

M Citrus Heights Messenger

"Written by the people, for the people"

Volume 2 Issue 13

Serving the City of Citrus Heights and Sacramento County

First Edition for July 2012

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Dutch Bros. Opens in Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS – Dutch Bros. Coffee, the country's largest privately held, drive-thru coffee company, will be giving away FREE DRINKS all day on July 13th, from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., in honor of its grand opening at 7445 Madison Avenue in Citrus Heights.

A Dutch Bros. grand opening is more party than business, with loud music, giveaways and lots of great people who line up for blocks to enjoy quality coffee, freezes, smoothies and flavor-infused energy drinks.

"We are stoked to introduce Dutch Bros to Citrus Heights and greater Sacramento!" say store owners Steve and Nikol Grubbs. "We are going to blow up this town with Dutch Luv and amazing drinks! We can't wait to make new Dutch fans and serve the community!"

Dutch Bros. Coffee is known for giving back to the communities it serves. In 2011, the company donated one percent of gross sales — more than \$1 million — to nonprofit organizations, including local food banks, Muscular Dystrophy Association, American Cancer Society, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and many other organizations.

The Citrus Heights Dutch Bros. location will be open seven days a week, 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Steve and Nikol will be opening a second Dutch Bros. Coffee location this summer at 5289 Auburn Blvd. in Sacramento.

Locally owned and operated by husband-and-wife team Steve and Nikol Grubbs, the Citrus Heights and Sacramento locations are both opening in summer 2012. Steve, Nikol and their two children, ages 8 and 12, are full of energy and excitement for bringing the Dutch Luv to greater Sacramento.

Steve and Nikol both come



Dutch Bros. Coffee is giving away FREE drinks all day July 13th at its new Citrus Heights location.

from Corvallis, Ore., where they worked flipping houses. Steve was friends with the Corvallis Dutch Bros. franchisee and saw not only the business's growth, but that his friend was having a great time at work. Steve decided to learn more, and he started working there for free at first, so he could learn all about Dutch Bros.

"Steve fell in love," says Nikol. "He started working more and more shifts and got addicted."

Steve and Nikol wanted to

move to a warmer climate and bring Dutch Bros. to a new area. They quickly found that, in greater Sacramento, they were in good company. They met many other transplants from the northwest expressing their excitement over the beloved Dutch Bros. brand coming to town. "They're just as pumped as we are — this is really cool!" says Nikol.

The Citrus Heights location will start out employing 12 people, with two full-time managers. Steve and Nikol say, "We are blown away by the chance to

do this and feel so blessed that Dutch Bros. gave us the opportunity. We are so excited."

Follow Dutch Bros. Citrus Heights on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DutchBrosCitrusHeights>

Founded in Southern Oregon in 1992 by brothers Dane and Travis Boersma, Dutch Bros. Coffee is the country's largest privately held, drive-thru coffee company. The company has nearly 200 locations in Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Colorado and Arizona.

Sac Metro Fire Launches New Division, Aims to Rebuild Service

SACRAMENTO REGION – Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District has reorganized its formerly titled 'Fire Prevention Bureau' into a new 'Community Risk Reduction Division'. The new division's major functions include public education, fire code enforcement, fire investigations, fire protection engineering, and exterior hazard mitigation.

"We are very excited to launch this new division and start to rebuild some of the services that have been lost to the business community over the years" said, Sacramento Metro Fire Chief Kurt Henke. Metro Fire's Community Risk Reduction Division will be developing and implementing loss control services to reduce the threat of hostile fires.

Metro Fire will initiate fire safety inspections on all businesses and has modified its fees and special use permits for commercial buildings in the District beginning July 2, 2012. Inspections are required by the California Fire Code and are intended to protect employees and the public. The Metro Fire Board adopted its new fee schedule for partial cost recovery for this county service at its June 28, 2012 meeting.

"We are obligated to protect the public health, safety and welfare in our county," says Ray Iverson, Metro Fire's Fire Marshal, "and the fire department is obligated to ensure businesses are complying with fire code requirements." To meet this obligation Metro Fire has adopted a two tiered inspection program that combines full inspections performed by Metro Fire personnel with a new self-inspection program.

A typical business inspection will include an analysis of emergency exits, fire hydrant access, sprinkler systems, fire alarms and hood suppression systems such as those used in restaurants. Inspectors also look for electrical hazards that could threaten lives and property. Multi-family facilities, such as apartment and condominium buildings that have laundries and other common areas will also be part of this program.

Inspection fees vary based on square footage and actual use of the buildings and whether the inspection is a full or self-inspection. Fees range from \$91 for a self-inspection up to \$182 for a full inspection. Businesses will be charged the fees at their next regular inspection in the 2012-2013 inspection year.

Metro Fire has entered into an agreement with Fire Recovery USA to assist with implementing the new self-inspection program. Craig Nagler, Chief Executive Officer of Fire Recovery USA said, "We are the nation's largest cost recovery company established specifically for fire departments. Our revolutionary Self-Inspection System provides methods to assure those businesses that are low risk are inspected, even with staffing shortages".

The new division began operations officially July 2nd and includes twenty-two members of the Fire District.

Capitals Enjoy 27th Consecutive Season

Six time champions one of the most successful franchises in World TeamTennis

SACRAMENTO REGION – The Sacramento Capitals will be celebrating their 27th consecutive year in Sacramento when the team opens the season on the road against the Boston Lobsters on July 9. As one of only two remaining professional sports teams in Sacramento, the Capitals have managed to weather poor economic conditions, ownership changes, and changes of venue during their tenure. Today, the Capitals are one of the most successful franchises in the World TeamTennis (WTT) having won six WTT championships.

"Maintaining a professional sports team under any condition is difficult. The fact that the Capitals have been able to bring professional tennis to Sacramento for 27 consecutive years is a significant accomplishment," said the Capital's managing general partner, Ramey Osborne.

"We've had the support of incredible fans over the years.

Not just the tennis community, but the entire Sacramento region. World TeamTennis is not only for tennis enthusiasts. The fast-paced, action-packed format is great fun for the whole family," Osborne added.

This year's team includes a standout group of talent that includes Mardy Fish, who is currently ranked the No. 12 singles player in the world; former World No. 1 doubles player and team captain, Mark Knowles; ATP singles title holder, Ryan Sweeting; current No. 31 ranked singles player and ATP World Tour Title Holder, Kevin Anderson; Coco Vandeweghe; UCLA All-American and Sacramento native, Yasmin Schnack; and UCLA standout, Asia Muhammad.

In addition, Wayne Bryan will return for his 11th consecutive season as coach of the Capitals. Bryan has been honored as the WTT Coach of the Year three times and has directed the



Coach Wayne Bryan

Capitals to championship seasons in 2002 and 2007.

"Not only does Coach Bryan bring the best out of his players, but he is such an ambassador for the game. He's one of the best coaches in the world and he is an integral part of our goal to have the best team on and off the court," Osborne said.

Bryan is a frequent national speaker and clinician, as well as the author of "The Formula,

Raising Your Child to be a Champion in Athletics, Arts and Academics." He was named one of the "35 Most Powerful People in Tennis" by Racquet Magazine and has received a variety of awards and accolades in the sport. Bryan played collegiate tennis at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He began coaching in the WTT in 1999 as coach of the Idaho Sneakers.

Sacramento Capitals individual match tickets and three match packages are now available online at www.saccaps.com. Prices for individual tickets start at \$25 and three-match packages begin at \$60. Children's tickets will be available for \$15. All matches are played at Sunrise MarketPlace Outdoor Pavilion at Sunrise Mall in Citrus Heights. Doors open at 6pm for Happy Hour, Match time is 7:35pm.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit www.saccaps.com or call (916) 859-0058.



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Citrus Heights Plans Annual Veteran's Appreciation and Resource Picnic



Last year's event was enjoyed by all. Photo by Patty Anaya

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS – Plans are well under way for the 3rd Annual Citrus Heights Veterans Appreciation Picnic. All Citrus Heights active and retired veterans and their families are invited for a day of camaraderie, food (barbecue), music, recognition, veteran's resources, 'thank you' gift drawings, face painting and other children's activities.

The picnic will be held Saturday, August 25 at Rusch Park, 7801 Auburn Blvd. at the Pavilion and Veteran's Grove from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We are excited to see this event grow from 200 in 2009 to an expected 600 this year. The City of Citrus Heights, fellow service and veteran's organizations, along with large and local businesses have all 'gotten on board' to help us honor our veterans.

The picnic is a collaboration between the Citrus Heights American Legion Post 637 and GFWC Citrus Heights Women's

Club. Our goal is to recognize and honor the city's active duty servicemen and servicewomen, and our retired veterans of past wars and conflicts, and their families.

As AL Post 637 does not have a permanent home at present, a second purpose of this event is to remind the community of this need and the vital importance of acquiring a building of their own where all veterans can meet for regular meetings, emotional support and to obtain resources, especially those newly returning from deployment. Bill Muth, Past AL Post 637 Commander and picnic co-chair urges all veterans to attend for fellowship and to obtain resources for themselves and to pass on to fellow veterans.

The event is free for veterans and their families. The program will include an honor guard, recognition from the mayor, members of city council and other dignitaries, and representatives from local veterans groups.

And of course, plenty of music! The City of Citrus Heights has been supportive of this event since its' inception.

Veterans are asked to bring photos and other memorabilia of their time in the service to share. Signature boards representing each of the major wars and conflicts will be available for vets to sign. Last year our veterans in attendance ranged from WWI to Vietnam and all Mid East conflicts. Our oldest was 92 years.

No successful event of any magnitude is possible without the help and support of its' city officials, small and large businesses, service organizations and for us, our local veterans. We have an established group of supporters but as our attendance grows our need for additional sponsors grows.

If you or your business or organization can help or if you know of a veteran's resource organization, please contact Bill Muth at 207-5788 or Donna Butler at 871-9695.

Families Sought to Host Exchange Students

SACRAMENTO REGION – AFS, an international high school student exchange program, seeks families in the Silver & Gold area to host high school students arriving this August! Students will be staying for an academic year or six months. Area's with potential hosting opportunities include Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Orangevale, Gold River, Rancho Cordova, Carmichael & Sacramento County. Host students like Laura or Mahmoud.



Laura from Germany is one of our Congress Bundestag Scholarship Recipients. Laura considers herself sociable and open-minded, characteristics she hopes will be assets while living in America. Her interest in coming to the USA as a Congress Bundestag scholarship student stems from her interest in English language and her interest in American history, which she says is fascinating. She looks forward to learning more about American history and culture by experiencing it firsthand. Laura is from a larger city in Germany, where she lives with her mother and her father; her half brother is older than her and no longer living with the family. Although she is used to living in an urban environment, she is open to living in a smaller community while an exchange student in the USA. When not busy with school, Laura enjoys spending time with friends and family.

Mahmoud from Lebanon also one of our scholarship recipients through our YES program and is a sociable, energetic and ambitious

person who works hard to achieve his personal and academic goals. He likes to keep fit playing basketball, soccer, table tennis and billiards, and going biking or swimming with friends. He has earned awards for his efforts in soccer tournaments and the local marathon, and also for his talent at poetry. He expresses his creative side through writing, acting in local theater productions, painting, drawing, and cooking. He likes to be in the outdoors and enjoys going fishing. In his free time he can be found watching movies, playing chess or video games, or listening to music. His teacher describes him as a very disciplined student whose motivation in school grows day after day. He is cooperative with his classmates and contributes enthusiastically to classroom and group projects. After graduation Mahmoud plans to pursue a career in Medicine and hopes to fulfill his dream of helping others as a Physician.

Our host families come in all shapes and sizes may include two-parent households with young children or teenagers, single-parent

families, families with adopted children, foster parents and couples and single people who do not have children. AFS students come from more than 60 countries and represent many cultures and socio-economic backgrounds. Local AFS volunteers enroll students in high school and support students and their host families.

AFS also needs people who are interested in becoming volunteer liaisons to work locally with families and their hosted students.

AFS is a worldwide, non-profit organization that has been involved in international high school student exchange for more than 60 years. Each year, AFS-USA sends more than 1,400 U.S. students abroad, provides approximately \$3 million in scholarships and financial aid and welcomes 2,500 international high school students who come to study in U.S. high schools and live with host families.

There are more than 6,000 AFS volunteers in the United States. More at afsusa.org; (800) 876-2377 or contact local volunteer Philip Clarr at (916) 966-8984.

2012 Citrus Heights Community Campout

Camp in the park with your family and friends

CITRUS HEIGHTS – The City of Citrus Heights and Sunrise Recreation & Park District is proud to present the annual Citrus Heights Community Campout. This

year's campout will take place at Rusch Park, 7801 Auburn Blvd., on July 14th and 15th. The Community Campout will include swimming at Rusch Pool, a BBQ Dinner, Games

(basketball, tug-o-war and more), Campfire Entertainment (music and star-gazing) and Breakfast.

Registration is \$7 per person and you can register at www.sunriseparks.com.

Pacific Staffing Special Report:

Give up your Facebook and Web Privacy?

SACRAMENTO REGION – The human resource managers at Sacramento's top companies have definite opinions about giving up their personal online privacy to an employer. When contacts at Sacramento regional companies were asked, "Would you give an employer the password and complete access to your Facebook account?" seventy-eight percent (78%) said No. Some were emphatic responding, "absolutely not" and one definitively saying, "no, and hell no!" Anecdotal comments focused on the issue of individual privacy outside of the workplace with some noting that Facebook was a social medium not specifically tied to work related activity.

While four percent (4%) didn't have a Facebook account or declined to answer, eighteen percent (18%) didn't have a problem with allowing an employer complete access to their online lives.

More than one HR manager said they specifically didn't have a personal Facebook account, as it was in their opinions, "inappropriate" to have employees 'friending' the people who decide on their employment and compensation through web-based social media like Facebook. Some did qualify employer access by noting that work-related postings or negative comments would likely force an employer to review or respond.

Sacramento's top employers are hiring at twice the rate of those not hiring in the 3rd Quarter. Pacific Staffing discovered that sixty-six percent (66%) of those surveyed are hiring in July, August and September.

Hiring is active in all regional employment sectors and twenty-two percent (22%) of worker demand was motivated by seasonal needs. Active hiring in Q3 among Sacramento companies

polled between May 23 and June 15th is reflected in forty-two percent (42%) attributing growth as their motivation to hire. Forty percent (40%) say they are seeking replacements due to attrition in their existing workforce in the next three months.

While employers say they are getting large numbers of applicants, some are finding it difficult to find specific backgrounds or skills from their industry. Strong demand is noted for sales, customer service and technical skills, including industry specific computer software and hardware backgrounds, in the next quarter. Employers are also seeking warehouse, manufacturing and general office experience.

How does this Quarter compare to last Quarter, or last year? Find out for yourself.

For more information, employment blogs & market surveys go to www.pacificstaffing.com.



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Citrus Heights Messenger

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We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



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Beauty Pageant Crowns Royalty



SACRAMENTO REGION
– The 2012 California State Youth Pageant was held June 16th, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Cal Expo in Sacramento.

There were 17 Categories to be chosen, from Baby Darling to Mrs./Ms Northern California. Scholarships included \$1000.00 for Miss categories and \$500.00 for Teen categories.

All contestants received free training in ramp walking, public speaking, skin and hair care.

Pageant attendees collected food and school supplies for needy families in our area.

The winners were: (pictured above)

CALIFORNIA BABY DARLING:
Emily Grace Mesa

CALIFORNIA LITTLE MISS
Karma Buckley

CALIFORNIA YOUNG MISS
Cassandra Blevins

CALIFORNIA PRE-TEEN
Raneen Zubeildeh

CALIFORNIA TEEN
Karolynn Parker

MISS CALIFORNIA NORCAL REP.
Jessica McCall

MS. CALIFORNIA
Rachelle McDole

MRS. CALIFORNIA
Ann Watson

CALIFORNIA TALENT
Tamara Barbu-Brown

CALIFORNIA AMBASSADOR
Shadi Rezaie

TEEN SACRAMENTO
Merrin Casl

MISS SACRAMENTO
Lauren Lyons

MS. SACRAMENTO
Cathleen Dowel

MRS. SACRAMENTO
Debbie Frechette

MRS. GREATER SACRAMENTO
Camille Calhoon

SACRAMENTO AMBASSADOR
Ashley Donyelle

CLASSIC AMERICAN WOMAN
Lisa Taylor

Also pictured:

Miss Citrus Heights
Jacque Ramos

MRS. CITRUS HEIGHTS
Tanya Perry

DIRECTOR & QUEEN OF QUEENS
Mary Purvis

For more information about the pageant contact Director, Mary Purvis at (916) 721-3824.

Writer's Group Announces 2012 Write to Inspire Conference

SACRAMENTO REGION – Inspire Christian Writers group announces the 2012 Write to Inspire Conference to be held at First Baptist Church in Elk Grove, on Friday, July 20 and Saturday, July 21. Guest speakers are Literary Agent Chip MacGregor and New York Times bestselling author, Susy Flory.

Attendees will learn how to write powerful book proposals and how to bring their words to life. For details, see www.InspireWriters.com.

Attendees will learn how to write powerful book proposals and how to bring their words to life. For details, see www.InspireWriters.com.



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FREE LUNCHEON SEMINAR "The Privilege of Planning"

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Reservations Required RSVP to Lisa West @ (916)732-2020

What's Coming Up In Citrus Heights

By Leslie Carrara

Saturday Mornings year round, Farmers Market, Sunrise Mall behind Sears in parking lot, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

July 12 - Sayonara Community Center Ribbon Cutting, Sayonara Dr., 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

July 12 - Citrus Heights City Council meeting, 7117 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights at 7:00 p.m.

July 14 - 15 - Citrus Heights Community Campout, Registration open now, space is limited. \$7.00 per person. To register, visit www.sunriseparks.com or call 916-725-1585. Presented by SRPD, REACH and the City of Citrus Heights

July 15 - Rusch Park on Auburn Blvd., Free Concert, 6 p.m.

July 17 - REACH Area 1 Neighborhood Meeting, 7600 Daly Ave., 7 p.m. Third Tuesday of each month.

July 17 - REACH Areas 7 & 8 Neighborhood Meeting, 8300 Old Auburn, Rd., CANCELLED. Third Tuesday of each month.

July 18 - REACH Area 11 Neighborhood Meeting, 5641 Mariposa Ave., 7 p.m. Third Wednesday each month.

July 19 - REACH Area 2 Neighborhood Meeting, 7607 Garden Gate Dr., 7 p.m. Third Thursday each month.

July 19 - REACH Area 5 Neighborhood Meeting, 5901 San Juan Ave., 7 p.m. Third Thursday each month.

July 21 - Citrus Town Center Saturday Nite Concerts featuring The Indestructibles, free, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Citrus Town Center off Greenback Lane.

July 23 - REACH Area 10 Neighborhood Meeting, 6921 Sylvan Rd., 7 p.m. Fourth Monday each month.

July 24 - REACH Area 6 Neighborhood Meeting, 7690 Twin Oaks Ave., 7 p.m. Fourth Tuesday each month.

July 26 - Citrus Heights City Council meeting, 7117 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, at 7 p.m.

August 2 - Citrus Heights Police Activities League Golf Tournament., Foothill Golf Course, 7000, Verner Ave., Citrus Heights, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch served. Ages 8 and up. Room for 27 kids.

August 4 - Citrus Town Center Saturday Nite Concerts featuring Shadia and A BAAAD Band, free, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Citrus Town Center off Greenback Lane.

August 8 - REACH Area 9 Neighborhood Meeting, 7227 Canelo Hills Dr., 7 p.m. First Wednesday each month.

August 7 - REACH Area 4 Neighborhood Meeting, 6237 Fountain Square Dr., Trellis Hall, 7 p.m. First Tuesday each month.

August 10 - Sunrise at Night Concert Series featuring Lonestar and the Charlie Daniels Band, tickets \$37.50 - \$67.50, 8 p.m. Sunrise Mall Grandstand near Macy's.

August 14 - REACH Area 3 Neighborhood Meeting, 6237 Fountain Square Dr., Trellis Hall, 7 p.m. Second Tuesday each month.

August 18 - Citrus Town Center Saturday Nite Concerts featuring Four Barrel, free, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Citrus Town Center off Greenback Lane.

August 18 - Sunrise at Night Concert Series featuring Spyro Gyra and Lee Ritenour, tickets \$25.50 - \$46.50, 8 p.m. Sunrise Mall Grandstand near Macy's.

August 25 - Sunrise at Night Concert Series featuring Three Dog Night and America, tickets \$37.50 - \$67.50, 8 p.m. Sunrise Mall Grandstand near Macy's.

Dancing with the Tsars European Pros Dazzle



Professionals sharing the spotlight at the Capital Dance Center were Victoria and Genya Malko (left), Evgeny Likhachev, Jennifer Kanchucova-Nazarova, Monika Olkiewicz and Reza Molavi Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

By Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO COUNTY – Over 100 dancers buckled on dancing pumps for a recent ballroom showcase in Rancho Cordova. Sequins flashed as heels stamped through routines from jive to Viennese waltz.

Among adult professionals and seniors, school kids demonstrated that ballroom dancing is a high-energy sport for all ages. Hosting the showcase, Rancho Cordova's Capital Dance Center ran out of seats at 300 spectators and thereafter offered standing-room tickets. "It was a wonderful success that we hope to repeat, said ballroom founder Bill Roth."

Dance studios from all over Northern California were represented; Russian-born headliners Evgeny Likhachev and Jennifer Kanchucova-Nazarova came from Los Angeles to demonstrate the styles that have placed them highly in recent West Coast professional competitions.

Newly opened, the Capital Dance Center has 6,300 square feet of floating dance floor. The



Contrasting with their traditional routines and elaborate costumes, Los Angeles celebrity dancers Evgeny Likhachev and Jennifer Kanchucova-Nazarova also hit the floor in contemporary dance vogue. Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

facility regularly offers beginner to advanced lessons for all ages. Zumba, Yoga and Pilates exercise classes are also available. Ballroom dances are hosted Fridays at 7 p.m. and 1 p.m. Sundays. Country dancers

take the floor 7 p.m. Saturday. All dances include free group lessons. Located at 11270 Sanders Drive (behind Costco) in Rancho Cordova. Call (916) 635-2600 or visit www.CapitalDanceCenter.com.

Citrus Heights City Council Update

By Leslie Carrara

CITRUS HEIGHTS – The Citrus Heights City Council adopted all Resolutions on the calendar on June 28, including the utility tax initiative to be placed on the November ballot, at a very short one hour and 19 minute meeting. The measure will require

a two-thirds majority vote in favor of raising the tax for it to pass.

The council also decided to wait until the November election to replace Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa, who resigned recently due to personal reasons.

Councilman Mel Turner told the crowd that the New San Juan High School will be celebrating

its 100th birthday next year, and the San Juan Unified School District is looking to set up a committee to plan and schedule special events honoring the occasion.

The SJUSD communications department was closed the week of July 2, so they could not be reached for comment.

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Program information available at

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Tickets may also be purchased in the Village at American River Bank, Oaks Hardware, BBQPro, Bella Fiore Florist and the Recreation and Park District office.

Proceeds from the concert go to the Fair Oaks Theatre Festival, a non-profit summer theatre company, and the New Christy Minstrels Foundation providing music education, concerts and music to schools throughout the country. Both organizations are Charitable/Education entities under Federal law.

Veteran's Memorial Amphitheatre
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Organization Wants Schools to Take Notice - Seth's Law is in Effect

By Ken Pierce

Peer-abuse and biased harassment is a problem in the best of schools. Last Sunday, "Seth's Law" which forces public schools to better enforce existing anti-bullying policies took effect.

To those parents whose children were victims of peer abuse-driven bullycide based on biased harassment, this California law comes too late. However, for those students returning to school in the fall, it will offer them, as well as their parents' valuable support in enforcing legal protections as well as creating a transparent compliance structure that schools must follow in order to be in compliance with Seth's Law.

Authored by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco) and sponsored by Equality California, ACLU, Gay-Straight Alliance Network, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights, AB-9 requires schools to establish policies to prevent peer abuse, be responsive to complaints about bullying, train personnel how to recognize and intervene in bullying, and make resources available to victims of peer abuse.

Seth's Law was named for Seth Walsh, a 13-year-old from Tahachapi, CA who took his own life, September 2010 after years of relentless peer-abuse, based on biased harassment.

According to the fact sheet on Equality California's web site, Seth's mother and friends "report that teachers and school administrators were aware that Seth was being harassed (and abused by his peers) and, in some instances, participated in the harassment. Yet pleas to the school for help were brushed aside".

Beginning immediately, districts must take steps to improve school climate, protect against harassment based on sexual orientation and gender expression as well as establish timelines for investigating claims of bullying and abuse. The law also covers religious and ethnic discrimination as well.

One local anti-bullying organization is planning on taking an active role in making sure schools adhere to the new law. B.R.A.V.E. Society is a grassroots movement based in Carmichael and led by Lisa Ford-Berry who founded the non-profit after her youngest son Michael became a victim of a "peer-abuse driven bullycide" due to cyber-bullying.

On September 15, 2008,

on his 17th birthday, Michael was found at Mira Loma High School, in the San Juan School District, with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his head.

In a situation very similar to the Walsh family, the Berry family also found themselves "at the mercy of a bureaucratic educational system that was complicated by cover-ups, lies, and deceit," explained Berry.

Berry has said on numerous occasions "that heartache gave birth to B.R.A.V.E. because Bullies Really Are Violating Everyone".

"What my son endured while under the care of educational professionals is criminal and until we, as a society place the emphasis and importance on both the child's emotional well-being, as well as their physical wellbeing, peer abuse is going to continue to flourish within our schools and communities."

Today, Berry is a fearless advocate on behalf of parents and their children. Her deep-held belief that more ties us together than separates us as a community is part of the passion that drives her dedication to our community's children.

"Back in 2008, we didn't have the tools, knowledge or the laws we currently have today, such as Seth's Law, which would have helped my son when he needed it the most. Now if a student reports that he or she is being abused by their peers or harassed, there is legal recourse in place which includes telling the perpetrators so proper actions can be taken," said Berry who was called upon to testify in front of the legislative committee for AB-9.

Seth's law was watered down in part due to the original price tag of implementing safe-guards for children. Assemblyman Ammiano could not get the much needed votes in a tight economy where the focus was primarily on the budget and the subsequent deficit. When you add that to "conservatives and their inability and unwillingness to support the safety of all of our children, we were left with a watered down bill. However, it is a step in the right direction because Seth's Law is the foundation for creating mandated reporting".

School districts like the Sacramento Unified School District have been pro-active in putting in place the policies outlined, but other districts, especially the outlying ones in typically conservative neighborhoods such as San Juan, may

have to be "encouraged" to do more than pay lip service to the law" said Berry.

Lisa Berry makes it quite clear that for her, peer abuse and biased harassment, is a deeply personal issue, and she has no tolerance or patience for the all too often standard reply, "kids will be kids".

Berry goes on to say, "Adults need to stop their own apathetic indifference when it comes to peer on peer abuse. We are dealing with the behavior of abuse regardless of how we attempt to soften it. Furthermore, when we minimize that abusive behavior we are telling our children they are not loved, they are not worthy, and they are not important. We need to change how we treat our children who are being terrorized by their peers".

On July 12, Berry, who has been extremely outspoken in the media, on the speakers circuit, and as an expert witness at legislative hearings about peer abuse biased harassment, is seeking to bring together a coalition of classroom teachers, school administrators, parents, law enforcement, city and state legislators, organization and community leaders, youth representatives, mental health professionals, researchers, and members of the community locally and from neighboring counties, to form an anti-peer-abuse task force.

The main intent of the task force will be to work together to actively bring awareness of the peer-abuse problem to the public at-large, especially during October, which is deemed National Anti-Bullying Awareness Month.

In addition, the task force will serve as a clearing house for parents, students and administrators in making sure school districts and their schools, principles, and teachers are implementing anti-peer abuse and harassment laws, aggressively protecting all at-risk students, while allowing all students, no matter what their physical attributes, physical/mental handicaps, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, and religious background, to be themselves in a safe atmosphere so they may have the same educational experience all students have the right to have in their school and community.

For more information about attending the first meeting of the B.R.A.V.E. task force July 12, visit their web site at www.BraveSociety.org or RSVP Lisa Berry at lisafordberry@brave-society.org.

BOE Visits Retailers Statewide to Check Business Permits

Retailers and Businesses Notified of SCOP Team Visits Sacramento - Retailers and businesses in 34 California zip code areas can expect to receive letters from the Board of Equalization (BOE) notifying them about visits from Statewide Compliance and Outreach Program (SCOP) Teams. The purpose of the visits are to educate retailers and business owners on sales and use tax reporting responsibilities, increase tax compliance, and to help make the state's tax system fair and equal for all Californians.

Since 2008, the BOE SCOP Teams have visited more than 311,878 businesses in 461 zip codes statewide to verify that retailers and businesses are registered and to make sure that noncompliant businesses do not have an unfair advantage over registered businesses that are reporting their sales and use taxes and/or fees to BOE. Seven

SCOP Teams located statewide (Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine and Riverside) conduct door-to-door in person visits based on zip code. They check seller's permits at stores and other known retail and business locations. Business owners are asked only business-related questions.

SCOP Teams do not inquire about personal financial information. They check that registered retailers, as well as service industry businesses, have appropriate permits and licenses. Businesses found to be out of compliance are given instructions on how to register with the BOE and given information about other necessary licenses. BOE has found that about 2 percent of businesses operating in California do so without permits or licenses that allow for collection of sales and use taxes and other taxes and fees. Noncompliance is a contributor

to the more than \$2 billion sales and use "tax gap" - the difference between the amount of taxes owed and the amount of paid.

If business owners have questions, they may contact their local BOE SCOP Team in Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine or Riverside, or visit the SCOP website.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

Lungren Wants Health Care Reforms to be Patient Centered

WASHINGTON DC - On June 28th the Supreme Court of the United States delivered their much anticipated ruling on The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148, PPACA). The court's decision to uphold the President's health care law affirms that the federal mandate to purchase government-approved health insurance imposes a tax on the American people.

Congressman Dan Lungren (R-CA, Gold River), who has been a staunch advocate of repealing the 2,700-page Government takeover of the nation's healthcare system, and replacing it with more patient-centered reforms, gave this statement following the court's announcement.

"While the U.S. Supreme Court found the individual mandate of the President's health care plan unconstitutional under the commerce clause and the necessary and proper clause, the court has upheld the individual mandate and the rest of the health care law under Congress' taxing power.

"This is very disappointing. Ironically, Congressional

Democrats told the American people that the individual mandate was not a tax. In September 2009, when George Stephanopoulos asked President Obama himself on ABC News whether the President rejects the notion that the individual mandate is a tax increase, the President himself responded: "I absolutely reject that notion."

"Numerous lower court judges rejected the notion that the individual mandate was a tax. Chief Justice Roberts in his opinion today even admitted that, "[i]t is of course true that the Act describes the payment [the individual mandate] as a 'penalty,' not a 'tax.' In today's dissenting opinion, Justices Scalia, Kennedy, Thomas and Alito stated that the language of the Affordable Care Act itself states verbatim that the individual mandate is a penalty: "26 U. S. C. §5000A, entitled "Requirement to maintain minimum essential coverage." It commands that every "applicable individual shall . . . ensure that the individual . . . is covered under minimum essential coverage." And the immediately following

provision states that, "[i]f . . . an applicable individual . . . fails to meet the requirement of subsection (a) . . . there is hereby imposed . . . a penalty. " "Yet, the Supreme Court on a 5-4 decision ruled otherwise. The Court today has said that Congress effectively has unlimited authority to tax the American people.

Above all, the Court has ratified a law that fundamentally alters the relationship between the federal government and the American people. The Court has upheld a law that I believe is not only unconstitutional but also fails to improve the quality of health care in this country. "At the most fundamental level, Americans deserve common-sense, patient-centered health reforms. They need targeted reforms that increase access to affordable, quality health care, reforms that place the individual and families in control of their own health care decisions."

Congressman Dan Lungren serves as the Chairman of the House Administration Committee

Sacramento County DA Reports Recent cases of interest

CASE: Marcus Davis (06/28/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Chuck Gonzalez
Media Contact: Shelly Orio, 916.874.0083 or orios@sacda.org

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Eugene Balonon sentenced Marcus Davis to 50 years to life in prison. Last month, Davis was convicted by jury of first degree murder for the shooting death of Chester Jackson. The jury also found true that Davis personally used a firearm. In the early morning of February 20, 2011, Chester Jackson and his friends were at the Natomas IHOP restaurant. Davis was also at the restaurant and had been drinking. He provoked a confrontation with Jackson in front of the restaurant. He then pulled his gun and shot Jackson eight times. Eyewitnesses testified that Davis stated, "I told you this was going to happen," right before firing the final shot to Jackson's head.

CASE: Victor Hernandez (06/29/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Tim Carr
Media Contact: Shelly Orio, 916.874.0083 or orios@sacda.org

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Timothy Frawley sentenced 55-year-old Victor Hernandez to 27 years, 8 months in prison. Last month, Hernandez was convicted by jury on 16 counts of child molestation. Hernandez began sexually assaulting the young family member in 2006. The victim was 11 years old when the assaults began and continued until he was 15 years old.

CASE: Steed Martin (06/26/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Deborah Lobre
Media Contact: Shelly Orio, 916.874.0083 or orios@sacda.org

District Attorney Jan Scully announced that the Honorable Roland L. Candee sentenced 42-year-old Steed Martin to 18 years in prison. In June 2011, Martin molested the 13-year-old daughter of a close family friend. Last month, Martin was convicted by jury on seven counts of child molestation.

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By Ronnie McBrayer

"When I needed them most, they didn't respond. When I spoke, they didn't listen... The pain and hurt the church has caused is deep and lasting." Those words could fall from the lips of many a former churchgoer.

As one reared in the church, who worked vocationally within the church, left the church, and returned to the church, I understand that what Christians call "the Body of Christ" sometimes barely has a heartbeat for those who hurt the deepest.

The divorced. Those whose loved one committed suicide. Addicts. Skeptics. The mentally ill. The poor. Gays. Immigrants. There are untold numbers of individuals and groups of people who have been marginalized and harmed by the faith community. But maybe no persons have been more devastated than those who have suffered sexual abuse by the clergy.

The abuse, in and of itself, is horrible enough. Very little could be more corrupt than a pastor, preacher, or priest using his or her authority and power to take advantage of someone sexually. Yet, the exploitation is magnified when an entire system aids and abets the offender by intentionally or tacitly participating in the cover-up.

"When I spoke, they didn't listen" are the words of one such abuse victim. As a teenager she was taken advantage of by her

Better to Lose the World

church's youth minister. It was finally determined that this particular minister (predator) had committed "intentional acts of misconduct" against multiple female parishioners.

He was fired, but because of liabilities, litigation, and the constant threat of legal actions, nothing was really done afterwards. The whole episode was a "hush-hush" topic, and the victims were largely ignored, suffering in silence. But then, years later, the church decided to do something bold.

The leadership publically admitted that the abuse had taken place. They publically admitted that they had not responded as compassionately and as truthfully as they should have in the process. Out of fear of the consequences, they admitted that they had not been supportive to those harmed by the abuser. They began an intentional ministry to the sexually abused, within and without, their congregation.

Not everyone was happy with this action. The church's insurance company sent a warning to the pastor: "Do not make any statements, orally, in writing or in any manner, to acknowledge, admit to or apologize for anything."

To this the pastor said in a sermon the following Sunday: "We are profoundly sorry that our response after the abuse was discovered was not always helpful to those entrusted to our care... We won't hide behind lawyers... Jesus said the truth will set us free."

Then turning to a group of young women in the audience, he said, "Let me speak... to our

survivors. We, as church leaders, were part of the harm in failing to extend the compassion and mercy that you needed."

Was that a risky thing to do? You bet it was. Could it cost the church its finances, members, and years of court proceedings? Probably so. But risky or not – and regardless if the church survives or thrives in the aftermath – it was absolutely the right thing to do. It was right to tell the truth so that people – an entire congregation – could get on with the healing process.

When it comes to abuses such as these, the church must practice what it preaches: Confession, repentance, honesty, truth-telling, and the asking for forgiveness. Such practices are only bad for business if the church misunderstands the nature of its business. The church doesn't exist to protect itself, its assets, its financial bottom line, or the reputation of its clergy.

The church exists as an instrument of God's love. Its business is the healing business, maintaining a heartbeat for those damaged and broken, those who are vulnerable and at risk. And when it's the church that has put people at risk, then it's all the more urgent to own up and repent.

Yes, such honesty can result in much loss, but it is better to lose the world than to lose one's soul by failing to say and do what is right.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

Why Not Just be An American

By Rev. James L. Snyder

As we celebrate another birthday of this great country, I cannot help but think back on some of our history. What a grand history we have had. I know some people are ashamed of our history and so we have revisionists rewriting American history. Nevertheless, I certainly want to celebrate the real America.

My wife and I were relaxing after a scrumptious supper and were watching a little bit of TV. I was half dozing, as is usually my condition after such a supper, when my wife startled me with a question.

It was a news program on television updating us with the latest political scratch-talk. If it were not for politics, the airwaves would be silent. Oh, for those wonderful sounds of silence. Personally, I would be glad to double my tax rate if in doing so we could put to silence all this political-scratch-talk. I call it "scratch-talk" because whoever is talking is trying to scratch somebody's back even if it is just their own. I guess we have a lot of itchy backs in this country. Thankfully, we have an endless supply of backscratching politicians.

It does not matter which way the wind is blowing each political party says it is blowing in their direction. I guess you have to go to eight years to Harvard and have a student loan debt of \$120,000 to understand how that works. If you do not mind, I just do not want to know how it works.

With the politicians unable to create work in our country for common Americans, the real Americans, they sure know how to work a situation, usually to their advantage. If they could put all of this to work for the good of the ordinary American, I would feel happier about paying my taxes. As it is, I pay my taxes but not happily.

Back to my wife's question. "Who are," she said very

carefully, "the real Americans in this country?" Then she paused for a moment and followed it with this question, "Who does America really belong to?"

Well, those two questions got me thinking.

Who are the real Americans? Are they Republicans, Democrats or Independents? I know there is a bunch of other miscellaneous political parties but I cannot think of them right now. Which one is the American Party?

If I do not like any political party, where does that leave me? I am all for parties, but the whole idea of a party is for people to have fun. I do not see any political party where I could have fun. The strange thing today is, if I do not "belong" to some political party I am not able to vote in this country. Moreover, if I do vote, who in the world do I vote for?

My wife and I got to talking about this and I, for once in my life, posed a question. How would you describe the average American?

Is the average American black, white, yellow, red or a mixture of colors? Do you define an American by the color of his or her skin? What about gender? Is the average American male or female? Then there is age. How old is the average American?

We bounced these questions around for a long time and did not come up with any good answers. Then there was silence.

I come back to one thought; why can't we just be Americans. Why do we have to have all the emphasis on variations, colors, temperaments and the people we elect to office who cannot tie their own shoes without conducting some poll? Why can't we send ordinary, common sense Americans to Washington DC who understands the American life?

Most of the politicians, if not all, live in a bubble and cannot relate to the average American in this country. I challenge these politicians to act like, live like

common, everyday, normal Americans.

We normal Americans have to live on a budget. If I do not have enough money, I have come to the end of my buying spree. I think this concept ought to be copyrighted and sent to Washington DC. It is a new concept. It will need somebody to interpret it to those who are living in that venomous circle that we call the capital of the United States. I would recommend a first grader.

It would be refreshing to have somebody in Congress or the Senate who had common sense. I guess Will Rogers was right when he said the problem with common sense is it is no longer common.

A real American is one who is committed to the concept of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. A real American is one who embraces the red, white and blue. A real American is the one who can clutch his five-dollar bill and say, "in God we trust." If it is good for our money, it is good for our life.

If only the American people, the real people of America, would wake up and see what our politicians are doing, perhaps they would do what our early founders did.

In celebrating another Fourth of July, my thought is simply, why not just be an American.

A real American also embraces what Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's" (Luke 20:25 KJV).

Is that the sound of a drumbeat I hear off in the distance?

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at (352) 687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

The Mark of A Winner

only two out of five investments. You're not such a failure. If at first you don't succeed, congratulations! You're normal! But winners resolve to stick with it. They keep on.

Resolve means a conscious act of the will. It is a choice. I am choosing. I will not give up. Regardless of economic conditions, regardless of problems at work, problems in the business, you don't give up.

Proverbs 24:16, "For though a righteous man falls seven times, he rises again." Even good guys fall. Even righteous people stumble. They make dumb decisions. They make mistakes. They lose money. Even righteous men fall. But the difference is, they get up again. They keep on going. That's the mark of a winner.

You don't have to be discouraged. It's your choice. It's what you're choosing to look at. Is the cup half full or half empty? You have a choice. You can choose to think on God's word and you can choose to think on the promises of God. You can choose to think about what He promises you rather than looking at your circumstances. That is a choice. Ray Crock, founder of

McDonalds, wrote an autobiography called 'Grinding It Out'. When he started McDonalds he was 52 years old. That tells us that it is never too late to try again, to start over. Just think about all the millions of people that have been helped financially because he gave them jobs. He made millionaires of the suppliers. All because one guy at the age of 52 decided to go for it, to try again, to grind it out!

What is it in your life that you need to grind out? What are you tempted to give up on? God says, "Don't do it! Don't give up, look up and let me give you the staying power you need."

Don't allow discouragement to get the best of you. So what if you've failed at something? You're normal. Great people are not people who never make mistakes or fail, great people are people who refuse to give up. You resolve to grind it out.

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By Pastor Ray Dare

There is a myth that says successful people do everything right. They don't. The fact is, successful people probably make as many mistakes and stumble and fail as many times as non-successful people. They just don't let it get them down. They don't give up. They keep on keeping on. They learn from those failures and they become better and better. They don't live a perfect life. They stumble and fall. But they get up and keep on going.

The best basketball players in the world only make about half their shots. The best quarterbacks only complete about six out of ten passes. The best baseball players only hit in about 3 out of 10 tries. Winners in the stock market make money on

Is Silence Golden?



By Marlys Norris, Christian Author

The only time I have experienced the act of silence being golden is when I know I might get in trouble for voicing my conflicting opinion. Objecting to something someone has said that differs from my own understanding can lead to an argument I would rather avoid. Avoiding any confrontation and beginning an argument that ultimately can lead to an end of a relationship if and when further communication needs silence to be avoided. Scripture clearly states we

are to "avoid foolish disputes". (Titus 3:9)

Silence however is not golden when another person neglects or refuses to communicate completely. Scripture clearly states that we need to be reconciled to one another after any conflict. When we have attempted to reconcile we are to "reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned". (Titus 3:10-11)

In such cases and lack of response, silence is received as "rejection" and a total lack of love and understanding. It is not accepting another person to the same measure God loves them the same as you! Communication does not need to be in areas where obvious differences exist. By Christ's love accepting and rejecting those differences in each other can truly enrich any relationship. Reconciliation is

not an option to any believer!

Let your silence, passion and love for God be more important than any difference or challenge you face in a relationship honors God. As believers we are live "Possessing the Passion" of God in all the areas of our life, because with God we can face a multitude of things and survive in spite of them. Others will see and experience the "love of God" they feel in knowing us. God has given every one of us a mission to live as an example of His love before others. The spiritual fruit of God's love is evident as we remain silent accepting them as God made them. We can be reconciled through appropriate silence and His Divine Love operating through us!

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SIX HUSBANDS EVERY WIFE SHOULD HAVE

Is marriage on the rocks? Celebrities last just long enough to get a reality show, then poof... all gone! So why is marriage so fragile? According to Therapist, Corporate Coach, and Author, **Dr. Steven Craig**, there is a way of seeing marriage for what it is... a decathlon, not a marathon. He outlines the most common and dangerous pitfalls at each stage of marriage and he told me on my POPPOFF Radio Show that there are six stages every marriage goes through. The key to a long and happy union is how to adjust our values and behaviors for each... in essence, to become six different people. I know. You are ready for the big six, right? So here goes. In brief, here are the six stages from "The 6 Husbands Every Wife Should Have."

1) GETTING STARTED. This is when it is essential to honestly assess the long-term viability of the relationship, and to avoid lopsided "compromises" that will be poison in the future. The husband-to-be ought to be a Good Catch, young at heart but mentally and physically strong, while the wife-to-be needs to be a Girl of My Dreams, full of energy and life while remaining grounded about who she is and wants to be.

2) THE OYUNG MARRIED COUPLE. The honeymoon is

over, and the new husband and wife must now blend their worlds together and see themselves as a team, one that puts the relationship first...above families, friends, and fantasies. He must be a Team Player, with his stability and sense of commitment trumping (but not eclipsing) his sense of fun and adventure. She must be a Relationship Builder, competently handling the new challenges before her and resisting the impulse to run to her friends or mother for constant advice.

3) THEN COMES BABY. In this, the most difficult and emotionally taxing stage in most marriages, both spouses are required to drastically revise their priorities, values, and goals. He must be an ally, who realizes that the new member of the family is as much his responsibility as his wife's, from daycare to diapers. She becomes Chaos Control Manager, who understands that a positive atmosphere at home is the most important thing for her baby, and she can always tell a real crisis from a false alarm.

4) FAMILY TIES. The dust has settled, and if they made the necessary changes, husband and wife have made it out of Stage 3 in one piece. Now the focus is on running the family as a well-oiled machine. The husband becomes the Family Man, shifting from explosive bursts of energy and endurance to measured expenditures of work and wisdom, careful not to burn out while still meeting obligations. The wife becomes the Chief Operations Officer, learning to perform an awe-inspiring juggling act that is the key to the machine running smoothly.

5) EMPTY NESTING. Now that the hardest and most thrilling

part-raising children-is over, many married couples fall into a troubling "now what?" mindset that can lead to boredom, and worst, resentment. It is essential to re-focus on each other, as first happened in Stage 2. The husband needs to be a Revitalizer, a constant well of new ideas for ways to spend quality, intimate time together. The wife has to be a Renewer, taking interest in her husband's hobbies and passions, while recreating herself as someone who fascinates him.

6) THE GOLDEN YEARS. This is when the roller coaster is slowing down and the end of the ride is in sight. Nothing is more important than being a dependable Companion, the role that must be equally fulfilled by both husband and wife now. With patient caretaking and a bit of selective amnesia, the final years together can be the most joyous of all.

Dr. Craig has crafted the only toolbox needed to build a lifetime of wedded bliss in "The 6 Husbands Every Wife Should Have." You can check out his website at www.drstevenraig.com. He is also host of "Therapy Thursdays" on one of Detroit's top rated morning shows. Six steps. That doesn't seem too difficult. But I think he neglected one aspect for every one of his steps. It's called commitment. The piece of paper you both sign means nothing if you are not really committed from the heart to making a go of your life together! Believe me I know. Rick (my loving husband) and I have had 41 great years together and commitment is the key!

Join Mary Jane for the **KAHI Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPPOFF 10 PM - Midnight.**

DMV: "Ask George"

Expert Answers to Common DMV Questions



By George Valverde - Director, California Department of Motor Vehicles

Do you have questions about general driving related requirements like registration and insurance?

Are you unclear about laws and restrictions related to driving?

The California Department of Motor Vehicles has answers.

"Save Time by Going Online," at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Q: My husband and I have started to take daily walks around our neighborhood for exercise. We live in an area with heavy street traffic and want to know if there are any rules we should keep in mind as pedestrians. Do you have any advice?

A: Thank you for seeking out information about how to be a safe pedestrian! One out of every six traffic fatalities is a pedestrian, so it is important for you to be informed. The California Driver Handbook offers these tips to pedestrians:

- Never "jaywalk," or cross a street between intersections. Always cross at a crosswalk.
- Do not suddenly leave a curb or other safe place and walk or run into the path of a vehicle close enough to be a danger to you.
- If there is no sidewalk, walk in the direction that faces the oncoming traffic.
- When a signal first changes to green or "WALK" for you to cross, look left, right, and then left again and yield the right of way to any vehicle in the

intersection before you cross the street.

- At night, make yourself more visible by wearing white clothing and retro-reflective materials or by carrying a flashlight.
- Most importantly, always be aware of what is going on around you!

You can view the California Driver Handbook online at www.dmv.ca.gov.

Q: I have decided that I want to be an organ and tissue donor. My license doesn't expire for another three years and I want to change my organ donor status now. How can I do this?

A: You do not have to wait until your license expires to update your organ and tissue donor status! Simply visit <http://DMV.ca.gov/about/donateLife/donateLife.htm>. From there you can become a registered donor, read answers to frequently asked questions and real life organ donor and recipient stories. Congratulations on your decision to become an organ and tissue donor!

Q: My brother recently purchased a motorcycle and though he has a motorcycle license, I do not. Am I allowed to drive his bike?

A: No. Driving any motor vehicle without the proper license is against the law. If you are interested in legally driving your brother's motorcycle you should obtain your motorcycle (M1 or M2) license.

The procedure for acquiring a motorcycle license varies based on age, but all applicants must pass a written test first. For a checklist of what is required, visit http://www.dmv.ca.gov/about/2011mc_lic.htm

The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Acting Undersecretary Traci Stevens. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.

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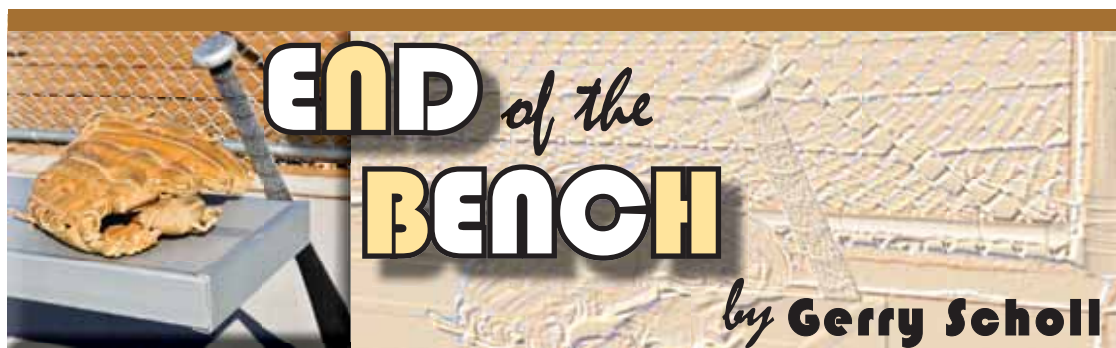
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Just Another Day at the Office

My office is pretty tiny. I sit here in my little space — which also functions as an extra bedroom (a twin bed against the wall where I spread out my papers and notes), a library (a bookcase), a coat closet (four hooks on the door), an atrium (four plants on a small dresser) and a mudporch (a mat to wipe your feet) — once a week, pondering the wide, wide world of sports.

Roger Federer's "office" is manicured grass (though a bit worn in certain spots) in the heart of a deluxe, first-class, venerable stadium, full of top-notch accommodations and amenities, with many assistants attending to his every need. He does his work before royalty and dignitaries, and thousands of adoring well-to-do admirers.

My office is a stuffy room in the back of our rented home, but if I open the window and the window in the kitchen I can get a little bit of cross-ventilation. Roger's "office" is Centre Court at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club at Wimbledon, England. He gets a little sweaty on the job, too, but has people running to him with towels and liquid refreshment. Things just aren't the same for everybody...

The Swiss tennis star won his record seventh men's singles title at Wimbledon, Sunday, tying him with Pete Sampras, by defeating Great Britain's favorite son, Andy Murray, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-4. It was also Federer's record 17th Grand Slam title and restored his No. 1 ranking in what he called "a magical moment." He had reached the final by defeating previous No. 1 and nemesis Novak Djokovic (only one win in the last seven

meetings) in the semifinals. Days before the tournament the champion had an opportunity to show his twin toddler daughters the grounds with nobody around. He thought it was "cute" to watch them run around on the grass at Centre Court and play at the net, and treasured the chance to "show them where Daddy goes to the office."

It was one of many great days on the job for Federer, but for Murray it was an incredibly emotional disappointment. Trying to win his first major, Murray was the first British player to reach the final since 1938. Federer has long been a favorite at Wimbledon, but with the arrival of Murray in the final there was a shift in allegiance. Murray's tearful post-match talk was greeted with roars from the partisan crowd inside the stadium and by the thousands outside watching on the big screen.

The Williams sisters, Serena and Venus, have been sharing office space at Wimbledon for years. Serena won her fifth women's singles title, 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 over Agnieszka Radwanska (spell check), Saturday, matching her sister's total. The siblings teamed to win the women's doubles title, also for the fifth time.

The working environment was pretty nice for all those cyclists in the Tour de Farce over the weekend. When I checked in on the action early Saturday on the tube, I was more enthralled with the beautiful French countryside than with the race. I'm not too up on my cycling knowledge, though it is all pretty impressive and the people there obviously love it big time.

I have trouble overcoming the

cynic in me, therefore "Farce," rather the "France." It seems it is usually just a matter of time until cycling winners are busted for cheating.

Working conditions were not quite so great for the northern California baseball teams.

The Oakland Athletics must have thought they had ventured into Alfred Hitchcock's work space on Sunday. Flocks of seagulls threatened to overrun O.co Coliseum, hovering so low that they distracted from play on the field. Their typical post-game feast was being delayed by the almost-four-hour extra-inning affair.

Josh Reddick, the A's first-half team MVP with his 20 homers and 43 RBI, decided to break things up in the 13th inning with a run-scoring double before he got his eyes gouged out by The Birds. The 2-1 win was the eighth walk-off victory for the A's (most in the majors) and evened their record at 43-43 at the All Star break. Reddick was honored by his teammates with double Gatorade dousings and twin shaving-cream pies in the face during post-game interviews. Those goofy ball players...

For the San Francisco Giants, the road was not kind. They finished a 1-5 trip with a 13-2 drubbing at the hands of the revitalized Pittsburgh Pirates, who lead the Central Division with the second-best record in the National League (48-37). Struggling two-time Cy Young Award winner Tim Lincecum (3-10) lost again and has the worst ERA (6.42) among qualifying starters in the league. He needs to go back to the office and work on a few things.

Outdoor World

BASS AT NIGHT
Most bass are in their summertime haunts. That means drop-offs, weedlines and weed flats. Edges of humps and reefs tend to hold the most fish.

During the day, bass hold tight to the bottom, or slide into the thickest vegetation they can find, to avoid sun penetration and boat traffic. But when darkness falls, they move away from the cover and higher up in the water column and feed aggressively.

Bass have decent vision at night, though it is not as good as walleyes or other fish that have eyes specially designed to see in the dark.

Don't worry much about the specific color of the bait you use. Think more about the shape and size. A larger lure produces more vibration, which bass pick up on their lateral line, but is also easier to see under the cover of darkness.

Rather than seeing the details of the lure, which they would see during the day, bass only see the outline. So using larger lures at night than you do during the day is a good idea.

Jimmy Houston is the Host of "Jimmy Houston Outdoors" TV Show

For more tips, log onto basspro.com

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Riley Reviews

GRUESOME, VIOLENT "SAVAGES" FITS THE BRUTAL ACTION BILL

Using their smarts and ingenuity, the two guys have created a very powerful strain of marijuana with an unusually high level of THC. Stoners would call it "good stuff" or words to that effect.

While the California trio would love to enjoy the surfing lifestyle, their success draws the unwanted notice of a vile Mexican drug cartel run by Elena Sanchez (Salma Hayek) and her violent henchmen.

At first, the cartel sends guys in suits offering a sweet deal to partner with Ben and Chon, which anyone with a half-brain would instantly recognize as the first volley in a hostile takeover.

After being rebuffed, the Mexican cartel ups the ante with violent warnings of decapitation, leading to the kidnapping of O where she's threatened with immediate physical harm. The American boys scheme a big money heist from other drug dealers to buy O's freedom, but that ploy fails to do the trick.

As ruthless Elena leaves the dirty work to others, she dispatches her chief enforcer Lado (Benicio Del Toro), a decidedly vile monster to get what she wants.

Unlike a savvy chess player, Elena doesn't figure that Ben and Chon would turn the tables by kidnapping her beloved daughter attending college in the States.

A key player in the twisted tale of corruption and double crosses is John Travolta's slimy, crooked DEA agent, a man on the take from every drug operation north and south of the border.

Del Toro is brilliant as the volatile, raging sociopath, while Travolta brings a welcome element of dark humor to his role of a corrupt official with flexible convictions. These delightful two are like characters from "Pulp Fiction."

Often, the villains are the ones to live up the action, and that's certainly the case here. Hayek's coldly

malicious drug lord is mere icing on the cake.

Bouncing back from the disaster of "John Carter," Taylor Kitsch provides an explosive performance as the smoldering anti-hero, ably assisted by Aaron Johnson's less savage portrayal of a sidekick.

"Savages," a brutal, violent action film, is, after all, savage. This is fitting for an Oliver Stone who decided to roll the dice to exploit the savagery of the raging drug wars.

The film's ending may prove troubling for many viewers, because it is both self-indulgently clever and preposterous. Other than that, "Savages" is a good movie for the cold-blooded warring drug cartel genre.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • CLASSIC GAMES

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Talking board?
- King or queen
- Drink too much
- *Poker stakes
- Romanian monetary unit
- Sweet tooth addiction
- Novelist Anne and footballer Jerry
- Landers or Coulter, e.g.
- Members of the media
- Beat hard
- *Type of checkers
- To ___ a dog on someone
- Brian Urlacher, e.g.
- Beauty treatment site
- Tibetan priest
- Covered with hairs
- *Journey from college to retirement
- Master of his castle
- Body center
- Desktop picture
- ___ attack
- Drunken reaction
- Welsh dog breed, pl.
- Very bright star
- Fly like eagle
- Eternal, in the olden days
- Time distortion
- A layer in plywood
- U-___
- Faux ___
- *Opposite of chutes
- Like the Witch of the West
- Theater guide
- *Highest or lowest card
- Found in Boy Scouts
- Found on a map
7. 4 qts.
- Ship away from harbor
- Ants' structure
- Finish line
- Attention-seeking

CLUES

DOWN

- Crew tool
- Used for measuring
- Allergy symptom
- They go with cheers
- Lash out
- Dull or uninteresting
- Poetic "even"
- Knucklehead
- Wrong ___
- S-shaped molding
- *Football play
- Gaelic
- State of one's emotions
- Sell illegally
- As opposed to mishap
- Barn occupant?
- Pizza serving
- Edging of small loops, as on lace
- In front of
- Sound of disapproval
- Right hand column, like in baseball
- The lowest deck
- "Round up the ___ suspects!"
- *Game of apologies
- Denotes engineer
- Prima donna
- Plural of "carpus"
- Be inherent in something
- A husk of corn
- *Blinky, Pinky and Inky game
- Habitual practice
- *Hockey players do it
- Boozer
- Reproductive structures
- Indian soup
- "The farmer in the ___"
- Join by heating
- More
- Legal right to a property
- "Kick it
- "Never ___ never"

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For Solution See Page 7



A Case in Point The Case of the Charging Cow

By David Graulich, Esq.

The concept of "strict liability" was once described by famed trial lawyer Gerry Spence in a closing argument to the jury. Spence was suing an energy company, Kerr-McGee, regarding alleged accidents at a nuclear plant. "If the lion gets away, Kerr-McGee has to pay," Spence told the jurors.

In other words, if you engage in an inherently dangerous activity, you are liable when something bad happens — even if you weren't negligent. Keeping a lion in your yard, or operating a nuclear plant, or manufacturing dynamite, are all inherently dangerous activities. If someone gets hurt, you have to pay.

In some personal injury cases, the question of whether strict liability applies can be the dominant issue. That brings us to the injuries suffered by a 46-year-old man named Nelson Thomas.

Mr. Thomas was riding his Triumph Tiger motorcycle on a one-mile-long private paved road that connects several houses with Chileno Valley Road in Marin County, near Petaluma. He was en route to visiting his aunt and uncle, the Bentleys, whose house was accessible only by the private road. There was no fence along the private road, which was an easement for shared use by the houses that would otherwise be landlocked.

Another family, the Stenbergs, used the grazing land adjoining the private road to raise Black Angus cattle on their ranch, the E Lazy S. As Mr. Thomas drove through the Stenbergs' property, he noticed a black cow in the shadows about 30 yards to the left. He slowed down, thinking the cow intended to cross the

road. Instead, she starting coming right at him and he applied the brakes. The cow put her head down and crashed into his gas tank and his shoulder. Mr. Thomas was thrown over the handle bars and landed on his left shoulder; the motorcycle was lifted in the air and crashed on its left side. Mr. Thomas needed surgery on his shoulder, while the motorcycle was a total loss.

The cow, whose name was Annie, belonged to Erland and Maryann Stenberg. Mr. Thomas sued the Stenbergs, claiming that they were strictly liable as result of the inherently dangerous activity of raising cattle.

The Stenbergs won the first round when the trial court dismissed the case. Mr. Thomas appealed, and the matter went before the First Appellate District in San Francisco.

The Court posed two key questions: 1) As a species of animal, were Angus cows inherently dangerous? 2) If not, did this particular cow possess dangerous propensities that the Enbergs should have known about?

A veterinarian was called to testify by Mr. Thomas. Annie was pregnant, he said, which contributed to her aggressive behavior. Beef cattle tend to be less docile than dairy cattle. Herefords are more docile than Angus, and Red Angus tend to be more docile than Black Angus. He also testified that a 1,200-pound cow is capable of using its head to butt up against a motorcycle and throw it in the air.

On cross-examination, the vet said that even within various breeds, cattle behavior varies from cow to cow. One can see a whole range of behavior, from

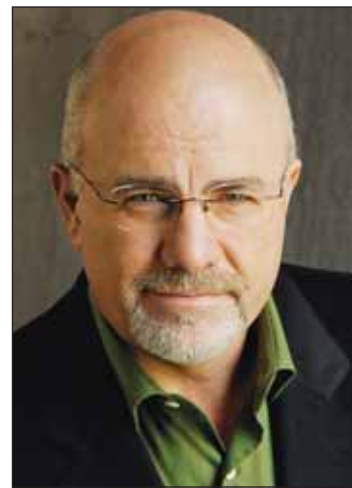
aggressive to mellow, in cows of the same breed. The vet admitted that he did not examine Annie, nor did he know whether Annie had displayed dangerous propensities in the past.

When the court announced its decision, the judges affirmed the trial court and dismissed the case. Annie and the Stenbergs had won again.

"Cattle consist of species which are not regarded as inherently dangerous," the Court said. The Plaintiff presented no evidence concerning Annie's individual propensities. Although livestock owners owe a general duty of care to prevent stray animals from entering public roads, this lawsuit concerned an easement shared by several parties, who collectively had done nothing to curb a herd that grazed regularly on both sides of the road and has done so for decades. The Stenbergs were not liable for Mr. Thomas' injuries or financial loss.

Afterword: The case in which Gerry Spence used his "lion" metaphor involved the death of Karen Silkwood, a Kerr-McGee employee. A 1983 film starring Meryl Streep, "Silkwood," was based on this case.

David Graulich, Esq. of Fair Oaks is an attorney with The Law Firm of Tim O'Connor. David welcomes comments on "A Case in Point" columns at (916) 932-2312 or by email: David@timoconnorattorney.com. This column is not intended as an offer of legal advice. Contact a qualified attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem.



Dave Says

about your son becoming a man. At this point in his life it's going to be really good for him, emotionally and spiritually, to stand on his own two feet.

It sounds like you've got some good ideas about saving and financial responsibility, and he needs to take some of Mom's advice in those areas. But it's time he had his own place and started paying his own bills. It's time for this one to leave the nest, spread his wings, and fly. Here's something else to think about. He's going to look a whole lot better to the world if he's out there standing on his own. I think lots of young ladies, not to mention their parents, will be much more impressed by a guy who's making his own way rather than living at home with mom.

He's at a point where he's reaching for dignity and trying to make his way in the world. Let him do it. I've got a feeling he'll make you proud!

- Dave

Whole Life for Adult Kids?

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have about \$50,000 in debt. It started piling up several years ago when one of our sons was injured. He's 33, his brother is 23, and we've

got whole life insurance policies on each of them. The combined cash value of the policies is about \$21,000. Should we sell them in order to help pay down our debt?

- Lori

Dear Lori,

You're not responsible for the final expenses of a 33-year-old or a 23-year-old. And the fact that they're your sons doesn't change anything. Whole life insurance is a horrible investment. The rate of return is almost nothing. When someone dies with these policies, the extra money you paid to create the cash value is wasted, because the insurance company keeps the cash value. They only pay out the face value! That's not what I call smart investing.

If it were me, I'd cash in both of the policies immediately. Now, if either of them has become uninsurable and you want to transfer a policy to them, that's fine. Otherwise, they both need to take care of their own insurance and other financial needs. You guys are staring at a lot of debt, and \$21,000 will go a long way toward cleaning up that mess. Cash them in!

- Dave

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California Chicken Wrap

Serves: 4
 Prep Time: 10 minutes
 3 tablespoons Hellmann's® or Best Foods® Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil
 4 6-inch fajita size whole wheat flour tortillas
 12 ounces boneless, skinless chicken breasts, grilled and sliced
 1 medium avocado, peeled and sliced
 1 red bell pepper, sliced
 1/4 cup sliced red onion
 2 cups mixed salad greens
 Spread Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil on tortillas. Layer chicken, avocado, red pepper, red onion and salad greens down center of each tortilla. Roll and fold the filled tortillas.

The Original Potato Salad

Serves: 8
 Prep Time: 10 minutes
 Cook Time: 15 minutes
 2 pounds potatoes (5 to 6 medium), peeled and cut into 3/4-inch chunks
 1 cup Hellmann's® or Best Foods® Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil
 2 tablespoons vinegar
 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
 1 teaspoon sugar
 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
 1 cup thinly sliced celery
 1/2 cup chopped onion
 2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped (optional)

Cover potatoes with water in 4-quart saucepot; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Drain and cool slightly. Combine Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil, vinegar, salt, sugar and pepper in large bowl. Add potatoes, celery, onion and eggs and toss gently. Serve chilled or at room temperature.



A New Take on PICNIC FAVORITES

FAMILY FEATURES

Picnics are a perfect way to enjoy getting together with friends and family this summer. No matter what your destination — beach, park or just your backyard — there's no need to settle for standard fare. Instead, make summertime favorites like pasta salad, potato salad, vegetable dip and California style wraps even more delicious by adding the new Hellmann's® or Best Foods® mayonnaise dressing with Olive Oil recipe. Made with high-quality ingredients, including olive oil, cage-free eggs, and vinegar, it combines the creamy, rich taste of Hellmann's® or Best Foods® with the delicious goodness of olive oil. Visit www.Hellmanns.com or www.BestFoods.com for more summer recipes and additional information.



Easy Vegetable Dip

Makes: 2 1/2 cups
 Prep Time: 5 minutes
 Chill Time: 2 hours
 1 package Knorr® Vegetable recipe mix
 1/2 cup Hellmann's® or Best Foods® Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil
 1 container (16 ounces) sour cream
 Combine all ingredients in medium bowl. Cover and chill 2 hours to blend flavors. Stir before serving. Serve with your favorite dippers.

Pasta Salad with Vegetables

Serves: 8
 Prep Time: 20 minutes
 Cook Time: 25 minutes
 3/4 cup Hellmann's® or Best Foods® Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil, divided
 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
 6 cups assorted fresh vegetables (zucchini, red and yellow peppers and/or red onion), sliced
 1 box (16 ounces) fusilli pasta, cooked, drained and cooled
 1/3 cup sliced Kalamata or pitted ripe olives
 1 cup loosely packed fresh basil leaves, chopped
 Blend 1/4 cup Mayonnaise Dressing with Olive Oil, vinegar and ground black pepper in medium bowl. Stir in vegetables. Arrange vegetable mixture in grill pan or on foil on grill. Grill vegetables, stirring once, 20 minutes or until vegetables are crisp-tender. Cool. Combine vegetables with remaining ingredients in large bowl. Serve immediately, or cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.
Tip: Vegetables may also be roasted in the oven.

Picnic Food Safety Tips

Make sure you properly store and serve your picnic treats so they stay fresh and delicious.

Cold Food

- Cold perishable food should be kept in a cooler at 40°F or below until it's time to serve.
- Foods like cold salads or desserts in individual serving dishes can be placed directly on ice. Drain off water as ice melts, and replace ice frequently.

Hot Food

- Hot food should be kept hot, at or above 140°F.
- Wrap hot foods well, and place in an insulated container until serving.

Once served, no food should sit out for longer than two hours — one hour if the outdoor temperature is above 90°F. To be safe, throw away any food that has been left out longer.