An empty house that isn't changing because you just buried a spouse. Failing when you may have tried hard or just decisions that didn't work out too well.

All of these and more can be

heartbreaking. Heartbreak doesn't do much for the Christmas spirit.

Those of us who have lived a few years know that Christmas doesn't come in a catalog, nor never did. It doesn't come on Black Fridays or cyber-Mondays. The multitude of Christmas programs don't bring Christmas. Decorated houses and trees are delightful but they don't create Christmas.

Christmas is an inside job. Christmas is in your heart and mind. The first Christmas was a peasant couple giving birth to a baby in a barn with a cow's trough for a crib. They were poor and just paying their taxes was about all they could afford. Yet, the child brought a joy they had never experienced.

In Luke chapter 2:19 we read "but Mary treasured up all these things and pondered in her heart..." Consider what and mainly who brings you joy and what really matters in your life and let there be Christmas in your heart during this season.

Visit GlennMollette.com to learn more. ★

# California Farm Bureau Reacts to Initial 5% Water Allocation

## California Farm Bureau News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The California Department of Water Resources on Thursday, December 1, announced an initial allocation of just 5% of requested 2023 water supplies from the State

Water Project. This comes after this year and 2021 both yielded final water allocations of 5%.

"Here we go again," said California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson. "This means that 23 million people and 750,000 acres of farmland are facing another year of uncertainty

and economic hardships. California has failed to act on critical projects to provide additional water storage, stormwater capture and groundwater recharge that are needed to protect our farms and cities from water shortages in dry years.

"California's dismal leadership

insafeguarding our water resources harms our food production as consumers face rising prices at the grocery store. It also undercuts healthy crop production, which helps reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change. California must have a more coherent water plan. Our

drought strategy cannot solely be a policy of managing scarcity."

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

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The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or [cecilia@cnpa.com](mailto:cecilia@cnpa.com)

## Landscaping

**FALL YARD CLEAN UP**  
Mow, weed, prune, haul, rock, bark, and gutters. Light Fence Work  
916 205-9310  
916 688-9310

## CREATE YOUR PARADISE

Winter Yard Cleanups, Complete Landscape Design/Installation, Sprinkler System Installs/Repairs, All Types Concrete Work, Fence Installation, Retaining Walls-All Types, Drainage Systems-all types, Landscape Lighting, Residential/commercial American Landscape Design & Installation. Est 1987 American Construction & Property Maintenance Company  
WE ACCEPT VISA & MASTER CARD  
(916)612-0776  
Lic#690968

## Music Lessons

**Guitar Lessons** - Beginner to Advanced. \$15/half hour. \$25/hour. [freddiebbalbert@gmail.com](mailto:freddiebbalbert@gmail.com). 916-507-6658 1230

## Pets/Animals

**DOG RESCUE**  
Gary (916) 334-2841  
Please Adopt or Foster  
Because so many really great dogs are dying for a good home...  
ShelterMOU@hotmail.com

**WANTED** Used large dog house for Labrador. Tim 916-370-0858 TFN

## Real Estate

**RETIRED COUPLE** \$\$\$\$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company [www.viploan.com](http://www.viploan.com) Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

## Rental

**Property is under construction and will soon have 1,2,3, & 4 bedroom units for rent!**

The Housing Authority of the County of Butte is currently accepting applications for its Farm Labor Housing property in Gridley, CA. We have 2 Bd. units available at this time. Rental assistance is available and provided by USDA Rural Development for those that meet USDA Rural Development guidelines. For more information contact our office at (530) 895-4474 or TDD 1-800-735-2929.

"The Housing Authority of the County of Butte is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Housing Provider"

## GOT LOCAL NEWS?

Call 916 773 1111

## Roofing

**BERNARDINO ROOFING**  
Reroofs, Repairs, Maintenance, Dryrot, Gutters, Family Operated. BBB MEMBER!  
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SENIOR DISCOUNTS  
Lic.#817945 43 Years Experience  
916.920.0100  
[www.bernardinoroofing.com](http://www.bernardinoroofing.com)

## Schools/Training

**COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM!** Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 1-877-806-0935 (M-F 8am-6pm ET). Computer with internet is required. (Cal-SCAN)

## Travel/Vacations

**Costa Rica Tour 9 Days \$995.** Fully guided tour. Includes all hotels, all meals, all activities. Tax, fees extra. Call 1-800-CARAVAN. Book online at Caravan.com. (Cal-SCAN) 1223

## Tree Service

**BP TREE SERVICES LLC.**  
TREE & STUMP REMOVAL  
TREE TRIMMING/ SHAPING  
FREE ESTIMATE  
10% OFF WITH THIS AD  
Insured. Workman's comp. Arborist  
916-722-6321  
BPTreeServices.com  
VISA / MASTER CARD  
California Contractors Lic #1036031

## Wanted to Buy

We buy gold, silver and diamonds. Get top dollar for your unwanted jewelry, broken or not. **Aquamarine Jewelers** in Carmichael: 916/483-5474:230

**TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS!** 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins/Banjoes. 1-844-910-1960. (Cal-SCAN)

## Wireless

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-SCAN)

## Work Wanted

**It's time to declutter and clean out your house and garage.** I can help. I do errands/personal assistant work. Prune and weed. College grad. Tim 916-370-0858. 1230

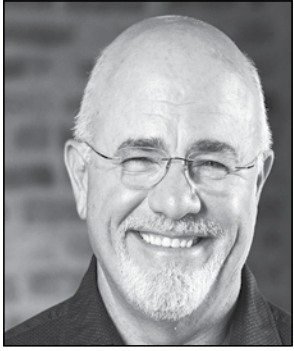
## Work Opportunities

**Kp International MARKET**  
Many Positions are Available. Please no phone calls. Apply in person.  
10971 Olson Dr. Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

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**WE BUY TRUST DEEDS**  
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Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans





## Dave Ramsey Says

### Wait Until the Time is Right

Dear Dave,

Is it even worth it to buy a house these days? I've always been told buying a house is the adult thing to do and that it's a great investment, but I can't find anything decent and livable in my area for less than \$350,000. My wife and I are debt-free, and we're expecting our first baby in January. I was hoping to get your advice.

– Craig

Dear Craig,

I can understand how things might feel a little hopeless in your current situation. You're probably feeling the weight of the responsibility a new life brings to the picture. Things are getting real really fast, aren't they? Believe me, I get it.

The truth is you may not be ready to buy a house today. And that's okay. Having a new baby on the horizon doesn't mean you have to run out and buy a home. That little boy or girl isn't going to know the difference between a house and an apartment for a long time. Right now, giving your child a safe, loving environment is the most important thing.

Now, looking down the road, is owning a house worth it? Yes. But it's not worth doing it at the wrong time or in a stupid way. You first need to make sure the income is there. Then, you need an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses in place along with a strong down payment. So, what if you don't buy a home for another two or three years? Home buying should always be done with patience and wisdom.

There are two or three things that make buying a home a great long-term investment versus renting your whole life:

Rents go up every year. If you lock in a good, fixed-rate mortgage, that payment

will stay the same.

The value of your home will increase. When you rent, you don't own your residence, and you won't benefit from the value of it going up.

Our study of 10,000 millionaires showed that most say two things were integral parts of their ability to build wealth: Good retirement investments and a paid-off home.

A house is a great wealth-building tool, and it can also stabilize the biggest line item in your budget – housing.

God bless you guys, Craig!

– 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.* ★

## City Beautification Crew Picks Up 2.2 Tons of Trash and Debris



During its first week of operation, the City's new Beautification Crew picked up over 2.2 tons of trash and debris with its 16-foot stake bed truck. Photo courtesy of the City of Citrus Heights

### City of Citrus Heights News Release

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - The City of Citrus Heights Beautification Crew program launched last week as part of a comprehensive toolbox to proactively combat blight in the city. In the first week of operation, the two-person full-time crew cleaned up 2.2 tons of trash, debris and abandoned shopping carts from city streets and public areas.

The new beautification

crew is tasked with maintaining public areas, removing abandoned carts and debris, cleaning up homeless camps and illegal dumps, removing trash and litter, cleaning up graffiti, and consistent weed abatement. They operate Monday through Friday and maintain daily and weekly routines that balance proactive sweeps with quick responses to urgent needs. The Beautification Crew will be easy to see around town; they pilot a fully

stocked 16-foot stake-bed truck with a lift gate and bright signage about the program.

City staff urges Citrus Heights residents and businesses to report issues for a timely response. Submit requests by calling our General Services Department at (916) 727-4770, emailing ServiceRequestGSD@Citrusheights.net, utilizing the City's SeeClickFix feature found on our website; or texting "Service Request" to 844.92.Hello. ★

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**  
 Carmichael Times Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 317294 - February 7, 1984  
 Rancho Cordova Independent Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 195380 - September 18, 1969  
 Citrus Heights Messenger Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 34-2020-007355 - March 12, 2020  
 The Rio Linda News Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 358073 - March 21, 1988

### NOTICE OF HEARING

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
 NOTICE OF HEARING  
 (FAMILY LAW)  
 CASE NUMBER: 16FL00137  
 Petitioner: Rahda Chand  
 Respondent: Sushil Chand  
 REQUEST FOR ORDER:  
 Enforcement of Judgement;  
 Appointment of Elison to Execute  
 QDRO in Lieu of Respondent  
 (Whereabouts Unknown)  
 TO: Sushil Chand

A COURT HEARING WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS: January 3, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 123; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

WARNING to the person served with the Request for Order: The court may make the requested orders without you if you do not file a Responsive Declaration to Requests for Order (form FL-320), serve a copy on the other parties at least nine court days before the hearing (unless the court has ordered a shorter period of time), and appear at the hearing. (See form FL-320-INFO for more information.)

Dated: October 7, 2022  
 R. Gottschalk, Deputy Clerk,  
 Superior Court of California,  
 County of Sacramento  
 Attorney in Pro Per: Rahda  
 Chand, 7624 Masters Street, Elk  
 Grove, CA 95758; phone 916-  
 247-4224.  
 Publish: Dec. 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2022  
 CHAND 12-30-22

### LIEN SALE

2008 BMW 128i  
 VIN WBAUN13508VH79690  
 LICENSE NO. 8VSU368  
 Sale Time: January 5, 2023; 8:00  
 AM  
 Location: LJS Towing, 2600  
 North Avenue, Sacramento, CA  
 95838  
 Publish: Dec 23, 2022  
 WCLS\_BMW 12-23-22

### LIEN SALE

2007 CHEVROLET AVALANCHE  
 VIN 3GNFK123X7G293651  
 LICENSE NO. 8Y05701  
 Sale Time: January 5, 2023; 8:00  
 AM  
 Location: LJS Towing, 2600  
 North Avenue, Sacramento, CA  
 95838  
 Publish: Dec 23, 2022  
 WCLS\_CHEVY 12-23-22

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MARY M. THOMAS  
 CASE NO. 34-2021-00311779  
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Mary M. Thomas, deceased.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by David Christopher Nelson, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting David Christopher Nelson 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 February 23, 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.  
 Zoom Telepresence: https://saccourt-ca-gov.zoomgov.com/join/9129129 Meeting: 16133529231

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: David R. Morris, Esq., 5137 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 110, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; 916-789-9810  
 Publish: Dec 9, 16 & 23, 2022  
 THOMAS 12-23-22

## Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over this Holiday Season

Continued from page 1

Southern California.

MADD recommends these safe party tips, especially for those hosting this holiday season: The safest choice is to never drink and drive. Plan ahead and designate a sober driver, use a ride service or public transportation, call a taxi or a sober friend to get home safely. Confirm your party guests have a plan for a safe way home and offer non-alcoholic beverages for designated drivers and those who do not

drink. If you see a suspected drunk driver on the road, as soon as it is safe call 911 to report them. Don't let your friends drive impaired. Take the keys away and arrange to get your friend home safely or invite them to stay the night.

For more safe party tips, visit MADD.ORG/SAFEPARTY. For more information about the 2022 Holiday Season Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, visit https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving. ★

## Sacramento Man Sentenced to 25 Years to Life for Burglarizing

### Placer County DA News Release

**ROSEVILLE, CA (MPG)** - On September 14, 2022, the Honorable Judge Horst sentenced Roy Lee Foster, age 57, to 25 years to life in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for a third strike first-degree residential burglary.

On March 3, 2022, around 5 a.m., Foster was caught on a Ring doorbell camera video breaking into a garage and stealing a purse from a car in Auburn. The burglary was particularly frightening as there were three young children asleep in the home. Foster was dressed in all black, with a mask and red gloves, showing a level of planning by Foster preceding the burglary.

The Placer County Sheriff's Office was contacted and was able to identify Foster by the Ring doorbell footage.

Following a search of the area, Placer County Sheriff's Office deputies found and arrested Foster along Dry Creek Road in Auburn. During the arrest, deputies found a stolen wallet belonging to a second victim.

On May 31, 2022, the defendant was found guilty by a jury of first-degree residential burglary and receiving stolen property. The defendant was also found guilty of multiple special allegations related to his prior criminal history.

This case shows a long history of burglary-related offenses from Foster starting from 1984. He has multiple prior convictions spanning over 38 years including theft and burglary. ★

In 1993, Foster received a 14-year prison sentence after being convicted of multiple counts of first-degree residential burglary, was released from prison in 2000, and discharged from parole in 2001.

"Foster's crimes are numerous and extreme," said the prosecuting district attorney. "Foster has a long history of reoffending and showed that short-term incarceration was not changing his behavior. Now he has 25 years to life to reflect on his last 38 years of crime. We thank the Placer County Sheriff's Office for their swift work to remove this relentless burglar off our streets and our jury and judge for ensuring this is the last home Foster terrorizes."

Residential burglaries are extremely traumatic for the victims. While the monetary loss will fade, it is the emotional loss explained by victims of the crime that make it exceptionally disturbing. As described in court, people's homes are their "castles," their sanctuaries, and to have that safe place invaded is detrimental to someone's quality of life. While only time can heal those wounds, holding burglars accountable is a step in the right direction.

This case was prosecuted under the California three strikes law. California's three strikes sentencing law was originally enacted in 1994 and provides that a defendant convicted of a current specified felony with two or more prior strike convictions is mandated to serve a state prison term of at least 25 years to life. ★

### CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

The following is a summary of an ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights at its meeting of **December 8, 2022.**

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2022-013

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS AMENDING SECTIONS 90-88 AND 90-93 OF CHAPTER 90 "TELECOMMUNICATIONS" OF THE CITRUS HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN CABLE TELEVISION COMMISSION**

**AYES: Council Members:** Karpinski-Costa, Middleton, Taft, Daniels, Schaefer  
**NOES: Council Members:** None  
**ABSENT: Council Members:** None  
**ABSTAIN: Council Members:** None

The full text of the adopted ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 or (916) 727-4704 or [www.citrusheights.net](http://www.citrusheights.net).

Amy Van  
 City Clerk

Citrus Heights Messenger 12-23-22

### CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

The following is a summary of an ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights at its meeting of **December 8, 2022.**

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2022-014

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS AMENDING CHAPTER 38 OF THE CITRUS HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION**

**AYES: Council Members:** Karpinski-Costa, Middleton, Taft, Daniels, Schaefer  
**NOES: Council Members:** None  
**ABSENT: Council Members:** None  
**ABSTAIN: Council Members:** None

The full text of the adopted ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 or (916) 727-4704 or [www.citrusheights.net](http://www.citrusheights.net).

Amy Van  
 City Clerk

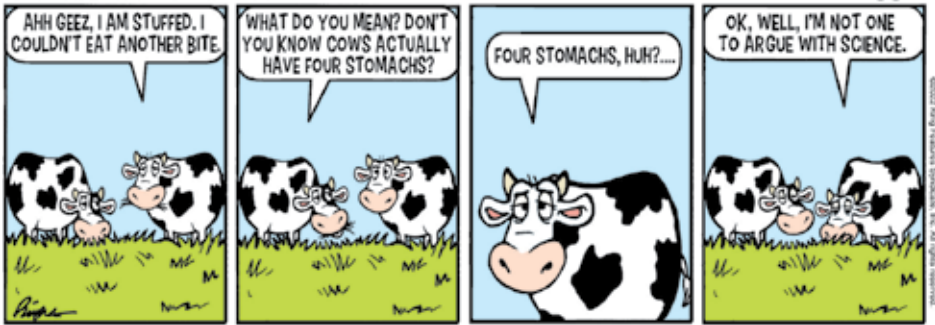
Citrus Heights Messenger 12-23-22

**Be a part of something important**  
**Local Writers Wanted**  
 We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.  
 **Call us today at 916-773-1111**



# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves



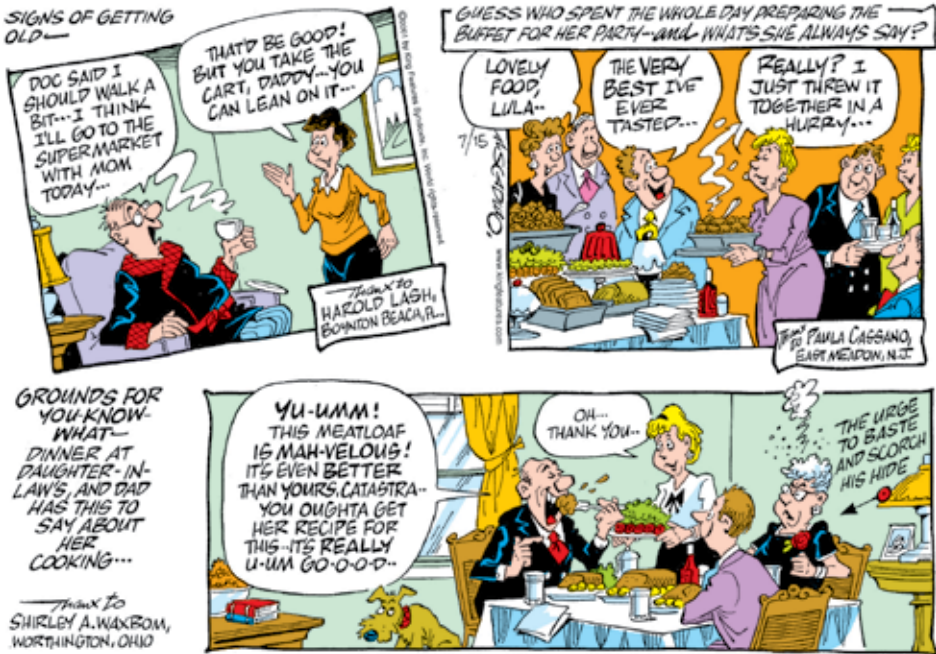
## The Spats



## Out on a Limb



## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



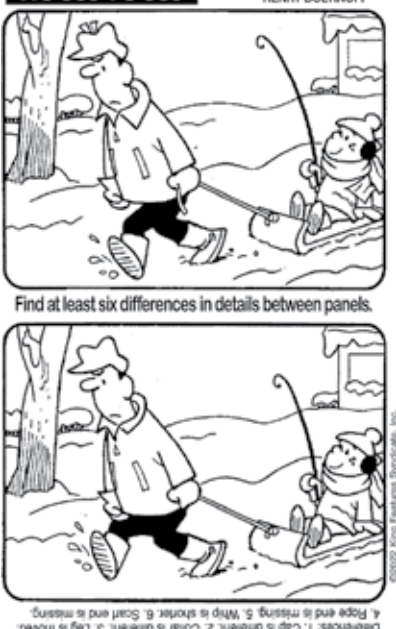
## R.F.D.



## Just Like Cats & Dogs



## HOCUS-FOCUS



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Including Blue Buffalo, Chicken Soup, Earth Born, Diamond Naturals, Pinnacle, Taste of the Wild, & Royal Canin.

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916-635-5008 916-781-8500



**FREE**  
PET CLUB  
Pet Food Can Lid  
with the purchase of pet,  
fish food or supply.  
99¢ value  
Limit 1 PLU 334 CHM  
Limit 1 Coupon per family  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**2 FREE**  
CANS OF  
CAT FOOD  
(5.5 Oz All Varieties) Friskies  
(Selected Indoor Included), 9 Lives  
With Any Purchase of Pet,  
Fish Food, or Supply PLU 321  
Limit: 1 Coupon Per Family  
CHM  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

Look for Advertised Sale Items Everyweek at [www.petclubstores.com](http://www.petclubstores.com)

**TASTE OF THE WILD**  
GRAIN FREE  
DRY DOG FOOD  
•Wetlands •Sierra Mountains •Pacific  
Salmon •High Prairie •Southwest Canyon  
28 Lb  
Limit 2  
Bags per  
Family  
**\$43.99**  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**CANIDAE**  
DRY DOG FOOD  
FOR ALL LIFE STAGES  
•Multi-Protein •Chicken Meal & Rice  
•Large Breed 44 Lb  
As Marked  
**\$20 OFF**  
Our Regular Low Prices!  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**BLUE BUFFALO**  
WILDERNESS  
DRY DOG FOOD  
24 Lb Bag  
•Chicken •Salmon •Duck  
•Weight Control •Large Breed  
100%  
Grain Free  
Limit 2 Bags  
**\$5 OFF**  
Our Regular Low Prices!  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**FANCY FEAST**  
DRY CAT FOOD  
3 Lb Bag  
(Purina One Dry Cat Food,  
Selected Varieties 3 Lb - \$8.99)  
Limit 2 Bags  
**\$7.99**  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**9 LIVES**  
CANNED CAT FOOD  
5.5 Oz  
All Varieties  
Limit 2 Cases  
Per Family  
**59¢**  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**FUSSIE CAT**  
PREMIUM  
CANNED CAT FOOD  
•Black Label •Gold Label  
2.8 Oz  
Un-opened  
Cases Only  
**\$9 OFF**  
Per Case  
OUR REGULAR LOW PRICE!  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**JONNY CAT**  
PREMIUM CAT LITTER  
20 Lb Bag  
•Regular •Multiple Cat Formula  
Limit 2 Bags  
Per Family  
**\$5.39**  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**FELINE PINE**  
HEALTHY CAT LITTER  
20 Lb Bag  
Limit 2 Bags  
**\$9.99**  
Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22

**BLUE BUFFALO** CANNED CAT FOOD  
Tasteful •Pate •Flaked  
3 oz. **\$1.19** 5.5 Oz **\$1.49**  
Market Fresh  
Recipe  
**FUSSIE CAT**  
PREMIUM DRY CAT FOOD  
•Selected Varieties  
2 Lb, 4 Lb, 10 Lb bag As Marked  
**10% OFF**  
OUR REGULAR PRICES

**NUTRO MAX**  
ADULT RECIPE DRY DOG FOOD  
**\$31.99**  
•Adult •Lamb •Large Breed •Mini Chunk  
25 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags  
**CHICKEN SOUP** FOR THE SOUL  
DRY DOG FOOD  
Limit 2 Bags  
•Adult •Large Breed •Mature  
•Weight Care •Puppy (Reg & Lrg Breed) 28 Lb Bag  
**10% OFF**  
OUR REGULAR PRICES

**MERRICK'S**  
GOURMET CANNED DOG FOOD  
**ON SALE**  
•Selected Varieties  
13.2 Oz Limit 1 Case  
**SWHEAT SCOOP** NATURAL WHEAT LITTER  
(12 Lb Bag - Original \$12.99 Multi Cat \$13.99)  
36 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Original **\$33.99** Multi-Cat **\$35.99**  
**CAREFRESH**  
PET BEDDING  
60 Liter (Ultra Not Included) **\$16.99**  
**MERRICK'S**  
WHOLE EARTH FARMS DRY DOG FOOD  
**\$10 OFF**  
OUR REGULAR PRICES  
•Grain Free Chicken/Turkey •Grain Free Pork, Beef & Lamb  
25 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags per Family

**ASPEN PET, PETMATE, MIDWEST & CASUAL**  
All Varieties **20% OFF**  
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES  
**PET 'n SHAPE**  
HEALTHY  
DOG TREATS  
All Varieties **20% OFF**  
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES  
**KONG PRODUCTS**  
•Classic •Cat Toys •Dental  
Chews •Puppy Chews  
•Air Dog •Wubba  
•Soft Toys •Asst Toys  
Cats &  
Dogs  
**20% OFF**  
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES  
**STAR-MARK**  
PRODUCTS  
•Treat Balls •Treats  
•Bento Ball •Dura Foam Disc & Ball  
•Chew Ball •Wheeler All Varieties **20% OFF**  
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES!

**HAGEN FLUVAL FILTER SALE**  
MODEL...TANK...PET CLUB SALE MODEL...TANK...PET CLUB SALE  
107...25 GAL...**\$104.99** 307...70 GAL...**\$159.99**  
207...40 GAL...**\$119.99** 407...100 GAL...**\$189.99**  
**AQUEON PRE-PRICED AQUARIUM KITS**  
10 GALLON... (Pre-Priced \$79.99) **\$59.99**  
20 GALLON... (Pre-Priced \$124.99) **\$99.99**  
29 GALLON... (Pre-Priced \$139.99) **\$129.99**  
55 GALLON... (Pre-Priced \$229.99) **\$199.99**  
**KORDON WATER CONDITIONERS**  
Amquel 16 Oz...**\$8.99**  
Amquel Plus 16 Oz...**\$9.99**  
Novaqua Plus 16 Oz...**\$9.49**  
**KORDON CORAL SEA**  
50 GAL SALT MIX WITH AMQUEL  
**\$14.99**

**BONUS COUPON**  
**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 12/21/22 - 12/27/22  
**ON SALE**  
Everyday  
CHM  
PLU 367

**BONUS COUPON**  
**WHISKAS**  
TEMPTATIONS CAT TREATS  
•Selected Varieties - 3 Oz  
Limit 2 Pkgs with Coupon  
Limit One Coupon Per Family  
Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22  
**\$1.99**  
CHM  
PLU 569

**BONUS COUPON**  
**JONNY CAT**  
CAT LINERS  
Jumbo Drawstring - 5 Ct  
Limit 1 Box with Coupon  
Limit One Coupon Per Family  
Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 12/21/22 - 12/27/22  
**\$2.39**  
CHM  
PLU 449

