



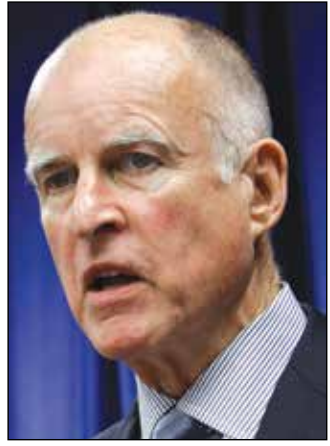
Carmichael Times

Volume 36 • Issue 19

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

May 6, 2016

JERRY BROWN'S BILLION DOLLAR HIGH SPEED FAILURE



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CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY UPDATE



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PUTTING MORE BAD GUYS AWAY



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Gala Supporters Give a Hoot

Parkway Gem Hosts Art-Auction Fundraiser



Saw-whet owl Sophia — an Effie Yeaw Nature Center ambassador — will be among hosts at the May 21st Effie Yeaw al fresco gala.

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Now in its sixth year operating as a non-profit, the Effie Yeaw Nature Center is preparing for its spring art-auction fundraiser with new patronage. As honorary chairpersons, art collectors Estelle Saltzman and Russ Solomon (of Tower Records fame) follow such luminaries as Marcy Friedman, Congresswoman Doris Matsui, and artist Greg Kondos in this role.

Administered by the American River Natural History Association,

the facility and its preserve welcome more than 90,000 visitors per year. "The Center has a special history in this community" notes Effie Yeaw Fund Developer Betty Cooper. "Caring supporters keep us open and available for future generations." A portion of funds raised on May 21st will provide free natural science enrichment programs to schools that cannot otherwise afford them.

The Sacramento Fine Arts Center is a vital gala partner and the art show that supports the fundraiser will offer work from throughout Sacramento.

Jurists are Shelly Willis, of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, and designer Jon Stevenson. Celebrity artists who have donated work for auction include Jian Wang, David Peterson, Gregory Kondos, Maria Winkler, and the late Earl Boley. Auctioneer to the stars David Sobon will wield the hammer for these coveted works. Fox-40's Bethany Crouch adds to the celebrity lineup as emcee.

Silent auctions will offer other award-winning work. Before

the date, these can be viewed at the Fine Arts Center (Gibbons Drive), Carmichael.

A sunset supper and beverages are part of the \$75 per person admission. Art Where Wild Things Are runs from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Nature Center in Ancil Hoffman Park. Valet parking is free. Table sponsors are welcome. For information on the event, visit www.sacnature-center.net.

To learn about the Sacramento Fine Arts exhibition, visit www.sacfinearts.org ★

Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Saturday, May 14th marks the 24th anniversary of one of America's great days of giving: the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

Letter carriers walk through the community every day, often coming face to face with a sad reality for too many, hunger. So each year on the second Saturday in May, Letter Carriers across the country collect non-perishable food donations from their customers. These donations go directly to local food pantries to provide food to people in Sacramento who need their help.

Last year they collected over 71 million pounds of food nationally, feeding an estimated 30 million people. Over the course of its 23-year history, the drive has collected well over one billion pounds of food, thanks to a postal service universal delivery network that spans the entire nation, including Puerto Rico, Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands.

The need for food donations is great; currently 49 million Americans (one in six) are unsure where their next meal is coming from. Sixteen million are children who feel hunger's impact on their overall health and ability to perform in school. And over 5 million seniors over age 60 are food insecure, with many who live on fixed incomes are often too embarrassed to ask for help.

This food drive's timing is crucial. Food banks and pantries often receive the majority of their donations during the Thanksgiving and winter holiday seasons. By springtime,

Continued on page 4

Local Superhero Family Walks for Life

Carmichael Heroes Will Raise Funds for Low-Income Pregnant Women

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Their neighbors know them as the Cliffords, but on May 14th, all six members of this Carmichael family will don superhero costumes for Sacramento Life Center's Heroes Walk for Life at Maidu Park in Roseville.

"My grandparents have been longtime supporters of the Sacramento Life Center," said Irene Clifford. "So we just want to go show that we love to support moms who need help to have their babies."

Irene Clifford and her husband will wear capes, and their four children will dress as Wonder Woman, Batman, Superman, and Captain America. The family will walk for the Caped Crusaders, a team formed as a memorial to Father Patrick Lee who passed away in April after serving the local Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish on Robertson Avenue in Sacramento. The team will be led

by Clifford's mom Marie Leatherby, another Carmichael resident and executive director of the Sacramento Life Center.

"This is a great opportunity for families, individuals and teams to be heroes for mothers and babies in need of care," Leatherby said. "This will be a fun day celebrating the amazing work being done in our community to ensure low-income pregnant women and teens are well cared for."

People can still sign up to dress up as their favorite superheroes and join Sacramento Life Center's Heroes Walk for Life. The event will take place from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and will raise funds for free pregnancy services at the Sacramento Life Center, benefiting low-income pregnant women and teens. The family-friendly event will include a 2K and 5K walk and fun run, rally, toddler dash, costume contest,



The Cliffords will suit up as superheroes May 14th and walk for life. Photo courtesy Kristin Thébaud Communications

bounce houses, a carnival and more. Registration is \$25, but free for kids ages 12 and under. For more information, to sign up or to make a donation, visit www.saclife.org or www.walkingheroes.org.

"Many of our friends and family have used the Sacramento Life Center's services
Continued on page 4

Affordable Homebuilders Support Aiding Struggling Californians



CHC is a non-partisan advocate for the production and preservation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income Californians. We represent the development, building, financial, and public sectors united in their goal that every Californian has a safe, affordable place to call home. Photo courtesy CHC

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Housing Consortium released the following statement from Executive Director Ray Pearl in support of a proposal released recently by 12 Democratic Assemblymembers that would deliver relief to Californians struggling to keep up with skyrocketing rents:

"CHC wholeheartedly supports the proposal introduced today by Asms. Chiu, Thurmond, and their colleagues with support from Speaker Rendon. This plan recognizes that our state's housing

affordability crisis is hurting California businesses and sending California jobs out of state. California's affordable home developers are ready to deploy this much-needed investment to put affordable homes within reach of the state's neediest individuals and families, create jobs, and strengthen communities."

The Assemblymembers' proposal comes as state investment needed to catalyze affordable development has plummeted by approximately \$1.7 billion annually, or 79 percent, following the

elimination of redevelopment agencies in 2012 and the exhaustion of state housing bonds.

California's shortfall of 1.5 million apartments affordable to the neediest Californians is driving our state's poverty rate to the highest in the nation.

The proposal introduced today would mark a turning point in California's housing affordability crisis, and jumpstart building of affordable places to live for struggling individuals and families.

Source: CHC ★

Koobs Nature Area Opens to the Public



The Koobs Nature Area is a community treasure, a 4.7 acre parcel of native trees and other plants that form diverse ecosystems for interaction. Photo courtesy Kiwanis Club of Carmichael

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - The Koobs Nature Area is a community treasure, a 4.7 acre parcel of native trees and other plants that form diverse ecosystems for interaction. On hiking trails throughout the parcel, there is a riparian environment along a creek and three ponds, a bird sanctuary, butterfly gardens, and thirty markers forming a self-guided tour.

The nature area will be open to the public on the second Saturday of each month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. These open dates are May 14th, June 11th, July 9th, August 13th, September 10th, and October 8th. The Koobs Nature Area is located at 5325 Engle Road in Carmichael, along the driveway for the La Sierra Community Center (you'll see the signs).

There is no cost. Binoculars are loaned for birding. Booklets are loaned for the self-guided tour. Dogs and smoking not allowed.

This is a project of the Kiwanis Club of Carmichael, supported by La Sierra High School Alumni, Montessori Project school, Foothill Key Club, Del Campo Key Club, Carmichael Recreation and Park District and the Carmichael community.

Come enjoy the nature area, opened to the public for the first time ever. Spread the word so that others may come and enjoy this natural resource as well.

Source: Kiwanis Club of Carmichael ★



The nature area will be open to the public on the second Saturday of each month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Photo courtesy Kiwanis Club of Carmichael



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- 5134 Archcrest Way, Sacramento, 95835 - \$540,000
- 645 Swanson Lane, Colfax, 95713 - \$460,000
- 3004 Granite Park Lane, Elk Grove - \$340,000
- 4120 Daystar Ct., Sacramento, 95824 - \$135,000
- 5343-5345 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael, 95608 - \$307,500

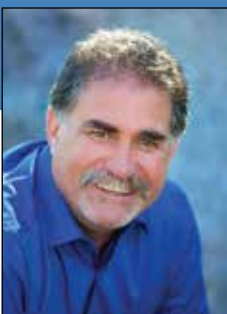
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—Karen Sandoval

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AWASH WITH COLOR

Art Where Wild Things Are

A Preview of the Auction and Gala benefiting Effie Yeaw Nature Center



Image by Tim Sloan



Image by Bruce Leavitt

WASH Inc. Annual Membership Show - April 26-May 14th

May 3-20th
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Announcements & Events



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CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY UPDATE



By County Supervisor Susan Peters

Through the generosity of the Carmichael Times, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated community of Carmichael.

District Attorney to Speak at May Community Meetings

District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert along with members of her Community Prosecutorial Team will be the featured speakers at my next series of community meetings for the month of May in Arden Arcade and Carmichael.

Recently with support from the Board of Supervisors, the District Attorney entered into an agreement with Motel 6 for the company to take corrective measures in response to the excessive number of calls for service the motel chain generated involving domestic abuse, prostitution, drugs, etc. (you may recall that in October 2014, Sacramento County Deputy Danny Oliver was murdered at a Motel 6 in Arden Arcade — that motel

has since been torn down). As we researched the problem, it became apparent that Sheriff Deputies were frequently being called to respond to problems at these motel locations taking deputies away from patrolling our neighborhoods. On average Motel 6 had almost 10 calls for each of its 550 rooms located in the County. As a result of the agreement, Motel 6 will be using armed security guards, conduct guest background checks and ban nighttime visitors.

The meeting for the Arden Arcade area will be held at 6 pm at the Conzelmann Community Center located in Howe Park, 2201 Cottage Way, on Wednesday, May 11th. The meeting for Carmichael will be held Thursday, May 19th, at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, also at 6 pm.

For a complete listing of my all community meetings, please visit my webpage at bos.saccounty.net.

California's Presidential Primary Next Month

California's June Presidential Primary Election will be next month with Election Day on Tuesday, June 7th. The polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Contests include balloting to nominate candidates for President, U.S. House of Representatives, Assembly, and Board of Supervisors. Voters in the City of Sacramento will be choosing a new mayor.

All area voters can go online to confirm that they are registered by visiting the

Sacramento County Elections Office's web site at elections.saccounty.net. The web site also allows you to find your polling place. In addition you can call (916) 875-6451 for more information.

Registered voters also may apply for a vote-by-mail ballot for the upcoming election to avoid having to physically travel to your polling place.

Effie Yeaw Nature Center Gala

On Saturday, May 21st, the Effie Yeaw Nature Center will present its annual "Art Where Wild Things Are," an art show, auction and gala celebrating interpretations of local nature subjects. This event brings together art patrons, philanthropists, artists and nature-lovers for what has become the most important fundraiser of the year for the Nature Center, a unique education and visitor center in Carmichael operated as a community service through a public/non-profit partnership.

The funds raised by this event will allow the Center to continue providing science, history and environmental programs for adults and children year round.

To learn more about Art Where Wild Things Are and to purchase tickets, visit the Nature Center's website at sacnaturecenter.net or call them at (916) 481-3848.

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

Mulch Mayhem

Don't Miss Your Chance to Get Free Mulch

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD), Carmichael Water District and other local water providers will be holding Mulch Mayhem events on Saturday, May 14th and 21st from 9 am to 12 pm at various locations throughout the Sacramento region.

This free event is designed to help local residents get their landscapes and yards ready for the hot days of summer. Mulch slows evaporation, moderates soil temperature, and even controls weeds. As it breaks down, mulch also adds helpful 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, the City of West Sacramento, San Juan Water District, Placer County Water Agency, the City of Roseville, Carmichael 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.

Street teams from JACK-FM (KQJK-FM), B92.5 (KBEB-FM) and V101 (KHYL-FM) will also be at the locations giving away t-shirts, hats and other prizes.

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.

SSWD's event will take place at the newly reopened Antelope Gardens, located at 7800 Antelope North Rd. More information is available online at SSWD.org or at BeWaterSmart.info.

Carmichael Water District's event will be on Saturday, May 21st at the Carmichael Water District Office at 7837 Fair Oaks Blvd.

Source: SSWD



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 5:30pm - 8:30pm

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Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger

Continued from page 1
many pantries are depleted, entering the summer low on supplies at a time when many school breakfast and lunch programs are not available to children in need.

Participating in this year's Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is simple: just leave a non-perishable

food donation in a bag by your mail box on Saturday, May 14th and your Letter Carrier will do the rest. You are invited to join in America's great day of giving and help fight to end hunger.

Source: Willie Henderson, Carmichael post office food drive coordinator, Nalc branch 4494

Participating in this year's Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is simple: just leave a non-perishable food donation in a bag by your mail box on Saturday, May 14th and your Letter Carrier will do the rest. Photo courtesy United States Postal Service

Local Superhero Family Walks for Life

Continued from page 1
and know how helpful they are," Clifford said. "The ultrasounds and free health clinic are so important, but what the Sacramento Life Center also offers is encouragement for women who want to move forward with their pregnancies – that they can do it and not be afraid. And I know they keep in close contact with many of the moms and babies for years after."

The Sacramento Life Center's mission is to offer compassion, support, resources and free medical care to women and couples facing an unplanned or unsupported pregnancy. The Sacramento Life Center's licensed Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic includes a primary clinic and

two Mobile Medical Clinics that provide all services for free, including pregnancy testing, STI testing, ultrasounds, advocacy for men and women, education and resource referrals. The nonprofit also offers a school-based teen education program, a 24-hour hotline and a program for women seeking support after having an abortion. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center's Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic, visit www.svpclinic.com. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center or to make a donation, visit www.saclife.org.

Source: Kristin Thèbaud Communications



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- May 16 : Links, Bookmarks and Shortcuts O My! - Making applications and sites easier to access.
- May 23 : Keyboard Shortcuts - The "Alt" Time saver.

Questions call 333-6464 • Registration online at MORPD.com

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Sacramento County DA Reports

Defendants Convicted of Human Trafficking, Insurance Fraud, and Sexual Assault



CASE: Quoc Pham & Amro Farhat
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Sonia Satchell, Human Trafficking Unit

Twenty-eight-year-old Quoc Pham was convicted by jury of human trafficking, pimping a minor, and pandering a minor. Twenty-eight-year-old Amro Farhat was convicted of pimping a minor, pandering a minor, two counts of oral copulation of a minor, child pornography, and unlawful sexual intercourse with a victim more than three years younger.

The 16-year-old victim was a runaway from Contra Costa County. She came to Sacramento with a friend, who introduced her to Pham. Pham forced her to work as a prostitute on the stroll. He then took her to meet his friend, Farhat. Farhat took pictures of the victim and posted a prostitution advertisement on a website. Farhat also booked a room at the Travelodge so the victim could do dates. The victim was able to call her mom, who contacted law enforcement.

Pham faces a maximum potential sentence of 14 years, 8 months in prison. Farhat faces a maximum potential sentence of 8 years in prison. Sentencing is set for May 26, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. in Department 14 before the Honorable Donald Currier.

CASE: Timothy Sean McCrystle
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Kelly Mulcahy, Insurance Fraud Unit

Forty-nine-year-old Timothy Sean McCrystle pled no contest to misdemeanor insurance fraud and misdemeanor reckless driving. He was sentenced to 30 days in county jail and 3 years probation. He will also be required to pay a \$250 fine plus penalties and fees.

On August 15, 2015, the victim drove past McCrystle, who was driving unusually slow with his two children in the vehicle. McCrystle sped up to catch the victim and then abruptly braked and slowed his car to match the victim's speed. As they continued to drive, McCrystle remained driving alongside the victim at the same pace for several blocks. Suddenly, he

edged into the victim's lane causing them to collide. He hit the victim's car a second time before exiting his vehicle. He then stood directly in front of the victim's car, blocking her way, and proceeded to yell at her and slam his hands on the hood of her car. McCrystle eventually let the victim leave when he became aware the incident was being videotaped with a dash-mounted video camera in a nearby vehicle.

McCrystle returned home and called 911 to report a hit and run. When interviewed by CHP, he stated the victim flipped him off as she sped up and passed him. After the collision, McCrystle admitted trying to block the victim's car and stated he was unable to get her license plate number. He also gave a recorded statement to USAA insurance and repeated the same false version of facts. McCrystle obtained the dash camera video of the evidence and provided it to his insurance company. After viewing the video, the case was turned over to the District Attorney's Office, Auto Insurance Fraud Unit.

CASE: Miguel Ramirez
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Matt Chisholm, Adult Sexual Assault Prosecution Unit

Thirty-three-year-old Miguel Ramirez was convicted by jury of 12 counts of sexual assault including continuous sexual abuse, committing lewd acts upon a child, unlawful sexual intercourse with a victim more than three years younger, oral copulation of a person under 18, and attempt to commit sodomy with a person under 18.

Ramirez molested a friend's daughter starting from when she was 13 years old until she was 16 years old. The victim's mother discovered the abuse when she returned home unexpectedly.

Ramirez faces a sentence of 22 years, 8 months in prison. Sentencing is set for May 13, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 21 before the Honorable Steve White. ★

FAIR OAKS CEMETERY

18th ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

SATURDAY, MAY 28TH, 2016 @ 10:00AM



Honoring Pearl Harbor Survivors

The Eighteenth Annual Memorial Day and Avenue of Flags Ceremony will be held Saturday, May 28, at the Fair Oaks Cemetery, located at 7780 Olive Street, Fair Oaks. The formal ceremonies start at 10am. This year's theme is to honor the "Survivors of the Attack on Pearl Harbor", and with special emphasis on our Pearl Harbor Veterans.

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 seventeen 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.

25 Minute Educational Presentation and a Free Luncheon



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Reservations Required

Please RSVP for the day of your choice.

Seating is limited to 30 attendees per seminar.



This is not a sales seminar. It is a 25-minute educational presentation that focuses on the importance of advance funeral planning and all of the options available, including Veteran's

benefits, cremation, and burial choices as well as key consumer advice. In addition to a catered meal, each attendee will receive a FREE Emergency Planning Guide.

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Thursday, June 9 @ 11:30 a.m.

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on-line at www.EastLawn.com

This presentation will be in English and Spanish
Wed, June 15 @ 11:30 a.m.

www.EastLawn.com



3909 Bradshaw Road Sacramento, CA 95827
Wednesday, May 11 2016
5:30pm - 9:30pm

This is the only night each year that adults take to the streets of Safetyville to Sip, Sample & Savor the areas local wines, craft brews and unique eats. While strolling the streets of our unique miniature city guests enjoy live music, entertaining carnival games and shop the silent auction tables. Taste of the Little City is the premier fundraising event for the Safetyville USA program.

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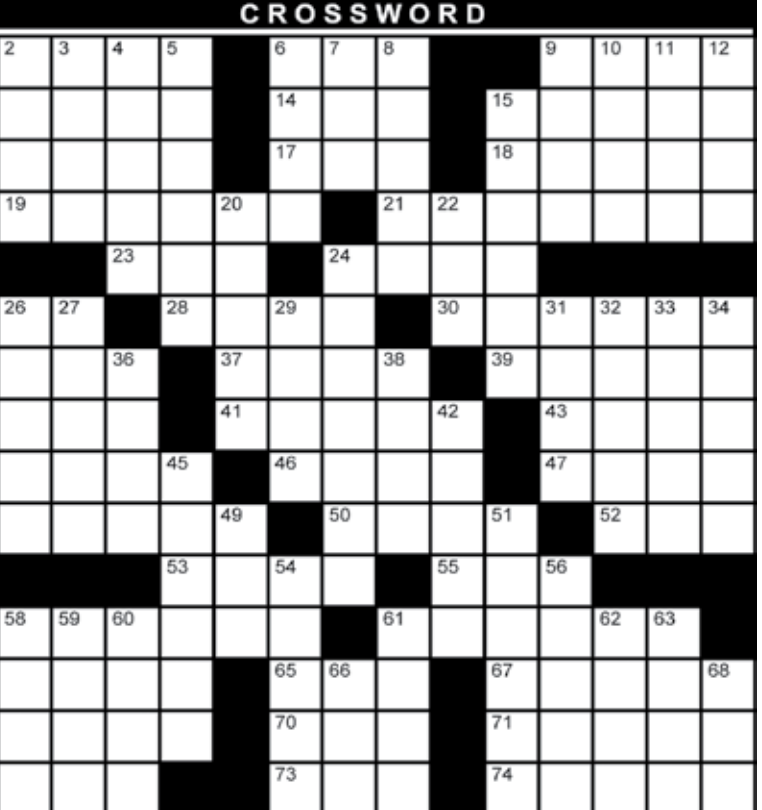
CLUES

ACROSS

- Type of room
- Pop-ups, e.g.
- Plural of serum
- One up
- Hawaiian wreath
- Pandemonium
- "Frozen" hairdo
- Hold title to
- Like Siberian winters
- Sheep's wool
- *Earl of Grantham's last name
- Modern address
- Close an envelope
- Louisville Slugger
- Cozy corner
- Like directory pages
- *What the "Brady" kids did before our eyes
- "Dark" movie
- Mold a mind
- Jack of all trades' sphere of expertise
- *Kardashian sister
- Purse at the Emmy Awards
- Swedish money
- Smelting waste
- Celt, alternative spelling
- Famous existentialist
- Trend-setting
- Will Ferrell's "Funny or..."
- *Alice in "the Brady Bunch"
- "Ewing family business in "Dallas"
- *Tim the tool man and family
- *Windy city real ones
- A do-nothing
- City on Rhone River
- Literature in metrical form
- To increase, commonly used with "out"

DOWN

- Have a bawl
- Gang land
- And others, for short
- French farewell
- *Like Pritchett clan
- Burn-soothing plant
- Blade drops
- From then on
- Playwright George Bernard _____
- James _____ Jones
- *McGowan, starred as sister in "Charmed"
- Grayish
- Swiss structure
- Thump
- *Marie and Frank Barone's son
- Like an expert
- *Uncle Philip or aunt Vivian
- Ancient market



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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 6

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Thriving as a Team, Focusing on Greatness

By Jim McCue | SportStars Magazine

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (SPORTSTARS/MPG) - Practice can't necessarily make perfect, particularly in golf. But, practice can make permanent — and that kind of consistency on the course is what makes players great.

Jesuit senior David Laskin has been practicing and playing since he was 6-years old, and that dedication is paying dividends as his final high school season begins to wind down. Laskin is among the Sac-Joaquin Section's top golfers and his steady game gives him a chance to do great things at the Section Masters tournament and beyond.

"The strength of my game is consistency," he said. "A lot of junior golfers can shoot 64, 65, 66, but then they might shoot in the 80s. I generally don't shoot in the 80s and stay around par all of the time, but I can go low."

Earlier this week, Laskin shot a season-best 66 at Wildhawk Golf Club in Sacramento to earn individual medalist for the second time in as many Delta League Tournaments, helping the Marauders take top team honors after Davis won the first league tourney at El Macero. He shot a 70 in the first Delta League tournament and currently leads the points race for Delta League MVP.

But, despite the individual honors that he earns in high school and junior amateur competitions, Laskin's primary focus right now is the Jesuit team. Under the direction of first-year coaches Pete Baichtal and Father Aaron Engebretson, the Marauders rely on Laskin for more than just his low scores.

"He is obviously a very good golfer, but what we have been most impressed with is his leadership," Baichtal said. "He has embraced his role as a leader, and he is a team-first guy." While some junior golfers cruise through their final high school season after accepting a college scholarship, Laskin has been more focused on his team than ever, according to his coaches.

"He embodies what we want in a leader at Jesuit," Engebretson said. "He is humble; he gives himself to his team; and he is a solid student. He finds a way to fit this in and makes it a priority to help the younger guys."

When the Jesuit golfers were asked to list their goals for the 2016 season, Laskin's top three goals were team goals, and he has never wavered on those priorities despite signing to play golf at the University of Arizona next year.



Despite the individual honors that he earns in high school and junior amateur competitions, Laskin's primary focus right now is the Jesuit team. Photo courtesy James K. Leash / SportStars

The process of earning a Division I golf scholarship goes through junior amateur tournaments rather than high school matches, but Laskin wants to enjoy his final season as a Marauder with his teammates.

"As a team, I want us to make it as far as we can," he said. "We have had some good finishes of late, and I think that maybe we can make a deep run in the postseason. I want to make it to state, but I would love to make it there as a team."

Laskin has his own team at home that has played a huge role in his success on the course. His parents, Alan and Julie, have guided both David and his older sister Emily — a 2014 St. Francis-Sacramento grad who is playing at the University of San Francisco — through the trials and tribulations of junior golf with impressive success.

"My wife is amazing with the organization and coordination to get them everywhere they need to be," Alan Laskin said. "I'm more concerned with how he handles himself as a gentleman on the golf course than I am if he shoots 62 or 82."

That support has helped David thrive as a student-athlete, and allowed him to spend the needed time practicing and refining his game. Laskin practices or plays four days during the week with Jesuit, and then practices with either private coach Phil Dawson or on his own for about six-to-eight hours a day on weekends. Well, weekends when he is not competing in junior amateur tournaments.

"He is a determined player," said Dawson, who coaches numerous high school, college and amateur golfers. "He puts in the time to be great, and that's what separates him from

the pack."

Laskin has always strived to separate himself from the rest of the field, admitting to first dreaming of playing on the PGA Tour — and especially at The Masters — before he even turned 10. But, it was not until he started high school that

he realized his dreams could come true with plenty of hard work and sacrifice. The senior still finds time to succeed in the classroom and give back to the community. Laskin has fulfilled community service hours required by Jesuit by volunteering at a South Sacramento after-school

program, serving meals to the homeless and less fortunate, and to helping rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans this past Summer. He believes that his friends and family understand his need to give lots of time and energy to golf.

"To be the best, you have to work hard and make (golf) your focus," Laskin said. "I think that my friends understand that and know that's what I need to do to achieve my goals." If he does not achieve his goals of individual and team recog-

"As a team, I want us to make it as far as we can, we have had some good finishes of late, and I think we can make a deep run in the postseason."

Jesuit golfer David Laskin

inition as a senior at Jesuit along with success at the collegiate and professional level, it will certainly not be for a lack of work. Because Laskin is determined to practice to make permanent and to realize his golf dreams.

"David is redundantly good from tee to green all of the time," Dawson said. "This game is all about organization and discipline. He takes a holistic approach to the game that makes him a highly proficient player." ★

River Cats Release All-City Team Winners

Annual Event to be Held at Raley Field

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (SPORTSTARS/MPG) - If an athlete accomplished something on a field, court or track in the Sac-Joaquin Section over the last six months — and it was noteworthy — then there's a greater than, likely chance that athlete is being recognized as part of the River Cats All-City Team.

SportStars Magazine has partnered with the Sacramento River Cats for the fourth straight year to select and honor the best high school sports talent in the Greater Sacramento area and beyond. And when it came to choosing the deserving athletes for the 2015-16 season, it was no easy feat.

The banner athletics year for the SJS included team state champions, individual state champions and the No. 1 girls basketball team in the nation for most of the winter (Saint Mary's-Stockton).

At more than 475 athletes, this is the largest River Cats All-City Team to date. Many of those athletes will



Bella Vista HS cross-country star Kaitlin Derry. Photo courtesy James K. Leash / SportStars

be recognized by the River Cats in a pre-game ceremony at Raley Field at 10 a.m. on May 8. The ceremony will include naming the winners of the V Award that honors the Female Athlete of the Year, and the Art Savage Award for Male Athlete of the Year.

To find out the winners, and to see the All-City Team roster in its entirety — including a brief description of each athlete's accomplishments, visit SportStarsOnline.com/RiverCats.

— Chace Bryson, SportStars Editor ★

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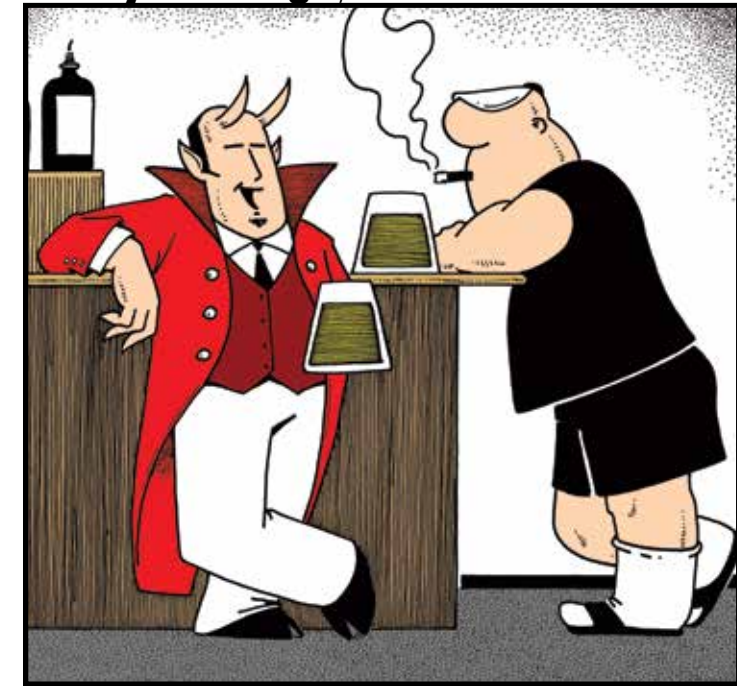
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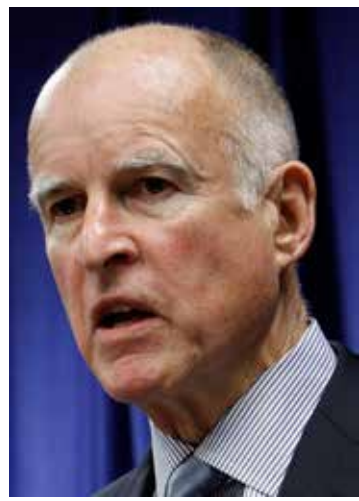
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Jerry Brown's Billion Dollar High Speed Failure



Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Commentary on behalf of Senator Ted Gaines

If you thought the Bay Bridge construction fiasco would reign forever as California's worst, most unsurpassable example of a government project running wildly over budget, you are in for a bitter surprise. High Speed Rail is on pace to be the grand champion money waster in California history and needs to be stopped before our citizens take an unprecedented fleeing.

As a reminder, the Bay Bridge was initially slated for a retrofit after its dramatic and tragic failure during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. In 1995 the cost estimate stood at \$250 million. By 1997 it was \$1.3 billion. In 2001, \$2.6 billion, and finally \$6.5 billion at completion, but even that estimate doesn't include interest costs, which could push the final cost to \$13 billion.

Now comes High Speed Rail (HSR), whose initial \$33 billion total cost estimate has already ballooned to more than \$60 billion, and the story is about to get worse. With construction in its infancy, the California Rail Authority is facing potential cost overruns of \$400 million dollars on just the first 29 miles of the 500+ mile project. And this is on the flat and sparse Central Valley. What will the cost overruns be in the infinitely more crowded and complex Bay Area, LA and San Diego?

We shouldn't view this overrun as an anomaly, but a preview. It's further proof that every HSR number should be disregarded and that the state is really obligating itself to build a project with an open-ended cost, taxpayers be damned.

Their own, recently updated business plan shows that they've identified only \$20.7 billion in funding for their \$64.2 billion in costs (and there is zero chance that \$64.2 billion doesn't explode into something drastically higher). Where will the rest of the money come from? They are hoping for some more federal funding and for continued "cap-and-trade" revenue, but those are hardly guaranteed. The cap-and-trade program is scheduled to expire in 2020.

Moving forward with such an unrealistic and unlikely

financing scheme is really a leap of bad faith on the part HSR. They are playing a cynical game where they will waste \$20 billion dollars, in hopes that the state (read: taxpayers) will have to see the fantasy project through to the end after sinking so much money into the "investment."

It should speak volumes that private investors, required under the terms of the initial HSR plan, have stayed completely on the sidelines. No investors will risk their own money on the project, but politicians gambling tens of

billions of your tax dollars is just fine.

On April 4th I attended an oversight hearing on the updated HSR business plan, where legislators and bullet train representatives went back and forth on the new timelines, routes and funding proposals. One group did not have a seat at the table: The opposition. They did not get to speak! On a project this big, with a brief but conspicuous history of wildly inaccurate cost estimates, the critics should be more than a silent ATM.

Every assumption used to justify the initial High Speed Rail proposal approved by the voters in 2008 proved to be overly optimistic at best, purposely misleading at worst. The ridership projections have been slashed, the train speed cut, and, predictably, the updated cost estimate looks nothing like the 2008 version.

This is not the "Train to Nowhere" as it's been derided — we should be so lucky. Its last stop is in the political hall of shame. To build it is to rob

Californians of the desperately needed roads, water storage, and other meaningful infrastructure projects those tax dollars could buy. To build it is to doom taxpayers to perpetual subsidies to prop up the ultimate green vanity project.

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. ★



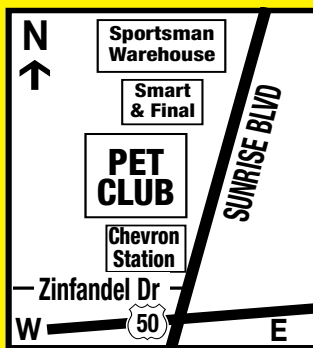
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Lower dentures almost never fit properly. They are loose fitting due to less surface area which can't create a suction, shrinking gum tissue and bone loss, which can cause irritation in the mouth, sores and pain. The only relief is using sticky dental adhesive to help it, but it is very messy, hard to clean off and needs multiple applications throughout the day.

Upper dentures are better than lower dentures due to a suction in the upper palate that keeps the denture in place. However, having the palate covered reduces the tastes of foods and the ability to tell the temperature of foods.

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