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An Ode to Wally "Crazy Wheels"



DeAnn Baker stands with her dad, Wally Baker, in his room at The Waterleaf at Land Park. Photo by Mitch Barber

Story and photos by **Mitch Barber**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Larry Shelton was six or seven years old when he started going to West Capital Raceway in West Sacramento. Why did he go? Shelton said, "They had all these guys who were really good." Shelton is now 64.

He remembers often reading, "Baker Wins!" in The Sacramento Bee, and clipping it out of the paper to keep; the name-sake West Capital Raceway legend is Wally "Crazy Wheels" Baker. As a young child, Shelton was able to get his picture taken with Mr. Baker, who now lives at The Waterleaf at Land Park, an assisted living

facility — the same place where Shelton's mother passed away. In a recent interview for this article, Shelton said, "A couple weeks ago, I stopped by and saw him." "Crazy Wheels" doesn't race like he used to but his room is like a shrine, reminding him of his younger years with a bevy of old racing photographs

and plaques on the wall. His days now consist of activities he enjoys, such as bingo, listening to music performances, and dancing. He is 96 years old, born in Sacramento, and his daughter DeAnn Baker assisted with the interview in the Waterleaf's lounge. She would occasionally

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Why It Can Take Time to Certify an Election

By **Jesse Salinas**, Yolo County assessor, clerk-recorder and registrar of voters

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - It is well documented that final official election results in California take longer than other states.

Although the state's shift to voting by mail is a driving force, there are other reasons why the final certification of an election takes time in Yolo County.

New laws and changing voting habits have lengthened the time needed for election officials to finish certifying local elections, particularly the primary and general Presidential elections where many candidates and parties are vying for votes. Many voters wait to watch certain debates or await announcements before casting their ballots.

This means that while all elections are complicated, presidential elections may be doubly so. It is the job of the Yolo County Elections Office and those in other counties across the state and nation to ensure the public can have faith in the final reported election results and the methods and means it took to certify those results.

The popularity of voting by mail requires extra verification steps that election workers must complete before counting each vote-by-mail ballot. Since the November 2020 election, 85% to 90% of Yolo County voters have participated by casting their mailed ballots.

Each signature on a vote-by-mail ballot envelope must be compared and matched with a signature on file for the voter before that ballot can even be opened. If the signature does not match, additional reviews and extra steps must be taken to try and contact the voter to cure the issue with their signature. All of this takes staff time and lengthens final certification.

Vote-by-mail ballots received early and whose signatures are verified along with ballots that were voted at a Vote Center prior to Election Day, will be included in the first batch of results released shortly after the polls close at 8 p.m. on Election Night.

By law, we must wait

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Local Girl Scouts Reach Outer Space!

Story and photos by **Annie Kerr**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Wouldn't it be fascinating to speak to an astronaut who's currently in outer space? On the cloudless morning of Feb. 22, Girl Scout Troops 793, 917, 1089, and 1105 from Sacramento, Lodi, and Roseville had the extraordinary opportunity to make contact with the International Space Station (ISS). Via Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS), the 13 Girl Scouts were able to reach NASA Astronaut Jasmin Moghbeli, who was traveling through space at approximately 17,000 miles per hour.

The event was held at the Sacramento Regional Program Center and STEM Center, home of the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California (GSHCC), and was bustling with camera



Above: Girl Scouts from Troops 793, 917, 1089, and 1105 smile before their big moment. Right: Jasmin Moghbeli. Photo courtesy of NASA

crews, families, friends, and media. And cookies, of course.

Because the opportunity is so rare, the Girl Scouts were preparing since November for the event. Each Girl Scout prepared individual questions to ask Moghbeli, a very accomplished woman. Moghbeli is not only a NASA

astronaut, but a United States Marine Corps test pilot, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) graduate, a flight engineer, and the Mission Commander of SpaceX Crew #7. She is qualified to fly at least 25 different aircraft. Adding to her list of accomplishments, Moghbeli is the first professional

Iranian American astronaut to fly to space. While on her space mission, Moghbeli spoke to the Girl Scouts for about 10 minutes until connection was lost.

Before the connection was established, the event began with comments from various speakers. Sue Richards and

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Why It Can Take Time to Certify an Election

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until 8 p.m. to tabulate and post that first batch of unofficial results.

The updates that are provided Election Night reflect the ballots that were cast in the ballot box at a Vote Center that same day. To get those ballots to our election headquarters for processing and counting, two election workers safely and securely transport all ballots back to our election headquarters for processing and counting.

Once the final Election Day unofficial results are posted for the night, election workers spend the next day organizing and preparing for post-Election Day work to finalize results and ultimately certify the election.

The official post-Election Day period, commonly referred to as the canvass period, begins the Thursday following Election Day. State election law provides elections offices a 30-day period to certify an election.

There are specific tasks of the canvass and associated deadlines required to legally certify an election in California, all of which extends the time it takes to officially announce final results. Each step of this process ensures every legal vote is counted and counted accurately.

Vote-by-mail ballots mailed to the elections office at the last minute can, by law, still be accepted by the elections office up to seven days following Election Day, as long as it has an Election Day postmark. Of course, we encourage voters to mail their ballots early or drop them off at the Yolo County Ballot Drop Boxes and Vote Centers.

In fact, California voters may return their vote-by-mail ballots to any California county official Ballot Drop Box or voting location. By law, vote-by-mail ballots returned in other California counties

can be accepted at our office up to eight days after Election Day. All of these laws and deadlines require additional resources and time before election officials can provide certified results.

Additionally, Yolo County's student population of some 37,000 individuals also provides a unique reward and challenge. Although Yolo County is not the only California county with college students, at 16%, our county has one of the highest per capita student populations in the state.

I am proud to say that the elections office's past partnership with UC Davis has been a model for the state and has resulted in historic voter turnout. For example, UC Davis's past engagement in Presidential elections has been truly significant as demonstrated by their national award in 2021 against 300 or more colleges for the highest percentage increase in voter turnout from 2016 to 2020.

This high engagement and per capita college student population, coupled with the historical trend that most student age voters typically cast their vote late in the election voting cycle, creates a significant post-Election Day processing crunch for our elections office that is unique across the state.

Another unique element of college-age voters is that they significantly increase the number of provisional/conditional votes our office must process after Election Day when compared to other counties our size.

Provisional voting has been used in California since 1984. Provisional ballots are those cast by voters who believe they are registered to vote, even though their names are not on the official voter registration list where they are voting.

This is one of the tenants of the California Voter's Bill of Rights. The submitted Provisional Ballot will be reviewed and only

counted after the election's office has confirmed that the voter is registered to vote in Yolo County and that the voter did not already vote in the election.

In 2017, Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) became available to state voters, which allows voters to register and vote the same day. The CVR ballots, just like Provisional Ballots, must be processed after all the in-person votes have been counted and all the vote-by-mail ballot envelopes have been reviewed to ensure no voter votes more than once.

Depending on the volume of these provisional and conditional ballots, this review process and need to register CVR voters to ensure there are no duplicate votes cast can take more than a week to complete.

By law, the certification date for the election must be announced with a 10-day notice during the canvass period. During this period voters who forgot to sign their vote-by-mail ballot envelope or whose signatures were challenged will have the opportunity to correct their respective issue. The final cut-off for voters to resolve all such issues is two days before the election is certified.

As one can see, there are a many legal requirements and unique conditions in Yolo County that require our office to take anywhere from three to four weeks to finalize results and certify an election. Our office will be providing ongoing unofficial election results every Tuesday and Friday throughout the canvass period until the election is certified.

The elections office is committed to getting our final certified results completed accurately and as soon as possible, while ensuring all legal requirements are met and that the integrity and transparency of the election process is successfully achieved in every election. ★

Local Girl Scouts Reach Outer Space!



Jasmin Moghbeli. Photo courtesy of NASA

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Amanda Bates, troop leaders for Troop 1089 and GSHCC volunteers, spoke briefly about how honored they were to have this opportunity and how it happened. According to Bates, there are only about 60 to 100 International Space Station contacts globally made per year, which is about two per week. In fact, the last two contacts occurred in Rome and Spain.

Next, Jennifer Garland spoke. Garland was the event's primary volunteer and is a River City Amateur Radio Communications Society member. She helped prepare the Girl Scouts for the big day by helping them practice their media and public-speaking skills. Garland told the crowd what to expect for the rest of the event and answered audience questions until playing a short video before the big moment arrived.

In the video, a pre-recorded Jasmin Moghbeli told a little bit about her story. "I still wake up every morning and it feels like a pinch-me moment to think that I am actually an astronaut right now," she said. Also on the TV screen was a map tracking the progress of the space station, coming closer and closer.

The time finally came to contact the astronaut: 10:24 a.m. precisely (as planned). A hush fell over the room as Garland began the countdown. Loud static could be heard, and then Moghbeli's voice broke through, all the way from outer space, and the questions began. Each Girl Scout had the privilege of asking two questions before time ran out.

To highlight some of the questions, Girl Scout Avery T. asked her what she is most excited for upon her return to Earth, to which Moghbeli responded, "My children, my

husband, a shower with running water, and normal food."

On the other hand, Elsa W., another Girl Scout, asked what Moghbeli will miss about space. Moghbeli replied that she would miss her six crewmates who she has grown close to, floating and flying around in space, and looking back at Earth from her vantage point.

Then, Girl Scout Edie B. asked for what advice Moghbeli would give to a girl wanting to be an astronaut, and she replied that space exploration is very challenging to get into and that failing is inevitable but failing is also OK. And realizing that failure is OK is the best way to keep moving forward with your dreams.

Next, Leia B., another Girl Scout, asked if Moghbeli believes in life beyond Earth and the astronaut said she does. "There's just too much out there," she said.

Whitney Houston, and Stevie Wonder.

Much was learned in such a short time span. Each question was well-executed, and the process went smoothly. The room erupted into cheers once the Girl Scouts wished Moghbeli a safe return to Earth and signed off.

After the call, each Girl Scout was handed a special badge to commemorate what they accomplished. Then, each Girl Scout, all in high school, took to the microphone to briefly discuss how this event might inspire them to study science and/or space exploration.

"Through events like this and other STEM programs, Girl Scouts is committed to helping our future female leaders become better problem-solvers, critical thinkers and gain the confidence to turn their ideas into breakthrough inventions to help others," said Dr. Linda E.



Girl Scout Ambassador Leia B. asking Jasmin Moghbeli a question.

Moghbeli continued to answer questions about what she does in her free time up in space, what she eats there, what the average workday looks like and if she would live on Mars.

Alyssa S. asked if she listens to music or podcasts in space. Moghbeli highlighted a few of her favorite artists she listens to: Hozier,

Farley, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts Heart of Central California.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to helping young people see what they are capable of. Jasmin Moghbeli proved to the Girl Scouts that they can do anything they put their minds to...they can even go to outer space. ★

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Sierra Northern Railway Names COO

Sierra Northern Railway News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Brenton A. MacDonald has been elevated to vice president and chief operating officer at West Sacramento, Calif.-based Sierra Northern Railway, which provides transportation, rail-served real estate, and railcar storage services. The company has rail operations throughout California.

MacDonald joined the company in 2013 and served most recently as its general manager. He has held positions as manager of safety & training, as well as conductor and engineer. MacDonald previously was employed by Union Pacific Railroad at Hinkle, Oregon, as manager of locomotive maintenance.

In his new position, MacDonald is responsible for working with the railroad's customers, engaging in new business development and contract negotiations, working with senior leadership at Union Pacific and BNSF, overseeing railroad operations for West Sacramento, Oakdale, Concord, and Ventura divisions, as well as aiding in railroad maintenance and construction activities.



Brenton A. MacDonald. Photo courtesy of Sierra Northern Railway

He will report directly to Sierra Northern CEO Kennan H. Beard III.

The Sierra Northern Railway (reporting mark SERA) is a common carrier railroad company operating in

California. The company owns several rights of way originating from those of the former Sacramento Northern Railroad, Northern Electric

Railway, Sierra Railway Company of California, Western Pacific Railroad, and Yolo Shortline Railroad. It handles all freight operations and track maintenance for its parent company, the Sierra Railroad Company. The tracks that are maintained by Sierra Northern are also used by the Sierra Railroad Company's tourist trains. ★

An Ode to Wally "Crazy Wheels"



Wally Baker stands by one of his earlier hardtops, before they evolved into super-modified racing cars. Photo courtesy of DeAnn Baker

Continued from page 1

write something down to communicate with Mr. Baker; his hearing abilities have declined with age.

Despite his advanced age, Mr. Baker answered questions enthusiastically, occasionally channeling his younger self, describing his work on engines. "You started out with a stock engine...Bigger pistons; special racing pistons... You polish the engines... You cut the bottom off... You cut the flywheel all off...I did my own work."

Mr. Baker would visit junkyards for parts and work on his cars in the evenings.

As far as racing goes, Mr. Baker spent much of his time at West Capital Raceway — where Gary Gerould was the P.A. announcer and there were destruction derbies at half-time — but he made his name at other tracks, as well, like those in San Francisco, Calistoga and L.A.

In a telephone interview, Gerould said, "Wally was always a championship contender — A tremendous competitor."

He gave an anecdote expressing Mr. Baker's intensity: "I remember

one time, there was some kind of official's call Wally did not like." Mr. Baker came up to the broadcasting booth. Gerould explained what happened next: "I was receiving the full wrath of his fury." But Mr. Baker realized he was barking up the wrong tree. Gerould said that in the end, "Everything was fine. I was the wrong target."

Some races were 100 laps, although most were 25. In 1972, Tognotti's sponsored three 100-lap races at West Capital. Tognotti had a 1972 Oldsmobile Cutlass for the overall winner of the Tri-Holiday Sweepstakes. Mr. Baker won the first two, on Memorial Day and the 4th of July, and only needed to place 20th in the final race on Labor Day but he won the third race outright, winning the car.

In the '70s Mr. Baker spent much time racing in Australia where he drove his trademark #100 car.

He won often but there were times he didn't win. When asked about crashes, Mr. Baker said he was in "tons of 'em," also saying, "Oh, yeah. I've had bad crashes."

His worst crash had him unconscious for two days and incoherent for two

weeks. Despite the danger involved with car racing, Baker said, "I raced bikes. Motorcycle racing was more dangerous."

His daughter, DeAnn, added, "He flipped a lot of times. He had a lot of injuries, a number of concussions. In fact, we kind of think his state of mind right now is partially due to the number of concussions he had, kind of like the football players. He says all the time, 'It's a miracle. Can you believe I'm still alive?'"

This writer found Mr. Baker easy to talk to and still relatively sharp at 96.

In West Sacramento, DeAnn said the race crowd would hang out at Yolo Club, Vince's and Club Pheasant. Today, Mr. Baker has dinner with family and friends on Wednesdays. His favorite dish is Mexican: steak chicana.

When asked about his wife, who wasn't into car racing, according to DeAnn, Mr. Baker said, "I like everything about my wife." She is to be 95 years old in May, and still takes care of herself in the Hollywood Park home that they bought in 1953. That's more than 70 years ago. In the game of longevity, "Baker wins!" indeed. ★



Wally Baker's #100 racecar on display in Australia was patriotically decorated. Photo courtesy of DeAnn Baker

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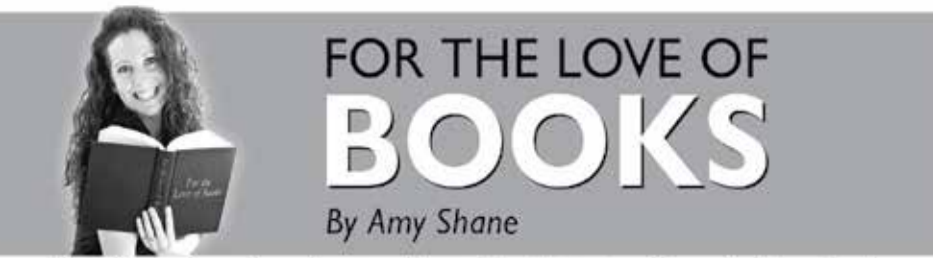
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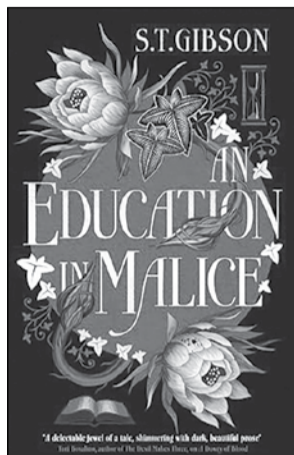




BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

An Education in Malice

by S.T. Gibson



◆ Publisher: Redhook
◆ Intended Audience: Adult
◆ Release Date: Feb. 13, 2024

fate has a habit of intervening, and Laura and Carmilla, while wildly different, create a desire so intense there is no power that will be able to dull it.

Now thrust into the middle of a bloodthirsty lust for power and dominance, it is up to Laura and Carmilla to decide just how far they are willing to go, and sacrifice, for a chance at knowledge and love.

A bloodthirsty explosion of secrets, lies, lust, and longing, *An Education in Malice* will fill a readers' desire for a dark academic vampire novel, that will

leave them desperate for more. S.T. Gibson knows how to deliver dark vampires in the most delicate and lustful way possible, leading readers longing for whatever intoxicating tale she weaves next.

Gibson seamlessly takes readers from the vampire stories they grew up with and delivers them a dark, academic, collegiate setting with just enough intimacy to make this shelved in whole different section. Told in two perspectives, readers will be able to dive straight into the mind of quiet, innocent Laura, who also has a wild side that wants to be unleashed, and the stunningly beautiful and stuck-up Carmilla, who secretly wants to be loved. Both with their own unique story, both with their own views of the morally grey, femme fatale Professor De Lafontaine and her motives.

Wildly, fun, imaginative, and a secretive delight, *An Education in Malice* delivers all the twists and turns readers come to expect from S.T. Gibson, along with the dark temptation of a vampire's fang. ★

Social Security Matters About Medicare's Dreaded "IRMAA" Provision



By Russell Gloor,
AMAC Certified Social
Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: My wife is on Medicare and receiving Social Security benefits each month. We built a house and used money from our investments to pay for it. We knew we would pay taxes on that withdrawal, but my wife got a letter from Social Security saying that because the money we withdrew was listed as income, her 2024 Medicare premium went up over \$500. And since Medicare is taken out of her Social Security, that results in a \$6,000 loss to our budget.

Is there anything that can be done about this situation? We sent a letter to Social Security, but they responded that unless her situation was one of only a few categories (loss of house, divorce, etc.) nothing could be done for the year.

The money was used strictly on another investment - our new house. It wasn't like we took it out and spent it wildly. Can you please advise? **Signed: Frustrated Homeowner**

Dear Frustrated: Unfortunately, it sounds like your wife is a victim of the Medicare provision

known as "IRMAA" - the "Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount." Each person's Medicare Part B premium (coverage for outpatient healthcare) is determined yearly from their income from all sources as reported to the IRS two years prior. IRMAA sets income thresholds, depending on your IRS filing status, and if those thresholds are exceeded you must pay a higher Medicare Part B premium (and also a higher Part D premium if you have prescription drug coverage).

Assuming you file your taxes as "married/jointly," if your combined 2022 income as a couple was between \$206,000 and \$258,000 your wife's 2024 Part B premium is \$244.60 (instead of the standard \$174.70); if your combined 2022 income was between \$258,000 and \$322,000 then your wife's Part B premium for 2024 is \$349.40; if your combined in 2022 was between \$322,000 and \$386,000, her Part B premium is \$454.20; if your combined 2022 income as a married couple was between \$386,000 to \$750,000 then your wife's 2024 Part B premium is \$559; and if your 2022 income as a married couple was over \$750,000 your wife's Part B premium is \$594. If your wife also has private Part D prescription drug coverage, IRMAA also increases those premiums. Note that the IRMAA thresholds are different for other income tax filing statuses.

As the Social Security office has already explained, you could appeal your wife's IRMAA premium increase if she had a "life changing event," but the list of acceptable life changing events is quite small (see form SSA-44). The only good news is that your wife's Medicare premium will be calculated anew for next year, so her Medicare premium for 2025 will - if your 2023 joint income is less than the first IRMAA threshold - revert to the standard 2025 premium.

FYI, it doesn't matter what you used the money for. Your withdrawal was reported to the IRS as taxable income, which is what caused IRMAA to apply to your wife's Medicare premium for 2024. Many people don't realize that Medicare premiums are higher for those with a higher income, but since your withdrawal was a one-time event, your wife's Medicare Part B premium next year should be much less and her Social Security benefit correspondingly higher.

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

Sacramento, California's Capital, Is Also The Capital Of Official Sneakiness



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

Sacramento is California's capital, but that distinction is quickly being overshadowed by the city's penchant for official sneakiness.

City officials' hide-the-peak tendencies first became obvious in December when the city council, after adjourning its regular meeting, reconvened for a special meeting to ratify new contracts with two employee unions.

Then, without any advance notice, it voted to give City Manager Howard Chan, already the state's highest paid city administrator, and several other top officials hefty salary raises.

Doing so was a blatant double violation of California's Brown Act, which requires local governments to do their business openly. One section of the law requires 24-hour public notice of special meetings and another bars local governments from considering salary increases for their executives in special meetings.

Moreover, the council voted for those raises even though Chan and other city officials knew that Sacramento had a \$50 million hole in its budget, although that was not publicly announced

until a month later.

The Sacramento Bee blew the whistle on the illegal meeting and the city quickly retrenched. "The city agrees that an item regarding the salaries of its charter officers should be voted on at a regular meeting of the council," city spokesman Tim Swanson told the Bee. "The city will bring this item back at the next regular meeting of the City Council on Jan. 9."

When the \$50 million deficit was finally revealed in January, Chan said it resulted from union contracts and other spending that outstripped revenues.

"What you all approved we can't afford," Chan told the council. "It's not sustainable." He ordered city departments to freeze hiring, travel and purchases to save money.

The obvious implication is that Chan and other officials wanted to lock down their salary increases before revealing the big gap in city finances.

However, it was not the only example of municipal sneakiness.

This month, after materials for the March 5 election were distributed to voters, Sacramento's small businesses and professional service providers were surprised to learn that a city-sponsored ballot measure, if passed, would increase their city business license fees by 70%.

Why, one might wonder, were those affected by the fee increase so surprised?

In turns out that the city council, with little discussion, had voted to place Measure C on the ballot way back in November, but

city officials failed to honor a provision of the city charter requiring that a notice of the action be published in the city's official newspaper within 10 days.

In fact, it didn't publish it until Feb. 7, much too late for opponents to submit ballot arguments against it, and "only after The Bee Editorial Board had repeatedly requested a copy," the newspaper reported.

There are late-blooming efforts by business groups to mount a campaign against Measure C, the Bee has editorialized that it should be rejected due to the sneaky process and if it passes, its validity will certainly be challenged in court.

City officials continue to insist that the delay in publication was an innocent mistake that should not invalidate the measure because the city published it on its own website.

During a city council meeting this month, Mayor Darrell Steinberg acknowledged the error but insisted "it was not a mistake ... that in any way was attempting to mislead, and I think the best evidence of that, again, is the fact that the ordinance and the deadlines for filing the arguments were published online the very same night."

The message to Sacramentans from these two incidents is that sneakiness is now official policy and they cannot rely on its officials to reveal what they are doing.

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

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Dave Ramsey Says

new business, in addition to the time you spend at your current job. In my mind, you'd have a better chance of making it work if you bought an existing business with a manager already in place. That way, at least you wouldn't have to be so entrepreneurial and constantly involved in things like adjusting the business model, checking prices and dealing with customers.

Honestly? This idea isn't a lot like real estate at all. Real estate will run itself—for the most part—once you find a tenant. Also, the number of hours you'd have to put into selling real estate on the side is nothing like the time you'd spend getting a new business off the ground.

Here's the deal, Victor. The secret ingredient to your small business success is you. You are the ideas, the passion and the energy. The problem with your plan is that you are only a small part of the equation. Franchises and chains try to train this kind of stuff into people with pep talks and other forms of motivation, but when something's your

baby, it's really your baby. You're going to do your best, days, nights and weekends, to grow it properly. You're going to worry over it constantly, and treat it almost like it's your very own child.

I love your entrepreneurial spirit, but I'm sorry, Victor. I just don't like this plan. It sounds like your idea is to swing by once in a while, eyeball things and crunch a few numbers. And if that's the case, I wouldn't waste my time or money if I were you. You'd probably benefit your community more by just giving what you'd invest in the venture to a good charity.

— Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions ★

Winter's Theatre Company's 10-Minute Play Festival Returns!

A Moment in Time in 10 Minutes



Jim and Lori of Winter's Theatre Company ready to entertain. Photo courtesy of Winter's Theatre Company

Winter's Theatre Company News Release

WINTERS, CA (MPG) - Drop into eight different moments over the course of 80 minutes and experience the unique cast of characters, emotions and stories that will be on stage at the 3rd annual winters theatre company 10-minute play festival!

The 10-minute festival has continued to gain popularity among the Winter's Theatre Company community. This year the festival will feature eight 10-minute plays, without a specific theme, that will make you laugh, cry, sigh, and maybe think about things in a slightly different way.

The plays that will be performed are the result of an international call to authors to submit scripts according to established criteria for exceptional 10-minute plays. This year we reviewed over

100 submissions from across the country and the globe, resulting in an offering of 8 diverse, thoughtful, thought-provoking plays for our audience members.

These plays have been written by both new and established playwrights and they will be brought to life by a team of talented local directors, cast and crew. Our 2024 festival features the following selections:

Confessions of a Serial Dingbat – Written by: Barbara Weber (Pennsylvania) Directed by Jim Hewlett

Crossed Wires – Written by: Elle Bell (New Zealand) - Directed by Rodney Orosco

Doom – Written by: Leo McElroy (California) - Directed by Ana Kormos

Doubles Troubles – Written by: Ross Tandowsky (California) - Directed by Nancy Bovie Whitcomb

Five Miles Long, Two Hundred Feet High – Written by: Maripat Allen (Michigan) - Directed by Jim Hewlett

Play Date – Written by: Kali Mitchell-Silbaugh (California) - Directed by Jim Hewlett

The Offering – Written by: Andrea Fine Carey (Virginia) - Directed by Rodney Orosco

Simple Pleasures – Written by: Peter Snoad (Massachusetts) - Directed by Linda Glick and Bridget O'Flaherty

Performances will be at the Historic Winters Opera House in Downtown Winters – the new home of the Winters Theatre Company! Come and join us on 15-16 and 22-23 March, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

For tickets or for more information please visit the Winterstheatrecompany.org or Email Winterstheatrecompany@gmail.com ★

If You're Not Going All In, Stay Out

Dear Dave,

I have an idea for a small business I think would be a huge success in my area. How do you feel about me keeping my current day job, and hiring a full-time manager for the business to handle the day-to-day operations, while I do the accounting and oversee things? If it doesn't break even or better, I can always close it. In my mind, I equate my plan to being like selling real estate on the side, while keeping my regular, full-time job. What are your thoughts?

– Victor

Dear Victor,

To be honest, I don't think there's a high likelihood of success using this model. Unless, of course, you're willing to devote 40 to 50 hours a week to this

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20231019 The following person(s) is doing business as: Khalsa Truck Trailer Repair, 5766 Lolet Way, Sacramento, CA 95835.

Jessi Gurha, 5766 Lolet Way, Sacramento, CA 95835. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on December 1, 2023.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on December 6, 2023. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 9, 16, 23 March 1, 2024 KHALSA 3-1-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240074 The following person(s) is doing business as: Rod Equipment Rental, 1550 Harbor Boulevard Suite 140, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

This business is conducted by A Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 24, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2024 ROD 3-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240088 The following person(s) is doing business as: The Goodnight

Room/The Goodnight Club, 524 Main Street Suite 101, Woodland, CA 95695.

Nightcap Enterprises LLC, 2375 Russell Circle, Woodland, CA 95776. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 31, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2024 GOODNIGHT 3-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240087

The following person(s) is doing business as: JC AG Services, 600 Snapdragon Ct. Winters, CA 95694, County of Yolo. Justin Rominger, 600 Snapdragon Ct. Winters, CA 95694 Catherine Roman, 600 Snapdragon Ct. Winters, CA 95694 This business is conducted by General Partnership.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A /s/ Justin Rominger /s/ Catherine Roman This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 01/31/2024. Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder

By: kquam, Deputy 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8/24 CNS-3782060# NEWS-LEDGER 3-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240099

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Extra Space Storage (#3597), 19389 County Road 102, Woodland, CA 95776 County of YOLO

Mailing Address: 2795 E Cottonwood Pkway, Ste 400, Salt Lake City, UT 84121 - Salt Extra Space Management Inc, 2795 E Cottonwood Pkway, Ste 400, Salt Lake City, UT 84121 This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 07/28/2023.

Extra Space Management Inc S/ Gwyn Goodson McNeal, VP, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 02/05/2024. Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder

KQUAM, Deputy 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8/24 CNS-3776160# NEWS-LEDGER 3-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240134

The following person(s) is doing business as: Northern California Breakthrough Parenting, 194 West Main Street Suite 201, Woodland, CA 95695.

Christy Bodily, 194 West Main Street Suite 201, Woodland, CA 95695. This business is conducted by An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 1, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 13, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 NORTHERN 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240060 The following person(s) is doing business as: MP Plumbing, 3453 Kauai Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

George Martinez, 3453 Kauai Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 1, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 22, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 MP 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240013

The following person(s) is doing business as: La Casita Del Tamal..., 1165 Chapman Street, Winters, CA 95694

Miriam Hyder Velarde, 1165 Chapman Street, Winters, CA 95694 and Velia Loreto, 955 Railroad Avenue Apt #62, Winters, CA 95694. This business is conducted by Co-Partners. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 3, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 4, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 LA 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240069

The following person(s) is doing business as: Kaleasa Transport, 1567 Carmel Valley Drive, Woodland, CA 95776.

Kaleasa Transport LLC, 1567 Carmel Valley Drive, Woodland, CA 95776. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 24, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 KALESA 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240109

The following person(s) is doing business as: Pink Dozen, 1300 E Covell Boulevard Suite D, Davis, CA 95616.

Pink Dozen LLC, 1300 E Covell Boulevard Suite D, Davis, CA 95616. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 1, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 6, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 PINK 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240130

The following person(s) is doing business as: LSGG LLC, 1712 Picasso Avenue Suite B, Davis, CA 95618.

LSGG LLC, 1667 Oak Avenue, Davis, CA 95616. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 1, 2023.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 13, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 LSGG 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240116

The following person(s) is doing business as: NMotions Transportation, 3142 Pender Island Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Christine Properties LLC, 315 Grandpark Circle, San Jose, CA 95136. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on February 6, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 7, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 NMOTIONS 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240113

The following person(s) is doing business as:

Doman Treated Wood, 1492 Churchill Downs Avenue, Woodland, CA 95776, County of Yolo.

Mailing Address: Suite 1600, 1100 Melville Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6E 4A6 Canada Woodland Wood Preservers, Ltd., 1492 Churchill Downs Avenue, Woodland, CA 95776 This business is conducted by Corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 17, 2018 /s/ John Russell, President This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 02/07/2024. Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder

By: kquam, Deputy 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15/24 CNS-3784064# NEWS-LEDGER 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240114

The following person(s) is doing business as: Canavan Ranch, 17047 Forest Avenue, Guinda, CA 95637, County of Yolo. Channa Ranch LLC, 17047 Forest Avenue, Guinda, CA 95637 This business is conducted by Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A /s/ Sean Robert Canavan, Managing Member Channa Ranch LLC This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 02/07/2024. Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder

By: kquam, Deputy 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15/24 CNS-3783993# NEWS-LEDGER 3-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240106

The following person(s) is doing business as: Anderson Automotive Refinishing, 2446 Rice Avenue Suite A, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Troy Wayne Anderson, 2518 Aspen Valley Lane, Sacramento, CA 95835. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 2, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on January 6, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024 ANDERSON 3-22-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240157

The following person(s) is doing business as: Agile Motor Sales, 738 Elm Street B, West Sacramento, CA 95605.

Jamal Hassan, 738 Elm Street B, West Sacramento, CA 95605. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 20, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024 AGILE 3-22-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20240122

The following person(s) is doing business as: Honest Inc, 1800 Enterprise Boulevard, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Seej Inc., 1800 Enterprise Boulevard, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by A Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on February 5, 2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on February 9, 2024. By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy Publish: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024 HONEST 3-22-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF SHERLY ANN FOREMAN CASE NO. PR2023-0279 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be

interested in the will or estate, or both, of: SHERLY ANN FOREMAN

A Petition for Probate has been filed by TIMOTHY C. BATTS in the Superior Court of California, County of YOLO.

The Petition for Probate requests that TIMOTHY C. BATTS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court on MARCH 21, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Dept. 11 Room N/A located at 1000 MAIN STREET, WOODLAND, CA 95695.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: TIMOTHY C. BATTS, 300 F. OGAWA PLAZA, SUITE 205, OAKLAND, CA 94612, Telephone: 510-835-8110 Publish: 3/1, 3/8, 3/15/24 CNS-3785975# NEWS-LEDGER 3-15-24

LIEN SALE PUBLIC LIEN SALE Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to satisfy Extra Space's lien, by selling personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated. 19389 County Rd 102, Woodland, CA 95776 on 3/13/24 @ 2pm: John Conchas: Adam Earle 975 F St, West Sacramento, Ca, 95605 on 3/13/24 @ 11am: Taleesha Robinson: Danielle Conyers: Christopher Gonzalez: Penelope Peters: Bertha Rodriguez: Samantha Prasad: Sabrina Lovelady: Carl Patterson: Catherine Haynes 1100 N 1st St, Dixon, CA 95620 on 3/13/24 @ 2pm: Jacob Slerf The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property. 3/1/24 CNS-3786946# NEWS-LEDGER 3-1-24

Notice of Public Comment Period for the 2024 Draft Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program

The City of West Sacramento draft Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fiscal year 2024 Annual Action Plan will be available for a 30-day public review and comment period from March 1, 2024, through April 1, 2024, online at:

https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/residents/housing/community-development-block-grant

The City of West Sacramento receives an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CDBG funds must be used for projects that meet at least one of the three CDBG national objectives: 1) benefitting low- and moderate-income households or neighborhoods; 2) addressing slums or blight conditions; or 3) addressing an urgent need such as flood or earthquake damage. As a condition of the CDBG funds, the City is required to develop a Five-Year Consolidated Plan that contains the City's strategy for the use of CDBG funds. Additionally, the City must develop an Annual Action Plan outlining how CDBG funds will be used to meet goals set in the Consolidated Plan. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan covers the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2026, and was approved by the City Council on April 21, 2021. The draft 2024 Annual Action Plan covers the fourth year of the five-year planning period.

HUD has yet to announce the CDBG allocation but the City of West Sacramento anticipates to receive an amount similar to last year's allocation of \$518,743. Additional resources for the 2024 Action Plan will include \$250,000 in anticipated program income. Any increase or decrease in the 2024 allocation amount will be reflected in the proposed activity associated with Consolidated Plan Goal #2: Create low barrier housing opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness and extremely low-income households. The proposed CDBG activities for the 2024 Annual Action Plan do not include programs or projects that displace persons from their homes, businesses, or farms.

Recommended goals and amounts for the 2024 CDBG Annual Action Plan will be as follows:

- Consolidated Plan Goal #1: Address the supportive services needs of persons experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. (15%);
- Consolidated Plan Goal #2: Create low barrier housing opportunities for persons experiencing homelessness and extremely low-income households (65%);
- General administration and planning expenses shall not exceed 20% of the HUD allocation plus program income. (20%).

Written comments may be submitted to the following address no later than 5 p.m. on April 1, 2024: Isaah Alford, Economic Development and Housing, City of West Sacramento, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Comments also may be submitted through email to Isaah Alford at isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org.

Additional CDBG Information may be obtained by contacting Isaah Alford, Community Investment Planner, at isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org or at 916-617-4555. Technical assistance is available to groups representing low-income residents that are interested in learning about CDBG funding for programs or projects. Questions or comments may be directed to Isaah Alford at isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org or at 916-617-4555.

The City of West Sacramento promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate-income households regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual preference, marital status or disability.

Aviso de Período de Comentario Público para el Borrador del Plan Anual de Acción 2024 para el Programa de Subvenciones para el Desarrollo Comunitario

El borrador del Plan Anual de Acción del año fiscal 2024 para la Subvención para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG, por sus siglas en inglés) de la Ciudad de West Sacramento estará disponible para revisión y período de comentario público durante 30 días, desde el 1 de marzo de 2024 hasta el 1 de abril de 2024, en línea en:

https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/residents/housing/community-development-block-grant

La Ciudad de West Sacramento recibe una asignación anual de fondos CDBG del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés). Los fondos CDBG deben ser utilizados para proyectos que cumplan al menos uno de los tres objetivos nacionales de CDBG: 1) beneficiar a hogares o vecindarios de bajos y moderados ingresos; 2) abordar condiciones de deterioro o ruina; o 3) abordar una necesidad urgente, como daños por inundaciones o terremotos. Como condición de los fondos CDBG, la Ciudad está obligada a desarrollar un Plan Consolidado de Cinco Años que contenga la estrategia de la Ciudad para el uso de los fondos CDBG. Además, la Ciudad debe desarrollar un Plan de Acción Anual que describa cómo se utilizarán los fondos CDBG para cumplir con los objetivos establecidos en el Plan Consolidado. El Plan Consolidado de Cinco Años abarca el período del 1 de julio de 2021 al 30 de junio de 2026, y fue aprobado por el Concejo Municipal el 21 de abril de 2021. El borrador del Plan de Acción Anual 2024 cubre el cuarto año del período de planificación de cinco años.

HUD aún no ha anunciado la asignación CDBG, pero la Ciudad de West Sacramento anticipa recibir una cantidad similar a la asignación del año pasado de \$518,743. Los recursos adicionales para el Plan de Acción 2024 incluirán \$250,000 en ingresos programados anticipados. Cualquier aumento o disminución en el monto de asignación de 2024 se reflejará en la actividad propuesta asociada con el Objetivo del Plan Consolidado #2: Crear oportunidades de vivienda de bajo umbral para personas sin hogar y hogares de ingresos extremadamente bajos. Las actividades propuestas de CDBG para el Plan de Acción Anual 2024 no incluyen programas o proyectos que desplacen a personas de sus hogares, negocios o granjas.

Los objetivos y montos recomendados para el Plan de Acción Anual 2024 de CDBG serán los siguientes:

1. Objetivo del Plan Consolidado #1: Atender las necesidades de servicios de apoyo de las personas sin hogar y las personas en riesgo de quedarse sin hogar (15%);
2. Objetivo del Plan Consolidado #2: Crear oportunidades de vivienda de bajo umbral para personas sin hogar y hogares de ingresos extremadamente bajos (65%);
3. Los gastos generales de administración y planificación no deben exceder el 20% de la asignación de HUD más los ingresos del programa (20%).

Los comentarios escritos pueden enviarse a la siguiente dirección a más tardar a las 5 p.m. del 1 de abril de 2024: Isaah Alford, Desarrollo Económico y Vivienda, Ciudad de West Sacramento, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691. Los comentarios también pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a Isaah Alford a isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org.

Se puede obtener información adicional sobre CDBG poniéndose en contacto con Isaah Alford, Planificador de Inversiones Comunitarias, en isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org o al 916-617-4555. Se ofrece asistencia técnica a grupos que representan a residentes de bajos ingresos interesados en aprender sobre la financiación de CDBG para programas o proyectos. Preguntas o comentarios pueden dirigirse a Isaah Alford a isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org o al 916-617-4555.

La Ciudad de West Sacramento promueve la vivienda justa y pone todos los programas a disposición de hogares de bajos y moderados ingresos, independientemente de la edad, raza, color, religión, sexo, origen nacional, preferencia sexual, estado civil o discapacidad.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC as Agent for Owner 541 Harbor Blvd. West Sacramento Ca, 95691 to satisfy a lien on March 14, 2024 at approx. 12:00PM at www.storagetreasures.com: Susan Buck, Michael Garcia, Jaime Toral, Laura Romo, Joann Jones West News Ledger 2-23 and 3-1-2024

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received and submitted electronically through the City's Procurement system at https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/business/invitation-to-bid until 3:00 PM local time on March 21, 2024, at which results will be posted and available for public review for the:

Alyce Norman ADA Parking Spot PROJECT

This Invitation to Bid (ITB) is for the construction phase of the Alyce Norman ADA Parking Spot Project. The City is seeking a qualified contractor to provide all labor, material, equipment, and services necessary.

TENTATIVE CITY SCHEDULE:

Non-Mandatory Bid Walk: March 12, 2024 - 10:00am Alyce Norman Park (Parking Lot) 725 Toddhunter Ave. West Sacramento, CA 95605

Bid Release Date March 01, 2024 RFI Question Cutoff no later than 5:00pm March 15, 2024 Proposals Due no later than 3:00pm March 21, 2024

INQUIRIES: Questions about this Invitation to Bid should be submitted through the OpenGov at https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/business/invitation-to-bid. If appropriate, the City will post responses to Bidder questions through the Procurement system.

As California Closes Prisons, the Cost of Locking Someone Up Hits New Record at \$132,860

By Kristen Hwang and Nigel Duara
CALMatters.org

SACRAMENTO REGION CA (MPG) - The cost of imprisoning one person in California has increased by more than 90% in the past decade, reaching a record-breaking \$132,860 annually, according to state finance documents.

That's nearly twice as expensive as the annual undergraduate tuition — \$66,640 — at the University of Southern California, the most costly private university in the state.

California's spending per inmate jumped steeply during the COVID-19 pandemic and it continued to increase despite recent cost-cutting moves, including Gov. Gavin Newsom's recent move to close three state prisons.

It's propelled by lucrative employee compensation deals and costly mandates to improve health care behind bars, according to fiscal analyses by the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. Newsom's most recent budget proposal includes \$18.1 billion for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, up from \$15.7 billion when he took office in 2019.

Some lawmakers and advocates have argued California should focus on rehabilitation and shut down additional prisons to save money in the face of what the governor's office projects to be a \$38 billion deficit.

Last year, the Legislative Analyst's Office suggested the state could close as many as five more state prisons because of California's declining inmate population.

That would stand to save upwards of \$1 billion in operating costs, and even more money on unfunded capital improvement projects, the report said.

Newsom's three closures and the cancellation of a contract for a fourth privately run prison save the state an estimated \$667 million over the next year, according to the Department of Finance, but the savings are not enough to offset increased operational and employee costs.

The California Correctional Peace Officers Association, which represents 26,000 prison guards, last summer negotiated a contract with successive 3% raises and

other perks that will cost the state roughly \$1 billion over the next three years. The prison doctors' union, which represents 1,700 employees, also negotiated a two-year contract with a combined 5.5% general salary increase and a range of other incentives. The Newsom administration estimates it will cost \$234 million over three years.

But Newsom, at least for now, is not recommending any additional prison closures. Instead, his state budget proposal recommends keeping prisons open with fewer inmates in them to provide more space for rehabilitative programs.

"The administration is not currently proposing any additional prison closures," H.D. Palmer, spokesperson for the Department of Finance, said in a statement. "We remain committed to meeting the needs of staff and the incarcerated population while right-sizing California's prison system as the prison population declines over time, and to addressing space needs as the state transforms the carceral system to one more focused on rehabilitation."

Opponents of mass incarceration say the administration's argument for keeping empty prison beds open doesn't align with how the money is spent.

"This is a cash grab by (the corrections department)," said Brian Kaneda, deputy director of the prison abolitionist group Californians United for a Responsible Budget. Newsom has touted transforming San Quentin State Prison into a rehabilitation center, but advocates like Kaneda and state advisory groups say the plan is vague.

Rehabilitation costs, which currently include prisoner education and activities, only make up a fraction of total correctional spending — roughly 3% — over the past decade, according to state budget documents.

In a written statement, the corrections department said its spending plan "judiciously uses taxpayer dollars in a manner that balances the need for cost-efficiency while maximizing public safety, the wellbeing of incarcerated people and successful rehabilitation."

The actual cost to house a prisoner is much closer to \$15,000, said Caitlin O'Neil, a criminal justice



An inmate at San Quentin State Prison on March 17, 2023. Photo by Martin do Nascimento, CalMatters

analyst for the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. Direct costs include things such as food and clothing while the remaining 91% of spending per prisoner comes from fixed costs like salaries and facility upkeep.

She found that compensation for employees at the corrections department increased by 43% between 2010 and 2019 — from \$110,000 to \$158,000 — nearly triple the rate of inflation.

Last summer, the state prison guard contract included \$10,000 bonuses for officers at certain prisons and a new guaranteed 401k contribution in addition to regular pension benefits.

The state's current savings from prison closures, about \$200 million per facility, is not nearly enough to offset those pay and benefits boosts.

"We would have to close one or more prisons per year just to offset employee compensation increases that happen regularly," O'Neil said.

The peace officers' union did not respond to requests for comment. Prison labor advocates often argue that jobs are dangerous and difficult to staff, warranting high compensation benefits.

The union can be a force in the Capitol. It has contributed \$2.2 million to the campaigns of current state legislators and it gave \$1.75 million to help Newsom defeat a 2021 recall campaign. It also recently contributed \$1 million to support Proposition 1, the measure Newsom placed on the March ballot to build housing and treatment facilities for people with serious mental health conditions.

Despite a precipitous decline in prison populations, corrections spending has remained relatively stable. In 2018, the average daily prison population topped 120,000 compared to a projected 90,240 people in 2024. That's a 25% decrease. In contrast, correctional spending as a share of the total state budget has barely dropped in the same time period from 7% to 6%.

What should be good news to opponents of mass incarceration — decreasing populations — has not resulted in a leaner criminal justice system.

"If you have \$700 million in annual savings from prison closure, but you're spending hundreds of millions of dollars on new prison infrastructure and giving prison guards a billion dollar raise (over three years), that starts to show why the math isn't mathing," Kaneda said.

But wholesale cuts to correctional spending don't necessarily always equate to better prison conditions, said John Pfaff, a law professor at Fordham University.

"If you don't cut (budgets) carefully, that makes prisons worse places to be. It makes them more dangerous, more traumatic," Pfaff said. "I say that as someone who is not a fan at all of prisons as a general institution."

Medical care is one area of increased spending where the state, under court order, is trying to improve prison conditions.

The average cost per person for medical care has more than doubled in the past 10 years, and total health care spending by the corrections department has increased by about 67%. Although the recent prison closures have cut about 2,700 correctional positions, medical spending has eaten up those savings.

Former Assembly Budget Chair Phil Ting, a Democrat from San Francisco, said corrections is the only state program where having fewer people translates into more spending. In 2022 Ting proposed closing three more prisons to bring down fixed costs and account for the shrinking number of prisoners.

"If we were educating 50% less kids, you'd see the funding go down. If we had 50% less people in health care or 50% fewer families using CalFresh, the programs would go down," Ting said. "So how is it at a time when the prison population has not just gone down a little bit, has gone down significantly, that spending increased?"

There were roughly 15,000 empty beds last year in prisons across the state, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office. That number, driven largely by decades of sentencing changes and court-ordered mandates to decrease prison crowding, is expected to reach 20,000 over the next three years.

"We're not not talking about some very small number where they want to keep a little bit of a buffer," Ting said. "They want to keep three to five empty prisons up and running."

Ting, who is no longer the budget chair, said he may still push this year to shut down more prisons. ★

Major Takedown of Vast Organized Retail Crime Operation

CHP News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The CHP, California Department of Justice, and allied federal agencies announced the takedown of a vast organized retail theft operation spanning 21 counties and involving \$8 million worth of stolen beauty products.

The ringleader of an extensive organized retail crime operation spanning 21 counties, involving an estimated \$8 million in stolen beauty products, was arrested and charges were filed. The announcement signals the culmination of several months of collaborative investigatory efforts in the CHP's ongoing fight against retail crime.

The investigation was conducted by the California Department of Justice (DOJ), CHP, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Postal Inspection Service along with Ulta's Loss Prevention Organized Retail Crime team and Sephora representatives. It is alleged that the ringleader of the scheme paid more than seven people to steal from Ulta Beauty stores, as well as other retail outlets. The ringleader would then sell the stolen cosmetic items on her Amazon storefront.

CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee said, "The success of this investigation is due to the collaboration between several of our Organized Retail Crime Task Force teams throughout the state, the CHP's Computer Crimes Investigation Unit, the DOJ, our federal partners, and retailers. Through

increased collaborative efforts, retailers and law enforcement have become more efficient and effective in our fight against organized retail crime."

Recognizing the complexity and scale of the operation, in August 2023, federal investigators requested the CHP's Organized Retail Crime Task Force (ORCTF) join their ongoing investigation. In December, simultaneous search warrants were executed by ORCTF investigators in Southern California and the suspects were taken into custody.

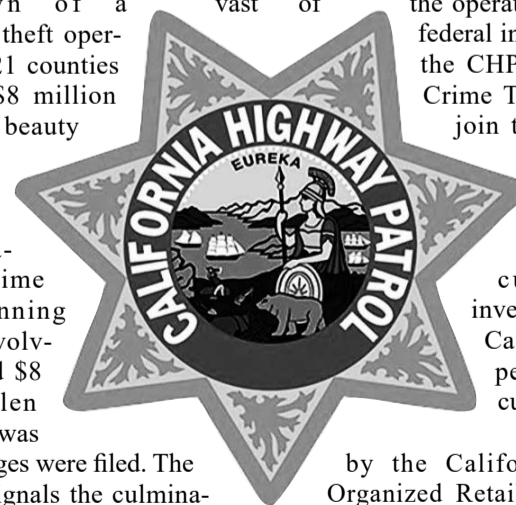
The charges, brought by the California DOJ, include Organized Retail Theft, Conspiracy, Receipt of Stolen Property, and multiple counts of Grand Theft.

The thefts occurred in Alameda, Placer, Kern, Contra Costa, Orange, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Diego, Sacramento, San Mateo, Solano, Riverside, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Napa, Marin, Tulare, San Bernardino, Sonoma, Ventura, and Yolo counties.

Since the inception of the ORCTF in 2019, the CHP has been involved in more than 2,300 investigations leading to the arrest of more than 2,200 suspects and the recovery of over 761,000 stolen goods valued at \$41.7 million.

If you witness one of these crimes occurring, do not attempt to intervene — call 9-1-1. Members of the public and retailers can also report retail crime tips directly through the CHP's website.

The CHP's mission is to provide the highest level of safety, service, and security. ★



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REQUEST FOR BID

REQUEST FOR BID for Davis Non-Profit Facility, Davis CA.

YCN Project Oversight is seeking bids for qualified contractors to provide construction services for the Davis Non-Profit Facility in Davis, California.

The bid documents can be reviewed and obtained at the Sacramento Builders Exchange or by reaching out via email to Lisa.I@ycnoversight.com. Interested bidders are responsible for checking both the Exchange or links periodically for any updates, revisions, or Addenda.

The facility consists of a one-story wood framed building in a courtyard configuration with four distinct wings. The Main building totals approximately 8,712 square feet, without including the area of the courtyard. The main building includes various occupancy group types for different areas of the facility. In addition, there are two combined storage building structures totaling approximately 671 square feet. The facility is being designed and built to meet or exceed State of California childcare and crisis nursery licensing standards. This is new construction so a full complement of site improvements on approximately .71 acres is included as part of the bid scope. Approximate construction value is \$4.0M to \$5.0M.

A non-mandatory site visit is scheduled for 2:00pm on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 2525 Research Park Drive, Davis, CA 95618.

Sealed bids shall be received prior to 2:00pm on Tuesday March 12, 2024 at 2940 Spafford Street, #200, Davis, CA 95618. A public bid opening will occur immediately thereafter.

This is considered a non-prevailing wage project.

Each bid must conform to the requirements of the drawings, project specifications manual, and other documents comprising the Bid Documents. Inquiries regarding the project or bid document can be made by contacting Neal Cordeiro, Owner's Representative, at neal.c@ycnoversight.com. Bidders' questions can be received no later than Tuesday, March 5th, 2024.

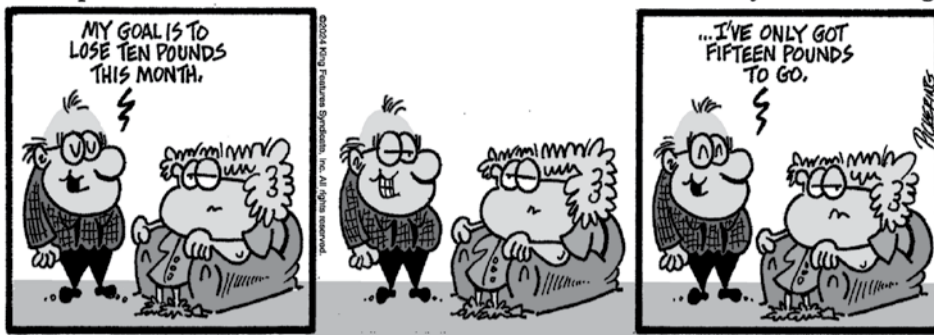
No bid will be considered unless it is made on the bid form that is part of the Project Documents, filled out in its entirety, and accompanied by a cashier's check or bidder's bond for 10% of the amount of the bid including any additive alternates. Additional information and bid requirements can be found in the Bid Documents.

West Sac News Ledger 2-23, 3-1 and 3-8-2024

COMICS & PUZZLES

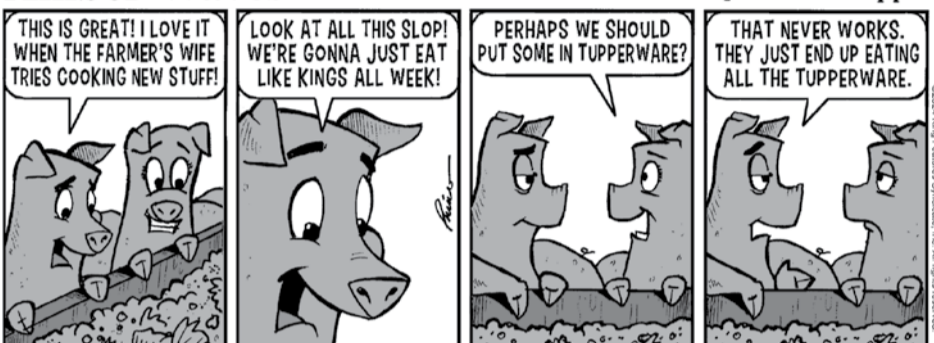
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



TIGER

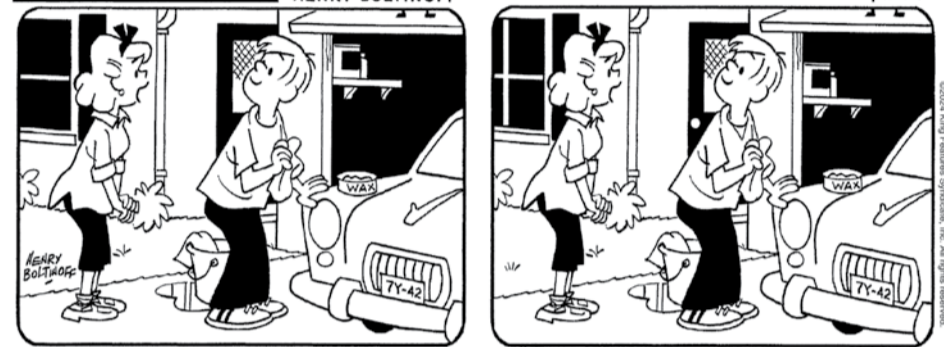
by BUD BLAKE



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bumper is different. 2. Shell is different. 3. Window is added. 4. Wax is moved. 5. Neckline is different. 6. Doorknob is added.

GRIN and BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Aggressive remark
 - Pampering spot
 - Wharton degree
 - Light bulb, in comic book
 - Burn to a crisp
 - Size option
 - Cameron of "There's Something About Mary"
 - Fabled racer
 - Take care of debt (2 words)
 - *He wore a white leisure suit on the dance floor
 - It can be pleasant or unpleasant
 - Buenos _____
 - Dove's sound
 - *She wore a white dress above a subway grate
 - Get house ready for living
 - Rap sheet acr.
 - Famous fictional canine
 - Brussels org.
 - Not Astro turf
 - Take the gold
 - Certain cigarette
 - Speed of object divided by speed of sound
 - Lord's subordinate
 - Ann Patchett's novel "_____ Canto"
 - Made by Bayer
 - Friskily
 - Long period of time
 - Repeat, in music
 - Cough syrup balsam
 - *Harper's _____
 - What cobbler does
 - Good's foe?
 - Muddy road grooves
 - Waltz, in France
 - White House "sub"
 - Red light action
 - Layer
 - Marching insect
 - Sports award
- DOWN**
- Ebay click
 - Miners' passage
 - *Kim Kardashian exposed it on the cover of Paper in 2014
 - *Harper's _____, famous fashion magazine, launched in 1867
 - Fossil fuel rock deposit
 - Fractions
 - Atlas stat
 - Egg salad ingredient
 - View from high-speed train?
 - High mountain
 - Uncontrollable movement disorder
 - Animal trail
 - *Singer who sported a cone bra
 - Viola da Gamba, pl.
 - Pool tool
 - Molten rock
 - Southern cuisine pods
 - Civil rights org.
 - Jimmy Buffet: "You got _____ to the left..."
 - Many iambs
 - Iron/carbon alloy
 - *Gleefully of little black dress and sunglasses fame
 - Tchaikovsky's fowl
 - Bro's sib
 - *Nothing came between her and her Calvins
 - Loud noise
 - Car's unique identifier, acr.
 - Diamond on a sweater
 - Awaken
 - Rough
 - Type of juniper
 - Proclamation
 - Bluish green
 - Billy Joel's "_____ the Good Die Young"
 - Bulgarian money
 - Glory prerequisite
 - Above
 - NFL's Lamar Jackson in 1923, e.g.
 - Done with "my little eye"?

CROSSWORD

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Solano Home & Garden Show Returns



At last year's Solano Home & Garden Show, Greiner Heating and Air greeted visitors at the entrance of the Dixon fairground's Madden Hall joining dozens of companies that help demonstrate products and explain benefits of home improvement projects. Photo by Debra Dingman

SHGS News Release

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Solano County Home & Garden Show is back, with a weekend filled with inspiration, expert advice and entertainment for all ages. Scheduled for March 23 and 24 at the Dixon Fairgrounds from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, this family-friendly event is a great way to explore home improvement, landscaping, and gardening ideas.

This year's highlight is the appearance of Ahmed Hassan, the original host of HGTV's hit show, Yard Crashers. Hassan will be sharing his expertise and insights, offering invaluable tips to attendees looking to transform their outdoor spaces into stunning retreats.

From home improvement specialists to arts and

craft vendors, the Solano County Home & Garden Show will feature a diverse array of exhibitors showcasing the latest products and services. Visitors can explore various booths, receive free quotes, and discover innovative solutions to tackle unfinished projects.

But that's not all - the event will also offer live music performance by local artist Alan Brownlee, food trucks and ample opportunities for networking and mingling with fellow enthusiasts.

"We're thrilled to welcome everyone back to the Dixon Fairgrounds for another exciting Home & Garden Show," said event organizer, Shawna Arzadon. "Whether you're a seasoned DIYer or just starting out on your home improvement journey, there's something

for everyone at this year's event. Come join us for a weekend of inspiration, education, and fun!"

Admission to the Solano County Home & Garden Show is \$8, with children under 12 years admitted free of charge. Tickets sold at the gate. Cash only. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to kickstart your home and garden projects for the year ahead.

The Solano County Home & Garden Show is an annual event dedicated to showcasing the latest trends and innovations in home improvement, landscaping, and gardening. With expert speakers, exhibitors, and interactive activities, the show aims to inspire and educate homeowners looking to enhance their living spaces.

For more information visit www.SolanoHomeShow.com ★

Matsui Statement Opposing House Republican Israel Supplemental Funding Package

Office of Rep. Doris Matsui News Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-07) issued the following statement after the House voted on H.R. 7217.

"Today, House Republicans brought forth a funding package that once again fails to meet the immense gravity of the moment and undermines bipartisan work to comprehensively address our national security challenges, and that is why I voted no," said Congresswoman Matsui. "I have always steadfastly supported Israel and its right to defend itself. I have voted countless times for Israel funding throughout my career, and I strongly

support additional aid to Israel now after the horrific attacks on October 7th. I have spoken to constituents with loved ones held hostage and felt their pain, and I continually demand the return of all hostages. I have also met with Palestinian groups in my district and have been clear that we must exhaust every option to protect innocent Palestinian civilians and ensure humanitarian assistance like food, water, and medical supplies gets to the people who desperately need it. That's why I continue to support real, substantive, tangible, and comprehensive steps that move us towards lasting peace in the region. Unfortunately, this bill does not address the reality of the humanitarian crisis

and provide aid to civilians in need."

"Instead, this bill is a cynical Republican attempt to circumvent serious bipartisan efforts to address aid to Israel, get vital support to Ukraine, and provide for our democratic allies across the world," Matsui continued. "This bill was never written to pass; it was only written to score political points. America's national security should never be subject to partisan political games. Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, and all its proxies should understand that the United States will continue to firmly support Israel's right to defend itself. I remain ready and willing to work in a bipartisan way to deliver the full scale of resources needed." ★

Senate Approves Senator Dodd's Ukraine Sister-State Measure

Office of Senator Bill Dodd News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California Senate has approved legislation from Sen. Bill Dodd, D-Napa, that would extend an invitation to the people of Lviv, Ukraine to enter a sister-state relationship with California.

"California has one of the largest Ukrainian communities in the United States, so it makes sense that we forge an official bond with the Lviv region," Sen. Dodd said. "We share many mutual values, aspirations and interests including economic cooperation, academic research, cultural exploration and technological innovation. In the face of the brutal war unleashed by Russia, it is especially important to foster this sister-state relationship to promote prosperity, understanding and goodwill within the region."

"In these challenging times for Ukraine, when it continues to be bravely fighting Russian aggression for almost two years, the sister-state relationship

with California holds deep significance," said Dmytro Kushneruk, Ukrainian consul general in San Francisco. "It's a heartfelt recognition of our shared commitment to freedom, democracy and resilience. This partnership between Lviv and California is more than diplomatic ties; it's a symbol of hope and solidarity, a testament to the enduring spirit of our people and the unbreakable bonds that unite us."

Ukrainians began arriving in California in the late 19th century and now make up a population of more than 100,000 -- or one in six Ukrainian immigrants in the United States. The city of Sacramento ranks first in the nation in the share of its population that is from Ukraine.

Lviv is in western Ukraine and is home to various ethnic and religious groups with a rich tradition of education and scholarship, making it an ideal educational exchange partner. It is also a key region for trade and joint initiatives to promote economic and job growth. Since the Russian military

offensive, it has received hundreds of thousands of temporarily displaced people from the east of Ukraine, demonstrating an unwavering resilience and strength.

California has made previous ties with Ukraine. It was among the first to recognize 1932-33 Holodomor tragedy which led to the death of millions of Ukrainians at the hands of the Soviets. In 2014, the California Senate approved a resolution of cooperation between the California National Guard and Ukraine. Over the years, this partnership has made humanitarian support a constant aspect of every deployment, including helping with school repairs in the Lviv region.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 96 recognizes this close relationship and invites the people of Lviv to join in the sister-state relationship with California. SCR 96 was approved by the Senate on a 37-0 vote and heads to the Assembly for further consideration. ★

Thompson Releases Statement After Voting No On H.R. 7217

Office of Rep. Mike Thompson News Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) released the following statement after voting against H.R. 7217, the House Republicans' cynical effort to undermine the possibility of a comprehensive, bipartisan

funding package that takes on our national security challenges in the Middle East, Ukraine, Taiwan, and throughout the world.

"Throughout my time in Congress, I have been a strong supporter of Israel, and I believe that we must continue to support our strongest ally in the Middle East. Unfortunately,

House Republicans have decided to play political games with aid for our allies. This bill falls tragically short as it leaves out essential humanitarian aid for Gaza, support for Ukraine against Putin's tyranny, and important aid for Taiwan. Our national security deserves more than House Republicans' cynical political stunt." ★



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