

Wizard World Comic Con Returns to Sacramento

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Volume 10 • Issue 11

Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County

June 05, 2015

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Memorial Day Ceremony Commemorates Our Fallen





Top: Bagpipers Kurt Baird and Casey Young. Right: A highlight of the day was the appearance of Abraham Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address. Lincoln was portrayed by Corey Winfield, an actor from Fair Oaks. His memorable performance captured Lincoln's stately manner, pauses, and habits, such as taking his glasses off and on as Lincoln was reported to have done. The fact that Winfield is African American added much to its



By Elise Spleiss

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Memorial Day at the Fair Oaks Cemetery began with the traditional parade of motorcycles. Members of the American Legion Riders Chapter 383, followed by bagpipers, rolled onto the Avenue where hundreds of flags led the way. They drove toward the memorial and flagpole where the ceremony was held.

This year's ceremony was filled with meaning and memories, a history lesson for all. The program began with Chaplain Mark Rice (Chapter 383 American Legion Riders) giving the invocation. He introduced this year's theme: to pay special tribute to the veterans who fought and died in the American Civil War. This May marked the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War, so the service was dedicated to all those who lost their lives in the battles of the war. The service aimed to help people remember and understand the sacrifice of those who died, paving the way for "the new birth of freedom." It also honored veterans laid to rest at the cemetery and around the world.

Special guest speakers were Congressman Ami Bera, Senator Ted Gaines, 8th District Assemblyman Ken Cooley, and Sacramento County Supervisor Susan Peters. Congressman Bera recognized the ceremony as a time to pause to pray and thank those who are fighting to free people who are living under oppressive

Assemblyman Gaines commemorated all soldiers who died in service. He recalled the decades of struggle during this war to preserve our nation's independence as our country was giving birth, never giving up. "It was a country struggling to reconcile its rhetoric with its reality," said Gaines. "It is a testament to the American character

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Honoring Casa Roble High School's Best and Brightest

Story and photo by Sheila LaPolla

ORANGEVALE, CA (MPG) - Casa Roble High School's Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) 25th Annual Awards Night ceremony was held in May and honored the cadets in the program for their scholastic achievement in the Aerospace Science Academics Studies program.

The AFJROTC cadets, audience, and dignitaries were welcomed by Group Commander Cadet Colonel Tristan Adamson.

AFJROTC CA-901 Aerospace Science instructors Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Houdek and Senior Master Sergeant John DeVenere moderated the awards ceremony where 26 national and special awards were presented by numerous military service organizations. The awards ceremony provided an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of the cadets and to symbolically pass the torch to the next group of future AFJROTC graduates.

An air of excitement laced with a serious, dignified tone respecting military decorum filled the room as cadets

celebrated each other's achievements. Their enthusiasm, patriotism, and pride were readily displayed throughout the

evening's ceremony. The AFJROTC's mission is to "Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community." The AFJROTC program is grounded in the Air Force core values of "Integrity first, Service before self, and Excellence in all we do." The curriculum emphasizes the Air Force heritage and traditions, leadership, the development of flight, applied flight sciences, military aerospace policies, and

space exploration.

The AFJROTC cadets at Casa Roble High School in Orangevale, California embody the core values and intent of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. These

exemplary citizens-tomorrow's leaders—were recognized for their hard work on this special 25th Annual Awards Night.

Source: Jeanne M. Holm, Center for Officer Accessions & Citizen Development



The Casa Roble Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Color Guard retiring the flags at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.



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17th Annual Fair Oaks Memorial Day Ceremony

Continued from page 1

that the schism between the North and South, so tragic and deadly 150 years ago, is nothing now."

Assemblyman Cooley invited attendees to visit Capitol Park at the State Capitol in Sacramento. The Civil War Memorial Grove was



This year's ceremony was filled with meaning and memories, a history lesson for all. Photo by Nicholas

planted in 1897 with saplings from famous Civil War battlefields. It was the first monument in Capitol Park and honors all Civil War soldiers.

A highlight of the day was the appearance of Abraham Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address. Lincoln was portrayed by Corey Winfield, an actor from Fair Oaks. His memorable performance captured Lincoln's stately manner, pauses, and habits, such as taking his glasses off and on as Lincoln was reported to have done. The fact that Winfield is African American added much to its meaning.

During another high spot of the day, Carolyn Peth, representing the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, presented a special flag that they donated to the cemetery. The 34 star flag was donated in honor of the end of the Civil War. During the Civil War, Lincoln ordered that the number of white stars in the blue union remain at 34, even though 11 southern states had seceded from the Union.

The 34 star flag was presented to Civil War reenactor Joe Martie who set it in place, unfurled it, and turned around to salute it to honor those who died. Following the ceremony, Abraham Lincoln and the young union soldier shook hands in front of the flag.

Another moving moment followed as a special headstone marker



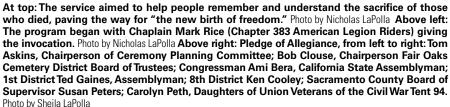
bearing the name of Private John Bradford, a Union Army Veteran, was recognized. Private Bradford had lain in an unmarked grave for nearly 95 years. A formal dedication will take place in the fall.

The annual placing of the wreath then took place at the memorial in honor of those buried there. Members of American Legion Post 383 Fair Oaks and VFW Post 6158 Fair Oaks placed the wreath together.

After the placing of the wreath, 30 members of Boy Scouts troop 380 filed around the flagpole. They lowered and removed the present flag and raised a new flag, one that had flown over the nation's Capitol. This flag will now fly over the memorial to honor all veterans and the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

The ceremony ended with a rifle





Ralph Grace and Tom Hill played Taps. Following the ceremony, complementary refreshments were

salute by Camp 22 SUVCW while served courtesy of the Orangevale/ Fair Oaks Grange. William Ruygt provided the inspirational patriotic music throughout the day.



around the flagpole. They lowered and removed the present flag and raised a new flag, one that had flown over the nation's Capitol. Photo by Sheila LaPolla



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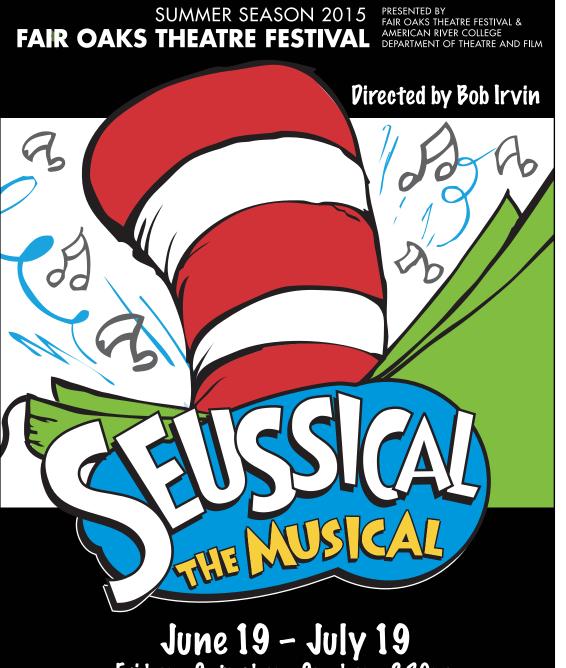
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Joseph Bjorn, along with 40 members of the Clean and Sober program in Sacramento and the American Legion Riders, arrived early Friday morning to assemble flags and crosses and to place them on the 1,789 graves of veterans at the Fair Oaks Cemetery. Bjorn is a veteran of the war in Afghanistan. Residents of this facility see their service here as a way to give back to their community. Photo by Elise Spleiss



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Subscriptions should be mailed to American River Messenger, 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608. Subscription rate is \$25 per year in Fair Oaks and Orangevale. The American River Messenger is published twice-montly. Call 916-773-1111 for more information.

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(ISSN # 1948-1918).





Wizard World Comic Con Returns to Sacramento

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Wizard World, Inc. continues its 2015 schedule with its second trip to the Sacramento Convention Center at Wizard World Comic Con Sacramento, June 19th to June 21st. Norman Reedus (The Walking Dead), Danny Trejo (Machete, From Dusk Till Dawn), Katie Cassidy (Arrow), Henry Winkler (Happy Days, Royal Pains), Kelly Frye (The Flash), WWE Divas The Bella Twins and Eva Marie, and Christian Serratos (The Walking Dead) headline the roster of celebrity guests scheduled to attend the pop culture extravaganza. The WWE stars will appear on Saturday only, while Winkler is scheduled for all three days of the event. Other guests listed above are scheduled

for Saturday and Sunday. Other well-known Wizard World Comic Con Sacramento guests include Charlie Carver (Teen Wolf), Malcolm McDowell (A Clockwork Orange), Alfonso Ribeiro (Fresh Prince of Bel-Air), Giancarlo Esposito (Once Upon a Time, Breaking Bad), Reggie Lee (Grimm), Manu Bennett (Arrow, The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey), Adrian Paul (Highlander), Kevin Conroy (Voice Actor -Batman: The Animated Series). Jason David Frank and David Yost (Mighty Morphin Power Rangers), Chris 51 (Epic Ink), The Boondock Saints duo Sean Patrick Flanery and David Della Rocco, and Scott Wilson (The Walking Dead).

Wizard World is also the home of the most creative comics, artists, and writers on the planet. Artist Alley at Comic Con Sacramento will feature Neal Adams (Batman, X-Men), Paolo Rivera (All-New X-Men, Captain America), Humberto Ramos (Amazing Spider-Man, The Spectacular Spider-Man), Mel Rubi (Red Sonja, Doctor Strange), Phil Ortiz (The Simpsons, Muppet Babies), Peter Bagge (Hate, Mad), Arthur Suydam (Marvel Zombies, Army of Darkness), Ethan Van Sciver (Justice League, Batman), and many others.

"We are excited to be returning to Sacramento, which was a huge success in our debut there last year," said John Macaluso, Wizard World CEO. "We sold out of three-day passes and Saturday admissions well before the event, and we have an even

Call Lenka



Norman Reedus from The Walking Dead is just one of the scheduled celebrities set to appear June 19th-21st.

bigger show planned for this

In addition, all full-price Wizard World Comic Con Sacramento attendees will receive a limited edition exclusive variant cover of The Walking Dead comic, drawn by one of Wizard World's talented artist guests (to be announced). Comics will be issued at registration while supplies last and VIP attendees will receive an additional black and white sketch version.

Wizard World Comic Con events bring together thousands of fans of all ages to celebrate the best in pop-fi, pop culture, movies, graphic novels, cosplay, comics, television, sci-fi, toys, video gaming, gaming, original art, collectibles, contests, and more. Sacramento show hours are Friday, June 19th from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, June 20th from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, June 21st from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wizard World Comic Con Sacramento is also the place for cosplay, with fans young and old showing off their best costumes throughout the event. PRSchedule2015. Fans dressed as every imaginable character—and some never before dreamed—will roam

the convention floor and participate in the famed Wizard World Costume Contest on Saturday night. For more on the 2015 Wizard World Comic Con Sacramento, visit http://wizd. me/SacramentoPR.

Wizard World, Inc. (www. wizd.me/PR) produces Comic Cons and pop culture conventions across North America that celebrate the best in pop-fi, pop culture, movies, television, cosplay, comics, graphic novels, toys, video gaming, sci-fi, gaming, original art, collectibles, contests, and more. A first-class lineup of topical programming takes place at each event, with celebrity Q&As, comics-themed sessions, costume contests, movie screenings, evening parties, and more. Wizard World has also launched CONtv, a digital media channel in partnership with leading independent content distributor Cinedigm. Fans can interact with Wizard World on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, and other social media services. The 2015 Wizard World Comic Con schedule is available at www.wizd.me/

Source: Atherton Public Relations

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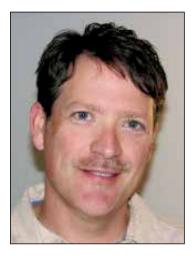
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By Ronnie McBrayer

Even if one makes only a cursory reading of the Old Testament, that reading is sure to uncover the fact that ancient peoples were fond of building memorials. In the oldest of times, these places were called "gilgals." A "gilgal" is a "circle" or a "wheel," and these places were exactly that; circular campsites and memorials not unlike Stonehenge. A stone monument would be erected in the center of the circle and the community would gather at the outer edges for their rituals.

Like our ancient forefathers, we too are fond of building stone monuments, modern "gilgals" that honor the past, and the past we are most quick to memorialize is our history of war. An index of major US monuments reads like a catalogue of conquest. From our revolutionary beginnings to our current international military campaigns, we have filled up the ground with the infinitely precious bodies of our youngest and most promising men and women.

Case in point, visit our most iconic memorial of stone: Arlington National Cemetery. Hundreds of thousands have been buried there over the years, and it troubles me to say this, but it will reach capacity in only a few more decades. No, not everyone buried there is a war casualty, but all served in some capacity, and Arlington isn't



Unconditional Love not **Unconditional Surrender**

even the largest of our National Cemeteries. It is only one of nearly 150 such graveyards all over this country.

Yes, it is right to honor the men and women buried in those places, but we do them a disservice if we do not remember them and their deaths properly. How do we remember properly? By remembering in such a way as to stop filling the ground with the fallen dead of war. Or, at the very least, to reduce the numbers called upon to bleed, sacrifice, and die; to learn from the cycle of history and cease the crazed repetition of violence; and to work with all our might to end our dependence upon warfare.

On this weekend in which we remember the dead of war, let us do so with tears streaming down our faces. Let us fervently honor those who unselfishly gave their lives, but let us vigorously refuse to glorify the violence that took those lives. After all, "war," as the often maligned William T. Sherman said, "is hell. It is all folly, madness, a crime against civilization. And even its success is over dead and mangled bodies with anguish and lamentation."

For me to say "war is not the answer" is to do more than quote a Marvin Gaye song. It is to confess faith in Christ as the way to peace and reject the false promises of war. War promises us that when the last battle is fought, the last bomb is dropped, the last enemy is slain, and the last soldier is put to rest in sacred soil,

then we will have a world at peace. Yet, war is waged without end, and our cemeteries continue

The world we want, a world where swords are beaten into plowshares, where mercy and justice flow down like the waters, where every tear will be wiped away from our eyes, and where there will be "no more death or sorrow or crying or pain" is the world constructed by the unconditional love of God, not the unconditional surrender of our

I believe, though it sounds utopian, that the death of Jesus was the last act of necessary violence in the history of the world. In showing us how to live and die; how to sacrifice without hate or hostility; and how to love others and ourselves, he has shown us the path to be at peace with God and the world.

So let us gather at our cemeteries and memorials of stone, around the tombs of the known and unknown who gave their lives. And as people of faith, let us also gather around another stone; the stone rolled away by the power and love of Christ, the only love that will bring peace to the world.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, blogger, pastor, and author of multiple books. Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.me.



Dare to Live Without Limits

> Do You Daydream?

by Bryan Golden

A daydream is an imagined fantasy, typically one of happy, pleasant thoughts, hopes or ambitions, seen as real, and experienced while awake. A daydream is a vision played in your mind of hopes or ambitions that you imagine would be wonderful if it could be true.

What did you dream about when you were growing up? Your daydreams could have been filled with adventure, romance, travel, and success. At that time in your life, the world was filled with wonder and unlimited possibilities. You freely let your mind wander. You imagined numerous

Unfortunately, too many people condemn daydreaming as a lazy, frivolous waste of time. As children, we are admonished to refrain from daydreaming. As such, we develop an aversion to it and suppress it later in life. Labeling someone a daydreamer is synonymous with calling them unrealistic or unproductive.

Contrary to common misperception, daydreaming has numerous benefits that are helpful in a variety of areas. This is based on the fact that daydreaming taps into the power of your mind to transform thoughts into reality.

Studies have shown that brain activity is higher during daydreaming than when focusing on routine tasks. Daydreaming directs your brain to concentrate on any topic, challenge, goal, situation, issue, or problem you choose. Once so directed, your brain works 24/7 on whatever thoughts it is fed.

Daydreaming is an effective strategy when faced with problems. Letting your mind wander enables you to explore various options. The parts of your brain associated with problem solving actually become more active.

When seeking solutions, daydreaming allows you to review past events to identify the cause of any problems. You can then assess different strategies to help pick the most effective approach.

Dealing with conflict is also aided by daydreaming. You can review the origin of the conflict, while assessing what you did right and what you did wrong. Next, use your daydream to determine the most effective course of action. Evaluate different scenarios that could help manage or eliminate the conflict.

Relaxation is another benefit of daydreaming. You find serenity by reliving pleasant experiences. You can imagine yourself engaging in virtually any enjoyable endeavor. This type of mental escape allows you to recharge and improve your mood. Taking brief breaks in this manner also boosts your productivity. Daydreams are a built in entertainment center that enable you to combat boredom or monotony.

Daydreaming is a powerful tool for goal attainment. You visualize yourself being successful and experience all of your emotions associated with attaining your dreams. In so doing, you unleash your mind to work

nonstop to devise a way to bring your dreams into reality.

Boosting your creativity is another benefit of daydreaming. Your daydreams can explore any possibility. In your mind anything is possible. Through daydreaming, your brain is transformed into an idea simulator without any limitations. You can truly imagine anything.

Maintaining relationships is another advantage of daydreaming. You can fill your mind with images and happy thoughts of the important people in your life. This process maintains and strengthens emotional ties to those individuals.

When faced with challenges, daydreaming aids you in solidifying your beliefs and values. In your mind, you review what you will do or say in response to various scenarios. You can plan what points you want to make along with deciding what is acceptable.

Daydream at every opportunity. It's good for you. Let your mind wander in order to explore anything and everything. Daydreaming is healthy and beneficial. Enjoy it!

NOW AVAILABLE: "Dare to Live Without Limits," the book. Visit www.BryanGolden. com or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist. com or write him c/o this paper. © 2009 Bryan Golden. *



By Marlys Johnsen Norris, **Christian Author**

What good thing in life can we truly accomplish without the love, grace, mercy, and power of God Almighty? Some may like to take credit for what God does in their life, but in the end, their day of reward has already happened. There will be no reward in heaven for such things. Tooting one's own horn is not

One needs to truly recognize the mighty powerful hand of God that has brought so many miracles and happenings into all

the answer!

All About God's Ability, Not Ours!

our lives. We are not in control, with ministers will be those He is. When one is in constant who God has enabled with the communication with Him, His gifts of evangelism and prayer spirit will guide and direct won- to teach those in need that it was derful things to happen in the Almighty God who has touched ministry He is a part of your life. Be aware of this: living in the perfect will of God disturbs God's enemy, therefore he will attack. But remember, God is greater, so trust Him to fight the battle for you. Then praise God

for what He does! The works of God will always leave a mark of love and caring for others as one meets their needs. The ability to be aware of those needs comes from the loving heart of God and is called the gift of discernment bestowed on some believers. This gift will enable them to supernaturally know what to do to meet a need. They will most likely work together with other workers who have the gift of mercy. Along

their lives and met their needs.

God's promises are absolute, and they encourage those who read and claim them. We all will have difficult days ahead but we must remember what appears to be too difficult for us is not too difficult for God. God knows about everything, every need in someone's life. He is a mighty magnificent God whose love is beyond measure or our understanding. Even those words do not touch how great, powerful, and mighty He is.

Marlys Johnsen Norris is the Christian author of seven books. You may contact her at Marlysjn@gmail.com.



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COMMUNITY **UPDATE OAKS**



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 Fair Oaks.

Senior Open The 2015 U.S. Senior Open Championship will be held June 22nd through 28th at Sacramento's storied Del Paso Country Club.

The tournament will feature 156 of golf's elite professionals and amateurs. More than 140,000 spectators are expected

to attend the seven-day event, which is estimated to pump \$17 million into Sacramento's

regional economy. All general public parking will be free at Cal Expo with bus service to the Country Club. The following roads will be closed during the championship's hours of operation (5 a.m. to 9 p.m.): Marconi Avenue from Lacy Lane to Watt Avenue; Morse Avenue from Marconi to Pope avenues; and Pope Avenue from Morse to Watt avenues.

For information about the tournament, please visit www.2015ussenioropen.com.

Parkway Parks Pass

The American River Parkway is a unique 23-mile-long natural resource that provides a quick escape from the stress of urban life and offers plenty of outdoor recreational amenities. It is a public asset worth protecting and preserving-

and your support is needed! Please show your support by purchasing a year-long unlimited Parks Pass. This convenient annual parking/day-use

pass is great for joggers, bicyclists, as well as outdoor and nature enthusiasts who frequent the Parkway. The pass costs only \$50 per year—and pays for itself after 10 trips.

Parks Passes are sold at The American River Parkway Foundation Office in the William B. Pound Recreation Area or online at www.arpf.org.

Protect Your Pets

The County Animal Shelter reminds you that a pet left in a vehicle can quickly turn deadly on warm days. Even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a parked car can jump 20 degrees in just 10 minutes. Being outdoors in temperatures over 90 degrees can also be dangerous. It's important to provide Fido with shade and plenty of water if you can't bring him inside.

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

SAFE Credit Union Awards \$10,000 in Local Scholarships

Credit Union continued its commitment to improving the financial well-being of the community it serves by providing \$10,000 in scholarships to exceptional local students. As part of the annual SAFE Scholarship Program, 10 college-bound high school seniors were each awarded \$1,000 for their outstanding achievements. SAFE received more than 150 applications from students from high schools in 12 counties. Recipients were chosen on their academic achievement, financial need, community service, letters of

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - SAFE recommendation, and personal compositions on how their education will benefit their communities.

This year's recipients are Sabreena Singh from Luther Burbank High School, Grant Laut from Oak Ridge High School, Madeline Merwin from St. Francis High School, Jennah Thompson-Vasquez from Bella Vista High School, Jessica John from Casa Roble Fundamental High School, Amit Telreja from Folsom High School, Marilynn Wong from John F. Kennedy High School, Alexa Phillips from Mira Loma High School, Insu Jung from Sheldon High School, and Kayla Panora from Antelope High School. Started in 2001, the SAFE Scholarship Program is open to students in the 12-county area served by the credit union.

Established in 1940, SAFE Credit Union manages \$2.1 billion in assets and serves more than 183,000 members through 22 branches in Northern California and a fullservice call center. For more information about SAFE and its products and services, visit www.safecu.org.

Source: Will Holbert at RSE on behalf of SAFE Credit Union ★

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Fair Oaks Luncheon Meeting with Thomas Del Beccaro

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Members June 10th at noon at North Ridge and guests are invited to attend a luncheon meeting featuring guest speaker Thomas Del Beccaro, Republican Candidate for U.S. Senate in 2016. The luncheon takes place on Wednesday, deadline and \$27 after deadline.

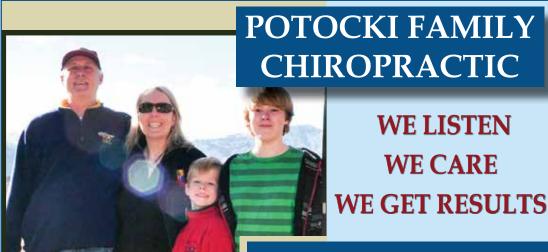
Country Club located on 7600 Madison Avenue in Fair Oaks. The reservation deadline is Monday, June 8th at 5 p.m. Cost of the luncheon is \$25 before

To make reservations, call (916) 733-1623. For additional information, please contact Kay Burton, (916) 635-5590.

Source: Kay Burton

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"The Brady 43. In the next month

46. Dog command 47. Fodder holder

48. Don't do this to Elvis's

50. Type of cell

55. Grandmother, in Britain

5, band 64. Twig of a willow tree

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6 Chlorofluorocarbon 9. Diplomat's forte

__ la la!" 15. Harvest helper

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17. Hula necklace

18. Exclude 19. *Father, e.g.

23. Baseball stat

garb

28. Symphony member

35. Ballpark stats 37 Dollar bills

40. Norse war god 41. *Mike was the dad in the

44. Whitman's dooryard bloomer

blue suede shoes

52. Even, to a poet 53. Has divine power

57. *"____ and Son"

67. Theater boxes

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51. *Nemo's Dad

56. Nary a soul

54. Parkinson's drug

57. Chronic drinkers

59. Cote d'Azur locale

42. Laughing predator

45. A company of companions

49. It often follows "neither"

31. Goes with chips

34. *He signed Father's Day into law

27. Useful

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74. Like one who seeks extra

2. The Beatles song/movie "_

6. *A stallion is a dad to him 7. Pacquiao to Mayweather, e.g.

60. Livestock food 61. A burrito can come with or without this

58. Hurry up

62. Check out 63. As opposed to a want 66. Manhattan

3 3 6 3 2 8 9 1 8 7 2 6 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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Suduko Puzzle on Page 8

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 8

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On the Streets

An Uncertain Future for Area's Homeless



May, a homeless woman who stays near Loaves and Fishes for daily access to their services, spends her afternoons sitting on the curb of North 14th Street with dozens of others who jump at the opportunity for a bottle of water or a free meal.

Story and photos by John-Michael Kibrick

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Sheriff's Deputy Paul Pace begins his day calmly, climbing into his cruiser and reviewing his to-do list. His last two years assigned specifically to answering complaints about homeless campers and panhandlers have been a welcome change after a long career policing prostitution and narcotics.

Throughout the years, Pace has handled the emotional stress or his job the same way. "It's just business; it's not personal," he said before leading this journalist on a ride-along. "At some point, you have to have a disconnect and go into cop mode."

But policing the homeless isn't as black and white as handling homicide or drug abuse. Although the county passed ordinances against aggressive panhandling and sleeping outdoors, being homeless is not a crime in and of itself.

A New Approach

Public debate has been raging on the issue for years and dozens of activists are present weekly at Sacramento City Council meetings. They berate the government's homeless policies and call for a long-term solution. Opinions on how to reduce Sacramento's chronic homelessness are as varied as the people giving them, but public pressure and data showing the heavy financial burden of the status quo seems to be having an effect.

In the last months of 2014, Sacramento County named Eduardo Ameneyro as Department of Human Assistance Division Manager, a new position working specifically on the homeless issue. Sacramento City also created a new job to work opposite Ameneyro, naming Emily Halcon as Homeless Services Coordinator. The appointments indicate that officials are approaching homelessness with more energy and resources than

The idea is that it's easier to treat somebody's issues if they're in housing than it is if they're on the street. It's cheaper and more effective." SSF External Affairs Director Maya Wallace

The moral line is also blurred: The general public sees the plight of some to be legitimate but voice frustration over others with drug abuse problems and those who remain on the streets due to choice, not necessity. Officer Pace estimates that 80% of regular panhandlers in his north Sacramento beat have homes, vehicles, and collect social security, facts not reflected by their signs claiming hunger and homelessness.

Pace and his fellow officers refer to one such panhandler as "Santa Claus," thanks to his long white beard. Who would guess that Santa owns a house in Antelope, drives a Cadillac, and uses the money he makes on the street to go gambling? Apparently Santa is immune from his own naughty-or-nice list.

Halcon and Ameneyro work in close collaboration with Sacramento Steps Forward (SSF), an umbrella organization intended to coordinate and unify the efforts of a multitude of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other homeless service providers in the region. In just a few months of work, a vision of unified services and a new strategy is starting to emerge.

"The dialogue in our region is now starting to move towards this 'housing first' dialogue that you see in other parts of the state and the country," said SSF External Affairs Director Maya Wallace. "The idea is that it's easier to treat somebody's issues if they're in housing than it is if they're on the street. It's cheaper and more effective.'

"The city is fully on board with housing first," said Halcon. "All of the city's services, at this point,

are directed toward programs that meet housing first initiatives."

From the county's perspective, Ameneyro said, "The overall target is to go the same way. The challenge is to find the affordable housing that goes with it."

Even the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is supporting housing first, and the inter-organizational agreement to follow this path suggests true cohesion and consensus on a difficult issue. But other factors, including the sheer complexity of the also says that finding affordable housing is difficult due to "land use policy at the city and the county level." Ameneyro cited limited federal funds as a severe barrier to affordable housing for

The Best Brings Out the Worst

of even the best-intentioned programs can be seen and felt on the streets surrounding Loaves and Fishes, one of Sacramento's best-known and most-successful providers of basic survival services provided at Loaves and Fishes, and not all of them are looking for help.

One 50-year-old man who wished only to be identified as Chris, spends most of his time on the streets near Loaves and Fishes or in Friendship Park, a private facility also run by Sister Libby. But on a hot afternoon on the corner of North C Street and Ahern Street, Chris said that he had chosen to be homeless.

Another man sucked on a marijuana pipe and yelled at his canine companion as he sat next to Chris

but she will be there to keep them going until they are. The NGO leader admitted that there have been many instances of violence within the homeless community in the area—Chris was involved in a fight in Friendship Park and a friend of his was recently killed.

Officer Pace also said he receives frequent reports from

11 City Councilmember Jeff Harris estimated that some 300 homeless individuals now remain in the vicinity, dependent on the services provided at Loaves and Fishes, and not all of them are looking for help."

homeless individuals who have been robbed or attacked by others living in the streets. "A lot of what happens to the homeless goes unreported," said Pace.

However, SSF has begun one initiative designed to make Pace's iob a little bit easier by marrying his policing duties with a moral approach. The deputy is now paired with a trained "navigator" who emerged from homelessness himself and acts as a counselor and advisor when they encounter vulnerable individuals. Pace knows the law and his companion knows how and where to get individuals into the proper services.

Joining cops with trained social workers has proved to be a powerful and effective tool in other areas of local law enforcement, but only time will tell how many of Sacramento's homeless can be convinced to enter programs after years of suspicion and disappointment when dealing with the authorities.

Nowhere to Go

Halcon insists that a new approach is taking hold that will mark the turning of the tide for those on the streets. "Sacramento is on the cusp," she said. "We want to do something that's more purposeful and linked to real outcomes."

Indeed, SSF is in the midst of collecting and analyzing data on the homeless that could provide new ideas and improved results. However, with increased insight could also come increased moral debate. Who deserves to be helped and why? How should the public view those who can't or won't be helped with government funds? Those are common questions that data may struggle

Ameneyro added that the county had set a goal of housing 300-400 families by the end of the current fiscal year, but according to the 2013 census of Sacramento's homeless, 2,538 total individuals were identified in emergency shelters or living in "places not meant for human habitation." A more liberal estimate from the Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness claims that 5,000-7,500 are out on the streets, and Ameneryo admitted that, "locating them (homeless individuals) right now is a little bit difficult." New numbers are expected this year after a census took place on

Despite an apparent leap ness in Sacramento County, the region still faces an up-hill battle to solve one of its most expensive and contentious issues of the past decade. When asked where a homeless person can SSF's Wallace replied, "There's no good answer to that right

Meanwhile, the shortcomings

to answer.

dreadlocks suggested infrequent January 28th, 2015.

forward in addressing homelessgo or who they can call for help.



Curtis recently moved back to California from Texas and ended up on the streets near Loaves and Fishes with a crowd of individuals. Curtis says that Loaves and Fishes has offered nothing to aid him in his daily job and apartment search.

still has a long way to go before homelessness becomes manageable.

Wallace claims that inefficiencies between Sacramento's organizations have stymied progress on providing the complete package of services that prevent and reduce homelessness. She private donations.

Wallace, Halcon, and Ameneyro all cited the organization run by Sister Libby Fernandez as a safe haven for Sacramento's homeless, but City Councilmember Jeff Harris estimated that some 300 homeless individuals now remain in the vicinity, dependent on the



Was this candle at an abandoned camp used to read by or to remember a loved one? More likely than not, its scent was used to ward off the stench

bathing. The sun was hot and sitting on the pavement uncomfortable, but Chris insisted that people should have the freedom to live outside and despaired at the public's view of homeless people.

"There's a good percentage of people who are out here because they like to live outside. Why punish everybody for the actions of a few?" asked Chris.

Having consciously made the choice to be homeless, Chris rejected the notion that he was dependent on Loaves and Fishes or its services. "I don't need it but it's there and convenient, so I'm going to make use of it," he said. "Just because I get a free meal doesn't mean I'm leeching off of society."

Sister Libby said that a "handful" of people remained in the area and depended on her services. According to her, not everyone is ready to accept help,

Bella Vista High School Diver Qualifies for First CIF State Diving Meet



Madison Ice placed second at the Sac-Joaquin Section Varsity Diving Championship, which qualified her for the first-ever CIF State Diving Championships. Photo courtesy of Michael Wong

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Bella Vista junior Madison Ice placed second at the Sac-Joaquin Section Varsity Diving Championship with a score of 390.95. Her second place finish qualified her for the first-ever CIF State Diving Championships, which was held at Clovis West High School on May 22nd.

"I am really happy for and proud of Madison," said Coach Mike Brown. "She battled injuries during the early part of the season and missed almost the first month of practice. It really speaks to her determination that she kept working and began to peak toward the end of the season. Madison won the Capital Valley Conference meet with a score of 396.85."

"I feel very proud and accomplished to be part of the first state meet, and honored that I am representing Bella Vista," said Madison. "Making the state meet made me realize I can accomplish a lot more than I thought I could."

At the CIF State Diving Championships, Madison competed against stiff competition and finished in 18th place out of the 28 best female divers in California.

Source: Mike Brown

DA Schubert Announces "Criminal Justice Shadow Day" Youth Program

SACRAMENTO COUNTY. CA (MPG)

- District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert announced the launch of a new Criminal Justice Shadow Day, giving high school students an opportunity to job shadow professionals from various criminal justice agencies.

Based on the area of interest, students will be paired with prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, probation officers, investigators, and judges to get a first-hand look at the criminal justice process and the different roles within the system. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about the District Attorney's Laboratory of Forensic Services.

The Criminal Justice Shadow

Day will be held on June 25th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the Laboratory of Forensic Services presentation will be held on July 16th from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The program is open to current Sacramento County high school students (incoming 9th graders through 12th graders). Eligible students are encouraged to apply.

Students will need to submit a completed application and signed permission slip, which can be downloaded at www. sacda.org. The deadline to apply is June 12th.

The Criminal Justice Shadow Day is one of several DA youth programs designed to increase understanding and engage students in a positive relationship with members of the criminal justice system.

District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert stated, "I am passionate about protecting the safety of our children as well as early crime intervention. I will continue to innovate and implement new ideas to deter criminal activity among students, prevent them from becoming victims of crime, and inspire them to explore careers within the public safety field."

For questions, please email YouthPrograms@sacda.org.

Source: Sacramento County
District Attorney's Office ★

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Game **Plots**

Finally, a Choice Game

By Noah Howard

Choice is unique to video games among all entertainment mediums, but too often this potential is squandered on black-and-white decisions that have immediate, predictable, and utterly unsatisfying consequences. These types of choices, which are common in a series like the popular Infamous franchise or the Mass Effect games, fail to capitalize on the medium's potential.

The Witcher III: Wild Hunt, released only a few days ago, capitalizes on this potential better than any game in the past 20 years. Developer CD Projekt Red has crafted a system of player choice that is both naturalistic and nonobvious, which represents a huge stride toward improving the ability of video games to allow a player to influ-

ence a miniature world. Set in a medieval fantasy continent pitted in furious war, Geralt, the player-controlled monster hunter, runs into frequent opportunities to aid locals, kill creatures, and help one warring faction over the other. Wild Hunt ensures that the effects of each choice are shrouded in ambiguity. The player has to squirm, thinking through all possible consequences before selecting one of the few available



In a power-fantasy game like Wild Hunt, taking away power, and by extension fun, is a dangerous gamble that could impact sales and review scores.

courses of actions. Oftentimes, what seems like the right decision could lead to the death of an innocent. Even inaction has consequences. Unlike other open-world exploration games, quests will fail if you do nothing. That girl dying of griffin wounds won't live forever.

Wild Hunt holds every choice over the player's head. Consequences are rarely revealed until far later in the game, preventing a simple restart to make a different choice. Once something is done, it's done.

This commitment to consequences is rare in games because it takes power away from the player. In a power-fantasy game like Wild Hunt, taking away power, and by extension fun, is a dangerous gamble that could impact sales and review scores. However, in Wild Hunt, it pays off tenfold. By reflecting the impacts of player choice on the environment in a convincing way, Wild Hunt covers up its gears, eliminating an otherwise

conspicuous reminder that, yes, Wild Hunt is only a game.

In an open-world experience, the ultimate goal should be to convince the player that what they're exploring is a real world rather than an artificial one. Once that suspension of disbelief is gone, you start to see the game as what it is: a collection of computer code. The illusion of "world" dies-and the joys of exploration and discovery die with it.

Ironic that one of video games' most important assets, choice, is so frequently the destroyer of its other most important asset, immersion. The Witcher III: Wild Hunt is the first game in a long time that allows choice and immersion to exist harmoniously together. Hopefully, it will serve as a template to guide the creation of convincing digital worlds in the future.

To respond to Noah's articles email him at digitalartsnoah@ yahoo.com

Call to Artists at **Nautilus Tea Company**



Photo by Lexi Storm

By Allison Buchholtz

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Nautilus Tea Company is accepting entries into their first-ever juried art show. Artists are encouraged to digitally submit 2D pieces for review that revolve around the themes of aquatic, steampunk, and tea. Artwork must be original, family-friendly, and display-ready upon acceptance.

Deadline for submissions is Saturday, June 27th. The gallery is scheduled to start running July 6th with a reception on July 11th. For more information and/or to fill out an online application, visit www.nautilustea.com.





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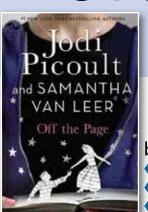
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Love of Books



Book Review by Amy Shane amy-shane@att.net

Off the Page

by Jodi Picoult and Samantha Van Leer

- Publisher: Delacotre Press
- ♦ Release date: May 19, 2015 ♦ Hardcover, 356 pages
- ♦ Intended audience: Young Adult
 ♦ Rating:
 ♥
 ♥

On the Book Jacket: From #1 New York Times bestselling authors Jodi Picoult and her daughter and co-writer, Samantha van Leer, comes OFF THE PAGE, a tender and appealing romantic YA novel filled with humor, adventure, and

Sixteen-year-old Delilah is finally united with Oliver - a prince literally taken from the pages of a fairy tale. There are, however, complications now that Oliver has been able to enter the real world. To exist in Delilah's world, Oliver must take the place of a regular boy. Enter Edgar, who agrees to take Oliver's role in Delilah's favorite book. In this multilayered universe, the line between what is on the page and what is possible is blurred, but all must be resolved for the characters to live happily ever after. Includes twelve full-color illustrations, and black-and-white decorations throughout.

Full of humor and witty commentary about life, OFF THE PAGE is a stand-alone novel as well as a companion to the authors' bestseller Between the Lines, and is perfect for readers looking for a fairytale ending. Fans of Sarah Dessen and Meg Cabot are sure to appreciate this novel about love, romance, and relationships.

you Between the Lines comes a delightfully creative and unique companion novel, Off the Page.

Have you ever fallen in love with a character from a book and wished you could lift them right off the page and into your life? That is exactly the wish Delilah made and received. Now Oliver, a prince from her favorite fairytale, has been given the rare gift of human life. However, things aren't always as easy as they first appear and now Delilah must decide what to do with all the changes she's created. First, Delilah must help Oliver adjust to normal teenage life. Soon, Oliver discovers that life as a teenager in high school is not as easy as living in a fairytale. In the real world, broken things don't magically repair themselves, you aren't healed by turning a page, you can't jump off a seven story ledge and land safely on the ground, and most

Amy's Review: From the minds that brought of all, there aren't any second chances in life. As time goes on in the human world, the

fairytale world Oliver left behind starts to crumble as the book slowly tries to correct itself by changing the storyline to how it once was. This quickly teaches Delilah and Oliver that sometimes rewriting someone's story is not the answer, and there is nothing more powerful than making and believing in a wish. Now, it is up to them to find magic in an ordinary world and make a wish to fix everything before it's too late.

Off the Page is a charming read for every reader who has once wished that a fairytale character could come alive. With both wit and humor, Jodi Picoult and Samantha Van Leer are the perfect mother-daughter team, thoroughly blending love, magic, and imagination with thoughtful subtle messages throughout.





Last week kicked off the beginning of SYNC's young adult free audio downloads. SYNC is a program that gives away two complete audiobook downloads- a current Young Adult title paired with a Classic or Required Summer Reading title. For more information or to sign up please visit their website at: www.audiobooksync.com

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How to Compare and Locate Senior Housing Options

Dear Savvy Senior,

Can you go over the different types of housing options available to seniors, and recommend some good resources for locating and choosing one? I need to find a place for my elderly mother, and could use some help.

Searching Daughter

Dear Searching,

There's a wide array of housing options available to seniors, but what's appropriate for your mom will depend on her needs and financial situation. Here's a rundown of the different levels of senior housing and some resources to help you search.

Independent living: If your mom is in relatively good health and is self-sufficient, "independent living communities" are a good place to start. Typically available to people over age 55, this type of senior housing is usually apartments or town homes that are fully functional. In addition, many of these communities also offer amenities such as meals served in a common dining area, housekeeping, transportation and a variety of social activities.

To locate this type of housing, contact your Area Agency on Aging (call 800-677-1116 to get your local number), or use online services like newlifestyles.com and caring.com. Most of these communities are private-pay only, and run anywhere from \$1,000 to over \$4,000 per month.

If that's too expensive, another option is "senior apartments," which are often subsidized by HUD for lower income seniors. You can locate these through your

local housing authority or online at hud.gov – click on "Find Rental Assistance."

Assisted living: If your mom needs some help with daily living activities, an "assisted living facility" is another option. These facilities provide personal care (like bathing, dressing, eating, going to the bathroom) as needed, as well as meals, housekeeping, transportation, social activities and medication management. Many facilities also offer special care units for residents with dementia. Costs typically run between \$2,000 to \$5,000 or more per month. Most resident's pay for assisted living from personal funds, and some have long-term care insurance policies. But, some states now have voucher plans that let you use Medicaid money.

Another similar, but less expensive option to look into is "board and care homes." These offer many of the same services as assisted living facilities but in a much smaller home setting.

Your Area Aging Agency is again a good resource for finding these facilities, as are the previously listed senior housing locater websites. And for help choosing a facility, the Assisted Living Federation of America offers an excellent guide at alfa.org/ checklist.

Nursing homes: If your mom needs ongoing medical and personal care, a "nursing home," which provides 24-hour skilled nursing care, is the next option. To find a good one, use Medicare's nursing home compare tool at medicare.gov/

nursinghomecompare. But be aware that nursing home care is very expensive, costing anywhere between \$4,500 and \$11,000 per month depending on location. Most residents pay from either personal funds, a long-term care insurance policy, or through Medicaid after their savings are depleted.

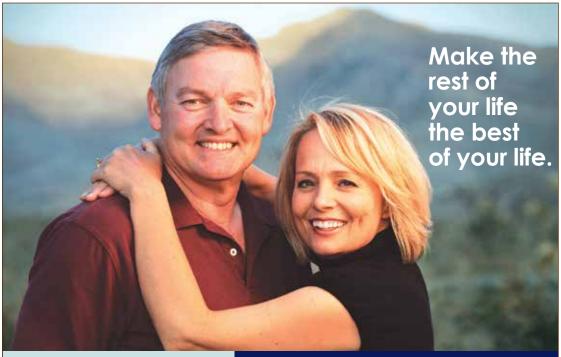
Continuing-care retirement communities (CCRC's): If your mom has the financial resources, a "CCRC" is another excellent option that provides all levels of housing (independent living, assisted living and skilled nursing home care) in one convenient location. But, these communities typically require a hefty entrance fee that can range from \$20,000 to \$500,000 or more, plus ongoing monthly service fees that vary from around \$1,000 to over \$5,000. For more information see carf.org/aging.

Need Help?

Consider hiring an aging life care expert (aginglifecare.org) who can evaluate your mom's situation, and find appropriate housing for a fee - usually between \$300 and \$800. Or, you can use a senior-care advising service like A Place for Mom (aplaceformom.com, 866-344-8005) for free. (They get paid from the senior living facilities in their network.)

Some other helpful resources include the National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information (longtermcare.gov), and your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (shiptalk.org), which provides free counseling.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



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The Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Death of the Republic



Commentary by Ellen Brown Reprinted by permission

"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government.

-- Article IV, Section 4, U.S. Constitution

A republican form of government is one in which power resides in elected officials representing the citizens, and government leaders exercise power according to the rule of law. In The Federalist Papers, James Madison defined a republic as "a government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the great body of the people "

On April 22, 2015, the Senate Finance Committee approved a bill to fast-track the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a massive trade agreement that would override our republican form of government and hand judicial and legislative authority to a foreign three-person panel of corporate lawyers.

The secretive TPP is an agreement with Mexico, Canada, Japan, Singapore, and seven other countries that affects 40% of global markets. Fast-track authority could now go to the full Senate for a vote as early as next week.

Fast-track means Congress will be prohibited from amending the trade deal, which will be put to a simple up or down majority vote. Negotiating the TPP in secret and fast-tracking it through Congress is considered necessary to secure its passage, since if the public had time to review its onerous provisions, opposition would mount and defeat it.

Abdicating the Judicial

Function to Corporate Lawyers James Madison wrote in The Federalist Papers, "The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands . . . may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny. . . . 'Were the power of judging joined with the legislative, the life and liberty of the subject would be exposed to arbitrary control, for the judge would then be the legislator. . . . '

And that, from what we now know of the TPP's secret provisions, will be its dire effect.

The most controversial provision of the TPP is the Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) section, which strengthens existing ISDS procedures. ISDS first appeared in a bilateral trade agreement in 1959. According to The Economist, ISDS gives foreign firms a special right to apply to a secretive tribunal of highly paid corporate lawyers for compensation whenever the government passes a law to do things that hurt corporate profits -- such things as discouraging smoking, protecting the environment, or preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

Arbitrators are paid \$600-700 an hour, giving them little incentive to dismiss cases; and the secretive nature of the arbitration process and the lack of any requirement to consider precedent

gives wide scope for creative judgments.

To date, the highest ISDS award has been for \$2.3 billion to Occidental Oil Company against the government of Ecuador over its termination of an oil-concession contract, this although the termination was apparently legal. Still in arbitration is a demand by Vattenfall, a Swedish utility that operates two nuclear plants in Germany, for compensation of €3.7 billion (\$4.7 billion) under the ISDS clause of a treaty on energy investments, after the German government decided to shut down its nuclear power industry following the Fukushima disaster in Japan in 2011.

Under the TPP, however, even larger judgments can be anticipated, since the sort of "investment" it protects includes not just "the commitment of capital or other resources" but "the expectation of gain or profit." That means the rights of corporations in other countries extend not just to their factories and other "capital" but to the profits they expect to receive there.

In an article posted by Yves Smith, Joe Firestone poses some interesting hypotheticals:

- Under the TPP, could the US government be sued and be held liable if it decided to stop issuing Treasury debt and financed deficit spending in some other way (perhaps by quantitative easing or by issuing trillion dollar coins)? Why not, since some private companies would lose profits as a result?
- Under the TPP or the TTIP (the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership under negotiation with the European Union), would the Federal

Reserve be sued if it failed to bail out banks that were too big to fail?

Firestone notes that under the Netherlands-Czech trade agreement, the Czech Republic was sued in an investor-state dispute for failing to bail out an insolvent bank in which the complainant had an interest. The investor company was awarded \$236 million in the dispute settlement. What might the damages be, asks Firestone, if the Fed decided to let the Bank of America fail, and a Saudi-based investment company decided to sue?

Abdicating the Legislative Function to Multinational **Corporations**

Just the threat of this sort of massive damage award could be enough to block prospective legislation. But the TPP goes further and takes on the legislative function directly, by forbidding specific forms of regulation.

Public Citizen observes that the TPP would provide big banks with a backdoor means of watering down efforts to re-regulate Wall Street, after deregulation triggered the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression:

- · The TPP would forbid countries from banning particularly risky financial products, such as the toxic derivatives that led to the \$183 billion government bailout of AIG. It would prohibit policies to prevent banks from becoming "too big to fail," and threaten the use of "firewalls" to prevent banks that keep our savings accounts from taking hedge-fund-style bets.
- The TPP would also restrict capital controls, an essential policy tool to counter

destabilizing flows of speculative money. . . . And the deal would prohibit taxes on Wall Street speculation, such as the proposed Robin Hood Tax that would generate billions of dollars' worth of revenue for social, health, or environmental causes.

Clauses on dispute settlement in earlier free trade agreements have been invoked to challenge efforts to regulate big business. The fossil fuel industry is seeking to overturn Quebec's ban on the ecologically destructive practice of fracking. Veolia, the French behemoth known for building a tram network to serve Israeli settlements in occupied East Jerusalem, is contesting increases in Egypt's minimum wage. The tobacco maker Philip Morris is suing against antismoking initiatives in Uruguay and Australia.

The TPP would empower not just foreign manufacturers but foreign financial firms to attack financial policies in foreign tribunals, demanding taxpayer compensation for regulations that they claim frustrate their expectations and inhibit their profits.

Preempting Government Sovereignty

What is the justification for this encroachment on the sovereign rights of government? Allegedly, ISDS is necessary in order to increase foreign investment. But as noted in The Economist, investors can protect themselves by purchasing political-risk insurance. Moreover, Brazil continues to receive sizable foreign investment despite its long-standing refusal to sign any treaty with an ISDS mechanism. Other countries are

beginning to follow Brazil's lead.

In an April 22nd report from the Center for Economic and Policy Research, gains from multilateral trade liberalization were shown to be very small, equal to only about 0.014% of consumption, or about \$0.43 per person per month. And that assumes that any benefits are distributed uniformly across the economic spectrum. In fact, transnational corporations get the bulk of the benefits, at the expense of most of the world's population.

Something else besides attracting investment money and encouraging foreign trade seems to be going on. The TPP would destroy our republican form of government under the rule of law, by elevating the rights of investors—also called the rights of "capital"—above the rights of the

That means that TPP is blatantly unconstitutional. But as Joe Firestone observes, neo-liberalism and corporate contributions seem to have blinded the deal's proponents so much that they cannot see they are selling out the sovereignty of the United States to foreign and multinational corporations.

For more information and to get involved, visit: www.flushthetpp.org; www.citizenstrade. org/ctc/; www.citizen.org/tradewatch/; www.citizen.typepad. com/evesontrade/.

Ellen Brown is an attorney, founder of the Public Banking Institute, and author of twelve books including the best-selling Web of Debt. Her latest book, The Public Bank Solution, explores successful public banking models historically and globally. Her 300+ blog articles are at www.EllenBrown.com. ★



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