Page 4



Citrus Heights Messenger

"Written by the people, for the people"

Serving the City of Citrus Heights and Sacramento County

Second Edition for July 2014

Mayor Gives State of the **City Address**

Volume 4 Issue 14



Page 2

Maniaci 61st **Anniversary Celebration**



Page 9

Citrus Heights **Community** Update



Page 3



direct link to our online edition!

Stones Celebrates Grand Opening



by Jennifer Trovato

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Stones Gambling Hall celebrated its grand opening on Friday, July 11th. Instead of the over-the-top style of a Vegas event that might be expected at a casino's opening bash, the feeling at Stones was more like that of a family celebration, and all who attended were included in that family.

Founder and owner, Ryan Stone, joined forces with Sami Ladeki, CEO friend of Stone and his family, to create an upscale, family-friendly destination. Stones is a unique addition to the Sacramento region; it's a family oriented establishment, fine dining destination and high-end gambling hall.

The evening started with samplings of cuisine and drinks from Sammy's Restaurant & Bar, and a thank you ceremony for the city, residents and first responders of Citrus Heights. Stone shared how his dream of creating a place where he and his friends would want to spend time and play cards led him to Continued on page 10

City Council Candidate Nomination Period Begins July 14th

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Three of the five Citrus Heights City Council seats will be on the ballot in the General Municipal Election on November 4th. This election will be consolidated with the statewide election held on that date.

Beginning July 14th, candidate nomination packets will be available at City Hall, located at 6237 Fountain Square Drive. The nomination period closes on August 8th unless an incumbent Council Member does not file, then the deadline will be extended to August 13th.

For additional information, please visit the elections web page or contact Amy Van, city clerk at (916) 727-4704 or cityclerk@citrusheights.net.

Source: City of Citrus Heights

City Celebrates Completion of Auburn Boulevard **Revitalization Project**

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On July 8, 2014, City officials, legislative representatives, funding partners, business and property owners, and residents gathered to celebrate the completion of the \$16.8 million Auburn Boulevard Complete Streets Revitalization Project (ABCS). The ABCS Project is based on the vision formed by the City's Auburn Blvd Specific Plan in 2005. Residents, property owners, and businesses all participated in the drafting of the Specific Plan that would guide the improvements for the Boulevard.

The project scope included the undergrounding of utilities and roadway improvements based on the complete streets philosophy, including: Construction of bus pull-outs; ADA improvements;

Continued on page 2

Job Demand Hiring Trends Show Promise in the 3rd Quarter

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A robust market in California's capital city expects to add as many new workers as it hires for replacements within existing workforces in the 3rd quarter of 2014. In a direct telephone survey of Sacramento's top regional employers, fifty percent (50%) say hiring is motivated by expansion of existing workforces, and eleven percent (11%) also attributed seasonal demands for seeking workers in July, September and

Attrition, or replacements among the existing workforce motivated the other half expecting to see applicants. Pacific Staffing discovered just twenty-nine percent (29%) of Sacramento companies contacted directly between May 21st and June 11th are not hiring. While service and manufacturing companies were driving the majority of hiring anticipated in the third quarter, construction firms were almost evenly split, and just one retail firm surveyed was not looking for help. Also signaling continued robust employment in the area, not one company noted any plans for layoffs in the next quarter. Several firms also mentioned that retention of current workers



A robust market in California's capital city expects to add as many new workers as it hires for replacements within existing workforces in the third quarter of 2014.

was a growing concern and noted finding adequate numbers of qualified applicants as another challenge.

Skills Demand?

Demand for technical skills continues to drive recruiting out of the Sacramento area as firms report they can't find qualified applicants in sufficient numbers to meet demands for IT needs. Sales and customer service are in demand with employers in the Sacramento market also looking for workers to manufacture, warehouse, and ship products in the third quarter. A significant shortage of drivers for route and

delivery needs was also noted among companies across the board.

Sacramento Regional Top Companies Polled By Industry:

40% are Service, 31% are Manufacturers, 21% are Construction, and 8% are Retail. Special Report on Veteran's Employment Opportunity in Sacramento

As conflict winds to a close in Afghanistan, as many as 30,000 military men and women are expected to return from service each year to re-enter the California job market. Sacramento employers answered without reservation and are unanimous in saying they will hire a qualified veteran when asked. Thirty percent (30%) say they have a veteran hiring program or policy. Regional companies deserve a salute as more than half of those surveyed, or fifty-four percent (54%), say they have hired a veteran to go to work in the last year.

How does this quarter compare to last quarter, or last year? Find out for yourself. For more information, employment blogs

and market surveys go to www.pacificstaffing.com.

Source: Pacific Staffing

Brake Masters Breaks through the Stereotype



Brake Masters is honored and appreciative about the way they have been welcomed by the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce and the Citrus Heights Police Department. Dionne Russel (above) isthe Brake Mastes Store Manager

Story and photo by Bill Martin

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Brake Masters is a spotlessly clean, state-of-the-art, full service complete car care center that can handle whatever your car throws at you. They can do it all, from your basic keep-me-on-the-road service call to some very exacting repairs that are not for the backyard mechanic.

So what is so different about Brake Masters of Citrus Heights that they break through a stereotype? The Citrus Heights location has something one doesn't normally see in the dayto-day operation of a service and automotive repair business. Their secret weapon is called Ms. Dionna Russel. Dionna is the manager of the newest location of Brake Masters which is located at 8000 Greenback Lane in Citrus Heights. Yes, Brake Masters has changed the face of automotive repair, and that's a good thing. "Dionna was an easy choice," says Brake Masters Area Manager James Estep. "All you have to do is select the most qualified person with a lot of experience in a wide variety of automobiles. They must love what they do with a passion, enjoy working with the public, and of course, not mind getting a little dirty," Estep noted with a grin. "Dionna was absolutely

that person." Estep added.

career in Nebraska working alongside her father in his auto repair shop. Even though mom was not too thrilled that her young daughter was working around all those power tools, she knew Dionna would be safe with dad around. Plus. her mother knew that Dionna had a natural aptitude for repairing cars. According to Russel, "I was hooked on automotive repair from a very young age, and I always knew that's what I wanted to do for my career."

While on a visit to Sacramento from her native state, Dionna fell in love with the area and decided to see if she could put her ten-plus years of experience in automotive repairs to use here. She was almost immediately offered a position with Brake Masters where she ultimately shined. Russel was then promoted to Store Manager of the new Citrus Heights location of Brake Masters in October 2013.

When asked what her goals as Manager are for her Brake Masters store, she replied, "To make my store a huge success and to do a great job at fixing cars!"

Carrie Robinson, a returning Brake Masters' customer, walked in while this reporter was there. Ms. Robinson's car was just arriving on the back of tow truck. When Ms. Robinson approached the counter, she said, "I want her!" pointing through the window into the shop where Dionna Russel started her Dionna was dismantling a belt

in a car. Ms. Robinson went on to tell me her story about before she found Brake Masters and Ms. Russel. She indicated that she felt she had previously been treated poorly, unfairly and unethically by other automotive repair shops in town. She believed that many were attempting to extort additional money out of her for repairs that were not needed and claiming to have made repairs to her vehicle when she knew that they hadn't been made. Dionna was able to diagnose Ms. Robinson's automotive problem quickly and promised Ms. Robinson to have her back in her vehicle and on the road in no time at all. Ms. Robinson paid what she said was a very "fair price," and left as a satisfied Brake Masters and Dionna Russel customer.

The exemplary skill, integrity and service of Ms. Russel and the Citrus Heights Brake Masters location does not detract from other Brake Masters locations or their experienced, knowledgeable and ethical repair staff. All employees are held to the highest standards in the industry, and Brake Masters stands behind their employees, male or female, and their work.

You can schedule an appointment online for your automobile at www.BrakeMasters.com, call (916) 723-8000, or just stop by Brake Masters' newest location at 8000 Greenback Lane in Citrus Heights.

Mayor Gives State of the City Address

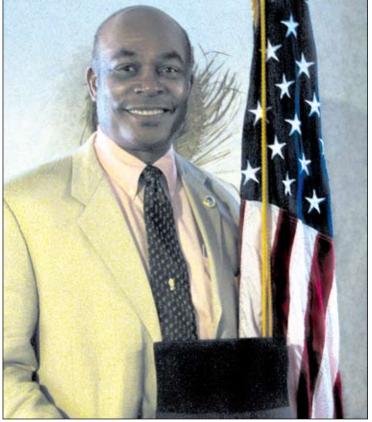
CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - At the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce luncheon on July 8th, Mayor Mel Turner presented the annual "State of the City" address to over 100 attendees.

Turner focused on the theme "A City of Promise", outlining many of the pluses of living in and doing business in Citrus Heights.

Some of the attributes of the community over the last year, as mentioned by Turner, were a 13% reduction in reported crimes within the city, the development of the Stock Ranch Nature Preserve, new home building developments and the progress of the Auburn Blvd. re-development. He also focused on the great success of the Police Activities League and its growth since its inception.

City employees were recognized by the mayor for their award winning efforts, as many were recognized by state agencies and organizations for their hard work as city staffers.

Turner also noted some looming threats to Citrus Heights. He outlined pending litigation from the State Department of Finance against the City of Citrus Heights,



Citrus Heights Mayor Mel Turner Staff photo

regulations that will impact the city, and he mentioned the growing homelessness issue.

To find out more about what new California Energy Code is happening in Citrus Heights CHChamber.com.

go to www.CitrusHeights.net. To learn more about the Chamber of Commerce or to attend their next luncheon go to www.

City Celebrates Completion of Auburn Boulevard Revitalization Project



The ABCS Project was divided into two phases due to the size and complexity of the project. Photo courtesy City of

Continued from Page 1

Installation of 9,600 linear feet of bike lanes and sidewalks; Planting of 230 street trees; Installation of 100 energy-efficient street lights; and Aesthetic improvements such as stamped sidewalks and design features.

Unique to this project were

a total of 13 funding sources including federal, state, city, special districts, and utility companies. The ABCS Project was divided into two phases due to the size and complexity of the project. The City has secured grant funds for the design of the second phase of the project

(Rusch Park to northern city limits) and will begin construction as funding becomes available. ★

For more information about the Auburn Boulevard Complete Streets Revitalization Project, visit www.abcupdate.net.

DUI Checkpoint Results

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA - The Citrus Heights Police Department conducted a DUI Checkpoint on June 20, 2014, at Sunrise Blvd and Oak Street. The DUI checkpoint was funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and managed by UC Berkley. The primary goal of the operation was to detect and arrest individuals who were found to be driving while under the influence of alcohol and/

or drugs. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent. Ninety Percent of California drivers approve of checkpoints.

DUI/Driver's License checkpoints have been shown to lower DUI deaths and injuries. A major component of these checkpoints are the deterrent effects it has on those who might drive drunk or drugged impaired, bringing about more awareness and encouraging everyone to use sober designated drivers.

During the June 20th DUI checkpoint, 829 vehicles were screened. Five SFST's were conducted with

one DUI/Drug arrest and one warrant arrest. Twenty citations were issued during the operation. Ten of those citations were issued for being an unlicensed driver or having a suspended driver's license. Officers assigned to the operation also towed

Community Alert

eight vehicles.

Intense West Nile Activity Prompts Aerial Spraying Over Parts of Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks and Orangevale

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The 17th from approximately 8 Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced that aerial treatment for adult mosquitoes infected with West Nile virus is scheduled for two consecutive nights on Wednesday, July 16th and Thursday, July

p.m. to midnight over parts of Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks and Orangevale in north Sacramento County.

For additional information and a map of the treatment area, visit www.fightthebite.net. ★

Source: City of Citrus Heights

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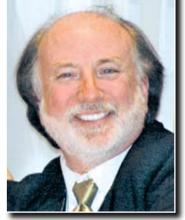




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CITRUS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY UPDATE



By County Supervisor Susan Peters

Through the generosity of The American River Messenger this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated community of Fair Oaks.

Fair Oaks Office Hours

I will be holding "Office Hours" from 6-7 pm prior to the free Fair Oaks Thursday Night Concert in the Park on July 19. Residents are invited to drop by before the concert begins at 7 pm to talk about items of interest with no appointment necessary on a "first come basis."

The concert will be held at Village Park, 4238 Main Street, featuring the John Skinner Band. Before the show, I will have a table set up to visit with residents.

I started holding "Office Hours"

in 2005 at various venues around the Third District and it is now an annual tradition at selected community events.

"Office Hours" for 2014 began in March at the annual trout fishing derby held in Howe Park followed in April at the Carmichael Egg Hunt. In addition to this month's visit to Fair Oaks, I plan to hold other "Office Hours" at other venues and I will post those dates and locations on my webpage which you can visit via bos.saccounty.net.

Eppie's Great Race

Eppie's Great Race (otherwise known as the world's oldest no swim triathlon) will be celebrating its 41st year this Saturday, July 19.

The race starts and finishes at the William B. Pond Recreation Area located at the end of Arden Way. It features a 5.82-mile run, a 12.5-mile bike route and a 6.35mile kayak paddle held along the scenic American River Parkway.

Come out and cheer for the athletes, help by volunteering or consider signing up to be a Great Race participant! For more information, visit eppiesgreatrace.org.

Fresh Fruits and Veggies

Enjoy summer's fresh fruits and vegetables at any one of the local Farmers Markets in our area organized in cooperation with BeMoneySmartUSA, a local non-profit training company specializing in providing youth ages 8 to adult with financial, business, and career education programs.

Fair Oaks' Farmers Market is on Wednesdays between the hours of 3 - 7 pm. Located near the corner of Fair Oaks Boulevard and Sunset Avenue, the market is operated at the New Life Church (8101 Sunset Avenue) -- and there's plenty of parking.

Carmichael's market is held on Sundays from 9 am to 2 pm at Carmichael Park located at the corner of Grant Avenue and Fair Oaks Boulevard. This market hosts over 75 certified and organic farmers and specialty item vendors in a wonderful park-like setting making it a special occasion shopping for fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, herbs and more.

BeMoneySmartUSA sponsors markets at other locations, too. For a complete listing, please visit bemoneysmartusa.org.

Susan Peters represents the Third District on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. She can be reached at susanpeters@saccounty.net.

Citrus Heights Rotary Honors Veterans

Colonel Frasier Fortner Key Note Speaker



Sacramento resident Colonel Frasier Fortner is a retired Air Force Pilot with over 6,000 flying hours in 10 different military aircraft. He has served many tours of duty in his career including the Strategic Air Command and the Pentagon. He is Flight Commander of the Order of Daedalians, America's premier fraternal organization of military pilots. Photo courtesy Gail Moxley

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (CHM) -Sacramento resident Colonel Frasier Fortner was the keynote speaker at the July 2nd Citrus Heights Rotary event honoring our country's veterans. Fortner is a retired Air Force Pilot with over 6,000 flying hours in 10 different military aircraft. He has served many tours of duty in his career including the Strategic Air Command and the Pentagon. He is Flight Commander of the Order of Daedalians, America's premier fraternal organization of military pilots.

Local veterans from all military branches who served

during military conflicts since WWII were honored guests at the Citrus Heights Community Center. As Rotarians introduced their guests, the audience heard a variety of inspiring stories of men and women who had served proudly in roles including combat pilot, supply (logistics), drill sergeant, musician, Sky Soldier, and Special Forces.

Fortner joked that he got into the Air Force by accident. He thought he was in line to sign up for college ROTC and ended up in the Air Force. His message emphasized our country's need to honor and respect our veterans more than we have, to live up to the promise made by George

Washington to his soldiers during the Revolutionary War, and the promises our government made to our men and women in the military when they enlisted.

Fortner continued that there is more of a disconnect now than ever in our history between our military and government as less of these men and women have had the unique training or experience gained by those who wear or have worn the uniform. Once a veteran always a veteran; that common core of values and brotherhood, and 'service before self' is what makes veterans an indispensable part of society long after they have left the ser-

Security Guard Arrested for Child Porn Possession left it behind, he called another

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA, (MPG) - The Placer County Sheriff's Office arrested a private security guard for possession of child pornography on the night of Thursday,

James Lee Johnson, 49, of Citrus Heights, was booked at the Placer County Jail on charges of possessing child pornography. His bail is set at \$50,000.

The case came to the attention of Placer County sheriff's detectives after Johnson left a computer thumb drive at the Los Lagos security office/guard



James Lee Johnson

shack off of Auburn Folsom Road in Granite Bay where he's employed. After realizing he'd

employee to place it in his work mailbox. The employee looked at the contents of the thumb drive, found child pornography and contacted the Placer County Sheriff's Office. Detectives served a search

warrant at Johnson's Citrus Heights home that night, where he was arrested and several computers were removed for forensic exam.

Source: Placer County Sheriff



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Gaines: Tesla "Gigafactory" to CA? Bera Condemns Hobby



In response to Texas Governor Rick Perry's recent visit to the California State Capitol driving a Tesla, Senator Gaines discussed how California is going to compete for those jobs and pull out all the stops to get the factory

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - In an effort to attract, retain and grow California businesses, California State Senator Ted Gaines, Republican Caucus Chair, visited the Texas State Capitol recently to discuss his efforts in promoting California as the premier destination for business relocation, business expansion and economic development.

"California has some advantages for business that no other state can match," said Senator Gaines. "We are a state of innovators and groundbreakers. We are the venture capital hub of the planet, with unmatched universities and the largest consumer market in the country."

At the center of the discussion is Tesla Motors Inc., a Californiaborn electric automobile company that is about to build a massive battery factory, the "gigafactory," that will result in a \$5 billion capital investment and 6,500 new jobs.

In response to Texas Governor Rick Perry's recent visit to the California State Capitol driving a Tesla, Senator Gaines discussed how California is going to compete for those jobs and pull out all the stops to get the factory built in the Golden State.

"Everything is on the table - tax credits, investment credits, hiring credits. We need to show Tesla that we'll cut through the red tape that frustrates California companies and prove that we are open for business," said Senator Gaines. "There's no excuse. I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in getting this done immediately."

Senator Gaines and Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) recently introduced Senate Bill 1309, a bi-partisan bill that would entice Tesla to build the large-scale battery factory in

California. The bill declares the legislature's intent to utilize financial incentives, changes to regulatory and environmental processes, and other possible tools to expedite construction in California.

"A few weeks ago, Governor Perry drove up to our Capitol in a Tesla. I was planning to do the same thing here in the spirit of healthy competition but it was impossible to even get a Tesla in Texas. That's not the case in California. They are already everywhere. I look forward to their expansion in my state and seeing them driven all over the country soon."

Senator Gaines' visit to Texas also included meetings with the business community to discuss the benefits and drawbacks of the Texas business climate, which will help inform future California legisla-

Source: Office of Ted Gaines

Lobby Case Decision

WASHINGTON, DC (MPG) - This morning, the United States Supreme Court sided with Hobby Lobby that employers with religious objections can opt out of providing contraception coverage to their employees. Dr. Ami Bera who represents California's 7th Congressional district in Congress, offered the following comment:

"I'm extremely disappointed with the Supreme Court's decision in the Hobby Lobby case this morning, which sets a dangerous precedent of putting employers in charge of their



employees' personal health care choices. Women and their doctors should be able to decide what kind of birth control is

right for them, not bosses or politicians, and as a doctor, I'm fighting against these kinds of intrusions into the exam room. I hope my opponent will join me in condemning this attack on individual freedom."

Dr. Ami Bera represents Sacramento County in Congress. He's working to make Congress a place for service and fighting to rebuild an economy that works for middle class families. As a leader of the No Labels Problem Solvers, Bera is leading the charge to find bipartisan solutions to our nation's challenges.

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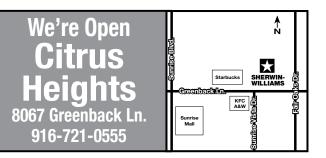
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The editors of this 2014 Consumer Business Review urge our readers to contact Hernandez Law Group, Inc. to help your family get out of debt and handle bankruptcy matter quickly, efficiently, and economically. You'll be glad you found a law group you can depend on!

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The editors of this *2014 Consumer Business Review* urge our readers to remember <u>by law</u>, insurance companies <u>must</u> permit you to choose the body shop you like best. We recommend you choose only the very best...choose *Capital City Xpress*, *Inc.*!

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Blake's Muffler Shack & Custom Exhaust will recommend a dual exhaust system allowing your car to run

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In compiling a profile of leading business firms throughout the area, the editors of this 2014 Consumer Business Review feel it wouldn't be complete without mention of Blake's Muffler Shack & Custom Exhaust!

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CLUES

9. To be obedient 13. Italy's renowned actress

14 "Fat chance!"

15. Wear away 16. Mineral made of hydrous silicates of

18. What library does

21. *Indonesian dragon 23. Perfect score?

25. Band aid

28. Bread pocket

35. Amount of work 37. Ashlev Wilkes'

40. Absorbed by

41 Vuletides

and land based insects 47. Capital of Ukraine

point of food chain

52. *Zodiac sign, king of

57. *What predators did?

60. Go places

66. Part of a plane 68. Pond buildup

69. Duvel, e.g.

70. Swelling

71. Hammer part

DOWN 1. "A Nightmare on ____ Street"

2. Coconut fiber

5. Part of a foot 6. Sound of a fan

7. Argo propeller 8. Uniform shade

10. Fleming's spy

15. Having more elm trees 20. Tear jerker 22. Roulette bet

31. Went under

27. Trails 29. New Mexico art colony

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32. Inbox message

33. Indian coin 34. * 36. "Just

office

subject

67. Declare

45. Drape with cover out a living 51. Photographed at the doctor's

54. One in advertising

58. Craving 59. Indian cuisine staple

63. Tree juice

65. "When We Were Kings"

For Solutions See Page 7

CROSSWORD ACROSS 1. Food contaminant 6. Convex and used for cooking

aluminum or potassium,

17. It opposed British

19. *Bird of prey

24. Calf-length skirt

30. *Scorpion's domain

"Twelve . influ-39. Petrus ential French humanist

43. Known for its wine 44. Set of values 46. *It eats both water

48. Get cozy 50. *Some are on this

the jungle 53. Thumbs-up 55. Before, in verse

63. Politician Palin 64. Spring mo.

72. Eighty-six 73. *Used when hunting ducks

3. *Black and white swimmer 4. Jumped or bounded

9. Sweet sandwich 11. Taro plant 12. Word for a nod

for Ducklings' 25. *Sigourney Weaver hunted it 26. Mountain in Italy

lions 38. Prelude to a duel 42. Show contempt

56. Elude paying taxes 57. Exhibiting good health

60. *Cretaceous predator 61. Senior manage 62. Car with a bar

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

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2

Suduko Puzzle on Page 6

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

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work per week CALL



Messenger Publishing Group



By Ronnie McBrayer

Here we are, deep in the throes of the rituals of summer. School is out, vacation days are being cashed in, and picnic baskets are being packed. Barbecues are firing, pools are splashing, and ice cream trucks are rolling. Meanwhile, thousands, yea millions, are taking to the great American highway.

Seventy percent of the U.S. population will hit the road this summer - off to visit grandma, the beach, the closest roller coaster, or a national park. We just love to feel the breeze on our faces and road beneath our wheels. We can't stop ourselves from being a traveling people. We always have been.

In prehistoric times we hoofed it, walking out of Africa scientists tell us, to every point on the globe. Then we built boats, domesticated horses, constructed wagons, engineered planes, trains, and automobiles - not to mention submersibles and space ships – so that no corner of creation has been untouched by the human foot, it seems. We keep moving, rolling, and running, so much so that the theme song of human history might well be Willie Nelson's, "On the Road Again."

True to form, Christianity is a fluid faith for a pilgrim people. It is a spirituality of sojourn, of

Hitting the Road

"goin' places that we've never attached to this cult, this sect been; seein' things that we may never see again." Yet, we don't always understand faith this wav. Look at how we have structured it, however, and it is easy to see why we most often view Christianity as an incorrigible, fixated fortress rather than a liv-

ing, dynamic movement. Our doctrines, constructed and accumulated over thousands of years, stack up like heavy stones. They are unassailable, infallible, and immovable. The buildings that contain our worship services are almost always built of rock, granite, or the hardest and heaviest material we can find – and there those buildings sit in the same place for centuries.

Then, try being an idealistic reformer who seeks to change a church's policy or its strategy to meet the world where it now is. If you're not taken out behind the vestry and quietly crucified, you will find that change in the church usually moves with all the terrifying speed of a melting

This betrays our roots and the trajectory set for our faith from its beginning. With his last conversation with the disciples before his death, Jesus described himself and his personal faith like this: "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Put more accurately, "I am the true and living way." This had such a profound effect on the first followers of Jesus that the earliest self-description of Christianity was "The Way."

The term "Christian," referenced only three times in the entire New Testament, was used by outsiders. It was a moniker

of troublemakers. But the first "Christians" didn't call themselves "Christian" at all. They called their life and faith, "The Way.'

It was the Path. The Road. It was the constantly evolving, winding, opening arc that took this "band of gypsies down the highway." It was an animated, breathing ethos; certainly not hardened codices of legalistic dogma.

So it doesn't appear that Jesus came to establish an inflexible, competitive religion that would be pitted against other belief systems. No, Jesus came to initiate a way of redemptive and gracious living. He came to show us how to live the life of redeeming love, love for God and for others. He embodied all that the Divine requires, that is, "to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.'

There's nothing about walking this humble Way that should be turned into cold-blooded institutionalism. It should never be used to exclude, marginalize, or be employed as a tool of separation. This Way can only unfold and expand, taking us further down the road and deeper into the loving heart of God.

This isn't religion. This is the true way to live. And while love is often "a road less traveled," it is the worthiest of journeys. So let's hit the road.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, pastor, and author. His newest book is "The Gospel According to Waffle House." You can read more at www.ronniemcbrayer.me.

Have A Blessed Day; Now Fire Me If You Dare!

Dr. James L. Snyder

I must confess to a severe case of poverty. I never took a vow of poverty; it just seems to have worked out that way for me. I am so poor the church mice have packed their bags and moved on. If I knew where they moved to, I might join them.

Being poor can have its advantages, but I have yet to run across

I am so poor I am not able to pay attention, especially when watching some television program with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. This has caused no small problem with my wife. We love an evening of unwinding before the TV watching some of our favorite programs. I must confess those programs are getting less and less each year. Soon we are going to have to go back to reading books.

Together we will be watching a program, and when I say "we," I do it with certain modifications. My wife will get up and go to the kitchen for something and when she returns, she asks me a question, "What happened?"

I look at her with one of my infamous quizzical looks and respond, "Where?"

She then explains she is talking about what happened on the TV program while she was away. I then tell her, "I'm sorry, I wasn't paying attention."

This seems to be a source of real frustration for her.

"If you can't afford to pay attention," she will say sarcastically while rolling her eyes, "couldn't you at least rent some attention some time?"

I tried explaining to her that old age is making me a little more forgetful. She, however, is not buying it, so there goes my income stream.

For me, watching television is not an obsession; it is more like a distraction. I do not follow every little bit on the television screen.

For me it is not a matter of life or death, it is just a matter of recreation. I know that nothing on TV is real. We can be in the middle of the next program and I do not realize that the first program has ended. Talk about confusing!

When something does catch my attention, boy does it have my attention.

"Did you," I ask my wife, "hear that?"

Then it is role reversal in prime time. I will not say she acts like me, just that it comes pretty close to it. Not quite Oscar material, but

"What?" She said with a very confused look on her face.

So I had to explain the news story that I just happened to catch. I do not know all of the details, I was not paying that much attention, just that someone was fired from their job for saying to a customer, "Have a blessed day."

I have met many customer service people that said things that I would want them to be fired from, but this has never been on my

My wife then asked the question I was thinking. "What is wrong with telling someone to have a blessed day?'

I could not figure it out. It is like at Christmas time some places do not want their employees to say to the customer, "Merry Christmas." The reasoning is, it might offend someone. What about us who are offended when somebody does not say Merry Christmas to us? This matter of being offended can go both ways. There should be an equal offended person law. There is a law for everything else.

I just would like to meet the person who is offended by somebody saying to them, "Have a blessed day.'

Later that evening I was watching a new crime/detective story on TV and all of a sudden, I heard some words that were offensive. They were saying curse words that I have never heard on TV

before. I have always believed that if you have to use curse words, it is because your vocabulary is drastically lacking in intellectual responses to the world

Here is my dilemma. Why can you say curse words on TV, which everybody knows is scripted, but you cannot say, "Have a blessed day," without getting fired?

If I was in business I would want my employees to greet my clients with a cheerful, "Have a blessed day" and not some awful curse words.

I was complaining about this to a friend of mine who explained to me that curse words on television are considered "literary license." Who is paying for that license I am wondering. All of this has to do with the PC

syndrome in our country today. The problem is what was PC yesterday is no longer PC today. Who knows what tomorrow's PC will be. What I cannot accept is the fact

that being crude and rude is PC and saying something nice is not. Have we reverted to the caveman mentality? Is being nice is no longer acceptable behavior?

I like what David says, "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name" (Psalms 103:1).

Perhaps the reason people are offended by that phrase is because they know that only God has the power to bless. If I am being blessed by God, I am going to turn around and bless people around me.

So, for those offended by that phrase let me say, "Have a blessed day. And fire me if you dare." ★

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, P.O. Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 866-552-2543 or e-mail jamessnyder2@att.net. His website is www.jamessnyderministries.com.

By Pastor Ray Dare

Every great accomplishment that's ever happened in history began as a picture in somebody's imagination. The greatest human factor that influences your life is the way you **see things**, the way that you see yourself, the way you see your potential and your future. The ability to see with the eyes of faith makes all the difference in whether you achieve your dreams and reach your potential or will succumb to the status quo of mediocrity. What is it that you believe God wants to do in and through your life? You must see it with the eyes of faith. If you

can see it, you can achieve it. What does it mean to see with eyes of faith? "I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can **SEE** something of the future he has called you to share" Ephesians1:18a (LB) Paul is saying, "I want you to learn to see with spiritual eyes." When you were born physically, you were given a set of physical senses — hearing, taste, touch,

See Yourself As God Sees You

smell, sight. Everything you they SAW themselves, the way experience in life comes from those five senses. When you are born again spiritually, you get spiritual senses. You get spiritual eyes to see what God wants to do; you get spiritual ears to

hear God's voice. The Bible is full of examples of people seeing with spiritual eyes. Genesis 21 is the story of Hagar taken out to the desert with her son Ishmael to die. She said, "God, don't let me look upon the death of my son." The Bible says, "God opened her eyes" and she saw a well of water in the middle of the desert and it met her needs. In Luke 24 there's the example of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after Jesus had been resurrected. Jesus is walking with them but they didn't recognize Him until He opened their eyes and they saw that God had been with them all along. In Genesis 13, God takes Abraham up on a hill and says, "Look as far as you can see. Anything you can see, you can have." This will be the Promised Land. If you can see it, you can have it. He saw with

spiritual eyes. In Numbers 13, we have an example of an entire nation failing to realize their potential because they could not see with eyes of faith. Because of the way

they SAW their obstacles, they underestimated what God could do through them. "And there we saw the giants...and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers." Numbers 13:33 (KJV)

So let me ask you, as you look into your future, what do you see? What do you see God accomplishing through you? What do you see yourself doing for God? God wants you to see as He sees, because He wants to use you in the world today in a significant way. You know you are created for far more than you've experienced to date. Many people never achieve their full potential because they can't see themselves as God sees. They miss God's plan for their life because of self-imposed limitations.

My challenge to you this week is to get a new view of you. Ask God to open your spiritual eyes so you can see yourself as He sees you. God says, "You can be more than you are right now, you can be something you never thought you could be before." ★

Pastor Ray New Beginnings Church YOU'RE INVITED, Sunday service at 10 am "We Do Church Differently" www.NBC4U.org

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Second Edition for July 2014

Citrus Heights Messenger • Page 9

Karo Williams Awarded Student of the Month at Chamber Luncheon



Included in the photo above are: (L-R) City of Citrus Heights Mayor Mel Turner, Dustin Call of Senator Jim Nielsen's office, Steven Stenzler of Assemblyman Ken Cooley's office, Sacramento County Supervisor Roberta MacGlashan, Dwight Washabaugh and Baldo Singh of the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps, Student of the Month Karo Williams of the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps, and the Citrus Heights Regional Chamber's Education Committee Vice Chair Rosa Umbach. Photo courtesy City of Citrus Heights

By Rosa Umbach, Vice Chair Education Committee

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Karo Williams began working for the City of Citrus Heights, Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps in August 2013. During this time, he has worked on and completed his high school diploma through the SRCC campus of John Muir Charter School. In his position as Citrus Heights corpsmember, Karo has mastered the use of all power tools, including the chipper for vegetation management, and has tirelessly worked removing debris from the City creeks. He has also earned

Corpsmember of the Month

awards for excellent attendance in spite of the fact that he has complete responsibility for his two brothers, ages 10 and 15. His teacher shares that Karo is a very hard worker who has made up for a very difficult period in his life.

When Karo was 13, his mother was taken from him and he started getting into trouble. When he found out he wouldn't be able to graduate with his class, his aunt helped him enroll in an alternative school. It was another setback when he aged out of the alternative school and was unable to complete a HSD. When he joined the SRCC, he literally needed all his HS credits in spite of already having passed

awards for excellent attendance the California High School Exit in spite of the fact that he has

Karo is best known by staff and peers for his perseverance, hard work and devotion to his family. His plan is to attend truck driver school and find a job that will support him and his brothers. Karo is not only dedicated to his family, but his achievements in the classroom and accomplishments in the community of Citrus Heights show his dedication to excellence for a bright future. Karo is grateful to the City for providing this work and education opportunity. We thank Karo for his leadership as a corpsmember serving the City of Citrus Heights, and wish him well in all his future endeavors.



LOST TREASURE

I met her in early 1980. How? After I had done a radio show about Marilyn Monroe. I had a guy on who claimed he was married to Marilyn for about two and a half minutes, and then got a quickie dissolution in Mexico. What tales he had to tell about her. After the show, I got a call from this disembodied voice who, in no uncertain terms, told me this guy was full of it! I asked her who she was, and she told me she was Joe DiMaggio's niece and that her mother and father, Tom and Louise owned "DiMaggios" Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco. Her name? June DiMaggio.

I invited her to come on my show and share her side of the story, which she did. Luckily, I had the opportunity to meet her mom and dad when we had dinner with them at "DiMaggios." I say luckily, because her dad passed away later that year. Suffice to say, we became good friends, and oh the stories she had to tell about Marilyn, Joe, and her own life during the glory years of Hollywood. She knew so many stars like Barbara Stanwyck, Ann Sothern, and Carol Channing to name just a few, but especially Marilyn Monroe. She knew Marilyn for some eleven years from the time Joe was dating the starlet until the day she died. She actually saw

POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

Marilyn that fateful day. Over the years, I heard so many wonderful stories about her life and the greats she worked with and knew as friends.

After the passing of June's very dear friend, mentor, and vocal coach to the stars Barbara Klein, she told me Barbara had encouraged her to tell her stories. She asked if I would help. I hesitantly said yes, but I had no idea it would be a seven year journey to hear all her stories and pick out the pictures

I talked with her for just a few minutes every morning just to say hi and how are you, and I will treasure those few moments we had together. We also shared many holidays at my home with family and friends. And June could still belt out a song from her repertoire anytime someone suggested it. She starred in some eleven Sacramento Music Circus productions as well as all her performances in Hollywood on TV and movies. She always enjoyed



and get her memoirs published. It all happened with "Marilyn, Joe and Me" June DiMaggio tells it like it was. June and I remained friends til her passing late on the eve of Marilyn Monroe's birthday June 1. It was so fitting. She dearly loved Marilyn and wanted fans to know the lovely Marilyn she called her dear friend, not the sex goddess they all thought she was. June would have been 91 June the eleventh, and I can tell you she lived life to the fullest. She loved to travel and visit with friends, and she dearly loved a party. I am so pleased we got to cruise together a few years back and we traveled the country on tour with our book.

the Romanian food we prepared, and always had a doggy bag with goodies to take home. June was also a generous and loving friend who always wanted to know how Rick and I were doing, and if we had any medical issues, called upon her church to say prayers for us.

June, I will miss your loving smile and your good nature, but I will always be grateful that I knew and loved you my dear friend. You are a lost treasure, but some of that glitter will always remain with me! Rest in peace and sing a song for me in Heaven!



61st Wedding Anniversary Celebration for John and Elsie Maniaci

s our nation celebrated its Independence on July 4, 2014, John and Elsie Maniaci celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. They were married in 1953 at the Justice of the Peace in Reno, Nevada with only a few dollars in their pockets and lots of love in their heart for each other.

John worked in many vocations, but most of his work was in outside sales. John fought in the Korean War and is active with the Korean War Veterans today. Elsie is a homemaker and was an active participant with their children in their school years throughout their marriage. She is a surviver of Breast and Colon cancer, and she has ministered to others who have gone through

s our nation celebrated its similar deseases. After raising their own chil-Independence on July 4, 2014, John and Elsie became foster parents for and Elsie Maniaci celebrated their 10+ years, investing in other children's lives.

John and Elsie have a close relationship with their 5 children, 15 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren all living in Northern California. Every year they host a Christmas party at their home which helps the family stay connected.

They are native Californians, and for the past 20 years have made Orangevale their home. As for being our parents, grandparents and greatgrandparents, they are loving, caring and giving people.

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Stones Gambling Hall Grand Opening

Continued from Page 1

leave his family's business and, with their support, pursue what became a grand scale business venture that included incorporating his family's favorite restaurant, Sammy's. Stone was

Heights Vice Mayor Susan Frost; and representatives of the Citrus Heights City Council, Gambling Commission, and Citrus Heights first responders.

Stones, Citrus Heights' only casino brings a multiplicity of



Danielle Backy, Stones' project manager, and Elvis Impersonator, Rick Torres, pose in his pink Cadillac Torres performed, mingled and posed for pictures with patrons throughout the night.

quick to credit friends, family, business associates, and the city with making it possible for him to accomplish his goal. Stone said that, through this process, he learned the most important thing he needs for success is an A-plus team.

Sharing the stage with Stone were Kermit Schayltz, former owner of Lucky Derby and one of Stone's partners; Citrus



Rebecca Ebersole provides service with a smile at Sammy's Bar &

benefits to the area. Vice Mayor Frost credits Stones Gambling Hall with revitalizing a part of Citrus Heights that has been blighted for some time. "Stones and Sammy's brought over 400 jobs to Citrus Heights and our region, and their presence will draw other businesses here," said Frost. "This will bring a whole new energy to this side of the city.'

Frost said that of the 400plus jobs created, 51 went to Citrus Heights residents. Nonresident employees also boost the local economy when they eat and shop locally, and some are likely to move to here to be closer to work. Frost added that Stones will draw many patrons from outside of Citrus Heights' trade zone, which will benefit many Citrus Heights businesses. Another benefit to the local community is that Stones offers fine dining close to home. "People in Citrus Heights have been wanting more upscale dining options,

and this fits the bill, said Frost." Stones is an impressive establishment. Bay Area architect Andre Krause was hired to design the casino. He blended



The 4,630 square foot space dedicated to Sammy's includes Citrus Heights' largest bar, which features locally brewed beers and hand-crafted cocktails.

original features from the existing building with innovative design elements. The building is energy efficient, and the reclaimed materials, multi-colored windows and tiles, and interior glass walls successfully create an atmosphere that is both upscale and comfortably casual.

Stones features two separate card rooms divided by soundproof glass walls. The Saloon is a large poker room featuring several large tables in a warm atmosphere. Kraus added a dropped ceiling to the room to create a warm, comfortable mood. Overlooking the room from the far wall is Twister, a bull with magnificent twisting horns, who, I was assured, lived a long, happy life and died of natural causes. For a change of pace, The Tavern room's games include blackjack, baccarat, pai gow, three-card poker and Ultimate Texas Hold 'em.

Sammy's Restaurant & Bar, which operates inside Stones, uses local and organic ingredients whenever possible. Sammy's

is famous for oak roasted dishes from their woodfired oven, and their healthy menu includes vegetarian and gluten free options. The 4,630 square foot space

dedicated to Sammy's includes Citrus Heights' largest bar, which features locally brewed beers and hand-crafted cocktails.

Which band did Stones choose to play into the night at their grand opening? Of course, tribute band The Unauthorized Rolling Stones. The King also made an appearance. Elvis impersonator Rick Torres performed, schmoozed, and posed for pictures with guests.

When you visit Stones, you'll be given a warm welcome at the door and treated like a VIP by the friendly family of Stones and Sammy's employees. Stop in and experience the grand casino of Citrus Heights for yourself, it's worth it!

Stones Gambling Hall is located at 6510 Antelope Road. For more information, visit www. stonesgamblinghall.com.



One of the many card tables in The Tavern card room of Stones Gambling



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CSLB Undercover Sting in Folsom Busts Unlicensed Contractors

sion of suspected unlicensed contractors submitted bids for construction work at a Folsom home last week and walked into the waiting hands of Contractors State License Board (CSLB) undercover investigators. The undercover sting operation on Thursday, June 26, 2014, was conducted at a two-story home near Folsom Lake College by CSLB's Statewide Investigative Fraud Team (SWIFT) with the help of Sacramento County District Attorney's Office investigators and Folsom Police Department.

The newer home restricted the range of projects that could be sought for bid to exterior ones such as painting, fencing, land-scape, retaining walls, and pool tiling.

Despite that limitation, there was no shortage of unlicensed operators who gave bids to investigators who posed as homeowners. The median bid was about \$4,000, SWIFT investigators reported, with a high of \$10,000 for an exterior painting job.

In California, all home improvement jobs valued at \$500 or more (combined labor and material costs) must be conducted by a company or person with a CSLB-issued license (Business and Professions Code section 7028).

All 11 suspects were cited for contracting without a license. Nine face an additional misdemeanor charge of illegal advertising (Business and Professions Code section 7027.1). State law requires contractors to place their license number in all print, broadcast, and online advertisements. Those without a license can advertise for jobs valued at less than \$500, but the ad must state that they are not a licensed contractor. One of the men

showed investigators a contractor license number that did not belong to him and was cited on an additional charge (Business and Professions Code section 7027.3).

About 70 percent of the suspect leads were found on the online bulletin board craigslist.

"We have warned consumers many times about the importance of taking an extra minute to check CSLB's website to make sure the contractor has a license in good standing if they're going to use craigslist or other online bulletin boards," CSLB Registrar Steve Sands said. "Licensed contractors use craigslist and other online sources as an advertising tool, but so do many unlicensed and unqualified people."

Suspects received Notice to Appear citations for 8:30 a.m. on September 17 or 18, 2014, in Sacramento County Superior Court, 720 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814 to answer to illegal contracting charges.

This is a list of the suspects and each suspect's city of residence, license classification, and violations:

- Jason Andrew Muller, West Sacramento, C8 - Concrete, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Christopher Ray Cunningham, Sacramento, C33 - Painting and Decorating, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Patrick Richard Beals, Folsom, C13 - Fencing Contracting without a license
- Joshua Elias Valencia, Carmichael, C29 - Masonry, Contracting without a license
- Gabriel Cortez, Citrus Heights, C33 - Painting and Decorating, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Gregory Alan Hayes, Grass Valley, C33 - Painting and

Decorating Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising, Displaying a license not belonging to him

- Jose Luis Tolentino, Roseville, C8 - Concrete, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Alejandro Arturo Diaz, Sacramento, C33 - Painting and Decorating, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Soroosh Reinhanihoseinabad, Citrus Heights, C33 - Painting and Decorating, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Bruce Timothy Aziz, Citrus Heights, C13 - Fencing Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising
- Abenida Stephen Olenslager, Sacramento, C13 - Fencing, Contracting without a license, Illegal advertising

CSLB encourages consumers to always "Check the License First" by visiting www.cslb. ca.gov or calling CSLB's toll-free automated line, (800) 321-CSLB (2757). Also, visit CSLB's website for tips about how to hire a contractor and to sign up for CSLB Email Alerts.

The Contractors State License Board operates under the umbrella of the California Department of Consumer Affairs. More information and publications about hiring contractors are available on CSLB's website or by calling (800) 321-CSLB (2752). You also can sign up for CSLB email alerts. CSLB licenses and regulates about 300,000 contractors in California, and is regarded as one of the leading consumer protection agencies in the United States. In fiscal year 2012-13, CSLB helped recover nearly \$44 million in ordered restitution for consumers.

Source: CSLB Public Affairs Office

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The New Christy Minstrels



This Grammy Award-winning American folk music group will perform two live concerts as fundraisers for the Fair Oaks Theatre Festival and the New Christy Minstrels Foundation.



Under the direction of Randy Sparks, the group has sold millions of records and launched the careers of several musicians including Kenny Rogers, Gene Clark, Kim Carnes, and Jerry Yester. Known for hits like "Green, Green," "Saturday Night," and "Today," the group played to a sold-out house last year, so get your tickets early!

Ticket Price: \$20

per person
(no FOTF discounts apply)

Saturday July 26th & Sunday July 27th

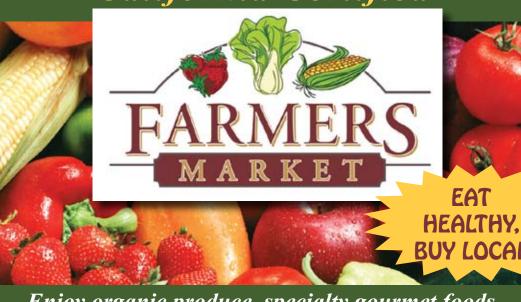
6:30 pm: Gates Open • 7:30 pm: Performance
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Avenue,
Fair Oaks, 95628

For Further Information: 9 1 6 . 9 6 6 . 3 6 8 3

FairOaksTheatreFestival.com www.thenewchristyminstrels.com

Tickets will be available on our website, at outlets in Fair Oaks Village and at our box office at any 2014 production.





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SATURDAY

SATURDAY

WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY

SATURDAY

Sac Unity Farmers Market

9249 Folsom Blvd, Sacramento (at Unity of Sacramento Church) on Saturdays 8 am - 1 pm, year round.

Carmichael Park Farmers Market

5750 Grant Avenue, Carmichael (Corner of Grant & Fair Oaks Boulevard under the trees in the Park). Every Sunday from 9 am to 2 pm - all year round.

Sacramento Midtown Farmers Market

2020 J Street (Between the STANF Native American Health and Bioware buildings). Every Saturday from 8 am to 1 pm - all year round, rain or shine.

Sunrise Mall Farmers Market

6190 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights (behind Sears located in SE Parking Lot). Open every Saturday from 8 am to 1 pm - all year round.

Historic Folsom Farmers Market

915 Sutter Street, Historic Folsom Public Plaza, Folsom. Every Saturday from 8 am to 1 pm - all year round

UC Davis Health System Farmers Market

45th and Y Street (UC Davis Campus). Seasonal - Opens 4/24. 3 pm - 7:30 pm

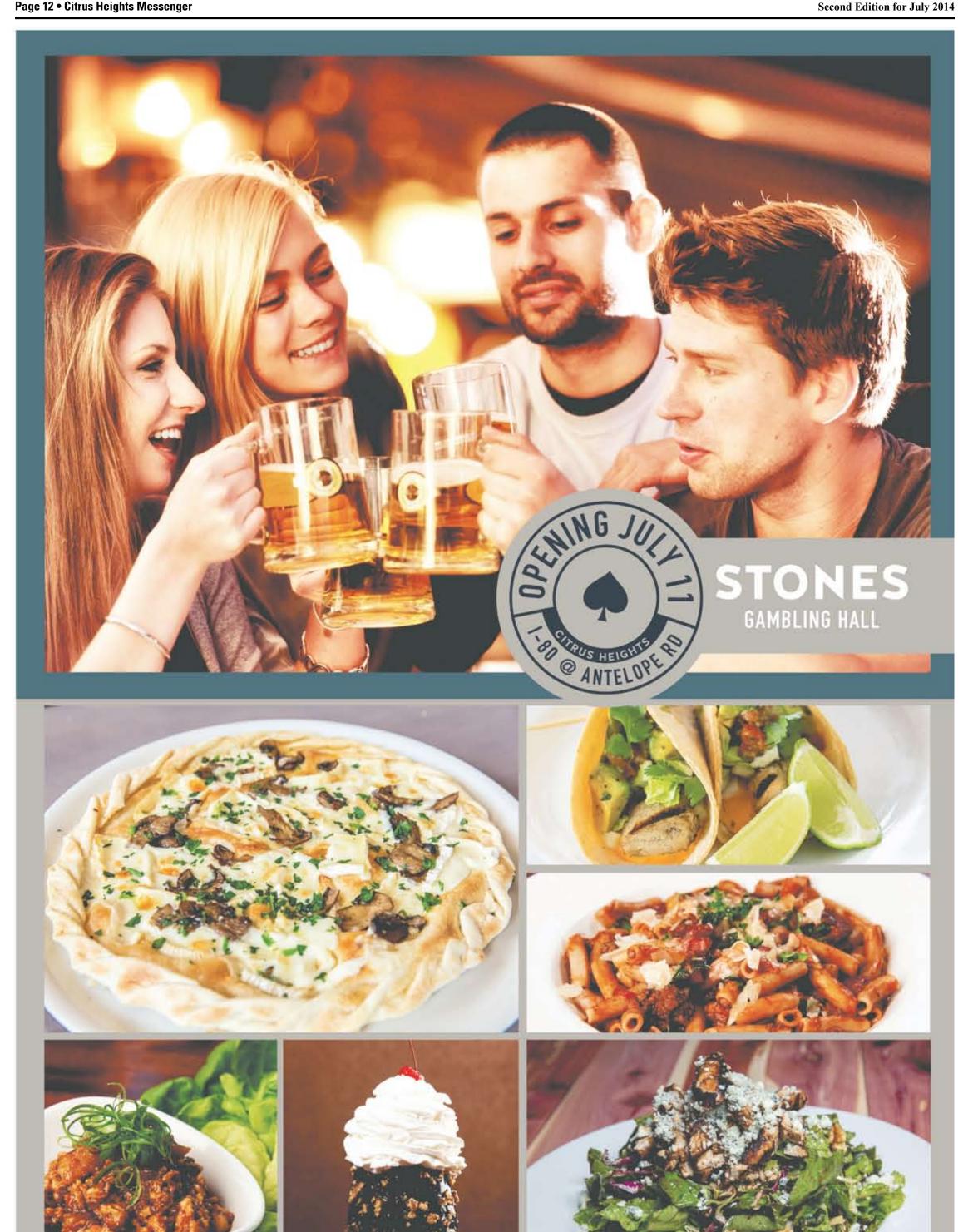
Fair Oaks Farmers Market NEW LOCATION, LOTS OF PARKING! 8101 Sunset Ave. (New Life Church). Seasonal - Opens 4/16. 3 pm - 7:00 pm

VA Mather Farmers Market

10535 Hospital Way (VA Hospital). Seasonal - Open Now. 9 am - 1 pm

For more information: www.bemoneysmartusa.org

Page 12 • Citrus Heights Messenger



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