



Find that Channel!

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Citrus Heights Messenger

VOLUME 10 • ISSUE 43

Serving the City of Citrus Heights & Sacramento County

OCTOBER 23, 2020

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

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Change Service Requested

On-Campus Fun

New American River Collegiate Academy Opens



First grade teacher Jennipher Baker leads instruction and has been teaching 13 years for Rocklin Academy Family of Schools. Photo: ARCA

By Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - A new Charter school, American River Collegiate Academy at 7755 Hazel Avenue in Orangevale, which serves the Citrus Heights surrounding area, welcomed its first Kindergarten and first grade students to on-campus classes last week.

"We're delighted to be open to the public, and to tell parents of kindergarten and first grade students what our school has to offer," said school principal Trisha Smith.

Parents of kindergarten and first grade-age students can apply for admission and schedule a campus tour through the school website. The charter school offers staggered drop off and pick up times for its students

and a subsidized nutrition program, she said.

The American River Collegiate Academy is part of the Rocklin Academy of Charter Schools. Smith, its first principal, said her school has a staff of seven, which includes three teachers and two classroom support staff.

She wanted to reassure parents that American River Collegiate Academy is continually taking all possible steps to protect the health and safety of its students.

"We listened closely to what Sacramento County required of us to open, and we put in place very thorough health and cleanliness protocols in all our classrooms in our overall site plan," she said. "Everyone chips in to sanitize and clean our campus

three times a day."

American River Collegiate Academy, which is authorized by the Sacramento County Office of Education, has its eyes on future growth and intends to add an academic grade each year in the future until it reaches physical capacity, Smith said.

On campus instruction is held Monday through Thursday and a morning Zoom session for core knowledge learning support is offered on Fridays.

The school's three-hour daily learning structure offers its young students a choice of a three-hour morning or an afternoon instruction session. When not in the classroom, students are given homework for at-home

Continued on page 9

Chamber Launches "Reopen Local"

Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce announced that it has launched a grassroots advocacy campaign that will draw public attention to COVID-19 safety guidelines that use imprecise data to determine whether communities can begin the process of safely rebuilding their economies. The campaign entitled "Open Citrus Heights" began by sending a letter to Sacramento County's health director questioning the rationale of state social distancing guidelines that shut economies down based on where a city is located, not whether they have reduced the number of COVID-19 cases.

In a letter to the county health director, the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce's Interim Executive Director wrote, "When so many residents are out of work and our children do not have the benefit of in-class instruction, we believe that our State has reached a point when healthcare authorities should have greater flexibility to consider smaller geographical or political boundaries that better reflect local health conditions".

Recent press counts reveal that Citrus Heights neighbor El Dorado County was awarded the state "Orange Tier" designation, allowing businesses to expand and reopen, while Citrus Heights and surrounding cities are held to a stricter standard, but only because they are located in Sacramento County.

Reflecting the concern of small business owners who believe they will be shut down for the foreseeable future, Ebbitt also wrote, "while not by design, the state's new tier system is essentially picking winners and losers in the marketplace, resulting in Citrus Heights businesses being partially or temporarily closed, and others have gone out of business for good. Essentially, the economic sustainability of our community is not based on conditions within our city boundaries but conditions elsewhere in the county that are beyond the control of our city's political leadership."

With the winter and holiday season quickly approaching, several Citrus Heights small business owners are underscoring the urgency of the Chamber's request.

The Christmas holiday season is a major source of revenue for Citrus Heights

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SJWD Division Map Sparks Debate over Fair Representation

Story by Shaunna Boyd

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - On October 14, the San Juan Water District (SJWD) Board of Directors held the fourth and final public hearing to approve a division map and election sequencing for their transition to division-based elections.

In response to a threatened lawsuit claiming the established at-large election system violated the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA), the District is now working to meet the legal requirements of the CVRA: the new divisions must be compact and contiguous with reasonably equal populations, and communities of interest must be considered. Racial gerrymandering is prohibited.

During previous public hearings, multiple residents of Granite Bay

expressed concern that the reasonably equal population requirement would lead to a lack of representation for their area, and for rural properties and retail customers generally. They asked that their area be combined with other similar communities of interest.

According to the staff report, the California Constitution defines a community of interest as a contiguous population with "common social and economic interests." Urban, rural, industrial, and agricultural areas are also considered communities of interest.

According to the Board, they considered the following communities of interest: city/county boundaries, zip codes, existing election boundaries, urban and rural areas, official community associations, special districts,

and the retail service area. The staff report cited an "imperfect ability to keep all portions of all identified communities of interest together" while creating compact, contiguous, reasonably equal divisions.

But District Legal Counsel Jennifer Buckman said the proposed map met all the legal requirements. The map also met the Board's priorities of respecting community associations and following the rural/urban divide. The map also refrains from packing the retail customers into one division, which would have diluted the voting power of this group.

Ahead of the meeting, the Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD) and the Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) submitted a joint letter to the Board in opposition to the proposed map. The letter stated that the map "ignores any

existing county, city, or neighborhood boundaries. These communities of interest, especially the City of Citrus Heights, are divided to the maximum extent possible," which they said was "bad policy."

The letter stated that "Constituents have the right to expect clean district lines that make sense in relation to the community," and they saw "no obvious reason for the oddly shaped" divisions.

In an interview prior to the meeting, Ray Riehle, president of the CHWD Board of Directors, said that while the proposed map is likely legal under the CVRA, it "missed the spirit of the law dramatically."

The staff report specified, "Districts are considered compact when they do not bypass nearby

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Read More at www.CitrusHeightsMessenger.com

Find that Channel!



A behind-the-scenes look at Mayor Jeff Slowey's October 20 State of the City Address. Photo: City of Citrus Heights

City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights has two new ways for residents to engage and learn more about their local government: a 3D, virtual open house, and the State of the City Broadcast.

The Virtual Open House

Visit OpenHouse.CitrusHeights.net from any digital device or computer to view a 3D room highlighting 18 different City service lines. Visitors can click on service line posters to watch videos, view current project lists, ask questions, and more!

"Our team worked diligently to bring together City service experts to showcase all the projects we are working on and the services we are providing to the community," said Meghan Huber, Economic Development and Communications Manager for the City of Citrus Heights. "We are proud to have all our service lines operational during this pandemic, while adapting and working with a very lean budget. Our Communications team is looking for new ways to continue to connect with our community. Residents can visit our Virtual Open

House from the comfort of their homes, on any digital device, to engage with us."


The City's Virtual Open House will be live for three weeks, through November 4.

The State of the City Broadcast

If you missed the live State of the City Broadcast, you can watch a recording and still weigh-in on the polls by visiting CitrusHeights.net/SOTC. Recordings are also airing on Metro Cable Channel 14 on: Oct. 24 at 2 p.m.; Oct. 25 at Noon; Oct. 29 at Noon; and Nov. 1 at 2 p.m.


The broadcast drew in hundreds of registrants from the Citrus Heights community. Mayor Jeff Slowey spoke on the many challenges and accomplishments of 2020, with a month-by-month recap. The Mayor also shared information about the important groundwork being laid to secure the City's future, by way of government transparency and fiscal prudence.

To round out the virtual program, there were videos spotlighting community members, updates from City Manager Chris Boyd and Chief of Police Ron Lawrence, and interactive polls for attendees to participate in. ★



VOTE

November 3



Over 2 Million California Voters Signed Up to Track Their Ballot

By Alex Padilla,
California Secretary of State

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - More than 2 million registered California voters have now signed up for California's ballot tracking service "Where's My Ballot?" to receive automated notifications about their vote-by-mail ballots by email, text (SMS), or voice call.

"Signing up for 'Where's My Ballot?' is one of the most prudent steps Californians can take to protect their vote," Secretary of State Alex Padilla said. "Every active, registered voter was sent a vote-by-mail ballot for the General Election, and ballot tracking will play a critical role in strengthening transparency, accountability, and voter confidence during this unprecedented election. All California voters can quickly and easily sign up to track their ballot at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov."

"Ballot tracking has only been available statewide for a few months, and

we are seeing an incredible adoption rate. Nearly 1 in 10 registered voters has already signed up for the "Where's My Ballot?" tool. If you've already signed-up, encourage your friends and family to do the same," Padilla added.

Voters who sign up for "Where's My Ballot?" will receive automatic updates when the county elections office: mailed the voter's ballot, received the voter's ballot, counted the voter's ballot, and has any issues with the voter's ballot.

Voters who sign up for "Where's My Ballot?" will also receive communications from their county elections office about important election deadlines and critical updates such as polling place changes.

AB 2218, signed 2018, required the Secretary of State's office to provide a ballot tracking service to county elections offices. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom signed legislation to expand the ballot tracking tool statewide. ★

CHP Grant Improves Motorcycle Safety



By Jaime Coffee,
CHP Information Officer

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is stepping up motorcycle safety awareness statewide as part of Get Educated and Ride Safe (GEARS) III, a yearlong, federally funded program focused on educational and enforcement efforts.

The primary goal of GEARS III is to reduce the number of motorcycle-involved crashes and victims.

In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2017-18, the number of motorcycle-involved crashes increased approximately 3 percent within CHP jurisdiction. However, provisional FFY 2018-19 data show a 10 percent decrease.

"The ultimate objective is to improve not just motorcycle safety, but highway safety overall," CHP Commissioner Warren Stanley said. "The additional education and enforcement funded by GEARS III helps our officers meet this objective."

During the grant period, the CHP will increase motorcycle safety activities in regions with a high number of motorcycle incidents and participate in traffic safety education campaigns such as "May is

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month." The campaigns will promote the use of U.S. Department of Transportation-compliant helmets for all riders and raise motorists' awareness of sharing the road with motorcyclists. The campaigns will also focus on the most dangerous traffic violations, including speeding, improper turning, and driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security. ★



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PRICES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 21 - OCTOBER 27, 2020

WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
21	22	23	24	25	26	27

10971 Olson Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916.853.8000

Market: 7 Days 8am - 10pm
Food Court: 7 Days 11am - 3pm
(Chinese: 11:30am - 8:30pm)

To Our Valued Customers.

We will continue to offer the best prices possible during these challenging times. Our KP team is working very hard and have your families and our communities in mind. Please honor "social distancing" and be patient in your shopping experience and courteous to all in the store.

THANK YOU for shopping at KP International Market.

FRESH PRODUCE

SALES FOR PRODUCE WILL BEGIN ON WEDNESDAYS @ 12:00PM

Cluster Vine Tomatoes	Limes	Mandarines 2 lb Bag	Blackberries 6 oz	Japanese Sweet Potato	Russet Potatoes 10 lb Bag
\$1.99 /lb	10/\$1	\$2.99 /lb	\$1.99 /oz	99¢	\$2.49 /bag
Taiwan Cabbage	Jicama	Butternut Pumpkin	Mini King Oyster Mushrooms 300 g	Kabocha	
59¢	2lbs/\$1	2lbs/\$1	2.99 /oz	59¢	

AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

ECO Laundry Detergent	TALK Baby Wipes 80 ct	COCA COLA PEPSI 12x12 oz	Pine Deon & Fruity Pickles Cereal 11 oz	CRV Glowin Smart Water 1 Liter	5 CRV MANGO 5x80 gm	Maggi Noodle 5 Pk 5x80 gm	Pope's Durian 3.5 oz
\$1.99 /ea	\$1.99 /ea	\$3.99 /ea	\$3.99 /ea	\$1.49 /ea	\$3.99 /ea	\$3.99 /ea	\$1.29 /ea

ASIAN GROCERY

Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand	Wai Wai Brand
\$8.99	\$3.99	\$3.99	\$4.99	\$7.99	\$9.99	\$9.99	\$9.99

EUROPEAN GROCERY

Horvitz Multifruit Nectar 1 Ltr	Wafel Cake Belochin 250 g	Chumak N/R Sunflower Oil 0.9 Ltr	Taralli Lunghi Handmade 300 g	Rot Frost Wafel 225 g
\$1.79 /ea	\$2.99 /ea	\$3.29 /ea	\$2.99 /ea	\$1.29 /ea

KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

8.99 /ea	4.99 /ea	3.99 /ea	2.99 /ea	1.99 /ea	2.49 /ea
5.99 /ea	1.49 /ea	9.99 /ea	6.99 /ea	3.99 /ea	3.99 /ea

HOUSEWARES

NOVEL MINI ELECTRIC GLASS KETTLE 1.5 C	NOVEL MINI ELECTRIC RICE COOKER 1.5 C	HAMILTON BEACH KITCHENWARE
\$25.99	\$19.99	99¢
2.99 /ea	3.99 /ea	3.99 /ea
4.99 /ea	1.99 /ea	6.99 /ea
2.49 /ea	2.79 /ea	2.99 /ea

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Surasang Oat Rice Porridge 3 Kinds • 1.65 lb	Regular, Kinohi & Abalone	Krindo Oil Cured Olives	Columbus Pin Roasted Turkey Breast
\$5.99 /ea	\$5.99 /ea	\$3.49 /ea	\$7.99 /ea

EUROPEAN DELI

Loxell Foods Smoked Polish Bacon	Smila German Sausage 40% Fat
\$6.69 /lb	\$7.39 /lb

Advised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 21 - OCTOBER 27, 2020.

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Breaded Rex Sol	Raw Shrimp - Peeled & Deveined • 31/40 • 2 lb
\$2.99 /lb	\$10.99 /ea

WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

*SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Beef New York Roast - Boneless Carne de Res Nueva York Asado Deshuesado	Boneless & Skinless Chicken Breasts	Beef London Broil & Top Roast Brnls
\$3.79 /lb	\$1.29 /lb	\$2.99 /lb
Country Style Pork Loin Ribs - Brnls	Pork Tenderloin	Pork Neck Bones
\$1.99 /lb	\$2.99 /lb	\$1.29 /lb

Advised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 21 - OCTOBER 27, 2020.

Leslie Blomquist Earns Top Spot as City Engineer

Story by Shaunna Boyd

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Leslie Blomquist was recently promoted to City Engineer, the top engineering management position for the City of Citrus Heights. She was also recognized in Sacramento Business Journal’s 40 Under 40, which honors young professionals for their career achievements and community service.

City Manager Chris Boyd described Blomquist as “a force to be reckoned with.” At a recent City Council meeting, Boyd listed Blomquist’s many accomplishments, such as securing nearly \$1 million in transportation planning grants and over \$6 million in grant funding for the electric greenway project –of which she is co-architect. Her work on the Old Auburn Complete Streets Project is “the foundation for quality of life improvements for residents and



Leslie Blomquist started working for the City of Citrus Heights in 2015. Just five years later, she has already advanced to the City’s top engineering management position with her recent promotion to City Engineer. Photo: Meagan Bushey/City of Citrus Heights.

travelers along this corridor,” said Boyd.

Blomquist always loved science and math; she knew she wanted to be an engineer from a young age. Her grandfather was a civil engineer who designed bridges, and she was inspired by the impact his work had on people’s lives every day.

She started studying civil engineering in college, and then focused her expertise to specialize in traffic engineering.

As the mother of two daughters, Blomquist wants to ensure that young girls see a pathway into traditionally male-dominated fields like engineering. In industry meetings, Blomquist is still one of the few women in the room, so she is working to the change that.

As a girl scout leader and youth mentor, she introduces girls to activities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), encouraging them to pursue careers in those fields. Blomquist is also a leader in the professional transportation industry organization called Advancing Women, Advancing Transportation.

Blomquist is grateful she can use her skills to continue serving Citrus Heights and the community she loves. ★

Chamber of Commerce Launches Grassroots Campaign to Reopen Local Economy

Continued from page 1

retailers and restaurants. With cooler weather setting in and online sales increasing, continued restrictions on commerce could have a devastating impact on small businesses and cities dependent on sales tax to fund public services. Consumers are likely to turn to online shopping in greater numbers as restrictions continue to severely limit store capacity.

“Many Citrus Heights businesses are hoping this Christmas shopping season will generate the robust sales they need to stay in business and hopefully recoup some of their losses,” says Ray Riehle, owner of A-Applied Mailing Service. However, this is unlikely when the capacity of stores is

so severely restricted. The best Christmas present the State could give its economy would be better data that allows retailers in safe communities to better serve their customers.”

Supports of “Open Citrus Heights” are being asked to join an online petition found on www.opencitrusheights.com. In addition, a social media campaign was launched that will feature a series of videos beginning with the chamber’s Interim Executive Director, Diane Ebbitt (video).

The Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce represents over 250 members and is the community’s leading advocate for economic growth and jobs. www.chchamber.com ★

Why Measure M Stinks!

More Taxes Takes More Money From Your Pocket

Measure M can be broken down into a simple statement: “We promise.”

But Politicians break promises all the time.

Politicians raised gas and sales taxes with the promise to fix roads and highways. ***Our roads are still a mess!***

Politicians ***boosted income taxes*** on the promise to deal with mental health and homelessness. They collected millions of dollars, but the problems only keep getting worse.

Hundreds of businesses are ***struggling to stay alive*** under the Covid shutdown.

Thousands of Citrus Heights ***residents are unable to work*** or earn a living.

Now they want to ***raise our taxes*** in the middle of the worst economic crisis in recent history?

That really stinks!

Vote NO on Measure M

Get informed at **www.VoteNoOnM.org**

Paid for by No on CH Measure M

Trump Enthusiasts Show Support for their Candidate



Trump enthusiasts cheer as passing motorists honk their support. Photo by Jacqueline Shields

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)

- You are driving along on Greenback Lane, Sunrise Boulevard or Douglas Boulevard. Suddenly you begin hearing a cacophony of car and diesel truck horns and shouting. You have just found yourself in the middle of one of the many Trump car parades along main thoroughfares from Elk Grove to Rocklin and beyond.

And wherever there is

water, such as under the Tower Bridge in Sacramento you may find dozens of colorfully decorated boats of all sizes floating and motor-ing down waterways. Some gatherings are spontaneous, others well planned for months.

Staging areas for the land 'rallies' are in parking lots, such as Lowe's at Greenback and Sunrise in Citrus Heights with tables offering up Trump and police support flags, signs and all things in

support of Trump and our local police. It's a party as champions for Trump line the streets with their colorful hats, flags and signs enjoying the mostly positive support from passing motorists. While event organizers make it clear these are to be peaceful events, they have not been without incident. Local police are aware of these events and act quickly to calmly diffuse negative situations before they escalate. ★

Pedestrian Fatally Steps into Van’s Path

By Greg Zumstein,
California Highway Patrol

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - On October 16, 2020 at approximately 355 pm, The California Highway Patrol (CHP) received a call of a collision involving a van and a pedestrian on Watt Ave., south of Navajo Dr. CHP officers responded to the collision scene and learned that a white Ford Econoline van was traveling north on Watt Ave. at approximately 40 MPH. in the left lane. At this time, an adult male, stepped from the right sidewalk and attempted to cross the roadway, while out of a crosswalk, directly into the path of the van. The male driver attempted to avoid the pedestrian but was unable to avoid the prevent the van from colliding with the pedestrian. The pedestrian was subsequently hit and came to

rest in the roadway. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department (SMFD) responded to the scene of the collision and pronounced the pedestrian deceased on scene. The identity of the pedestrian has yet to be determined. The driver remained on scene and was cooperative with investigators.

Alcohol and/or drugs were not determined to be a factor and the cause of the collision is currently under investigation.

Any persons who may have witnessed this collision or who can provide any additional information regarding this collision should call Officer Greg Zumstein at the North Sacramento Area CHP office at (916)348-2300 by cell phone at (916)798-0975. Follow us on Twitter @CHPNSac, Facebook.com/chpnorthsac, Instagram @chpnorthsac, or Nextdoor. ★

Social Security Matters

I Need Guidance on Social Security and Medicare



By Russell Gloor,
AMAC Certified Social
Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am turning 67 in October and as of today am still employed full time. I really do not plan on retiring unless I am forced to. But how do I arrange my Social Security and Medical care stuff. It seems this subject is like a color, and everyone has a different color they like. Is there any way for me to figure this out with help or on my own? I could really use some guidance. **Signed: Perplexed**

Dear Perplexed: Okay, let's look at your Social Security and your Medicare separately, because they're two totally independent programs. You do not need to do anything about Social Security until you are ready to start collecting your benefits. Since you have already reached your full retirement age (FRA) of 66, you are now earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) at the rate of .667% per month. That means that your benefit in October, if you were to claim it then, would be 8% more than it would have been at age 66. If you continue to delay applying for SS benefits, you will continue to earn those DRCs up to age 70, when your



benefit amount would be 32% more than it would have been at your FRA. The choice of when to claim your Social Security is yours to make, considering your need for the money, your health, and your expected longevity. The longer you wait (up to 70) the more your benefit will be, and if you expect at least average longevity (about 84 for a man your current age) then you'll get both a higher benefit amount and more in cumulative lifetime benefits by waiting to claim your Social Security. As for Medicare, if you are now covered by your employer's "creditable" healthcare plan, you can delay enrolling in Medicare until your current employer coverage ends (when you stop working). "Creditable" is a group plan with more than 20 participants. If you now have "creditable" employer healthcare coverage (including drug coverage) you won't be liable for a Late Enrollment Penalty for enrolling in Medicare (or a drug plan) later. If you are still working and know your creditable employer coverage will end soon, you can enroll for Medicare benefits to start coincident with the end of your employer coverage. Or, after you stop working, you can enroll in Medicare during

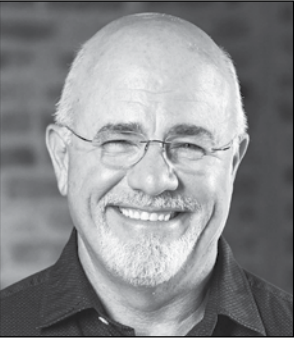
a "Special Enrollment Period" (or "SEP" for those transitioning from employer coverage to Medicare coverage). Your SEP for Medicare will last for 8 months after you stop working, but you only have 63 days after the end of your employer drug coverage to enroll in a Part D prescription drug plan. The bottom line is this – you don't need to enroll in Medicare until your creditable employer healthcare coverage ends. And you don't need to apply for Social Security until you wish to start receiving benefits (just don't wait beyond 70). One final point because you were born in 1953: if you are now married and your wife is already collecting her SS, you can file a "restricted application for spouse benefits only" and collect only a spouse benefit from your wife, while still allowing your own benefit to continue to grow until you are 70. But this option is only available to you because you were born before January 2, 1954. *This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.* ★

Out-of-Work Californians Urge Governor to Expedite Unemployment Benefits

By Nghia Nguyen,
Office of Senator Jim Nielsen

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Standing in front of California's Employment Development Department (EDD) headquarters, seven residents of Northern California urged Governor Newsom to be more hands-on with helping those in need. Like millions of Californians, these residents lost their jobs after the Governor triggered a shutdown of businesses and ordered a shelter-in-place for all Californians. "The experiences of out-of-work Californians and EDD's lack of action are shameful," said Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama). "The Governor and his Administration must do better to serve the people who elected him. Californians deserve better." Waiting for unemployment benefits has been a shared frustrating, infuriating and devastating experience. Phone calls are cut off after hours of waiting on hold. Mails and emails gone unanswered. Endless requests for legal documents that are not always related to the applicant's claims, has resulted in a nerve-racking game of waiting. With the support Senator Jim Nielsen, Sacramento area residents spoke up for the 1.6 million Californians who are still waiting for their benefits. "Action must be taken now to help those who are waiting for their benefits," said La Toya Horne of Sacramento. "I don't want anyone else to deal with the humiliation and bureaucratic obstacles I had to endure. I lost my home. No one should have to lose their home while waiting for a benefit they have earned and deserved." Ms. Horne owned a thriving salon in an upscale part of town. She applied for unemployment in March when salons were forced to close. Months later, a stranger contacted Ms. Horne through social media to inform her that mail from EDD arrived at his house. She had lived at that address 10 years ago. When she amended her application and updated her identification, EDD told her she needed a judge to resolve the issue. They later reversed their decision. Resolved in her passion to help others, Ms. Megan Williams drove nearly 100 miles to urge the Newsom Administration to act swiftly to get benefits to applicants. "It is very disheartening to see the lack of urgency. I feel bad for the people who are not as lucky to have others to lean on financially, or who have landlords that are not as understanding as mine. The stress of having to call phone

companies, credit cards companies, etc. to work out payment plans or shifting debt from one credit card to another, just to maintain on time payments, or keep things turned on, is unnecessary," Ms. Williams stated. EDD just emerged from a two weeks closure that left an estimated 100,000 people unable to apply for benefits. The hiatus was supposed to "reset" its operations and implement a new system. However, Senator Nielsen's office was informed Tuesday that the backlog to review claims went from eight weeks to 11 weeks. Understanding the financial and mental toll of waiting for EDD's sloth-like movements, Mr. Rick Walters of Yuba City joined the call to ask the Governor to immediately take action to help those who have lost their jobs due to the government-imposed lock-down. "Government is supposed to work for us when we need help. We are law-abiding taxpayers. This experience was beyond stressful. As Governor, you need to act now to protect our citizens of this state," Mr. Walters appealed. Like the 1.6 million residents still waiting for their benefits, Ms. April Carlton of Citrus Heights has been able to meet most of her financial obligations thanks to her close-knit family. As an office manager and bookkeeper at a small business, Ms. Carlton's hours were reduced and she was later furloughed. EDD denied her claim based on a name change in 2018. Ms. Carlton provided EDD with judgment orders for the name change, immigration papers and proof of residence. Despite providing all legal documents, Ms. Carlton is still waiting for her backdated benefits. "Thank God for the support of my family. Without them, I would not have been able to handle this financially straining and emotionally infuriating process," said Ms. Carlton. Sherri Bailey of Rancho Cordova, along with her 82-year-old mother, joined the group to remind EDD officials of their commitment during the Great Recession to the public and lawmakers. "They are not keeping the promise they made in 2008. They owe it to Californians to tell us what they did do to serve the public. Clearly, their system is still broken." Elected to the State Senate in January 2013, Senator Nielsen represents the Fourth Senate District, which includes the counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba. To contact Senator Jim Nielsen, please call him at 916-651-4004, or via email at senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov. Follow him @CASenatorJim. ★



Saving for a Car

Dear Dave,
I decided a couple of years ago to start following your plan. Part of getting out of debt for me included paying off my car. I'm taking your advice, and saving up to pay cash for my next vehicle. I know you like mutual funds, so should I put the money I'm setting aside for that purchase in a mutual fund?
–Corey
Dear Corey,
I'm glad to hear you've decided to get control of your money. Mutual funds are great for long-term investing, and by long-term investing I'm talking about a bare minimum of five years – preferably 10. But I wouldn't recommend them as a way of saving up for a vehicle purchase. The problem with mutual funds, in the type of short-term scenario you're talking about, is they can go up, or down, in value. I'd suggest a simple savings or money market account when it comes to stashing the money you're saving for a newer car. They don't pay much in terms of interest, but your money will be safe, and you won't have the ups and

Dave Ramsey Says

downs of the stock market to worry about.
Did you know the average monthly payment in America for a new car right now about \$554 a month? It makes my head hurt to think about that much cash flying out the window every month on something that's dropping in value like a rock. Even if you just stashed that kind of money in a shoebox you'd have over \$6,600 saved in just a year. And despite what some people say, that's enough to buy a dependable, pre-owned car. Stick with the plan, Corey!!
–Dave
Relationships and Giving
Dear Dave,
Do you have guidelines for giving when it comes to helping family members? My wife and I are both 52, we're debt-free, and we have savings along with about \$750,000 in retirement. We agree with you that it's a bad idea to loan money to relatives, but we were hoping you could give us a little extra guidance.
–Samuel
Dear Samuel,
I love that you have a helping and generous heart toward your family. Wanting to help is a noble and caring thing. Wanting to help in the best way possible for all concerned in a sign of maturity and

wisdom.
The big thing is to make sure you're helping someone get back on their feet, and make positive changes in their life. You're not helping anyone when you give a drunk a drink, so you have to ask yourself if your generosity is really helping them or if you're just enabling bad behavior. Also, you can't give to a point where you're putting your own household at risk. You have to continue to be responsible with your finances where your own family is concerned, as well.
This isn't about being a control freak, Samuel. It's about using the resources God has given you in a wise and responsible manner. In human terms, that means helping someone get out of a mess they're in, while at the same time ensuring they're working to make sure they never end up there again!
Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Dave Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★

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Hollywood's Shameful Kowtow to Beijing

Hollywood is accommodating a new era of McCarthyism, imposed this time by Red China.

It involves everything that Hollywood tells us that it hates – censorship, pressure to conform and blacklists. Yet the studios have seamlessly absorbed China's dictates into their operations.

This most iconic American business is now, literally, an agent of Chinese influence.

The latest outrage is Disney's live-action remake of the animated movie from the 1990s, "Mulan," based on Chinese folklore about a girl enlisting in the army. Disney filmed parts of the movie in China, and in its credits, thanks Chinese propaganda departments as well as a public security bureau in the province of Xinjiang, where Beijing is carrying out its hideous campaign against the Uighurs.

If you think Hollywood would be sensitive about associating itself with an ongoing atrocity, you haven't paid much attention to its priorities lately, which are all about pleasing Beijing.

Hollywood hasn't dared

to make movies offensive to Beijing in more than two decades. A trilogy of such movies came out in 1997, most famously "Seven Years in Tibet," starring Brad Pitt. Ever since, Hollywood has considered kowtowing to Beijing the better part of valor.

In a chilling report released a few weeks ago about Hollywood's subordinate relationship to Beijing, PEN America described the forces that have given China the whip hand.

First, there's sheer market power. China went from having a market about the size of Peru in the late 1990s to a behemoth box office. Money talks, even if it is the money of a country hostile to the United States.

Then, there's China's comprehensive system of censorship that very much applies to foreign movies. It is rare that a studio or producer says "no." To his credit, Quentin Tarantino refused to cut a comic scene featuring Bruce Lee from "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood."

Otherwise, the changes are exacting. "Mission: Impossible III" cut a scene where tattered clothes hung from a clothesline in Shanghai. Chinese villains are out of the question. Notoriously, Paramount changed the invaders in a remake of "Red Dawn" from Chinese to North Korean.

Since Beijing can delay the release date of a movie

or demand that a scene be reshot, and studios don't want to deal with the uncertainty, Hollywood preemptively accedes to Beijing's wishes. PEN America notes that producer David Franzoni has said, "They have a lot of power so you want to try to be sure you have it all down the first time."

Paramount removed patches with the Japanese and Taiwanese flags from Tom Cruise's bomber jacket in the sequel to "Top Gun." As PEN America points out, the changes had already been made when the trailer was released, meaning Paramount didn't wait for Chinese censors to object.

The director of "Seven Years in Tibet," Jean-Jacques Annaud, subsequently released a letter expressing slavish regret. He "solemnly declared" that he never supported Tibet independence and never had contact with the Dalai Lama. "Moreover," he added, "becoming friends with him is out of the question."

The upshot is that Hollywood is much more comfortable criticizing the United States than one of the most reprehensible regimes on the planet. The repression of the Uighurs? As far as Hollywood is concerned, it doesn't exist and, at this rate, never will.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Glory, the Masai Giraffe Calf, Now on Exhibit at Sac Zoo!



It's Bright Out Here! What's Up?? Photo: Sac Zoo

By Lesley Kirrene, Sacramento Zoo

SACRAMENTO, CA. (MPG) - Glory, the Sac Zoo's three-week-old Masai giraffe calf, is making BIG strides! She and mom, Shani, will be given access to the zoo's giraffe yard daily between approximately 9am and 1pm. Please note, times may vary and the calf will have access to the giraffe barn at all times for much-needed calf naps.

Make sure to purchase tickets to the Sac Zoo in advance online! You might just see Glory exploring her new surroundings. Also be sure to check out the zoo's Wolf's guenon infant, new troop of squirrel monkeys, the new alligator exhibit and so much more. There's always something happening at the Sacramento Zoo!

The Sacramento Zoo is now home

to five giraffes: one post-reproductive female reticulated giraffe, one male Masai giraffe, two female Masai giraffe including Shani, and now the new calf. Glory is the 20th calf born at the Sacramento Zoo going back to 1964 when the species was first housed at the zoo.

Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to nearly 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The Sacramento Zoo, managed by the nonprofit Sacramento Zoological Society, inspires conservation awareness and action through education and recreation. Currently, all tickets must be reserved and purchased online at www.sac-zoo.org. For information, call 916-808-5888 or visit saczoo.org. ★



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District 4 - Sacramento County Board of Supervisors

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By County Supervisor Sue Frost

Through the generosity of the *American River Messenger*, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated community of Orangevale.

As everyone is painfully aware, the State of California remains in lockdown as we wait for the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since mid-March, schools and businesses have been forced to remain fully or partially closed. We are now on our second or third version of a reopening model, but unfortunately, it still does not make a whole lot of sense. The latest model is a tiered system, placing counties into a different colored tier based on daily new cases and positive test rates. The “Blueprint for a Safer Economy,” as this model is called, still ignores the deficiencies of a county-based system. I am proud to say that I have joined my fellow elected leaders in writing the Governor and the State Secretary of Health and Human Services, urging them to employ a system that makes more sense.

On October 5th, Assemblyman Kiley, Senator Dahle, Folsom Mayor Aquino, and I signed a joint letter asking for a reopening system that focuses on zip codes, not counties. We did so

Citrus Heights Community Update

Need For More Targeted Approach to COVID

because cities like Folsom are meeting the levels of testing and positivity rates to advance tiers faster than the County. Meanwhile, Folsom shares a border with El Dorado Hills, which is advancing tiers significantly faster than Sacramento County, allowing for the reopening of schools and businesses ahead of Folsom. To the surprise of no one, El Dorado Hills having more businesses open has caused Folsom residents to cross the county border to shop, dine, and enjoy a somewhat normal lifestyle. Because the State insists on sticking with a County-based approach, Folsom businesses are left to suffer without the ability to open fully.

When asked whether the State would consider a zip-code based system during a hearing, the acting State Public Health Officer insisted that they had to continue to let the data at the County level determine reopening. Then, in a contradictory move, the State announced that data from disadvantaged communities would be added as a factor in a County’s reopening ability. While it is essential to ensure that COVID-19 does not disproportionately impact disadvantaged communities, this also proves that the data we use to reopen is arbitrary. California could benefit from looking to New York, where the Governor has decided to focus resources based on, you guessed it, zip codes.

Folsom and El Dorado Hills are not the only California cities that are separated by nothing more

than a line on the map. Shifting the approach of the State to one focused on zip codes enables us to simultaneously focus COVID-19 resources in the most heavily impacted communities while allowing businesses in less impacted areas to reopen safely. Moreso, school districts that cross county lines can focus on putting kids back in classrooms and not navigating conflicting jurisdictional restrictions. To me, helping the communities struggling the most while helping everybody by allowing businesses to open seems like a clear win-win scenario.

It is irresponsible to carry on with a system based on the assumption that county lines stop the spread of COVID-19. For more than half a year, businesses have been forced to stay closed or operate at a reduced capacity. Businesses and families are suffering, and not just from COVID-19, but an inability to pay bills and put food on the table. We are beyond the point of doubling down on a flawed system to make it seem like there is some level of control. I sincerely hope that the Governor and state leaders will take the words of my colleagues and I seriously and rethink the “Blueprint to a Safer Economy.”

Sue Frost represents the 4th District, which includes all or part of the communities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Orangevale, Antelope, Rio Linda, Elverta, Gold River, Rancho Murieta, North Highlands, Carmichael, Foothill Farms and Fair Oaks. ★

Misusing Taxpayers’ Money for Campaigns



By Dan Walters CALMatters

California voters are not only voting on presidential, congressional, legislative and local government offices and a dozen statewide ballot measures but deciding the fate of 234 local tax and bond measures.

The California Taxpayers Association estimates that if passed, the local tax measures would raise about \$1.5 billion a year in new revenues. The proposed bond issues, mostly for schools, total nearly \$15 billion and their passage would automatically trigger increases in property taxes to repay lenders.

These are hefty financial stakes and the local officials that placed measures on the ballot have reason to worry about their passage. Voters rejected 62% of the 239 local measures on the March 3 primary ballot — and that was before the COVID-19 pandemic struck home, the state’s economy plummeted and more than two million jobs were erased.

The recession that’s still raging is a two-edged sword for local government and school officials. It has cut their tax revenues sharply and also tends to make voters even more leery about

paying higher taxes.

City council members, county supervisors and school trustees are tempted, in their zeal to persuade voters to vote for new taxes and bonds, to violate a state law prohibiting them from using taxpayer funds for campaign purposes.

Government Code Section 54964 forthrightly declares, “An officer, employee, or consultant of a local agency may not expend or authorize the expenditure of any of the funds of the local agency to support or oppose the approval or rejection of a ballot measure, or the election or defeat of a candidate, by the voters.”

In fact, such violations have become commonplace in recent years. Under the guise of providing “information,” local officials routinely hire campaign management firms to design advertisements, mailers and other material aimed at persuading voters to pass the proposed taxes and bonds.

They have done so because they know that state and local prosecutors just as routinely refuse to prosecute violations of Section 54964 by their fellow officeholders.

The only investigative agency to interest itself in such violations is the California Fair Political Practices Commission and while the FPPC lacks authority to enforce Section 54964, it can treat agencies that step over the line dividing information from advocacy as campaign contributors.

Recently, for example, the

FPPC targeted the County of Los Angeles, which in 2017 spent a million dollars for an ill-disguised, but successful, campaign to pass Measure H, a quarter-cent increase in the sales tax. The campaign included broadcast commercials in English and Spanish that used the slogan “Real Help. Lasting Change.”

County officials, without admitting liability, agreed to pay the FPPC a \$1.35 million penalty for failing to report their spending as a campaign contribution. However, that pales in comparison to the estimated \$355 million a year that Measure H’s passage will generate.

Last week, the FPPC invited the public to use its “AdWATCH” program to monitor the materials local officials are using to promote their tax and bond measures and upload questionable items to the agency for examination and perhaps investigation.

“The public can play a vital role in helping our enforcement division in making sure campaigns and public agencies are following the rules and ensuring a level playing field,” FPPC Chair Richard C. Miadich said in a statement.

The FPPC’s efforts are welcome, despite being an indirect and relatively weak way of discouraging improper use of taxpayer funds for campaigns, but it’s likely to be the only way as long as prosecutors refuse to enforce the law.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers ★

SJWD Division Map Sparks Debate over Fair Representation

Continued from page 1

population for people farther away.” But Riehle pointed out that most of Granite Bay is included in Division 2, except for a small urban area that is excluded. But Division 2 then extends down into Sacramento County to include parts of Orangevale, including the more densely populated areas along Greenback Lane. Bypassing nearby urban populations for far-away urban populations doesn’t seem to meet the spirit of the compactness requirement, and Riehle said “the geography doesn’t make sense.”

Riehle said that people living in rural areas of Granite Bay probably don’t have a whole lot in common with people living along Greenback, so he is skeptical of the claim that the Board prioritized the urban/rural divide.

According to Riehle and the Citrus Heights and Fair Oaks water districts, the eastward projection of Division 1, which cuts into central Granite Bay in Division 2, is an obvious sign the map has been gerrymandered in an effort to protect at least two seats for Granite Bay — where four of the current Board members reside. Riehle believes “political calculus” was involved in the decision-making process.

Legal Counsel Buckman responded to the joint letter at the October 14 meeting: “The commenter is incorrect when they indicate that the map ignores existing neighborhood boundaries. In fact, the commenters would just prefer some different boundaries to have been selected.”

Regarding the claim that the map

attempts to protect incumbent seats, Buckman said, “There’s absolutely no evidence in the record to support that statement.” She further stated that she “expressly advised” that the Board not take incumbent addresses into account, and that the Board followed her advice.

Mike McRae, a director on the FOWD Board and a candidate in the upcoming election for SJWD Board, spoke at the October 14 meeting, stating that the map is “designed to bring long-term disharmony to the San Juan family.” He said the primary communities of interest in SJWD are the water districts (CHWD, FOWD, Orange Vale Water Company, and the San Juan retail division): “This map appears to be purposefully created to fragment across those retail water agencies.”

McRae pointed out that while Placer County makes up only 13% of the SJWD population, it will have a shot at two Board seats — or 40% of the Board — under the new division boundaries.

Two Granite Bay residents, Amber Beckler and Sandy Harris, both spoke in support of the proposed map. Beckler said, “It preserves the community of interest and representation.”

The Board voted unanimously to move forward with the proposed map and the election sequencing — elections for Divisions 1, 3, and 5 will be held every four years starting in 2022 and for Divisions 2 and 4 starting in 2024. The final vote for official approval will be held at the November 9 regular meeting. ★

CLG NEWS UPDATES

Provided by Citizens for Legitimate Government (CLG) See legitgov.org

Senator Cotton to Big Tech After Censorship of Biden-Burisma Report: ‘Winter Is Coming’ | 16 Oct 2020 | Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) on Thursday warned Big Tech “oligarchs” that they will soon face regulation, after Twitter and Facebook censored reports from the *New York Post* that were unflattering to former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter Biden. After the first of the series of articles published, Facebook reduced the articles’ distribution and Twitter slapped a warning label on the stories and locked accounts belonging to the *Post* and those associated with the Trump campaign, claiming the stories violated their policy on hacked material... Republican senators requested subpoenas for the heads of Facebook and Twitter to testify before the Senate. “You have big tech oligarchs declaring war on Donald Trump, on the Republican Party, on conservatives across America,” Cotton said on a Trump campaign press call on Thursday. “Refusing to allow people to post the url of a story, and then they just issue a mealy-mouthed apology saying that they could have communicated better...that is not exactly the standard that big tech oligarchs apply to every story about Donald Trump for the last five years,” he said. “And for all of those tech oligarchs who think they can get away with this, I will simply say that winter is coming.”

Rep. Ken Buck demands DOJ investigate removal of big tech protections after censoring of NYPost Biden article | 14 Oct 2020 | Rep. Ken Buck, R-Colo., sent a letter to the Department of Justice on Wednesday, asking the attorney general to look into accusations of censorship by Twitter and Facebook, after the big tech giants took steps to limit the exposure of a New York Post article critical of Hunter Biden. “I write to express my concerns regarding Twitter and Facebook’s recent actions to censor a prominent American news outlet,” Buck began. “These actions violate the platform’s immunity under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act and threaten to chill free speech throughout our nation.” The NY Post story, entitled “Smoking-gun email reveals how Hunter Biden introduced Ukrainian businessman to VP dad,” touched upon reports that the former vice president’s son had unscrupulous financial and business ties to a natural gas firm in Ukraine — Burisma Holdings — and that his father later stepped in to have a probing prosecutor fired for looking into the matter.

Twitter Locks Trump Campaign Account Over Hunter Biden Post - Spokesman | 15 Oct 2020 | Trump’s reelection campaign said Thursday that Twitter suspended its official account, claiming that Team Trump’s post about Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, is a violation of its policy. “Your account has been locked,” the Twitter message said. “What happened? We have determined that this account violated the Twitter Rules. Specifically, for: Violating our rules against posting private information.” The account was active and posting on Twitter again hours after campaign officials first said it had been locked. The original campaign post which Trump campaign spokesman Tim Murtaugh said triggered Twitter to take action was apparently taken down. The incident came less than three weeks from the Nov. 3 election.

California wildfire that killed 4 may have been sparked by power line equipment —The Zogg Fire erupted in Shasta County in September and destroyed over 200 structures | 11 Oct 2020 | Investigators in California probing the cause of a recent wildfire that killed four people have taken possession of equipment belonging to Pacific Gas and Electric, the utility said Friday. In a filing with the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E said investigators with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) have taken some of its equipment as part of the ongoing investigation into the Zogg Fire. The Zogg Fire erupted in Shasta County on Sept. 27 as high winds were impacting the region, quickly growing into a blaze that has consumed at least 56,338 acres. The fire killed four people in the community of Igo and later spread into neighboring Tehama County. ★

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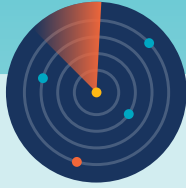
PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF (PSPS) is a statewide effort to prevent wildfires by proactively turning off power to communities when severe weather is forecast. As California battles historic wildfires, a Public Safety Power Shutoff is just one of many tools that PG&E uses to help keep customers and communities safe.

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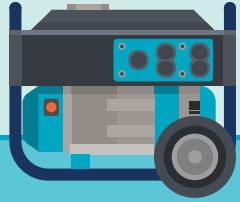
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Vote No on Measure M

By Ted Gaines

Coronavirus disruptions are inspiring governments to employ every tactic available to ward off a Great Depression-style economic collapse. Whether it's stimulus funds, Paycheck Protection Program loans, increased unemployment benefits, or rent forbearance, all the policies share the same goal of putting more money into consumer or business pockets so our weakened economy can regain its strength. Why is Citrus Heights doing the exact opposite with its proposed tax increase, Measure M?

The short answer is the City is facing a two-year budget problem. The good news is, despite today's fiscal challenges, in two years, the City will begin to receive six million a year in additional, annual property tax revenues that currently go to the County. That money, if used wisely, should put Citrus Heights back on solid fiscal ground.

In the meantime, Measure M is not a wise solution and it is definitely not a two-year solution. It is an endless money grab, a tax with no sunset. This additional sales tax burden will fall on businesses and consumers indefinitely and will permanently diminish the City's competitiveness.

M would double the city's share of sales tax from one to two percent, with the intent of raising \$12 million annually. That's a lot of money out of the pockets of residents and local business. And, with the city budget currently at \$34 million, that would be a massive 35-percent increase!

It's no secret that California businesses, crushed by high taxes and costly regulations, are leaving the state as fast as they

can relocate, fleeing to lower-tax, lower-cost-of-living, and more simply regulated states. That's a government failure that's driving out entrepreneurs and weakening our state.

The same phenomenon can happen among cities. With Measure M, Citrus Heights would saddle its businesses with higher taxes than Roseville or Folsom, for example, making it more difficult for the City's merchants to keep customers at home, and making it more likely that business owners would relocate or expand in those competing areas, instead of Citrus Heights. Measure M would also fly directly counter to Sunrise Mall revitalization efforts, which are important to the City's economic vitality.

To climb out of the COVID crater, Citrus Heights should be lowering taxes. They should be taking every step to make the City more attractive to businesses and more affordable to consumers. A healthy City budget starts with a powerful private-sector economy.

Even a healthy economy is not enough on its own, though. No amount of tax revenues will balance a municipal budget without spending discipline. Citrus Heights, a city of about 89,000 residents, has an estimated 10 or more public employees with annual compensations packages above \$200,000, including one employee whose pay and benefits add up to more than \$400,000 per year. That is a troubling sign for a city in economic distress. Lavish public employee salaries are an immediate budget problem but they portend higher pension spending for decades to come.

Despite the claims of Measure M proponents that the additional revenue will

go to core city services, the truth is the money goes directly to the City's general fund and could be spent on salary increases or the inevitable increases in pension payments that will flow from today's inflated salaries. And, whatever promises local politicians make now, with no written guarantees in the measure, those promises won't be enforced by their successors...one or two years from now, much less 20 years down the road.

The City needs to realize that its residents are already overtaxed. Californians already pay the highest gasoline taxes, highest state sales tax, highest personal income tax, and some of the highest property taxes in the nation, despite Prop. 13. Measure M is an unneeded pile-on, putting pressure on businesses and pushing consumers to neighboring cities.

And, with a sales tax being the most regressive of all taxes, hurting the poor and disadvantaged disproportionately, the NAACP and others strongly oppose Measure M. More than 12-percent of Citrus Heights residents live below the poverty level, and that was before the pandemic drove up unemployment and reduced worker hours.

Don't sacrifice the City's long-term future for a short-term problem. Don't sacrifice your fellow residents. Don't sacrifice your local businesses. Vote NO on Measure M.

Ted Gaines was elected to represent the Board of Equalization's First District. He is a leading taxpayer advocate and is committed to providing trustworthy and transparent representation for nearly ten million constituents in 30 counties of northern, eastern, and southern California. For more information, visit www.boe.ca.gov/Gaines. ★

Ask Toni

2021 Medicare Part D Deductible and Donut Hole Costs...Released!



Toni King

I got in the "famous" Medicare donut hole in June of 2020 and do not know how I got there.

I know it is October, but I would like to get prepared and really cannot find the answer online or at the Medicare.gov website. Please inform me what are the 2021 Medicare Part D costs.

I look forward what you have to say.

~ Catherine from Nashville, TN

Catherine:

You are correct that the 2021 Medicare and You handbook did leave some information out regarding the 2021 Medicare Part D deductibles or out of pocket maximums. But guess what?? For the Toni Says® Medicare newspaper column readers, we have a big surprise! I know what the Medicare Part D cost, copays, and Donut Hole out of pocket will be beginning January 1, 2021.

2021 Medicare Part D costs and copays are explained below:

Part D changes for 2021 are:

- **Initial Deductible:** will be increased by \$10 from \$435 in 2020 to \$445 in 2021.
- **Initial Coverage Limit:** will increase by \$120 from \$4,020 in 2020 to \$4,130 in 2021 where the 2021 **"Donut Hole"** begins.
- **Out-of-Pocket threshold cost: or (TrOOP true out of pocket)** will increase from \$6,350 in 2020 to \$6,550 in 2021.
- **Coverage Gap (Donut Hole):** begins once you reach your Medicare Part D plan's initial coverage limit (\$4,130 in 2021) and ends when you spend a total of \$6,550 out-of-pocket in 2021.
- **Does the Donut Hole really go away?** In 2020, the Donut Hole began being called Donut Hole Discount.
- **What is the Donut Hole Discount?** Part

D enrollees will receive a 75% **Donut Hole discount** on the total cost of their **brand-name** drugs purchased while in the Donut Hole. The discount includes, a 70% discount paid by the brand-name drug manufacturer and a 5% discount paid by your Medicare Part D plan. The 70% paid by the drug manufacturer, 5% Part D plan discount combined with the 25% you pay, count toward your TrOOP or Donut Hole exit point.

- **Generic Drug** when one reaches Medicare Part D Donut Hole: pay a maximum of 25% co-pay on generic drugs purchased while in the Coverage Gap (receiving a 75% discount). For example: If you reach the 2021 Donut Hole, and your generic medication has a retail cost of \$100, you will pay \$25. The \$25 that you spend will count toward your TrOOP or Donut Hole exit point.
- **Lower costs** when one comes out of the Donut Hole and enter Catastrophic coverage until December 31 and then a new year begins. Then the Medicare Part D cycle begins again with a new deductible on January 1 of every year.

Toni's Tips:

1. During Medicare's Annual Enrollment Period from October 15 th to December 7 th be sure that all your prescriptions are covered by a new standalone Medicare Part D plan or a Medicare Advantage plan with prescriptions which will begin January 1st .
2. Remember you will pay 100% of the cost if any prescriptions (generic or brand name) are not covered on your Medicare Part D plan.
3. Talk to your doctor or doctors about which brand name drugs can be changed to generics.
4. Get samples from your doctor.

Do not forget ...There is a penalty for not enrolling in a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug plan when you first become eligible to enroll.

Toni King, author of the Medicare Survival Guide® is giving a \$5 discount on the Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced book to the Toni Says Medicare column readers at www.tonisays.com. ★

311 Connect: New and Improved Links to Services

By Andrea Sandoval, Sacramento County

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - In 2013, Sacramento County launched 311 to handle all municipal County service requests. By now, everyone knows to call 311 to report an abandoned vehicle or a broken streetlight in unincorporated Sacramento County. Sacramento County 311 handles these and hundreds of other questions covering a variety of County services every day, seven days a week and 24 hours a day.

What you may not know is that the County has been working hard to improve the 311 service and in February 2020 completed a project that integrates all County municipal service departments with 311 for seamless transfer of service request directly to the department that will handle the request. 311 encouraged public user and internal department participation in each phase of the project. They included citizen and departmental suggestions throughout the project and the new system features many elements provided by user feedback.

311 is delighted to announce the following new self-service customer features:

Request Services Online by completing virtual interviews that route your request to the appropriate department for handling (a) Interview questions were specifically developed by the responsible departments (b) Interview answers enable departments to quickly resolve the request;

Instantly receive a case number with an estimated time of completion; Use the Interactive Map to pinpoint the exact location for your request; View Nearby Requests of reported issues in your area; Track and update your Service Requests Online; Quickly access information online for County services using our newly created self-service Knowledge Base; Search the Public Knowledgebase to learn about countywide services and find answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs); Submit requests online or by use of a mobile device; Provide feedback, letting 311 know if the information was helpful or not, our dedicated team will review and revise as necessary.

311 is excited to provide this new and improved service for the citizens of Sacramento County. No matter what the concern might be, friendly and knowledgeable customer service representatives remain available 24/7 to answer questions, route calls and manage cases for verification and resolution.

By embracing innovative technologies like 311 Connect, the County focuses on delivering a more accessible, available and accountable government because technology tracks all requests and centralizes the data, allowing for better reporting and analysis. Department directors can review the data, spot trends and identify opportunities for improvement.

The information also

allows departments to collaborate on multi-department issues, analyze workloads, balance resources and research spikes in requests for staff scheduling. In addition, the system contains an expanding knowledge base of issues for customer self-service answers to many of your questions.

Together we will keep our neighborhoods safe and clean places to live. At Sacramento County, we strive for continuous improvement and welcome your feedback.

Non-Emergency 311 Connect Service Request Types:

Abandoned vehicles and shopping carts; Animal issues - stray, deceased; Culvert/pipe repair or cleaning; Curb, gutter or sidewalk repair; Ditch cleaning; Drainage problem; Illegal dumping - garbage, trash; Missed garbage collection service; Occupied outbuilding; Graffiti; Potholes; Street light out; Street sign down; Substandard housing conditions - no water, utilities, deficient building, surfacing sewage; Tobacco - selling to minors; Traffic signal timing; Tree trimming

Top Service Requests:

Illegal Dumping; Missed Refuse Services; Abandoned Vehicles; Barking Dogs; Yard Parking/Junk & Rubbish on Private Property

To report an issue within the unincorporated Sacramento County, simply call 311 or 875-4311, visit the 311 website, or download Sac County 311 Connect in the app store on your smartphone. ★

Proposition 15 Is A Small Business Issue!

National Federation of Independent Business Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Should it pass in November, Proposition 15 would be the largest tax increase in California history, but would it work as advertised? Most definitely not, argue two public policy veterans in the second in a series of NFIB podcasts established to give its small-business-owning members the full picture of the issues impacting their solvency.

Rex Hime, president of the California Business Properties Association, says the proposition will do little for education while having manifestly negative consequences for California's economy, and John Kabateck, NFIB's California state director, explains why Prop. 15 is a small-business matter and takes issue with proponents' arguments that it's not.

Hime also provides a brief history of the previous attempts to undo the property tax protections put in place 40 years ago with the passage of Proposition 13.

To listen to the half-hour podcast and hear the first podcast on Paycheck Protection Program loans with special guest James Beckwith, president of Five Star Bank visit www.nfib.com/content/news/california/nfib-california-launches-podcast-series/

Keep up with the latest on California small-business at www.nfib.com/california

For more than 77 years, NFIB has been advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. NFIB is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, and member-driven association. Since its founding in 1943, NFIB has been exclusively dedicated to small and independent businesses and remains so today. For more information, please visit nfib.com. ★

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On-Campus Fun



Seeing happy, young faces is an absolutely fantastic feeling. Photo: ARCA

Continued from page 1
learning with parental support.

“There’s an hour between when the morning session is dismissed, and the afternoon session arrives.” The morning session receives a grab-and-go lunch.

“It’s an absolutely fantastic feeling to see their young faces,” she said. “They’re excited to be coming to school.”

“We worked on the school site plan early [on],” she said. “Our students and staff are encouraged to wear masks and we’ve had success with that.” Teachers wear full protective personal protective equipment (PPE) in the classroom. Students are required to socially distance themselves in the classroom and seating is spaced six feet apart.

“They’ve adapted very well to what we’ve asked of them,” Smith said. “In addition, plexiglass barriers are in place between student workspaces and adequate classroom ventilation is maintained.”

“We’ve worked closely with the families who’ve enrolled their children on all these requirements as we keep them safe.

Students are provided a nutritional and recreational break during each daily session at school. While the academy doesn’t have a grade K-1 specific play structure, it

does provide individual sports equipment which is cleaned thoroughly after each class use. All staff model hand washing and proper personal hygiene habits throughout the day.

Parents may view the school’s specific 2020-21 Comprehensive School Safety plan which is published on the school web site. Information includes additional health and safety measures in place for the entry and exit of students, teachers, and visitors, and additional requirements for all people when on the school campus.

American River Collegiate Academy (K-1) learning program is based around a core knowledge curriculum, Smith said.

“Our first-grade students are starting to learn about ancient Egypt and are involved in individual music and arts projects,” she said.

Emphasis is placed on math, reading and language arts, science and history, character education, social emotional learning and music, art, and the performing arts.

The Orangevale Charter school encourages participating parents to become part of its Parent School Partnership (PSP) and volunteer a minimum of 30 hours per family per school year.

“We are committed to moving the school into Citrus Heights as soon as we can,” said Jillayne Anton, director of growth and community engagement for the Rocklin Academy Family of Schools.

“We’re working with a development company to build a campus on a piece of land in Citrus Heights, and with the city’s Planning Department as we go through the entitlements process.”

“We want to get the word out there that we’re here for the children of Orangevale and Citrus Heights,” she said. “We’re here for the kids.”

For now, the American River Collegiate Academy, authorized by the Sacramento County Office of Education is temporarily located at 7755 Hazel Avenue in Orangevale. To schedule a campus tour call 916-672-3550. Visit American River Collegiate Academy on the web at: <https://americanriveracademy.org/> ★

Various Signalized Intersection Safety Improvements Project (Re-bid)

City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights is soliciting bids for a construction project known as Various Signalized Intersection Safety Improvements Project (Project #20-17-003). The work to be performed consists, in general, of modifications to existing traffic signals, new curb ramps, curbs, gutters, pedestrian median fencing and striping modifications at various locations in Citrus Heights. The bids are due Wednesday, November 18, 2020 by 3:00 PM. This is a re-bid of the project with the same name from April 2020. The project has minor changes, including a change to the pedestrian median fencing.

An electronic copy of the plans and specifications, Bid Documents, Agreement and other Contract Documents is available below at no cost. Bidders may also obtain the documents in paper format at the General Services Department, City Hall, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, California, with a nonrefundable

charge of \$50.00 for pick up and \$65.00 for mailing. Please call 916-727-4770 or email ts-safetyimpr@citrusheights.net to arrange for hard copy versions of the plans and specifications.

Each bidder is responsible for registering with the General Services Department for the plan-holder list to ensure prompt receipt of any addenda or other project related information. Each bidder is also responsible for checking the City's website for any updated information at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled bid opening.

The Engineer's Estimate for this project is \$999,000.

The optional pre-bid conference is Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Please email ts-safetyimpr@citrusheights.net to request Zoom meeting invitation for the pre-bid conference.

The bid opening will take place at approximately 3:05 PM via Zoom video conference. There will be no in-person bid opening. Please email ts-safetyimpr@citrusheights.net to request Zoom meeting invitation for the bid opening. ★

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Junk Is a Matter of Personal Definition

By Rev. James L. Snyder

I thought I had everything organized and in order. It just shows how useless my thinking is these days.

There are many piles in my office and on my desk, and I know what is in each pile. Everything is organized to my specifications. My rule is: if I can't find something, I don't need it. Believe me; there's a lot of things I don't need.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came into my office area and said rather strictly, "What is all this junk?"

The only junk I could see in my office area was the waste can, which was full at the time. So I picked up the waste can, took it out, emptied it, and brought the empty waste can back.

"There," I said with a degree of satisfaction, "I got rid of all the junk."

My method of organizing is not the same as hers. For example, on the other side of the house, she has what she calls her "Craft Room." I walked into it once, and it was so organized I had to get out as quickly as possible. It gave me a headache. It looked like a well-organized store of craft products.

Everything had its place, and every place had its thing.

My idea of organization is that I know where everything is and if I can't find it, well, you know the rest of that.

"Look at all of the junk in your office. How can you work with all of this junk around you?"

Still, I do not understand what her definition of junk in my room is. But the fact is, I work better when I'm surrounded by what she calls "junk."

Then she said something that froze my liver. "I have some time so let me help you organize your office."

Then she briskly walked towards one of my "piles." I almost panicked.

"No, no," I said as gently as I could even though I was in panic mode. "Everything is okay; I'll take care of it, you don't have to worry."

Then something happened that saved me from this predicament.

My wife's cell phone rang, and it was our daughter. She wanted to know something about a craft project she was working on and wanted to know if her mother could help her.

I saw her eyes light up as she left my office area and went back into her craft

room to help our daughter. I think that's why God gives us daughters!

One person's junk is another person's workspace. Just because you don't understand how my office is organized doesn't mean it's not organized, and it doesn't mean I don't know what I'm doing in my office.

My workspace, or junk as my wife says, is my environment to think and to work.

While my wife was back in her craft room, talking to our daughter, I happen to think of a verse of Scripture, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established" (Proverbs 16:3).

When in my space, no matter how somebody else may do it, I am in an atmosphere to do the thinking I need to do. Most of the time, my thoughts are rooted in God and how he has marvelously blessed my life.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-216-3025 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com. ★



By Pastor Ray Dare

In a crisis or pandemic, we feel all kinds of emotions. We feel confusion, we feel worried, we feel frustration, we feel alone. But there is one emotion that is more damaging than all the others. Fear.

Fear paralyzes you. To move forward through a pandemic, you're going to have to deal with the root of fears and anxieties in your life. God wants to help you overcome your anxieties, "You (God) drew near when I called on You; You said, "Do not be afraid." Lam. 3:57

Everybody has hidden fears. We try to fake it and pretend like we don't have any. We may cover them up, medicate them, but the truth is everybody has fears. And if you are going to move forward in life you have got to learn how to deal with fear. So, how do I do that?

Jesus said, "The truth will set you free." John 8:32. How is that an

Pastor Ray's Encouraging Words

How to Live with Less Fear

antidote to fear? Because most fears are based on ignorance or false information. They are based on lies, presumptions, prejudices, and misunderstandings. That's where most fears come from.

Babies are born naturally with only two fears: the fear of falling and the fear of loud noises. That means most fears in your life, you have learned. You have learned them. You've learned them from friends, from family, from experiences in life.

The bad news: a lot of things you've learned in life simply aren't true. Things you learned about yourself, the way you see yourself, things about God, how God sees you, things about life, many of those things are not true. And when you build your life on faulty assumptions, misunderstandings and misbeliefs, the more fear you are going to have in life.

Now, you can't just get rid of fear by saying, "I'm not going to be afraid anymore." You must replace the fears in your life. You replace the fear with the truth. God's word is truth and the more truth you have in your mind the less room there is for fear. You put the truth in, and the truth will set you free. You learned almost all your fears – that's the bad news, the good news is you can unlearn them. Every fear you learned you can unlearn. You do it by building your life on truth, God's word.

Christianity is a relationship, not a religion. And the more you develop a relationship with God through talking to him, listening to him talk to you and through Bible reading, the more you are going to have His truth in your life. What I'm saying is - all those fears you've got in your life; the antidote is not a medication, therapy or pill, the antidote is a person. His name is Jesus. And the better you get to know Jesus, the less fear you are going to have. "I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." Ps. 34:4

Pastor Ray
New Beginnings Church
www.NBC4u.org ★



By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

God is the Creator of every life born from the beginning of Adam are created in His image recorded in Genesis. *See Genesis 1:26 states "God said Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air, over the cattle and his own kind, over all the earth. And over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."* "Us and Our" indicates God is much more than One! FATHER – SON, JESUS CHRIST – HOLY SPIRIT

And God has designed a perfect plan for mankind to come into a intimate personal relationship with Him through prayer. When a person begins to willingly seek to find his destiny, God will

Finding Your Destiny

reveal how it can happen to them. For some it is difficult to understand how a loving Creator/God would even care about them! But He personally does! God's love for all His Creation IS magnanimous. God desires a personal intimate relationship with mankind. One of His magnificent Gifts to us comes as soon as one surrenders into His perfect will for their life!

Once a person accepts the life and death of Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord of their life – they will have begun the process of discovering the beginning of their life's amazing DESTINY! They are "born-again" into a new life given them by Father God and as time passes in their new journey with God, He will bless them with a special gift that will make the completion of their destiny clear to them.

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Proposition 16 Promotes Racial Discrimination

Commentary by Bill Bird, Parents and Students for Racial Equality

Parents and Students for Racial Equality in California is opposing a measure that would result in legal racial discrimination in California. Proposition 16, an initiative on this November's ballot, threatens to introduce institutionalized and legal race-based admissions in our public universities, as well as contracting and hiring policies in all California government settings.

"Although recent polling shows that this measure is struggling to gain traction with California voters, organizations opposed to racial discrimination must remain vigilant," said organization spokesman and former California State Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff. "Proposition 16 represents a step backwards to the darkest days of this country, when racial discrimination was openly tolerated and encouraged. This is contrary to the fundamental principles upon which this nation was built and for which so many fought to secure. The Declaration of Independence tells us all men are created equal. Proposition 16 tells us that some are more equal and deserving than others."

Proposition 16 would allow supporters to impose across the board, racial guidelines for all California public school and public university admissions and settings. It would also allow schools, colleges and other government agencies to discriminate in employment,

promotions and contracting. The measure seeks to overturn Proposition 209, which appeared on the November 1996 ballot and passed with a strong 54 percent majority in support. Proposition 209 amended the state constitution to prohibit state government institutions from considering race, sex, or ethnicity, specifically in the areas of public employment, public contracting or public education.

Recent polling conduction by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) revealed that barely one-third of the state's voters appear to support the idea of racial discrimination. Nearly half are opposed to the proposal and some remain unopposed. A second poll conducted by the Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies divulged nearly identical findings.

"No person in California should ever be told that they cannot be admitted to a university or not awarded a job or contract because they are the wrong color or sex," said Huff. "Discriminating on the basis of race, color, sex or religion represents the darkest part of California's history. Measures like Proposition 16 only serve to divide our state at a time when everyone is needed to work together to heal wounds and create a brighter future."

Parents and Students for Racial Equality is an organization that fights for the rights of all California citizens, regardless of race or color, and believes that government must judge all people equally, without discrimination. ★

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Have Safer Halloween Trick or Treating during COVID-19

**Sacramento County
Public Information
Office**

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The usual spooky festivities for Halloween may feel extra scary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Sacramento County Public Health has important guidance to help ensure safer trick-or-treating for everyone to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Follow the guidance below to have a fun and safe Halloween!

FACE COVERINGS
Firstly, you will need to wear a face-covering – so why not make it fun! Have your child select their own face covering, and then decorate it together to match their costume.

SOCIAL DISTANCING
When you are out trick-or-treating, travel only with your household members (don't forget – wear your face covering), be sure to maintain 6 feet of social distance from others, and make interactions brief with others outside your household.

HYGIENE
Keep from transferring the virus with your hands. When you touch objects or your face, the virus may be lurking, so wash your hands often and have hand sanitizer handy. Be sure to clean/disinfect high-touch surfaces. Also, have everyone wait to dig into the candy until hands are clean before unwrapping the candy, and then again before eating the candy. Do not share costume props or food. And, of course, if you feel sick or could be contagious, you must stay home and away from others.



Sacramento County Public Health has important guidance to help ensure safer trick-or-treating for everyone to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Photo by Lukasz-Niescioruk - Unsplash

BE READY FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS
This year, you need to make it an outdoor festivity. In an outdoor area, such as a porch or driveway:

Set up a table to stand behind and hand out candy using candy-grabber or tongs; Make treat bags and hang them from streamers outside for kids to grab; or Place a bowl of candy and bottle of hand sanitizer at the end of the driveway/walkway; and always wear a face-covering around others, don't touch your face, and practice good hand

hygiene when handling candy.

CELEBRATE A COVID-19 HALLOWEEN CREATIVELY

These ideas will help you and others be extra safe while still celebrating Halloween:

Host a virtual Halloween "watch" party with online video/chat and have best costume or craft project contests; Have a Halloween movie night with household members either at home or drive-in; Do reverse trick-or-treat by dropping off

small gift bags on your neighbor's porch; Put on a trunk-or-treat on your street (Halloween decorated car trunks) with socially distanced parked cars in driveways; Coordinate a contact-free neighborhood scavenger hunt;

Organize a neighborhood car parade or socially distanced costume parade for best decorations/costume and give treat bags or toss candy (preferably with candy grabbers).

Read about all the usual Halloween precautions you will need to have in place

LET'S GO OVER THE "NO-NO'S"

Don't have trick-or-treaters walk up to your door to give candy and don't use your hands to deliver treats. If you are not feeling well or are exhibiting symptoms, do not go out in the public. To clarify, gatherings with individuals outside of your household are not allowed. The reason for this is because the virus is widespread in Sacramento County and you or those at the gathering may not know if someone is COVID-19 positive and contagious.

Due to our high-risk level, Sacramento County has been placed in a restrictive Tier by the State. It is for your safety and of others that gatherings are prohibited. In early summer, the County had bent the COVID-19 case "curve," but gatherings caused a spike in new COVID-19 cases and the ripple effect is still with us. We know social distancing works and if we adhere to the protocol, our COVID-19 cases will continue to go down. If you do disregard the Order – at the very least, do it smarter – keep gatherings small, outdoors, wear face coverings and with only those in your "regular bubble."

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT COVID-19 TESTING

Have you spent time with people outside of your household and you weren't able to physically distance? You may have been exposed unknowingly to the COVID virus – you should get tested. The public is encouraged to get tested regularly. Sacramento County has 11 locations to get tested for COVID-19 for anyone living in the County (2 years old+). Testing is free, appointment times are easy to get, and results are provided in 1-3 days. Also, having the public get regular testing in our County gives the State more precise data so that the Case Rate isn't adjusted higher when Tier levels are determined.

Get official details of the Sacramento County COVID-19 Halloween Guidance at [SacCounty.net/COVID-19](https://sacounty.net/COVID-19), and Happy Halloween! ★

Crime Reports

Citrus Heights Police Report

October 13th
October 18th

10/13/2020 • Time: 9:30 PM • IR Number: 12008475
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: Street/Highway • Public Address: 72xx Parkvale Wy.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 7:00 PM • IR Number: 12008521
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: Parking Lot • Public Address: 73xx Auburn Oaks Ct.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 9:03 AM • IR Number: 12008499
Crime: **496d(a) PC: Possession of Stolen Veh**
Location Type: Street/Highway • Public Address: Brimstone Dr/Lichen Dr.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 5:57 AM • IR Number: 12008497
Crime: **459 PC: Burglary - Commercial**
Location Type: Department Store/Big Box Store • Public Address: 72xx Auburn
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department


10/15/2020 • Time: 9:26 PM • IR Number: 12008514
Crime: **496d(a) PC: Possession of Stolen Veh**
Location Type: Street/Highway • Public Address: Sunrise Bl/Sungarden Dr.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 12:01 AM • IR Number: 12008500
Crime: **484(A) PC: Petty Theft**
Location Type: Theft from Vehicle • Public Address: 66xx Sylvan Rd.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 4:40 PM • IR Number: 12008513
Crime: **664/459 PC: Attempt Residential Burg**
Location Type: House (Includes Driveway) • Public Address: 70xx Lompoc Ct.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/15/2020 • Time: 4:06 PM • IR Number: 12008507
Crime: **459 PC: Burglary - Commercial**
Location Type: Bank/Credit Union • Public Address: 73xx Greenback Ln.
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

10/18/2020 • Time: 6:30 AM • IR Number: 12008608
Crime: **487(a) PC: Grnd Thft:prop/Etc \$950+**
Location Type: Parking Lot • Public Address: 74xx Greenback Ln.
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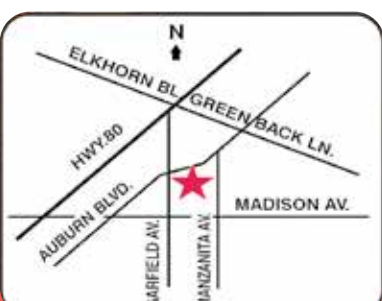
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