

# Fireworks Review Inside

# Citrus Heights Messenger

"Written by the people, for the people"

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**SEE  
INSIDE**

**BUILDING  
CHARACTER  
THROUGH  
FOOTBALL**



PAGE 6

**CELEBRATE  
RECOVERY WITH  
HIGHER POWER**



PAGE 2

**LOCAL STUDENT  
IS CITY'S MOST  
VALUABLE PLAYER**



PAGE 3



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## State of the City is Solid



Ronda Rivera, Assistant City Manager, Citrus Heights Police Chief Ron Lawrence, and Citrus Heights Mayor Jeannie Bruins at the State of the City address. Photo by Patrick Larenas

Story by **Trina L. Drotar**

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - The City of Citrus Heights might have taken tips from Ralph Waldo Emerson's 1841 essay, "Self-Reliance," according to Mayor Jeannie Bruins' State of the City address at the June Citrus Heights Chamber Luncheon. "The city," she said, "believes in self-reliance and taking control of its destiny, and that control has led to many achievements since it freed itself from Sacramento County and established itself as a city in 1997."

Mayor Bruins, elected in 2018, has served on the Citrus Heights City Council since 2002. This is her fourth

term as the city's mayor. As a 34 year resident of Citrus Heights, she is dedicated to seeing this city grow and become a force within the county. "Growth," she said, "is occurring at a moderate rate. Jobs are up 5% and the city is building new types of homes" to accommodate citizens of all ages who want more than a house with a yard and want to engage with one another.

"We pay cash for everything," she said, adding that the city saves money to fund projects, services, and events. Fiscal responsibility has been important since the city was required to forego the benefit of property taxes for a period of 25 years. It has

learned to "spend conservatively" and developed better fiscal habits than many governments, businesses, and individuals.

"We have addressed infrastructure as best we can," without benefit of the estimated \$6 million a year in property tax funding that will arrive in the 2022-2023 tax year.

Auburn Blvd. renovations, known as Auburn Boulevard Complete Streets Revitalization Project, are being completed in several phases. Road improvements and moving utilities underground from Sylvan Corners, the city's center, to the northern city limits is funded as

*Continued on page 10*

## Former Councilman Mel Turner Honored with New Street Name

By **Elise Spleiss**

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - It was a celebration befitting the man whose name is being memorialized on a new street sign in the city of Citrus Heights.

On June 7, 2019, in a dedication ceremony before a gathering of over 100, including those who represent every aspect of Citrus Heights, a street sign bearing the name 'Turner Court' became a part of Citrus Heights forever.

Turner Court is part of the 15-home Mariposa Creek development at 7625 Antelope Road.

Two CHPD motorcycle officers provided a police escort for the 40-foot limo-bus carrying 20 members of the Turner family to the event.

Mayor Jeannie Bruins emceed the morning, introducing speakers from Watt Communities Real Estate Developers, state government, the City of Citrus



Citrus Heights City Manager Chris Boyd presents Connie Turner, wife of deceased former Citrus Heights councilman, Mel Turner with the official dedication plaque for Turner Court, a street in the new Mariposa Creek development. Photo courtesy of City of Citrus Heights

Heights and Chamber of Commerce.

Turner's wife Connie received a certificate and plaque from representatives of the offices of Senator Jim

'honorable, integrity, compassion, commitment, respect, courage, and joy of life, however, Turner's love of his city's young people went recognized by all.

The words on a plaque presented to Connie Turner by City Manager Chris Boyd made the dedication official. The plaque reads: "The City of Citrus Heights, together with Watt Communities does hereby dedicate Turner Court at the Mariposa Creek Development honoring late Councilman Mel Turner. Thus, memorializing his dedicated service and passion to the city he called home. Done so with love and deep gratitude this day, June 7, 2019." Ilene Martzen, Board Chair of the Chamber of Commerce led the ribbon cutting.

When asked how he decided to name a street after Turner, Kevin Webb, President of Watt Communities Northern

*Continued on page 10*

## Fund Established for Officer Tara O'Sullivan

CAHP Special Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On June 19, 2019, at approximately 6:10 p.m., Sacramento Police Department Officer Tara O'Sullivan, 26, was shot at the scene of a domestic violence incident. She was transferred to UC Davis Medical Center where she tragically died. Officer Tara O'Sullivan was a dedicated, young officer who had only been with the department for a year. This is the first line-of-duty death of a Sacramento Police Officer in twenty years.

At 5:41 p.m., Officer Tara O'Sullivan and fellow officers responded to a domestic disturbance. Approximately thirty minutes later, shots were fired by an armed gunman inside the house. Officer O'Sullivan was struck while trying to help a woman move her items outside of the home.

With Officer O'Sullivan down, the gunman continued to fire at officers which prevented any form of rescue. An armored vehicle arrived in response and officers were able to transport her to the hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

The standoff lasted for multiple hours until the gunman surrendered at 1:54 a.m.

Officer O'Sullivan was a recent graduate from Sacramento State's Law Enforcement Candidate Scholars Program. After which, she graduated from the Sacramento Police Academy.

"The loss of Officer O'Sullivan is devastating, grievous, and a reminder that police work invokes heartbreak," said Brad Houle, CAHP Credit Union President. "She displayed heroism while protecting an individual in our community. Her family, friends, and colleagues will always remember that she selflessly sacrificed her life to ensure the safety of another."

The CAHP Credit Union has established a memorial fund in honor of Officer Tara O'Sullivan. The CAHP Credit Union is covering all processing fees and administrative responsibilities.

Donations can be made on the CAHP Credit Union website <https://www.cahpcu.org/ficerTaraO-SullivanMemorialFund> or mailed to:

Officer Tara O'Sullivan Memorial Fund, CAHP Credit Union, P.O. Box 276507, Sacramento, CA 95827-6507

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# Celebrate Recovery with Higher Power

Story by Shaunna Boyd

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Higher Power Ministry hosts a recovery celebration at Lakeside Church in Folsom every Friday at 7:00 PM. Christian bands from a variety of genres such as blues, country, and rock and roll perform at the celebration. Lead Director of Recovery John Heath joked, “I turn the church into a nightclub every Friday night, with Jesus in the middle.”

A speaker talks to the group about recovery from addiction such as drugs, alcohol, gambling, food addictions, sexual addictions, workaholics, co-dependency, and self-harm. “These are life and death situations for the people that come in here, and there’s no such thing as a hopeless case,” said Heath. “We’re getting phenomenal results.”

Higher Power Ministry originated in 1992 at Central Peninsula Church in Foster City. Senior Pastor Jeff Farrar saw the need to help people overcome the addictions that were leading them to jail, institutions, and death. Pastor Steve Aurell, who was a ministry leader until his death in 2013, knew just how difficult it is to overcome addiction since he had once served 15 years in San Quentin Prison because of his own drug addiction. As Pastor of Recovery at Higher Power, Pastor Aurell saved many lives — including the life of John Heath.

Heath had a long history of addiction. During the early 1980s, at the height of the cocaine craze, Heath worked for the Cartel transporting drugs over the border. In 1983, after a serious overdose, he was admitted to the SHARE Unit in San Francisco, the nation’s first cocaine recovery center. He spent 60 days there, breaking medical records for the levels of cocaine in his system. Even after extensive treatment, his addiction continued for many years.



Women pray together at a Higher Power recovery celebration. Photo courtesy of John Heath

In addition to cocaine, he used alcohol, heroin, and eventually moved on to meth.

Heath’s wife sought guidance at Higher Power, and Pastor Aurell urged her to stand by her husband in his time of need. Heath said that Pastor Aurell “was responsible through God’s Grace for saving my life, marriage, and my family.” Heath started attending Higher Power

in 2006: “It was like no other church or place I had ever been. ... I felt comfortable in my skin for the first time in my life.”

After a year of sobriety, Pastor Aurell asked Heath to become a leader in the Higher Power Ministry. “I then knew that God had a sense of humor,” said Heath. After seeing firsthand all the good Higher Power had done for people in need, Heath

felt compelled to spread the message to other communities: “God tapped me on the shoulder and asked me to start a recovery church.”

Heath moved to Shingle Springs and spent a year in prayer. Then he met Pastor John Voelz at Lakeside Church, who invited him to use the church as the site of a new Higher Power Ministry. Heath said, “We are so

appreciative to Lakeside Church for allowing Higher Power to exist in Folsom and for letting us use their site to further our mission of helping those who are lost to addiction in the community.” Higher Power at Lakeside opened on July 7, 2017. “Seven, seven, seventeen — three sevens. I believe those are divine numbers,” said Heath.

“I started the ministry one person at a time,” Heath said. “We accept them however they are — high, drunk, or however they walk in.” Anyone who comes to the celebration can share with the group and seek help. “We stay there all night long if we need to,” he said. Higher Power Ministry leaders then follow up during the next week to offer additional help. If someone needs a recovery program, the leaders will find one for them. “We’re building a family,” said Heath. “It’s a huge support system.”

Many of the leaders are also recovering addicts, and Heath shares his story to inspire others to overcome their own struggles. Although Heath is not an ordained pastor, he found a way to ensure that Higher Power has a strong spiritual support system. He established an Elder Board comprised of two recovery pastors — each with 30 years of sobriety — who give spiritual advice and guidance. Heath said that Pastor Gary Freitas from Manteca and Pastor Dale Marsh from Oroville provide “spiritual direction, protection, and correction in the ministry.”

The events are open for anyone to attend. Heath said, “It’s a lot of fun. It’s not too churchy.” They serve free dinner, dessert, coffee, and other refreshments. Higher Power is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; donation checks can be written to Higher Power Ministry and then mailed to Lakeside Church, 745 Oak Avenue Parkway, Folsom, CA 95630. ★

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# Local Student is City’s Most Valuable Player

Story and photo by Shaunna Boyd

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - The Citrus Heights City Council issued a proclamation recognizing the achievements of local student Hogan Weaver on and off the baseball field. The Council declared his birthday, February 25, Hogan Weaver Day in Citrus Heights.

Councilmember Bret Daniels said Weaver “enjoyed a phenomenal varsity baseball career at San Juan High School,” finishing his varsity baseball career with a .481 batting average, including batting 559 with eight homeruns in his senior year. Councilmember Daniels said that usually



Councilmember Bret Daniels recognized the accomplishment of local student Hogan Weaver, calling the young man “a credit to our city.”

players are either great hitters or great pitchers, “it’s hard to find people who are both, but Hogan is. ... Hogan Weaver not only dominated his opponents at the plate but also from the pitcher’s mound, with a 1.77 earned run average.” Weaver graduated with a 3.5 GPA, served as an

# Council Selects District Map and Approves Budget

Story by Shaunna Boyd

**CITRUS HEIGHT, CA (MPG)** - At the June 13 meeting, the Citrus Height City Council held the fourth public hearing regarding the transition to district-based elections and selected the final district map. Councilmembers analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of four focus maps: 102, 104, 104B, and 109.

Maps 104, 104B, and 109 put each Councilmember in their own district. Map 102, however, would create a vacant district while putting Vice Mayor Jeff Slowey and Councilmember Bret Daniels in the same district.

During public comment, Citrus Heights resident Kathy Morris voiced her support for Map 104, stating that it felt like a “neighborhood map.” Morris said it is important to keep neighborhoods together: “People that work together and live together feel strongly about being a part of the same community.” Morris was opposed to Map 104B and to Map 109: “To me, those do not feel like neighborhood maps, they feel like political maps.”

Vice Mayor Slowey stated his opposition to the layout of Map 109 and requested it be removed from the discussion; the Council agreed.

Councilmember Daniels said the district map should represent the people of the city, and he expressed concern about Map 104 because of a large disparity in voter turnout between two of the districts. Councilmember Daniels said he opposed Map 104 and would prefer Maps 104B or 102.

Councilmember Steve Miller concurred with Councilmember Daniels, with a preference for Map 104B because the layout created a central district bordering all the others.

Councilmember Porsche Middleton also favored Map 104B’s layout: “We’re trying to maintain some continuity, so even though we’ll be in separate districts, it would be nice to have a central district. ... “We’re all still part of the same team; it gives you a feeling of cohesiveness.”

Mayor Jeannie Bruins strongly favored Map 102. “It’s important for each district to have a fair [share] of businesses in their district, and Map 102 is the only map that does that. ... I think for us all to be able

to buy in to what’s going on in our business community as a whole that each of the districts needs to have a fair portion of the business district.”

Councilmember Daniels agreed: “Business comes into politics quite a bit, and the business community can be very demanding on elected officials, and so spreading that out a little bit, I think, is a good idea.”

Vice Mayor Slowey recommended that the Council move forward with Map 102 as the final district map. Mayor Bruins called for a vote and it was unanimously approved.

Mayor Bruins acknowledged the importance of the vote and thanked her fellow Councilmembers. “This has been an arduous process, and one that none of us wanted to undertake,” she said. “It’s what we needed to do, and I think we’ve done the best job we could.” Mayor Bruins also reminded everyone that the district boundaries will have to be adjusted in a couple years after the 2020 census data is released.

The Council also approved the City’s first two-year budget, for fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Ronda Rivera, assistant city manager, explained that the City will be facing a number of fiscal challenges in the next several years: “We’ve now entered the crossover period, where revenues will not be sufficient to cover operating and capital costs. This situation has long been anticipated due to the Revenue Neutrality agreement with Sacramento County, which provides that the City will receive no property tax revenue until fiscal year 2022-2023.”

Rivera said, “Expenditures are expected to be more than revenues, creating a deficit in each of the next three fiscal years, beginning in 2019-2020.” For fiscal year 2019-2020, expected revenues total \$56.3 million while expected expenditures total \$62.2 million. In November 2018, the Council authorized a short-term line of credit to address the funding gap over the next several years. But even with the line of credit, the City will still need to use some of the Reserve Funds to cover costs.

The City will begin repaying the line of credit when Revenue Neutrality ends and they start receiving property taxes in 2022-2023. The final payment will be due in 2024-2025.

# Sustainability Scholarships Awarded to Local Graduates



The Citrus Heights City Council congratulates Bryan Pineda on winning a Sustainability Scholarship. Pineda will be studying mechanical engineering at the University of San Francisco.

Story and photo by Shaunna Boyd

**CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG)** - Republic Services — in partnership with the City of Citrus Heights, San Juan Unified

School District, and San Juan Education Foundation — recently awarded their 2019 Sustainability Scholarships. Three graduating seniors from Citrus Heights were awarded \$1,000 each: Bryan

Pineda, Marisol Oviedo, and Katalynna Vang. The winners were chosen based on their interest in pursuing degrees in sustainability or who plan to use their degrees to benefit the environment.

Bryan Pineda attended the June 13 Citrus Heights City Council meeting where he was honored for his accomplishment. Pineda is graduating from San Juan High School, and he will soon be studying mechanical engineering at the University of San Francisco. Pineda plans to use his degree to find new technological solutions for renewable energy in the automotive manufacturing industry. ★

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TV GUIDE MAGAZINE

CHEERS & JEERS

By Damian Holbrook

Cheers to The Fix

for solving its central mystery. Even though ABC canceled the Marcia Clark – produced crime drama, fans still got a solid, twist-filled finale that saw attorney Maya (Robin Tunney, pictured) finally closing her years-old murder case against celebrity suspect Sevv (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje).

Cheers to Emily Deschanel

for adding new ferocity to *Animal Kingdom*. Make no *Bones* about it: The actress who spent 12 years playing Fox’s quirky Temperance Brennan is a stone-cold revelation as a hardened ex-junkie with a criminal past on TNT’s deliciously

gritty crime drama.

Jeers to Stranger Things

for unleashing something scarier than the Demogorgon. In honor of the Netflix hit’s upcoming 1985-set third season, Coca-Cola is planning to rerelease that year’s short-lived and so-not-lamented New Coke. Strangest thing about this? We’ll probably like it this time around.

Jeers to The Jeopardy! Leaker.

James Holzhauer’s 32-game winning streak ended on June 3rd, but the big shock was spoiled days earlier by some loser who tweeted footage of the champ being out-smarted by librarian Emma Boettcher. No question: The producers should sue! ★



Maya (Robin Tunney, pictured) finally closing her years-old murder case.

ASK MATT

BY MATT ROUSH TV Guide Senior Critic

Will We See Another Season Of The Village?

**Question:** I love the show *The Village*. The writing and acting are beautifully done. Any news on the show? – Debbie C

**Matt Roush:** Sorry to tell you that NBC just dropped the ax on three of its underperforming mid-season shows, including *The Village*, *Abby’s* and *The Enemy Within*. I’d bet that NBC had the highest hopes,

and made the toughest call, regarding *The Village*, which the network no doubt saw as its next *This Is Us* with its emotional heart-tugging storylines. I found it a poor and obvious substitute, but others rallied to its cause. I’ll admit I was surprised at this cancellation as well. And before you ask, it’s unlikely it will be rescued, as it was an in-house production from Universal TV, and with such a large cast to service, it’s

doubtful anyone would pick up that bill.

**Question:** Will there be a second series of *What We Do In The Shadows*? I just loved that show and laughed out loud in spite of watching it by myself! Sure hope so.— Betty

**Matt Roush:** I was laughing right there with you, and I’m delighted to confirm that FX did renew this inspired and hilarious vampire comedy (that was adapted from the 2014 movie of the same name but with a new cast) for a second season. It’s one of my absolute favorite new shows of this year.

To submit questions to TV Critic Matt Roush, go to: [tvinsider.com](http://tvinsider.com) ★

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# Building Character Through Football



(Left to right) Playmakers founder Coach Roz, Harrison Phillips of the Buffalo Bills, and Jordan Richards of the Oakland Raiders use football to teach kids about character.



(Above Top) NFL players Harrison Phillips and Jordan Richards introduce kids to the Playmakers football camp held on June 15 at El Camino High School. (Above) A player runs across the field to catch a pass from NFL player Harrison Phillips.

## Story and photos by Shaunna Boyd

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - On June 15, The Playmakers Organization held a free one-day Football Camp at El Camino High School. The Playmakers Organization, founded by Greg “Coach Roz” Roeszler, is a local non-profit that provides free “Character Academy” camps for local youth.

Joe Bodnar and Joe Simeone are long-time friends of Coach Roz, and they support the Playmakers mission by volunteering at the Character Academy Football Camps. Bodnar said, “It introduces the

kids to the sport. It gives them a self-esteem boost; they get to be in the spotlight.”

Someone explained, “The sport is the platform to talk about character. It provides an opportunity to ask kids, ‘What are you doing off the field? What are you doing in the classroom?’” The Playmakers’ programs focus on reaching at-risk and special needs kids, and Simeone said the kids often go on to become mentors to younger participants, taking on leadership roles in the program.

Playmakers board member Bill Hutto described why he got involved in the organization: “My heart is with at-risk youth, and

Playmakers does a lot for these kids.” After retiring from a career in the California Department of Corrections, Hutto knows how important it is to provide at-risk kids with early intervention to keep them out of the prison system. “Giving them the opportunity to build their confidence and learn positive attitudes at a young age helps them become productive citizens,” said Hutto.

Harrison Phillips, NFL defensive tackle with the Buffalo Bills, helped host the football camp. “This is a really cool initiative,” said Phillips. “I’m happy to come out and unite a lot of different people through sports;

it’s amazing the power of the sport to bring people together. It’s about teaching these kids character, team building, and working together — all the positive attributes of this sport that these kids might not get a chance to experience without this program.”

NFL player Jordan Richards played football at Folsom High School and college football at Stanford before playing with the New England Patriots, the Atlanta Falcons, and recently signing with the Oakland Raiders. Richards has been involved in Playmakers since he was 13, attending Playmakers football camps as a teen.

“I didn’t know it at the time, but the lessons I learned here — who I am as I person, who I am as a man — I learned through the game. I’m so thankful for the time I had growing up with Coach Roz.”

Richards met Phillips at Stanford and recruited him to become a Playmakers sponsor. Richards said, “In a way, we grew up together — and we still encourage each other.” Richards spoke of the bonds of friendship created through football, explaining it as “the guys who helped build me, and I helped build them.”

Richards, Phillips, and numerous volunteers (including students from

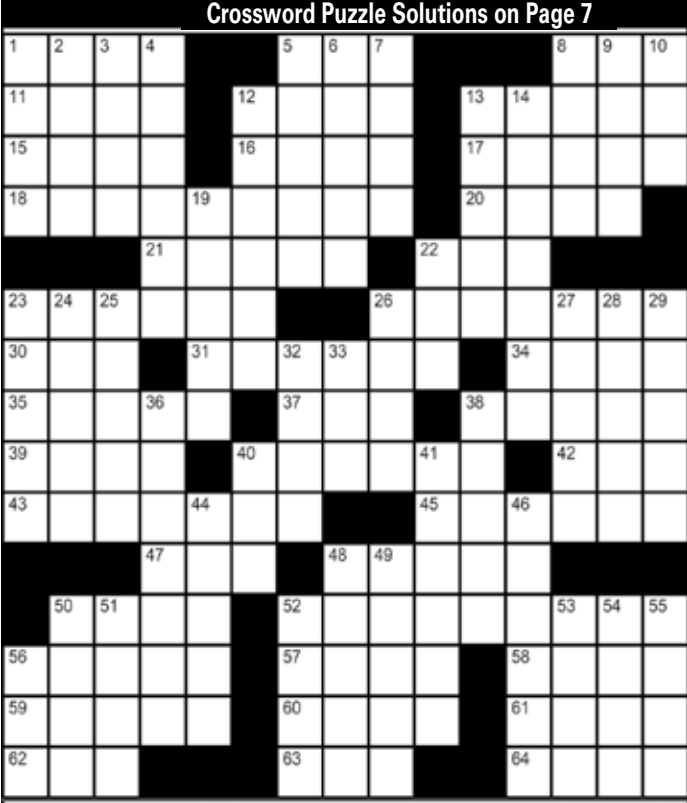
local high schools El Camino, Rio Americano, Western Sierra, and Mira Loma) ran a series of football drills with the Playmakers kids. Coach Roz is grateful to have the support of Richards and Phillips: “These guys contribute so much to the organization, not just financially, but by taking the time to show up.”

“The growth you get from this game really does last a lifetime,” said Richards. “Football taught me a lot about life, and a lot about myself. It takes a lot of people to make a team. It’s a family.” He urged the kids to take advantage of this opportunity: “Be a part of all this. It truly is special.” ★

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • THE 4TH OF JULY

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
1. Reproductive cell
  5. Tai’s partner
  8. At the stern
  11. Do like phoenix
  12. Person of French descent
  13. It can’t be refused?
  15. Hand-to-hand combat weapon
  16. Sty sound
  17. Justin Bieber’s 2015 hit
  18. \*Pyrotechnic display
  20. De-wrinkler
  21. Expression of delight
  22. \*O say can you \_\_\_\_
  23. \*One of three presidents who died on July 4
  26. Gloria Gaynor’s “I Will \_\_\_\_
  30. Turkish military leader
  31. With complex decorations
  34. Biblical place of bliss
  35. Economic crisis
  37. South American tuber
  38. Gladiator’s turf
  39. Serum, pl.
  40. Stellar
  42. Humpty Dumpty did this
  43. \*Jeopardy\* competitor, e.g.
  45. Blotch or dapple
  47. 34th Pres.
  48. Unmanned flyer
  50. MXN, as in currency
  52. \*British monarch
  56. \* \_\_\_\_ Burr, officer in Revolutionary War and VP
  57. Aquarium dweller
  58. Of two minds
  59. \*Puts John Hancock down
  60. Log splitter
  61. Arrival times
  62. Plays for pay
  63. Ball in a socket
  64. “ \_\_\_\_ and rave”

- DOWN**
1. \_\_\_\_ Approach in music education
  2. The last Henry Tudor
  3. Soviet acronym
  4. Shooting star
  5. Capital of Egypt
  6. \_\_\_\_-dory
  7. Varieties
  8. 70s hairdo
  9. “Where the Red \_\_\_\_ Grows”
  10. “Don’t \_\_\_\_ this at home!”
  12. Pyle of “The Andy Griffith Show”
  13. Willow twig
  14. \*The Stars and Stripes \_\_\_\_
  17. What pertussis patients do
  22. Johnny Cash’s boy with unfortunate name
  23. En \_\_\_\_ or all together
  24. Watcher
  25. a.k.a. Pleasant Island
  26. \*State on Old Glory
  27. “That is,” Latin
  28. Like bribe-taking politician
  29. Related on mother’s side
  32. Narrow margin of victory
  33. \*Stamp \_\_\_\_ imposed tax on American colonies
  36. \*One of two Presidents to sign the Constitution
  38. “ \_\_\_\_ came a spider...”
  40. Gobbled up
  41. Like libertine
  44. Venerated paintings in Orthodox church
  46. \_\_\_\_-totter
  48. Unpleasant airport news
  49. One in Pinkerton’s gallery
  50. Twosome
  51. René Descartes’ “therefore”
  52. Hunted animal
  53. Itty-bitty bit
  54. Persian Gulf country
  55. Research facil.
  56. Pharaoh’s cobra



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**Solutions on Page 7**

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By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

Years ago when I began my search to know, love God and follow Him a short chorus penetrated my heart and periodically returns to my memory. The words hold significant meaning in the prayer of my heart that has not changed in nearly fifty years.

Here they are:  
“To be used of God, to sing to speak, to pray To be used of God to show someone the way. I long so much to feel the touch of His embrace To be used of God is my desire this day.”

The privilege of “writing for God” is an adventure into “writing with God” that takes one into experiencing His very presence and hearing a profound voice within the soul. It far exceeds any ideas, vocabulary words and phrases common to this writer. Humbly, it is like having the Spirit of God, living within as a believer and hearing His voice speak to and through us as we write. Our writing no longer becomes just our

To Be Used Of God Is What I Pray

message, but His message of love He wishes to convey to the world.  
We may paint the words on paper, but we are full aware what we have been honored to use pen on paper that is truly something beyond ourselves. We write it out in obedience, with a grateful heart. He allows us to gracefully place the word author after our name, but we know God is the true author. Our prayer is that the words will bring honor and glory to God who deserves them.  
The closest I can relate it to is listening to a minister of God’s Word teach and preach the Word with profound clarity. Listening to the message the minister is filled with God’s Holy Spirit and acutely aware God is using him to speak directly to the needs of someone’s heart. His message clearly moves in hearts of the hearers to make changes in their lives to become more like Jesus Christ in their daily walk. Possibly some people come forward for prayer at the altar call. Even the Pastor himself is amazed at the words that flowed from his lips as he used the authoritative scriptures he had studied and prayed over as the power of God moved within him in new and fresh way to reach the people. He was humbled by the experience!

And isn’t that what all of us who have the Lord and serve Him desire to experience? To touch a heart that is ready to make the most

important decision of their life by accepting God’s Beloved Son as their personal Savior and Lord of their lives? Receiving the gift of eternal life and having a peace within that surpasses anything they have ever known! To be a witness of someone’s personal surrender and commitment of their lives to a life of obedience, following the teachings set forth for all of us in the Holy Bible. We, along with the angels of God rejoice in seeing someone being transformed as one willingly submits to God’s Word by the renewing of their mind. What an honor and privilege we have to reach and touch a life, so they might ultimately experience the abundant life promised by God.  
“Writing for God” we learn there is no beginning and no end. He always was and He will always be! The One we call God has many names and His names most always refer to something He did or does in relations to His Sovereign Design and Will.  
His Name is God. He IS Wonderful, counselor, Jehovah, Father, Mighty King, Almighty, Master, Creator, Friend, Lord, Yahweh, Messiah, Living Word, Alpha and Omega and so much more!

Marlys Johnsen Norris  
Author, Stephens Minister, Teacher  
Marlysjn@gmail.com  
PO Box 114, Orangevale, Ca ★



By Pastor Ray Dare

God knows everything about you. He’s intimately acquainted with you. First God knows all your feelings and frustrations. Maybe you’re hurting. Maybe you have been saying, “No one understands me.” God understands you completely. He sees your hurt. He has recorded every tear; He has kept them in a bottle. Every time you cried yourself to sleep, He has seen it. He loves you and He’s very much aware of all that has happened in your life. That means you can look to Him for comfort and look to Him for strength.  
God knows your future. He’s already been there. He knows the end from the beginning. Nothing will catch Him by surprise. If you’re married, one day one of you is going to die first. One of us will lose a mate first, we’ll lose our partner.

Pastor Ray's Encouraging Words

What God Knows About You

That can be an incredibly devastating time. The fact is, God already knows when it’s going to happen, and God is preparing already for that event. God knows all about your future, so you ask Him for wisdom and guidance.  
God knows your worries. What are you afraid of? Are you afraid of a health issue? Are you afraid that your needs will not be met? The Bible says your Heavenly Father knows. He knows what you need. And He will take care of you. Instead of worrying, start trusting; instead of panicking, pray. He knows your needs.  
God knows all your faithfulness. Are you discouraged by trying to do what’s right? You think, “I’ve been trying to do what the Bible says but I don’t know if it’s paying off and I don’t think anybody appreciates it!” God appreciates it and He will reward you. He sees your faithfulness and He’s the one who counts. God sees it all, so keep on serving, keep on being faithful and he will reward you.  
The most amazing thing in life is this; God knows

about our faults and failures and He still loves you. “My sins, O God, are not hidden from you; you know how foolish I have been.” Ps. 69:5 (GN) Our job is to admit our sins to ourselves and to God -- come clean – I ask God to forgive us. Remember that He already knows about it and He still loves you. So when you admit it to Him it’s not going to change the way He feels about you. That’s called grace! So, there’s nothing to hide; you can always be honest with God.  
Nobody knows you like God does. He knows you better than you know yourself. And nobody loves you like God does, so you don’t have to worry about your future; God already knows it and He’s going to take care of you. Give your worries to God today. Continue serving Him and doing the right thing because He sees it all and one day will reward you.  
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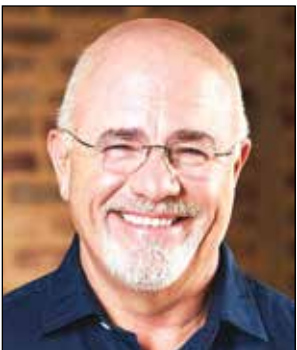
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Budget Billing for Utilities?

Dear Dave,  
I’m just starting my debt-free journey and trying to lay out a budget. What are your thoughts on budget billing for utilities? –Ryan  
Dear Ryan,  
I think it’s wonderful! There’s absolutely nothing wrong with it at all. For a lot of folks, especially those in your situation, it helps smooth out utility payments and make them a little more manageable.  
In most budget billing scenarios, they add up your utility bill for the last 12 months and divide that total by twelve to determine a fixed billing amount for the next twelve months. It can make things so much easier when you’re first starting to

Dave Ramsey Says

live on a budget, and you don’t have a lot of wiggle room where your finances are concerned.  
I’m glad you’re taking steps to get control of your money, Ryan. You can do this! –Dave  
Emergency Fund for Business?  
Dear Dave,  
I have my own small business. My annual sales are just over \$100,000, and I have a couple of months in administrative and general expenses set aside. Should I have an emergency fund for my company, too? If so, how much? –Taylor  
Dear Taylor,  
This is a great question! I like the idea of a small business having six months of expenses set aside in an emergency fund. A financial cushion like that provides peace of mind and options. Also, it eliminates the need for borrowing money. With that kind of cash sitting around, you basically become your own line of

credit.  
When it comes to personal finance, I usually recommend setting aside an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses—depending on a person’s overall financial condition. But the basic idea is the same, regardless of whether you’re talking about personal finance or the financial health of your small business.  
An entrepreneur has enough to worry about on a day-to-day basis. Having a fully-funded emergency fund for your business can turn a disaster into nothing more than a minor inconvenience! –Dave  
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. ★

### Find Puzzles on Page 6

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# Capitol Pops Concert Band Celebrates America's Birthday

By Linda Glover,  
Capitol Pops Concert Band

**FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG)** - The Capitol Pops Concert Band will celebrate America's 243rd birthday and continue its 23rd season with a pair of free and open to the public, family-friendly concerts during Independence Day week.

The band will get things going with a spirited "Celebrate America" concert from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, June 30, 2019, at Fair Oaks Village Park, 4238 Main St., in Fair Oaks.

On Thursday, July 4, 2019, the Capitol Pops once again will perform its outdoor Fourth of July concert, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Royer Park, 190 Park Drive, in Roseville. The band's annual performance is part of a full day of red, white and blue festivities, including a morning parade in Roseville. This concert is sponsored by Performing Arts of Roseville as part of its 2019 Roseville Music in the Park series.

Under the baton of Director Judith Steinle,

both Capitol Pops concerts will include a mix of fresh pops tunes, some of the band's traditional American popular standards and familiar patriotic selections celebrating the nation's founding in 1776. The concerts also will include music recognizing service veterans and branches of the U.S. military. Both shows will include intermissions of about 15 minutes.

Concert-goers are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs and refreshments to enjoy the performances on the grounds of both venues. Various vendors will be at both sites.

Started in 1997, the Capitol Pops Concert Band has performed a diverse portfolio of high-quality, well-prepared music heard by thousands of concert-goers throughout Northern California. Based in Citrus Heights, the self-supporting, nonprofit community band of about 50 musicians represents a wide cross-section of the Sacramento area.

For more details on the Capitol Pops Concert Band, visit its Facebook page or [www.capitolpops.org](http://www.capitolpops.org). ★



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## POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

### True Declaration

Thought we'd have some fun with a bunch of 'did you know's' about the Declaration of Independence since July 4 th is just around the corner. These are some fun facts I learned about the document that spells out what our country is all about. So let's get going with a fact that most people never think about when they are going to parades and having those tasty picnics like... the Declaration was signed on July 4, 1776, right? Not really. Independence was formally declared on July 2, 1776. The Continental Congress approved the final text on July 4 and it was not signed til August 2, 1776. Remember the thirteen colonies did not have rapid transit to get back to do their thing.

Now, I did not know that there was a five-man committee approved by the Continental Congress to pull it all together...made up of Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Robert Livingston

and Roger Sherman. Was I living in another country? Robert Livingston and Roger Sherman never rang my bell. But facts are facts. And here's one. Robert Livingston never signed the Declaration. He believed it was too soon to declare independence and just refused to sign.

Of course EVERYONE knows about Thomas Jefferson. He wrote the first draft. You'd think he was a genius and nothing else needed to be done. Oh contraire. Other members of the committee and the Continental Congress made 86 changes to Jefferson's draft and reduced the length of it by a fourth. Was he happy? No way! He had included language condemning the British promotion of slave trade (even though he himself was a slave owner). This criticism of slave trade was removed in spite of Jefferson's objections.

Now I have always wondered how Jefferson came up with this incredible document. It seems that he drew upon two sources. One was his own draft of a preamble to the Virginia constitution and George Mason's draft of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. That's another name

not in my history mind. On December 13, 1952 the Declaration of Independence (along with the Constitution and Bill of Rights) was formally delivered to the National Archives in Washington,D.C. where it has remained since then. And I thought this was very ironic. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826, the 50 th anniversary of the approval of the Declaration of Independence. They had done their job! And there were these immortal words uttered by John Adams about this special date. He believed this date would be "the most memorable epocha in the history of America."

So when you are out with family and friends on this FUN day, please take a moment to think about what this document means to us 243 years later. It gives us the freedoms we take for granted, and what our forefathers and foremothers too, sacrificed so we could enjoy all these freedoms. They put their lives in jeopardy so that we, the future generations, could enjoy the lives we live today!

**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!!!!** ★

## County Receives Grants For Two Housing Sites

By Janna Haynes,  
Sacramento County

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento County is pleased to announce that funding for two proposed permanent supportive housing developments for persons experiencing homelessness has been awarded by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The No Place Like Home (NPLH) program funding, totaling nearly \$13 million in new money for Sacramento, will provide permanent housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and who are living with a serious mental illness.

Sacramento County's successful applications in the State's first competitive funding round were the result of a collaborative effort with the development sponsors, the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, and the cities where the developments are located.

The two new housing facilities, Sunrise Pointe and Capitol Park Hotel, will result in 180 new housing units for persons experiencing homelessness, 87 of which will be dedicated for persons that also have a serious mental health illness and need services (designated NPLH units). Sacramento County Division of Behavioral Health Services has committed to providing mental health treatment services to the designated NPLH units for a minimum of 20 years. "This is a priority for Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services. Investing in permanent, stable housing is critical for our consumers' recovery," said Ryan Quist, Ph.D., Sacramento County Behavioral Health Director.

Sunrise Pointe is a new construction project located at 7424 Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights and consists of 47 one- two- and three-bedroom units. Of these, 22 will be designated NPLH units. All units will serve families and individuals experiencing homelessness. The site will be developed and operated by Jamboree Housing and Hope Cooperative (aka TLCS, Inc.) respectively.

"We are grateful for No Place Like Home funding to support this important project in the Citrus Heights community," said Erin Johansen, Hope Cooperative executive director. "Sunrise Pointe is a collaboration between Hope Cooperative and Jamboree Housing that will provide 47-units of much-needed permanent, stable housing for individuals and families in need. Hope Cooperative will provide on-site Residential Service Coordinators who will work closely with residents in accessing a variety of resources including job training, budgeting and other needed services, as well as an on-site property manager. This project will help people live successfully in the community and is an essential step in ending the cycle of homelessness in the Sacramento region."

"Jamboree has a long, rich history of effectively utilizing new state resources in order to create more affordable and supportive housing," said Laura Archuleta, President and CEO of Jamboree Housing Corporation. "We are thrilled to have successfully partnered with Sacramento County and

recovery," said Ryan Quist, Ph.D., Sacramento County Behavioral Health Director.

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Hope Cooperative in securing more than \$3 million from the new No Place Like Home program for the development of Sunrise Pointe. This funding will be instrumental in addressing the region's affordable and supportive housing needs, and will positively transform and strengthen the Citrus Heights community for years to come."

Capitol Park Hotel is a rehabilitation project located at 1125 9th Street in downtown Sacramento. This development will be an acquisition and rehabilitation of a historic building and will include 134 units for households experiencing homelessness. Of these, 65 will be designated NPLH units. The site will be developed and operated by Mercy Housing California (MHC).

"We are thrilled with the huge step the proposed permanent supportive housing at Capitol Park Hotel has taken this week with the award from HCD," said Stephen Daves, Regional Director of Mercy Housing California. "We have a lot of work remaining, but this provides the momentum needed to secure the remaining funding."

"The Courtyard Inn transformation is well underway and only delayed by one month after enduring the heavy spring rains and the many surprises that come with striping the building down to the studs." Daves says, "The rebuilding stage is now underway and handing over keys to the new apartment homes for 92 formerly homeless households is well within sight."

Source: Sacramento County Media ★

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**July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
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**North Highlands Park and Recreation**  
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By County Supervisor Sue Frost

Through the generosity of the *Citrus Heights Messenger*, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the community of Citrus Heights.

One of the more common reasons that people call my office is to plead for help in getting junky/abandoned vehicles removed from their neighborhood. People will purchase cars/RVs in horrible condition for extremely cheap, run them into the ground, then leave them to rot on a residential street. Many decide to use that broken-down vehicle as their home. They know the County of Sacramento and City of Citrus Heights cannot legally tow a vehicle unless it has been stationary for over 72 hours, so they drive the vehicle (or tow if non-operational) a few feet down the road to restart the 72 hours. This is a practice that angers residents, reduces available parking spaces, and greatly adds to the amount of blight.

So imagine my surprise when I found out recently that there is a bill (AB 516) swiftly moving through the California Legislature that would eliminate the enforcement tools Sacramento County and Citrus Heights

## Citrus Heights Community Update

### Towing Away Local Control

uses to address these motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit the entire community. Specifically, it removes our ability to tow a vehicle for being stationary for 72+ hours, in addition to removing our ability to tow for having 5+ parking tickets or registration that has been expired for 6+ If passed, this will allow people to live in front of homes and businesses in our neighborhood, in unregistered vehicles with unpaid tickets and expired registration, for as long as they want. I am staunchly opposed to this proposal, and will be doing everything in my power to stop it.

I have heard from some constituents who tell me they believe the 72-hour window is a bit too short, and unsuspecting residents may be getting unfairly penalized. But the 72-hour parking enforcement notice is almost always triggered by a complaint from a local resident or business when cars appear abandoned or haven't moved for an extended period of time. By the time the County and City responds and issues the 72-hour notice, the vehicle has already been abandoned there for days, if not weeks.

I do recognize that this bill would provide some financial relief to an individual who chronically ignores parking violations, but I strongly feel that benefit is far outweighed by the cost it has to the greater good of the community. It is extremely frustrating to get a ticket or have your

car impounded, but it is also frustrating for communities when they have to deal with increased blight.

I am also upset with the message this law would send, as it rewards people who fail to adhere to reasonable policies aimed at keeping our communities clean and safe. This is a worrying trend that is happening in California, where we seem to be rewarding bad behavior. I not only find this morally wrong, but I also believe it encourages more of this type of behavior in the future, greatly exacerbating the problem.

The AB 516 has already passed through the Assembly, but still has to be passed in the Senate, where I think it has a much harder time getting passed. I am working at getting Sacramento County to formally oppose the bill, and will be speaking with the Senators who overlap with my district about why they should oppose the bill as well. I will keep you updated later in the year when I have more information.

Thank you for reading – and as always, if you want to contact me call me at 916-874-5491, or e-mail me at SupervisorFrost@saccounty.net.

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

# State of the City is Solid

Continued from page 1  
money becomes available. “The business community,” said Bruins, responded overwhelmingly to the improvements, forming new business partnerships, beautifying properties” that once lined what she said had been “dubbed the ugliest street in the region.”

The quality of business and of residential life is strong. The city’s three annual curbside pick-ups are followed by street sweeping, aiding in beautifying the city.

“Hats off to General Services,” she said.

“Crime is down 11% since 2018, the largest drop yet,” she said. The small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (sUAV) is a drone program used by Citrus Heights Police Department and is expanding. Lt. Chad Morris has helped the city fight crime and use technology to engage the community. “When we catch a bad guy,” she said, “a notice is sent to the 16,000 subscribers on NextDoor.”

She cited AB516, a bill authored by Assembly members David Chiu (17th District) and Miguel Santiago (53rd District) that seeks to amend the California Vehicle

Code to curb any jurisdiction’s ability to tow vehicles, as dangerous, saying that law enforcement will lose the ability to remove vehicles parked for any amount of time.

“Read the bill, then let your opinion be known to your legislators,” she stated.

Bruins is excited about the city’s economic development which brought in 400 new businesses since June 2018 including Pizza Rev, a Big Lots, and a new entertainment center. A lot at Sylvan Corners is being acquired by the city. The property is centrally located and offers developers great possibilities.

Among new businesses opening in 2019 is the three story high Dignity Medical Center at Greenback Lane and Fountain Square Drive. The business met with community members and incorporated many suggestions into its plan. The 68,000 square foot center will offer services for allergy, rheumatology, ophthalmology, geriatrics, pediatrics, family medicine, and more. It is scheduled to open in fall.

Other topics Bruins covered included the change to district wide elections

in 2020 and a public safety partnership with Mesa Verde School. The program has placed ten interns who work in the police department while taking classes.

“We’re very proud and very excited,” she said, hoping that many will continue the path of law enforcement.

“The homeless count is down to 163 from 200 in 2018. During April, when other cities count homeless individuals on a single day, Citrus Heights counts individuals daily. “The count does not,” she said, “include individuals who might be couch surfing.” Schools estimate approximately 800 students are homeless but not on the streets.

“Our model has been so successful we are taking it to other locations,” she said about the city’s navigator program and HART.

Sunrise Mall was another topic of concern that needs a master plan in order to keep it a mall for Citrus Heights and not a mall envisioned by owners in New York. Several businesses, including Macy’s, Sears, and JC Penney, own their buildings and property.

“We want something that will be sustainable,” she said. ★

## Former Councilman Mel Turner Honored with New Street Name

Continued from page 1  
California Division said since Turner had been a part of the planning of Mariposa Creek from its inception, the honor only seemed fitting. ‘It is something planned (a street), part of a community, a place where people live.’ Carrying

on this vision of family for the people of his city is what Turner was all about.

Turner passed away April 20, 2017 from pancreatic cancer at the age of 67. He joined the city council in 2010, served a term as mayor from

2013 to 2014. He was re-elected to the council for a four-year term, passing away one year short of its completion.

For information on homes available go to [www.wattcommunities.com](http://www.wattcommunities.com). ★



GetWellness Center held their 6 Year Anniversary ribbon cutting on April 29. They are located at 7601 Sunrise Blvd., Suite 8, in Citrus Heights. Owners Mike Potter and Deidre Moore Belfiore cut the ribbon. Attendees include representatives from the Citrus Heights Chamber, City of Citrus Heights, and SMUD.



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# Hot Fireworks Season in Store for Area

By David Dickstein

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and ... crazy bugs?

If TNT Fireworks has its way this Fourth of July, area revelers will embrace cracked creepy-crawlies as a new symbol of Americana for the nation's 243rd birthday. Crazy Bug Fountain is one of nine fireworks debuting this season by the two largest distributors of consumer fireworks.

The pyro-passionate period runs June 28 through July 4 in Sacramento County. Roseville, Rocklin and Lincoln in Placer County are also among the 295 jurisdictions that allow consumer fireworks in the Golden State.

TNT is rolling out a handful of new fountains in addition to Crazy Bug, which, despite its name, shows promise as a sane addition to your private display. Priced at \$29.99, the fun-labeled firework features a multi-effect performance of colorful sparks and crackling flowers. Rounding out TNT's newbies are crackle-charged Laser Master, \$24.99; effect-loaded Freedom, \$19.99; colorful Main Squeeze, \$14.99; whistle-happy Hot Point, \$14.99; and spaced-out USA Rocket Fountain, a buy-one-get-one for \$8.99.

Phantom Fireworks is coming out with three new fountains this season. Sold as a



State-approved fireworks of all shapes, sizes and price points are a big fund-raiser for area non-profits from June 28 through the Fourth of July. Photo: David Dickstein.

bundle for \$39.99, the trio makes up Phantom's newly branded "Super Hero Series," not to be confused with superhero The Phantom. Each has a different shape and name, and valiant sounding they are: Professor Flame, Iron Master and Majestic Lightning.

Returning from last year's impressive freshman class are Phantom's delightful Red White & Blue Jubilee (\$25.99) and long-lasting Illuminati Triangle, still a solid deal at \$39.99 with a Brew Haha or Dragon's Tears fountain thrown in. TNT's response is an exceptionally strong sophomore lineup, headlined by the dazzling Tasmanian

Cyclone (\$39.99), super-charged Wild Side (\$25.99) and intense Electrolytes (\$29.99 for two).

A third player, Discount Fireworks Superstore, will have a few stands in the area. Brands carried by DFS include Winda, Black Cat, Showtime, Brothers and Freedom.

Because state-approved consumer fireworks can only be sold in California by non-profit organizations, hundreds of the county's 501c3s are banking on big profits from pyrotechnics peddled to the patriotic and philanthropic. Volunteers will be braving the summer heat to do such good as sending kids to church

camp, suiting up youth sports teams and getting adolescents off drugs.

Working in the groups' favor this year is the day on which the Fourth of July falls. A Thursday Independence Day is a friend to the fireworks industry, contrary to a Wednesday which is traditionally a one-day holiday for America's workforce. U.S. resellers generally reported flat sales in 2018 due to the hump day holiday.

"Thursday is a great day for the Fourth of July," said Cathy Castilone, Sacramento-based vice president of American Promotional Events, the wholesale distributor for state-approved TNT fireworks. "Many people take the next day off when the fourth is on a Thursday."

The competition concurs. Jeff Kremen, Phantom's Northern California regional manager, said he expects sales to increase from last year.

"A lot of companies will give employees Friday off, and when the Fourth falls on a four-day weekend sales are good," said Kremen, also based in Sacramento.

Be sure to check local laws and take all safety measures before buying and lighting.

For stand locations, visit the websites for TNT ([www.tntfireworks.com](http://www.tntfireworks.com)), Phantom ([www.fireworks.com](http://www.fireworks.com)) and Discount Fireworks Superstore ([www.dfsfireworks.com](http://www.dfsfireworks.com)). ★



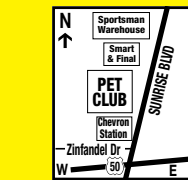
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