

Women's Empowerment **Graduates Their 1,500th** 24 Women Once Homeless Graduate from the Sacramento Job-Readiness Program PAGE 2

Vietnam Veterans Officially Welcomed Home

Celebrating Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Day PAGE 7



# "Written by the people, for the people"

**VOLUME 13 • ISSUE 07** 

Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County

APRIL 13, **2018** 

# **LEGISLATION TO HELP OVERTAXED CALIFORNIANS**



PAGE **10** 

### **CAPITOL POPS MARK** 21ST ANNIVERSARY WITH FREE CONCERT



PAGE 9

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# The Playmakers Family



To support Coach Roz (photo at left) and the Playmakers, join them at their annual BBQ dinner on April 28. Visit theplaymakers.org for more information. (Photo of Coach Roz supplied by the Playmakers

not tolerate bullying, speaking negatively about someone, or being unkind. Team means family."

That is the first of the four core values in the Playmakers Creed that program founder and executive director Greg 'Coach Roz" Roeszler instills into his student athletes from day one. Established in 2009, The Playmakers

Organization is more than just an after school program, it's a family. Family, followed by Academics, Serving Others and Winning With Honor.

There are three components to the program: Character and Leadership, Reading and Literacy and Sports and Recreation. "The program is about integrating sports with character," according to Skycrest Elementary 5th grade teacher Jinne Calvi.

Heights is just one of four current locations that the program rest of the coaches and has dediis currently serving, along with cated a lot of time and hard work schools in Rancho Cordova, Folsom and Woodland with expansion to Antelope and Rocklin on the horizon.

The nonprofit program is for third, fourth and fifth graders from all different backgrounds and walks of life. They are referred by their teachers, but participate after school voluntarily. "We are old school," said Coach Roz. "We have the toughest kids that don't want to go to other programs."

With Coach Roz in charge, the program is facilitated by Sacramento State student-athletes and fraternity brothers. Sac State senior and former Phi Kappa Tau president Alec Romero has been working with the Playmakers for three years

Skycrest Elementary in Citrus and has become Coach Roz's right hand man. He manages the to help make the program what it is today.

Fellow Phi Kappa Tau brother and Sac State sophomore Peter Francisco is the newest coach and had only been on the job for a couple of days but was already leading the charge on the basketball court, running layup drills and teaching the Playmakers how to both follow directions and compete.

The program starts off in the classroom after school with the Playmakers doing their homework then openly discussing anything that may be on their minds. The coaches are there for them and help guide a very structured but free speaking conversation. The class then Continued on page 3

# Sacramento County **Credit Rating Increased**

Sacramento County News Release

- As a result of Sacramento County's commitment to fiscal responsibility, major credit-rating company Standard and Poor's Rating Services (S&P) raised the County's credit rating two notches.

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

Following the Great Recession in 2008, Sacramento County diligently worked to strengthen the region's economy, financial flexibility and fiscal stability, providing more job opportunities and housing options while also implementing new budget processes and financial policies.

S&P raised Sacramento County's credit rating to the following:

- County Long Term Rating from "A" to "AA-"
- County Pension Obligation Bonds from "A" to "AA-"
- County Certificates of Participation from "A-" to "A+"

Additionally, the S&P's rating report highlighted the following factors as areas of strength for Sacramento County:

- Strong economy, with access to a broad and diverse metropolitan statistical area
- Strong management, with good financial policies and practices under S&P's Financial Management Assessment methodology
- Strong budgetary performance, with operating surpluses in the general fund and at the total governmental fund level in fiscal 2017

S&P summarized Sacramento County's position in their annual report, stating that their rating "reflect(s) our view of the County's restoration of positive available fund balances, resulting in an improvement in the county's financial flexibility, as well as our opinion of the county's improved economy, as reflected in improved wealth and income indicators."

# Fair Oaks Church Completes Ten Seasons of Upward Basketball

By Ken Friedman

Story and photos

by Rich Peters, MPG Editor

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** 

- "Family: I am a Playmaker. I

have been blessed with coaches

who care about me, pour into me, coach me hard, and love

me. Someday I may be a Mom

or Dad. I will be prepared to fin-

ish the job and pay-it-forward.

That is what a Playmaker does,

and I am a Playmaker. I will

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Fair Oaks Church started an Upward Sports Basketball League ten years ago with 39 players. This year the local league topped out at 410 players, all children in Kindergarten through sixth grade. Both girls and boys have fun playing in a positive environment. Facility constraints limit the league to 44 teams, and these teams fill up quickly each season, mostly by wordof-mouth referrals and returning children

Upward Sports Basketball, a nationwide Christian Youth Recreation League Basketball program, believes in what they call 360 progression – developing young athletes athletically, socially, spiritually and mentally. The program starts with K-5 through 2nd grades teaching basic fundamentals such as dribbling, passing and shooting. By 3rd and 4th grade, teaching includes basic concepts of team

play; 5th and 6th graders play competitive basketball, including a tournament at the end of the season. Local program participants can be found playing on many high school basketball teams.

Upward Sports is the largest Christian Sports program in the United States, founded 29 years ago in Spartansburg, South Carolina. It currently serves 550,000 young athletes by promoting a positive sports environment where participants learn constructive lessons of teamwork and cooperation - where the emphasis is on the child, not just the game. Life lessons and friendship are encouraged. Because of the program's benefits, many families return each year and encourage others to join, which is a main contributor to the program's growth. Registration for next season begins in

early September with online registration at www.fopc.org. Fair Oaks Church would also like to thank Messenger Publishing Group, Mountain Mike's Pizza



Upward Sports is the largest Christian Sports program in the United States. It currently serves 550,000 young athletes by promoting a positive sports environment. Photo courtes,

at Sunrise and Madison, Greg Polley, State Farm agent at Fair Oaks Blvd and at Madison and Hazel for their support.★

Old Auburn Road, and Big Spoon Yogurt

# Women's Empowerment Graduates 1,500th Formerly Homeless Woman

24 Women Once Homeless Graduate From the Sacramento Job-Readiness Program

By Kate Towson

#### SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Community members from across Sacramento witnessed Women's Empowerment graduate its 1,500th formerly homeless woman, Cynthia Miller of Citrus Heights, in mid-March. Miller joined 23 other graduates as they completed the comprehensive nine-week job-readiness program for homeless women.

Miller was homeless with her three young children when she was accepted into Women's Empowerment's job-readiness program.

"Women's Empowerment truly gave me hope and it boosted my confidence. It was so empowering because it made me realize how much I have to offer our community."

Miller's immediate goal is to attend college in the fall to obtain her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate and begin working at a senior living facility.

"My ultimate goal is stop this cycle of homelessness so my children don't have to grow up in it anymore. I plan on providing a stable home for them and enrolling them in a school where they can make friends for life. Having all of the support from Women's Empowerment helped me discover that achieving my dreams is possible.'

Held at the VFW Post 67 in Sacramento, 100 graduation attendees heard each graduate's story and future plans. Each woman accepted their certificates of achievement



Recent graduate Cynthia Miller and her children. The award-winning organization has graduated 1,503 homeless women and their children. Last year, 92 percent of graduates found homes and 77 percent found jobs or enrolled in school or training. Photo courtesy Women's Empowerment

from Intel, the California Assembly and Women's Empowerment. She received a new handbag filled with a day planner and other items designed to help her succeed from the generous employees of Dignity Health, and enjoyed a lovely reception sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Greater Sacramento.

"Our graduation ceremonies are a unique community event where women like Cynthia can be celebrated for their accomplishments," said Lisa Culp, executive director of Women's Empowerment. "At Women's Empowerment, we know that employment and education are the most long-term solutions to truly ending homelessness. And today 24 formerly homeless women are re-joining our workforce, regaining safe housing and breaking the cycle of homelessness for themselves and their children. They are ready to achieve their dreams."

Women's Empowerment was featured on NBC's The TODAY Show in 2015 for offering the most comprehensive job-readiness program in the Sacramento area designed specifically for women who are homeless and their children. The award-winning organization has graduated

1,503 homeless women and their children. Last year, 92 percent of graduates found homes and 77 percent found jobs or enrolled in school or training. The program combines self-esteem courses, job training, health classes and support services to help homeless women across diverse ages, races and cultures. Women's Empowerment is funded through private donations from the community and receives no government funding except for in-kind rent from the County of Sacramento. To make a donation: www.womens-empowerment.org.

# **Light Up or** Leave It Alone?

Employers Face a New Problem

By Rick Reed

#### SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Sacramento employers are caught between a rock and a hard place as marijuana is now a legal recreational drug in California, but still outlawed by the Federal government. In many ways nothing has changed for regional companies with Federal contracts, transportation or safety issues in the workplace despite California voter approval of 'pot' use.

Pacific Staffing asked top regional companies if recreational marijuana use in the first three months of 2018 resulted in any issues in the workplace. While not all could or would answer twenty-seven percent (27%) of those responding said 'Yes'. Among the impacts noted by newly legal pot use were employees fired for keeping a 'stash' at work, more 'red eye' observed on the job, absenteeism, tardiness and one employer reporting a job injury from 'inattention'.

While state law allows recreational marijuana use, most employers say little has really changed in at-work policy as sixty-two percent (62%) reporting say they still pre-test for employment, thirty-six percent (36%) random test for safety while another thirty-six percent (36%) described their company as 'drug free' with eleven percent (11%) stating a 'zero tolerance' policy that remains in place. While many of those contacted directly by phone between February 27 and March 23, 2018 recognize state law has changed, eleven percent (11%) consider 'pot' use similar to alcohol and unacceptable

at work. For job applicants and current employees any use might become problematic as testing remains unable to pinpoint exactly how long it's been since marijuana was consumed.

One anecdotal comment noted, "Never, ever come to work drunk or high" as the best

Another HR contact said misunderstanding by applicants recently resulted in problems in hiring, as a recent driver position drew nine people with seven dropping out of the potential employee pool because they thought 'smoking pot' was now 'okay' and failed a drug screen.

Sixty-Five percent (65%) of regional companies surveyed will hire in the second quarter, with demand in April, May, June equally split between motivation for workforce expansion (46%) and attrition (46%).

General labor, entry level to skilled trades employers say applicants are in short supply in the Sacramento area. Sales, manufacturing, warehouse/ shipping, product assembly and a wide range of technical skills are in high demand. Companies also sought construction estimators, escrow experience, route/ delivery drivers and accounting/finance backgrounds.

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

Sacramento Regional Top Companies Polled by Industry were Service at 42%, Manufacturers at 29%, Construction at 19% and Retail at 10%.

Source: Pacific Staffing





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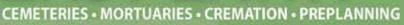
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# The Playmakers Family

Continued from page 1

transitions into a few warmup exercises before heading outside, in a single file line, to play whatever seasonal sport they may

Coach Roz teaches the idea of what he calls the "reverse pyramid." This is the counter sports culture idea that the veterans and leaders of the team actually go last, rather than first. "Pups, seniors, leaders," Roz explained. "In life, you earn the right to go last." This prepares the Playmakers for the idea that sometimes in life you must put your family first – something that Coach Roz and his team are teaching by example.

It is clear that the Playmakers are more than willing to learn and in return lead, but just need that extra guidance from the likes of Coach Roz and his team. While it's not always easy, by the end of each new concept, both on and off the court,



Coach Roz and Peter Francisco teaching the Playmakers of Skycrest Elementary how to properly run basketball drills.

everyone is on the same page and working together as a team and team means family.

To support the Playmakers, join them at their annual BBQ dinner on April 28 from 6-9pm at the Divine Savior Church located at 9079 Greenback Lane in Orangevale. There will be a number of guest speakers, a tri-tip dinner and drinks, entertainment for all and a silent auction. Tickets are \$40 and available at theplaymakers.org.

# Things Are Happening to the Fair Oaks Village!

By William Mercado, President of the Fair Oaks Village Enhancement Committee

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - The Old Fair Oaks Village is one of our area's treasures; and things are finally starting to happen there. The Village is again becoming a local destination with the addition of several new restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs. Much of the new excitement in the Village is the result of the hard work of community organizations like the Fair Oaks Village Enhancement Committee, also known as FOVEC. FOVEC's vision has long been the reinvention of the Village as an entertainment and shopping district destination for local residents and families. Their hard work is

beginning to bear fruit.

FOVEC is currently working with the Sacramento County trying to implement a Property & Business Improvement District (aka PBID), which designates the Fair Oaks Village as an improvement district and assesses a fee on the property tax bill to pay for services that will improve the area. PBID funds can be used for things like security patrols, clean-up crews, marketing the village to businesses and investors as well as infrastructure additions like parking, garbage cans and landscaping. These funds are controlled and monitored by the commercial property owners to insure the best use of the funds. There are many examples of successful PBIDs around

town such as Historic Folsom, Old Sacramento, the Sunrise Marketplace and most recently Carmichael around the Milagro

FOVEC is conducting a petition drive to reach out to commercial property owners in order to get this PBID in place. Are you a Fair Oaks Village commercial or apartment owner? Are you an interested resident who might know property owners? We are looking for volunteers to help get the word out and get the needed improvements to the Village underway. We have an April 30 deadline.

If you are interested in helping in the revival of the Old Fair Oaks Village please contact FOVEC at fovec2011@gmail.

# Why 3/4 of Homesellers Do Not Get the **Price They Want for Their Home**

Fair Oaks/Orangevale - A new report has just been deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7

dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

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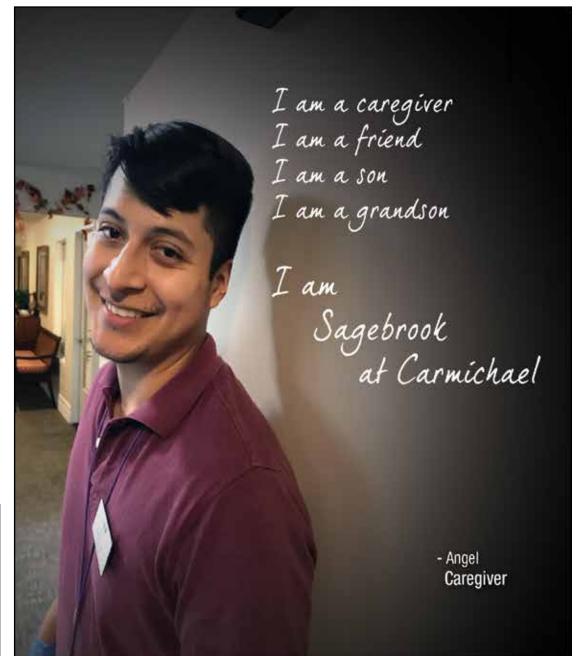
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Crossword Puzzle on Page 5

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#### 8 9 3 2 5 6 9 3 4 6 5 8 1 8 5 9 3 1 2 6 4 9 5 3 8 6 4 9 3 2 6 8 5 1 4 5 6 3 8 9 2 4

Sudoku Puzzle on Page 5

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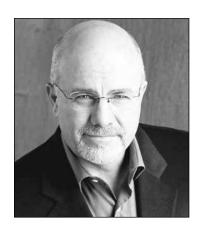
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#### Two extremes

Dear Dave,

I'm about to graduate from college, and while I've been in school my mom has been handling most of my finances. Recently, I discovered she's been taking my student loan money and spending it on herself. So far, it looks like she's taken around \$12,000, and I have a total of \$25,000 in student loan debt. Since I realized this was happening, I've been reading your books and learning how to manage my own money. I don't know how to deal with this situation with her, though. She admits she did wrong, but says she can't pay it back. Can you help?

-Alan

Dear Alan,

I hate hearing this. There's no easy way to deal with these

Dave Says

kinds of situations.

The first thing you need to do is take over complete and total control of all your finances. Shut down any accounts that have her name on them, and anything else financially-related that she can access. I know this sounds harsh, but she has proven she's just not trustworthy. It's a hard thing to hear about a parent, but at this point you've got to take steps to protect yourself. What she has been doing is theft, and financial child abuse.

One extreme is to press criminal charges. The other extreme is to just forget it, and pay it. In between is a promise from her to repay everything she has taken, but she's already out of control. That's a promise that wouldn't be kept. The problem with prosecuting someone criminally for this type of action — other than the emotional toll, because she's your mom — is the money's already gone. It's doesn't make them magically have the money to repay you. On top of all this, you'd have a really hard time legally getting the student loans removed from your name due to theft.

Honestly, under the

circumstances I think you're probably going to end up eating this. But sit down, and try to have a calm, clear discussion about what has happened, and why it happened. Let her know first, without a doubt, that you will criminally prosecute her if she ever uses your name to put money into her own pocket again. Second, tell her you're prepared to forgive her and forget about it — and she pays you back at some point, if she can - if she agrees to get some financial and emotional counseling.

Try to get her some help, and get her under control, Alan. If you don't, I'm afraid things are only going downhill from here.

-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 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

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and may not be a revolving line of credit. Additional property restrictions and requirements apply. All loans are subject to a current appraisal. Proper-ty insurance is required and flood insurance may be required. Rates, APR, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Other conditions apply. A \$475\_early closure fee will be assessed if the line of credit is closed within three years from the date of opening. An annual fee of \$50 will be assessed on the first anniversary of the HELOC and annually thereafter during the draw period. Ask for a copy of our "Fixed Rate Home Equity Line of Credit Disclosure Notice" for additional important information. Other HELOC loans are available under different terms.

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# **River Cats to Partner with CW31 to Broadcast Games in 2018**

Local CW Affiliate Will Broadcast Nine River Cats Home Games During the 2018 Regular Season

#### WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

The Sacramento River Cats and CBS13/CW31 have announced that they will partner to broadcast nine Saturday home games during the 2018 regular season. The games will be available locally in the Sacramento market on CW31, home of Good Day Sacramento.

After a successful broadcast of the 2018 Exhibition Game between the Sacramento River Cats and San Francisco Giants on CW31, the partnership has been extended for 2018 to include games on April 28, May 12, May 26, June 9, June 23, July 14, July 28, August 11, and August 25. Each game is scheduled to begin at 7:07 p.m. and coverage on CW31 will begin at 7:00 p.m. "We are thrilled to expand on

our relationship with KMAX-TV to bring even more River Cats baseball to those in the Sacramento Region," says Chip Maxson, General Manager of the River Cats. "This new partnership will go far beyond a broadcast as we hope to bring our fans closer than ever to the action, introduce them to the personal side of players and coaches, while also working to impact our community in new and exciting ways."

"CBS13/CW31 are proud to be the official Sacramento stations of the San Francisco Giants, and now the Sacramento River Cats. The River Cats are a great source of local sports entertainment and we are looking forward to televising their games, while also featuring the team's players and coaches on Good Day Sacramento and CBS13 Sports Xtra." says Jay Howell, Vice President and General Manager of KOVR and KMAX-TV. Ticket plans and single-game

tickets are available now for the 2018 season. For more information, please visit rivercats.com. email tickets@rivercats.com, or call the River Cats Ticket Hotline at (916) 371-HITS (4487).

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### **CLUES**

- **ACROSS**
- 1. Caprese birthplace
- 9. Opera house box 13. Completely dedicated
- 14. \*Earth Day month,
- acronym 15. Boiling kettle emission
- 16. Dog collar attachment
- 17. Lao-tzu follower 18. Think tank output
- 19. \*Greenhouse gas
- 21. \*Green transportation
- 23. U.N. labor issues org.
- 24. Copper coin 25. Unit of electrical
- resistance 28. Short for "and
- elsewhere" 30. Take for ransom
- 35. Blow up 37. \*What exhaust pipes do
- 39. Cabbage
- 40. "I'm \_\_\_\_ you!"
  41. Alternative to talkers
- 43. Russian autocrat
- 44. Must-haves 46. Was aware of
- 47. Giant Himalayan 48. Put on a pedestal 50. "Team" homophone
- 52. Say it to agree 53. Hallway permission
- 55. Mouth piece 57. \*Homemade fertilizer
- 61. \*Marked with different recycling codes
- 65. Shylock's practice 66. O in OPEC
- 68. Île de la Cité river 69. Blackthorn fruit, pl. 70. Future fish
- 71. Mixed breed dogs 72. One trick animal?
- 73. Rain byproduct
- 74. "Bye" to Banderas

C StatePoint Media

51. Unwholesome atmosphere

57. Intersection of two arcs

62. South American monkey

59. Negatively charged particle

54. \*Nature's rage

58. Capital of Norway

61. Same as pleaded

63. Sean Penn's movie ".

pool or

67. Debtor's letters

56. Impostor

60. The hunted

Wild"

- \_ down!" 2. Sheltered, nautically
- du jour
- 4. Hindu sage 5. Get a lungful 6. Toupee spot
- 7. \*Federal org. 8. Exploratory spacecraft
- and the Tramp'
- 10. Crude group 11. Hockey score
- 12. Highland tongue 15. Target of crime
- 20. Prominent 22. Desk well content
- 24. Grisham novel "The 25. \*Diminishing layer
- 26. Sharpens 27. Sacred song
- 29. In a frenzy
- 31. Half-rotten 32. Offensively curious
- 33. Winged
- 34. \*The \_
- \_ Agreement
- 36. Pie a la 38. \*Oxygen generator
- 42. Excellent, old fashioned 45. Indian soldiers in Great Britain's
- 49. More, in Madrid

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> > Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every in and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9 Solutions on Page 4

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By Marlys Johnsen Norris, **Christian Author** 

When God places His love in your heart wonderful things begin to happen in every life.

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### The Fire of God

and they accept His sacrificial death on the Cross for all their sins. This decision is when His Holy Spirit enters and to inspire and help with all things in this brand new life. It's an awesome brand new beginning!

People all over the world have just celebrated the day of His birth at Christmas. Now we begin a brand new year that will offer new ideas and experiences in life. This brand new beginning for one who has just decided to follow in the footsteps of the Lord and Savior of their soul is the greatest adventure of a lifetime.

Everyone will discover this is the key to true happiness just begun. Read and study the Word of God, the Holy Bible; then be obedient what it speaks to you. Join a church that teaches the authority of God's Word. This new path with God in a life will be a constant adventure that will bring

blessing upon blessing into

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but He(Jesus) that comes after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear, he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire." (Matthew 3:1-John the Baptist)

This decision will one day grant you will enter into the gates of heaven and live with the Lord in a brand new body that will be like Jesus' A body that can walk through walls and move everywhere miraculously the instant you lovingly think about someone, you will be in their presence. The greatest adventure of a Holy Fire of God's love transforms and that touches your life!

Marlys Johnsen Norris Award Winning Christian Author ARM Columnist since 2006 Marlysjn@gmail.com



By Pastor Ray Dare

There's a myth that says you've got to clean up your act before you can come to God. You may think, "I've got to get my life together first!" Or, "If I went to church the roof would cave in." Wrong! That's like taking a sponge bath before stepping into the shower. The truth is God doesn't expect us to clean up our act before we approach him. Easter assures us of that. Jesus spread out his arms and said, "I love you this much. Now, just come as you are."

In Psalm 57:3, the Bible says, "He will send down help from

# Encouraging Words

# No Perfect People Allowed

heaven to save me because of his love". That's what Jesus did on Easter. And that's why we can bring our messes and failures to God. There are people who think God will never love them because they've made such a mess of their lives. But you know God wants them to come as they are. Help them hear the Good News of Jesus. Invite them to come to church with you this Easter. It's such a simple thing to do, but it can make a difference that will last for eternity.

Church is a place of grace, a place to start over. It's a place to get a fresh start. We don't care what sin you've done in your past. We don't care who you've done it with, how long you did it or where you did it. What matters is the direction your feet are headed now. Church is a shame

Every saint has a past and

every sinner has a future because of God's grace. Every Sunday we put a sign up over our door that says, "No Perfect People Allowed", because the truth is there are only two kinds of people – those who think they've got it together and everybody else who knows they don't. Nobody has it all together. And if you've had a messy life, if you've had messy habits, messy sins, messy relationships... the church is a hospital for sinners not a hotel for saints. It's where people get healed, get well.

If you don't already have a church family; you're welcome at New Beginnings. Easter is a perfect time to make a fresh start. Just come as you are.

Pastor Ray New Beginnings Church 10am Sundays, You're invited! www.NBC4U.org

# **Stranger Danger Education Class**

By Rick Reed

#### SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Parents are urged to help educate their children of the dangers they may face on the streets. Black Belt instructors at Robinson's Taekwondo will help families learn stranger danger warning signs, how to avoid

unsafe situations, raise awareness and how to call for help effectively.

This is a free community service safety event offered by Robinson's Taekwondo. Since 1975 Robinson's has taught thousands of students selfdefense in the Sacramento region. Serving the needs of the community and making the world safer is part of the credo to be Black Belt martial artists.

The free class is on Friday, April 27 from 6pm-7:30pm at Regional Robinson's Taekwondo locations. Space is limited to parents are invited to register at www.robinsontkd.com. Click on event registration.

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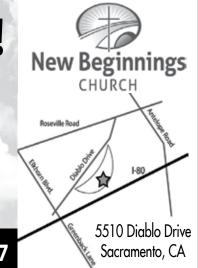
knowledge and not through the knowledge of thy neighbor. Ponder this in thy heart; how it behooveth thee to be. Verily justice is My gift to thee and the sign of My loving-kindness. Set it then before thine eyes."

from the "Hidden Words of Baha'u'llah

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# Vietnam Veterans Officially Welcomed Home

Celebrating Official Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Day

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On March 29 Stones Gambling Hall, partnering with American Legion (AL) Post 637, sponsored a breakfast in honor of Vietnam War Veterans and the one-year anniversary of the signing into law of the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act.

Senator Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania sponsored the bill during the 115th Congress. It was signed into law by President Donald Trump, on March 28, 2017 to honor all Vietnam War veterans. March 29 is now officially among those days on which the American flag should be displayed.

Mayor Steve Miller thanked Stone's and AL Post 637 for partnering to put the event together. He said, "You left the warmth of family to serve a country you love. You braved the line of fire and cast yourself into harm's way to preserve the liberties we all hold dear. This is a story many of you here today know, and sadly it a story of many who never returned."

Former mayor of Citrus Heights and now a Sacramento County Supervisor, Sue Frost, gave a short history of the Vietnam War / conflict. She said, "The U.S. became involved in the Vietnam War because policy makers in the U.S. believed that if Vietnam fell to the Communist government that communism would spread throughout the rest of South East Asia."

She noted, "This day is set aside as a day for Americans to honor the courage and sacrifice of those who served in the Vietnam War, long deserved,

and we all celebrate you today."
Frost announced that



Gregory A. Miyata (left), Army Specialist 4, served as a medic in Vietnam 1970-1971 and Raymond M. Chow, E-3, U.S. Navy, two tours from 1968, on U.S.S. Sacramento munitions transport ship in Vietnam. Photo by Gigi Rayford

the Sacramento Board of Supervisors recently voted unanimously to establish a Veterans Advisory Commission to keep the board of supervisors advised on issues related to veterans. This was the result of feedback from veterans she has met in the field who feel they do not have a voice in the county.

Kermit Schayltz, a partner at Stones, spoke about a five-day trip to Vietnam from which he had just returned. He and some friends revisited some of the locations where he had served as an 18-year old in the 25th Army Infantry during two tours of service from 1968 to

1970. While there he was introduced to two former Viet Cong, now in their 80's. Schayltz said in a phone interview that he believed it was a healing process for both of them.

It is common belief by many that this bill is long overdue, especially in light of the negative and often hateful reception which many veterans returning home to the United States received following their tours of duty.

Therefore, in appreciation of Trump's actions as the first president to recognize Vietnam veterans in this way, AL Commander Paul Reyes read a

letter he wrote to Trump showing the post's appreciation. Vietnam veterans attending the event signed the letter to be mailed by Reyes to the White House.

Reporter's note: \*While the term war is used, there was no official declaration of war. Fighting began November 1, 1955; the U.S. entered the conflict/war 53 years ago on March 8, 1965 when the first American combat troops waded ashore at China Beach north of Da Nang. The conflict / war ended April 30, 1975 when Saigon fell to the Communists.

# Mitchell Farms DEIR Report Released



Visit http://www.citrusheights.net/914/Mitchell-Farms-Subdivision for more information.

By City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On March 22, the City released the Notice of Availability for the Mitchell Farms Subdivision Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). The DEIR along with more information about the project is available here http://www.citrusheights.net/914/Mitchell-Farms-Subdivision.

#### Project Location:

The approximately 56-acre project site is generally located north of Arcadia Drive and Greenback Lane between Fair Oaks Boulevard on the east and Sunrise Boulevard on the west in Citrus Heights. The majority of the site is currently used as the Sunrise Golf & Disc Golf Course located at 7925 Arcadia Drive.

#### **Project Description:**

The proposed project would include a mix of residential uses with a total of 260 single-family residential dwelling units located on approximately 32 acres with an average density of 8.1 dwelling units per acre and would accommodate approximately 663 residents.

The project would consist of five villages along the periphery of the site with a mix of three different housing types: 110 paseo units (alley-loaded single-family units), 72 patio units

(groups of 2 to 8 single-family units accessed from a central alley), and 78 traditional housing units. The remaining 23 acres in the central portion of the site, including the creek corridor, would be devoted to recreational areas and open space uses including a trail system.

# Submitting Comments on the DEIR:

Written comments on the Draft EIR and technical studies must be received no later than 5:00 pm on May 7, 2018. Submit written comments to:

Casey Kempenaar, Senior Planner

City of Citrus Heights Planning

Division 6360 Fountain Square Dr Citrus Heights, California 95621

Phone: (916) 727-4740 Email: ckempenaar@citrusheights.net

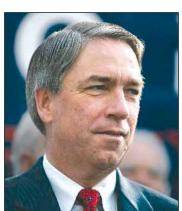
# Planning Commission to receive on Draft EIR:

The Citrus Heights Planning Commission will receive comments on the Draft EIR at their regularly scheduled meeting on April 25, 2018, at 7PM at the City of Citrus Heights City Hall Council Chambers. The Planning Commission will not make any decisions at this meeting; however, it is an opportunity for the public to comment on the DEIR.★





# The Revival of Gibson Ranch



Commentary by Doug Ose

April 1, 2018 marked the seventh anniversary of Sacramento County's decision to privatize the management and operation of Gibson Ranch Regional Park.

As many will recall, Gibson

day, my entity is responsible for all operating expenses, horse boarding continues, deferred maintenance projects are reimbursable, etc. Any interested party is able to see the approved documents by researching the subject on the County website.

While not everybody is pleased at what has happened, the terms of the lease have been met. The park has been open every day since April 1, 2011. The County did not pay a single dime toward operating expenses through May 31, 2017, at which time the lease was amended through a public process to change some of the financial terms. Horses are still boarded at Gibson Ranch. Deferred

by RVs. The country cabins have been rehabilitated. Each weekend we host countless family barbecues, picnics, and birthday parties. There is a community yard sale on the first Saturday of each month. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts regularly use the park for troop activities. We have hosted the Sacramento Valley Women's Soccer League for a few years. We regularly host large community events that inject economic activity into our region. You can check the website www.gibsonranchpark.com to see the range of activities that occur.

The decision to privatize made so many years ago by the Board of Supervisors has proven to be the right choice on so many lev-



While not everybody is pleased at what has happened, the terms of the lease have been met. The park has been open every day since April 1, 2011. MPG File photo

to public use on the day after Labor Day, 2010 due to the fiscal condition of the County. The net annual cost of operating the facility on a day-to-day basis was about \$400,000.00 per year. After closing the facility, the County was still budgeting over \$200,000.00 per year for the park.

Pursuant to a public process, the County ended up leasing the park to an entity I own. There were several requirements in the original lease: open every

Behind the scenes, the results are very positive. In 2017, the park had over 120,000 visitors. Annual revenue from operations exceeds \$700,000.00. The park is cleaned daily. There are no homeless people residing in the park. The bathrooms are clean and stocked. Over forty weddings occurred at Gibson Ranch in 2017, and we expect over fifty in 2018. An agricultural "farm to fork" operation has been established. We now have the capacity to handle dry camping

cost to the taxpayers that had previously been incurred. The activities and programs offered within the park are meeting the active and passive recreational needs of the community.

This has been and remains a good thing for our community, though it is by no means perfect in every way. We continue to try to improve the park. You are invited to drop by announced or unannounced to see for yourself what Gibson Ranch has to offer.



### Don't Do That

We hear it almost every day... sexual harassment and misconduct. It never ends. Polls show 7 in 10 Americans think sexual harassment is a serious problem. So, now what? **Dr. Arlyne** Diamond is President and founder of Diamond Associates, an internationally recognized Leadership, Management and Professional Development specializing in people and processes in the workplace.

On POPPOFF, she shared her Top 10 Things to keep in mind about sexual harassment in the workplace.

- 1) There is a strong movement that demands more respect, and a stop to sexual harassment and abuse.
- 2) So many women (and some men) telling their story of abuse in the past has made it much easier for young people to know they have the right to say NO and to report all inappropriate behaviors on the part of adults who previously would have intimidated them into silence.
- 3) Women of strength and power need to set examples and

# POPPOFF!

teach those more vulnerable they can safely stand up for themselves.

- 4) The term "sexual harassment" can refer to behaviors from teasing to rape. Can't treat all inappropriate behaviors as abuse.
- 5) Physical abuse and demands of sexual favors are extreme forms and deserve harsh punishment.
- 6) Asking for sexual favors in exchange for a job, a promotion, or even a better assignment are quid pro quo and are against the law and criminal behaviors.
- 7) Off-colored jokes, mild teasing, misguided compliments... although they might be offensive...are not criminal, just inappropriate. The recipient has the right to demand they be stopped. Counseling is usually warranted for the person behaving inappropriately.
- 8) People bring different backgrounds, belief and sensitivities to the workplace. To create a safe psychological and physical environment for all people and asking that everyone become a bit more formal and less "familiar."
- 9) Yes, the pendulum is swinging far to the right, and for some, taking the fun out of the social aspects of working with others. Now is the time to be

cautious, reserved, more polite and formal.

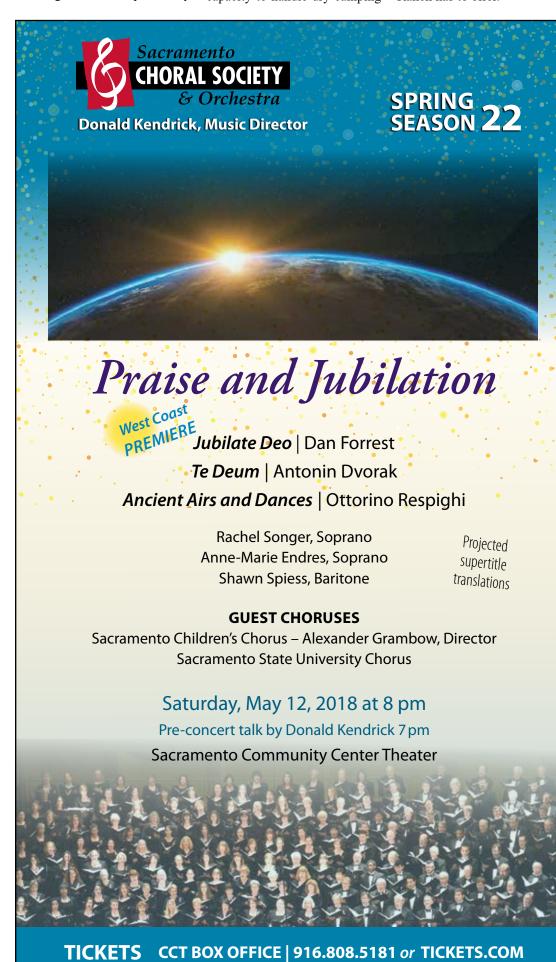
10) Beware the possibility of a "witch hunt." Let's stop harassment and abuse, but let's not paint any silly comment with a harsh brush.

Just keep in mind these office behaviors that should be avoided in a Sexual Harassment Fee

- Workplace. 1) No compliments on physical appearance even if they are innocent in nature.
- 2) Men and women should not touch each other at all. Anything beyond a handshake is opening Pandora's Box. Men and women...no pats on the shoulder, hugs, and any touching of the arms and legs.
- 3) Avoid all forms of teasing. Everyone has a different reaction to humor.
- 4) Language...If you wouldn't say it in front of your mother, you shouldn't say it in the office.
- 5) No flirting. Whimsical office romances may still exist, but in today's workplace, they can potentially get your reprimanded or even fired.

Check o u t www. DiamondAssociates.net for additional information. How sad we have come to this extreme. But perhaps that pendulum will find a happy medium. In the meantime, be careful.





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# We Help American Businesses Grow

The 2018 Capital Region Small Business Week Celebration recognizes the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. It is a collaborative effort of local, state, and federal agencies together with the private sector (both non-profit and for-profit.) This week-long series of events are designed to connect the region's small businesses with local resources and celebrate the important role that small businesses play in the region.

For more information visit: capitalregionsmallbusinessweek.org

# Calendar of Events (April 30th—May 4th )

April 30th Small Business week Kick-Off (4:30-7 PM) Dante Club, \$20: Multi- Chamber mixer to network with small businesses from every chamber in Capital Region. Appetizers and a drink ticket included in admission price.

May 1st BizX (2-7PM) Crocker Art Museum: "Marketing Like a Boss" \$10-15

May 2nd Capital Connection (11-3PM) Rancho City Hall: Come hear from and meet with banks and other lending institutions about how your business can access capital and achieve its goals.

May 3rd Small Business Start Up Guide (10-12 PM) Location TBA:

If you're thinking about starting a new business or already in process of launching your new venture, come learn about the business fundamentals from a panel of

May Market Place (4-8 PM) Automobile Museum: Shop with 70 small businesses and learn about the latest products and services local vendors have to offer.

May 4th Small Business Awards Breakfast (7:30-10 AM) Citrus Heights Community Center: The small business awards celebrates local businesses that drive our economy.

# Capitol Pops Concert Band Marks 21st Anniversary with Free Concert at Rusch Park Gym in Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Capitol Pops Concert Band will celebrate its 21st anniversary with a free, open to the public concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 21, 2018, in the Rusch Park Gym, 7801 Auburn Blvd., in Citrus Heights.

Under the baton of recently appointed Director Judith Steinle, CPCB will perform traditional pops favorites, including lively hits from years past and popular music from television and the movies. The two-hour concert includes a 20-minute intermission.

This performance is co-sponsored by the Sunrise Recreation & Park District and the City of Citrus Heights.

Longtime band supporter Eisley Nursery in

Auburn will provide a special rosebush for the band's student scholarship raffle. Other raffle prizes will be available to attendees making voluntary donations. Spring flowers grown by Eisley Nursery will be available for purchase at the conclusion of the concert.

Started in 1997, the CPCB has performed a diverse portfolio of high-quality, well-prepared music heard by thousands of concert-goers throughout Northern California. Based in Citrus Heights, the self-supporting, nonprofit community band of about 50 musicians represents a wide cross-section of the Sacramento area.

For more details on the Capitol Pops Concert Band, visit its Facebook page or www.capitolpops.org. For more information, contact CPCB Manager Linda Glover at (916) 725-5214.



Under the baton of recently appointed Director Judith Steinle, CPCB will perform traditional pops favorites, including lively hits from years past and popular music from television and the movies. The two-hour concert

# **VOTING** HAS CHANGED IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY!



# Beginning with the June 5, 2018 Election:

All voters will be mailed a ballot

Ballots will be mailed beginning May 7, 2018

- You can return your ballot
  - by mail
  - at a Ballot Drop Box
  - at a Vote Center
- Vote Centers will replace traditional polling places

Voters can vote at any Vote Center in the County! Vote Centers open beginning May 26, 2018

- Remember to update your registration if you:
  - move
  - change your name
  - change your political party

Learn more at www.Elections.SacCounty.net Call Toll Free (800) 762-8019



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**CLUB** is Excited to Offer: Blue Buffalo,

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5.5 Oz Tin All Varieties (Select Indoor Included & 9 Lives With Any Purchase of Pet, Fish Food, or Supply PLU 321 Limit: 1 Coupon Per Family
Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18

# BLUE BUFFALO •Chicken (Reg. \$11.00 Off) 30 Lb Bag

• Chicken (Large Breed) • Fish & Sweet Potato (Reg & Lrg Breed) • Puppy (Reg

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OFF Low Prices Family Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18

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(Gold Label 2.8 Oz. 20/\$14.00) **Limit 2 Cases** 

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> Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18 TIDY CATS **SCOOPABLE** CAT LITTER

20 Lb Jug Regular Unscented Limit 2 Jugs

Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18

**PURINA** KIT N' KABOODLE **DRY CAT FOOD** 16 Lb Bag

Limit 2 Bags **Per Family** 

Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18 **HI-COUNTRY** 

WILD BIRD SEED 20 Lb Bag (Kaytee, 20 Lbs - \$8.99) (Audubon Friends, 20 Lbs - \$4.99)

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Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18

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3 Oz - All Varieties Except Elegant Medley Limit 1 Case Per Family Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 4/11/18 - 4/17/18 PLU 361

**PREMIUM CAT LITTER** 10 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags With Coupon

PLU 365

10 • American River Messenger APRIL 13, 2018

# Legislation to Help **Overtaxed Californians**

by Senator Ted Gaines

To overtaxed Californians, every day feels like April 15th. California sports the highest income tax brackets of any state, top-five gas taxes (and that's without including the "cap-andtrade" fees on every gallon, which would push us to the top of the heap), the highest corporate tax in the western states. and so on down the line. And for all that money, the state's taxpayers get broken down roads, crumbling spillways, and a laughingstock of a high-speed rail project that is attaining cult status in the annals of wasteful spending.

I say enough. That's why I'm introducing a group of bills to ease the burden on the families and businesses who see too much of their money go to Sacramento with too little result.

Senate Bill 995 will raise the standard deduction by \$1,500 for single filers and \$3,000 for joint filers, creating a benefit that will be enjoyed by everyone.

Senate Bill 996 will lower California's corporate income tax from 8.84 percent to 6.84 percent, and take us from 9th-highest in the U.S. to 25thhighest. California has lost 9,000 businesses or expansions to other states recently, and the legislature

ing the rest of them out of state as soon as it can. But by giving them a chance to keep more of what they earn, we can retain businesses, and help them invest, expand, hire more workers and

raise wages for their employees. Senate Bill 1218 will make contributions to 529 College Savings Plans tax deductible in California. Currently, money in these plans grows tax-free but California is one of nine states that forces savers to use after-tax dollars to fund the plans. With college costs exploding and students graduating with heavy debt, we should make it easier for families to save. By letting savers deduct 529 plan contri-

butions, we can help them build

bigger college nest eggs for their

children and grandchildren and

free up more state dollars for our

neediest students. Senate Bill 1231 is going to grant a \$6-billion tax rebate to the people by sending a check to every Californian who filed a tax return in 2016. The governor estimates that California has a surplus of more than \$6 billion this budget year, and that's after fully funding our rainy day



spending by nearly 70-percent over the past 6 years. This money is EXTRA, above and beyond the comprehensive plans and unreasonable demands of California state government. This is simple tax justice,

increasing school

and the overburdened California taxpayers deserve their money back.

Taxpayers need a champion in Sacramento. These bills are ambitious and taken together would strike a blow against the tax-and-spend politicians who are spoiled by their stranglehold on taxpayer wallets. Even with all these changes, California won't transform into a tax haven. It still won't fully compete with zero-income tax Nevada or zerosales tax Oregon. But these bills are a giant step in the right direction, and they would let the people know that their fate isn't to always get poorer so their government can get richer.

Senator Ted Gaines represents the 1st Senate District, which includes all or parts of Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou counties.

# FAIR OAKS COMMUNITY UPDATE



By County Supervisor Susan Peters

Through the generosity of the American River Messenger, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated community of Carmichael.

#### DA to Speak at Community Coffee Meeting

Please join me on Wednesday, April 25, at 7:30 am when I hold my Fair Oaks Community Coffee Meeting featuring District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert as the guest speaker. The Meeting will be at the Fair Oaks Water District, 10326 Fair Oaks Boulevard, in Old Fair Oaks Village. Under her leadership, a select group of deputy district attorneys have been assigned as "Community Prosecutors" who pursue quality of life issues by working with the Sheriff's Problem Oriented Policing (POP) and Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) Deputies on matters like drug houses, vacant homes that become transient hangouts, illegal dump sites, etc.

If you can't make this morning meeting, District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert will be my guest speaker at my Carmichael Community Meeting on Thursday, May 24, at 6 pm at the Carmichael Park Clubhouse. I hold a number of community gatherings throughout the year in Arden Arcade, Carmichael and Fair Oaks with each having a special guest speaker. Flyers for each community identifying dates and times are available on my website at bos.saccounty.net.

#### Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff

The Sheriff's Department is seeking individuals interested in becoming members of the VIPS (Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff) Program. VIPS members assist the department with a variety of duties like writing crime reports, performing residential security checks, assisting neighborhood association groups, and helping at the Sheriff Service Stations plus much more!

Since 1993, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department has relied on volunteers to assist with its many tasks. To have effective crime prevention requires the support of a partnership between the Sheriff's Department and community members – and that's why individual volunteer participation is so vital.

For additional information, please email the VIPS Coordinator at volunteers@sacsheriff.com.

#### Fair Oaks – Orangevale Big Day of Service

A grassroots all-volunteer led initiative is underway to make a positive impact in the communities of Fair Oaks and Orangevale. The goal is to unite these communities around the idea of making things better by working together on a single day – May 5 – on approximately 25 community service projects.

Individuals, families as well as local organizations, businesses, and churches can all participate. To learn more, please go online to bigdayofservice.com.

#### Fair Oaks Fiesta Day

Fair Oaks Village will be holding its annual Fiesta Day on Sunday, May 6, and activities involve old fashioned free games and activities for children, Arts & Craft vendors, food trucks, shopping in the Village, raffles, music, a pancake breakfast along with the Fair Oaks Sun Run, a classic car show, and the Famous Toilet Bowl Racer Challenge.

For more information about Fiesta Day, please visit the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce online at fairoakschamber.com or call 916-967-2903.

Susan Peters represents the Third District on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. She can be reached at susanpeters@saccounty.net.

#### 50+ years! Come Celebrate with the first graduating classes of Del Campo! DEL CAMPO High School Reunion - Classes of 1966, 1967 & 1968 August 3 - 5, 2018

Lions Gate Hotel, McClellan AFB 3410 Westover St. Sacramento



Friday night: 6-10 pm Reception \$25 Saturday Morning Photo Shoot at Del Campo campus. Class of 66 - 9 a.m., Class of 67 - 9:30 a.m., Class of 68 - 10 a.m. \$5 each.

Saturday Evening - Dinner and Dancing from 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$70 per person. Sunday - Family Picnic at Fair Oaks Park, Noon to 4.

Lions Gate has discounted rooms for \$117 per night. Make reservations through the hotel (916) 640-0835 using discount code Del Campo 50th Reunion by July 6. All payments are due July 23, 2018.

#### For more detailed information:

Please contact Dona Coster-Cruse at donacruse64@gmail.com, Susan Worley-Mandibles at smandibles@gmail.com or Ed Mandibles at emandiblesS@gmail.com

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