



Workers Approaching Retirement Believe They Will Return to Work

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SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



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Oroville Spillways Construction Now Exceeds One Billion Dollars

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) recently provided an update on construction activities and estimated costs for the Oroville Spillways Emergency Recovery Project.

Main Spillway

On November 1, 2018 is a public safety construction milestone to complete placement of all concrete on the main spillway. Dry finishing, concrete curing, joint sealing, completing sidewall backfill and site clean-up on the main spillway will continue after November 1.

The upper chute is 63 percent complete. Crews have placed 50 of 150 erosion-resistant concrete (ERC) structural slabs and two of 50 ERC structural walls on the uppermost 730 feet of upper chute.

The middle chute is 77 percent complete. Crews continue to place ERC structural slabs and walls on the middle chute. To date, crews have placed 175 of 228 slabs and 51 of 76 walls.

Repair work on the dentates is 45 percent complete. Placement of reinforcing steel and ERC slabs on the energy dissipaters, or dentates, at the base of the main spillway is ongoing.

Emergency Spillway

Placement of roller-compacted concrete (RCC) on the southern half of the emergency spillway splashpad is 72 percent complete. Crews have temporarily stopped RCC placement for scheduled maintenance on the RCC batch plant. RCC placement will resume on Monday, Sept. 10.

The RCC buttress at the base of the emergency spillway will be built later this year. Drilling of steel dowels into the emergency spillway monolith structure that will support the buttress is complete.

Work at the emergency spillway site is not dependent on the public safety



A drone provides a bird's-eye view of the Lake Oroville emergency spillway and the second phase of construction of the roller-compacted concrete splashpad on the hillside above the secant pile wall at the Butte County, California site. Photo taken August 15, 2018. Photo by Ken James, California Department of Water Resources

construction milestone and will continue past November 1, 2018.

Other Updates

Work continues on an underground transmission line project along Oro Dam Boulevard East between Glen Drive and Canyon Drive. One-way traffic controls are in place from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will continue until the project is complete in mid-October.

The speed limit has been reduced to 25 mph on this stretch of Oro Dam Boulevard East and cars will not be allowed to stop on the road. There are several designated turn outs for

cars to pull over to get a view of the Oroville spillways construction site.

September 7 is the next free access dates at the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, which completes DWR's free access program.

DWR met with the independent Board of Consultants for the 20th time on September 5 and September 6.

Cost Estimate Update: As work continues to meet the November 1, 2018 public safety construction milestone to fully reconstruct the main spillway, DWR has updated its cost estimates. The current estimate for emergency response

and reconstruction of the main and emergency spillways is \$1.1 billion. Cost estimates are based on actual and projected work and may be adjusted further as work continues through completion of the project in 2019.

DWR will continue to submit expenditures to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement. To date, FEMA has approved reimbursement of \$87.4 million of the \$116.5 million submitted by DWR.

SPILLWAY

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Governor Signs Gallagher Legislation to Prevent Prescription Fraud

**From the office of
Assemblyman
James Gallagher**

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)

- Governor Brown has signed Assembly Bill 2086, Assemblyman James Gallagher's (R-Yuba City) legislation to allow prescribers of controlled substances to review their prescribing history. This will make it easier to flag and report fraudulent prescriptions.

Although prevalent throughout California, the opioid epidemic is hitting rural areas especially hard. For example, in Butte County there are more prescriptions than people, with 1,880 morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs) prescribed per resident annually. To put that in perspective, the national average is 640 MMEs, and a 200 mg dose is lethal.

"AB 2086 is a common-sense approach to identifying

fraudulent prescriptions and will help keep pills out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them," said Gallagher. "The opioid epidemic is a public health crisis that affects every community and addressing it takes a multi-pronged approach that includes education, treatment, and prevention," Gallagher continued.

Gallagher is a member of a bi-partisan, bi-cameral coalition formed to combat drug abuse

in California. Outside the legislature, Gallagher continues to advocate for safe medication storage and disposal. To prevent unused drugs from falling into the wrong hands, Gallagher supported Senate Bill 212 to increase disposal sites and take-back programs. Safe disposal pouches are also available for free at his Yuba City and Chico district offices.

Volunteer Firefighters Wanted in Gridley

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Have you ever wanted to get involved and make a difference by helping your neighbors and friends? If so, consider becoming a Gridley Volunteer Firefighter!

The City of Gridley is a combination Fire Department with full-time CAL

FIRE Firefighters and Gridley area citizen Volunteer Firefighters. Our Volunteers meet regularly for training. Training is done cooperatively with Butte County Fire and includes all basic firefighting skills: first aid, ladders, breathing apparatus use, hose streams, vehicle extrication, etc. This

ongoing training is in addition to the initial basic operations training course.

For more information about becoming a Gridley Volunteer Firefighter, go to WWW.JOINBCFD.ORG and submit a Volunteer Firefighter Interest Form.

Source: City of Gridley



The Herald Living to See Another Day

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Messenger Publishing Group and Gatehouse Media are entering into an interim agreement to keep The Gridley Herald publishing. This week's issue has been produced by MPG while the details are being worked out.

With the publication of the newspaper this week the adjudication for publishing legal notices remains intact. The Herald can accept legal advertising again with next week's issue.

All advertisers are welcomed to contact the newspaper about placing their ad campaigns for future issues.

Subscribers will be alerted to the new subscription details within a few days.

Messenger Publishing Group owns five local newspapers in Sacramento County.

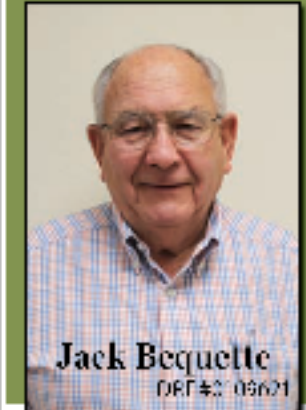
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Butte County Library Offers Fee Amnesty in September

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Butte County Library is offering community members fee amnesty this September in honor of National Library Card Sign-Up Month. Throughout the month, library cardholders with outstanding library fees/fines and unreturned items can visit their local Butte County Library branch to have outstanding fines forgiven.

Currently, there are more than 3,300 Butte County Library cardholders with blocked accounts because they have more than \$10 in fines for unreturned items, and nearly 30 percent of these blocked accounts are young people under the age of 18.

"Libraries offer so many resources to the public in addition to checking out books, including special events,

activities like the makerspace and summer reading program, adult classes and homework and literacy resources," said Melanie Lightbody, Butte County Librarian. "We hope that through this amnesty program, people will once again be able to utilize Library materials and programs, especially young people."

How to Participate

There are several ways in which community members can participate in Butte County Library Amnesty Month:

- If you have overdue Library materials at home, please bring them back in.
- Community members interested in having their fines/fees waived should visit any Butte County Library branch in the month of September to meet with staff and review their account.

• Patrons can also bring in similar items to any lost or damaged materials and Library staff will assess the item to see if it can replace the lost/damaged materials.

Throughout September, the Library expects to waive \$600 - \$1,300 in fines, and receive up to 200 unreturned or replaced items. Similar amnesty programs in California have helped bring community members back into libraries and replenished materials that were previously no longer available.

For more information about Library Fine Amnesty Month, call or visit a Butte County Library branch, or visit the Library's Fine Amnesty Month web page.

Source: Butte County News ★

Butte County Files Lawsuit Against DWR for Damages from Lake Oroville Spillway Incident

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Butte County has filed a lawsuit against the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in the Butte County Superior Court for damages sustained in the Lake Oroville Spillway Incident and its aftermath. Butte County and DWR officials engaged in settlement discussions over a period of months in an attempt

to resolve Butte County's claim for damages. Unfortunately, the parties could not agree on the scope and extent of damages. There are now four (4) lawsuits and the FERC Intervention administrative proceeding filed by Butte County against DWR.

Source: Butte County News ★

Oroville Spillways Construction and Cost Estimate Update



A worker from Kiewit Infrastructure uses rebar to construct a stay-form that will hold leveling concrete in place on the upper chute of the Lake Oroville main spillway in Butte County, California. Photo taken July 5, 2018. Photo by Ken James, California Department of Water Resources

SPILLWAY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Emergency Recovery: The current estimated cost of the Oroville Spillways Emergency Recovery Project through 2019 is \$940 million, with major components including:

\$630 million for main and emergency spillways work through the contract with Kiewit Infrastructure West.

The updated estimate reflects additional excavation on the emergency spillway hillside to reach competent rock, additional material for construction of the splashpad, and additional crews and equipment necessary to meet the November 1 public safety construction milestone.

\$310 million for related recovery work including debris and sediment removal, powerline

replacement, permitting and development of access roads, DWR staff time, technical consultants and inter-agency support.

The updated estimate reflects additional staff time, technical consultants and inter-agency support to meet the November 1 public safety construction milestone, and an estimate for site restoration that will occur after construction of the spillways is complete.

Emergency Response: The estimated cost for emergency response, which ended in May of 2017, remains unchanged at \$160 million. Response activities included erosion mitigation for both spillways during the incident, sediment removal, installation of temporary transmission lines, staff time, technical consultants and inter-agency support.

DWR awarded an initial \$275

million contract in April 2017 to Kiewit to immediately plan and mobilize crews and equipment to begin construction in May 2017. This budget allowed Kiewit to begin necessary work while the project design was completed, and was not an estimate of the total project cost. Final plans for the main spillway were completed in July 2017 and final design plans for the emergency spillway were completed and approved in August 2018. As with any project of considerable magnitude, cost estimates are affected by conditions onsite and direction from regulatory bodies throughout design and construction.

To view photos and video of the Oroville Spillways construction, visit DWR's Oroville Spillway photo gallery and YouTube channel.

Source: Department of Water Resources ★

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Gallagher Joins Petition to Stop the State Water Grab



From the office of Assemblyman James Gallagher

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Assemblyman Gallagher (R-Yuba City) is joining state and federal bipartisan legislators, valley farmers, and North State Farm Bureaus in an effort to stop the State Water Resources Control Board from cutting water supplies to agriculture.

"This dangerous 'Water Grab', that could cripple the farming economy, is possible because of the unaccountable and un-elected bureaucrats and their radical policies that do not take people into account, and is why we are seeing our water infrastructure crumbling. If they can take water in Stanislaus, Merced, and Tuolumne, they're going to do it to us in the North State. We need to be together and we need to be united," Gallagher stated at a rally on Monday.

The fight over this watershed is the first of a two-part proposal. Later this year, the board will release a companion proposal to redirect portions of the Sacramento River watershed's supply to benefit fish and other environmental purposes. The two proposals could mean historic changes in how water is parceled out in a state that has faced many water management

challenges.

After mounting pressure highlighted by a rally on the steps of the Sacramento Capitol building on Monday, the board has decided to postpone their decision. However, if approved, this proposal will not only lead to farmland being taken out of production, but it could also negatively impact local and rural economies and the industries that support them.

In an effort to permanently stop this decision, a petition campaign is underway to tell the water board to protect the water supply for families, communities and farms over environmental needs.

For more information on Assemblyman Gallagher, and to track legislation visit www.assembly.ca.gov/Gallagher. ★

More Than Half of Workers Approaching Retirement Believe They Will Return to Work



More than half of workers approaching retirement in the next five years believe they will likely return to work. MPG FILE PHOTO

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Providing insight into the changing post-retirement landscape, a new survey by Home Instead, Inc. revealed that more than half (53 percent) of workers approaching retirement in the next five years believe they will likely return to work.

In terms of their next move, the majority of both those approaching retirement (68 percent) and those who have "unretired" and returned to work (65 percent) said they will change or have changed industries. What's more, nearly 80 percent of both groups said they want to make a meaningful impact in their communities in their post-retirement years, such as through volunteerism or a role involving caregiving, teaching or giving back.

"Finding a fulfilling post-retirement career can be incredibly valuable for an older adult," said Buck Shaw, owner of the Home Instead Senior Care office serving Sacramento and surrounding areas. "For some Sacramento men and women, that fulfillment comes from being a professional caregiver, but many find new career or volunteer opportunities that help serve their skills, passions

and life goals, and challenge them in a way their previous career might not have."

According to the survey, important motivators for returning to work for those who have retired were fighting boredom (44 percent) or keeping their minds sharp (22 percent), while finding new challenges and fulfillment were the most common motivators for those pending retirement.

Catherine Collinson, CEO of Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies, reaffirms that with people living longer than ever, it's important to focus more on maintaining a sense of purpose than holding on to the outdated hallmark of retiring at age 65.

"With Boomers blazing the way, full retirement is no longer a point in time. The transition could be a decade or more, and involve shifting gears and working in a different capacity or finding a flexible arrangement, all with more time for family," Collinson said.

So what are the some of the hottest post-retirement jobs? According to Tim Driver, CEO of RetirementJobs.com, today's older workers are considering a wide array of flexible options,

including at organizations that meet the criteria for age-friendly workplaces.

"Retail sales clerks and bank tellers are among the most popular options, as are jobs that allow you to work from home, such as online tutoring. And caregiving is often a job where creativity is rewarded – giving you the ability to create activities for older adults and get a peek into what older life looks like," Driver said.

To help workers start thinking about how to make the most of their post-retirement years, the Home Instead Senior Care network is introducing tips and resources including an online career assessment tool that asks users questions about their interests, skills and ideal work environment before recommending categories of jobs that might suit them.

"Whether you are looking for an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others, share your expertise, network with new people or create something new, our hope is the career assessment tool will help spark ideas and conversation around what a rewarding next chapter could look like," explained Shaw.

For more information visit www.homeinstead.com. ★

Bail Reform Will Make Criminal Justice System Worse, Says Former Chair of Board of Prison Terms



From the office of Senator Jim Nielsen

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Senate Bill 10 (Hertzberg), a bill to eliminate the current money bail system, passed both houses of the Legislature and is on its

way to the Governor's desk for his consideration. Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama), who served as Chair of the Board of Prison Terms, issued the following statement:

"This is a stay-of-out jail card.

"The current bail system serves as an incentive for those accused of a crime to appear before a judge. Without a bail system and the fear of being tracked down by a bail bondsman, what is the motivation for anyone to appear in court? And what standard will be used to determine whether the accused is a flight risk?

"This measure, if signed into law, will result in a worse system where victims and their loved ones will not get the justice they

deserve.

"Criminals will thumb their noses and dismiss court orders. With our criminal justice system already weakened by AB 109, Proposition 47 and Proposition 57, this bill will further deteriorate our public safety.

"With parole supervision virtually eliminated, bail agents are the only boots-on-the-ground supervision for most convicted felons.

"Under realignment reform, burglars receive nothing but a notice to appear, with little to no consequences if they do not show up in court.

"The effect is no justice, and criminals are free to continue victimization." ★

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 5

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Incompetent CA DMV Had 13 Years to Implement Real ID Program



Commentary Katy Grimes, Investigative Journalist

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Those incredibly long lines at California DMVs look more like the release of the iPhone X or ticket sales for Beyonce and JayZ. But they are not. People are stuck in long DMV lines just to renew and update their drivers licenses.

Yet the notorious California Department of Motor Vehicles is about to be rewarded for its ineptitude and failures by the California Legislature with an unlimited budget.

News outlets throughout the state have written about 4, 6, and even 8+ hour waits since the January implementation of the DMV's Real ID program

Republican Gubernatorial candidate John Cox has been traveling around the state visiting DMVs handing out bottled water and talking with the folks waiting in these long lines.

What's the problem at the California DMV besides plain old government incompetence and arrogance?

Real ID Issues

The California DMV has had since 2005 to figure out how to implement the Real ID program.

But when the Department of Homeland Security announced that REAL ID enforcement would begin on February 5, 2018, California irresponsibly began its

program, without a plan.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, "the REAL ID Act enacted the 9/11 Commission's recommendation that the Federal Government 'set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver's licenses.' Passed by Congress in 2005, The Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards."

So, despite having 13 years to implement a Real ID, as most other states already have, the California DMV asked for extension after extension — for 13 years. Then, they abruptly started issuing the Real ID in January—even though DHS has not yet approved California's version.

I contacted DHS and asked if the approval has not been granted because California issues California Drivers Licenses to illegal aliens under Assembly Bill 60, signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown, because the California DMV has been spending vast amounts of resources on making sure illegal aliens have proper identification over California citizens being able to acquire the Real ID.

Or because Gov. Jerry Brown signed the "Gender Recognition Act" allowing people to change gender on their California Drivers License and birth certificates. CA now allows a third gender on the drivers license — a "nonbinary" designation — again, because the California DMV has been prioritizing the gender confused over California citizens being able to acquire the Real ID.

Or is there some other reason?

DHS replied back that they "are in the process of reviewing California's compliance certification and cannot discuss either internal or external deliberations at this time."

Why No Audit?

Assemblyman Jim Patterson (R-Fresno) requested an audit of the DMV, but at the direction of Gov. Jerry Brown, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee rejected the audit. Brown assured Democrat lawmakers that he would fix the DMV's problems.

I'm not sure how Jerry Brown, who has never had to wait in line at the DMV with the great unwashed and unserved, knows what to do to fix this — other than throw more money at the problem.

This reminds me of the definition of insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Giving an unlimited budget to the California DMV is no different than giving unlimited amounts of heroin to an addict.

Gov. Brown, along with current and former lawmakers enjoys special concierge DMV services at their own private DMV. The tiny, unmarked DMV office is buried deep inside of the Legislative Office Building across the street from the Capitol, devoted to serving the Legislature

and its staff. And it is not open to the public. The office serves members of the Legislature and Congress, legislative staff; employees of the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Legislative Counsel and the Legislative Data Center; and elected and appointed officials.

A friend's college age daughter who recently lost her drivers license, tried to get an appointment with her local DMV for a replacement license, but was not able to get in until October. She remembered hearing about the Capitol DMV. She went to the special Capitol DMV office and tried to get a replacement license this week but was turned away. Oddly, she said she was initially told at the Capitol DMV office that they only serve constituents. When

she identified herself as a Sacramento voter and constituent, she was then told the special Capitol DMV only serves Capitol government employees. They sent her on her way without a replacement license. To hell with you, peasant!

The CA Legislature has created these problems, and just yesterday a legislative committee passed a bill to allow the DMV to request unlimited future funds with little oversight.

As for the special Capitol DMV office for the elitists in the Legislature, I'm thinking it should be shut down until the DMV is cleaned up statewide, and wait times are reduced to 1 hour or less. Let the lawmakers stand in an 8-hour line. The audit would be approved immediately.

If I can apply for most things online and have them ready for pickup when I arrive, why can't the DMV?

Assemblyman Jim Patterson wanted to know how often DMV computer systems crash? He asked DMV Director Jean Shiimoto in a committee hearing, but she said she didn't know. Patterson said she told him she'd get back to him the next day...that was last week. He is still waiting.

How does Jean Shiimoto still have a job?

In California, the birthplace of the high tech industry, why can't the DMV manage to put a reliable computer system in place? Why such gross incompetence? And why can't a college student get a replacement drivers license before October? ★

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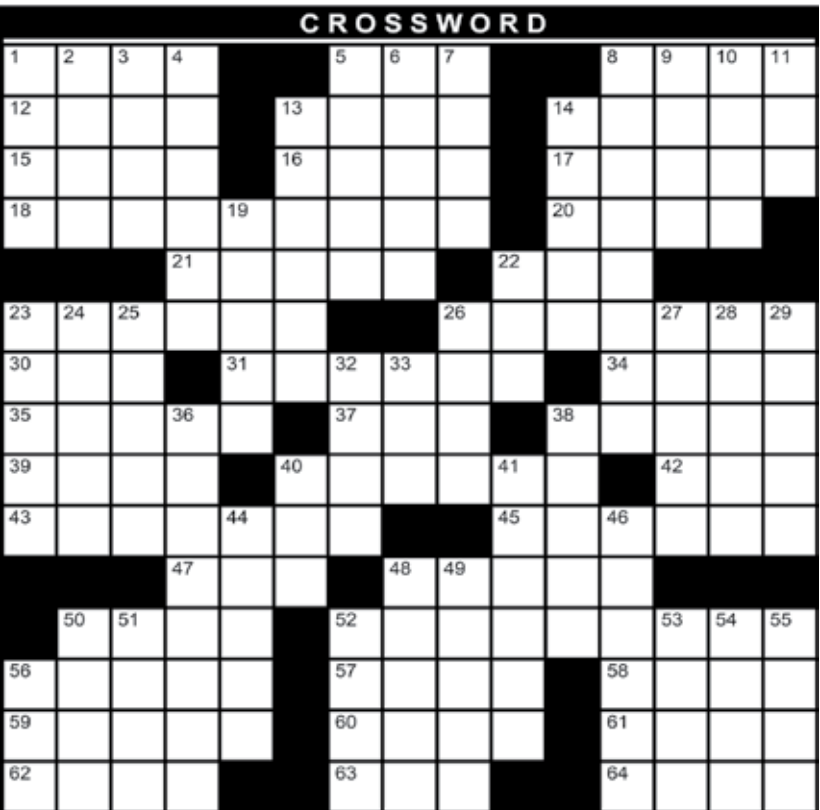
ACROSS

- Hunk
- Cough syrup amt.
- "Scene one, ____ one"
- Grand theft target
- Broflovski of "South Park"
- Polished surface of gem
- Simpleton
- A in A = b x h
- Tarzan's swing rope
- "Dream football destination
- Medley
- Olden-day Celts
- *Mo. of NFL preseason games
- Confine a river
- Khufu's resting place
- ____ Tsu
- First little piggy
- List of chores
- *First black head coach to win Super Bowl
- Computer network acronym
- Rank
- "... happily ____ after"
- *Team conference
- Dress like Ancient Greeks
- What's left
- *NFL teams play at least 8 games here
- Slow-witted
- Like Cinderella's ball gown
- Blade in Litchfield
- *Worth 6
- "Madama Butterfly," e.g.
- Mythological hominid
- Annette Castellano on "The Mindy Project"
- Evil one
- ____ gum on a list of ingredients
- Pains
- Site of original sin
- Operations
- Fountain order

DOWN

- Cul de ____ pl.
- Lululemon on NASDAQ
- At the apex
- Hispanic grocery and wine shop
- Innsbruck's province
- Lots and lots
- Sound of thunder
- *What fans do before the game
- ____ bowl, Brazilian dish
- Bingo-like game
- 7th letter of Greek alphabet
- Japanese theater
- Miller's product
- Went past
- Sailor's "yes"
- Village V.I.P.
- Shade of violet
- Fox crime drama, 2005-2017
- "On Golden ____," movie
27. *Go Pack Go" to Green Bay Packers?
- "Pulling my leg," e.g.
- Evade a ball
- It binds
- Little bit
- *Playing field
- "Bring back!" to Fido

- Refrigerator sound
- Jousting match participant
- Parlor piece
- Monster with nine heads, pl.
- Get overcast
- Saintly glows
- Hightailed it
- Blood component
- Pizza for home, e.g.
- *Home to Bengals
- Join by heating
- U.S. space agency
- Schiller's poem



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For Solutions See Page 4

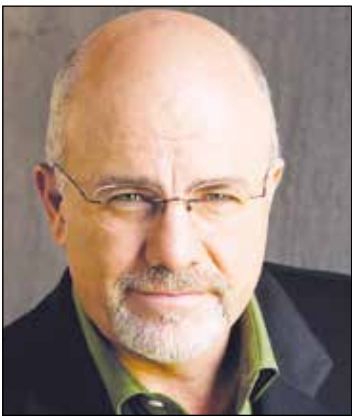
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For Solutions See Page 4



Dave Says

Take a long look in the mirror, Peggy, because the person who's looking back at you is the problem. Overspending, disorganization, not earning enough ... whatever label you want to slap on this situation, you are the reason for the problem. Once you understand and accept that, and you start living on a budget and staying away from debt, you'll have taken your first real steps toward financial peace!

—Dave

Need life insurance with no dependents?

Dear Dave,
I'm 35, single, and I have no dependents. Do I need a life insurance policy?
- Larry

Dear Larry,

In your situation, if you have enough cash saved up to pay your final expenses — and you don't have any debt — there's no reason for you to carry a life insurance policy. No one will be harmed financially by your death, and no one would be deprived of the income that would be lost if something

unexpected happened to you. Even if you have a mortgage on a home, the house will normally sell for enough to pay off the mortgage.

However, if you have debt, or if you don't have some money stashed away in savings, you might want to consider an inexpensive term life insurance policy. At your age, if you're healthy, you can get \$100,000 worth of coverage for just \$10 to \$15 a month.

Remember, you don't buy insurance to leave an inheritance. You buy life insurance to make sure there's enough money to take care of your family and final expenses. You wouldn't want your parents or someone else having to foot the bill!

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey. ★

Does America Really Have the Worst Health System in the Developed World?



Commentary
by Sally C. Pipes

America spends twice as much on health care as its peers in the developed world yet fares worse on a range of health indicators, including life expectancy and infant mortality.

That's the finding of a new survey of 10 developed countries published by the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Surveys like these tend to point out that the United States spends a lot on health care but doesn't appear to get much in return. A closer look, however, reveals that America's seemingly poor performance is largely attributable to lifestyle and social factors -- not the quality of the institutions that make up its healthcare system. Take life expectancy. Americans live for 78.8 years, on average -- less than the citizens of the other 10 developed nations examined in the JAMA study.

Several factors unrelated to our healthcare system explain

Americans' poor life expectancy. Our death rate from car crashes is more than double that of other high-income nations. The U.S. drug overdose death rate is higher as well; Americans are twice as likely as Brits and six times as likely as the French to die of overdoses.

Americans are also heavier than citizens of other nations. More than 70 percent of U.S. adults are either overweight or obese, which increases their risk of premature death.

None of these factors reflects the quality of America's doctors or hospitals. Yet they all contribute to our low life expectancy.

Then there's infant mortality. The JAMA analysis finds that America has the developed world's highest infant mortality rate -- 5.8 per 1,000 live births, compared to an average of 3.6 per 1,000.

But this statistic is misleading. Countries record infant deaths differently.

In the United States, it's standard practice to count any newborn showing the slightest evidence of life as a live birth. The Netherlands and France, by contrast, don't count babies born before 22 weeks of gestation or weighing 1.1 pounds or less as live births.

By excluding premature and underweight babies, many of whom don't survive, these countries artificially decrease their infant mortality rates.

Yet another deceptive indicator is the share of the population with health insurance. America's 90-percent insured rate falls short of the coverage rates in the other

nations.

Insurance, however, is no guarantee of access to health care. In my native Canada, the median wait time for receiving treatment from a specialist after referral from a general practitioner soared to a record high of 21.2 weeks last year.

Patients in the United Kingdom's single-payer system routinely wait for hours in hospital hallways -- or even in the back of ambulances.

Most patients in the United States, by contrast, receive top-notch care essentially on-demand. It's no coincidence that roughly 40 percent of patients seeking treatment outside their home country go to the United States, according to a 2017 survey.

The American system is also much better at treating serious illnesses like cancer. Five-year survival rates for breast, colon, and prostate cancers are higher in the United States than in other developed countries like Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany.

The U.S. healthcare system isn't perfect. But it's irresponsible to blame it for our nation's comparatively low life expectancy and high infant mortality without acknowledging the societal factors behind those problems.

Sally C. Pipes is President, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith Fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book, The False Promise of Single-Payer Health Care (Encounter), was released this spring. Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes. ★



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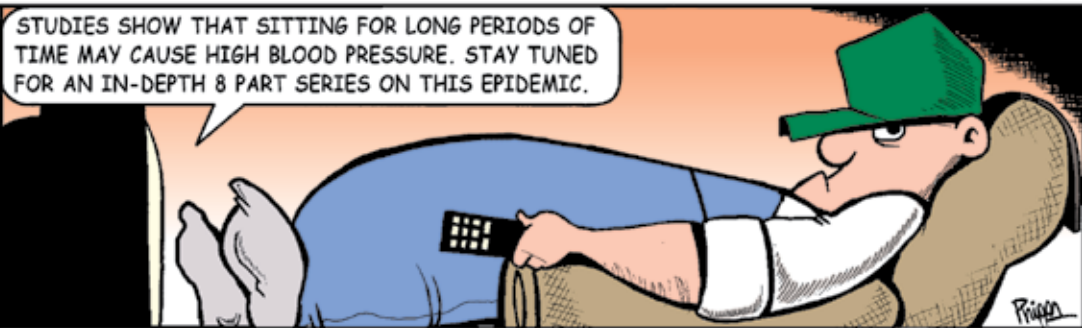
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SPORTS

Gridley, Biggs, Live Oak All Seeking First Wins of Season Week 3 Varsity Football Previews

By Rich Peters,
MPG Editor

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Week 3 is here and Gridley, Biggs and Live Oak all still find themselves winless early in the season but with plenty of time to turn things around.



Gridley Bulldogs
The Bulldogs (0-1) are most optimistic to get their season on the winning track considering they had an opening week bye. They will host Central Valley on Friday, September 7 at 7:30 p.m. Coming off of a 57-36 loss against Paradise, they hope to regroup quickly.
Gridley's offense wasn't the problem in their opening game, as they picked apart Paradise's defense led by senior quarterback Riley Dunning's 210 passing yards and 169 rushing yards for four touchdowns on the ground.

The problem for the Bulldogs was their run defense, who simply could not get a stop. Four Bobcats combined for 475 yards rushing and powered in eight touchdowns. Gridley head coach Matt Kemmis knows his team will clearly have to address their defense before Friday's game.



Biggs Wolverines
The Wolverines (0-2) look to bounce back after a tough opening night 28-24 loss in Hamilton and last week's 54-22 loss at the hands of Kelseyville. The good news is that they will finally get some home cookin' as they host Burney on Friday, September 7 at 7:30 p.m. The Raiders are also winless, but also scoreless, on the season. Biggs hopes to keep it that way.
Wolverine senior quarterback Tucker Bennett will need

to have a bounce back game. He threw for 342 yards and three scores opening night but went for just 38 yards and no scores in last week's loss. Junior running back Silas McFall will look to have back-to-back 100 yard rushing performances.



Live Oak Lions
The Lions (0-2) will be on the road for the third straight week as they head to Hamilton on Friday September, 7 for a 7:30 p.m. kick-off. Coming off of a tough 28-21 loss to University Prep, coach Jim Arostegui and his Lions will look to ride their ground attack behind a plethora of backs.
Hamilton is 1-1 on the season and coming off of a 52-0 blow-out loss to Willows. The Lions have a good opportunity to keep Braves down if they can just come out of the locker room strong and quickly remind them of last week. ★

Let's Go Fishing!

By Jay Sorensen
Courtesy of C.A. Giacoma

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)
- **FEATHER RIVER:** The salmon fishing action is much better upriver on the Feather River near the Oroville Outlet Hole. Fishers are casting spoons or spins or trot with Kwikfish with a sardine wrap. Most of the recent catches have been in the 15 to 22 pound category. Just a reminder, this year the daily limit is one fish per day with no more than two in possession.
- **AMERICAN RIVER:** The salmon fishing at this popular site has been limited to only an occasional fish landed at the most and the Discovery Park area. Get on the water early for the best chance to hook up back trolling a Kwikfish with a sardine wrap or trolling with a doubled bladed Silvertron spider.
- **LAKE PARDEE:** Trout plants continue at Lake Pardee with another 1000 pounds of Calaveras Trout Farm rainbows to 5 pounds placed in the impoundment on a weekly basis. The Kokanee fishing remains decent for those willing to work the early morning around the mouth of the Mokelumne River.
- **SAN FRANCISCO BAY**
The halibut fishing is still rated good with reports of plenty still in the bay waters. Reports indicate there seems to be more undersized fish in the system than there was earlier in the year. There are striped bass still holding off the rock piles and other locations, including Red Rock and The Brothers. Halibut taken on the flats drifting live anchovies. Salmon showing off California City at the top of

the high tides with the top fish weighing in at 15 pounds which is much lower in weight than most fish in this section of the bay.

OCEAN
The salmon bite has been slowing down with party boats returning with as many as 16 salmon for 21 anglers with the big fish weighing in at a whopping 26 pounds. Most of the action is taking place off the Marin coastline with some of the hogs weighing up to 30 pounds. The rock fishing and ling cod fishing has been excellent with many of the kings weighing over 15 pounds. The Happy Hooker out of Berkeley returned with 28 two fish limits of ling cod for 14 clients. Good numbers of rockfish in them as well.
Take time to go out and enjoy a day of fishing the rivers, lakes, bay or off the coast of California. Spend some time in the great outdoors along with some good fishing. Until next tide stay safe to fish another day.
JAY'S BEST BETS
San Joaquin River - (striped bass, largemouth bass)
Sacramento River - (striped bass, smallmouth bass, salmon)
Pardee Lake - (kokanee, trout, catfish, largemouth bass)
American River - (salmon)
Feather River - (salmon)
Amador Lake - (catfish, largemouth bass)
Hogan Reservoir - (largemouth bass, striped bass)
Lake Camanche - (largemouth bass, trout)
Ocean - (salmon, rockfish, ling cod)

KOKANEE POWER SHAVER LAKE TEAM DERBY
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