

Placer Sentinel



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Volume 22 Issue 19

Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987

First Issue of October, 2011

Employers Show Extreme Caution



Hiring trends in the Sacramento Region continue to be influenced by Wall Street fluctuations and the depressed national economy.

Sacramento Region – While Sacramento's top employers are hiring, they continue to show extreme caution as events outside the area raise concerns about the economy. Like the up and down bouncing of the children's toy, extreme fluctuations on Wall Street and in the greater world economy are impacting hiring trends revealed by Pacific Staffing for October, November and December. Polled directly by phone sixty-two percent (62%) of Sacramento's top companies say they will hire in the Fourth Quarter, but forty-two percent (42%) of planned hiring was motivated only by the need for replacements. These levels mirror a straight line, or flat

trend from third quarter numbers continuing to reflect caution in hiring for expansion by employers.

On the flip side, some industries are improving and thirty percent (30%) of hiring was also cited for growth needs, which is a slight improvement from the third quarter when twenty-five percent (25%) of hiring was motivated by planned expansion. Service industry companies were discovered to be most active in hiring during the Fourth Quarter.

Ten percent (10%) of companies say they planned to layoff workers in the next three months. Half those reductions, or 5% are motivated by seasonal change. The remaining reductions caused by acquisitions and

slowing business demand according to employers surveyed between 8/29 – 9/23/ 2011.

Employers continue to say benefits costs and management are their biggest struggle. A new challenge was noted, as some companies report finding qualified applicants is becoming an issue. Specific skills in high demand are technical including software design and digital networking, with biology lab science, allied health skills, sales and customer service workers in demand.

When asked if their company had a page on the social network, Facebook, fifty-four percent (54%) of Sacramento's top companies said,

'Yes'. Twenty-four percent (24%) admitted to looking at job applicants social network posts in hiring, while twenty-nine percent (29%) say they are spending part of their budget on social networks, through marketing or human resource departments.

Of the top 100 Sacramento Regional Companies 38% are Service, 37% are Manufacturers, 16% are Construction and 9% are Retail.

How does this Quarter compare to last Quarter, or last year? Find out for yourself, for more information & surveys go to www.pacificstaffing.com.

Source: Pacific Staffing

Pacific Avenue Pipeline Project Set for October Completion

Auburn -- The difficult Pacific Avenue Pipeline Project is back on track and scheduled for completion by late October, the Placer County Water Agency reported on Monday, September 26th.

The pipeline work was delayed by wet weather last winter and then slowed this summer when underground rock formations proved more difficult than expected. To avoid extensive rock excavation, the pipeline alignment was adjusted, resulting in further delays during the manufacture of additional sections of 54-inch pipeline.

PCWA project engineer Ken Powers said Thursday that project contractor, Marques Pipeline, Inc., of Sacramento is remobilizing at the job site and that pipe installation is expected to commence this week (Sept. 26).

Pipeline installation work is planned to continue through mid-October. Road restoration along Meadowlark Court, Pacific and Sacramento streets will be the last major item of work before the project is complete.

Traffic controls will continue in the project area. Some road closures and detours will be needed and are

being posted on local neighborhood message boards.

The large pipeline project replaces a section of PCWA's Boardman Canal that runs through an old pipe beneath the adjacent Pacific Heights Apartment complex. The canal is a key PCWA conveyance facility, carrying water to and through wide areas of central and western Placer County.

The old pipe was installed many years ago by a developer who wanted to make full use of the property. It does not lie directly beneath any of the apartment buildings but runs through the complex and is failing and inaccessible for maintenance purposes.

"This has been a lengthy and difficult project for the neighborhood, our contractor, and the water agency," said Powers. "We apologize for the delays and inconvenience and thank everyone for their patience and support."

Questions about the work should be directed to Ken Powers in the PCWA Engineering Dept. at (530) 823-4950. The water agency will continue to post weekly project updates every Friday on its website at www.pcwa.net.

Gas Prices in Region Still Higher than One Year Ago

Sacramento Region – "Motorists are certainly delighted that average gasoline prices are at their lowest since early March, but compared to prices a year ago, motorists are still feeling a pinch at the pump," said Patrick DeHaan, GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst. "It's great to see gasoline prices falling, but at the same time, prices a year ago were nearly 75 cents less per gallon. The good news is that over the upcoming weeks, there will continue to be factors that could put more downward pressure on oil and gasoline prices. I continue to expect that average gasoline prices will bounce between \$3.25-\$3.50 for much of the rest of 2011," DeHaan adds.

Average retail gasoline prices in Sacramento have fallen 4.9 cents per gallon in the past week,

averaging \$3.75/g yesterday. This compares with the national average that has fallen 5.9 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.46/g, according to gasoline price website SactoGasPrices.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Sacramento during the past week, prices yesterday were 82.9 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 8.8 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 20.3 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 73.3 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

GasBuddy.com operates over 200 live gasoline price-tracking websites, including SactoGasPrices.com.

Fundraising Event for the Meadow Vista Community Center

Meadow Vista - Sierra Pacific Real Estate recently announced the 6th annual Adult Night Out "OKTOBERFEST" to the community on Saturday October 15th from 6-11pm.

In response to the monetary need from the Meadow Vista Community Center, Sierra Pacific Real Estate is sponsoring

this event and inviting the community to help raise money for the Center. All event proceeds will be forwarded directly to the Community Center.

The event is planned to help make the Meadow Vista Community Center to a reality. Come and join neighbors in sharing live entertainment by

Classic Rock Band "Ma Barker Band", and classic German Tunes, along with great food (brats, tri tip, hot dogs, nachos and more), drinks, beer from Sierra Nevada and Ale House, wine, cheesecake. Door prizes include a snowboard, hair cuts, massage, wine, fountain, gift cards, movie tickets, nights stay

at Powers Mansion Inn.

Donations are welcome from local merchants for raffle prizes and/or items to be used for selling or preparation. Interested in helping? They will find a place for you! Call their office today at 878-5100. The event is free to the public.

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Announces \$5 Million Available for "Healthy Forests" Projects

Auburn – The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has announced it has opened the solicitation period for its \$5 million "Healthy Forests" grant program. Applicants have until October 21, 2011 to submit their pre-application documents. All projects must be designed to benefit Sierra Nevada forests and associated meadows, either by reducing the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires or by preserving or restoring ecosystem function.

All application materials and the grant guidelines, which were recently approved by the SNC governing board, are posted on the SNC Web site. Public agencies,

eligible non-profit (501(c)(3) organizations whose charitable purposes are consistent with the mission of the Conservancy, and federally recognized tribes are encouraged to review the guidelines and apply. After an initial review period, applicants with viable projects will be issued an invitation to submit a full application.

Funding for these projects is provided through Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water Bond Act, passed by voters in 2006. In its first five years, the SNC, which receives no general fund tax dollars, has authorized approximately \$40 million in Prop. 84 grants for

more than 220 projects throughout the Sierra Nevada region. These projects include fuels reduction, conservation easements and acquisitions, and watershed and habitat restoration.

The SNC governing board is scheduled to take action on this round of grant awards at its regularly scheduled meeting in June, 2012. The SNC has approximately \$10 million remaining from its original Prop. 84 allocation. These remaining funds will be evenly allocated over the current and next fiscal years, with a specific focus area assigned for each year.

The focus area for fiscal year

2012-13 funds will be for projects on ranching and agricultural lands. Guidelines and criteria for these project types will be issued in 2012.

Created in 2004, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency whose mission is to improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada region.

The SNC Governing Board meets quarterly around the Sierra Nevada region, which spans 25 million acres, encompasses all or part of 22 counties and stretches from the Oregon border on the north to southeast of Bakersfield.

Placer County - The American River Ranger District will conduct thinning and fuels reduction on approximately 700 acres in the Sugar Pine area this fall. In order to ensure public safety, temporary closures or re-routes on some roads and trails may be necessary. Closures and re-routes will only occur in treatment areas that are actively being worked. Regularly updated public notices will be posted at the Sugar Pine, Parker Flat, and China Wall Staging Areas if OHV traffic will be affected. Signs will be posted at access points of the affected trail sections while work is in progress. Road traffic signs will also be placed where work is actively occurring.

Forest users may be affected by increased logging traffic on Sugar Pine Road (FS 10), Foresthill Divide Road (Placer County 88 road), and spur roads in the area. While traveling or recreating in these

areas, please stay alert for signs warning of the activity, turn on headlights, reduce speed, and watch for personnel and logging trucks.

For more information contact the American River Ranger District at (530) 367-2224 or view the Forest website at www.fs.fed.us/r5/tahoe/. Updates will be posted on the ARRD District office recreation recording at the phone number listed above.



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

Sierra Club Placer Group Celebrates 20th Anniversary with Party, Photo Exhibit on Sunday, Oct. 23

Auburn - Tickets are now on sale for the Sierra Club Placer Group's 20th anniversary party and nature photo exhibit on Sunday, Oct. 23, 1-4 p.m. at The Arts Building, 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

The celebration will include an exhibit of local nature photography that will be available for purchase, piano entertainment, plus wine, beer and hors d'oeuvres.

We will take a look back at the local environment challenges that stimulated the formation of the Sierra Club Placer Group, take

the opportunity to recognize our founders. Tickets are \$10 at <http://www.brownbagtickets.com/> and should be purchased in advance. They can be held at the door, mailed or printed by the purchaser. Each ticket includes one drink token.

The event features the "Our Placer, Our Planet" juried photo exhibit with silent auction showcasing spectacular nature photography of Placer County, with PlacerArts as our exhibit supporter. The judges are esteemed nature photographers Larry Brenden and Truman Holtzclaw.

At 2 p.m. one of the founding members and an early chair of the Sierra Club Placer Group, Terry Davis will guide us through a brief history of the early years and introduce some special people. "Our group was formed in the crucible of the environmental threats targeting Placer County in the early 1990s. The task that we set for ourselves was to fight reckless development," Terry recalls.

For more information contact organizer Heidi Van Zant at 530.886.0788 or sierra2@jps.net.

Assemblywoman Beth Gaines to Hold First Northern California Women's Conference on

Placer County - Assemblywoman Beth Gaines, R-Roseville, will hold her first Northern California Women's Conference on Saturday, October 8 at the Sunset Center in Rocklin. More than 300 women from across Northern California are expected to attend this free event.

Assemblywoman Gaines founded the Northern California Women's Conference to bring together professional women, community advocates, volunteers, wives and mothers from around the region to recognize achievements and share a positive message of how women can and have succeeded as leaders and partners for positive change in their

communities and in their personal lives.

Scheduled conference participants include: Edie Lambert, KCRA Channel 3 News Anchor; Kitty O'Neal, KFBK AM 1530 News Anchor; Ying Ma, Visiting fellow of the Hoover Institution and author of Chinese Girl in the Ghetto; Joanne Kraft, Author of Just Too Busy; Donna Lucas, CEO and President of Lucas Public Affairs; Dr. Kathy Angkustsiri, UC Davis Mind Institute, UC Davis Medical Center; Julie Pulos, President of Retch.

Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. Conference begins at 8:30 a.m. The location is the Sunset Center, 2650 Sunset Boulevard in Rocklin. For more



Assemblywoman, Beth Gaines

information on the Northern California Women's Conference, please visit www.norcalwomensconference.com.

PEACE for Families Announces 3rd Annual Oktoberfest

Annual Tasting Event Featuring Area Brewers, Restaurants to Benefit Placer County Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Auburn - PEACE for Families 3rd Annual Oktoberfest takes place at the Blue Goose, 3550 Taylor Road, Loomis, on Friday, October 28, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy traditional Oktoberfest music and games with The Alpen Band, a silent auction, raffle, and tastes of brews, wines and cuisine from area brewers, restaurants and caterers in a lighthearted, casual environment. All proceeds benefit Placer County victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their families.

Food and beverages are provided by Hawks, Café Zorro, Pizza Factory,

The Supper Club, Latitudes, Mama Kim Cooks, Small Cakes, Pizzazz! Event Planning, Loomis Basin Brewing Company, Left Coast Brewery, Buckbean Brewery, Boulder Brewery, Black Diamond Brewing Company, and Shipyard Brewery.

The generous support of our sponsors has helped to make Oktoberfest possible: Premier Sponsor Sacramento Container Corporation; Platinum Sponsors Sutter Health and SureWest; Gold Sponsors American River Bank, Kaiser Permanente, Sierra Doctors, Medical Group, Inc., Vanir

Construction Management, Inc., and WestAmerica Bank; Silver Sponsors Loomis Basin Soroptimists and South Placer Heritage Foundation; and Bronze Sponsors Recology and Pizzazz! Event Planning.

Tickets for this 21 and over event are \$35.00 each, and are available now online at www.peaceforfamilies.org or by calling 530-823-6224. For additional information, contact Louise Czopek, Community Affairs Coordinator, at 530-823-6224 or lczopek@peaceforfamilies.org.

Sierra College Football Coach Begins Leave of Absence

Rocklin - Sierra College head football coach, Jeff Tisdell announced this morning he is taking a medical leave of absence and immediately stepping down from his coaching duties. Tisdell will continue to teach his physical education classes at Sierra.

Tisdell, whose 79-32 record at Sierra ranks as one of the nation's best winning percentages, has lost 32 pounds in the past three months.

"I have a health concern I have to take care of immediately," he said. "Football is my passion, but I've got to get better."

With an overall coaching record of 176-76, Tisdell has been a local coaching fixture for three decades. Prior to Sierra, he led programs at



Coach Jeff Tisdell

Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento City College, and the University of Nevada.

Wolverine defensive coordina-

tor Ed Eaton will be the interim head coach, just as he was in 2006 when Tisdell took a sabbatical. Sierra Associate Dean of Athletics Tom Gang, who was the head coach at Mendocino College as recently as last year, said he will return to the sideline as an offensive advisor.

"Tis needs to take care of himself and we'll support whatever he has to do," Gang said. "I asked Ed what I could do to help and he said I could help with the offense."

The Wolverines (0-3) look for their first win this Saturday as they host arch-rival American River College (3-0) in a 1:00pm game at Homer "Buzz" Ostrom Stadium in Rocklin.

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Pancake Breakfast to Benefit Free Mental Health Program for Soldiers

Placer County – Because nothing is more red, white and blue than pancakes, volunteers from St. Anna Greek Orthodox Church will salute the military with an all-American pancake breakfast on Saturday, October 8.

The Pancake Breakfast for Veterans, set for 8-11 a.m., will benefit The Soldiers Project-Sacramento, a private, non-profit organization which provides free, confidential psychological treatment for active-duty military and veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as their family members and loved ones.

Thirty minutes before breakfast starts, the church will dedicate its new flagpole and hoist an American flag that flew Sept. 1 over the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., according to the Rev. Dr. Christopher Flesoras, pastor of St. Anna Greek Orthodox Church.

Chaplain James Collins, who

serves with the California National Guard's 115th Regional Support Group in Roseville, will offer a prayer. Flesoras, a chaplain with the California State Military Reserve who is assigned to assist Collins at the 115th, said the unit will also provide a color guard for the event. Both Flesoras and Collins have served in Iraq.



“We are just so grateful to Father Chris and Mike Dindio for organizing this event to benefit The Soldiers Project,” said Carolyn Fink, clinical director and outreach coordinator

for TSP-Sacramento. “To have the support of St. Anna’s church and family members is overwhelming. We really appreciate how hard the volunteers worked to put this breakfast on.”

Besides pancakes, the Oct. 8 menu will include link sausage, juice, milk and regular or decaffeinated Starbucks coffee. Ticket prices are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 10 years of age. St. Anna Greek Orthodox Church is located at 1001 Stone Canyon Drive (at the corner of East Roseville Parkway) in Roseville.

For more information about the breakfast, contact coordinator Mike Dindio at 916-337-6331 or e-mail him at mdindio@me.com. The Soldiers Project-Sacramento may be reached at 877-557-5888 or via e-mail at Sacramento@TheSoldiersProject.org

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TAX HELP from a Tax Pro

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Extending the Statute of Limitation in an IRS Audit

Congress imposed a time limitation on the IRS to assess taxes generally to three years.

After three years from the due date of the tax return or the filing, whichever is later, the IRS cannot assess taxes on you.

Think of assessing taxes as sending a bill. That is one of the reasons we stressed the important of filing all your unfiled returns. If you file returns the IRS has no right to audit you and assess new taxes after three years from filing. If you don't file the return it is open to the IRS audit for eternity. The statute of limitation of three years will also work against you when you want to claim a refund on prior years for which the statute of limitation lapsed.

When you have an IRS audit and you disagree with the audit findings and you decide to appeal, the IRS typically will ask you to waive the statute of limitation on the older year that may be getting ready to expire. That will allow the IRS time to prepare and consider the appeal.

The IRS will send you a letter asking you to extend the statute as soon as you file the appeal if the time on the oldest year under audit is running out. They will tell you that you have the right to refuse extending, but practically you need to sign it in order to get on with the appeal. You will also be advised that you can limit the scope of the statute of limitation extension.

There are two ways to limit the scope of the statute. The first is when you disagree with particular items in the IRS audit, you may extend the statute only to those items that you have tax problems that you care about. Or you can limit the time to extend the statute of limitation. Some contend that you can limit it to six months but a typical extension of the statute is one year. The IRS will add a few months to the year to make the date a calendar year, so that you may end up extending the statute of limitation to, say, fifteen months instead of one year.

The IRS will send you a statute of limitation consent form (Form 872.) Also they will attach Publication 1035, Extending the Tax Assessment Period. The publication discusses in detail the nature of statute of limitation extension, your rights and your options. We typically recommend that our clients sign the extension and we usually extend the statute to one year. It shows a good faith effort that we believe will enhance the prospect of IRS tax settlement.

Dean has 30 years experience as a CPA and tax consultant and he is currently on two radio shows. He is the managing director of National Financial Advisors (NFA Tax Help), a national firm headquartered in Houston. He is also a Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered Life Underwriter. He consults exclusively on tax matters particularly tax audits and tax collections at both the federal and the state levels. NFA Tax Help-(877) 758-8537. www.resolvemytaxes.com



Around Town with Loyce Smallwood

October 8 starting at 9am.

I'm informed that the Assistance League of Greater Placer will be at the Auburn Community Festival on October 15 so stop by and chat with these dedicated volunteers who volunteer at one of our fav resale shops located in the Fiddler Green Square on Highway 49.

Kids on the Block Puppet Show on counteracting the bullying problem is scheduled for October 26 at Bowman Elementary. See follow-up for time in next column. The Assistance League will also oversee A Tea and Fashion Show on a Budget on Wednesday, October 19 at the Rocklin Community Center in Rocklin. Reference www.alplacer.org for details.

Looking forward to hooking up with ACTV Paula Johnston and Edna Sparkes for a lovely afternoon. And speaking of ACTV, programs are going and glowing with recent guests artist Edna Sparks, author/historian Donna Howell and upcoming Raspberry Jam musician Julia Riley. Kudos to Manager Johnston and her dedicated and enthusiastic staff including Director

Kellen Walker and volunteers Isaac Fischer and author Robert Steffen, who welcome those who wish to volunteer at the station to help with ongoing programs and/or to produce/host their own programs.

Special Sentinel Stars to Reiki Master Therese Johnson who continues to provide supportive, soothing and stress-busting therapy.

Reference www.connections.loyce.wordpress.com for comments/questions.



Author James Van Eaton

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Shoppers in Heaven at Giant Flea Market

By Paula Mosqueda

Auburn – Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, the Auburn 49er Lions hosted their biannual Giant Flea Market. With flashlights in hand, 49er Lions, vendors, and expectant shoppers arrived at the Auburn Gold Country Fairgrounds upper ball field. As the coffee was brewing, pancake batter was mixing and sausages were cooking, the vendors were intent on setting up their tables to best show off their items for sale.

Auburn 49er Lion Andy Gonzalez, who was the moving force in planning this event, said that there were many more vendors than in the previous events. Some came from out of our area to participate. Andy stressed the fact that all are welcome.

As the darkness was giving way to the sun, eager shoppers filled the area. Before long, shoppers were making trips to their cars with fabulous finds and returning to search for more. Every child, who wanted one, was handed a free balloon.



Photo courtesy of Paula Mosqueda.

As the pancake breakfasts were changing to hot dogs and burgers for lunch, members of the Hip Hop Congress entertained the crowd with live music.

In the shade of the food tent, shoppers, briefly stopping to feed their hunger, commented about the wide variety of items being offered by the vendors. For many, Christmas shopping has begun.

Before this Giant Flea Market was ended, there were questions about

when is the next one. The standard answer was, "You'll read about it first in the Placer Sentinel."

The Auburn 49er Lions raise funds to be used to benefit the Auburn area, and thank all, vendors and shoppers, who came out and participated in the fall season Giant Flea Market. They hope to see you in the spring.

For more information about the activities of the Auburn 49er Lions club, contact them at auburn49erlions@gmail.com.

Free Spaghetti Dinner

Auburn – We all know that there is no Free Lunch, because we have always been told that, however the American Legion Post# 84 is trying to disprove that idea. We are giving all paid up members, new members and those who pay their fees that evening. A free "all you can eat spaghetti Dinner prepared by Chief Bradbury. We will have a Raffle

after Dinner, we hope that everyone will bring something to put into the Raffle.

No, we haven't forgotten those of you who aren't veterans, we invite you to join with us for this fun evening. The price is just \$5.00 and a Raffle gift.

The Dinner will be held at the Veterans Memorial Hall at 100

East St. in Auburn on Wednesday October 26.

The Social hour starts at 5pm and the Dinner will begin at 6pm. If you are confused or have any questions give me a call.

Past Commander, Earl Montgomery 530-878-8809

ASRACK Monthly Hike

Auburn - The Auburn State Recreation Area Canyon Keepers (ASRACK), aka Canyon Keepers, is a volunteer group that promotes healthy recreation by providing assistance and information for visitors to the Auburn State Park. ASRACK conducts hikes & trail maintenance, provides guided

history walks/bridge tours, and assists the professional ranger staff through volunteer work.

The Canyon Keeper's October hike will be Historic Bridges/Nature Hike on October 8th. Please meet at 9:00 AM, parking near the curved bridge at the American River Confluence. The hike is

approximately 2.6 miles round trip and is considered easy. For more information on the hike, please contact Charlene at 530-346-7032.

If you would like to learn more information regarding ASRACK, please visit the website at www.canyonkeepers.org.

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account for around 17 percent of your bill. Hot water and lighting chip in around 12 percent each. Computers, TV and other electronics account for an impressive 9 percent and other miscellaneous uses fill in the rest.

Because heating and cooling account for so much energy use, the largest savings you can make likely are to be found in improving insulation, repairing leaking ducts, or plugging cracks around doors and windows.

Attic insulation can be a do-it-yourself job using one of several options. Even if you hire pros to "blow in" some attic insulation for you, the investment can pay for itself in a year or two. Good insulation in an attic will also help save on your electricity bill if you have air conditioning. Check out www.energysavers.gov for ideas about insulating your attic.

Anything that penetrates an outer wall or ceiling that's below an unheated attic is a place you should check for leaks. For example, electrical outlets and light switches can let air from the interior of your home leak into outer walls – and from there to the outside world. Hardware stores sell pre-cut foam insulation you can simply pop into outlets and switches. (The job is so easy even a Ph.D. like me can do it. But kindly turn off the power to the room you're working on before you unscrew electrical plates.)

For myself, I know I really should check the crawl space at the back of my house. It's an ugly job in the dark and dank, but I want to address it because I can't keep my back room warm in the winter. I wonder

if the insulation that's in there has sagged or come entirely unmoored. My plan is to hire someone with better knees than I have and hand him what he needs through the unreasonably tiny door of the crawl space. I did a similar job myself about seven years ago for my previous house, then stupidly moved across town and now must face this unpleasant chore all over again.

But crawl spaces and basements pose moisture issues that can shape what's really a good decision about insulation. Check with pros or home guides for more information.

Then there are the simple things. Programmable thermostats cost as little as \$25-30 and mean you'll never forget to turn down the heat at night again. And when you buy a new appliance, look at its energy efficiency. What you pay to take delivery on a refrigerator, for example, is only a small fraction of the total cost of running it over the years, so buy an efficient model and you'll come out ahead in the long run, sometimes saving hand over fist. Ditto for front-loading clothes washers that can reduce energy bills and water bills at the same time.

We can't win the fight against the first law of thermodynamics. But many of us can seize the day to save energy – and money – at home.

Dr. E. Kirsten Peters, a native of the rural Northwest, was trained as a geologist at Princeton and Harvard. Follow her on the web at rockdoc.wsu.edu and on Twitter @RockDocWSU. This column is a service of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University.

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- ACROSS**
- One hundredth of a pound
 - Australia's flightless bird
 - *Red Sox hero, Jim _____, played in '86 series
 - Theater in ancient Greece
 - Lonely Boys
 - Honoric for a Muslim woman of high rank
 - Ornamental hair net
 - Romanian money
 - O in B.O., pl.
 - *Winner of most World Series
 - Soak up
 - ENT's first concern?
 - Pat dry
 - *Never aluminum
 - Risque
 - Bests and _____ of the year
 - Pinocchio's claims
 - "_____, why not?"
 - Specialty
 - First rate or top notch
 - 1982 song "_____" and
- DOWN**
- One of a pocketful, according to Mother Goose
 - "Show Boat" novelist
 - Glowing gas
 - R&B singer-songwriter
 - Make lovable
 - Building extensions
 - *Baseball catcher who served as spy in WWII
 - Like the suspects in "Casablanca"
 - Do over
 - Hunch-backed assistant
 - Road's edge
 - Emergency responder
 - *Winner of first World Series
 - Wipe out
 - Shoelace knot, e.g.
 - Roads less traveled
 - "The _____" Sox scandal
 - Garlic mayo
 - Part of mortise joint
 - *Owner of longest World Series drought
 - Repeated musical phrase
 - Young cod
 - Not here
 - Like a disreputable neighborhood
 - As opposed to receive, as in e-mail
 - Engineer, abbr.
 - Wasted on the young?
 - The Plaza Hotel's famous fictional character
 - Exclamation of disgust
 - Enlarged thyroid gland
 - Dominion
 - School in France
 - "_____" in the face"
 - Prong of a fork
 - Road _____
 - *_____ Music, pitch near the batter's face
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 - Garbage in, garbage out
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 - Red or Black _____

For Solution See Page 7

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"Keeping the Faith"
By Ronnie McBrayer

Near Mpumalanga, South Africa, are the marvelous and mysterious Echo Caves. Rediscovered in the last century and turned into a tourist site, these caverns are home to a truly remarkable ecosystem. One of the more amazing species found there, is its famous and unique wild fig trees.

As far as plant life goes, these fig trees appear to be normal run-of-the-mill fruit bushes. What makes them so famous is the unseen: Their roots. Researchers and spelunking scientists have followed the roots of these trees deep into Echo Caves – 400 feet deep to be precise – the deepest known root system in the world.

These trees have survived and thrived in an arid climate for decades, employing an unparalleled root system to wring hydration from the deep, rocky soil. This is more than a science lesson; it's a lesson for life, as you probably know a person (or a few people if you are really lucky) not unlike the wild fig trees of Echo Caves.

Their environment is harsh. They have endured the drought of loss, injustice, and suffering. Their circumstances have been fiery, downright oppressive. The soil that life has given them is rocky and as hard as concrete. Yet, somehow, they survive

The Path of Least Resentment

and thrive. Their roots must be incredibly deep.

But deep into what? Maybe the Apostle Paul gives the best answer in a beautiful first century prayer: "I pray your roots will grow down deep into God's love and keep you strong." Or as Viktor Frankl said it, "The salvation of man is through love and in love."

It seems to me that those who endure, even flourish, in the worst of conditions are those who have a very real connection to God's goodness and grace, and refuse to blame God for every wrong that life dishes out. They have rooted themselves deeply in his love, rather than in bitterness or resentment.

Granted, bitterness is the easy route, the path of least resistance that sends shallow, malignant offshoots in all directions. Our resentment feels so justifiable, so satisfying, especially when we flip through the catalog of past hurts, past regrets, ways we have been mistreated or harmed, and the conniving, unjust treatment inflicted upon us by others.

But bitterness cannot hydrate the soul. It can only poison the water and prevent love and grace from soaking in. If we are going to get on with life and blossom in the desert of our days, it won't be because we keep going back wishing things could be different, bemoaning how life has been so unfair, or repeating and re-repeating how someone did us wrong. The only way forward is by going deeper,

deeper into the love of God.

I return to the lesson taught to us by the wild fig trees at Echo Caves. Those thirsty roots, soft and pliable, are able to split rocks to get to water deep beneath the desert floor. All the root needs is the smallest indentation, the tiniest weak spot in the bedrock, or the tiniest crack. Then, groping through the dark and ever deeper into the soil, the roots find their way to what they need to survive and sustain life.

This is how it works, I think. In the smallest rift, the smallest crevice or opening in the hardness of life, that is enough to find the depth of God's love and for that love to take root. Yes, it feels like groping along in the dark. It is slow, pulverizing growth, sometimes millimeter by tiny millimeter, but at least it is growth; and it gives us the life we want and need, life so much more satisfying than the bitter shallowness that resentment offers.

I'm no Pollyanna. I know that life is hard. I know it is unfair. Our growing conditions are not always what we wished they were, and we don't always get what we feel we deserve. Still, all we need is there, somewhere under the surface. Our survival and salvation is "through love and in love" deep beneath all that can be seen.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author. His books include "Leaving Religion, Following Jesus" and "The Jesus Tribe." Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

Mr. Politician, Leave the Middle-class Alone

By Rev. James L. Snyder

I'm not quite sure where the term "middle class" came from. I can never remember using it in any conversations I've ever had. In fact, the only time I hear the phrase is when some politician is speaking. From the context of the speech, I am quite sure he or she does not know what the phrase means, either.

My wife and I were talking about that just this past week. The thing we could not quite figure out is, are we middle-class? And if we are middle-class, what in the world does it mean? And, when do we graduate?

In high school, I was neither in the middle of my class nor at the upper end. Unfortunately, I did not even come in last in my graduating class, for someone beat me to that fine distinction. My educational career was not a class act, to be sure.

I understand what the word "middle," means. And I know the word, "class." What does it mean when you put them both together and use it in a sentence?

When I'm in the middle of a project, I am not at the beginning and the end is a far piece away. When I hear the word class, I am thinking of homework, teachers and all that jazz. Who wants to be a teenager the second time around? I've had enough of that in my lifetime.

I'm not quite sure about all this middle-class politicalizing and I sure do not want to be the target of some political agenda. I would like to sponsor a bill that would outlaw this phrase for any elected official. If perchance they do mention the phrase, it's a go-to-jail and don't collect \$100 act.

Maybe we can come up with a new term. We have the term "racist" that people use at their discretion. Maybe we can coin a phrase like "middle-classist" and forbid its use in polite society. Of course, how many politicians are really found in polite society? Or, how

many polite society venues would welcome a politician?

If we try hard enough, we can make it one of the most offensive phrases in the English language. So offensive, that people will stop using it. Of course, they would have to come up with some other phrase and then we are back in first grade again.

To be honest, this problem of the "middle-classist" is not a Republican or a Democrat issue. One side is as guilty as the other side. And, as we all know, a politician by any other name is still a rascal.

Every politician courts the middle-class, and what a blushing bride she makes. All through the election, this "middle-classist" politician will romance those he believes are middle-class. And many of the middle-class falls for it. The courtship is wonderful; it's the marriage that really stinks. This is the only case in which I would cast an approving eye toward divorce.

The middle-class raises most of the money that gets these politicians elected who then in turn refuses returning the favor. After elected this "middle-classist" politician chums around with high-class people and then passes legislation that only benefits the lower class people whoever they are.

Wherefore art thou, O middle-class?

Certainly not on the agenda of this "middle-classist" politician. The middle-class comes in at tax time. Hooray for the middle-class. I wonder if anybody has ever given the thought that most of the money in Washington DC has come from this group called the middle-class.

The middle-class can help the neophyte politician get his political dream job with all the benefits that goes with it but the politician does not seem to know how to help other people get jobs for themselves. History has shown us that they know how to spend money but when it comes to saving money, they come to a stupefied and

stuttering halt.

Middle-class money earned by middle-class people working at middle-class jobs goes to Washington DC to be used by "middle-classist" politicians for everything but middle-class concerns. When will the insanity stop?

In the Old Testament, the Jewish law required that every seventh year be a year of rest. Although I am not Jewish, I think there is something to be said for this kind of rest. I propose that the middle-class be given its due sabbatical.

How many years have we've been working and then giving our money to Washington DC? We deserve a rest. If these "middle-classist" politicians look so kindly towards the middle-class, why not give all of us middle-class people a sabbatical where we do not pay any taxes. We certainly will work, but all the money we would normally send to Washington DC, we put in our own pocket.

Now, that's change I can believe in.

In fact, I have biblical authority for all of this. Authority from the mouth of Jesus himself. "And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marveled at him" (Mark 12:17 KJV).

Not all those "middle-classist" politicians in Washington give a second thought to the middle-class. I think it is about time we gave them as much thought.

I believe the primary problem in America is that we no longer know what belongs to Caesar what belongs to God. If we can ever figure that out again, "happy days are here again."

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. 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.



By Marlys Norris,
Christian Author

The Sovereign love of God has an absolute perfect plan for every one of His creation designed by His loving hand to create a beautiful masterpiece. Specially designed just for you! He does everything possible to teach and draw every one of us into that place where we will live in His plan. He allows circumstances and events both good and bad to touch

Masterpiece

our lives to teach us and help us to learn -- gently causing us to be drawn into His design. Yielding to His still small voice that speaks to our conscience and knowledge of what we actually know is right and wrong take us into that place where His loving hand can mold our lives to a place where we will become His masterpiece. It is here we will begin to enjoy the abundant life He promises in the Word of God. (John 10:10) *The thief (devil-false prophets) comes only in order that he may steal and may kill and may destroy. I (JESUS) came that they may have and enjoy life and have it in abundance --to the full, till it overflows.*

Jesus is the Answer! Until you are willing to walk in the perfect will of God for your life, you will have unending trouble. God has specific

work for every one of us to do and He wants to bless you. His call on your life will not only bring you abundance but a sense of fulfillment, accomplishment and purpose you yearn to enjoy. You are designed to do good works and you will be in the midst of God's very presence as you fulfill His will for your life. You will be pleasing the Creator/God of the universe and His intimacy with you will provide the gifts of inspiration and wisdom beyond your own understanding bringing Him honor and glory in the process. You then, have become His Masterpiece and your name is written on His hand!

Marlys Johnsen Norris, Author
Marlys5934@sbcglobal.net
"Intimacy Begins Going God's Way"
"God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle"

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Hello,

We wanted to let you know that Confluence Kitchen & Market will be closing and our last day will be Friday, October 7th. During these last few weeks, the cafe and market will be open for regular business so please stop by and stock up.

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 5

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Brian Williams Never Loses Sleep

Commentary by Robert Morrison

Brian Williams tried to trip Gov. Rick Perry during the presidential debates by asking him if he lost any sleep over the potential innocence of persons executed in Texas. Perry said no. Williams would never ask a question about state-funded abortion of, say, Gov. Andrew Cuomo in New York, even though New York pays for more abortions every year than Texas executed people in the last decade. In the following commentary, Morrison uses the historic context of Prime Minister Winston Churchill to reflect on the value of life, and the fact that, to liberal elites, "only the innocent should be put to death" through abortion.

Brian Williams: "Governor: Have you struggled to sleep at night with the idea that any one of those [persons executed in Texas] might have been innocent?"

Gov. Perry responded, "No, sir." Could there have been a more "loaded" question? The premise of the question was that capital punishment is wrong, that there are likely to be errors in the administration of it, and that Gov. Perry must be a callous person if he did not lose sleep over his role in the application of Texas' laws.

Well, Winston Churchill did lose sleep over capital punishment. When he served as Britain's Home Secretary prior to World War I, it was his mournful duty to approve state-sanctioned hangings. Churchill hated that part of the job. He was the first Home Secretary to go into British prisons and he recommended a number of important reforms. He made British justice more humane. He sought desperately for some extenuating circumstance to justify leniency in the application of the death sentences he was forced to approve. But he never called for the abolition of capital punishment.

Here's a question Brian Williams would never ask, say, of New York's governor:

Williams: "Gov. Cuomo: New York State pays for more abortions every year than Texas has approved executions in the last decade. Have you ever struggled to sleep at night with the idea that any of those [put to death] might have been innocent?"

To Williams and his fellow members of the journalistic elite the idea that unborn children might be regarded as persons is ridiculous. But unborn children were so regarded for hundreds of years, prior to 1973 and Roe v. Wade. Before the Supreme Court's act of "raw judicial power," the abortion laws of the fifty states were found where? In the homicide sections of state law. Homicide is defined as the killing of human beings, persons.

Scripture takes every human life seriously. The life of a condemned killer still has sanctity. That's why, in the Old Bailey in London, the magistrate would put a black hat on top of his large, white wig and pronounce: "...and may God have mercy on your soul" when forced to sentence a man to hang.

Scripture also cares about the life of the unborn. In Psalm 139:13, we read: "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb." The Boston Globe recognized this truth several years ago when it published an amazing story, "Inside the Baby Mind." (http://www.boston.com/boston-globe/ideas/articles/2009/04/26/inside_the_baby_mind/)

This article confirms the reality of a mind forming early and capable of vast imagination. Unless, of course, you think that all of this springs into being the moment the child is born. And sophisticated people think we are looking for storks!

Brian Williams has recently told us that he dropped out of college. No shame in that. Before that, though, he says he read a lot of

Nietzsche and Machiavelli (<http://www.aol.com/video/youve-got-brian-williams/1183374323001/>).

Hmmm. I'm not sure how such fare prepares you to question possible presidents or how either of these writers gives one a moral foundation sufficiently elevated that you can so clearly look down your nose at a candidate for the White House.

Many of those on trial for war crimes at Nuremberg could well have cited Nietzsche and Machiavelli in their defense. They never lost any sleep over the millions of innocents they put to death.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo believes that it would be discriminatory not to pay for the killing of unborn children in New York. If a woman cannot afford an abortion, then right-thinking, or should I say, left-thinking people have an obligation to provide the means for the extinguishing of their lives. To them, it's a convenient truth.

Happily for Gov. Andrew Cuomo, he will never be asked such a question. Brian Williams would be read out of the journo fraternity if he dared to ask such a question. Like his father before him (Gov. Mario Cuomo), Andrew believes that only the innocent should be put to death. They should die in their thousands and hundreds of thousands. And you never lose a minute's sleep over it.

Robert Morrison is senior fellow for policy studies at the Family Research Council. He earned his B.A. and M.A. degrees in government and foreign affairs from the University of Virginia. He has worked as a high school and college history and political science teacher, and served at the U.S. Department of Education with Gary Bauer under Secretary William Bennett. Robert led the historical research for Bill Bennett's book, "America: the Last Best Hope."

Family Research Council: 801 G Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001, 800/225-4008

NFIB Releases Statement About Veto of Assembly Bill 135

Sacramento - The National Federation of Independent Business/California, America's leading small business association, released the following statement about the veto of Assembly Bill 135 (Hagman) by Governor Jerry Brown:

"We are deeply disappointed that Governor Brown missed the opportunity to give small businesses a greater voice on the California Air Resources Board (CARB)," said John Kabateck, NFIB/CA Executive Director. "This bill received bi-partisan support and did not add any additional costs to the board. The law already prescribes certain criteria for board members, but

small business experience is not one of them. Struggling small businesses had hoped that the Governor would have chosen California's hurting small businesses over the radical environmentalists who are fighting to keep business owners from having a voice in our state's draconian regulations."

"NFIB remains committed to making sure that the Voice of Small Business is heard whenever decisions are being made by CARB or any other regulatory body in California that affect California's job creators. We will continue to work with the Governor and Legislature to make sure job creators are foremost in their minds when

making policy decisions. It is imperative that the state's primary job creators get some relief."

California small businesses compose approximately 98 percent of all businesses in the state. They employ over 50 percent of private sector employees and are responsible for three-quarters of all new jobs created. The impact of small business on California's economic success is nothing short of critical. AB 135 recognized this concern and would have strengthened the voice of small business by designating that one of the eleven board members be a small business owner.

Local Curves Clubs Waive Joining Fee

For New Members During Breast Cancer Awareness Month This October

Local women's fitness clubs accept proof of recent mammogram or cancer donation in lieu of new member fee

Auburn, (Grassroots Newswire) - October is Breast

Cancer Awareness Month, and Curves continues to work to raise awareness in women about the life-saving importance of risk management, early detection and treatment.

Throughout the month, Curves fitness clubs in the local community, including those listed below, are waiving the joining fee for new members who show proof of a mammogram within the past year or make a \$25 donation to breast cancer research.

Curves of Auburn, located at 1472 Grass Valley Hwy., at 530-887-9300

Curves of Meadow Vista, located at 16950 Placer Hills Road, at 530-878-3968

Curves of Auburn, located at 10988 Combie Road, Ste. 104, at 530-268-2078

According to statistics from the American Cancer Society (ACS), nearly 230,480 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in 2011, and another 57,650 will be diagnosed with carcinoma in situ (CIS), a non-invasive, early form of breast cancer. Breast cancer remains a leading cause of cancer death in women, second only to lung cancer. More than 39,500

women will die from the disease in 2011. One woman in every eight will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in her lifetime.

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, each participating Curves center will focus on three important goals in supporting this annual campaign:

1. Helping women learn the facts about breast cancer and the importance of early detection.
2. Encouraging women to work out three times a week to help reduce their risk of developing breast cancer.
3. Participating in fund-raising efforts to support the research and outreach efforts of the ACS.

Since only about 5-10 percent of breast cancers are hereditary, prevention can play a key role in a woman's risk management strategy. The ACS recommends making lifestyle choices such as eating right, getting regular exercise and maintaining a healthy weight to help a woman significantly reduce her risk of developing breast cancer.

"Curves mission has always been to strengthen women," said Curves Founder Diane Heavin. "Typically, women are caregivers, but when it comes to breast cancer, women need to understand how important it is to take care of themselves. Scheduling an annual doctor visit, performing a monthly breast self exam, eating a

nutritious diet and making time for regular exercise are all things that a woman can do to stay strong and help reduce her chances of developing this devastating disease."

Early detection is the next line of defense, since about 93 percent of women whose breast cancer is caught in its earliest stages will be healthy and disease-free five years after their diagnosis and treatment.

Guidelines from the ACS encourage women age 40 and older to have a Clinical Breast Exam (CBE) performed by a health professional once a year, along with a mammogram. Women in their 20s and 30s should have a CBE at least every three years.

"The good news is that the ACS says that death rates from breast cancer have been declining since about 1990, with larger decreases in women younger than 50," said Heavin. "Everyone at our local Curves fitness clubs are proud of the role we play in helping to educate women about breast cancer risk factors and the importance of maintaining a healthy weight, exercising regularly and making their own health a priority. Our goal is to see breast cancer statistics continue to reflect the positive impact that education and awareness can have."

For more information about activities in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to learn how to exercise good breast health, please visit www.curves.com.

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with Mary Jane Popp

minutes and then rinse your mouth with warm water with a pinch of baking soda added to it.

3) Give yourself a mini massage. Here's the Mediterranean secret for restoring vitality. You know extra virgin, cold-pressed olive oil is a delicious and nutritious salad dressing, but when you combine one tablespoon of it with 3 to 4 drops of essential peppermint oil and massage it onto your feet, you'll soon be saying a big Ahhhhhhhhh!

4) Soothe with a little aloe vera. Keep a potted aloe vera plant on your kitchen windowsill. It requires no care beyond weekly watering. For itching, inflamed skin, bug bites, tooth ache, hemorrhoids, a minor cut or wound, sunburn, or any other irritated skin conditions, snip off a thick leaf and slit it open. Scoop out the gel from the inner leaf and apply to affected area.

5) Assuage achy, arthritic joints with cherries. Cherries are a delicious, vitamin-packed fruit that actually relieves arthritis pain. And, they are proven to work as well or better than aspirin or ibuprofen. Long a folk remedy for gout, cherries now have scientific proof of their pain-prevention powers. Researchers at Michigan State University found that a substance in cherries stops the production of chemicals that cause inflammation and pain. A bowl of 20 cherries (fresh or frozen) a day during a bout with gout is enough to neutralize the aches and swelling too, with no stomach upset or other

side affects. A later study on people in California reported the same pain-relief results.

6) Eat less with hot pepper and cayenne. A popular ingredient in Southwestern cooking, chilies, (hot peppers) add spice and interest to many foods. They also provide a 3-pronged attack against obesity. First, eating chili peppers may help fight off cravings. Some experts believe that eating sharp-tasting food like hot peppers, pickles, and tomato juice can overwhelm taste buds, cutting off cravings. Second, chili pepper may help you eat less. Researchers in the Netherlands gave men .9 grams of ground cayenne pepper, either as a pill or mixed into a tomato juice beverage. Then 30 minutes later they turned the men loose at an all-you-can-eat buffet. Compared with men who were given a placebo, the men who had chili pepper reduced their food intake by 10-16%. Third, it actually requires energy to eat chili peppers. That's right! It burns calories to eat them. That's because the heat you feel when you eat chili peppers takes energy to produce.

That's it for this round. We'll get more kitchen remedies in our next get together. Want more info on Dr. Jones? Just visit www.susansmith-jones.com. Now doesn't your kitchen look better and better?

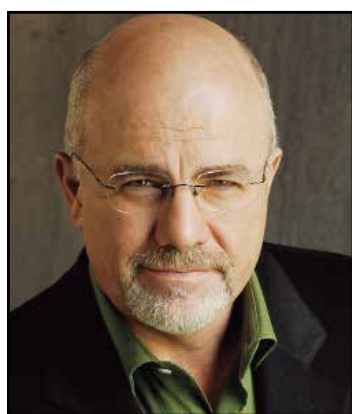
Join Mary Jane for the KAHI Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPOFF 10 PM-Midnight.

KITCHEN REMEDIES: PART I

WARNING! WARNING! THIS POPPOFF TWO PARTER MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO BUYING COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS! Time to raid the kitchen for ten rejuvenation food and remedy tips from Dr Susan Smith-Jones, Healthy living expert and wellness consultant with some 27 books out there. Her latest is "Walking On Air" to look and feel our best. Ready? Let's get the first five:

1) Look soft and dewy with honey. Honey has been used for centuries, especially by ancient Egyptians to keep their skin looking youthful. Apply some raw, unfiltered honey on your clean face like a mask for 20 minutes. Then rinse with warm water. It moisturizes the skin and helps it look aut and supple.

2) Have a berry white smile. Strawberries can help you have a dazzling smile. Just juice some strawberries or, if you don't have a juicer, blend and extract some juice through cheesecloth. Then paint the juice on your teeth. Leave it for five



Dave Says

you'll need to be successful at this kind of thing.

I'd much rather go with a mutual fund that's spent millions of dollars analyzing companies and doing real research. What you're talking about is a million times riskier than using good growth stock mutual funds - selected by professionals - with 90 to 100 different stocks.

- Dave

Investments Using Home Equity?

Dear Dave,

Right now our debt is keeping us from investing. Do you recommend making investments with a home equity line of credit?

- Paul

Dear Paul,

Let me answer this very, very carefully. No!

You don't borrow on your home, Paul. You never want to put something as precious and important as your home in jeopardy just for the sake of investing.

Follow the Baby Steps. First, get \$1,000 in the bank to start your emergency fund. Second, pay off all debts from smallest to largest - except for your house - using the debt snowball. This will lead you to Baby Step Three, which is fully funding your emergency fund with three to six months of expenses. Once you've done all this you're ready for Baby Step Four, which is investing in Roth IRAs and other pre-tax retirement.

When you're debt-free except for your house, you'll find investing is easy because you've freed up your

most important wealth building tool - your income!

- Dave

Leasing From Your Company?

Dear Dave,

I know how you feel about leasing a car. But what about the car leasing programs that auto manufacturers offer their employees?

- Stephanie

Dear Stephanie,

A few automakers do this kind of thing, but I'd advise investigating the deal very carefully. And it wouldn't hurt to take a cold shower first - just to make sure you wash off any car fever you may have.

Some of the automaker offers are just another way for the company to fleece drivers. But some manufacturers offer their employees programs that aren't a traditional lease. A few of them offer the use of a high-quality car for very little money per month and no hidden catches. In these cases it can work out pretty well. In some instances you'd lose more in value every month - even if you bought a car with cash - than you would pay out under a good employee program. Some companies even offer gas and more in the deal.

Just make sure you check the details thoroughly. Use your head and a calculator - not your heart - when making the decision!

- Dave

* For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.

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9am - Noon: The Laura Ingraham Show

Noon - 1pm: The KAHI Noon News Plus with Mary Jane Popp and the KAHI News Team

1 - 4pm: The Dave Ramsey Show

4 - 7pm: The KAHI Afternoon News with Dave Rosenthal and the KAHI News Team

7 - 10pm: Fox Sports Evening

10pm - 12am: Poppoff with Mary Jane Popp

Thursdays

7 - 9pm: Thursdays With Bassil

Saturdays

6 - 7am: A Time for Seniors

7 - 8am: The Swap Shop

8 - 9am: The KAHI Corral

9 - 10am: The Garden Guru

10am - 7pm: Big Cletus Country Music

7 - 8pm: A Way With Words

8 - 9pm: Rewind with Jimmy Jay

Sundays

7:30 - 9am: Cruisin' Garage & Swap Meet

9am - 7pm: KAHI's Jammin' Juke box

7 - 8pm: A Way With Words

8 - 9pm: Hearts of Space

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The youth choral program has musicianship at its core, and includes solfege vocal exercises, rhythmic dictation, melodic reading and vocal training. Scholarships are available.

CVCC has been invited to join Athanasia Kyriakidou and her 70-voice youth choir in concert in Thessaloniki, Greece, June of 2014, and will be hosted in the homes of the young Greek singers.

Supporters of this Auburn area youth choir are excited to build a vibrant choral group for young people that will represent the community locally and abroad, as well as enrich and transform the lives of our youth. Don't Delay Call Today - Space is limited!

Meadow Vista - Music is magical. It can transport us to untraveled worlds. It can tie people together into a family. It can be transformative and life changing. We all share this universal language. Colla Voce Children's Chorus (CVCC) have begun rehearsals for the

fall season, Wednesdays from 4:15-5:15 in Meadow Vista. Auditions are currently open by appointment with conductor, Janine Dexter at director@collavoce.org (530)389-8889. New members will be accepted through the end of October. For more, see

Hats Off to Your Health

18th Annual Senior Health Fair & PIRS Tools for Living Expo

Auburn - Seniors are invited to wear their favorite hats to "Hats Off to Your Health," Wednesday, October 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Auburn Gold Country Fairgrounds, 1273 High Street, Auburn.

"Hats Off to Your Health" will feature complimentary health screenings (Hearing, Blood Glucose, Blood Pressure, Nutrition, Physical Therapy, Chiropractor, Dentist, Optometrist, Massage Therapy, Breast Health, Depression, Pulmonary Function, FREE

Flu Shots), and an Assistive Technology Expo. In addition, more than 50 senior health providers from the community will provide information on various resources available to seniors throughout Placer County such as housing options, health insurance, in-home assistance, etc.

Complimentary coffee and donuts will be served in the morning provided by Auburn Host Lions Club; soup and sandwich with fresh fruit will be available starting at 11 a.m. for \$5. Entertainment includes Clifford's

Kids, playing ukulele, and Pacific Standard Time, a traveling singing quartet group, and door prizes throughout the day.

Event is hosted by Auburn Multipurpose Senior Center, Auburn Recreation District, Help At Home Senior Care, Placer Independent Resource Services, Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital/Sutter Roseville Medical Center® Sponsors are Auburn Ravine Terrace, Emerald Hills and Plum Healthcare. For more information, call Veronica @ (916) 343-3481.

Bill Moule (Jr.) Will Share His Memories

Auburn - On Friday, October 7th at the Auburn Library, 350 Nevada St., Auburn, Mr. Bill Moule (Jr.) will share his memories of a most interesting childhood. Bill was born into a Grass Valley family. His father (Bill, Sr.) worked in the mines in the area, and in 1939, when little Bill was three years old, his parents took him and his younger sister to the Phillipine Islands, where their father had secured what promised to be a better job in the mines there. During

their stay in the Phillipines, World War II began and the islands were occupied by the Japanese military. Many of the foreign workers and their families took to the hills in an effort to evade the Japanese forces but, eventually, were interned as prisoners-of-war until the war ended. The Moule family returned to Grass Valley and are a presence there to this day.

This promises to be a very interesting program. The Friends of the Auburn Library (FOL)

invite you to join us on October 7th. The program will begin at 12:00 noon in the Beecher Room. Try to arrive about 10/15 minutes early. The program will end around 1:00 p.m., with a brief question/answer period at the end. Our NOON programs are free to the public and refreshments are provided. If you have questions, feel free to contact Pat Brophy (530)885-0854. We look forward to seeing you there!

Free Family Fun at Barktoberfest

A Festival for Canines and Their Well-Behaved Human Companions

Placer County - Barktoberfest is a free, dog- and family-friendly event taking place at the beautiful campus of Telefunken Semiconductors at 7501 Foothills Blvd. in Roseville (formerly NEC Electronics America).

The 2nd Annual Barktoberfest will open with the crowning of the canine King and Queen of the Festival at 10:00 am. The King and Queen will then lead a one-mile Doggie Parade. Those who wish to participate in the Doggie Parade are asked to arrive at 9:30 am. The first-ever Barktoberfest,

held October 3, 2010, had a turnout of well over 1,500 guests.

Visitors to Barktoberfest will enjoy a Kid's Zone; doggie games and contests; a food and beverage garden hosted by the Rotary Club of Roseville; music from 96.9 The Eagle; vendors; a raffle, canine demonstrations of agility, flyball, rally, and police K-9 training; and even have the opportunity to visit a pet psychic.

For more information about Barktoberfest, please go to www.placerspca.org/barktoberfest or



Mulligan and Bubba were crowned Queen and King of Barktoberfest 2010

call (916) 782-7722 extension 102 or (530) 885-7387 extension 102.

Advanced Writing Techniques Workshop Offered

Placer County - Bud Gardner, co-author of Chicken Soup for the Writer's Soul, part of the New York Times' best-selling series, will conduct a workshop, Advanced Techniques for the Selling Writer, on Saturday, Oct. 29th, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sierra College.

"Here's your chance to discover the difference between amateur writing and professional writing,"

said Gardner, a long-time teacher of Writing for Publication and considered to be the most inspirational writing coach in America. "This class is designed to show you how to breathe life into your writing so that your work will become saleable."

Participants will also learn how to get their message across in thirty seconds or less, the five steps of

persuasive writing, four advanced writing techniques, and many other techniques of the selling writer. This class is offered for \$57, plus a materials fee of \$20.

To sign up for this workshop, call the Sierra College Community Education Office at 916-781-6280 or go online to www.sccomed.org.

Get Mountain Lions Single Game Seats for \$15 or Season Tickets for as low as \$45



Saturday, September 17 vs. Las Vegas Locomotives - 7:30pm

Coors LIGHT Entertainment Stage Presents: Mick Martin & The Blues Rockers - 4:30pm Tailgate Party

Saturday, October 1 vs. Omaha Nighthawks - 4pm

Coors LIGHT Entertainment Stage Presents: Walking Spanish - 1pm Tailgate Party

Saturday, October 15 vs. Virginia Destroyers - 4pm

Coors LIGHT Entertainment Stage Presents: J. Gib & Simps Da 45 - 1pm Tailgate Party

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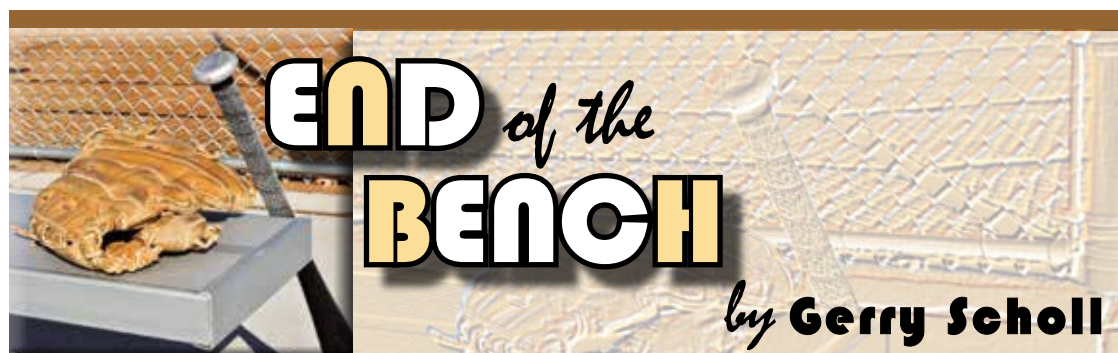
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by **Gerry Scholl**

Who Are Those Guys?

Who are those guys who showed up to play in the second half Sunday in Philadelphia?

The self-anointed "Dream Team," the Philadelphia Eagles, were caught from behind, 24-23, by the San Francisco 49ers posse despite a 23-3 head start. The brains, coach Andy Reid, and the gunslinger, quarterback Michael Vick, must have asked each other the old Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid question, "Who are those guys?"

That sure didn't look like the same old quarterback Alex Smith the majority of 49ers fans have been wanting to run out of town for the last few years.

Dressed in red and white with gold helmets — not white skimmers and cowboy hats — the second-half Niners kept gaining ground on the Eagles. Led by relentless tracker Lord Baltimore (alias Alex Smith) and hard core lawman Joe LeFors (alias coach Jim Harbaugh) the 49ers maintained hot pursuit. With support from the other members of the Niners' Smiths Gang — DE Justin Smith and rookie LB Aldon Smith — the visitors caught and passed the Eagles with three minutes remaining in the game.

The Niners (3-1) rode their old horse RB Frank Gore down the stretch, despite his gimpy ankle. Gore (15 carries for 127 yards) ran 12 yards for the winning touchdown and had key runs to help kill the game clock. He had lots of help from rookie Kendall Hunter, who had 100 total yards, running and receiving.

But the big surprise was Alex

Smith's performance, the best most 49ers fans can remember. Smith went 9-for-9 for 179 yards in the third quarter to get the comeback rolling. It was the biggest SF comeback in fifteen years and the largest second-half lead lost by Philadelphia in 26 years.

In the first half it looked like more of the same old 49ers we've watched in recent seasons, ending with a 20-3 Eagles' margin. Receivers were dropping passes, Smith was misfiring and fumbling the ball away, a field goal was missed. The defense couldn't stop the opponent, allowing Vick to amass 276 yards and two touchdowns in the half. It appeared the predicted blowout was inevitable.

SF pulled within 23-16 behind two Smith TD passes in his hot third quarter, to Joshua Morgan and Vernon Davis. The Eagles, however, had a chance to make it a two-score lead again and all but put the game away with a 33-yard field goal, but rookie kicker Alex Henery missed his second of the game and left the opening for the 49ers' rally.

After the missed try the television coverage broke for commercial while playing Tom Petty's "Runnin' Down a Dream." When the game resumed, that's just what the 49ers did...

Meanwhile, back at the ranch in the Bay Area, the Oakland Raiders hosted New England before a packed house. The Raiders had taken a giant step forward the previous week with their impressive upset victory over the New York Jets.

But this week the Silver and Black (2-2) took two steps back, losing 31-19. The most penalized team in the NFL had nine more for 85 yards, two setting up Patriots' touchdowns. The Raiders were just too hyped up for the big game against brilliant QB Tom Brady, unstoppable receiver Wes Welker and the machine-like New England offense.

Former Patriots DT Richard Seymour set a bad tone early for the Raiders, committing three penalties of his own. Quarterback Jason Campbell regressed, throwing two awful interceptions to ruin his 344 yard passing effort. The Pride and Poise boys seemed to play with their rekindled pride, but the poise was missing. The commitment to excellence was lacking.

Speaking of Giant steps — your 2010 World Series champion San Francisco Giants took several steps backward down the stretch run of the baseball season, missing the playoffs altogether. A plethora of injuries to key players and sub-par seasons by a number of others was too much to overcome.

Now the Giants' brass must contemplate what steps to take for next year. Apparently intending to keep most of the dominating pitching staff intact for 2012, it's the battered and broken everyday lineup that must be reshaped for another run at another title.

When the Giants take the diamond on Opening Day we may all be asking the question, but with different inflection, "Who are THOSE guys?!!"



MONEYBALL (Rated PG-13)

You don't have to love baseball to enjoy the captivating story, the great dialogue and the well-developed characters in "Moneyball," though it likely helps.

Baseball purists may object to certain liberties taken with factual accounts of the Oakland Athletics 2002 season. But that's of no concern here.

The film is based on Michael Lewis' nonfiction book "Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game," which extolled cash-poor Oakland's ability to compete with rich, big-market teams.

In certain respects, "Moneyball" is a Cinderella story set on a nicely trimmed field of dreams, except that baseball fans know that Oakland hasn't won a World Series since the 1989 earthquake.

The story of hope is fueled by Oakland's General Manager Billy Beane (Brad Pitt), a free thinker not constrained by the conventional wisdom of baseball.

After the witnessing the failure of his team to beat the Yankees in a 2001 playoff series, Beane takes it upon himself to develop new strategies.

Prior to the start of the 2002 season, on a trip to visit his counterpart at the Cleveland Indians to discuss trade options, Beane meets nerdy young assistant Peter Brand (Jonah Hill).

Beane is impressed by Brand's mastery of numbers and a method of statistical analysis known as sabermetrics to determine which players are undervalued.

With Oakland's inability to keep star players like Jason Giambi, Johnny Damon and Jason Isringhausen, Beane realizes he must approach the

Riley Reviews

PITT AT THE HELM, "MONEYBALL" HITS A FANTASTIC GRAND SLAM

game from a different angle.

Some of the film's most amusing dialogue occurs when Beane introduces Brand to a roomful of grizzled, aging scouts who only value gut feelings and information about the players' personal lives to judge their baseball potential.

The Yale-educated Brand, with a degree in economics, is dismissed out-of-hand by the old-timers when he suggests that on-base and slugging percentages are determinative of a player's ultimate performance.

The early stages of the baseball season are not very promising, starting with an effort to convert ailing catcher Scott Hatteberg (Chris Pratt) into a first baseman.

Even if you can't root for the Athletics, the true baseball fan will ache when the team struggles to get its footing, falling behind in its division.

However, you can root for Billy Beane and his young protégé as they cope with the doubters in their own organization, including the grizzled manager Art Howe (a superbly crusty Philip Seymour Hoffman) who despises the math-driven method of playing ball.

For a movie about baseball, most of the action takes place off the field. Primarily, it's about the brilliant dialogue and attempts for Beane to find redemption.

"Moneyball" is, at its core, focused on Beane's checkered history with the game and his desire to fulfill a dream that eluded him during his playing career.

Flashbacks to Beane's youth, when he was scouted by the New York Mets, tell a story of a young man's wish to excel at the game even though he was wrongly overvalued as a potential player.

That Beane did not rise to the level of expectations that were held for his career as a player is a motivation for his yearning to manage his way into a contender.

Never fear that talk about statistics and players' skills dulls the story into a dreadful morass that could only entertain the devotees of statistician Bill James.

Dealing with the intransigence of his team manager Art Howe, Beane is nonetheless confident in his approach. Part of the fun is watching him maneuver around the game's dinosaurs.

Any sports movie requires the feel-good moments that define the genre. That comes with the incredible game-winning streak late in the 2002 season, when the Athletics set the AL record for winning 20 straight.

Winning is not the only thing, though. The story also triumphs when Beane finds washed-up or undervalued players who surprise the baseball world by their forgotten talent.

Another terrific aspect to "Moneyball" is the pleasing relationship that Beane, a divorced father, has with his young daughter Casey (Kerris Dorsey).

In baseball parlance, "Moneyball" hits a grand slam, the highest score you can obtain in one at-bat. Not just a great baseball movie, this is a winner for story, character and dialogue — all things that should matter.

DVD RELEASE UPDATE

Fans of "Hawaii Five-0" are set for a double treat. The "Eleventh Season" of the venerable crime series, nicely filmed on location, has just been released on DVD.

Much like Jack Lord's rendering of the upright Steve McGarrett, the DVD release of the old series is a no-frills edition. The only special thing about it is that all 21 episodes are available.

Nearly timed with the start of the second season of the new "Hawaii Five-0" is the DVD release of its "First Season."

The modern version of "Hawaii Five-0" has a hip take on the old classic series. The buff Alex O'Loughlin now stars as Detective McGarrett, a hotshot Naval officer-turned-cop.

The new "Hawaii Five-0" proved to be a big hit last season, and now all 24 sizzling episodes are available on DVD, along with a bunch of special features and deleted scenes.

Watching the "First Season" will be essential if you want to catch up on the explosive action of the hot new series.

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A Case in Point

The Case of the Fatal Mixer

By David Graulich, Esq.

On the evening of March 4, 1982, the Stockton Chamber of Commerce sponsored a mixer for local businesses. The event was hosted by a nonprofit whose offices were in Cherokee Industrial Park, on Cherokee Road and Highway 99.

The industrial park was in a rural area on the outskirts of Stockton. About 400 people attended the mixer. The nonprofit had only about 25 parking spots near its premises, so most guests parked elsewhere in the complex.

One of the persons attending the mixer that night was Jenny Beth Steinmetz, 35, an agent with Cal-Western Life Insurance. She left the event, by herself, about thirty minutes before it concluded at 8 p.m. She walked to her car, which she had left about a block away within the industrial park. When she returned to her car, she was attacked by an unknown assailant who stabbed her to death. Ms. Steinmetz's body was found later that night when other guests left the mixer.

A lawsuit, filed on behalf of Ms. Steinmetz's two minor sons, claimed liability on the part of three parties: Stockton Chamber of Commerce, the nonprofit agency, and the company that owned the industrial park. The suit alleged that the Defendants breached their duty to Ms. Steinmetz by failing to provide a safe place for her to park her car while she attended the mixer. The complaint further charged that lack of security and inadequate lighting contributed to the horrific crime.

At the essence of this heartrending case is the concept of duty. In civil litigation, there can be no negligence unless the Plaintiff establishes that the Defendant breached a legally-

recognized duty of care. Duty seems like an obvious notion, but it can be surprisingly difficult to establish in a negligence action. Courts tend to be worried that, if the boundaries of duty become extended too widely, the floodgates will open and potential liability will be almost everywhere. Judges, meanwhile, vary widely in their individual assessments of whether a duty of care existed in a given circumstance.

In the Steinmetz case, the trial court dismissed the complaint against the landowner of Cherokee Industrial Park. The court reasoned that there had been no prior violent criminal activity in the industrial park, that the attack was unforeseeable, and that the landowner owed no duty to the decedent. Now the question before the Court of Appeals, Third District was whether the Stockton Chamber of Commerce (sponsor) or the nonprofit agency (host) had liability.

The Plaintiffs argued that it was apparent that the nonprofit's premises had inadequate parking for the hundreds of people invited to the mixer. It was foreseeable to a reasonable person that the invitees would be forced to park in the outlying areas, where the danger was greater. The Defendants countered by saying that, once the attendee left the mixer itself, their liability ended.

Here's what the appeals court ruled: No liability on the part of either the Chamber of Commerce or the nonprofit.

The court compared the situation to that of a movie theater showing a film, or a department store holding a sale. Neither is able to offer sufficient parking for the number of people expected to show up. Yet

there is no obligation for the movie theater or the department store to provide additional lighting on the city streets, or to hire private security guards to patrol the streets for safety. Their liability is limited to their places of business.

Another comparison made by the court was that of a homeowner who hosts a business event at his house. There's not enough parking at the house for all of the guests, and some people park in the adjoining neighborhood. There's no obligation on the part of the homeowner to provide additional lighting or hire security guards to escort guests to their cars.

"In the final analysis," said the court, "the decedent was killed by an unknown assailant in a parking lot located off property owned, possessed or controlled" by the Chamber of Commerce or the nonprofit.

Was the killer of Jenny Beth Steinmetz ever captured? In researching this column, I came across an October 9, 1982 article from the Lodi News-Sentinel, reporting that the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department had taken a suspect into custody. The suspect also attended the Chamber of Commerce mixer that night, and had once been employed by a company with headquarters in the industrial park. However, I couldn't find any additional newspaper articles on the case. The trail ended there.

David Graulich, Esq. is a resident of Fair Oaks and an attorney with The Law Firm of Tim O'Connor. David welcomes comments on "A Case in Point" columns and can be contacted at (916) 932-2312 or by email: David@timoconnorattorney.com.

Pioneer Presents A New Concert Series

Auburn – Pioneer United Methodist Church is launching a new series of benefit concerts beginning Sunday, Oct 16 at 3:00 p.m. The church is located at 1338 Lincoln Way, Auburn.

The first concert features Tom Brier, Ragtime pianist/composer; Raspberry Jam Band and the Flutecakes Flute Choir. Tom Brier has entertained and amazed audiences by his artistry at several Music for Humanity concerts sponsored by Pioneer Church. The Raspberry Jam Band has also performed locally and throughout the Sacramento basin, gaining a following at Ragtime and Jazz Festivals. Their unique combination of instruments such as String bass, violin, flute, guitar, wash board, and piano has always left audiences smiling and humming favorite tunes. The Flutecakes Flute choir features four flutists playing all sizes of flutes including the large, deep sounding bass flute, to piccolo This group plays music from the classical and contemporary repertoire.

This first benefit concert has been organized by Pioneer members Julia Riley, flutist and Sue Dings, Choir Director. The purpose is not only to provide a wonderful afternoon of enjoyable music, but to support the downtown church's debt retirement campaign.



The Raspberry Jam Band – Ragtime to Contemporary Music. Photo courtesy of Sue

According to Glen Cleveland, longtime member of Pioneer Church, "the necessary renovation of the Sanctuary Building in 1997 cost more than \$900,000, including rebuilding the Crandall Memorial stained glass window. That cost has been reduced greatly through the years, but current financial woes felt by most citizens have made paying off the remaining notes more difficult."

Quite often this church has been a favorite venue for civic meetings, schools, weddings, memorial services and as a meeting place for self help groups. Many concerts have

been presented and well attended by audiences from Auburn and surrounding areas. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Services have always brought many visitors to swell the numbers of those who regularly attend services at Pioneer.

The donations at the concerts will help retire the building debt payments and keep Pioneer Church a vibrant part of downtown Auburn. No tickets will be sold. The suggested donation is \$20.

For more information, call Julia @ 530 888-6493 or Sue @ 530 885-9009.

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Jimmy Robinson

World-renowned drummer and percussionist Jimmy Robinson and a group of highly-respected jazz musicians will perform Saturday evening, November 5th at 7:30 PM at the State Theater in Auburn. Known for being the driving force

and inspiration behind the popular "Jazz @ 808" summer series at the Arts Building, Jimmy always provides his audiences with top quality jazz performances. Auburn audiences will have another opportunity to listen to this great musician and his jazz colleagues at this upcoming show in an intimate theatre setting.

A master at his craft, Robinson has carved out a world-class reputation, from steady gigs as house drummer for major jazz stars to touring Great Britain and Europe. His long and storied career includes organizing major jazz festivals in France and England and attracting prominent American artists to the European jazz

scene. He is featured in Keeper of the Flame, a history of the early days of jazz in Manchester, England, and is cited as an important jazz personality in a French anthology as well. The Auburn Placer Performing Arts Center is proud to present this talented jazz icon for Auburn's enthusiastic music audience. Tickets are \$20.00 and may be purchased at www.livefromauburn.com, or the Box Office at 530-885-0156, or Cherry Records in Auburn (530-823-2147).

The Friends who will be joining Jimmy are:

Dr. Joe Gilman (Piano). Dr. Gilman is a prominent jazz pianist,

composer, arranger and music educator, who teaches at American River College in Sacramento and at the Brubeck Institute in Stockton. Dr. Gilman founded the Capitol City Jazz Project, has toured as an International Jazz Ambassador through the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and was the grand prize winner of the Great American Jazz Piano Competition in 2004. His unique style incorporates his early influences in jazz, such as Dave Brubeck, Oscar Peterson, Herbie Hancock, and many others.

Garrett Perkins (Saxophone). Garrett Perkins, a native of

Sacramento, studied at the prestigious Berklee School of Music in Boston. Recognized as a prodigy, at the age of 15 he opened for Freddy Hubbard and Mercer Ellington. As a very young man he toured Europe playing jazz with Reggie Graham, who has said "...by the time he was 21, he was the resident pro." His debut performance was at the Sacramento Community Center Theatre and brought people to their feet, according to the Sacramento Bee's music critic. He currently has a jazz quartet called the Garret Perkins Project, which he has had since he was 15 years old.

Matt Robinson (Bass). Matt

Robinson (no relation to Jimmy) graduated from Sacramento State University with a Master of Music degree in 2003. He has played with important local jazz musicians such as Joe Gilman, Aaron Garner, Steve Homan, Rick Lotter, Steve Roach and others. He has been active as an acoustic and electric bassist all over California and the Pacific Northwest since 1993. Jazz is his primary creative outlet, but he also enjoys soul, classic rock, reggae, classical, romantic, baroque, country, salsa, and others. This wide exposure gives him a unique musical perspective for exploring creative avenues.

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