

California's Homeless Crisis and Citrus Heights Local Response **PAGE 12**



Citrus Heights

VOLUME 10 • ISSUE 10

Serving the City of Citrus Heights & Sacramento County

MARCH 6, **2020**

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VERDI REQUIEM — A CONCERT DEDICATED TO BIBA CAGGIANO



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CHP INVESTIGATION LEADS TO MULTIPLE ARRESTS



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WANT TO GIVE **BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY?**



PAGE 3





Finding Exotic Creatures at Aquarium Depot



7th annual Customer Appreciation Anniversary Event last weekend. Right: Customers collected raffle tickets in the hope of winning prizes at the Aquarium Depot's Customer Appreciation Anniversary Event.

Story and photos by Shaunna Boyd wrapping around the

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) -Aquarium Depot, located at 8201 The first 50 cus-Auburn Blvd., hosted the 7th annual Customer Appreciation Anniversary Event on Saturday, February 29 and Sunday, March 1. Jason Liang, one of the owners of Aquarium Depot, explained that the event is a way for the business to give back to the customers who have supported them habitats. throughout the years.

parking lot all the way to Auburn Blvd. tomers in line each day received a free T-shirt, and customers earned a raffle ticket for each \$10 spent – hoping to win

The event lasted all weekend, and The event started at 11:00 AM on thousands of customers attended. Saturday, and people started lining up Liang was happy to see such high at 6:30 that morning – with the line engagement at the event: "It's pretty

tanks and equipment for their exotic awesome - just to be part of it is fantastic. ... I'm seeing a lot of our usual, regular customers that we see once a week, twice a week ... but also a lot of new customers." Liang Continued on page 3

City Approves **Sunrise Village** Remodel and **Expansion**

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)

- Merlone Geier Partners, a Rancho Cordova-based real estate investment group, purchased the Sunrise Village property in 2017. The 15-acre shopping center, located on the northwest corner of Sunrise Blvd. and Madison Ave., currently houses businesses such as JoAnn's Fabrics and Habit Burger. Merlone Geier is planning an extensive property remodel and expansion to revitalize the shopping center.

As part of the project, Merlone Geier has requested the following entitlements: Design Review Permit for the expansion of building footprints, Use Permit to allow drive-through service, Sign Permit Exception to allow the installation of archway signage, Tree Permit to remove various trees, and Ordinance Text Amendment to increase the size of allowable signage.

In January, the City's Planning Commission reviewed the remodel and expansion, and they recommended that the City Council approve the project entitlements. At the February 27 meeting, Alison Bermudez of the Citrus Heights Planning Division presented the project plans to the City Council, stating, "It's quite an improvement here that we have coming."

The existing shopping center has a footprint of 157,281 square feet. Some buildings will be torn down and rebuilt with larger footprints, increasing the total square footage of the shopping center to 175,209—an increase of almost 18,000 square feet. In addition to expanding the size of various building, "the proposed design features are significantly different," said Bermudez. Flat roofs at varying heights will bring some architectural design to the center.

The plans also feature composite-wood detailing, metal canopies, and outdoor dining areas. A drive-through coffee shop will anchor an enlarged building pad on the Madison side of the center. The new pad will replace the existing Coco's facility that shut down recently.

Landscaping is a significant element of the project; several new areas of landscaping will be added throughout the shopping center. There are currently more than 200 mature trees in the center, but the roots of some have caused damage to the parking area hardscape, so removal is recommended. However, three areas of existing growth will remain, and all the oak trees in the center - including a large iconic oak - will

A Quantum Leap in Memory Care



Dr. Shelton J. Duruisseau cuts the ribbon surrounded by local dignitaries and friends.

Story and photos by Paul Scholl

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)

-The long-awaited VIP reception and ribbon cutting arrived last week for the grand opening of the newest assisted living and memory care facility in the region. The Oars, new to Citrus Heights, celebrated with dozens of special guests and neighbors, offering signature warm-up drinks and personally guided tours of the new community.

The Oars is owned by The QUANTUM CARE PLACE owner group. It is led by Shelton Duruisseau PhD and CEO. He brings 32 years of healthcare administration experience to the group.

During the early-evening

building such a community to help a very specific population, those needing memory care. He spoke of Continued on page 3

presentation to the event

attendees, Dr. Shelton J.

Duruisseau, Ph.D., founder,

shared his early vision for

Continued on page 12



Presidential Primary - CA Results PERCENT

Donald J. Trump - (REP)	92.6
Joe Walsh - (REP)	2.6
Bernie Sanders - (DEM SOC)	33.6
Joe Biden - (DEM)	24.9
Michael Bloomberg - (DEM)	14.3

Congress District 7

	PERCENT
Ami Bera - (DEM)	45.3
Buzz Patterson - (REP)	37.9
Jon Ivy - (REP)	7.6
Jeff Burdick - (DEM)	6.8
Chris Richardson - (GRN)	2.4

State Assembly

Ken Cooley (DEM)	52.1
Cathy Cook (REP)	47.9

Sacramento County Supervisor - District 3

Rich Desmond	45.9
Gregg Fishman	23.2
Tiffany Mock-Goeman	11.2
Catrayel Wood	10.3
Matt Ceccato	9.4

Sacramento County Supervisor - District 4 PERCENT

Sue Frost	74.8
Bridget Duffy	25.2

Sacramento County Board of Education

PERCENT

PERCENT

Joanne Ahola	83.5
Pervez Akhtar	16.5

State Proposition 13 Bond Measure

No	55.9
Yes	44.1

Measure E - Los Rios College **Bond Measure**

PERCENT

Yes48

Not all results are final. Numbers reflect available data at press time.

Source: Sacramento County Election website. State of California Election website

CHP Investigation Leads to Multiple Arrests

By John Harris, California Highway Patrol

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -The California Highway Patrol (CHP) Valley Division Investigative Services Unit (ISU)

their investigators have made arrests in a felony hit and run collision that occurred on January 12, 2020,

announced

in Orangevale, CA, resulting in the death of one of the passengers.

At approximately 1:30 a.m., Brandon D. Reyes-Langsjoen was driving a 2016 Volkswagen Passat westbound Madison Avenue, east of Main Avenue with Cayleh A. Morrison seated in the right front seat. Three passengers were in the rear seat of the Passat at the time of the collision. The vehicle was traveling at approximately 80 miles per hour when the Passat turned sharply to the right, struck two metal poles and a fire hydrant before it came to rest.

Immediately following the collision, Reyes-Langsjoen fled from the scene on foot. As a result of this collision. Cayleh A. Morrison sustained major injuries and was transported to Mercy San Juan Medical Center. The right rear passenger was ejected from the vehicle and sustained fatal injuries. The center rear is to provide the highest passenger sustained injuries to his upper body and and Security.

was transported to Mercy San Juan Medical Center for treatment. The left rear passenger sustained injuries to his upper body and was transported to Sutter Roseville Medical Center for treatment of his injuries.

The investigation into the cause of the collision determined that for unknown

> reasons, the right front passenger Morrison grabbed the steering wheel

turning the vehicle to the right causing the collision.

Reves-Langsjoen (24 years old out of Sacramento, CA) presented himself to authorities and was arrested and booked at the Sacramento County Jail for CA Vehicle Code Section 20001 (a) – Felony Hit and Run Involving Death. The right front passenger Morrison (22 years old out of Sacramento, CA) was charged and booked at the El Dorado County Jail for CA Penal Code Section 191.5 (a) – Gross Vehicular Manslaughter and CA Vehicle Code Section 23153 (a) – Felony Driving Under the Influence Causing Injury.

Valley Division would like to express their heartfelt condolences to the victim's family and friends and would like to thank the public for their support and assistance with the apprehension of the two subjects.

The mission of the CHP level of Safety, Service,



PERCENT

PERCENT











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MARCH 6, 2020 CITRUS HEIGHTS MESSENGER • 3

Want to Give Back to Your Community?

City Hall and Community Center Volunteer Open House

By Nichole Baxter, City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights is hosting a volunteer open house at its Community Center on March 10, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Community members are invited to stop by and learn about volunteer opportunities that are available with the Citrus Heights Community Center and at City Hall.

Current volunteers will be present to share their experiences and give firsthand insight into what volunteering with the City is like. City Hall and Community Center volunteer coordinators will also be sharing information, answering questions, and giving examples of current volunteer positions that are open.

"Our goal is to inform community members of all the opportunities that are available to City Hall and Community Center volunteers," said Haley Reid, Management Analyst I in the City's Economic Development Division, and volunteer coordinator. "This is an open house, so there isn't a set presentation time, and community members are welcome to stop by whenever it's convenient between 3:30

and 5:30 in the evening."

A list of potential volunteer opportunities includes:

Field Support for Our General Services; Gardening and Landscaping Management; Front Desk (at City Hall and the Community Center);

Business License/Clerical Support; Records Retention;

Maintenance and Utility Support

In 2019, City Hall and Community Center Volunteers provided about 8,000 hours of service, equating to over \$160,000 in savings for the City. "Our volunteers are invaluable to us," said Reid. "There is so much to do and not enough hours in the day to get it all done – our volunteers help bridge the gap."

Community members who are interested in volunteering, but unable to make the open house, should email HReid@ CitrusHeights.net or call 916.727.4732 for more information.

Event Details:

When: March 10, 2020 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (refreshments will be served)

Where: Citrus Heights Community Center South Rooms | 6300 Fountain Square Drive

Locals Find Exotic Creatures at Aquarium Depot



The Aquarium Depot's 7th annual Customer Appreciation Anniversary Event featured a filter swap, where customers could exchange their old filter for a new one.

Continued from page 1

explained that keeping exotic fish and reptiles is a luxury hobby, so "it's really important for us to gain new audience." He especially loves to see parents sharing their love of the hobby with their own young children.

Dawn, Don, and Piper (8) Streubing are regulars at the Aquarium Depot, making the drive from Plumas Lake every weekend. Dawn said they got their first reptile - a frilled lizard - iat the Depot and it "started a chain reaction." Now they are raising a tree frog as well.

Citrus Heights local Caprice (15) is the proud owner of a Beta fish, and she came to the event looking for some substrate for her aquatic plants: "We come often. If we need something, we always come here." She got in line early hoping to win one of the free T-shirts.

Orangevale resident Grace (15) keeps arachnids – including tarantulas and black

widows - ialong with both freshwater and saltwater aquariums, so she visits the Aquarium Depot frequently: "Everyone knows me here."

Brendon Salazar has worked for the depot for five years, and he loves helping customers build living reefs in their saltwater tanks. He said, "It's living coral, with organisms and anemones. ... It's a thriving environment." Salazar loves seeing the younger generation get involved in the aquarium community: "You see a lot of kids now with tablets, so it's nice to see them get back into having a hobby."

In addition to attracting new business and thanking loyal customers for their support, the Customer Appreciation Event is also a way for the Aquarium Depot to increase public awareness about the aquarium and reptile hobby by introducing people to an array of exotic creatures. For more information about the store, visit www.Aquarium-Depot.com.

A Quantum Leap in Memory Care



The friendly staff welcomed everyone aboard

Continued from page 1 his journey of the dream and how he had been so blessed to gather a tremendous partnership group and management team. He also declared how important it is to be good live and surround the new to being good neighbors" he said.

The partnership group also comprised by his financial partners Taz Singh, Darren Labrie and Frank Liang. They set nutrition specialist in February 27, 2020.

out to form a new, privately owned and operated Senior Living Company in the greater Sacramento area that specializes in Dementia care and high levels of physical care.

neighbors to all those who by a professional team well-known in the care facility. "We are dedicated community. They have assembled an executive at 6550 Greenback team comprised of operations specialist Pepper Bell, a sales and marketing specialist in Sondra Campbell, a dining and

Mikah Montoya and program specialist Rae Ortiz.

Pepper Bell said "It's been a pleasure planning and developing in preparation of our Grand Opening. We have learned The Oars is managed a lot and now we look forward to the cherry on top; our residents moving in!"

The Oars is located Lane in Citrus Heights. To find out more see TheOarsSeniorLiving.com or call 916-212-0388.

The event was held





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// 7:30PM \\ **Installation, Presentation & Awards**

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Pepper Bell offers the history of The Oars

MONTHLY MEETING OF MILITARY RETIREES/SPOUSES:

Our next monthly meeting

March 12th, 2020 North Highlands Park and Recreation District, 6040 Watt Ave, North Highlands 95660.

Starting time is 1030 hours. Our Speaker will be a representative from the Rebuilding Together organization, a non-profit group of volunteers who make improvements in our homes.

Coffee with Cookies See you all on the 12th of March 2020.

If you have any questions, call Volunteer staff at 916-640-8446 Monday through Thursday, 0900 to 1500 hrs. See you all on the 12th of March.

The World Needs More Grandfathers

Dr. James L. Snyder

As time has gone by, I have learned a few things. According to the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, I have not learned enough yet, but that's just her opinion. She gave me a great compliment the other day when she said, "Dear, you're as smart as you will ever be.'

As people, mostly men, get older, they get a little grumpy. I did not know I was getting grumpy until the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Why are you so grumpy today?"

With a face like mine, it is tough to hide any grumpiness.

Because I know she is always right, I began to think about the idea that maybe I am getting grumpy. Thinking along that line, I wanted to know what good could come from being grumpy.

Nothing seemed to help me understand this until one day the grandchildren came over for the day. It was then I begin to understand one solution to get over this grumpy-itis disease.

When the grandchildren are around, especially the younger ones, there is no time to be grumpy. Their infectious laugh cures just about any kind of grumpiness I might ever have.

Try not to laugh when your

is impossible.

When the grandchildren would leave, my wife and I sat down in the living room and said to each other, "Boy, was that fun." Then we fell asleep with smiles on our

It was then I found the remedy for my grumpy-itis. As a grandfather, I need grandchildren in my life to make sure my life is not grumpy. Even days after they leave I'm still smiling and even laughing.

Every once in awhile, my wife will say, "Do remember..." Then she goes on about something that happened when the grandchildren were here.

Once I quieted down a little from all the grandchildren's activity, a thought took hold of my mind, which even brought another smile.

I knew I needed those grandchildren as therapy from my grumpy-itis, but there was something even better than that. Those grandchildren needed me.

When the grandchildren are under my "supervision," they have a freedom that they do not have anywhere else. As a grandfather, I have a hard time pronouncing the word N O. It did not take those grandchildren long to figure that out.

grandchildren are around hear, "Let's ask Granddad." laughing and creating a Then I know they are asking derministries.com.

wonderful sense of chaos. It me for something that maybe nobody else would approve. After all, grandfathers are just like that.

As much as my grandchildren do for me, I do for them as well. We're a team, and we work well together.

Grandchildren need someone in their life not stressed with schedules and finances and all of that stuff. They need to see someone in their life that is happy and glad to see them.

Don't let this get out, but they need to see someone in their life that has them as a priority. Nothing is more important in a grandfather's life than his grandchildren. If he does his job well, they will come to understand that they are the most important people in his life.

I like this one Bible verse. "Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children" (Proverbs 17:6).

The key for grandchildren to be genuinely grand are grandfathers.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail Every once in a while, I'll jamessnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamessny-



There are many definitions of freedom. You probably have your own perception of freedom. Although freedom can be taken away by other people, voluntarily giving up one's freedom is surprisingly common. This happens without a full awareness of the process, or its major consequences. Your thoughts limit more of your freedom than any other

You are free when you are living your life based on your desires. Your freedom is diminished when you allow your thoughts, or other people's opinions to stop you. You are responsible for maintaining your freedom. Your freedom is not someone else's responsibility.

Your freedom is determined by your attitude. What you think about impacts how restricted you are. Your thoughts can either imprison you, or set you free. Negative thoughts will limit you.

With negativity, you will be unable to attain goals. You won't be able to engage in enjoyable pursuits. Your life will be constrained just as if you were physically restrained.

Structuring your life based on the desires of others restricts your freedom. just to please someone else subverts your own desires. When your actions are predicated on gaining acceptance, you have given up the freedom to do what you want. You have put yourself in a mode where

you won't do something which you think would be disapproved.

It's OK to follow your path in pursuit of those dreams which you consider important. You don't need anyone's approval. Your goals must be your own. Working to achieve someone else's objectives diminishes your freedom.

Altering your behavior in response to negative criticism, or to avoid criticism, is another self-imposed restriction on your freedom. Although striving to grow and improve is a positive pursuit, naysayers are destructive. They are focused on your failure, not success.

You will never please everyone, no matter how hard you try. While you are busy accommodating one person, someone else will likely be alienated. You can't please everyone, nor should you try. You are the person who must be pleased with where you are headed.

Take your own road. As long as you are acting ethically and morally, your direction should be based on where you want to go. There's no need to justify your actions. Anyone who has accomplished anything positive has at some point been ridiculed.

Fear is a major self-Altering your behavior imposed constraint on your freedom. Fear is in your mind. You won't do something you are afraid of. Fear imposes boundaries on where you will go and what vou will do.

> Of all the fears, fear of failure tends to be one of the 2017 Bryan Golden

most limiting. Not even trying is a common

strategy for avoiding failure. You can't fail at something you don't attempt. So this voluntary limitation of your freedom provides a sense of safety.

Protecting your personal freedom is your responsibility. The amount of freedom vou have is directly related to your attitude. If you have a can-do outlook, you are free to achieve your dreams. However, a can't-do outlook significantly limits your freedom because when you believe you can't, you

Utilizing your personal freedom takes effort. Positive action is essential for achieving results. Being free to accomplish something is only the first step. The second step is doing whatever is necessary to get where you want to be.

Personal freedom is yours when you don't pay any attention to the pessimists who are always ready to explain why your plans will fail. They claim to know more than you and say they are only looking out for your best interests. Taking their advice ensures your failure.

Expand your personal freedom with an attitude that anything is possible. Discard all of your internal limitations. Whatever your goals may be, someone else has already demonstrated they are achievable.

NOW AVAILABLE: Dare to Live Without

Limits, the book. Visit www.BryanGolden.com or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com or write him c/o this paper. ©



By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

God alone is the Author of truth, true love and grace that provides what is true and everlasting. Our Heavenly Father's standard for love was established by Him. It proved as the example and standard of Christ's obedient love, when He willingly died to provide eternal life for those who accept his life, death and resurrection. And His words of unconditional love taught His Beloved Son to all of us GIVING a new commandment:

"To love one another as He has loved us!" He willingly gave His life for us! Jesus, the Son of God the Father loved us that much!

The world's standard for love is much different than the love given to us by the Lord. God's message of "love is truth" described in the Gospel. The other

The Law Of "True Love"

kind of love is often mistaken and exists only to satisfy the "flesh". Being born a Jew, Jesus fully understood all the laws of God well. He was expected to live by them. He was obedient and seriously conmattered.

A blessed "legacy" some parents still give to their children. In His time there was no printed Bible, just the spoken word. (Bibles were not printed until the

Scriptures in the Old Testament have been literally fulfilled and it is urgent that those who have faith and believe follow God's Holy Word "living-out" the new commandment of Divine Love. Jesus lived it out and taught 1 others to see and experience Agape kind of love. We are to become living by examples and hopefully others will accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord of their life. Living a life of a Christian is a believing faith, following and DOING the

commandments of God in our daily life.

Therefore, let us live in close personal intimacy in the presence of God by living by a higher standard so others will see us as His disciple "marked sidered the words spoken by infinite unconditional by His Father. He believed love!" "By this all will they meant something know you are My disand important and they all ciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35) It is when someone does experience God's love through us, they begin to understand the depth of God's love for them! When others "see and experience" God's Today all prophetic Agape (unconditional) love through us, they see and experience how we are DIFFERENT because we are "alive with the Spirit of Christ in us" - because they experience the reality of true love from God in and through us. Honor and Praise be to God alone!

> Marlys Johnsen Norris Christian Author "Messages in the Dust Marlysjn@gmail.com

and Stephen's Minister for the Searching Soul" PO Box 114, Orangevale, CA 93662



By Pastor Ray Dare

Your heart was made for God, to develop a relationship with Him. Why is this so important? Because everything else you do isn't going to matter in eternity. Your career isn't going to last beyond your lifetime. Your hobbies aren't going to last beyond your lifetime. Your bank account isn't going to last beyond your lifetime. The only thing that's going to last beyond your lifetime is your relationship with God. So, if you missed this, you've just missed the most important thing in life developing a relationship with God.

The problem is, we get distracted. We get so busy doing other things. An example of this is found in Luke chapter 10. Jesus had some friends named Mary and Martha. They were sisters. One day they invited him over for dinner. So, Jesus goes over for dinner and Mary figures out what's most important, Pastor Ray's

she sits down at the feet of

Encouraging Words

What's Most Important

Jesus and starts listening. Martha on the other hand is busy. She's busy worrying about all the details of dinner, making sure everything's picked up and everything's in its place. "...Martha was distracted by all the preparations what had to be made. She came to Jesus and said. 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!' But Jesus said, 'Dear Martha, you get so upset over all these details! But there's really only one thing worth being concerned about, and Mary has discovered it.'

Jesus says Mary has figured out the one thing that's worth being concerned about; making time in your life for God. Listing to God. Developing a relationship. The fact is, we all need to do a lot less not more. You can fill your life with really good things, and still not have any time for God. You can go to church six days a week. You can be involved in ministry and you're so busy working for God that God doesn't have any time to work in you. That's why the Bible says, "Be still and know that I am God." Translation: sit down and be quiet! Chill out and relax. Stop trying to do so much. Let God do more in you and for you. It's much more relaxing and much more fulfilling.

What I've discovered is that Satan can't make you bad; he'll just make you busy. He doesn't care what distracts you. It doesn't have to be evil that distracts you as long as you pay no attention to God in your life. My prayer is that we would remember the one thing that matters most. And it isn't getting more money. It isn't becoming famous. It isn't even having fun. It's getting to know the Creator who made you and it's building a relationship with Him, so you can go and be with Him forever in Eternity when this life is

I invite you to be my quest at New Beginnings Church this Sunday at 10 am. For more information visit www.NBC4U.org or call 916-992-1997.

Pastor Ray New Beginnings Church 10am Sundays, You're invited!

www.NBC4U.org





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WEEKLY COMICS

Amber Waves









I'VE GOT A FIGURE.



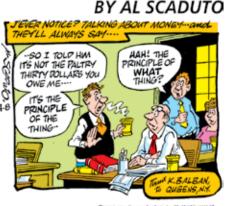


Out on a Limb





THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME HEAVY DECISION DEP'T LOSE 36 POUNDS IN TWO DAYS ... MAY BE THIS LL WORK ... I



R.F.D. by Mike Marland THE WOODFIELD POLAR HOLY COW, DAD, WHO CUTS AN ICE-FISHIN BEAR CLUB. IF THE FISH HOLE THAT BIG?! AIN'T BITIN' THEY GO FOR A DIP.



by Dave T. Phipps



"We're looking very good today, especially me!"

LAFF - A - DAY

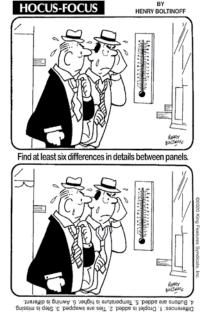


"He's a darm good mechanic, AND he also overcharges less than anybody else in town."

MY IN-LAWS ASKED WHO I WOULD VOTE FOR SO I DID THE WISE THING, FAKED ILLNESS

Just Like Cats & Dogs





Crossword Puzzle on Page 5 Р Α Ε Ρ R Ε S Ε S S R Ε Ε S Ε Ε Ε Κ S R S G M W S S Ε R 0 0 Υ Т G M Ν G M Ν О R G О W N D O Ε S Ε Ε G Ε D Α Α В Ε D Q R Α Κ Ε D Н Ε G R O G Υ Ρ Ε R Ε 0 Ν O D

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 5

6	3	7	5	2	1	8	9	4
8	1	9	4	6	3	2	7	5
2	5	4	7	9	8	6	3	1
1	4	3	2	8	9	7	5	6
5	2	6	3	7	4	1	8	9
7	9	8	6	1	5	ვ	4	2
4	7	1	8	5	6	9	2	3
9	8	5	1	3	2	4	6	7
3	6	2	9	4	7	5	1	8

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6. Lawyer group

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14. Loquacious person's gift

15. Member of clergy 16. Kitty sounds

17. Mesozoic one 18. All thumbs

19. *Who's Pieces? 21. *Life

23. Comic book cry

24. Evening in Roma 25. Boar's mate

28. Bank deposit 30. Actress Ali or singer Tim

35. Flying saucers 37. Yeahs' opposers

39. One of the Muses

40. Ancient region of western Europe

41. *Sweet bear 43. In a little while,

old-fashioned 44. Like a neon sign

46. Fashion's "New Look" inventor

47. Weasel's cousin

48. Cash in credit card points, e.g.

50. "Good grief!" 52. The Old Man's turf

53. Tucked in

55. Sine ____ non 57. *"Gimme a break" bar 60. *Egg with a surprise

63. Southwestern hut

64. Step on it 66. Small Asian ungulate

68. What radiology and biology have in common

69. Chihuahua's cry 70. a.k.a. Ernest?

71. Japanese money, pl. 72. Blitzed

DOWN

73. Industrious

1. Similar to an adder

2. View from a moving train

3. Yesteryear 4. Shopping

Creates disorder 6. Forever and a day 7. *Hershey made the first American

milk chocolate one 8. Belittle

9. Have supper 10. Tennis serving whiz

11. Memorial Day solo
12. "The _____ of Racing in the Rain"

15. Fast and lively

20. Increasing 22. Location of ulna

24. Hindered 25. *Principal candy ingredient

26. Allowed into a bar, e.g. 27. Past tense of will

31. SI unit of mass

32. Raia's wife, pl. 33. Do penance

34. *Famous fictional bar

36. ____ gin 38. Smoke plus fog 42. Baghdad resident 45. Not strongly

Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 5

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49. CEO's dea 51. Fertilized 54. C2H5

_" by #46 Across 57. Green superfood 58. Desktop picture 59. Facebook photo links

60. Not disregarded, as in a promise 61. Marine eagle 62. Surprise at a speakeasy

63. *Almond-induced state 65. Cardinal 3 67. Bovine hangout



row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solutions on Page 5

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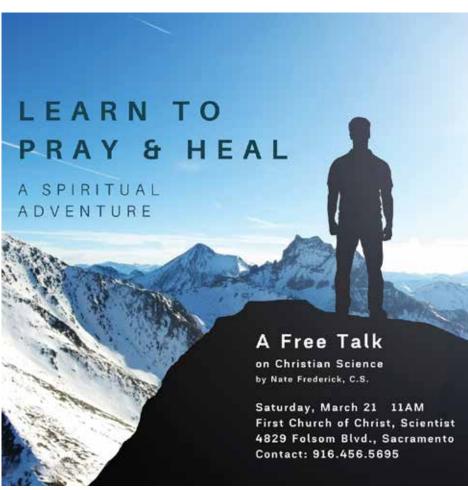


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Ask Toni

Need to Stop Medicare Part B



Hello Toni,

My husband, John enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B when he turned 65 last September because friends had said if he does not enroll in Part B, he will get a penalty. He is fully employed with excellent employer benefits.

Last week, I spoke with a representative at the Social Security office when I went to apply for my Social Security check and asked them if he would really be penalized if he had delayed enrolling in Medicare with employer benefits. They said he would not if he provides evidence that he has maintained employer health insurance signed by my employer. The agent said he should go to the local Social Security office and ask to have his Medicare Part B removed since he is fully employed with employer benefits.

This information seems opposite to what he has been advised regarding his Medicare. Please explain what John should do to disenroll out of Medicare Part B? Sherry from Spring Branch area

Sherry:

Social Security gave you excellent advice about John's Medicare. John should visit his local Social Security office and explain to the representative that he needs to have his Medicare Part B terminated due to having employer benefits and fill out form CMS-1763 or call Social Security at 1/800-772-1213 to discuss his options. Social Security advises those wishing to terminate their Medicare Part B to have a personal interview at a local Social Security office. John working full-time with employer benefits is what protects anyone who wishes to delay their Medicare Part B.

Enrolling in Medicare correctly can be stressful. When you enroll in Part B the wrong way, it can cause you to not qualify medically for the Medicare Supplement you want when you leave your employer benefits. You will be in your Medigap Open Enrollment period.

There are special Medicare rules for employees or spouses who are "still working" with "true" company benefits.

The process to enroll in Medicare Part B, if you have delayed Medicare Part B is:

- There are 2 forms available from Social Security's website or you can ask the Toni Says® office. (info@tonisays. com) On the top of each form write in red letters "Special Enrollment Period." This tells the Social Security agent processing them, you are signing up at the right time and keep from giving you a penalty. You are applying for a SEP (Special Enrollment Period).
- 1. Form #1 Request Employment for Information: proof of employer group health care coverage based on current employment. If you have had 2 or more

jobs since turning 65, then all companies you have worked for from age 65 to the time you are retiring, to sign this form. If you are married, you will need the same number of forms for you and/ or your spouse filled out and signed by each company's HR department which you have worked, proving that you and/or your spouse were covered by employer group health insurance.

2. Form #2 Application for Enrollment in Medicare: this is your application for medical insurance from Medicare known as Part B. Social Security fills out this form.

For a Medicare Enrollment Checkup, call the Toni Says Medicare call center at 832/519-8664 regarding your Medicare plans and options.

March 2020 Confused about Medicare Workshop:

· West Houston/Katy-Tuesday, March 24th Spring Creek BBQ-**Katy** 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Spring Creek BBQ-Katy-Banquet Room (dinner not provided)

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RSVP 832/519-8664 or visit tonisays.com and sign up via the Toni Says® website.

Toni King, author of the Medicare Survival Guide® is giving a \$5 discount on the Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced book at www.tonisays.com. Have a Medicare question? Email Toni at info@tonisays.com.

CHEERS&JEERS

By Damian Holbrook

Cheers to Cheer

for giving us real squad goals. Netflix's fascinating docuseries about Texas' Navarro cheerleading team flips the script on what most folks think about pompom shakers (like Kassidy Warnol) to show just how focused, fit and fierce these undeniable athletes truly are.

Jeers to the Oscars

for going hostless. Again. We get it - it's a thankless job and everyone is afraid to joke for fear of offending the audience. But somebody needs to keep it running smoothly. Otherwise, viewers end up wondering why Eminem is performing a song from 2002, how

many categories are left and whether we can hope to see Steve Martin and Chris Rock come out again.

Jeers to Station 19

for extinguishing one of our favorite friendships. The complicated and sexy bond between firefighter Andy (Jaina Lee Ortiz) and exturned-bestie Ryan (Alberto Frezza, pictured, with Ortiz) was snuffed out when the hottie cop died of a gunshot wound in the February 6 episode. And with his last breath, so went our hopes of these two getting back together.

Cheers to Lego Masters

for redefining the phrase "building excitement." The lively new Fox series, hosted by Will Arnett, blends competition with nostalgic



New Fox series, hosted by Will Arnett, blends competition with nostalgic kids' play as major Lego aficionados (like teammates Krystle and Amie, pictured) construct intricate designs.

kids' play as major Lego aficionados (like teammates Krystle and Amie, pictured) construct intricate designs that hit us like a ton of plastic bricks.

driver, Bishop.- Gwen

Matt Roush: I like Stephen Dorff as the *Deputy* and agree that his relationship with Bishop (Bex Taylor-Klaus) is one of the most distinctive aspects of an otherwise generic (to me) police drama. The episodes I watched over the first month or so of the series seemed to keep hitting the same beats, which is how procedurals work but which also tends to cause me to lose interest. I'm a bit more intrigued by Edie Falco as another L.A. law enforcement figure, the outsider police chief they call Tommy on CBS, also on Thursdays.

To submit questions to TV



What did you think of the Criminal Minds series finale?

Question: The Criminal Minds finale was well done except for one thing. If Penelope was being highlighted, why didn't Shemar Moore pop in? Instead of being a good ending, it could have been great! – P. Yates, Colorado

Matt Roush: According to our post-finale interview with Criminal Minds' showrunner, they would

have liked nothing better than to have Shemar Moore return as Morgan for just such a farewell moment. But he's otherwise engaged on S.W.A.T. and, according to Erica Messer, "we weren't able to pull that off." A pity for fans, but it truly is difficult to borrow actors from ongoing series.

Question: What's your take on Fox's Deputy? We are especially enjoying the relationship between the Chief and his

Critic Matt Roush, go to: tvinsider.com



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There's a Better Idea

Dear Dave,

My husband and I had our first child in December. We bought a house not long before the baby was born, and since then we've been getting mail and phone calls about buying mortgage protection insurance. We're both 27, we have good jobs, and our mortgage is \$105,000. Would it be a good idea to get this insurance?

-Rachel

Dear Rachel,

Mortgage insurance is really nothing more than a life insurance policy with the word "mortgage" stuck on the front. They make it sound like a specialized product, and they jack the price up. The truth is it's just a big rip-off in most cases.

If you two are healthy, you both could easily get \$250,000 on 20-year level term life insurance policies, for around \$12 a month. Then, if something

Dave Ramsey Says

happened to one of you, check-writing privileges. the other could pay off the house with the insurance chunk left over.

However, I recommend going a little further. My advice is for each of you to get good, level term life insurance – not just to cover your mortgage -but for 10 to 12 times your annual incomes. Both of you should have sensible plans in place to take care of your family now, and in the future, should something unfortunate happen.

And Congratulations! God bless you two and your new baby!

-Dave

Think of it as Murphy Insurance

Dear Dave,

I was thinking about putting my emergency fund savings into a balanced mutual fund. Would this be a good idea?

-Trey

Dear Trey,

You should never put your emergency fund into anything that can go down in value, or anything that charges penalties for early withdrawals. I recommend putting it into a good money market account with DaveRamsey.

Remember, your emergency fund is insurance. money and still have a nice It is not an investment. That three to six months of expenses you've saved has one purpose and one purpose only - to protect you, your family, and your stuff against the unexpected. You know how Murphy's Law says anything that can go wrong will go wrong? Think of your emergency fund as Murphy repellant.

> That's one of the reasons an emergency fund is so important. If you don't have one, and something unexpected happens, you're likely to end up borrowing money from the bank, or cashing out retirement savings to fix things. So, don't worry about investing this money. Just park it, and think of it as an insurance policy for when Murphy comes knocking at the door!

> Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 14 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey. com and on Twitter at @

Desmond Leads the Pack



Sacramento Board of Supervisors candidates waited on Super Tuesday election results in Carmichael. Incumbent Sue Frost achieved outright reelection to her District 4 seat. CHP officer Rich Desmond held a sizable lead for District 3 but will likely face a November run-off against fellow candidate Gregg Fishman. Picture by Susan Maxwell Skinner

Verdi Requiem - A Concert **Dedicated To Biba Caggiano**

By Erica Castillo, Digital Marketing Public Relations

"A work of staggering beauty and enormous drama from start to finish. Johannes Brahms

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra (SCSO) with Music Director Donald Kendrick, and a roster of world-class soloists, are proud to present Giuseppe Verdi's powerful Requiem in concert on March 21, at 8:00 PM in the recently-renovated Sacramento Memorial Auditorium. The performance will serve as a special tribute honoring the late Biba Caggiano.

Italian American Biba Caggiano, a popular chef author, and television figure, was the driving passion for the well-known Italian restaurant Biba in Sacramento, established in 1986. The Bologna-born chef, graciously contributed to the cuisine life of many known figures, such as former SF mayor Willie Brown, as his personal chef for a time, and Patrick Mulvaney of Sacramento restaurant Mulvaney's B&L. The Sacramento Bee quoted Mulvanev on Biba's contribution: "The love that Biba and her crew put into food and hospitality have set a standard to which we should all aspire," "Her influence on the cooking of Sacramento is deep and wide. Generations of cooks have

Giuseppe Verdi, one of the greatest Italian composers of the 19th Century, was primarily known as a composer of opera. To commemorate this special tribute to Biba, the City of Sacramento will

location. The SWE measures

the amount of water contained

in the snowpack, which pro-

vides a more accurate forecast

"Right now, 2020 is on

track to be a below-aver-

age year but we could still

see large storms in March

and April that will improve

the current snowpack," said

Sean de Guzman, chief of

DWR's Snow Surveys and

Water Supply Forecasting

Section. "While periods of

dry conditions are expected

in California, climate change

has made them more unpre-

dictable and extreme which is

why we must always use the

While February has been

very dry, it's not unprece-

dented for California to be in

this position. In 2018, after a

water we have wisely."

of spring runoff.



Image of the well-known local Italian

present a Mayoral Proclamation to her family members at the concert. Following the performance, the SCSO Team will honor Biba's family member at a reception in Sacramento Memorial Hall. This invigorating performance of the Verdi Requiem will feature a large chorus of 206 singers, along with soloists from the Metropolitan Opera and a robust professional symphony orchestra, all conducted by Donald Kendrick. Featured Soloists include: Othalie Graham (Soprano), Linda Baird (Mezzo Soprano), Robert looked up to her and she will continue to Breault (Tenor), and Malcom Mackenzie (Dramatic Baritone).

> Tickets to this unforgettable performance and tribute are still available online at sacramentochoral.com or at the Memorial Auditorium Box office, call 916-808-5181.

Dry February Doesn't Necessarily **Mean Dry Plants**

Check Soil Moisture Before Turning on Sprinklers

By Christine Kohn, **IN Communications**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Regional Water Authority (RWA) Water Efficiency Program Manager Amy Talbot released the following statement in response to a manual snow survey, which shows the snowpack at Phillips Station near South Lake Tahoe to be at 47 percent of the March average.

"While the snow survey demonstrates just how unseasonably dry and warm February really has been, it does not necessarily signal that residential landscapes are also dry and in need of water.

"The days are still shorter and nights very cool with moisture in the air. Even if soil looks dry on top, chances are that it's moist at root zone and sprinklers can stay off. However, the only way to know for sure is to actually check soil moisture. You can do this with:

A moisture meter: Typically found at local hardware stores, meters have an easy-to-read dial that indicates if the soil is dry, moist or wet. Simply push the moisture meter into the soil six to eight inches deep and check the reading.

A screwdriver: Stick an eight-inch

screwdriver into the soil. If you can push it in more than three inches below the surface, you don't need to water.

A hand shovel: Dig down six to eight inches and grab a handful of soil. Roll the soil around in the palm of your hand. If the soil easily forms a ball in your hand, you don't need to water.

"While February was dry, our water applies are in good shape given the very wet winter last year. That said, it's important to remember that using water efficiently is important no matter the weather. In California, droughts are a part of life, and the next dry month - or dry year – is always right around the corner.'

Learn more about using water efficiently, including information about local watering restrictions, rebates and free services available from local water providers, at BeWaterSmart.info.

The Regional Water Authority (RWA) is a joint powers authority representing 21 water providers serving 2 million people in the greater Sacramento region. Formed in 2001, its primary mis-Learn more at rwah2o.org.

sion is to help its members protect and By Chris Orrock, enhance the reliability, availability, afford-Department of Water ability and quality of water resources. Resources SACRAMENTO REGION, CA

By Joshua Hoover, Office of Assemblyman

Kevin Kiley

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -The Legislature rejected a motion by Assemblyman Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) to suspend AB 5 while corrective legislation is under consideration. Assemblyman Kiley responded with the

following statement:

basic human decency. The Assembly consciously chose to keep enforcing a law that everyone, including the author, acknowledges has major problems and is destroying people's lives. body."

Legislature Rejects Effort to Suspend

the Harmful Impacts of AB 5

Assemblyman Kevin "Today's vote defied Kiley represents the 6th Assembly District, which includes the Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado County communities of Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Granite Bay, Lincoln, I've never been more Loomis, Orangevale, ashamed of this legislative Penryn, Rocklin, Roseville, and Sheridan.

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(MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the third manual snow survey of 2020 at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 29 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent (SWE) of 11.5 inches, which is 47 percent of the March average for this

Warm, Dry Conditions Lead to Below

Average Snowpack and Precipitation

Sean de Guzman (right), chief of California Department of Water Resources (DWR), Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Section, conducts the third media snow survey of the 2020 season at Phillips Station in the Sierra Nevada

up much of the deficit and from snow surveys is one facbrought California closer to normal that year.

In addition to the manual surveys, DWR collects readings from 130 electronic snow sensors scattered throughout the state. Measurements indicate that statewide, the snowpack's water equivalent is 11 inches, or 46 percent of the March average.

"The snowpack that we are measuring today is a critical element to all water resources managers in California, especially the State Water Project, which provides water to more than 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland," said Molly White, chief of DWR'S State Water Project, Water Operations dry start, March storms made Office. "The data generated

tor used to determine how much water will be allocated to the State Water Project Contractors.

The state's largest six reservoirs currently hold between 92% (Oroville) and 132% (Melones) of their historical averages for this date. Lake Shasta, California's largest surface reservoir, 107% of its historical average and sits at 78% of capacity.

DWR conducts five mediaoriented snow surveys at Phillips Station each winter in January, February, March, April and, if necessary, May. On average, the snowpack supplies about 30 percent of California's water needs as it melts in the spring and early

Social Security Matters

Does Social Security Ever Make Mistakes on Benefits?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Can or does the Social Security Administration occasionally make mistakes in determining the benefits due? I'm now 72 but I retired early at age 61 and knew that my benefits would be reduced. I've always wondered if my monthly benefit calculation was incorrect but did not know how to address my concerns. If it is possible, could you direct me in how to handle with the SS Administration? Signed: Skeptical of My Benefit

Dear Skeptical: Can the Social Security Administration ever make mistakes? Of course they can, and do, but not really very often considering that they are dealing with tens of millions of beneficiaries, and especially when it comes to computing benefit amounts. Since nearly all benefit computations are done by computer, the usual source of any error is almost always from using incorrect input data. The actual benefit computation formula, while complex, is very standard and well proven; if an error occurs in a basic benefit computation, it is usually because a person's lifetime earnings record contains an error. Having said that, let's



explore why you feel your benefit may not be correct.

When you say you "retired early at age 61" I assume that means you claimed your Social Security early at age 62 (the minimum age). Since your full retirement age is age 66, that means that by claiming at age 62 your benefit was cut by 25% from what it would have been at age 66. Also, any benefit estimate you had from Social Security prior to claiming made the assumption that you would continue to earn at your current level until you reached your full retirement age. If you "retired" and stopped working and earning at age 61, the benefit you are entitled to is less than that estimate you had from Social Security at

So, how can you address your concerns? I suggest the first thing you do is get a copy of your lifetime earnings record from Social Security. You can do this by calling them and requesting it or, if you have a "My Social Security" personal account, you can obtain it online. You should verify that all of your lifetime earnings are properly reflected in Social Security's records (SS gets your earnings data from the IRS). Note that only your earnings up to the maximum payroll tax for each year count because that's all you paid SS FICA tax on; if your actual earnings in any year

were more than the annual payroll tax cap, only the amount up to that year's tax cap is used. Be aware that if you find an error, you will need to prove it to Social Security by showing them a copy of your W-2 or your Federal Income tax return for the year(s) in question. If your lifetime earnings record is in order, then you are almost certainly getting the correct benefit. When computing your benefit, Social Security adjusts each year of your lifetime earnings to today's dollar value, so inflation shouldn't be a factor either. The highest earning 35 years over your lifetime (adjusted for inflation) are used to determine your ben-

efit amount. If you're still uncomfortable that you may not be getting the correct benefit, you should call Social Security directly and ask them to review your benefits to make sure you are receiving the correct amount. Social Security has all of your lifetime earnings data immediately available and can quickly determine if your benefit amount is correct based upon the earnings history shown in your record.

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Bernie Sanders' Skewed Worldview

Bernie Sanders may be on the verge of gaining an insurmountable lead in the Democratic nomination fight, but he's not letting that get in the way of his socialist principles.

Asked in a "60 Minutes" interview about old statements praising Fidel Castro's supposed achievements in health care and education, Sanders stayed true to himself.

"You know, when Fidel Castro came into office, literacy program. Is that Republicans." a bad thing? Even though Fidel Castro did it?"

No, literacy programs aren't a bad thing, but they usually don't require seizing power in a violent revolution, jailing and killing political opponents, seizing private property, or outlawing the free press. Teaching children to read is something that happens in free societies, too. That Bernie continues to believe a literacy program is some kind of recommendation for

oppressed and immiserated its people for decades is a sign of his skewed view of what's important and just for a polity.

Asked by Cooper about jailed Cuban dissidents, Sanders said he condemns that, but in any rational view, it's the imprisoning of people for expressing unwelcome political views that is the foremost thing to know about the Cuban dictatorship, period, full stop.

The left has nonetheless always viewed Fidel Castro as some kind of social worker who happened to take and hold power – or "come to office," as Sanders delicately puts it – via force.

Back in 1989, Sanders wrote, "Cuba - the one country in the entire region that has no hunger, is educating all of its children and is providing high-qualyou know what he did?" he ity, free health care - is told interviewer Anderson hated with a passion by the of the United States that Cooper. "He had a massive Democrats as much as

Besides the moral obtuseness of arguments like this, the factual basis for such claims is dubious. Cuba was already doing well on measures of health care and education prior to the revolution.

Bernie's perspective on Cuba is characteristic of his worldview that has a sympathy for America's enemies, at least if they are communist or Islamist; that assumes the worst of the United States; and that opposes a regime that has otherwise nearly all U.S. military

interventions as misbegotten or malign (Sanders voted for the Afghanistan War after Sept. 11, and now regrets even that vote).

Electing Bernie Sanders would be almost indistinguishable from putting the late radical historian Howard Zinn, or the America-loathing linguist Noam Chomsky, or the tendentious left-wing filmmaker Michael Moore in charge of American foreign policy. The country would be in the hands of an opponent of its power with no faith in its goodness. Bernie would make Barack Obama's overly solicitous attitude toward our enemies and Donald Trump's bizarrely warm statements about foreign dictators look like American foreign-policy orthodoxy by

There is almost no enemy wouldn't be heartened by a Sanders victory, and see it as an opportunity to make gains at the expense of the United States and its allies. If his decades-long track record is any indication, Sanders would be inclined to make excuses for our adversaries and look on the bright side of their repression and rapine.

He's doing it with the Cuban dictatorship to this day.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Citrus Heights Messenger is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

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Subscriptions should be mailed to: Citrus Heights Messenger,

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Crime Reports

Citrus Heights **Police Report**

February 21st February 27th

Date: 02/21/2020 • Time: 9:45 PM • IR Number: 2020-8001927 Crime: PC 484: Theft from Motor Vehicle Location Type: Vehicle • Public Address: 44XX Garbo Way, Antelope

Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department Date: 02/21/2020 • Time: 12:20 PM • IR Number: 2020-8001799 Crime: PC 459: Theft from Motor Vehicle

Location Type: Vehicle • Public Address: 68XX Bannister Rd, Fair Oaks Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/21/2020 • Time: 2:00 PM • IR Number: 12001554 Crime: 496d(a) PC: Possession of Stolen Veh Location Type: House (includes driveway) - Public Address:69xx Le Havre Wy Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/22/2020 • Time: 9:00 PM • IR Number: 12001582 Crime: 10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft Location Type: Parking Lot• Public Address: 76XX Greenback Ln Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/24/2020 • Time: 12:00 AM • IR Number: 12001661 Crime: 487(a) PC: Grnd Thft:prop/Etc \$950+ Location Type: Vehicle • Public Address: 85xx Auburn Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/24/2020 • Time: 6:28 PM • IR Number: 2020-8001904 Crime: PC 459: Theft from Motor Vehicle

Location Type: House (includes driveway) - Public Address: 105XX Fair Oaks Blvd Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/25/2020 • Time: 6:28 PM • IR Number: 12001611 Crime: 10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft

Location Type: House (includes driveway) - Public Address: 59XX Sperry Dr Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 02/25/2020 • Time: 9:00 AM • IR Number: 2020-0068164 Crime: PC 368(B)(1): Cause Harm/Death Of Elder /Dependent Adult Location Type: Residence/home • Public Address: Mesa St, Fair Oaks Agency: Sacramento Police Department

Date: 02/25/2020 • Time:5:00 PM • IR Number:12001647 Crime: 211 PC: Robbery

Agency: Sacramento Police Department

Location Type: Park/Playground • Public Address: 73xx Antelope Rd

Agency: Sacramento Police Department **Date: 02/26/2020 •** Time:9:24 AM • IR Number:12001755

Crime: 487(a) PC: Grnd Thft:prop/Etc \$950+ Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 83xx Canyon Oak Dr Agency: Sacramento Police Department

Date: 02/27/2020 • Time:11:30 PM • IR Number:12001757 Crime: 484(A) PC: Petty Theft Location Type: Theft from Vehicle • Public Address:82xx Cordelia Cr

Find more info at citrusheights.net

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California's Homeless Crisis and Citrus Heights Local Response

By Ronald A. Lawrence, Chief of Police

The growing California homeless population is alarming. Communities across our state have experienced unprecedented increases in homelessness, with some metropolitan cities reaching epidemic proportions. While homelessness was a main theme of the Governor's State of the State address recently, the fact is solutions to homelessness are falling on local jurisdictions to address at a local level. There are many causes to the homeless in California; the primary reasons expressed by legislators in Sacramento are expensive housing and high cost of living. While these may be true, there are other core explanations to homelessness, including changes in state and federal laws resulting in unintended consequences to local communities that strain local public safety resources and put more offenders on our neighborhood streets.

Proposition 47 reduced felony drug possession to simple misdemeanors, ensuring a practical elimination of mandated, court drug-rehabilitation programs removing incentives for those addicted to drugs to get much needed help. Prison Realignment reduced the state's prison population by releasing convicted felons into local communities, while inadequate bed space for individuals suffering from mental illness creates an untenable situation for police to assist this vulnerable population. These and other state mandates and takeaways have contributed to the proliferation of homelessness. Notably, a Ninth



Ronald A. Lawrence, Chief of Police. City of Citrus Heights

Circuit Court of Appeals ruling last April prohibits local governments from preventing anyone from sleeping on public lands, which now allows homeless to sleep (not camp) in public areas during nighttime hours if adequate shelter space is not available. Our local ordinance here in Citrus Heights is currently effective and enforceable, and the Department responds within the law to illegal encampments in as timely a manner as resources allow.

It is estimated there are more than 130,000 homeless statewide. A 2019 state Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) Point-In-Time report estimated Sacramento County has a homeless population of 3,900, not including individuals in shelters. This represents a 19% increase over the past two years, with a per-capita estimate of 36 homeless for every 10,000 residents. Fortunately, in Citrus Heights with a resident population of 88,095, our estimates have a much lower per-capita than Sacramento County as a whole, at 19 homeless for every 10,000 residents. Similarly by our own internal estimates, Citrus Heights has reduced the local homeless population to 163 people in 2019, down 14.7% from the previous year of 191 people in 2018. We need to continue this successful trend.

Every community has a different philosophy to address their homeless population, and while Citrus Heights is not immune to the increased homeless population that has occurred throughout California, we believe our approach, given the state and federal laws, and current resources available to the City is successful. Our philosophy is a twoprong approach: getting as many homeless persons the assistance they need and into appropriate programs or shelters, and enforcement of those who commit criminal acts. Locally, we are fortunate to have a strong community partnership with HART (Homeless Assistance Resource Team), who shares in our mission to provide vital resources to those who are experiencing homelessness, while keeping our public spaces, neighborhoods, and streets safe for everyone. During 2018 and 2019, our Navigator very

effectively achieved housing for a total of 311 people experiencing homelessness. This does not include people utilizing temporary housing situations (i.e. motel vouchers). When we assist, our local homeless population continues to shrink as they become self-reliant and maintain a sustainable lifestyle off the streets. I consider that a big win for everybody. At the same time, there

are individuals who refuse service and others who commit crimes. While we cannot force people to accept services, we do hold those who commit crimes accountable, with the limited resources available to us. We take enforcement action when all other alternatives through our Navigator have failed. Of course, we could assist more homeless and respond more rapidly to illegal camps if additional resources were available to us amid ever-changing state mandates and takeaways that diminish local control over local issues like addressing homelessness and public safety. While we are proud of our successes through the Navigator program, Code Enforcement, and Problem Oriented Policing units in reducing homelessness in our City, we must also maintain critical public safety services including emergency response times, crime prevention, and local school safety - regardless of what actions the state or federal government takes. In the meantime, the local men and women in the Citrus Heights Police Department will continue to proudly serve, maintaining public safety for Citrus Heights residents.

City Approves Sunrise Village **Remodel and Expansion**

Continued from page 1 be protected. Over 100 new trees will also be planted, increasing the shade cover to almost 50%.

The project also includes a proposal for archway signs at both entrances (Madison and Sunrise). Because the proposed signs are outside of the zoning code, a Sign Exception Permit is needed. The City can grant an exception when the signs are determined to show creativity, a strong graphic character, and to create a sense of place. Bermudez said, "They're proposing the signs to really bring an identity to that center with it's upgraded image and new design."

Under the current zoning code, businesses are allowed two square feet of signage for every linear foot of frontage space. The applicant submitted a request for a Sign Ordinance Amendment asking for an increase to three square feet per linear foot, which would increase the visibility of businesses in the larger tenant spaces set farther back in the shopping center. This amendment would only apply to locations that are more than 300 feet away from the roadway. The amendment to the zoning code would not be applicable city wide; it would only apply to businesses in the Sunrise/Greenback Sign District as part of the City's goal to improve signage throughout the Sunrise MarketPlace.

Jon Plomteaux, project manager of design and construction for Merlone Geier, addressed the Council: "We're super excited to be working with the City of Citrus Heights." He said the redevelopment will bring

some new tenants into the center, and Merlone Geier is in lease negotiations with various retailers and food operators. They have already leased City Sports, which will move a fitness center into a new space that currently houses JoAnn's and Tuesday Morning, while JoAnn's will be moving into a new building next door.

"We are working with coffee operators," said Plomteaux. "I can't name them yet, but most of you know who that would be, or who the prospects are, for a drive-through location." Plomteaux said they are excited about the project and look forward to bringing the new design and improvements to the Citrus Heights community: "We know this is a prominent location; it's a revitalization of the Sunrise MarketPlace corridor." Plomteaux said they have already started working on their construction documents and will soon be submitting redevelopment plans. The multi-phase remodel and expansion project is expected to begin in spring of this year and run through 2022.

Councilmember Jeannie Bruins said, "I'm very excited that you're here in Citrus Heights, and I just want to thank you for your investment in our community. And I'm assured that you will find that the citizens of our city and neighboring communities are equally excited and will be making this a very successful endeavor for you."

Mayor Jeff Slowey called for a vote and the Council voted unanimously to approve the project entitlements for the Sunrise Village remodel and expansion project.



SMUD and BERC have partnered to offer several tours as a continuation of the Sustainability Series with information about waste diversion, electric transportation, sustainable communities, urban agriculture and a tour of SMUD's Headquarters building.



Sacramento International Airport

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 9 – 10:30 a.m. 6900 Airport Blvd., Sacramento



Uptown Studios

Wednesday, April 1, 2020, 9 – 10:30 a.m. 2415 23rd St., Sacramento



Greater Sacramento Urban League Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 9 – 10:30 a.m. 3725 Marysville Blvd., Sacramento



Soil Born Farms

Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 9 – 10:30 a.m. 2140 Chase Dr., Rancho Cordova



SMUD Headquarters Building Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 9 – 10:30 a.m. 6201 S St., Sacramento

Register and learn more at smud.org/Workshops







