

Carmichael Times



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Volume 30 Issue 1

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981

January 6, 2010

Local Wins Grand Prize in HP's Nationwide Contest



Erin Attardi, Senior Executive Associate

Sacramento - Erin Attardi, Senior Executive Associate at Lyon Real Estate, has recently been awarded the Grand Prize in the fifth annual HP Real Estate Technology contest. The award, which was bestowed at a HP sponsored Young Professionals Network event on November 13th, recognizes real estate professionals who have gained a competitive advantage by using technology both in and out of the office. Erin has been selling real estate for the past four years.

She differentiated herself from other agents by incorporating an aggressive internet strategy in her business and daily life and credits a combination of her multiple websites, blog and avid social networking for her continued success. "Technology is the backbone of my business", states Erin Attardi, Senior Executive Associate, Lyon Real Estate. "I generate more than half of my closed transactions and income from a combination of my websites, my blog, online

consumer forums, and social networking. Since I have been cultivating my relationships with past clients, I now get many referrals from them, which accounts for most of the rest of the business I generate." Erin was ranked in the Top 10% at Lyon Real Estate in 2008 and is positioned to achieve a similar ranking at the conclusion of 2009.

As the Grand Prize winner, Erin won a HP Mobile Office with an estimated value of \$3,840. The package includes an HP EliteBook 2730p Notebook PC, HP Mini 5101, HP Officejet H470wbt Mobile Printer, HP External USB CD/DVD R/RW Drive and a HP 90w Smart AC/Auto/Air Combo Adapter.

"The innovative real estate professionals who won HP's contest are leading the charge by clearly illustrating to their peers the relevance and value of using the right technology," said Lisa Hopkins, Manager, Vertical Marketing - Americas, HP. "Real estate professionals require reliable, efficient and productivity-enhancing technology that moves seamlessly from office to road, and HP's solutions - on display at the HP booth - are designed specifically to meet these needs." Erin Attardi specializes in working with both buyers and sellers for both traditional and short-sale real estate transactions in Sacramento County and can be reached at 916-342-1372.

Sacramento Area Employers Say State Overregulated

Small business owners testified before lawmakers



Skip Brown, Owner of Delta Construction Inc., testified before Assemblyman Roger Niello and Senator Dave Cox at the State Capitol.

Sacramento area small business owners attended two hearings by Senator Dave Cox and Assemblyman Roger Niello to air their frustration with the state's unfriendly business climate.

"Lawmakers must listen to small businesses," said Sen. Dave Cox. "They are the economic engine of this state and they will bring our economy out of this recession."

Assemblyman Roger Niello added, "The state should remove regulations and bureaucratic red tape that are hindering small businesses from hiring employees."

In his testimony, Dave Sikich, President of Citrus Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce said that his members were very concerned of the impacts of recent regulations by the California Air Resources Board.

Over the last 10 years of operating in the Sacramento region, Sikich's own business, Atlas Disposal Industries, has been impacted by the costly

regulations of government agencies. With over 45 trucks in his fleet to haul trash and recyclables, Sikich has spent half a million dollars retrofitting his fleet in order to comply with the California Air Resources Board's regulations.

Sikich further commented, "In better economic times, businesses could afford to comply. But these are tough times and we're being forced to manage an ever-increasing regulatory environment when we should be out cultivating new business, hiring and training new employees."

"Regulations are important and I am proud that California leads the nation in environmental issues, but there must be a delicate balance," Sikich testified. "True success would be leading the nation in environmental issues at the same time businesses flourished."

Local employers and residents attended the hearings to urge lawmakers to change the state's

regulations and overall business climate to allow small businesses to grow and hire new employees.

In 2009, approximately 46,500 jobs in the Sacramento region were lost.

Given the region's unacceptable high unemployment rate - 12.3 percent - Senator Cox and Assemblyman Niello teamed up to hear directly from employers on how the state can change its regulations to better serve small and family-owned businesses.

Cox and Niello will hold two additional hearings in January. One will be held on Tuesday, January 12 at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville. The final hearing will be held at the Folsom Lake College Community Room on Wednesday, January 13. Both hearings will begin at 8:00am.

Business owners or representatives who wish to testify at the hearings should contact Assemblyman Niello's district office at (916) 349-1995 in advance of the hearings.

Mercy San Juan Receives National Award for Superior Quality

Carmichael - Mercy San Juan Medical Center is one of only six hospitals in California, and among 75 in the nation, to receive a Best in Value™: Superior Quality Merit Award in a national study on U.S. hospitals and the value of care they provide.

The 2009-2010 Hospital Value Index™ ranks performance at more than 4,500 hospitals in the top 300 markets across the nation in the categories of quality, affordability and efficiency, and patient satisfaction. The study is conducted by Data Advantage, a healthcare information company specializing in healthcare utilization.

"There is no doubt that consumers are seeking value in healthcare," says Brian Ivie, Hospital President. "This award affirms Mercy San Juan's ongoing focus on excellent patient care and

patient satisfaction by providing the highest quality services available in an efficient, safe and compassionate environment."

"This group of hospitals has a proven ability to deliver high quality care, a key element in providing overall value to their communities," adds Hal Andrews, CEO of Data Advantage.

The Hospital Value Index is the first comprehensive index to compare the value of care that hospitals provide, according to Data Advantage. Measures include: Quality, including CMS's Core Measures, patient safety, mortality and readmission rates; Efficiency, including the relative measure of the cost to the hospital for providing services; Affordability, a relative comparison of prices charged for inpatient and outpatient services; Patient satisfaction as measured

by HCAHPS; and Reputation of a hospital as measured by local public perception. All data used in the Hospital Value Index study are publicly available.

Mercy San Juan, located on Coyle Avenue in Carmichael, is the only hospital serving the people of North Sacramento and South Placer counties with comprehensive cardiac care, advanced robotic surgery and breakthrough treatments for brain disease through the Mercy Neurological Institute. In addition to this award, Mercy San Juan also was recognized as a national 100 Top Hospital by Thomson-Reuters in 2007 and 2008. Mercy San Juan opened as a community hospital in 1967 and evolved into a medical center after establishing its trauma center in 1999. Mercy San Juan is part of Catholic Healthcare West.

RT Implements Park-Pay-&-Ride Program

Sacramento - Effective Friday, January 1, 2010, the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) implemented a parking fee at three light rail station park-and-ride lots. RT will charge a \$1 daily parking fee at the following "park-pay-and-ride" lots on the Blue Line: Watt/I-80 (243 spaces), Watt/I-80 West (248 spaces) and Roseville Road (1,087 spaces).

Passengers can pay the daily parking fee by cash (exact change is required), credit card or debit card at the parking payment kiosk located at the station platform. Passengers can also pay the

daily parking fee by mobile phone by calling 1-888-450-PARK (7275). There is a 35-cent service charge to pay by phone.

For convenience and added value, monthly parking passes are available for \$15. Monthly parking passes can be purchased online at www.sacrt.com; RT's Customer Service and Sales Center at 1225 R Street (adjacent to the 13th Street light rail station); Bel Air markets at 1039 Sunrise Avenue (Roseville) and 7901 Walerga Road (Antelope); or by calling RT at 916-321-2849. Monthly parking passes purchased online and by phone

will be sent by first-class mail. Shipping and handling charges apply to online purchases.

On Monday, January 4 through Thursday, January 7, RT staff will be available at the three park-pay-and-ride lots from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. to assist passengers with the new parking payment kiosk, answer questions and sell monthly parking passes.

For more information about the Park-Pay-and-Ride program and the citation process, visit www.sacrt.com.

For route, schedule and fare information, call 916-321-BUSS (2877) or visit www.sacrt.com.

Top Gun Gets Community Award



War stories. Veteran of three wars, 89-year-old retired Air Force Col. Ross Davidson (second from right) stands tall with Iraq veterans at a recent Capital Air Show. Photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

By Susan Maxwell Skinner

Carmichael - The uniform is somewhat the worst for wear and - courtesy of an audacious mosquito's delivery of West Nile virus four years ago - a stiff right arm makes buttoning his jacket a trial. But on January 8, Ross Davidson will don his be-medaled coat for one more set of honors in a long life of service. At a Carmichael Chamber of Commerce "Community Recognition Dinner," the 89-year-old will join Sacramento Sheriff John McGinness in receiving his community's thanks. Having survived three wars, numerous plane crashes and a wound that added a Purple Heart to the WW2 pilot's full-medal chest,

Davidson does not sweat small stuff like stubborn jacket buttons. Limping from hospital near the end of WW2, he had philosophized: "I'm home alive, with both arms and legs." He still laughs at the memory: "I haven't stopped grinning, since." Enlisted in his native Alabama, Davidson had eschewed a career as a trombonist and was soon flying bombers over Germany from England. "I was immature and naive," he recalled. "On our first mission, three planes out of 18 returned home. At 21, I suddenly realized a guy could get killed this way..." He nevertheless survived 34 missions, including two where he was blasted out of the sky and several on which his Flying

Fortress sustained direct hits. "My bomb group called me clay pigeon; I attracted so much flack," he smiles. On three separate raids, this homing pigeon returned his crew -- on a wing and many prayers -- in crippled aircraft. In recognition, Lieutenant Davidson received two Distinguished Flying Crosses, among the highest of Air Force honors. Over three wars, 51 medals were pinned on the same lean chest. Davidson shrugs off the decorations. "In WW2, I was a second lieutenant one month and captain the next. Because I survived. So many of my buddies didn't. Our Berlin raids were the most hazardous duties anywhere in the war. I awoke each day knowing it might be my last. "Sometimes I felt guilty. My buddies gave their lives. I survived and got medals." Davidson said. In the peace, he was a test pilot. He eventually rose to high levels of command in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The 1950s saw him flying over Alaska and Polar Basin. These

missions established an early warning radar system called the Dewline. Scouting radar sights, Davidson landed ski planes on glaciers and ice floes. "What I did scares me to death, now," Davidson admits. "I had no navigational aids, no radio and no one knew where I was. I was dependant on one little aircraft engine. If that had failed, I'd be out on an ice floe yet..." Such polar precocity was immortalized after he and Col Bernt Balchen landed a C-47, at 4000ft elevation, on Taku Glacier, Alaska. The two volunteers - later called the "Lewis and Clark" of the Arctic -- undertook to get supplies to a team of scientists who were stranded by weather and isolation. Despite crevasses and deep snows, they achieved two historic landings and takeoffs on the glacier. For touchdowns, they fitted retractable skis to the aircraft; they later blasted off with jet-assisted takeoff bottles. Thus supplies and delicate scientific instruments reached the desperate team. Davidson's polar endeavors earned admission in the elite

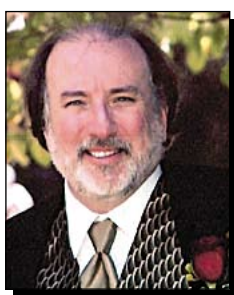


Decorated. In 1944, 21-year-old Lt Ross Davidson received his first Distinguished Flying Cross. The award recognized the pilot's "extraordinary achievement" in flying a crippled aircraft and crew home from Berlin, without escort. Davidson would perform the same feat in three hair-raising missions. The Carmichael man's medals would eventually include two Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Purple Heart and seven Bronze Stars. He remains one of the most highly decorated airmen of WWII.

international Explorers Club, whose members have included legends like Adm. Richard Byrd, Roald Amundsen, Chuck Yeager and Sir Edmund Hillary. Each year in New York, the Carmichael man reunites with surviving members. At a banquet, these stoic campaigners are challenged with such dishes as fried termites, 1000-year-old eggs and gnu stew. At the 1957 dinner, Davidson sampled cheese discovered in a 1926 South Pole cache left by Admiral Byrd. "It was a little sharp, but otherwise edible," he recalls. When Davidson took command of an air refueling squadron after the Korean conflict, he moved his wife and kids to Japan. Since the 1940s, though, the family's address has been Carmichael. His final posting was at McClelland Air Force Base, from whence he flew active missions into Vietnam. "Most people learn their lesson after one war," he shrugs. "I must have been stupid. I fought two more." One of his dress uniforms hangs in the veteran's Memorial Museum in Branson, Missouri. "I am still proud of my uniform," he explains. "It brings back memories. There was a time when I never thought I'd see my 23rd birthday. Every day since then has been a bonus." Davidson is now a businessman and indefatigable community activist. He has been a Carmichael resident for over 60 years and has served the Chamber of Commerce as President and Honorary Mayor. Anyone may attend the Community recognition Dinner on January 8 at The Palace, 6309 Fair Oaks Blvd. Admission is \$30 and reservations must be made before January 6. For information, call the Chamber at (916) 481 1002.

Carmichael Times

Serving Carmichael and Sacramento County since 1981



Publisher - Paul V. Scholl

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.

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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).

Graphics & Layout
Distribution Assistant
Advertising Sales

Tandra Banerjee
Gabriel Scholl
Laure Rauch • Perry Hartline
Cathy Schaefer • Marion Solo

Contributing Writers
Tim Reilly
Marlys Johnson Norris
Judy Zimmerman
Laura Snyder

Mary Jane Popp
Kay Burton
Susan Skinner
Dave Ramsey
Lauren Forcella
David Dickstein
Amanda Morello

Accounting
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Nicholson & Olsen CPA
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Photography

Amanda Morello • Susan Skinner

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- Feb. 18, Small Business Administration workshop.

All programs are free except where noted*

Location:

Sacramento Works Career Center
7011 Sylvan Road, Suite A
Citrus Heights CA 95610

Mission Oaks Computer Club Meeting

The Mission Oaks Computer Club will meet on Thursday, January 14, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA. The meeting topic will be "Digital Photography".

A problem solving clinic, led by Adam Lacey of Applications, Etc, will follow the meeting. First-time visitors are welcome. For additional information call (916) 366-1687 or visit our website at www.missionoakscomputerclub.org.

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Year End Report: From Supervisor Susan Peters



Supervisor Susan Peters

While 2009 was an extraordinary time with respect to the economy, Sacramento County remains vital and dedicated to providing the highest quality of service available – and I want to share with you a number of success stories that occurred last year of particular interest to Carmichael residents.

Promoting Neighborhood Identity

Through the support of several neighborhood associations and funding provided by the Sacramento Association of Realtors last year, three areas in Carmichael now have their names listed on street signs within their residential borders.

Neighborhood identity can reinforce neighborhood awareness and assist in crime prevention by building volunteerism through such activities like neighborhood watch as well as instill neighborhood pride. To accomplish that, this summer a contractor hired by SAR applied adhesive decals with the participating neighborhood's name onto the surface of residential street signs immediately under where "Sacramento County" is listed.

The three local neighborhoods displaying the identification decals are Carmichael Colony, Carmichael Creek, and Mission Oaks North which straddles both Arden Arcade and Carmichael. Each has established boundaries within a designated Neighborhood Preservation Area that is incorporated into the County Zoning Code.

Other neighborhood associations interested in having their area identified on street signs are welcome to contact my office for more details.

Carmichael's Centennial

Carmichael Park was the place to be in September when we celebrated Dan Carmichael's founding 100 years ago of the community that now bears his name.

I was honored to help kick off the event's opening ceremonies presenting a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors in recognition of Carmichael's centennial. A duplicate of that proclamation was placed in a time capsule that is storing local mementos of our era that another 100 years from now may be considered treasured antiques by future generations of Carmichael residents.

Garden aficionados were able to purchase Lady Carmichael, a special geranium created in honor of the community's centennial. Attendees enjoyed music, food, and fun throughout the day that ended with a fireworks show.

Both the Carmichael Recreation and Park District and the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce were the lead sponsors that made the birthday party such a memorable occasion.

Combating Home Care Fraud

Sacramento County currently is leading the way with a multi-agency task force charged with investigating fraud in the rapidly growing in-home care program that is funded with federal, state and county tax dollars.

The program's intent is to allow the elderly and disabled people to remain at home with the help of caregivers rather than placing them in nursing homes, which can cost five times more in public money.

The goals of this program are laudable but the Board of Supervisors was informed earlier this year that Sacramento County has seen the costs and caseloads of the program increase dramatically. The Grand Jury raised the issue of fraud in a report last year.

Our local program is ranked among the highest in cases per capita and authorized hours to service providers of any metropolitan county in the state of California. In June the Board authorized District Attorney Jan Scully to establish a special fraud task force to prevent, detect, investigate and -- most importantly -- prosecute in-home care fraud.

A week before Thanksgiving the District Attorney announced the

arrest of 12 people in Sacramento County who are accused of defrauding the program or other social services. The 12 are accused of taking more than \$352,400. It makes sense to detect fraud earlier and cut funds off sooner to perpetrators of fraud to ensure program funds go to people truly in need, not to people trying to scam the system.

The task force has a toll-free number and e-mail address to report suspected fraud. If you have information, please call (866) 410-4040 or email ihhsfraud@sacda.org.

New Honorees for Patriot's Park

Patriot's Park serves as a lasting monument honoring a special group of individuals who served our community and nation -- and in November four new names were added to the park's Wall of Honor.

New inductees are Army Specialist James Edward Schlottman; Marine Corps Sergeant Brian E. Dunlap; Army Sergeant Larry Morford; and Air Force Captain Olin E. Gilbert. They join seven individuals previously recognized during the park's dedication in 2008. A complete listing is available on the Park District's website carmichaelpark.com.

Each honoree has a connection to the Carmichael area and made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The park is located at 6827 Palm Avenue in the Carmichael Recreation and Park District.

More Neighborhood Streets have Traffic Calming

Slowing down speeders on County roadways is a top priority of the Board of Supervisors and during the summer three residential streets in Carmichael had traffic control devices installed to make those neighborhoods safer.

Under the Department of Transportation's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, residents submit a petition request which the department evaluates using objective criteria like volume, speed and collision history. Each request is ranked by SACDOT and the Board of Supervisors authorizes which streets to include.

Once authorized residents on each street come up with a traffic management plan that can include calming devices like speed bumps, traffic circles, raised traffic islands, etc. Such devices add restrictions to maneuverability of motorists that should result in slowing vehicle speed. After a plan is developed the neighbors are surveyed on the proposed devices. To move forward, a majority approval is required with at least 50 percent of the households participating in the survey.

The three streets in Carmichael that had devices installed in accordance with their adopted neighborhood traffic management plans were Engle Road between Fair Oaks Boulevard and Walnut Avenue, Kenneth Avenue between Mission Avenue and Fair Oaks, and North Avenue between Garfield Avenue and Fair Oaks.

In August the Board also approved a plan for the Mission Oaks North/Gibbons Park Neighborhood. Unlike an individual street plan, this approach looked at several streets for the entire neighborhood. The approved plan is expected to be

implemented this coming spring. For more information about the NTMP, visit sacdot.com and click on Projects-Programs.

Fixing County Sidewalks

The Board of Supervisors ordered around 1,700 residential locations with damaged curbs, gutters and sidewalks to be permanently repaired last year. Originally subject to a temporary fix of an asphalt patch, these locations now have been replaced with concrete. The 2009 repair schedule followed an earlier phase of work done in 2008 which fixed more than 1,800 individual locations. Funding is from \$11 million in Tobacco Litigation Settlement funds.

The fixed locations were identified on a priority basis using the County's Pedestrian Master Plan which resulted from a thorough review of approximately 2,200 miles of streets and roadways in the unincorporated area. Criteria for likely repair locations include walking conditions, proximity to certain land uses like schools and shopping centers, cost effectiveness, and pedestrian accidents.

Among the sidewalks in Carmichael receiving the permanent repairs in 2009 were Coyle Avenue, Dewey Drive, El Camino Avenue, McClaren Drive, and Whitney Avenue.

Another New Park

A special groundbreaking ceremony was held in October at Carmichael's O'Donnell Heritage Park demonstrating what neighbors can do by pulling together for a worthwhile cause.

Originally the Carmichael Recreation and Park District had planned to sell 3.3 acres of the site to raise funds to cover expenses for developing the remaining parcel into a park. Residents wanted to keep the site whole and were successful in obtaining grants, raising private money, and soliciting the necessary in-kind services generating approximately \$235,000 to match the park district's investment to finance the necessary improvements without having to sell any land.

The park should be open next summer 2010 showcasing a number of improvements including a children's play area, walking trails, and a basketball court. To learn how the neighbors accomplished this feat go to odonnellneighborhoodpark.org.

Area Storm Drain Improvements Completed

Residents in a Carmichael neighborhood with a history of localized flooding should feel more secure during this year's rainy season as a result of storm drain improvements completed over the summer by the County Department of Water Resources.

The Kinross Road/Root Avenue storm drain project in Carmichael will bring up to current standards a drainage system that dates back to the 1950's. Before the recent improvement, the system was not large enough to carry current rainfall. The neighborhood is bounded by Robertson Avenue to the north, Walnut Avenue to the east, Root Avenue to the West and Marconi Avenue to the south.

Larger pipes were installed replacing and/or supplementing the drainage system. New pipes also were added in Kinross Road, Heatherdale Lane, Marconi Avenue, and Root Avenue. Selected drainage inlets and connector pipes were upsized, too, to provide additional capacity that flows into the Chicken Ranch Slough.

The project has increased the neighborhood's storm drain system capacity and decreased the occurrence of localized flooding.

Susan Peters represents Carmichael on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. She can be reached at susanpeters@saccounty.net.



Dr Bob Graykowski



A healthy spine is the foundation of a healthy life. Most people often wait too long to find out how to keep the spine healthy and suffer from unnecessary injuries.

I often say to my patients, "If your spine was on your face you would probably take better care of it." More people in America are on disability and can't work because of back problems than any other single condition. The good news is this problem is most often preventable with proper evaluation and spinal care. The challenge is we are constantly receiving valuable signs for attention yet medications mask these important signals until the problem often becomes irreversible or needs a surgery.

The spinal column supports the body and houses the spinal cord. This bony lifeline, with its numerous components spends countless hours navigating this

Why the Most Important Check Up Is Often Missed

strong but flexible superhighway full of twists and turns. Even the slightest deviation of this intricate circuit board can spur complications ranging from headaches to backaches, weakness and numbness, carpal tunnel syndrome to infantile colic.

The spine is actually a chain of 24 freely movable bones known as vertebrae which extend from the base of the skull to the pelvis. In between the vertebrae are cushioned pads called 'discs' and a steering hinge joint in back called 'facets'.

The first part of a spinal check up includes a thorough postural exam to find spinal 'stress points.' These stress points can restrict movement of the individual vertebrae and put pressure on the spinal column. This condition, called "vertebral subluxation," leads to many unwanted conditions people suffer from needlessly on a daily basis.

The next important piece of a check up is to get a thorough history to determine the extent of the spinal exam needed. Even old injuries like car accidents, slips, falls or strains of heavy lifting may have caused spinal subluxation. Even as far back as the birth process and injuries in adolescence can cause long

term problems with spinal health. A thorough exam is then preformed which includes the 'sense of touch' to palpate for muscular imbalances, and spinal alignment. A full spinal motion palpation exam of every vertebra often finds the level of subluxation.

If spinal subluxation is detected further diagnostic testing such as X rays and nerve study tests may be needed to qualify the severity of the condition and extent of any degeneration. The best treatment to correct the spinal misalignment is preformed by a licensed chiropractor. The treatment is a safe and gentle maneuver called a 'chiropractic adjustment' which helps restore proper position, movement and function back to the spine. Chiropractic provides a safe, non invasive alternative to surgery and medications that often mask health problems.

Remember, even a slight misalignment of the spine can lay dormant and create chronic health conditions. How is your spinal health? The best way to find out is to get a very important check up. Don't put off taking care of your spine. Schedule an appointment for a Subluxation check up today. Call (916) 973-1661

Creating a healthy community
Dr Bob Graykowski

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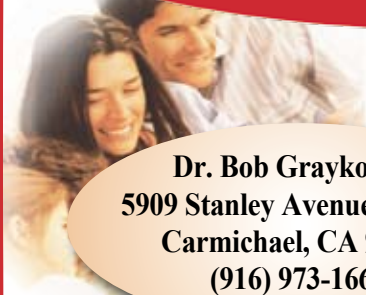


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CHAUTAUQUA PLAYHOUSE

to open Maternal Instincts & Three Billy Goats Gruff in January



(Clockwise from upper left) Simon Hunt, Shaleen Schmutzer, Maggie Adair Upton, Carissa Meagher

Chautauqua Playhouse announces the opening of MATERNAL INSTINCTS by local playwright Dave Williams, opening on January 15, 2010 at the Playhouse. The show will run on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm through February 21. All performances will be held at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Road in the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Admission is \$17 general and \$15 students, seniors, children and SARTA members.

From Sacramento radio and theater veteran, Dave Williams, this is an award-winning comedy about four generations of mothers and daughters with a genetic penchant for deceit, misdirection and fierce loving loyalty. The family that frays together stays together!

The production is directed by Paul Fearn and features Boots Martin, Shaleen Schmutzer, Maggie Adair Upton, Carissa Meagher and Simon Hunt. Set design is by Rodger Hoopman. Costumes are by Eileen Beaver.

Opening in the Chautauqua Children's Theatre on January 23rd is THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF AND OTHER TALES. "Trip-Trap! Trip-Trap! Over the bridge to eat the delicious grass on the other side. But the ugly Troll has other ideas!" The show, directed by Marie Raymond, runs Saturday afternoons at 1 & 3 pm through February 13. All tickets to this show are \$7.00. For tickets and additional information call the theatre at (916) 489-7529. Information and tickets are also available at www.cplayhouse.org.

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*Dewey earned \$3,500 last year from this fundraiser

Please bring any office equipment that you no longer use and drop it off for FREE and help Dewey earn money. We will accept almost all electronic equipment except for kitchen appliances.

Please mark your calendars for this great program.

More details to follow in future Tiger Tales or you can call Heidi Ursino at (916) 505-6554.

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Letters to the Editor

New School District an Option?

To whom it may concern,

I was wondering if your paper could advocate for Carmichael and Fair Oaks leaving the San Juan Unified School District and forming a new school district of their own.

The San Juan Unified School District is too large. It is hard for communities to hold the leadership of the district accountable. If there were a Carmichael -- Fair Oaks Unified School District, it would be large enough to be efficient, while small enough to be accountable to parents and the community in general, and nimble enough to change

course if district policy is ineffective.

A Carmichael -- Fair Oaks Unified School District would not only improve schools in the two communities, but would make the communities more attractive places to live and do business, increasing revenues and helping the housing market recover. The new school district might even prod the San Juan Unified School District into improving. A bit of competition may be just what they need.

Sincerely,

G. David Nystrom

Garfield School - Thank You Amanda

Thank you for the excellent article on Garfield Elementary School. It is nice to have the community voices heard.

Will you post it on your web site? I like to share it with others who may not have received the hard copy of your paper.

Thank you again for coming to the meeting and for the well-written article.

L. Ritterskamp

Publisher's note: We post the entire issue each week online at www.CarmichaelTimes.com.

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• **Holiday at the Waldorf**

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• **South Pacific Wonders**

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Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Motorcoach transportation to San Francisco

\$103/per person

• **Antrak**

February 21-22, 2010

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• **Guys & Dolls**

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

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• **Ironstone Vineyards Gourmet Lunch**

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FREE TRAVEL SHOW
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10 am

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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

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Lungren Urges USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization

Congressman Dan Lungren (R-CA) is very concerned that some provisions in the USA PATRIOT Act could lapse – even as terror incidents continue, some on U.S. soil and in U.S. airspace...

He said though some in Congress and the Administration are comfortable with the policies of bringing Guantanamo Detainees to U.S. soil in New York and to our Heartland, there has never been a time in our history when we could relax in the face of threats to our freedom.

Lungren issued this statement today: "Heightened terrorist activity in recent days and months – from the attempted bombing of a U.S. airliner on Christmas Day to the shootings at Fort

Hood to the murder of a Saudi Arabian border guard by Yemeni insurgents – reveal that our need for robust intelligence gathering tools has not diminished since 9/11. The USA PATRIOT Act has provided those agencies charged with protecting the security of the American people with the authority to combat terrorist activity both at home and abroad. Several key provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act were set to expire on December 31, 2009. These have been extended for a few short months - but without decisive action by Congress, our ability to protect the American people will be severely diminished. "Last month, the House Judiciary Committee, on which

I serve, held a single hearing to mark up a bill to reauthorize the PATRIOT Act. This bill, introduced by the majority party, would unnecessarily weaken America's counter-terrorism laws and impair our intelligence-gathering capabilities. At a time when terrorist activity around the globe is increasing, we cannot afford to compromise the collection of critical foreign intelligence and thus risk empowering radical jihadists."

Congressman Dan Lungren serves as Ranking Member on the House Administration Committee in addition to serving on the Judiciary and Homeland Security committees

Wedding Library Offers Free Help for Local Brides-to-Be

Sacramento area brides-to-be have something new to rejoice about this new year. A new concept in wedding planning has appeared on the scene that can save brides time and money, and help them streamline the wedding planning process. And...it's all free.

This recently opened haven for engaged couples is aptly named Engaged Wedding Library. It's located at the upscale Quarry Ponds center in Granite Bay, close to many top bridal stores. With a picturesque location overlooking the pond, and an elegant interior with comfy seating areas, Engaged Wedding Library lives up to its name with every wedding book and magazine imaginable for brides to browse and read on site, as well as portfolios and videos of local wedding professionals.

In addition to the library of information, brides can also shop at Engaged. Items have been especially selected to make perfect gifts for the wedding party, fiancé, and even for the bride herself (grooms take note!). There is a beautiful and fun selection of goodies, and over a dozen different wedding organizer/planners.

Grooms have not been forgotten at Engaged, and in fact, they have their own special area, with book titles like The Groom's Instruction Manual: How to Survive and Possibly Even Enjoy the Most Bewildering Ceremony Known to Man. Plus a nice little stash of non-wedding related reading material like ESPN and Wine Spectator.

At Engaged Wedding Library, the spirit of giving is evident year round, with continuous opportunities for brides to get free stuff. Just for walking in the door and registering, brides receive a Goodie Bag filled with cute accessories like an 'Engaged' coffee mug, and 'Just Married' luggage tags, plus hundreds of dollars in coupons to save money on wedding plans, a romantic brunch, and more.

When brides use their 'Library Card' and meet with the wedding vendors showcased at Engaged, they can qualify for a free beachbag style 'Engaged' tote bag and a free on location engagement portrait. There are also free monthly wedding planning seminars, where larger prizes are given away, like a free

limo package, wedding flowers, custom invitations, and a designer wedding gown. And even if you're not lucky enough to win one of the big prizes, everyone attending will still get to try complimentary food samples from local caterers and wedding cake bakeries. Couples can register for the seminars at EngagedSacramento.com. The first one is Saturday, January 23, 2010, 10:30 – 11:30 am, and will cover the topics of Wedding Planning from A to Z, and Photography Know-How.

Brides may find Engaged Wedding Library engaging enough to visit many times during their planning process, but they can also get more wedding tips and information from the comfort of their homes, as the Engaged blog has a long list of helpful and fun topics.

Engaged Wedding Library is located at 5530 Douglas Blvd., Suite 130, Granite Bay, at Quarry Ponds, 916-783-1100, EngagedSacramento.com. Hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, no appointment necessary.

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**Saturday, January 23, 2010
10:30 - 11:30 am**

- ❖ Wedding Planning from A to Z
- ❖ Photography Know-How

Plus a chance to win a free Limo Package!

**Saturday, February 6, 2010
10:30 - 11:30 am**

- ❖ Floral Trends and Tips
- ❖ Invitation Inspiration for Any Budget

**Saturday, March 13, 2010
10:30 - 11:30 am**

- ❖ Videography: Memories in Motion
- ❖ Hair and Makeup Demonstrations

Live music, cake and caterer tastings, limousines, and great giveaways at all seminars!

Pre-registration is required at EngagedSacramento.com

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Singles Winter Dance January 9th

Carmichael – Christian Singles Network, will hold a Winter Dance for single adults Saturday, January 9, from 7 PM to 11:30 PM. at Carmichael Presbyterian Church, 5645 Marconi Ave., Carmichael. CSN is the area's largest interdenominational Christian singles group; and couples are also welcome to attend. The evening features DJ dance music from 8-11:30 by DJ John Maricich and dance lessons in the Cha Cha by Richard Kowaleski from 7-8 PM. The music is a mix of rock and roll, ballroom, Latin, country and Christian music at all dances. Dress in casual attire. The ticket price of \$15 presale or \$20 at the door includes hors

d'oeuvres, non alcohol beverages and the dance lessons. Volunteers attend free - please call the number below to volunteer. Christian Singles Network, Northern California's largest inter-church singles group founded in 1992, holds weekly events and dances every month. The next dance after this is the Valentines Dance February 6 at the same location. Call the number below for directions or more information. Membership is not necessary to attend, although members get a \$5 discount at the door. All ages and all denominations are welcome CSN has been holding dances 17 years, drawing singles from the Sacramento, the foothills, and

beyond to Reno and the Bay Area. Pre-sale dance tickets are available on line at www.christiansinglesnet.com, or at Borean Bookstore in Sacramento, and Jireh's Bookstore in Placerville; or by mail through CSN, P.O. Box 909, Meadow Vista, CA 95722. Call Christian Singles Network to volunteer or find out more information, 530-878-0606. To receive more information about activities, or directions call the 24 hour event line at (916) 658-0606. The website, www.christiansinglesnet.com, includes directions to the dance as well as information about upcoming events including seminars, getaways, and parties and cruises.

Sacramento County Utilities and Information Call Center Changing Hours

The Sacramento County Call Center and Utilities Billing Services are changing the hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, to 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. County residents will be able to call 916-875-5555 from 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. for information regarding their utility bills and services including water, sewer, storm water drainage, refuse,

green waste, mixed recycling and bulky item pick-up collection. The general information and customer information line, 916-875-5656, will be open the same hours. "We extended our hours two years ago to be as customer friendly as possible, but the call volume has not justified us staying open that late," said Wendy Randolph, Manager of the

Call Center. "We track all calls in great detail, and the number of customers calling in drops dramatically after 5:30. Changing our hours will help us maintain high levels of service when our customers need us the most." The Hours changed November 23. For more information visit: <http://www.msa.saccounty.net/utilitybilling/default.htm>.

Testing for Census Jobs Will be Held in Rancho Cordova

Rancho Cordova - The Census Bureau is looking for several hundred qualified applicants in the Rancho Cordova area to work with them in the spring of 2010. All potential Census employees are required to take and pass a half hour Census test. Testing for part-time temporary staff positions for the upcoming U.S. Census will be held at a number of locations within Rancho Cordova, including the Folsom Cordova Unified School District's Adult Education Center on Gadsten Way, Rancho Cordova City Hall on Prospect Park Drive, and the Sacramento Works One Stop on Old Placerville Road.

Testing will be held throughout January and into early spring. Available staff positions will include Census takers and employees for Census offices and Questionnaire Assistance Centers. Field pay will start at \$15/hour. Benefits include flexible hours and paid training. Most positions require a valid driver's license and use of a vehicle. It's also a plus if candidates speak another language such as Spanish or Russian in addition to English. To sign up for a test, candidates should contact the Elk Grove Census Office by calling 1-866-861-2010 or (916) 509-3760. More information can also be found at the Census

job website: <http://2010censusjobs.gov>. A practice test is available online at http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/pdf/Practice_Test.pdf. Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts a count of the American population that determines representation in government and distribution of federal funds to communities for roads, parks, housing, schools, and public safety. The City of Rancho Cordova is playing a key part in the upcoming Census with Council Member Dan Skoglund chairing the local committee.

Palliative Care Physician Receives 2009 Pierre Salmon Award

Jim McGregor, M.D. Recognized for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Care



Jim McGregor, M.D.

Sutter Medical Group's Jim McGregor, M.D., palliative medicine physician and Medical Director of the Sacramento and Roseville Visiting Nurses Association and Sutter Hospice, received the 2009 Pierre Salmon Award at the California Hospice & Palliative Care Association annual meeting. The award recognizes individuals who have made a significant contribution to hospice and palliative care in California or Nevada; promoted the growth and availability of hospice and palliative care; and embodied the core values of hospice. Dr. McGregor was honored for his impressive level of state and national involvement in palliative care as well as his firm commitment to teaching and education. He was also recognized for his quality

and compassionate care, his team approach to pain and symptom management, and his integration of emotional and spiritual issues with clinical care. Dr. McGregor provides hospice and palliative care support in many capacities across the region, including serving as Medical Advisor for Palliative Care Services in the Sutter Health Sacramento Sierra Region and Medical Director for the Advance Illness Management in the Sutter Health Sacramento Sierra Region. He also serves as chair of the CME Review Committee of the California Hospice Foundation, Chair of the CHAPCA Education Committee, and as a board member for both organizations. Dr. McGregor is a Diplomat in the American Academy of Hospice and

Palliative Care Medicine as well as in the Board of Family Practice. He has a firm commitment to teaching medicine, not just practicing it. He developed a course entitled "Living with an Incurable Illness" for first and second year medical students. He has taught classes and workshops for Sacramento Healthcare Decisions, the UC Davis Medical School, Paradise Hospice, the Community Hospice of Modesto, and has been a frequent presenter at CHAPCA conferences. He developed what he calls the Medical Minute, an instructive tool where he takes time prior to IDT meetings to discuss areas of particular interest to staff and of concern to hospice patients.

The Pierre Salmon award is named after Dr. Pierre Salmon, who was a hospice medical director. Dr. Salmon was instrumental in the formation of the Bay Area Hospice Association and served as the first president of the Northern California Hospice Association, which merged with its Southern counterpart to ultimately become the California Hospice & Palliative Care Association. Upon his retirement in 1988, this award was created and he was the first recipient. Since its inception, 20 individuals have received this prestigious award.

The California Hospice and Palliative Care Association (CHAPCA) is a not-for-profit organization that represents hospice and palliative care providers; Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly; and healthcare professionals in California and Nevada. The California Hospice and Palliative Care Association advocates for those facing life-threatening illness by promoting availability and access to quality end-of-life care.

Effie Yeaw Nature Center January 2010 Events

Interactive Exhibit: Bountiful Harvest - An Exploration of Maidu Culture
Park entrance fee: \$5.00 per car or FREE to ARNHA members.
Open 9:30 a.m. – 4:50 p.m. daily

Due to budget cuts, the Nature Center is subject to periodic closures. Please call to confirm hours.

Turkey Vultures
What bird eats meat but can't kill its own food? These relatives of the condor and stork are intelligent, family-oriented, and play games together! Learn more about these amazing birds and their importance to our ecosystem.
Saturday the 16th at 10:30AM

Secrets of a Wildlife Watcher
Are you aware of all the wildlife around you as you walk through the woods? Come let a naturalist help you sharpen your observation skills as you discover signs of the animals living in the oak woodland.
Sunday the 17th at 10:30AM

Something's Fishy at the River
Join us for an entertaining puppetry video where the animals get together to help keep their river home healthy. Then take a hike through the Nature Area to check out our own American

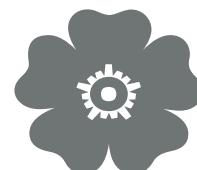
River.
Saturday the 30th at 10:30AM
Owl Be Seeing You
When are owls most active? Can they turn their heads all the way around? What is an owl pellet? Meet a resident owl of the Nature Center and learn the answers to these questions and more.
Sunday the 31st at 10:30AM

Has your child's class visited the Effie Yeaw Nature Center this year?
Consider a gift of a fieldtrip for your child's class. Your child will remember their experience out in nature with their teacher and classmates much longer than they'll remember the spelling and math tests. Fieldtrips start at \$94 when purchased with a credit card. If you'd like the Effie Yeaw Nature Center to take live animals and exciting educational programs to the classroom, our outreach programs start at \$140 when purchased with a credit card.

Help support Nature Center programs by joining the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA)

ARNHA, a nonprofit organization since 1981, supports educational and interpretive activities in the American River Parkway in cooperation with the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. It provides critical fundraising, volunteer and advisory support for the Nature Center's mission to introduce thousands of school children each year to the beauty and diversity of the Parkway. Here visitors of all ages learn the importance of conserving and

protecting our most precious natural resource. Due to County budget cuts, the Nature Center needs your help more than ever. Join ARNHA at the Nature Center or at www.arnha.org. Check out the member benefits!



The Nature Center is located in Ancil Hoffman County Park, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA (916) 489-4918/711 www.effieyeaw.org TDD/TTV



American River Conservancy Winter Programs 2010

Eco-Poetry - A Reading and Discussion On Water

Friday, January 8th, 6 – 7:30 pm
Join poet Alexa Mergen in sharing poems that describe water, celebrate water and offer a call to action. Bring and read your original poems about water as well as poems by your favorite authors. Alexa serves as Sacramento Area Coordinator for California Poets in the Schools. All ages welcome. FREE (donations encouraged). We'll meet at the Nature Center in Coloma (348 Hwy 49). "Everything ripens at once/ by the river as if life is racing..." - Alexa Mergen

A Talk On The Wild Side- Mushroom Presentation

Saturday, January 9th, 9 – 11am (followed by walk)
Robert Mackler, an ARC volunteer naturalist, will take you through a discussion on mushrooms as food from prehistory to present, including cultural differences between people concerning mushrooms. The various types of mushroom poisoning will be explained. There will be a show-and-tell for participants who are asked to bring in whole mushroom specimens in good condition or good photos and, weather permitting, a walk in the park to see living examples of fungi. Responsible teens and older welcome. \$5/members, \$10/non-members. This will be an easy walk in the Coloma area. Walk canceled if steady rain. Please call to sign up and for meeting location 530-621-1224 or contact julie@arconservancy.org.

Trailwood Films "Movie Series" I (of II)

Tuesday, January 12th, 6:30 – 8pm -
The Story Of Grand Canyon National Park
Narration: "Anywhere else in the world this would be considered a mountain. Here, it is only a small peak in The Canyon." This film highlights the beauty of the Grand Canyon and its diversity. **Suggested donation \$5/members, \$10/non-members.** Placerville Library. Please call to sign up 530-621-1224 or contact julie@arconservancy.org

Stevens Trail (Iowa Hill) - Hike

Wednesday, January 13th, 9am – Approx. 3-4 pm
Join ARC member & volunteer Bob Griffin on this 7.4-mile (round trip) hike. This North Fork American River trail starts at the Iowa Hill store (the first Macy's in California) and descends 1600 feet on a gentle sloped trail. The trail is north facing and mostly shaded, requiring warm layers this time of year. Along the way, we will cross a hydraulic mining pit where we will explore tunnels that were dug to "drain" the diggings before continuing on down the trail to the river. At about the halfway point, we will break out of the forest cover and enjoy fabulous views of the North Fork canyon. This trail was built in the 1850's and is supported by beautiful rock walls along this section. The trail ends on a rock outcrop a short distance from the old cable bridge site (this outcrop makes a nice lunch/turn around point). Rain cancels. Suggested donation \$5/members, \$10/non-members. Please call to sign up and for meeting location (Auburn area) 530-621-1224 or contact julie@arconservancy.org.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT #0910810. Wayne D. Powell, 5820 Fair Oaks Blvd. #229, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "American River Smog Test Only" at 5851 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael, CA 95608.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT #0910965. Funtax Inc., 5839 Manzanita Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name "Roni Deutch Tax Center" at 5839 Manzanita Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT #0910338. Alex A. Todorean, 7592 Orange Dr., Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "Villa Toscana; Giardino di Caffee" at 6530 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael, CA 95608.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #217643.

WHEREAS, Claudia Robertson through her attorney, Nickolaus Knight, has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Claudia Calista Anne Robertson to Claudia Anne Kennedy.

WHEREAS, Levi Augustus has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Levi Augustus to Levi Augustus Mahoney.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #222536.

WHEREAS, Amber Huttleston through her counsel, Nicholas Knight has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Amber Huttleston to Katie Hgttleston.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control 3321 POWER INN RD, STE 230, SACRAMENTO, CA 95826 (916) 227-2002.

WHEREAS, Daniel Richard Archuleta-Abel has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Daniel Richard Archuleta-Abel to Daniel Richard Archuleta.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2009-00066476.

WHEREAS, Kristine Bird Troughon has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Kristine Bird Troughon to Kristy Bird Troughon.

petition for change of name should not be granted. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a Newspaper of General Circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT #0910724. George William Villareal, 6318 Markley Way, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Names "A+ Carpets; Z Best Floors" at 6318 Markley Way, Carmichael, CA 95608.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2009-00067313.

WHEREAS, Daniel Richard Archuleta-Abel has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Daniel Richard Archuleta-Abel to Daniel Richard Archuleta.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #34-2009-00067324.

WHEREAS, Kristine Bird Troughon has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name of Kristine Bird Troughon to Kristy Bird Troughon.

and show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Order to Show Cause be published in the Carmichael Times, a Newspaper of General Circulation, printed in Sacramento County, California, once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition.

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Winter Fun Festival Features Snow Treks for Four-Wheelers



Sacramento – (Dec. 6, 2009) – The 28th annual Winter Fun Festival, a major four-wheel drive event hosted by the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs, has been scheduled for Friday, Jan. 15 through Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley.

According to Frank Funk, one of the event organizers, Winter Fun will offer three different historical and narrated sport utility vehicle (SUV) trips and ten separate 4X4 runs in the high Sierra for experienced drivers. He said the Frostbite Extreme trip on Saturday is always a favorite for those seeking an experience in deep snow.

“We fully expect that we will have 600 participants joining us this year,” said Funk, “so we highly recommend that people register as early as possible. In addition to the various trips in the snow, we will provide great meals beginning with the Friday night dinner through lunch on Sunday. In our large facility at the fairgrounds, we will feature indoor entertainment and recreation for children and adults.” Bingo games will be featured on Friday and Saturday nights.

Funk said his committee has two historical SUV trips scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 16 and one additional SUV trip on Sunday, Jan. 17. Additionally, the event features a Friday night moderately difficult run that begins after dinner and seven other snow runs on Saturday that range from the Blizzard Brigade in moderately deep snow to the Frostbite Express. In addition to the SUV run on Sunday, Winter Fun offers the Snowcat and Iceberg trips, moderately difficult in unlimited snow depths.

SUV owners will not require any special equipment and stock vehicles should have no difficulty in the snow using four-wheel drive, low range. “Our experienced trail guides have selected routes that are historically significant, interesting, scenic and very safe for all makes and models of SUVs and other four-wheel drive rigs,” said Funk.

The Saturday Historical Tour will take guests to a number of significant locations in Grass Valley, through the historic town of Rough and Ready to the famous Bridgeport Covered Bridge, and tour the historic mining towns of Goodyear’s Bar and Alleghany. Another Saturday

SUV trip affords participants the opportunity to learn about the Empire Mine, tour many of the old hydraulic mining sites, dine at the historic Washington Hotel and the tour ends at the Malakoff Diggins State Historical Park.

Sunday’s SUV trip permits participants to explore the middle fork of the Yuba River, visit the historic town of Alleghany and ends at the Graniteville Road.

Citizens Band (CB) radios are encouraged for all participants, but are not mandatory.

Cost for any of the Winter Fun Festival trips is \$85 for adults, \$45 for children ages eight through 14 and kids seven and under are welcome free of charge. The cost includes all meals beginning with the Friday night dinner through lunch on Sunday.

Camping facilities with RV hookups and hot showers are available at the fairgrounds (530) 273-6217. Motels and restaurants are available throughout Grass Valley and Nevada City.

To obtain a registration package or for more information, contact Pat or Mike Bashore at (530) 878-1414 or email patmikeb@inreach.com. Online registration is available at cal4wheel.com/store.

California May Influence IRS Tax Preparer Proposal

Sacramento—(BUSINESSWIRE) Internal Revenue Service Commissioner Douglas Shulman plans to recommend to the President and Treasury Secretary by the end of this year that income tax preparers need to be regulated by the federal government.

“Beauticians in most states have to be licensed, yet the majority of tax preparers nationwide, who handle one of the most important documents for consumers each year do not have to be educated or insured,” said Celeste Heritage, administrator for the California Tax Education Council (CTEC), which oversees a state requirement to register unlicensed tax preparers.

The IRS has been holding meetings with industry leaders, including CTEC and its enforcement partner, the Franchise Tax Board, for insight on establishing a federal standard. California, New York and Oregon are the only states that have set requirements for paid tax

preparers; however, Maryland is also working to implement legislation it passed in 2008.

In California, anyone who prepares income tax returns for a fee and is not a licensed attorney, certified public accountant (CPA) or IRS enrolled agent (EA) is required by law to register with CTEC. Each CTEC-registered tax preparer (CRTP) has to complete an educational requirement on tax laws and obtain a surety bond to protect clients against fraud.

According to the IRS, federal oversight of tax preparers is necessary in order to reduce fraud, improve compliance and close the tax gap. It is a proposal that does not seem to have much opposition other than how to fund it; however, CTEC believes there is a solution.

“CTEC is a good model because it has tax professionals regulate their own industry at no cost to the state,” said Alan Shattuck, CPA and CTEC board member.

Before CTEC was established in

1997, the California Department of Consumer Affairs managed the registration of tax preparers. To help save money without jeopardizing the protection of taxpayers, the state decided to privatize the program. Today CTEC is a nonprofit quasi-public benefit corporation that is run by a board of directors representing tax professionals, three staff members and is funded by CRTPs who pay an annual \$25 registration fee.

“We have an extremely useful program that can be used nationally,” said Heritage. “The IRS should seriously look at CTEC and consider privatization.”

Last year CTEC registered more than 44,000 tax preparers. CPAs and CRTPs are the two largest tax preparer groups in California. Please visit www.ctec.org or call (877) 850-2832.

Source: California Tax Education Council

Library Friends to Host Warehouse Clearance Sale

The Friends of the Sacramento Public Library are hosting a Warehouse Clearance Sale at the Book Den Warehouse, 8250 Belvedere Avenue, Suite E, on two Saturdays, January 9, and January 16, 9 am to 3 pm. The warehouse is currently overstocked with a wide variety of books which must

be sold so that room is available for incoming new donations. Proceeds will benefit the Sacramento Public Library system.

All books and other materials in the warehouse will be sold for \$5 a bag both days. Because of the reduced prices, the Friends members’ usual discount will not

be offered at this sale. The Book Den store, which specializes in collectibles and better books and is located at the same site, will be open during the same hours and will be featuring red dot collectibles at half-price. For more information, call 916-731-8493 or email fspl@att.net.

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Carmichael Kiwanis Get Crabby



The Carmichael Kiwanis club will host its crab feed fundraiser on Saturday, January 23.

A 16-year tradition that annually sells out at 400 seafood fanciers, the feast is staged at the La Sierra

Community Center on Engle Rd, Carmichael. Chow-down for all-you-can-scarf pasta and Pacific crab at is 6 p.m. Serving continues until 9 p.m. The meal is accompanied by live music and fundraising

raffles. Tickets are \$40 per person; the event is open to the public. For Information: call (916) 481-8904 or visit www.carmichaelkiwanis.com Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner.

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