



**SacRT Launches  
Newly Redesigned  
Bus Network**

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**Never,  
Ever Forget**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



# AMERICAN RIVER Messenger

*"Written by the people, for the people"*

VOLUME 14 • ISSUE 17

Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

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## Annual Chicken Festival Something to Crow About

*Submitted  
by Mary Cattolica*

**FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG)** - At the Village of Fair Oaks, it's time to start clucking, crowing and scratching the "Feed Court" floor for some grub at the 14th Annual Fair Oaks Chicken Festival on Saturday, September 21st.

You can join some 12,000 other villagers by attending the Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District presented festival and visiting an eclectic variety of craft vendors including painting, photography, glass-works, jewelry, woodcarvings, candles, lotions, clothing, and much more.

The main stage will be featuring live bands throughout the day (Jax Hammer, FBI, & Mullet Mechanix). The Fair Oaks Chicken Festival also features a kid's park with kid friendly performances, games, and activities for the entire family!

The Fair Oaks Rotary Club will be providing Craft-Brew Tasting represented by local breweries in the Northern California Region. Over 10 different food vendors will be offering a wide range of food in our "Feed Court" sponsored by SactoMoFo.

The Fair Oaks Host Lions Club will host the 6th annual Cluck n' Crow contest (chicken impersonating with a grand prize of \$100!) and the Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District is happy to once again host the GREAT Chicken contest (wooden chicken decorating).

Brand new this year is a Pop-Up Paint class that will take place in Plaza Park, where participants will learn to paint their very own



**Above: Learn to cluck, crow and be a chicken with Rocky. Right: These chickens are hungry and ready to eat at the Feed Court.**  
Photos courtesy FORPD

chicken. Pre-registration for the class is required. Also don't forget our Pancake Breakfast Saturday morning, presented by the Fair Oaks/Orangevale Grange #354.

Admission & Parking are free from 10 am to 5 pm at the Village of Fair Oaks, 7003 Park Drive, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

For more information visit [www.forpd.org](http://www.forpd.org) ★



## Nonprofit Operation Provides Backpacks for 7,800 Area School Children

*By Julie Beckner,  
Volunteers of America*

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Operation Backpack, Volunteer of America's (VOA) annual school supply drive to raise funds and collect backpacks and school supplies for students in need, collected 7,812 backpacks and more than 152,000 school supplies through a collaborative effort between 73 local businesses, 11 corporate sponsors, 465 volunteers, and 818 donors.

Operation Backpack provides a brand new backpack filled with grade-appropriate school supplies to all of the families and children in Volunteers of America's shelters and programs. VOA also distributed backpacks to 65 partner agencies, non-profits and school districts, including Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance, American Indian Education Program, and also to students recovering from the Camp Fire in Paradise, CA. Volunteers of America's longstanding partnerships in the community ensure as many children as possible get the tools they need to start the school year off on the right foot.

"Having a backpack and school supplies provides confidence and helps a child's self-esteem," says Ana Bankert, VOA Development Officer, Foundations & Corporate Giving. "Feeling prepared alongside every other child in the classroom is crucial to their ability to thrive. Volunteers of America is very grateful to work with sponsors, partners, volunteers, and donors who understand the importance of this cause and the children it supports."

Operation Backpack would not be possible without the support and generosity of campaign sponsors Sutter Health, Golden 1 Credit Union, CBS, Phoong Law, Jamba Juice, Basin Street Properties, and a variety of local non-profit organizations and businesses who have donated funds and hosted donation drop off sites throughout Northern California.

"Volunteering for Operation Backpack provided our team a meaningful connection to why Golden 1 supports VOA. Seeing first-hand the hundreds of donated supplies and backpacks truly made an impression on me and my team," says Erica Taylor, VP of Communications and Community Relations. "Knowing these backpacks were going to families and children in need made us all feel incredibly grateful. More than 100 Golden 1 employees volunteered their time to stuff and sort in addition to donating 378 filled backpacks, proving we are indeed Stronger Together!" ★

## Community Input Leads to Revised Master Plan

*Story by  
Shaunna Boyd*

**FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG)** - After completing the public outreach events for improvements to Village Park, Plaza Park, the Community Clubhouse, and Veterans Memorial Amphitheatre, the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District's (FORPD) Master Plan has been updated to incorporate community feedback.

Melissa Ruth, an associate at landscape architecture firm Callander Associates, presented the revised Master Plan at the Measure J Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) meeting in August. "We got great

input from the community," said Ruth. There was a lot of consensus among community members about their top priorities, including more parking, increased access to park areas, more restrooms, and playground enhancements.

The original Master Plan suggested diagonal parking in front of Plaza Park, but the updated plan shows straight parking so drivers coming from either direction can access the spaces. A small restroom will be installed on the outside of the Amphitheatre, and an additional restroom will be installed near the playground in Village Park. Community members suggested utilizing the hillside

above the playground, so the updated plan includes embankment slides, climbing ropes, and climbing pods. Residents also provided valuable input regarding the planned garden area in front of the Community Center: instead of the rose garden proposed in the original plan, the area will now be filled with drought-tolerant plants.

BOC Vice Chair Adria Walker said, "An important part of our role is the outreach and making sure that input is implemented. ... It's powerful to see the updates and changes to the Master Plan based on the community input."

District administrator Mike Aho said that

FORPD acquired additional parkland, purchasing a commercial building (currently the Jolly Razor Barbershop) near the Amphitheatre. After demolition, that additional space will highlight the Amphitheatre entry and offer easier access to Community Center parking.

Aho also updated the BOC about the Prop 68 process, stating that the District has submitted the application for \$5.9 million for the Amphitheatre expansion and additional connectivity between the parks. Aho said, "Prop 68 drives the timeline,"

so the plans for that area  
*Continued on page 3*







# Community Input Leads to Revised Master Plan

*Continued from page 1*  
have been pushed back as the District waits to hear whether their Prop 68 application is accepted — an announcement expected this December. Aho said, “It’s definitely impactful, and I think it’s worth waiting five months for \$5 million.” The expected budget for the total project is \$6 million from Measure J funds and almost \$6 million from Prop 68 grant funds. The construction phase is expected to begin in September 2020.

While the District waits for the Prop 68 decision, other park renovation plans are moving to the forefront. The planning phase for Phoenix Field upgrades is already underway, and focused community outreach for residents in that area will begin in September. The upgrades will include playground area enhancements, a roundabout to improve traffic flow, additional parking lots, improvements to existing parking lots, and a berm to mitigate noise concerns of local residents.

In addition to Prop 68 funds, the District is also seeking Per Capita funds, Competitive Per Capita funds, and Recreation Infrastructure Revenue Enhancer grant funds — all of which require at least 20% in matching funds (from Measure J). The additional funding could bring in up to \$450,000 that can be used for improvements at Phoenix. The target budget for the Phoenix Field project is \$5.5 million,



The Park District’s Master Plan was updated after community feedback about the Village Park, Plaza Park, Community Clubhouse, and Veterans Memorial Amphitheatre improvements. Image developed by CALA courtesy of Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District.

and construction will commence in June 2020. Another project is also in the works at Phoenix: a pump track (a paved surface with berms and bumps) incorporated into the current bike park. Aho said this project has “a lot of community support” and it will “increase the number of users” in the bike park. The budget

for this project \$16,000, and the District hopes to pay for part with the Transient Occupancy Tax by using Measure J funds to meet the matching-funds requirement. Aho said the District has submitted the grant application and will find out the decision later this year. The District is moving forward with

poured-in-place playground surfacing at parks throughout Fair Oaks: Montview, Fair Oaks, Miller, Fair Oaks Preschool, Phoenix, and Little Phoenix. The scope of the project includes the removal and replacement of the existing rubber playground surface. Phoenix and Fair Oaks Parks will also undergo minor

concrete replacement, and Miller Park will receive additional play equipment as part of the Healthy Play Initiative grant. The playground work will begin in early September, and the sites will be shut down for a couple of weeks during construction. The District plans to stagger the work so that the parks won’t all be

shut down at the same time. Plans for the new Swallow Way Park are also underway. The new park will be created in empty housing lots left over from the Hazel Ave. expansion. The target budget is \$480,000, and planning and design kick off in September with construction slated to begin in March 2020. ★

## An Evening with the STARS

### San Juan Unified School District

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Join San Juan Education Foundation for the 13th annual An Evening with the STARS on Friday, Sept. 27, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at The Center at Twenty-Three Hundred, located at 2300 Sierra Blvd. in Sacramento. This event celebrates excellence in education, and this year’s theme is STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math). Honorees for the STARS Hall of Fame are San Juan Unified alumni who have excelled in those areas.

*This year’s honorees are:*

- Scott Pease  
Visionary video game developer  
Bella Vista High School
- H. Michael Shepard, Ph.D.  
Award-winning cancer biologist  
Del Campo High School

Heidi Poppelreiter Parris  
NASA, International Space Station  
flight controller  
Casa Roble Fundamental High School

KVIE’s Rob Stewart of “Rob on the Road” will emcee the event. The evening will feature a formal dinner, live and silent auctions, a raffle, live music, a special collaboration with Aerospace Museum of California and the STARS Hall of Fame program.

The STARS Hall of Fame was established in 2009 by the STARS Foundation, with the support of the school district, to honor exceptional San Juan Unified School District graduates who embody an innovative spirit and have made their mark in their chosen profession.

For further event details, ticket and raffle information, visit <https://www.sjef-eveningwiththestars.com/>. Proceeds support innovative learning opportunities for the K-12 students of all San Juan Unified schools. ★

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TV GUIDE MAGAZINE

CHEERS & JEERS

By Damian Holbrook

Cheers to  
To Tell the Truth

for booking some straight-up icons. We cannot lie, the sight of legendary producer Norman Lear and *One Day at a Time*'s Rita Moreno (pictured) on the same stage had us thinking that ABC's other game shows should go after more guests with such impressive TV roots.

Cheers to Pennyworth

for being the butler who does it with style. Like a young Michael Caine, Jack Bannon is the hero we'd happily hold the door for in Epix's super-cool period thriller about Batman's future manservant back when he was a stylish,

sexy James Bond type.

Jeers to 9-1-1

for soaking its stars in disaster-film drama. When you have a cast of first responders that includes powerhouses like Peter Krause, Angela Basset and Aisha Hinds, you don't need Irwin Allen-level stunts like mega-earthquakes and Season 3's impending tidal wave. Let's leave that silliness for movies starring The Rock and better special effects..

Jeers to  
Animal Kingdom

for eating its own! Even for a show that's always been violent and unpredictable, we never imagined they'd dare kill of Ellen Barkin's Smurf. Not only because



Taylor Schilling (pictured) locked it down in a series finale full of endings happy, heartbreaking and even hopeful.

Mama Cody is the hard-hearted, horrifying center of the twisted Cody clan, but also because Barkin is a badass who just can't be replaced. ★

ASK MATT

BY MATT ROUSH TV Guide Senior Critic

Why Is A Show Like  
Love Island On Cbs?

**Question:** I've really enjoyed *Blood & Treasure* on CBS. It's one of the best on TV and typical of the quality of CBS's shows. On the other hand, I was surprised to see *Love Island* on CBS, not at all something I'd expect to see on my favorite channel. Is CBS trying to compete with *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*? Isn't *Big Brother* enough of that sort of show? Hopefully, *Love Island* won't be

renewed. – Carley

**Matt Roush:** This is a good news/bad news situation and also a perfect illustration of a broadcast network trying to be all things to all people, especially during the summer months when its tentpole hits are all in repeats. I doubt there's much intersection between the fan base of guilty-pleasure reality trash like *Love Island* — which plays to the *Big Brother* crowd — and classic action-adventure fare

like *Blood & Treasure*, but each of these genres has its respective audience and a network like CBS is probably smart to go after both. *Love Island* wasn't the breakout hit CBS had hoped, but it delivered social-media buzz and a consistent audience much younger than the network's norm, and the execs believe the show will grow with exposure, so yes, *Love Island* will be back next summer. But on the plus side, so will *Blood & Treasure*, which as you rightly note is much more in keeping with the CBS brand. Be thankful for small victories.

To submit questions to TV Critic Matt Roush, go to: [tvinsider.com](mailto:tvinsider.com) ★

# Effie Yeaw Nature Center to Present the 9th Annual NatureFest

By Tova Fleming,  
Effie Yeaw Nature Center

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - NatureFest, a family-friendly event focusing on science & nature education, will run from 10am to 3pm at Effie Yeaw Nature Center on Sunday, September 22.

Nearly 40 local organizations will participate as exhibitors and sponsors, providing demonstrations and activities related to science education and outdoor recreation. Each exhibitor booth is interactive, and there are live animal shows and guided nature walks throughout the day.

Highlights include: An array of local and exotic animals presented on stage by Wild Things and Save the Snakes; Live bats, reptiles, and birds of prey at booths and shows all day long; Fly-tying instruction for kids; Karuk, Maidu, and Wintu tribe cultural demonstrations such as basket weaving; Hands-on art projects; Guided walks through the 100-acre nature preserve.

"This year we are celebrating our ninth

annual NatureFest. This family-friendly event has grown each year, both in attendees and exhibitors," said Heather Gabel, the Nature Center's Interim Executive Director. "Last year we welcomed over 1,500 visitors and 30 booths. NatureFest is a great way to be introduced to the variety of nature related topics and activities in the Sacramento Region. We hope you will join us for this educational and fun event!"

Exhibitors include: NorCal Bats, Wild Things, Save the Snakes, Folsom Zoo, Sacramento Audubon Society, Maidu, Wintu, and Karuk Tribal demonstrations, Golden Country Wildlife Rescue and many more.

For more information, visit [www.sacnaturecenter.net](http://www.sacnaturecenter.net) or call 916-489-4918.

The nature area is included as a "Watchable Wildlife" site in the California state guide because of The Nature Center is the American River Parkway's interpretive center dedicated to providing educational and interpretive programs and information about the natural environment to schools, children, and the public. ★

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Map 2: Pet Club location in Roseville.

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## What criteria does PG&E consider when calling a **PSPS**?

No single factor will initiate a Public Safety Power Shutoff as each situation is unique. The factors we generally consider include:

- A Red Flag Warning declared by the National Weather Service
- Forecasts of strong winds and wind gusts
- Low humidity levels
- Critically dry vegetation that could fuel a wildfire
- And on-the-ground, real-time observations from PG&E field crews

In the interest of public safety, we continue to update and refine our criteria and protocols on an ongoing basis.

## How will I know if a **PSPS** has been called in my neighborhood?

Because extreme weather threats can change quickly, our goal is to provide notice through phone calls, emails and text messages to customers 48 hours in advance, again at 24 hours and again just prior to turning off the power for safety. Updates will also be shared through social media, local news, radio and [pge.com](https://pge.com) until the time power is restored. To receive important outage alerts, update your contact information at [pge.com/mywildfirealerts](https://pge.com/mywildfirealerts).

## How can I prepare for a **PSPS**?

We advise you to think in advance about your family’s needs and how you might be impacted in the event of a power shutoff — or for any emergency.

- Do you have a personal safety plan for all members of your family, including pets?
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By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

The one who is an obedient believer and follower in the Love of God will endure forever! No-matter what one does God’s love endures and it is an example of their true faith in God! One does not always feel the presence of God but He is there! Where ever one purposely lives in their journey walk with God He is there! God is the Creator and sustainer of everything! God knows that we might fail Him and He will do everything possible to bring us back into the fold of His love again.

Once one realizes this truth they should *never turn away* from God, even to the

## God’s Love Endures Forever!

slightest degree! There is a constant battleground with God’s enemy and they need to understand that God’s enemy is anxious to take that them away closer into the depth of hells entrance so he will be honored and glorified. Warning: Here, It is much harder for one to return to the earlier good life they turned from. *The darkness of the enemy’s world brings “bondage and evil spirits” into one’s life. It may become too late because Satan’s hold appears too strong! This begins in the darkness and sinful self centered ways sought to reign in a persons life. God is no where to be found!*

*The battle is only won with the Holy Word of God and the Blood of Jesus Christ Demons shake at the powerful name of Jesus!*

However, no matter what one has done or how much they have slipped into the darkness of sin, once they take sincere positive steps to return to God. He is there immediately ready to help them return. Possibly they

never have experienced the brightness of His light and power in their life. Now because they are sincerely seeking to truly know God/ Creator/Father. His Holy Spirit will guide, teach and protect them as they begin an honest sincere search to walk in the truth of His Holy Word and in His will for their life. The supernatural power of their faith is unlimited. They will accomplish great things now with God’s help as He gifts them in many ways.

Totally surrendering into God’s will opens doors of hope, faith and encouragement and the words of the Holy Bible will “come alive” and empower their daily lives. They will now become a part of the victorious “Bride of Christ” the church.

Marlys Johnsen Norris Author, Teacher, Stephen’s Minister  
*‘God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle!’*  
Marlysjn@gmail.com  
Box 114, Orangevale, CA 95662 ★



By Pastor Ray Dare

Hurried, overwhelmed, burned-out and frustrated describes so much of our life. We pack more into our schedule than any other culture. We’re obsessed with going faster, trying harder. As a result, we feel overloaded, stressed-out, overwhelmed. And the sick thing is, we see fatigue as normal. We’ve come to accept it. You’re born into a busy life and you move and rush through life until we drop dead. There are always little tasks that are biting at our ankles. There are too many responsibilities to be met, too many obligations to be carried out and not enough time to do everything. We feel frustrated, overwhelmed, and ready to throw in the towel.

God says in Psalm 46, “Cease striving and know that I am God.” Ps. 46:10a (NASB)

God says cease striving. Why does God say that? Two of the greatest sources

## Pastor Ray’s Encouraging Words

### How to Lower Your Stress?

of stress in your life are arrogance and aggression. First, aggression: You don’t wait, you’re not patient, you get aggressive, try doing things in your own strength, in your own energy and effort to get it all done. Next arrogance: you think, “If it’s going to be, it’s up to me!” “I’ve got to get it done!” You try to control everything. A lot of your stress comes from your own pride, thinking you can do more, be more, have more and control more.

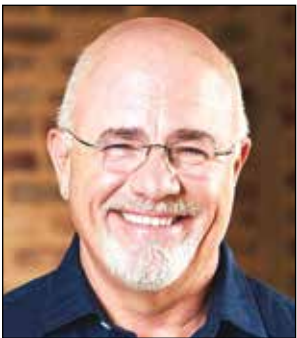
So, God says, “Be still and know that I am God!” Ps. 46:10. You need to remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe. That you are not everybody’s savior, that you cannot do all and control all, that you are only a cog on a giant wheel. You are a pawn on God’s chessboard. It’s about God and not us. And your world is not going to fall apart when you start trusting God. I want to suggest, because you’ve probably tried a lot of other things to reduce the pressure in your life, why not try trusting God?

Another stress reducer

is found in Proverbs 20, “Since the Lord is directing our steps, why try to understand everything that happens along the way.” Your stress will lower when you stop demanding explanations for everything. God doesn’t owe us explanations. If He tried to explain it all to you, you couldn’t understand it anyway. So why don’t you just trust Him. He loves you and wants the best for you.

Put God at the center of your life and he will bring everything else into balance. Resign as the general manager of the universe. When you put Christ at the center of your life, you restore a sense of balance and harmony you’ve been missing. You will tap into a source of strength that will never run dry. There’s enormous energy there, when God is at work in your life. Cease striving and realize He is God. Realize that you matter to Him, that He’s in control and He has a good plan for your life.

Pastor Ray  
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## Why Do I Need a Will if I’m Young?

Dear Dave,  
Why do I need a will if I’m still young and haven’t acquired a lot of wealth?  
–Laura

Dear Laura,  
In a case like yours, you don’t need a *complicated* will. But you do need an inexpensive, basic will. The larger and more complicated your estate is, the more you’d spend on estate planning and a *will* in order to ensure everything is properly addressed – and to keep the government’s hands off everything.

Let’s say you’re in your early – to mid-twenties and single. You have a car and a bank account, and that’s it. In this kind of scenario, it’s going to be easy to work through your estate. But it’s going to take your parents – or whoever’s left – a whole lot longer to get those few simple transactions taken care of if you don’t have a will in place.

The other thing you’ll always want to have in your will package is a healthcare power of attorney directive. This includes things like who’s going to make **medical** decisions for you if you’re unable to make

## Dave Ramsey Says

decisions for yourself. As a part of this, you’d want to fill out the paperwork on whether to disconnect life support systems in the event of a coma. These things aren’t fun to think about, but doing it will take a huge burden off the people you love. And all this becomes even more important if you have children, because the state will step in and decide what happens to them if you don’t.

Having these things laid out ahead of time, and sharing them with your family and close friends, is a very thoughtful and mature thing to do for those who would be left behind in the event of your death. They’re already going to be distraught and grieving, and you don’t want to make it worse by leaving them with a lot of important, difficult decisions to make. –Dave

### Keep the House

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are on Baby Step 2, and the only debt we have is \$90,000 in student loans. We bring home about \$90,000 a year. In addition to this, we have almost \$60,000 in equity in our home. We also have a toddler, plus another baby on the way. Do you think we should sell the house, and rent for a few years, while using the money from the sale of the house to pay down our student loan debt? –Chris

Dear Chris,

No, I wouldn’t sell your

home in this situation. You’re going to be out of debt in a couple of years or so, anyway. You’ll just have to lean into it, and make sure you’re living on a strict, written budget. I’m talking about no vacations, and no eating out. You shouldn’t see the inside of a restaurant unless you’re working there. And the new kid’s crib may have to come from a garage sale, but so what? Mine did, too. Want to know something else? I survived without having a rich kid’s nursery, and so did my kids.

There’s a price to be paid anytime you decide to get serious about gaining control of your money and cleaning up a financial mess you’ve made. You’re going to have to work like maniacs and have no lives for a while. That might even mean picking up a part-time job at night or on weekends. You’ve got a tough couple of years ahead of you, but I think it’s worth the tradeoff.

Keep your house.  
–Dave

Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including *The Total Money Makeover*. *The Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 14 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey. ★

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7	3	6	5	2	4	8	1	9
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3	7	8	4	5	2	1	9	6
6	5	4	8	1	9	2	7	3
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# Presenting Two Evenings of VIP Cocktail Farm-To-Fork Train Rides

By Traci Rockefeller Cusack, T-Rock Communications

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Showcasing the rich history and deep connection between agriculture and the railroad, the California State Railroad Museum Foundation is proud to continue its multi-year partnership with Visit Sacramento as an official Farm-to-Fork sponsor. To celebrate the important role the railroad once played in bringing the fruits of the farm to emerging new communities throughout the region and nation, the Foundation is excited to present two evenings of VIP Cocktail Train Ride experiences on Saturday, September 28 & Sunday, September 29, 2019.

The VIP Cocktail Train first debuted in 2015 and was recognized as a finalist in Sunset Magazine’s Travel Awards competition in the “Best Train Experience” category. New this year, the elegant experience features themed wine and food pairings courtesy of Michelin Guide Bib Gourmand winner Frank Fats as guests travel along the picturesque Sacramento River in beautifully restored luxury train cars.

“2019 continues to be an important year for the railroad and we’re thrilled to continue the celebratory activities aboard Cocktail Train Rides while partnering with the esteemed Fat Family Restaurant Group, the oldest restaurant in the city to be owned exclusively by one family,” said Cheryl Marcell, President & CEO of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation.

“The Sacramento Southern Railroad was once primarily used to transport pears,



The VIP Cocktail Train Ride as an official Farm-to-Fork sponsor cruises along the scenic Sacramento River. Photo courtesy of Kelly B. Huston

asparagus, celery, seeds and other agricultural products to markets from local Delta communities. Today, the Museum and Foundation are proud to offer historic and authentic excursion train rides and VIP Cocktail Train ride experiences on the very same Sacramento Southern Railroad.”

With VIP train rides on each evening at 6 p.m. departing from the Central Pacific Freight Depot along the Old Sacramento Waterfront, VIP Cocktail Train ride guests can sit back and experience what first-class was like during the early decades of the 20th century as developed by the Southern Pacific Railroad. Once they board, ticketed guests will be treated to a series of exquisite small plate appetizers provided by Frank Fat’s and paired with a craft cocktail, wine or sparkling selections.

The deliciously delightful menu includes Honey Walnut Prawns paired with a craft cocktail that features Gold River Distillery Vodka; Vegetable Chow Fun paired with a Chardonnay from Talbott Vineyards; Cumin Spiced Lamb Skewers from Superior Farms paired with a Cabernet Sauvignon from Mettler Family Vineyards; and finished with a choice of delicious desserts that include

Banana Cream or Chocolate Cream Pie Shooters paired with Champagne served in a keepsake souvenir glass.

Uniformed stewards will provide the finest first-class service onboard three of the California State Railroad Museum’s first-class cars: the Audubon dining car, the El Dorado lounge car and the French Quarter lounge car from the 1950s that served the famed Southern Pacific “Sunset Limited” service. As an added treat, the cars will be pulled by two eye-catching locomotives – Western Pacific No. 913 and Southern Pacific No. 6051 – both of which are classic streamlined locomotives representative of the first generation of diesel-electric locomotives.

Space is limited on the Farm-To-Fork Cocktail Train and tickets are on sale now. Train ride tickets cost \$125 per person and all train ride guests must be 21 years of age or over. The VIP Cocktail Train is a Foundation fundraiser for the California State Railroad Museum and Railtown 1897 State Historic Park, and corporate sponsorships are available by calling 916-407-2213. For more information or to purchase tickets on the VIP Cocktail Train, please visit [www.californiarailroad.museum/](http://www.californiarailroad.museum/). ★



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# ‘Green Lights Initiative’: Seeing the Light on Bulb Disposal

By David Dickstein

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Recycling at home or work has become part of our daily routine, but one ubiquitous device that still raises questions over disposal is light bulbs. Do they go out with the normal trash? Get tossed in recycling containers? Do you save them for the next neighborhood e-waste event? The answers aren't easy, thanks in part to new technologies to Thomas Edison's illuminating invention along with society's growing environmental concerns.

A 60-day initiative to help raise awareness on how citizens and companies can properly recycle lighting devices launched on Aug. 20. The Green Lights Initiative is sponsored by LEDtronics, one of the largest U.S.-based manufacturers of LED products, and whose lighting has put a shine on Sacramento from a downtown comic book store to the passenger trains that roll through the downtown and Roseville stations.

Besides donating to Keep America Beautiful with a check purposely dated Nov. 15 to coincide with America Recycles Day, the Torrance, Calif.-based company is taking to social media, print and electronic media to get the word out. New and long-time supporters of proper lighting disposal will be urged to sign an online petition at Change.org.

“When my light bulbs



LEDtronics, one of the largest U.S.-based manufacturers of LED products, launched on Aug. 20 the 60-day Green Lights Initiative to help raise awareness on how citizens and companies can properly recycle lighting devices. Photo by Raffi Shubukian

burn out, where do I put them?’ Being in the lighting business for nearly 40 years, we get that question a lot,” said Shaan Lodhie, LEDtronics’ chief operating officer. “Our company makes only LEDs, which are safe to dispose of in trash bins because they contain no hazardous chemicals. But that’s not necessarily the right option for environmental, safety and other reasons. When it comes to CFL and fluorescent bulbs, both of which contain small amounts of mercury, chucking them in the trashcan or with the recycling isn’t wise for

intensified reasons.” LEDtronics’ donation to Keep America Beautiful will help the non-profit with its mission to “inspire and educate people to take action every day to improve and beautify their community environment.”

### Tips on Disposing Light Bulbs

When a real light bulb goes out, how great it would be if an imaginary light bulb appeared over your head to signal a bright idea for what to do next. With so many types of lighting on the market, even a single home or business

can have multiple ways to illuminate. Materials being shared through the Green Lights Initiative include a “how to” on properly disposing and recycling the most common types of light bulbs. Here’s a summary of tips by lighting category:

CFL and fluorescent – Small amounts of the toxic chemical mercury make these bulbs harmful to your health and environment. Simply tossing them in the trash is unwise, and in some circumstances unlawful. Because broken CFL and fluorescent bulbs are damaging to the environment if they enter landfills or the

water supply, more stringent and rigorous steps are required to dispose. A local home improvement store or recycling center might be able to take this work – and the bulbs – off your hands;

LED – Safe as it is to dispose of LEDs in trash bins due to an absence of toxic chemicals, recycling them is still the best option from an environmental and safety perspective. Better than tossing them in your recycling container, locate a recycling center that accepts LEDs, which contain reusable components;


Incandescent and halogen – Like LEDs, these types

typically contain no toxic chemicals. Disposing them in a trashcan or recycling bin is one solution, but a better one is handing them over to a recycling center. Because glass in incandescent and halogens shatters easily, wrapping the bulbs in recyclable packaging materials is also smart.

If you need help finding a recycling center that accepts bulbs, visit [search.earth911.com](http://search.earth911.com) or [batteriesplus.com/t/recycling/Light-Bulb](http://batteriesplus.com/t/recycling/Light-Bulb).

For further information on the Green Lights Initiative, visit [LEDtronics.com/recycle](http://LEDtronics.com/recycle) ★

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# SacRT Launches Newly Redesigned Bus Network

By Jessica Gonzalez, SacRT

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA -** The Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) is getting ready to roll out a newly redesigned bus network that offers seven-day-a-week service, more late night and weekend service and more frequent service. The new bus network launches on Sunday, September 8, 2019.

In celebration of the new bus network, SacRT is offering free rides on bus and light rail from Sunday, September 8 through Wednesday, September 11.

Customer Assistance Teams will be out across the region helping riders navigate the new bus network and offer trip planning assistance.

“We started from a blank slate and took a closer look at where people live, work and play in the Sacramento region to develop a new bus network that will improve mobility and move the region forward,” said SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li.

“SacRT is moving forward with significant improvements that will help reduce congestion and lead to economic growth,” said Sacramento County Supervisor and SacRT Board Chair Patrick Kennedy. “The new bus network is just one of several historic improvements that SacRT has made over the last several years to make it easier for people to travel around the region.”

SacRT began the process of redesigning the bus network nearly three years ago, with the support



The new bus network consists of: 27 regular fixed routes; 15 peak hour only routes; All routes have 7-day a week service; More 15 minute service routes and all routes have at least 45 minute or better service. Photo courtesy SacRT

of our planning partners, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG). SACOG assisted SacRT with the selection of a consulting team, study funding, and other key elements of the process. “An efficient transit network that helps connect more of the region’s residents to work, education, and opportunity is key to sustainable, prosperous growth,” said SACOG Executive Director James Corless. “We are thrilled that SacRT is increasing frequency and service to where people are and where they want to go.”

Adjustments have been made to almost every bus route, some minor and some much more substantial. SacRT invested an additional \$3 million to improve service on the new network.

The new bus network consists of: 27 regular fixed routes; 15 peak hour only routes; All routes have 7-day a week service; More 15 minute service routes and all routes have at least 45 minute or better service.

SacRT’s Customer Call Center is expanding hours to help answer rider questions about the new bus network. Starting Sunday, September 8, the new hours will be Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekends. The expanded hours will be in effect for 90 days and extended if needed.

As part of the new bus network, new system maps and new bus stop signs have been put up across the region. This is the first time in 30 years that SacRT has redesigned the bus stop sign. The new sign is double sided, so riders can see the information from both directions and features the destination name so riders know which direction the bus is headed. SacRT is also giving riders the opportunity to take home a vintage bus stop sign by emailing customeradvocacy@sacrt.com to request a sign.

For more information on the new bus network, including a SacRT Forward trip planner to plan your next bus trip, visit sacrt.com/forward. ★

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# County Supervisor Susan Peters Announces Upcoming Retirement

Story and photo  
by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - County Supervisor Susan Peters last week told the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce she will not seek re-election next year. After 16 years of service to Sacramento County's District 3, months of rumors preceded her announcement. At least six hopefuls have thrown hats in the ring for her seat.

Peters has more than 14 months yet to serve. She'll sit long hours on the Board; attend town halls; give speeches and cut her quota of ribbons. Future ground-breakings include the beginning of Phase 3 of Fair Oaks corridor improvements in Carmichael this fall.

Bowing away was carefully considered. "Sixteen years is enough for anyone," she considers. "In this job, you should exit on a high note to avoid burning out – so residents still get the attention they deserve. I also want to leave District 3 in good hands. I brought several people onto commissions and watched to see who seemed capable and interested in doing the job." Former CHP officer Rich Desmond emerged as her pick. "When I first met Rich 18 months ago," says Peters, "I thought he might be the guy. He's proven it through his work on the Carmichael Community Planning Advisory Council. His background in law enforcement also is a plus. Public safety is a priority for residents."

Achievements will shine among her



Susan Peters last week announced her final term as County Supervisor at the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Chamber President Jim Alves was among well-wishers.

retiring memories. "We've built four new parks for Carmichael," she considers. "A foundation's been formed to raise money for district parks. Effie Yeaw Nature Center has developed into a public/private partnership that's brought many enhancements. We've instituted quarterly town halls to help residents learn about issues that affect them. Fair Oaks Boulevard is looking beautiful. The new Carmichael Property and Business Improvement

District (PBID) will improve the business area. When I first came into office, Carmichael people said: bring us more restaurants. Well, the Milagro Centre has answered that."

Glittering memories will include igniting Christmas tree lights – with a loyal succession of schnauzer dogs as company for the 20-year widow. Peters opened the Swanston Community Center; she saw the stunning transformation of McClellan Air Force

Base and the opening of Sacramento International Airport's Terminal B. To the relief of countless motorists, Hazel Avenue (Fair Oaks) improvements were completed.

The Supervisor spoke at a glorious homecoming for Carmichael heroes who saved a French train from terrorism. She broke ground for trails and buildings and learned to graciously decline ceremonial tools as gifts ("You end up with a garage full of shovels, otherwise,").

On a never-to-be-repeated impulse, she volunteered for a police canine demonstration. Despite protective padding, the attack numbed her arm for days. Fair Oaks Cemetery and Patriots Park ceremonies for those who died in service touched her heart. "When a parent cries on your shoulder for a lost son or daughter, you never forget it," she says.

For every problem tackled, plenty more will challenge her remaining term. "I'll continue to work on measures to address homelessness," she promises. It's a problem all over California... a never-ending challenge that the next Supervisor will also have to wrestle with. The interesting thing about being a Supervisor is that something different comes up every day.

"You can't fix every problem. But you do your best."

Supervisor Peters will hold public meetings at Mission Oaks Community Center on October 10 and at Swanston Community Center on October 17. Both presentations will start at 6 pm and offer roadwork updates. ★



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