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Citrus Heights Messenger

"Written by the people, for the people"

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Serving the City of Citrus Heights & Sacramento County

OCTOBER 5, 2018

**APPLEBEE'S PARTNERS
WITH LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT**



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CERT NEEDS YOU**



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**NORCAL RAPIST
ARRESTED**



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Historic Moment for CHPD

Department Emphasizes Teamwork

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - September 27, 2018 was a landmark day for the Citrus Heights Police Department (CHPD). Police Chief Ron Lawrence had the honor of administering the oath of office to former commander Gina Anderson, making her the first assistant police chief in the 12-year history of the department. In his words, "This is a new era for the CHPD, a historical moment."

Two more firsts in the history of the CHPD were created by newly promoted commanders, Jason Russo and Alex Turcotte. "They hold the distinction of being the only members in the history of the CHPD to ascend through the ranks (police officer, sergeant, lieutenant), to the executive level of commander," said Lawrence.

The city council chambers were filled with blue uniforms, supportive officers from surrounding police jurisdictions, family members and other well-wishers from the community honored to be part of this event.

Anderson has been acting in her new position since July 8, 2018. The two commanders' positions were left vacant by the retirement of Commander Daman Christensen on July 6 and Anderson's promotion.

Anderson, Russo, Turcotte and Christensen were each hired in 2006 by then police chief Christopher Boyd (now city manager) as part of the new Citrus Heights Police Department. Each has contributed to the building of an award-winning police department.



(L-R) Commander Alex Turcotte, Commander Jason Russo, Citrus Heights Police Chief Ron Lawrence, Assistant Police Chief Gina Anderson, and Support Services Manager Sandy Maraviov. Photo by Janet M. Schaefer, Sergeant, Office of the Chief

All three newly promoted staff members come with years of education, experience and important contributions to the positions they have held since their careers began.

In an interview, Russo said he will be running the Investigative Services Division which also encompasses youth and family services and the new Mesa Verde High School Pathway public safety program. He will

work towards enhancing the department and the community, helping to solve crimes, and working to make the community a safer place to live. He also remains as president of the Police Activities League.

Turcotte will be head of Patrol Services. He said, "As my predecessors before me, the focus is to drive down crime, calm traffic and improve the quality of life in Citrus Heights." He is

working with two new lieutenants, Kris Frey and Chad Morris. They will be surveying staff to see how make improvements and provide even better service to the community.

In an address to the city council, Anderson spoke on behalf of her fellow honorees, acknowledging the support needed by family members who are the cornerstone of those in the

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Sacrificing the Parkway
*Appeals Case Impacts Illegal
Camping Ordinance*

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A federal court decision has ruled that illegal camping ordinances are unconstitutional and that local governments cannot cite or arrest anyone sleeping on public property.

On September 4, 2018, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on the case Robert Martin v. City of Boise, stating that enforcing anti-camping ordinances when adequate shelter beds are unavailable is unconstitutional.

Because of that ruling, the Sacramento County Department of Parks stopped enforcing the City of Sacramento's anti-camping ordinance and the County ordinance prohibiting camping without a permit.

Since January 2018, Sacramento County rangers have issued 1,834 citations for unlawful camping under the County ordinance, and 224 citations for unlawful camping under the City of Sacramento ordinance.

The County is currently evaluating enforcement options under existing laws and regulations and will provide information to the Board on next steps.

Sacramento County Rangers will continue to enforce ordinances including but not limited to campfires, littering, dogs off leash, possession of a shopping cart and environmental degradation.

"As soon as I found out about the ruling, I suggested our board meet to discuss its implications, especially for my constituents who rightfully demand a clean and safe Parkway," said First District Supervisor Phil Serna, who represents the lower reach of the American River Parkway.

"I have many questions, including why County Counsel advised that park rangers not enforce the illegal camping ordinance without notifying or coordinating with board members," he continued. ★

Costumed Celebration, Pets on Parade

CHCMB to Host Howl 'o Ween Parade and Harvest Festival

Story by Shaunna Boyd
Photo courtesy Citrus Heights
Community Marching Band

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Every October the Citrus Heights Community Marching Band (CHCMB) hosts a parade and Harvest Festival to celebrate Halloween in a unique way. Several thousand people attend the Howl 'o Ween fundraising event each year.

The 7th annual Howl 'o Ween will be held on Saturday, October 20 in Citrus Heights. The festivities will kick off with a parade starting at 9 a.m. The

parade will follow Auburn Blvd. from Twin Oaks Ave. to Rusch Park, which is located at 7801 Auburn Blvd. Kathy Cook, Program Director of the CHCMB said, "There will be about 50 entries with more than

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Kali, a 3-year-old Jack Russell/terrier mix, models a pumpkin costume that she could wear in the Howl 'o Ween parade. Holding Kali is Marnie Musser, Sacramento SPCA Community Outreach Manager, while Jennifer Blaine, a CHCMB tuba player and dancer, checks out the costume. Blaine is the band member who suggested that SPCA have an Adoption Area at the Harvest Festival. Musser says that Kali "likes other dogs and may be good with a family cat with a slow introduction."



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Superheroes Descend Upon Sacramento

DC Wonder Woman Run Series Brings Out the Hero in Everyone

Story and photos
by Shaunna Boyd

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

Sacramento was overrun by superheroes on Saturday, September 22 when the DC Wonder Woman Run Series hosted its inaugural event with a 5K and 10K run through Capitol Mall. Sacramento was the first city in the United States to participate in this race.

The event was produced by SON Events in conjunction with Warner Bros. and DC Entertainment. Sarah Ratzlaff, director of marketing for SON Events, said, "The race has a strong overall theme of women's

empowerment. Wonder Woman embodies strength, bravery, and power. The goal of the event is to show that there's a Wonder Woman in all of us. That's why we're using the hashtag #IAmWonderWoman."

The festival area was decorated with giant balloons and lined with an array of fluttering Wonder Woman flags. Area streets were blocked off by police cars, flashing their red and blue lights. Approximately 1,300 people participated in the 5K and 10K runs. The first-place finishers were Sandra Khounvichai with a time of 20:26 in the 5K and Stephen Harms with a time of 48:43 in the 10K.



Jennifer Waldrop (left) and Allison Gove (right) show off their Wonder Woman medals after completing the 5K run with times of 29:42 and 29:44, respectively.



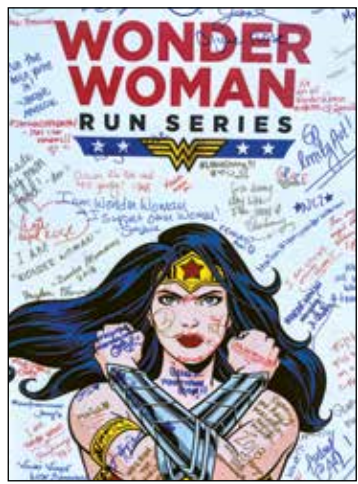
Wonder Woman poses with three-year-olds Roxy (left) and Isla (right).

The DC Wonder Woman Run Series is designed to empower the Superhero in everyone, so runners and walkers of all ability levels were encouraged to participate, regardless of their athletic abilities. Many participants had never run or walked in a 5K before this event. After completing the course, each participant was given a Wonder Woman medal. The festivities continued after the race, with a celebration featuring food trucks, a beer tent, face painting, official Wonder Woman merchandise, and a main stage with live musical entertainment.

Race participant Christie Pierce said he was persuaded to join the race just the evening before: "I decided to tag along. I said, 'Sure, I'll wear a



The DC Wonder Woman Run hosted its inaugural event in Sacramento on September 22, drawing approximately 1,300 participants.



Participants wrote messages of empowerment and support, and shared their own superhero moments.

skirt, I'll do it.' But more importantly, I decided to do it because I support strong, independent women."

Theresa Ivaldi, Karli Cisneros, and Christina Mundy entered the race together. They thought it would be more fun to run together in a group of friends. This was Ivaldi's first run, and she thought the Wonder Woman run was a fun way to start. Cisneros said, "I love running and love spending time with my friends, so I figured why not combine the two." Mundy said, "What better way to run a 5K with friends and family than a Wonder Woman run that represents women's power?" Mundy's kids, Isabella (10) and Jackson (8), and their friend Sophie Carr (10), all love Wonder Woman. They enjoyed the race and especially loved getting a shiny medal to commemorate their accomplishment of crossing the finish line.

The DC Wonder Woman Run Series will be hosted in Oakland, San Jose, San Diego, and Los Angeles this fall. The Los Angeles run, as the flagship run, will be the largest in the series with 7,000 – 8,000 participants expected. If you would like to participate in one of the upcoming runs, or for more information on the DC Wonder Woman Run Series, please visit the website at www.dcwonderwomanrun.com. ★

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Applebee’s Partners with Local Law Enforcement

Hosts Tip-A-Cop Fundraiser for Special Olympics

Story by Jennifer Petrella

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On Wednesday, September 19, Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar of Citrus Heights opened its doors to members of local law enforcement for a Tip-A-Cop fundraiser. Members of the Citrus Heights Police Department served as ‘celebrity waiters’ at Applebee’s for the fundraising event, with 100% of their tips donated directly to the Special Olympics, an organization providing year-round sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. The event raised over \$1,600 for

Special Olympics of Northern California. Tip-A-Cop is an annual fundraising event organized by The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, where law enforcement officers volunteer their time to raise funds for Special Olympics, the world’s largest sports organization for people with intellectual disabilities. Apple American Group, who own and operate the Applebee’s of Citrus Heights, pledges to assist and support those institutions that enhance the quality of life in the communities it serves. ★

(L-R) Breanne Rasmussen, Commander Jason Russo, Ashley Wyant, and Lieutenant Kris Frey. Photo courtesy BML Public Relations



Costumed Celebration, Pets on Parade

CHCMB to Host Howl ‘o Ween Parade and Harvest Festival

Continued from Page 1

500 participants in the parade... So far, parade entries include eerie and fun floats, kids and adults with their pets in costumes, Keystone Cops, U.S. veterans, marching bands, and pageant queens in a special Mary Purvis memorial convoy. The Citrus Heights Rotary Club is building a special haunted house float for Citrus Heights Council Members Jeff Slowey and Bret Daniels.”

The Freedom Motorcycle Hearse Service, a 1949 Gibson tractor, and several antique cars will also be featured in the Howl ‘o Ween parade. A very special guest will be in attendance as the parade’s Grand Marshal: Santa Claus will follow the procession in a golf cart sled. After the parade arrives at Rusch Park, the Harvest Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; admission to the festival is free for all. Enjoy an array

of entertainment, including live music and demonstrations, youth groups, clowns, and dancers. Musical entertainment will include performances by Sacramento Capitolaire Barbershop Chorus, the Capital City Band, DJ Dave and the CHCMB Dancers, and the Citrus Heights Community Marching Band. Citrus Heights Kaia Fit, Sons of Golden State, Star War Characters, and Family Taekwondo Plus will provide demonstrations. The festival will also feature craft and business exhibits, including Atlas Disposal, which is participating for the fourth time this year. Robin Stuhr, Atlas Disposal Controller, said “We get to promote our business while celebrating with a very special band, big and small kids, doggies, and music.” The event is, of course, pet friendly and will feature several dog and pet business booths. Even if

you don’t already have pets of your own, the event offers the opportunity to become a loving pet owner with an Adoption Area sponsored by the Sacramento SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). Bring the kids to see all the dogs in costumes, and be sure to check out the Kids Zone with games, prizes, and a bounce house for the little ones. Don’t miss the car show sponsored by the Nor Cal Cruisers Car Club and the Citrus Heights Police Department. At lunch you can visit the CHCMB food booth, which will be serving hot dogs and chili dogs. And Santa will be getting an early start on the holiday season by holding court from a special holiday chair and chatting with the kids in attendance. For more information about the Howl ‘o Ween parade and Harvest Festival, contact Cook at (916) 725-0198 or at abusycook@aol.com. ★

CITRUS HEIGHTS CHAMBER

CONNECTING ■ BUSINESS ■ EDUCATION ■ COMMUNITY

Chamber’s Education and Membership Committee Updates

The Chamber meets the needs of the businesses it serves by hosting a variety of Committees to allow members to participate in the decision making process for programs and events. Committees are comprised of Chamber members. Two of the committees recently made some changes to improve the overall productivity; Education Committee and Membership Committee.

The Education Committee recently acquired the Leadership Citrus Heights Program (LCH). The LCH provides full-day, educational sessions to develop leadership skills. Rosa Umbach, Committee Chair meets with the LCH Committee once a month to plan and implement the programs monthly classroom curriculum. Securing area speakers, organizing informative field trips, conducting the Kick-Off and Graduation Receptions are a few of the activities that the Committee handles. In addition, Rosa conducts a monthly meeting, at either San Juan High School or Mesa Verde High School, for the schools’ Principals, Administrators and Chamber business members. Formerly called the “Education Committee” this committee was renamed as the Citrus Heights School and Business Partnership (SBP). The SBP is designed to provide a venue for the schools and local businesses to meet on a regular basis to share needs and resources for the public schools in the City limits.

The Membership Committee meets to share ideas and review current chamber benefits that will be an advantage to the members. The committee provides recommendations to the chamber for support of the members. Committee Chair, ilene Martzen, announced a new date, time and location for the committee’s monthly meeting to encourage member participation. The Membership Committee will now meet on the first Tuesday of each month, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., in the Chamber office.

If you are interested in more information about the Chamber’s committees or benefits, please contact Renee Larscheid at (916)722-4545.

• Upcoming Meetings and Events •

Chamber U

Tuesday, Oct. 16th – 8:00am to 9:30am
Guest Speaker: Mickey Griffith
One-Page Referral Marketing Plan
Citrus Heights Chamber Office
7920 Alta Sunrise Drive, Ste. 100
RSVP at (916) 722-4545
seats are limited to 15

Chamber Monthly Luncheon

Tuesday, Oct. 9th – 11:30am to 1:00pm
Guest Speaker: SMUD,
Resources for Energy Efficiency
North Ridge Country Club

For More Information or to Join the Chamber,
Contact us at (916) 722-4545 or Visit our Website www.chchamber.com

Citrus Heights Messenger

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NorCal Rapist Arrested

Answer Found in DNA

By Rich Peters, MPG Editor

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - It was an eerie, familiar feeling as Sacramento District Attorney stood alongside state law enforcement agents and in front of media members, announcing the arrest of yet another notorious California serial rapist.

58-year-old Roy Charles Waller of Benicia was linked through DNA to the heinous NorCal Rapist crimes committed on at least 12 victims that date back beginning 27 years ago and took place across six counties, including Sacramento, Contra Costa and Butte.

"The answer has always been in the DNA," said Schubert, coincidentally in the midst of National Forensic Science Week. She explained the partnership of tireless science and police work that led to a breakthrough over



Roy Charles Waller sketch (left photo) and mug shot.

the past 10 days, eventually leading to the arrest.

"Today we can bring some closure to the victim in Contra Costa County who was attacked on Halloween in 1996," said Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton.

Waller was arrested in Berkeley near the U.C. Berkeley campus last week. He has been a U.C.

Berkeley employee for the past 25 years. The Sacramento Police Department and the Berkeley Police Department made the arrest.

The suspect has been charged with 12 counts of force-able sexual assault, plus enhancements. There are also allegations that he used a gun. He's been awarded no bail and his arraignment is set for Monday in Sacramento. ★

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JOB OPENING

Seeking District Manager Position

The Board of Trustees of the Fair Oaks Cemetery District is accepting applications for the District Manager position. The current District Manager is retiring after serving over 26 years. The preferred candidate has college level core course work in public administration, accounting, business administration or related field, and two years of experience that would indicate possession of the above knowledge and abilities, or any combination of education and experience that provides the equivalent knowledge, skills, and abilities. Knowledge of landscape maintenance and operations, irrigation and small equipment operation is desirable. Experience in the operations of a cemetery is highly desirable. The District Manager must have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to be customer focused when dealing with families. This is an exempt position that serves at the will of the Board of Trustees and is a non-union position.

District Overview: The Fair Oaks Cemetery District operates one cemetery in Fair Oaks. The cemetery is fully landscaped and is irrigated using non-treated water. The district conducts 185+/- burials annually.

Salary and Benefits: The Fair Oaks Cemetery District provides a competitive level salary (DOQ). The District is a member of SCERS (2% @ 62). Medical, AD&D, partial dental, and vision coverage is available for the employee.

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- Cover Letter • Detailed resume • Contact information for three professional, and three personal (non-family) references.
- References will only be contacted for top candidates and with prior acknowledgement of the candidate.

Submit the above documents NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 19, 2018 at 3 PM to:

By Mail:

FAIR OAKS CEMETERY DISTRICT
District Manager Recruitment
7780 Olive St. Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Fair Oaks Cemetery District is looking for a part-time person to work M-W-F from 10 am - 3:30 pm. Will perform secretarial work, accounting functions, make funeral arrangements, and maintain records and maps. Please send your resume to: Terri Perrin, District Manager at terriperrin.focd@gmail.com or mail to 7780 Olive St. Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

The closing date for applicants is Monday, October 1, 2018 at 3 p.m.

Further information:

Terri Perrin, District Manager Tele: (916)-966-1613
Email: terriperrin.focd@gmail.com



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Sacramento CERT Needs You



Sacramento’s California Emergency Response Team’s (CERT’s) graduation drill took place on Saturday, September 1 from 2 p.m. – 10 p.m. at the Northern California Regional Public Safety Academy in McClellan Park.

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento’s California Emergency Response Team’s (CERT’s) graduation drill took place on Saturday, September 1 from 2 p.m. – 10 p.m. at the Northern California Regional Public Safety Academy in McClellan Park. The community participated and explored their inner actors as volunteer victims with broken arms or legs or other injuries for the day’s free event. The drills tested the program’s graduates on practical skills including sizing up a building to determine if it is safe to enter; search and rescue; transport; and triage and treatment. They assessed situations simulating burning buildings and locating victims in dense smoke and at night. Graduates radioed transport crews, practiced victim transport before another group assessed injuries, bandaged, and prepared victims for transport to a medical facility said Robert Ross, Chief, Operations, Sacramento CERT, CERT 22. “Watching, you don’t get to see as much,” he said, adding that the role of victim teaches more to the community who wants to understand what happens during an emergency such as a fire. Ross explained that most

people see only the end result. “It’s a good way to see them in action and experience it without being in a collapsed building,” he said. The Basic CERT course, Level 3, is sanctioned by FEMA and was developed by Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) after the Mexico City and Kobe earthquakes. The course, Ross explained, is for everyday citizens with no previous training or particular skills who want to learn how to prepare for a disaster and is offered at no charge. “Civilians will be on their own for the first 72 hours,” said Ross, and will learn about disaster psychology and how to prepare bags with the necessities to assist in their immediate neighborhoods. Ross said that people don’t often think about bringing items like pet toys when they need to evacuate. Trained civilians can put out small fires and even triage in their neighborhoods if the need arises, but they need to practice, and that’s where the graduation drill comes in. Graduates learn about fire behavior, which has been especially bad in California this summer, identification of hazardous materials, including those being transported, and terrorism. Upon graduation, CERT trained

civilians can assist locally and can transfer their CERT training to other cities or states if they move. Since the Sacramento region is prone to flooding, this would also be covered in local training. This level is required in order to continue with advanced courses to be certified as a Disaster Service Worker or a First Responder. Additionally, graduates may pursue training to join one of the special teams – Urban Search & Rescue, Animal Response, or Radio Communications. “During a disaster cell phones won’t work, satellite phones are few and far between,” said Ross. “Ham operators during Hurricane Katrina passed messages. We can talk to Japan if we need to,” he said. One legally blind team member who used a motorized wheelchair ran the ham radio and was one of the best in Sacramento. “There are no limitations on who can participate. There are many ways to be involved, with a job for everyone.” For additional information, visit www.sfdcerc.org. Look for them at many local public events. The next academy will be held in spring of 2019. ★

Creativity Gone Wild

Local Nonprofits Help Young Authors’ Dreams Come True

By Elise Spleiss

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - How many children do you know who have written illustrated, and published their own book? In Citrus Heights, 125 students, 1st through 5th grade, at the Mariposa Avenue Elementary School have added “author” to their resume, which will follow them through high school and beyond. This unique program called “Creativity Gone Wild” is taught by members of the Mariposa Literary Academy in Citrus Heights and is designed to inspire students to stretch their minds and use their imaginations in new ways. The program was the brainchild of Karen Szakacs, a kindergarten teacher at Mariposa in 2014, and Marsha Robinson, a local author of children’s books. Together with Cherelyn Martello, the three women launched the first academy in 2014. The spark that ignited the idea for the student authored books came when a kindergarten boy at Mariposa heard Robinson read her book “Rescuing Humphrey” to the class and afterwards raised his hand. He asked her to write another book about Humphrey. She answered by suggesting he write it. He replied, “I don’t know how,” and the Mariposa Literary Academy was born. Since January, 2014 the Academy has taught 11 after-school academies (two per year) with 125 young authors to-date proudly producing their own hard cover fiction books at the end of the 16-session academy. A maximum of 12 students are chosen by their teacher to participate in each academy. The entire book is the work of the student author. They come up with their own fictional story, with a beginning, middle and conclusion, along with illustrations. They begin with a normal life experience such as a camping trip in the woods with their family. They are told to enhance it using their imagination, such as being transported

to another planet by space aliens. The results have truly been mind-boggling. To help teach the authors how to illustrate their own books, Peter Blueberry, alias Lance Pyle - a children’s book author and illustrator, volunteers his time explaining the art of illustration and helping students with their own work. Shutterfly, an American internet-based publishing service, prints the books for about \$15 each. Each student receives a hardcover book for themselves, a hardcover book to sign for the school library and the Academy receives a paper copy of each student’s book. They have become the most popular books checked out by students. While instruction and the printed books are free to participants, actual cost per pupil averages \$50. In addition to the cost of publishing, funds are used for items such as paper and art supplies, snacks, and photography. Financially, the Literary Academy, Creativity Gone Wild, is

managing to stay solvent with the help of two philanthropic organizations and other donations. Through word of mouth the Rotary Club of Citrus Heights and Soroptimist International of Citrus Heights immediately stepped up and have continued to provide the largest portion of the over \$6,000 needed to fund the program for the last five years. The Optimist Club of Citrus Heights and Mariposa Parent Faculty Organization have also provided funds. Robinson stated in an email, “I would like to show my thanks to the organizations that have supported this program, to the volunteers that help us run the program, and to the school itself for allowing us to use their campus.” She would also like to invite other schools to look at the “possibilities that an academy like this can provide students” in their schools. The Mariposa Literary Academy would love to share their experiences with local elementary school teachers. ★

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Sacramento - William J. Kinney Police Station, North Command* (916) 808-6401 3550 Marysville Blvd.	Elk Grove - Walgreens* (916) 691-4412 7299 Laguna Blvd.
Sacramento Police Dept. Public Safety Center* (916) 808-0800 5770 Freepoint Blvd.	West Sacramento - Walgreens* (916) 371-3801 1351 W. Capitol Ave.
Sacramento County Sheriff North Division Station (916) 874-1021 5510 Garfield Ave.	Sacramento - CSUS Pharmacy at the Well* (916) 278-6040 6000 J St.
Sacramento County Sheriff Central Division Station (916) 876-8300 7000 65th St.	Sacramento - Jefferson Pharmacy (916) 371-2022 1029 Jefferson Blvd. Suite A
	Sacramento - Pucci's Pharmacy (916) 442-5891 2821 J St. <small>* Accepts controlled medications</small>

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 7

B	U	L	B	S		L	A	C			S	T	E	M		
A	L	E	R	T			O	V	A			C	A	R	T	E
S	N	E	E	R			D	E	N			E	R	I	C	A
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			D	N	A			O	O	H	S					
E	D	O			G	R	I	P			M	U	R	R	O	W
L	I	S	T			A	M	E	N			S	I	E	V	E
L	E	A	R			T	A	R	O	S			E	G	O	S
E	G	O	N			M	A	A	M			L	I	L	T	
N	O	E	T	I	C		T	H	E	M			S	O	S	
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C	O	L	B	E	R	T			F	L	Y	F	I	S	H	
U	S	U	A	L			O	A	R			E	N	D	U	E
S	L	A	T	Y			V	I	A			R	O	L	E	S
P	O	U	T				E	M	U			S	T	E	T	S

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 7

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

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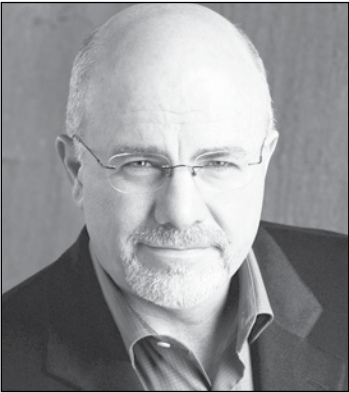
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Dave Says

houses three states away!
—Dave

Get a fresh start

Dear Dave,
I got laid off a couple of months ago, and I'm behind on the payments for a rental property. I found a full-time job recently, but it doesn't provide enough income to cover my other bills and the mortgage on this property. The other day, I received an offer from someone who is willing to buy it for what's owed on the property. I'm not sure that's the best thing, because I owe \$70,000 and it's worth around \$150,000. What do you think?

- Travis

Dear Travis,
You've got one thing right. You definitely need to get rid of the rental property. I'm not sure I'd jump at the offer you just received, but if I were in your shoes I'd slash the price way below value and sell the place.

Right now you're broke, and you're still trying to play real estate investor. That's not a good plan. I'd put a price tag of \$100,000 on it, so you can move it fast and still see some equity in the deal. But sell it today!

By doing this, you'll have a nice chunk of cash in your pocket, and you can get something of a financial fresh start — one that includes living on a written, monthly budget and staying out of debt!

—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 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey. ★



Make It Fun and It Will Get Done!

The Secret to Being Organized

Pam Young's Corner

Mother Nature Declutters in October and You Can Too!

Now that it's October, let it give you inspiration to declutter the way Mother Nature does when she strips her trees of the old leaves as part of a never-ending recycling plan. Remember that your kids grow quarterly (hopefully you don't) and what they wore this summer won't fit them next summer because they'll be a year bigger.

Blow in like the wind and box up all the stuff that no longer serves you and feel the relief of not having too much stuff. Here are my ten tips for de-cluttering.

1. Stop Homelessness

One of the main reasons stuff piles up on counters, dining tables, coffee tables and floors is that it's homeless. When an item has no "home," it gets added to an IPOD (Important Pile Of Decisions). That's why it's important to make sure everything in your home lives somewhere. "Homing" items in the room where they're used, helps ensure that they get put away when you're finished. For example, I keep a sewing kit in a drawer of an end table in my living room, because I like to mend garments in that room and not in my sewing room in the basement.

2. Stop Clutter at the Cash Register

Use that, waiting-to-buy time when you're standing in line at the cash register, to re-think what's in your hands or cart. Imagine it as clutter. What you buy today can turn into clutter tomorrow. The better you are about keeping things out of your home, the less likely you'll be to create IPODs when you get home.

3. Baby Step your Way to Clutter-free

Start with the room that's

bothering you the most. (In my 41-year career helping moms get organized, the kitchen is the room most picked.) Marla Cilley, the Flylady says, "Start by shining your kitchen sink." That's so brilliant! In order to keep your sink shiny, you have to keep it empty. In order to keep it empty, you and your family have to put dirty dishes in the dishwasher. In order to put dirty dishes in the dishwasher, it has to be empty!

4. CSI

Do some crime scene investigation by periodically scanning your home for clutter hot spots, and spend some time figuring out why stuff accumulates there. Often, it's not what you think. Take that pile of magazines under the end table. Behind that pile is optimism. You think, 'tomorrow I'll read those back issues of Parent Magazine, but right now I just don't have time.' The truth is, if you did have some free time tomorrow, you're NOT going to want to read the August, 2009 Parent's Magazine. My rule for magazines is, keep only the current one and dump and Google.

5. Keep Away from Organizing Containers

Victims of clutter often think the solution is to run right out, first thing, and stock up on organizing bins, baskets and pretty boxes to organize the clutter. Stop! You can't organize clutter! You can certainly try, but I warn you, if you did organize your clutter, you'd probably end up with a home that looks and smells like a Goodwill Store. Once you have a home for the stuff you love, use and need, then it's time to consider pretty containers. (See # 9)

6. Dump Duplicates.

Now I'm not talking about

9. Keep it Together

I have two friends who are not professional organizers, but they are what I call organically organized. Both are named Marci. (For those of you who struggle with being disorganized, I wish I could tell you to just change your name to Marci and voila, you'll be organized.) Both of these BOs (Born Organized) women have kits throughout their homes. One Marci has a clear plastic shoebox-sized container on the shelf inside her coat closet for gloves and one for hats. Under her sink in the guest bathroom (okay I snooped) she has a clear plastic container for cleaning supplies. The other Marci told me she has all her hand-care items in a clear plastic box. I know I warned you not to head to Target (tip # 5), but it can really help you organize activities when everything you need is in one place.

10. Have a Plan

Some spaces, like kitchen counters, and dining tables need daily de-cluttering. But cupboards and drawers can be decluttered monthly or even semi-annually. Whatever the frequency you decide upon, when you declutter a drawer, dump the whole thing out on the counter; wipe the drawer out with a soapy rag. Then, considering each item and put back only what you want to have in the drawer. With what's left, put away what you want to keep in other drawers and put what you no longer want or use in a box for Goodwill.

October is a great month to get organized and declutter your home. The holidays are right around the bend and you'll thank yourself for the work you put in now.

For more from Pam Young go to www.cluborganized.com. You'll find many musings, videos of Pam in the kitchen preparing delicious meals, videos on how to get organized, lose weight and get your finances in order, all from a reformed SLOB's point of view. ★

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Tulip precursors

6. "Le ____ des cygnes"

9. Education-related acronym

13. Heads-up

14. Fertility clinic stock

15. A la ____

16. Curl one's lip

17. Cub's home

18. "The Goldbergs" sibling

19. *Carpool ____ with James Corden

21. *Fallon is on when?

23. Crime scene evidence

24. Sounds of amazement

25. Tokyo, once

28. Strong hold

30. *Host of "Good night, and good luck" fame

35. Roll call document

37. End of prayer

39. Bowl unsuitable for water

40. Shakespeare's king

41. Cocoyam, pl.

43. What egoist and egotist have in common, pl.

44. Encourage

46. Madam, to a cowboy

47. Pleasant gentle accent

48. Intellectual

50. Not us

52. Lusitania's last call

53. Sherlock Holmes' assignment

55. Waikiki garland

57. *Letterman's successor

61. Do like in "A River Runs Through It"

65. To a bartender: "The ____"

66. Argonaut's propeller

68. Empower

69. Of a particular gray shade

70. By way of

71. Theatrical characters

72. Displeasure display

73. Australian runner

74. Auditor's "Let it stand"

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15

16 17 18

19 20 21 22

23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

35 36 37 38 39

40 41 42 43

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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 6

- marks
- DOWN
1. Derive pleasure
2. Forearm bone
3. Malicious look
4. Cabbage
5. Chris Hemsworth's movie "12 ____"
6. Ore deposit
7. Perpendicular to St. in NYC
8. Ann Patchett's novel "Bel ____"
9. Hindu wrap
10. H.S. math class
11. Write on tombstone, e.g.
12. Animal protein
15. Population count
20. Gold unit
22. Omega of electrical resistance
24. Perform a surgery
25. *Talker and Oscar, Grammy and Emmy host
26. Muralist Rivera
27. "____ County" with Streep
29. Mosque V.I.P.
31. Cambodian money
32. *Kelly's ex
33. Convex molding

34. Adam and Mae
36. Ragtime turkey dance
38. *Jon Stewart's successor
42. Fresh Prince: "____ ya later!"
45. In a pleasant manner
49. *Where some James Corden segments are set
51. *Former "Weekend Update" host
54. *Appliance on Rachael Ray' Show set
56. "____ me, then who?"
57. Pointy part of a tooth
58. Nobel Peace Prize capital
59. Hula feast
60. Quilter's stuffing
61. German Mrs.
62. Not in use
63. Edible fat
64. Hitler's Deputy
67. Go for the bull's eye

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For Solutions See Page 6

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By Marlys Johnsen Norris,
Christian Author

When one places Jesus Christ on the throne of their lives, there is power they receive from the Holy Spirit who guides and teaches them what they need to learn about living the Christian life. One is to love and care as Christ loves regardless of what happens in their lives. It is denying ones self and counting others worthy of loving care. Picture the cross that Jesus Christ died. See Him sitting on the chair/throne of your life beginning today!

A Christian now belongs to the Body of Christ. And Jesus is the head of the true church regardless of which Christian denomination! We belong together! It is a community with a "divine connection of God's love" that includes Fellowship, Bible study and Prayer. "Bible Study Fellowship" throughout the world thoroughly demonstrates this truth to all their members.

Greet everyone with a loving Spirit of Jesus. *"Therefore it is of faith, that it may be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed (all of us); not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all."* (Romans 4:16) A glorious Invitation into

Jesus on the Throne of Your Life

May the Holy Word of God Speak to Your Heart!

the huge Family of God. *"All the brethren greet you. Greet you one another with an holy kiss."* (1 Cor. 16:20)

When one submits to the Holy will of God we are called to "help one another grow" spiritually in the things of God. God's word states: *"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."* (Eph 5:21) Teach one another the things of God with love. *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."* (Colossians 3:16) While one grows in the teachings and Word of God, encourage and uplift them. *"Wherefore comfort one another with the words—of faith"* (1 Thes 4:18)

"Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God."(Romans 15:7)

Love everyone with honor and devotion regardless of their personal journey to know and love God with their heart and soul. *"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another."* (Romans 12:10) Again: Picture the cross that Jesus Christ died on and now sitting on the chair/throne of your life beginning today! Be in harmony as you teach them. *"Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits."* (Romans 12:16)

Admonishment comes from

God, just love them. "Bless them which persecute you; bless and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep." (Romans 12:14-15) "And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another." (Romans 15:14)

Accept one another wherever they are in their journey to know and love Jesus. Love them in God's infinite love. *"Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God."*(Romans 15:7)

"And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up and said unto them. Men and brothers, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles (unbeliever) by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe!" (Acts 15:7) Therefore help them!

Daily seek the Holy voice of God and be in His perfect will for your life. Realize everyone is on the same path to know and love Him but we all are in different places in our individual journey. Be obedient to the Holy Word of God that speaks to your heart and wonderful things will happen you never dreamed possible as the abundant life promised will be yours.

In His Forever Love,
Marlys Johnsen Norris
Christian Author, Teacher,
ARM Columnist since 2006
Marlysjn@gmail.com PO Box
114, Orangevale, Ca 95662 ★



By Pastor Ray Dare

Sometimes in life you don't know what to do, what choice to make. The apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:8, "Love never fails." It's always the right thing to do.

Without love, all that I say means nothing. *"If I speak in the tongues of men and/or angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal."* He says words without love are nothing, ineffective. The Corinthians were real caught up in this. They were proud of their spiritual gifts. They said, "We can speak in the tongues of man and angels!" God says, "You're majoring on the minors."

Without love, all that I know means nothing. *"If I have the gift of prophecy, and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge... but have not love I am nothing."* You could be a walking Bible

Pastor Ray's Encouraging Words

How to Be Always Right

encyclopedia, memorize and quote the whole New Testament, split a theological hair sixteen different ways, but God says, "It doesn't matter without love." *"Knowledge puffs up, but loves builds up."* The world is exploding with information. Yet are any of man's basic problems being solved? No. The world is not looking for more knowledge; the world is looking for more love.

Without love, all that I believe means nothing. *"If I have faith that can move mountains, but have not love I am nothing."* Someone says, "I'm a Christian...I believe in Jesus." Big deal! So does the devil. The question is, "Do you love Jesus? Do you love other people? Christianity is a lifestyle and the lifestyle is love.

Without love, all I accomplish means nothing. *"If I were burned alive for preaching the Gospel, but I didn't love others, it would be of no value whatever."* You could rack up a list of impressive achievements and accomplishments -- but without love it won't matter - zip! It's wasted effort.

One day, God is going to do an audit on your life and when

He evaluates your life He is not going to focus on what your fame, success, accomplishments or bank balance was. He's going to look at one thing. How you treated people. Did you love?

I have this ritual I go through every day, a little prayer that goes like, *"God, if I don't get anything else done today, help me to love You more and love other people more."* Because if I don't get anything else done, if I love God more and love people more; it will be a successful day. I encourage you to begin praying this little prayer, *"Lord, help me to love you more and love other people more..."*

Today is the day to treat people with love. You don't know how long you're going to have the opportunity. You're not guaranteed a tomorrow, circumstances change... people die... children grow up and leave home, you're not guaranteed tomorrow, so if you're going to express love you need to begin today.

Pastor Ray
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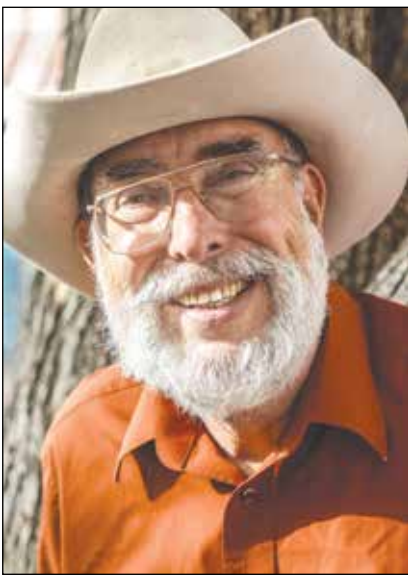
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If you prefer to RSVP via email, log onto our website and go to the seminar registration page.

 www.EastLawn.com



Slim Randles' HOME COUNTRY

He Makes Pyramids in the Back Yard

One of the great pleasures of hanging around down at the livestock auction barn each Saturday morning is being able to take your dog along.

Why do we go to the sales barn? We love agriculture, and it's part of living here to see who buys what and rejoice in their good fortune, even if our own grass is stressed to the limit by whatever varmint we're currently feeding. Or, it could be that we figure we've already lived too long, and if the right horse or cow comes through there, and we buy

it, our wives will see to it that we don't suffer in agony for untold years.

This weekly auction is a treasure house for our dogs. It's a dog's day out, a chance to scrounge under the bleachers for dropped hot dog portions and the occasional sweet bun crust. It's a chance for them to get reacquainted with dog buddies and to check out any new pickups in the parking lot whose tires have not yet been properly baptized.

My coonhound loves it. She had done

her munching, scrounging and socializing and was curled up under my truck, waiting for me, as we were getting ready to leave. Dud's blue heeler was flitting around in the bed of his pickup truck, guarding against anything that might deign to trespass. And Doc had a new dog, of non-obvious parentage, on a leash, which meant he was not yet broken in to sales barn etiquette. Once he got used to it, and had been introduced to the other dogs, he'd fit right in and the leash would be history.

"What kind of dog is that, Doc?" we asked.

"Why, he's an Egyptian shepherd."

"I never heard of an Egyptian shepherd. Does he work cattle?"

"Nope."

"What's he do?"

Doc grinned, "He makes pyramids in the back yard."

Brought to you by Dogsled: A True Tale of the North. Available on Amazon.com. ★

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Important Dates

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| Oct 9 | All Ballot Drop Box locations open | Nov 6 | Election Day! Last day to turn in your ballot |
| Oct 27 | Some Vote Centers open | | |

- A full list of Ballot Drop Box and Vote Center locations will be available in your County Voter Information Guide, in your mail ballot packet, at www.Elections.SacCounty.net, and on the SacVote App

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CHEERS & JEERS

by Damian Holbrook

Cheers to Glenn Weiss
for dropping the mic by popping the question. As if earning a trophy for directing the Oscars wasn't enough, Weiss blew the crowd's mind when he proposed to his girlfriend, Jan Svendsen, onstage! Thankfully, the orchestra didn't play him off before she said yes.

Cheers to The Americans
for getting a salute. After six seasons of awesome, FX's now-wrapped Russian spy drama was awarded an outstanding writing win for executive producers Joe Weisberg and Joel Fields, while Matthew Rhys snagged lead actor. But who colluded to ice out lead actress nominee Keri Russell (pictured, with Rhys)?

Jeers to The Hosts
for not being very relevant. At best, Colin Jost and Michael Che (pictured) were fine. At their awkward worst, they reminded us that Emmy producer Lorne Michaels could have showcased *Saturday Night Live's* more diverse (and deserving) nominees, Kate McKinnon, Aidy Bryant, Leslie Jones and Kenan Thompson.

Jeers to Game of Thrones
for playing with our heads. How did Season 7 nab outstanding drama when the series starring Emilia Clarke, hasn't aired in more than a year? We barely remember what happened. Was this the season with the muddy battle and all the sex or the one with the really muddy battle and the incest?



Matthew Rhys and Keri Russell (pictured) of FX's Russian Spy drama, *The Americans*. ★



ASK MATT

BY MATT ROUSH *TV Guide Senior Critic*

IS TRAVEL CHANNEL'S HOTEL IMPOSSIBLE COMING BACK?

Question: Will Travel Channel's *Hotel Impossible* be on anymore? That show makes you not want to stay at hotels anymore! —Dennis

Matt Roush: I get a lot of questions like this, and it's almost impossible (no pun intended) to keep up with the comings and goings of these

reality-based cable series. Often they're just in between seasons, and there's no predicting when they come on and off the schedule, but in the case of *Hotel*, it's no longer in production. Though Travel Channel does make past episodes available on its app, for devices like Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV, or the phone, and on the channel's website.

Question: [SPOILER ALERT] I finally got involved in *Shooter*

on USA ... and they killed off Bobby Lee's wife Julie! With all the insanity and nonsense he put her through ... she's gone? It kind of frustrated me and makes me not want to tune in anymore. Ridiculous turn of events. —Louise

Matt Roush: Well, you'll at least be spared that problem, because there will be no more episodes of *Shooter* to tune into. This season turned out to be its last—and no, at the moment, no streaming service has stepped in to rescue it. But when I heard that this took place in the finale, I groaned even without watching. This kill-the-wife stunt is getting old.

To submit questions to TV Critic Matt Roush, go to: twin-sider.com ★



POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

well-being.

2) HAVE I HEARD SOMEONE SAY THIS THOUGHT BEFORE? So many voices in our head are actually echoes. They're old words we heard someone say to us, such as a parent, spouse or boss. By identifying the originator of the thought, you can find out if it really belongs to you. Many times, it doesn't.

3) DO YOU LIKE THIS THOUGHT? Go ahead and ask yourself: Is this thought desirable or appealing? If not, then ask yourself: why are you thinking it? If you don't like what you're hearing, you don't have to listen.

4) DOES THIS THOUGHT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER? Negative thoughts tear us down instead build us up. They seep into our psyches, wreaking havoc. Ask yourself: Is this thought making you feel better or worse about yourself? If it doesn't enhance your self-esteem in any way, why are you thinking it?

5) DOES THIS THOUGHT WORK FOR ME? Is this thought useful or productive? With this question, you can take a look at whether or not a

thought supports your desires and goals. If not, why are you thinking it?

6) AM I IN CONTROL OF THIS THOUGHT? Does this thought have any kind of hold or power over you? Or, are you in control of it? If not, ask yourself why you should let a thought have power to control you. Remember, you are the commander of your own thoughts, not the other way around.

7) DO YOU WANT TO KEEP THIS THOUGHT OR LET IT GOT? With this question, you're finding out if you want to hold on to a thought that serves no useful purpose for your well-being. If it's not doing you any good, it's probably doing you bad. So let it go.

So next time you let those negative thoughts in like "I can't do that" or "I'm not good enough" or "I don't deserve this," just ask yourself "Says Who" and get back on the positive track where you should be. If you want to check out more about how negativity tricks us into believing we're being productive when we're not, you can go to www.oranadrich.com. Cancel out that negative...positively! ★

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Sacramento County DA Reports

Defendant Convicted of Sexually Assaulting Multiple Children
DATE: September 25, 2018
CASE: Steven Sommer (Case #17FE004388)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Catrina Skor, Special Assault & Child Abuse Unit
Steven Sommer pled no contest to five counts of committing a lewd act upon a child, and admitted to the allegation the conduct was committed against more than one victim.
Between 1993 and 2002, Sommer sexually assaulted five children whose ages ranged from 4 to 11 years old at the time of the assaults. Sommer would lure the victims to his house, where he showed them pornography and had them engage in sexual activity. The first victim reported the sexual abuse in 2013, which launched a larger investigation. The investigation led to four other victims, who reported Sommer abused them for years. When the Sacramento Valley Hi-Tech Crimes Task Force searched Sommer's computer, it revealed dozens of images of child pornography and searches related to child pornography.
Sommer faces a maximum sentence of 33 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for October 15, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 30 before the Honorable James McFetridge.

Jury Determines Sexually Violent Predator Will Stay in Hospital
DATE: September 26, 2018
CASE: Robert Sims (Case #93F03509 & 04F05695)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Denise Halstead, Mental Health Litigation Unit
A jury found true a petition of civil commitment against Robert Sims as a Sexually Violent Predator (SVP).
In 1993, Sims was convicted of rape by force or fear. In that case, the 16-year-old victim was walking to school when Sims got her into his car, used a knife to threaten her and then raped her. He received 3 years in state prison. While incarcerated on a parole violation in 2004, Sims used force to sodomize his cellmate and was convicted of sodomy. He received a 32-month sentence. Sims violated parole in 2007 when he failed to register as a sex offender. As a result, the District Attorney's Office filed a petition to civilly commit Sims as an SVP.
While in the hospital, Sims assaulted a staff member in a sexual manner and displayed sexual behavior during an interview by an expert called to evaluate him. Doctors from the Department of State Hospitals had the opinion that Sims represents a danger to the health and safety of others, in that he is likely to engage in sexually violent predatory criminal behavior.
Deputy District Attorney Denise Halstead states, "Sims has shown he will sexually offend in the community, in jail and in the state hospital. The jury determined that Sims continues to present a substantial danger and a serious risk to commit such crimes if free, and our community is safer with this finding."

Second Defendant Sentenced for Murder, Attempted Murders
DATE: September 28, 2018
CASE: Dashawn Tinsley & RV Watson Jr. (Case #16FE016082)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Matt Chisholm, Adult Sexual Assault Prosecution Unit
The Honorable Curtis Fiorini sentenced RV Watson Jr. to 207 years to life in prison. Dashawn Tinsley was previously sentenced to 141 years to life in prison.
On June 5, 2018, Dashawn Tinsley and RV Watson Jr. were convicted by a jury for the first-degree murder of Andrew VanHunnik and three counts of premeditated attempted murder. The jury also found true that both defendants fired firearms causing great bodily injury or death to three separate victims.
On December 24, 2015, one victim drove to his mother's Citrus Heights home. As he exited his car, he was shot three times and suffered a broken left arm from one of the bullets. On December 28, 2015, law enforcement responded to a shooting in Citrus Heights and found a car riddled with bullets. Inside the car was Mr. VanHunnik, who was deceased from multiple gun shots. Two other victims who were also in the car survived. One victim escaped the car after being shot five times, and the second victim escaped without being shot. Detectives from the Citrus Heights Police Department were able to locate witnesses and physical evidence which established both Tinsley and Watson as the shooters in the murder and the earlier attempted murder.

Defendant Sentenced for Sexually Assaulting Woman on Train
DATE: September 28, 2018
CASE: Jerron Rolen (Case #17FE020552)
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Bret Wasley, Adult Sexual Assault Prosecution Unit
The Honorable Eugene Balonon sentenced Jerron Rolen to 25 years to life in prison. On August 6, 2018, a jury convicted Rolen of sexual assault by foreign object while the victim is unconscious and assault with intent to commit mayhem, rape, sodomy, oral copulation.
On October 31, 2017, Rolen boarded an Amtrak train. The 20-year-old victim boarded the same train and was assigned a seat next to Rolen. The two chatted for a few hours until the victim decided to go to sleep. The victim woke up to Rolen sexually assaulting her. The terrified victim told Rolen she needed to use the restroom and sat next to someone else. When the train arrived in Sacramento, the victim told a train attendant about the assault. Rolen was arrested on the train.
Rolen's two prior 2012 strike convictions in the state of Washington for child sexual assault were also found true at sentencing.

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Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 10/3/18 - 10/9/18 CHM PLU 449 **\$1.99**

Sacramento’s Measure U Tax Increase is a Slush Fund for Greedy Politicians



Commentary by Katy Grimes, Investigative Journalist

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento voters are once again faced with tax increases on the November ballot because Mayor Darrell Steinberg and most of the members of City Council can’t or won’t be honest about their gross spending and particular taste for other people’s money. So here we are again, solving Sacramento’s latest budget/spending crisis with hefty tax increases.

Sacramento city revenues are more than \$120 million up from 2010, and up 16 percent in just the past two years. This is not counting the \$50 million Measure U brings in every year. Measure U was a half-cent sales tax sold to voters as necessary to restore the city services cut during the recession. Okay, we’re good.

But we’re not. Measure U is a slush fund for greedy politicians; more is never enough.

Voters are faced with yet another Measure U on the ballot, and this one doubles the half-cent sales tax and makes it permanent, raising Sacramento’s sales tax to 8.75 percent.

California is already ranked at the number 1 top sales tax state in the country with the highest state-level sales tax at 7.25 percent, and a combined rate of 8.54 percent, according to the Tax Foundation. And Sacramento is knocking on the door of even higher sales taxes. Yet, high tax rates cause lower real tax revenue collection, and serve to punish lower income families far more.

What Happened?

In 2012 when Jerry Brown was getting his statewide Proposition 30 sales and income tax increase on the top 1 percent wealthiest Californians, Sacramento city voters also passed Measure U, a “temporary tax” to allow the City to

enact a half-cent sales tax for six years with all revenue going to the City’s General Fund.

Proponents claimed the “temporary measure” was needed to stop the loss of city services and jobs blamed on the recession. The City of Sacramento said Measure U was needed to restore and protect City services. “The intent was to restore police and fire services, park maintenance and other essential services that were cut between 2008 and 2013.” The city made it appear unthinkable that voters would deny police, fire and parks their rightful budgets.

Most city residents already noticed the loss of city services along with skyrocketing city utility/services bills, in addition to increasing taxes.

“Budget officials initially projected the tax would generate \$31.8 million in the current fiscal year,” sacbee.com reported in 2015. “Instead, Measure U dollars are now expected to reach \$41.5 million this year and remain nearly \$10 million above original projections for the next four years.”

There’s no such thing as a temporary tax – this lie is used by politicians to get their tax increases passed by gullible voters. Measure U is set to expire in March 2019. So what does Mayor Darrell Steinberg and the City Council do? They put Measure U back on the ballot for November, to double the size of the tax and make it permanent, saying “inclusive economic growth” makes it necessary. “I’m confident when people see what we can do with a full penny, they will respond favorably,” Steinberg said.

Yah, it’s just another penny... If you aren’t familiar with “inclusive economic growth,” you may want to pour a stiff whiskey when you read, “Inclusive growth is economic growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all,” according to many “Sustainable growth” organizations. It’s largely used in third-world countries, so I’m curious why Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg chose this feel-good wording... unless perhaps he agrees that Sacramento is turning into a third world city. In 2017, a city report found a 30 percent spike in homelessness over the past two years, which many in the region felt underestimated the problem.

All Tax Increases Are ‘Pension Taxes’

At the root of the financial

problem in nearly every California city, as well as at the state, is swelling pension obligations, — though no one in Sacramento City Hall wants to admit this is what the Measure U tax increase is really about. “As the costs of pensions and employee salaries increase, the city of Sacramento is forecasting budget deficits beginning next year,” sacbee.com reported. “Those gaps are expected to reach \$25 million by 2022.”

The biggest problem with the old Measure U and the new Measure U is that it is a general tax, which goes directly into the General Fund, without any specific earmarks, as the Mayor would have voters believe. It doesn’t go to pay down the Calpers obligation for unfunded city pensions, nor is it specifically designated to repair and maintain city parks, or to address the exploding homeless population.

Measure U is another blank check for the Mayor and City Council in their quest to turn Sacramento into a “World Class City.” They think they need the money to attract more professional sports teams, build more five star hotels and \$4 million condos.

With taxes maxed out on the rich, the Mayor and City Council are now targeting the poor and middle class to keep funding the city government employee pension black hole. There’s no talk among council members of spending cutbacks or real reforms.

Last month, Mayor Steinberg showed his true colors when he forced a collective bargaining agreement with trade unions, without any input from the public. He even shut down two council members who questioned the cost and accountability to taxpayers. Under the agreement, any public construction job in the city costing more than \$1 must use union labor. This is another gift to his union thug friends. No one at the city knows what this will cost taxpayers, and Steinberg doesn’t care.

Mayor Darrell Steinberg doesn’t deserve more of taxpayers’ hard-earned money. He’s incapable of fiscal prudence, is tied at the hip to labor unions, and feels nothing about taxing middle-class and low income families more to feed his greed.

Vote NO on Measure U this November. ★

City Council Approves New Development Plans

Story by Shaunna Boyd

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - After an inspiring promotion ceremony swearing in three new members of the executive police staff, Mayor Steve Miller called the September 27 Citrus Heights City Council meeting back to order to discuss the rest of the evening’s agenda.

Mesa Verde High School Principal Colin Bross delivered an impassioned presentation describing the school’s efforts to increase enrollment and address the negative perceptions of the school that are inhibiting its growth. Principal Bross explained that some people in the community have misconceptions about the school, mistakenly believing that the school is unsafe and doesn’t offer enough academic options.

Although the school is experiencing decreased enrollment, they have been actively working to increase the attendance rate of the enrolled students and have seen a positive improvement. Principal Bross described the school’s three-year business academy program, the strong athletic programs, the highly qualified teaching staff, and their partnership with Citrus Heights Police Department. They are working to increase academic rigor and to achieve equitable access to advanced placement courses. They have increased the number of advanced placement courses in addition to increasing the number of students of color and of low socio-economic status who are enrolled in AP courses.

The developer of Stock Ranch wants to build an 8,700 square-foot commercial building that will front Auburn Blvd. In a compromise between the city and the applicant, the design plan has been revised to allow that 50% of the frontage will be transparent (window, glass doors) and active with outdoor seating areas.

Council Member Jeff Slowey said, “It is good to see this project is moving forward after many years.” He acknowledged that the area has a lot of open land and hopes the developments will be an asset to the city. Mayor Miller stated that he is impressed with the landscaping plans. No public comments were made, and the council unanimously adopted the resolution.

The council then heard public testimony regarding the allocation of the annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that are used to develop urban communities by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities. For 2019, the estimated CDBG entitlement award is \$600,000; of that total, \$110,000 will be used to meet public service requests. Representatives from the following public service groups spoke to the council about their requests for funds: Campus Life Connection, which offers after school programs; Meal on Wheels, a senior nutrition program; Crossroads Diversified Services, which offers youth employment readiness programs; Sunrise Christian Food Ministry, an emergency food program; Sacramento Self-Help Housing, which offers housing counseling and a renter’s helpline; Terra Nova Counseling, a juvenile diversion and education program; and WEAVE’s violence reduction team.

Council members stated that they are happy to be able to provide funding for 2019 since all the organizations are so worthy and do so much good for area residents. The council moved to continue the final action on the draft plan to the November 8, 2018 meeting.

The council then approved an amendment to the general plan and zoning code concerning commercial subdivisions. The amendment, Policy 9.5, would discourage the creation

of any new parcels within existing commercial centers, if such creation might hinder the viability and/or future redevelopment of the center. The policy requires any proposed commercial subdivision to depict their long-term development plans. The amendment is supported by Sunrise MarketPlace and other business groups in the city.

A proposed update to small lot ordinance guidelines was unanimously approved. Some lots in the city are too small to develop into apartment complexes, so a “new use category” is being proposed. The intent of the proposal is to increase housing options in the city and enable the development of difficult parcels.

The update to the small lot ordinance would allow for single-family homes that share guest parking and landscaping in the front common areas but have small individual yard spaces in the back. The proposal includes important design details such as standards for landscaping, the use of decorative paving, and architectural design. In order to upkeep the shared landscaping, an HOA would be required for each small lot community. Vice Mayor Jeannie Bruins said, “If it’s done right, it could be very charming, like cottages with a friendly neighborhood feel.”

The meeting closed with Council Member Bret Daniels requesting an item be added the future agenda: he spoke with great emotion about the recent killing of Mark Stasyuk, a Sacramento County Sheriff’s deputy who was shot in the line of duty while on a routine call in Rancho Cordova. Deputy Stasyuk was an alumnus of San Juan High School in Citrus Heights, so Council Member Daniels requested that the city work together with the school and with other neighborhood groups to ensure that a fitting memorial is created to honor Deputy Stasyuk for his service. ★

Historic Moment for CHPD

Department Emphasizes Teamwork

Continued from page 1
business of public safety. The importance of teamwork was the common theme. She thanked Assistant City Manager Rhonda Rivera and Community Services Director Rhonda Sherman for their skill and professionalism and vowed to continue their partnership in working with city council and the city manager.

In 2019 Chief Lawrence will become president of the California Police Chiefs Association. His new position will free up Anderson’s time to lead public safety dialogue

within communities throughout the state.

Anderson recognized the great personal sacrifices city founders and community leaders went through to incorporate and to bring a police department to Citrus Heights. She vowed to employ the executive team and community partnerships to keep the memory of this sacrifice alive in the department.

Finally, she emphasized the importance of developing programs focusing on the youth in community to deter crime now and in the future.

Also present at the event to support the new executive team was Tom Chaplin who began his career in Citrus Heights as a lieutenant in 2006. He was the first lieutenant to promote to a commander in 2010. In 2013 Chaplin left Citrus Heights to be chief of police for Walnut Creek. This is just one of dozens of testimonials to the quality of officers developed at the CHDP. Officers move on, taking the experience and leadership learned here to other law enforcements agencies. ★

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