



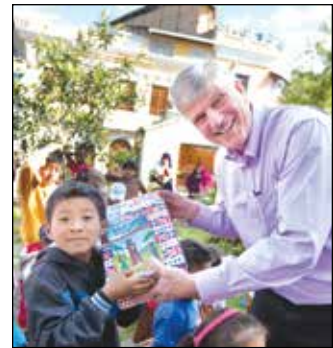
Carmichael Times

VOLUME 37 • ISSUE 16

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

APRIL 21, 2017

**LOCAL CHARITY
SHARES WAYS TO
CELEBRATE NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER WEEK**



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**WASHBURN TO
PLAY SOFTBALL
AT SAINT ANSELM**



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**Captain Shawn Condit
Named Firefighter
Employee of the Year**



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Easter Belles all Smiles



Sisters Violet Collen, Ariana Roberts, Lilly Cullen and Alana Roberts compare their egg troves after the Easter Bunny's visit to Carmichael Park. Supervisor Susan Peters and pooch Ernie (right) held an informal clinic during festivities.

Words and pictures by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Attended by record numbers, the Carmichael park egg scramble disposed of more than 5000 treat-filled eggs last Saturday. A fire truck horn signaled the start of the annual free-for-all.

Easter celebrations brought nearly 1500 children with baskets, buckets and bags. Divided by age groups, the hunters swarmed an acre of spring-green grass and harvested the 2017 egg crop in a few frenzied minutes. Event host, a suave six-foot bunny in bow tie and waistcoat, then dispensed

cuddles and photo-ops. County Supervisor Susan Peters augmented the candy haul from her meet-the-constituents table. Children were further indulged with balloon art and crafts. The Sacramento Fine Art Center provided paints and paper for junior watercolorists. Many bunny portraits resulted.

Carmichael Kiwanis Club served more than 400 pancake breakfasts. Organized by the Carmichael Park District and Kiwanis, the egg hunt is a popular Carmichael tradition. Learn about other park activities at www.Carmichaelpark.com ★



Gaines Launches Effort to Repeal Huge Gas Tax

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Senator Ted Gaines (R-El Dorado) has stepped up to repeal the Democrat's recent huge gas tax. He has issued following statements regarding his effort to repeal Senate Bill 1, the transportation proposal recently passed by the legislature that imposes \$52 billion in permanent new gas taxes and user fees on California motorists.

"I will be exploring every possible avenue to repeal the gas tax, whether it's through legislation, an initiative to change or eliminate other gas taxes, or other courses of action. I am going to fight to overturn this unfair and regressive tax and get some justice for the California families and businesses that are getting nicked and dimed to death.

"The Governor has compared fixing our roads with the urgency of fixing a leaky roof. Well guess what Governor Brown, Californians have already paid to fix the roof but the repairs have not been made and we're all wondering why we're left paying for the same service twice.

"And how are the people supposed to believe that this money will actually go to transportation? Currently, the state is diverting a billion dollars in weight fees away from roads every year. According to a recent Legislative Analyst's Office report, CalTrans is over-staffed by 3,500 people wasting \$500 million of road money every year. Why would anyone believe that this new tax isn't a bait and switch sham where the funds won't be diverted to pay for pet projects like the High Speed Rail boondoggle?"

"We already have some of the highest gas taxes and worst roads in the country. For years we've starved transportation when we've had many billions in surplus, even though it was supposedly a 'system in crisis.' Before we take a single penny from Californians in new taxes, it is our duty to make 100-percent certain that we are spending the money we already collect exclusively on road repair and construction. Senate Bill 1 failed to do that and I'm going to make every attempt to make it right."

Senator Ted Gaines represents the 1st Senate District, which includes all or parts of Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou counties. *Source: The Office of Ted Gaines* ★

Participate and Celebrate Annual Creek Week

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- The Sacramento Area Creeks Council invites you to participate in cleaning area creeks in conjunction with Creek Week 2017. The fun begins April 21st when Creek Week "splashes off" for a week of county-wide educational activities, creek tours, nature walks, and more!

The "Big Day" is on April 29th when volunteers remove tons of trash and invasive plants, as well as conduct water monitoring along area creeks. Then they celebrate their accomplishments later that day at Carmichael Park.

It may seem like a small act of community service, but these local activities have large-scale environmental impacts. Habitat restoration and litter removal improves wildlife habitat and helps filter pollutants before they reach the river.

Also important to note, keeping trash out of streets and waterways helps prevent



The 27th Annual Creek Week splashes off on April 21st with county-wide educational activities, creek tours, and an April 29th cleanup day and volunteer celebration.

flooding during rain storms by allowing storm water to flow through unobstructed storm drains and creeks.

Be part of an area-wide volunteer effort to improve and enhance our urban waterways.

Trash and invasive plant

removal and water quality testing all help support a healthy creek system.

The annual Creek Week event, now in its 27th year, raises awareness about sources of water pollution, and gives participants of all ages and abilities an

opportunity to have a great time and feel great about protecting our environment.

Visit www.creekweek.net to learn more about how to volunteer and for activity locations and times. Creek clean up locations include:

Volunteers must register by Friday, April 28th at www.creekweek.net or call one of the numbers indicated on the web site. All volunteers must complete and sign a waiver form.

The Sacramento Area Creeks Council preserves, protects, restores and maintains the natural streams in our urban communities through education, advocacy, financial support and technical expertise. Our goal is to educate the general public on the aesthetic, recreational, educational, and ecological value of our urban creeks.

Connect on Facebook at [#creekweek.sac](https://www.facebook.com/creekweek.sac)

Source: Creek Week media ★



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Washburn to Play Softball at Saint Anselm

By Steven Shaff, Assistant AD St. Francis High School

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - St. Francis senior Lauren Washburn has committed to play softball at Saint Anselm College in New Hampshire, fulfilling a lifetime dream to play in college.

"It took a lot," said Washburn of her softball career. "I have been trying to do it (have a chance to play softball in college) since the seventh grade. To finally be able to say, I am going somewhere to play softball is achieving that goal."

Washburn is a three-year letter winner in the St. Francis softball program. She is hitting .500 this season with 22 RBI with seven multi-hit games. She had a season-high four RBI in a win over Casa Roble earlier this season.

"She is a consistent hitter and puts the ball in the play," said Head Coach Kevin Warren. "She is a great situational hitter who understands the game and is a student of the game."

Washburn will join a program coached by Jill Gagnon, who is in her fourth season. She led the program to back-to-back 20-win seasons in her first two years and a berth in the NCAA Division II Championship in 2015. The



Head Coach Kevin Warren said, "She is a great situational hitter who understands the game and is a student of the game."

Hawks upset third-seed Queens College in the first round. She has coached 10 all-conference selections in her tenure.

Washburn found her school by starting with her academic interests. She is going to study forensic science and minor in chemistry at Saint Anselm, a Catholic Benedictine school that plays in the Division II Northeast-10 Conference.

"Not many schools have the forensic major," recalled Washburn about her academic search. "We googled it and a list of schools came up and I applied to them. It looked the most appealing and I started emailing the coach, starting the relationship and I went on a visit."

Washburn was drawn to the campus. The school is located on a hilltop overlooking Manchester, N.H., within an hour of the seacoast, Boston, the White Mountains and New Hampshire's Lakes Region.

"It is very pretty out in New Hampshire and there is a lot of snow," said Washburn. "It was a really pretty campus and people were very nice and friendly."

The snow presents challenges for a sport played outdoors in the spring and will provide a contrast to the sunny California weather Washburn is accustomed to in Sacramento.

"Right now the field is still covered in snow so they have been traveling a lot," said Washburn. "I like to travel and they go to states like Florida and Massachusetts to play a lot."

Entering the third week of league play, Washburn still has more than half her senior season left with the Troubadours. She hopes to make the most of it for her and her Troubadour teammates.

"I want to keep being a team player and help St. Francis go somewhere (in the postseason)," said Washburn.

Washburn participated in the St. Francis Signing Day Celebration on April 12 at 9 a.m. ★

Get Your Yard Ready for Summer at Mulch Mayhem

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD), Carmichael Water District and other local water providers will be holding Mulch Mayhem events on Saturday, May 6th and 20th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at various locations throughout the Sacramento region.

This free event is designed to help local residents ready their landscapes and yards for the hot days of summer. Mulch slows evaporation, moderates soil temperature, and helps control weeds. As it breaks down, mulch also adds beneficial nutrients to the soil.

"Adding three to four inches of mulch around plants and trees is one of the best ways people can

reduce their landscape's water needs," said Greg Bundesen, SSWD's Water Conservation Supervisor. "It's estimated that by taking this simple step, people can save 30 gallons for every 1,000 square feet of yard each time they water."

Customers of SSWD, Placer County Water Agency, the City of Roseville, Carmichael Water District, San Juan Water District and the City of Sacramento will be able to take up to one yard of mulch (enough to fill the bed of a pickup truck) for use at their home. The mulch is available on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Customers are encouraged to bring their own shovels, containers, tarps or other items to cover

the mulch and must provide their own way to haul it away. The free mulch is for personal use only, and cannot be resold or used for commercial properties.

Last year's Mulch Mayhem was a huge success with all of the participating water providers running out of mulch before the end of the event. Locations and more information is available online at BeWaterSmart.info.

MULCH MAYHEM
location in Carmichael for Saturday, May 6th
Carmichael Water District
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
7837 Fair Oaks Blvd.
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Hosted by Carmichael Water District Info: (916) 483-2452 ★

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Dementia Expert Speaks in Carmichael



Steffany Jamison, Marketing Director for Aegis Living of Carmichael (left) and Laura Wayman, author and dementia expert during a broadcast of The Dementia Whisperer radio program (right). Photos by Shelly Lembke

By Shelly Lembke

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Aegis of Carmichael has brought Laura Wayman, nationally renowned author and dementia expert, to Carmichael. Wayman is the author of, *A Loving Approach to Dementia Care*, published by John Hopkins University Press. This Monday Wayman did a live broadcast of her radio show *The Dementia Whisperer*, from Aegis and will also be speaking at the community on Tuesday, April 25.

"I'm going to tell you a story," said Wayman, in response to the question of how she began her current career. She then revealed a tale of young love and happily married life of a couple whose world and lives were devastated, and even lost as a result of dementia. Her parents.

After witnessing their

struggles with the progressive disease, Wayman has devoted her life to education and outreach about dementia and Alzheimer's. "Laura is a dedicated Gerontologist (A.A. degree in Gerontology, Social Services Designee Certification). She has presented keynote speeches, workshops, in-services, classes, trainings and seminars up and down the west coast on Dementia Care," said Steffany Jamison, Marketing Director for Aegis Living of Carmichael.

Aegis engaged Wayman to speak to its staff on how to recognize the signs of dementia and utilize techniques to decrease the often stressful situations. Jamison said, "Aegis of Carmichael was fortunate to have Laura speak to our staff for an in service training, and they were mesmerized and, without doubt, the most

attentive ever, during an educational gathering."

Jamison continued, "Her material will provide the opportunity for audience members to feel a full range of emotion, from tears to laughter, and comfortably relate to sometimes serious and disturbing information, leaving with a new sense of confidence, purpose and direction."

As part of Aegis' own outreach, they have asked Wayman to return April 25, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Her presentation is open to the public. The first 25 people to RSVP will receive a free copy of Wayman's book, courtesy of Aegis. Light refreshments and complementary valet parking will be provided. To reserve seating, contact Aegis of Carmichael at (916)972-1313. ★



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Laura Wayman is an in-demand expert and author delivering deep expertise in dementia communications and care. Learn top tools to better understand the world through the eyes of those with dementia. Create more meaningful engagement, lessen frustrations and enhance the caregiving experience for you and your family!



Laura Wayman, Licensed Gerontologist & Author of *A Loving Approach to Dementia Care*

Tuesday April 25th
4:30-6:30pm

FREE books to the first 25 attendees who RSVP.

RSVP to 916-231-9458.
Space is limited.

Light refreshments and valet parking available.

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Assisted Living & Memory Care

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AegisofCarmichael.com

RCFE # 347003994

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Vote for Your Favorite Local Businesses!

This is a great way to recognize local businesses for their great service, great food, great care and what they provide the community of Carmichael.

CONTEST RULES

Only one vote per category per person. You may return to the web site to vote for different categories at a later time, but you may not vote more than once for any one category. You do not need to vote for all categories for your vote to count.

Votes can only be made by completing the online form at www.BestofCarmichael.com

Businesses must be located in Carmichael, Arden-Arcade or Sacramento zip code 95841.

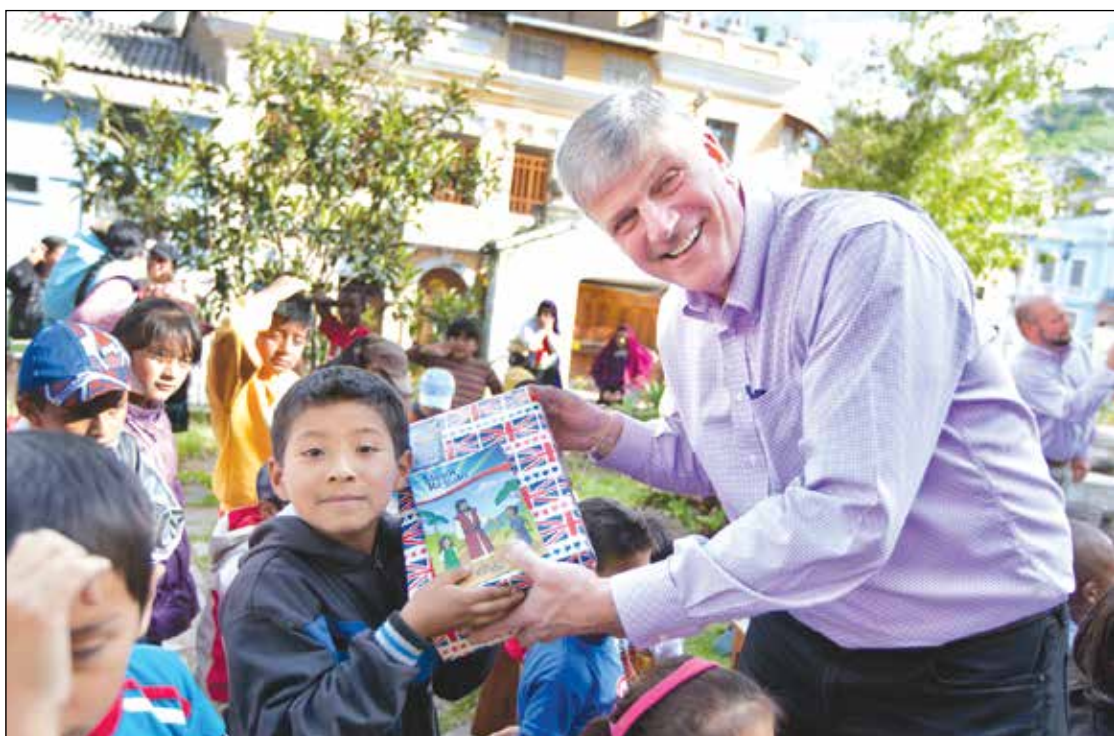
All votes must be received no later than June 1st at 5:00 pm.

All voting entries must have voter's completed information or the votes will not be counted.

This year's event will be held at the Milagro Center on Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael. The event is scheduled for Friday, June 9th, from 6:00 – 8:30pm. Dress will be cocktail or business attire. There also will be a dessert auction and a raffle.

To purchase tickets for this event please call 916-481-1002 or go to www.CarmichaelChamber.com

Local Charity Shares Ways to Celebrate National Volunteer Week



Dr. Franklin Graham participates in Operation Christmas Child. Photo courtesy Samaritan's Purse.

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - As Americans all across the country join forces for National Volunteer Week April 23 – 29, there are many opportunities right here in Carmichael for residents to support a cause, serve their community and make a difference.

One volunteer effort making an impact here in Carmichael and around the world is Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. The project collects shoeboxes—filled with school supplies, hygiene items and fun toys—and delivers them to children in need around the world. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

"I find it a privilege to do all I can to inspire my community to get involved in this project," said Linda Cruze, who heads up the Sacramento Area Team for Operation Christmas Child. "We know that for many of these children, this little shoebox gift is the only gift they have ever received. There is a lot of hurt and darkness in the world, and

these gifts bring light and hope."

Each year, millions of children in need in more than 100 countries find hope in a simple shoebox gift, many of whom are affected by war, disease, disaster, poverty and famine. In 2016, Operation Christmas Child volunteers made it possible for nearly 11.5 million children to receive a shoebox gift. This year, Operation Christmas Child hopes to send enough gift-filled shoeboxes to reach another 12 million children, a feat unattainable without the more than nine thousand local volunteers who serve year-round across the country.

Last year, Carmichael volunteers, families and groups paved the way as part of the Sacramento Area Team to collect shoebox gifts for more than 14,700 children.

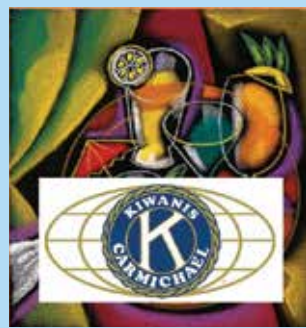
"The purpose of Operation Christmas Child is to send a message to children that they are loved and not forgotten," said Nathan Bates, West Coast Regional Director for Operation Christmas Child. "Our volunteers can make an eternal

impact on a child in need by giving their time and talents to this simple project."

As the project gears up for another year of gift collections, the local team of Operation Christmas Child is seeking new year-round volunteers. To learn more about the volunteer opportunities available in the Carmichael area or to apply, call (714) 432-7030 or visit samaritanspurse.org/volunteerwithOCC.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 146 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 150 countries and territories.

Source: Samaritan's Purse ★



You're invited to the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael 15th Annual 'Taste' Event

Live Music, Sample Foods, Wines, Beers, Car Displays, Raffles, Silent Auctions.

TASTE OF CARMICHAEL



Friday, May 19, 2017
5:30pm - 8:30pm
La Sierra Community Center
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vaccarovera@yahoo.com

Event Manager:
Donna Miller

Phone: (916) 944-2137
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Sunday May 7
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Hosted by Living Smart Farmers Market



Meet local health professionals as you visit the Farmers Market on Sunday, May 21 from 9 am to 2 pm and learn about the products and services available to help you live healthier and happier! Learn about Cancer Fighting foods during the Free Chef Demo.

ILoveMyFarmersMarket.com

Treasures Hit the Road



Carmichael Park Foundation volunteers preview antique bric a brac. An April 23 fundraiser at the La Sierra Center will offer expert appraisals for family treasures.

Story and Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - A local take on television's Antiques Roadshow will hit town on April 23rd. Collectors may bring treasures to an "Antiques, Bubbles and Brunch" affair at the La Sierra Community Center. Carmichael Parks Foundation will host the 10 am to 2 pm fundraiser.

The event follows the 2016 debut when 300 supporters lined up with relics at the Milagro Centre. This year's move to La Sierra allows greater space

and the gathering will spotlight local restaurants as food providers. Beer and champagne will also flow.

The \$45 admission provides brunch, wine mimosas and appraisal for two items. A \$100 VIP ticket offers early admission and two-item evaluation.

Proceeds will enable park beautification and provide scholarships for sport, reading and language programs at the park district. For information, visit www.carmichaelparkfoundation.org. Tickets may also be purchased at Carmichael Park headquarters: 5750 Grant Avenue. ★

Tax Freedom Day Late Again for California

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Californians who have filed their income tax returns by the April 18 deadline will unfortunately have to wait eight days longer than the rest of the nation until they've collectively earned enough money to pay off their total tax bill for the year.

Tax Freedom Day, calculated annually by the Tax Foundation, is the day when Americans have earned enough money to pay their taxes at the federal, state and local levels.

Nationally, Tax Freedom Day lands on April 23, but for California

it lands on May 1.

"For some lawmakers, this terrible distinction seems to be a badge of honor," said Board of Equalization Vice Chair George Runner. "With liberal politicians recently voting to increase gas and car taxes, I fear this day will come even later next year for hardworking taxpayers."

According to the Tax Foundation, Americans will pay \$3.5 trillion in federal taxes and \$1.6 trillion in state and local taxes, for a total tax bill of \$5.1 trillion,

or 31 percent of national income. That's more than Americans will collectively spend on food, clothing and housing combined.

Compared to other states, California's Tax Freedom Day is one of the latest in the nation. Only Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut have later dates.

George Runner represents more than nine million Californians as an elected member of the State Board of Equalization. For more information, visit www.boe.ca.gov/Runner. ★

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EUROPEAN MASTERWORKS

SATURDAY, MAY 6 AT 8:00 PM

Pre-concert talk at 7 PM by Conductor Donald Kendrick
Sacramento Community Center Theater

MENDELSSOHN | *Psalm 42 Wie der Hirsch schreit*

ROSSINI | *Stabat Mater*

Marina Harris, Soprano
Layna Chianakas, Mezzo
Kirk Dougherty, Tenor
Malcolm McKenzie, Baritone
Shawn Spiess, Baritone
Chester Pidduck, Tenor

Projected supertitle translations

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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.

Sacramento County Hosts Symposium for Small Business

Small Business Week is May 1-5 and Sacramento County's Office of Economic Development and the Business Environmental Resource Center are hosting a free information sharing event entitled the "Roadmap to Success: Small Business Symposium," from 8 am to 2 pm on Tuesday, May 2 at McClellan Conference Center, 5411 Luce Avenue in McClellan Park.

Prospective small business owners or those who already own small businesses can attend the free symposium to learn about helpful resources available

CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY UPDATE

to help their enterprises to thrive. Event navigators will be on hand to direct attendees to resources on subjects like permits, licenses and inspections, record keeping, taxes (Federal, state and local), funding sources, finding employees and subsidies plus entrepreneur mentorship.

The Business Environmental Resource Center is designed to help businesses succeed and enhance environmental quality by providing trusted non-regulatory compliance assistance. For more information about this service, please visit sacberc.org. For details about Small Business Week including a schedule of events, go to capitalregionsmall-businessweek.org.

"Roads 101" subject of Two Community Meetings

A presentation by Sacramento County's Director of Transportation about the status of our streets and roads will be held at my next two Community Meetings in May. The first will be on Tuesday, May 9, at the Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue, and second will be in Arden Arcade on Thursday, May 11, at the Conzelmann Community Center at Howe Park, 2201 Cottage Way. Both meetings will start at 6 pm.

At the upcoming meetings the

transportation director will present what I call "Roads 101" to explain how road maintenance is funded, the funding limitations and regulatory restrictions as well as analysis of Governor Brown's legislative package that is expected to help address the road maintenance challenges faced by local government.

Last fall I hoped Measure B (the local transportation sales tax measure) would help close the County's \$450 million road maintenance backlog. While the measure garnered 65.7% of the vote in November, it did not meet the necessary legal threshold for passage (it needed 66.7%). Had the measure passed, our Department of Transportation estimated the County would be able to repave almost all of the residential streets in the unincorporated area.

The state legislation is expected to provide maintenance funding in the coming fiscal year. In the meantime SCDOT continues to patch potholes so please report them by calling 311 or going online at 311.sac-county.net.

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

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

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For More Information Call (916) 481-6352

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USCIS Will Issue Redesigned Green Cards and Employment Authorization Documents

USCIS Special Release

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services today announced a redesign to the Permanent Resident Card (also known as a Green Card) and the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) as part of the Next Generation Secure Identification Document Project. USCIS will begin issuing the new cards on May 1, 2017.

These redesigns use enhanced graphics and fraud-resistant security features to create cards that are highly secure and more tamper-resistant than the ones currently in use.

The new card designs demonstrate USCIS' commitment to continue taking a proactive approach against the threat of document tampering and fraud. They are also part of an ongoing effort between USCIS, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enhance document security and deter counterfeiting and fraud.

The new Green Cards and

EADs will: Display the individual's photos on both sides; Show a unique graphic image and color palette: (Green Cards will have an image of the Statue of Liberty and a predominately green palette; EAD cards will have an image of a bald eagle and a predominately red palette); Have embedded holographic images; and no longer display the individual's signature. Also, Green Cards will no longer have an optical stripe on the back.

Some Green Cards and EADs issued after May 1, 2017, may still display the existing design format as USCIS will continue using existing card stock until current supplies are depleted. Both the existing and the new Green Cards and EADs will remain valid until the expiration date shown on the card.

Certain EADs held by individuals with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and other designated categories have been automatically extended beyond the validity date on the card. For additional information on which EADs are covered, please

visit the Temporary Protected Status and American Competitiveness in the 21st Century Act web pages on uscis.gov.

Both versions are acceptable for Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification, E-Verify, and Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE). Some older Green Cards do not have an expiration date. These older Green Cards without an expiration date remain valid. Individuals who have Green Cards without an expiration date may want to consider applying for a replacement card bearing an expiration date. Obtaining the replacement card will reduce the likelihood of fraud or tampering if the card is ever lost or stolen.

For more information about the Green Card application process, please visit USCIS.gov/greencard.

To request an EAD, you must file Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization. Visit uscis.gov for more information about EADs.
 Source: USCIS ★

Legislation to Fix Security Flaw in State's Voter File Passes First Hurdle

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In a rare moment of bipartisanship, the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments unanimously voted to pass Senator Jim Nielsen's measure to fix a security flaw in the state's voter file.

"Our democracy is an honor system based on trust," said Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama). "We must do everything we can to protect its integrity and keep the trust of the people. This measure will help ensure that trust."

"I thank my colleagues on the committee for their support," added Senator Nielsen.

Senate Bill 682, if passed, would prohibit the Department Motor Vehicles (DMV) from giving the Secretary of State electronic

information needed to complete the voter registration affidavit for ineligible voters who hold special drivers' licenses for noncitizens.

California's current online voter registration system automatically allows the voter registration of anyone with a drivers' license who self-certifies that they are eligible to vote - including individuals DMV knows to be ineligible because they were issued special noncitizen drivers' licenses. These noncitizen drivers' licenses do not establish voter eligibility, yet the online voter registration system only requires a drivers' license number. As a result, undocumented residents may be unlawfully registered to vote.

There is no protocol for

communication between the Secretary of State and the Department of Motor Vehicles to prevent these registrants from being approved under current law.

"Keeping the voter roll clean and up-to-date is a challenging task. This bill helps fill a gap in the security of the voter roll," said Candace Grubbs, Butte County Elections Clerk-Recorder.

Senator Nielsen represents the Fourth Senate District, which includes the counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba. To contact Senator Jim Nielsen, please call him at 916-651-4004, or via email at senator.nielsen@sen.ca.gov.

Source: Office of Senator Nielsen ★

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100th Year Anniversary



The Fair Oaks Cemetery District and the Memorial Day Ceremony Committee are finalizing plans for one of the most popular and inspiring Memorial Day events in the area.

The Nineteenth Annual Memorial Day and Avenue of Flags Ceremony will be held Saturday, May 27, at the Fair Oaks Cemetery, located at 7780 Olive Street, Fair Oaks. The formal ceremonies start at 10 AM. This year's theme is to remember the 100th year Anniversary of the United States' entry into the "Great War" and to honor our Veterans of World War 1, "The War to end all wars," of whom there are eighty-six known veterans buried in the Fair Oaks Cemetery.

Chairman of the Fair Oaks Cemetery District Memorial Day Committee, Tom Askins will be the Master of Ceremonies. The main speaker(s) will focus on the history, facts and results of the United States entry into this war.

The Fair Oaks Cemetery will be decorated with hundreds of flags lining its roadways as "The Avenue of Flags." We will also be adding more names to the Veterans Memorial Wall. The laying of the wreath at the memorial in honor of over eighteen hundred veterans who are buried in the cemetery, will be done by VFW Post 6158 and American Legion Post 383.

The musical program will consist of Pipers, a Drummer and Recorded Music by a local Disc Jockey. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony by the Orangevale/ Fair Oaks Grange & Fair Oaks Historical Society.

The Fair Oaks Cemetery's Memorial Day Ceremony is a fine example of how we, the community, remember loved ones and say thank you to our veterans and their families for their sacrifices.



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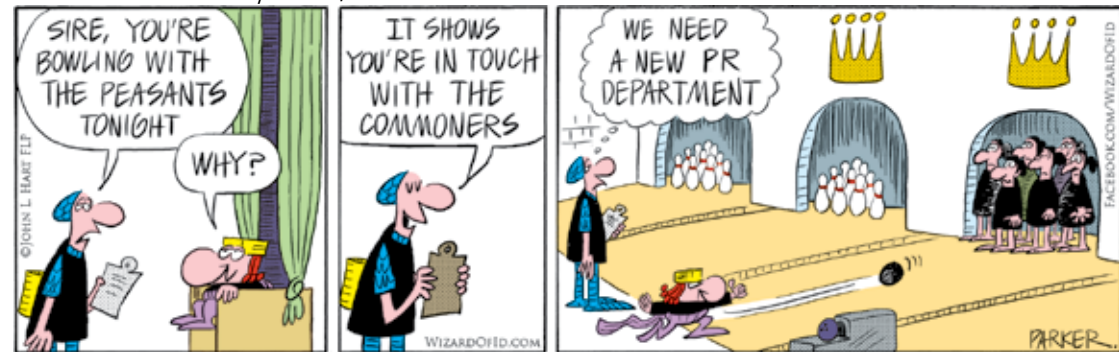
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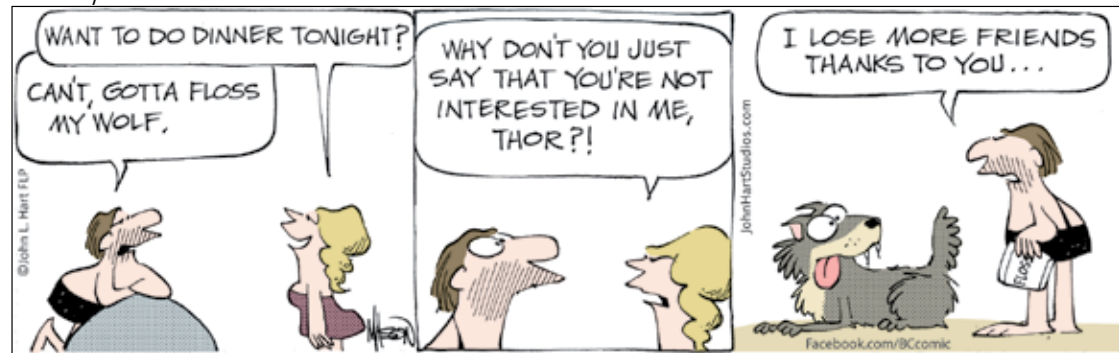
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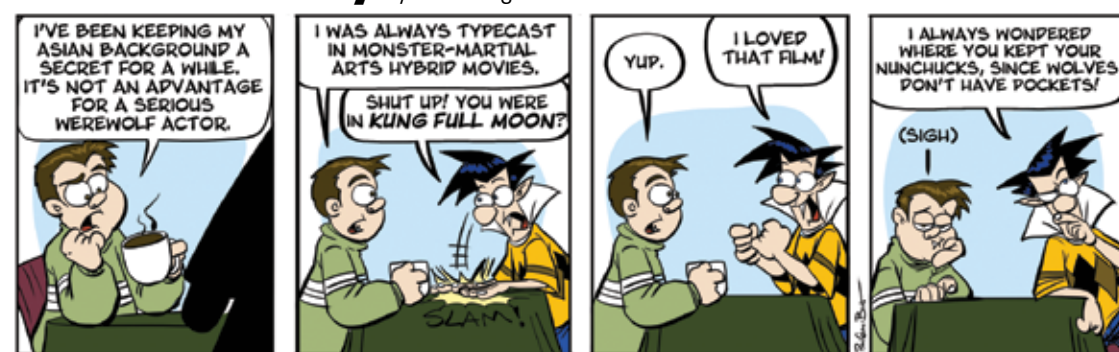
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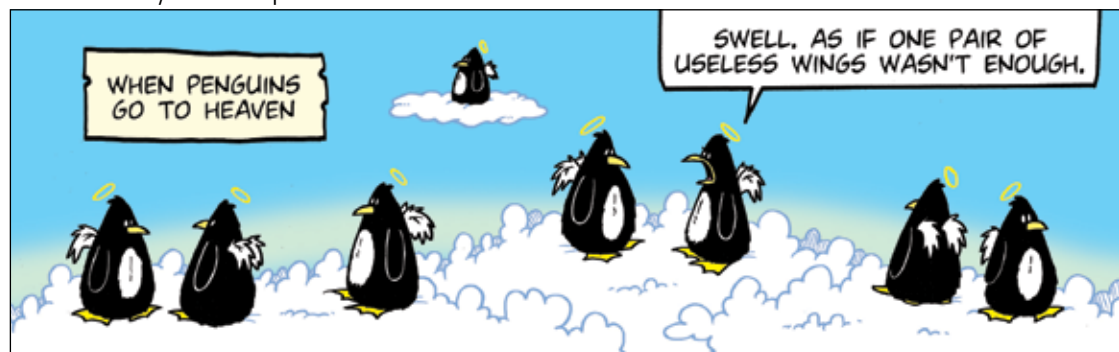
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RT Financials Showing Positive Trend

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Regional Transit District (Sac RT) has been relentlessly optimizing business practices over the past eight months to bring its financial house in order, and the positive results are very encouraging. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, Sac RT is trending below budget. This has allowed Sac RT to develop a budget for FY 2018 that is expected to be \$1.6 million less than the prior year.

Additionally, by working diligently over the past year with rating agencies, last week Sac RT received great news from Moody's, a bond credit rating service, that upgraded Sac RT's bond rating from "negative" watch to "stable" outlook, which will help Sac RT to issue future bonds at a much better interest rate for regional capital projects. The significant transformation that Sac RT has made in the last year, as well as strong political support and strong board governance, is

building up RT's long-term financial stability, which will continue to move Sac RT in a new direction.

Under the direction of Henry Li, General Manager/CEO, Sac RT committed to strengthening its finances while making the system more clean, safe and convenient for riders. Sac RT has identified innovative revenue sources, strengthened its finances and reduced expenses to fund maintenance and capital investments. By aggressively containing costs and pursuing revenue enhancement opportunities, Sac RT has secured more than \$3 million in operating funding, which helped enhance customer services.

"At a time when many public agencies are increasing budgets, we have been able to reduce ours. We are figuring out innovative ways to do more with less," said Henry Li, General Manager/CEO. "Our number one priority is the customer, and the ability to reduce the annual budget without cutting service or increasing fares is

a huge victory from where Sac RT was a year ago."

Based on these positive trends, Sac RT projects to add to its fund balance for the first time in three years, and build up an emergency cash reserve of \$6 million (with a 2017 year-end goal of \$9 to \$10 million). This will go a long way towards reducing Sac RT's reliance on its line of credit to pay bills, a goal set by the Board of Directors.

By building strong employee and labor relations, Sac RT has been able to identify ways to reduce the annual increases associated with salaries and benefits that continue to offer value to employees, at a sustainable cost. There will only be a small increase in spending in this category for FY 2018, which is expected to be \$1.95 million, or 1.8 percent, a modest amount for an organization that provides over 1,000 jobs to the region.

Source: RT Media

Captain Shawn Condit Named Firefighter Employee of the Year

Sac Metro Fire Special Release By Deputy Chief Eric Bridge

SACRAMENTO, COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Captain Shawn Condit began his fire service career with American River Fire Department on August 4, 1990. In 2000, American River Fire District and Sacramento County Fire Protection District merged to become the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, also known as Metro Fire. Shawn is the Truck Captain at Fire Station 109 where he oversees a truck crew of three firefighters. Station 109 is located in the Carmichael community and is unique in that this is where the Hazardous Materials unit is housed. Captain Condit coordinates the Hazardous Materials program for our department.

Throughout his career, Captain Condit has demonstrated leadership on multiple levels. Aside from being an excellent company officer, he has been a leader in the Hazardous Materials Program. His tenure in the program provides the stability needed while offering training opportunities for his crew. Captain Condit and his crew willingly take on new employees and are often called upon by the training cadre to work with academies and probationary employees. When these new individuals spend time with his crew, they are provided with a positive experience and given information that will hopefully move them down the road through the process. In addition to all his regular responsibilities at the station, Captain Condit must maintain his Hazardous Materials certification, putting added responsibility upon himself.

In addition to his hard work at Metro Fire, Captain Condit serves as a Metro Director with the Sacramento Area Firefighters Local 522 union. This is an



(l to r) Mark Creffield, executive director of the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce, Captain Shawn Condit and Deputy Chief Eric Bridge

elected position by his peers. Shawn has held a position within the Union for over 10 years. He is an acknowledged leader within the union, and over the last 10 years he has moved up the ranks, starting out as a shift representative and eventually moving into the elected position he currently holds. He continues to do an outstanding job of representing the union members of our organization.

As Metro Director, Captain Condit represents the membership in many different ways. During our last contract negotiation, Captain Condit demonstrated calm, consistent leadership during the negotiation and confirmation process, acting as the facilitator for these meetings. He allowed for spirited but respectful debate. During these meetings, he is often involved in matters that are sensitive in nature and does not violate confidence. It is this trustworthiness that makes him an excellent Union officer and, by extension, Company Officer.

As a Union leader he takes a positive role in a needed position. Often times, employees are referred to him by management. His ability to listen fully to their

problems and then calmly and positively advise them on a course of action tends to benefit both the department and the member. He acts in the best traditions of Union leadership and through this process, the matter is often resolved at the lowest level.

To be a leader, particularly as a firefighter, your work ethic must be self-evident. Since an outstanding work ethic is common at Metro Fire it is difficult to point out where one employee's efforts are better than another, however in the case of Captain Condit he stands out each and every day. Many excellent company officers come to work and do their assignments and perform admirably, but taking a leadership position in the Union and Haz Mat program shows that Captain Shawn Condit is willing to give of himself to this department and its members. He is well respected within the Department, the Union and his crew.

Fire Chief Todd Harms was honored to name Captain Shawn Condit as Metro Fire's 2016 Suppression Employee of the Year.



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California's Economic Output Outpaces Nation for Fourth Straight Year

By George Runner, BOE

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has grown consistently faster than the nation's as a whole for four straight years. In 2015, the California GDP rose 5.6 percent, while the U.S. GDP increased 3.7 percent (unadjusted for inflation). Also called "economic output," GDP measures the market value of goods, services, and structures that are produced within a particular period, and tends to be related to population, income, spending, employment, housing permits, and other measures of economic activity.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the New York-Newark-Jersey City metropolitan area led the nation with an economic output of about \$1.603 trillion in 2015. California was represented by two of the top 10 areas: Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (\$930.8 billion), and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward (\$431.7 billion). The Los Angeles metropolitan area accounts for 37.9 percent of California's GDP, while the San Francisco Bay Area comprises 17.6 percent. The Sacramento-Roseville region accounts for 4.8 percent (\$118.8 billion).

San Jose has been the fastest growing metropolitan

area within California – and the second fastest in the U.S. – with stronger economic growth than 380 of the nation's 382 metropolitan areas in 2015. With growth rates that ranged from 5.0 percent to 10.4 percent over the past five years, the San Jose area had the largest increase in that time frame – 37.6 percent – more than 60 percent higher than the California average gain of 23.1 percent, for a total GDP of more than \$235 billion. The state's second-largest increase was in the Visalia-Porterville area – 32.4 percent – followed by Merced (30.2 percent), Napa (29.6 percent) and Madera (28.1 percent). The Hanford-Corcoran area also finished above the state average (24.2 percent). Both the Chico and Sacramento-Roseville areas had strong showings in 2015, ranking fourth and fifth in the state respectively in GDP growth.

One way to compare economic wellbeing among regions is to calculate inflation-adjusted GDP per capita. Real economic output per capita in the San Jose area was close to twice that of the California average in 2015. Other areas with higher than average per capita real GDP include San Diego, and Napa.

George Runner represents the State Board of Equalization's First District and is a leading advocate for California taxpayers

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TASTE OF THE WILD GRAIN FREE DRY DOG FOOD

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100% Grain Free
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16 Lb Bag

•Surfing & Turfing •Seafood •Indoor

Limit 2 Bags **\$9.99**

Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17

9 LIVES CANNED CAT FOOD

5.5 Oz All Varieties

Limit 1 Case Per Family **35¢**

Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17

FANCY FEAST GOURMET CANNED CAT FOOD

All Varieties except Elegant Medley

3 Oz Limit 2 Cases per Family **20/\$11.00**

Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17

JONNY CAT PREMIUM CAT LITTER

20 Lb Bag •Regular •Multiple Cat Formula

Limit 2 Bags **\$3.29**

Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17

FRESH STEP SCOOPABLE CAT LITTER

42 Lb Bag

Limit 2 Bags per Family **\$12.99**

Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17

PRO-PLAN DRY DOG FOOD

30-35 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family **\$3 OFF**

•Chicken & Rice •Lamb & Rice •Beef & Rice •Sensitive Stomach •Lite •Bright Minds

OUR SUPER DISCOUNT PRICE

FUSSIE CAT PREMIUM DRY CAT FOOD

(2 Lb Bag. Buy One Get One Free. Limit 4)

4 Lb **\$3 OFF** 10 Lb **\$6 OFF**

•Chicken & Turkey •Salmon •Salmon & Chicken

As Marked **OUR DISCOUNT PRICE**

NUTRO CANNED CAT FOOD

Limit 1 Case Selected Varieties 3 oz Max **55¢**

Natural Choice **75¢**

WELLNESS CANNED CAT FOOD

Limit 1 Case Selected Varieties 5.3oz. Core **\$1.35**

Signature Select **\$1.39**

FELINE PINE HEALTHY CAT LITTER

20 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags **\$7.99**

WELLNESS CANNED DOG FOOD

Limit 2 Cases Natural 12.5 oz. Regular **\$1.89**

Stew •Core **\$1.99**

CAREFRESH PET BEDDING

60 Liter (Ultra Not Included) **\$12.99**

NEW MERRICK'S WHOLE EARTH FARMS DRY DOG FOOD

•Adult •Grain Free Chicken & Turkey 25 Lbs Limit 2 Bags Per Fam •Grain Free Beef & Lamb •Grain Free Salmon & Whitefish

ON SALE

PRECIOUS CAT CLUMPING CAT LITTER

20 Lb Box Limit 2 Boxes Cat Attract **11.99**

Touch of Outdoors **\$7.49**

MERRICK'S BG (Before Grain) DRY CAT FOOD

•Chicken •Salmon Only 11.1 Lb bag Limit 2 Bags **ON SALE**

CAT FURNITURE 20% OFF

•CRS •Alpine Cat Trees LOTS OF SELECTIONS ASSORTED STYLES

(C & D Products not Included) **OUR SUPER LOW PRICES**

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MODEL PENGUIN 100B	TANK SIZE 20 Gal.	\$19.99
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PENGUIN 350B	75 Gal.	\$45.99

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•Bully Sticks •Filled Bones •Bully Nuggets All Varieties except Mammoth Bone \$6.99

20% OFF

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All Sizes **20% OFF**

SWEET HARVEST Small Animal Food Sale

•2 Lb •4 Lb •6 Lb As Marked Selected Varieties **15% OFF**

OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES

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Puppy Milk Replacer/Wearing Food KMR Kitten Milk Replacer/Wearing Food **20% OFF**

OUR SUPER LOW PRICES

TETRA BOXED 10 GALLON TANK

With Economy Kit Just add Heater For Tropical Fish **\$36.99**

Limit 1 Per Family

PENN PLAX PLASTIC AQUA-PLANTS

20% OFF

OUR SUPER LOW PRICES

KORDON CORAL SEA 50 GAL SALT MIX WITH AMQUEL

\$11.99

BONUS COUPON FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD

5.5 Oz All Varieties Limit 12 Cans With Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17 **45¢**

PLU 367

BONUS COUPON WHISKAS TEMPTATIONS CAT TREATS

•All Varieties Except Natural - 3 Oz Limit 2 Pkgs with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17 **\$1.19**

PLU 569

BONUS COUPON JONNY CAT CAT LINERS

Jumbo Drawstring - 5 Ct Limit 1 Box with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 4/19/17 - 4/25/17 **\$1.89**

PLU 449

North Ridge Country Club Launches \$3.5 Million Renovation Plan

Story by Jacqueline Fox

Fair Oaks, CA (MPG) - Long-awaited plans for renovating one of the region's oldest private country clubs is officially underway at North Ridge Country Club, involving a \$3.5 million overhaul that promises members and guests at the club alike a trail of new greens and bunkers on par with some of the finest courses in the world.

The club's membership overwhelmingly approved the renovation plan and began the bid process for contracting roughly a year ago, ultimately selecting Palo Alto-based Robert Trent Jones II Golf Course Architects (RTJ II) for the project, which is credited for development of more than 270 golf courses across 40 countries and six continents. "We got it down to three finalists for the design of our new course, and then we took it down to one, and RTJ II won out," said North Ridge General Manager, Rink Sanford.

During an April 6 groundbreaking for the project, Robert T. Bruce Charlton, president and chief design officer for RTJ II, said the course would be going from good to outstanding, likening the ultimate overhaul to a "My Fair Lady" transformation, Sanford said.

"I love the quote Robert gave at our ground-breaking," said Sanford. "He said 'I like to compare North Ridge Country Club to a classy older woman who is beautiful and graceful, but just in need of a new dress.' To me, his description just perfectly crystalizes what North Ridge is all about and how beautiful she really is."

RTJII founder Robert Trent Jones, who passed away in 1987, is known for cutting trail of legendary successes in the completion of some of the country's most notable golf courses, beginning with a winning contract to design the Peachtree Golf Club in Atlanta in collaboration with golf legend Bobby Jones, followed up by securing a commission to redesign the 11th and 16th holes at Augusta National Golf Club.

Coveted for its high-elevation and rolling terrain, North Ridge Country



Long-awaited plans for renovating one of the region's oldest private country clubs is officially underway at North Ridge Country Club. The new course is expected to officially open in early 2018. Photo courtesy North Ridge Country Club

Club was founded in 1952 by architects William Francis Bell and his son, Billy Jr., renown for crafting elite courses at Rivera Country Club, Bel-Air Country Club and Torrey Pines, among others.

The 18-hole parkland golf course at North Ridge Country Club is spread across approximately 165 rolling green acres on Madison Avenue in Fair Oaks. Although the club's event center and adjacent buildings were renovated in 1997, the 63-year old course itself, says Sanford, will be getting its first upgrade, a much needed makeover to keep the facility competitive with other private clubs in the region and beyond.

"This is a fine course and we have good conditions, but what we are really doing now is modernizing and making an investment in our course to stay competitive in the private club market," Sanford said.

North Ridge was designed incorporating an old push-up mound construction method, explained Sanford, which has, over time, created drainage issues for the course, spurred by deteriorating root structures, all of



left to right: Chris Peterson, NRCC Board Member, Mike Goman, Architect for Robert Trent Jones II, Kerry Gordon, NRCC golf course renovation task force leader, Bruce Charlton, Architect for Robert Trent Jones II. Photo courtesy North Ridge Country Club

which have created challenges for players and rendered the course vulnerable to erosion.

"Our forefathers picked a phenomenal place to put in a course," said Sanford. "We are at the highest point in the area and we are blessed with a lot of rolling hills and terrain, but the old push-up method that was used to

design the course originally needs to be addressed."

Sampson said that the course's natural elevation changes will allow RTJII to redesign the club's greens and bunkers to take advantage of its hilly topography in ways "that were simply not possible many years ago," adding construction of the new greens and

bunkers will be achieved without disrupting mature trees that have called North Ridge home for decades.

"Today, players really want greens with solid drainage, and so what this will do for us is allow us to keep the mature trees and the rolling hills, but in and around the greens and bunkers we'll be adding better drainage to bring the course in line with some of the most competitive, high-caliber golf courses anywhere in the world," Sanford said.

Meanwhile, high-quality, temporary bentgrass sod greens are being created to offer members temporary greens to utilize during the construction process.

In addition to the cache of a world-class design firm capturing the bid for the renovations, the renovation project will also have a local touch. RTJII's Senior Project Architect, Mike Gorman was raised in Sacramento and is reported to have grown up playing the course. "This is like home to us," RTJII's Charlton said. "We travel all around the world, and having a project near our offices in Palo Alto, with Mike's family still living in Sacramento, makes this extra special."

The new course is expected to officially open in early 2018, Sanford said. While there are no increases on the horizon this year for membership fees, it is anticipated that fees will increase once the new course is fully operational. The current annual membership fee for North Ridge is \$6,500, however, due to the construction, which is expected to run through August, the club is offering a promotion of \$4,500, which runs through June.

"The long term hope is that once the new course is up and fully operational in early 2018, our membership price will go up, and that will be in keeping with what's going on with other clubs and membership fees at private courses across the country," Sanford said.

Membership at North Ridge, said Sanford, is currently at 463, near full capacity. To cover the costs of the project, members voted to each pay their share of the \$3.5 million, for a total of roughly \$8,000 or \$60 a month each. ★

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