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Citrus Heights Messenger

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SacRT Earns Security 'Gold Standard Award'



The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) honored the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) with the prestigious Gold Standard Award. The Gold Standard Award is the top recognition TSA can give to a transit agency for achieving top scores during an annual review of 17 categories of security and emergency preparedness elements. Photos courtesy of SacRT

By Jessica Gonzalez
Sacramento Regional Transit

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) honored the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) with the prestigious Gold Standard Award at a meeting of the transit agency's Board of Directors meeting last week. TSA Federal Security Director Sid Hanna presented the award to SacRT's General Manager/CEO Henry Li.

The Gold Standard Award is the top recognition TSA can give to a transit agency for achieving top scores during an annual review of 17 categories of security and emergency preparedness elements. The review evaluates several aspects of a transit agency's operations including: the security plan; security training; drills and exercise programs; public outreach efforts; and background check processes.

"SacRT's designation as a Gold Standard Award winner puts the agency in the top tier of transit agencies, recognizing its hard work and unwavering commitment to security," said Sid Hanna, TSA Federal Security Director in Sacramento. "TSA looks forward to a continued partnership with SacRT and applauds its continued focus on the security of its customers."

"The safety and security of our passengers and employees is our top priority every day," said Henry Li, SacRT General Manager/CEO. "We are honored to have been recognized for our work and we will continue to strive for the highest level of excellence in the years to come."

"I applaud SacRT for prioritizing safety and security in recent years during their historic transformation," Congresswoman Doris Matsui said. "The TSA Gold Standard Award is recognition for implementing best in industry security practices and for emphasizing the customer experience first."

"I am delighted that SacRT is being recognized for its commitment to transit security and emergency preparedness," said Congressman Ami Bera. "This prestigious award reflects SacRT's implementation of security programs that benefit the Sacramento community."

TSA has oversight of 6,800 public transit agencies in the country. Every year the TSA assesses a select number of transit agencies nationwide for evaluation through its Baseline for Security Enhancement (BASE) program. A select few achieve scores high enough to receive the Gold Standard Award.

In the most recent round of BASE

evaluations, TSA reviewed 92 transit agencies. SacRT scored an exceptional 98% on its assessment. This is the first time SacRT has earned the Gold Standard Award.

SacRT operates approximately 70 bus routes, including fixed-route, dial-a-ride and microtransit, 43 miles of light rail and ADA paratransit services. It serves a 400-square mile area throughout Sacramento County, which includes service in the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Rancho Cordova and Elk Grove. Sacramento buses and light rail trains operate 365 days a year. SacRT's entire bus and light rail system is accessible to the disabled community.

SacRT was one of seven transit agencies nationwide to be honored with the award during the most recent evaluation phase.

Other agencies that received the Gold Standard Award are North County Transit District in North County San Diego, Calif.; Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority in Pinellas County, Fla.; Denver Regional Transportation District in Denver, Colo.; MetroLink St. Louis in St. Louis, Mo.; Regional Transportation Commission Washoe in Reno, Nev.; and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority in Washington, D.C. ★

State Capitol
Museum to
Present 1906
Earthquake Living
History Day



By Traci Rockefeller
Cusack

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association (CSCMVA) is proud to present a compelling 1906 Earthquake Living History Day on Sunday, April 28, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Free to the public, this interpretive Living History event is designed to re-enact some little known events connected to what is known as California's "Big One" - the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire.

For one day only, each year, the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association invites the community to step back in time to revisit the earth-moving experience and learn from the past. Visitors to the California State Capitol Museum will be surrounded by docents in period attire as they re-create the memorable scenes of the recovery efforts.

Some key moments in time include local dignitaries as they assisted refugees - many of whom camped out on the Capitol grounds or at Sutter's Fort - and Sacramento women as they aided Bay Area families in need by providing meal tickets, clothing and blankets. And, guests will be close-at-hand when then-California Governor George Pardee receives an important telegram - not a text, email or phone call - from President Theodore Roosevelt offering a staggering sum of \$1 million for disaster relief.

For more information about this special event as well as other programs offered by the California State Capitol Museum & the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, please contact the California State Capitol Museum at 916-324-0333 or visit www.capitolmuseum.ca.gov.

The California State Capitol Museum is operated by California State Parks. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for guided and self-guided tours of the Capitol Building and its extensive outdoor gardens, the Museum is located in the California State Capitol in downtown Sacramento on 10th Street between L and N Streets. Admission is free.

Photo courtesy of the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association. ★

Rotary Funds Training to Prevent Human Trafficking

Story by Shaunna Boyd

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry and is the fast-growing criminal activity in the world. California has the highest volume of sex trafficking, and the Sacramento region is a hotbed for trafficking in the United States.

The local Rotary District 5180 has undertaken a large-scale campaign to combat the issue of human trafficking in the Sacramento Region.

Rotary members Brian



District 5180 raised more than \$383,000 in grant funding to educate youth and the general public about the risks of human trafficking. MPG File photo.

Gladden and Bob Deering (former District Governor) initiated the project more

than three years ago. Through their research, they discovered that

education is the key to preventing human trafficking.

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Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car Available for Free Tours

**By Traci Rockefeller
Cusack**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)
- As part of a series of special events, activities and exhibits designed to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, the California State Railroad Museum & Foundation proudly invite the community to Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car that will be on display Friday, April 19 through Monday, April 22, 2019.

Free public tours will be available each day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. inside the visually-exciting rail car on display at Old Sacramento State Historic Park.

The *Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car* is a new, multi-media walk-through exhibition that provides a glimpse at the past while telling the story of modern-day railroading. Through sound, images and interactive technology, visitors will see how Union Pacific is building America in their communities and throughout the world. The *Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car* is part of Union Pacific's historic Heritage passenger rail car fleet going on a multi-stop tour that begins in Sacramento followed by a stop in Roseville before moving on to Sparks, Nevada and Ogden, Utah.

After entering the converted baggage car, guests will first learn about the investment, hard work and knowledge that went into building the Transcontinental Railroad. Moving forward along one



Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car is a new, multi-media walk-through exhibition that provides a glimpse at the past while telling the story of modern-day railroading.

wall they'll learn about the evolution of the locomotive, beginning with the world-famous UP No. 119 and leading to the modern-day diesel powerhouses. On the opposite wall, rail fans will trace how fresh apples are delivered from California and Washington to New York and understand every aspect of rail operations and innovation along the way. Next, exciting interactive technology will show how Union Pacific is using lasers, cameras and other detection devices to accurately inspect moving rail cars and railroad track. Guests will even be able to test their skills to see how they measure up as rail car inspectors. Before exiting, visitors will be able to communicate how they connect to the railroad using high-tech thermal reactive tiles. A final display celebrates the history of Union Pacific's Passenger Heritage Fleet through vintage photos.

For more information about the Experience the Union Pacific Rail Car including stops and tour hours, please visit <https://www.unionpac.com/experience>

www.up.com/heritage/experience-up/index.html

For more details and updated information about events, activities and exhibits presented by the California State Railroad Museum & Foundation, please visit www.Railroad150.org; for more information about the Museum or Foundation visit www.californiarailroad.museum; and for more information about Waterfront Days happening over Memorial Day Weekend, please visit www.oldsacramento.com

The mission of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation (CSRMF) is to generate revenue and awareness on behalf of its destinations, while supporting the preservation, interpretation and promotion of our railroad heritage. The Foundation provides funding for ongoing support of numerous programs, both at the museum's Old Sacramento location and at the historic park in Jamestown, Calif. For more information, please visit www.californiarailroad.museum. ★

Providing a SAFE Space for Sacramento County Youth

**By Andrea Hansen,
Sacramento County**

SACRAMENTO COUNTY (MPG)
- To reduce the stress and trauma experienced by children who are victims of sexual abuse and violent crimes, Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services; local law enforcement agencies; and the District Attorney's Office team up at the Sacramento County Special Assault Forensic Evaluation (SAFE) Center.

The SAFE Center is an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance and provides a safe and comfortable place for a child to be interviewed by a specially trained social worker, called a Forensic Interview Specialist.

"The SAFE Center conducts a thorough forensic interview in the least intrusive way possible, and the child only has to be interviewed once, rather than being questioned multiple times by different agencies," said Michelle Callejas, Sacramento County Director of Child, Family and Adult Services. "Since the Center opened in 1991, we have conducted 12,000 interviews and last year alone we provided a safe space for over 350 children and youth."

To reduce the stress on the child, the Forensic Interviewer is the only other person present in the room during the interview. The Forensic Interviewers have many hours of specialized training and years of experience talking with children about difficult subjects. They also use interviewing techniques that preserve the integrity of the investigation. The interviews



The Safe Team from left to right Darla Garcia, Faith Whitmore, Darby Geller, Sarah Leatherby and Kandyce Seely.

are conducted in a room with a one-way mirror so law enforcement, the District Attorney's office and Child Protective Services staff can observe.

The SAFE Center interviews are an efficient way to investigate child abuse cases and are core to identifying new leads and gathering evidence in a case. Although the interviews cannot be used in lieu of testimony and children may still have to testify in court, this approach greatly reduces the trauma of having to repeatedly talk about the abuse they have endured.

The SAFE Center moved in February of 2018 to 3701 Power Inn Road to join services and co-locate with the Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center. The co-location has enabled the SAFE Center and the Department's Adult Protective Services program to have a stronger working relationship with the Family Justice Center in serving the community.

"We could not be more excited about our new location and collaboration with the Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center," said Darby Geller, SAFE Center Director. The Center now acts as a multifunctional place for families to receive services

pertaining to abuse, counseling, safety planning and so much more. I'm proud to see how the program continues to grow, evolve and become such an important asset to the community."

The partnership with Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center allows the SAFE Center to offer new opportunities in 2019 which include on-site therapeutic crisis intervention, assessment, psycho-education and ongoing therapeutic treatment through the addition of a trauma-informed mental health clinician. These additional services were made possible through a grant funded by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and will be provided by the UC Davis CAARE Center, a long-standing partner in providing trauma-informed services for children and families in Sacramento County.

To learn more about the SAFE Center, please visit the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services Resource Family web page. If you are interested in donating new toys/comfort items for youth visiting the SAFE Center, contact Darby Geller, SAFE Center Director. ★

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ON SALE

Everyday CHM

Companies Move to Keep Better Employees

By Rick Reed

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Employers have been actively recruiting workers in a ‘finder’s focus’ as economic growth created opportunity over the last decade. A lack of skilled applicants in all sectors and a shortage of basic labor has moved companies to a new ‘keeper’ environment as they seek to retain those in their workforces.

Historically low unemployment is moving Sacramento companies from recruiting to retention. When asked, ‘In 2019 where is retention on your list of priorities?’ the majority report it has topped the list. Fifty three percent (53%) of those surveyed in direct contacts (between February 25th and March 22nd) cite it as their #1 priority in Q2 2019.

As one construction sector contact said in anecdotal comment, “#1 no matter the unemployment rate” keeping skilled, experienced employees is always important.

Another manufacturer says, “More than important, imperative in an era of low unemployment”. When asked about retention, other contacts cited changes in the employee base as one issue in keeping employees on the job, “Understanding multi-generational desires” and another citing more opportunity, “It’s easier to leave and land on your feet” and, as one employer cited, “Increased focus on generations to improve retention, especially millennials”. The idea of company ‘loyalty’ is often noted as an issue with one service company polled reporting, “More problems with transient employees” and another saying retention of experience is vital in, “Maintaining client relationships, you must be proactive with employees’ to keep them.”

While greater business opportunity exists, as this service contact noted. “We’re ready to grow, just trying to find talent.” Pacific Staffing discovered that fifty-seven percent (57%) of

Sacramento employers are seeking to hire in the next three months. While forty-eight percent (48%) are motivated by replacements or attrition in the existing workforce forty one percent (41%) are still hiring for expansion or growth of the business in April, May and June.

Twenty per cent (20%) of hiring is prompted by seasonal needs. Most seasonal demand was from construction sector companies as they all were seeking general labor, skilled construction trades, equipment operators and drivers.

Other skills in demand in the second quarter among all companies surveyed include customer service, sales, route/delivery drivers, product assembly, manufacturing and IT.

Sacramento regional top companies polled by industry were: 54% were Service, 25% were Manufacturers, 19% were Construction and 2% were Retail. For more information, employment blogs and market surveys go to www.pacificstaffing.com. ★

By Samantha Mott, Sacramento County

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - On April 2, the Sacramento International Airport (SMF) initiated a project to rehabilitate the West Runway (16R/34L) that will continue until late October. During this time, the East Runway (16L/34R) will be the only operational runway at SMF.

The rehabilitation will involve removing the existing asphalt runway and replacing it with a new concrete runway. “Runway rehabilitation is a common necessity for airports,” says Airports Director Cindy Nichol, “The new concrete runway will require less maintenance and have a longer lifespan than the current

asphalt runway.”

In preparation for managing a one runway operation effectively, airport staff consulted with other single runway airports to learn best practices for airfield maintenance that minimizes the impact to commercial flight operations.

Due to the need for routine maintenance on the East Runway, the airport will implement twice monthly closures of the East Runway beginning at the initiation of the West Runway project. These closures will occur on the first and third Sunday of each month from 12:30am to 5:30am. This was identified as the day and time with the least impact to operations. The first closure took place April 7.

“We have been working closely with our airline

partners in planning for managing a one runway operation,” continued Nichol. “We chose a five hour window with the least operational impact.”

During the closures, arrivals will not be allowed after 12:30am and departures not until 5:30am. Aircraft that arrive after 12:30am during one of the twice monthly closures will be diverted to another airport. Aircraft that do not depart before 12:30am during a closure will not be able to leave until the runway reopens at 5:30am.

The East Runway is one mile closer to most residential areas, because of this, Natomas communities may experience an increase in aircraft noise throughout the duration of the project. ★

Assemblyman Kevin Kiley Introduces Legislation to Close Secret DMV

By Joshua Hoover

SACRAMENTO, CA - Assemblyman Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) introduced Assembly Bill 862 today that would prohibit the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) from operating a secret DMV field office that only serves a select group of individuals in state government, including Members of the Legislature and their staff.

“At a time when the DMV is failing to adequately serve Californians, it is unconscionable that lawmakers tasked with keeping the department accountable do not have to wait in the same lines as the people they represent,” Kiley said. “We’ll see if there’s more interest in fixing the DMV

once all California Legislators are required to endure the same experience as their constituents.”

Multiple news reports and audits in recent months have highlighted the DMV’s deficiencies, including: Over 6-8 hours wait times in many locations; Mishandling of 23,000 voter registrations since passage of Motor Voter law; Incorrectly registering over 1,500 ineligible voters, including non-citizens; Preventing over 500 eligible voters from registering due to failure to submit paperwork on time; Employee sleeping on the job over 2,000 hours; Dozens of technology outages disabling operations for hours at a time; Failing to comply with federal law

regarding Real ID identity verification; Resignation of DMV director responsible for mismanagement.

Most recently, an audit by the Department of Finance uncovered a number of concerning findings at the DMV including an outdated organizational structure, poor performing IT systems, and a failure to properly train employees to meet the needs of customers.

Assemblyman Kevin Kiley represents the 6th Assembly District, which includes the Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado Hills, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Granite Bay, Lincoln, Loomis, Orangevale, Penryn, Rocklin, Roseville, and Sheridan.

Source: Office of Kevin Kiley ★

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LUX: The Dawn from On High is Dan Forrest’s third major work for chorus and orchestra, after *Requiem for the Living* and *Jubilate Deo*. This five-movement work explores various facets of light, in texts ranging from ancient liturgical chant to Scripture to modern secular love poetry.

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MADD, Parents of Drunk Driving Victims, Senator Hill and Traffic Safety Partners

All Call for .05 BAC Law, Ignition Interlocks for All Offenders

By Becky Iannotta, MADD

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and parents who have lost their children to drunk driving today joined California Senator Jerry Hill and traffic safety partners in calling for a state law that lowers the threshold for impaired driving in California to .05 blood alcohol concentration (BAC).

MADD also strongly supports Senator Hill’s legislation that would require ignition interlocks for all drunk drivers, which would make California the 34th state with an all-offender ignition interlock law.

Senator Hill has authored SB 545, the Matthew Klotzbach Mandatory Ignition Interlock for DUI Offender Act of 2019. Matthew, 22, was riding home with his family after an outing when a drunk driver crashed into their car.

Senator Hill also co-authored AB 1713, Liam’s Law, with Assembly Member Autumn Burke. Liam’s Law would lower California’s DUI threshold to .05 blood-alcohol concentration. It is named in honor of 15-month-old Liam Kowal, who was killed after a hit-and-run drunk driver struck his stroller in a crosswalk.

“We are so grateful to Senator Hill for both of these initiatives. Passing ignition interlock laws for all offenders in every state is one of MADD’s top priorities and the Matthew Klotzbach Law is long overdue in California,” said MADD National Board Member Carol Leister.

“We want to do everything we can to stop these tragedies. That’s why MADD made the decision this year to support any state that seeks to lower the BAC threshold to .05. A cornerstone of MADD since our founding in 1980 is to prevent drinking and driving, which both of these laws will help accomplish.”

Senator Hill is a longtime champion of drunk driving reform. He worked with MADD and the Klotzbach family for years to pass California’s current ignition interlock law, which requires ignition interlocks for some, but not all, drunk driving offenders.

“The laws named in honor of Matthew Klotzbach and Liam Kowal will save lives,” said Senator Hill. “Drunk driving and the death and injuries it causes are entirely preventable. There is no reason for another family to suffer the loss of a child and other loved ones. We have the tools and the means to stop these tragedies now.”

Last month, Kentucky became the 33rd state to require ignition interlocks for all drunk driving offenders. If passed, the law named in honor of Matthew Klotzbach would make California the 34th state. Five other states are considering similar legislation to Matt’s Law, including Michigan, South Carolina, Wisconsin, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

“This legislation is personal. Matthew Klotzbach is my son. He is gone because a convicted drunk driver made the choice to drive drunk again - this time on a suspended license meant to keep him off the road,” said Mary Klotzbach, Matthew’s mother and former MADD National Board member who cofounded the Bay Area chapter of MADD and has worked with her husband Tom for 12 years on this legislation. “An ignition interlock law like the one authored by Senator Hill would have saved my son’s life. Every drunk-driving death is preventable. But this fact compounds the grief my family and I will live with for the rest of our lives.”

Drunk driving is still the leading killer on our roads, and the numbers are going the wrong way. In 2017 alone, drunk driving killed almost 11,000 people — a 9 percent increase since 2014, when the number of people killed by drunk driving had dropped below 10,000.

Studies show that if all states lowered the impaired driving threshold to .05 BAC, more than 1,700 lives would be saved per year. In December, Utah became the first state in the nation with a .05 BAC law. New York, Michigan and Oregon are considering similar proposals this year.

“Few bills can be as scientifically and statistically proven to directly save lives as Liam’s Law,” said Marcus Kowal, Liam’s father. “This law is for all innocent lives lost and for other families not to have to experience the devastation drunk driving causes.”

The National Transportation Safety Board has included the .05 BAC threshold on its “Most Wanted List” of traffic safety recommendations for the past six years.

“Since 2013, the NTSB has advocated for a BAC of .05 or lower because it will save lives by encouraging people to separate drinking from driving. You can drink responsibly. You can drive responsibly. But you can’t responsibly drink and drive,” said NTSB Member Jennifer Homendy.

Alex Epstein, Director of Transportation Safety for

the National Safety Council, said: “We know we have to do more to change our culture and expectations around drunk driving. The science is clear on drinking and driving. Our countermeasures must reflect this.”

Peter Kurdock, General Counsel for Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, agreed: “The data and research behind an all-offender ignition interlock device (IID) requirement and a .05 percent blood alcohol content (BAC) limit are crystal clear. These laws reduce drunk driving crashes, fatalities and injuries, and they are urgently needed.

Advocates commend the leadership of Senator Jerry Hill and Assembly Members Autumn Burke and Heath Flora for sponsoring proven legislation to curb drunk driving on California roads. And, we urge the legislature to take swift action to stop these preventable fatalities.”

Drunk driving killed 1,120 people in California in 2017, accounting for 31% of all traffic deaths. California consistently has the second highest number of drunk driving deaths in the country.

“AB 1713 will thankfully prevent about 10% of alcohol-related collision fatalities in California every year,” said Bruce Lee Livingston, Executive Director of Alcohol Justice and a leader of California Alcohol Policy Alliance (CAPA). “We say, ‘Point .05 saves lives!’”

For more information on ignition interlocks, visit madd.org/interlock. For information on .05 BAC, visit madd.org/05.

About Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Founded in 1980 by a mother whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver, Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) is the nation’s largest nonprofit working to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes and prevent underage drinking. MADD has helped to save nearly 380,000 lives, to reduce drunk driving deaths by more than 50 percent and to promote designating a non-drinking driver. MADD’s Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving® calls for law enforcement support, ignition interlocks for all offenders and advanced vehicle technology. MADD has provided supportive services to nearly one million drunk and drugged driving victims and survivors at no charge through local victim advocates and the 24-Hour Victim Help Line 1-877-MADD-HELP. Visit www.madd.org or call 1-877-ASK-MADD. ★

Historical Reenactments Highlight Annual Pioneer History Day

By Gary Zavoral

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Before the famed California Gold Rush brought tens of thousands of gold seekers and others to Northern California, there were hundreds of pioneers who paved the way for them to arrive, already having constructed homes and businesses, started farms and even began building cities.

On Saturday, May 4, area residents can learn more about how they lived and their accomplishments during the California Pioneer History Day at Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma.

This free family event features historic reenactments and displays, a parade with descendants of early California pioneers, stage shows and

musical entertainment, and many activities for families and children, including a cannon that shoots candy, free wagon rides, pioneer games and children’s crafts.

“Few Californians know about the rich early history of our state,” said Michelle Jones of Placerville, who is heading the effort along with Robert and Peni Frew from Auburn. “The California Pioneer History Day will give them the opportunity to discover this inspiring heritage in a fun and interactive way.”

The event will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., with the parade at 10 a.m. and an opening ceremony following. This is the third California Pioneer History Day, which is sponsored by the California Pioneer Heritage Foundation and organized by members of The Church of Jesus



Kids use a saw to cut a portion of a log at the Pioneer History Day to be held May 4. Photo courtesy of Gary Zavoral

Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Sacramento Valley and Sierra foothills. While the event is free, the state parking fee is \$8. Food concessions will be available, or attendees can bring their own lunch.

During the Pioneer History Day, three-dozen

interactive exhibits and activities organized into two “tent towns” will straddle Highway 49, the main thoroughfare into Coloma.

Among the reenactments will be cannon and musket firing, giving a detailed demonstration

of how they were loaded and the safety precautions taken before firing. These will be held at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Pony Express will also recreate a mail hand-off during those same times, and free wagon rides will be available

from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. In addition, there will be historical demonstrations on pioneer medicine, frontier justice, blacksmithing, wood carving, and free old-time photos with pioneer garb will be available.

The Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park in Coloma features a museum and visitors center, a replica of John Sutter’s sawmill where gold was discovered in 1848, and many other buildings that recreate the town of Coloma during the Gold Rush.

It is located off Highway 49 between Auburn and Placerville; the museum address is 310 Back St., Coloma. For more information, go to www.californiapioneer.com/cphd/ or call the Gold Discovery park museum at (530) 622-3470. ★

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\$15.5 Million in Rebates Awarded for Electric Vehicle Chargers

SMUD SPECIAL RELEASE

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A rebate project to increase access to electric vehicle (EV) chargers throughout Sacramento County is launching with up to \$15.5 million in funds available for qualifying local businesses and non-profit organizations.

The rebates will be available through the Sacramento County Incentive Project to install both commercial-grade Level 2 chargers and high-powered DC fast chargers. The project is an initiative of the California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP), which works with local community partners to develop and implement regional incentive projects for charging infrastructure that supports the adoption of EVs statewide.

CALeVIP and its regional projects are implemented by the Center for Sustainable Energy and funded primarily by the California Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. California's goal is to get 5 million EVs on its roads by 2030 to reduce carbon emissions and to support those vehicles by installing 250,000 chargers statewide.

"The California Energy Commission is pleased to partner with the Center for Sustainable Energy and SMUD to increase access to charging infrastructure that makes plug-in electric cars with no tailpipe pollution an easier choice for drivers in Sacramento County and surrounding communities," said Janea A. Scott, Vice Chair of the California Energy Commission.

"By supporting increased deployment of charging infrastructure in communities across California, CALeVIP is helping the state transition to zero emission vehicles, reducing pollution from the transportation sector."

In Sacramento County, the Energy Commission is funding \$14 million and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is providing \$1.5 million. SMUD has also committed to invest all its revenue generated by this project from the state's Low Carbon Fuel Standard Program to support additional community EV charger installations.

Currently, there are more than 10,000 EVs and nearly 700 EV chargers in public locations throughout Sacramento County, according to SMUD officials.

"Our goal is to improve the environmental, social and economic vitality of communities across our region, and increasing mobility with clean cars is one way to do that," said Ed Hamzawi, SMUD's director of Advanced Energy Solutions. "We are proud to play a key role in promoting electric vehicle adoption and infrastructure expansion as Sacramento works to lead the way."

CALeVIP is currently accepting applications from eligible Sacramento businesses and public entities for DC fast charger installations with rebates of up to \$70,000 per charger or 75 percent of the total installation project's cost, whichever is less. Rebates for Level 2 chargers are up to \$6,000 per connector. Applicants can apply for multiple charger rebates.

Additional funding is available for installations in disadvantaged communities, with up to \$80,000 for DC fast chargers and up to

\$6,500 for Level 2 chargers.

Level 2 chargers deliver 15-35 miles of electric driving range per hour of charging and are great for locations where drivers are parked for a few hours. DC fast chargers can power most EVs and provide over 100 miles of driving range per hour of charging, which is ideal along major travel corridors for on-the-go charging.

"With a growing number of car shoppers in Sacramento County choosing electric vehicles, it is increasingly important that fast charging be available at convenient locations, along the highways and at common destinations," said Andy Hoskinson, senior manager for EV initiatives at the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE).

"The increased rebates for disadvantaged communities are particularly significant as these neighborhoods are often more heavily impacted by traffic and poor air quality."

A national nonprofit organization, CSE manages statewide incentive programs for electric vehicles and electrical vehicle charging infrastructure in California, New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

CALeVIP also currently offers incentive projects in a four-county area of Southern California and in Fresno County with other projects planned throughout the state. CALeVIP is currently funded for \$77 million, with the potential to receive up to \$200 million.

Property owners and managers can learn about plug-in EV charging, how to plan installations and manage chargers and the application process by visiting the CALeVIP website. A recorded webinar for prospective

charger site hosts is available online. For more information, visit CALeVIP.org.

The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency. The agency was established by the California Legislature through the Warren-Alquist Act in 1974. It has seven core responsibilities: advancing state energy policy, encouraging energy efficiency, certifying thermal power plants, investing in energy innovation, developing renewable energy, transforming transportation and preparing for energy emergencies.

The Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) is a national nonprofit organization focused on the goal to accelerate the transition to a sustainable world powered by clean energy. CSE helps consumers, businesses, governments and others adopt energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean transportation technologies.

Headquartered in San Diego, CSE operates regional offices in Los Angeles, Sacramento and Oakland, California; Boston, Massachusetts; and Brooklyn and Stony Brook, New York. Learn more at EnergyCenter.org.

As the nation's sixth-largest community-owned, not-for-profit, electric service provider, SMUD has been providing low-cost, reliable electricity for more than 70 years to Sacramento County and small adjoining portions of Placer and Yolo counties.

SMUD is a recognized industry leader and award winner for its innovative energy efficiency programs, renewable power technologies. For more information, visit smud.org. ★

IRS Urges Taxpayers to Check Their Tax Withholding Early in 2019

By David A. Tucker, IRS

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WASHINGTON - The Internal Revenue Service has renewed its effort to encourage taxpayers to review their tax withholding using the IRS Withholding Calculator and make any needed adjustments early in 2019.

Doing a Paycheck Checkup can help taxpayers avoid having too little or too much tax withheld from their paychecks.

The federal income tax is a pay-as-you-go tax. Taxpayers pay the tax as they earn or receive income during the year. Employers generally use withholding tables to determine how much tax to withhold from their employees' paychecks and then pay it to the IRS. Workers who are not subject to withholding, such as those working in the gig or shared economy, should make quarterly estimated tax payments to pay their tax during the year.

Taxpayers should check their withholding each year and when life changes occur, such as marriage, childbirth, adoption or buying a home.

For 2019, it's important to review withholding and do a Paycheck Checkup. This is especially true for taxpayers who adjusted their withholdings in 2018 - specifically in the middle or later parts of the year. And it's also important for taxpayers who received a tax bill when they filed this year or want to adjust the size of their refund for next year.

A withholding table shows payroll service providers and employers how much tax to withhold from employee paychecks, given each employee's wages, marital status, and the

number of withholding allowances they claim.

The IRS Withholding Calculator can help taxpayers get their tax withholding right. Checking withholding can protect against having too little tax withheld and then facing an unexpected tax bill or penalty at tax time next year.

A taxpayer may prefer to have less tax withheld upfront and receive more in their paycheck. And, some people may choose to have their employer withhold more money from their paycheck. Others may choose to make higher or more tax payments than required and receive the overpayment - or refund - when they file their tax return. This is an individual taxpayer choice.

Taxpayers can use the results from the IRS Withholding Calculator to determine if they should complete a new Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate. The calculator will recommend the number of allowances to claim on this form and, if needed, the amount of additional federal income tax to have withheld each pay period. Employees submit the completed Form W-4 to their employer, not the IRS.

When taxpayers file their 2018 tax return, they may notice significant changes from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) including lowered tax rates, increased standard deductions, suspension of personal exemptions, increased Child Tax Credit and limited or discontinued deductions.

Whether at home, at work or on the go, taxpayers can find answers to questions, forms and instructions and easy-to-use tools online at IRS.gov. ★

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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- 1. *Measured in knots
 - 6. Kendrick Lamar's genre
 - 9. High school breakout
 - 13. More lax
 - 14. Female gametes
 - 15. Rice wine
 - 16. Verdi's output
 - 17. X
 - 18. Chilled, two words
 - 19. *San Diego and San Francisco connection
 - 21. *Budapest and Belgrade connection
 - 23. Greek H
 - 24. H. H. Munro's pen name
 - 25. ... De Triomphe
 - 28. Old World duck
 - 30. Accept without proof
 - 35. Through, to a poet
 - 37. What the Big Bad Wolf did
 - 39. TV and radio
 - 40. Observer
 - 41. Letter-shaped girder
 - 43. Month of Purim
 - 44. What hoarders do
 - 46. Tallest volcano in Europe
 - 47. Trending one online
 - 48. *Phnom Penh and Vientiane connection
 - 50. Lazily
 - 52. Antonym of keep
 - 53. Cathedral area
 - 55. "High" drink
 - 57. *Iquitos and Santarem connection
 - 60. *Shanghai and Jingzhou connection
 - 64. Walter Mondale's nickname
 - 65. A try
 - 67. Like an unwelcome neighbor
 - 68. Hunter's fake duck
 - 69. R&B Charles
 - 70. Clear the board
 - 71. "Hurry!" acronym
 - 72. Often follows to
 - 73. Bullseye game

- DOWN**
- 1. Pig trough stuff
 - 2. The biggest bear
 - 3. Biz bigwig
 - 4. Fear-inspiring
 - 5. Author's first copies
 - 6. Campus drillers
 - 7. Hail to Maria
 - 8. Bamboo-eating bear
 - 9. Hokkaido people
 - 10. Bed with bars
 - 11. *French Riviera port
 - 12. VSW opposite
 - 15. Opposite of pluralism
 - 20. Iambus, pl.
 - 22. Theodor Geisel, ____ Dr. Seuss
 - 24. Term of endearment, with pie
 - 25. Mr. T and friends
 - 26. Mother Goose's poem
 - 27. Floorboard sound
 - 29. *Wittenberg and Dresden connection
 - 31. Clothing joint
 - 32. Milk dispenser
 - 33. *Port in Biscayne Bay
 - 34. Dog-____ pages
 - 36. Approximately, two words

- 38. Ollivanders' merchandise, sing.
- 42. *Island country off the coast of Sicily
- 45. Stylish
- 49. Government Printing Office
- 51. Pined
- 54. Chow down voraciously
- 56. Greek bazaar
- 57. Bellicose deity
- 58. Flexible mineral
- 59. At the summit
- 60. Duncan toy
- 61. One of the Romanovs
- 62. Marinara quality
- 63. Beholder's organs
- 64. Food safety org.
- 66. Needlefish

Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 7

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6	7			4				

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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 7

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UNION GOSPEL MISSION



By Marlys Johnsen Norris, Christian Author

God’s infinite personal love for us never changes! We may ignore His urgings or leave Him completely out of our lives but **His love is the same today, yesterday and tomorrow!** Once we recognize His absence and we desire a change we need to just whisper His name and He will hear us. He will open our heart to His presence to receive His love that flows eternally from the Cross to us. Ask His Holy Spirit to search your heart.

The reality is that people throughout the whole world are held accountable to God. Breaking or dishonoring the laws of God requires punishment according to the Old Testament. *“Now we know that whatever the Law says it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that (the murmurs and excuses of) every mouth may be hushed*

Jesus Is Calling You

and the entire world may be held accountable to God.” (Romans 3:19 Amplified) There is no room for excuses before God; one will be found “guilty”.

Hearts and eyes need to be opened to understand *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness”* in the world today. (Romans1:18) Another Scripture that speaks to mankind is: *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)* Sin means missing the mark! It all happened at the beginning of time when Adam disobeyed (sinned) the instructions of Almighty God. We then became children of Adam and his sinful act fell on all of us. We then all received a sinful nature because we are descendants of Adam. *“Sin” is the fruit of a sinful heart. (Jeremiah 17:9)*

When any evil act is revealed people tend to flee away on their own accord and often never wait to hear the Good News about God’s Love for them. All Christians have once failed meeting perfect standards God ordained for living their life.

Yes, the Wages of Sin is death but our Heavenly Father has designed a plan to bring peace and freedom and a brand new beginning

to those who will yield to His love for them. *Listen and then apply these words to your life! “For the wages which sin pays is death; but the (bountiful) free gift of God is eternal life through (in union with) Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)*

“For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world He created -- that He (even) gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts, clings to, relies on) Him may not perish come to destruction, be lost but have eternal (everlasting) life. For God did not send the Son into the world in order to judge to reject, to condemn, to pass sentence on the world, but that the world might find salvation on the world; but that the world might find salvation and be made save and sound through Him”. (Romans 2:16-17)

Did you understand those words? God’s Son gave up His earthly life so that you might receive God’s Gift of Eternal Life in Heaven with them one day. This is what EASTER IS ALL ABOUT!

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



By Pastor Ray Dare

Easter is not for religious people. You may not be a very “religious” kind of person. Maybe you rarely or never attend church. You go on Easter or attend a funeral or wedding. Maybe you don’t feel connected to God. You’ve never really considered yourself a religious type person. Congratulations, this is your holiday. This one’s for you. Easter is God’s invitation to non-religious people. Easter is God’s invitation to “outsiders” saying “I want to give you a fresh start.” In Luke 5:32 Msg, Jesus said, “I’m here inviting outsiders, not insiders. An invitation to a changed life.”

He says I’m going to give you a fresh start. And I’m going to give you a changed life. The natural question is: What changes? What changes when God gives me a new life?

Pastor Ray's Encouraging Words

Easter is NOT for Religious People

First, I get a new clarity about life. The truth is, most people walk around in life confused. They ask questions like, why don’t my plans work out? Why are my relationships so difficult? Why are things happening the way that they happen? Why am I having so many problems? What’s the purpose of it all?

When you ask those kinds of questions it means one thing. You’re not keyed into God at that point. The further away you are from God, the more confused you’re going to be about life, your relationships, your career, your money, your friends, your future, your past. But the closer to God you get, the less confused you’re going to be. It’s all in the way you see things.

Do you know that your heart and your mind determine what you see not your eyes? I hear people all the time say, “I never see God in my life. I don’t see any answered prayers. I don’t see any sense of God in my life.”It’s likely that you have closed yourself off to even the possibility that God could work in your

life. But when you get your heart and mind opened-up to that possibility, you’re going to start seeing God everywhere. Things just get clearer when you come to Jesus Christ.

God wants to give you a new clarity about life. He also wants to give you new confidence for your future and a new connection with Himself. I’ll be talking more about those things on Easter Sunday.

I’d like to invite you Easter Service this year. Easter Service starts at 11am on April 21st. We meet at the Foothills Community Center in Foothill Farms, 5510 Diablo Dr, Sacramento. We are a non-denominational Christian Church. Our dress code is casual; we’re more interested in meeting your real life needs than in what you wear. We have classes and activities for children according to their age, and a safe and loving nursery.

Pastor Ray
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Find Puzzles on Page 6

S	P	E	E	D		R	A	P		A	C	N	E
L	A	X	E	R		O	V	A		M	I	R	I
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4	7	1	3	9	6	8	5	2
8	5	6	1	4	9	2	7	3
9	3	4	2	6	7	5	1	8
7	1	2	5	3	8	6	4	9
3	9	8	7	5	2	4	6	1
1	4	5	6	8	3	9	2	7
2	6	7	9	1	4	3	8	5

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You just have to **BACKUP** your important files. That way if they're lost, you can always get them back.

If you're one of those folks who forget to do it, there is no need to kick yourself because research shows that more than half of PC users don't backup their systems or don't do it often enough.

Since the consequences are so devastating and the fix is so simple, don't you think you should be doing it regularly?

HERE ARE SOME TIPS


1. Use an external flash drive, hard drive or storage device that is large enough to store your files.
2. A USB drive attached to your system should be remove and stored in a safe place when done.
3. Backup your emails, contacts, browser favorites, and important folders and files.
4. Schedule your backups so that if something happens between backups you can recreate any lost files. A one week period works for individuals, but businesses often need a daily backup.
5. Consider backing up to the cloud or a remote server in another physical location from your system.
6. Backup systems can be purchased pretty cheaply with software that does everything automatically.

A regular backup will ensure that your files are safe and recoverable no matter what happens and save you a **LOT** of anguish.

HAPPY COMPUTING

Rich Martinson is an IT Consultant and can be reached at insights@rrmartinson.com or at 916-222-2735 for any inquiries.

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POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

Symbols

Here comes Peter Cottontail...hoppin' down the bunny trail. Easter is almost here and so are the symbols that make it fun for the whole family. But did you ever wonder how these symbols came to be? Off I went to the internet in search of.

Easter is a Christian festival that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Bible says that Christ died on the cross on a day called Good Friday and came back to life on Easter Sunday. Easter is on different dates each year depending on when there's a full moon in spring. And yes, many Christians will spend time at church in thought, prayer and celebration of Jesus Christ's life. And there's always a good meal to go with that. But there are some modern traditions to mark Easter like Eggs, the Bunnies, chocolate and more.

Easter eggs and baby chicks symbolize new life. Eggs have been a symbol of spring since ancient times. An egg is also a symbol of the rock tomb out of which Christ emerged when he rose again. The chick, hatching out of the egg, symbolizes new life or rebirth. But, did you know that originally eating eggs was not allowed by church leaders during the week leading up to Easter...known as Holy Week? So any eggs laid that week were saved and decorated to make them Holy Week eggs that were then given to children as gifts. Victorians adapted the tradition with satin-covered cardboard eggs filled with Easter gifts. So why chocolate eggs? The first chocolate eggs appeared in France and Germany in the 19th century, but they were bitter and hard. As chocolate-making techniques improved, hollow eggs like the ones we have today were developed.

The story behind the Easter bunny is thought to have become common in the 19th century. Rabbits usually give birth to a big litter of babies called kittens, so they became a symbol of new life. Legend has it that the Easter bunny lays, decorates and hides eggs. And so comes the Easter egg hunts as part of the festival. But the bunny doesn't do all the work. In Switzerland, Easter eggs are delivered by a cuckoo and in Germany by a fox.

What about some other symbols like the Easter Lily? The white blossoms symbolize the purity of Jesus. Candles symbolize Jesus, the light of the world.

Twisted Pretzels, a food eaten during Lent, symbolizes arms crossed in prayer. The Butterfly is a significant symbol. Its whole life cycle is meant to symbolize the life of Christ...the caterpillar stands for his life on earth, the cocoon portrays the crucifixion and burial, the final butterfly stage is his raising from the dead in a glorified body and peace. The lamb represents Jesus, the Lamb of God. The cross is Jesus victory over death. Easter hats and new clothes symbolize new life through the death and resurrection. Hot Cross Buns have a cross icing to remind people of Christ.

That's it for now. Gonna' have a choco bunny. **A HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER TO ALL!!!** ★



Dave Ramsey Says

through pre-marital counseling to make sure you're on the same page when it comes to handling this and other issues.

If you and her mom really want to show her you love her, you'll make sure she starts learning some character and discipline. And it's very important that both of you are on the same page and in agreement every step of the way. You might also want to read a book together by Dr. Henry Cloud called "Boundaries." This is a great book, and it will give you both several ideas for creating a reasonable timeline aimed at teaching her more responsibility.

I would advise letting her mom present any changes to her initially. Neither of you wants to create a scenario where you're viewed as the bad guy. Let her mom start the process by explaining that she made a few mistakes in terms of teaching her more about personal responsibility and self-reliance when she was younger. Then, she can begin to lay out the first few rules and expectations.

In my mind, there's nothing wrong with requiring her to get a job within 30 days if she doesn't already have one. If she needs to go job hunting, make sure she's out of bed and on the road no later than 8:00 a.m. every morning. During this first phase, looking for work every day should be her job. It wouldn't be a bad idea to start teaching her about budgeting, saving, and everything else that goes into handling money responsibly during this time, too.

Next, phase two might consist of requiring her to help around the house doing chores on her days off, or whenever mom needs a hand. Then, after a month or two of this, phase three might consist of her paying a small amount in rent.

Do you see what I'm doing? By stepping up the expectations gradually you're building a foundation so she'll have the tools and knowledge to where, in the sixth or seventh month, she's moving out and taking care of her own responsibilities.

Like an adult!
- 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. ★

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TV GUIDE MAGAZINE

CHEERS & JEERS

By Damian Holbrook

Cheers to Gina Rodriguez
for *Jane the Virgin*’s stellar season-premiere monologue on The CW. The award-winning dynamo (pictured) delivered – and directed! – one of 2019’s greatest moments in a seven-minute bit that tracked Jane’s rampaging emotions over the return of her not-so-dead hubby (Brett Dier).

Jeers to Paramount TV for trying to find more *Sex and the City*. The studio plans to adapt *SATC* author Candace Bushnell’s sequel novel into a series, but unless it’s as raunchy and fabulous as Carrie and Co. Sarah Jessica Parker,

Cynthia Nixon, Kristin Davis and Kim Cattrall were on HBO, it’ll feel as if we’re drinking a watered-down cosmo in knockoff Manolos.

Jeers to Arrow’s Wayward Sister
When she first showed up, it was clear that Oliver’s half sister, Emiko, was trouble. Now that we know she’s not only bitter about being abandoned by their dad but that she’s also out to kill Ollie – and OK’d the shipwreck that started his saga – it’s time for big bro to take off the kid gloves and shut down that bad seed for good.

Cheers to Magnum P.I. for honoring a classic. The CBS reboot’s March 25



Gina Rodriguez the award-winning dynamo delivered – and directed! – one of 2019’s greatest moments in a seven-minute bit.

episode saw boat thieves leave Thomas and Higgins lost at sea and recalling their past in a plot evocative of a 1983 gem in which Tom Selleck’s Magnum flashed back on his life while adrift in the ocean. ★

ASK MATT

BY MATT ROUSH TV Guide Senior Critic

Is A New *Twilight Zone* A Good Idea?

Question: I have to admit that reviving/rebooting *The Twilight Zone* is a much less egregious “sin” than reviving shows as iconic or classic as *Magnum P.I.* or *Full House* since an anthology series is a different thing. But: How fresh is TZ in 2019 when we have *Black Mirror*? Even movies such as *Get Out* and *Us*. I found it rather run of the mill. – Tyrell

Matt Roush: The fact that you reference *Get Out* and *Us*, both from Jordan Peele (who’s the face and creative engine of the new *Twilight Zone* revival), is reason enough to cut the new *Zone* some slack. I remember reading a comment by Peele that while he’s a fan of *Black Mirror*, which has often been likened to a “technological *Twilight Zone*,” the cynicism and darkness of so many of those episodes was why he

wanted to delve into the more humanistic world of fantasy established so long ago by Rod Serling. There’s a timelessness to *Twilight Zone* at its best that argues for a remake in the right hands – although as with any anthology, the new *Zone* is unquestionably uneven. But having seen four to date, I’m eager to see more. (The episode, “Replay,” with a #BlackLivesMatter context in a story about a magical camcorder, felt like a classically topical *Zone* allegory to me – and I loved the new twists on the “Nightmare at 30,000 Feet” episode.)

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

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Pinwheels for Child Abuse Prevention Month

By Andrea Sandoval, Sacramento County

SACRAMENTO COUNTY (MPG) - To honor National Child Abuse Prevention Month, Sacramento County Child Protective Services staff “planted” 350 silver and blue pinwheels at the CPS office on Bradshaw Road. On average, CPS social workers investigate 1,100 reports of child abuse or neglect every month. Roughly 350 children who have experienced trauma or abuse are seen at the Special Assault Forensic Evaluation (SAFE) Center each year.

The SAFE Center, located at 3701 Power Inn Rd., provides a welcoming, child-friendly atmosphere where children, who may be victims of sexual abuse, physical abuse, or witnesses to violent crimes, are interviewed by specially trained staff who have experience in talking to children about difficult subjects.

In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America, a nationwide, non-profit organization dedicated to the development of programs that prevent all types of child abuse and neglect, introduced the pinwheel as the national symbol for child abuse prevention through Pinwheels for Prevention®. Since then, agencies including child advocacy centers across the nation have been planting Pinwheel Gardens to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and to support the healthy development of our nation’s children.

“It is important for social workers and staff to be part of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign; to have a visual representation of their tireless



Prevent Child Abuse America, a nationwide, non-profit organization dedicated to the development of programs that prevent all types of child abuse and neglect, introduced the pinwheel as the national symbol for child abuse prevention. MPG file photo.

effort to keep children in our community safe,” said Michelle Callejas, Director of the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services. “It’s also important that we take the time to show our appreciation for Sacramento County social workers for the profound difference they make each day in the lives of children and families across our community. The pinwheels are a reminder that we should all want each child in our community to have a safe and happy childhood.”

Here are 5 tips for preventing child abuse and neglect:

- (1) Be a friend to a parent you know. Ask how their children are doing. Draw on your own experiences to provide reassurance and support. If a parent seems to be struggling, offer to babysit or run errands, or just lend a friendly ear. Show you understand;
- (2) Be a friend to a child you know. Remember their names. Smile when you talk with them. Ask them about their day at school.

- Send them a card in the mail. Show you care;
- (3) Talk to your neighbors about looking out for one another’s children. Encourage a supportive spirit among parents in your apartment building or on your block. Show that you are involved.
- (4) Give your used clothing, furniture and toys to another family to use. This can help relieve the stress of financial burdens on parents.
- (5) Volunteer your time and money for programs in your community that support children and families.

Watch this video on the 2019 Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign garden planting.

To learn more about the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services including additional information about child abuse, visit the Child Protective Services webpage. To report child abuse in Sacramento County, call the 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline 916-875-5437, and in case of an emergency, call 911 for law enforcement. ★



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.

There is a bill quickly making its way through the California Legislature (AB 392) that if passed, will create a highly subjective standard for evaluating and holding law enforcement officers criminally liable for using force when responding to life-or-death situations based on hindsight, without providing any extra training to officers. Because this bill would have a direct impact on the law enforcement officers that work for us here in Citrus Heights, such as the Citrus Heights Police Department and CHP, I want to take an opportunity to give you more detail on this important issue, and explain why I am staunchly opposed to this bill.

Law enforcement officers today are allowed to only use deadly force when there is a reasonable fear of death or serious bodily harm to the officer or another person. Due to this, the peace officers are held to the standard of what an objectively reasonable officer on the scene would do. Under AB 392, this would change so that peace officers would need to pause when contemplating the use of deadly force, only allowing them to use deadly force in circumstances when “the homicide would be justifiable in self- defense or the defense of another person.”

By requiring officers to further hesitate in their actions, we not only put the officer and his or her partner at an even greater risk, we put the general public at a greater risk. In these high stress situations, quick reaction time is imperative and a matter of seconds can mean life or death. Creating doubt in the minds of our officers will make them vulnerable to even greater dangers than those that they already face. It is critical that we do not tie the hands of law

Your Community Update

Misguided Approach on Police Use of Force

enforcement and that we uphold the safety of our officers and those they are sworn to protect.

To understand this issue more clearly, shortly after I was sworn-in as your County Supervisor, I had the Sheriff’s Department allow me participate in their “use of force simulator” so I could personally experience some of the training our deputies undertake to help them handle potentially deadly situations. The experience opened my eyes to what our deputies have to be prepared to face while on patrol – and the training they receive on how to handle those situations. Before this experience, it was easy for me to watch a video of a police encounter and say how I would have done things differently. But after going through it, it has changed my perspective on all the police encounters I have watched – and has given me a greater appreciation for how hard it is for the officers.

The decision to apply this level of force is the most solemn, serious, and scrutinized choice an officer could be asked to make. It must often occur without notice and with only milliseconds to contemplate his or her actions. As such, shifting the standard that guides the use of lethal force from one of objective reasonableness in light of the facts and circumstances, to necessity given the totality of the circumstances, is an impossible standard to achieve.

California’s police officers take an oath that they will run towards danger when everyone else is running away – and they do so to protect our families and communities. The subjective legal standards AB 392 seeks to implement will have a chilling effect on the men and women in uniform by undermining their ability to respond to life-or-death situations – creating new challenges that would threaten the safety of our families, communities and officers.

Even if this change in standards were appropriate, agency policies would have to be changed and tens of thousands of peace officers would have to receive all new training. But this bill does not provide any additional funding for training – the foundation for minimizing the use of force – nor does it put in place even

one proactive measure to reduce the use of force. In addition, this opens the door for trial attorneys to severely reduce law enforcement budgets due to the need for departments to hire more lawyers to defend the sudden rise in lawsuits.

There is a bipartisan competing bill in the legislature that I do support (SB 230) that attempts to find ways to improve outcomes for use of force incidents. That bill will refine the circumstances by which an officer could discharge their weapon in alignment with U.S. Supreme Court decisions, require all law enforcement agencies to establish a comprehensive policy on Use of Force, require this written policy to be made accessible to the public, and emphasize officer training and education through coursework prepared by the well-established Commission on Peace Officer Standards & Training.

The loss of even one life is too many, and an officer’s use of serious force is and must be a last resort. This is a sensitive and important issue that we must proactively address, but AB 392 is not the answer – and will only create new problems threatening the safety of California’s families and communities. I urge the bill’s authors, sponsors, and supporters to develop truly effective and achievable improvement to help California law enforcement minimize the use of force.

Before signing off, I want to invite you to my next Orangevale Community Meeting on May 15 th at 6:00pm at the Orangevale Community Center (6826 Hazel Avenue). The next meeting is Citrus Heights Community Meeting on May 20 th at 6:00pm at Citrus Heights City Hall (6360 Fountain Square Drive). 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@sac-county.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. ★

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Citrus Heights Honors City Volunteers



Dozens of Citrus Heights volunteers were honored at the April 11 City Council meeting during National Volunteer Week.

Story and photo by Shaunna Boyd

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights recently honored the numerous volunteers who assist with various programs and services throughout the city. Volunteers help at City Hall, the Community Center, the Police Department, the Planning Commission, the Construction Board, the Library, and many other organizations.

Just at City Hall, the Community Center, and the Police Department, volunteer

hours totaled 20, 681 — which saved the City a total of \$417,481.14.

Mayor Jeannie Bruins issued a proclamation recognizing the week of April 7 – April 13 as National Volunteer Week. Cities across the nation spent the week honoring the millions of hours volunteers give to enrich their communities.

Mayor Bruins thanked the volunteers for everything they give to the city, stating, “These people are precious to us, and so I think acknowledging you in this fashion once a year is the very least we can do.” ★

City Council Supports SB 230, Opposes AB 392 in Police Use of Force Legislation

Story by Shaunna Boyd

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - At the Citrus Heights City Council meeting on April 11, staff updated the Council about the importance of public outreach to ensure an accurate count in the upcoming 2020 census.

The results of the census determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and determine the distribution of federal funds for healthcare, education, housing programs, and transportation.

California didn’t gain any additional representation in the 2010 census, and there is some concern that the state could actually lose representation if the upcoming census isn’t accurate. Approximately \$2,000 in funding is lost for each person who isn’t counted on the census. The City has organized a Complete Count Committee to ensure that every Citrus Heights resident is accurately counted.

The census used to be conducted door to door, but the Census Bureau has moved to an online response system to save money. Residents will receive a card in the mail with instructions to reply online. This presents a challenge because older generations aren’t as comfortable responding online.

The housing crisis will also pose a challenge; some families don’t have a stable living environment, so they might not receive the instructions in the mail. There is also the issue of the contested citizenship question, which could make people hesitant to participate in the census.

Public outreach is going to be crucial in ensuring that Citrus Heights gets an accurate count in the census. To show the City’s dedication to an accurate count, the Council unanimously approved a resolution supporting the 2020 census and the affiliated outreach events.

The Council then heard a report about a

recent development in the Electric Greenway Trail Project, which is currently in the preliminary design, public engagement, and environmental review phase. Because most of the project funding comes from the Active Transportation Program (ATP), which consolidates existing federal and state transportation programs, the project must meet both National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. Caltrans is the lead agency for that effort, and they have requested some additional studies to satisfy the NEPA requirements.

These additional studies were not anticipated in the original scope of work: Noise and Air Quality Study, Natural Environmental Study, and Analysis for Park Impacts. To continue with the work and conduct the required studies, staff requested \$17,606.98 of additional funding.

The staff report stated there are sufficient Measure A Capital (Pedestrian Safety) funds available to supplement the project funding and cover the additional professional services. The Council voted unanimously to approve the additional funding.

Ronald Lawrence, Citrus Heights Chief of Police, spoke to the Council about two upcoming pieces of legislation that seek to address police use of force — Senate Bill 230 (SB 230) and Assembly Bill 392 (AB 392).

Chief Lawrence said that AB 392 seeks to change the long-held legal standard of “reasonable” use of force to “necessary” use of force. “This introduces a dangerous hindsight judgment,” said Chief Lawrence.

“AB 392 does not change any existing policies, guidelines, or training requirements. It simply hopes that using new language ... will result in sweeping behavioral changes. ... But officers

do not think about rhetoric when they believe they are faced with a life-or-death decision; they rely on their training. ... There is no training component in AB 392. ... AB 392 simply makes it easier to prosecute police officers without providing the training they need to change,” said Chief Lawrence. He urged the Council to adopt a resolution opposing AB 392.

Chief Lawrence spoke in support of SB 230, which he said is a comprehensive measure implementing consistent and evidence-based policies to minimize use of force through rigorous training programs. The main objective of SB 230 is preserving the sanctity of life and reducing use of force incidents.

“It is the only legislation that will provide law enforcement officers with the tools and resources they need to reduce use of force effectively. It establishes the first statewide guidelines that clearly define when officers are authorized to use force,” said Chief Lawrence. SB 230 will set a precedent and position California to lead the nation in use of force policing standards, policies, practices, training, and reporting. Chief Lawrence asked the Council to adopt a resolution supporting SB 230.

Vice Mayor Jeff Slowey said, “To me, 392 is a very disingenuous bill. ... Changing a word does not change behavior.”

Councilmember Steve Miller also addressed SB 392’s change in verbiage: “Rewriting use of force is really just a political response to a tragic event, trying to solve problems by incorrectly diagnosing them and coming up with the wrong remedies.”

Councilmember Porsche Middleton said it’s important to ensure that both officers and the community are protected. She emphasized that this should not be a partisan issue.

Mayor Jeannie Bruins called for a vote and the Council unanimously voted to oppose AB 392 and support SB 230. ★

Bank Robbery Suspect Arrested

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On April 15, 2019 at approximately 3:44 pm., Citrus Heights Police Officers responded to the Bank of the West located at 7381 Greenback Lane regarding the report of a robbery that had just occurred. The reporting party was a bank employee.

The employee advised a lone male suspect entered the bank, approached a bank teller, and passed the teller a note demanding money. The note made mention of a gun; however, no weapon was brandished or used during the robbery. The suspect fled the bank on foot with an undisclosed amount of money.

The suspect was described as a black male



Giovanni Johnson the 20 year old suspect arrested.

adult in his late 20’s to early 30’s. The suspect was described to be wearing a red beanie and in possession of a lot of clothing.

Officers arrived on scene within minutes to coordinate the investigation. Additional officers conducted an area check in an attempt to locate the described suspect. Officers

quickly located a male nearby that matched the description of the suspect provided by employees. The male was positively identified by witnesses as the robbery suspect.

The male was identified as 20-year-old Giovanni Johnson out of Sacramento. At the time of arrest Johnson was on active parole for bank robbery. Johnson was arrested for robbery and violation of parole.

CHPD is asking anyone who may have witnessed anything related to this incident or may have additional information, to contact the Citrus Heights Police Department at (916) 727-5500.

Source Citrus Heights Police Department ★

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