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# Carmichael Times

VOLUME 41 • ISSUE 43

Serving Carmichael & Sacramento County since 1981

OCTOBER 23, 2020

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## New Patron for Comfort Critters



Octogenarian Nancy Fellers (right) recently passed the torch for her Comfort Critters mission to Donna Owens. The soft toys are repurposed to help Sheriff's Department outreach among children. Endorsing the benefactors' efforts is Deputy Robert Magee.

**Story and photo  
by Susan Maxwell Skinner**

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - Veteran toy-doctor Nancy Fellers (87) has bequeathed her mission aiding children and police officers to a successor. Fellow Carmichaelite Donna Owens is now rallying gently-used soft toys to continue the decades-old campaign.

For Sacramento Sheriff's officers, the ladies and their legions of fluffy teddies and puppies are important humanitarian allies. In crisis situations, cops are often challenged to win trust from traumatized kids. "Offering something cuddly softens our outreach," explains Sheriff's Toy Project Officer Robert Magee. "We can be at a domestic crime scene or at a fire, where a family might have lost everything. We see sad little faces light up when we bring out a toy. They're soothed by having something soft to cuddle."

With that in mind Nancy (whose

daughter and son-in-law were law officers), began a Comfort Critter crusade 22 years ago. "Deputies used to pay for toys from their own pockets," says the former school teacher and travel agent. "I don't see why they should. Teddies can be part of necessary police equipment." Soft toys came her way via thrift shops and from Kiwanis Club member donations. Nancy laundered discarded duckies. She restuffed down-at-heel dinosaurs. Then she bagged each individually and took the menage to the Sheriff's Toy Project in Rancho Cordova. "The deputies were always glad to see me," says Nancy. "I was delivering something that helped them with their work."

When Nancy and her husband Bill relocated to Carmichael's Atria El Camino Gardens last year, she sought a successor for the project. "It was getting harder for me to go out and find toys," she explains. "Then COVID brought restrictions for senior homes. I didn't want my project to

end; I was delighted to find a fellow Kiwanian who wanted to carry it on."

A grandma and great-grandma herself, Donna Owens took little persuading. "What Nancy had started was a perfect fit for me," says the Retired Cal Transit engineer/technician. "Making children happy and helping the police seemed like a great goal." Donna scours thrift stores and puts stuffed animals through a meticulous wash-and-drying process. "Before I bag them, I tie on a fresh bow and trim the fuzz from around their eyes," she says. "A pair of clear, shining eyes seems so friendly to a child. I see these once-loved toys on store shelves and I want to take them all home - they can offer so much more love, and assist the police in their work. I feel good that with very little effort and expense, I can do something so worthwhile."

The Comfort Critters Project welcomes donations of gently-used soft toys. Contact Donna Owens at (530) 788 2085. ★

## New Voter Challenge Brings Fun to Mail-in & Absentee Voting

**Erica Nataren,  
Votercade Challenge**

**LOS ANGELES, CA (MPG)** - In a time of pandemic and national turmoil, many Americans feel anxiety over the upcoming general election. Will they be able to vote safely? If they are receiving a ballot by mail, can they depend on the USPS to return it in time?

In a new grass-roots effort, a small team came up with a new idea, and quickly brought it to life: the #VotercadeChallenge. Registered voters who are voting by mail can plan a Votercade - a trip to their county elections office or nearby dropoff location - with patriotic clothing and décor encouraged. As "Votercaders" submit their ballots, they can add a #DropoffDance or #BallotBump, then upload a picture or video to their favorite social media platform and tag 5 friends to a #VotercadeChallenge of their own.

"My friend Bob Globerman initially asked the question, how can we make it fun for voters to fill out their ballots at home and drop them off in person?" asked Stacy Stern, one of the project founders. "I shared this conversation with Erica Nataren, who was introduced to me by a mutual friend, and we landed on the #VotercadeChallenge idea. The three of us met and decided to launch the project, and Erica went to work creating the website."

The new site, <https://www.VotercadeChallenge.com>, gives voters all the info they need to plan their own #VotercadeChallenge.

"A couple of things were really important to us," explains Nataren. "First, while we do have our own political opinions, we wanted this to be a 100% non-partisan effort so that everyone feels comfortable sharing and participating."

"We also wanted it to be something that individuals can do on their own or virtually. We want to encourage participation with neighbors, but sometimes a solo trip is just easier."

This year, when Americans are sharply divided, all three hope to offer something everyone can agree on: that voting can and should be something to look forward to doing - together. ★

## Free Rides to Drive the Vote!

**By Jessica Gonzalez,  
SacRT**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) has teamed up with Sacramento County and the Sacramento Kings to drive community members to Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations across the Sacramento region to help Drive the Vote.

SacRT is offering free rides system-wide on all bus, light rail, SmarTRide and SacRT GO Paratransit Services to honor the first day of early voting on Saturday, October 24, and a second system-wide free ride day in celebration of Election Day on Tuesday, November 3.

"We hope that Sacramento area voters take advantage of early voting and choose to take transit to help cast their ballot," said SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li. "It is free to vote and



SacRT is offering free rides system-wide on all bus, light rail, SmarTRide and SacRT GO Paratransit Services to honor the first day of early voting. MPG file photo

SacRT is making it free to drive you to vote."

In addition, SacRT is offering free rides on SmarTRide on-demand microtransit shuttles in all nine service zones, with a free ride flyer from Monday, October 26 through Monday, November 2 with the exception of the weekend (no Saturday or Sunday

SmarTRide service). Learn more about SmarTRide at [sacrt.com/smartride](http://sacrt.com/smartride).

"It is terrific to have Sacramento Regional Transit as a partner in our effort to make voting easier and more accessible to all Sacramento County voters," said Sacramento County Registrar of Voters, Courtney Bailey-Kanelos. "It is important that we see

high voter participation and having great partners like SacRT and the Sacramento Kings helps us meet that goal."

"Transportation should not be a barrier to casting your vote and we are thrilled to partner with SacRT and the County to provide this critical service at no cost to all Sacramento

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# California Mailed "Massive" Number of Ballots in Error and Risks Voter Fraud

By Jordan Gurnett, Reform California

**SAN DIEGO, CA (MPG)** - Reform California releases a bombshell research study providing proof that Californians are being inundated with "bad election ballots" that have been sent by state election officials in error. This report includes results of a survey of voters revealing nearly one-out-of-ten California households have received some kind of "bad ballot" in the mail.

To provide concrete proof of the problems surfaced in the survey, Reform California also provides actual pictures of "bad ballots" and testimonials from voters who say they received duplicate or triplicate ballots for themselves or received ballots for dead people, illegal immigrants, or people who do not even live at their house.

"The evidence in this report is irrefutable proof that California's voter rolls are a complete mess and the risk of voter fraud in California's election has never been greater," said Carl DeMaio, Chairman of Reform California. "When almost one-out-of-ten households in an election in a state are receiving some form of bad ballots that is a massive problem that could impact races that are decided by fractions of a percent in vote totals," DeMaio warned.

The following are the results from a survey Reform California conducted between October 10-13 using online and text screens of 1251 registered voters (4.4% MOE) in California asking them if their household received any erroneous ballots in the mail:

HH Received Multiple Ballots for Same Person-9 at .7%; HH Received Ballots for Wrong Person-98 at 7.8%; HH Received Ballots for Dead Person-8 at .6%; Total Error Rate Per Household-115 at 9.2%\*\*

\*Note: 106 responses (8.5%) indicated no ballot had been received yet. \*\*Numbers off due to rounding.

## Duplicate Ballots Mailed to Individual Voters

Reform California compiled examples of multiple ballots individual voters received with the exact same name on the ballot but a different voter identification number. While California election officials check to see if a ballot is cast twice using the same voter identification number, systems are not in place to properly review for an individual to vote twice or three times using multiple voter identification numbers. As reflected in the attached examples of bad ballots, "Peggy Smith" in San Diego, CA received one ballot using her familiar name and also received a second ballot for her legal name of "Margaret Smith."

## Receiving Ballots at Wrong Household

The most common problem identified by Reform California relates to the state mailing ballots to addresses that the individual does not live at. In some cases these erroneously mailed ballots were sent to an individual who no longer lives at the address in question - having moved away long ago. In other cases the ballots were mailed to homes where the current long-time residents had no idea who the individuals were. One individual in Jamul, CA reported and provided proof of receiving 11 extra ballots at their address for individuals who do not live there.

## Ballots for Dead People

Reform California received several reports of deceased individuals receiving ballots - some having died long ago.

## Ballots for Illegal Immigrants

Reform California even captured several examples of illegal immigrants receiving ballots. Detecting this problem is difficult as it requires someone to admit they are not a citizen and not eligible to vote, but several individuals courageously

reported these bad ballots to the study.

## Reasons for California's Election Problems

Reform California outlines three main reasons why California's voting system is a mess:

- (1) Flawed Motor Voter Program:** The State of California implemented a motor voter program in 2017 that automatically enrolled any individual who got a new driver's license as a voter. A separate bill passed the same session allowed illegal immigrants to receive new driver's licenses. California's motor voter program has been plagued by problems from the outset and state election officials have failed to properly review eligibility requirements for voters that are registered through this program;
- (2) Failure to Maintain Voter Rolls:** County election officials do not conduct proper audits or reviews of their voter rolls. A analysis of the voter rolls in California's 50th Congressional District in December 2019 found an 11% variance between the voter rolls for that district and the National Change of Address (NCOA) database used by the postal service to track individuals who move away from their previous address;
- (3) Failure to Check for Duplicates:** A simple way to check for duplicates would be to search every address on the voter rolls and examine any voters at that address who share an exact birth date. In some cases the voters may be twins or triplets, but in most cases this simple search would surface individuals who are registered more than once.

For more information visit <https://reformcalifornia.org/initiatives/voter-verification-petition/>

# Glory, the Masai Giraffe Calf, Now on Exhibit at Sac Zoo!



It's Bright Out Here! What's Up?? Photo: Sac Zoo

By Lesley Kirrene, Sacramento Zoo

## SACRAMENTO, CA. (MPG)

Glory, the Sac Zoo's three-week-old Masai giraffe calf, is making BIG strides! She and mom, Shani, will be given access to the zoo's giraffe yard daily between approximately 9am and 1pm. Please note, times may vary and the calf will have access to the giraffe barn at all times for much-needed calf naps. Make sure to purchase tickets to the Sac Zoo in advance online! You might just see Glory exploring her new surroundings. Also be sure to check out the zoo's Wolf's guenon infant, new troop of squirrel monkeys, the new alligator exhibit and so much more. There's always something happening at the Sacramento Zoo!

The Sacramento Zoo is now home to five giraffes:

one post-reproductive female reticulated giraffe, one male Masai giraffe, two female Masai giraffe including Shani, and now the new calf. Glory is the 20th calf born at the Sacramento Zoo going back to 1964 when the species was first housed at the zoo.

Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to nearly 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The Sacramento Zoo, managed by the non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society, inspires conservation awareness and action through education and recreation. Currently, all tickets must be reserved and purchased online at [www.saczoo.org](http://www.saczoo.org). For information, call 916-808-5888 or visit [www.saczoo.org](http://www.saczoo.org).

# VOTE • November 3 • VOTE • November 3 • VOTE

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 Salsas \$7.99

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Advised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 21 - OCTOBER 27, 2020.

# Free Rides to Drive the Vote!

Continued from page 1

residents,” said Sacramento Kings Chief Operating Officer Matina Kolokotronis. “We hope that by helping to increase access to voting through free rides to the polls, Sacramento residents will have a stronger voice in our democracy.”

To ride SmaRT Ride for free, simply print or take a screenshot of the SmaRT Ride free ride flyer. You only need one flyer per group of riders traveling together. Have it ready to show the bus operator when boarding the shuttle. Visit [sacr.com/drivethevote](http://sacr.com/drivethevote) to get the free ride flyer.

### Sacramento Kings Rally the Vote

The Sacramento Kings-led Rally the Vote is a nonpartisan coalition of over 50 professional sports teams and leagues across the country committed to encouraging fans to register to vote and participate in elections. To help increase accessibility, Golden 1 Center in Downtown Commons will be an early voting site from Saturday, October 24 through Tuesday, November 3. The location will be the largest Vote Center in

Sacramento County and allow for critical social distancing while still providing voters with all the needed services that Vote Centers offer. For more information, visit [rallythevote.org](http://rallythevote.org).

### Find a Sacramento County Vote Center

Sacramento County will open 84 Vote Centers for the Presidential General Election, 18 of them from Saturday, October 24 through Election Day, Tuesday, November 3. The others will be open Saturday, October 31 through Election Day. Visit [elections.saccounty.net](http://elections.saccounty.net) to learn more about vote center locations.

### Wearing is Caring

To comply with the California Department of Public Health’s guidance on requiring face coverings or masks on public transportation, SacRT is requiring that a mask or face covering be worn while waiting at bus stops, light rail stations and when riding any SacRT vehicle. Learn more at [sacr.com/covid19](http://sacr.com/covid19). ★

# Pedestrian Fatally Steps into Van’s Path

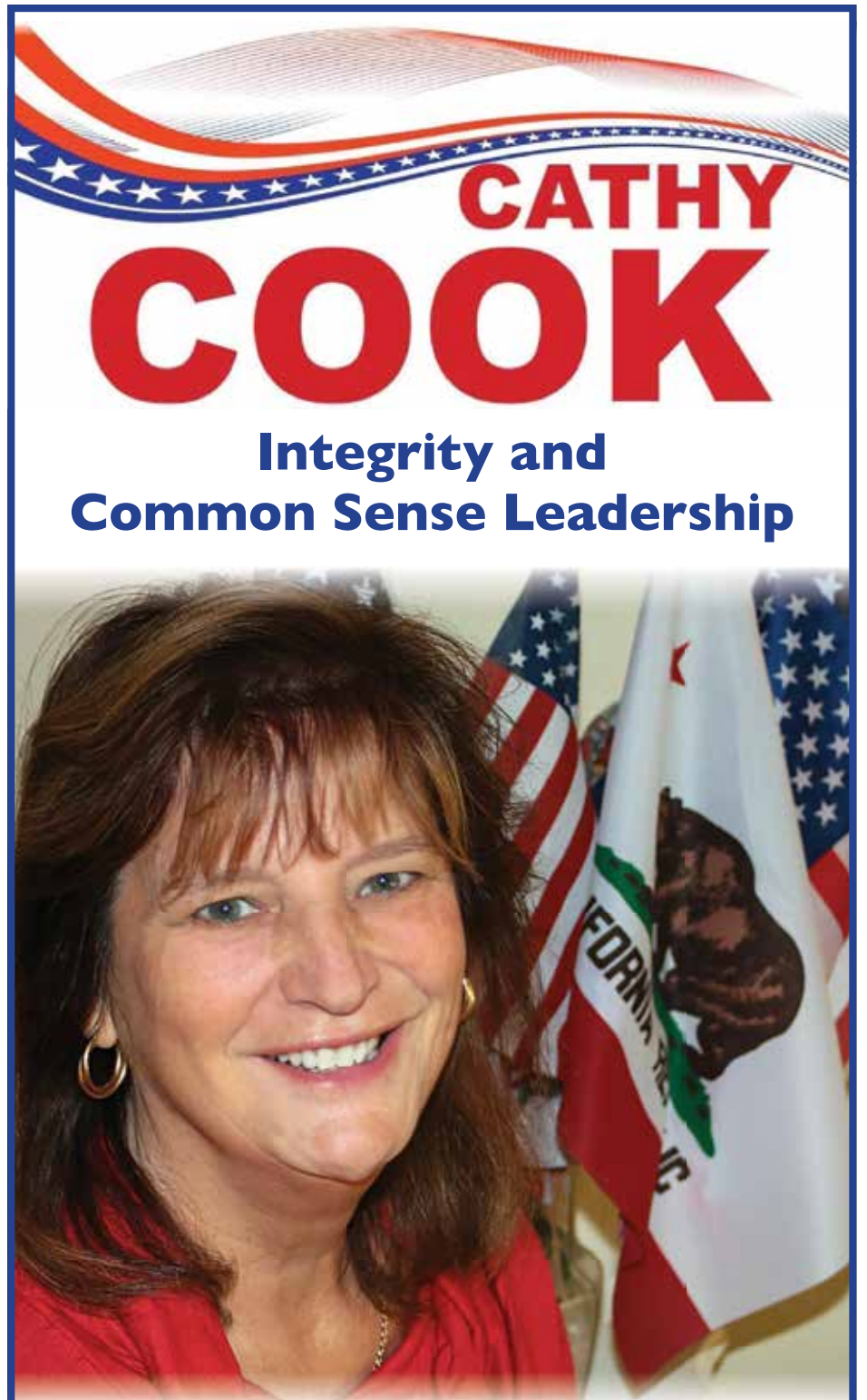
By Greg Zumstein, California Highway Patrol

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - On October 16, 2020 at approximately 355 pm, The California Highway Patrol (CHP) received a call of a collision involving a van and a pedestrian on Watt Ave., south of Navajo Dr. CHP officers responded to the collision scene and learned that a white Ford Econoline van was traveling north on Watt Ave. at approximately 40 MPH. in the left lane. At this time, an adult male, stepped from the right sidewalk and attempted to cross the roadway, while out of a crosswalk, directly into the path of the van. The male driver attempted to avoid the pedestrian but was unable to avoid the prevent the van from colliding with the pedestrian. The pedestrian was subsequently hit and came to

rest in the roadway. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department (SMFD) responded to the scene of the collision and pronounced the pedestrian deceased on scene. The identity of the pedestrian has yet to be determined. The driver remained on scene and was cooperative with investigators.

Alcohol and/or drugs were not determined to be a factor and the cause of the collision is currently under investigation.

Any persons who may have witnessed this collision or who can provide any additional information regarding this collision should call Officer Greg Zumstein at the North Sacramento Area CHP office at (916)348-2300 by cell phone at (916)798-0975. Follow us on Twitter @CHPNSac, Facebook.com/chpnorthsac, Instagram @chpnorthsac, or Nextdoor. ★



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# Proposition 16 Promotes Racial Discrimination

**Commentary by Bill Bird, Parents and Students for Racial Equality**

Parents and Students for Racial Equality in California is opposing a measure that would result in legal racial discrimination in California. Proposition 16, an initiative on this November's ballot, threatens to introduce institutionalized and legal race-based admissions in our public universities, as well as contracting and hiring policies in all California government settings.

"Although recent polling shows that this measure is struggling to gain traction with California voters, organizations opposed to racial discrimination must remain vigilant," said organization spokesman and former California State Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff. "Proposition 16 represents a step backwards to the darkest days of this country, when racial discrimination was openly tolerated and encouraged. This is contrary to the fundamental principles upon which this nation was built and for which so many fought to secure. The Declaration of Independence tells us all men are created equal. Proposition 16 tells us that some are more equal and deserving than others."

Proposition 16 would allow supporters to impose across the board, racial guidelines for all California public school and public university admissions and settings. It would also allow schools, colleges and other government agencies to discriminate in employment,

promotions and contracting. The measure seeks to overturn Proposition 209, which appeared on the November 1996 ballot and passed with a strong 54 percent majority in support. Proposition 209 amended the state constitution to prohibit state government institutions from considering race, sex, or ethnicity, specifically in the areas of public employment, public contracting or public education.

Recent polling conducted by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) revealed that barely one-third of the state's voters appear to support the idea of racial discrimination. Nearly half are opposed to the proposal and some remain unopposed. A second poll conducted by the Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies divulged nearly identical findings.

"No person in California should ever be told that they cannot be admitted to a university or not awarded a job or contract because they are the wrong color or sex," said Huff. "Discriminating on the basis of race, color, sex or religion represents the darkest part of California's history. Measures like Proposition 16 only serve to divide our state at a time when everyone is needed to work together to heal wounds and create a brighter future."

Parents and Students for Racial Equality is an organization that fights for the rights of all California citizens, regardless of race or color, and believes that government must judge all people equally, without discrimination. ★

# CHP Grant Improves Motorcycle Safety



**By Jaime Coffee, CHP Information Officer**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG).**

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is stepping up motorcycle safety awareness statewide as part of Get Educated and Ride Safe (GEARS) III, a yearlong, federally funded program focused on educational and enforcement efforts.

The primary goal of GEARS III is to reduce the number of motorcycle-involved crashes and victims.

In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2017-18, the number of motorcycle-involved crashes increased approximately 3 percent within CHP jurisdiction. However, provisional FFY 2018-19 data show a 10 percent decrease.

"The ultimate objective is to improve not just motorcycle safety, but highway safety overall," CHP Commissioner Warren Stanley said. "The additional education and enforcement funded by GEARS III helps our officers meet this objective."

During the grant period, the CHP will increase motorcycle safety activities in regions with a high number of motorcycle incidents and participate in traffic safety education campaigns such as "May is

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month." The campaigns will promote the use of U.S. Department of Transportation-compliant helmets for all riders and raise motorists' awareness of sharing the road with motorcyclists. The campaigns will also focus on the most dangerous traffic violations, including speeding, improper turning, and driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. ★

# Over 2 Million California Voters Signed Up to Track Their Ballot

**By Alex Padilla, California Secretary of State**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - More than 2 million registered California voters have now signed up for California's ballot tracking service "Where's My Ballot?" to receive automated notifications about their vote-by-mail ballots by email, text (SMS), or voice call.

"Signing up for 'Where's My Ballot?' is one of the most prudent steps Californians can take to protect their vote," Secretary of State Alex Padilla said. "Every active, registered voter was sent a vote-by-mail ballot for the General Election, and ballot tracking will play a critical role in strengthening transparency, accountability, and voter confidence during this unprecedented election. All California voters can quickly and easily sign up to track their ballot at [WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov](http://WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov)."

"Ballot tracking has only been available statewide for a few months, and

we are seeing an incredible adoption rate. Nearly 1 in 10 registered voters has already signed up for the "Where's My Ballot?" tool. If you've already signed-up, encourage your friends and family to do the same," Padilla added.

Voters who sign up for "Where's My Ballot?" will receive automatic updates when the county elections office: mailed the voter's ballot, received the voter's ballot, counted the voter's ballot, and has any issues with the voter's ballot.

Voters who sign up for "Where's My Ballot?" will also receive communications from their county elections office about important election deadlines and critical updates such as polling place changes.

AB 2218, signed 2018, required the Secretary of State's office to provide a ballot tracking service to county elections offices. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom signed legislation to expand the ballot tracking tool statewide. ★

# How Has the Decline in Physical Activities Affected California Residents

**By Elli Carrillo, QuoteWizard**

**SEATTLE, WA (MPG)** - The lack of physical activity is found to be directly linked to mental health along with many health conditions deemed high-risk for serious COVID-19 illness. Physical activity during stay-at-home orders found 43% of people experiencing a significant decline, which came with an increase in stress.

Our team at QuoteWizard

analyzed CDC data and found, 79.2% of California residents were found to be physically active ranking among the most active states in the country - making those in California at lower risk of serious illness from COVID-19, but susceptible to adverse mental health. If you would like to learn more about physical activity and its effect on health during the pandemic, visit our full data report here: [https://](https://quotewizard.com/news/posts/most-physically-active-states)

[quotewizard.com/news/posts/most-physically-active-states](https://quotewizard.com/news/posts/most-physically-active-states)

**Key Findings:**

In 2019 there were 64.2 million US gym memberships, with an average attendance of 104 days a year per gym goer; On average 76% of American's have participated in physical activities in the last month; Nearly 88% of workers reported experiencing moderate to extreme stress over the first six weeks of the COVID-19 outbreak. ★

## MEMORIAL NOTICE

### *Holly Millican (Caikoski)*

**January 8, 1951 to October 10, 2020**

Passed away peacefully on October 10, 2020 at the young age of 69, with her loving family by her side. She was born in Carmichael, CA on January 8, 1951 to Lee and Pearl Magouirk.

She was preceded in death by her parents (Lee and Pearl) and her sisters (Cathy Lynn and Georgia). She is survived by her husband Joe, her brother Marvin (Paula) Magouirk, her daughters Tammy Delaney, Jamie (Bryan) Hill April (Corey) Carskaddon, her stepchildren, Jerad and Sonya Millican, 8 grandchildren (Coty, Cassie, Tyler, Cheyenne, Kylee, Kaitlyn, Blake and Chelsea), 3 great-grandchildren (Nevaeh, Chase and Caiden), and her beloved dog, Asland.

Holly retired in 2007, after serving 27 years with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, a job in which she truly enjoyed. She was a decorated Deputy, well loved and respected within the Department.

After living in California almost her entire life, her and Joe moved to Sundance, Wyoming where they were building their dream cabin to retire in.

Holly had many hobbies including, house remodeling, gardening, antiques, taking road

trips, creating stained glass, and bossing Joe around - she was an all around do-it-yourself-er. She loved spending time with family and friends both in California and Wyoming.

Holly will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She touched so many people with her kindness and huge heart. She was a wonderful Wife, an exceptional Mother, an amazing Grandmother, and a friend everyone wished they had!

An outdoor celebration of life will be held on October 26, 2020 from 1-4pm at East Lawn Cemetery at 5757 Greenback Lane, Sacramento, CA 95841. Reception to immediately follow.

At Holly's request, please dress comfortably and casually (no black), and uniformed personnel are welcome.

A second celebration of life will take place in Wyoming at a later date.

"When tomorrow starts without me, we're not so far apart. For everytime you think of me, I am right here in your heart."

This isn't goodbye, it's until I see you again.  
~ Holly

## I've Been Busy...

I've been busy in the Carmichael area! Below is a sample of my recent sales. With 32 years of experience under my belt, I have a complete handle on the Carmichael market. Before you decide to list your home, give me a call!

SOLD	
6628 Chiquita Way.....	\$1,325,000
2337 California Avenue.....	\$940,000
6476 Chiquita Way.....	\$860,000
6644 Stanley Avenue.....	\$725,000
5514 Tierra Gardens Lane.....	\$730,000
5738 Crofters Lane.....	\$590,000
4045 Oak Villa Circle.....	\$268,000
3204 Ashwood Lane.....	\$285,000
3343 California Avenue.....	\$295,000
5749 El Camino Avenue.....	\$308,500
5608 Vall Court.....	\$315,000
5907 Woodleigh Drive.....	\$325,000
5920 Marlin Circle.....	\$327,000
4709 Crestview Drive.....	\$355,000
4932 Heatherdale Lane.....	\$359,000
6636 Lincoln Avenue.....	\$379,900
6608 Stanley Avenue.....	\$380,000
5249 Monitor Avenue.....	\$385,000
3730 Orangerie Way.....	\$399,500
5321 Flagstone Street.....	\$400,000
3422 Riverdale Way.....	\$529,000
2070 Santa Lucia Way.....	\$535,000
5929 Don Way.....	\$512,000

PENDING	ACTIVE
4513 Bela Way.....	\$464,900
	5244 Fair Oaks Boulevard.....
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# RICH **DESMOND** FOR SUPERVISOR



### **A Humane Approach To Homelessness That Doesn't Compromise Public Safety**

Increase state and local resources for mental illness, addiction, and physical disability treatment; a path to transitional and permanent housing; responsible affordable housing programs.

### **Confronting Covid-19 Based On Science**

Make decisions based on the best information available from experts; communicate with the public and be willing to listen; work with community groups and non-profits to understand individual needs and get services where they are needed.



### **Independent Leadership That Puts Partisan Politics Aside**

Focus on practical solutions to the issues that most impact our quality of life; put people first and focus on making Sacramento County a better place for future generations to live and work.

**VOTE *RICH DESMOND* FOR SUPERVISOR**

**MAIL-IN BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE: OCT 27<sup>TH</sup>**

[RichDesmond.com](http://RichDesmond.com)

[/RichDesmondCA](https://www.facebook.com/RichDesmondCA)

PAID FOR BY RICH DESMOND FOR SUPERVISOR 2020 (FPPC # 1419486)

# CLG NEWS UPDATES

Provided by Citizens for Legitimate Government (CLG) See legitgov.org

**Senator Cotton to Big Tech After Censorship of Biden-Burisma Report:** ‘Winter Is Coming’ | 16 Oct 2020 | Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) on Thursday warned Big Tech “oligarchs” that they will soon face regulation, after Twitter and Facebook censored reports from the *New York Post* that were unflattering to former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter Biden. After the first of the series of articles published, Facebook reduced the articles’ distribution and Twitter slapped a warning label on the stories and locked accounts belonging to the *Post* and those associated with the Trump campaign, claiming the stories violated their policy on hacked material... Republican senators requested subpoenas for the heads of Facebook and Twitter to testify before the Senate. “You have big tech oligarchs declaring war on Donald Trump, on the Republican Party, on conservatives across America,” Cotton said on a Trump campaign press call on Thursday. “Refusing to allow people to post the url of a story, and then they just issue a mealy-mouthed apology saying that they could have communicated better...that is not exactly the standard that big tech oligarchs apply to every story about Donald Trump for the last five years,” he said. “And for all of those tech oligarchs who think they can get away with this, I will simply say that winter is coming.”

**Rep. Ken Buck demands DOJ investigate removal of big tech protections after censoring of NYPost Biden article** | 14 Oct 2020 | Rep. Ken Buck, R-Colo., sent a letter to the Department of Justice on Wednesday, asking the attorney general to look into accusations of censorship by Twitter and Facebook, after the big tech giants took steps to limit the exposure of a New York Post article critical of Hunter Biden. “I write to express my concerns regarding Twitter and Facebook’s recent actions to censor a prominent American news outlet,” Buck began. “These actions violate the platform’s immunity under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act and threaten to chill free speech throughout our nation.” The NY Post story, entitled “Smoking-gun email reveals how Hunter Biden introduced Ukrainian businessman to VP dad,” touched upon reports that the former vice president’s son had unscrupulous financial and business ties to a natural gas firm in Ukraine – Burisma Holdings – and that his father later stepped in to have a probing prosecutor fired for looking into the matter.

**Twitter Locks Trump Campaign Account Over Hunter Biden Post - Spokesman** | 15 Oct 2020 | Trump’s reelection campaign said Thursday that Twitter suspended its official account, claiming that Team Trump’s post about Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, is a violation of its policy. “Your account has been locked,” the Twitter message said. “What happened? We have determined that this account violated the Twitter Rules. Specifically, for: Violating our rules against posting private information.” The account was active and posting on Twitter again hours after campaign officials first said it had been locked. The original campaign post which Trump campaign spokesman Tim Murtaugh said triggered Twitter to take action was apparently taken down. The incident came less than three weeks from the Nov. 3 election.

**California wildfire that killed 4 may have been sparked by power line equipment** –The Zogg Fire erupted in Shasta County in September and destroyed over 200 structures | 11 Oct 2020 | Investigators in California probing the cause of a recent wildfire that killed four people have taken possession of equipment belonging to Pacific Gas and Electric, the utility said Friday. In a filing with the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E said investigators with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) have taken some of its equipment as part of the ongoing investigation into the Zogg Fire. The Zogg Fire erupted in Shasta County on Sept. 27 as high winds were impacting the region, quickly growing into a blaze that has consumed at least 56,338 acres. The fire killed four people in the community of Igo and later spread into neighboring Tehama County. ★

# Local Allstate Agencies Provide 10,000 Preparedness Kits; \$100K Donation for Disaster Relief

By Terri Stackhouse, The Allstate Foundation

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The 2020 California wildfire season may go down as one of the most destructive in history and while nearly 70% of Americans say they are concerned about weather-related disasters, less than half have a disaster plan, and 44% say they’re not sure how to prepare for wildfires.<sup>1</sup>

Preparing for wildfires is especially relevant for California residents as the state is listed as number one on the top 10 “Most Wildfire-Prone States” list, according to the Insurance Information Institute’s, with over 2 million properties at risk.

“Although it might be the last thing on your mind, a disaster could occur in any community at any time in California,” said Allstate community relations manager, Kyla O’Brien. “Allstate is here to help California communities prepare and be less vulnerable in the event of a sudden disaster. Creating an emergency kit for you and your family is step one.”

From Oct. 5 – 9, 2020, Allstate agents throughout California provided 10,000 free disaster preparedness kits.

In recognition of their volunteerism The Allstate Foundation will donate a \$100,000 grant to the California Fire Foundation, on behalf of the participating agents. The grant will fund their wildfire disaster relief program, providing funding to smaller nonprofits to help with local community wildfire disaster relief efforts across the state. You can learn more about the California Fire Foundation and their programs at [www.cafirefoundation.org/programs/wildfire-relief-programs/](http://www.cafirefoundation.org/programs/wildfire-relief-programs/)

“We are extremely thankful for Allstate’s generous donation to our Foundation,” said

Rick Martinez, Executive Director of the California Fire Foundation. “As the need for the California Fire Foundation’s programs continues to grow, especially given the recent unprecedented wildfires, their support and generosity make a tremendous difference to California firefighters, their families, and the communities they protect.”

To help protect people from wildfire danger, Allstate is also sharing simple preparation tips you can put in place immediately.

**Allstate Wildfire Disaster Planning Tips:**

**(1) Build a Disaster Kit:** It should contain basic supplies to last a few days without water or electricity. Essentials include water bottles, first-aid kits, flashlights, emergency blankets, hand sanitizer, and rain ponchos;

**(2) Take a Home Inventory:** Make a detailed list of your assets in case you need to file an insurance claim. Using a mobile app can be an easy and effective way to keep the list and take photos. Allstate offers its Digital Locker for customers to take a home inventory and securely store their information;

**(3) Create a Household Emergency Evacuation Plan:** It should include a family meeting place in your neighborhood that’s safe during and after the pandemic;

**(4) Protect Your Home from a Wildfire:** Keep flammable materials away from your home and create buffers using landscaping.

*1This poll was conducted July 9-11, 2019, on behalf of Allstate by Morning Consult among a national sample of 2,200 adults. The interviews were conducted online, and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on age, education, gender, race and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of +/- 2.* ★



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<p><b>BLUE BUFFALO DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  •Chicken (Reg. \$11.00 Off) •30 Lb Bag                  •Chicken (Large Breed) •Fish &amp; Oatmeal (Reg &amp; Lrg Breed) •Puppy (Reg &amp; Large Breed)                  As Marked  <b>\$8 OFF</b>  <small>Our Regular Low Prices!</small>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>NATURAL BALANCE DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  •Ultra Grain Free 24 Lb. •Potato &amp; Duck 26 Lb.                  •Fat Dog 28 Lb. •Vegetarian 28 Lb.                  •Chicken &amp; Brown Rice 28 Lb.                  SUPER BUY  <b>\$5 OFF</b>  <small>Our Super Low Prices</small>                  Limit 2 Bags Per Family                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>MERRICK'S GRAIN FREE DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  •Chicken/Sweet Potato •Duck/Sweet Potato •Buffalo/Sweet Potato •Salmon/Sweet Potato •Venison/Sweet Potato                  25 Lb Bag <b>\$10 OFF</b>                  Limit 2 Bag  <small>OUR REGULAR LOW PRICE!</small>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>PURINA KIT N' KABOODLE DRY CAT FOOD</b>                  16 Lb Bag                  Limit 2 Bags Per Family  <b>\$8.99</b>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>
<p><b>FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD</b>                  5.5 Oz All Varieties                  Limit 2 Cases Per Family  <b>ON SALE Everyday</b>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>FUSSIE CAT PREMIUM CANNED CAT FOOD</b>                  Black Label Gold Label 2.8 Oz.                  Limit 2 Cases Per Family  <b>ON SALE As Marked</b>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>TIDY CATS SCOOPABLE CAT LITTER</b>                  20 Lb Jug                  •Regular •Unscented                  Limit 2 Jugs Per Family  <b>ON SALE Everyday</b>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>	<p><b>HI-COUNTRY WILD BIRD SEED</b>                  20 Lb Bag (Kaytee, 20 Lbs - \$8.99) (Audubon Friends, 20 Lbs - \$5.99)                  Limit 2 Bags Per Family  <b>\$6.99</b>                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20</p>

<p><b>PRO-PLAN DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  30-35 Lb Bag                  Limit 2 Bags Per Family                  •Chicken &amp; Rice •Lamb &amp; Rice •Beef &amp; Rice •Sensitive Skin &amp; Stomach •Lite •Performance  <b>\$3 OFF</b>  <small>OUR SUPER LOW PRICE</small></p>	<p><b>EVERCLEAN PREMIUM CAT LITTER</b>                  25 Lb. Box Limit 2 Boxes                  •ES Unscented •US Ever Fresh  <b>\$12.99</b></p>	<p><b>MERRICK'S GOURMET CANNED DOG FOOD</b>                  13.2 Oz All Varieties Limit 2 cases  <b>On Sale</b></p>	<p><b>WILDERNESS DRY CAT FOOD AS MARKED</b>                  •Chicken •Salmon •Duck •Indoor •Weight Control 100% Grain Free                  11-12 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags  <b>\$6 OFF</b>  <small>OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES!</small></p>	<p><b>PESTELL CLUMPING CAT LITTER</b>                  40 Lb. Bag Limit 2 Bags  <b>\$8.99</b></p>	<p><b>IAMS DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  30 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family                  •Mini-Chunk •Large Breed •Lamb Meal &amp; Rice •Weight Control  <b>\$27.99 \$28.99</b></p>
<p><b>FRESH STEP CAT LITTER</b>                  21 Lb Bag (14 Lb Bag - \$4.49)                  Limit 2 Bags  <b>\$6.49</b></p>	<p><b>SCIENCE DIET DRY DOG FOOD</b>                  28.5-33 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags                  •Lite •Active Maturity •Sensitive Stomach •Perfect Weight  <b>\$44.99 \$49.99 \$51.99</b></p>	<p><b>AVODERM CANNED DOG FOOD</b>                  •Regular •Grain Free (Avoderm Canned Cat Food 13 Oz Limit 1 Case 3 oz Grain Free \$89¢ 5.5 oz Reg \$1.19)  <b>\$1.69</b></p>	<p><b>MEOW MIX CAT FOOD</b>                  Market Select 2.75 Oz Cup Limit 2 Cases  <b>53¢</b></p>	<p><b>CORE NATURAL DRY CAT FOOD</b>                  3 FREE Care Cat Cans 5.5 Oz With each purchase                  •Original •Indoor •Turkey Grain Free 11 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags  <b>\$37.99</b></p>	<p><b>OKOCAT CLUMPING WOOD LITTER</b>                  •Regular •Soft Step 11-13 Lb                  16.7 Lb \$13.99 19.8 Lb \$17.99                  Dust Free Natural Paper 12.3 Lb \$17.99</p>

<p><b>ADVANTAGE FLEA CONTROL &amp; TREATMENT</b>                  Dog Small (Green) Dog Extra Large (Blue) As Marked                  Dog Medium (Teal) Cat Small (Orange)                  Dog Large (Red) Cat Large (Purple)                  Limit 2 Per Family. Cannot be combined with any other offer. <b>\$4 OFF</b>  <small>OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES</small></p>	<p><b>REDBARN NATURAL DOG TREATS</b>                  •Bully Treats •Filler Bones •Bully Nuggets All Varieties except Mammoth Bone \$7.99  <b>20% OFF</b>  <small>OUR SUPER LOW PRICES</small></p>	<p><b>Bramton SIMPLE SOLUTION TRAINING PADS</b>                  23" x 24" 100 Ct Box  <b>\$21.99</b></p>	<p><b>NATURE'S MIRACLE DISPOSABLE LITTER BOX</b>                  with Baking Soda  <b>\$8.99</b></p>	<p><b>PET CORRECTOR</b> 1.58 oz. <b>\$6.99</b></p> <p><b>STOPS BARKING</b> 6.35 oz. <b>\$13.99</b></p>
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<p><b>MARINELAND POWER FILTER SALE</b>                  MODEL TANK SIZE                  PENGUIN 100B . . . . .20 Gal. . . . . <b>\$17.99</b>                  PENGUIN 150B . . . . .30 Gal. . . . . <b>\$24.99</b>                  PENGUIN 200B . . . . .50 Gal. . . . . <b>\$29.99</b>                  PENGUIN 350B . . . . .75 Gal. . . . . <b>\$39.99</b></p>	<p><b>AQUEON BOXED 10 GALLON TANK</b>                  With Economy Kit                  Just add Heater For Tropical Fish  <b>\$36.99</b> Limit 1 Per Family</p>
<p><b>PENN PLAX PLASTIC AQUA-PLANTS</b>  <b>20% OFF</b>  <small>OUR SUPER LOW PRICES</small></p>	<p><b>MARINELAND PREMIUM FISH FOOD</b>                  ALL VARIETIES                  •Goldfish •Cichlids •Tropical •Wafers  <b>20% OFF</b>  <small>OUR SUPER LOW PRICES</small></p>

<p><b>BONUS COUPON</b>  <b>JONNY CAT PREMIUM CAT LITTER</b>                  10 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags With Coupon                  Limit One Coupon Per Family                  Price Valid Only With Coupon                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20  <b>\$1.79</b>                  CHM PLU 365</p>	<p><b>BONUS COUPON</b>  <b>WHISKAS TEMPTATIONS CAT TREATS</b>                  All Varieties 3 Oz.                  Limit 2 Pkgs With Coupon                  Limit One Coupon Per Family                  Price Valid Only With Coupon                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20  <b>\$1.39</b>                  CHM PLU 569</p>	<p><b>BONUS COUPON</b>  <b>FANCY FEAST GOURMET CANNED CAT FOOD</b>                  3 Oz - All Varieties Except Elegant Medley                  Limit 1 Case Per Family                  Limit One Coupon Per Family                  Price Valid Only With Coupon                  Effective 10/21/20 - 10/27/20  <b>ON SALE Everyday</b>                  CHM PLU 361</p>
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# How PG&E is improving Public Safety Power Shutoffs in 2020.



## Smaller, shorter, smarter.

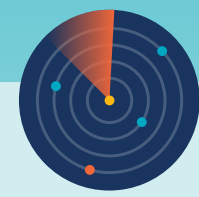
**PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF (PSPS)** is a statewide effort to prevent wildfires by proactively turning off power to communities when severe weather is forecast. As California battles historic wildfires, a Public Safety Power Shutoff is just one of many tools that PG&E uses to help keep customers and communities safe.

**PG&E is working to make PSPS events smaller, shorter and smarter, by:**



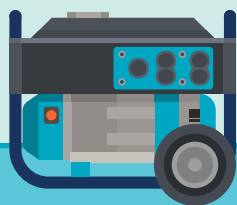
Installing over 600 devices that redirect power to limit the size of outages

1



Using more than 765 advanced weather stations to pinpoint where severe weather is most likely to occur

2



Adding backup generation in some high fire-threat communities to keep the lights on

3



Nearly doubling our helicopter fleet from 35 to 65 and adding more field crews to cut restoration time in half compared to 2019

4



Upgrading our Community Resource Centers (while following COVID-19 health guidelines such as the use of masks and social distancing) by providing water, snacks, and other resources

5

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To learn more ways to prepare for a Public Safety Power Shutoff, visit [safetyactioncenter.pge.com](https://safetyactioncenter.pge.com)





# Misusing Taxpayers' Money for Campaigns



By Dan Walters  
CALMatters

California voters are not only voting on presidential, congressional, legislative and local government offices and a dozen statewide ballot measures but deciding the fate of 234 local tax and bond measures.

The California Taxpayers Association estimates that if passed, the local tax measures would raise about \$1.5 billion a year in new revenues. The proposed bond issues, mostly for schools, total nearly \$15 billion and their passage would automatically trigger increases in property taxes to repay lenders.

These are hefty financial stakes and the local officials that placed measures on the ballot have reason to worry about their passage. Voters rejected 62% of the 239 local measures on the March 3 primary ballot — and that was before the COVID-19 pandemic struck home, the state's economy plummeted and more than two million jobs were erased.

The recession that's still raging is a two-edged sword for local government and school officials. It has cut their tax revenues sharply and also tends to make voters even more leery about paying higher taxes.

City council members, county supervisors and school trustees are tempted, in their zeal to persuade voters to vote for new taxes and bonds, to violate a state law prohibiting them from using taxpayer funds for campaign purposes.

Government Code Section 54964 forthrightly declares, "An officer, employee, or consultant of a local agency may not expend or authorize the expenditure of any of the funds of the local agency to support or oppose the approval or rejection of a ballot measure, or the election or defeat of a candidate, by the voters."

In fact, such violations have become commonplace in recent years. Under the guise of providing "information," local officials routinely hire campaign management firms to design advertisements, mailers and other material aimed at persuading voters to pass the proposed taxes and bonds.

They have done so because they know that state and local prosecutors just as routinely refuse to prosecute violations of Section 54964 by their fellow officeholders.

The only investigative agency to interest itself in such violations is the California Fair Political Practices Commission and while the FPPC lacks authority to enforce Section 54964, it can treat agencies that step over the line dividing information from advocacy as campaign contributors.

Recently, for example, the FPPC targeted the County of Los Angeles, which in

2017 spent a million dollars for an ill-disguised, but successful, campaign to pass Measure H, a quarter-cent increase in the sales tax. The campaign included broadcast commercials in English and Spanish that used the slogan "Real Help. Lasting Change."

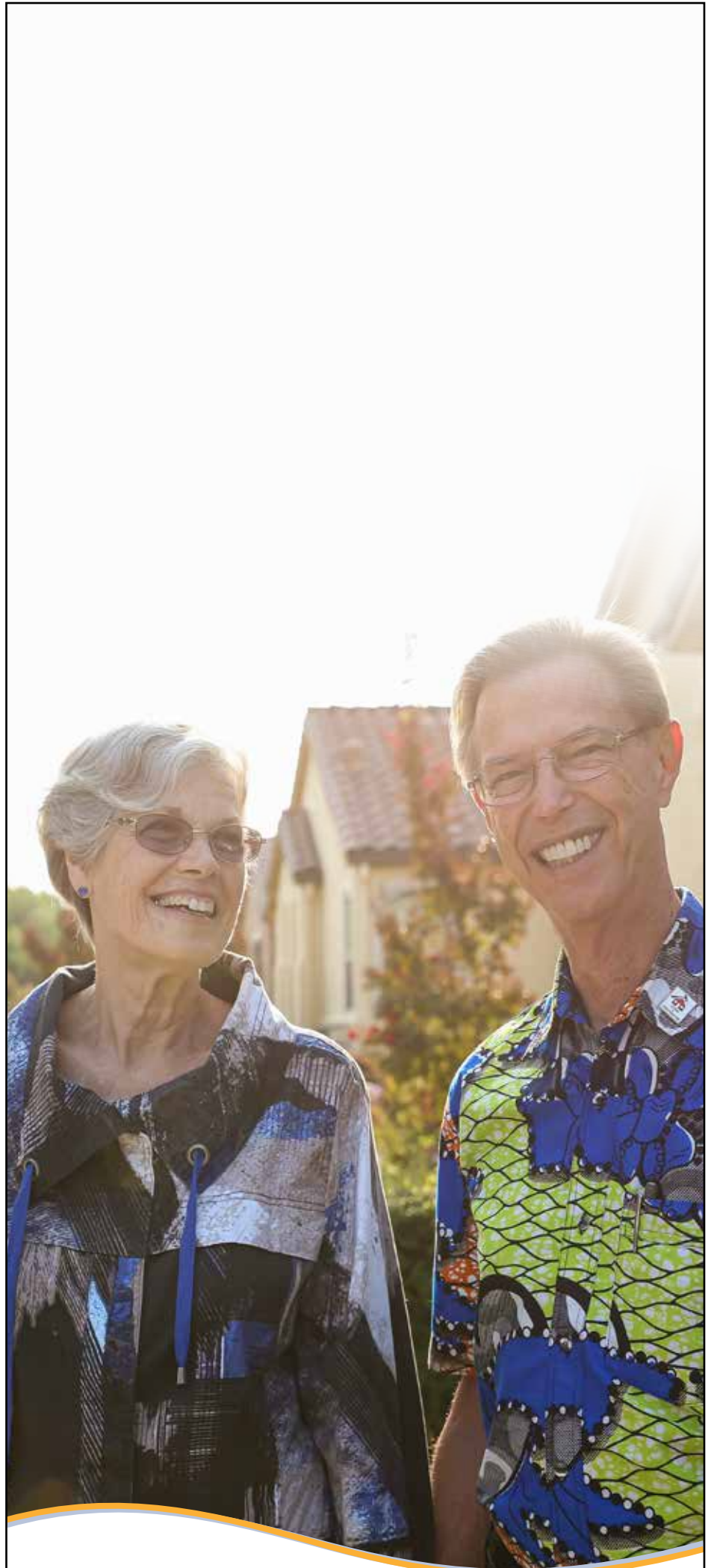
County officials, without admitting liability, agreed to pay the FPPC a \$1.35 million penalty for failing to report their spending as a campaign contribution. However, that pales in comparison to the estimated \$355 million a year that Measure H's passage will generate.

Last week, the FPPC invited the public to use its "AdWATCH" program to monitor the materials local officials are using to promote their tax and bond measures and upload questionable items to the agency for examination and perhaps investigation.

"The public can play a vital role in helping our enforcement division in making sure campaigns and public agencies are following the rules and ensuring a level playing field," FPPC Chair Richard C. Miadich said in a statement.

The FPPC's efforts are welcome, despite being an indirect and relatively weak way of discouraging improper use of taxpayer funds for campaigns, but it's likely to be the only way as long as prosecutors refuse to enforce the law.

*Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers* ★



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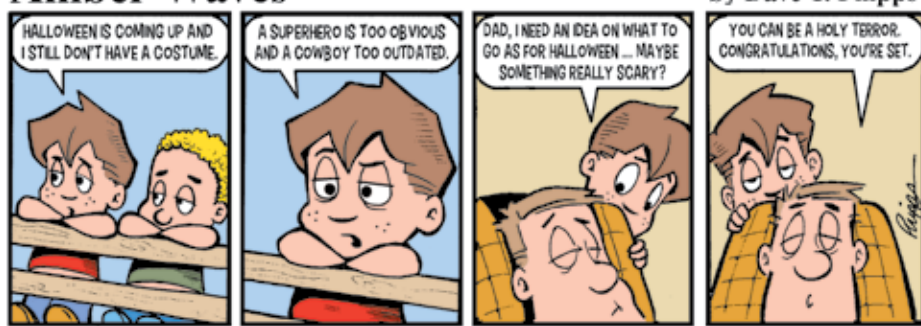




# WEEKLY COMICS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



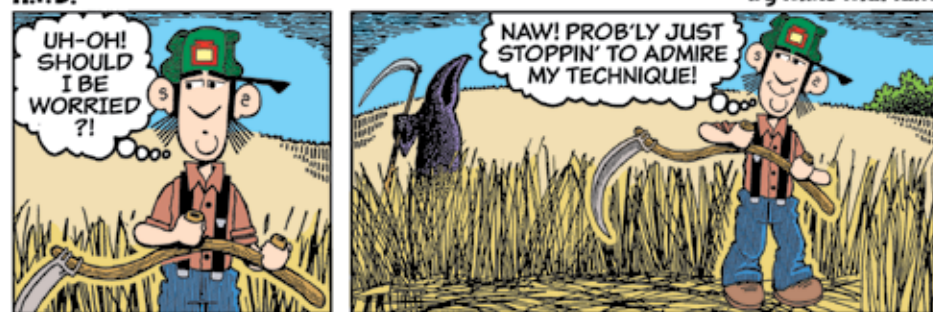
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



## GRIN AND BEAR IT

## LAFF-A-DAY



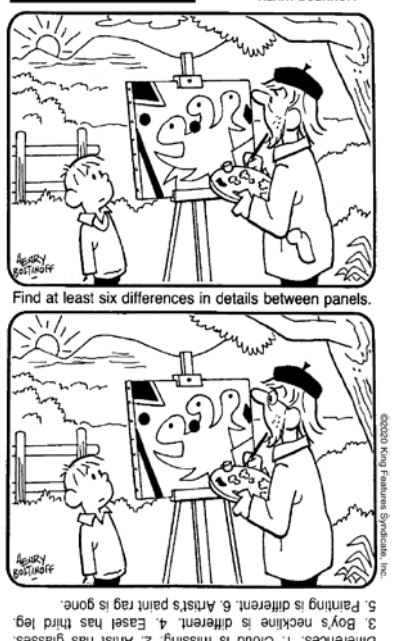
## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTHOFF



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# Have Safer Halloween Trick or Treating during COVID-19

**Sacramento County Public Information Office**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - The usual spooky festivities for Halloween may feel extra scary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Sacramento County Public Health has important guidance to help ensure safer trick-or-treating for everyone to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Follow the guidance below to have a fun and safe Halloween!

**FACE COVERINGS**

Firstly, you will need to wear a face-covering – so why not make it fun! Have your child select their own face covering, and then decorate it together to match their costume.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING**

When you are out trick-or-treating, travel only with your household members (don't forget – wear your face covering), be sure to maintain 6 feet of social distance from others, and make interactions brief with others outside your household.

**HYGIENE**

Keep from transferring the virus with your hands. When you touch objects or your face, the virus may be lurking, so wash your hands often and have hand sanitizer handy. Be sure to clean/disinfect high-touch surfaces. Also, have everyone wait to dig into the candy until hands are clean before unwrapping the candy, and then again before eating the candy. Do not share costume props or food. And, of course, if you feel sick or could be contagious, you must stay home and away from others.



Sacramento County Public Health has important guidance to help ensure safer trick-or-treating for everyone to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Photo by Lukasz-Niescioruk - Unsplash

**BE READY FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS**

This year, you need to make it an outdoor festivity. In an outdoor area, such as a porch or driveway:

Set up a table to stand behind and hand out candy using candy-grabber or tongs; Make treat bags and hang them from streamers outside for kids to grab; or Place a bowl of candy and bottle of hand sanitizer at the end of the driveway/walkway; and always wear a face-covering around others, don't touch your face, and practice good hand

hygiene when handling candy.

**CELEBRATE A COVID-19 HALLOWEEN CREATIVELY**

These ideas will help you and others be extra safe while still celebrating Halloween:

Host a virtual Halloween "watch" party with online video/chat and have best costume or craft project contests; Have a Halloween movie night with household members either at home or drive-in; Do reverse trick-or-treat by dropping off

small gift bags on your neighbor's porch; Put on a trunk-or-treat on your street (Halloween decorated car trunks) with socially distanced parked cars in driveways; Coordinate a contact-free neighborhood scavenger hunt;

Organize a neighborhood car parade or socially distanced costume parade for best decorations/costume and give treat bags or toss candy (preferably with candy grabbers).

Read about all the usual Halloween precautions you will need to have in place

**LET'S GO OVER THE "NO-NO'S"**

Don't have trick-or-treaters walk up to your door to give candy and don't use your hands to deliver treats. If you are not feeling well or are exhibiting symptoms, do not go out in the public. To clarify, gatherings with individuals outside of your household are not allowed. The reason for this is because the virus is widespread in Sacramento County and you or those at the gathering may not know if someone is COVID-19 positive and contagious.

Due to our high-risk level, Sacramento County has been placed in a restrictive Tier by the State. It is for your safety and of others that gatherings are prohibited. In early summer, the County had bent the COVID-19 case "curve," but gatherings caused a spike in new COVID-19 cases and the ripple effect is still with us. We know social distancing works and if we adhere to the protocol, our COVID-19 cases will continue to go down. If you do disregard the Order – at the very least, do it smarter – keep gatherings small, outdoors, wear face coverings and with only those in your "regular bubble."

**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT COVID-19 TESTING**

Have you spent time with people outside of your household and you weren't able to physically distance? You may have been exposed unknowingly to the COVID virus – you should get tested. The public is encouraged to get tested regularly. Sacramento County has 11 locations to get tested for COVID-19 for anyone living in the County (2 years old+). Testing is free, appointment times are easy to get, and results are provided in 1-3 days. Also, having the public get regular testing in our County gives the State more precise data so that the Case Rate isn't adjusted higher when Tier levels are determined.

Get official details of the Sacramento County COVID-19 Halloween Guidance at [SacCounty.net/COVID-19](http://SacCounty.net/COVID-19), and Happy Halloween! ★

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