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VOLUME 7 • ISSUE 11

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JUNE 2, **2017**

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Remembering Those Who Have Died Serving Our Country



Louis Borovansky (far left), 94, served in the Army Infantry in World War II. Shown here (from left to right) with grandson Harrison, granddaughter Katie and son Andy. Assemblyman Ken Cooley (photo at right) with Willora Day, Grand President of the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary (with the VFW), and Jim Monteton, Master of Ceremonies and member of American Legion Post 637. Photos by Elise Spleis:

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG - The annual Memorial Day service at Sylvan Cemetery in Citrus Heights was held this year on May 29. As is tradition, friends and family waited at the cemetery gazebo for the procession led by the Citrus Heights Police Motorcycle Detail and Color Guard to arrive. The Folsom Harmony Express Singers created an atmosphere of patriotism for those waiting, and during the service, with their popular array of patriotic barbershop-style pieces, including the song for each of the five branches of the military.

The police escort, followed by the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, members of the American Legion (AL) Post 637, Boy Scout troop 228 and members of the public wound around parts of the cemetery, stopping at four stations to honor those buried who fought in the Civil War, WWII, Korea and Vietnam. It arrived at the gazebo at 11 a.m.

The police color guard presented arms, a prayer was said by AL chaplain Jerry Smith, and the MIA/POW flags were posted.

Master of Ceremonies Jim Monteton. Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Sylvan Cemetery and an expert on its history spoke of the more than 1,400 veterans of four wars buried there. Of those, only eight died in combat.

He thanked his use of Facebook for the rise in attendance this year and for the 30 members of the community who showed up to help put 1,400 flags on veteran's graves.

American Legion Post 637 Commander Paul Reyes, Sacramento County Supervisor Sue Frost, Mayor Jeff Slowey, and Police Chief Ron Lawrence spoke.

Lawrence referred to the military as police officer's "blood cousins", neither knowing what to expect when they go to work each day. He said "it is an honor to stand shoulder to shoulder" with their military counterparts to protect and defend their flag.



Members of the city council, former Citrus Heights mayor, Roberta MacGlashan and Assemblyman Ken Cooley were also in atten-

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You can contact PetData toll free at 855-223-1682 or Citrus Heights Animal Services 916-725-7387 to get your license

Source: City of Citrus Heights★

Gibson Ranch Likely to Remain Under Ose Management

Story by Jacqueline Fox

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The County Board of Supervisors and former Congressman Doug Ose have a working plan for management of Gibson Ranch on the table that, with the exception of one caveat concerning entry fee increases, appears poised for approval and, if so, would pave the way for Ose to continue on as manager of the 325-acre nature reserve.

The Board of Supervisors has directed Regional Parks Director Jeff Leatherman to fine-tune a plan he and Ose jointly crafted and presented to the board May 23 that proposes a year-to-year contract for Ose's company, GRP 2011, LLC. (GRP), rather than a 20-year lease he'd original said he would

pursue. The lease would run for four years and carry an option for extensions of up to four additional one-year terms, with a 90-day notification to terminate.

Perhaps the most significant changes, however, involve a shift in responsibility for several operational costs from Ose to the county. Ose was granted a five-year renewable lease to manage the park in 2011, however, earlier this year he announced plans to pull out unless the county could renegotiate an agreement to offset his monthly losses of roughly \$20,000, losses he said he was incurring largely due to rising labor costs.

Under the terms of the proposed plan, the city would take on \$110,500 in annual operating costs for Gibson

Continued on page 8



Doug Ose (above) was granted a five-year renewable lease to manage the park in 2011, however, earlier this year he announced plans to pull out unless the county could renegotiate an agreement to offset his monthly losses of roughly



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There's No Place Like Home



Pictured from left former employee Leslie Low, sisters Denise Easter-Kramer and Sandy Easter-Graham, Rosemary Easter (mother of Easter-Kramer and Easter-Graham), employee Kathleen De Santis, former employee Judy Pickens. Seated front signing copies of her book is Mother Dolores Hart, OSB, Hollywood actress-turned cloistered religious nun.

By Shelly Lembke

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Easter sisters and their business have almost always been on the move, but now they seem to have settled in to stay at their latest location on Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights. For them, it is a move back home. Back to their roots.

The business, Easter's Catholic Books and Gifts has been a Sacramento area staple since 1998, offering books, gifts and much more to customers seeking Christian products. Considering the owners start, they truly have come a long way. "We opened our brick and mortar store in 1998, after having spent five years selling books out of our cars," said owner Denise Easter-Kramer. Co-owner with her sister Sandy Easter-Graham, and with the help and support of a third sister Kathy Easter-Baxter, Easter-Kramer and Easter-Graham are the beating heart and soul of their business.

Like many small business owners, the pair is all too familiar with 80-hour work weeks, but they do it for love. After a time away from the Catholic faith that they had been raised in, the sisters began feeling an emptiness in their lives. "Many years of work in the secular field left us empty and unfulfilled. We both found our way home to the faith of our youth," according to Easter-Kramer. "Our dreams were realized by sharing what we'd found in the works of the great writers of the Christianity, the Saints, and also the many contemporary authors who had been schooled in the same."

Since opening Easter's first location, the store has moved several times as the customer base and demand has shifted, growing and changing with the times. Adaptation has been a big part of the business's survival. The sisters were pioneers in the California homeschooling movement and an initial and integral part of their early business was as a supplier of textbooks for homeschooling families. From there they phased rather logically into classical spiritual works as homeschooling and its' students matured.

Former employees remain friends. One such person, Judy Pickens, spoke about her time working at Easter's. "It was a wonderful place to work. Working at Easter's was more than a job. It was a ministry. Many times people were looking for a book or gift that would help someone going through a difficult time in their life. Both customers and employees talked about their journeys of faith, sharing both the ups and the downs. It was encouraging to

area merchants, but working with the City of Citrus Heights has been a mixed blessing with lots of red tape and not-so-much in the new business incentive area, which could encourage more businesses into the City limits.

Their current location is a proverbial stone's throw from where the sisters grew up in Citrus Heights and where their parents operated one of the very first mini-marts. It was from Case Roble High School that Easter-



Posing for a little fun with a cardboard cut-out of Pope Francis are from left (standing) Sandy Easter-Graham with daughter (kneeling) Dena Brand, (standing) Denise Easter-Kramer, employee Amber Donnelly and (kneeling) employee Charmaine Cooper.

past, the Fathers and Doctors of hear other people's stories," said Christianity, the Saints, and also Pickens.

The advent of the Internet and online book retailing brought changes in customer's shopping habits and Easter's has continued to keep pace with the times, providing special order services though a wide array of specialty publishers from all over. Their gift line has also become a large part of their Christian product offerings, in addition to books and literature from the contemporary to out of print classics. Easter-Kramer smiled and said, "We want anyone to feel comfortable walking in here. We are Catholic, but it's not a monastery."

Easter-Kramer said they have them at 916-338-7272 or or been warmly welcomed by other at www.eastersbooks.com.

Kramer graduated and shyly admits to having been a cheerleader. "I've always been blessed with a lot of energy."

That energy comes in handy each day, as there is no aspect of the business Easter-Kramer doesn't oversee: blogs, website, phones, inventory and one other amazing luxury for modern shoppers: Easter's free giftwrapping services for each and every purchase. Staff cut, wrap, tape and ribbon books and gifts personally.

Easter's is located at 6916 Sunrise Blvd, Suite 1 in Citrus Heights. For more information on hours, classes, special orders, guest speakers or more, contact them at 916-338-7272 or online



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City Council Appoints Albert Fox to Fill Turner's Open Seat

Story by Jacqueline Fox

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Citrus Heights City Council has appointed Albert (Al) Fox, a sitting member of the city's planning commission, to fill the seat left vacant with the April 20 passing of Councilman Melvin Turner who succumbed to pancreatic cancer in the middle of his second term in office.

Following interviews with all nine candidates vying for the open seat, Fox was unanimously selected by the remaining four council members in a special meeting May 26.

"There were nine worthy applicants in total, all who did well in the interviews," Mayor Jeff Slowey said, adding that once initial interviews were conducted, the list of finalists was narrowed down to four and then to two, Fox being one of them. A final motion to appoint Fox was put forward and approved with all four council members in

"While nobody can do justice to or replace Mel Turner's legacy, the Council needed to appoint someone so we had a full complement of votes," Slowey said.

With a short window of just 60 days to take action, the council chose the option to appoint a replacement for the open seat, rather than hold a special election, which would have cost the city roughly \$900,000, Slowey

"It's an expensive process and a ridiculous figure, but that's how much it costs to run a special election."

The council also had the option to leave the seat vacant, but given the length of Turner's remaining term, which was set



While nobody can do justice to or replace MelTurner's legacy, the Council needed to appoint someone so we had a full complement of votes," Jeff

to expire in December of 2018, ruled that option out, as it would have left the council open to split

"We were in agreement to move forward with appointing someone," Mayor Slowey said, intimating strongly that it was not the preferred first choice, but the one that the entire body agreed was the most prudent, given the costs and the length of time remaining in Turner's term. "While all of us would have supported a special election if it was affordable, unfortunately that is not the case. So we made the decision to appoint before June 19th.'

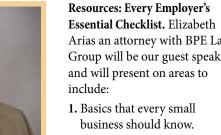
Prior to the vote, Slowey said he would have supported leaving the seat open if Turner's remaining term were set to expire this year, adding that, likely, so too would have the remaining three councilmembers.

"To be honest, if Mel's term was up this year, we would leave it," Slowey said.

Applications for appointment to the fill Turner's seat were opened up to anyone 18 and older who lives within the city boundaries.

Turner served as the city planning commissioner in January 2008 and was elected to his first seat on the council in November 2010. He served as mayor from December 2013 to December 2014 and was a founding board member of the Citrus Heights Police Department.

TRUS HEIGHTS



Mark Creffield **Executive Director**

The Annual Multi-Chamber Mini Business Expo (Formally the Table Top Mixer) will be held on Wednesday, June 14 th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the North Ridge Country Club located at 7600 Madison Ave., in Fair Oaks. This event will feature over 30 businesses from the Carmichael, Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, and Orangevale Chambers of Commerce. Additionally, there will be a door prize drawing along with food samplings and a raffle! There is no cost to attend this event!

The Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce's June 20 th "Brown Bag" Morning Seminar Series will be on Human

Arias an attorney with BPE Law Group will be our guest speaker

- **2.** How to avoid the most common HR mistakes.
- 3. How to stay out of trouble with your employees.
- 4. Making sure you comply with California Labor Laws.

Whether you have one employee or 50, this seminar will show you how to stay compliant. The RSVP deadline for this event is noon on Monday, June 19 th . If you are interested in attending, please contact the Chamber today to secure your RSVP. This seminar is FREE to our Chamber Members and only \$15 for Prospective Members. Please visit our website at www.chchamber.com to check the dates for future seminars.

Mark your calendars and join us for our next Coffee and **Networking Connection** this Tuesday, June 27 th and hosted by El Dorado Bank located at

7895 Lichen Drive from 8:00am to 9:00am. Attending this event is a great way to network your business among Chamber members and prospective members. There is no cost to attend this morning networking event. If you are interested in more business exposure, please bring a door prize to this event. Hope to see you there!

This month's featured Chamber committee will spotlight on our Marketing Committee. Although an ad-hoc committee, the Marketing Committee is responsible for promoting the Citrus Heights Chamber to the community. This committee is responsible for brand management and advertising the benefits of the Chamber. This committee creates, communicates, and delivers offerings that have value for our Chamber members and the community the Chamber serves.

As always, thank you for taking the time to read our Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce monthly article. Please visit our website at www.chchamber.com, like our Facebook page, and follow us on Twitter. See you next month!

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Multi-Chamber Mini Business Expo

Tuesday, June 14 th - 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm North Ridge Country Club -7600 Madison Avenue in Fair Oaks No cost to attend

Brown Bag Morning Business Seminar

Tuesday, June 20 th - 8:00 am - 9:30 am Citrus Heights City Hall Conference Room \$15 for Perspective Members -FREE to Chamber Members

Coffee and Networking Connection Tuesday, June 27 th - 8:00 am - 9:00 am

El Dorado Savings Bank – 7895 Lichen Drive No cost to attend

Welcome New Members

Farmers Insurance-Gary Wall Insurance Agency - Kaia FIT Citrus Heights Coldwell Banker - Leah Cox

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

Fire Camp Lets Kids Be Firefighters for a Week





To attend Fire Camp, applicants must be 11, 12 or 13 years of age, with preference given to those living within Metro Fire's boundaries

Sac Metro Fire Special Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)

- Metro Fire recently opened the application period for Fire Camp, a day camp that takes place from July 11-14, 2017. Fire Camp provides local children an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience today's fire service, first hand. The program is designed to

instill self-confidence, teamwork, teach life safety skills and provide a basic understanding of the firefighting profession, in a fun and exciting atmosphere.

Campers are grouped in "strike teams" of eight campers, and each strike team is mentored by two Metro Firefighters. Campers learn valuable life safety skills, while discovering what it means to be a firefighter.

To attend Fire Camp,

applicants must be 11, 12 or 13 years of age, with preference given to those living within Metro Fire's boundaries. Applications are processed in the order in which they are received, so apply early for a better chance of securing a spot. Deadline to apply is June 5, 2017.

For applications and more information, visit our website: www.metrofire.ca.gov.

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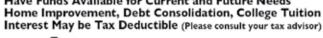
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Be wary of out of area companies.

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Crossword Puzzle on Page 5

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Sudoku Puzzle on Page 5

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Sacramento County DA Reports



Defendant Sentenced for Murdering Wife

DATE: May 18, 2017

CASE: Justin Jesus (Case #15F07687) PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Shelly McGill

The Honorable Michael Bowman sentenced Justin Jesus to 26 years to life in prison. On May 2, 2017, a jury convicted Jesus for the first-degree murder of his wife, Elizabeth Masters. The jury found the allegation that Jesus used a knife in the commission of the murder to be true. Jesus was also convicted of felony domestic violence, including allegations that he inflicted great bodily injury and used a deadly weapon.

Jesus had a history of domestic violence. In the course of their tumultuous relationship, Ms. Masters left their home to stay with her family in Folsom. Approximately one week later on December 20, 2015, Jesus showed up at Ms. Masters' parents' home in Folsom. Ms. Masters and Jesus left the home around midnight. Several hours later, family members heard a commotion outside and found Jesus in the backyard holding a knife. Soon after, the family discovered Ms. Masters' body on the side of the house, buried under a pile of leaves. She had been stabbed numerous times including severe lacerations to the neck. Jesus was apprehended by law enforcement a short distance away, and in possession of the murder weapon.

Defendant Convicted of Kidnapping & Assault with Intent to Commit Rape

DATE: May 9, 2017

CASE: Thomas Chavez (Case #15F04824) PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Maria Wilson, Adult Sexual Assault Unit

Thomas Chavez was convicted by a Sacramento Superior Court judge of kidnapping and assault with the intent to commit rape.

On August 6, 2015, at approximately midnight, a woman was walking down Stockton Boulevard when Chavez pulled up behind her in his car. He jumped out of his car, grabbed her from behind, held an ice pick to her neck and forced her into his car. Chavez drove behind a nearby store to an isolated area. Fortunately, CHP officers who were nearby observed Chavez drive behind the store and went to investigate. The officers shined their light into the vehicle and heard the woman screaming for help. Chavez was arrested soon after.

The Honorable Laurel White found Chavez guilty of kidnapping and assault to commit rape. In addition, the court found Chavez had suffered prior convictions for sexual assault in 1988. Chavez faces a sentence of 30 years to life in state prison. Sentencing is set for June 2, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept 10.

Defendant Convicted for North Highlands Party Shooting

DATE: May 12, 2017

CASE: Ira Johnson (Case #15F04234) PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Jeff

Hightower, Homicide Unit

Ira Johnson was convicted by a jury for the second-degree murder of Rogelio Gastelum, and two counts of attempted murder. The jury also found true allegations that Johnson personally discharged a firearm causing death or great bodily injury.

On July 12, 2015, Ira Johnson and his friends attended a party in North Highlands. When asked to leave, the group started a fight. Johnson and another unidentified man pulled out guns and fired multiple shots into the crowd of partygoers, killing Rogelio Gastelum. Two other victims were shot, but survived their injuries.

Johnson faces a maximum sentence of 59 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for July 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 41 before the Honorable Helena Gweon.

Defendant Convicted for Murder by Lying in Wait

DATE: May 12, 2017

CASE: Timothy Varmall (Case #15F01019) PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Omar Singh, Homicide Unit

The Honorable Michael Bowman found Timothy Varmall guilty of the first-degree murder of Smurti Patel. Judge Bowman also found true the allegations that Varmall was personally armed and committed the murder by means of lying in wait.

Between September 2014 and February 2015. Timothy Varmall followed Smurti Patel and planned "coincidental" run-ins with her to make her think favorably of him. His purpose during those months was to find the best opportunity to kill Ms. Patel. On February 9, 2015, Varmall stalked Ms. Patel and followed her onto a light rail train. As they exited, Ms. Patel spotted Varmall and agreed to walk with him. As they walked across a dark lot, Varmall stabbed Ms. Patel seven times. Varmall fled the area while Ms. Patel staggered across the street to a restaurant, where medics were called to the scene. Ms. Patel died from her wounds on February 13, 2015. Varmall confided in one of Ms. Patel's friends that he murdered her because he was romantically interested in Ms. Patel and she rejected him.

The Court also found true that Varmall suffered two prior strike convictions for purposes of the Three Strikes Law. In 1994, Varmall was convicted of sexual penetration with a foreign object and forced oral copulation.

Varmall faces a maximum sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Sentencing is set for June 9, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in Department 20 before the Honorable Michael Bowman.

Midlife adjustments?

Dear Dave,

My husband and I are in our 50s, and we have just \$12,000 to pay off before we're debt-free. We've paid off almost \$70,000 in debt in the last two years. We would like to buy a house soon, but we know we also need an emergency fund. It would take us almost a year to build up an emergency fund, so should we make adjustments to the Baby Steps since we're getting older?

- Dawn

Dear Dawn,

No! It shouldn't take you two a year to build up an emergency fund considering the rate at which you've been paying off debt. You need a fully funded emergency fund or three to six months of expenses set aside before you start saving for a down payment on a home.

You've been making great progress, and you obviously have a good income to be able to pay off debt that quickly. Maybe in your case you could lean a

little more toward the threemonth side with your emergency fund before you start saving for a house. Then, after you're all moved in, you could revisit the emergency fund and beef it up to six months.

Just stay on course and stick with the plan, Dawn. Fifty isn't old. You two have plenty of time to get your finances in order, find a great home, and look forward to many great years ahead!

—Dave

Skipping to the altar

Dear Dave,

My wife and I make good money, and our daughter's college education is pretty much paid for through pre-paid tuition and scholarships. We just started your plan to get out of debt and take better control of our finances. When we get to Baby Step 5, which is saving for college, can we substitute that with saving for a wedding?

- Braden

Dear Bob,

That would be fine. I'm glad you're thinking ahead. It's always a good idea to save toward a wedding if you have the financial resources to do so, because weddings are real and

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they're coming.

Dave Says

The average wedding in America today runs around \$35,000. Of course, you don't have to pay anywhere near that amount to make it a beautiful occasion. Your household income, debt, savings and other factors will all play into how much you can afford.

Just remember to pay cash for the wedding, Bob. If you have to go into debt to make it happen, then you're talking about too much money. It's as simple as that. Crunch the numbers with your wife, and see what you two can handle.

And remember, there's absolutely no correlation between the cost of a wedding and the success of the relationship!

—Dave

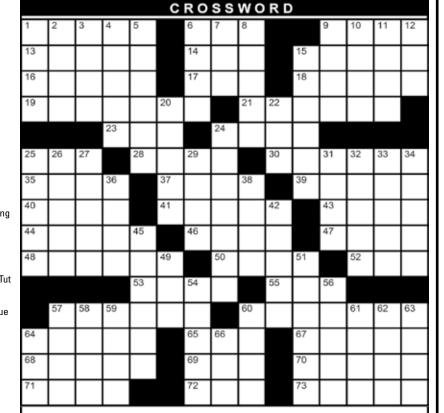
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CLUES

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- Davis, won Ion and Oscar for same role
- 14. *Derek Jacobi won one in "Much
- Nothing" 15. Cockatoo's cousin
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- role, 1961
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- 4. "Pomp and Circumstance" composer
- 5. Tapeworm Indian music
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- King and I" 10. Antioxidants-rich berry
- 11. *"Kiss Me, ____," first Best Musical recipient 12. Lamb's mother
- 15. Caribbean rattle
- 20. *"Hello, ____!," held record for
- most Tonys
- 22. Proof of age, pl. 24. Like workman's hand 25. On spouse's side



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26. Upholstery choice

27. Retire from military

34. *He traded boxing gloves for

54. Unwelcome computer message

29. a.k.a. podagra

32. Great reviews

33. Whatsoever

ballet shoes

36. Snooty one

49. Dark bread

56. More dire

59. Wild goat

51. Boudior sofa

38. Plumbing problem

45. Intensely emotional

57. Dish of stewed meat

60. Of higher order, prefix 61. Milano moolah

_ de Triomphe

62. Valedictorian's spot

63. Away from wind

66. Vase for ashes

58. Capital of Peru

42. Inscribed pillar

31. Andy's TV buddy

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Crossword Puzzle Solutions on Page 4

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For Solutions See Page 4

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By County Supervisor Sue Frost

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

A couple months ago I wrote an article for the American River Messenger to discuss my opposition to the "gas tax" that was working its way through the California Legislature. Predictably that bill was signed into law shortly after my article was released, and since its passage, I have had more questions about the details of how this new law will impact Sacramento County than any other topic. So I want to take this opportunity to give you a status update and to dispel some misconceptions people may have.

First, let me explain exactly what the new law does. It raises the gas tax by another 12 cents per gallon, it hikes the vehicle license fee by over 50%, raises the cost of registering a vehicle by 80%, and more than doubles the diesel tax. Surely, with this much

By Marlys Johnsen Norris,

I hear you say: I am a full

"Flesh gives birth to flesh,

grown human being, so now you

but the Spirit gives birth to

spirit."(John 3:6) It happens

when someone desires to be con-

nected to God, decides to follow

His teachings with surrender and

commitment. God then resides

in the empty place He created

in each one of us. And one day

as He knocked on the door of

ask how can I be born again?

Christian Author

Citrus Heights Community Update

The Condition of Our Roads

money being taken from the tax- the Counties and Cities. payers the problem is going to be fixed, right? Wrong.

Sacramento County roadways are in critical condition, as I'm sure you can testify to as you play "avoid the pothole" as you drive to work every day. This is because our deferred maintenance costs for just our pavement is sitting at around \$450 million, and the word "pavement" is important because it doesn't include the deferred maintenance of things like bridges, sidewalks, and traffic signals. During the course of the next 20 years, the money Sacramento County will get from California due to the recent tax increases will only fix around 1/3 of our current deferred maintenance costs for our pavement issues. This also doesn't account for the deferred maintenance costs that are going to stack on top of this for the 2/3 of the roads that don't get worked on between

now and then. This is the most optimistic scenario, because this is making the huge assumption that the State doesn't raid this money and divert it to something else in the future. As has been proven time and time again, when California is strapped for cash, they have no problem taking the money they need from

If we want our roads to be fixed in anything short of the distant future, we are going to need to either make enormous investments at the local level (to the great expense of other programs), or pass a local tax measure dedicated solely to fixing the problem. But the crafters of such a tax should be careful, as my Orangevale survey I conducted earlier in the year showed that while 51% of you would pass a local transportation tax if it were dedicated solely to the roads, only 14% of you would pass a transportation tax if it included money for other things like public transportation. Either of these two plans poses challenges.

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

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



By Pastor Ray Dare

With every problem you have two options. You can surrender or you can stress. Why do we stress? Because we try to do what only God can do. We try to control the uncontrollable, explain the unexplainable, do the undoable, stop the unstoppable, fix the unfixable; and then we wonder why we are so stress out! The reason why you get so stressed is because you think you have to control everything. You think, "It all depends on me! I've got to pull all the strings. I've got to make it happen." No, you don't. The greater your need to control things, the more your life will be prone to overload and

The secret to overcoming your problems, your difficulties, the hardships you're facing today is NOT to control it all - but to surrender it all. Surrender control to the One who can do something

Encouraging Words

The Antidote to Stress

about it. To the One who IS in control. The only thing worry controls is you. Worry doesn't affect anything but you. It makes you miserable, stressed-out and hurts you physically, emotionally... mentally.

When Jesus rebuked the wind and the waves in Matthew 8 the disciples were amazed and asked each other, "Who is this that even the winds and the sea obey him?" (Matt. 8:27 LB).

In that moment, they acknowledged God was in control. They realized there was no reason to worry because the God who commands galaxies with a word and holds molecules together with his power was right there in their boat.

"Everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord ... we adore you as being in control of everything." 1 Chronicles 29:11

We think the answer to our

stress is escape. I'm overloaded – I need a vacation. God says, no, that's not it because when you go on vacation, you take you with you, and you're the problem. You can go to Tahiti but your mind is going with you. We think the antidote to stress is escape.

God says the antidote to stress is surrender. Every time I give up control, God gives me peace.

You don't become apathetic. You don't say we'll "God's in control so I'm not going to do anything. I'm not going to apply for that new job, I'm not going to try to mend that relationship or I'm not going to try to keep this business deal together.' No, that's not surrender that's dumb. Surrender is you do your best and you trust for the rest. Surrender means; you do what you can control; what you can do; but then you trust God for those things that are beyond your control.

How do you know when you've surrendered? Simple, you stop worrying about it. If you're still worrying then you're still trying to control the uncontrollable and you haven't surrendered control to God. When you surrender control to God, you don't worry about it anymore because now you know that He's controlling it.

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This is why God did send his only perfect Son (He called a Lamb of God) in the likeness of man to be a sin offering in order that the righteousness requirements of the law might be fully met. Therefore, we are not to live cess takes a lifetime and God according to our sinful nature, but according to the Spirit's desires who lives within, once we are "born again". Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what human nature desires, not God. The mind of a sinful man is eventual death – but the mind controlled

by the Spirit is life and peace. (Romans 8:2-6)

Warning: All doubt and confusion comes from the enemy of God since the beginning of time. He is the one who wants to be worshipped and honored as a god and that is why our Creator/ God cast him out of heaven to earth. Earth is his domain. Is it any wonder the troubles and confusion we see everywhere are a part of his evil ways?

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The Insecurity of Job Security



Louis McNerney

When you think back to the impression you've been given your whole lifetime, you can probably tie the word "job" to security. Always accepting the notion that the longer you stay

somewhere, the better off you will be. Some of you reading this may even have upheld that notion and are now at a crossroads; you've severed ties with a longstanding employer and you're well into your working years.

Whether you have experienced it already or perhaps indirectly, the presence of ageism in the workplace exists. Employers want talent and experience, but not too much experience.

Here are the disturbing figures:

- ✓ People over 45 that are looking for a new job, often wait twice as long to find a job versus younger age groups
- ✓ There are often 3 people applying for every job
- √ Peak incomes are declining
- Outsourcing has become an effective tool in cutting higher operational and managerial expenses.

One would think that knowledge and experience is extremely valuable and that those years of experience would be worth acquiring and keeping, but the statistics show this is not likely the case or most employers.

In a situation where you're faced with jumping back into the pool of employment candidacy, you can do one of the following:

√ Re-train or re-invent yourself (ie: go back to school, take a certification course, etc.) but this can often be difficult and costly.

- ✓ Wait it out and continue the application and interview process hoping that something will come along that meets both the employer's needs and yours. This could take in some cases up to- or more than – a year.
- ✓ Start your own business or purchase a franchise.

Want to control of your own destiny? Provide yourself with long-term security? Achieve an income stream as well as increased equity and wealth protection? Business ownership is one of the few areas where one can achieve these qualities; often not provided with many jobs.

It is a common misconception that the cost of owning a business is well, expensive. Not true! A common method of business ownership that eliminates a lot of the typical costs is Franchising.

Owning a franchise reduces the cost of business ownership in many cases. There's often less risk associated, as well.

Franchising allows you to use others' trial and error to maximize your potential for success. Franchise ownership costs have decreased almost 30% over the last 5-10 years! Many of the newer and more high-demand concepts available enable people to operate out of their homes and even provide products and services nationally giving you a broad customer base.

A variety of programs are available to help fund your business including a program that allows one to use their retirement funds tax, penalty and debt free. This method is called Roll Overs for Business Start-Ups or "ROBS". Many of the country's leading brands in franchises and can offer you expert counsel in making what once may have seemed like an expensive dream, an inexpensive and successful reality.

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Gibson Ranch Likely to Remain Under Ose Management

Continued from page 1

Ranch. Both sides seem to support the plan, but Ose cautioned more tweaking could be required.

"What I've tried to do is identify marginal costs, costs for things like sewer, water and electricity," Ose said. "I don't want to eat my cake too soon, though. I know the rules and this is not a done deal until they say yes."

Under the plan the county would pay an estimated \$53,000 for utilities, including sewer and water quality certification; between \$5,000 and \$7,000 to maintain and repair the wells on the property, and provide Ose with a \$50,000 annual contribution toward reimbursements for capital improvements and deferred maintenance.

The plan contains one component, however, for raising revenue that the board is not supportive of:



Regional Parks Director Jeff Leatherman now asserts there was always a plan to have his department, essentially the county, work with Ose in drafting a plan to share operational responsibilities and find a way to keep the park open. Photo by Jacqueline Fox

raising the park's entry fee from \$5 to \$8. As result, the supervisors have given Leatherman and, ostensibly, Ose, more time to come up with alternatives for that piece.

"There was serious concern from a couple of the board members about the wisdom of raising the entry fee," said Ose. "They were very direct in saying they

didn't want to see the vehicle entry fee raised, and I was just as direct in saying 'I'm not losing any more money.' So we are sharpening our pencils and will be attempting to find a solution."

County Supervisor Sue Frost called the new plan a "win" for all sides, indicating it would likely be one the entire board could

approve, provided the entry fee issue was resolved.

"There is a lot to like in the new proposal, which appears to me to be a win for the county, a win for GRP, and most importantly a win for the community," Frost said. "However, I am not in favor of increasing the parking fee above \$5 because I do not think it's fair to ask the residents of the community to pay a fee higher than every other park in this county. I'm optimistic we can get this done while keeping the fee at \$5."

In April, officials said Recreation and Parks department would compete with Ose and potentially other, outside vendors for the management the Gibson Ranch contract. A fourth option: close the park for good. It was unlikely an outside vendor would have taken over the contract as there were no serious bids on the

table and, shifting management \$10,000 annually. back to Recreation & Parks would have called for the addition of as many as five new positions just to manage the park's equestrian boarding program launched under Ose's tenure.

Leatherman now asserts there was always a plan to have his department, essentially the county. work with Ose in drafting a plan to share operational responsibilities and find a way to keep the park open. "The BOS is focused in on what

alternatives we have to raising the fee, but the remaining points appear to be consistent with what the board is willing to support," Leatherman said.

The new proposal also calls for the county to install an automatic pay station in the park, which could net the county additional revenue of between \$7,000 and

"During the winter months, we go skinny, because not a lot of people come through the gates," said Ose. "So we've worked out a plan to install essentially a pay station so that, during those days we do not have an open kiosk at the entry, patrons can pay their fees and we can use those funds to help offset operational costs."

Ose said more changes, although likely minor ones, are expected, but he remains optimistic and has agreed to continue on as manager of the park until the

"I've agreed to play nice in the sandbox," Ose said. "We've extended our contract to June 30. We've got a great working relationship. They (the board of supervisors) aren't easy, but they are supportive and they are direct."

Society For The Blind to Compete in National Fitness Challenge

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) -Sacramento nonprofit Society for the Blind is one of 13 groups across the nation – and one of only three in California - that are competing in the United States Association of Blind Athletes' and Anthem Blue Cross Foundation's fifth annual National Fitness Challenge. Society for the Blind and its competitors will provide more than 300 blind and visually impaired youth and adults with an opportunity to increase their physical fitness levels and live healthier, more active lives. Other California participants are Junior Blind in Los Angeles and Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in the Bay Area.

"We are pleased to again partner with USABA to help break down barriers, and leverage technology to help those with vision impairments enjoy the physical and emotional benefits of exercise," said Brian Ternan, president of Anthem Blue Cross. "Together, we want to ensure that those with visual impairments are not denied the opportunity to lead an active life and have the opportunity to avoid the health risks that come from a sedentary lifestyle."

Research has consistently shown that individuals who participate in regular

physical activity to improve their health have higher energy levels, a lower risk of health-related diseases, improved psychological health, and lower rates of depression and anxiety. Because of the many barriers and misconceptions about their abilities, approximately 70 percent of the nearly 56,000 children and youth who are blind and visually impaired in the United States do not participate in even a limited physical education curriculum.

When the National Fitness Challenge kicked off in Sacramento this spring, participants who signed up with Society for the Blind had a number of physically challenging activities to look forward to. In efforts to increase participants' levels and step counts, staff at Society for the Blind will be working with dance instructors, personal trainers, judo instructors and more. In addition to raising their overall physical activity, participants will also become more aware of opportunities in their community.

"Society for the Blind is honored and excited to again be a part of the National Fitness Challenge," said Shari Roeseler, executive director. "This partnership with USABA and Anthem raises awareness and, more importantly, participation of people with vision loss in health and fitness activities. We look forward to friendly challenges among our fellow participating agencies as we increase the physical fitness and overall health and wellness of our participants."

For more than 60 years, Society for the Blind has created innovative ways to empower individuals living with low vision or blindness to discover, develop and achieve their full potential. Society for the Blind has grown from a dedicated group of volunteers that included the Lions Clubs of America to a nationally recognized agency and the only comprehensive rehabilitative teaching center that provides services for a 27-county region of northern California. The nonprofit provides lowvision eye care, life and job skills training, mentorship, and access to tools to maintain independence for 6,000 youth, adults and seniors experiencing vision loss each year. For more information or to make a donation: www.SocietyfortheBlind.org.

Since its founding in 1976, USABA, a community-based organization of the United States Olympic Committee, has reached more than 100,000 blind

individuals. The organization has emerged as more than just a world-class trainer of blind athletes, it has become a champion of the abilities of Americans who are legally blind with a mission to enhance the lives of blind and visually impaired people by providing the opportunity for participation in sports and physical activity. For more information: www.usaba.org, www.twitter.com/USABA or on Facebook as United States Association of Blind Athletes.

In addition to grant funding, Anthem Blue Cross Foundation will provide volunteers at events across the state during the nine-month program. Local employees will have the opportunity to meet participants and help them achieve their health and wellness goals.

Through charitable grant making, the Anthem Blue Cross Foundation LLC, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Association promotes Anthem Blue Cross's inherent commitment to enhance the health and well-being of individuals and families in communities that the company serves. The foundation focuses its funding on strategic initiatives that address and provide innovative solutions to health care challenges, as well as promoting the Healthy Generations Program, a multigenerational initiative that targets specific disease states and medical conditions. These include: prenatal care in the first trimester, low birth weight babies, cardiac morbidity rates, long term activities that decrease obesity and increase physical activity, diabetes prevalence in adult populations, adult pneumococcal and influenza vaccinations and smoking cessation. The Foundation also coordinates the company's year-round Associate Giving program and its parent foundation provides a 50 percent match of associates' pledges.

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CRUSH LIFE: Inspiration From the Field



Our Wounded Warriors can still take a big swing at life.

Story and photos by Ethan Van Horn (Age 13)

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) -I have been playing America's game ever since I was 3 years old. I love the smell of a stadium hot dog, fresh cut grass, and the sound of a ball when it hits the bat. Baseball is my sport. I enjoy it on and off the field, and I can truly say it is the most beautiful sport around. I've been blessed with the speed to run from home to first base in under 4.5 seconds; that's 90 feet! While I feel lucky to have such talent, I must admit I rarely consider what it would be like not to

I recently had the opportunity to spend a day with the Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team who is made up of some incredibly brave people...true heroes! Not just because they served in the

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have these abilities.

United States military, but because they are amazing, inspiring, and all around brave souls. These men and women were wounded in combat; some lost their arms, some lost their legs... but they never lost their will to succeed!

My dad has been active duty for over ten years now, and I have watched him deploy twice and come back home safely. I never once thought about my dad losing an arm or a leg. I admit feeling like he is indestructible, sort of assuming he would be okay. But the truth is, when a soldier goes to war they are risking their life: there is no guarantee they will be safe.

These warriors went to war just like my dad but they were injured, injured bad. I honestly didn't know what I was getting into meeting this team. I had never met anyone who lost an arm or leg, and I was a little



Colonel Mitchell signing Ethan's SSC travel baseball jersey.

nervous at first. I kept thinking to myself "What if I offend them with my questions?" I sure didn't want to do that.

But as I watched these men and women play ball, I realized we share a love of the game. Their bases may not be 90 feet apart, but who cares?! These athletes are doing exactly what I do when I lace up my cleats and hit the field: they are playing the best game around: baseball!

I sat down with two of the players, Cody and Josh, to ask

them some questions about By refusing to drop their glove their past, and I as in awe by their stories. These athletes were just doing their job, the job they were trained to do, and then the unthinkable happened. They could have given up, but instead they found the courage and the drive to keep on going. They found a new cause to fight for, and refused to let anything get in their way.

Whether they believe it or

not they are still heroes, every time they take the field or saddle up to the plate. These athletes get out on that ball field and run, dive for balls, scale the wall for that winning catch, and play their hearts out over and over again. I am sure they must be in pain from time to time, must occasionally stumble on their new legs, but they never give up.

to the ground and quit a game, they send a powerful message about never giving up in life.

I will leave you with something one of the players, Nick, told me, something that will stick with me for the rest of my life. Nick is amazing, his story is so inspiring—this hero has been through more than most of us will ever go through in our lifetime, and he still carries a smile on his face and lives life to the fullest. I asked all the players to sign my jersey, and along with his signature Nick added something special: his personal

I hope it will inspire you as it does me, "Crush Life!"

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