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AMERICAN RIVER MESSENGER

Volume 7 • Issue 11

Serving Fair Oaks, Gold River, Rancho Cordova & Sacramento County

First Edition for June 2012

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Palau Festival Bringing Music Celebration

Event will feature top musicians, action sports, free family fun.



Luis Palau preaching at a past festival. Photo courtesy of Luis Palau Sacramento Festival

SACRAMENTO REGION – Luis Palau Festivals, the free, family-friendly celebrations which have drawn more than 8 million people since 1999 from south Florida to South America, are bringing The Luis Palau Sacramento Festival to Cal Expo Grounds on Saturday and Sunday, June 16 and 17, 2012. Activities are scheduled from 1:30-10 PM daily and admission will be FREE.

First conceived and produced in Portland, Oregon in 1999, Palau festival events have since changed the face of contemporary faith celebrations around the world (www.palau.org).

Expanding on a community service component that has long been a part of Palau festivals, the Luis Palau Sacramento Festival will team with Sacramento-area service agencies and churches

under the banner “Season of Service” to provide volunteers and resources to hundreds of projects that serve homelessness, hunger, families in need, schools, health and wellness, neighborhood revitalization and existing programs. By festival weekend, thousands of volunteers are expected to have served in Season of Service projects.

The Oregon-based Luis Palau Association has brought a message of hope through faith to more than a billion people through radio, television, the Internet, books and articles, including 30 million people face-to-face in 75 countries. Luis Palau’s daily radio broadcasts are heard by tens of millions of listeners on 3000+ radio stations in 48 countries. He is the author of close to 50 books, and his counsel on issues of faith has been shared

with political leaders and heads of state around the world.

Recent festivals have attracted massive crowds, including 900,000 in Buenos Aires, Argentina; 250,000 in Houston, and 300,000 in Fort Lauderdale. The 2012 festival schedule includes Haiti, Jamaica, Paraguay, Australia, Tanzania and the United Kingdom: Sacramento Festival is the only U.S. event this year.

The action sports area will feature top pro/am athletes from skateboarding, freestyle motocross and BMX biking. The Amazing Wonders Experience will include high-energy programming for kids and families and a large collection of NASCAR racecars.

The Palau Sacramento Festival will showcase some of the top

artists in contemporary Christian and gospel music, including

- **TobyMac:** one of the most honored singer/songwriters in the genre, his blending of hip-hop, rock and gospel generates high album sales and an energetic stage show <http://www.tobymac.com>

- **Mandisa:** the Sacramento native made her mark on American Idol and is currently nominated for multiple Dove (Gospel Music Association) awards including Female Vocalist of the Year www.mandisaofficial.com/home

- **Thousand Foot Krutch:** the Canadian rockers have produced 8 best-selling albums since 1998 including the just-released *The End Is Where We Begin* <http://thousandfootkrutch.com>

- **Skillset:** known for their powerful live shows, ardent fans (“Pan Heads”) and 8 successful albums, this quartet has been a major force in CCM for more than 15 years <http://www.skillset.com/>

- **Lincoln Brewster:** considered one of the elite guitar players in contemporary music, Lincoln Brewster is also a singer/songwriter with 8 albums and an extensive touring schedule <http://www.lincolnbrewster.com>

- **Phil Wickham:** equally at home on stage or in the studio, this singer-songwriter has produced 7 albums of original music and contemporary Christian standards <http://philwickham.com>

- **Marisol:** known for her powerful vocals and unique styling, this bi-lingual performer has sung throughout North and South America <https://www.facebook.com/marisolmusic>

For further information on the Luis Palau Sacramento Festival and the Season of Service visit www.sacramentofestival.com or call the festival offices at (916) 259-2165.

Folsom Boulevard: “Growing Strong”

RANCHO CORDOVA – Upgrading Folsom Boulevard has long been important to Rancho Cordovans. The new updates make the Boulevard more functional, they are creating a new image, and the new sidewalks are a much needed safety feature for Kinney High School students, light rail riders, and other pedestrians.

“Changing what was formerly Highway 50 into a local roadway will mean that Folsom Boulevard will be more enticing to business development,” said Cyrus Abhar, the City’s Public Works Director. The Boulevard has a long history of being a major highway and thoroughfare.

“We are turning it into a hometown roadway that is pedestrian friendly and provides easy access to businesses,” said Ted Gaebler, Rancho Cordova City Manager. The \$25 million update is planned to re-energize, renovate, upgrade, and beautify Folsom Boulevard in Rancho Cordova.

Construction includes sidewalks, landscaping, medians, new paving and striping. Traffic lights will be modified. And an underground drainage system is now in place. Most of this has been done with outside monies - Federal and State funding sources.

“We can’t afford to lag behind our competitors in Folsom and Citrus Heights who are making significant infrastructure improvements. Otherwise, business opportunities, jobs, and revenue will go to those communities instead of Rancho Cordova,” said Ted Gaebler, Rancho Cordova City Manager. “Unfortunately, traffic has been affected during construction, but you can’t make an omelet without breaking a few eggs or get to second base by staying on first.”

For current construction news on Folsom Boulevard, go to www.cityofranhocordova.org.

Source : City of Rancho Cordova

RT Launches Real-Time Bus Tracker

The Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) now offers customers the ability to track the location of RT buses in real-time. Recently installed GPS technology allows RT to track buses on routes, display their locations using online maps, and provide estimated arrival times at any bus stop. Customers can also use text messaging to receive estimated arrival times or sign up to be sent automatic email or text alerts. The real-time system, called RT Tracker, can be accessed at www.sacrt.com/rttracker.

“This technology provides RT riders greater flexibility in using public transportation,” Mike Mattos, Chief of Facilities and Business Support Services, stated. “While on-time performance is high, some delays are unavoidable. Customers can track the locations of buses and adjust their travel plans accordingly.”

RT Tracker users will be able to spend less time waiting, leaving more time for other things.

For route, schedule and fare information, call 916-321-BUSS (2877) or visit www.sacrt.com.

Five Celebrate 100 Years Plus



Eskaton's five centenarians, from left to right, include Mel Fagerlie, Ethel Lindgren, Ruth Shurum, Lee White and Maria Defru. Photo by Stuart Greenbaum

FAIR OAKS — Five centenarian residents of Eskaton Care Center Fair Oaks got together on May 25 to celebrate the 102nd birthday of their friend and neighbor Melbourn Fagerlie.

This marked the first time in Eskaton’s 43-year history that five residents ages 100 or older reside in the same community. The Northern California-based aging services provider typically

boasts between 30-40 centenarians among its 3,000 residents in 28 communities.

Fagerlie’s colorful and still active life includes music and social events, church programs,

relaxing in the outdoor gazebo, and enjoying his daily coffee and ice cream. His work history, as varied as it was interesting, included blacksmithing, U.S. Naval service, dredging, and finally as a correctional officer at the Old Folsom Prison, where he recalls providing security at the famous “Johnny Cash at Folsom Prison” concert.

When asked what he would like for his coming birthday, Fagerlie grinned and asked, “What you got?”

“We refer to ourselves as the “Official Sponsor of Longevity,” said Stephen Fife, administrator of the skilled nursing and rehabilitation center. “Centenarians birthdays are extraordinary accomplishments, always worthy of celebration.”

The Eskaton Care Center’s other centenarians, all women, each 100, are Maria Defru, Caroline Lindgren, Lee White and Ruth Shurum.

Learn more about Eskaton and the “Eskaton Celebrates 100+” initiative at www.eskaton.org/eskaton-celebrates-100+.html.

www.AmericanRiverMessenger.com

Investing in Yourself



Bill Walker, Publisher, The Indie Times. Photo by Julie Parker

By Julie Parker

CARMICHAEL – Can you make a profit from your self-published book or music CD?

“If you’re willing to invest in yourself, absolutely,” says Bill Walker, Publisher, The Indie Times.

Walker, a classical pianist and composer, has coached both musicians and authors on selling their own products. “I want to empower people to follow their passions and dreams.”

He knows firsthand the stress of recording music for the first time, and the importance of creating a platform, and marketing with social media. “Digital marketing is about connecting an artist with the fans. ‘Download my tracks. I don’t care if you steal it from someone. Come listen to me in concert.’ The fan wants to buy the artist’s product to support him.

The grunge music scene in

Seattle in the ‘80s was the beginning of the decline of the traditional music industry. Lots of labels are going out of business. Fans are seeing their bands at the neighborhood club, and more intimate venues.”

For example, Walker performs piano concerts in homes. “People seated three feet behind me get a different feel than in a large venue. In between songs, they can raise their hand, and blurt out a question. I’ve got a buddy who has made his whole career giving house concerts for 15 to 50 people. He has sold several thousand dollars a month worth of downloads of either sheet music or mp3’s.”

Although musicians understand the sweat equity involved in self-promotion, authors haven’t quite embraced the concept. “You can’t cut corners. If you do, you won’t get the same results as the publishers.

Whether you self-publish or go through a publishing company, the author is ultimately responsible for selling the book.”

Walker offers the following tips for independent authors:

- Define your target audience. Who is going to be receptive to your product?
- Hold a book signing at someone’s home, restaurant, or hotel conference room. Nationally, the average book signing in a bookstore sells eight copies, and you have to wait three to six months to get paid. “We launched a book signing at someone’s house. Thirty-three people showed up, and she sold 56 books.”
- Use social media – YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook – to market directly to fans.
- Produce your book in both printed and ebook (ie., Kindle) form. “You get paid twice. What a wonderful thing.”

If you’d rather work with independent publishing companies, do your research. “Sites like Lulu and Create Space offer layout packages, but they’re in generic form, which looks like an eighth grade research paper.”

Eighth grade or otherwise, schools are faced with budget cuts, and need to make tough decisions, usually with art programs taking the hit. “It becomes our job to teach kids the arts. How can you possibly learn how to problem solve, and create as an adult, if you don’t understand the arts at all as a kid?”

The Indie Times (theindietimes.com) was created to assist independent artists in all artistic genres, including dance, fine arts, film, and theater, with a global platform. It allows indies to connect in a myriad of ways, through its news, reviews, industry tips, and events announcements.

“I want to leave a legacy of a world full of successful, independent artists,” says Walker. “A thousand years from now, society will be judged from the words it has written, the songs it has sung, and the art it has created. It’s all storytelling.”

Share your story.

Retired Teachers Keep On Giving

Association Members Donate More Than 58,000 Volunteer Hours



Kathy Wilkinson and Donald Houser holding a check representing the \$1,381,616.00 of value of the hours given in volunteer service. Photo courtesy of CalRTA Div 75 and Meggan Ravazzolo.

SACRAMENTO REGION – Association, of Local Division # The California Retired Teachers 75, have tallied more than 58,000

hours of volunteer service in the past year, valued at more than \$1,300,000.00.

Members of Division #75 also funded 6 scholarships valued at \$9,000.00 as well as giving 12 mini-grants totaling \$3,000.00 to individual classrooms to promote worthy educational projects.

In recognition of the Day of the Teacher on May 9th, retired educators spotlighted those exceptional volunteers from among their ranks who each donated more than 2,000 hours to community activities.

In urging all Californians to find ways to volunteer their time on behalf of others, these retired teachers all said that the secret to volunteering is knowing that you will always get back more than you give.

San Juan Teachers Reach Agreement

to help address possible state funding shortfall

SACRAMENTO COUNTY– Officials announced June 4th, that a tentative agreement has been reached between the San Juan Teachers’ Association (SJTA) and San Juan Unified School District. The two-year agreement addresses the impacts of continued state budget cuts on the District’s operations and includes two furlough days with the possibility of up to 11 additional furlough days depending on final state funding and the outcome of November’s initiatives to raise funds in support of education and other essential public services.

“State funding cuts are destroying public education and damaging the future of California’s children,” said SJTA President Shannan Brown. “The continued underfunding of education in California has resulted in larger class sizes, fewer teachers, fewer counselors, and shorter school years. Voters must

approve the Governor’s funding initiative in November.”

San Juan Unified faces a \$35 million budget gap heading into 2012-13. The District has taken action to reduce that gap by \$11 million through realignment of programs and services. In a worst-case scenario, the tentative agreement with SJTA will provide an additional \$12.3 million in budget savings leaving \$11.7 million in solutions needed from one-time reserves and on-going discussions with the District’s other employee bargaining groups. Non-represented employees including management staff and the Superintendent’s Cabinet will automatically take the same number of furlough days as other employees.

The tentative agreement comes after six months of ongoing discussions and formally creates a budget review committee to make recommendations

to the Board of Education and SJTA for future consideration in addressing the District’s fiscal health.

“Our economy and our state leaders may have created our fiscal crisis but once again our teachers, counselors and other dedicated credentialed staff have stepped forward to be a part of finding solutions,” said Superintendent Glynn Thompson. “While we haven’t always agreed, SJTA’s leadership has spent the last several months actively engaged in analyzing our fiscal problems and collaboratively developing answers that allow us to continue the implementation of our community-developed strategic plan as our reduced resources allow.” SJTA members will vote on the agreement by Friday, June 8. The Board of Education will vote on the agreement June 26.

Source: SJUSD



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Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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AMERICAN RIVER MESSENGER

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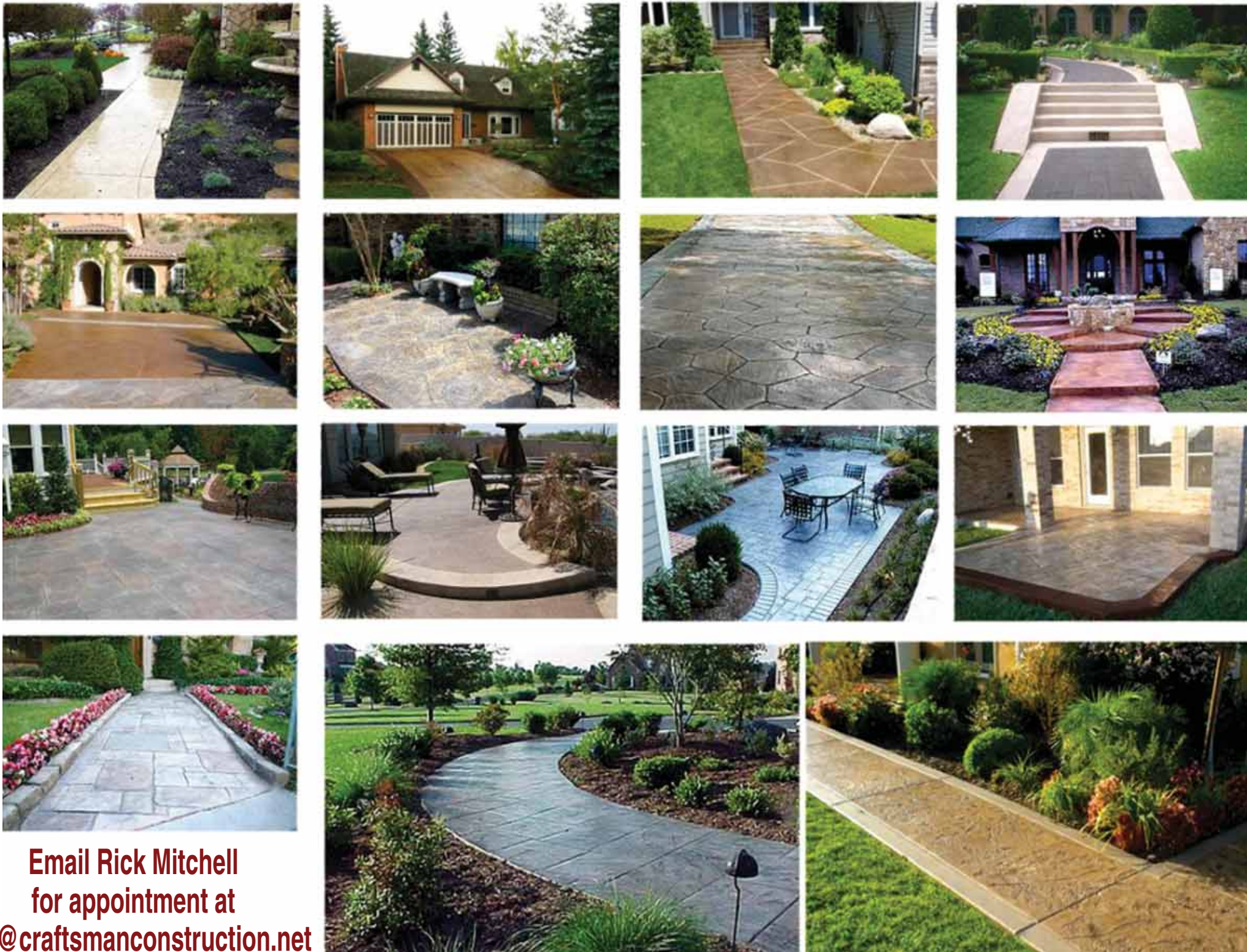


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United Way Rolls Out Annual Toilet Paper Drive to Help Nonprofits



United Way seeks 125,000 rolls of toilet paper from local community. Photo courtesy of United Way.

SACRAMENTO — Davis nonprofit Community Housing Opportunities Corporation must decide between spending \$9,000 on a summer youth enrichment program for 200-300 low-income children or purchasing a basic necessity — a year’s worth of toilet paper. United Way California Capital Region is asking the community to participate in its 4th annual LIVE UNITED Toilet Paper Drive on June 14 to help local nonprofits offset the cost for this staple item.

Last year’s drive raised 115,840 rolls of toilet paper and this year’s goal is 125,000 rolls. Sac-Val Janitorial Supply will donate one roll for every two rolls collected.

“It’s amazing the number of expenses nonprofits face that people don’t think about,” said Steve Heath, president and CEO,

United Way California Capital Region. “Nonprofits work magic with their budgets to make a positive difference in countless lives in our region, but there’s only so much they can do. Donating toilet paper is a great way to join together and ensure more money goes toward vital programs that change people’s lives.”

The drive will take place 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on June 14 at the Cal Expo main entrance, 1600 Exposition Boulevard in Sacramento. Residents also can donate toilet paper online at www.yourlocalunitedway.org/tp-drive.

The rolls will be distributed the following week to many of United Way’s 142 certified partners in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties. For more information, visit www.yourlocalunitedway.org/tp-drive.

United Way is the region’s leading provider of innovative solutions on the community’s most pressing issues, including high school graduation rates, household financial stability and obesity. United Way’s team of nonprofits, businesses, donors and volunteers work together to provide positive, measurable results on these issues through United Way projects: STAR Readers, SenSe-Ability and Fit Kids. Community members can give, volunteer and advocate in support of the causes they care most about, benefiting United Way and hundreds of nonprofits in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties. United Way is an independent, local affiliate of United Way Worldwide.

For more information, visit www.yourlocalunitedway.org.

Fair Oaks Chamber Better Business Skills

FAIR OAKS — Our monthly morning meeting series Better Business Skills has found its new home and new day. The Community Clubhouse lower level will host every 3rd Tuesday of the month, beginning June 19th at 8:15 am. (Registration

and networking till 8:30 am) Better Business Skills offers Chamber members and local businesses an hour of practical tips, tools and techniques for getting more of what you want out of your business — satisfaction, a sense of community and money.

June: *Time Management*
Facilitated by Pete Schroeder, Chamber Program Director and Certified Integrative Coach.

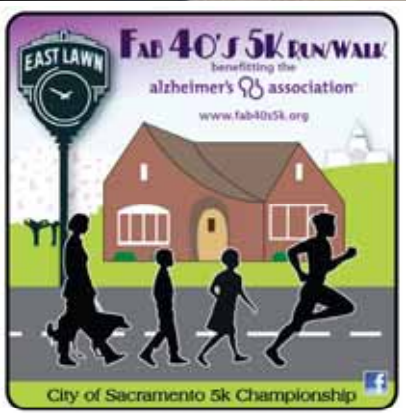


Coffee/Tea and pastries will be served. \$20 - Chamber members, \$25- non-Chamber members. Call (916) 899-3209 for details.

Fab 40’s 5k Run/Walk

Benefiting the Alzheimer’s Association City of Sacramento 5k Championship

Saturday July 14, 2012


Start and finish lines at historic
East Lawn Memorial Park, 4300 Folsom Blvd.




Food • Kid’s Bounce House • Family Photo Booth • Vendors • Prizes

Don’t miss this great family event!

Alzheimer’s is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States and there is no cure. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer’s. Come help us make that a reality. Run, walk, or just sit and enjoy the atmosphere. For more info: www.Fab40s5k.org



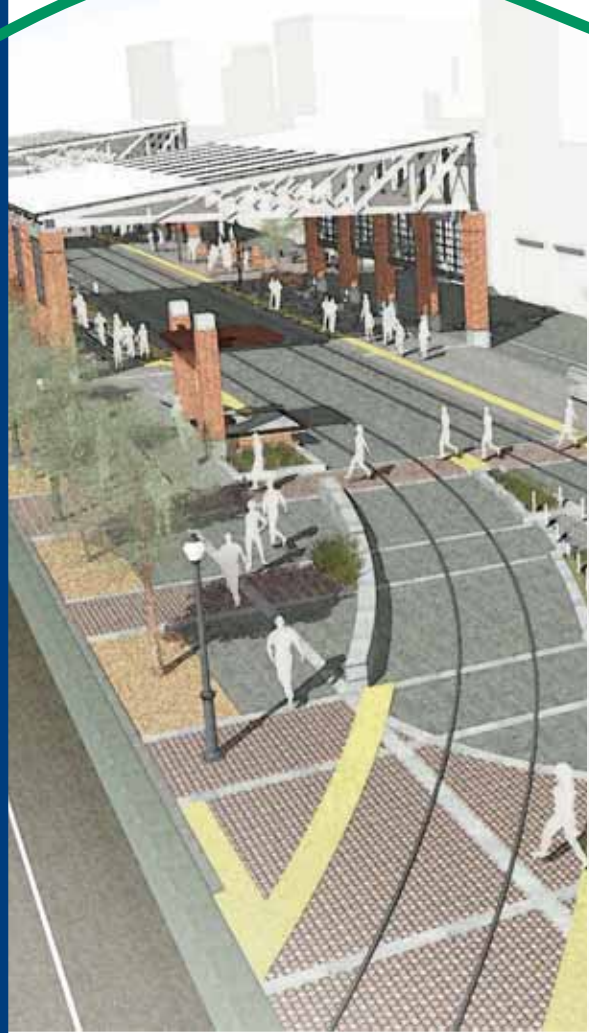
Grand Opening Celebration



Green Line to the River District

Friday, June 15, 2012
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

7th & Richards/Township 9 Light Rail Station
(7th Street and Richards Boulevard)







The Sacramento Regional Transit District invites you to the Grand Opening Ceremony of the new Green Line to the River District light rail extension. Join us for a lunchtime celebration immediately following the ceremony.

- Arrival of Inaugural Train at 11 a.m.
- Ceremony
- Live Entertainment
- Food
- Community Booths
- Prize Drawings

Free Admission – Bring your co-workers, family and friends!

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Father's Day

Sunday, June 17

Game Time: 1:05 p.m.

BBQ Tool Set Giveaway
(1st 2,500 Fans)




Win a chance to have your dad's name painted on the warning track or throw out the first pitch by purchasing the Baseball & BBQ ticket package. For more info go to rivercats.com/specialoffers.

Thurs, 6/14: Salute to the Red, White & Blue presented by U.S. Army


Fri, 6/15: Family Sleepover Pillowcase Giveaway (1st 2,500 fans)

Sat, 6/16: Fin Fiest - Tribute to Jimmy Buffett Pre-game Block Party @ 4 p.m.

Sun, 6/17: Father's Day BBQ BBQ Tool Set Giveaway (1st 2,500 fans)



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For tickets call 371.4487(HITS)

Sacramento County DA Report

CASE: Costco Wholesale Corporation (06/04/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Doug Whaley, Consumer Environmental Protection Unit

Sacramento County District Attorney Jan Scully joins Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley, and 28 other California district attorneys in announcing the settlement of a civil law enforcement action against Costco Wholesale Corporation. The civil action was filed in Alameda County Superior Court, and the settlement resolves allegations that Costco violated California laws for the safe storage, handling and disposal of pharmaceutical, and pharmacy waste as well as other hazardous waste.

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office teamed up with the other DA offices as part of a joint investigation and prosecution to address statewide violations of law after San Joaquin County inspectors found evidence of improper storage, handling and disposal of hazardous waste, and pharmaceutical waste products at Costco stores. Upon notification of the investigation, Costco officials cooperated with prosecutors and quickly came into compliance with hazardous waste management regulations.

The violations occurred over a five-year period at numerous Costco stores and distribution stores statewide, including 5 stores in Sacramento County.

District Attorney Jan Scully states, "Improper handling and disposal of hazardous waste creates a health and safety risk to the citizens of Sacramento County and our environment. The District Attorney's Consumer Environment Protection Unit remains aggressive in pursuing businesses that violate the state's environmental laws."

Under the final judgment, Costco must pay \$3.6 million in civil penalties and costs. It also funds supplemental environmental projects furthering consumer protection and environmental enforcement in California. The retailer will be bound under the terms of a permanent injunction prohibiting similar future alleged violations of law. Sacramento County will receive \$23,250 in costs and penalties.

Sacramento County DA Reports

Recent cases of interest

CASE: Felisha Mock (06/06/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Amber Hawk

Sacramento County District Attorney Jan Scully announced that 26-year-old Felisha Mock pled no contest to three counts of pimping (one count for each named victim), and was sentenced to 8 years, 8 months in state prison.

Mock targeted young, at-risk, run-away girls for prostitution. She was charged with multiple counts of human trafficking related to pimping and pandering three female victims in 2011. The victims were ages 15, 16, and 20 years old at the time.

District Attorney Jan Scully states, "Sex traffickers prey on the most vulnerable members of our community. I remain dedicated to pursuing those who sexually exploit young women and children and holding them accountable for these crimes."

CASE: Larry Paul Gregory (06/06/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Kevin Jones

Sacramento County District Attorney Jan Scully announced that 68-year-old Larry Paul Gregory was convicted by jury of eight counts of felony child sexual assault.

Gregory was considered a good friend to the 5-year-old victim and her family. In the months leading up to the assaults in 2009, Gregory inappropriately exposed himself to the victim on several occasions while playing soccer and swimming with her in the backyard. Additionally, Gregory sexually assaulted the victim in her bedroom and living room.

Gregory has previous felony convictions involving child sexual abuse crimes. In 1998, he was convicted by a Sacramento County jury of molesting a 9-year-old girl.

Gregory faces a possible maximum sentence of 480 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for June 29, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. in Department 33 in front of the Honorable Lloyd G. Connelly.

CASE: Saul Isidoro-Ausencio & Francisco Delgado (06/01/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Donell A. Slivka

District Attorney Jan Scully announced that Saul Isidoro-Ausencio and Francisco Delgado were convicted by two separate juries of three counts of first degree murder for the killings of Robert Corpus, Jamir Miller, and Richard Ward. The juries also found true that the defendants shot the victims from a motor vehicle with the intent to kill, and that they committed multiple first degree murders. Isidoro-Ausencio's jury also found true the allegations of the personal and intentional discharge of a firearm, and that the crimes were committed for the benefit of the Sureno Street Gang. The jury for Delgado was unable to reach findings on the gang and firearm allegations.

The victims were shot as they were riding their bikes on Malaga Way in Rancho Cordova because Isidoro-Ausencio was seeking revenge for a beating he suffered at the hands of rival gang members.

When he was unable to find the gang members who had assaulted him, he and Delgado drove up behind the victims and shot them instead. They believed that the victims were gang members, even though they had nothing to do with the assault on Isidoro-Ausencio.

Both defendants are scheduled for sentencing on June 22, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in Department 27 in front of the Honorable Judge Helena Gweon.

CASE: Kelvin Peterson & Bernard Reed (06/01/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Scott Triplett

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Troy Nunley sentenced Kelvin Peterson to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus 183 years to life in prison, plus 103 years in prison. Reed was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus 1 year in prison.

On September 2, 2010, Peterson and Reed shot and killed store clerk Tania Gurskiy during a robbery at a North Highlands pharmacy store.

Last month, Peterson and Reed were convicted by jury for the first degree murder of Gurskiy with the special circumstance that the murder was committed during the commission of a robbery.

CASE: Ryan McGowan (06/01/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Michael Blazina

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that an arrest warrant was issued for Ryan McGowan (31), a deputy with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. McGowan has been charged with two counts of selling large capacity magazines (Penal Code section 12020(a)(2)), two counts of illegal possession of an assault weapon (Penal Code section 12280(b)), and one count of illegal possession of steroids (Health and Safety Code section 11377(a)). The maximum possible sentence for these charges is five years, eight months in state prison.

Last summer, the Sacramento Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives began a coordinated investigation into McGowan for violations of federal and state firearms laws. On July 15, 2011, McGowan sold to an undercover agent a 9mm pistol with several illegal large capacity magazines. On August 4, he sold the undercover agent a .22 caliber pistol with an illegal large capacity magazine. On November 3, while serving a search warrant at McGowan's residence, investigators located two illegal assault weapons and steroids.

Concurrent with the filing of these state law violations, McGowan is being charged in federal court with federal firearm violations. Please contact the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of California for additional details regarding the federal charges.

Railroad Museum Celebrates “Diesels & Dads” on Father’s Day

SACRAMENTO – The California State Railroad Museum is gearing up to celebrate “Diesels and Dads” on June 17, by showcasing seven rarely seen diesel locomotives that will be on special display from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The locomotives on display will include two stationed inside the Museum itself: Foley Bros. No. 110-1, a pioneering 1929 diesel locomotive, and Southern Pacific No. 6819, a 1970s “Tunnel Motor” hood unit. On the turntable outside the Museum, the unpainted Southern Pacific No. 6402, a F7A Cab unit, will be displayed with open sides exposing the interior mechanical components.

Southern Pacific No. 5208, a 1949 Baldwin road switcher, and Sacramento Northern No. 402, a 1939 switcher originally owned by the Western Pacific Railroad will also be available outside the Museum on Father’s Day.

In addition to viewing the special diesels on display, dads will also enjoy taking a relaxing train ride aboard a historic locomotive along the Sacramento River! Weekend excursion train rides are up and operating as usual, departing hourly from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission weekend excursion train ride tickets are available in-person on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 10:30 a.m. the day of the train ride at the Sacramento Southern Railroad ticket office, located on Front Street between “J” and “K” Streets in Old Sacramento. Train ride tickets cost \$10 adults; \$5 youths ages 6-17; free for children ages 5 and under (\$15 for first class tickets aboard the first class El Dorado). Advance tickets to ride the first-class El Dorado are available online at www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

For more information about the California State Railroad Museum or any of these special activities, please visit the website or call (916) 445-6645.

Army Corps to Improve American River Levees

SACRAMENTO REGION – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District is getting ready to improve two levee stretches along the American River this summer, and is inviting nearby residents to attend a series of three public outreach meetings at Sacramento State's Alumni Center.

Corps officials will host three public meetings June 12, July 10 and July 31 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. each night to explain construction procedures and answer questions about the work planned. No major road closures are planned and the American River Parkway Trail will remain open, though several access points will be periodically closed throughout construction.

The Howe Avenue Levee Raise Project, set to begin the week of July 23, involves raising levee heights an average of one foot and improving the waterside levee slope along the north bank of the American River, running from Howe Avenue west to the Kadema Drive trail access ramp. This project is expected to be complete by November 2012.

Around mid-August, construction crews will close a gap in an existing seepage cutoff wall between the Campus Commons Golf Course and the Northrop Avenue trail access. This project is expected to be complete by November 30, 2012.

The Corps built more than 20 miles of cutoff walls into American River levees since 2000. Cutoff walls strengthen levees and help prevent water from leaking through or under them. Areas where construction was complicated by utilities, bridges or power lines were set aside for later construction. The Corps has improved 14 of the 30 areas so far, and expects to complete construction at three more by the end of 2012

“Lowering Sacramento’s flood risk is a top priority,” said project manager John Hoge. “We’re reaching out to make sure residents know what to expect with the construction and to let them know that what we’re doing will improve their safety.”

Both projects are part of the American River Common Features Program, a joint effort between the Corps, the state’s Central Valley Flood Protection Board and Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, to improve Sacramento’s levees and reduce flood risk throughout the region.

Sacramento State Alumni Center is at 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA, 916-278-7809

Source: U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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The Genealogical Association of Sacramento

will hold its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, June 20, at 1:00 P.M., at the Belle Cooledge Library, 5600 S. Land Park Drive.

Guest speaker will be Lisa Lee speaking on “Taking a Second Look at Our Research”. All are welcome.

Further details at our website: <http://www.gensac.org>



By Ronnie McBayer

“The kingdom of God is like kudzu planted in a field.” Would Jesus have ever said such a thing? Yes, I think so. You see, he once compared God’s work in this world to a growing “mustard seed” and like “yeast mixed in with the dough.” Making the jump from mustard and yeast to kudzu is not as far a leap as you might think.

The mustard of first century Palestine overgrew and consumed everything around it. A farmer who planted mustard in her garden could not turn her back on it for very long. If she did, it would overrun every other vegetable or herb in the field. Yeast worked the same way. Mysteriously, inexplicably to those living before the understandings of microscopic science, yeast took over the bland, tasteless flour and transformed it.

Illustrated in the mustard seed and the yeast, Jesus makes clear that God can overwhelm and transform the very nature of this world with a steady, unstoppable, persistent, invasive force. Honestly, I don’t know much about mustard seeds or yeast fungi; but as a native of Georgia, I do know a little bit about kudzu.

Kudzu was introduced to North America on the United States’ hundredth birthday. The

The Kudzu Conspiracy

Asian plant was quickly loved by gardeners, what with its large green leaves and purple blooms, and nurseries began selling seedlings through the mail.

But it was the Dust Bowl years that really rooted kudzu in the American soil and psyche. The US government was seeking an effective way to conserve soil, and kudzu fit the bill perfectly. The vine was touted as a “wonder plant,” and the USDA used the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s to distribute and plant the seeds everywhere – especially the South.

They thought, once the soil was healthfully restored, that farmers could just plow over it and return to planting cotton, soybean, or corn. Little did anyone know that the Southeastern United States was the perfect environment for kudzu to grow, and grow and grow and grow. Kudzu has now climbed, coiled, and slithered its way all over the Southeast, changing the landscape while becoming a central characteristic of Southern culture.

Kudzu overtakes the environments into which it is introduced. It transforms the landscape in which it is planted. From just a few little seedlings, a few sprouting vines, it explodes and cannot be stopped. Such is the kingdom of God and the rule of Christ in today’s world.

Let it have its start – in people’s hearts, in people’s lives, in the midst of this planet’s pain and suffering – and the world will in fact, change. It will be redeemed, as slowly and steadily the God Movement invades this

world with the love of Christ.

Certainly we understand that people are still hungry. Wars are still fought. Injustice is still tolerated. There is suffering, anxiety, evil, and grief. But we believe that the kingdom is growing, inch by inch and foot by foot. This causes us to throw ourselves into a fractured world, not only because we care, but because we believe God isn’t finished with this world yet. He is making it new, making everything right, and he has chosen to do this through you and through me as we share his love.

No, we can’t take in every single orphan, but we could all take in one. Your Bible Study class can’t drill wells for every person dying for water in this world, but it could drill a well for one village. Your mission team can’t treat every AIDS patient in Africa, but it could provide medicine for a few of them. Your church can’t build a house for every homeless person, but it could go build at least one house. We can’t rescue every refugee or child of prostitution, but we can – we must – save some of them.

All these acts – and a million more just like them – make a real difference because we are not only helping people, but in Jesus’ name, we are joining God’s divine plot to revolutionize a society.

Ronnie McBayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.

It’s Not My Father’s World Anymore

By Rev. James L. Snyder

Celebrating another Father’s Day without my father I cannot help thinking how much has changed since he died. If he were to return today, he would find things quite different.

In all reality, this is not my father’s world anymore.

I might just as well say it. This is not my father’s country anymore, either.

The country my father loves seems to have all but disappeared. During his time, a deep-seated patriotic pride permeated throughout our country. We were proud of what our forefathers had accomplished and we were willing to die to preserve that heritage.

Today, it seems the past is simply the past and has no bearing whatsoever on the present. This may be why history books are being rewritten today. This, however, is a fallacy encouraged by those who do not know the right hand from their left hand. In our country today, you are either far right or far left and nothing in between. Whatever happened to people with common sense?

Perhaps that ancient anonymous philosopher was right when he said the problem with common sense was that it really was not that common anymore. Perhaps the demise of the common man explains this phenomenon. Or it could be that most people today have been educated be on their common sensibilities.

There was a time in my father’s country when people were proud of what they did. A few tried to get money without working for it. In my father’s country, there was a great deal of pride in working for what you had and not depending upon somebody with a handout. In my father’s country, there was a deep sense of accomplishment in earning what you had by the sweat of your brow.

The only people sweating these days are politicians up for reelection.

In my father’s country, there was no such thing as arbitrary handouts but plenty of hands out. It was considered our patriotic duty to help our neighbor when they were in trouble. Nobody looked to Uncle Sam to solve his or her problems. It was a community affair not a government mandate. In fact, if the truth were known, and an evidently it is not, they stayed as far away from Uncle Sam as possible only communicating with him once a year on April 15.

In those days, they saluted the flag, recited the Pledge of Allegiance and were right proud to do so. Not one of them could imagine anybody ashamed of doing that in public.

Today a lot is being said about the separation of church and state. My father would not understand the way some people are interpreting it. According to what is going on today they are trying to keep the church out of the state but make good and sure, the state runs the church. Isn’t that why we had a revolution in the first place?

In my father’s country, there was a separation between government control and people pursuing life, liberty and happiness. Oh, for those good old days.

Also, in my father’s country baseball was a national sport not a business. I am not quite sure when it became a business but my father never thought it was. He often took me to the ball field on a Saturday afternoon to have fun, enjoy the game and eat the world’s most delicious hotdog. At least he said they were the world’s most delicious hotdogs.

Our purpose in going was just to have fun. He did his share of making fun and harassing the other team’s fans but it never crossed his mind to physically beat one of them nearly to death. If I remember correctly, wedgies were the order of the day.

When our team won we celebrated and high-fived everybody around us. When our team lost, we determined with everything within us to slaughter them the next week on the field. When we said “slaughter,” we were talking figuratively.

Credit was something my father’s generation frowned on. As a young person, I had in my mind to buy a bicycle. I took my father to the store to look at that prized bike.

“Well,” my father stammered, as he looked the bike over. “How much money you’ve got saved for this bike?” I knew the lecture that was to follow. If you could not afford to buy something, you could not afford to have it. How many times have I heard that?

Perhaps if my father could come back for a day we could send him to Washington DC and explain to them this whole idea that if you cannot afford something you cannot afford something. It seemed to make sense to me and I was only I young person at the time. I guess when you get older you lose a lot of that good common sense. Then if elected and go to Washington DC, you leave all of that good common sense back home with your constituency who wonder what they elected you for.

The verse of Scripture that was very important to my father was, “And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it” (Psalms 90:17 KJV).

It may not be the same country my father loved, but I can still operate on the same principles that made him a patriotic father, and pray, “Establish thou the work of our hands.”

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at (352) 687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.



By Marlys Norris, Christian Author

God’s Marvelous Light is forever surrounding desiring everyone to become His child as He draw us into Himself. Some people dance around the truth of God avoiding actually going into the Light.

These people are intellectual and well read; knowledgeable about ways to communicate and convince people what they believe is accurate and true. However, when it comes to the evidence of real truth they question and reject everything responding to truth negatively. They don’t want to hear about

God’s Light Makes One Shine

it especially if one happens to touch a nerve within them.

They appear to be like a doubting Thomas needing proof like sticking their finger into the wounds on Jesus hands. They seem to always exemplify the absence of any faith at all. They actually honor “doubt” and will not even recognize the magnificent creation of a single created cell, that there is real evidence of the existence of God. Scientific proof exists within one tiny cell that God is real and He created everything. It did not happen with just a big bang or progressive changes for us to become human beings! Those things would need even more proof for any doubter. God has a divine plan for everyone, and by His mercy and grace, He proved His unconditional love for the world and all who live in it.

You might begin to wonder “what are these doubters really trying to hide?” You may or may

not find out, but without much inspection you can determine that there is a secret sin in their lives, that has not been exposed. They are not ready to become responsible and they are not ready to reveal it to anyone. Sin never wants to be exposed, but when a person is willing to see its destructive factors, they will be ready to accept and let the beautiful Light of God into their lives. When they do, Life begins!

The Lord is my Light and my Salvation. Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)

Marlysjn@gmail.com

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By Pastor Ray Dare

The greatest human factor that influences your life is the way you see things, the way that you see yourself, the way you see your potential and your future. The ability to see with the eyes of faith makes all the difference in whether you achieve your dreams and reach your potential or succumb to the status quo of mediocrity. What is it that you believe God wants to do in and through your life? You must see it with the eyes of faith. If you can see it, you can achieve it.

What does it mean to see with eyes of faith? “I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can SEE something of the future he has called you to share” Ephesians 1:18a (LB) Paul is saying, “I want you to learn to see with spiritual eyes.” When you were born physically,

What Do You See?

you? What do you see yourself doing for God? God wants you to see as He sees, because He wants to use you in the world today in a significant way. You know you are created for far more than you’ve experienced to date. Many people never achieve their full potential because they can’t see themselves as God sees them. They miss God’s plan for their life because of self imposed limitations. They can’t see themselves as a leader, as a dynamic Christian, as a person who influences others in a significant way.

You may not be living up to your potential because of the way you’re viewing yourself or your situation. My challenge to you this week is to get a new view of you. See your potential as God see it. God says, “You can be more than you are right now, you can be something you never thought you could be before.”

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CLUES

- ACROSS**

1. Jamaican spiritual movement

6. Sports official

9. But not least?

13. Like puppy-hating de Vil

14. Gone by

15. New _____, capital of India

16. Harsh or corrosive in tone

17. Daughter's brother

18. Like Bird flu

19. *She holds a record 17 Oscar nominations

21. *She escapes the Wicked Witch

23. International help

24. Heaven's Gate, e.g.

25. Dog foot

28. *Yugoslavian dictator

30. Expel from a country

35. Mountain divide between Europe and Asia

37. *Cruise and Hanks

39. Extend subscription

40. Ruptured

41. Old photograph color

43. Seawards

44. Forcefully urge
46. Home for students

47. *Denim innovator

48. Capital of Bahamas

50. Start of a hole, pl.

52. Bo Derek in 1979

53. T on a test

55. ____ stop

57. *Wheelchair-bound physicist

61. *MC famous for parachute pants

64. Home to largest mammal

65. *Blanche Devereaux on "The Golden Girls"

67. Silent performers

69. Chopin's instrument of choice

70. A belief or philosophy

71. High society

72. Inactive

73. *First baseball player to reach 3,000 hits

74. Rent again
- DOWN**

1. Consumer electronics maker

2. Rainbows, e.g.

3. Edible fat

4. _____ firma

5. Even though

6. Wood file

7. Big head

8. Dipping meal

9. Russian left

10. Different spelling for alighted

11. * _____ of Iran

12. Like Tim of "A Christmas Carol"

15. One who darts

20. Changes to a manuscript

22. Not new or borrowed or blue

24. Fruit _____

25. *Russia's 2-time President

26. Pleasant odor

27. Time _____, pl.

29. Three-_____ sloth

31. Bell sound

32. Early stages of illness

33. *"Superman" to Kidder's Lane

34. *a.k.a. Samuel Clemens

36. *General Robert E. and director Spike

38. Seabiscuit's father, e.g.

42. Single-cell protozoan

45. Hispanic American

49. Crematorium jar

51. *Known as the "Queen of Disco"

54. Finno-_____ family of languages

56. Upside down frown

57. Shoshonean people

58. Turns blue litmus red

59. Raised mark on skin

60. *His last word was "Rosebud"

61. Cannabis plant

62. Male version of Emily

63. Intersecting nerves or vessels

66. North American country

68. Many tennis games make one of these

For Solution
See Page 7

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Hank Fisher Properties Raises \$33,000 for SPCA



(L-R) Bobby Jackson (Sacramento Kings), Geoff Petrie (Sacramento Kings - President of Basketball Operations), Rick Johnson (Sacramento SPCA Chief Executive Officer), and Tom Peno(Sacramento SPCA Board of Directors) were among roster of amateur golfers participating in Hank Fisher Properties Third Annual Paws, Pals and Putts Golf Tournament annual May event at Del Paso Country Club supporting SPCA’s Senior Services program. Photo courtesy of Rosemary O’Brien, Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn, Inc.

SACRAMENTO REGION– Presented by Hank Fisher Properties, the Third Annual Paws, Pals and Putts Golf Tournament has raised \$33,000 for the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The annual May event at Del Paso Country Club provides essential support for the SPCA’s Senior Services program, which works to ensure area seniors can enjoy animal friends.

“Pets are a wonderful addition to the lives of seniors, many of whom live alone and on limited incomes. This SPCA service reaches out to those seniors and makes it as easy as possible for them to maintain their relationship with pets,” said Hank Fisher Properties President & CEO, Nancy Fisher. Through Hank Fisher Properties’ support of the Seniors Services Program, the SPCA is able to provide low-cost

pet care workshops, discounts on pet adoptions, obedience training, a helpline for animal behavior consultation, “Love on Loan” pet visits to senior residences, and other services. These services are designed to enable the elderly to enjoy the health and wellness benefits of pet ownership. “This year, due in large part to the support of Hank Fisher Properties and their 2012 successful golf tournament at Del Paso Country Club, the Sacramento SPCA Senior Services Program will be able to place homeless animals in homes of seniors without it costing seniors a dime,” said Rick Johnson, Sacramento SPCA Chief Executive Officer. “In addition, their support allows for hundreds of animals to receive veterinary care and vaccinations.”

The annual Paws, Pals and Putts Golf Tournament is hosted each year during May. Hank Fisher Properties created some of Sacramento’s first purpose-built senior living in the early 80’s and today maintains five full-service senior residences in the area as well as other apartment communities throughout Northern California. Hank Fisher Properties offers a wide range of services and amenities including: Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory care, Respite care for short-term stays and Daytime memory care. For more information, visit hankfisherproperties.com

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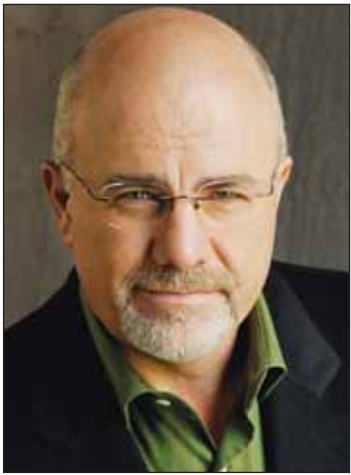
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Healing the Wounds

Dear Dave,
Recently, I discovered that my wife secretly kept and used credit cards over the last several years. I also found out there are two liens on our home from some of this debt. She was hiding the mail from me so I wouldn’t find out. I’m angry about the dishonesty, but I want us to get the debt cleaned up. What do you suggest?
- Tom

Dear Tom,
This debt and the liens are a symptom. What we’re looking at here is a repeated pattern of lying and deception. Anyone can become scared or ashamed and make a mistake, but this

Dave Says

has happened several times. It’s called financial infidelity for a reason. Really, it’s the same kind of lying as sexual infidelity. It hurts and makes people angry on a lot of the same levels, and that’s because it’s a broken trust. Assuming that you guys can talk things out and heal this rift in your marriage, you’re going to have to contact these credit card companies and try to settle the debts. You guys aren’t bringing home a lot, so you need to start scratching together every nickel and dime you can and make an offer to erase these debts. That will also remove the liens on your home. Many times creditors will settle a debt for pennies on the dollar. If you’re lucky, you may be able to get them to accept about 25 percent of the amount owed.

But I think you’ve got a much bigger problem here. You guys have some serious issues that need to be resolved. I’d advise going to your pastor, if you’re in a good church, or finding a reputable marriage counselor. Your wife needs to understand, loud and clear, that this kind of crap has to stop immediately!

What Happens Now?

Dear Dave,
What happens to a vehicle if the co-signer on the loan files bankruptcy?
- Robert

Dear Robert,
First, it means that only the co-signer has gone bad. The car is still in your name, and the loan is still in your name. If you were to notify the bank of this, and that you’d be keeping the car and still making the payments on time, then you shouldn’t have a problem. It also wouldn’t affect your credit score. Just because you partnered with someone who failed with money doesn’t mean you’re going to do the same thing.

There is one thing to keep in mind, though. It may show up on your credit bureau report that the loan has gone into bankruptcy. It shouldn’t indicate that you have gone into bankruptcy, just the loan. That much is true, since your co-signer filed bankruptcy. Still, this shouldn’t damage your credit score.

If it does, just stay on top of things, and report what has happened to the credit bureau. Your credit score should not be affected by something you didn’t do, as long as the loan involved is paid on a timely basis.

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



Jobs by the Hundreds at Sacramento HIREvent

SACRAMENTO – Great job opportunities await, and jobseekers will find a host of recruiters waiting to meet them and discuss career possibilities at Sacramento’s next HIREvent on Tuesday, June 26, from noon to 4pm at the Crowne Plaza hotel, 5321 Date Avenue, off I-80 at Madison.

This free job fair will feature a variety of employers actively

hiring for entry-level to management positions in a wide range of fields. Jobseekers will be able to introduce themselves to recruiters and make valuable contacts with both public and private-sector organizations. Employment experts will also be on hand, providing free personal resume consultations. For best results, job applicants should dress to impress and arrive

early enough to talk with every recruiter, because all the employers will be eager to fill immediate openings. Sacramento’s HIREvent is sponsored by KCRA, KQCA my58, Telemundo 33, Clear Channel, Salem Communications, and Job Journal. For more information, visit JobJournal.com or call 888-THE JOBS (843-5627).

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Tickets may also be purchased in the Village at American River Bank, Oaks Hardware, BBQPro, Bella Fiore Florist and the Recreation and Park District office.

Proceeds from the concert go to the Fair Oaks Theatre Festival, a non-profit summer theatre company, and the New Christy Minstrels Foundation providing music education, concerts and music to schools throughout the country. Both organizations are Charitable/Education entities under Federal law.



POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

immediately to the next dilemma. Take time to enjoy what's been

4) MONITOR YOUR INNER CRITIC: If we grew up with an inner critic telling us all the things we're doing wrong in life, chances are high we will give this inner critic to our children.

5) CHOOSE YOUR BATTLES: There are times when we need to relinquish our need to be right in our conversations with our children, and choose closeness instead. We can choose to be close by identifying with our children's struggles and listening to their feelings.

6) BE CURIOUS: Be interested in your children's lives. Ask them how they are doing and what's new with them. By being curious, you give them the message they are important and you're thinking of them.

7) CONFER REGULARLY WITH YOUR INNER CHILD: When our children struggle, stop and think about what you wanted to hear from your father at that age. Let that compassion shape what you say and how you say it.

The good news that, as fathers, we received distorted messages in our own childhoods. But we can give our children the healthy messages denied to us. Tom's father gave him the message that if he made enough money, all his problems would disappear. Yet, in adulthood, he never

understood why he felt so sad when he witnessed a dad playing with his son, and why this created such sadness within him as an adult. He was grieving a childhood he never had, and he didn't want his children to be deprived of the childhood they deserved. As an adult, he learned to give his kids what his own father hadn't been able to give to him...their hero. He supplied guidance to his children when they needed it, but he also gave them a shoulder to cry on and an ear to hear their feelings and thoughts as well. Heroes can cry too, even if society tells them real men don't cry. Heroes let their children explore who they want to be, instead of imprisoning them in predefined roles...roles that we as parents want them to play.

The feats of the heroes he describes won't make the front page of the newspaper. But what love can equal the love and admiration seen reflected in the eyes of your own child? Thomas Gagliano sees that love and admiration in the eyes of his own children. Wouldn't you like to see the same thing? His book is called "The Problem Was Me." Have a wonderful Father's Day!!!

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

BE A HERO

Do your kids look up to you as their hero, or do they admire a baseball player instead? How would you like to put that same sparkle in their eyes that those sports figures do? **Thomas Gagliano** wants you to have that love and admiration Father's Day and everyday. Life Mentor, Speaker, and author, he has seven tips to achieve your hero status on this Father's Day in "**The Problem Was Me.**" So let's hit a home run!

1) LISTEN: Provide a safe environment for your children where they can cry on your shoulder or just talk to you... even if they tell you something you don't want to hear.

2) PERMIT MISTAKES: Give your children the message that they can make mistakes. Let them know that mistakes are part of being human. Affirm they can fall at times without becoming a failure.

3) CELEBRATE VICTORIES: Celebrate achievements by taking your child for an ice cream or a pizza slice. Don't run

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Thursday, July 26, 2012 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Seating is limited to 30 attendees per seminar
St. Francis Community Hall,
6700 Verner Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95841
(1-800 @ Greenback)



Presenter: Josh Tuttle
General Manager
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Please note - this is not a sales seminar. "The Privilege of Planning" will be a 30-minute presentation followed by a question and answer period. It will focus on the importance of getting your family involved in the entire process of advance planning and all of the options available. Done properly - at the right time and in the right way - pre-planning can become a privilege instead of a chore. Get valuable information on Veteran's benefits, cremation and burial options and receive a **FREE** Emergency Planning Guide. Come and learn the steps you can take now to make sure those you care about are always cared for.

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by David Dickstein

Family Films

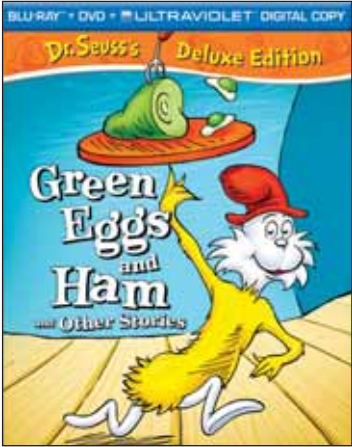
“Brave”
Opens June 22, rated PG
disney.go.com/brave
After its first misstep with “Cars 2,” Pixar and Disney hope to get back on track with this Scotland-set computer-animated epic centered on a princess whose archery skills and bravery are put to the test when faced with saving her kingdom. Audiences will be treated beforehand to the gorgeous and poetic “La Luna,” an Oscar-nominated short about a young Italian boy who accompanies his dad and grandpa to work for the first time.



“Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted”
Opens June 8, rated PG
madagascarmovie.com
It’s time to go wild again with Alex, the soft-pawed lion, Marty the sassy zebra and Melman, the neurotic giraffe. And with the first two movies each earning about \$600 million worldwide, why not? This time New York’s best-known zoo escapees head to Monte Carlo and then are forced to go on the run with a traveling circus. The scene-stealing penguins are back along with voice-lenders Ben Stiller, Chris Rock,

Movies and DVDs for the Whole Family

David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith and Sacha Baron Cohen.
“Tyler Perry’s Madea’s Witness Protection”
Opens June 29, rated PG-13
madeaswitnessprotectionmovie.com
A 7-year-old son who wishes his father was around more and a teenage daughter so spoiled she’s beyond hope are just two members of a dysfunctional family from Connecticut as concocted by the mildly off-color, considerably comical mind of Tyler Perry. When the family is put under witness protection due to death threats from the mob, the kids, their parents and a senile grandma find themselves in the care of Aunt Madea (Perry in usual drag). After one night with



“Journey 2: The Mysterious Island” (*ages 7-14, released June 5, rated PG*). When Brendan “Furry Vengeance” Fraser turns down a movie, you know it’s a stinker. Skunk-like, indeed, yet still a worldwide box office hit is this sequel to the inexplicably popular 2008 3-D adventure. Dwayne Johnson plays an overbearing Navy vet stepfather who hopes a trip to the South Pacific will help him bond with his bratty brainiac stepson (Josh Hutcherson). Bring on the CGI. Predictable as a PB&J and far less satisfying. *Grade: D*
“Big Miracle” (*ages 6-13, released June 19, rated PG*): Its heart is in the right place (who doesn’t want to save the whales?), but perhaps clubbing audiences over the head with eco-messaging hurt at the box office last winter. The true-life drama centers on the effort to save three gray whales trapped by ice off Alaska. A small-town TV news reporter (John Krasinski) and his Greenpeace volunteer ex-girlfriend (Drew Barrymore) are the first to come to the rescue. *Grade: C*

Madea, chances are good the family will wish they are found by the bad guys.
Family DVDs
“Dr. Seuss’s Green Eggs and Ham and Other Stories” (*ages 2-6, released June 26, not rated*): Can’t blame Sam for not liking his green eggs and ham at first sight, but even he would agree right away that enjoying Dr. Seuss TV specials remastered on disc is better than watching them on VHS tape. Available on DVD and Blu-ray for the first time are the featured story along with “The Sneetches” and “The Zax.”



A Case in Point

The Case of the Prison Sweethearts

By David Graulich, Esq.

The necessity defense and its close relative, duress, are strategies used by criminal defense attorneys. The attorney concedes that the defendant committed the acts alleged by the prosecution, but then argues that the defendant was reacting to some imminent and grievous threat that left him or her with little choice. To illustrate the necessity defense, let’s examine the case of U.S. v. Lopez (1987). We pick up the story not in a courtroom, but in a jewelry store in Citrus Heights. On November 15, 1986, the employees of Merskamer Jewelers, located in the Birdcage shopping center off Sunrise Avenue, noticed that a man and a woman had returned to the store. The couple wanted to know if the wedding rings they had ordered were ready. It was their third appearance at the store within a few days. Their behavior aroused the suspicion of store clerks — they purchased more than \$5,000 of jewelry in less than 15 minutes, were unsure of their address and had no telephone. Fifteen federal marshals closed in and the couple was arrested. Inside the man’s briefcase were a 9-mm Browning and a .357 Magnum. The federal marshals arrested Samantha Dorinda Lopez, 37, and Ronald J. McIntosh, 42. Ten days earlier, McIntosh helped Lopez escape from a low-security federal prison in the East Bay town of Pleasanton., where Lopez was serving time for bank robbery. McIntosh, who had been convicted for running an \$18 million financial swindle, was also being sought by authorities after going AWOL during an unescorted prison transfer. The two felons met at the Pleasanton prison, which contained facilities for men and women. McIntosh and Lopez said they were deeply in love — although both were married to other people. McIntosh, who flew helicopters in Vietnam, chartered a private helicopter in San Jose, posing as a real estate developer who wanted to inspect some property. He hijacked the helicopter at gunpoint, released the frightened pilot, and landed the helicopter at the recreation yard of the Pleasanton prison, where Lopez ran out to join him. The two flew away as prison guards watched helplessly and inmates cheered. There was no trace of the fugitives until they surfaced at the jewelry store in Citrus Heights. “He was just blind in love,” U.S. Marshal Arthur F. Van Court said of McIntosh. “Women have been the downfall of a lot of great men — and even some not so great.” At trial, Lopez’s attorney wanted to present the necessity defense to the jury. Lopez, he claimed, was being abused and threatened by the warden and prison guards. Lopez feared that she would be murdered and her death made to look like a suicide. She had no choice but to escape, the lawyer asserted, and McIntosh gallantly offered to rescue her. Federal prosecutors sought to prevent the necessity defense from being included in the jury instructions (what the judge reads to the jury members just before they go into deliberations). The issue went before a federal court. The court reasoned that the necessity defense “requires a showing that the defendant acted to prevent an imminent harm which no available options could similarly prevent.” The court ruled in favor of Lopez, saying that the necessity defense could be considered by the jury on all counts. As to McIntosh, the court allowed the necessity defense against the charges of aiding and abetting the escape, but blocked its use in relation to air piracy and use of a gun to commit a crime. It is one thing to gain the right to make an argument, and another thing to get a jury to buy the argument. This jury was not persuaded. Both Lopez and McIntosh were found guilty as charged. Lopez was sentenced to an additional five years in prison, on top of her 50-year sentence for bank robbery. McIntosh was sentenced to 25 years in addition to his sentence for fraud. Epilogue: Merskamer Jewelers is still in business in Citrus Heights. Many prisons have placed wires and netting over outdoor areas to prevent similar airborne escapes. These wires are known as “chopper stoppers.” Regarding the two defendants, I checked the Inmate Locator on the Web site of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. According to the data, Samantha Dorinda Lopez, aged 62, was released on April 20, 2010. There was no information on the status of Ronald J. McIntosh. David Graulich, Esq. of Fair Oaks is an attorney with The Law Firm of Tim O’Connor. David welcomes comments on “A Case in Point” columns at (916) 932-2312 or by email: David@timoconnorattorney.com. This column is not intended as an offer of legal advice. Contact a qualified attorney to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem.

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Senior Tap Dance Performers Mark Three-Year Anniversary



SACRAMENTO REGION
– Rhythm and Shoes, a senior tap dance performing group, recently celebrated three years providing free shows to local organizations.

This year the group will be

performing May 28 at the Hyatt Regency during the Sacramento Traditional Jazz Festival and June 17 at the state Veterans of Foreign Wars convention at the Double Tree Inn.

"We get as much enjoyment from tapping as the audiences do from watching," said Kathleen Hodson, a Rhythm and Shoes member. "It's a way for us to have fun, get some terrific exercise and give back to the community."

The troupe is composed of 11 retirees in their 60s and 70s

who practice six to seven hours a week. They come from various backgrounds, including several teachers, a couple of RNs, a telephone company salesperson, an optician, an architect, a writer-journalist and a human resources manager.

Performances usually include six to seven numbers in colorful costumes to lively, familiar music.

Groups who are interested in a performance by Rhythm and Shoes may contact Linda Jarvis at (916) 591-1793 or 972-1793.

Fair Oaks Theatre Festival Opens Summer Season with Magical ‘Willy Wonka’!

FAIR OAKS – The Fair Oaks Theatre Festiva and American River College Theatre are offering something for everyone this summer with theatre-under-the-stars musicals that range from delightfully wacky to hilariously naughty. The season opens with “Willy Wonka,” a full-length musical full of warmth, charm, obnoxious ticket winners, crazy squirrels, and, of course, Oompa-Loompas! It runs Friday, Saturday, Sunday nights from June 15 through July 22.

From June 15 through July 22:
The Mystical Willy Wonka, famous chocolatier, has decided it's time to find an heir as he will soon be retiring from the candy making business. In his quest to find a proper replacement only five lucky children will be allowed into Wonka's magical factory. Follow their musical adventures as they all vie for the attention of the splendid Mr. Wonka! Featuring songs from the family film, including "Pure Imagination," "The Candy Man," and "I Want it Now!" Don't miss our popular sing-a-long nights: July 8 and 15! (Adaptation, music and lyrics by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newlev. Directed by Bob Irvin.



The cast of "Willy Wonka" Photo by Jeff Karl

Choreography by Sunny Smith,
Musical Direction by Kirt
Shearer).

Opening Night Ice Cream Social *This yummy social features ice cream, cookies and champagne before the show and dessert with the cast after the performance! This is only on opening night, June 15, and comes with your regular ticket (admission price!)*

Location: Veterans Memorial Amphitheatre, 7991 California Avenue, Fair Oaks, 95628.

For more information,
call (916) 966-3683 or visit
FairOaksTheatreFestival.com.

Friday & Saturday Ticket Prices: General \$15, Students/Seniors/SARTA \$13. Children (12 and under) \$8

Retro Sunday (every Sunday!) Ticket Prices Adults \$10. Children \$5

See our 2012 Season Schedule at www.fairoakstheatrefestival.com



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