

Carmichael Times



**Game Over:
Crestview Now
Just Another
Memory Lane**

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**Ringmaster
Johnathan Lee Iverson
to Wow Sacramento
Fans of the Circus**

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Volume 30 Issue 35

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

September 1, 2010

Explosion Erupts



A major apartment fire which included two explosions of pressurized tanks erupted in Carmichael on Fair Oaks Boulevard. Sixty firefighters and emergency response teams worked together to battle the blaze. No civilians were injured. All photos by Amanda Morello.

Carmichael - On Thursday, August 26th, Sacramento Metro Fire responded to a call at approximately 6:15 pm to a major fire at the Twin Garden Apartments on the 5800 block of Fair Oaks Blvd. in Carmichael.

The fire quickly became a three-alarm fire, requiring up to sixty firefighters on scene. Sacramento Fire reported a four minute response time from the time of the dispatch call.

It is believed that the fire started outside of the main structure on the south side. It then spread to an area that had propane tanks and other pressurized tanks in storage, causing two explosions which caused the fire to spread further.

The entire neighborhood could feel the explosion of the tanks. Some said it could be felt about a half mile away. Smoke filled the air of the surrounding homes and businesses, bringing hundreds of people out to the sidewalks and street to watch the firefighters battle the blaze.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation at press time, as reported by the acting PIO, Assistant Chief Brian Rice.

The location of the fire is a 40 unit apartment complex. 10 apartment units sustained very heavy damage. All residents were evacuated to a local Red Cross facility. The entire complex was shut down until it could be determined that it was safe to return and no additional electrical and water damage would put the residents at risk.

The apartment complex fire prompted the American Red Cross to open a shelter for Carmichael residents unable to return to their flame-engulfed homes. The shelter used was located at the La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Road in Carmichael.

In addition to opening the emergency shelter, the Red Cross provided meals and snacks, cots, blankets, pillows and comfort items. Volunteer nurses and mental health workers were also on duty to assist with health-related needs, including the replacement of prescriptions and eyeglasses. Disaster specialists met with the displaced individuals and families to assess their disaster-related needs and offer assistance.



Two of the sixty firefighters approach the apartment fire.

All Red Cross disaster assistance is offered free of charge, made possible by voluntary gifts of time and money from the American people. To help those affected by this and other disasters in the greater Sacramento area, contributions can be made to the Capital Region Chapter of the American Red Cross at by calling 916-993-7070.

No civilians were injured in the fire. One firefighter sustained heat related injuries and was taken to a local hospital. They were released after care.

The estimated fire damage was over \$1 million.



The multi-alarm blaze shut down local traffic on Fair Oaks Boulevard for hours in Carmichael.

County Planning Dept. to Implement New Fees

New Cost Recovery Methods will Allow Department to Provide Efficient and Timely Service to Customers.

Sacramento Region - In an effort to streamline customer service and recover costs associated with staff time and resources, the Planning Department is implementing new fees and cost recovery mechanisms effective September 23, 2010.

"The implementation of these new programs will allow the Planning Department to recover costs on some of our larger projects," said Planning Director Robert Sherry. "These new fees allow the department to more accurately charge for time and resources used on a project, as opposed to a flat rate fee model that does not account for the potential complexity of the project."

Planning Review Fee - This fee will fund certain reviews and research by the Planning staff that generally takes more than 15 minutes of staff time. These include: Substantial compliance and post-application follow-up; zoning and condition compliance letters; non-conforming verification letters and; research, including historical research and pre-application requests.

Modifying Design Review Fee - This fee will allow Planning to invoice applicants in the event costs exceed the initial deposit collected for design review services.

Conversion of Planning Base Application Fee to a Deposit - This is a new cost recovery model similar to the existing model for the County Department of Environmental Review and Assessment. An initial deposit will be collected, and work beyond the deposit, will be billed as necessary to complete the processing of the planning entitlement application.

The Planning Department Public Counter is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon. Appointments to file applications can be made during business hours by calling 916-874-6141. Customers can also contact the Planning Department via email at sacplan@saccounty.net or leave voice mail messages at 874-6221.

Did you know that most land-use information you need can now be obtained 24/7 on-line? To get the zoning of your property, view the zoning code, permit data or Frequently Asked Questions about planning and mapping data, please visit our website at www.planning.saccounty.net.

Parks Implement Temp Fee Over Labor Day Weekend

Sacramento Region - As the summer parks season begins to wind down for the year, Regional Parks will implement the final holiday entrance fee increase of the year of \$8 for single vehicles and \$13 for cars towing watercraft at all County Parks. This increase will not affect annual pass holders. The summer holiday alcohol ban will be in force.

"Funds generated from our kiosks go directly to the operation and maintenance of the American River Parkway, Mather Regional Park, Gibson Ranch, and other regional parks in the County's system," said Janet Baker, Regional Parks Director. "These extra funds will help off-set ranger and maintenance costs, which is a big help during these tough budget times."

Consumption of alcohol and possession of open containers will be prohibited on the shore and the river within the Parkway between Watt and Hazel Avenues. Violations of the alcohol ban may result in citation or arrest, and the ordinance will be strictly enforced.

"Leave the alcoholic beverages at home," said Steve Flannery, Chief Park Ranger. "You can still have a great time by obeying the law."

Parkway visitors are reminded that all children aged 13 and under, in or around waterways, must wear a life jacket. It's the law in Sacramento County. The Park Ranger dispatch line will be operated through the Sheriff's Department. Call 916-875-PARK (7275) to report any accidents or law enforcement issues.

Agreement Signed for Services at Gibson Ranch

Sacramento Region - In an effort to provide seamless and ongoing services to residents who board their horses at Gibson Ranch, the County has entered into an agreement with the Grace Foundation to provide temporary horse boarding management to begin September 1. The Grace Foundation, a well-known equine rescue and rehabilitation facility located in El Dorado Hills, agreed to manage the program after the former concessionaire terminated its contract with the County.

The agreement with the Grace Foundation is short-term, conditioned to last for six months. Sacramento County has released a request for proposals seeking an operator who can manage the entire Gibson Ranch which includes 350 acres of parkland, the horse boarding facility, a nature preserve and picnic

areas. The deadline for the request for proposals is September 3. The County is looking to have a new operator in place by the first of the year.

The Grace Foundation agreement is a Fee for Service agreement. The County chose to execute a Fee for Service agreement because of the short-term nature of the agreement. The maximum amount of the agreement is \$73,000 for six months of service. Revenue from horse boarding will help offset costs of feed and the Grace Foundation's management services.

To view the agreement between Sacramento County and the Grace Foundation and the request for proposal document visit www.sacparks.net. Gibson Ranch is operating under limited hours and will close on Labor Day, September 6, for the winter.

"Game Over" Crestview Now Memory Lane



Final frame. In closing days of play last week, staff and bowlers revisited Carmichael's Crestview Lanes. Pausing beneath the marquee were, from left: lane porter Cody MacAulay, hobby player Susan Powers, mechanic Daniel Kester, 30-year bowlers Carrie and Jack Dye, 50-year bowler Barbara Metzinger, and 35-year bowlers Debra and Marlin Beckwith.

Photos and Story by Susan Maxwell Skinner

Carmichael – Players, staff and the Carmichael community have been bowled over by the closure of Crestview Lanes on Manzanita Ave.

Due to declining business and a death in the family who built and ran Crestview since its 1960s glory days, the 32-lane bowling alley last week ended play. Surrounding land - including an apartment complex, the Crestview shopping mall and several vacant acres - has also been sold. Speculation about the property's future is rife. Short of quashing rumors of a Wal-Mart acquisition, Carmichael's Holesapple family is mum about the purchase.

One thing is certain. A big slice of Americana is about to vanish from Carmichael.

The low-slung, modernist building with its granite panels and mediaeval logos is scheduled for demolition. Sacramento – an area once blessed with the third largest number of registered bowlers in California – has lost more than half of its commercial lanes in the last decade.

Lamenting their sport's declining popularity, 40 female Crestview veterans last week held a reunion at "the lanes." The mood was bittersweet. Reported former league president Barbara Metzinger: "Crestview was everybody's home away from home. We worked, raised our families and we bowled here. We enjoyed the wonderful coffee shop, friendly management and good equipment."

Romances, marriages and divorces all hatched in this Laverne and Shirley scenario. Metzinger's happiest Crestview memories include leading a women's team that nailed a league championship 30 years ago. "My children



Strike! The Californian Women's Bowling Association tournament of 2006 was among many tournaments hosted at Crestview Lanes. Some families bowled there for three generations.

and their children bowled here," she recalls. "You didn't have to spend much money. Bowling was something parents could do with all their children. Keeping score of games taught my kids to apply their math. They also learn manners and social skills. It brought them confidence - to compete in a sport and

see themselves improve." Metzinger insists her favorite pastime is not doomed to vanish. "It's in hiatus," she says. "People my age are giving it up but, across the nation, in-school bowling programs are increasing. Through these, the sport will eventually make a good resurgence."



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Are you a veteran from WW2, Korean War, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan War? If you been honorably discharged and have a current DD214, Please Contact The Post Commander Edward B. Holm. PH (916)722-9603 or Post Quartermaster Steven H. Rambo PH (916) 847-5496.
 On the 2nd Sunday of each month VFW Post 2324 hold a Pancake Breakfast from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm in the back of Carmichael Park 5750 Grant Avenue. Price \$5.00 for Adults and only \$3.00 for Children. Come One Come All!

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Carmichael Geranium Society September Meeting

Friday September 10, 2010 10:00 until Noon
 Visitors Welcome - No Fee
 at the Carmichael Community Clubhouse -
 5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael

Program - Andrew Niemann of Foothill Nursery -
 Fall Color in Your Garden Demonstration plants
 will be for sale at end of meeting

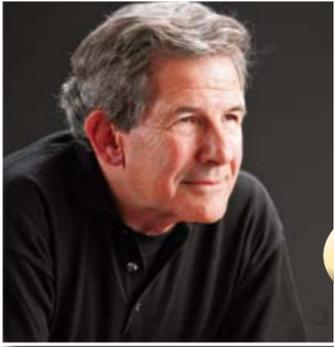




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#1 New York Times Bestselling Author
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**SPIRITUAL PARTNERSHIP:
THE JOURNEY
TO AUTHENTIC POWER**



Gary Zukav, author of 4 consecutive New York Times bestsellers including *The Seat of the Soul*, is making a rare visit to Sacramento for a presentation on *Spiritual Partnership: The Journey to Authentic Power*, the title of his latest work. Zukav's life-changing seminar will be held at Christ Unity Church (CUC) on Sunday, September 12 at 2:00 PM at 9249 Folsom Boulevard, (one block east of La Riviera Drive). "Gary Zukav is one of the nation's leading thinkers and empowering speakers," said Kevin Ross, CUC's Senior Minister. "We are honored to host him in the Sacramento region."

"Spiritual partnerships are not exclusively for couples in marriage or relationships," explains Zukav, who says relationships of substance accelerate spiritual growth. "They can be created in families, between friends, in the workplace – anywhere two or more individuals decide to create a relationship as equals." A frequent guest on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, Zukav has six million copies of his books in print and translations published in twenty-four languages.

Who: An afternoon with **Gary Zukav**, New York Times bestselling author
When: Sunday September 12th, 2010 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Where: Christ Unity Church, 9249 Folsom Boulevard (off Highway 50 and Watt Avenue and East of La Riviera).
Why: Christ Unity Church generously shares portions of the proceeds of ticket sales with Frances House and Youth at Risk, as our commitment to empowering our community.

Tickets: Available at Christ Unity Church and online at www.christunity.com or at the door.
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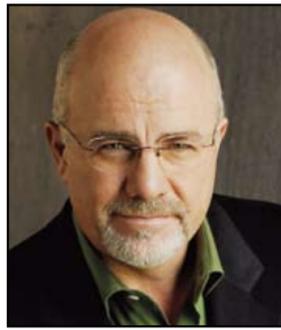
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Dave Says



Dave Ramsey is a personal money management expert, popular national radio personality and the author of three New York Times bestsellers – The Total Money Makeover, Financial Peace Revisited and More Than Enough. In them, Ramsey exemplifies his life's work of teaching others how to be financially responsible, so they can acquire enough wealth to take care of loved ones, live prosperously into old age, and give generously to others.

Adult Son Moves Home

Dear Dave,
My wife and I are getting close to retirement, and our 36-year old recently moved back in with us. His automotive restoration business went bankrupt, he hasn't been able to find another job, and he has nowhere else to go. What can we do to help him?

- John

Dear John,
You have to define what helping your son really means. In my mind, you haven't helped him at all if he's still squatting in your basement five years from now.

That's called being an enabler. But it's not going to help him, either, if you toss him on the street and say "You're 36. Be a man!" I think you should formulate a progressive plan somewhere between those two extremes—something that includes a move-out deadline, but will help him regain some dignity.

As part of living with you, I'd require him to do three or four things. One is that he abides by your household rules. If he's going to live in your home, he should act the way you want him to act. Number two, he needs to be engaged in some kind of regular physical activity. Even if you have to pay for it, you could get a membership at a gym or buy some exercise equipment. Exercise stimulates the mind, and he needs that right now. It'll also be great for his body. Getting beat up like he's been can be tough at that age. It can lead to depression if you don't engage in physical activity and goal setting.

Next, is to think about career steps. He could start with a part-time job to get some money in his pockets. Then, work on a long-term career goal. He knows how to turn a wrench, and he probably likes that kind of work. His mind works spatially, which means he can look at things and figure out how they operate. So, it might be a good idea to move in that direction. It doesn't even have to be cars. He could learn to work on boats or aircraft.

You don't want to beat the kid when he's down, but you don't

want to participate in his sewage, either. Help him clean up his life, and get him out of there as fast as possible. It's what's best for everyone!

- Dave

What Price College?

Dear Dave,

We live in Boston, and we've got three kids who are almost ready for college. My wife and I make about \$114,000 a year combined, and that includes a \$34,000 a year pension I receive. Should we use the pension money to pay for their tuition, or should we let them take out student loans?

- Geoff

Dear Geoff,

There's no way I'm going to send anyone into student loan debt, especially when the household income is in the six-figure range!

Now, that assumes the kids choose a college you can afford, but with your income you guys could handle tuition at most state colleges. And that means all the kiddos are going to have to pick a reasonably-priced school if they expect you to foot the bill. We've got to use a little common sense here. No champagne taste on a beer pocketbook!

You guys are doing okay, but you can't afford to send these kids to \$30,000 a year schools. All this will be hitting you at about the same time, so I want you to cash flow this thing, and pay as you go along. College is great, but you need to invest your money into something that fits your budget!

- Dave

For more financial help please visit daveramsey.com.

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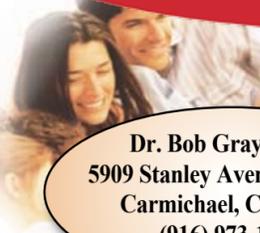
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Top Christian Leaders Call for Church Repentance, Return to Traditional Marriage

Sacramento Region – As the Christian church faces the problems of no-fault divorce and pornography within and attacks on life, traditional marriage and religious freedom from the outside, TheCall to Conscience will gather Christians and leaders at the Sacramento state capitol for prayer and renewal. Their march on a Houston abortion clinic in January drew a crowd of more than 10,000 protesters, and they expect many more for the prayer rally.

“A massive door for change has been opened, and California is at the epicenter of a great transition in this country,” said Lou Engle, founder of TheCall to Conscience. “The church must repent for its wrongdoings, resist attacks on

traditional morality and start a revolution for purity. In order for traditional marriage to be restored, we must ensure our conscience is clear and we ask all to join us.”

Leaders who will be in attendance are Lou Engle, Founder, TheCall to Conscience, Samuel Rodriguez, President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, Tony Perkins, President, Family Research Council, Bishop Harry Jackson, Senior Pastor, Hope Christian Church, Jim Garlow, Senior Pastor, Skyline Wesleyan Church, Matthew Staver, Founder and Chairman, Liberty Counsel, as well as many additional leaders and speakers.

The first event will be held Friday, September 3; 6-11pm

PT at Raley Field, 400 Ballpark Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691

The second event will be held Saturday, September 4; 9am-9pm PT at the Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814

TheCall to Conscience, founded by leading pro-life, pro-family voice Lou Engle, is an organization created to educate and inform Americans — especially young adults — about pressing social issues and advocate for policies that are consistent with the Bible and core Christian principles.

For more information, contact Jameson Cunningham or Hayley McConnell with Shirley & Banister Public Affairs at (703) 739-5920 or (800) 536-5920.

Chelsea's Law Heads to Governor's Desk

Sacramento Region – A law to protect California's children against sex predators passed its final Legislature hurdle and is on its way to the Governor's desk for his signature or veto.

Assembly Bill 1844, co-authored by Assemblyman Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks), strengthens the one-strike provision for violent sex offenders and requires lifetime GPS monitoring of sex offenders on parole.

“There must be zero tolerance for crimes against children,” said Assemblyman Roger Niello. “Chelsea's Law is a step in the right direction to fix California's

public safety system.”

Inspired by the horrific crime against Chelsea King, Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (R-San Diego) introduced Assembly Bill 1844 to protect children against sexual predators. This measure, if signed into law, would double current penalties and create life-without-possibility-of-parole sentences.

It would also require lifetime parole and GPS monitoring for anyone convicted of sexual assault against minors.

In addition to the leadership from the King Family and a bipartisan group of lawmakers,

Chelsea's Law is being driven by a network of over 85,000 “changemakers” from around the world. Crime victim advocates and law enforcement groups are supporting AB 1844.

“Through Chelsea, Californians are speaking up and speaking out. We are thankful to each co-author for listening to that collective voice and taking the necessary steps to reform our laws,” said Kelly and Brent King.

For more information go to www.asm.ca.gov/Niello or email Assemblymember.Niello@assembly.ca.gov

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On the 2nd Sunday of each month VFW Post 2324 hold a Pancake Breakfast from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm in the back of Carmichael Park 5750 Grant Avenue. Price \$5.00 for Adults and only \$3.00 for Children. Come One Come All!

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Forensic Genealogy

Root Cellar - Sacramento Genealogical Society gene-ral membership meeting Wednesday, September 8, 2010, 7pm -8:30pm. Guest speaker Colleen Fitzpatrick will present “Forensic Genealogy-CSI Meets Roots, a modern approach to family research”. Citrus Heights Community Clubhouse 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights. Free, guests welcome. Details at www.rootcellar.org or contact Sammie Hudgens (916) 481-4930.

Genealogical Association of Sacramento

PO Box 292145, Sacramento, CA 95829-2145 • 916-383-1221
The Genealogical Association of Sacramento will meet Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at the Belle Coolidge Library at 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento.
Our meeting this month will feature a sharing session of our summer finds and discoveries.
We welcome new faces and might be able to help you break down a brick wall or track down your ancestors. Come and join us.

The Sacramento Gray Panthers' Sept. 14th meeting will feature a review and discussion of the propositions which will appear on the California November general election ballot. For further information contact Margie Metzler, 916-921-5008.

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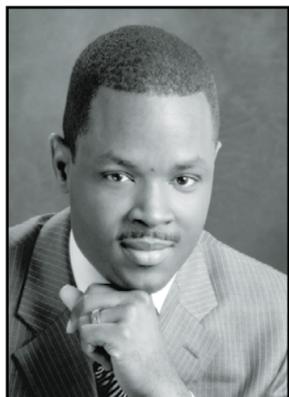
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by Reverend Kevin Kitrell Ross

During my interview process as a candidate for Senior Minister of Christ Unity Church of Sacramento, in a town hall setting, before the congregation, a woman who was at the point of tears said to me, "I'm a lesbian! What do you think about that?" In short, I responded to her, "it does not matter, what I think about you, it's what you think about yourself that truly matters." She was not satisfied with my reply and insisted that I let her know what would be my policy for her as a lesbian woman attending my (soon-to-be) church. Apparently, she felt unwelcome and rejected by other communities. In part, here's what I said to her, "I see you as a spiritual being, on a spiritual journey, having a human experience no different than anyone else. By choosing to only identify yourself as a label, you limit yourself to everything that you perceive negative about that label. However, you are more than this label that you identify with, and even if you tried, you couldn't dig yourself out of my heart." She was so moved that she cried tears of joy and embraced me later.

Whether it be race, gender,

Proposition Nine: All People Matter to God

nationality, political affiliation, religion, creed, economic status, or sexuality, as a spiritual leader, it is not my place to use my position to deny someone access to the spiritual community, but rather to include them because of their uniqueness. I take issue with the Church being used to advance political agenda that abandon the fundamental premise that all men are created equal and are endowed with unalienable rights by their Creator. We need only revisit history to see how the Church has been misused to promote fear campaigns that have created the conditions for the perpetuation of socially unjust laws, violence, discrimination and backward practices that creates further division among people of diverse backgrounds. Now more than ever before, we, who are leaders of spiritual communities must build bridges of understanding and use our positions and pulpits to provide a place of refuge and neutrality for weary travelers seeking solace from fighting senseless social wars for human freedom.

As for me, I will hold to the high ideal that it is God's will that every individual on the face of the earth should live a healthy, happy, and prosperous life. I see it as my responsibility to ensure that people are reminded of this each week, by offering messages that empower them to celebrate who they are as individualized expressions

of God. All people should be proud of who they are because when God was seeking a way to express, God chose their unique culture, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, and faith tradition through which to do so.

The place of the spiritual community is to support all people in their soul's evolution. Therefore, what's important is not what you identify yourself as being, but your "ways of being." Love, compassion, responsibility, commitment, kindness, patience, selfless service, authenticity, and generosity of spirit are "ways of being" that when acted upon will heal our communities, cities, states, country and ultimately the world.

You see, no one should care if it's a straight hand or gay hand that stops crime, or builds a Habitat home, or donates an organ, or provides clean water, or finds the cure to cancer, or ends a war, or saves the life of a drowning baby. When these ways of being are showing up in the world, so is God.

Kevin Kitrell Ross is the new Senior Minister and Spiritual Director of Christ Unity Church of Sacramento, located at 9249 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, California 95826. Service times are 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. All are welcome. For more information about Christ Unity Church, visit www.christunity.com.



A Film Review by Tim Riley
TAKERS (Rated PG-13)

Classic heist movies offer a potent mix of suspense and tension inspired by Alfred Hitchcock, high-stakes action courtesy of Jerry Bruckheimer and sharp dialogue worthy of David Mamet. Perhaps this is my dream version of a taut, edge-of-your-seat crime thriller, and its reality is as elusive as high-paying construction and manufacturing jobs in our current dreadful economy. Even when falling short of the ideal caper, Hollywood often delivers entertaining thrills in this genre, and "Takers" is a good example of a solid, functional suspense ride that is thoroughly riveting.

Wasting no time in setting the stage for the explosive action to come, "Takers" opens boldly with a daring bank robbery in downtown Los Angeles. The culturally diverse crew is composed of longtime pals Gordon (Idris Elba, a British actor sounding like a transplant from a Caribbean nation), John (Paul Walker), A.J. (Hayden Christensen), and the Attica brothers, Jake (Michael Ealy) and Jesse (singer Chris Brown, famous for domestic disputes). The high-tech gangsters roll in high style, wearing sharp clothes that would land them on the pages of GQ or Esquire.

The cunning, charismatic thieves operate on a personal code of intelligent planning that avoids overreach and unnecessary risk. Paying attention to tiny details and carefully taking pains to leave no clues behind, the crew lays low for a year after every job, thus minimizing the dangers from increased police investigative work. The gang's equilibrium is upended when former crew member Ghost (rapper

Riley Reviews

DARING, ENERGETIC "TAKERS" GIVES MANY HEIST THRILLS

Tip "T.I." Harris) is released from prison and is itching to collect his share of a previous heist while also hatching grand new plans.

Never mind that the crew just pulled off a great bank robbery caper than involved a daring escape, Ghost insists that their biggest job ever can be successfully executed within a matter of days. Too much time behind bars allowed Ghost to formulate a masterful plan involving an elaborate heist of an armored truck that would net a cool \$25 million. Against their better judgment, and after some back-and-forth that seemed like a guilt trip being heaped upon them, the crew sets in motion what sounds like a suicide mission.

Frankly, it should be obvious to anyone that hooking up with Ghost for a major crime is not a really terrific idea. For one, he's too slick and cocky. And Jake, for his part, doesn't want to do the job, because he believes they must adhere to the code of one heist per year. Moreover, now that Jake is hooked up with Ghost's former girlfriend (Zoe Saldana), he instinctively knows that this is an untenable position. With Ghost entering the picture,

(Matt Dillon), just one fist punch removed from an Internal Affairs probe, is obsessed with sniffing out the bank robbers. The dogged Welles and his likeable, laid-back partner Eddie Hatcher (Jay Hernandez) become tenacious in their pursuit of the bank robbery gang, and in the process are instrumental to some really tense scenes. One of the film's most thrilling set pieces involves Jesse's headlong dash through downtown Los Angeles to escape the two detectives. Using elements of parkour, a highly athletic, acrobatic sport, Jesse surmounts seemingly impossible obstacles.

The Russian mob, consisting of some particularly nasty gun-happy thugs, also gets into the picture, which results in a hotel suite shootout that would certainly please the master of acrobatic gunplay, Hong Kong director John Woo. As a matter of fact, "Takers" is inspired to a degree by other movies, even a mediocre one like "Armored," where the method of boosting an armored vehicle is uncannily similar. On the plus side, the amazing stunt work in the foot chase is reminiscent of the last "Bourne" film.

Fueled by intense sequences of violent skirmishes and gun battles, "Takers," despite some jittery camera work during key action scenes, delivers a nice adrenaline rush for action junkies. In addition to a charismatic cast of good and bad guys, "Takers" makes good use of location shots throughout Los Angeles, from a Dodger Stadium flyover to high-rise vistas of the urban landscape. This heist caper has enough style and flash, as well as great stunts, to prove immensely enjoyable.

Putting Public Safety Ahead of Public Pensions

Commentary by Scott Jones

Sacramento County - Sacramento County, like many communities throughout the Nation, is facing an economic downturn. With the recession more people are relying on public services, yet the county is receiving less tax money to pay for the programs. The end result is that Sacramento County is facing a soaring deficit that reached as high as \$181 million, forcing the Board of Supervisors to make some difficult decisions.

Nowhere is that impact more directly affected by Sacramento County citizens than reductions to law enforcement. An even small cut to the Sheriff's Department means longer response times and greater cutbacks in proactive policing programs such as the gang task force. However, with such a large deficit 85 Sheriff employees faced termination. That means devastating changes to patrolling the streets and in the jail. The department has already faced difficult cuts last year and any additional cuts will put the public's safety in jeopardy.

When it seemed virtually impossible for the Sheriff's department to

avoid painstaking cuts, a compromise was formed. The plan was born out of meetings between Sheriff McGinness, the County Executive, the Supervisors, County Counsel, and the organizations representing the brave men and women who put on the uniform to protect Sacramento County residents. All sides agreed that the county was in desperate straits. The easiest thing to do is to complain about it and battle the issue in the court of public opinion. However, everyone took the issue seriously and worked diligently to find way to keep officers on the street.

After much deliberation, a plan coalesced that would significantly reduce overhead costs. All sides agreed to lower the county's obligation to the retirement system. The deputies and managers of the Sheriff's Office agreed to move the retirement age from 50 to 55. Non-sworn employees also agreed to pension changes. While it may not sound like much, the overall savings to the Sheriff's Office exceeds \$100 million over the next quarter century.

In addition, all sides agreed to

reinstatement of reserve deputies. These are generally former officers who fill-in when the department is shorthanded, or younger officers just joining law enforcement. The benefits of reserve deputies are that they are experienced officers available at a lower cost since they do not receive full pension benefits.

Despite the agreement, the process was far from over. After all, any proposal that changes county contracts requires approval. After multiple hearings earlier this month, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a pension reform plan that was being pushed by Sheriff McGinness. The McGinness Plan not only saves the county millions but it also preserves the region's public safety net.

This not a perfect solution, but it does cut costs to taxpayers and helps keep Deputies on the street. I applaud the men and women of the Sheriff's Department for coming to the table to keep Deputies on patrol instead of the unemployment line.

Scott Jones is a Sacramento County Sheriff's Captain.

One percent transaction tax is proposed?

President Obama's finance team is recommending a transaction tax. His plan is to sneak it in after the November election to keep it under the radar. This is a 1% tax on all transactions at any financial institution i. e. Banks, Credit Unions, etc.. Any deposit you make, or move around within your account, i. e. transfer

to, will have a 1% tax charged.

If your pay check or your social Security or whatever is direct deposit, 1% tax charged. If you hand carry a check in to deposit, 1% tax charged, If you take cash in to deposit, 1% tax charged. This is from the man who promised that if you make under \$250,000 per year, you

will not see one penny of new tax. Keep your eyes and ears open, you will be amazed at what you learn.

Some will say aw it's just 1%. Remember once the tax is there they can raise it at will and it's 1% on every single transaction.

See <http://www.standard.net/node/44797>

Monthly Military Retiree/Spouses Meeting September 14

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for 14 Sep at the North Highlands Community Center, corner of Watt Ave and Freedom Park Drive. Our meeting starts promptly at 1030 hrs. Our speaker is Lisa Olson from TransitionsForVeterans, a nonprofit organization. Come on out and enjoy a cup of coffee and a cookie. Questions can be referred to our volunteer staff at 561-7476.

Military Retiree Bus Trip to the Silver Legacy Casino in Reno

The Military Retiree Office is once again sponsoring a bus trip to the Silver Legacy on 24 Sep 2010. Cost per person continues to be \$30. In return, each person will receive \$10 in cash and a free buffet worth \$10. We will no longer be able to receive the \$5 food credit voucher. We will board the bus at 0830 hrs and depart promptly at 0900 hrs from the old Museum parking lot across from the VA Clinic. Sign up must be done in person at the Retiree Activities Office in the VA Clinic. Phone calls to sign up will not work. If you have any questions, contact our volunteer staff at 916-561-7476, Mon thru Thurs, 0900

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Ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson to Wow Sacramento Fans of the Circus



Sacramento Region - Johnathan Lee Iverson is back once again to welcome Children Of All Ages to The Greatest Show On Earth. A multi-talented performer and an exceptional vocalist, Johnathan will once more don the iconic top hat in Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® Presents Barnum's FUNundrum!SM, a production that celebrates the extraordinary legacy of the greatest showman on earth! And in following the tradition of P. T. Barnum's pursuit for global and fascinating talent, Johnathan who had been selected as the first African American and youngest Ringmaster in Ringling Bros. history, returns to preside over this historical edition.

A New York City native, Johnathan began performing at age 11 with the world-famous Boys Choir of Harlem. For seven years, he was intensely trained in all forms of music including classical, jazz, hip hop, and gospel. Johnathan experienced a string of unforgettable, inspiring moments as a member of the Boys Choir, which included being awarded the lead tenor for the choir, singing at the intermission for Luciano Pavarotti's Concert in

Central Park, performing in alive show on Broadway for two weeks, and winning second place in the Lena Horne Vocal Jazz Scholarship.

Johnathan graduated from the University of Hartford's Hart School in May 1998 with a degree in voice performance, and shortly after his graduation, Johnathan was invited to begin his professional entertainment career with the 129th Edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey. Johnathan couldn't refuse the offer and felt his prominent role in the show was an unbelievable dream come true.

Jonathan toured with Ringling Bros. all around the United States, and his charismatic charm and his incredible voice caught the eye of Barbara Walters, who named him one of the ten most fascinating people in 1999. Jonathan's continuing passion for performance and his drive for excellence earned him an invitation back to perform with the 131st and 133rd Editions.

After three consecutive tours with The Greatest Show On Earth, Johnathan left to pursue other performance opportunities, but continued to work with Ringling Bros. for

special events. Johnathan performed in several Off Broadway productions including Carnival, Showboat, The Magic Flute, and Dreamgirls. He also did commercials for Jeep, Six Flags Great Adventure and Casual Male XL, as well as some singing with the USO Liberty Bells of New York, voice overs for a new animated feature entitled Eloise, and a bit of freelance journalism under his pen name J. Frederick Baptiste/Johnathan Baptiste.

Johnathan is honored to return to Ringling Bros., and can't wait to take audiences on a funtastic excursion aboard the circus train to amazing places near and far on his quest to create The Greatest Show On Earth.

"I am grateful to be a part of this celebration and to be a part of this great American treasure. Nothing can compare to this job. Being a ringmaster is truly thrilling," exclaims Johnathan.

Joining Johnathan on the rails is his wife and fellow performer Priscilla, whom he met and married while previously touring with Ringling Bros., and their children Matthew Felipe and Lila Simone.

Circus Brings Double-Decker Trapeze



The Flying Caceres' are the third flying trapeze troupe in the 140 year history of Ringling Bros. to attempt the quadruple somersault, the most difficult trick in trapeze arts. The troupe made history by successfully catching the "quad" during the opening run of Barnum's FUNundrum!SM

Sacramento Region - Third-generation circus performer, George Caceres and his high-flying trapeze troupe, The Flying Caceres, amp up the intensity for their return to The Greatest Show On Earth. Having first amazed audiences with their unique double-decker trapeze in Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Presents OVER THE TOP, the troupe is back for Barnum's FUNundrum!SM to perform higher and more difficult stunts including a female double somersault. The Flying Caceres, the third flying trapeze troupe in the 140 year history of Ringling Bros. to attempt the quadruple somersault, the most difficult trick in trapeze arts. The troupe made history by successfully catching the "quad" during the opening run of Barnum's FUNundrum!SM.

"The quadruple hasn't been accomplished in 30 years and it's a dream for every trapeze artist to perform it and we hope to be remembered for doing it for this historical edition," exclaims flyer,

Ivo Silva Jr.

The Flying Caceres troupe was first formed by George's father, Miguel, when he and his wife Luz came from Colombia, South America to join the 112th Edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey. An accomplished trapeze artist, Miguel is highly respected within the circus world. He achieved a great feat while touring with The Greatest Show On Earth considered impossible for all but a few; Miguel caught the legendary triple somersault as well as the triple and one-half somersault consecutively in each performance during the duration of the entire tour.

It was inevitable that George would follow in his father's footsteps. George began training on the trapeze at the age of four, and was the youngest trapeze artist ever to have participated in The International Circus Festival in Monte Carlo. It wasn't long before he became one of the youngest people ever to catch a triple somersault George, who has been "flying" for over 25 years has molded his body for life in the air. "It takes dedication, preparation, and paying attention to the small things that keep your body healthy," explains George.

An innovator like his father, George developed, and built a portable version of a trapeze rig that could only be used in a permanent establishment. The rigging that is four feet taller than the average trapeze setup, allows the troupe to

have as many as four of the seven members flying vertically and diagonally at the same time - two on high bars and two below - while the remaining three are busy preparing for the next incredible aerial feat.

"We represent a new generation of flyers who are pushing the limits of what's been done," explains George. "Ours is probably the most difficult and intricate flying act in the world. Every moment is critical for us which means that everyone has to stay focused," he notes.

George is proud and feels that he and his troupe pay homage to Jules Leotard, the inventor of the flying trapeze 150 years ago, "We are the only flying act today that still performs trapeze in the manner it was invented. Not many realize that the catcher wasn't invented until a few decades after the trapeze," explains George.

George will be touring with Christina Cantlin, Daniel Simard, Ivo Silva Jr., Ivo Silva Sr. and Ingrid Silva, all of whom were personally recruited by George himself. George's mother, Luz, who currently is the head of wardrobe for this tour of Ringling Bros., also travels with the unit. Each member of the troupe is excited to be on the new tour with Ringling Bros., George affirms, "The performance is the high; the opportunity to do the impossible before thousands of people is an amazing feeling. Everyone in the group has a burning desire to be here and our act will definitely have the crowd wanting more."

Sacramento Fire Dept. Saves Five Year Old Boy

Sacramento - On Saturday, August 28th, Sacramento Metro Fire District crews responded to a major structure fire which broke out in a local apartment complex, located at 3161 El Camino at the El Camino Patio Apartments.

The fire originated on the second floor of the building. The fire was quickly held to the primary apartment and structure.

While enroute to the fire, crews were notified that a young male victim was inside the apartment. The first arriving fire companies were met by the victim's father, who gave information to the responding crews on where the victim was located.

Metro Fire crews aggressively made entry into the apartment and located the young victim in a rear bedroom. The victim was removed from the apartment and placed into a medic unit and transported to a local Kaiser hospital.

The patient was a 5 year old male. When he was located by the fire crews the patient was unconscious,

but attempting to breathe on his own.

The Fire Department reported that it took only four minutes from their arrival on scene to rescue the child from the structure, only seven minutes from their being dispatched to the fire. Smoke detectors were present in the building, but were not activated. There were no sprinkler systems in the apartment.

At press time, it was known that the patient is stabilizing and currently being treated at Shriners' Hospital in Sacramento.

The fire required a total of 8 Engine Companies, 4 Truck Companies, 3 Medic Companies, 3 Battalion Chiefs, and 1 Assistant Chief. There were a total number of fifty firefighters on scene. The estimated fire damage and loss due to the fire was approximately \$110,000. Estimated property saved was approximately \$400,000.

Sacramento Metro Fire was assisted by Sacramento Fire Department, the California Highway Patrol and the Sacramento County Sheriff.

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2010

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Carmichael



Carmichael Recreation and Park District is announcing upcoming events

Capra Park Working Farm Community Introduction

Join us for pony rides, a petting zoo, arts and crafts and more as we introduce Capra Park's Working Farm to the Carmichael community!

Limited parking, but FREE ADMISSION for Everyone.

Saturday, October 9, 1 - 3 pm

Capra Park
6000 Kenneth Avenue, Carmichael

For more information, call 485-5322 ext 23.

Historical Program on Carmichael

Interested in local history? Join us for a fascinating program on Carmichael Colony founder, Daniel Carmichael. A 'reversal of fortune' story, he came to California as a teenager, made millions, then died broke. Presenter Susan Maxwell Skinner will also illustrate vignettes from the Victorian life on the Rancho Del Paso land grant and show historical photographs providing insight into life in the early days of the area.

FREE ADMISSION for Everyone, plenty of FREE PARKING

Saturday, October 16, 1 - 3 pm

Carmichael Park Clubhouse
5750 Grant Ave, Carmichael

For more information, call 485-5322

Halloween Carnival

Children 8 and under join us for some spook-tacular fun on Halloween! Participants will enjoy "creepy" carnival games with prized, trick o' treats, and scary stories in a safe and fun environment.

Ages 8 and under - \$1 per participant

Sunday, October 31, 1 - 4 pm

La Sierra Community Center, Smith Hall
5325 Engle Rd, Carmichael

For more information, call 483-7826



If you have any questions, please call Elizabeth Crisante at 483-7826 or email her at ecrisante@carmichaelpark.com.

For more information call the District at (916) 485-5322 or visit our web page at www.carmichaelpark.com.

CHAUTAUQUA
playhouse

Now Playing

Room Service



Appearing in "Room Service":
Paul Fearn and Cindi Williams

Chautauqua Playhouse announced the beginning of its 34th Season with the opening of the comedy ROOM SERVICE by John Murray and Allen Boretz, which started on August 13, at the Playhouse. The show will run on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm through September 19. All performances will be held at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Road in the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Admission is \$18 general and \$16 students, seniors, children and SARTA members.

In this classic screwball comedy, an unscrupulous Broadway producer struggles to find a backer for his new show. Holed up in a Times Square hotel with 19 hungry actors and a ballooning room service bill, he tries to forestall eviction with an outlandish plan. Can their new play open on Broadway, or will they be evicted for their outrageous bill? This beloved, zany comedy about the lengths some people will go for their art is sure to have audiences laughing from beginning to end.

The show is directed by J C Moon, featuring a stellar cast including Paul Fearn, Jon Jackson, Marc Berman and many others. Set design is by Rodger Hoopman and costumes are by Brittney Sandoval.

For tickets and additional information call the theatre at (916) 489-7529 (PLAY). Information and tickets are also available through the Chautauqua Playhouse website: www.cplayhouse.org.

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St George's Episcopal Church

PRESENTS

A Continuing Lecture Series on the Middle East

Rebecca Freie, a member of St. George's, will discuss the experiences she and her family had in the Middle East and how it affected them.

Where: St. George's Episcopal Church
5600 Winding Way, Carmichael 95608
When: Thursday, September 2, 6:45 p.m.

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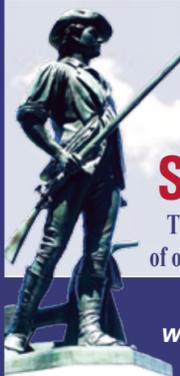
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Sacramento Public Library Events

Stress reduction workshops presented at Carmichael and Fair Oaks libraries

Stress is at an all-time high in our society today. Worries about employment, money, family, and health abound. Stress can take a toll both mentally and physically.

Catherine Daniels-Landeros, a licensed marriage and family therapist, will discuss effective ways to handle the stresses of life in order to experience your life in a positive and meaningful way at two free workshops:

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 21, at Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 22, at Fair Oaks Library, 11601 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks

For more information, please telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit saclibrary.org.

Basic vegetable gardening tips offered at Arden-Dimick and Fair Oaks libraries

Urban gardener James Bridges offers a free, introductory gardening class designed to promote backyard gardens in residential areas at two Sacramento Public Library locations:

2 p.m., Saturday, September 11: Arden-Dimick Library, 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento

1 p.m., Saturday, September 18: Fair Oaks Library, 11601 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks

Bridges will discuss how to determine the garden site, preparation of the soil, tools needed, watering and fertilizing. He will offer a general overview on biodynamic square foot gardening techniques and answer questions.

Bridges' passion for gardening leads him on a continual study of gardening and growing techniques. He enjoys teaching others how to use their own backyards as a food source and how maximize their space to grow the best produce possible.

For more information, please telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit saclibrary.org.

History books discussed at Carmichael Library monthly meetings

Carmichael Library History Book Club mixes fact and fiction for a clearer picture of what has happened in world history. The adult book club meets at 6:30 p.m., on the first Tuesday of each month, at Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael.

Attendees are encouraged to bring snacks to share with other book club members. For more information on the following book discussions, please telephone the Sacramento Public Library at (916) 264-2920 or visit saclibrary.org:

October 5: The Spartacus War, by Barry S. Strauss

November 2: The Skystone, by Jack Whyte

December 7: The Bridges at Toko-ri, by James Michener

January 4: The Things They Carried, by Tim O'Brien

February 1: The Worst Hard Time, by Timothy Egan

March 1: In the Valley of the Kings, by Daniel Meyerson

April 5: The Great Mortality, by John Kelly

May 3: The Big Burn, by Timothy Egan

Free SAT practice test offered for college-bound students at Carmichael Library

High school students can prepare for college admission by practicing with the real SAT test given under real test conditions, for free, at Carmichael Library, 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael.

Kaplan Test Prep staff will administer the SAT practice test at 12 noon, Saturday, October 30. There will be a follow-up session at 6 p.m. Wednesday, November 3, for SAT test results and valuable test-taking tips.

Registration is required at the library branch, online at saclibrary.org, or by calling (916) 264-2920.

The programs are sponsored by Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions.

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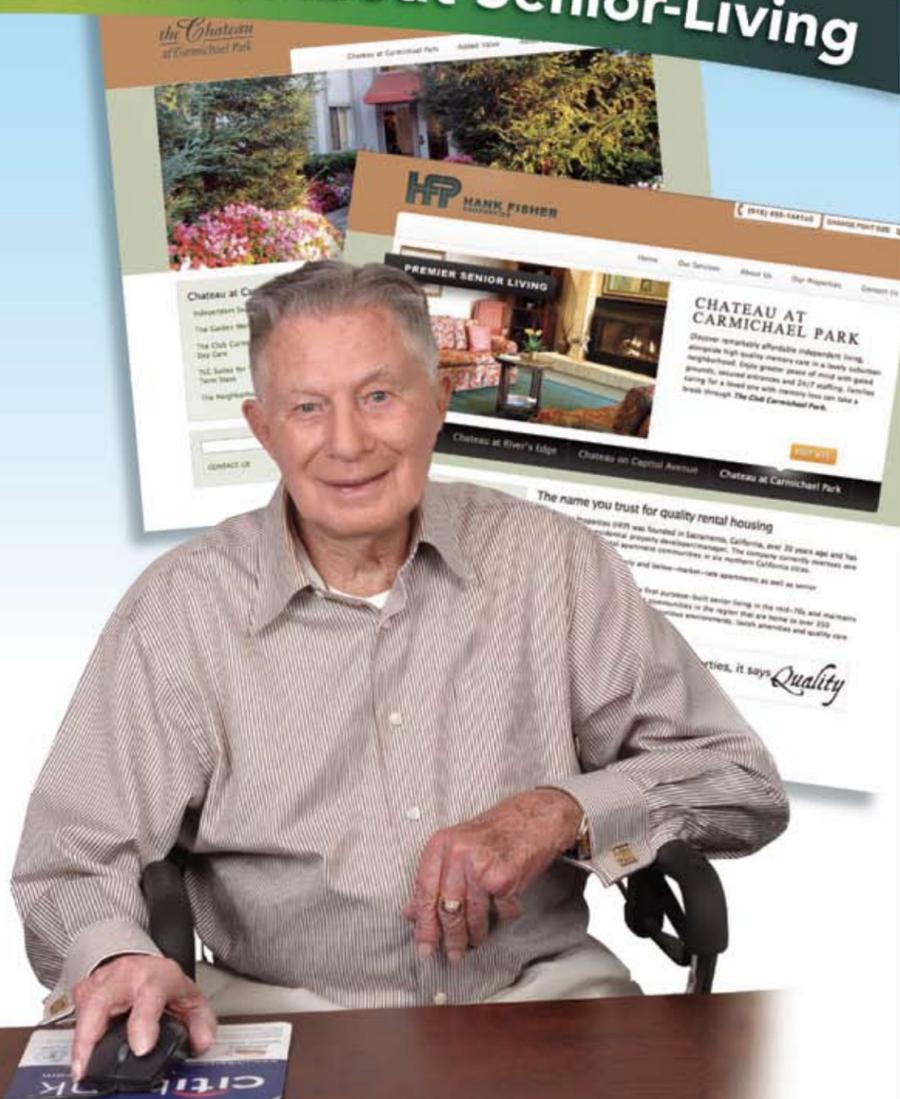
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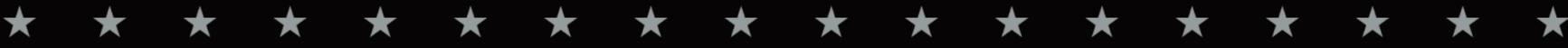
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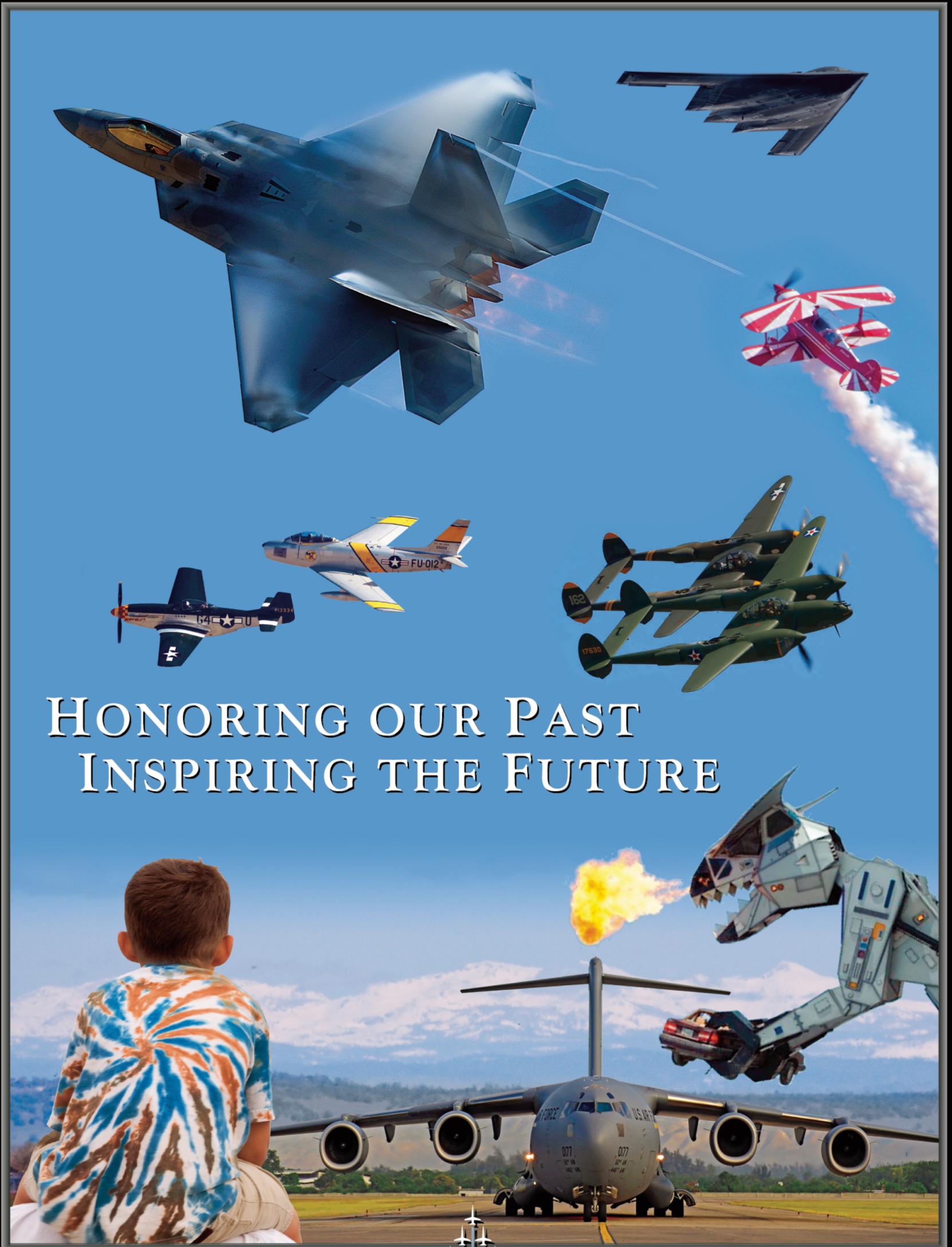


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