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Carmichael Times

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Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

JUNE 30, 2017

**THERE'S
NO PLACE
LIKE HOME**



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AND FIREWORKS**



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OUT LOUD**



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Life is Grand in Carmichael



Milagro Centre developer and owner Allan Davis (center) is Carmichael's July 4 parade Grand Marshal. Friends and family will celebrate the nation's birthday with the community leader.

**Story and photo
by Susan Maxwell Skinner**

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Seven hundred marching, motoring, cycling – even roller skating -- patriots will bolster the Carmichael Elk's July 4 pageant. Fingers crossed, Independence Day will be cooler than 2013's tar-melting 110 degrees.

Hugging the shade, thousands more sidewalk boosters will cheer the spectacle's 59th year. Grand Marshal will be Milagro Centre developer Allan Davis. The business man and his late wife Nancy turned a run-down shopping center into Sacramento's most celebrated dining hub. "Allan Davis epitomizes efforts to make Carmichael a better

"This is an unexpected honor. I live in Carmichael and I've always wanted the best for our community. The parade is part of local tradition. I'm proud to be part of it."

**ALLAN DAVIS
CARMICHAEL 4TH OF JULY
PARADE GRAND MARSHAL**

community," explains parade organizer Jim Warrick. "This is an unexpected

honor," replies the Grand Marshal. "I live in Carmichael and I've always wanted the best for our community. The parade is part of local tradition. I'm proud to be part of it."

While legislators and community leaders will augment VIP presence, churches and non-profits will demonstrate that – on this uniquely American holiday – community is where the heart is. A dozen volunteer organizations will field contingents to reflect the 2017 theme: "Proud to be American."

Beauty queens and business folk will adorn convertibles and floats. Marching squads will include one of the parade's largest units: a massive rally of footballers, cheerleaders and supporters from Del Campo High. Go-Kart riding Shriners,

Keystone Kops, a pirate ship, a toy train and musicians will join the pageant. Vehicular units include ancient tractors, century-old roadsters, Mustangs, mini-Coopers and vintage Cadillacs on loan from Carmichael's Bunfill family. The parade ends at the Elks Lodge, 5631 Cypress Avenue. Here, free swimming, live music and a barbecue will continue celebrations.

As evening temperatures drop, pyrotechnics will ignite at the La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road. Thousands of Carmichaelites and visitors annually enjoy the birthday party. Admission is free; food is available for purchase; entertainment starts 7 pm and fireworks will rumble at 9:30 pm. No outside fireworks are permitted.

The July 4 parade leaves Marconi Avenue corner at 10:30 am. Fair Oaks Boulevard will be closed between 10 am and 12:30 pm. Parade and fireworks sponsors include: Carmichael Elks, Carmichael Kiwanis, Carmichael and Mission Oaks Park Districts, the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce, Creative Solutions, the Stumpf Family, ACR Solar, Valley Volkswagen Classics, Sports Clips Haircuts, Sagebrook Senior living, Inliners International, Advanced Hospice Inc, Velofix, Firefly Lounge, Conley Roofing.

For information on 2017 July 4 celebrations, call the Elks at (916) 489-2103.

Call Carmichael Park District (485-5322) for information on the fireworks. ★

Carmichael Student Earns Highest Honor in Girl Scouting

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Carmichael student Katherine Stenger, a junior at Christian Brothers High School, has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The highest award in Girl Scouting is presented to Girl Scouts in grades 9-12 who have researched, planned and executed programs that create meaningful change in their communities. Just over 5% of eligible Girl Scouts successfully earn this honor.

In pursuit of the award, Stenger developed a program called "Connecting the Generations," designed to increase intergenerational connections in her community. By creating an oral and written history shared among teens and the elderly neighbors Stenger sought to increase understanding, respect and affinity between the generations in her church community.

"Overall, the generations should be more closely connected, and be able to relate and learn from each other,"

she observed as she worked on her project at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Sacramento.

Stenger was among 34 local girls presented with the Gold Award at the "Girls Who Inspire" event hosted by Girl Scouts Heart of Central California on June 4, 2017, at CSU Sacramento.

Girl Scouts supports the development of Go-getters, Innovators, Risk-takers and Leaders (G.I.R.L.s) throughout the United States, with 3.2 million active members and more than 59 million alumnae.

The Girl Scout organization has shaped the lives of fifty percent of adult females in the U.S., including the majority of female senior executives and business owners, two-thirds of women in Congress, and virtually every female astronaut.

For more information on volunteering, joining or supporting Girl Scouts, visit girlscoutshcc.org



Katherine Stenger accepts her Girl Scout award. Photo courtesy Girl Scouts Heart of Central California

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Grace House: Living Sober, Powerful and Free

By Elise Spleiss

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - There is a small but empowering island among the many drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities in Sacramento County. Grace House, located in a quiet residential neighborhood in Carmichael, (formerly Steps to Freedom), is the only full service sober living home in the area for men and women leaving rehab facilities.

The home provides a family living environment where residents can support and encourage one another to stay drug and alcohol free as they transition into being productive members of our community.

Since 2009 Grace House has been giving their residents a reason to stay clean, and not return to their old friends and old ways. Residents who are living and remain drug and alcohol free can live at the 18-bed co-ed home up to twelve months, or possibly longer to better prepare themselves to live safely on their own. They pay \$500 or \$200 per month, depending on their situation. Two 'scholarship beds' are also available.

Grace House is a part of The Way Ministries, which also runs a street



Grace House Family and Board of Directors gather to celebrate another day of living sober. Photo by Patrick Miller

counterfeiting money to support a 26-year drug habit. She is now a productive member of the community and also supports residents in making the same lifestyle changes she made.

There is still much work to be done. Miller cited the help still needed from the community in continuing their work. He said, "Our goals are to connect with more resources to help folks transition back into productive members of our community, reach out to more ministries and social service programs to be a resource for them, to connect with the neighborhood and become good neighbors, and to continue to help people into sober living".

Alicia summarizes it well, "What Grace House gave me was an opportunity in a safe place to heal and steady my feet. Surrounded by love and support while growing my relationship with the Lord, I have overcome what I never thought I could. I continue to thrive and grow every day and hope many many others can have the same success. Thank you Grace House!!!

For more information and to view testimonials on Grace House and The Way Ministries, go to www.theway-tribe.com or on Face Book. ★

"I was homeless and hopeless when I came to Grace House in December of 2012, my family was done with me and I needed help. Grace House provided the structure and care I needed in my time of need. They helped give me the tools to get back on my feet and now I am a productive member of the community, my relationship with my family is restored. In December, I will have 5 years clean and sober."

— ALEX
GRACE HOUSE RESIDENT

ministry for the homeless and a food ministry in several communities. Residents are invited to be a part of these ministries. What sets Grace House apart from other facilities is the sense of pride residents get when working with these outreach programs, being able to give for change instead of just receiving. They serve hot meals to the homeless at Rusch Park twice a week, help distribute 200-300 food boxes weekly to families at Serna Village in McClellan Park, and help with many community projects such as the recent Winter Sanctuary shelter program.

The Winter Sanctuary hosted by the Citrus Heights Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART) was instrumental in helping get three people off the street into Grace House.

Many residents have never experienced working as a team and helping others, and find that this work leads to their growing feelings of pride and self-esteem. They eventually become a productive, self-sufficient part of their community themselves. Over 100 men and women have graduated

from the program since 2009. Grace House is self-supporting and receives no government or social service agency funding. It is run by a 5-member board of directors representing The Way Ministries and two other ministries. People living in the home have certain rights and protections afforded by The Americans with Disabilities Act and Federal Fair Housing laws. The board ensures all city and state regulations are met.

Chairman of the Board, Patrick Miller, said in an email, "I personally have three people working for me that lived at Grace House and worked to change their lives, because they were able to live clean sober lives and make the changes needed to become productive members of society". Alex went from robbing banks in Burbank to support a drug habit, to serving 5 years in prison, then living on the street for 5 years using and dealing. He finally found his way to Grace House. After one year of clean living he got a job in the marketing department where he encourages others to not follow in his footsteps.

Miller met Helen as she was getting off federal probation for



Grace House family members Willowlee, Tony and Nikki. Photo by Patrick Miller

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CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY UPDATE

Avenues. The parade features floats, antique automobiles, marching bands, equestrian entries, and much more.

Carmichael also will experience fireworks lighting up the evening at the La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road. The first sky rocket is expected to go off at approximately 9:30 p.m. And starting at 7 p.m. there will be plenty of activities before the big show including music, food, and children's activities.

Alcohol Ban Keeps Parkway Family Friendly

If you are planning to enjoy the American River Parkway over the weekend leading into the Fourth of July holiday, please note there will be a complete ban on alcohol consumption and possession both on land and in the water between Hazel and Watt avenues (an exception exists for Ancil Hoffman Golf Course).

In past years summer holiday weekends had become major problems along the American River due to excessive alcohol consumption making the parkway less of a family friendly outing because of fights, public nudity, profanity and littering.

Besides the Independence Day weekend, the restriction is also applicable for the holiday weekends of Memorial Day as well as Labor Day.

Eppie's Great Race

Eppie's Great Race (otherwise known as the world's

oldest no swim triathlon) will be celebrating its 44th year this Saturday, July 15.

Founded by the late Sacramento-area restaurateur/entrepreneur Eppie Johnson in 1974, the race has become an annual summertime tradition for elite athletes, fitness enthusiasts and families. The race features a 5.82-mile run, a 12.5-mile bike route and a 6.35-mile kayak paddle held along the scenic American River Parkway. It starts and finishes at the William B. Pond Recreation Area located at the end of Arden Way.

The race is organized by the Eppie's Great Race Foundation and the primary beneficiary is the Therapeutic Recreation Services Division within the Department of Regional Parks which provides therapeutic recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities residing in Sacramento County. To date more than one million dollars have been raised for therapeutic recreation services since the race's inception.

Come out and cheer for the athletes, help by volunteering or consider signing up to be a Great Race participant! For more information, go online and visit www.eppiesgreatrace.org.

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



By County Supervisor Susan Peters

Through the generosity of The Carmichael Times this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated communities of Carmichael and Arden Arcade.

Parades, Fun and Fireworks

There will be an abundance of neighborhood activities to celebrate the Fourth of July.

Arden Arcade will hold its annual parade celebration that starts at 10 a.m. kicking off at the Sacramento County Building, 2700 Fulton Avenue. The route goes south on Fulton past El Camino Avenue and turns on Cottage Way continuing west to Bell Street where it will turn north and finish at Howe Park.

Carmichael's celebration kick-offs with a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Kiwanis Club from 7 to 11 a.m. at Carmichael Park followed by the 58th Annual Elks Club Parade on Fair Oaks Boulevard starting at 10:30 a.m. at Marconi Avenue and continuing to Manzanita and Cypress

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4th of July Parade

"PROUD TO BE AMERICAN"

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Grand Marshal: Carmichael Business Leader Allan Davis

Parade Route: Fair Oaks Blvd from Marconi to the Elks Lodge on Cypress Ave.

Fair Oaks Blvd Closed to through traffic 10 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Use Garfield-California for alternate North/South Traffic

*After the parade, celebrate the 4th with free swimming, children's games, a western BBQ, a Monkey Bridge, air-conditioned indoor live music and dancing to the "Crystal Image Band." Under the Lodge shade trees enjoy a Souza Band playing patriotic music at the Carmichael Elks 5631 Cypress Ave.



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El Camino High School Breaks Ground On New 500 Seat Performing Arts Center

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - McCarthy Building Companies (McCarthy), an esteemed American-owned construction and general contracting firm, in collaboration with HGA Architects & Engineers(HGA), an integrated architecture, engineering and planning firm, and the San Juan Unified School District (San Juan Unified), is pleased to announce that construction has commenced on El Camino Fundamental High School's new performing arts center.

The performing arts center is one of nine projects in the district supported by the four-phase Measure N Signature Project program, a \$350 million bond measure passed by voters in 2012.

"The new center will provide students with a unique and valuable arts education experience that will enhance their appreciation, as well as offer a quality, affordable alternative to community groups in need of a place to stage events," said San Juan Unified's Director of Facilities Construction and Modernization Brett Mitchell. "We're thrilled with the positive response this project has received and look forward to providing a modern, state-of-the-art facility that will serve the region for years to come."

The new, roughly 11,600 square-foot facility will provide much-needed space for the school's award-winning music and drama programs. The theater will feature a raised stage, a control room,

dresser rooms, 500 fixed seats and 100 portable seats in the orchestra area, a ticket booth, and a lobby area equipped to showcase student artwork. It will be used for a variety of school and community lecture and performance functions.

For Kevin Glaser, the groundbreaking at El Camino Fundamental High School on June 6th served as catharsis. Glaser, El Camino's longtime band director, said the school's arts community has pushed and fundraised in



support of a performing arts center for the past 10 years. El Camino's campus does not currently have a venue that can seat 500 people, but performances often draw crowds of that size, Glaser said. The groundbreaking means his dream has become a reality.

"The school was built in 1950," Glaser said. "It's been my position that El Camino has needed a performing arts center for 67 years."

Source: El Camino High School Media



Kevin Glaser, band director, (above left) sees the work on his dream begin. The groundbreaking ceremony (above) started the project, one of nine as part of the Measure N Signature Project passed by voters. The El Camino Band, (left) known locally for their talent and their enthusiasm, were there to toot the horns for their upcoming performance center. The new Performing Arts Center (below) will be home to many new performances and seat up to 500 people when completed. All photos and artist's rendition courtesy El Camino High School



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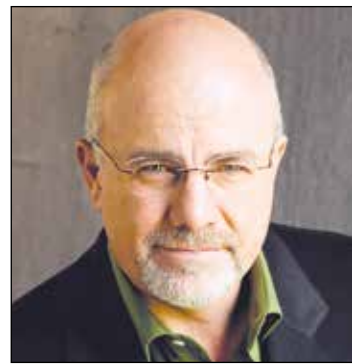
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Dave Says

To file, or not to file?

Dear Dave,
How do you know when you should file an insurance claim on a homeowner's issue, versus just dealing with it and paying cash?
- Ben

Dear Ben,
Basically, it's when you begin to feel the pain financially. Let's say you have a \$1,000 deductible on your homeowner's policy. If you have an \$1,100 issue, just pay the \$100 out of pocket and don't mess with it. But let's say you have the same deductible and a \$2,000 problem. Depending on things like your overall financial situation, the value of the house, and the cost of the insurance policy, that might just get you to file a claim. Somehow, lots of people get the idea they can make money on insurance process. You don't. Insurance companies make money, and consumers pay insurance companies. You

don't make money on insurance in the long-term. You may have a situation, once in a blue moon, where you come out ahead on a transaction versus what you paid in. But over the scope of your life, you don't make money on insurance companies.

The point is this: If you turn in the claim, you're going to experience a rate increase or cancellation somewhere — at some point — that offsets it. I only turn in substantial claims, meaning claims that are far above the deductible.

—Dave

Pass on this deal

Dear Dave,
My in-laws have inherited some money, and they want to invest in real estate. They have offered to help my husband and I buy a home, but they want ownership of some kind as part of the deal. Is this a good idea?
- Cynthia

Dear Cynthia,
I'd pass on this offer. It's not a good deal.

I'm glad they got some money. I mean, that's great for them. If they want to do some real estate investing, that's

awesome, too. If they want to give their kids a gift out of the inheritance money, that would be a very nice, generous thing to do. But no, we're not going for a deal where they have ownership in your home. Things like that end up messy, and it won't get you where you really want to be. Even if it does, you won't like the trip!

If you take a deep look into this, you'll begin to understand there are some things involved that will change the nature of your relationship with your in-laws. Every time you see them and they see you, they'll see dollar signs. Dinners together will start to taste different, and they'll feel different, too.

Protect your relationships and your family, Cynthia. Please don't do it.

—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 12 million listeners each week on 575 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at [@DaveRamsey](https://twitter.com/DaveRamsey). ★

Thank A Veteran Today

WIDOWED PERSONS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA



The Widowed Persons Association of California encourages men and women to come to Sunday Support each Sunday from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. The Widowed Persons Association is designed to be of help to recently widowed men and women, but any and all widows and widowers are welcome as a community service. Participants do not need to be members and there is no charge.

OFFICE HOURS 10:00am - 3:00pm
Monday - Friday (916) 972-9722

Sunday Support - Any and all widows or widowers are invited.
Every Sunday from 3:00pm - 5:00pm

In the meeting room of the WPAC office. Enter from the back parking lot at 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste D-18

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Chef Meet & Eat

Come meet and taste wonderful cuisine Saturday, June 11 demonstrated and prepared by local Chefs on site using fresh ingredients from the Farmers Market. 9 am to 2 pm. Chefs will share their signature dishes and recipes with you!

Health, Fitness, and Wellness Body, Soul, Mind & Spirit Fair
Hosted by The Living Smart Farmers Markets

Meet local health professionals as you visit the Farmers Market on Sunday, July 9 from 9am to 2 pm and learn about the products and services available to help you live healthier and happier! For more information to participate contact us at 916-484-7000. Chef Demo at 11:00 am.

ILoveMyFarmersMarket.com

JOHNNY CASH PATSY CLINE STATLER BROTHERS RESURRECTED



JULY 8, 2017 ★ 7:00 PM

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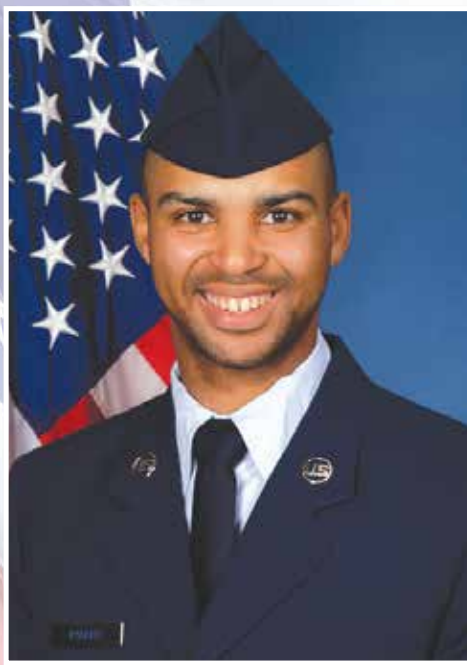
ROSEMONT, CA (MPG) - U.S. Air Force Airman Alston J. Parker graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Parker is the son of Marilyn M. Parker and Hugh R. Parker Jr. of Sacramento, Calif.

He is a 2013 graduate of Capital Christian High School, Sacramento, Calif. ★



Pictured is Capital Christian High School alum, U.S. Air Force Airman Alston J. Parker.

Source: Joint Hometown News Release

DON'T SUFFER FROM PAIN, STRESS OR FATIGUE ANY LONGER

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LEGAL NOTICE

RESOLUTION NO 2017-03

A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-18, PRELIMINARILY APPROVING THE ENGINEER'S REPORT AND PROVIDING NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE MISSION OAKS RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT PARKS AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District, Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Improvement District was authorized by an assessment ballot proceeding conducted in 2006 and approved by 68.78% of the weighted ballots returned by property owners, and such assessments were levied by the Advisory Board of Directors by Resolution No. 2006-04 passed on May 2, 2006; and WHEREAS, on April 11, 2017 by Resolution No. 2017-02, the Board ordered the preparation of an Engineer's Report for the Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Improvement District (the "District") for fiscal year 2017-18; and WHEREAS, pursuant to said Resolution, the Engineer's Report was prepared by SCI Consulting Group, Engineer of Work, in accordance with 22565, et. seq., of the Streets and Highways Code (the "Report") and Article XIII D of the California Constitution; and WHEREAS, said Engineer's Report was filed with the Secretary of the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors has reviewed the Report and wishes to take certain actions relative to said Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Advisory Board of Directors of the Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District ("Board"), that:

SECTION 1. The Report for the "Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Improvement District", on file with the Secretary of the Board, has been duly considered by the Board of Directors and is hereby deemed sufficient and approved. The Report shall stand as the Engineer's Report for all subsequent proceedings under, and pursuant to, the foregoing resolution.

SECTION 2. It is the intention of this Board to continue to levy and collect assessments within the District for fiscal year 2017-18. Within the District, the existing and proposed improvements ("Improvements") are generally described as the installation, maintenance and servicing of public facilities, including but not limited to, landscaping, sprinkler systems, park grounds, park facilities, landscape corridors, ground cover, shrubs and trees, street frontages, playground equipment and hardcourt areas, senior and community centers, drainage systems, lighting, fencing, entry monuments, basketball courts, tennis courts, running tracks, swimming pools, other recreational facilities, security guards, graffiti removal and repainting, and labor, materials, supplies, utilities and equipment, as applicable, for property owned and maintained by the Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District. Installation means the construction of recreational improvements, including, but not limited to, land preparation, such as grading, leveling, cutting and filling, sod, landscaping, irrigation systems, sidewalks and drainage, lights, playground equipment, play courts, recreational facilities and public restrooms. Maintenance means the furnishing of services and materials for the ordinary and usual maintenance, operation and servicing of said improvements, including repair, removal, or replacement of all or part of any improvement; providing for the life, growth, health and beauty of landscaping; and cleaning, sandblasting and painting of walls and other improvements to remove or cover graffiti. Servicing means the furnishing of electric current or energy for the operation or lighting of any improvements, and water for irrigation of any landscaping or the maintenance of any other improvements.

SECTION 3. The District consists of the lots and parcels shown on the assessment diagram of the District on file with the Secretary of the Board, and reference is hereby made to such map for further particulars.

SECTION 4. Reference is hereby made to the Report for a full and detailed description of the Improvements, the boundaries of the District and the proposed assessments upon assessable lots and parcels of land within the District. The Engineer's Report identifies all parcels which will have a special benefit conferred upon them and upon which an assessment will be imposed.

SECTION 5. The assessment is subject to an annual adjustment tied to the Consumer Price Index-U for the San Francisco Bay Area as of December of each succeeding year (the "CPI"), with a maximum annual adjustment not to exceed 3%. Any change in the CPI in excess of 3% shall be cumulatively reserved as the "Unused CPI" and shall be used to increase the maximum authorized assessment rate in years in which the CPI is less than 3%. The maximum authorized assessment rate is equal to the maximum assessment rate in the first fiscal year the assessment was levied adjusted annually by the minimum of 1) 3% or 2) the change in the CPI plus any Unused CPI as described above. The change in the CPI from December 2015 to December 2016 was 3.53%. Therefore, the maximum authorized assessment rate for fiscal year 2017-18 is increased by 3.00% which equates to \$51.30 per single family equivalent benefit unit. The estimate of cost and budget in the Engineer's Report proposes assessments for fiscal year 2017-18 at the maximum rate of \$51.30.

SECTION 6. The public hearing shall be held, before this Board at Mission Oaks Community Center, located at 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, California 95608 as follows: on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at the hour of 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of this Board's determination whether the public interest, convenience and necessity require the improvements and this Board's final action upon the Report and the assessments therein. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause a notice of the hearing to be given by publishing a notice once, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing above specified, in a newspaper circulated in the District.

SECTION 7. To get additional information about the assessments or the Assessment District contact: Daniel Barton, District Administrator, Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District; 3344 Mission Avenue, Carmichael, California 95608. The Engineer's Report and other written material about the Assessment District may also be reviewed at the District at the address above during regular District business hours.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of June 2017 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: 3

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 2

ABSTAIN: 0

Bernard Donnelly, Chair of the Board of Advisors

Debra Tierney, Clerk of the Board

Published on June 30, 2017

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Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

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DWR Acting Director, Bill Croyle Retires

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)
- The California Department of Water Resources Acting Director William R. Croyle today announced his retirement, effective July 1, 2017.

Croyle put his original retirement plans on hold in January 2017 when he was asked by Governor Edmund G Brown Jr. to serve as Acting Director of the department. Cindy Messer, DWR Chief Deputy Director, will serve as Acting Director of the department until a new director is appointed.

Prior to his appointment, Croyle served as Deputy Director for Statewide Emergency Preparedness and Security at the Department, a role that uniquely prepared him

to manage the Lake Oroville spillways incident in February.

"California is extremely fortunate to have had Bill at the helm of DWR this year, especially during the Oroville emergency," said Secretary John Laird, of the California Natural Resources Agency. "We are all grateful for his commitment and public service."

In nearly ten years with DWR, Croyle served as the Drought Emergency Operations Manager, representing the department on Governor Brown's Interagency Drought Task Force and various other drought task forces. He also served as the Department Emergency Program Manager and spent more than six years as

Chief of Flood Operations.

Croyle also worked more than 23 years for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board in Sacramento, where he served in a variety of capacities.

"I am honored to have served with many talented, dedicated people throughout my career. I am very proud of the work we have accomplished over the years bringing California through drought, flood and most recently, through the Oroville Spillway incident," stated Croyle. "And now I'm looking forward to picking up my retirement plans where they left off six months ago."

Source: DWR Media ★

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<p>Wed., June 14 (Dinner @ 6:30 pm) Wed., Sept. 20 (Dinner @ 6:30 pm) (Spanish & English) East Lawn Andrews & Greulich Mortuary 3939 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95820 To RSVP or More Info: 916.732.2026</p>	<p>Thurs., July 13 (Dinner @ 6:30 pm) Wed., Sept. 13 11:30 am to 12:30 pm East Lawn Elk Grove Memorial Park & Mortuary 9189 E. Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove, CA 95624 To RSVP or More Info: 916.732.2031</p>

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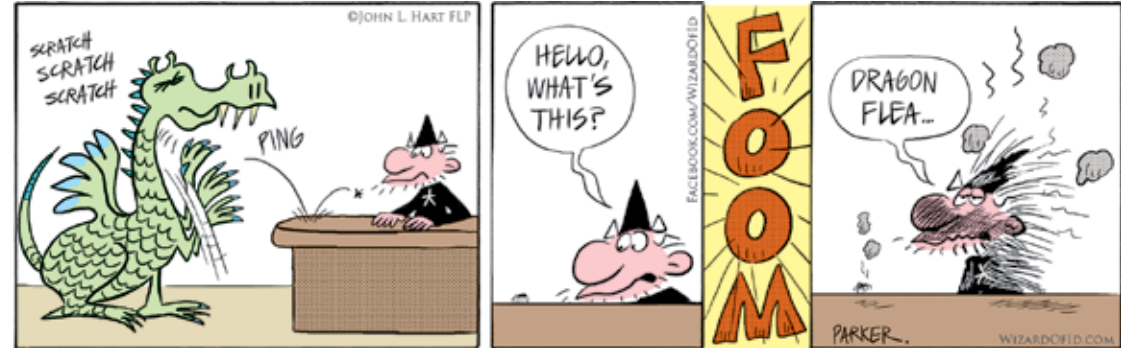
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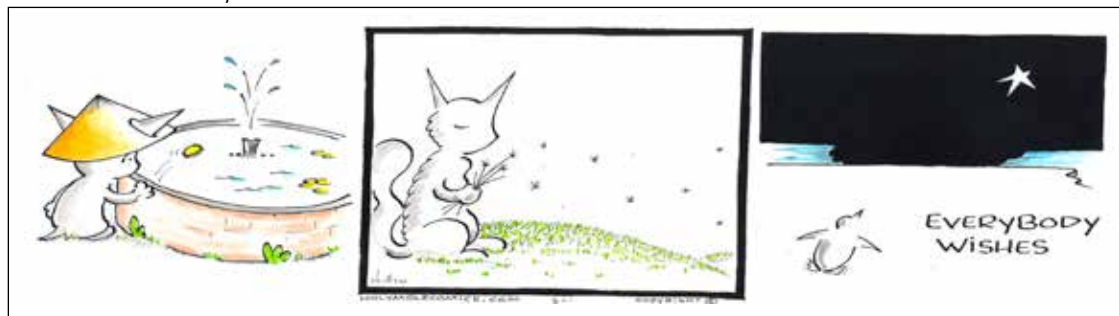
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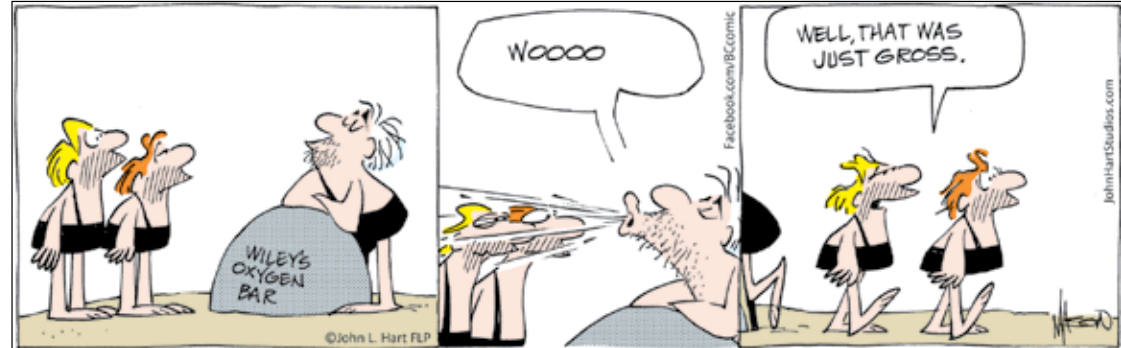
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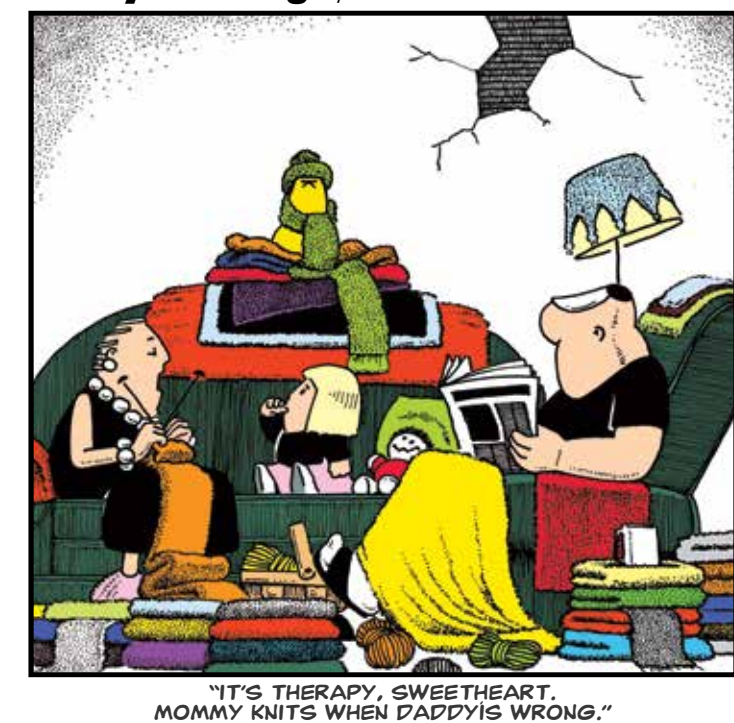
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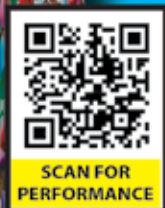
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There's No Place Like Home

By Shelly Lembke

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)

The Easter sisters and their business have almost always been on the move, but now they seem to have settled in to stay at their latest location on Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights. For them, it is a move back home. Back to their roots.

The business, Easter's Catholic Books and Gifts has been a Sacramento area staple since 1998, offering books, gifts and much more to customers seeking Christian products. Considering the owners start, they truly have come a long way. "We opened our brick and mortar store in 1998, after having spent five years selling books out of our cars," said owner Denise Easter-Kramer. Co-owner with her sister Sandy Easter-Graham, and with the help and support of a third sister Kathy Easter-Baxter, Easter-Kramer and Easter-Graham are the beating heart and soul of their business.

Like many small business owners, the pair is all too familiar with 80-hour work weeks, but they do it for love. After a time



Pictured from left former employee Leslie Low, sisters Denise Easter-Kramer and Sandy Easter-Graham, Rosemary Easter (mother of Easter-Kramer and Easter-Graham), employee Kathleen De Santis, former employee Judy Pickens. Seated front signing copies of her book is Mother Dolores Hart, OSB, Hollywood actress-turned cloistered religious nun.

away from the Catholic faith that they had been raised in, the sisters began feeling an emptiness in their lives. "Many years of work in the secular field left us empty and unfulfilled. We

both found our way home to the faith of our youth," according to Easter-Kramer. "Our dreams were realized by sharing what we'd found in the works of the great writers of the past, the Fathers and Doctors of Christianity, the Saints, and also the many contemporary authors who had been schooled in the same."

Since opening Easter's first location, the store has moved several times as the customer base and demand has shifted, growing and changing with the times. Adaptation has been a big part of the business's survival. The sisters were pioneers in the California homeschooling movement and an initial and integral part of their early business was as a supplier of textbooks for homeschooling families. From there they phased rather logically into classical spiritual works as homeschooling and its' students matured.

Former employees remain friends. One such person, Judy Pickens, spoke about her time working at Easter's. "It was a wonderful place to work. Working at Easter's was more than a job. It

was a ministry. Many times people were looking for a book or gift that would help someone going through a difficult time in their life. Both customers and employees talked about their journeys of faith, sharing both the ups and the downs. It was encouraging to hear other people's stories," said Pickens.

The advent of the Internet and online book retailing brought changes in customer's shopping habits and Easter's has continued to keep pace with the times, providing special order services through a wide array of specialty publishers from all over. Their gift line has also become a large part of their Christian product offerings, in addition to books and literature from the contemporary to out of print classics. Easter-Kramer smiled and said, "We want anyone to feel comfortable walking in here. We are Catholic, but it's not a monastery."

Easter-Kramer said they have been warmly welcomed by other area merchants, but working with the City of Citrus Heights has been a mixed blessing with lots

of red tape and not-so-much in the new business incentive area, which could encourage more businesses into the City limits.

Their current location is a proverbial stone's throw from where the sisters grew up in Citrus Heights and where their parents operated one of the very first mini-marts. It was from Case Roble High School that Easter-Kramer graduated and shyly admits to having been a cheerleader. "I've always been blessed with a lot of energy."

That energy comes in handy each day, as there is no aspect of the business Easter-Kramer doesn't oversee: blogs, website, phones, inventory and one other amazing luxury for modern shoppers: Easter's free giftwrapping services for each and every purchase. Staff cut, wrap, tape and ribbon books and gifts personally.

Easter's is located at 6916 Sunrise Blvd, Suite 1 in Citrus Heights. For more information on hours, classes, special orders, guest speakers or more, contact them at 916-338-7272 or online at www.eastersbooks.com. ★

Happy 4th!

The Reverend
Dr. Ray Hess
St. George's
Episcopal
Church



By Rev. Dr. Ray Hess

This year our celebration of Independence Day has special meaning. We are in a time of continued divisions and stress for our nation. Our own congregations or faith communities have a variety of political viewpoints within them. How can we give a united witness as followers of God? How can we find spiritual support in a time of anxiety?

Independence Day is a good time to focus on some basic principles from the Bible. The first is that God is Lord of all the nations, as creator of the world and all peoples. As followers of God, our commitment is to share God's love and justice for everyone.

Every nation is accountable to God for how we treat others. Second, God has a special heart for the vulnerable and powerless. In the scripture, this is expressed by saying that God cares for the alien, the orphan, and the widow – those who have no one to care for them. God calls us as his followers to work to support those who are vulnerable in our own day.

As followers of God and citizens of the United States, we give witness to these principles. In word and action, we proclaim that God loves all people around the world. We call on our leaders to do all possible to care for those who are downtrodden and vulnerable in our nation and in other parts of the world. As members of churches or other faith communities, we work to help those in need in our own community. We find support for ourselves in God's love. No matter what our race, culture, or political background, we are noticed and loved by God.

These principles may sound very basic, but they make all the difference in the way to see our nation and the world. We have a wonderful tradition of freedom and democracy in our nation. We celebrate this gift that our nation brings to the world, and we give thanks for God's love for us and for all peoples of our world. ★



Posing for a little fun with a cardboard cut-out of Pope Francis are from left (standing) Sandy Easter-Graham with daughter (kneeling) Dena Brand, (standing) Denise Easter-Kramer, employee Amber Donnelly and (kneeling) employee Charmaine Cooper.

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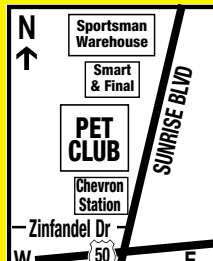
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Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17

FANCY FEAST GOURMET CANNED CAT FOOD
All Varieties except Elegent Medley 3 Oz
Limit 2 Cases Per Family **20/\$11.00**
Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17

PURINA CAT CHOW DRY CAT FOOD
•Regular •Indoor 16 Lb Bag
Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$10.99**
Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17

SCOOPAWAY CLUMPING CAT LITTER
20 lb Box
•Multi-Cat •Unscented (Fresh Step Scoop, 20 Lb Box - \$7.49)
Limit 2 Boxes Per Family **\$5.49**
Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17

PURINA PRO-PLAN CANNED FOOD SALE
Dog Food 13 Oz **99¢** Cat Food 3 Oz **63¢**
All Varieties except Signature & Core 5.5 Oz Limit 1 Case **\$1.39**
WELLNESS CANNED CAT FOOD
WILDERNESS DRY CAT FOOD AS MARKED \$5 OFF
OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES
•Chicken •Salmon •Duck •Indoor •Weight Control 100% Grain Free 11-12 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags

WORLD'S BEST CAT LITTER
14 Lbs **\$11.99** Original **\$12.99** Extra Strength
Limit 2 Bags
PRECIOUS CAT CLUMPING CAT LITTER
18 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$5.99**
JONNY CAT PREMIUM CAT LITTER
10 lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$1.69**
CAT'S PRIDE FRESH & LIGHT PREMIUM CLUMPING CAT LITTER
15 Lb Jug Limit 2 Jugs **\$5.99** SUPER BUY

PEDIGREE CANNED DOG FOOD
•Choice Cuts in Gravy •Chunky Ground Dinner •Chopped Ground Dinner All Varieties 13 Oz Limit 2 Case (12 ct) **69¢**
SCIENCE DIET SMALL BITES DRY DOG FOOD
•Adult •Light •Mature 17.5 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$22.99**
MEOW MIX DRY CAT FOOD
•Original Choice 16 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$10.99**
SCIENCE DIET IDEAL BALANCE DRY DOG FOOD
30 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags •Adult •Mature Adult **\$37.99** •Large Breed Adult **\$39.99**

ADVANTAGE FLEA CONTROL & TREATMENT
Dog Small (Green) Dog Extra Large (Blue)
Dog Medium (Teal) Cat Small (Orange)
Dog Large (Red) Cat Large (Purple)
Limit 2 Per Family. Cannot be combined with any other offer **\$4.00 OFF**
OUR REGULAR LOW PRICE
PET CENTER CHICKEN BREAST TENDERS
16 Oz Jar • Chicken Nibblers **\$9.99**
100% Natural
FLEXI RETRACTABLE LEASHES
All Varieties **20% OFF**
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES
NATURE'S MIRACLE STAIN & ODOR REMOVER
•Just for Cats •Regular **\$14.99**
•Advanced Formula •Urine Destroyer •Oxy Formula **\$16.99**
PETKIN PET WIPES
•Doggy •Eye •Kitty •Ear •Itch Stop •Tooth All Varieties **20% OFF**
OUR SUPER LOW PRICES

MARINELAND POWER FILTER SALE PET CLUB SALE
MODEL TANK SIZE
PENGUIN 100B20 Gal. **\$19.99**
PENGUIN 150B30 Gal. **\$27.99**
PENGUIN 200B50 Gal. **\$33.99**
PENGUIN 350B75 Gal. **\$45.99**
TETRA BOXED 10 GALLON TANK With Economy Kit
Just add Heater For Tropical Fish **\$36.99** Limit 1 Per Family
KORDON WATER CONDITIONERS
Amquel 16 Oz **\$5.99**
Amquel Plus 16 Oz **\$5.99**
Novaqua Plus 16 Oz **\$5.99**
KORDON CORAL SEA 50 GAL SALT MIX WITH AMQUEL
\$11.99

BONUS COUPON
FANCY FEAST ELEGANT MEDLEYS CANNED CAT FOOD
Selected Varieties - 3 Oz Limit 6 Cans with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17 **59¢** CT PLU 568

BONUS COUPON
PURINA WHISKER LICKINS CAT TREATS
•Soft & Delicious - 2.5 Oz •Crunchy & Yummy - 1.7 Oz Limit 2 Pouches with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon. Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17 **69¢** CT PLU 446

BONUS COUPON
ARM & HAMMER CAT LITTER DEODORIZER
20 Oz Box Limit 2 Boxes with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 6/28/17 - 7/4/17 **\$1.49** CT PLU 422

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