

Carmichael Times

Volume 32 • Issue 5

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

February 1, 2012

Kristy A. Hernandez: Top 10 Tips for Dealing with Collection Agencies



Page 2

Young Entrepreneur Makes Carmichael Home for his Auto Body Shop



Page 3

A Special Happy 200th Birthday to You, Mr. Charles Dickens!



Page 12

The Kind of Change We Need

By Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL – Some miracles are long overdue. For ten years, property developer Nancy Emerson Davis drove by a run-down Fair Oaks Blvd strip mall, commenting that it was “an eyesore for the community.”

“I felt sad nobody was doing anything about it,” she recalls. “It (the Hillside Shopping Center) was dead center of Carmichael and it was such a dump. I felt we deserved better. In past years, we’ve seen a decline in Carmichael’s look. Many businesses have failed; Fair Oaks Blvd has become an uninviting environment.”

Her affection for the community is not just commercial. Nancy and husband Allan Davis have lived in Carmichael most of their lives. Each is a grandparent from two combined families. They host big clan gatherings in a century-old adobe, minutes from the boulevard once dubbed “the ugliest street in Sacramento.”

Crime and vandalism, boarded store windows and cyclone fences are not what the husband and wife developers want for their home town. “What you see from your car does not reflect what our town has to offer,” considers Allan. “Something must change.”

Last spring, a for-sale sign on the bank-foreclosed Hillside center galvanized the couple’s ambition. Two weeks later, they owned “the dump.” The Davises’ Milagro Investments company – named for Allan’s Milagro (miracle) recovery from cancer eight years ago – has several commercial and residential properties in the area. Hillside is their first shopping center. Even for the daughter of building giant Joe Benvenuti, remodeling a four acre complex that rents 42,412 square feet is daunting. But Nancy and her husband see this challenge as a chance to spur resuscitation of the commercial center and benefit their township in general.

“We don’t want to continue watching Carmichael deteriorate,” says Allan Davis. “We believe in taking action to preserve our community. Carmichael should be a destination, not a pass-through.”

Built in the 1970s, the Hillside center has seen at least four owners and scores of businesses come and go. Its unrelieved profile and poor visibility from the boulevard is held to blame. Of 10 existing store fronts, only three viable businesses remain. The Palace is a catering/event center where the notorious El Dorado Saloon once rocked Carmichael weekends. The Reid Family Martial Arts studio maintains a steady student flow. A breakfastery famed as the Waffle Barn is a Carmichael institution. Architect plans will keep these



Milagro Investments owners Nancy and Allan Davis visit their newly-purchased shopping center. Plans for the rundown Hillside complex aim to invigorate Carmichael business and community life. Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

resilient tenants operating while their premises are face-lifted.

A wine-country theme, including a petite corner vineyard, is being finessed. Designed by architect Michael “the imagineer” Martin (from the Sacramento firm of Kenton Russell), the rebuilt center will draw eyes from the boulevard with a tree-lined avenue of patios and seating. In a design resembling the Fountains center in Roseville, rough-hewn stone will form pillars and walls. Stucco, brick, earthy colors and landscaping will transform Hillside’s institutional facade. Shade trees will be omnipresent. Tall palms may echo the path of Mary Deterding’s nearby Palm drive, where the pioneer’s 90 year-old trees are landmarks. “When motorists go by,” Nancy considers, “they should be attracted to a place where people are enjoying life. Once you’re in our parking lot, I want you to feel you’ll enjoy more than just shopping.”

The Waffle Barn exterior will be remodeled. An outside mural may become a rotating public art feature.

Central to the revamped commercial area, an all-seasons covered patio with water features, a

fire place and dining nooks will be built. Several boutique-sized restaurants will open into this courtyard. “We don’t want people leaving Carmichael to find a place to eat,” says Nancy. “In this economy, we prefer small bistros where you can affordably dine out in a charming atmosphere.”

“Our new center should be a place where families and friends can gather, enjoy their drink of choice and eat outdoors. Above all, they should enjoy the value of community. Restaurants attract other businesses. We’d like to see a grocer; a bakery; a florist; specialty retailers. We don’t want to be ordinary. We’ll take our time selecting tenants.”

Work on their plan will begin – in phases – this spring. By fall, customers should be sipping lattes in the re-named shopping center. “We haven’t decided what to call it,” admits Nancy. “We’d like to incorporate Milagro in the name. Allan and I had our miracle; it’s time for Carmichael to have one, too.”

By chance or design, the Davis’ multi-million dollar project coincides with County plans to beautify Fair Oaks Blvd. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)

recently announced \$4 million in grant money toward improving the much maligned corridor. Stretching from Oak Ave, past the Hillside property, to Manzanita at Winding Way and to Marshall on Fair Oaks Blvd, initial work will start in spring. County Principal Planner Tricia Stevens has managed the Corridor program since its inception. “We’ve reviewed the Hillside plans,” she said. “They fit well with ours. We don’t specify any architectural theme; we look for quality. That’s what the Davises are providing.”

Added County Supervisor Susan Peters: “The Hillside Center has potential to be a welcoming destination. I applaud the new owners’ plans to improve the site.”

Though the Davises’ building budget remains classified, cutting corners seems unlikely. “If we were just slapping on paint and re-doing the parking lot, it would be so easy,” says Nancy Davis. “But we want something better for Carmichael. We want to create a landmark people will talk about for years to come. Something that draws the community together is so needed here.”



Architect Michael Martin’s profile of the center’s new south-east side. A wine-country theme includes a petite vineyard.

Supervisor Susan Peters Seeks Volunteers for Community Planning Advisory Councils

SACRAMENTO COUNTY – County Supervisor Susan Peters is asking local residents who want to become more involved in the land-use development process to apply for service on the Community Planning Advisory Councils (CPACs) for the unincorporated communities of Arden-Arcade and Carmichael/Old Foothill Farms.

“The members of a Community Planning Advisory Council serve an important first step in the planning process by evaluating and commenting on development projects that need entitlements including zoning changes and conditional use permits as well as requests for variances from the zoning code,” says Peters. “The Board of Supervisors also utilizing these councils for neighborhood input on proposed ordinances and alcohol sales that require special approval by the Board.”

Each CPAC consists of seven members with staggered 2 year terms. Currently there are two openings available for each CPAC. Persons interested in serving must submit an application to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors including an applicant’s statement of no more than 200 words that be may be released to the public. An application kit can be obtained online by visiting sccob.saccounty.net.

Interested individuals wanting more information about the function of either CPAC can contact Eleanor Tyler of the Community Planning and Development Department via telephone at 874-5397.

IRS e-file 2012 Launched

The Internal Revenue Service opened the 2012 electronic tax return filing season on January 17th with a reminder to taxpayers that e-file remains the best way to get fast refunds and ensure accurate tax returns.

IRS e-file has surpassed the milestone of 1 billion returns processed. The electronic transmission system revolutionized the way the IRS processes tax returns and made speedy refunds possible. More than 112 million income tax returns were e-filed last year, or 77 percent of all individual returns filed.

“E-file is the best option for taxpayers. E-file enables taxpayers to file more accurate returns and receive their refunds quickly and safely,” said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman.

Continued on Page 2

Sacramento-Based App Lets Customers Provide Private Feedback To Local Businesses

SACRAMENTO - Sacramento residents weary of writing public online reviews can provide private, anonymous and immediate feedback to local businesses through the new free Sacramento-based iSuggest app. iSuggest is a Sacramento mobile technology startup company that gives customers a voice while providing tools for businesses to improve customer satisfaction.

“Often people want to provide suggestions to local businesses without risking the company’s reputation by writing a public review,” said Matt Brickley, iSuggest marketing

director. “iSuggest gives them the chance to communicate directly with the manager or business owner right away without tracking someone down in person or searching for an online contact form.”

Customers visit iSuggest.com or download iSuggest for free from their app market. When the app is launched, customers see all nearby businesses or can search for businesses in other locations. After a suggestion is written, it is delivered instantly and privately to the manager or owner. Businesses can then respond to customers and offer

rewards for helpful feedback. The basic iSuggest service is free for all businesses, but a Pro Plan upgrade will soon be available to businesses looking for additional tools such as customer rewards and analytics.

“This is a win-win,” Brickley said. “Customers have the chance to share their brilliant ideas, and businesses can correct errors or implement new ideas before negative public reviews hit the web. The result benefits the entire community.”

iSuggest can provide feedback to any business, but many local businesses have signed up to

promote their desire to receive feedback, including De Vere’s Irish Pub, Hot Italian, Sterling Hotel, Sacramento Comedy Spot and Mike’s Bikes of Sacramento. Businesses receive iSuggest’s green “We Heart Feedback” stickers, bill inserts, table tents and more, and can manage their online suggestions and provide incentives through a control panel. To sign up as an iSuggest partner, visit www.isuggest.com or call (888) 907-2054.

iSuggest was created by Sacramento entrepreneurs Cory Robertson, Mike Machado and Matt Brickley when they noticed

physical suggestion boxes were dwindling while at the same time, online review sites were lacking privacy, timeliness and direct communication. iSuggest provides a virtual suggestion box that allows customers to provide anonymous, private and immediate feedback through their mobile devices directly to management. iSuggest gives customers and businesses the chance to communicate privately and make changes that benefit the community as a whole. For more information, visit www.isuggest.com.



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRESORTED STD. US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT 350 Carmichael, CA Change Service Requested

SARA Celebrations



Save the American River Association (SARA) recently marked its 50th year at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. VIPS included (back left) former County Parks director Ron Suter and builder Jim Streng. Front: former County Supervisor Gene Gualco (left); triathlon sponsor Eppie Johnson; former Supervisor Illa Collin; SARA founder Jim Jones and former SARA president Warren Truitt. Learn about SARA at www.sarariverwatch.org. Photo and text by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

PG&E Announces \$1 Million Scholarship Program

PG&E Bright Minds™ Awards Full Scholarships for College, University or Vocational School

SACRAMENTO REGION – As part of its ongoing dedication to strengthening communities throughout California, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) announced the launch of its PG&E Bright Minds™ Scholarship program. PG&E will award up to \$1 million in scholarships to enable high school, community college and “non-traditional” students to complete their higher education paths. Bright Minds scholarship winners will receive full-ride scholarships of up to \$30,000 per year; program finalists will receive \$2,500 towards their studies.

“Over the last decade, PG&E has contributed nearly \$40 million towards educational initiatives and, with today’s announcement, we are proud to deepen our commitment to education and to the communities we have the privilege of serving,” said Chris Johns, president of PG&E. “By supporting deserving students, we can help them realize their full potential.”

The PG&E Bright Minds scholarships will be awarded based on a combined demonstration of community leadership, personal triumph, financial need and academic achievement.

Eligible students will be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the duration of the 2012-2013 academic year.

The deadline for applying for the PG&E Bright Minds Scholarship is February 17, 2012. For more information and to apply, visit www.pge.com/brightminds. Scholarship winners will be announced in the spring.

For more information, visit www.pge.com/community.

IRS e-file 2012 Launched

Continued from Page 1

In general, for people concerned about security, e-file has proven itself year in and year out as a safe and secure method of filing a tax return. E-file has a proven track record. Software vendors and paid tax return preparers use the latest encryption technology. Plus, within 48 hours, an electronic acknowledgement is issued that the return has been received by the IRS and either accepted or rejected.

With most people receiving a refund, the fastest way to get a refund is by e-filing and using direct deposit. Taxpayers can get their money automatically in as few as 10 days. Last year, more than 79 million refunds were electronically deposited into taxpayers’ accounts, saving them a trip to the bank.

For people who owe taxes, e-file offers payment alternatives such as filing now and scheduling payment on the April tax deadline. Taxpayers who still want to pay by check can do so

by e-filing and then mailing a payment voucher.

Taxpayers can e-file their tax returns one of three ways: through a tax return preparer, through self-preparation software or through IRS Free File. The IRS does not charge for e-file. Many tax return preparers and software products also offer free e-filing with their services. Free File offers free tax preparation and free electronic filing.

Starting this filing season, any paid preparer who prepares and files more than 10 returns for clients generally must file the returns electronically. Taxpayers are encouraged to use tax return preparers who offer IRS e-file.

Taxpayers should also only use paid preparers who sign the returns they prepare and enter their Preparer Tax Identification Numbers (PTINs). Preparers are required to sign the returns they prepare and include their PTINs. Although paid preparers sign returns, taxpayers are legally responsible for the accuracy of every item on their return.

Preparers are also required to give taxpayers a copy of their returns.

When using e-file, you also use an e-signature and an electronic filing PIN. If you prepare your own return using software you must use the self-select PIN method on the return. When using a paid preparer, you can still use the self-select PIN method or the practitioner PIN method. The Electronic Filing PIN is a temporary PIN used by the IRS to verify your identity when you e-file.

IRS Free File, which has been making taxes a little less taxing for a decade, also begins today, Jan. 17. Everyone can use Free File, either the brand-name software offered by IRS’ commercial partners or the online fillable forms. Individuals or families with 2011 adjusted gross incomes of \$57,000 or less can use Free File software. Free File Fillable Forms, the electronic version of IRS paper forms, has no income restrictions.

Top 10 Tips for Dealing with Collection Agencies

By Kristy A. Hernandez, Esq.

Many clients struggling with debt do not want to suffer the dramatic hit to a credit score that bankruptcy may cause. However, debts owed to creditors cannot simply be ignored, and collection agencies often use harassment and aggressive tactics that make settling debts difficult for the average person. The Law Office of Kristy Hernandez offers affordable debt settlement options, but for clients who want to try and settle debt on their own, there are some helpful tips that can make the debt settlement more bearable and may even save you money.

Here are some helpful hints:

1. Realize that Credit collection agents are usually working on commissions. This is a JOB to them and the more they get you to pay, the larger their paycheck. They will be persistent, so be prepared.
2. Don’t argue with the agent, because you will lose. This is what they do all day, every day and they have heard every excuse in the book. They are prepared with an answer to everything. State your case but don’t argue.
3. It usually doesn’t help to ask

to speak to someone’s boss. In this case, talking to the supervisor normally won’t help (in fact it could be worse). Remember, he ended up with his job because he was good at what he did and was able to squeeze every dime out of past consumers who had disputes.

4. Never give information out over the telephone to a collection agency. This includes your driver’s license number, social security number, debit card numbers, check numbers, credit card numbers, or bank account numbers. They should already have this information.

5. Use a money order or certified funds to make all payments. Make a copy of it and staple it to the bill.

6. Keep records of everything (including dates of phone calls and what was said), and make sure that anything sent through the mail has a return receipt.

7. Make sure you get written confirmation of any deals or negotiated payoffs. Make sure you have something that says the collection has been satisfied.

8. Never take their first offer when negotiating a lower payment as they will always call back with a better offer.

9. Use powerful sentences like, “This is all I can afford to pay,” rather than “this is all I am going to pay.” This is a much better negotiation tactic when you are trying to lower the payoff with the collection agent.

10. When repairing your credit, it is a good rule to keep copies of all your credit reports. That way you can track the process of what has been repaired and make sure that what you negotiated is coming to pass.

While it would be impossible to include everything there is to know about dealing with collection agents, these 10 tips will likely result in more money in your pocket and less in theirs. If you have questions about the debt settlement process, bankruptcy or loan modification, the Law Offices of Kristy Hernandez offers free consultations to all new clients. To speak with one of our attorneys in the Bay Area, please call (510)456-7400. To speak with one of our attorneys in the Sacramento area, please call (916)728-1500. Our website www.khlawoffices.com is also an excellent reference for clients interested in learning about debt reductions options.

Call to Advertise 733-1111

Senior Homecare By Angels

Select Your Caregiver.

Experienced Caregiver Thoroughly Screened.

Providing Peace of Mind to thousands across America each and every day!



- Up to 24 Hour Care
- Meal Preparation
- Errands/Shopping
- Hygiene Assistance
- Medication Reminders
- Respite Care for Families
- Low Hourly Rates
- Temporary/Long Term

Schedule an appointment now for a FREE In-Home Assessment

916-971-9333



www.visitingangels.com/sacramento

Each Visiting Angels agency is independently owned and operated.



HERNANDEZ LAW GROUP, INC

Foreclosure Defense and Bankruptcy
Kristy Hernandez

Managing Attorney • Sacramento Area

7777 Greenback Lane, Suite 212
Citrus Heights • 916.728.1500

SavingCaliforniaHomes.com



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Carmichael Times

“Written by the people and for the people”
Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

Publisher’s Statement: It is the intent of the Carmichael Times to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. We consider our Editorial and Opinion pages to be a public forum for our readers. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The Carmichael Times is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the Carmichael Times are copyrighted.

Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the Times is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to Carmichael Times, P.O. Box 14, Carmichael, CA 95609. Subscription rate is \$39 per year within Carmichael, \$49 within Sacramento County.

The Carmichael Times is published weekly. Call 916-773-1111 for more information. (ISSN # 1948-1918).

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@CarmichaelTimes.com. Be sure to place in the subject field “Attention to Publisher”. If you do not have email access, please call us at 916-773-1111.

Advertising Sales

Paul V. Scholl • Marion Solo
Alyse Weaver • Harry Sidhu • Ken Pogue • Max H. Peters

Graphics & Layout

Banerjee Designs • Stump Removal Graphics

Contributing Writers

Susan Skinner • Mary Jane Popp • Marlys Johnsen Norris • Tim Reilly
David Dickstein • Dave Ramsey • Dr. E. Kirsten Peters • Kay Burton
Dr. Bob Graykowski • Julie Parker • Leslie Carrara
Pastor Rich Reimer • Pastor Cary Duckett • Ronnie McBrayer
David Graulich • Perry Hartline • Gerry Scholl

Distribution Assistant

Gabriel Scholl

Accounting

Nicholson & Olsen CPA

Web Master

RJ at thesitebarn.com • JWS Promotions • Mikahn Design

News Services

Whiskey & Gunpowder • StatePoint Media • NewsUSA • PRWEB NewsWire
North American Precis Syndicate • Blue Ridge Press • ARA Content
California News Service • Family Features • WorldNetDaily

Photography

Amanda Morello • Susan Skinner

Member of Carmichael, Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, and Orangevale Chambers of Commerce

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



Carmichael Times is a member of Messenger Publishing Group



Young Entrepreneur Makes Carmichael Home for his American Eagle Body Shop



The AE Body Shop Crew: Amir Azar, Rich Weidt, Store Owner Ali Azar, Daniel Tong II and George Vasquez.

By A. Weaver

American Eagle Body Shop proprietor, Ali Azar, never dreamed he would own his own auto body shop someday, but today, only in his late 20s, he has achieved his goal.

Ali was three years old when he left Persia (Iran) back in the 80s. His uncle owned a body shop and Ali worked there and learned the auto body business from the ground up.

Even though he knew a trade, Azar went to California State University, Sacramento and earned a degree in Strategic Management, in 2003.

In December 2004, Ali took over a body shop on Auburn Blvd, and last June, he moved his business onto Fair Oaks Blvd, in Carmichael.

Ali works with his brother and four technicians and says he has a strong belief in customer service and making it easier for clients. He tries to keep the experience friendly for his customers. The auto body industry is highly regulated and he makes sure he stays in compliance. He uses

top of the line equipment, or the newest equipment available.

He does offer his clients the following services:

- Full auto body & paint work
- Collision repair
- Restoration
- Pickup and delivery
- Free towing
- Free rental car
- Mobile estimates within 24 hours

They don't do a lot of mechanical or interior work, but they can have it done for the client, or refer it out. The mechanical work he does handle includes:

- Replace radiators, windows, stereo systems
- Detail service

They don't, however, work on air conditioning, or do or oil changes.

All of his technicians are all Pittsburgh Paint & Glass (PPG) certified and Ali boasts of having the latest technology and equipment available for his clients.

He also says that his business is environmentally friendly and he was the first in Sacramento to convert to water-based paint,

which uses fewer chemicals and is better for the environment. He has been using this water-based paint for two years now.

"We're here for our customers and we will work with any insurance company to bring your vehicle back to its original "pre-accident condition."

Ali stands behind his work and says offers a lifetime warranty on his work for as long as you own the car.

Stop by his office and he can show you his pride and joy - a 1964 Lincoln Continental convertible, in mint condition, with burgundy leather seats. It is the same type of car that JFK rode in Dallas, Texas.

Although he is Kings fan, he has a basketball (in his office) signed by Shaquille O'Neal on June 19, 2011 - the same day Azar opened his shop in Carmichael.

"I thrive on competition and will meet or beat any estimates," he said. American Eagle body shop is located at 6801 Fair Oaks Blvd., in Carmichael. Their number is 916-339-1776.

St. Johns Soccer Club Receives Donations from Carmichael Tire Pros and Uniroyal Tire

SACRAMENTO - St. Johns Soccer Club has received more than \$620 in both funds and equipment from Carmichael Tire Pros and Uniroyal®Tire.

Since 2000, the Uniroyal Soccer Program has donated nearly \$14 million in funds and equipment, including over one million soccer balls, to more than 3,000 youth soccer leagues nationwide. "Being in touch with our community and its soccer organization is such a meaningful experience," said Jeff Haas from Carmichael Tire Pros. "Knowing we are having a positive impact on these kids when we are giving out the soccer balls is priceless."

"After 12 years of dedication, the program continues to grow and support more communities thanks to dealers like Carmichael Tire Pros," said Ana Martin, Uniroyal Communications Manager. "Over 1,100 participants have connected with their local youth soccer programs across the United States. Bringing value to families is what Uniroyal



From left to right: Carmichael Tire Pros staff Michael Williams, Jason Cearley and store manager Jeff Haus.

believes in, and the soccer program enables us to do so in an unmatched way."

To find out more about Carmichael Tire Pros, contact Jeff Haas, 916-481-8020, at 7500 Fair Oaks Blvd in Carmichael. To learn more about Uniroyal

tires, Uniroyal and its community initiatives, visit www.UniroyalTires.com. You can also find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UniroyalSoccer.

Source: Uniroyal Public Relations

Bank Robbery Suspect Sought in Sacramento

SACRAMENTO - The Sacramento Violent Crimes Task Force (SVCTF) is seeking help from the public to identify a man suspected of robbing Wells Fargo Bank at 2598 Fair Oaks Boulevard - near the intersection of Fair Oaks and Monroe - yesterday, January 26, 2012.

The suspected robber is black male believed to be in his early 30's who weighs approximately 180 pounds, stands approximately six feet tall and fled on foot while wearing a red San Francisco Giants cap with "San Francisco" embroidered on the brim, glasses and a grey hooded zip-up sweatshirt over an untucked black and white plaid shirt. He also carried a black backpack.



Photos: FBI News Release

At approximately 10:45 a.m., the man entered the bank and presented the teller with a note demanding cash. While no weapon was seen, the suspect indicated that he was armed.

This case is being investigated by the SVCTF, comprised of FBI agents and Sacramento County Sheriff's Department detectives.

Anyone with information regarding this robbery is asked to contact the FBI in Sacramento at (916) 481-9110, the Sacramento Sheriff's Department at (916) 874-5115 or Crime Alert at (916) 443-HELP. Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000.00.

Source: FBI



Ali Azar is proud of his prize possession - a 1964 Lincoln Continental.

AE

Complete Collision Repair
Free Estimates
24 Hour Towing
We Work with All Insurance Companies

"We Meet By Accident"

up to **\$500⁰⁰**
Instant Rebate
towards your **DEDUCTIBLE**

Some restrictions apply - call for details. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offer. Expires February 28, 2012.

Before **After**

FREE LOANER CAR WITH ANY REPAIR

Present this coupon and receive a free loaner car for the duration of your repairs after authorization. Some restrictions apply - call for details. Coupon must be presented upon authorization. Limit 1 coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offer. Expires February 28, 2012.

6801 Fair Oaks Blvd • Carmichael, CA 95608
Phone 916-339-1776 • Fax 916-339-1700
Email: info@aebodyshop.com • www.aebodyshop.com

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: By appointment • Sunday: Closed

www.CarmichaelTimes.com



"The difference is clearly that you care very deeply about your work and the people you are caring for."

In-home service for SENIORS by Seniors

Our loving, caring, compassionate seniors are there to help. We offer all the services you need to stay in your own home, living independently.

- Companion Care
- Overnight stays
- Light Housekeeping
- 24-hour Care
- Meal Preparation
- Doctor Appointments
- Personal Care
- Shopping
- Transportation



SENIORS Helping SENIORS®
...a way to give and to receive®

In the **Seniors Helping Seniors®** family, everyone wins. Those who give and those who receive learn from each other everyday - and all we hear is about how rewarding it is for both of them.

For the help you want at a price you can afford®. Seniors Helping Seniors® in-home services is the place to call.

If you need some help, call for a free assessment.

916-372-9640

CandyStrike

Emporium

Voted BEST Candy Store
www.CandyStrike.com

Old Time Candy & More

- Lots'a Fudges
- Licorices/Vines
- Taffy Galore
- Lots'a Jerky
- Kettle Corn, Carmel Corn & Cheese Corn, 12 Flavors

- Toys
- Gifts
- Chocolates By Barbara B.
- Soda Pop'n
- Glass Bottles

530-295-1007
866-409-2763

398 "Historic" Main St.
Placerville, CA 95667

Online coupon at www.CarmichaelTimes.com

Carmichael Water District Votes on Alternate Water Plan

By A. Weaver

In the end, after all was said and done, the final decision on whether to raise Carmichael's water rates by 18 percent came down to a choice of three alternative plans that the Carmichael Water District board members voted on, during its monthly meeting on January 23, 2012.

And the results were anti-climactic.

In the CWD meeting packet, made available at the meeting, three alternative plans to challenge the proposed 18 percent rate increase for Carmichael residents were included.

Taking into account the public's concerns/thoughts/comments/ideas from the previous month's meeting regarding the proposed increase, they came up with the following three alternative plans.

During the meeting, CWD board member Roy Leidy stood up and, explained the history of the water district and how

it operates different programs and utilizes its funds. He broke down the reasons for the two million dollar loan, step by step, and examined all the reasons why they need to raise rates.

After his presentation, the floor was opened to public comment.

This meeting was far less contentious than the previous month's CWD meeting, and there were a number of empty seats, as opposed to the December 12, meeting in which there was standing room only.

However some Carmichael residents were still angry and vented their frustrations to the board. Several audience members who spoke up, said they felt they couldn't trust the board, or the figures the board was presenting to them.

One speaker wanted to know why they didn't get this information (the three alternative plans) sooner. Some speakers and audience members thought they would be discussing the three alternative

options with the board, at this meeting, but that did not happen.

Leidy stated several times that they needed to fix the problem now, and not keep kicking the can down the street.

Speaker Jim Baker, came up with ideas that he said could save the district \$300,000; such as extending financing; and restructuring the debt left on the two million dollar loan. Board member Paul Selsky commented that he liked some of these ideas.

However, after a brief discussion, the board took a vote and chose 4-1 in favor of Alternative Plan One. Plan three, which was backed by board member Mark R. Emmerson was voted down, 3-2.

As quickly as it came up, it was voted on by the board. It was a very anti-climatic end to a problem that many people had been very outspoken about.

Sources: CWD meeting packet; CWD website; interviews.

Lungren Seeks Public Input on SOPA

SACRAMENTO – Though the debate over the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) has played out on an international Internet stage, one local voice in the conversation seeking more public input has been Congressman Dan Lungren, (R-Gold River). The SOPA Act purports to stop the online piracy of intellectual property such as movies, music and many other modes of artistic expression. But as the bill meandered through the vetting process of Congressional committees with few if any challenges, the man who represents California's Third Congressional District had to, in effect, call a time-out before there was a "rush to judgment."

Lungren, who serves on the House Judiciary Committee and who chairs the House Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, recognized early on that legislative remedy prescribed to thwart the piracy was also potent enough to censor or kill free speech on some Internet sites where piracy allegations were found.

As Internet sites and services as diverse as Google, Wikipedia and Firefox displayed visible signs of protests on their pages Wednesday (Jan. 18), the phones at Congressional offices such as Lungren's were

buzzing with questions and commentary. So much so, Lungren issued the following statement to constituents: "If you tried to e-mail me yesterday, you probably encountered difficulties with my Website. It was not that my office was part of the Internet blackout to protest the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) – but the extra traffic and e-mails from people writing me about SOPA did temporarily bring down our contact form," he said. "Listening to many constituents on SOPA yesterday is exactly what this process has lacked from its beginning: hearing from all sides about the bill and its effect not just on intellectual property rights but on the free dissemination of speech online. "I was disappointed and greatly concerned when SOPA rolled through the Judiciary Committee without expert witness testimony on the DNSSEC (Domain Name System security extensions) provisions. In a rush to move SOPA through Committee so quickly, major cybersecurity concerns were overlooked, leading me to ask – as Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Cybersecurity – what else was being overlooked in this rush to judgment."

He said the theft of intellectual property rights from those who create our

music and film entertainment is a serious problem that should be addressed in a thorough and intellectually honest way. Up and coming artists all too often find themselves robbed of the fruits of their labor – but a right desire to protect their work should not lead us to rush a bill through Congress.

"We cannot afford to get this wrong. However, the legislation still raises a serious issue about government censorship of the internet and whether some remedies in the current SOPA legislation are overly broad," he said.

"While I am pleased that our efforts resulted in the removal of the DNS blocking provisions from the bill, the seriousness of this issue warrants further scrutiny. As the DNSSEC issue revealed, the Judiciary Committee lacks sufficient knowledge to continue consideration of SOPA at this time. The process should be opened up and we should hear from a diverse field of witnesses before acting. Those opposed to the remaining provisions of the bill should be heard. Only then will we have a basis for determining whether further action on this legislation is warranted."

Live Fully!

Enjoy Independent Senior Living from the name you trust for quality and value.

the Chateau
at Carmichael Park

Lic. #347001523
(916) 481-7105



7125 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael
Between Engle St. and Grant Ave.
www.chateaucarmichaelpark.com

When it says Hank Fisher Properties, it says *Quality*

"Special Rates" starting as low as \$650 per month!

- Gated grounds in lovely suburban neighborhood
- 24/7 staffing
- Generously sized one-bedroom apartments
- On-site beauty/barber shop
- Built-in "extended family" of neighbors
- Complimentary scheduled transportation
- Easy access to public transportation
- Availability of optional services, such as housekeeping and meals
- Pets welcome (small, under 30 pounds)

Body Healing Center

Massage for Men and Women



Valentines Day Special

- ♥ Foot Massage 14⁹⁹
- ♥ Deep Tissue Body Massage \$24⁹⁹
- ♥ Facial \$25⁹⁹

Special offer good through February 2nd-15th

We also welcome couples!
Open 10am -10pm ♦ Seven Days
New Ownership
916-944-8777
7735 Fair Oaks Blvd. Carmichael, CA 95608

Appointments or Walk-ins Welcome (Near Lido Cafe)

Your resource for all things dog-related!

Because of Dogs recognizes each dog is an individual! I specialize in offering personalized services for your special pet.

Beginning Obedience/CGC and Puppy Classes forming now for early spring! Call for details, class size is limited.

TRAINING
Because of Dogs can help you with your dog's training needs during private sessions in your home or in the park. Or join us for fun, ongoing small-group classes. I use treats, toys and praise, so learning good behavior is a positive experience for your dog.

BOARDING
Limited to only three guest dogs! Your pet will receive personal attention in my home and enjoy romping in a spacious, shady yard! Plan ahead as space is very limited for family-style boarding.

GROOMING
Because of Dogs offers a quiet, relaxing environment to make sure your dog's "spa" experience is as stress-free as possible – and only one dog at a time. Owners are welcome to stay and observe the grooming process. **Specializing in most working, herding and sporting breeds.** Call in advance for an appointment!






Because of Dogs

Canine Care and Owner Education

TRAINING • BOARDING • GROOMING

www.becauseofdogs.com Call 916-488-7819
Bonded and insured, located in Carmichael
Member of Association of Pet Dog Trainers and other related organizations



"Creating radiant health in our community since 1985"



- Spinal correction specialist
- Custom exercise instruction
- Family wellness plans
- Sports injury specialist
- Carmichael chamber business person of the year 1995.

This \$250 value is yours for only \$40 if you mention this ad
Each additional family member only \$20
Offer Expires Friday

Gift of Life Wellness Check-up
Consultation, Complete Spinal Examination and X-rays (if needed)

Dr. Bob Graykowski • 5909 Stanley Avenue, Suite A Carmichael, CA 95608 • (916) 973-1661
Chiropractic-usa.com
Join our Facebook Fan Page - Chiropractic USA



WINDSOR EL CAMINO Care Center
CARMICHAEL, CA

Finest 24-hour Skilled Nursing Care 7 Days a Week

Tel: (916) 482-0465

2540 Carmichael Way, Carmichael
WindsorCares.com

- ◆ Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services
- ◆ Personal Touch Services
- ◆ Restaurant Style Dining
- ◆ Social Services for Resident & Family
- ◆ Health Services Available



Providing superior people delivering highly sophisticated skilled nursing and rehabilitation care in the best possible environment.

Thinking of Changing Banks?

✓ Check the El Dorado Advantage

- ✓ FREE VISA Debit Card
- ✓ FREE Senior Checking with Interest
- ✓ FREE Direct Payroll Deposit Checking
- ✓ FREE Internet Banking with Check Images
- ✓ FREE Online Bill Payment
- ✓ FREE Telephone Banking
- ✓ VALUE Checking
- ✓ Interest Checking
- ✓ Business Checking
- ✓ Investors Money Market Checking
- ✓ Gold Money Market Savings
- ✓ Purchase & Refinance Loans
- ✓ Fixed & Adjustable Home Equity Line of Credit Loans
- ✓ Friendly, Personal Service at No Extra Charge
- ✓ 35 ATMs at El Dorado Branches
- ✓ Consistently Awarded the Highest 5 Star Rating by Bauer Financial Reports as One of the **SAFEST** and **STRONGEST** Banks in the U.S. Since 1993



EL DORADO SAVINGS BANK

Serving our local communities for over 54 years

www.eldoradosavingsbank.com

CARMICHAEL • 4701 Manzanita Ave. • 481-0664

Member FDIC



Help people in need.

Donate your car, boat or RV

Free Towing • Tax Deductible



FREE
3 day vacation
to over 80
destinations

Call Toll-Free

888-600-9846



When I am home ALONE

I feel safe. I am protected. I have Life Alert®.



One touch of a button sends help quickly in the event of a medical emergency, fall, home invasion, fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.



New!
Now we have two systems available:
Life Alert Classic for seniors
Life Alert 50+ for people 50+

Life Alert

For a FREE brochure call:

1-888-591-8158

ACCIDENT VICTIM?

Free Case-Evaluation

No Cost Until You Win

Speak to
a licensed
Personal Injury
Attorney
today.

Don't wait, call now!

888.375.9101

Helping accident victims since 1972

JACOBY & MEYERS
California Legal Network, LLC

Making a false or fraudulent Workers' Compensation claim is a felony subject to up to 5 years in prison or a fine of up to fifty-thousand dollars or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or by both imprisonment and fine. This is not a guarantee, warranty or prediction regarding the outcome of your legal matter. Not a referral service. Paid for by these participating attorneys: Spencer, Arter, Smith, Friedman, Okula, Black, Jacobson, Thompson, and Maronian.

Power vs People in the Digital Age

Commentary by
Jeffrey Tucker
Whiskey & Gunpowder
Auburn, Alabama
Reprinted by Permission

The government seems determined to turn out the lights on the digital age. And this is with or without SOPA or the other bills that were only this week shouted down by the global digital community on Blackout Wednesday. The very next day, after support for that legislation collapsed after an impressive mass protest, the FBI and the Justice Department demonstrated that they don't have to pay any attention to all this silly clamor. Congress, legislation, polling, debates, politicians, the will of the people -- it's all a sideshow to these people.

The FBI and Justice Department, on their own initiative, shut down megaupload.com, the biggest of thousands of file-sharing sites online, and arrested four of its top officials. The FBI is hunting down three others who seem to be on the lam. They all face extradition and 20 years in prison. As part of the sweep, the feds issued 20 search warrants and arrived at individual houses in helicopters. They cut their way into houses, threatened with guns, confiscated \$50 million in assets and outright stole 18 domain names and many servers.

And what is the grave crime? The site is accused of abetting copyright infringement -- that is, permitting the creating of copies of ideas expressed in media. No violence, no fraud, no force, no victims (but plenty of corporate moguls who claim, without proof, that their profits are lower as a result of file sharing).

Megaupload had millions of happy users. It was the 71st-most-popular website in the world. Only 2% of its traffic came from search engines, which means that its customer base was loyal and collected through the hard work and entrepreneurship of site owners. For its users, it was a wholly legitimate service. For the owners, their profits were hard earned through advertising.

But the government saw it differently. And contrary to what many people believe, the already-existing law permits the government to do pretty much whatever it wants, as this case shows. The government relied on a 2008 law to make criminal, instead of civil, charges. A newly created IP task force is the one that worked with the foreign governments to seal the deal.

In the end, it was a presentation of exactly the nightmare scenario that anti-SOPA protesters said would happen if SOPA had passed. It turns out, as the deeper realms of the state already knew, that all of this was possible with no congressional action at all. Congress doesn't need to do anything. We can watch the debates, go to the polls, elect people to represent

us and perform all the rest of the rituals of the civic religion, but none of it matters. Power is here, active, oppressive, in charge and permanent, regardless of what you might believe.

Might it be that some of the users' shared content on Megaupload was copyright protected? Absolutely. It is nearly impossible not to violate the law, as shown by SOPA sponsor Lamar Smith's own campaign website, which used an unattributed background image in technical violation of the law. The leading opponent of piracy might himself be a pirate! But the trend line with Megaupload was clearly toward using the space to launch new artists with new content -- not piracy, but creativity. As Wired.co.uk wrote, this crackdown:

"came shortly after Megaupload announced music producer Swizz Beatz -- married to Alicia Keys --- as their CEO. They had rallied a whole host of musicians, including Will.i.am, P. Diddy, Kanye West and Jamie Foxx to endorse the cloud locker service. Megaupload was building a legitimate system for artists to make money and fans to get content."

What's this all about? It is some powerful corporate lobbyists trying to prevent the emergence of an alternative system of art and music delivery, one powered by people, rather than merely the well connected.

The Internet's great glory is its seemingly magical capacity for distributing information of all sorts universally unto infinity. The idea of the state's regulations on information -- instituted by legislators in the 19th century -- is that this trait is deeply dangerous and must be stopped. So it is inevitable that the powers that be will try to shut it down; copyright enforcement is only the most-convenient Taser of choice.

This is the battle for whether the digital age is permitted to exist in an atmosphere of free speech, free association, free enterprise and real property rights or whether it will be controlled by government in conjunction with aging media moguls from monopolistic corporate oligarchies. The lines are clearly drawn, and the battle is taking place in real-time.

Example: Within minutes after the Megaupload officials were arrested, a global hacker group called Anonymous shut down the Justice Department's website and the sites of the Motion Picture Association of America, the Recording Industry Association of America, Universal Music and BMI -- the major lobbying forces in Washington for restriction of and reaction against the Internet.

In another stage of the great battle over information freedom, the Supreme Court, on the very day of the SOPA protests, handed down a decision that could have a devastating effect in the months

and years ahead. It permitted the re-copyrighting of works that are already in the public domain so that the domestic law accords with the international law. If that sounds like no big deal, consider that many local orchestras have already changed their season lineups to remove some major works from their repertoire because they can no longer handle the licensing fees.

It's hard to know what to call this but cultural masochism.

Regardless of how the legal struggles turn out, a culture of rational and irrational fear has gripped the Web. I've noticed this growing over the last months, but just this week, it has become worse, to the point of paranoia, and even mania. The successful protests against SOPA ended up only causing the censors to redouble their efforts, and the message is getting out: Almost everything you want to do online could be illegal.

A small sample of what I mean... Just this morning, I received the following email: "BBC Four recently broadcast a stunningly beautiful documentary called God's Composer (Tomás Luis de Victoria), hosted by Simon Russell Beale. A friend in Rome sent me a link to it, but I'm not sure I'm free to share it. Have you seen this documentary? It is stunning both visually and musically."

Not free to share a link? What? To be sure, I don't know whether he intended to send me to the BBC or some other site that is hosting an additional copy of it. Regardless, this is what it has come down to: a belief that every email is traced, every site is monitored, every act of individual volition on the Web could be a crime, every website is vulnerable to an overnight takedown, every domain owner could be subject to arrest and jail.

The battle between power and freedom dates to the beginning of recorded history, and we are seeing it play out right before our eyes in the digital age. It's as if at the beginning of the Bronze Age, the leading tribal chieftain made smelting ore illegal; or if at the transition from iron to steel, the ruling elite put a cap on the temperature of refining ovens; or if at the beginning of flight, some despot declared the whole enterprise to be too risky and economically damaging to the industry that depended on land travel.

In the current version, the issue of "intellectual property" is at the forefront of this battle. The first most people heard of this was on Blackout Wednesday, when Wikipedia went black. This is a foretaste of the future in a world in which power achieves victory after victory while the rest of the world cowers with fear in darkening times.

Regards,
Jeffrey Tucker
Executive editor,
Laissez-Faire Books



Save 65% on the Family Value Combo

45069ZEJ

- 2 (5 oz.) Filet Mignons
- 2 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins
- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
- 4 (3 oz.) Gourmet Franks
- 4 (4 oz. approx.) Boneless Chicken Breasts
- 4 Stuffed Baked Potatoes

Save \$94.01

3 Free Gifts to every shipping address.

4 FREE Omaha Steaks Burgers, a FREE 6-piece Cutlery Set, and a FREE Cutting Board.

Limit of 2 Packages. Standard S&H will be added per address. Free gifts will ship per address and must ship with an order of The Family Value Combo or purchase of \$49 or more. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 4/30/12.

Reg. \$144.00 | Now Only \$49.99

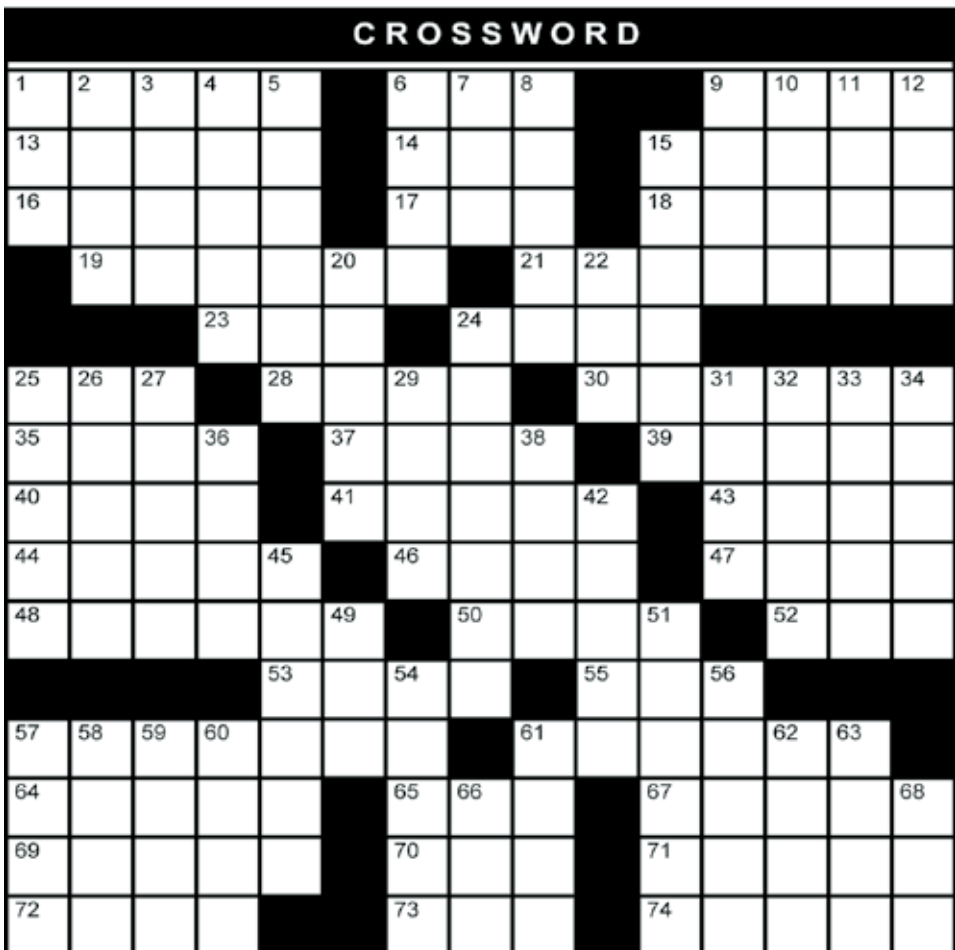
To order: www.OmahaSteaks.com/mb27

or call 888-859-5502

©2012 OCG OmahaSteaks.com, Inc.

13883-M4

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • VALENTINE'S DAY



PRESENTED BY



© StatePoint Media

CLUES

- ACROSS**
- 1. Canine pests
 - 6. Tabby's boyfriend
 - 9. Dart
 - 13. Animal helper in Southwest U.S.
 - 14. Street address
 - 15. "Tim McGraw's valentine"
 - 16. Nisei's parent
 - 17. Substance infamously used by baseball great George Brett
 - 18. Twisted cotton thread
 - 19. "Candies with a message"
 - 21. "Like refined suitor"
 - 23. Sign of a lion
 - 24. Controlled by the moon
 - 25. European tax
 - 28. Engineer
 - 30. Possessed by green-eyed monster, pl.
 - 35. Shining armor
 - 37. Known for its sword-shaped leaves
 - 39. Ringworm
 - 40. Cher has only one
 - 41. "His aim is true?"
 - 43. Hindu woman's dress
 - 44. Stand on end
 - 46. Indonesian resort island
 - 47. Julia Roberts' Oscar-winning role
 - 48. Six performers, e.g.
 - 50. Officer training program
 - 52. "Couples often talk about how they did this"
 - 53. Thailand money
 - 55. As opposed to "stood"
 - 57. It's sweet home, according to Lynyrd Skynyrd
 - 61. Obsolete office position
 - 64. "Common pet name, pl.
 - 65. Double helix
 - 67. The lowest deck
 - 69. City in Belgium
 - 70. Used for canning
 - 71. Variant of "beneath"
 - 72. Concludes
 - 73. He famously judged O.J.
 - 74. Bordered
- DOWN**
- 1. Hoover's agency
 - 2. Boozer
 - 3. Gaelic
 - 4. "___ job"
 - 5. "Where future couples meet?"
 - 6. They've become mainstream fashion statements
 - 7. Female reproductive cells
 - 8. "___ beaucoup!"
 - 9. Like Eliza Doolittle
 - 10. Contains several to-dos
 - 11. "___ have to do"
 - 12. People in general
 - 15. Like a Spaniard who speaks Spanish
 - 20. Often served with Tanqueray
 - 22. Lyric poem
 - 24. With three parts
 - 25. "Goddess of love"
 - 26. Wide open
 - 27. It took a licking but kept on ticking
 - 29. Chow
 - 31. It prevents movement
 - 32. "The two were arm-___"
 - 33. Spooky
 - 34. "Valentine, e.g.
 - 36. Type of email box
 - 38. Silage holder
 - 42. Scatterbrained
 - 45. To lower in value
 - 49. African tam-___
 - 51. "Alleged mastermind of St. Valentine's Day massacre"
 - 54. Mecca pilgrim
 - 56. "Give me your ____, your poor..."
 - 57. Often goes with "willing"
 - 58. Past participle of "lie"
 - 59. Tucked in
 - 60. A dog does this for scraps
 - 61. Edible root of Pacific islands
 - 62. Ore smelting by-product
 - 63. Type of bag
 - 66. "Unforgettable" singer
 - 68. Highest degree

For Solution See Page 7

California Citizens for Health Freedom

February 9, 2012 – a film "The War on Cancer – the Disease is only half the Battle", will be shown that illuminates the grim truth about America's so-called War on Cancer.

The meeting is at the SMUD Auditorium (the old SMUD Building), 6201 S Street, Sacramento, from 7-9 p.m. Call 916-635-6724 for information.

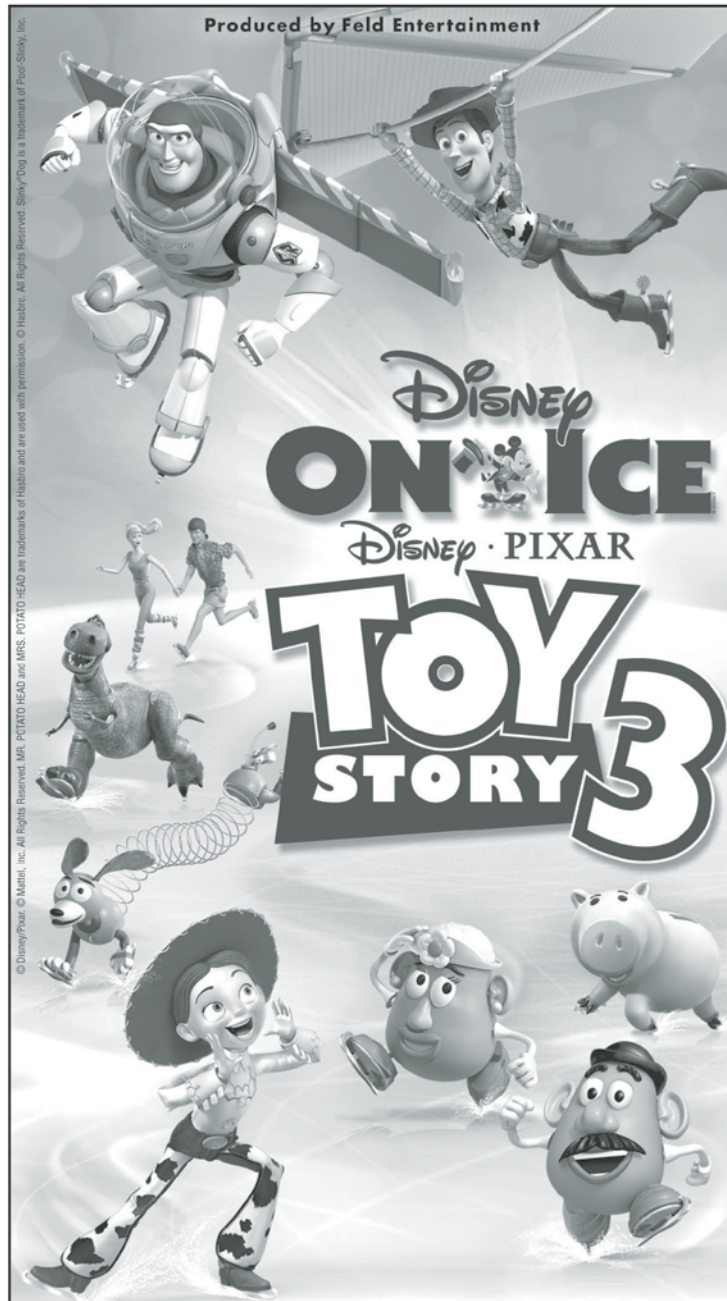
Inquiries regarding any of the above meeting notices, please contact Elsie Player at (916) 635-6724.

Gas Prices Rise

SACRAMENTO – January 30–Average retail gasoline prices in Sacramento have risen 2.3 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.64/g yesterday. This compares with the national average that has increased 4.5 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.39/g, according to gasoline price website SactoGasPrices.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Sacramento during the past week, prices yesterday were 33.1 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 12.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased 13.5 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 30.4 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

"Late last week we saw wholesale gasoline prices rise dramatically on some refinery issues, which leads me to believe that retail gasoline prices will rise in response," said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan. "We continue to also watch how Iran responds to EU sanctions- there are some concerns that they may cut oil to the European region before the sanctions are to take effect to cause these countries hardship when they can't find new sources of oil quickly enough. That in itself could draw crude oil prices higher quickly at a moments notice," DeHaan said.



Tickets Start At \$14!

FEB. 9 - 12

Thu. FEB. 9 * 7:00 PM	Fri. FEB. 10	Sat. FEB. 11	Sun. FEB. 12
OPENING NIGHT Buy One Ticket, Get One FREE!	7:00 PM	11:00 AM 7:00 PM	1:00 PM 5:00 PM

*Excludes Front Row and VIP seats. No double discounts. Additional fees may apply.

FEB. 15 - 20

Wed. FEB. 15 * 7:00 PM	Thu. FEB. 16	Fri. FEB. 17	Sat. FEB. 18	Sun. FEB. 19	Mon. FEB. 20
OPENING NIGHT Buy One Ticket, Get One FREE!	7:00 PM	11:00 AM 7:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	12 NOON 4:00 PM

*Excludes Front Row and VIP seats. No double discounts. Additional fees may apply.

Buy tickets at www.disneyonice.com, ticketmaster.com Retail Locations, Arena Box Offices or call 1-800-745-3000

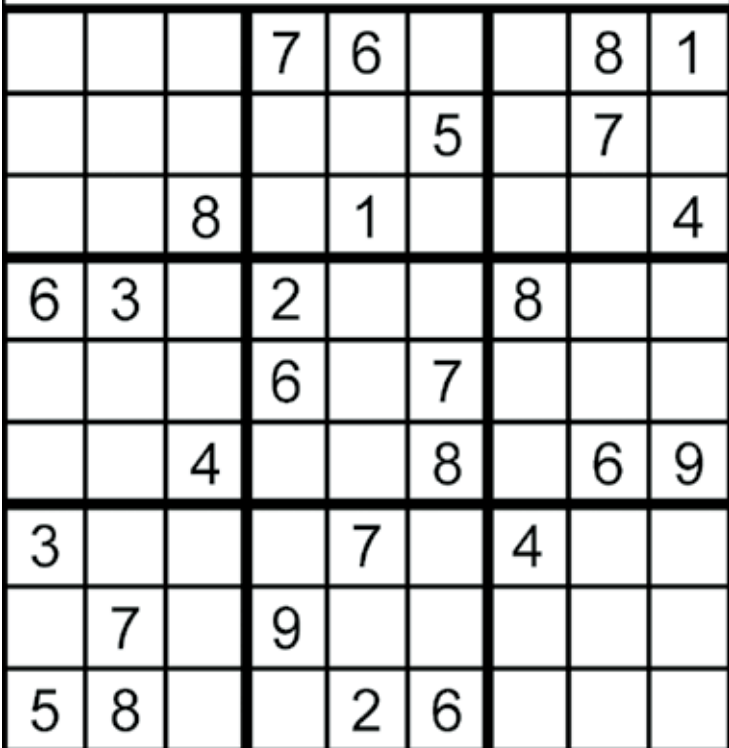
Regular Ticket Prices: \$14 • \$17 • \$23 • \$40 VIP • \$65 Front Row



CALL 773-1111 TO ADVERTISE IN YOUR LOCAL HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

SUDOKU

PRESENTED BY



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.

Come back every week for Sudoku!

For Solution See Page 7.

LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?

We Can Do That!

Call to place your legal advertising



532-2113

All Legal Ads Published in the Carmichael Times

A-TEK GLASS CENTER

Your One Stop Local Glass Shop

Serving Carmichael Community for 17 Years

AUTO □ HOME □ BUSINESS

Free Windshield Chip Repair with Insurance Coverage

- ▲ Auto Glass
- ▲ Windshields
- ▲ Power Windows
- ▲ Truck Slider
- ▲ Sunroofs
- ▲ Single & Dual Pane Glass
- ▲ Store Front Windows
- ▲ Mirror & Screen
- ▲ Glass Shelves
- ▲ Table tops

Fast, Professional Glass Repair • Direct Approved Insurance Billing

Call 7 Days a Week • 481-9966

Located at the corner of Fair Oaks Blvd. & Sutter, next to La Bou



Foster Care

The need is great for loving, safe homes for foster children ages 0-18 & pregnant/parenting teens.

We offer free training, fingerprinting, CPR/ 1st aid, 24 hr support, monthly reimb.



Call Lenka (916) 338-7156

WE BUY CARS

Old or new...any condition

CARS, TRUCKS & SUVs

www.MyCarforCash.net

FAST PAYMENT FREE QUOTES FREE TOWING

888-444-8179



FREE 30 premium movie channels for 3 mo.

HBO SHOWTIME CINEMAX starz

Promotional prices start at \$19.99 a month for 12 mo. (Reg. price \$24.99 | mo.)

FREE BLOCKBUSTER @HOME for 3 mo. Offer based on the discounted \$5 price for Blockbuster Movie Pass. (One disc at a time, \$10/mo. value)

FREE 2 Room HD DVR Upgrade (1 HD DVR - 1 SD DVR) (\$6/mo DVR Service fee applies) Available with qualifying packages.

1-800-295-3431 WWW.INFINITYDISH.COM

We are open 7 days a week • 8 am - Midnight EST • Sunday 9 am - Midnight EST • Offer only good to new DISH Network subscribers • Se habla español Offer ends 5/20/12. Restrictions apply. Call for details. InfiDISH charges a one-time \$49.95 non-refundable processing fee. Indiana CPD, Reg. No. TS, 10-1006.

DELIVERY ROUTES AVAILABLE

CALL 773-1111



Arts, Entertainment and Other Fun Things to do!

A Parallel Universe

John Heinen, one of Sacramento's best magicians, delivers an evening of hilarious, jaw-dropping entertainment with the help of his assistant Alexis and Dave the Mind Reading Duck. A fundraiser for the Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento. Aimed at adults but kid friendly.

Friday, February 17th and Saturday, February 18th at 8 P.M.
 UUSS, 2325 Sierra Blvd. (Arden-Arcade between Howe and Fulton)
 \$15 Advance (at Ticketleap) or \$20 Door
 Contact: (916) 469-1327

Carmichael Geranium Society

monthly meeting will be on Friday, February 10th at Carmichael Park Community Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave., in Carmichael from 10 am - noon. Guests welcome. For more information call 916/481-2076.

The Genealogical Association of Sacramento

will hold its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 1:00 P.M., at the Belle Coolidge Library, 5600 S. Land Park Drive. Guest speaker will be Pamela Dallas, speaking on "Remember the Ladies: Finding Your Female Ancestors". All are welcome.

Bring a Book and Make a Romantic Match at Sacramento Central Library! Speed-dating Program on February 12th

The Sacramento Public Library is preparing for its third annual Speed-Dating for Book Lovers event where adult singles can discuss their favorite book and perhaps meet a potential romantic companion. The pre-Valentine's Day get-together will be Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m., at the Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento.

Each participant should bring a book to have something to talk about as an ice-breaker. "We already have 25 single ladies

signed up for the speed-dating program, but we have many seats still available for men, ages 18 and older," said librarian Michelle Rosenthal, speed-dating event coordinator.

"There definitely have been some matches since we began the speed-dating program two years ago. But beyond that, it's a nice way to make friends and talk with people you wouldn't ordinarily strike up a conversation with," librarian Jessica Zaker stated.

What kinds of books has she seen at past speed-dating soirees? "Philosophy, art, sometimes childhood favorites like Charlotte's Web. It depends on their interest," Zaker added.

Registration is required for this event. Single men are encouraged to sign-up online at <http://tinyurl.com/76rbbkx>. For more details, telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.

Carmichael Cactus and Succulent Society
 Meeting Thursday Feb 2nd 10am
 Julie Serences speaks on "Butterflies and other Pollinators"
 Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Avenue Carmichael, CA 95608
 Visitors are Welcome! Questions-916-729-3475

Carmichael Recreation and Park District is announcing these upcoming events

Pottery & Art Classes for the family
 Classes taught by Michelle Lueth

Family Pottery Create your own masterpieces in a relaxing & encouraging environment. Class fee includes parent & child. Please bring a \$15 materials fee per person payable to the instructor at the first class.
 Age: 5-17 with parent Fee: \$71 parent & child, \$24 each additional family member
 Dates/Times: 1/18-2/15 Wednesday, 4:15-5:30pm • 1/18-2/15 Wednesday, 6:15-7:30pm
 2/28-3/27 Tuesday, 4:15-5:30pm • 2/28-3/27 Tuesday, 6:15-7:30pm

Mommy & Me Art Discoveries New & imaginative art projects will be discovered each week. Please bring a \$10 materials fee payable to the instructor at the first class. Age: 3-6 with parent Fee: \$38
 Day/Time: Friday, 10:30-11:30pm Dates: 1/27-2/10 or 3/9-3/23

Mommy & Me Little Hands Pottery Have some fun & create a memory to treasure. Decorate a plate with your little one's handprint & a personalized design. Please bring a \$10 materials fee payable to the instructor at the first class. Age: 2-6 with parent Fee: \$20 Day/Time: Friday, 10:45-11:30pm Date: 2/17

Family Clay Camp Spend your holiday break playing in the mud! We will create some wonderful works of art with clay & then paint them with underglazes before they are fired in the kiln. Class fee includes parent & child. Please bring a \$15 materials fee payable to the instructor at the first class. Age: 4-17 with parent, Fee: \$60 parent & child, \$20 each additional family member Day/Time: Tuesday-Friday, 11am-12:30pm Date: 2/21-2/24

All classes held at: The Arts & Crafts Bldg, 7997 California Ave., in Fair Oaks
 For registration & other information call the District at (916) 485-5322 or visit our web page at www.carmichaelpark.com.

"They say such nice things about people at their funerals that it makes me sad that I'm going to miss mine by just a few days"
 - Garrison Keillor

an evening with **GARRISON KEILLOR**

GET TIX NOW!

Sacramento Community Center Theater • March 4, 2012

KVIE MAGAZINE capital public radio BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS

PURCHASE TICKETS AT (916) 808-5181 OR WWW.TICKETS.COM
 PRODUCED BY FAHN & COMPANY PRESENTS

California Certified

FARMERS MARKET

Come join us for our Farmers Market at beautiful Carmichael Park with over 40 certified and organic farmers and specialty item vendors.

Check our schedule at our website for special events at our weekly Farmers Markets. These might be contests, demos, special guests, and more! Don't miss anything fun... Sign up for the newsletter which will remind you of fun things going on at the Markets!

We Have 55+ Farmers/Vendors to Choose From.

BeMoneySmartUSA Personal Finance & Business Education

5750 Grant Ave
 Shop with us at the Carmichael Park Farmers' Market, every Sunday, 8-1
 Serving you every Sunday All Year Round!

Other Farmers Market Locations include:
 Sunrise Mall, Citrus Heights
 Every Saturday, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Specialty Items:

- Trinidad Farms Fresh Squeezed Orange Juice • Gold Rush Kettle Corn
- El Dorado Coffee Company • The Pasta Queen • The Cultured Kitchen
- The Basket Guy • Four Seasons Sauces and Jams • Gourmet Veggie Chips
- The Crazy Gringo Taco Wagon • California Pistachios • Z-Pies Gourmet Pot Pies • Chacewater Extra Virgin Olive Oils • Mother Earth
- homemade food cart • Upper Crust Baking Company • Knife Sharpening Services • Skylake Ranch Pomegranate Sauces, Juice and Marinade
- All things lavender from the Lavender Farm • Davis Breads and Deserts

New Arrivals:

- Azolla Organic Farms • Capay Organic Farms • Sunshine Organic Farms
- Nicasio Cheese • Penrod/Howze Honey • Butte Family Farms Organic Eggs & Produce • Ge Lao Fresh Cut Flowers • Dragon Gourmet Mushrooms
- Leatherbys Ice Cream • Green Frog Soaps and Scents • Unique Salsa from Live Food Academy • Venezuelan Arepas from KAS Foods • Gourmet Goat Cheese by Jolity Farms • Fresh Baked breads by Sacramento Baking Company • Healthy Homemade Dog food by Vibra Pet • The best pastries in town by BeckyJoPies • Organic Vegetables and fruits from Fasue Farms, Rio de Parras Farms and Loving Nature Farms.

Marie Hall, Executive Director • (916) 806-3989
info@bemoneysmartusa.org • www.bemoneysmartusa.org

Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District

Spring Craft Faire
 March 3, 2012 • 9am-3pm
 Now accepting vendor applications!

MISSION OAKS COMMUNITY CENTER
 Travel the World!

Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park
 July 28 - August 4, 2012
 \$2999/pp double

Russian River Cruise
 September 3 - 12, 2012
 \$3999/pp double

Monthly newsletter available online and at the community center for additional classes and events. For more information call (916) 972-0336 or go to www.morpd.com.

SACRAMENTO FINE ARTS CENTER, INC.
 Contributing to the cultural life of the Sacramento community

Exhibition Schedule

February 1-18, 2012 Aspiring Artist Debut - WASH Scholarship Show
 February 21 - March 10, 2012 Animal House
 March 13 - 31, 2012 Mira Loma High School

Special Art, Poetry and Musical Concert
 On March 17, 2012, The Sacramento Fine Arts Center will present a special concert never before performed in the Sacramento region. The Dave Brubeck Institute Jazz Band and the Poet Laureate of Sacramento, Bob Stanley, along with eight other prominent poets, will present works inspired by the art at the Center's annual Animal House show.

The musicians and poets will choose art entered in the Center's fabulous animal themed art classic that inspires their creativity, compose the music and poetry and combine that with the art and artists at the Center's beautiful galleries in Carmichael. The concert, co-sponsored by the Sacramento Poetry Center and the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, will begin at 7 PM. The galleries are located at 5330-B Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Call 916-971-3713 to reserve tickets. Space is limited to 150 guests.

This event is preceded by "Animal House" Art Exhibit February 21-March 10, 2012 and a 2nd Saturday Animal House Reception, March 10, 2012. There will be great food and drink, live music, and, of course, wonderful art from a wide variety of media. Awards to the artists will be presented. The reception will be co-sponsored by the Sacramento SPCA, the Sacramento Audubon Society, and the Carmichael Recreation and Park District. The SPCA's lovable dogs-up-for-adoption will be there, prominent painters will demonstrate their skills, and the Animal House artists will discuss their work with the guests.

5330-B Gibbons Dr., Carmichael, CA • Ph. 916-971-3713
 Hours: Tuesday 11 am-7 pm, Wednesday through Saturday 11 am-3 pm.
www.sacfinearts.org

FRIDAY COMPUTER CLASSES
 Swanston Community Center • 9-11am
 Unlocking Email & Attachments Feb 3
 Craigslist & Ebay Feb 10
 Facebook & Social Media Feb 17
 Digital Camera to Computer Feb 24
 \$15 each or Session combo is \$45/ 4weeks

New Van Trips

SWANSTON COMMUNITY CENTER
 Folsom Sake and Soy Sauce • February 2 • \$20
 Crocker Art Gallery • February 9 • \$15
 "Professor Ming's Mansion" • February 18 • \$45 (includes lunch and admission)

MISSION OAKS RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

Office Hours: 8 am-5 pm
 Registration Hours: 8:30am-4pm Monday-Friday
www.morpd.com

DISTRICT OFFICE
 (916) 488-2810 • Fax (916) 488-4349
 3344 Mission Ave., Carmichael CA 95608

MISSION OAKS COMMUNITY CENTER
 (916) 972-0336 • Fax (916) 972-7371
 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael CA 95608

SWANSTON COMMUNITY CENTER
 (916) 333-6464 • Fax (916) 488-4349
 2350 Northrop Ave., Carmichael CA 95825

Sacramento County DA Reports

Recent cases of interest

CASE: James Mayle, Dennis Nilsson, and Janie Rankins-Mayle (01/30/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Michael Blazina

District Attorney Jan Scully announced that the Honorable Allen H. Sumner sentenced the former Sacramento library facilities superintendent Dennis Nilsson to 14 years, eight-months in prison, the library authority's one-time security chief James Mayle to five years, four months in prison and his wife Janie Rankins-Mayle to six years in prison.

Last month, a jury convicted James Mayle and Janie Rankins-Mayle of grand theft and bribery for their part in over billing the Sacramento Public Library Authority for maintenance services. The jury also convicted James Mayle of criminal conflict of interest. A separate jury convicted Dennis Nilsson of 16 counts of grand theft, bribery, and conflict of interest.

Mayle and Rankins-Mayle formed two companies, All City Maintenance and Hagginwood Services, Inc. With the assistance of co-defendant Nilsson, independent contractors who did maintenance services for the library were directed to submit their bills to Rankins-Mayle under the All City and Hagginwood businesses. Rankins-Mayle then substantially inflated those billings and submitted them to the library for payment using her own letterhead. Nilsson approved the invoices for payment. From 2004 to 2007, All City Maintenance and Hagginwood Services, Inc. were paid approximately \$1.3 million, of which \$780,000 had been inflated over what the contractors who actually performed the work originally billed. Mayle and Rankins-Mayle paid Nilsson over \$100,000 in bribes for approving the invoices.

A victim impact statement from Sacramento Public Library Authority Board Member Jeff Slowey stated that the stolen monies could have paid for 40,000 children's picture books and could have gone toward keeping the new Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven branch location open for two years, which they are currently using library savings to keep open.

A restitution hearing is set for March 2, 2012.

CASE: Laurie Ann Martinez & Nicole Snyder (01/25/12)

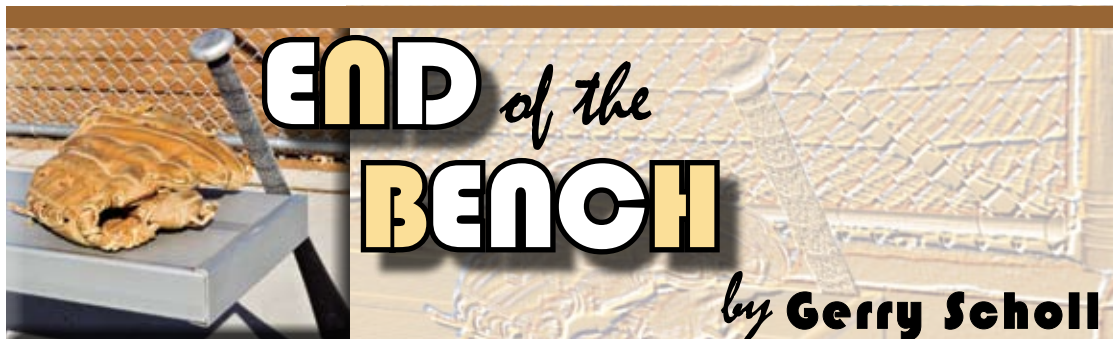
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Chris Carlson

District Attorney Jan Scully announced convictions today in the case of a Department of Corrections psychologist who made a false rape report. Laurie Ann Martinez and Nicole Snyder were both convicted of conspiracy to file a false police report. Martinez pled no contest to the charge as a felony. As to Snyder, the charge was reduced to misdemeanor level by the Honorable Judge Kevin McCormick on the defendant's motion, and she then pled guilty.

On April 10, 2011, Martinez and Snyder conspired to stage a scene and inflict wounds to Martinez to make it appear as though Martinez was the victim of a home invasion robbery and sexual assault. When police responded, they found Martinez with her shirt ripped open. She claimed that she lost consciousness during the assault and awoke with her pants and underwear pulled down to her ankles. She described the suspect as a black male.

Martinez's co-workers informed police that she had spoken about such a plan in the past in order to convince her husband to move out of their neighborhood. The Sacramento police detective confronted both defendants. At first both denied staging the assault, but then each confessed.

Under the plea agreement, Martinez was sentenced to 180 days in jail and ordered to pay restitution to the Sacramento Police Department for the costs of investigation and the sexual assault medial exam. Snyder was sentenced to 90 days in jail and was also ordered to pay restitution.



"I Wish I Had Done More"

When legendary Penn State coach Joe Paterno died the morning of the NFL conference championship games I decided to harness my immediate impulsive reactions and watch the football games.

Perhaps I wouldn't be able to trust my first instincts to give the situation a balanced response. For sure, recounting the events surrounding the sorrowful ordeal that has been unfolding at State College, Pa., would be an uncomfortable undertaking.

Paterno died just 74 days after being fired from the head coaching post he had held for 46 years. He passed, at age 85, of complications from lung cancer and, some say, of the "broken heart" that advanced his ultimate demise.

The winningest coach of all time (409 victories) was relieved of his duties after 60 years of dedicated service to the university he loved in Happy Valley in the wake of the shocking Jerry Sandusky sex-abuse scandal. Sandusky was arrested Nov. 5 and later indicted on charges of sexually abusing several young boys over a 15-year period. Sandusky was Paterno's defensive coordinator until retiring in 1999 (though he had been considered to be Paterno's eventual replacement). He had been on staff for 32 years and after retiring was given an office and other amenities and was allowed to hold on-campus camps.

Paterno was informed by another assistant of one abuse incident he witnessed in 2002, and the coach passed it on to his superiors.

Paterno and other university authority figures were all

dismissed soon after the arrest. They were chastised by the state police commissioner for not doing enough to try to stop the suspected abuse.

In retrospect, Paterno said, "I wish I had done more."

Now, with his passing, the story takes another turn. The Penn State and sports "families" have begun the process of coming to terms with their loss. They have ventured into the four stages of grief — denial, anger, depression and acceptance.

Experiencing this phenomenon first-hand in the recent past, it seems there are many more "stages" and they are not so well defined, but intertwined. In Paterno's case, the mourners are in shock and disbelief and are rationalizing some aspects.

As people do when someone important in their lives leaves them, they want to recall all that was so good about the deceased, and rightfully so. It's part of the process. People from many avenues have been praising Joe Paterno.

Mike Ditka called him "...a true hero. A man of character."

Matt Millen said, "He touched many lives on many levels."

Brent Musburger had "...nothing but positive things to say about the old coach."

Rick Reilly on ESPN.com wrote of a moving story of how Paterno nurtured a seriously injured player. "He was unlike any other coach I ever met in college football."

Dick Vitale went on about his lifelong contributions. "It really disturbs me that many people will talk about the Jerry Sandusky situation instead of remembering

Paterno's dedication, integrity and loyalty."

The family statement read, "...he lived a good, decent, honest life...he leaves us with a peaceful mind..." You have to wonder.

Sandusky (via his attorney, of course) said, "He had the courage to practice what he preached."

Not completely. Paterno neglected the damaged lives of the unfortunate victims of Sandusky's alleged crimes. He would not compromise his success for the sake of honor by, with all his power, forcing the issue of full disclosure of Sandusky's activities.

He ran a cleaner program than most. He graduated a high percentage of his players, gave his life to college football and won two national titles. He donated millions to the university, his name is on the library and he has his own statue on campus. He taught many valuable "life lessons" to thousands of student-athletes through the years. The list of great things and stories about "the greatest college coach of all time" seems endless.

But, of course, it always has to come back to the victims. While Paterno's mourners proceed through their stages of grief and Penn State moves on toward recovery, the victims will live lives full of convoluted, never-ending, intertwined stages of grief.

It's sadly ironic that Paterno's statue has him with his arm outstretched and one finger in the air. He was a great man, except for one thing.

A man paying his respects at the statue said, "It's tragic. Ninety-nine percent good, and this. It's really sad."

The German Deli
German Meats • Imported Beer & Wine • Catering

Ask about our Mail Order Service! (916) 349-9493
5859 Auburn Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95841
www.sacgermandeli.com
sacgermandeli@sbcglobal.net

TAK Food Market.com
916-944-3188

جوجه کباب
Joojeh Kabob
\$7.99

9045 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Carmichael, Ca 95608

Juicy chunks of boneless chicken breast marinated in butter and saffron, delicately prepared and cooked over an open flame, served over aromatic long grain Basmati Saffron rice, and grilled Tomatoes.

All Roads Lead to An Epic Journey at

EPIC BIBLE COLLEGE

STIMULATE Your Mind
DEVELOP Your Spirituality
FIND Your Passion

SPRING QUARTER CLASSES BEGIN MARCH 2012

We offer accredited degrees that lead to life-changing careers in

- Ministry • Education
- Music • Counseling • and more!

Visit Our New Campus!

Expanded and Flexible Schedules
Financial Aid
One-On-One Academic Advising
Associate and Bachelor Degree Programs

4330 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95841
(916) 348-4689

www.EPIC.edu

REAGOR PET HOSPITAL



Providing comprehensive, affordable, compassionate care

1/2 OFF EXAM FOR NEW CLIENTS
(a \$25 dollar savings)
Mention this ad when scheduling your appt.

We are Your Local Full Service Veterinary Hospital.
Appointments available Mon-Sat

We now have an easy-to-use online pharmacy, located on our website.

2513 Walnut Ave., Carmichael • 971-1551
www.ReagorPetHospital.com



Time To Enjoy The Life You Deserve

Nestled in the heart of Carmichael, there's a retirement community called Carmichael Oaks. This beautiful community offers:

- Social & Activities program
- Scheduled transportation
- Beauty salon & exercise room
- Theatre & computer center
- Weekly housekeeping
- 24 hour emergency staff

Save \$1500 or more!
Limited Offer

Independent & Assisted Living as well as Memory Care.



Carmichael
Senior Living **Oaks**

916-944-2323 office
www.carmichaeloaks.com

LIC# 347003685

We the People can stop them!



Learn how by reading *THE INFLATION DECEPTION*
Call 888-595-6457 for a FREE COPY (\$20 value)

SWISS AMERICA
THE GOLD STANDARD

BUNDLE & SAVE!

ON DIGITAL SERVICES FOR YOUR HOME

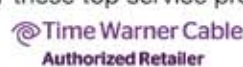


DIGITAL TV

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

DIGITAL PHONE

Offers may be available now in your area from Acceller, Inc. for these top service providers:



BUNDLES STARTING AS LOW AS
***\$89/mo.**
For first 12 months

FIND OUT MORE BY CALLING TOLL-FREE
1-866-484-1940
By Acceller, Inc., an authorized retailer.

*Geographic and service restrictions apply to all services. Call to see if you qualify.

Happy 200th Birthday, Charles Dickens

"If there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers." *The Old Curiosity Shop*, Charles Dickens

By Julie Parker

Storyteller extraordinaire Charles Dickens created a legacy of diverse literary work of light-hearted serials, historical fiction and platforms for social reform. One of the most popular authors of the Victorian era, his fan base ranged from the "lower classes" to royalty.

His creatively named characters, such as Sairey Gamp, Mr. Wackford Squeers, Daniel Quilp, Mrs. Jellyby, Noddy Boffin, Ignorance and Want, Mr. Fezziwig, Peggotty, Jarndyce, Tattycoram, Abel Magwitch, Polly Toodle, Jeremiah Flintwinch and Mr. M'Choakumchild are timeless, and continue to captivate new readers.

Although his writings were published over a century ago, his insight and commentaries on the vulnerabilities of the human condition remain true today.

Jennie Scott teaches Honor English 1 and Junior English at Rio Americano High School, and includes "Great Expectations" in her curriculum. "It's easy for the students to relate to, because the main characters in the book are setting out in life, and so are the teenagers in my classes."

If you read "A Tale of Two Cities," your memory easily conjures up Dickens' vivid portrayal of the stark realities and passion behind the French Revolution, and the dramatic ending as the main character approaches the guillotine. (Dickens actually witnessed a beheading by guillotine in Rome in 1845.) And, who can forget the "resurrection men?"

Dickens' legacy is such that an auction in December 2009 saw his ivory and gold toothpick ("used on last visit to America") sell for \$9,150, and in December

2010, a leather dog collar with a brass inscription he once owned sold for \$11,590.

It comes as no surprise, then, that international celebrations are planned to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of Charles John Huffman Dickens on February 7, 2012. The Charles Dickens Museum and Film London, in association with The Dickens Fellowship, have created a website—Dickens2012—showcasing events, films, and contemporary authors offering their responses to the query, "What Would Dickens Write Today?" (<http://www.dickens2012.org/>)

As often occurs with authors, Dickens' personal experiences and people he knew were often incorporated into his work.

For example, Dickens' father's inability to manage his finances landed the entire family, except Dickens, in Marshalea Debtors Prison in 1824. Dickens, at age twelve, was sent to work at a blacking (shoe/boot polish) factory, and left to fend for himself. Those experiences were written into "Little Dorrit" and "David Copperfield." (The character of Mr. Micawber in "David Copperfield," was based on his father.)

He later worked as a law office clerk, shorthand reporter, and journalist, writing for The True Sun, Mirror of Parliament, and The Morning Chronicle, under the pseudonym "Boz." (His son, Charles, Jr., was given "Boz" for a middle name.) In the 1840's, he edited the London Daily News.

In 1836, the same year "Pickwick Papers" was published, he married Catherine Hogarth, whose father was the editor of a paper for which Dickens was writing.

A year later, Catherine's



Charles Dickens in his Study. Photo courtesy of CreativeCommons.org.

sister, Mary, moved in with them. Dickens was particularly fond of his 17-year-old sister-in-law, and when she suddenly died in 1837, Dickens was so griefstricken, he asked to be buried next to her and wore her ring most of his life. He and Catherine's first daughter was named after her. In 1842, Catherine's 14-year-old sister, Georgina, then moved in with them.

In 1857, actress Ellen Ternan entered his life, and they maintained a relationship until his death.

Dickens and Catherine separated in 1858 after 22 years of marriage, and the birth of their tenth child. Georgina stayed with Dickens as a housekeeper, but also took on the role as the children's guardian. Although none of the children pursued a literary career, son Henry was knighted and son Edward was elected to Parliament in New South Wales.

Dickens had boundless energy, walking approximately twenty miles on a daily basis, writing travel books, entertaining and performing readings. He produced fifteen novels,

wrote essays, edited periodicals, and was active in innumerable causes, including an ongoing fight against corrupt institutions, such as Parliament and the education system.

From the 1840s, Dickens traveled extensively, including a couple of tours in the United States, during which he met President Tyler. His initial tour in 1842, a month shy of his 30th birthday, was intended to promote the idea of international copyright law, as Americans had been pirating his work fairly regularly. He tried to convince them that it would protect their writings as well, but his efforts fell on deaf ears.

During his next trip to the United States (1867-68), he performed seventy-six readings of his work, one of which Mark Twain attended. Dickens' readings were said to be entertaining, as he spoke with accents and mimed mannerisms of the various characters.

Twelve-year-old Kate Wiggin missed Dickens' Portland, Maine reading, but encountered him on a subsequent Boston-bound train. Their long conversations made

the journey more interesting. In 1903, Kate Wiggin also entered the novelist arena with the publication of her book, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm."

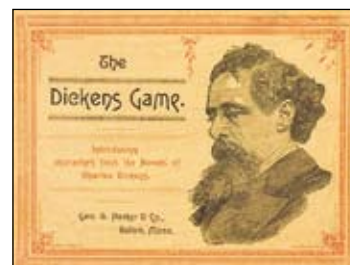
Dickens probably would have enjoyed seeing Wiggin's literary success, but, a stroke took his life in 1870, at age 58. His popularity remained, unabated, at a high level.

His long-time friend, Henry Wordsworth Longfellow observed, "I never knew an author's death to cause such general mourning. It is no exaggeration to say that this whole country is stricken with grief."

"Wherever the English language is spoken the intelligence we publish this morning of the decease of Mr. Charles Dickens will be received with feelings of deep regret."

The Guardian
June 10, 1870

His popularity didn't cease with his death, as proved by The Dickens Game, created in 1886, which was played similar to the game of "Authors."



The publication "The Dickensian" was founded in 1905, and continues to thrive to this day. It is published three times a year, with articles of literary criticism, reviews of plays and radio shows, and offers reportings on The

Dickens Fellowship (founded in 1902). (www.dickensfellowship.org/dickensian)

If you are a Dickensophile or are simply interested in learning more about the man and his life, the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City holds the largest collection of Dickens manuscripts and letters in the United States. Their bicentennial exhibition currently runs until February 12. You can visit a portion of the Dickens exhibition online at www.themorgan.org/collections/works/dickens/default.

In honor of the bicentennial, the British Council in Germany posed the question, "What would Dickens write today?" to eight contemporary United Kingdom authors, with discussions available via live stream. Ongoing Twitter feeds from the public streamed live as well: www.bestream.de/

The Charles Dickens Museum and Film London, in association with The Dickens Fellowship, created Dickens 2012 (www.dickens2012.org/), listing festivals, film screenings, plays and other celebratory events.

You can connect with Dickens fans on a social media level on Facebook at www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=13676382124&v=wall

"What the dickens?"

Mr. Dickens may have found it amusing that so many of us assume this cliché refers to him. Its origins are unknown, but the term first appeared in Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor" - over 200 years before Dickens was born.

SAVE UP TO 50% OFF YOUR NEXT HEATING BILL

Advanced Portable Infrared iHeater®
Saves Money **NOW**...Saves Money **LATER!**

- ✓ Heats up to 1000 sq. ft. evenly for about \$1 a day
- ✓ Safe around kids and pets
- ✓ Cannot start a fire
- ✓ **FREE** shipping
- ✓ Full factory warranty
- ✓ **NEW** low price!

Now Only
\$279
For a Limited Time



Was ~~\$499~~

AS SEEN ON TV

Shown here iHeater
IH1000 Model
IH1500 Model
also available
(heats 1500 sq. ft.)

Call
1-888-306-5657
Phone lines open 7am - 11pm EST
7 days a week
Media Code: 6177

Strict limit of 2 iHeaters per household

DISH Network delivers the BEST VALUE on TV!

Packages starting at

\$19.99
MO.
for 12 months

Local Channels Included!
with 24 month agreement.

FREE
OVER 20
MOVIE CHANNELS
HBO CINEMAX
starz
For 3 months.

FREE
SAME DAY
INSTALLATION
IN UP TO 6 ROOMS
CALL TODAY,
INSTALLED TODAY!

dish
NETWORK
AUTHORIZED RETAILER

ALTITUDE
WIRELESS

Call Now and Save Over \$800 this year on TV!

1-888-582-4023

Call 7 days a week 8am - 11pm EST Promo Code: MKT1111

Everyday price guarantee valid only on the following packages: DishFAMILY, America's Top 120, America's Top 120 Plus, America's Top 200, America's Top 250, DISH America Silver, DISH America Gold, BLOCKBUSTER Movie Pass (1 disc at a time); New qualifying DISH Network service activated between 10/01/11 and 1/31/12 will include 3-month bundle. If you activate with a 24-month agreement and minimum of America's Top 200 programming package, 12-month bundle included. At end of your promotional period, bundle discounts (\$5 on BLOCKBUSTER Movie Pass and \$5 on programming package) will end, and you will be charged then-current prices on each component. Requires the following: online DISH Network account for discs by mail; broadband internet to stream content; HD DVR to stream to TV; HD equipment to receive full range of channels. You can exchange online rentals for free in-store movie rentals at participating BLOCKBUSTER stores. Offer not available in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or U.S. Virgin Islands. BLOCKBUSTER name, design and related marks are trademarks of Blockbuster L.L.C. © 2011 Blockbuster L.L.C. Digital Home Advantage plan requires 24-month agreement and credit qualification. Cancellation fee of \$17.50/mo. remaining applies if service is terminated before end of agreement. After 12 months of programming credits, then-current price will apply. \$10/mo HD add-on fee waived for life of current account; requires 24-month agreement, continuous enrollment in AutoPay with Paperless Billing. 3-month premium movie offer value is \$99; after 3 free months then-current price applies unless you downgrade. Free Standard Professional Installation only. All equipment is leased and must be returned to DISH Network upon cancellation or unreturned equipment fees apply. Limit 6 leased tuners per account; upfront and monthly fees may apply based on type and number of receivers. HD programming requires HD television. Prices, packages, programming and offers subject to change without notice. Offer available for new and qualified former customers, and subject to terms of applicable Promotional and Residential Customer agreements. Additional restrictions may apply. Offer ends 1/31/12. HBO®, Cinemax® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. STARZ and related channels and service marks are property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. All new customers are subject to a one time processing fee.

Your Business, Your Life

CarmichaelTimes.com