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Citrus Heights Messenger

VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 31 Serving the City of Citrus Heights & Sacramento County DECEMBER 27, 2019

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City Approves Affordable Housing Development for Seniors

Story by Shaunna Boyd

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Citrus Heights City Council recently considered whether to approve an application for a 110-unit affordable housing development for seniors over the age of 55. Fair Oaks Senior Apartments would be located at 12057 Fair Oaks Blvd., on the west side of Fair Oaks Blvd. north of Treecrest Ave. The five-acre property is currently the site of a single-family home with an orchard.

The developer is Ionic Enterprises Inc., which specializes in affordable housing projects and has developed similar apartment complexes in the Sacramento region. They requested a Design Review Permit and asked that the Council approve an application to rezone the property from RD-10 to RD-20. Rezoning to RD-20 would increase the residential density for the project and allow for 99 units on

the site. Because the developer has committed to maintaining the project as affordable housing for 55 years, they also requested a density bonus to allow an additional 11 units.

Ionic Enterprises applied for a Tree Permit to remove numerous trees on the site that are currently in very poor condition and replace them with new trees as part of the mitigation plan. They also requested concessions that would allow for reduced parking and parking within the typically required setback.

The site will primarily be accessed on the east side through a new driveway on Fair Oaks Blvd. across from Walnut Hills Way. An additional entrance/exit on the west side of the property would come out on Celine Dr., which is currently a dead-end street. The Celine Dr. access would be gated to limit access to residents and emergency vehicles, preventing cut-through traffic between Fair

Oaks Blvd. and Celine Dr.

During the public hearing, one resident said he lives at the end of Celine Dr. next to the area of the proposed entrance/exit gate. He said for 18 years “we’ve enjoyed a quiet neighborhood.” Although he understands the need for affordable senior housing in the community, he is opposed to an access gate at that location because it will bring an increase of traffic to the area. “We would like to see that be reduced to maybe an exit only or maybe just emergency vehicles only,” he said. He expressed concern that there is already a lot of cut-through traffic in that area and adding more vehicles to the roadway could cause a safety issue.

Another resident agreed with the concerns about increased traffic. She lives west of Celine Dr. at the corner of Kingswood Dr. and Cypress Point

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New Round of DMV Motor Voter Errors Reported

**By Chris Reed,
Cal Watchdog**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - One of Gavin Newsom’s first acts after taking office as governor in January was to create a “DMV Reinvention Strike Team” to improve the performance of the state Department of Motor Vehicles.

This came after one of the worst years a state agency has had in recent history. In August 2018, CalWatchdog and many other news outlets reported that wait times were nearly 50 percent longer at DMV offices than the previous summer. The problem was blamed on a heavy increase in visits caused by the federal 2005 Real ID Act. It requires Californians to have either passports or new federal ID cards before they can take commercial flights starting in October 2020. The DMV is the agency that issues the Real IDs.

A month later, another scandal emerged, with thousands of thousands of voters reporting errors in their political party affiliation due to mistakes made in the DMV’s new “motor voter” automatic registration program, which began in April 2018. An audit released in August of this year found the problem was far worse than initially believed, with more than a quarter-million errors in registration in the first five months of the program – 83,684 duplicate voter registrations and 171,145 DMV records with inconsistencies on party membership.

Newsom’s “strike team” issued its report in July on what it had done to fix the agency and said internal data showed a reduction in wait teams of 58 minutes over the previous summer. Two weeks ago, the DMV issued a statement saying that wait times had continued to decline and averaged 38 minutes in September.

But now the DMV’s other 2018 problem has re-emerged with reports in Northern California of pervasive errors in motor voter registrations, prompting Republican lawmakers to renew their call to put the program on hold until its flaws are comprehensively fixed.

At Least 600 Complaints So Far; Number Could Soar

“At least 600 Californians, including lifelong Republicans and Democrats, have had their voter registration unexpectedly changed, and several county elections officials are pinning much of the blame on the state’s Department of Motor Vehicles,” the

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Families Grow Healthy with WIC

By Andrea Sandoval, Sacramento County

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County Women, Infants & Children (WIC) is helping pregnant women, new moms and children 0-5 years old to eat well, stay healthy and be active. WIC, a federally funded health and nutrition program facilitated by the County, helps families by providing nutrition education, ability to purchase specific nutritious foods to improve nutritional intake, breastfeeding classes, individual support for lactating mothers and food prescriptions tailored to the nutritional needs of breastfeeding women; and making referrals to healthcare and other community services. Each month more than 22,000 people in Sacramento County use WIC benefits.

“Sacramento County is excited to announce that we recently replaced paper food checks with the new California WIC Card, an electronic EBT-style card,” said Amelia Schendel, RD, IBCLC, WIC Director.

The California WIC Card looks and acts similar to a debit card and allows for more flexibility and improves the grocery check-out experience. All eligible Sacramento County families are encouraged to participate in this benefit to improve nutrition for better health.

Those in Sacramento County’s WIC program receive: Nutritious foods using the California WIC Card that works like an electronic EBT card; Nutrition classes onsite or online; Meetings with a nutrition counselor; Breastfeeding classes, individual support for lactating mothers and food prescriptions tailored to the nutritional needs of breastfeeding women; Enhanced lactation services (Funded by First 5 Sacramento); Referrals to community programs

You may qualify for WIC if your income meets the eligibility guidelines, and you are: Low to medium-income (185% of federal poverty level). A family of four in

California can earn up to \$47,638 per year and qualify for WIC benefits; Pregnant or have been pregnant within the last six months, and/or have a child under the age of five years old

Note: U.S. citizenship is not a requirement for receiving benefits and WIC is not a public charge program. If you are eligible for Medi-Cal, CalWORKS or CalFresh (Food Stamps), you may also meet the income eligibility for WIC.

Studies have demonstrated WIC services have positive outcomes:

WIC services have prevented 7,575 preterm births; For each \$1 spent on prenatal WIC participants, there was a mean savings of \$2.48; Mothers who accepted Breastfeeding Peer Counseling referrals and had at least one phone conversation or in-person contact had a significant 35 – 164 percent increased odds of positive breastfeeding outcomes; WIC mothers experienced a lower likelihood of inadequate gestation weight gain; The diet quality improved for the roughly 4 million children who are served by WIC; Preschoolers from low-income families living in cities that took part in a two-year community-wide intervention to foster healthy eating and lifestyle habits consumed fewer sugary drinks, got more sleep and showed improvement in weight.

The 2019 WIC Report on outcomes is also available online.

Volunteer opportunities are also available at WIC. The majority of volunteers are students, graduates or dietetic interns from California State University, Sacramento and the University of California, Davis. The volunteer program provides interns and new graduates an opportunity to gain valuable experience in community nutrition and to explore their career interests. Many volunteers become dedicated to the work that WIC does and either have sought a career with WIC as a Nutrition Assistant or Dietitian or are inspired to pursue a career path along the lines of public health, social work or lactation. In 2018, volunteers contributed a total of 2,087 hours. ★

Governor Newsom Launches Initiative for California Cities & Counties to Fight Homelessness



Governor Gavin Newsom

Governor’s Press Office

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Governor Gavin Newsom announced that California will begin launching 100-day challenges for California cities and counties, replicating a successful national model to jumpstart action to fight homelessness.

The Governor also sent a letter to President Trump detailing how the federal government can take immediate action to help California cities and counties fight homelessness.

“With a single

stroke of your pen, you can make a major, positive impact on homelessness right away. You can immediately order your Department of Housing and Urban Development to house 50,000 homeless Californians with federal housing vouchers – this, combined with critically important increases in fair market rents, can stably house a significant portion of our street homeless population faster than almost any other action you could possibly take,” said Governor Newsom.

Following the announcement that California cities and counties can start applying for hundreds of millions of dollars in Emergency Homelessness Aid provided through the 2019-2020 state budget, Governor Newsom is calling on cities and counties to take immediate action to address homelessness by accepting 100-day challenges to end homelessness for specific targeted populations such as veterans

or youth, utilizing the \$650 million in homeless emergency aid.

Participating entities would receive additional technical assistance through the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to assist with these efforts and develop sustainable models moving forward. The state will also assist local communities in seeking philanthropic support for these 100-day efforts.

100-day challenges are part of a growing national movement to prevent and end homelessness, developed through the Rapid Results Institute in coordination with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. Through these efforts, communities have undertaken the challenge of working together across systems to collaborate, innovate, and execute to create a coordinated community response to end homelessness.

Source: Governor’s Press Office ★

New Round of DMV ‘Motor Voter’ Errors Reported

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Sacramento Bee reported. The daughter of California Senate Republican Leader Shannon Grove of Bakersfield, who had recently used a Sacramento County DMV office, was among those affected. Grove is a leading critic of motor voter.

Sacramento CBS 13’s news team reported at least 300 apparent complaints in Santa Clara County, nearly 200 in Sacramento County and at least 100 in Shasta County.

Reports noted that it’s possible that some of the mistakes were made by voters themselves not used to election services at DMV and that some voters may have misremembered what party status they had chosen

previously. But as CBS 13 reported, problems appeared to be turning up in every county as soon as registrars began sending out voter notifications related to the March primary. With El Dorado County sending out notifications and dozens of counties doing so in coming weeks, the dimensions of the problem could be far bigger than initially assumed – just like last year.

Oregon, which introduced its version of motor voter in January 2016, has had far fewer problems.

Californians can check how they are presently registered at <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/> and they can change their status if needed at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>. ★

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\$3.29/lb

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A Holiday Message from the City Manager

City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Dear Citrus Heights Residents, Business Owners, and Community Advocates. As we celebrate the holiday season, I want to thank you for making this a wonderful year for the City of Citrus Heights. On behalf of our City Hall staff, it is a great privilege to serve this community and we are looking forward to planning exciting things for our future in 2020.

While we gather together with our families and friends, let us be thankful for all we are fortunate to have — both as individuals and as a community.

We are entering the New Year as a City in the midst of transformation. We have work to do, but we are not afraid to face our challenges together, and with a plan. Truly, the people of Citrus Heights and our solid roots as a community remains our greatest asset for growing the City’s reputation as a great place to live, work, and raise a family. We have had some great successes this past year:

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Citrus Heights Police Department, our crime-rate continues to decrease at record levels over the last few years.

We have made major strides to support the revitalization of the Sunrise Mall — which is still open for business!

Exciting new businesses are moving into our City, including Studio Movie Grill.



Christopher W. Boyd

We can also look forward to new housing developments, our Complete Streets Plan, big opportunities for the Sylvan property, and more!

Once again, thank you for making this a great year for Citrus Heights. From our family to yours, the City of Citrus Heights wishes you a joyous and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,
Christopher W. Boyd
City Manager

City Approves Affordable Housing Development for Seniors

Continued from page 1

Dr, just a block away from the proposed project. She explained that Celine Dr. and Cypress Point Dr. are both very narrow streets; if cars are parked on each side of those streets, two cars traveling in opposing directions can’t pass each other safely without one pulling over to the side. She described the area as “a very dog-walking neighborhood. ... It’s a real little residential community.” She explained that “the cut-through traffic is causing real problems” and “these streets aren’t meant to carry that kind of traffic.”

She further argued that the reduced parking concession could cause even more problems in the neighborhood because although many seniors no longer drive, they still have visitors, cleaners, and caretakers who might be forced to park on the neighborhood streets if the housing development doesn’t offer adequate parking.

Mayor Jeff Slowey said he’s happy to see a proposal for senior apartments: “I think it’s needed, not just in the city but throughout the state. ... There’s no doubt there’s a housing crisis. I’m glad to see something proposed that’s going to be affordable.”

Mayor Slowey also said he understands the neighborhood concerns, but these residents have been living on a dead-end street so “anything that goes in there is going to be an increase in traffic. I feel bad about that, but when I look at the street, I also realize the way it’s designed eventually something’s going to go there.”

“If we’re going to create a problem, I want to try to fix it,” said Mayor Slowey. He suggested adding an amendment to the resolution requiring that the developers add stop signs to improve traffic safety along that corridor. He requested a three-way stop where Kingswood Dr. deadends at Celine Dr.

Councilmember Jeannie Bruins agreed: “I think it’s an opportunity to address not only providing senior housing here but to address a traffic problem.” She said that stop signs are “definitely something I’d like to see incorporated in this project.”

Craig Meyers, architect for Ionic Enterprises’ development team, said, “We have no objection to whatever the Council decides. ... If it’s three stop signs, that’s fine.”

The Council voted on the proposal and unanimously approved the project with the amendment to require stop signs. ★



Over 100 members of the Citrus Heights Police Department, Citrus Heights Rotary, & 50 young shoppers from the San Juan Unified School District descended upon the Walmart in Citrus Heights for a day of shopping. Photo courtesy Citrus Heights Police Department

Police Department Hosts Largest ‘Shop with a Cop’ Day Ever

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - As 2019 comes to an end with it’s usual array of holiday celebrations for all, and special programs to bring a ray of hope to less fortunate residents, the City is also looking forward to the future of Citrus Heights.

It was a rainy day on Wednesday, December 18, as police emergency and other vehicles loudly descended upon the Citrus Heights Walmart, not to catch a

bad guy but to bring smiles to the faces of 50 young shoppers at their annual Shop with a Cop event. Eighty Citrus Heights Police Department (CHDP) police officers, their staff and members of the Citrus Heights Rotary (CHR) joined forces with the 50 eager students for a shopping spree they will not soon forget.

Participants began their day with a hearty pancake breakfast at the Citrus Heights Community Center, hosted by staff from Assemblyman Ken Cooley’s

office and the Rotary.

Each student was paired with a police officer and an allotment of \$125 to spend, many not only shopping for themselves but also for other family members. The Subway in-store restaurant and Pepsi provided box lunches at the end of the day.

Sponsored by Walmart and the Citrus Heights Rotary, this year’s Shop with a Cop event had double the number of shoppers from 2018, making it the largest

Shop with a Cop event in CHPD history. Participants were selected by the San Juan Unified School District.

This important event and others such as the annual CHDP Christmas toy delivery program to poor Citrus Heights neighborhoods brings youth into contact with their police department in an atmosphere of trust and fun. Many other events through the Citrus Heights Police Activities League (CHPAL) help to create positive ongoing relationships year round. ★

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Is This a Christmas Present or What?

Dr. James L. Snyder

One great blessing of Christmas is presents. Of course, at my age, I am not too interested in what I am getting but rather what I am giving.

I am not looking for much for Christmas this year, just to enjoy the family and celebration.

Then something happened this past week that changed that attitude of mine.

In the mailbox, was a letter from the state traffic department. I was a little nervous opening it because I've never received such a letter before.

When I opened it, I noticed it was a traffic violation notice. Upon further notice, I saw it was not for me. My wife had a traffic violation, and a camera recorded it.

Looking at the picture, it did not look anything like my wife. The whole picture was blacked out so you could not see anything. Oh well, it did have her name on it, what more do I need?

Walking into the house, I was cheerfully whistling and maybe some dancing.

“What are you so happy about?”

Handing her the letter, I said with the biggest grin on my face I have ever had, “You have a traffic violation ticket.”

“This cannot be my ticket,” she said with a very disgusting growl.

“I think it is. It has your name and your license plate number on it. Who else’s is it?”

She went outside to her van and checked the license plate number. It was not the right number.

“It is not the right license plate number, so it cannot be mine.”

She handed the letter back to me and said, “Look, this violation was last week in Miami. I was not in Miami last week. This cannot be right.”

I looked the letter over several times only to discover she was right. I advised her to take it over to the sheriff department and see what they think.

It was not long before she came back and into the house happily whistling but no dancing.

“What are you so happy about?”

She looked at me with a smile and a Merry Christmas twinkle in her eye and said, “The sheriff department told me this was a fraud. It is not my ticket. They advised me to destroy it and forget about it.”

Looking at me smiling, she said, “Aren’t you happy for me?”

All I could do was look back, smile, and say, “Yes, dear.”

Of all the tickets I have received, I could enjoy one for my wife.

It was not a very serious issue, but I could have gotten a lot of mileage from this. Now it is gone. Just when you think you got something, it turns out to be nothing.

I am glad that the ticket was a fraud. I was thinking of what the apostle Paul said. “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).

It is that time of the year when we think about all the things to be thankful. I am not sure how many blessings I have because some of the more important ones are ones I do not see. If I rest in God, he will take care of all the blessings I need in life.

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 jamesnsnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnsnyderministries.com. ★



Dare to Live Without Limits

by Bryan Golden

True Success



How do you define success? Ask 100 people and you will get 100 different answers. What's important is what success means to you. True success is attaining your dreams, living in a manner which you consider rewarding.

True success also involves appreciating your journey. Life is change. You change, what you want changes, and circumstances change. Always being aware of, and appreciating all of the blessings in your life is part of being truly successful.

True success is about experiences. Dream big. Take chances. Don't allow fear to shape your life. There is nothing stopping you from having a rewarding life. Any obstacles can be overcome.

Setbacks are part of true success. Successful people overcome setbacks. Failure only occurs when you give up. A positive attitude, persistence, and determination are the fuel which keeps you moving forward. Success is possible when you take consistent, positive action.

Those who are truly successful are able to change, adapt, and adjust as needed. They are able to make the best of whatever circumstances they encounter. Truly successful people become very adept at finding solutions to whatever problems they encounter.

You define your meaning of true success. There's no need to compare yourself

to others. It does not matter what someone else is doing, or what they have. The opinions of others concerning your success are irrelevant. Negative input from critics is immaterial. Focusing on following your desired path leads to true success.

True success is just as much about your character as it is your achievements. True success requires you to act ethically and morally. There are no ethical shortcuts on the road to true success. Doing the right thing is the foundation from which success is built.

Your personal development enhances true success. As you learn and grow, additional options open up. Education is a lifetime pursuit, and there is always more to learn. There's no need to waste time by reinventing the wheel. Learn from those who have already found success along a path similar to yours.

Each person is motivated by what's important to them. Identifying what motivates you is essential. True success requires you to follow your own path. You need a specific direction. Subverting your desires in favor of other's expectations takes you off track. It's virtually impossible to find satisfaction by attaining someone else's goals.

Family, friends, career, money, achievement, recognition, health, recreation, hobbies, and travel are just

some examples of the areas which are important to different people. Create a personal inventory list of what's meaningful to you and why. You don't need to share this with, or justify it to anyone, so be honest with yourself.

Your true success is based on your specific personality, likes, and dislikes. It's not meant to fit anyone else. Don't listen to naysayers or critics. You don't have to, and probably can't, change their minds.

Staying on your path to true success takes effort. The greater the success desired, the more effort required. Don't make excuses. Don't complain. Do what is necessary. Your most important step is the next one. Get back up whenever you stumble and fall.

If you don't already know, determine what you want to accomplish at this point in your life. What you pick is totally up to you. This is your true success objective. Next, write down the steps required to reach your objective. This is your plan. Now you are ready to take your first step, then the next one. Just keep going.

You can have true success. Live life your way. Follow your own path and enjoy your journey.

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. © 2017 Bryan Golden ★



By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

Throughout our lifetime one often does automatically accumulate various ideas about some form of a god. Those ideas accumulated from various people appear to be valid because an authoritative person said them. Then some often make them to be a form of truth, having little knowledge of actual beginnings. Obviously one must desire a personal connection that Almighty God has placed in every human beings soul! God has a divine perfect promise for those who have begun their honest search for His truth. It is **“Seek you first the Kingdom of God and His Righteous and all things will be given to you.” (Matthew 6:33)**

Often these dear souls are not familiar with anything the Holy Bible clearly instructs, WHO

Accumulated Ideas About God

GOD IS and words for living a happy life! Nor do they know the various life stories of men of old who knew and followed the truth. Or the consequences for those who disobeyed! Possibly they may not even know another person who has true faith and trust in a loving forgiving Creator/God who has all their answers to life's situations.

The problem with accumulated ideas is they are only opinions and lead to no-where! Everyone may begin with them, even some lead into all kinds of cults that do not teach nor follow the pure teaching of God's truth but erroneously claim to have all the “answers.” (**Note: It happened to me -even after I had accepted Jesus when I was 12 years old. Trouble is - the cult took me into a form of “bondage” until I was 34 years old. Then I accidentally began to attend a church to help someone else! And I found Him again and was miraculously born-again! That was 49 years ago God provided a new beginning for me.**)

God loves each one of us individually! Far more than we ever realize or understand! It is not until we begin to follow His plan for our life and are filled with His Holy Spirit. It happens after accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior and He comes miraculously into our life do we begin to sense His presence and divine call on our lives.

Until this happens we question everything! When God's Spirit enters our being, amazing things take place and we just KNOW! I invite you to sincerely make this decision today and become a part of the largest and greatest family in the whole world who will love you forever and ever.

Marlys Johnsen Norris Christian Author of 7 Books “God Moves Mountains, It was a Miracle!” – “Recipes for a Happier Marriage” – “Senior Gleanings” – “Messages in the Dust for the Searching Soul” – All \$20 includes SH Marlysjn@gmail.com P.O. Box 114, Orangevale, CA 95662 ★



By Pastor Ray Dare

December 21st is the longest and darkest night of the year. It's interesting when we're in the darkest part of the year, Christmas lights pierce the darkness. There's a spiritual parallel. John 12:46 “Jesus said, ‘I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in darkness.’” He's not talking about physical darkness here... He's talking about spiritual darkness, personal darkness.

Everybody has dark times, seasons of disappointment, distress, doubt and depression. You probably can relate to at least one of those. You may be going through a dark season in your life right now... What do you do when you're going through a dark season in life? You look to the Lord to help you through that difficult season. “You Lord, are my light; you dispel my darkness.” 1

Pastor Ray's Encouraging Words

The Light of Christmas

Samuel 22:29. Because Jesus came at Christmas time, you don't have to stay in your darkness.

He will encourage you when you're disappointed. He encourages you by helping you realize that He has a plan and a purpose for your life. Jeremiah 29, “*The plans I have for you, says the Lord, are plans to prosper you, not to harm you, to give you hope and a future.*” God's plan for your is a good plan; it's not a bad plan.

He will strengthen you when you are distressed. The darkest part of the night is when light shines the brightest. Nothing can devastate you because He's with you and promises to strengthen you. Psalm 23:4, “*Even though I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are with me.*” The theme of the book of Psalms in one sentence: Life is tough, but God is good. I encourage you to read Psalms everyday and let the truth of God's goodness shine inside of you.

He will guide you when you are doubtful. When you're confused

and don't know which way to go He will guide you. John 8:12, “Jesus said, ‘*I am the Light of the world. So, if you follow me, you won't be stumbling through darkness, for living light will flood your path.*’” Follow Him; let Him lead you.

He will change you when you are depressed. God can change you. He can do for you what years of therapy hasn't done. Ephesians 5:13 “*It is possible for light to turn the thing it shines upon into light also.*” When God's light comes in the front door of your heart, darkness goes out the backdoor. Let God's light in. When the light of God shines in your life, it brightens you, your spirit. When the hope and light of God fills your life, that pit of despair leaves. He can do for you what pills cannot do. He can heal you. He can dispel the darkness in your life. Not anything else or anybody else can do that for you but Jesus can.

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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 5

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Pin location
6. BBQ sauce alternative
9. *Volodymyr Zelensky's capital
13. 0103 food poison
14. Between sea and shining sea, abbr.
15. Native of American Great Plains
16. Famous fabulist
17. Band performance
18. Prefix with national and pol
19. *The Mueller ____
21. *European country declared to be no longer free
23. Ostrich-like bird
24. Fix a horse
25. Old Spice: "Smell Like a Man, ____"
28. Diva's delivery
30. Opposite of underdog
35. Seed covering
37. Share a boundary
39. Miller's product
40. Leave behind
41. *Flute playing rapper
43. Pot contribution
44. Make corrections
46. Days in Havana
47. Nomad's round house
48. Caesar derivative
50. "Fifteen Miles on the ____ Canal"
52. Mad Hatter's drink
53. Hofbräuhaus offering
55. Bard's before
57. *He got life plus 30
61. *Euroscaptics vs. pro-Europeanists point of debate
64. Sweeney Todd's weapon
65. Seek damages
67. *Archie was one before he was born
69. *Bran, Lord of the Six Kingdoms, e.g.
70. ____ Now or Never"
71. *What Jeffrey Epstein had in store

DOWN

1. Grazing ground
2. Maple tree or laptop brand
3. Downward dog, e.g.
4. Skip the big wedding
5. Benign fatty tumor
6. Pipe problem
7. *Europe voted to ban single-____ plastics
8. Take a tubby
9. *Best Actress in Supporting Role Oscar-winner
10. Tiny bit
11. Pitcher
12. Subject to change
15. To some extent, two words
20. Not urban
22. Final, abbr.
24. More gossamer
25. *Actor in Leading Role Oscar-winner
26. Wafting pleasantness
27. One born to Japanese immigrants

29. Footnote acronym
31. Performance with acts
32. Holy confection
33. Grossly unconventional
34. *Swedish environmentalist
36. Eye contact
38. Nicholas II was the last one
42. Willow twig
45. Go ashore
49. Tombstone acronym
51. Builds
54. Fluorescent red dye
56. Make an effort
57. Formerly, formerly
58. Better than never
59. #38 Down, alt. sp.
60. Some blow their own
61. *"Green Book," winner of ____ Picture
62. Hip bones
63. Salty drop
66. Shoshonean
68. Summer sandwich?

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solutions on Page 5



Great Start, but Follow the Steps

Dear Dave,

I've recently begun living on a budget, and I've got \$1,000 saved. At the moment, I have \$150 left over each month after everything is account for in my budget. I also have three debts totaling about \$12,000. Should I use this extra cash to pay off debt, or would it be a better idea to start investing the money?

– Leland

Dear Leland,

Let's put off investing for the time being. You've done a great job so far by getting on a budget and saving \$1,000. Making mature decisions and telling your money where to go, instead of wondering where it went, is the key to gaining control of your finances.

Now, let's take a closer look at my plan and where you stand. You've already set aside \$1,000 for a beginner emergency fund. That's Baby Step 1. Don't touch that money except in the event of an actual emergency. You're ready now for Baby Step 2, which is to pay off all debt except for your mortgage using the debt snowball system.

To do this, make a list of your debts from smallest

Dave Ramsey Says

to largest. Make minimum payments on all but the smallest debt, and attack it with a vengeance. As soon as you get that one paid off, move on to the next one and then the next one.

Once you finish the debt snowball, and you're debt-free except for your house, you go back to your emergency fund and stash more money away until you have a fully-funded emergency fund of three to six months of expenses. This is Baby Step 3. Now you can begin concentrating on investing for retirement, which is Baby Step 4. Start with your employer's 401(k) plan. Then, you can invest the rest into Roth IRAs – one for you, and one for your spouse – if you're married.

Saving and investing are both very important. But it's also important to become debt-free. That's what makes them easy!

Who Will be Liable for the Debt?

Dear Dave,

My parents are getting up there in years, and they aren't really prepared for when they pass away. They can't afford life insurance at this point, and they also have a lot of debt. When they die, who will be liable for their debt?

– Tammi

Dear Tammi,

Any outstanding debt your parents have upon passing will likely go against their estate. If they

have a positive net worth—meaning they owned more than they owed—there will be money left over after the debts are paid, and this could go toward an inheritance. If they have a negative net worth, which means they owed more than they owned, everything could be sold off to cover as much of the debt as possible. Regardless, you would only be held liable for any of their debt if you were a co-signer on the loans.

I'd also suggest getting their permission to buy burial policies on them. If they won't agree to this, you might have to save up money for their final expenses yourself. In most areas, \$10,000 to \$15,000 is enough to cover basic burial costs for two people.

– Dave

I'd also suggest getting their permission to buy burial policies on them. If they won't agree to this, you might have to save up money for their final expenses yourself. In most areas, \$10,000 to \$15,000 is enough to cover basic burial costs for two people. 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 @DaveRamsey. ★

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Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 12/25/19 - 12/31/19

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CHM PLU 569

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JONNY CAT

CAT LINERS

Jumbo Drawstring - 5 Ct

Limit 1 Box with Coupon

Limit One Coupon Per Family

Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 12/25/19 - 12/31/19

\$2.09

CHM PLU 449

School Bus Crash in Citrus Heights



California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On December 16, at approximately 0728 hours, J Hendricks (60 years old) was driving a 27 passenger (no students on-board)

school bus eastbound Tupelo Dr. west of Andrea Blvd at 25 mph. Hendricks fell asleep and left the roadway. Subsequently, the school bus struck a green Hyundai sedan, a metal fence, a telecommunications box, and house at 5648 Tupelo Dr. ★

Sacramento Blankets for Sacramento Kids Wrap Sac Kindergartens with Love

By Claire Gliddon

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - An amazing 853 students from six schools in the Sacramento area will be nice and warm this winter. Double fleece blankets and Beanie Babies in fleece pouches were delivered to seven of the lowest income schools in Sacramento on Monday, Dec. 16th, as the culmination of Sacramento Blankets for Sacramento Kids’ (SBSK) “Kindergarten Project.”

While SBSK provides blankets for comfort and warmth all year long to children in need in Sacramento and Placer Counties (as well as to State emergencies, such as fires and floods, and national emergencies, like Katrina and 9/11), the Kindergarten Project is one of the volunteers’ favorite jobs.



Seven of the lowest income Sacramento kindergarten schools received fleece blankets and Beanie Babies in Sacramento on Monday, Dec. 16th. Photo courtesy Sacramento Blankets for Sacramento Kids

Some of these children live in their cars with family or in substandard housing, so a warm blanket and a toy – sometimes all they get for the holidays – is really appreciated.

We’re always looking for new volunteers to make blankets – no meetings, no pressure, no

quotas – and donations of washable yarn, fleece blanket kits, cotton fabric for quilts, and new or almost new Beanie Babies. For more information, please go to www.sacblankets4kids.com to sign up, or call Claire Gliddon, Chief Blanket Gatherer, at (916) 965-8955. ★

Sacramento Life Center Raises Record \$310K at Annual Dinner



Marie Leatherby and Rev. Michael Kiernan present an appreciation award to David Abbott of the California Knights of Columbus at the Sacramento Life Center’s Knight for Life Dinner in early November. Courtesy Kristin Thébaud Communications


By Kristin Thébaud, Kristin Thébaud Communications

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Life Center’s A Knight for Life Dinner and Auction raised a record-setting \$310,000 with 720 guests on Nov. 2 at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento. This year’s event, which honored the Knights of Columbus, raised vital funds for the organization’s free medical care, counseling and education for low-income pregnant women and teens. The gala included a gourmet dinner, auction packages, raffle baskets and inspiring stories from some of the 2,000 people who received medical care from the Sacramento Life Center this year.

“This was our most successful dinner ever, with the highest amount of funds raised and the most number of guests in attendance,” said Marie Leatherby, executive director, Sacramento Life Center. “We are so grateful for this community’s financial support that will expand our services and reach even more low-income pregnant women and teens.”

The Sacramento Life Center’s mission is to offer compassion, support, resources and free medical care to women and couples facing an unplanned or unsupported pregnancy. The Sacramento Life Center’s licensed Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic includes a primary clinic and mobile clinic that provide all services for free, including pregnancy tests, STD tests, ultrasounds, patient advocacy for men and women, education and resource referrals. In 2018, the Sacramento Life Center achieved accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, which ensures the group has met nationally recognized standards for the provision of high-quality health care. The nonprofit also offers a school-based teen education program, 24-hour hotline and program for women who have experienced reproductive grief. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center’s Sac Valley Pregnancy Clinic, visit www.svpclinic.com. For more information about the Sacramento Life Center or to make a donation, visit www.saclife.org. ★

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Crime Reports



Citrus Heights Police Report

December 16th
December 20th

Date: 12/16/2019: Time: 8:57 PM • IR Number: 11910073
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 68XX ROSA VISTA LN
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/17/2019: Time: 10:00 PM • IR Number: 11910122
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 81XX HOLLY OAK ST
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/17/2019: Time: 10:00 PM • IR Number: 11910122
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 81XX HOLLY OAK ST
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/18/2019: Time: 2:52 AM • IR Number: 11910106
Crime: **484(A) PC: Petty Theft**
Location Type: Mobile Home • Public Address: 75XX GADWALL LN
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/18/2019: Time: 2:28 PM • IR Number: 11910114
Crime: **10851(A) VC: Vehicle Theft**
Location Type: Other • Public Address: 63XX PARKVIEW WY
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/18/2019: Time: 4:25 PM • IR Number: 2019-0448436
Crime: **PC 484: All Other Larceny**
Location Type: Grocery/supermarket
Public Address: 88XX Greenback Ln, Orangevale, CA 95662
Agency: Sacramento County Sheriff's Department (CA)

Date: 12/18/2019: Time: 9:39 PM • IR Number: 2019-0448636
Crime: **PC 245(A)(1): Force/Assault With A Deadly Weapon-Not Firearm: Gbi Likely**
Location Type: Residence/home • Public Address: 64XX Benning St, Orangevale, CA 95662
Agency: Sacramento County Sheriff's Department (CA)

Date: 12/18/2019: Time: 9:06 PM • IR Number: 11910128
Crime: **487(a) PC: Grnd Thft:prop/Etc \$950+**
Location Type: Parking Lot • Public Address: PRATT AV/AUBURN BL
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/20/2019: Time: 11:18 AM • IR Number: 11910168
Crime: **459 PC: Burglary - Residential**
Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 58XX KEYNTEL ST
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

Date: 12/20/2019: Time: 10:00 PM • IR Number: 11910206
Crime: **487(a) PC: Grnd Thft:prop/Etc \$950+**
Location Type: House (includes driveway) • Public Address: 72XX CALVIN DR
Agency: Citrus Heights Police Department

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- Jeannie Bruins, Citrus Heights City Council
- Steve Miller, Citrus Heights City Council
- Mel Turner, Citrus Heights City Council
- James Shelby, Citrus Heights City Council
- Greg Paulo, SJUSD Board
- Mike McKibben, SJUSD Board
- Scott Yuill, Rocklin City Council
- Tami Bogert, Sacramento County District Judge
- Bob McGarvey, Rancho Cordova City Council
- Linda Budge, Rancho Cordova City Council
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CHEERS & JEERS

By Damian Holbrook

Jeers to TV's Problematic Color Coding

America's Got Talent axed judge Gabrielle Union over her "too black" hairstyles and Orlando Jones alleged that he was fired from *American Gods* because his angry character, Mr. Nancy, sent the "wrong message to black America." Sorry, folks, but this sort of shadiness is beyond the pale.

Jeers to The Bachelor/ette Franchise

for committing horticultural homicide. Given that both Colton Underwood and Hannah Brown (pictured) wound up un-engaged – and heartbroken in Hannah's case – at the

end of their respective seasons this year, we can't help but note that all of those roses they handed out died for no good reason.

Cheers to Leading Ladies who led the pack. Flawed, funky and downright fabulous, the characters portrayed by the likes of Phoebe Waller-Bridge (*Fleabag*), Ruby Rose (*Batwoman*), Aidy Bryant (pictured, *Shrill*), Natasha Lyonne (*Russian Doll*), Kat Dennings (*Dollface*) and Kathryn Hahn (*Mrs. Fletcher*) were front-and-center examples of why the future of TV is female..

Cheers to Late Bloomers HBO's addictive *Succession* found an adoring audience in its sophomore



Given that both Colton Underwood and Hannah Brown (pictured) wound up un-engaged – and heartbroken in Hannah's case.

season. 9-1-1 on Fox earned a lot more attention with an impressive Season 3 tsunami. And suddenly, everyone is into Schitt's Creek now that Pop TV's crown jewel is heading into its final round. Better late than never, right? ★



ASK MATT

BY MATT ROUSH TV Guide Senior Critic

Do You Like The Mandalorian's Short Episodes?

Question: Do you think the Disney+ series *The Mandalorian* might start a new trend of shorter episode lengths for streaming shows? As someone who has endured the interminable length of so many Netflix shows – is there an episode of a Marvel series that wouldn't have benefited from being 15 minutes shorter? – I'm finding the shorter episode


length of *The Mandalorian* refreshing.– Darren

Matt Roush: I couldn't agree more, and I can only hope other shows would follow *The Mandalorian's* lead and realize that just because streaming gives you the freedom to fashion episodes of any length, that doesn't mean it should always be an endurance test. (That groan my co-workers often hear is when I cue up another episode of a Netflix or other streaming series – *Castle*

Rock, I'm thinking of you, too – and realize from the time code that it's going to occupy at least a full hour of my time.) One of the virtues of *The Mandalorian* is its economy within each episode, its tight focus with minimal filler. The cinematic wipes between scenes also keep the pace brisk. Another thing I enjoy about *The Mandalorian* is the weekly scheduling of new episodes. If the whole season had dropped at once, like most Netflix shows do, what are the odds we'd still be obsessing on Baby Yoda weeks later? There are lessons to be learned here.

To submit questions to TV Critic Matt Roush, go to: tvinsider.com ★

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The Senate's New Drug Bill is Socialism Lite



Commentary
by Sally C. Pipes

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has a radical new plan to let the federal government set drug prices. Republicans are holding up Senator Chuck Grassley's Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act as a more moderate alternative.

That's a mistake. While Grassley's bill isn't as radical as the Pelosi's, it includes similarly dangerous reforms. Neither bill would do much to save patients money. And both would make it harder for Americans to access new drugs. Pelosi's bill empowers government officials to set prices for a variety of drugs. The bill instructs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "negotiate" the prices of up to 250 medicines. These negotiations would hardly be fair. The bill caps the negotiated prices at 120 percent of the average price paid for these drugs in six other countries. Any company that refused to negotiate would have to pay the


government 65 percent of last year's sales for the drug in question. Grassley's bill also contains its fair share of government price setting. Like the section that prohibits drug companies from raising Medicare prices faster than the rate of inflation. Firms that raise prices too quickly would have to pay a rebate to the government, equal to the difference between the old and new prices. Like all price setting, this so-called "inflation penalty" would prohibit drug companies from setting market prices. But that won't lower costs for patients. Over time, companies will begin launching drugs with artificially high

prices, to avoid having to raise prices and face the penalty down the line. The Senate plan would also tax manufacturers for certain drugs sold in Medicare Part D. Once Part D beneficiaries spend \$5,100 out of pocket on prescriptions, the government begins paying for the majority of each drug they take. Under Grassley's bill, drug makers would have to pay for 20 percent of each drug sold in this "catastrophic phase." But most Part D beneficiaries never reach the catastrophic phase. So this reform won't do anything to lower their drug costs. In other words, the government is the primary beneficiary of this

new tax on drug makers. The Senate bill would raise taxes on pharmaceutical firms by \$100 billion. And as any Republican senator should know, raising taxes is bad for business. This is especially true for the drug industry, where developing just one new medicine costs an average of \$2.6 billion. The more money researchers have to fork over to Uncle Sam, the less they'll have to spend on research. Price setting also makes it harder for patients to access new drugs. Consider that Americans had access to almost 90 percent of all new medicines released between 2011 and 2018. Meanwhile, patients in

the United Kingdom only had access to 59 percent of those drugs. Canadian patients had access to just 46 percent. Grassley's plan may be a slightly better alternative to Pelosi's. But watered-down socialism is still socialism and would be equally disastrous in the long run. Let's hope Republicans come to their senses and drop this bill before it's too late. Sally C. Pipes is president, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith fellow in healthcare policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book is The False Promise of Single-Payer Health Care (Encounter). Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes. ★

Sacramento County DA Reports



Defendant Convicted of Sexually Assaulting 10-Year-Old Child
DATE: December 18, 2019
CASE: Michael Alan Khatoonian (Case #17FE010114)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Danny Jensen, Special Assault & Child Abuse Unit
Michael Alan Khatoonian was convicted by a jury of two counts of sexually assaulting a child younger than 10 years old, two counts of forcible sexual abuse and one count of lewd and lascivious touching of a child younger than 14 years old. Allegations that Khatoonian has prior strike convictions for battery causing serious bodily injury in 2000 and arson on an inhabited structure in 2006 were also found true.
Khatoonian was at his home with the victim's mother and her 10-year-old daughter. He sexually assaulted the 10-year-old daughter when her mother was in the bathroom and also when her mother was sitting on the other side of Khatoonian on the couch.
Khatoonian faces a maximum sentence of 85 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for January 15, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 10 before the Honorable Ernest Sawtelle.

Defendants Convicted for South Hagginwood Homicide


DATE: December 18, 2019
CASE: Nicolaus Garcia and Felicia Bauman (Case #18FE012890)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Omar Singh, Homicide Unit
Nicolaus Garcia was convicted by a jury of the first-degree murder of James Hunt while armed with a firearm. Felicia Bauman pled no contest to voluntary manslaughter while armed with a firearm.
On January 28, 2018, James Hunt was with an acquaintance who was struck with a car passenger door. Both men followed the car, which had crashed into a fence at the Intersection of Belden and Arcade. Felicia Bauman drove up on the scene with Nicolaus Garcia as a passenger. A confrontation between Garcia and Mr. Hunt ensued. After Mr. Hunt asked a resident in the area for help, Garcia and Bauman quickly left the area. Approximately 43 minutes later, Garcia and Bauman came into contact with Mr. Hunt inside an apartment complex on Eleanor Avenue. Garcia shot Mr. Hunt four times, killing him.
An allegation that Garcia has a prior 2016 strike conviction for residential burglary will be determined at the sentencing hearing.
Garcia faces a maximum sentence of 51 years to life in prison. Bauman faces a maximum sentence of 12 years in prison. Sentencing is set for January 17, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11 before the Honorable Trena Burger-Plavan. ★

Defendants Convicted for Sexually Assaulting Five Children

DATE: December 18, 2019
CASE: Jose Placencia Iniguez (Case #18FE000818)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Catrina Ranum, Special Assault & Child Abuse Unit
Jose Placencia Iniguez was convicted by a jury of eight counts of committing a lewd act on a child under the age of 14, five counts of committing a lewd act on a child under the age of 14 by force, duress, menace, or fear and one count of committing a lewd act on a child 14 or 15 years old. The jury also found true the allegation that Iniguez committed the offenses against more than one victim.
Iniguez sexually assaulted two female family members when they were between the ages of 6 and 14 years old. The two victims disclosed the abuse to each other and to their family in 2015. In 2017,

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