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# Carmichael Times

Volume 34 • Issue 11

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

December 18, 2013

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# D.A. Scully Honored



Retiring after 36 years of service to law and community, Sacramento District Attorney Jan Scully will be honored on January 24. Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - The Carmichael Chamber of Commerce has named Sacramento District Attorney Jan Scully Person of the Year for 2014. The honor heralds her last year in the G St building where she has spent most of her life. "I entered the D.A.'s office straight out of law school," she explains. "I've been here for 36 years."

"When I retire, I'll have to take deep breaths. I'll still serve on a board or two - but I want to enjoy myself and my family. I've been working solidly since high school."

Since earlier in fact. Young Jan sold cookies and did good deeds as a Blue Bird and Campfire Girl. In her teens, she was a Mercy Hospital candy-striper. She formed a choral group that regaled her church (St Ignatius, Arden Way) with Peter, Paul and Mary songs. "We also did tunes people didn't expect in church," recalled the parishioner. "But it was standing room only when we performed."

"Through the Catholic school system, community service was a big part of my upbringing. "Studying law, I didn't envision

myself as a prosecutor. But after two weeks working for D.A. Herb Jackson, I realized the prosecutor is the only advocate in the courtroom for crime victims and the community."

The Chamber's January 24 Person of the Year banquet — "Dinner with the D.A." — stands the lawyer beside fellow community champions. Past honorees have included County Supervisor Susan Peters, Sheriff John McGinness, broadcaster Kitty O'Neal and sports hero Jerry Reynolds.

"Carmichael holds a special

place in my heart," says the Arcade resident. "When I first ran for D.A. in 1994, it was like Jan who? But this area was supportive. When I lost my husband (lawyer Steve Scully) soon after I was elected, I felt the community wrapped its arms around me. I've spoken for more meetings out there than I can count on fingers and toes. I rode in the Elks' July 4 parade in a red Mustang with my kids. They formed a better opinion of my job that day; they thought the parade was the best thing ever."

Continued on Page 14

## CDPH Warns Consumers Not to Eat Certain AVO's Bakery Products

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Dr. Ron Chapman, director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and statehealth officer, today warned consumers with wheat allergies not to eat six varieties of AVO's Bakery, Inc. products. Five products are Gourmet Sesame Plain, Date Mamoul, Gourmet French, Gourmet Anise Plain and Sea Salted Cookies Sticks Gourmet Cookies. The sixth is Avo's Bread Crumbs product.

AVO's Bakery of Burbank, California, is voluntarily recalling the products, which were sold primarily at local retail markets in Southern California. The recall was initiated after CDPH identified the labeling omission during a routine inspection at the bakery. No illnesses have been reported at this time.

The products are packaged in clear plastic, clam-shell containers with labels that have the AVO'S Bakery, Inc. logo in red lettering, and have white, yellow, or green background color, with the product name in black lettering. The February 26, 2014 best-by date is printed on a sticker on the label.

AVO's Bakery, Inc. immediately segregated its entire inventory of recalled products and has notified retailers that received the affected products directly.

People who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to wheat run the risk of a life-threatening allergic reaction, that requires immediate medical attention should they consume these products.

Consumers who have experienced allergic reaction after consuming any of these products should contact their health care provider. Anyone observing the products being offered for sale is encouraged to call CDPH toll free complaint line at (800) 495-3232. ★



# Heating-Related Fires Increase During Cold Temperatures CAL FIRE Asks Homeowners to be Safe with Heating Equipment

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The recent cold-snap is a clear sign that winter has arrived in California with many areas receiving rain and snow over the weekend. During the cold winter months, CAL FIRE and fire departments across the nation see an increase in home fires due to dangerous heating equipment or unsafe practices. Improper use or poorly maintained heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires and home fire deaths across the country.

"Half of all home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January and February," said State Fire

Marshal Tonya Hoover, CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal. "Improper use or poorly maintained heating equipment often leads to fires, injuries and deaths that could have been easily prevented. These fires remind us once again how important having working smoke alarms can be."

With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most home heating fires from happening.

CAL FIRE offers the following fire safety tips:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3

feet away from heating equipment such as a furnace, fireplace, wood stove or portable space heater.

- Have a 3-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Always turn portable heaters off when leaving a room or going to bed.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from escaping.
- Allow fireplace ashes to completely cool before disposing them. Place in a tightly covered metal container at least 10 feet away from your home and any

other nearby buildings. NEVER empty fireplace or wood stove ashes directly into a trash can.

- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- If using fossil fuel heating, install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. Make sure your home has working smoke alarms as well.

For more information on safe home heating visit the CAL FIRE website at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov). ★

Source: Cal Fire Newsroom



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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.

### Winter Pothole Sweeps

An intensified effort is underway by the Sacramento County Department of Transportation to identify the whereabouts of potholes in the unincorporated area and repair them in order to ready road surfaces for the upcoming winter storm season.

Dubbed "Pothole Sweeps Week" this effort is performed twice each year — first in the

late spring to repair potholes caused by inclement weather and later in early winter.

While the department makes every effort to find potholes, residents can help by contacting SACDOT about potholes on their residential streets. Please call Customer Service at 875-5171 or go online to [sacdot.com](http://sacdot.com) and click on "Report a Problem."

SACDOT is responsible for over 5,200 lane miles of paved roadway in the unincorporated area so it is inevitable that somewhere a pothole exists. Let's all help out to get those annoying potholes patched and repaired.

### Sheriff Community Meetings

The Sheriff's Department holds regular community meetings to share information about trends in crime and recent activities. Please consider starting 2014 by becoming involved in Neighborhood Watch as a way to help keep Carmichael safe by attending the next community meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 6 pm, at the Del Campo High School Library, 4925 Dewey Drive.

### Community Coffee Meeting

For the past several years I

have been hosting community coffee meetings with interesting speakers and the series for 2014 kicks-off at 7:30 am on Wednesday, January 15, in nearby Fair Oaks. We will meet at the Fair Oaks Water District's conference room, 10326 Fair Oaks Blvd. near Winding Way. That morning's topic will be the state of our local water supply presented by the San Juan Water District. I hope you can attend. Coffee will be provided.

### Ideas for Carmichael Park

Help shape the future of Carmichael Park by participating in the upcoming planning process to develop a park master plan.

The Carmichael Recreation and Park District will be hosting a "Community Workshop" at the Carmichael Park Clubhouse on Saturday, January 11, from 10 am to 12 pm. For more information visit [carmichaelpark.com](http://carmichaelpark.com) or call the park district at 485-5322. ★

*Susan Peters represents the Third District on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. She can be reached at [susanpeters@saccounty.net](mailto:susanpeters@saccounty.net).*

## BOE Notifies California Retailers of Upcoming Visits

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Retailers throughout the state are receiving letters from the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) notifying them about upcoming visits from Statewide Compliance and Outreach Program (SCOP) teams. The visits are intended to educate retailers about properly reporting sales and use tax, increase compliance with tax laws, and maintain outreach efforts to assure taxpayers the state's tax system is fair and equal for all Californians.

The BOE is mailing letters to 18,031 business owners in the following zip codes: Antelope (95843), McClellan (95652) and Sacramento (95842).

Eight different SCOP teams located statewide (Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine, Riverside, and Ventura) conduct door-to-door, in-person visits in the zip code areas they cover. It is important

for retailers to understand that the BOE asks only business-related questions, and does not inquire about personal financial information. Businesses found to be operating without a seller's permit are provided instructions on how to register with the BOE, as well as information about other necessary licenses. Home-based businesses are not visited.

Since 2008, SCOP has visited 410,800 businesses statewide to verify retailers are registered, and to ensure noncompliant businesses do not have an unfair advantage over registered businesses that are reporting their sales and use taxes and/or fees to BOE.

The BOE has found that more than 98 percent of the California businesses are operating with the correct permits. However, non-compliance contributes to more than \$2 billion in uncollected sales and use taxes that make up

part of the state's "tax gap" — the difference between the amount of taxes owed and the amount paid, negatively impacting all state taxpayers.

If business owners have any questions about these upcoming visits, they may contact their local BOE SCOP Team or visit the BOE's SCOP Web page at [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/SCOP\\_Overview.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/SCOP_Overview.htm).

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects \$52.5 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov). ★



## Announcements & Events

### Holiday Food Drive

Carmichael Recreation and Park District is holding a Holiday Food Drive and all items will be donated to Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services. Donate 10 or more items and you'll receive a free reusable tote bag!

Drop off items at 5750 Grant Avenue, Monday through Friday from 8:30-5pm.

Donations accepted until Friday, December 20.

Call 485-5322 for more information.

For registration & other information call the District at (916) 485-5322 or visit our web page at [www.carmichaelpark.com](http://www.carmichaelpark.com).

## Northminster Presbyterian Church INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AND CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS



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# RT Starts Season of Giving

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - RT employees and their families celebrated the start of the holiday season on November 23 by taking part in RT's 20th Annual Holiday Bus Painting Party. More than 120 RT artists used a 'paint-by-numbers' technique to bring the decorative 40-foot bus to life.

Rick Sloan, retired RT Graphic Designer and currently a Board Member for the Cordova Recreation and Park District, guided participants in painting the toy soldiers, snowmen, reindeer and other fanciful holiday creations he designed. This is the 21st RT Holiday Bus to make an appearance during the holiday season. The first bus designed by an outside agency wasn't well received by RT as it was primarily painted dark green and became invisible at night. Reflective decals had to be added to make it safer. From that point on, 20 years ago, RT gave the responsibility of designing the Holiday Bus and supervising the Bus Painting Party to Sloan.

"This party is really about celebrating with family and friends. Over the 20 years I've participated in the event, it's been wonderful to see my own family, and the children of RT employees, grow up before my eyes. This has become a labor of love that I look forward to creating every year." Sloan said.



Rick Sloan and son Noah are shown here painting the side of Regional Transits' Holiday Bus.

"The kids and parents that take part in this special event really feel a great sense of pride when they finally see the bus driving down the road like a giant greeting card."

The Holiday Bus serves as a tool to thank passengers who use the RT system and to give back to the community as a whole. Free to passengers, the Holiday Bus operates on different routes in the Sacramento region from December 1, 2013 through January 3, 2014. The schedule can be found at [www.sacrt.com/](http://www.sacrt.com/)

holidaybus13.stm. Once inside, passengers listen to festive holiday music and view on display several holiday themed posters painted by some of the younger children.

In lieu of fare, monetary donations and non-perishable food items will be collected on the bus to benefit River City Food Bank, a non-profit organization that provides emergency food and housing assistance in Sacramento County. For more information about the food bank, visit [rivercityfoodbank.org](http://rivercityfoodbank.org). ★



Rick Sloan, retired RT Graphic Designer and currently a Board Member for the Cordova Recreation and Park District, guided participants in painting the toy soldiers, snowmen, reindeer and other holiday creations.

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Our health comes from a combination of lifestyle factors and the balance we have between them. Perhaps when we consider that 95- 97% of people in the world do not have written goals and that the 3-5% that do-succeed, this is the year we can actually get serious about setting goals. Jim Rohn said, “I find it fascinating that most people plan their vacations with better care than they plan their lives. Perhaps it’s because escape is easier than change.” This year we can spend time planning our lives so we can enjoy each day rather than just when we are on vacation.

### Did you know that goal setting goals actually influence our nervous system?

According to Dr. Deepak Chopra, our nervous system is similar to a bio-telephonic line or nerve cells, throughout the body which carries messages from one part of the body to brain or spinal cord and from there to the respective parts of the body. The fifty trillion cells are both independent and interwoven. Your goal setting is not only a mental exercise but it actually activates the whole body toward your goal. Until fitness is linked with a goal or a direction, very little is accomplished.

### We fail at 100% of the goals we do not set.

Our state of mind creates the state of our results. We must first believe it before we can achieve it. Before you set your goals look to what you have passion

## Is Setting A Goal Really Important to Our Overall Health?

for. Every day that goes by, you either move closer towards achieving a goal or you move further away from that goal. If you do nothing you are moving away from the goal.

### The Basic Principles to Goal Setting

**Your most important goals must be yours.** If it is a personal goal, no one else’s opinion matters. When you let other people determine your definition of success, you’re sabotaging your own future.

**Your goals must mean something to you.** When you write your goals, you must ask yourself, “What’s really important to me?” “What am I prepared to do to make this happen?”

**Your goals must be written.** Sit down and write -don’t stop, just write. Don’t evaluate if it can work or not Circle the top 5-10 and write out the benefits of achieving your goals. How will it affect you and those around you? What obstacles will you need to overcome? List any activities needed and prioritize them.

**Your goals must be specific and measurable.** Vague generalizations and wishy-washy statements aren’t good enough. Be very specific! They need to have a time line on or before.

**Your goals must be flexible.** A flexible plan keeps you from feeling suffocated and allows you to take advantage of genuine opportunities that walk in your future door.

**Your goals must be challenging, exciting.** Step out of your comfort zone and target goals that stretch. Be supportive of yourself and remove doubt. Whenever you find yourself getting discouraged, go somewhere quiet for a little while and use that time to visualize success in your endeavors.

**Your goals must be in alignment with your values.** Pay attention to your intuition. When you set a goal that contradicts your values, something inside will twinge. Pay attention.

**Your goals must be well balanced.** Make sure you include areas that allow time to relax, have fun and enjoy people in your closest circle.

**Your goals must be realistic.** Be expansive but don’t be ridiculous. If you’re four feet tall, you will probably never play in the NBA. Also, be sure to allow yourself time to get there. Consider how you will feel when you succeed. What will that be like? Create a level of pleasure associated with winning. Alternately, what pains are associated without succeeding? How does this failure affect those around you?

**Your goals must include contribution.** Unfortunately, many people get so wrapped up in pursuing their goals that they don’t have time in their lives to give something back to society. Balance in your life comes from helping others.

**Your goals need to be supported.** Finding someone to share your dreams with isn’t always easy. Trust is the key. You can either selectivity share a few of your dreams with a number of people, or share all of your dreams with a select few people. In either case, you’re creating a web of support and accountability for yourself. If that person or persons do not exist for you...write them down and re-read them daily. If you are privileged to know another’s personal goal, hold opinions and BE SUPPORTIVE, and share in the excitement.

**Celebrate Together.** Predetermine how you will celebrate your wins and the4n celebrate. Enjoy the process.

Working with our community on improving health, the first thing I look towards is their goals and the reasons behind it. We are where we are because of the choices we’ve made. Let’s celebrate our lives this year. I leave you with this thought:

*In order to master your LIFE,  
 You must first master your WEEK;  
 In order to master your week,  
 You must first master your DAY;  
 In order to master your day,  
 You must first master YOUR SELF.*

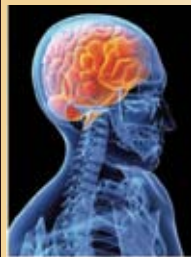
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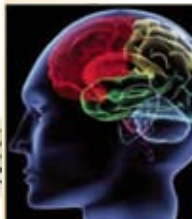
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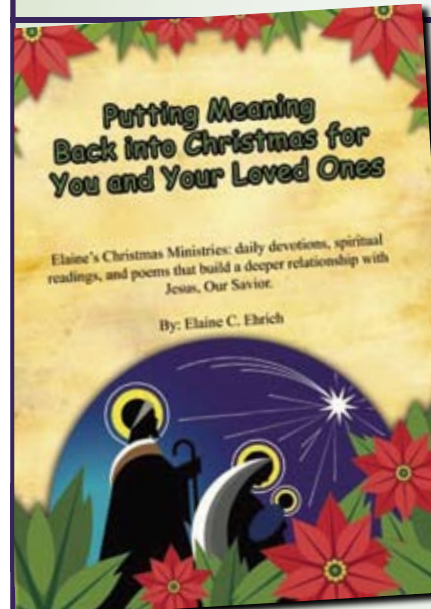
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## SMUD Thanks Volunteer Customers Helping Needy Pay Bills

*"EnergyHELP" program reaches nearly \$3.5 million mark*

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Many Sacramento residents find it tough to make ends meet and it can be especially challenging during the holiday season. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) customers are here to help and continue to deliver for those who need it. Those in need can get assistance paying their electric bill thanks to the EnergyHELP program. EnergyHELP makes it very easy for those who wish to contribute funds to help struggling customers.

The program is now ten years running. In that time, SMUD customers have contributed more than \$3 million to EnergyHELP. More than 13,000 customers now voluntarily donate monthly to help struggling low-income SMUD

customers keep the lights on.

Here's how EnergyHELP works: Customers can contribute automatically in their monthly bill payment to any of four partner charity agencies. The donation is tax-deductible, and SMUD sends all of the proceeds directly to the charity. Those charities in turn provide as much as \$200 in one-time bill assistance to low-income customers whose electric power has been, or is about to be, disconnected for non-payment. Typical monthly donations are between \$1 and \$10 per month, but some customers contribute \$20 to \$100 per month.

Since the EnergyHELP program started in 2004, a total of \$3,441,848 in assistance has been distributed to more than

22,000 local households in crisis through all four EnergyHELP partner charity agencies: Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, the Salvation Army, Travelers Aid Emergency Assistance Agency, and the Folsom Cordova Community Partnership.

Based on customers helping their neighbors, SMUD will surpass \$552,000 in annual pledged EnergyHELP contributions by this year's end.

For more information about SMUD, contributing to EnergyHELP or SMUD's low-income programs, or to inquire about qualification guidelines for assistance, visit [smud.org](http://smud.org) or call SMUD at 1-888-742-7683. ★

Source: SMUD Newsroom

## SMUD Approves 2014 Budget

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Board of Directors has approved a \$1.4 billion budget. The 2014 budget provides funding for all programs, projects and initiatives needed to meet the strategic targets set by the Board of Directors. The budget reflects a balanced approach that will keep SMUD on track to meet its long-term goals, while keeping a close eye on spending and continuing to improve operating efficiencies that provide value for customers. As the region starts to come out of the prolonged slow-growth economy, SMUD starts 2014 with a strong cash balance. When combined with cash generated from operations, SMUD expects to be able to cover the budget expenditures, including capital projects, without issuing new debt.

The 2014 budget anticipates electricity sales of \$1.3 billion, or an increase of about 3 percent over 2013. While the customer base is growing, total kilowatt-hour usage is expected to remain flat as energy efficiency measures and new solar installations reduce average electricity consumption per customer.

The commodities portion of the budget—the cost of natural gas to fuel power plants, wholesale power purchases and transmission—is \$506.8 million for next

year, about half of the total operations and maintenance budget and a slight decline from 2013.

The capital budget, which covers additions and improvements to buildings, property and equipment, is \$227.5 million, up from \$180 million in 2013. The portion of the 2014 budget earmarked for the low-income Energy Assistance Program Rate is \$46.7 million, an increase of 4 percent over 2013.

Major projects for 2014 will include preparations for renovating the SMUD headquarters building, geotechnical work to help evaluate a proposed 400-megawatt (MW) addition to the SMUD hydroelectric system and planning for the relocation of two major substations. SMUD will be working with the city of Sacramento and the owners of the Sacramento Kings on development of the downtown entertainment and sports center, a modern NBA venue that would seat 17,000 and is expected to stimulate associated development. To address reliability the budget includes funds for:

- Enhancing SMUD's ongoing underground cable replacement program.
- Developing transmission interconnection alternatives to increase load-serving capability, access renewable energy, provide voltage support, and

support long-term carbon emission reduction.

- Developing a new site for new flexible thermal generation and conducting feasibility studies for a compressed air energy storage project, both of which can help support more wind and solar generation.

- Starting environmental work for a Collinsville property wind farm development of approximately 50 MW.

- Transferring all remaining low-level nuclear waste from Rancho Seco to an approved site in Texas.

For customers, the budget includes a new energy efficiency program for small and medium business customers; driving customer transformation to LED lighting; constructing SMUD-owned fast-charging stations for electric vehicles; and presenting a more consistent online customer experience across all platforms and devices (e.g., smartphones and tablets).

Additionally, SMUD will implement the Customer Experience Excellence initiative, which will:

- Identify new business opportunities for SMUD's retail strategy.
- Proactively provide information customers want using the channels they prefer.

## One Victim in Critical Condition following Carmichael Duplex Fire

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - Just after 1:30 am, Metro Fire crews responded to the 1600 block of Safari Court for a report of heavy black smoke from a duplex. Crews arrived to find a working fire in one side of a duplex. While fire attack was occurring, crews quickly searched the residence and found a victim. He was pulled from the building and delivered to paramedics, who were waiting outside and immediately began treatment. The victim, in critical condition, was transported to Kaiser Hospital North.



The 26 firefighters on scene were able to contain the fire to the kitchen, while protecting the adjoining unit from any damage. An estimated \$300,000 in property was saved between the two units. Arson investigators were requested to the scene, with the cause of the fire currently under

investigation. No additional civilians or firefighters were injured.

There were no working smoke alarms in the unit on fire. After enough smoke had poured into the adjoining unit to activate their smoke alarms, neighbors called 911. Metro Fire reminds you to test your smoke alarms and replace the batteries every six months. It could save your life!

For more information, check out [www.metrofire.ca.gov](http://www.metrofire.ca.gov) and sign up for our E-newsletter. ★

## High Number of Thefts Reported

**From Sherrie Carhart, Crime Prevention Specialist North Division, Sacramento County Sheriff**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - I'm receiving a larger number of emails and phone calls about property theft/burglaries this month and last. This time of year is seemingly high theft season:

If you're home or off at work or on vacation, make sure that everything is locked up securely. This includes backyard gates, all doors to your garage, doors from your rear yard to your house and doggy doors when not in use.

Suspicious people loitering, lingering, wandering around going door to door or up on properties in your neighborhood at night should be reported to dispatch as being suspicious. Describe their behavior to the dispatcher. If they have a vehicle, get a good description of everything and be a good witness. Call immediately, don't wait. 874-5115. Don't tell them you're calling the cops or tip them off. DON'T FOLLOW OR CONFRONT.

If someone knocks or rings your doorbell, talk through the door. Teach your kids to talk through

the door, but not to open it.

Leave lights on timers on inside your home. Have timers go off in different parts of your house at different times to mimic that you're actually home.

If you have a work vehicle or trailer, and it contains tools it is a target if it is parked on your driveway or street.

Work vehicles/trailers containing tools must be parked in an enclosed yard or garage.

In the Arden area we are having multiple reports of trailer hasps being cut with saws and metal around the hasps being sawed to enter and steal high dollar items. Lots of \$150 to \$3,000 bikes being stolen. Also, many vehicle break-ins and gas thefts and numerous mail thefts in many areas of the county. Cars and motorcycles and dirt bikes and power tools and hand tools and coins, any and all electronic digital cameras and laptops, phones and presents in the car or wrapped under the tree, designer goods; eye glasses to shoes, cash, guns, jewelry, alcohol are being stolen. LOCK UP VALUABLES. Buy an engraver and put your driver's license number on expensive tools and bikes.

Check your mailbox regularly

if your mail is coming late in the day. Don't leave mail overnight in your box. Report mail theft to the US Post office or to the Sheriff's Department. Report ID theft/ fraud to the Sheriff's Department.

NEVER mail outgoing mail from your mailbox. If you see someone taking mail, call emergency line 874-5111.

If you have a vacant house nearby please or know that your neighbor is gone, be alert to unusual lights/activity in the house/garage at night. Call 911 if you think that a burglar may be there. The early cover of darkness and, cold and rain will keep most people inside as soon as they get home. It's perfect weather for burglars.

When you shop, go store to store or arrive home, take everything, out of your vehicle. Never leave anything including jackets or bags.

Finally, please go and visit the elderly neighbors down the street. See if they have their heat on, if they need to take a trip to the grocery store or might need someone to talk to.

For more information contact Sherrie Carhart at [scarhart@sacsheriff.com](mailto:scarhart@sacsheriff.com). ★

[www.CarmichaelTimes.com](http://www.CarmichaelTimes.com)



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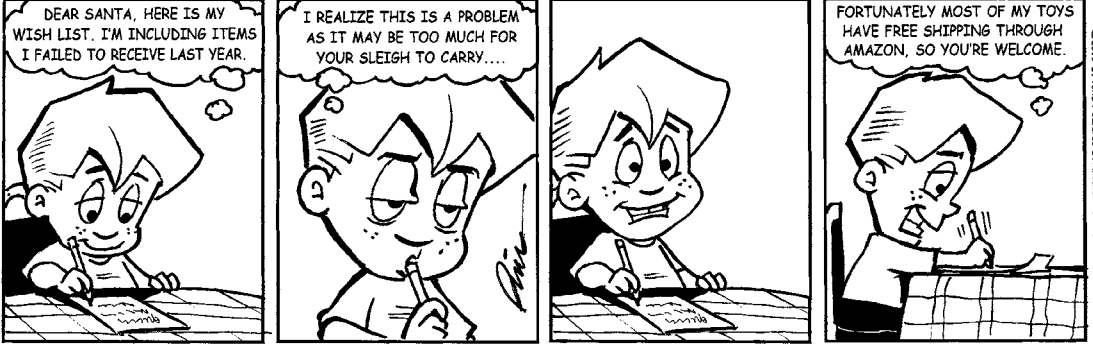
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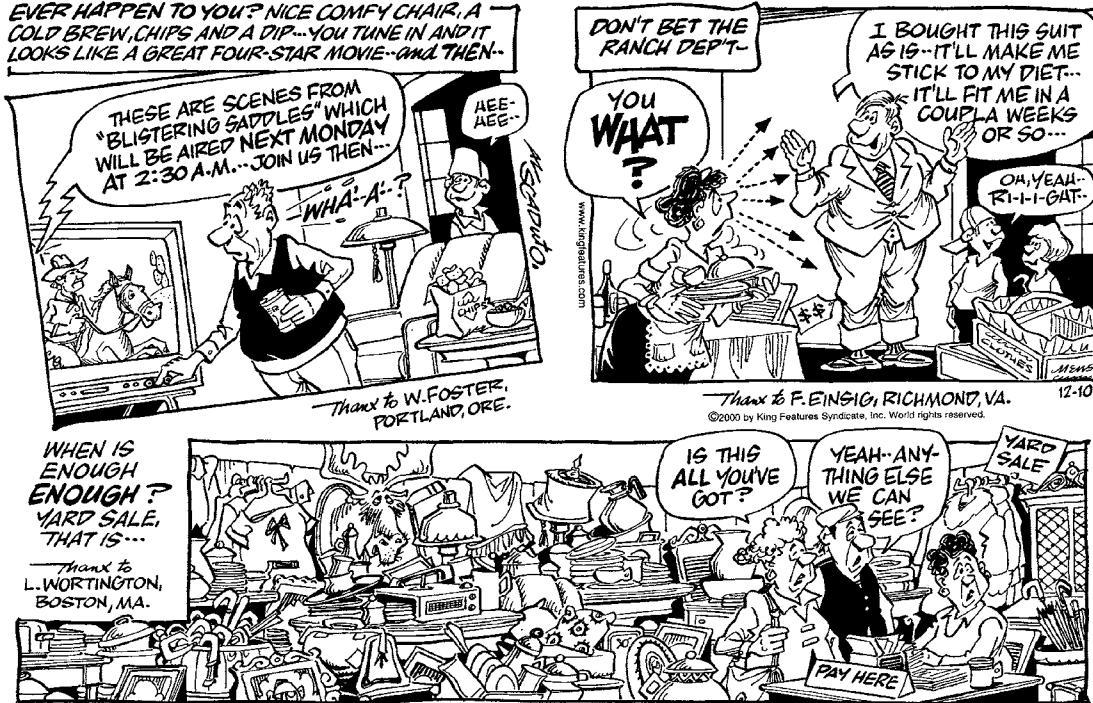
**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps



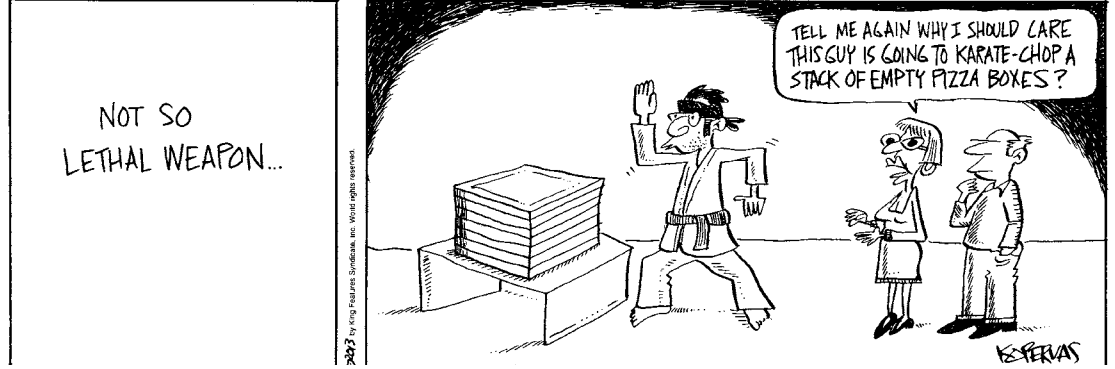
**THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME**

BY AL SCADUTO



**Out on a Limb**

by Gary Kopervas



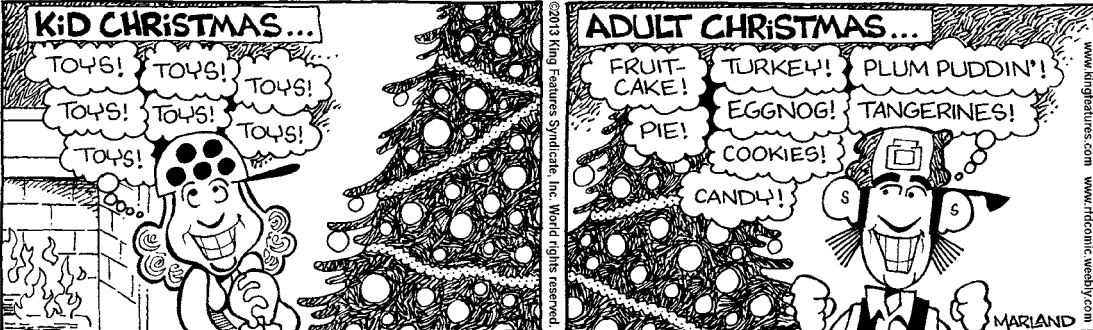
**KATZENJAMMER KIDS**

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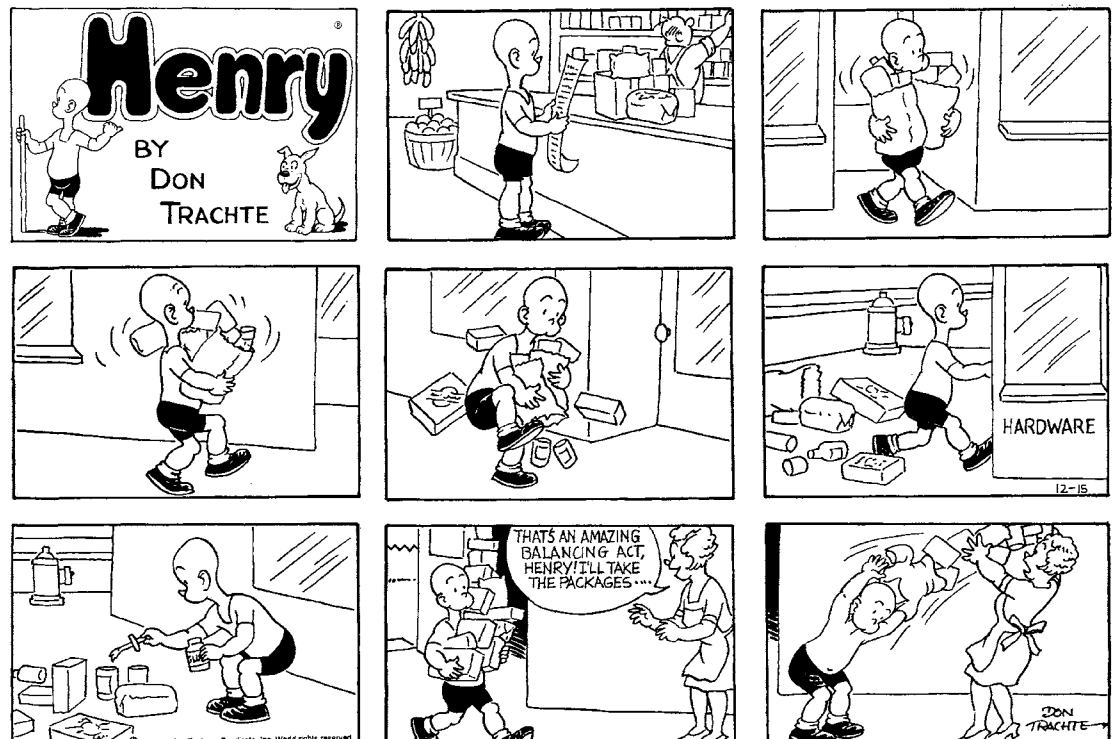
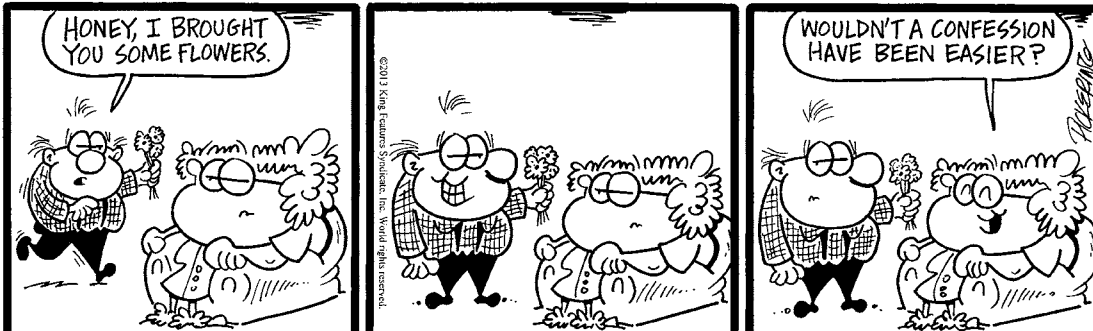
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## Business Technology

### How Technology Can Help Businesses Do More With Less

(NAPS)—From tax changes to utility bills and minimum wage requirements, small- to medium-sized businesses (SMBs) have a variety of expenditures and regulatory obligations. Meanwhile, governmental changes and other factors continue to alter the landscape of expenses that SMBs can expect from year to year.

This can change the way business owners invest their money and the types of expectations they have for the products they purchase to support their companies. With other growing expenses, small- and medium-sized businesses are more interested than ever in the “value of a dollar” and they expect their money to go further when it comes to technology.

Here are three tips for doing more with less and a look at the technology that can help make a difference for your business with fewer costs:

• **Make your office mobile friendly**—Increase employee productivity by providing the option to print on the go from smartphones and tablets. Offices that aren't ready to buy a new printer but are interested in implementing mobile print should look at the HP 1200w Mobile Print Accessory—a simple, secure USB device that adds wireless-direct and touch-to-print capabilities to existing HP LaserJet and Officejet Mobile printers.

• **Invest in cloud-enabled document management**—By investing in the cloud, businesses can manage content and improve



One way businesses can save money and still stay efficient is to invest in technology that lets them do more with fewer costs.

employee efficiency with access to documents from the office or on the go, without purchasing additional hardware or IT infrastructure. Look for a cloud solution that uses a subscription model, letting you scale your cloud usage as your business grows.

• **Create interactive documents through the cloud**—Cloud-based customer communications management solutions let users spend less time composing documents and more time engaging with customers. With these technologies, users can create sophisticated, interactive documents, including sales quotes, proposals, direct marketing and correspondence, while maintaining company brand standards.

**Learn More**

You can have more control of your business expenses by investing in the right technology. For further facts and tips, visit [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com).

# Put Your Vacation Home To Work For You

(NAPS) - If you are fortunate enough to own a second home—or hope to someday—your family likely enjoys many vacations and spur-of-the-moment getaways there. Still, life's commitments probably mean there are weeks your vacation property sits vacant. Renting out your home can open up a significant stream of revenue and is one way to see a return on your investment even when you aren't there. But understanding the business side first is critical for avoiding hassles.

**Your Options**

Before you dive in, it's important to understand the different renting options. One option is renting your property out independently, taking on the necessary marketing and management efforts yourself. Listing sites help owners post their properties online and match travelers with available places. Once a match is made, however, the onus falls on the owner to handle the rest. According to a recent study, owners spend, on average, over eight hours a week marketing and managing their vacation properties, a heavy time commitment to consider. From finding renters and handling requests to coordinating stays and responding to maintenance problems, the personal involvement required by the rent-by-owner model can outweigh the benefits.

To help you take advantage of the added income supplement of renting your vacation property without having to invest significant time, pro-



Committing with a professional management company can help you turn vacant weeks at your vacation home into additional revenue.

professionally managed vacation rental companies can be a great option. When you commit your property with a vacation rental management firm, you're relieved of the operational legwork. Typically, these firms assume responsibility for marketing and managing your property and taking care of guests' experiences.

Professional management companies can also help drive occupancy and maximize revenue by leveraging the power of their brand and resources. For example, Wyndham Vacation Rentals, the world's largest professionally managed vacation rentals company, combines the strength of a trusted global hospitality brand

with local expertise. The company is known not only for providing owners with a comprehensive range of services, but for offering a host of unique benefit programs, such as exclusive deals and discounts and an exciting vacation exchange program. Unlike other professional management companies, Wyndham Vacation Rentals also gives owners an important marketing tool—an industry-first Vacation Rental Bill of Rights that lets guests know they'll be taken care of every step of the way.

**Learn More**

For more information on the benefits of your rental options, visit [www.wyndhamvacationrentals.com](http://www.wyndhamvacationrentals.com).

## GOT LOCAL NEWS?

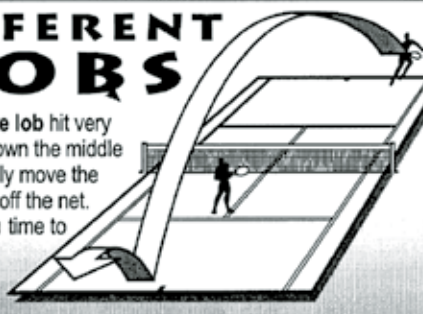
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### STAN SMITH'S TENNIS CLASS

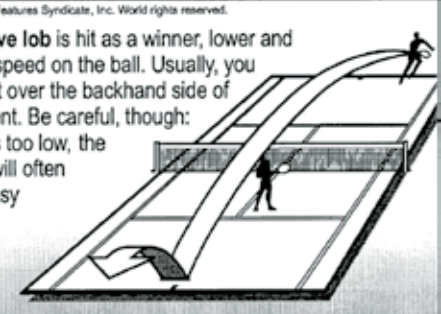
#### DIFFERENT LOBS

A defensive lob hit very high and down the middle will generally move the opponents off the net. It gives you time to recover for the next shot.



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An offensive lob is hit as a winner, lower and with more speed on the ball. Usually, you should hit it over the backhand side of the opponent. Be careful, though: If this lob is too low, the opponent will often have an easy smash.



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## Salome's Stars

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** The arts are a strong part of the Arian aspect, with music becoming more dominant. An important decision looms as a longtime relationship takes an unexpected turn.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Surrounding yourself with beautiful things helps restore the Taurean soul. Enjoy an art exhibit, for example. Or redecorate your personal space with something truly splendid.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** Some colleagues might try to talk you out of what they insist is a risk, but which you consider an opportunity. As usual, follow your own good sense when making your decision.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** A workplace change you might have worried about soon proves to be highly favorable for the clever Crab who is ready to take advantage of new opportunities opening up.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Congratulations. Your Leonine pride is polished to a dazzling new brilliance thanks to your success in winning support for your new project from even the most doubtful of detractors.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** An unsettling rumor about a colleague's apparently regrettable behavior is soon proved groundless, allowing you to enjoy the upcoming end-of-year festivities in a happy mood.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Your success in helping to create a harmonious environment out of a chaotic situation earns you the admiration of someone who could become an important new presence in your life.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Your Scorpion's sense of loyalty could find you leading a passionate defense of a loved one you feel is being unfairly treated. The week's end brings long-awaited family news.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Your keen instincts are once more on high alert as you find yourself being

pressured to make a quick decision about a certain matter. More facts come to light by week's end.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** An unexpected workplace development could disrupt some family plans. A full explanation, however, averts domestic discord. A financial matter continues to need attention.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** Spend time away from distractions to reassess some recent moves that might not have worked out as you had hoped. What you learn could be invaluable for future decision-making.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** A recent act of kindness is a reminder of how important your friends are to you. You might want to show your appreciation by hosting a special pre-New Year's party just for them.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** *You always try to do your best, which sometimes causes you to be critical of those who don't live up to your standards.*

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## COUCH THEATER DVD PREVIEW

BY SAM STRUCKHOFF

COUCH THEATER -- DVD PREVIEW

By Sam Struckhoff

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *DVDs reviewed in this column will be available in stores the week of Dec. 23, 2013.*

### PICKS OF THE WEEK



Scene from "More Than Honey"

**"Insidious: Chapter 2" (R)** -- The doomed family from the first film continues their struggle against supernatural creeps in this poor soul of a sequel. Josh and Renai Lambert (Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne) take their haunted son, Dalton (Ty Simpkins), to Josh's mom's house to rest up after their last ghostly encounter. Unfortunately, as stated in the first movie, "It's not the house that's haunted -- it's your son," so the family's troubles continue along the same pattern in a slightly different house.

Director James Wan made the last film genuinely creepy, and his return for the sequel was hailed as a good sign. Too bad that horror movies and sequels just don't work. "Insidious 2" will lose you while it tries to explain every event with a convoluted backstory. It will win you back with a brief chill -- then lose you again when you get deja vu from the next scare.

**"More Than Honey"** -- Man's best friend might not be the creature we thought it was. While bees may not offer much companionship, we'd starve without them. Bees actually are responsible for the

major share of pollination that produces our produce section: nuts, melons, berries, apples, citrus and many more all rely on bees for reproduction. This documentary explores how bees are mega-important to human life, and they are dying in baffling numbers.

Even if bugs aren't your thing, this documentary still deserves a chance. It has all of the fun-factiness of usual nature documentaries (did you know bees can taste with their legs and perceive smells in three-dimensions?), plus a gripping narrative where the survival of both bee and man are intertwined.

**"Una Noche"** -- In Havana, three young folks struggle to find where they fit in, only to risk everything on an attempt to reach the U.S. Raul and Elio are best pals. They also are tight with Lila, Elio's fraternal twin sister. Havana comes alive with urban vibrancy and urban squalor, but without applying any extra dirt or grime. While much of the film is set in town, the climax is a daring attempt to cross 90 miles of ocean on a makeshift raft piloted by three mixed-up teens.

**"Caesar Must Die"** -- Shakespeare's tragic play about the murder of Julius Caesar gets a very special production by some otherwise hard-to-find talent: the inmates of an Italian prison. This documentary explores the phases of production and the personal connections formed by the actors. The play deals with themes of ambition, loyalty, betrayal and ruthlessness -- things that strike chords within the cast members, many of whom are serving long sentences for drug trafficking and mafia mayhem.

### TV RELEASES

*"Frontline: Hunting the Nightmare Bacteria"*

*"Craft in America: Holidays: Season 5"*

*"Goliath and the Sins of Babylon"*

*"Samson and the 7 Miracles"*

*"Magnificent Gladiator"*

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## Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

• On Jan. 2, 1811, Timothy Pickering, a Federalist from Massachusetts, becomes the first U.S. senator to be censured when the Senate approves a motion against him. Pickering was accused of violating congressional law by publicly revealing secret documents.

• On Dec. 30, 1862, the U.S.S. Monitor sinks in a storm off Cape Hatteras, N.C. Just nine months earlier, the ship had been part of a revolution in naval warfare when the ironclad dueled to a standstill with the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimack) -- the first time two ironclads faced each other in a naval engagement.

• On Jan. 5, 1920, the New York Yankees major-league baseball club announces its purchase of the heavy-hitting outfielder George Herman "Babe" Ruth from the Boston Red Sox for the sum of \$125,000. The deal paid off as Ruth went on to smash his own home run record in 1920, hitting 54 homers.

• On Jan. 1, 1946, on the island of Corregidor, in Manila Bay, 20 Japanese soldiers approach a lone soldier -- literally waving a white flag. The soldiers had been living in an underground tunnel and only discovered that the war was over by reading it in the newspaper.

• On Jan. 3, 1967, Jack Ruby, the Dallas nightclub owner who killed the alleged assassin of President John F. Kennedy, dies of cancer in a Dallas hospital. The Texas Court of Appeals recently had overturned his death sentence for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald and was scheduled to grant him a new trial.

• On Jan. 4, 1974, President Richard Nixon refuses to hand over tape recordings and documents that had been subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee. Nixon would resign from office in disgrace eight months later.

• On Dec. 31, 1984, Bernhard Goetz, the white man dubbed the "subway vigilante" after he shot four young black men on a New York City subway train, turns himself in at a police station in Concord, N.H. Goetz claimed that the men, all of whom had criminal records, were trying to rob him and that he had acted in self-defense.

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The word **weathervane** derives partly from the Old English word *fane* (banner). The first one known to be built was atop the Tower of the Winds in Athens in 48 B.C. by the astronomer Andronicus. It took its shape from the god Triton (with the body of a man and the tail of a fish) and was 4 to 8 feet long. The largest weathervane in the world is located on the shore of White Lake, Michigan. It stands 48 feet tall and sports a 26-foot-long arrow that points in the direction of the wind.

- Brenda Weaver

Source: [www.weathervanesplus.com](http://www.weathervanesplus.com)

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By Rich Lowry

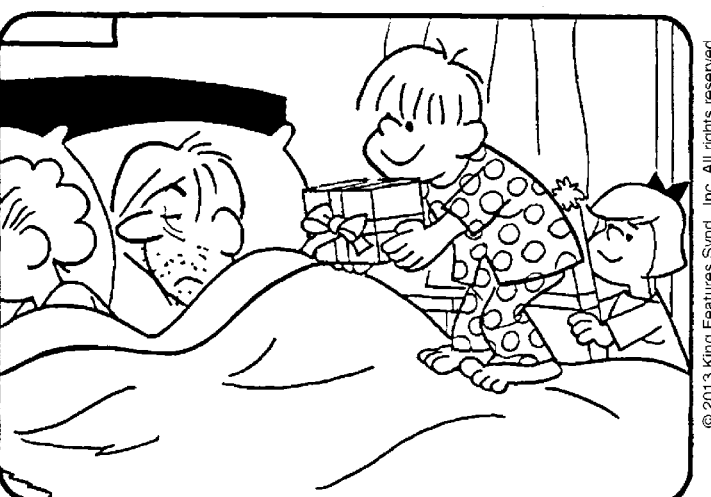
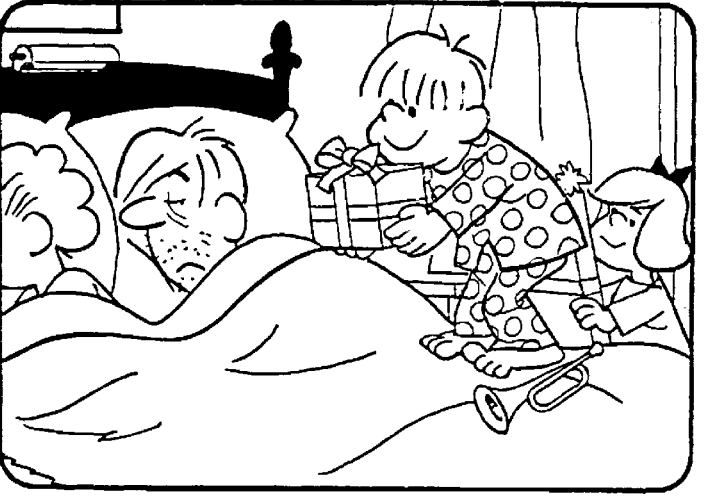
**The War on Inequality**

President Barack Obama has his answer to Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty." It is a war on inequality. The president's formal declaration of hostilities came in a speech this month at the Center for American Progress, predictably praised as brilliant by his journalistic cheerleaders and touted by the White House as setting out the cause that will define the rest of his presidency. While LBJ's war on poverty is nothing to emulate -- it costs \$900 billion a year, yet has manifestly failed in the stated goal of uplifting the poor -- at least it had a clear, compelling rationale. Who can disagree that it would be better if fewer Americans were poor? Obama's implicit argument is that it would be better if fewer Americans were rich, or at least if they

were not quite so offensively rich. He relied on dubious research and tendentious analysis to make his case, without ever admitting what, for him, must be the crux of the matter. Surely, income inequality offends his egalitarian sense of justice and aesthetics, and even if he didn't believe it had harmful real-world effects, he would wish the top 1 percent weren't so wealthy as a social good in and of itself. There is no doubt that we long ago exited the economic Golden Age of the mid-20th century, and we aren't going to return to it. President Obama could give a speech about that and never need to make a questionable claim. But he wants to make a case for war. In his speech, the president said that inequality is bad for the economy and cited "one study" showing that greater income inequality means more fragile growth and more frequent recessions. Of course, "one study" can show almost anything. The study in question analyzed developing economies. He could just as easily have said that "one study" by a Harvard economist showed a correlation between increasing inequality and higher economic growth in the U.S. and other developed countries between 1960 and 2000.

To maintain that rising inequality is a threat to the American Dream, the president insists that it is reducing income mobility. Here the evidence is just as weak. According to Scott Winship of the Manhattan Institute, the gap between the middle class and the poor hasn't grown much during the past few decades. It has been the very top of the income distribution that has gained the most. America does indeed have a serious mobility problem, especially in getting people out of poverty. But it has nothing to do with a small fraction of people being spectacularly rich. Mark Zuckerberg could be stripped of all his wealth tomorrow, and it wouldn't help anyone further down the income ladder. It wouldn't increase wages, or reduce out-of-wedlock child rearing, or lead to less incarceration, or revive the work ethic, all of which would enhance mobility and lift more people into the middle class. It would just make Mark Zuckerberg poor. Which is why Obama's war on inequality is so misconceived. We aren't beset by a wealthy 1 percent destroying opportunity and immiserating the rest of the country. The president needs to reconsider his *casus belli*. Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2013 by King Features Synd., Inc.

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below. Differences: 1. Bed lamp is missing, 2. Bedpost is missing, 3. Bow is moved, 4. Sleeve is shorter, 5. Bugle is missing, 6. Hair is different.

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## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • 2013 IN REVIEW

### CLUES

- ACROSS
- Fancy tie
  - \*Amanda Bynes wore a blue one in court
  - A woman at Harvard after 1977
  - Star Wars attacker
  - Big time
  - Artillery burst
  - Rhino relative
  - Brit. fliers
  - E.T., e.g.
  - \*New prince of Cambridge
  - \*Leno's successor
  - And not
  - Dispatched
  - What hernias do
  - Yamaguchi's court
  - \*Football HOFer, \_\_\_\_\_ Jones, died
  - Web \_\_\_\_\_
  - Butcher's cut
  - Eye \_\_\_\_\_
  - Truth alternative
  - One affected by Hansen's disease
  - Deuce topper
  - Be in harmony
  - Urban legends, e.g.
  - Kitten's plaything
  - \*Kind of care
  - Rich soil
  - French "lake"
  - Place to moor a boat
  - Gourmet mushroom
  - Female peafowl
  60. Jewish village, historical
  - Elks' hangout
  - Augment
  - Fear-inspiring
  - MPH
  - Bull's mate
  - Sheep-like
  - Hibernation stations
  - \*Kourtney and Kim
  - Cause aversion

### DOWN

- \*Jennifer Lawrence won for doing it
- Smelting waste
- Endure
- \*Satire newspaper that stopped printing
- Reign of \_\_\_\_\_
- "The Way We \_\_\_\_\_"
- Gershwin or Levin
- Blooper
- "\_\_\_\_\_ Me Maybe"
- Assortment
- Fifty-fifty
- \*Draper of "Mad Men" went to L.A.
- Some chips are this, some are not
- Done on a Barbie
- Plus
- Biathlete's equipment
- Jerusalem's ancient land
- Cell phone bill item
- It's firma
- Season to be jolly
- Bohemian
- Reef constructor
- Met's offering
- \*Boy group, reunited
- Movie \_\_\_\_\_
- Agrippina's slayer
- Boxer's stat
- Engraved
- Clod chopper
- \*Cause of Chelyabinsk's disaster
- Sweater style
- Pet annoyance
- \*The new one is from Argentina
- "I Dream of Jeannie" star
- Long, long time
- Tailored
- \*Artist Banksy took one to New York
- Country dance formation
- a.k.a. acid
- Ornamental carp
- Unagi

### CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13					14			15			
16					17			18			
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44				45		46				47	
48					49		50		51		52
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57	58	59					60			61	62
63					64	65			66		67
68						69			70		
71						72			73		

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5	7										
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2					8					3	
										2	1

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

For Solutions See Page 7

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09059. Desmond Sandy, 3001 60th St., Sacramento, CA 95820 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "Road to Snow" at 3001 60th St., Sacramento, CA 95820. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 18, 2013. Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. ROAD 131203 12-18-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09144. DLF General Contractor Inc., 15 Village Green Dr., Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "D.L. Fuller Construction" at 15 Village Green Dr., Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 20, 2013. Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. DLFGEN 131203 12-18-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09108. Folsom Soccer Club, 373 Tobruy Way, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "Folsom Lake Soccer League" at 373 Tobruy Way, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 19, 2013. Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. FOLSOM 131203 12-18-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08858. Fred L. Cary III and Elene M. Cary, 3757 Norris Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "Yupik & Cary" at 3757 Norris Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 7, 2013. Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. YUPIK 131203 12-18-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09004. Herbert Darnell Holloway and Maria Carmen Holloway, 8352 Cerulus Ct., Antelope, CA 95843 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Black Tie Sedan & Limousine" at 8352 Cerulus Ct., Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 15, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. BLACKTIE 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09029. Eugene Ray McCann, 3872 Hwy 49, Placerville, CA 95667 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Hot Tub Place of Sacramento" at 11255 Sunrise Gold Circle, Suite H, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 18, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. HOTTUB 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08989. Khong Singyer Xiong, 14 Clove Ct., Sacramento, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "KXYZ Real Estate Investment" at 1240 Ascot Ave., Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 15, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. KXYZ 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09023. Charles W. Sison, 6613 Buckhorn Dr., Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "JFK Guam Reunion" at 6613 Buckhorn Dr., Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 15, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. JFKGUAM 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09024. Marshall Lending & Real Estate, 5252 Alderberry Way, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "MNT Investment Group" at 5252 Alderberry Way, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 15, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. MNTINV 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-07869. Elizabeth Mendiola, 7767 Reenal Way, Sacramento, CA 95832 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Power Express Transport" at 2186 Woodlawn Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on October 2, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. POWER 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08654. Elizabeth Mendiola and Jose Cervantes, 7767 Reenal Way, Sacramento, CA 95832 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Restaurant El Botanero" at 2186 Woodlawn Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on October 31, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. ELBOTA 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09302. Adrian Petersen, 836 57th St., No. 203, Sacramento, CA 95819 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Total Home Solutions" at 836 57th St., No. 203, Sacramento, CA 95819. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 26, 2013. Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. TOTALHOME 131204 12-25-13

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08623. Sima Khatamoghaddam and Mozafar Hendessi, 123 Mountain Oak Ct., Folsom, CA 95630 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Fun Art" at 4096 Bridge St., Units 1 and 2, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on October 29, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. FUNART 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09217. Chun Nam Park, 9319 Ridgeside Ln., Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Fountain Square Market" at 7340 Greenback Ln., No. 1, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 21, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. FOUNTAIN 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09284. Maycloud, Inc., 5093 Archcrest Way, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "GBT Capital, Inc." at 5093 Archcrest Way, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 25, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. GBT 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09412. Langdon's Home Buyers Assistance Corporation, 2200 Sunrise Blvd., Suite 240, Gold River, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Home Buyer Assistance" and "Home Buyer Assistance Real Estate" at 2200 Sunrise Blvd., Suite 240, Gold River, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on December 3, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. HOME 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09174. Jane F. Naify, 6817 Rappahannock Way, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Floral Designs By J" at 6817 Rappahannock Way, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 20, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. FLORAL 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09154. Teresa Ginn Johnson, 4141 Palm Ave., No. 514, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Yes I'm Covered" and "YIC" at 4141 Palm Ave., No. 514, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 20, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. YESIM 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09330. Lisa Wiese, 6538 Via Sereno Dr., Rancho Murietta, CA 95683 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Lisa Wiese and Associates" at 6538 Via Sereno Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95683. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 27, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. WIESE 140101 01-01-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09553. Arturo Mendoza, 3917 Lusk Dr., Sacramento, CA 95864 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "A.M. Concrete" at 3917 Lusk Dr., Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on December 10, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. AMCON 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08984. Scott Harrison Williams, 10823 Berwick Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Calstar Property Maintenance Service" at 10823 Berwick Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 14, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. CALSTAR 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09673. Robert R. Stelfox, 8696 Redlands Way, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Performance Cycle" at 4635 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on December 13, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. PERFORM 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09672. Chris Chandler, 6105 Merrywood Dr., Rocklin, CA 95677 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "NU Concepts Audio & Accessories" at 4635 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on December 13, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. NU 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09584. Thomas P. Gonsalves, 701 48th St., Sacramento, CA 95819 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Sharper Offices" and "Gonsalves Real Estate Properties" at 5600 H St., Ste. 100, Sacramento, CA 95819. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on December 10, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. SHARPER 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-09052. Matthew T. Tyng, 3640 Astral Dr., Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Wild Tyng Fabrication and Restoration" at 2353 Rudatq Cir., Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 18, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. WILDTYNG 140102 01-08-14

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
#FBNF2013-08728. Woodfield Investments, LLC, 2900 Sienna Ln., Sacramento, CA 95862 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Woodfield Patio Homes, 3600 Karl Dr., No. D, North Highlands, CA 95660" at 5600 H St., Ste. 100, Sacramento, CA 95819. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County on November 4, 2013. Publish: December 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 8, 2014. WOODFIELD 140102 01-08-14

ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE #FBNF2013-00611.

The following individual has abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME OF "ENERNET," 2817 La Paz Way, Sacramento, CA 95821: Eugene E. Wetmore and Carlene A. Wetmore, 2817 La Paz Way, Sacramento, CA 95821. The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on January 23, 2013, in the County of Sacramento.

Abandonment filed with the Clerk of Sacramento on September 11, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. ENERNET 140101 01-01-14

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE #FBNF2013-08945.

The following individual has abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME OF "Lisa Wiese and Associates," 6538 Via Sereno Dr., Rancho Murietta, CA 95683: Lisa A. Wiese, 6538 Via Sereno Dr., Rancho Murietta, CA 95683 and Eugene K. Wiese, 1212 Robertson Way, Sacramento, CA 95818. The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on November 13, 2013, in the County of Sacramento.

Abandonment filed with the Clerk of Sacramento on November 27, 2013. Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. WIESE 140101 01-01-14

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00151610

WHEREAS, Latasha Hurd has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Shawnte Brandon Jamal Alston to Brandon Jamal Shawnte Alston, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 9 a.m. on January 21, 2014, in Department 54, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 20, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. HURD 131203 12-18-13

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00153760

WHEREAS, Frshita Abdul Malik has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Frshita Abdul Malik to Freshita Malik, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 22, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. MALIK 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00153760

WHEREAS, Frshita Abdul Malik has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Frshita Abdul Malik to Freshita Malik, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 22, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 20, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. MALIK 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00153760

WHEREAS, Frshita Abdul Malik has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Frshita Abdul Malik to Freshita Malik, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 22, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 20, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. MALIK 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00153760

WHEREAS, Frshita Abdul Malik has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Frshita Abdul Malik to Freshita Malik, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 22, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 20, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2013. MALIK 140101 01-01-14



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00153718

WHEREAS, Andrea Corpus has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Sabrina Diane Corpus to Sabrina Gloria Hernandez, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 9 a.m. on January 22, 2014, in Department 54, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 20, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. CORPUS 131204 12-25-13

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154149

WHEREAS, John Scott Driver and Victoria Anne Lee have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Joss Allegra Lee Driver to XiaoXiao Joss Allegra Lee Driver, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 28, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. David I. Brown Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. DRIVER 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154111

WHEREAS, Rachael Delgado Mendez has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Rachael Delgado Mendez to Gabriel Delgado Mendez, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 23, 2014, in Department 54, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. David I. Brown Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. DRIVER 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154133

WHEREAS, Don W. McCullough has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Don W. McCullough to Brooke M. McCullough, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 24, 2014, in Department 54, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. Raymond M. Cadei Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013. MCCULL 131204 12-25-13

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154111

WHEREAS, Rachael Delgado Mendez has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Rachael Delgado Mendez to Gabriel Delgado Mendez, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 23, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. David I. Brown Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. MENDEZ 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154111

WHEREAS, Torrey Cole Morris has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Torrey Cole Morris to Victoria Ariel Geisser, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 9 a.m. on January 28, 2014, in Department 54, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. David I. Brown Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. MORRIS 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154116

WHEREAS, Eric John Woodward has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Eric John Woodward to Walrus Eric-John Woodard, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 29, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition. Dated: November 27, 2013. David I. Brown Judge of the Superior Court Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2013, January 1, 2014. MORRIS 140101 01-01-14

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154396

WHEREAS, Eric John Woodward has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name of Eric John Woodward to Walrus Eric-John Woodard, IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above entitled matter appear before this court at 2 p.m. on January 29, 2014, in Department 53, located at 800 Ninth Street, Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154396

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154396

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154396

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2013-00154396

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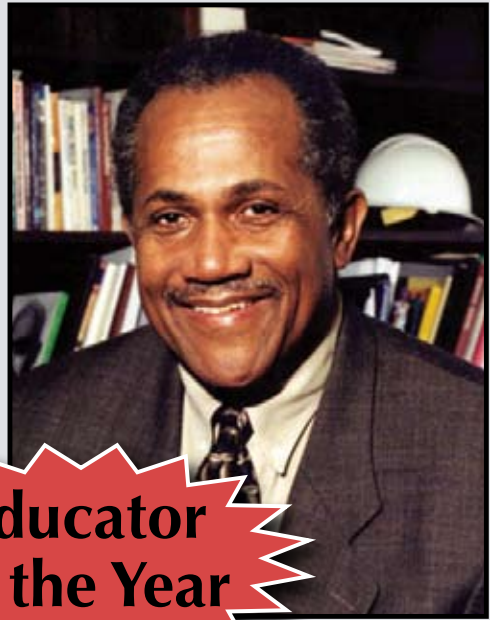


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**Jan Scully**



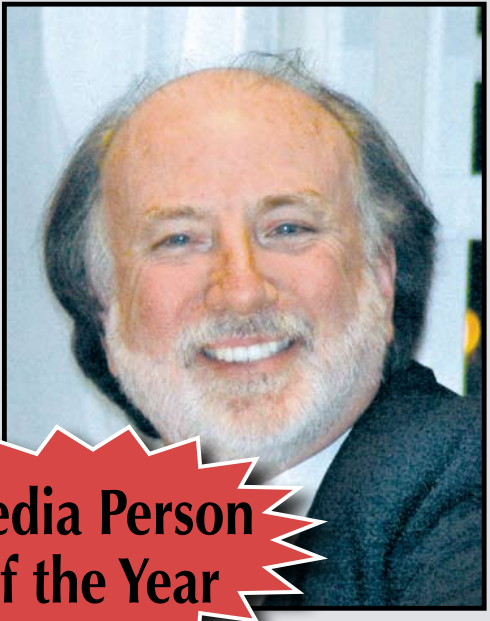
**Educator of the Year**

*San Juan District Superintendent*  
**Dr General Davie Jr.**



**Business of the Year**

*Be Money Smart USA*  
**Don & Marie Hall**



**Media Person of the Year**

*Messenger Publishing*  
**Paul Scholl**

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# Advertising Veteran Joins Sacramento Marketing Agency Merlot Marketing

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Merlot Marketing, a full-service, award-winning, national marketing agency based in Sacramento, announces the addition of Peter Norris as creative director and brand strategist. Norris has consulted with the agency for more than two years and is now hired full-time to manage the agency's creative and production departments while providing brand evaluations and strategic planning for clients.

From Illinois to California, with stops in Oregon and Texas, Norris' career has traversed the country, including working with global advertising agency DDB Worldwide in Chicago. While at DDB, Norris held the position of art director and worked on national accounts, such as Anheuser-Busch, Clorox, Frito-Lay and Discover Card Financial Services. Prior to joining Merlot Marketing, Norris worked with Sacramento-based public



Peter Norris

relations firm, Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn as executive creative director, and was a principle at Wheelhouse Digital. Norris studied political science and advertising at the University of Oregon, Eugene prior to attending the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Additionally, he studied improvisational communications at Second City in Chicago. During the course of his career, Norris has been a gold award

recipient and three-time nominee for a Clio Award. He is also the recipient of a Telly Award for film and video productions, a silver Effie Award for marketing, and a silver National ADDY Award for advertising. "Peter's strategic and creative expertise matched with his wild sense of humor make him the perfect blend to lead our creative team," said Debi Hammond, president and CEO of Merlot Marketing. "Peter has

led creative projects for Merlot Marketing since 2011 and we are thrilled to welcome him as part of our in-house team." Norris currently resides with his wife in Carmichael, where he enjoys playing golf. In true Merlot fashion, Norris enjoys wine tasting and studied International Wine Marketing at the University of California, Davis. ★ For more information call 916-285-9835 or visit [www.merlotmarketing.com](http://www.merlotmarketing.com).

# D.A. Scully Honored

Continued from Page 1

She is now married to oral surgeon Brian Royle. D.A. and dentist have a cat called Taz, three adult children and two step-grandchildren. In her working mom years, Scully served Jesuit and Loretto carpools and fundraisers. "I was the biggest cheerleader at sport competitions," she recalls. "No one thought of me as D.A., I was just somebody's mom."

"And nobody thinks of me as D.A. at home. "When I finish work, it's like: let's eat. Did my laundry get done? My husband and I walk a lot; talk a lot. He supports me and I support him. We share time."

Sacramento's first woman D.A. has run unopposed for five terms. She was the first female president of Californian and National District Attorney associations. Her future baby, the proposed Sacramento Family Justice Center, will shelter up to 40 social and judicial agencies under one roof. "So victims escaping family violence can easily access



Don and Marie Hall's Be Money Smart organization — which runs Sunday farmers markets — will be recognized as Business of the Year.

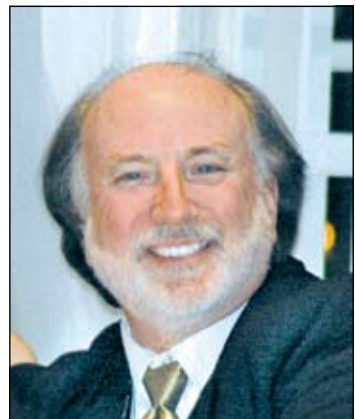
services to make them safe," she explains. "I'll keep working for that in my retirement. It'll be a holistic approach to meeting the needs of families in crisis."

Also at the January 24 gala, San Juan School District's former Supervisor Dr. General Davie will be named Educator of the Year. Don and Marie Hall's Be Money Smart organization will be recognized as Business of the Year. Media Person for 2014 will be Messenger Publishing Group owner Paul Scholl.

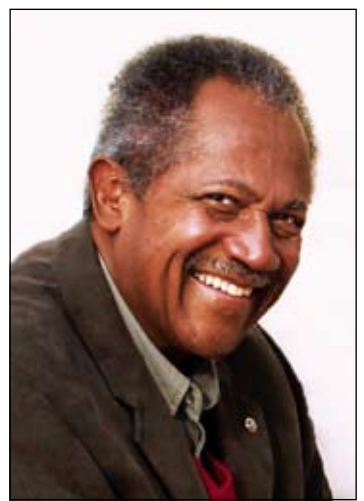
Congressman Ami Bera, Senator Jim Nielson, Assembly Member Ken Cooley, Supervisor Susan Peters and Sheriff Scott Jones will attend. The Chamber's 2014 President Connie Aaron will preside over the celebration and Honorary Mayor Virginia Stone will emcee.

A portion of proceeds will aid the Sheriff's Community Impact Program. Sponsors

include Dignity Health, Milagro Properties and S.M.U.D. La Sierra Center is at 5325 Engle Rd. Celebrations kick off at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person in advance; \$75 at the door. Admission includes dinner and a no-host bar. For information, visit [www.carmichaelchamber.com](http://www.carmichaelchamber.com) or call (916) 481-1002. ★



Messenger Publishing Group owner Paul Scholl will be 2014 Media Person of the Year.



The Carmichael Chamber of Commerce will honor San Juan School District's former Superintendent Dr. General Davie as Educator of the Year.

## Union Gospel Mission Sacramento

For more than 50 years, Union Gospel Mission has been serving Sacramento's homeless with shelter, meals, clothing, a rehabilitation program and a life-changing Gospel message. Founded in 1962 by concerned Christians for men in need, the Mission now serves women and children, too, and is an amazing testament to the good that comes with committed volunteers, inspired leadership and the community's support.

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**Railroad Museum to Exhibit**

**California State Parks, 150 Years**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California State Parks and the California State Railroad Museum are proud to debut an all-new exhibit titled "California State Parks, 150 Years: A Gift from the People, to the People" on Saturday, December 21, 2013. Timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of California State Parks in 2014, the exhibit will feature compelling and diverse historic images of parks along with a variety of cultural and natural history objects of importance to State Parks.

The 150th anniversary exhibit will be located in the front lobby of the Railroad Museum - North America's most popular railroad museum - and will offer an opportunity for visitors to gain a

greater appreciation for historic milestones and the important role State Parks plays in California's history and identity. In fact, on June 30, 1864, and in the midst of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Yosemite Grant Act, protecting Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove and ceding them to the State of California as the nation's first State Park. While Yosemite is now a National Park, it did mark the beginning of the State Parks movement. The landmark act - the first instance of park land being set aside specifically for preservation and public use by action of the federal government - created a legacy for California and the nation, and the entire world.

Through numerous name changes the Department of Parks and Recreation has continued to grow. It now oversees 280 units including parks, historic parks, beaches, recreation areas, vehicular recreation areas and natural reserves. The parks serve more than 70 million visitors annually from throughout California, the U.S. and around the globe, making California State Parks the biggest and most visited state park system in the world.

The "California State Parks, 150 Years" exhibit will remain on display at the Railroad Museum through 2014. For more information about the California State Railroad Museum, please visit [www.csrnmf.org](http://www.csrnmf.org) or call (916) 445-6645. ★

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# The Bullet Train Is Like the Walking Dead



Commentary by Jon Coupal

and summary, which are supposed to be objective and are usually written by the attorney general, were prepared by members of the Legislature who wrote the bond measure.

Five years after the passage of Proposition 1A, estimates of travel times and ticket prices have doubled, the total cost of the project could surpass \$100 billion and there is not one dollar of private sector money committed to the project. The idea of dedicated track for a high speed system has been tossed aside in favor of a "blended system" where high speed trains would compete for track space with commuter and freight lines. Even if the private railroads which own the right of way to the track gave their blessing to the plan (which they have emphatically refused) this would still significantly increase commute time.

Realizing the impossibility of keeping the promises made to voters, in March of this year, the High Speed Rail Authority filed a "validation action," suing everyone in the state. If no one responded, they would have slipped the noose. The authority would have received a court ruling allowing the issuance of almost nine billion dollars in bonds to fund construction of a rail system that no longer resembles what voters approved with the passage of Proposition 1A.

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and others answered the complaint for validation. HJTA requested that the court deny the issuance of the bonds on the grounds that the High Speed Rail Authority's plans had so deviated from the promises made to voters in Proposition 1A, that bonds for the project had not received

voter approval.

Taxpayers received good news last week when Sacramento Superior Court Judge Michael Kenny denied the Rail Authority permission to put taxpayers in debt almost nine billion dollars, to use on a project not even remotely close to what the State pitched to California voters when they approved high speed rail five years ago. Judge Kenny's ruling denied the validation because there was no evidence to support the idea that it was "necessary and desirable" to issue the bonds.

In a separate ruling, the judge found that the State's current funding plan did not conform to the requirements of Proposition 1A and he ordered the State to draft a new plan that does conform. Among the requirements placed in statute by Proposition 1A is the requirement that the system be self-funding, needing no new taxes or government subsidies. As even the High Speed Rail Authority knows, this is now impossible.

However, while the court ruling should give encouragement to taxpayers, readers who passed the exam at the top of the page will be aware that government bureaucrats can be as mindlessly relentless as zombies, and the critically flawed bullet train project is likely to be as hard to kill as the Walking Dead. ★

*(Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association — California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights. Originally published on HJTA.)*

# Tax Reprieve Brings Holiday Cheer

By George Runner

Thousands of struggling Californians who short sold their homes to avoid foreclosure can rest easier this holiday season knowing they won't be hit with huge income tax bills.

The threat was real. A California law protecting homeowners from paying taxes on forgiven debt associated with a short sale expired at the end of 2012, and legislative efforts to extend it failed. Furthermore, a federal law providing the same protections expires at the end of this year.

Nearly everyone believed the result would be that debt forgiven in a short sale would be viewed as taxable income. A homeowner who short sold a home for \$300,000 but owed \$450,000 would be forced to pay taxes on \$150,000 of forgiven debt, known in the tax world as "cancellation of debt income." It wouldn't matter that the homeowner didn't receive those dollars—he or she would still owe the tax.

According to the Franchise Tax Board, the cumulative tax hit for Californians would have surpassed \$50 million at the state level alone. These tax bills would have hammered thousands who have already suffered the most during the recent economic downturn. Likely some would have been forced into bankruptcy.

Rather than simply mail in the keys when forced to move, these homeowners had taken the extra and often difficult step of negotiating a short sale with their lender. Little did they know they could be punished for doing so.

Those who became aware of the potential tax consequences have been worried sick. One

homeowner told me she has literally lost sleep trying to figure out how she could possibly afford to pay.

After the legislative solution failed, I sent a letter to the Franchise Tax Board's Chief Counsel requesting a legal opinion on this matter. Perhaps there was another pathway to protect taxpayers.

Initially, FTB staff indicated they would need guidance from the IRS before providing an answer. That guidance arrived in an IRS letter to Senator Barbara Boxer. The IRS said that taxpayers would not be on the hook for income tax from cancelled debts related to short sales. This will be significant for federal purposes following the expiration of the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act at the end of this year.

Just this month FTB formally responded to my letter confirming that it will follow the lead of the Internal Revenue Service and not impose a tax penalty on Californians who have sold their home via a short sale. In her response, FTB Chief Counsel Jozel Brunett stated: "Since California conforms to the relevant portions of the federal tax law governing the forgiveness of nonrecourse and recourse indebtedness, California would follow the federal treatment for the [California Code of Civil Procedure] section 580e transactions."

This is welcome news for Californians who have had to short sell their homes this year. We learned last month they wouldn't face a federal tax penalty in the future, and now we know they won't face a current or future state tax hit either.

The FTB's announcement that it will conform with the IRS

ensures continued protection for most taxpayers without the need for additional legislation. That is truly cause for celebration.

Among those celebrating is California Association of Realtors President Kevin Brown, who issued this statement: "We would like to thank Sen. Boxer and BOE member Runner for their leadership in obtaining this guidance from the IRS and FTB. Distressed California homeowners can now avoid foreclosure or bankruptcy and can opt for a short sale instead, without incurring federal and state tax liability, even after the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 expires at the end of this year."

As an elected taxpayer advocate, it's my duty to help taxpayers each and every day. My job is all the more enjoyable when I'm able to report good news.

One constituent responded by writing: "Thank you! You've saved our family from a burdensome tax that was looming over our heads as we approached the end of the year. I'm sure there are many families that will benefit from this and will be able to get back on their feet sooner because of this determination."

It's not every day Californians receive welcome news from tax agencies. When it happens it's worth noting and applauding, especially when it helps thousands of Californians who now have one less worry this holiday season. ★

*George Runner represents more than nine million Californians as a taxpayer advocate and elected member of the State Board of Equalization. For more information, visit boe.ca.gov/Runner.*

# Crafty Christmas at Church Fair



Loud sweater alert. Crafter extraordinaire Jerry Kaye Ryden and relatives Noel and Lena Hulse offered seasonal apparel at St John's craft fair. Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

By Susan Maxwell Skinner

St John the Evangelist School's annual blowout – "A Holiday Show of Hands" – recently ensured a crafty Christmas to over 10,000 shoppers.

Holiday and entrepreneurial spirit soared as 150 crafters installed wares at the Locust Avenue school. In its 35th year, the three-day fundraiser took over the entire school campus and jammed surrounding streets with shoppers' cars. Hand-knitted, jeweled, spun or turned from a pottery wheel -- if it was

tooled with artistry and love – St John's was the place to find it. Though the air was crisp and Sunday's temperatures close to a record low, hot toddies and snacks warmed hearts. Crafters' needles clicked on site as woolen hats and mittens proved to be big sellers.

"People come to shop from all over Sacramento; even some from out of state," said volunteer fair organizer Pat Holbus. "Busloads arrive as part of a tradition to shop with friends. It's a weekend that says: it's Christmastime."

Planning for the 2014 St John's Fair begins in January.

A portion of proceeds will aid the Sheriff's Community Impact Program. Sponsors include Dignity Health, Milagro Properties, S.M.U.D and Jesuit High School. La Sierra Center is at 5325 Engle Rd. Celebrations kick off at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person in advance; \$75 at the door. Admission includes dinner and a no-host bar. For information, visit [www.carmichaelchamber.com](http://www.carmichaelchamber.com) or call (916) 481-1002.

For information, call the school: (916) 481-8845. ★



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