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AMERICAN RIVER MESSENGER

Volume 7 • Issue 10

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

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Time to Celebrate Fair Oaks

FAIR OAKS - The 19th annual "A Taste of Fair Oaks", sponsored by the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, is an annual Food, Wine, and Micro-brew tasting event. Area restaurants, wineries and regional micro breweries will be in attendance for guests to taste and sample the exhibitors' food and beverages. In addition to sampling wine, beer, food and desserts, attendees will enjoy live music by Bajan & The Trio, a golf putting contest (\$5,000 grand prize), a gift raffle, and a silent auction. We are pleased to again be holding the event at North Ridge Country Club, a premier venue for this event located at 7600 Madison Avenue, Fair Oaks.

The "Taste" is the Chamber's largest fund raising event of the year. The proceeds from the event help the Fair Oaks Chamber support the community of Fair Oaks by offering free events throughout the year. In addition a portion of the proceeds will benefit VIVA, Volunteers in Victim Assistance, a full service center for victims of violent crimes/trauma.



Come and enjoy food, wine, live music and more at "A Taste of Fair Oaks" at North Ridge Country Club located at 7600 Madison Avenue, Fair oaks.

This years outstanding wineries include:

Carvalho Family Winery, Chatom Vineyards, Cielo Estate, Cooper Vineyards, Crystal Basin Cellars, d'Art Wines, Deaver Vineyards, Draconis, Frog's

Tooth Vineyards, Grace Patriot Wines, Honey Run Winery, Michael-David Vineyards, Peirano Estate Vineyards, Perry Creek Winery, Pomar Junction, Ranchita Canyon Vineyard, Sierra Vista Vineyards

& Winery, Terra d'Oro, TKC Vineyards, Vino Noceto Winery, Vintner's Cellar Custom Winery, Wilderotter Vineyard, Wise Villa Winery, and Wreckless Blenders.

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Pothole Sweeps Week Starts up

SACRAMENTO COUNTY - The Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SACDOT) has started up 2012 "Pothole Sweeps Week", which is an intensified effort to identify and repair potholes. This project is part of continuous efforts to improve preventative maintenance activities for unincorporated area roadways. Pothole sweeps are performed twice each year: In late Spring to repair potholes caused by inclement weather, and in Fall to ready road surfaces for the storm season..

This County-wide effort will begin in the Arden Arcade community, which is the center of our service area, and continue through the remainder of the unincorporated areas.

Work crews began inspecting streets and fixing potholes on May 21st. Residents are encouraged to contact SACDOT concerning potholes on neighborhood streets. Pothole locations can be called into Customer Service at 916-875-5171, or emailed to www.sacdot.com: Report a Problem.

There are over 5,200 lane miles of paved roadways in the County unincorporated area and it's inevitable that somewhere in this large area of streets there will be potholes. SACDOT's policy is to: "Repair all potholes as soon as possible." The Pothole Sweeps Week program enhances ongoing pavement maintenance activities, which include SACDOT crews who are sent into the field Monday through Friday each week to specifically repair potholes.

Some facts about potholes in Sacramento County:

- Potholes Reported To Customer Service Annually = 960.
- Potholes Repaired Annually = 40,600.
- Potholes Repaired Per Month = 3,384.
- Annual Cost for Pothole Repair = \$2.7 million.
- Square feet of potholes repaired annually = 91,000.
- Repair Cost Per Square Foot = \$30.
- Repair cost per pothole = \$66.
- Reported potholes are typically repaired within 72 hours.

Area Waterways Expecting Big Crowds

SACRAMENTO REGION - The California Department of Boating and Waterway's urges boaters to be properly prepared for safe boating this Memorial Day weekend. California's waterways will be crowded with motorized and non-motorized vessels. People will boat in groups creating numerous distractions, which can have deadly consequences.

"Boating during Memorial Day weekend means being a more responsible boat operator," said DBW's acting Director Lucia Becerra. "Operators may have people on board their vessels who do not normally boat. Familiarizing passengers with the location of safety equipment and how to be safe aboard will decrease the likelihood of being involved in a boating accident."

Here are some suggestions



Boat Safely this Memorial Day Weekend. Follow some simple rules and inform your guests before leaving the dock.

from the DBW for boat operators to decrease the chances of being involved in a boating accident: 1) Always wear a life jacket. 2) Avoid alcohol. Everyone who

drinks alcohol on board is at risk. Passengers can easily fall overboard, swim near the propeller, or cause vessels to capsize. 3) Designate a person aboard the

vessel to help you act as a lookout. 4) Carry the required safety equipment such as fire extinguishers, sound signals, navigation lights, and life jackets for every person on board.

Boat operators should inform everyone on board where the required safety equipment is located. Operators should also turn off the engine when the boat is not moving to avoid propeller injuries.

More information and additional life saving tips can be found in boating safety courses or at www.BoatResponsibly.com.

DBW enhances public access to California's waterways and promotes boating and aquatic safety through programs funded by vessel registration fees, boating fuel tax dollars and boating facility construction loan payments.

Rancho Cordova Has Role in Chinese Documentary



The Chinese film crew interview City Manager Ted Gaebler during their three-day stay in Rancho Cordova. The documentary series, designed to show other styles of government in action, will be viewed by more than a billion people.

RANCHO CORDOVA - A Chinese television crew recently filmed a documentary about the City of Rancho Cordova. The documentary series will be aired throughout China to show better management and government in action. Shown on China's main television station, the series will be seen by more than a billion people.

"We hope government officials and our citizens can learn different ways of social management after seeing our program," said Xumin Hu, who coordinated the project. Hu continued that America's "unique system of governance, distinctive legal system, and the wide-held respect for the law throughout the country are products of the unique/distinctive history of the United States."

During their three-day stay in Rancho Cordova, the crew filmed various City buildings, including the Police Station and Cordova High School, and the big May 1s Bike Month bicycle ride and American River parkway activities. The five-member TV crew followed staff members throughout their workday and then filmed the Rancho Cordova City Council meeting.

The Chinese crew chose Rancho Cordova because "City Manager Ted Gaebler has shown us a great number of vivid case studies in the book he co-authored, 'Reinventing Government'. We know Ted has done successful government reforms in various cities," said Hu.

"Reinventing Government", written in 1992, is often described

as the best book ever written on government reform strategies and is proof that government does not have to be a gigantic and inefficient bureaucracy. The crew said the book is very popular in China.

While in Sacramento region, the Chinese crew also filmed footage at the California Department of Water Resources. Other American places they will visit and film include the White House; the U.S. Capital building; the Supreme Court; several businesses; including Merck Company and Johnson and Johnson; and other communities and agencies.

Source: City of Rancho Cordova

Fair Oaks Community Update



By Supervisor Susan Peters

Through the generosity of the *American River Messenger* this column serves to provide an update periodically about matters affecting the Third District, which includes the unincorporated community of Fair Oaks.

Primary Election

California’s Presidential June Primary will be held on Election Day, Tuesday, June 5. Polls open 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

All area voters can go online to confirm that they are registered by visiting the Sacramento County Elections Office’s web site at elections.saccounty.net. The web site also allows you to find your polling place or you can call 875-6451 for more information.

Registered voters also may apply for a vote-by-mail ballot with May 29 being the deadline. More information including an application is available on the Elections Office’s web site.

Alcohol Ban keeps Parkway Family Friendly

This Memorial Day weekend there will be a complete ban on alcohol consumption and possession both on land and in the

water within the American River Parkway between Hazel and Watt avenues. An exception exists for Ancil Hoffman Golf Course.

In past years holiday weekends were major problems along the river because of fights, public nudity, profanity and littering fueled by excessive alcohol consumption. The Board of Supervisors restored decorum by implementing the ban starting on Labor Day weekend 2006 which is also applicable for the holiday weekends of Independence Day as well as Memorial Day.

Since the restriction has taken effect, families I have talked to have expressed appreciation for making these holiday weekends once again a time for everyone to enjoy the American River.

Reserve Park Ranger Program

Sacramento County Regional Parks is creating its first volunteer Ranger Reserve program to support the current Ranger Patrol system. The Reserve rangers would be sworn officers capable of performing all ranger duties, working with a Ranger or independently.

Participants will either be entry level candidates looking to start a career in law enforcement or journey level officers who are still active with other law enforcement agencies or who have retired. The Reserve Rangers undergo the same training and background investigation as regular Rangers, must be graduates of a full police academy, and will complete the full field training requirements. They will be required to perform a minimum of 15 hours of service per month to maintain their status as a Reserve Ranger. Since Park Rangers are accredited Peace Officers, they will also be required to fulfill the Peace

Officer Standards and Training requirements.

The Reserve Ranger program is part of a coordinated effort to maintain patrol services in the Park system, build partnerships with other law enforcement agencies such as the cities of Sacramento and Rancho Cordova, and deploy Ranger Assistants to most effectively support the Rangers.

Animal Shelter Flea Market Sale

Please show your support for Sacramento County’s Animal Shelter and at the same time enjoy shopping for bargains during the weekend of June 2-3 at the Support Our Shelter “Flea” Market.

Support Our Shelter of S.O.S. raises funds to care for the 15,000 animals that come through the shelter every year. Working with the Department of Animal Care and Regulation, this combined effort makes a tremendous difference in the lives of animals that are lost, abandoned or subject to abuse.

The flea market will be at 6241 Fair Oaks Boulevard (near the corner of Marconi Avenue across from California Fitness) in Carmichael courtesy of Milargo Investments (in past years the event was at the shelter).

This is an opportunity to have fun and help the animals at the same time so plan to shop over the weekend of June 2-3 from 8 am to 4 pm both days. And please be sure to visit your ATM in advance because flea market purchases are cash-only.

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

Sacramento Republican Women Federated June Lunch

FAIR OAKS - The Sacramento Republican Women Federated will be holding their monthly lunch on June 6, 2012 at the Northridge Country Club located at 7600 Madison Avenue in Fair Oaks.

This month is our annual membership tea and will feature Dottie Ray Souter who currently serves as California Federation of Republican Women Northern Division 3rd Vice President, Membership Promotion.

Previously, Dottie Ray served on CFRW Northern Division as: Secretary, Resolutions Chair and 2009 Nomination Committee. Previous to Northern Division involvement, Dottie Ray served



Dottie Ray Souter. Photo courtesy of Michelle Orrock. with Nevada County Republican Federation of Women: Secretary, Membership Chair, By-Laws

Review, Budget Committee and is Past President 2 years,

District 2 Assemblyman Dan Logue named Dottie Ray as his 2010 Woman of the Year. The cost is \$25 and reservations should be made by calling 916-733-1623 or visiting our website: <http://www.sacramentorwf.org/>

Sacramento Republican Women Federated is the largest Republican Women’s group in the Sacramento area. Chartered as a National Federation of Republican Women Club in 1932, we educate women in Republican principles, increase the effectiveness of women in the political cause and are leaders in our community.

The Sacramento Chrysanthemum Society

will hold their annual Spring Chrysanthemum Cuttings Sale at their new location, Fair Oaks Nursery, 4681 Fair Oaks Boulevard (between Arden Way and Eastern Avenue), Sacramento, **Saturday, June 2, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 3, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

You can find cuttings of over 100 varieties,

including the popular spider, quill, large reflexing blooms and huge incurves (or traditional “football mums”). There will be a selection of small pompoms, anemones and single daisy mums. Come early for best selection as we sell out early every year.

For information, contact Jeff at chrysanthemum1956@hotmail.com or Martha at (916) 988-6081.

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Gov. Brown Announces Knipp Appointment

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. recently announced William Knipp, 49, of Gold River, has been appointed warden at Mule Creek State Prison, where he has served as acting warden since 2011.

Knipp has served in multiple

positions at Mule Creek State Prison since 1992, including chief deputy warden, associate warden, facility captain, correctional captain, correctional counselor II specialist, correctional lieutenant, correctional sergeant and parole agent.

He was a correctional officer at California State Prison, Solano and California Medical Facility from 1986 to 1992. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$130,668. Knipp is a Republican.

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Sacramento Choral Society’s Year-end Concert Celebrates their Debut at Fremont Presbyterian Church

Following their amazing English Grandeur celebration on April 14th at the Sacramento Community Center Theater, the SCSO and Conductor Donald Kendrick are now thrilled to be making their debut in Fremont Presbyterian Church’s recently renovated sanctuary on Saturday, June 2 at 8 PM.

The concert entitled *European Traditions* is part of the *Sacramento Choral Society’s Stained Glass series* that started originally in 2009 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento. “What a thrill it is for us to discover this amazing space and take full advantage of Fremont’s acoustics and the recently installed powerful new Reuter pipe organ,” says Kendrick. “Fremont has done a royal job on its renovation and the pipe organ is one of the largest in Northern California. This concert is a fitting way to end our 16th season of offering classical music concerts for families in our community,” he adds.

For this year-end performance, the SCSO has chosen to perform works from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary eras. Great names such as Bach, Mendelssohn, Bruckner, Stanford, Clausen, Hogan, Vaughan Williams and Randall Thompson will appear on the program. The group’s performance will highlight a variety of musical styles through the ages with works sung in Latin, German and English.

SCSO Accompanist and Organist Ryan Enright will showcase the might Reuter pipe organ with solo performances by Bach entitled Piece d’Orgue and works by Brahms and other



Soprano Katherine Jolly, a native of Davis

composers that will surely demonstrate the power and the versatility of Fremont’s gleaming new pipe organ. “Ryan is finishing off his first year as the SCSO accompanist and organist at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Sacramento where he will also be giving his Sacramento debut organ recital on Sunday, May 27 at 3 PM,” says SCSO President James McCormick. “Ryan is the winner of the Canadian National Organ Competition and was recently one of 16 finalists in the International Organ Competition held in Montreal in October 2011. We are delighted to have Ryan in our Community and his versatility has also been seen in his work in accompanying the Sacramento State Choirs and also Sacred Heart’s Schola Cantorum,” McCormick adds.

Soprano Katherine Jolly, a native of Davis, California and a former Davis High School Madrigal singer will also grace the SCSO stage as soloist in Fremont with a performance

of Mozart’s Laudate Dominum and Vivaldi’s Gloria Patri taken from his larger work Deus in Adjutorium Domine. Katherine is currently finishing a run of Gilbert & Sullivan’s Mikado with the Virginia Opera, playing the role of Yum-Yum. She is known for her agile, bright lyric soprano voice, totally suitable for the Vivaldi and Mozart works.

“It is our distinct pleasure to feature important works by American composers such as Moses Hogan, Rene Clausen and Randall Thompson on this unique program,” says conductor Donald Kendrick. “No choral concert would be complete without an American spiritual or two,” he adds.” We are also proud to feature SCSO members Abram Stein-Freer and Nephi Speer as soloists,” says Kendrick.

There will be no pre-concert talk for this performance but the SCSO plans to host a post-concert reception at which concert attendees will have an opportunity to meet the artists and enjoy some refreshments. Free parking is right nearby at the Scottish Rite Center at 6151 H Street. There will be no intermission in the evening’s concert.

Tickets are reasonably price at \$35.00 Reserved or \$25.00 General. Students enjoy 50% discount for this performance. Tickets can be ordered via the SCSO office at (916) 536-9065 (M - F - 10 AM - 4 PM) or by going online at the SCSO’s website: www.sacramentochoral.com

Need additional information? Visit the SCSO’s website or call (916) 536-9065. Come celebrate great music and community with the SCSO.

Rev. Andrew Webb Retires

Pastor “Andy” has served as Senior Pastor of Oak Ave. Church for 27 years. He has been a shepherd, teacher, spiritual mentor and friend to his flock. Pastor Andy and his wife

Margie will be moving to a lovely new home in Iowa where they will be closer to their children and grandchildren. They will be missed.

Pastor Andy’s last sermon

will be on Sunday, June 3rd at 9:30 A.M. at 8790 Oak Ave in Orangevale, CA. A BBQ Potluck will follow after the service. For more information, please call the church office @ 916-988-8815.



**FAIR OAKS CEMETERY
MEMORIAL DAY
AND AVENUE OF FLAGS
CEREMONY HONORING
CIVIL WAR VETERANS**

The Fourteenth Annual Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Saturday, May 26th, 2012 at the Fair Oaks Cemetery, 7780 Olive Street, Fair Oaks, with formal ceremonies starting at 10 AM. Tom Askins will be the Master of Ceremonies. The musical program will be provided by the American Veterans Band, conducted by Warren “Bud” Turner.

There will be a Color Guard and Rifle Salute team from Civil War Member Organizations. Also a ceremony of the laying of the wreath at the memorial in honor of over sixteen hundred veterans who are buried in the cemetery.

The cemetery will be decorated with hundreds of flags lining its roadways as “The Avenue of Flags.” We will be adding more names to the Veterans Memorial Wall.

The Fair Oaks Historical Society and Orangevale/Fair Oaks Grange will provide complimentary refreshments after the ceremony.



More information will be coming as we finalize the Speakers.
916-966-1613

Susan Peters

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For more than 30 years as a community volunteer, businesswoman, and now as Supervisor, Susan Peters has worked hard to move our community forward.

- Former Chair of the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce
- Co-Chair of Next Economy, a group of area leaders working to build a brighter economic future for Sacramento County
- Former member of Sacramento Valley Conservancy Board of Directors

PROTECTING PUBLIC SAFETY

Susan Peters is a consistent and passionate public safety advocate.

- As Supervisor, Susan has always kept public safety as her number one budget priority
- Endorsed by Sheriff Scott Jones, former Sheriff John McGinness and the Sacramento County Deputy Sheriff’s Association
- Supported the expansion of the Hazel Avenue Bridge to relieve congestion over the American River while at the same time making it safer for bicyclists and pedestrians

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As our Supervisor, Susan Peters has carefully managed taxpayer money and worked to improve our local economy.

- Balanced the budget every year in office
- Created innovative partnership with a nonprofit organization to keep the Effie Yeaw Nature Center open for the benefit of our neighborhood school children
- Encouraged local job growth by streamlining government permitting and upgrading public infrastructure

Susan Peters
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AMP Up Your Grant Writing Skills at Rancho Cordova City Hall Workshop

RANCHO CORDOVA – A workshop designed to re-energize and refocus grant writing and fund development will be held Wednesday, June 6th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the American River Room at the Rancho Cordova City Hall, 2729 Prospect Park Drive.

“AMPing Up Your Grantwriting and Foundation Relations” is a beyond the basics workshop. The half-day workshop will provide hands-on strategies for developing new resources for nonprofit organizations and public agencies. “Telling Your Community Impact through Storytelling” will be led by Cheryl Clarke, author of “Storytelling for Grantseekers” and co-owner of Reality Grantmaking.

Kris Lev-Twombly, CEO of Discuss Strategy and Development and former associate director of the Ella Baker Center in Oakland, will discuss securing grants from private foundations.

A panel of local and regional funders will show how their organizations and companies develop funding objectives. Attendees will be able to interact with the panel and engage in dialogue about program development and grant writing to support those programs.

Confirmed panelists will include Lori Rianda, Bank of America; Juanita Garcia, GenCorp Foundation; Rosemary Younts, Dignity Healthcare; and Ruth Blank, Sacramento Region Community Foundation. The workshop will be hosted by The Nonprofit Resource Center in cooperation with the City of Rancho Cordova.

“This workshop is for the fund development or grant writing professional who is looking for refreshing and innovative approaches to foundation relations and grant writing,” said Stephanie Snyder, Senior Management Analyst for the City of Rancho Cordova.

Registration can be done online at www.nprcenter.org. Fees are \$65. For more information, please contact the Nonprofit Resource Center at (916) 285-1840.

Crossings at New Rancho Recognized as City’s First LEED Gold Certified Apartment Development



The Crossings at New Rancho, the area’s new affordable apartment community, was recognized as the City of Rancho Cordova’s first LEED Gold Certified apartment development.

RANCHO CORDOVA –The Crossings at New Rancho, the area’s new affordable apartment community located at 2708 Woodberry Way, received a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Certification. This is the first LEED Gold Certified apartment development in the City of Rancho Cordova.


The Crossings received certification as a result of its many LEED features including solar energy panels generating electricity for the common area and resident units, community garden, Energy Star appliances, tankless water heaters, and recycling over 75% of construction waste. The President of Urban Housing Communities, John Bigley, the developer of this award winning facility, points out that tenants are already enjoying the direct benefits of this strategy through reduced monthly utility bills.

“The City is honored to have had the opportunity to work with this development and financing team as it put together the strategy that has allowed the building to receive the LEED Gold Certification,” said Housing Director Reed Flory. “The certification showcases the City’s efforts to provide a high quality, eco-friendly, affordable, and safe living environment for our residents.” LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building, home, or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at achieving high performance in key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The certification was developed in 2000 by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a 501c3 non-profit organization committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.

For more information about the Crossings at New Rancho, please visit the City of Rancho Cordova website at www.cityofranchocordova.org

Source: City of Rancho Cordova



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4 YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN FAIR OAKS

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Sacramento County DA Reports

Recent cases of interest

CASE: Sylvester Griffin (05/18/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Hilary Bagley Franzoia

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that Sylvester Griffin was sentenced by the Honorable Greta Curtis Fall to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Last month, Griffin was convicted by jury of murder, rape, and first degree burglary in the 2009 killing of 64-year-old Alice Lynn Murphy.

Alice Murphy lived alone in a senior apartment complex in Folsom. Griffin was a driver for a medical transport company and had a client that lived in the same complex. In December 2009, Murphy was found dead in her apartment by a friend. She had been raped and smothered to death.

DNA evidence was collected at the crime scene. A match was found in the FBI's DNA database, and the Folsom Police Department was notified of Griffin's identity. The Sacramento County District Attorney's Crime Lab confirmed the match that linked Griffin to the crime scene.

CASE: Willie Weaver (05/16/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Aaron Miller, Vehicle Theft Unit

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that Willie Weaver was convicted by jury of carjacking and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

On April 14, 2011, Weaver exited the light rail train at the Florin Road station and walked to a nearby Walgreens. Shortly after he arrived at Walgreens, the victim pulled her car into a parking space in front of the store. Weaver approached her on foot and demanded her car keys. A short struggle ensued before Weaver forced the victim's keys from her hand, pushed her to the ground, and drove off with her car.

A few hours later, officers located her car parked in the area of North C and Ahern Street. Inside the car was a bag that Weaver was wearing over his shoulder during the carjacking. The bag contained a sawed-off shotgun and clothing matching the description of clothing worn by the carjacker. The District Attorney's Crime Lab conducted DNA testing on a beanie and a jacket found inside the bag. A match in the national DNA database of criminal offenders (CODIS) identified Weaver as the suspect. He was also identified by two witnesses using still photos captured from light rail surveillance footage.

Sentencing is set for June 15, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in Department 33 in front of the Honorable Lloyd G. Connelly.

CASE: Jimmy Phi Nguyen & Alan Sayareh (05/10/12)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Doug Whaley

Sacramento County District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that charges have been filed against 1 Ozone Smog technicians Jimmy Phi Nguyen and Alan Sayareh. Both defendants are charged with felony conspiracy to provide false information to DMV, and four counts of providing false information to DMV. Nguyen has an additional eight charges of reporting false information on DMV documents.

Investigators from the Department of Consumer Affairs' Bureau of Automotive Repair found that vehicles were illegally passed on smog check inspections at the 1 Ozone Smog station on Power Inn Road where Nguyen was employed. Surveillance showed the defendants utilizing their own vehicles to perform smog certifications on different vehicles. A search warrant was served at the 1 Ozone Smog Shop today, and among the items seized were the smog testing equipment known as an Emission Inspection Machine, and vehicles used in the commission of the offenses.

The records from smog tests are sent directly via the smog testing computer to DMV, which DMV relies on to issue vehicle registrations. The defendant's scheme allowed vehicles that could not pass emissions testing to be registered illegally. Bail for each defendant was set by the court at \$50,000. Arraignment is scheduled for May 14, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in Department 62.

Join the Mayor on Saturday Morning Walks

RANCHO CORDOVA – Navigator Elementary School will be the starting point for the next Neighborhood Walk with Mayor David Sander on Saturday, May 26th. Light refreshments will be served at 8:30 a.m. and the walk will start at 9 a.m. The school is located at 10679 Bear Hollow Drive.

This year's walks, which began last month and will continue through October, are about one mile in length and take place in different neighborhoods throughout the City. Adults, seniors, teens, and parents with their children are invited to participate.

The walks provide the opportunity for residents to meet neighbors, talk with community leaders, and exercise.

This year in addition to leading the Saturday morning walks, Mayor Sander is being "Principal for a Day" at the starting point school. He visits each classroom to meet and greet each student.

He will be principal at Navigator School on Tuesday, May 22nd, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information about the walks, please contact

Lorianne Ulm at City Hall, (916) 851-8700.

Future Saturday Neighborhood Walks with the Mayor Schedule

June 23rd: Cordova Villa School, 10359 White Rock Road

August 25th: Rancho Cordova Elementary School, 2562 Chassella Way

September 29th: Cordova Gardens Elementary School, 2400 Dawes Street

October 13th: Williamson Elementary School, 2275 Benita Drive

Source: City of Rancho Cordova

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program

RANCHO CORDOVA – The City Council of the City of Rancho Cordova in a unanimous decision approved the California Property Assessed Clean Energy (California PACE) Program at a regular city council meeting on April 16, 2012. The California PACE Program will provide special assessment financing for energy efficiency and water conservation projects installed on commercial properties.

The City has authorized the California Economic Development Authority (CEDA) to establish the assessment district on the City's behalf, and provide the complete administration of the program through CEDA's program administrator, Figtree Energy Resource Company (Figtree), and its resource efficiency consulting partner, ConSol (www.consol.ws/commercial-services.php).

Figtree provides PACE administration for local cities and counties throughout California. The establishment of the Commercial PACE Program allows the City to offer the California PACE financing to property owners within the City limits.

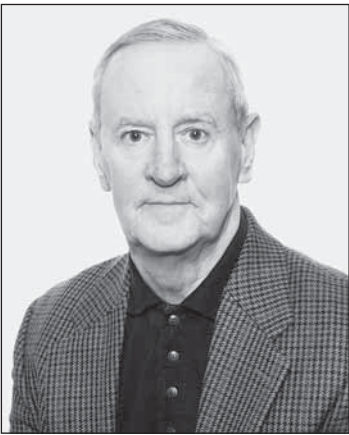
The access to PACE financing provides much needed financing capital to commercial property owners while providing an opportunity to reduce energy operating costs and conserve water. The property owners repay the special assessments annually through a voluntary special assessment on their property tax bill. This property based financing provides long-term, fixed rate financing generally not available with traditional financing.

The California PACE program was supported by Diann Rogers, CEO of the Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce, who stated "the business community needs as many options as possible to assist local property owners with their energy efficiency improvements."

The City's new California PACE Program also received endorsement letters from the California Business Property Association and the California Building Industry Association citing their members' strong support for this program.

For information on the California PACE Program, please visit www.figtreecompany.com, or contact Michael Chapin at (877) 577-7373.

Give Our Graduates A Break



Ron McGowan

Our graduates are being short-changed. The workplace they are entering is the most challenging it has been in decades. By comparison, the workplace those who are responsible for education policy, funding, administration and delivery entered, was a piece of cake. These people have no affinity whatever with the challenges today's graduates are facing.

Tom Friedman, the bestselling author and New York Times columnist met recently with Prem Kalra, the director of the new Indian Institute of Technology in Rajasthan. He told Friedman that he tells recruiters for major companies to stay away from his campus. He wants his Indian students to think about inventing their first jobs, not applying for them.

That's exactly what we should be doing. Instead, our colleges and universities keep turning out graduates who expect that someone is going to offer them a job and when that doesn't happen, many end up unemployed or in low paying jobs in the service sector. The fundamental challenge is that for generations we have been turning out employees. Now, increasingly, we have to turn out entrepreneurs or graduates who have an enterprising approach to finding work.

The area of career/employment counseling needs a complete overhaul with an objective of meeting the needs of today's graduates. A Canadian graduate who sought help summed up her experience by saying that "I decided I really didn't want to speak to the nice lady who had been doing that job for the last twenty years."

Our graduates need access to people who are experienced in today's workplace and who can show them how to market themselves effectively to employers and how to create their own jobs as freelancers, consultants, or small business owners. Showing graduates how to succeed in today's workplace should be an integral part of their education, not an option as it currently is. And we need more resources in this area.

Graduates can't wait for the education system to enter the twenty-first century; they need to take charge of their own success. And, with a little bit of help, they're absolutely capable of doing that.

Ron McGowan is the author of the international bestseller "How to Find WORK in the 21st Century", currently in use at over 400 colleges and universities worldwide. The 2012 edition will soon be released in print and ebook form: <http://www.howtofindwork.ca>

Celebrate A Taste of Fair Oaks

Continued from Page 1

And we have 5 amazing breweries:

Crispin Ciders & Fox Barrel, Hoppy Brewing Company, Lost Coast Brewery & Café, Pyramid Alehouse, and Sierra Nevada Brewing Company.

The restaurants serving food this year include:

Il Forno Classico, Chili's, The Pasta Queen, The Zinfandel Place, Trader Joes, Chocolate Fountains, The Couch, The Melting Pot, Fabians, The Chocolate Architect, Sinful Treats, Honey Baked Ham, Players Bar and Grill, The Outback, Costco, Nothing Bundt Cakes, and Pete's Coffee.

There will be a wide variety of outstanding Raffle and Silent Auction items included in this years event including local Art, several rounds of Golf at premier Golf courses , Dining Experiences, Weekend getaways, and elaborate Gift baskets.

This is a festive, fun-filled evening that you won't want to miss!

Tickets are currently for sale on the Chambers website at www.fairoakschamber.com

Tickets purchased by May 25th will be entered into a special early bird raffle. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$45. Attendees must be 21 years of age or older to attend. For more information, please call the Chamber at (916) 967-2903.

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>

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General Manager
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Tuesday, May 22, 2012 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Friday, June 29, 2012 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
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
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By Ronnie McBrayer

I have heard some Mennonites use the term “non-violent evangelism.” It is a way of sharing faith that does not harm those with whom they share. It is built on mutual respect, love for others, and a commitment to the other person’s freedom. People are treated as seekers, not potential converts, without pressure, arm-twisting or coercion; and no manipulation of words or emotions.

Seekers are not vilified, targeted, pursued, or argued with. They are simply invited into radical hospitality where questions and exploration are not only tolerated, but encouraged and expected. These non-violent evangelists share their faith with a “come and see” attitude, opening their arms and hearts to others, leaving the rest to God.

The church could learn a lot from these quiet souls. Many of us, overtly and subtly, have taken a very militant approach in sharing our faith with others. We corner people. We demand immediate decisions. We use emotionally charged environments to wrangle decisions. We are sometimes disrespectful. We say, “Follow Christ and we will let you in.” But maybe we need to learn to say, “Come on in, and learn what it means to follow Christ.”

You Are Welcome

Here is an example: My friend Sabrina, and her husband Blake, live in a Christian community on a working farm. By “Christian community” I mean a group of people who are attempting to live out the way of Jesus while sharing life, space, and the same values. It’s not a commune – Sabrina, Blake and the other two dozen folks living there are definite individuals – it is a community: A group of people helping the world and welcoming others.

Welcome, in fact, is what brought Sabrina to the farm. She wasn’t a Christian when she arrived. Actually, she was rather hostile toward faith. But she loved the earth, she was trying to stay sober, and she and Blake wanted to give self-sustaining, organic farming a try while they were still young enough to pull it off.

Through a series of inexplicable events, but mostly because of the dramatic welcome others at the farm gave them, this couple found themselves moving out of the city and into the cornfields. Sabrina was going to farm with gusto, but she had no intention of getting involved with what she called, “the Jesus stuff.” And her co-farmers respected that.

But one day, after being surrounded by all this grace and love, and having begun to pray again and study the way of Jesus, she woke up in half panic, in half celebration, and all surprise: “Oh, my God, I think I’m a Christian!” It was a beautiful conversion; one made possible by giving plenty of margin, not plenty of manipulation.

Maybe it is because I

hang around with too many Mennonites now, because I long ago defied my own coercive religious upbringing, or because of precious people like Sabrina, but I have come to the core conclusion that we need to give people some space. Should we share and live our faith? Absolutely! But I believe every person is capable of relating directly to God without coercion or interference by others.

In the words of that old Baptist from Oklahoma, Herschel Hobbs: “The Church cannot fasten its iron grip upon anyone’s soul...This is the worst of all tyrannies. And it is made worse by its claim to be in the name of God who created men and women to be free.”

Thus, every person should be given the right of free choice in his or her relationship with God (or without God). Every individual should be given the dignity as image-bearing creations of God to arrive at their own spiritual conclusions, choosing to be Catholic or Coptic, a Methodist or a Muslim, a Buddhist or a Baptist, a Jew or a Jainist, an Anglican or an atheist, without heavy-handedness of any kind.

No, not everyone will “convert” to our way of thinking or adopt our ideas about faith. But faith isn’t about force; it is about being set free. God entrusted people with that freedom. Let’s do the same.

Ronnie McBrayer 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.

Giggle The Pounds Away With Laughterercise

By Rev. James L. Snyder

Finally, someone has come up with a weight loss program I can sink my teeth into without guilt. And, I say it’s about time. I can’t speak for anybody else, but I’m fed up with diet programs that simply beat me to death.

I’m tired of starving myself under the pretense of dieting, and exercising my body to the brink of absolute exhaustion. It’s about time someone looked on the lighter side of dieting.

According to a study in Athens, Greece, scientists have found a good laugh is a calorie burner not to be ignored. You can be sure this gained my attention.

Some American researchers found that 10 to 15 minutes of genuine giggling can burn off the number of calories found in a medium square of chocolate. These scientists discovered a way to measure how many calories people burn when they laugh.

When I read this, I laughed for 39 minutes, allowing me to eat two medium squares of chocolate. At this rate, I’ll be able to eat several pounds of chocolate a day.

Now that’s what I call a diet.

According to their findings, the average person burns 20 percent more calories when laughing, compared to not laughing. If somebody laughs for 10 or 15 minutes a day they would burn up to 50 calories, depending on body size and the intensity of the laughter.

This means if I laughed for 10 to 15 minutes a day, I would burn enough calories to lose 4-1/2 pounds in a year. That’s nothing to laugh at.

This means in 50 years I would completely disappear from the face of the earth. Which poses a question; when a person loses weight, where does that weight go?

I’m not one to jump on the latest bandwagon but there is nothing funny about carrying around extra weight. For some it’s like having a monkey on their back, for me it’s more like a gorilla.

Up to this point, my weight loss program has been a laughing matter. Little did I know my laughing was burning calories!

My exercise program has been a real joke, which may have done me good and I didn’t know it. To be honest, my regimen has not produced the results I desired.

Just a few years ago, I exercised my right as an American citizen to vote for the president of my choice, which has been quite taxing on me, you can be sure. This kind of exercise takes more out of a person than realized at the time and must be good because I lost a great chunk of money in paying my taxes this year.

Every day I exercise my right to remain silent when the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is giving me a piece of her mind. Although I have not lost any weight with this exercise, I haven’t lost any arguments, either. Personally, I think it’s a good trade-off.

Now, with this new information I shall change my whole approach to dieting. Instead of working hard, exercising every day and watching what I eat, I shall throw caution to the wind and laugh all day long.

I shall laugh off all criticism with good humor. I shall roll in the aisles with uncontrollable mirth. My only concern is that I don’t die laughing.

For the observant person, like Yours Truly, each day provides plenty of things to laugh about. My only problem is to know exactly where to start. I could start laughing at my Beloved but I’m sure I would lose something other than weight, so I don’t want to go there, if you know what I mean.

A good guffaw, I’ve discovered, carries more than just personal benefits. An old proverb says, “Laugh, and the whole world laughs with you.” So, I can see where my laughing is going to help other people lose weight.

Why didn’t somebody think of this before? I may have lost some time; but be assured I am determined to giggle my way to

supreme health in the days and months ahead.

To begin my regimen of laughter, I only need to wake up in the morning. Believe me when I say, not waking up in the morning is no laughing matter.

When I wake up, I yawn, stretch and then go to the bathroom. One look in the mirror is good for a good belly laugh, which helps start the day in the right direction.

For the next laugh, I turn to the early morning news programs, which is good for a laugh-a-minute. We truly live in a funny world, at least for the person who takes the time to see the funny side of the street.

All those people on early morning television seriously think what they say is important. When in reality, very little of what they say makes any difference in anyone’s day. If they only knew how insignificant their opinions are, they probably wouldn’t get up in the morning and go to work. They give, on any given morning, sidesplitting, rib-tickling, laugh-a-minute exercises.

If you happen to see me walking down the street with a smile all over my face, don’t be alarmed. I am engaged in my Laughtercise for the day.

“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones” (Proverbs 17:22). 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 jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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By Marlys Norris, Christian Author

One very important day is not too far off in the distant future. There will come a day when God will come for those who trust and believe in Him. We do not know the day or the time but we do know that all the prophecies have already been fulfilled about that day according to Scripture. Therefore we are assured the day is nearing. Many are already announcing “It is time to get ready!”

Scripture records these truths: Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, through he may die, he shall live. (After death they will take on immortality) And whoever lives and believes in Me shall

In A Twinkling of An Eye

never die. (Will immediately take on immortality) Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26)

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed - *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” (I Corinthians 15:50-55)

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord,

that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cloud, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. *And thus we shall always be with the Lord.* Therefore, comfort one another with these words.. (I Thessalonians 4:15-18)

For you yourselves know perfectly that *the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.* (I Thessalonians 5:2) These events are called the “Rapture of the Church”.

Marlysjn@gmail.com

God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle!

“Recipes for a Happier Marriage”

NCPA Award Winning Book Recommended by Pat Boone



By Pastor Ray Dare

You will never go wrong living a life of unconditional love. You say, Yeah, Ray, but I’ve got some people in my life that I can’t stand. Man, they’re not serving the Lord. They don’t treat me right. They’re disrespectful. God surely doesn’t expect me to love them and treat them good.

But friends, Jesus said that we are to even love our enemies. He said if your enemy’s thirsty, give him a smoothie. He said if he’s hungry, give him a Big Mac. He said if he wants your shirt, go ahead and give him your coat. He said by doing this, the Lord will reward you.

During the South Korean war, a Christian father was arrested by the communists and ordered to be killed. But when the young communist leader

You’ll Never Go Wrong by Loving

heard that this man was a head of an orphanage and he was taking care of all of the children in that area, he decided to spare his life and instead kill his son. So they brought this man’s teenage son out and right before his very eyes, they shot him at point blank range and executed him.

Years later, the fortunes of war changed. This same young communist leader was arrested and tried by the United Nations and sentenced to death for these horrible crimes. But before the sentence could be carried out, this same father whose son had been murdered by this man pleaded and pleaded with the courts to spare the life of this killer. He said he was too young. He didn’t know what he was doing when he committed all those crimes. He begged them. He said, “Please just give him to me. Let me have him. I’ll train him. I’ll help him make something of his life.”

Strangely enough, the United Nations granted this man’s unbelievable request. He took the

murderer of his own son into his own home and raised him and loved him and cared for him. To make a long story short, that young communist gave his heart to the Lord. Today, that former communist murderer is a pastor of a church in another nation. Love never fails.

I challenge you again to let your life overflow with God’s love and God’s mercy. Life is too short to get caught up in petty differences or bound up in bitterness and grudges. Give people the benefit of the doubt. Give them a little room to be the person God’s called them to be. Nobody’s perfect. Overlook their faults and be quick to see the best in everybody. Be quick to show God’s mercy because we know we’re going to need it one day. My prayer today is that all of us from this day forth will make up our minds and determine in our hearts that we are going to live a life of mercy and unconditional love.

Pastor Ray

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Balanced ride

6. Mythical giant bird

9. Iranian monarch

13. Her face "launched a thousand ships"

14. Lawyer group

15. Abu ____, United Arab Emirates

16. It describes the siege of Troy

17. "Thank you ____, may I have another."

18. Chums

19. "I'm ready for my ____"

21. Whitman's craft

23. ____-been

24. Italian money

25. An NBA game can never end with this

28. Bumpkin

30. Bald Eagle to Americans, e.g.

35. Party request

37. Crucifix

39. Outburst of firearms

40. One who employs something

41. "Revolutionary Road" novelist

43. In the near future

44. Mortise and ____ joint

46. Corpulent President

47. Youngster

48. The Terminator, e.g.

50. Whiskey grain, pl.

52. Laurie Partridge actress

53. ____ Piper

55. Tote

57. Team spirit

60. "What we've got here is ____ to communicate."

64. Shariah-approved meat

65. What Salinger's catcher was in

67. Weighed

68. One of three hipbones

69. Charged particle

70. Bornean ape

71. It preceded the violin

72. Defensive ____ in football

73. 4 x 4 race, e.g.

DOWN

1. Elegant and stylish

2. Holler

3. Greek muse of history

4. Fido's restraint

5. Make lovable

6. Wood file

7. "Help me ____, Wan Kenobi"

8. Plural of "carpus"

9. Heard round the world?

10. "Give me down to there ____ Shoulder length or longer"

11. Competently

12. ____ and her towels

15. "The stuff that ____ are made of."

20. Shylock's line of work

22. Metal-bearing mineral

24. Olga Korbut's outfit

25. "You can't handle the ____!"

26. Nisei's parent

27. Movie premiere, e.g.

29. "You're gonna need a bigger ____."

31. Cat-headed Egyptian goddess

32. Silent film comedian

Harold ____

33. Call forth

34. "Show me the ____!"

36. High school ball

38. Confront

42. Ancient stone slab with markings

45. "I love the smell of ____ in the morning."

49. Zip

51. Bachelor on "The Bachelorette," e.g.

54. Suggestive of the supernatural

56. Sunlight distraction

57. a.k.a. French Sudan

58. Medley

59. Ralph in Spanish

60. Manage without help

61. Eurasian mountain range

62. Actress Sofer

63. Trend-setting

64. Human immunodeficiency virus

66. Old-fashioned "far"

For Solution See Page 7

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Justin Wallace Wins Scholarship

RANCHO CORDOVA – Justin Wallace, a senior at Jesuit High School, is the winner of this year’s \$500 Community PRIDE scholarship that is awarded annually by City employees to show their support of graduating seniors who live in Rancho Cordova. Application requirements include a minimum 3.0 GPA and an essay about student and community activities.

This fall, Justin will attend Loyola University in New Orleans where he will major in political science. His long-term goals are to get a teaching credential and a law degree. “Honoring a graduating senior is



Justin Wallace, a senior at Jesuit High School, expresses his appreciation after he was presented the 2012 Community PRIDE Scholarship.

our way to recognize City youth and education,” said Lisa Brown of the City’s Human Resources Department and a member of the Employees’ Advisory Team that coordinates the scholarship. “We want to reward young people who have demonstrated attributes of good citizenship in our community by helping them achieve their higher education goals.” City employees funded this year’s scholarship with earnings from their Spaghetti Feed and Talent Show. For information about next year’s PRIDE scholarship, contact Brown at (916) 851-8700.

Better Your Business Skills

FAIR OAKS – Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce announces monthly “Better Business Skills” meetings at The Village Bistro. 8:30 – 10:00am. Meetings will take place on the 2nd Monday of every month. So mark your calendar!

Cost (including delicious coffee, juice and pastries) is \$20.00. Each meeting will focus on one specific topic, hosted by Pete Schroeder, Chamber Program Director and Certified Business Coach. The format of the meetings

will be interactive. Future topics will be determined by the participants. No registration necessary – just stop by and grab a chair! Limited seating, however! The Village Bistro can accommodate 36.



A Film Review by Tim Riley

THE DICTATOR

(Rated R)

The appeal of the offbeat personality of supreme prankster Sacha Baron Cohen may be an acquired taste. He was an absolute idiot in “Borat” and then again in “Bruno.” Now he’s the moronic tyrant of the fictional North African country of Wadiya in “The Dictator.” Cohen was likely inspired by similar roles played to the hilt by Charlie Chaplin and Groucho Marx.

Though Cohen has the unique ability to sink deeply into character as the despotic Admiral General Haffaz Aladeen, he’s no match, in the end, for Groucho’s autocrat Rufus T. Firefly. To the uninitiated, it should be observed that a Sacha Baron Cohen comedy, whether entirely scripted or mostly ad-libbed, wallows in the crude, vulgar and scatological. “The Dictator” is no exception to this tested formula. In his home country, Aladeen rules supreme from an ornate palace that makes Saddam Hussein’s former mansion look like a nondescript tract home in a drab San Fernando Valley neighborhood. Aladeen’s reign of terror grips Wadiya in a perpetual state of fear. The slightest indiscretion will result in the immediate execution of an otherwise prudent, obedient citizen. The dictator amuses himself by entertaining visiting Hollywood royalty, leading to one-night stands that are memorialized with Polaroid snapshots. Megan Fox is only the latest palace conquest.

Riley Reviews

WILL COMIC “DICTATOR” SINK “BATTLESHIP” OR VICE VERSA?

The basic story is deceptively simple and almost coherent. On a diplomatic mission to the U.N., Aladeen is betrayed by his uncle (Ben Kingsley), an heir to the Wadiyan throne. Shorn of his flowing beard and regal clothes, Aladeen is soon adrift on the streets of New York, winding up as the counter-man at a vegan grocery store run by the ditzzy organic zealot Zoey (Anna Faris). The clueless Zoey thinks that Aladeen’s politically incorrect quips are misguided and possibly harmless, but Cohen’s brutal comedy is most effective when his insults exploit a wide range of prejudices. That “The Dictator” is dedicated to the loving memory of North Korean tyrant and certified nutcase Kim Jong Il is an indication of where Cohen seeks to take his satire.

BATTLESHIP

(Rated PG-13)

Based on a Hasbro board game, “BattleShip” offers few surprises, none of which is more astonishing than the fact this spectacle of explosive action is directed by Peter Berg instead of Michael Bay. What we get is “Transformers” on steroids, which should be satisfying enough for the indiscriminating aficionados of the action adventure film fueled by the overconsumption of popcorn. The nominal hero of this action flick is Taylor Kitsch, suddenly infamous for the unfortunate clunker that was the extravagant “John Carter.” This time around we are first introduced to Kitsch’s Alex Hopper as a hotheaded slacker who desperately seeks to impress a hot blond in a Hawaiian dive bar by securing a chicken burrito from a closed convenience store.

Alex’s brother Stone (Alexander Skarsgard), a Navy captain, has grown weary of his sibling’s antics and demands his enlistment into the Navy. I don’t remember how time flies by, but suddenly Alex is a Navy lieutenant whose quick temper often gets the better of his judgment. But now he’s engaged to the blonde beauty (Brooklyn Decker), who just happens to be the daughter of the blunt, testy Admiral Crane (Liam Neeson). Meanwhile, a crew of computer nerds is hunkered down at a communications center in the hills above Honolulu where they send out signals into outer space. A reply to their messages arrives suddenly in the form of large metal objects that crash into the ocean, waiting ominously for Lieutenant Alex and his crew to show up to investigate. The aliens are apparently not looking for Reese’s Pieces. They’re hostile and ready to decimate the Earth. Perhaps the long trip to our planet made them extremely irritable. Thus begins a prolonged battle that consists of plenty of explosions. Oh, I forgot to mention that the Japanese navy has joined ours for exercises in the Hawaiian seas. The best thing about the international flavor is that Tadanobu Asano’s visiting Captain Nagata is a better actor than most of the American crew, bringing some much-needed gravitas to a grave situation. For his part, Liam Neeson is great at barking some orders and putting down an oblivious Secretary of Defense. Sadly, though, he’s mostly underutilized. “BattleShip” is loud, noisy and frantic. Most of all it is an assault on common sense and reality. Thus, it almost makes “Pearl Harbor” look good, the operative word here being “almost.” Unfortunately, the film is full of glaring errors and missteps, of which the most egregious is when a battleship is taken out of mothballs from the Pearl Harbor museum and just happens to be loaded with live weapons ready for action.

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POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

ACHIEVE YOUR WILD GOALS

Do you have some wild goals you dream about, and never told anyone? You probably think you can never achieve them, so why try? How would you like the map to get there in four steps? **Sean Covey**, along with co-authors **Chris McChesney** and **Jim Huling**, have put together *“The 4 Disciplines of Execution”* to change your behavior and achieve your wildly important goals. I had Chris on my POPPOFF Radio Show and he led me through these disciplines. So put aside your old ideas and get ready for some new ones. Here is the capsulated version right from their book.

1) Focus on the Wildly Important. Basically, the more you try to do, the less you actually accomplish. This is a stark, inescapable principle that we all live with. Somewhere along the way, most leaders forget this. Why? Because smart, ambitious leaders don’t want to do less, they want to do more, even when they know better. Isn’t it really difficult for you to say no to a good idea, much less a great one? And yet, there will always be more good ideas than you and your

teams have the capacity to execute. So, Discipline 1 requires you to start by selecting one, or at the most, two extremely important goals, instead of trying to significantly improve everything all at once. Failure to achieve it will make every other accomplishment seem secondary, or possibly even inconsequential.

2) Act on the Lead Measures. This is the discipline of leverage. It’s based on the simple principle that all actions are not created equal. Whatever strategy you’re pursuing, your progress and success will be based on two kinds of measures: lag and lead. Lag measures are the tracking measurements of the wildly important goal, and they are usually the ones you spend most of your time praying over. Revenue, profit, and market share are all lag measures, meaning when you receive them, the performance that drove them is already in the past. Lead measures are quite different in that they are the measures of the most high-impact things you must do to reach the goal. Once you have identified your lead measures, they become the key leverage points for achieving your goal.

3) Keep a compelling Scoreboard. People play differently when they’re keeping score. This is the discipline of engagement. In principle, the highest level of performance always comes from people who are emotionally engaged and the highest level of engagement comes

from knowing the score...that is, if people know whether they are winning or losing. And you must know the scoreboard. If the scoreboard isn’t clear, the game you want people to play will be abandoned in the whirlwind of other activities.

4) Create A Cadence of Accountability. This is where execution really happens. The first 3 disciplines set up the game, but number four is based on the principle of accountability: that unless we consistently hold each other accountable, the goal naturally disintegrates in the whirlwind. The secret to Discipline 4, in addition to repeated cadence, is that members create their own commitments. Because they make their own commitments, their ownership of them increases.

This is a very condensed version of what *“The 4 Disciplines of Execution”* is all about. The good thing is when I asked Chris if this works for team participation or for single achievement, he told me absolutely for both. If you want more info on what these disciplines are all about, you can check out www.4DXBook.com. Press on. Now it’s all up to you. It begins with you and it ends with you and your desire to succeed. But know you can make it happen!

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



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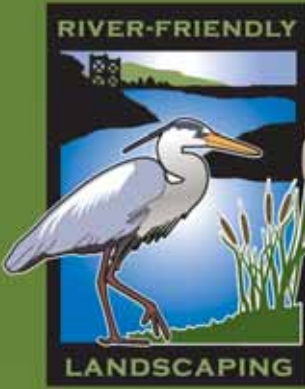
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“Hey Dad, Don’t Blink”

By Paul V. Scholl

You are a child of the Universe, no less than the trees and the stars, you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the Universe is unfolding as it should. – Desiderata

They say “It goes really fast” when you have children. Faster than anyone can even imagine. My son, Gabriel, is now 18 and heading to college. Wasn’t it just yesterday...?

We spent many hours driving when he was very little from the East Bay to the Sacramento area when he came up to stay with me a couple times each month. We would spend some of time learning math. “2 plus 2 is 4. 4 plus 4 is 8. 8 plus 8 is 16. 16 plus 16 is 32...16,384 plus... Dad, that number’s too big for me right now.”

I remember two times when he said something to me that was truly stunning. Once, when he was about four, he said “Dad, this time, I’m the boy and you’re the Dad.” Silence. He leaned over and went to sleep. He really did get it.

Another time, as he was looking out the window and studying the clouds. He looked over at me, touched my hand with his and said “Dad, God’s a hand. He just holds you.” Again, silence. And he leaned back and went to sleep.

How many times can you watch Lion King? I would watch it a hundred times more for one more Saturday morning on the couch together.



Holding Gabriel for the very first time. Life changes now.

When he asked me once how much I loved him, spreading my arms wide didn’t seem like enough. I looked up to the moon and said “I love you to the moon and back Gabe.” He said “I love you to the moon and back Dad.” We repeated that many times over the years.

The importance of being there for his first baseball game, his



One-on-one instruction about the Spirit of baseball.

first t-ball hit, being able to help coach for the first few years, will live in my heart as one of the best decisions I’ve made. Looking back, I can’t imagine doing it differently.



“Blowing Kisses” to grandma during one of our many visits.



Celebrating the Fourth of July and my birthday together with family and friends. One of our best patriotic photos ever.

There was one particular play that was above all the rest. He was catching in an All-Star game, and it was close. There was a runner on third, then the pitcher threw a wild pitch that bounced off to the right

He played a bit more after that one.

Another moment that thrilled this dad’s heart was when he was playing linebacker on the high school football team. Goal line stand, and here comes the running back, and he just drilled him and drove him back, saving the touchdown. Now that was fun to watch!

His dream though was to be a big league baseball player. One summer we took “The great baseball road trip” which included seeing games in St. Louis at the old ballpark before it was torn down, Kansas City, and Denver. We saw the Royals, the Blue Jays, the White Sox, the Mets, the Rockies, the Cardinals, the Cubs, the Brewers and the Phillies all in a 10-day span in three different ballparks. We went with my wife Trish, who was also a big baseball fan, and they were a total blast together. This was the “maximum exposure” trip to big league baseball outside of the Bay Area, which was all he had known about it at that time. If you are going to dream big, learn big.

The day I heard that they were officially closing the old Yankee Stadium I decided I would make sure he had the chance to see it before it closed. We were able to make the trip out for almost a week, getting to see four games, a sweep of the Minnesota Twins.

He learned a lot about baseball fans that week. He also learned a lot about the real heart and soul of the game. It just warmed my heart when he leaned over to me during the first game and said “Dad, I think I’m a Yankees fan.”

During our trip to New York City we visited the Metropolitan Museum, Central Park, Ground Zero, the Bethesda fountain, the top of the Empire State Building and ran up Broadway in the rain. I showed him where I used to live on the Upper East Side, and one of my favorite places in the world, the East River at John Finley Walk.

We also went out to the Statue of Liberty, just taking it all in. We visited the museums there and were enthralled by the history lessons. We even found family names engraved in the monument of those who had passed through as immigrants decades ago. It was a great father-son trip.

When he returned to Manhattan later with his class on a school performance trip he was the one showing everybody else about the Big Apple.

High School JV baseball proved a little bit different world. He found favorites to get played more, and there is such a thing as politics. After his first year the dream had

soured, never getting to play the position he truly loved.

After his last game, which I was surely not going to miss, it was the end of a dream. And not only his. It wasn’t about his ever “making it”, it was about the journey together, the learning, the pep talks when he had a bad game, the strategies, the teaching. After we talked and hugged and he had to go on his way, I remember getting back to my car and having a good cry. Something big was over.

We took a trip up the California coast one weekend to Fort Bragg. I took him out to a great little first-class restaurant in town and taught him how to act properly when out on a date with a young lady. I let the waitress know what we were there for, and she joined in with a couple of tips of her own. She even had the cook, the long-time owner, come out and introduce himself and add his personal touch.

Later that trip we visited my favorite beach for the day. He went for a long and solitude walk while I just hung back and took time to write. It was a great example of how we could be together, yet enjoy our own space.

Over the years we loved to go to movies together, seeing many of the big movies when they came out. We also saw plenty of duds. I remember seeing one, one of the big “animated” movies that was so bad, we got up and left before the halfway point. That’s when I taught him how to get your money back for really bad entertainment. Funny thing, he later worked at the same movie theatre.

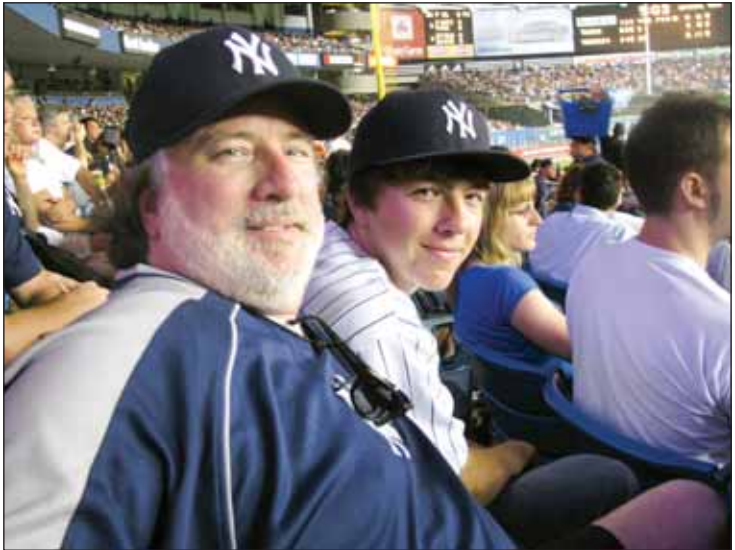
This last year he worked two jobs to save up enough money to buy his own car, while taking on AP classes and aiming for college. We visited a few lots one week and talked about deciding just what kind of car he was looking for to get him around town. He did the research, found the car, and made the deal. Then he learned about used car repairs.

When my wife Trish passed away suddenly in 2009, he was so supportive and strong. They had their own special relationship, and we both shared a loss that I’ve yet to figure out. As we both have learned, life does go on.

He served as my best man, twice. There really was no other choice for me. He is my strongest bond on this planet, my reason for doing so many things.

I was so very proud of the toast he gave when I married Gwen a year ago January. He displayed his maturity and grace in a way that not many others in the room had noticed before. Compliments were many.

He graduates in just a few short days. Then it is off to USF



“Dad, I think I’m a Yankees fan” during our visit to old Yankee Stadium



To the Best Best Man a father could have on wedding day.

and the rest of his life. I remember the first time I held him. I remember holding his hand on the first day of school. I remember how excited he was when he declared his independence from diapers. He said “No Dad, I’ll do it myself. I want my private-seat.”

It has been both a joy and sometimes a pain watching him grow his independence. More than just the normal teenage “I know everything” attitude, he’s developed a side that he really does take much more into consideration when making decisions. When we differ on our opinions and we agree to

disagree, I always let him know how important it is to come up with his own conclusions and that life itself will teach him whether he is right or wrong or somewhere in between.

He also hears that what might be right right now for him could be very wrong later in life. What is important is to be aware in life, and to act accordingly. He knows that it is about always trying to do the right thing, even if it doesn’t seem to turn out that way.

This page is written to honor a job well done by my son, for his diligence towards school and his grades, to working and practicing hard, to his willingness to make and keep good friends, and to his being a wonderful son.

It is also written for all those divorced and separated dads that may not know what to do with their kids through all the pain of their own broken relationship. Get over or around it enough to nurture your children the best you can. Do what you can to participate, even if it means just being there to watch the game, the play, the dance, the speech. Being there always matters.

All the struggles, financial or otherwise, will pale in their significance over the years to the memories your children will hold of your participation. My son knows the path we’ve taken together, and now he’s find-



“Dad, I think I’m a Yankees fan” during our visit to old Yankee Stadium



To the Best Best Man a father could have on wedding day.

and the rest of his life. I remember the first time I held him. I remember holding his hand on the first day of school. I remember how excited he was when he declared his independence from diapers. He said “No Dad, I’ll do it myself. I want my private-seat.”

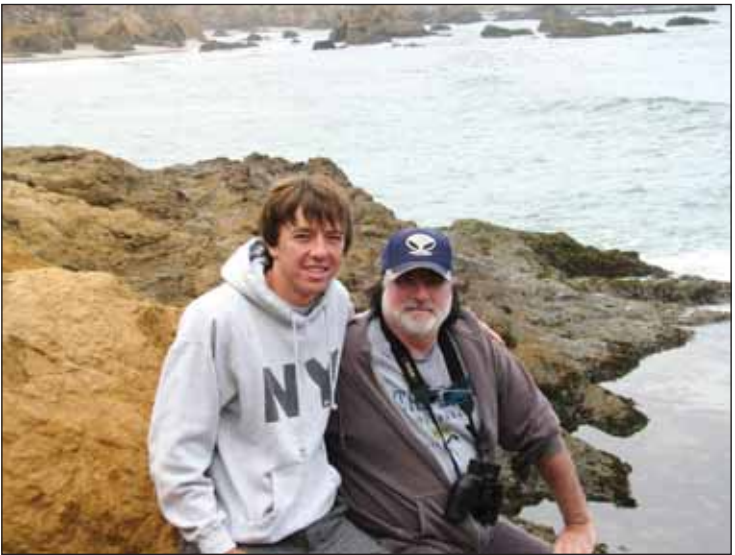
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ing his own path. If life ended today, knowing that, I would be OK with it.

Gabriel has his own relationship with God. He has a good foundation. He is defining what he believes in. He has all the tools to be a success. I do not know if I am capable of loving any other human being more than I love my son Gabriel.

And I am proud to know that when the day comes, he will understand fully just what it means when his son says “Hey Dad, Don’t Blink”.

“I love you to the moon and back Gabe.” - Dad



One our trip to Fort Bragg. Another great Father-Son trip alone.



A Case in Point

The Case of the Unlucky Driver

By David Graulich, Esq.

There’s a tug-of-war in society between technology, which changes rapidly and constantly, and the law, which changes gradually and infrequently. Technologies such as cell phones or “tweeting” alter the social patterns of everyday life. The law struggles to catch up and stay relevant.

That’s brings us to the story of Carl Nelson, the unlucky driver.

Mr. Nelson was driving his car in the city of Richmond, California on the morning of December 28, 2009. He stopped at a red light and decided, like many of us, to make use of the waiting time. Mr. Nelson opened his “flip-style” cell phone and began dialing to check email.

At this precise moment, a police officer pulled up on a motorcycle directly next to the driver-side door. The officer saw Mr. Nelson holding a cell phone to his ear and dialing. Mr. Nelson looked over, saw the police officer, removed the cell phone from his ear and closed it. We don’t know Mr. Nelson’s thoughts at this point, but they probably consisted of a two-word expression beginning with “Oh.”

When the light turned green and Mr. Nelson drove through the intersection, the officer pulled him over and ticketed him for using a cell phone while driving. In traffic court, the ticket was upheld and a fine of \$103 was levied.

Most people would have given up and paid the \$103. Mr. Nelson, however, was sufficiently disturbed that he retained a law firm and appealed. The

California Appellate Court, First District, agreed to hear the case.

Mr. Nelson’s lawyer made an interesting argument. He acknowledged Vehicle Code, Section 2313(a), which says, “A person shall not drive a motor vehicle while using a wireless telephone unless that telephone is specifically designed to allow hands-free listening and talking...”

That’s the key, argued the lawyer. Mr. Nelson wasn’t driving a motor vehicle. He was stopped at a red light and posed no risk to anyone. To quote the legal lingo: “The term ‘drive’ requires evidence of volitional movement of the motor vehicle as an element of the offense.”

To use a cell phone while stationary was no more hazardous than various other things people do while waiting for a light to change – putting on make-up, eating a messy sandwich, reading a map, or changing radio stations, according to the argument.

The lawyer cited a 1991 decision, *Mercer v. Department of Motor Vehicles*. Police found a man asleep over the wheel of a car that was legally parked at the curb. The car had its lights on and engine running. The defendant was fined for driving under the influence – but on appeal the fine was overturned. Yes, *Mercer* was drunk; however, when police observed him, he wasn’t driving. He was legally parked and asleep.

That gets us back to the Nelson case. When the Court announced its decision, it turned out that Mr.

Nelson’s luck hadn’t improved. He lost again.

“Driving” a car, said the decision, meant the same as “operating” a car. The court cited various cited California laws that used the words “drive” and “operate” interchangeably.

The drunk driver in *Mercer* was in a different situation. *Mercer* wasn’t going anywhere, nor was he about to. However, drivers at a red light are still “operating” a car, and could pose a hazard if distracted – by their feet letting up on the brakes, for example, or by failing to promptly move as required by the traffic laws.

If Mr. Nelson wanted to use a cell phone at a red light, the Court concluded, he should install a hands-free wireless system and be in compliance with the law.

My guess is that California will have more litigation like this. What if I am stuck in dense traffic and call home to alert my family? What if I am in line at the McDonald’s drive-thru and use the time to check email or call the office? Technology and law are destined to continue skirmishing in the courtroom.

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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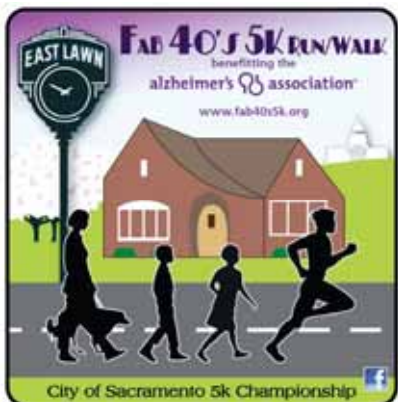
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