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# M Citrus Heights Messenger

“Written by the people, for the people”

Volume 3 Issue 3

Serving the City of Citrus Heights and Sacramento County

Second Edition for February 2013

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at Dutch Bros.



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## All I Can Say is Love Hurts



The latest sweetheart scam swindles unsuspecting women out of thousands of dollars in the Sacramento area.

SACRAMENTO, CA. – The Better Business Bureau warns online daters to be wary of potential love matches requesting money after two women report wiring thousands of dollars to an alleged Sacramento business owner they met online. A Citrus Heights woman told Better Business Bureau that after several weeks of romantic emails, poetry exchanges and brief phone calls, the supposed owner of a computer store she met through an online dating site requested to borrow money. “He shared with me that he was working with the Department of Homeland Security and the IRS to obtain permits to receive international shipments of computers worth \$1.5 million,” said the woman. “He discovered he needed to pay \$32,000 in tariffs.

He was short \$10,000.” After the man promised to pay her back, she wired \$2,000. She later declined to wire more money as requested. After refusing to wire more funds, the man ceased communication with her. “I went to the business address and it does not exist. No such business,” grieved the woman. “I would love to see my money returned, but do not anticipate it. He makes elderly women victims with his sweet talk, poetry and professing love.” Another woman’s family filed a complaint with Better Business Bureau in July 2012 alleging the same situation. “My mother, a recent widow, is in contact with (the man),” wrote the daughter of the victim. “He has already gotten thousands of dollars from her.” The

woman allegedly attempted to retrieve the wired funds, but had no luck. “Some online suitors may be more attracted to your wallet,” said Gary Almond, president of BBB serving northeast California. “If you choose to date online, be wary of wiring funds, meeting right away and those who try to get too close too quickly.” BBB advises those pursuing online dating to consider the following tips: - Never wire money to online sweethearts claiming a need for funds related to travel, medical emergencies, visas, taxes or financial losses. - Be wary of love interests who want to leave the dating site immediately to use a personal email account.

- Think things through when scouting love matches online. Be leery of those who claim immediate love, make excuses to not talk on the phone or refuse to meet in person after a lengthy period of online communication. - If you have been a victim of a “sweetheart” scam, report the incident to the FBI, FTC and your state attorney general. *For more scam alerts and consumer information, follow BBB on Facebook at facebook.com/necalbbb. More than 87 million consumers rely on BBB for Business Reviews, consumer tips and scam alerts. To learn more, please visit www.necal.bbb.org.*

## Free Tax Help Available For Seniors

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA – (MPG) Sacramento County AARP Tax-Aide provides free tax help in filing 2012 federal and state tax returns, including electronic filing, for taxpayers with low and middle income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Services are available February 1 through April 15 at a number of Sacramento County locations. Taxpayers who are interested in getting tax help are urged to call ahead and schedule appointments with AARP’s volunteer tax counselors by calling 2-1-1 or 498-1000. For specific site information search in your browser for “AARP Tax Aide Locations.” Documents (as applicable) that should be brought to appointments include the previous year, 2011 tax return, Social Security numbers for any dependents, W-2 forms from each employer, the annual Social Security benefit statement, any pension or annuity statements, other 1099 forms and all forms showing income and unemployment compensation. If applicable, bring child care provider information, including name, employer ID or Social Security Number. If itemizing deductions, bring all receipts or cancelled checks for items such as medical expenses, include medical mileage, taxes paid, mortgage interest paid, your property tax statement showing the amount paid and your parcel number and charitable contributions. Describe each itemized category and total each category amount. Services are available February 1 through April 15 at a number of Sacramento County locations. Sites in (and near) Carmichael area are: Carmichael Library at 5605 Marconi Ave (W, F), or Arcade Library at 2443 Marconi Ave, (F) or Arden-Dimick Library at 891 Watt Ave (W). For more information call 498-1000 or 2-1-1. Days available and appointment hours vary according to site.

Source: AARP

## Mercy San Juan Medical Center Receives 100 Best Hospitals Award

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA – (MPG) Mercy San Juan Medical Center’s cardiac program recently received the “America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Cardiac Care” from Healthgrades, the leading provider of information to help consumers make an informed decision about a physician or hospital. In addition, Mercy San Juan Medical Center received the Healthgrades “America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Cardiac Surgery” in 2013 and “America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Critical Care” for two years in a row (2012-2013). “We are extremely pleased to be recognized by Heathgrades” said Brian Ivie, President of Mercy San Juan Medical Center. “These awards honor our

exceptional team of physicians, nurses and staff who make quality care a patient priority every day.” The findings are part of American Hospital Quality Outcomes 2013: Healthgrades Report to the Nation, which evaluates the performance of approximately 4,500 hospitals nationwide across nearly 30 of the most common conditions and procedures. Patient outcomes are important to consumers making choices today about hospitals. According to new research conducted by Harris Interactive for Healthgrades, 86 percent of Americans in 27 top designated market areas agree they would be more likely to choose—or not choose—a hospital if they could learn ahead of time the mortality

rates for a certain procedure. Other notable Healthgrades recognitions include: Recipient of the Healthgrades Critical Care Excellence Award™ for 2 Years in a Row (2012-2013), Ranked Among the Top 5% in the Nation for Critical Care for 2 Years in a Row (2012-2013), Five-Star Recipient for Overall Critical Care for 2 Years in a Row (2012-2013), Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Sepsis for 3 Years in a Row (2011-2013), Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Respiratory Failure for 3 Years in a Row (2011-2013), Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease for 2 Years in a Row (2012-2013), Five-Star Recipient for Treatment of Pneumonia for 3 Years in a Row (2011-2013), Recipient of the Healthgrades

Neurosciences Excellence Award™ in 2013. For its 2013 hospital quality outcomes analysis, Healthgrades evaluated approximately 40 million Medicare hospitalization records for services performed from 2009 through 2011 at approximately 4,500 short-term, acute care hospitals nationwide. Healthgrades independently measures hospitals based on data that hospitals submit to the federal government. No hospital can opt in or out of being measured, and no hospital pays to be measured. Mortality and complication rates are risk adjusted, which takes into account each hospital’s unique population (demographics and severity of illness). Mercy San Juan, a 370-bed hospital located on Coyle Avenue

in Carmichael, is the only hospital serving the people of North Sacramento and South Placer counties with comprehensive cardiac care, advanced robotic surgery and breakthrough treatments for brain disease through the Mercy Neurological Institute. In addition to this award, Mercy San Juan also was recognized as a national 100 Top Hospital by Thomson-Reuters in 2007 and 2008. Mercy San Juan opened as a community hospital in 1967 and evolved into a medical center after establishing its trauma center in 1999. Mercy San Juan is part of Dignity Health, which also operates Mercy General Hospital, Mercy Hospital of Folsom and Methodist Hospital.

Source: Mercy San Juan Medical Center

[www.CitrusHeightsMessenger.com](http://www.CitrusHeightsMessenger.com)



# Fifth Annual Youth Energy Summit Emphasizes “Green Business”



Students from the Sacramento County area learned how to create “green” business opportunities at the Youth Energy Summit held at the SMUD campus January 25 and 26. The gathering is the fifth annual installment of the summit, where young people learn how to build a sustainable energy future.

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA – (MPG) The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), a regional clean energy leader, hosted the fifth annual Youth Energy Summit (YES) training event January 25 and 26. The event emphasized the creation of “green” businesses. About 100 participating students teamed up to create “green” for-profit or nonprofit businesses and planned to partner with existing businesses to help them achieve sustainability objectives.

The keynote speaker provided a roadmap and an inspiration. Nikhil Arora is a young icon in the sustainable business model movement. He helped start Backtotheroots.com, an Oakland entrepreneurial team founded in 2009 with the goal of bringing sustainable living into homes

across the country. Arora has won several awards, including Forbes magazine’s Top 30 Under 30 and has been honored at the White House.

YES is a two-day, all-encompassing forum for local students to learn and discuss a wide range of energy issues that will impact their lives, issues SMUD aims to strategically address in the coming decades. YES teaches students the basics of energy science through lectures and interactive workshops given by energy industry professionals speaking on a range of topics spanning solar energy to waste management to alternative transportation.

Students will take what they’ve learned at YES and will finalize energy-related learning projects in their schools and

communities. On April 26 at the state Capitol, students who joined YES learning teams will compete for scholarships by submitting their projects for the general public, legislators and judges.

Celebrating five years, the Youth Energy Summit dovetails with SMUD’s mission as a regional clean energy leader that is helping to prime the local economy for a sustainable energy future. Part of that mission includes development of a “smart grid” which will transform the way electricity is produced and delivered to customers. The project will help improve the economic and environmental health of the Sacramento region, which in many ways depends on SMUD’s track record of meeting our customers’ energy needs.

As the nation’s sixth largest publicly owned utility, SMUD has been providing low-cost, reliable electricity for more than 60 years to Sacramento County (and a small portion of Placer County). SMUD is a recognized industry leader and award winner for its innovative energy efficiency programs, renewable power technologies, and for its sustainable solutions for a healthier environment. The utility is the first large California utility to receive 20 percent of its energy from renewable resources. For more information, visit smud.org.

Source: SMUD Newsroom

# Hidden in Plain Sight

By Julie Parker and Paul Scholl

SACRAMENTO, CA – (MPG) “Craig Miller and I worked together on La Sierra’s Branding Iron newspaper staff in high school,” recalls Jennifer Corbin (née Wilcox). “Word of his death was just unbelievable. Craig was such a nice guy – lively banter, a quick wit – somebody you enjoyed being around. It’s hard to imagine anyone capable of killing people like that. I was stunned to learn that Charlene Gallego was living in the Sacramento area again. That has to be so disturbing for the families of her numerous victims.”

Miller was the sole male victim, and one of the last, of Gerald and Charlene Gallego’s killing spree from 1978 to 1980. Infamously referred to as the “Sex Slave Murders,” the heinous serial killings, involving kidnapping and rape, took place in California and Nevada.

The resurfacing of a serial killer in this community has reopened painful wounds. How and why did this happen?

## A Summary Of Events:

**October 10, 1956** – Charlene Adelle, born to Charles and Mercedes Williams; only child. In her adult life she is allegedly involved in drugs and prostitution. Two marriages end; one in annulment, the other divorce

**1977** – Meets Gerald Gallego at poker club in Sacramento. Gallego had five marriages behind him, and a daughter (who would later file charges of incest, sodomy, oral copulation, and unlawful intercourse against him)

**September 11, 1978** – First victims of Gerald and Charlene: seventeen-year-old Rhonda Scheffler and sixteen-year-old Kippi Vaught. On September 10, 1978, Rhonda and Kippi were shopping at Country Club Plaza in Sacramento County when Charlene enticed them into their van. Gerald and Charlene raped and further sexually abused the two victims throughout the night in rural Placer County.

**September 30, 1978** – Married in Reno, moved to Nevada, then Houston, Texas under alias of “Feil” (the identity of which she allegedly stole from a cousin)

**June 24, 1979** – Nevada – victims three and four: fourteen-year-old Brenda Lynne Judd and thirteen-year-old Sandra Kay Colley- On June 24, 1979, Brenda and Sandra were lured into the Gallegos’ van at the Washoe County, Nevada, Fair

**September 1979** – Gerald and Charlene moved back to Sacramento area

**April 24, 1980** - Victims five and six: seventeen-year-old Karen Chipman Twiggs and seventeen-year-old Stacy Ann Redican. The Gallegos kidnapped Stacey and Karen from Sunrise Mall in Citrus Heights, California

**June 1, 1980** – The couple marry a second time under name of Feil

**June 7, 1980** – Victim seven: twenty-one-year-old Linda Aguilar, who was then four months pregnant

**July 17, 1980** – Victim eight: thirty-four-year-old Virginia Mochel

**November 2, 1980** – Victims nine and ten: twenty-two-year-old Craig Miller and his fiancée, twenty-one-year-old Mary Elizabeth Sowers. This time, there are witnesses to the abduction - friends of Miller and Sowers – who write down the Gallegos’ license plate number

**November 17, 1980** – Gerald and Charlene are arrested

**January 17, 1981** – Charlene gives birth to son Gerald Armond Gallego, Jr. while in prison; custody given to her parents, who change boy’s name to Charles A. Williams

**November 1982** – Trial begins. Gerald convicted of only four of the killings

**November 1983** – Charlene pleads guilty to two counts of first-degree murder in California, and one count of second-degree murder in Nevada. In exchange for testifying against Gerald, charges against her are dropped in California, and she is sentenced to sixteen years, eight months, serving her sentence in the Department of Prisons Women’s Center, Carson City, Nevada

**1991** – Although she is to be released from prison early for good behavior, California officials inform her she will be arrested on other charges if full sentence not completed.

**July 17, 1997** – Charlene is released from prison

**October 1997** – She and her attorney, Joseph Murphy, meet with a reporter from sfgate.com. She claims (Gallego) has a contract out on her for testifying against him; feels like victim, not a criminal

**2001** – Tells Fair Oaks cemetery personnel that her husband, Joseph Murphy, is dying of leukemia (he passes on April 27, 2001). She also advises she is a legal secretary. Murphy’s gravestone reads, “Beloved father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend.” Does not mention “husband.” He was 75 years old at time of death.

**July 18, 2002** – Gerald Gallego dies of rectal cancer while serving time on death row.

**February 7, 2010** - Son Charlie Williams dies at Camp Nathan Smith in Afghanistan “of injuries sustained while supporting combat operations” – also found on freedomremembered.com were reports that he died of a non-combat related injury.

**February 2010** – In the second edition of the American River Messenger for this month, Charlie Williams is honored for his service to our country with a full page story and photos.

Memorial mass was held in Citrus Heights and he was buried in Fair Oaks Cemetery.

**April 2, 2010** – Charlene (now Mary Martinez) moves to Fair Oaks, paying \$230,000 for her home

**January 5, 2011** – Files “Gold Country for the Troops, Inc.” with Secretary of State, listing herself, Mary Martinez, as President, and Daniel Martinez as agent for service of process. The same year, Gold Country for the Troops, via Daniel Martinez, joins Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce.

**May 21, 2011** – Event hosted by Gold Country for the Troops at 1079 Sunrise Ave # B335, Roseville.

**October 29, 2011** – Mary and Daniel Martinez, via Gold Country for the Troops, host “Halloween Fun, Feast & Treats” at their home. Flyer reads, “For our military and their families. ... Sponsorships and donations welcome.”

**May 5, 2012** – Event created to raise funds for Gold Country for the Troops and non-profit, Heart of the Matter (“sponsors foster care for our 4-legged military family members. As we know from our personal experience, when one of our troops deploy, they cannot take all of their family members, especially their little furry or feathered ones.”) There is no official record of Heart of Matter’s non-profit status. Numbers provided by Martinez are erroneous.

**June 25, 2012** – mylifeofcrime.wordpress.com posts, “I have learned that Charlene Williams Gallego is now living under the name of Mary Martinez and she lives in Fair Oaks, California.”

**July 22, 2012** – Martinez announces the establishment of the “Charlie Williams Memorial Scholarship” at UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, to be awarded at an annual scholarship award event in May of 2013.

**January 31st, 2013** - Mary Martinez (Charlene Gallegos) appears on local television for her first public interview after being found to be living in the Sacramento area.

What brought Charlene back to this area, where most of her crimes occurred? Although forensic profilers may offer clues, none are apparent.

Regardless, however, of what actually pulled Charlene back, individuals and businesses that previously donated to or sponsored her charities are now pulling out.

*Publisher’s note: Sometimes you have to make tough decisions on publishing local stories. This is one of those times. We chose to just do the research and print all the facts that we could back up and to not editorialize or comment. We leave that to our readers.*



THANK A VETERAN TODAY





Community Center and City Events Volunteers Needed!

Citrus Heights Community Center Volunteer Open House

Thursday, February 28, 2013  
4:30p.m.-6:00p.m.  
6300 Fountain Square Drive

The Citrus Heights Community Center is seeking dedicated volunteers to assist with the facility's ongoing operations. As well as volunteers to assist with the ever popular City and Community Events.

You are invited to join us at the Citrus Heights Community Center volunteer open house on February 28th. All volunteers must be at least 18 years old and must successfully pass a background investigation, including a criminal history check and DMV background.

RSVP Required

For more information and to RSVP, please call 916-727-5400 or contact Michele Saario at msaario@citrusheights.net






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# Celebrating Women’s Empowerment



Former Volunteer Alicia Sanders is Women’s Empowerment’s 1,000th graduate. Photo Courtesy of WE

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA – Sacramento resident Alicia Sanders volunteered for Women’s Empowerment years ago, but this fall, the 47-year-old found herself on the other side of the table. Struggling with a thyroid disorder, depression, unemployment and a history of sexual and emotional abuse, she hit bottom.

“I was ready to go to a psych ward or check out at that point,” Sanders said. “Suddenly I heard ‘Women’s Empowerment’ and I remembered my volunteer work there. I called and a fragment of hope stirred in me when they said they were holding orientation the next week. When they called to say I was accepted, a flood of tears

came. Hope was at my doorstep.”

Last week, Sanders became Women’s Empowerment’s 1,000th graduate, finishing the program with 35 other women no longer homeless. Sanders just accepted a position as a job coach with Goodwill Industries in Rancho Cordova where she will be helping clients reach their potential, just as Women’s Empowerment’s job-readiness program helped her do.

“Women’s Empowerment is a piece of heaven in the middle of hell,” Sanders said. “I grew up thinking I didn’t matter. Standing here today at graduation, I can tell you, I matter.”

More than 200 community

members, including graduates’ mentors and families, attended the graduation where each graduate shared her story and future plans through poetry and speeches centered around the theme, “the beauty within set free.” Each woman received a new, donated handbag filled with a day planner and other items designed to help her succeed. The bags were sponsored by CGI in Sacramento.

“Each of these 35 women felt trapped by the dark weight of homelessness,” said Lisa Culp, executive director, Women’s Empowerment. “But they joined the 974 women before them by working hard and overcoming powerful obstacles so they could be the capable women, mothers and employees they were meant to be. We could not be more proud of our 1,010 graduates who have broken the cycle of homelessness for themselves, their children and generations to come.”

Women’s Empowerment offers the only comprehensive job-readiness program in the Sacramento area designed specifically for women who are homeless and their children. The 2009 Nonprofit of the Year has graduated 1,010 homeless women and their nearly 2,000 children. Last year, 94 percent of graduates found homes and 74 percent found jobs or enrolled in school. The program combines self-esteem courses, job training, health classes and support services to help homeless women across diverse ages, races and cultures. Women’s Empowerment is funded solely through private donations from the community.

For more information and to donate online, visit [www.women-empowerment.org](http://www.women-empowerment.org).

Source: *Thébaud Communications*

# It’s Dutch Luv Time!



## Valentine’s Day Treat Helps Fight Hunger

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA — (MPG) Valentine’s Day is Dutch Luv Day, when Sacramento-area Dutch Bros. Coffee locations will offer customers a FREE medium drink in exchange for a contribution of five canned food items to help local food banks fight hunger.

Dutch Bros. Coffee supports Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, Yolo County Food Banks, and Auburn Interfaith Food Closet with this effort.

All you have to do is give five

cans of food and receive any 16-oz. drink FREE!

Drinks include specialty coffee drinks, smoothies, freezes and flavor-infused, private-label energy drinks.

The food-raising event lasts all day Thursday, Feb. 14, but is for one day only! Hours vary by location, so visit [www.dutch-bros.com/locations](http://www.dutch-bros.com/locations) for details.

The annual Dutch Luv Day effort extends company-wide, taking place this year at all 195 locations. In 2012, Dutch Luv

Day raised over 100,000 pounds of canned food for our friends and neighbors in need. Dutch Bros. Coffee donates over \$1 million every year to nonprofit organizations and causes, in an effort to achieve its goal of “making a difference, one cup at a time.”

Area locations include 7445 Madison Ave in Citrus Heights and 5289 Auburn Blvd. in Sacramento.

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*- Jack T., Citrus Heights, CA*





# Reports from Citrus Heights Police Department

## Citrus Heights Police Department Burglar Arrested on Sayonara Drive

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) 01/30/2013 - Citrus Heights Police Officers contacted a suspicious subject in the 7800 block of Sayonara at approximately 2:34 am. The subject was found to be in possession of jewelry. Nearby, officers located a flat screen television and other property.

The property was found to belong

to a resident in the 6600 block of Rinconada. That residence had been broken into and the property was stolen while the residents slept.

Detectives from the Investigations Division responded to assist. The investigation revealed the suspect had been involved in several other burglaries and auto thefts in the past few weeks.

The subject was booked at Sacramento County Jail for multiple charges of burglary and auto-theft. Subject Arrested: Scott Alan James / 42 years old / Citrus Heights, Ca.

CONTACT: Sgt. Eric Mattke, Public Information Officer (916)727-5573

## Armed Robbery at Local Restaurant

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) 02/01/13: On Thursday, 01/31/13, at approximately 8:40 PM, Citrus Heights Police responded to the “Star of Siam” restaurant, 6029 Greenback Lane, for a reported robbery.

Three males wearing dark colored ski masks, and each in possession of a firearm, entered the business and demanded

money from the cashier. The suspects also ordered customers to the floor and took personal items from customers. (Cellular telephone and camera)

The suspects were last seen running from the business towards Greenback Lane.

Investigators are actively following up on leads.

Anyone with information

regarding this incident is requested to contact Citrus Heights Police at (916) 727-5500.

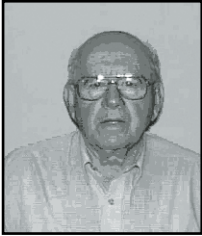
CONTACT: Sgt. Eric Mattke, Public Information Officer (916)727-5573 Email: emattke@citrusheights.net

## ALERT MESSAGE: MISSING PERSON

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) 02/02/13 - On Saturday 02/02/13 at approximately 8:00 PM, The California Highway Patrol initiated a Silver Alert Message for Citrus Heights resident Carl Raymond Sheldrake (80 years old). Mr. Sheldrake was reported missing by a family member on 02/02/2013. Citrus Heights Police officers conducted a thorough investigation and determined a Silver Alert should be initiated.

The Silver Alert is a public notification system in the United States to broadcast information about missing persons – especially seniors with

Alzheimer’s Disease, dementia, or other mental disabilities – in order to aid in their return.



There was no foul play suspected in his disappearance. Mr. Sheldrake might possibly be traveling to family who reside in Santa Rosa, Redwood

Valley or the Reno/Sparks area. Mr. Sheldrake is believed to be driving his 2006 Gold Hyundai Sonata (License plate # 5SLK931). Mr. Sheldrake is also believed to be traveling alone.

Anyone with information regarding Mr. Sheldrake’s whereabouts is encouraged to contact the Citrus Heights Police at (916) 727-5500.

CONTACT: Officer Bryan G. Fritsch, Public Information Officer (916)727-5500 Email: bfritsch@citrusheights.net

## Local Author Enters Uncommon Niche in Modern-Day Romance Novel Market

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - “Do not be a flash-light burning in a drawer” is the life motto of Jemuel “180” Johnson, a Sacramento native, and the author of a new contemporary romance novel “...And the Tears Revived”.

Johnson is definitely not hiding his talents in a drawer. Self described as a “31 year old, Black beau” on his book jacket, Johnson has already created a name for himself locally as host of his own cable TV show, Half Circle, and a pod cast by the same name.

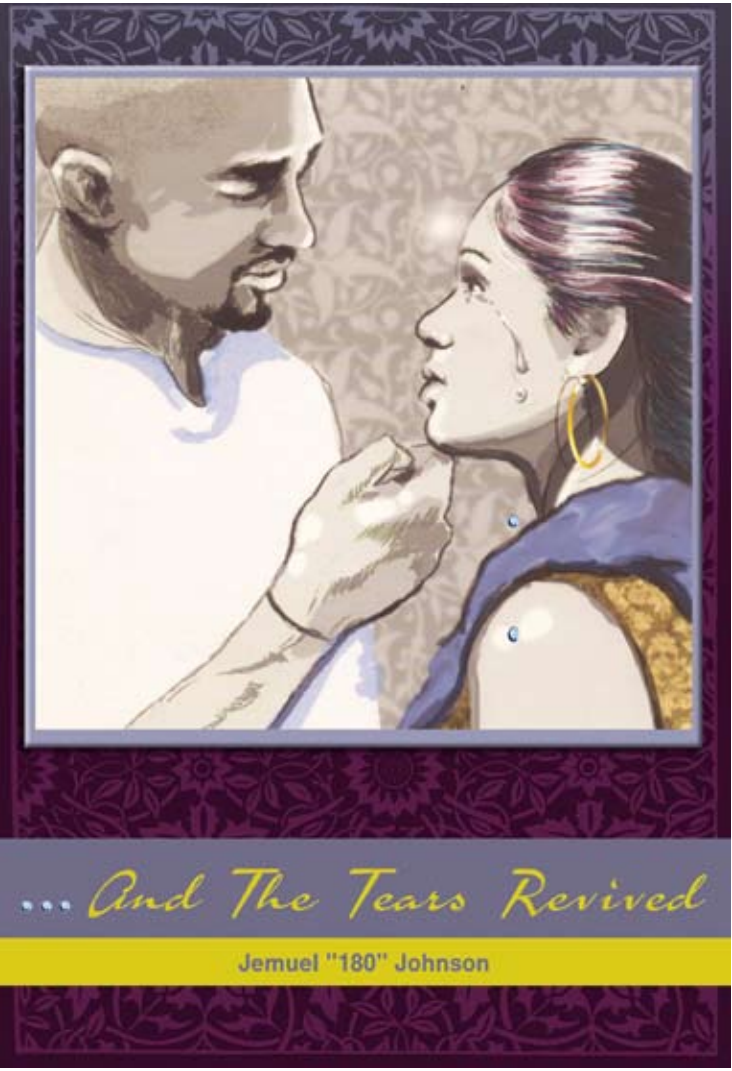
Since 2009, Johnson has been interviewing millionaires, entrepreneurs, and rising stars to learn their principles of success. “It’s all about motivation and drive” he says, and it’s important to share how others have achieved their success with his audience.

While premier television interviewer, Charlie Rose was his inspiration to pursue the one-on-one, in-depth interview format; Johnson’s own ‘at-ease’ yet engaging style has been compared to the no frills, down-to-earth approach of late night PBS talk show host, Tavis Smiley. This writer concurs with that observation.

The “180” in Johnson’s name further affirms the message of “Half Circle”. According to him, “It’s a reminder that one can turn their life around for the better, by making a 180° turn. A full circle would just be going back where you were.”

Johnson is practicing what his guests are preaching each week. Life may not have always been easy but his own motivation and drive have paid off.

In the third grade he began writing fables as an assignment. Encouraged by his teacher he continued to write whenever he could. But it wasn’t until 2006, when a painful breakup



motivated him to turn his own life around, that he began writing this book as a way to get over his ex-girlfriend and get on with his life. Further encouragement came from a supervisor who urged him: “If you have a book in you, write it.” He took that advice and hasn’t looked back.

Johnson’s latest book venture, sensitive and thoughtful, strikes an unexpected punch to the romance genre, in an almost totally female author’s market. More sensual than sexual, “... And the Tears Revived” is based on a true story regarding this relationship and breakup.

The plot revolves around a disillusioned missionary returning to his hometown to visit a sick friend, only to fall back in love

with his ex-lady in the process.

As the title implies, the twist comes when the ‘rest of the story’ or the actual end of the book is the beginning of the story, told in a prequel format usually reserved for the movies. It may sound confusing but the careful set-up and intelligent, deliberate dialogue draws the reader in to every section and carries off the feat seamlessly.

To find out more about Johnson’s history, guests on his program, and other writings on relationships, go to website, <http://halfcircle.tv> or google Jemuel ‘180’ Johnson. E-mail: [halfcircle1@gmail.com](mailto:halfcircle1@gmail.com).

“...And the Tears Revived”, will be available on “Smashwords.com” on February 14, 2013.



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# Your News

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By Ronnie McBrayer

In the previous generation there were at least three great Southern-born prophets: Martin Luther King, Jr., Clarence Jordan, and Will Campbell. Campbell is the only one still living. He is nearing his 90th year, and is a self-proclaimed prickly, “bootleg preacher” from Mississippi with a Baptist ordination, a foul four-letter-word dropping mouth, and a love for Bourbon and country music that is just short of his love for Jesus.

Educated at Wake Forest, Tulane and Yale, he has been a pastor, chaplain, an executive with the National Council of Churches, and a writer. But he is most respected for his tireless work toward racial equality in the civil rights South, and his no-compromise, no pulled-punches attitude when it comes to the message of reconciliation.

“God is ready to forgive and restore all who will come,” he has preached for decades now. When asked how he would summarize his theology and his work, in Campbell’s iconoclastic style he answered, “We are all bastards; but God loves us anyway.”

This belief was put to the test during the racial violence and upheaval of the 1960s. One of Will’s best friends, a seminary student and Civil Rights worker named Jonathan Daniels, was shot and killed by an Alabama sheriff. The sheriff was acquitted by “a jury of his peers.”

# More Than We Can Stand

Will retreated to Fairhope, Alabama, to grieve and rage, taking refuge at the home of friend P.D. East. East was an agnostic newspaper editor who wanted racial equality as well, but he was not an adherent to the Christian gospel. So while Will stalked around the house, angrily grieving Daniel’s death and the uncorrected injustice against him, P.D. confronted Campbell directly:

“Come on, Brother,” P.D. said. “Let’s talk about your definition of the gospel. Was Jonathan a bastard?” Will responded that he was sure that everyone is a sinner in one way or another, but that Jonathan was one of the sweetest, gentlest guys he had ever known.

P.D. persisted: “But was he a bastard? Now, that’s your word, not mine. That’s a pretty tough word. I know, ‘cause I am one; a real one. My mama wasn’t married to my daddy. Now, by God, you tell me right now, yes or no: Was Jonathan Daniel a bastard?” Will finally said, “Yes, Daniel was.”

P.D. East pulled his chair close to Will and just above a whisper asked, “Which one of those two bastards do you think God loves the most – Jonathan or that sheriff? Now, you’re the one who always told me about how simple the gospel is. Just answer the question: Which one of those two does God love the most?”

Here are Will Campbell’s words of response: “Suddenly, everything became clear. Everything. It was a revelation. I walked across the room and opened the blind, staring directly into the glare of the street light.

And I began to whimper. But the crying was interspersed with laughter. It was a strange experience. I remember trying to sort out the sadness and the joy.

“Just what was I crying for, and what was I laughing for? Then this, too, became clear. I was laughing at myself, at twenty years of a ministry which had become, without my realizing it...an attempted negation of Jesus...a theology of law and order and of denying the faith I professed to hold. That sheriff was indeed as loved by God as Jonathan Daniel. And if loved, forgiven. And if forgiven, reconciled.

“P.D. came and stood beside me, handing me his half-empty beer. The lesson was over. Class dismissed. But I had one last thing I had to say to the teacher: ‘P.D...damned if you ain’t made a Christian out of me. And I’m not sure I can stand it.’”

This is the category-exploding, boundary-breaking, world-upturning gospel: God’s grace trumps everything. God’s love welcomes all who will come. God’s forgiveness is no “respector of persons,” even those persons for whom we ourselves have little mercy. Yes, this is sometimes more than we can stand, but it is the no-compromise, no pulled-punches message of reconciliation.

Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author of multiple books. You can read more and receive regular e-columns in your inbox at [www.ronniemcbrayer.net](http://www.ronniemcbrayer.net).

# Beware, O, Ye Blasted Hacker, Whomsoever Thou Art

By Rev. James L. Snyder, D. Litt

Under normal circumstances, I am a rather cool, calm and collected person. I say normal because not everything in my life is normal. It takes a lot to rattle this cage of mine but once rattled lookout whoever rattles it.

I am saying all this to get to my point, which is, somebody hacked my computer email account this past week. If you think I will take this sitting down, oh, I guess I am sitting down right now, but I assure you I will not stand for something like this. I have never been so rattled in my life.

If a mistake is mine, I will own up to it. If it is not mine, lookout sender.

The first thing I did was to call my cousin who is an attorney, Charles Sues-A-Lot, and laid the case out before him. My first question to my cousin attorney was very basic; “Is it still against the law to murder someone?”

As all good attorneys do, he hesitated and thought about it.

He then went on to explain that if he could prove insanity there was a good chance he could get somebody off very lightly.

“Insanity,” I asked, “is that hard to prove in a court of law?”

At this point, there was no hesitation whatsoever. My good lawyer cousin said, “Not in your case.”

If insanity runs in our family, I am convinced it trotted over into his pasture a long time ago and has been milling around for years. At this point, murder is out.

If I actually knew who this person was, I could “defriend” them like they do on Facebook. You can be sure I would defriend him with all of the sarcastic bitterness I could muster on that hot dog.

I noticed this last week when I accessed my email a bunch of different pop-ups popped up on my screen. Instinctively I tried to unpop them without any success

whatsoever. Every time there was a “pop-up,” I had the instinctive desire to pop someone in the nose.

At one stage, it got out of control and about 17,000 pop-ups jumped onto my computer screen at the same time. Without thinking, I immediately turned off my computer.

If anybody knows what I did, you realize what I did was a terrible thing to do. I encrypted, or whatever the term is, these pop-ups permanently on my computer. When I opened up my computer, it was pop-up time for the hacker.

Things can be done to “unhack” your computer, which I put in full force. I really wanted to hack into this hacker’s life except he probably does not have one. I mean, after all, where are the jollies of hacking into someone’s email account? I can see someone hacking into my bank account. I would love to see someone hack into my bank account and see how much money I don’t have.

If I was a small government, I could see somebody trying to hack into my email accounts. As it stands, where is the payoff in doing something like this? This ghost hacker cannot see me and my frustration after being hacked. So, what is the good of it all?

These pop-ups on my computer were coming fast and furious.

Then it hit me. This is not some ghost hacker hacking into my email account, it must be the government. The government must be behind it. I remember something called “fast and furious” in the news a while back. Was this what they were talking about? Am I now a casualty of Big Brotheritis?

There were many similarities between what I was going through and our government.

First off, the whole thing was rather annoying. I am not sure there has ever been a time in our country when the government has been more annoying than now.

Then, all the hacking did not make any sense to me at all. How much of the government is really making sense to anybody anymore? I am sure there is somebody, somewhere who can make sense out of our government but he is probably on the run.

All of this hacking of my email has interrupted my life. So has the government. The government has taken on a new phase where it is not happy unless it is interrupting my life every day of the week. I would not mind so much if the government would take at least one day a week off. But no, it is a 24/7 kind of annoyance.

A friend of mine said that everybody goes through this sort of thing and it is kind of an equal share in the misery of being on the Internet.

Equal share? That’s government lingo if ever I heard it.

After three days of torturous working at my computer, I finally got the pop-ups to stop. I changed the password of my email account and brought all of this nonsense to a stop.

I won the battle against that blasted hacker who tried to ruin my week.

With a steaming cup of coffee and my open Bible, I read some comforting words. “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, then he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4 KJV).

My relationship is of such a nature with God that nobody can hack into that relationship. I rest completely in God’s competent hands.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at (352) 687-4240 or e-mail [jamessnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamessnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).



By Karen Anderson

I look at my old falling-down fence. The holes in the fence are not big enough for the dogs to get through to the neighbors dog, but it is big enough for them to see each other. They will sit at that hole and have an argument. I envision one insulting the other, and then the onslaught of barking starts until I have to intervene. There are spots where the fence boards have rotted and are leaning forward. If it wasn’t for the bushes in front of them, the fence would be on the ground. This is an example of our own lives. What kind of holes do you have in your life’s fence? Would you rather criticize someone else’s fence with its holes, or are you willing to face your own holes? I know without thinking that sometimes

# HOLES IN THE FENCE

I am quick to show someone else the errors of their ways. The only problem with this; God will then show me that I had my own hole that needed to be fixed first.

Maybe the problem isn’t actually a hole, but my attitude. The way I live my life and my attitude is just leaning too far the wrong way. I might be thinking of dabbling in something that is not really acceptable to God. I might think, “I’m not going to do anything wrong, I’m just considering it.” That’s when my time spent with God (the Holy Spirit) in the morning steps in and says, “WRONG IS WRONG...Don’t go there. Stand straight up and be counted for God and what He wants for your life.”

God’s Word says, “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?” I think many times we just don’t want to face our

own problems. It is so much easier to look elsewhere. I want you, friends, to start taking your issues seriously and don’t worry about others problems. God will help them face their holes. Criticism is never the answer; unconditional love and encouragement is the only way. Just make sure that God has dealt with you first. How can you call someone else’s kettle black, when yours is burnt? Here is an interesting quote: “God, help me to see what I need to see! What I’m going through is temporary. God is on my side.” NOW, go fix your holes!

PASSAGE: Matthew 7:3-4 (NIV)

Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain. Leave a message or questions for Karen through her website [www.doablesteps.com/contact](http://www.doablesteps.com/contact).



By Marlys Norris, Christian Author

Do you know that your name is scribed in His book? You are on the heart of God and when you accept His beloved Son as their personal Savior and Lord, your name is scribed in His “Book of Life” forever. “He loves you with an everlasting love.” (Jer.31:3) You have become His precious child and God is watching over you. He will never leave or forsake you..

God does His best to reach everyone – but some reject Him, therefore the opposite is true.

For one who rejects the divine plan of God when the end comes, each of us will stand before Him and give an account of our lives and why we rejected His Son. “And whosoever’s name is not found written in the book of life will be cast into the lake of

# IS YOUR NAME WRITTEN IN THE FATHER’S “BOOK OF LIFE?”

fire”(Revelations 20:15)

Life for every human being is no accident! God knew all of us before the foundation of the earth. We must remember God is our Creator. He is Holy and Just, the great I AM.. He formed each individual in their mother’s womb for birth to take place. And at the right specific moment in time called each one to be born-again and accept Jesus and their names are written in His “Book of Life!” Regardless of the event or their age or understanding, As God’s Holy Spirit moves in each life His “Agape Love and Grace” saves them to the uttermost for eternity. He guides one to “know and love” the Father, Son and Holy Spirit with their heart and soul.

Once a name is written in the “Book of Life” it will never be blotted out even when some step out of the will of God and go astray. However, they must realize it is their choice they cannot blame God for the end result! Going out of God’s will for their life, opens the door to the enemy of one’s soul. And he will bring circumstances into a life that

hinders their walk with God. He brings deceptions and false teachings that lead to a false god. He will do anything he can do to hinder the personal relationship with Jesus someone might have had before this decision.. His tactic is always to cause a person to dishonor God and take away every soul he can from the Heavenly Father..

Beware, because one who strays too far from God into a sinful life will surely die early. God will shorten their days here on earth and take them “home” to heaven rather than lose them to His enemy. He loves each one of His children so much He doesn’t want to lose anyone. He loves completely! “He always has your best interests at heart.” (Jer.29:11) Listen, He is calling your name so please return to Him NOW!

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**Sudoku Puzzle on Page 6**

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

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# AUBURN ROAD AND SUNRISE BLVD. STREET PROJECTS UPDATE

*By Elise Spleiss*  
CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA – (MPG) Drivers take heart, there is a light at the end of the Citrus Heights road construction tunnel. Below is information of the two main projects. As you can see below, this is a huge undertaking with work components of all kinds involved throughout the project. Projects are scheduled for completion by the end of Spring. This update has been compiled by General Services Department.

Auburn Blvd Complete Streets  
- The contractor is working on

the joint trench from Antelope to Cripple Creek (east side) and at Carleton and will then move to south of Ramona Way. Major water work is complete and new storm drain pipes are being installed from Sycamore to Rusch Park.

Sunrise Blvd Complete Streets  
- The contractor is working on finishing up all utility and concrete work (sidewalk, curb/gutter and ADA ramps) in February. Weather permitting, road resurfacing work may be done in March. The overall project is expected to wrap up by April.

Commuters beware, the three

effected intersections (Oak, Old Auburn, and Antelope) are all on recall which means the traffic detector loops are not in operation, and therefore you will be waiting at the lights for slightly longer periods of time. This will be resolved by this spring once the road is resurfaced and the new loops and signals are installed and connected to the City's traffic signal management system.

*If you have any questions, please contact the General Services Department at (916) 727-4770.*



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By Pastor Ray Dare

We prove our faith in Christ not by the rules we keep, but by the love we give. “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” (John 13:35 NLT) Notice Jesus didn’t say, “Love me,” as proof of our discipleship. He said, “Love one another, and that will show the world you belong to me.” One of the best things we can do to reach our community for Christ is to love each other – that is, to love other believers.

Until the world sees the love of God modeled in Christian community, they’re going to have trouble believing it can ever exist. When we truly care for one another, we show the world a love so tangible and contagious that they can’t help but be attracted to it. It’s love that reaches people. The church that loves people is a church that God blesses. A loving church means we give everyone in it the AAA treatment. What is the AAA treatment?

# Giving People the AAA Treatment

Accept one another. Have you ever been in a snobbish church? Some people have a difficult time accepting others because they confuse acceptance with approval. There’s a big difference. You can accept somebody without approving of their lifestyle. Paul said, “Accept one another just as Christ accepted you.” Romans 15:7 That’s the starting point- you accept people “just like” God has accepted you.

Everyone’s welcome in our church. We have every kind of background you can imagine in our church. We’ve got former Catholics, Charismatic, Jews, Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Pentecostals and Nothings! You name it, we’ve got it. But it really doesn’t matter, because it’s not about religion. If Jesus is your Lord and the Bible is your authority, we’re on the same team.

Appreciate one another. This goes a little bit further than acceptance. “Do nothing from selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourself. Each of you should look not only to your own interest but also the interest of others.” Philippians 2:35 This means, find something you can like, not just accept. With

some people this may require a little creativity. You may have to look a little while. Maybe you just need to value them for their uniqueness. Like Baskin-Robbins -- 31 Flavors. What if we were all vanilla? What a boring church we would be! God has 31 flavors of personality and more than that.

Affirm one another. “Encourage one another and build each other up.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 When people stumble, don’t criticize, sympathize. Be an encourager not a complainer, not a condemner, a critical person, not a judger. You can encourage people just by smiling at them.

The church that accepts, appreciates and affirms one another is the church that God blesses. That’s the type of church I want to be a part of and that’s the type of church New Beginnings is. I invite you to join us this Sunday.

Pastor Ray  
New Community  
Christian Church  
*YOU'RE INVITED,*  
Sunday service at 10am  
“We Do Church Differently”  
[www.YourNewChurch.org](http://www.YourNewChurch.org)

Volunteers are Greatly Needed to Support our Outreach Program for Veterans.

This is our 5th year of our outreach program helping veterans and their families, in the Sacramento and the surrounding communities. We feed over 100 Veterans and their families through this program. In addition we provide advocate representation that gives the veteran access to legal services, helping in acquiring V.A. benefits, Medical access with transportation, and our Naturopath life Coaching program that combats Bio chemical addiction empowering the veteran to have a healthy body, and mind. We help the homeless, elderly, disabled, PTSD, veterans.

We provide in the field services for the homeless veterans and their families. We provide an alternative approach to PTSD with our unique Coaching program that gives the veteran behavioral tools to change their negative thinking caused by bio chemical addition and not be dependent on drugs or alcohol.

Forgotten Warrior is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization committed to helping all veterans in need. Now that we are growing so fast we are in need of your help to help, in office functions, such as promotional and public relation work, advocate to work with the homeless and disabled veterans. We need people that can do community fund raising events, and we really need of a Grant writer.

Call Wind at 916-969-4387 or office manager Monica at 916-728-8162 or email us at [windwalker1313@gmail.com](mailto:windwalker1313@gmail.com).

[Forgottenwarrior.org](http://Forgottenwarrior.org)

**GOT LOCAL NEWS?**

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- ❖ **Teen entrants** must be at least 13 to the age of 16.
- ❖ Entrants must be single; never been married nor a parent.
- ❖ Entrants must be of good physical health and good moral character.
- ❖ Mrs. / Ms. Entrants must be at least 18 years of age.

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**Pastor Ray**

*"We Do Church Differently"*

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**Special Sneak Preview Service!**

**Open to the community**

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**Celebration Begins at 10am**

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## POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

women 25-44.

2) Women should be treated less aggressively after a heart attack than men: Absolutely not. The unfortunate reality is that women are treated less aggressively after a heart attack and are also more likely to die after suffering a heart attack.

3) Risk factors for heart disease are the same in women as in men: Not so. Certain conditions are more likely to cause heart disease in women than in men, such as metabolic syndrome and menopause. Stress is also more likely to damage women's hearts.

4) Sex increases the risk of heart attack: It is commonly thought that sex is a major trigger for heart attacks, yet only 1% of heart attacks are brought on by sexual activity.

5) Coffee is bad for your heart. While too much caffeine can raise blood pressure, coffee actually contains significant amounts of antioxidants. A recent review of 21 studies found that women who drank one to four cups daily actually had a lower risk of heart disease.

6) Nuts can raise cholesterol levels: Nuts are a good source of soluble fiber and other nutrients and research has found that consuming a handful of nuts daily can lower cholesterol and the risk of heart disease.

7) Hormone replacement therapy protects against heart disease: In fact, menopausal women who participate in estrogen replacement therapy actually may be at increased risk for heart disease.

So I asked Sherry how I can save my heart, and she shared these nine ways:

1) Get at least 7 hours of sleep every night. Women who sleep 6 hours or less have been shown to be at greater risk.

2) Take 10,000 steps a day.


### SAVING YOUR HEART

We are into the heart mood as we near Valentine's Day with every heart cliché you can think of. And we all love the flowers and the candy and the cards too. Maybe we should be thinking long and hard about the real heart that keeps us going every day instead of the candy ones. The number one killer in the U.S. is heart disease. But when you think of heart problems, you picture an overweight middle-aged man, right? What if I told you the number one killer of women in North America is heart disease? Got your attention, huh? It accounts for a third of all deaths in women and far surpasses the prevalence of breast cancer. It's true, and that's why Cardiologist Dr. Martha Gulati and Pharmacist Sherry Torkos took on the task of getting women, who often neglect their heart health, to take notice in their book "Saving Women's Hearts." While the stats can be frightening, the good news is that most risk factors for heart disease can be changed. You can bet my ears perked up when Sherry took me on the Myths and Misconceptions of women and heart disease on my POPPOFF Radio Show.

1) Heart disease is only an issue for elderly women: While heart disease is the chief killer of women over 65, it is the second leading cause of death in women ages 45-64 and the third leading cause of death in


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

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

Come back every week for Sudoku!

For Solution See Page 7.

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

### VALENTINE'S DAY

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71					72			73			

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For Solution See Page 7

### CLUES

**DOWN**

1. Bar order
2. Sensory input
3. Indian princess
4. Selected
5. Inexpensive inn, especially for youths
6. Distinctive flair
7. \_\_\_ Zeppelin
8. Tony Manero's music
9. Introduced in Europe in 1999
10. One who is "\_\_\_ it"
11. "Most popular Valentine's Day gift?"
12. Compass reading
15. Student's piece
20. "Dateless"
22. Matterhorn, e.g.
24. Bartender's soda choice
25. "Cupid's mom"
26. "\_\_\_ costs"
27. Certain buds do this
29. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
31. Fleur-de-lis
32. Type of duck
33. Mail stop
34. Teletype machine, for short
36. Delhi wrap
38. "All My Children," e.g.
42. Movie trailer, e.g.
45. Related on the father's side
49. Of a female
51. Like a funeral procession
54. Administrative
56. "La Bohème," e.g.
57. Fencer's weapon
58. Some choose this over truth
59. Court order
60. Benign lump
61. A bunch
62. Traveled on
63. Water carrier
64. Dunce
66. Absorbed, as in a cost



# Orangevale Grange Welcomes National President for 113th Installation



Orangevale Grange 354 2013 officers. Seated: National Master/President, Edward L. Luttrell and his wife, Celia to his left. Photo from Robert Boyd.

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA - (MPG) Why fix something if it's not broken? This has been the long enduring belief of members of the Orangevale Grange No. 354, a national fraternal organization that has survived the winds of time and change in an otherwise growing and changing community and nation.

On January 27, 2013, thirteen new officers were installed at the Orangevale Grange with the directive given to them by National President, Edward L. Luttrell, to carry on their proud traditions with the same reverence and joy for living as their ancestors.

The Grange is a fraternal association of farmers, founded in the United States in 1867. Locally the Grange is the local branch of this association. Granges were formed as a place for farmers to meet socially and to discuss farming matters and other important issues.

Also known as Patrons of Husbandry, members performed husbandry or the 'act or practice of cultivating crops and breeding and raising livestock', until the active farming routines gave way to more non-agriculture activities, emphasizing education and fellowship with families, friends, and the community.

A new onlooker to the installation ceremony, not familiar with the significance of each element of the precise, formal ceremony might find it strange; so different from the faster paced inductions of other organizations. However, once its' tie to the past is understood, it is refreshing to realize that God, family and country are viewed and treated

today exactly as their ancestors have for over a century.

Nestled on 4-1/4 acres of forest and grassy knolls on Walnut off Madison, the Orangevale Grange No. 354, was organized March 31, 1910, and is the oldest service organization in the town of Orangevale. Members and the community celebrated their 100th anniversary in 2010.

Members who enter a Grange hall anywhere in the United States, will find the hall set up exactly the same and will be welcomed as if it they were in their own town. They are reminded they have family wherever they are.

Orangevale has always enjoyed an agriculture heritage. Originally named the 'Orange Vale Colony', the community began as part of the 1844 Rancho San Juan Mexican land grant.

It was rural, with many orange groves. Some of the old oak trees can still be seen in Oak Park, and other original trees can still be found along Chestnut, Orangevale, Main and Walnut Avenue.

Agriculture is still very important to Grange members, but in the absence of the family farms of the past, it's practice is integrated within the goals of three of their most important functions: to educate, enjoy fellowship and have a good time as they rest from their labors, and to hold the value of women in the highest esteem.

Women are and have always been an integral part of the Grange. From the beginning it was mandated that women be allowed into membership in order to be a stabilizing force in a traditionally all male business.

The importance of taking

care of the earth is still taught to children from an early age. Orangevale Grange maintains a park like setting behind the hall with oak trees and a creek, and a youth garden. Plans are in the works to create a mini orchard and 'sustainable food forest' to help show children that their food does not just come from the supermarket. The hall and grounds are available for rent for private and community events

One tradition of the New Year for officers, which exemplifies the philosophy of good will and camaraderie of the members, is that, "As of today, the slate is wiped clean. Tomorrow begins a new year. All is fresh and clean, the mistakes of past are in the past." This would make an officer in any business or organization happy to hear!

Grange work is not limited to planting, social and educational activities. Their influence is far reaching, even to the halls of Congress. Since its' inception Grange members have been writing legislation to benefit their communities. Theirs is the only organization to do this. So many laws have been written and passed by members that affect our daily lives that the term, "Granger laws" was coined to identify these laws.

Membership in the Orangevale Grange is open to "all who are interested in agriculture, with generous hearts and open hands." Their goal, in addition to life-long education and fellowship, has long been to "help the needy, raise the fallen and aid in making the labors of this life cheerful." For more information go to orangevalegrange.gov, or call 916-988-8871.

# Films and DVDs for the Whole Family



by David Dickstein

## Family Films

**"Escape from Planet Earth"**  
Opens Feb. 14, rated PG  
facebook.com/

**EscapeFromPlanetEarthMovie**  
Computer-animated alien comedies don't have the best track record ("Planet 51" and "Mars Needs Moms" anyone?), so at least the latest entry will be a nice paycheck for the voice cast led by Brendan Fraser, Jessica Alba, Sarah Jessica Parker and James Gandolfini. The story follows an Earth-born astronaut who is loving life as a national hero on an alien planet, but becomes imperiled in an unsavory section of the solar system. His only hope -- and the free universe's -- is a rescue attempt by his lily-livered nerdy brother.

**"A Good Day to Die Hard"**  
Opens Feb. 14, rated PG-13  
diehardmovie.com

A much more family-friendly version of John McClane's signature line has the heroic New York detective saying, "Yippee ki-yay Mother Russia" in the fifth installment of the action film franchise. Back in uniform is Bruce Willis as the courageous cop with a penchant for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. His crime fighting happens on foreign soil for



the first time when his estranged son gets messed up in the prison escape of a disgraced Russian leader who plots to assassinate the visiting U.S. president.

**"Snitch"**  
Opens Feb. 22, rated PG-13  
snitchthemovie.com

A shoe-in for "father of the year," a suburban dad (Dwayne

## Family DVDs

**"Toys in the Attic"** (Feb. 5 on DVD and Blu-ray, PG): This Czech-made stop-motion-animated feature took 3 1/2 years to come stateside, and when it did, in September, only 27 screens showed it for a box office take of under \$65,000. What a shame. Creative and visually alluring, this "Toy Story 2"-meets-Tim Burton surprise offers a sometimes charming, sometimes disturbing look at discarded toys in the attic of a Prague home dur-

a "Diamond Edition" featuring new digital restoration and hi-def picture and sound. Besides being offered on Blu-ray for the first time, the special edition includes such nifty bonuses as never-before-seen deleted scenes and a never-before-heard deleted song. Definitely worth a return or first-time trip to Never Land with the boy who doesn't want to grow up and the Darling children he takes along for the magical ride.  
Grade: A+

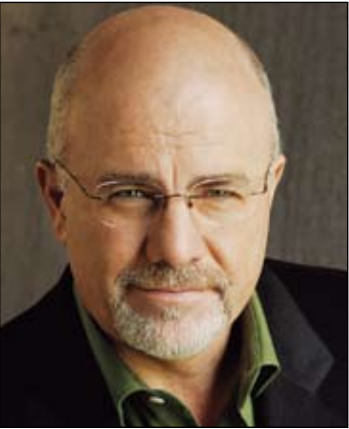


**"Duck Dodgers: Dark Side of the Duck"** (Feb. 5 on DVD and Blu-ray, rated G): Episodes from the series' first season number a baker's dozen in this DVD debut for the Kids' WB Emmy winner of 2003-2005. A cool bonus is the remastered "Duck Dodgers in the 24th Century," the 1953 Merrie Melodies theatrical short upon which the animated, sci-fi series was based.  
Grade: B+

**"Scooby-Doo! Mask of the Blue Falcon"** (Feb. 26 on DVD and Blu-ray, not rated): When Scooby-Doo and Shaggy go to a comic book convention to meet their favorite TV superhero, the monstrous villain from the program turns out to be real in this fan-pleasing direct-to-DVD movie.  
Grade: B+

ing the Cold War. Little ones will find many scenes nightmare worthy. The English dubbing makes good use of Forest Whitaker, Cary Elwes and Joan Cusack.  
Grade: A

**"Peter Pan"** (Feb. 5 on DVD and Blu-ray, rated G): Disney is capitalizing on the animated classic's 60th anniversary with



# Dave Says

Dave Ramsey is America's most trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four New York Times best-selling books: Financial Peace, More Than Enough, The Total Money Makeover and EntreLeadership. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 5,000,000 listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

## Setting Up The Kid's Car Insurance

Dear Dave,  
I'm divorced and have a teenager who will be driving soon. What would be the best way to set up insurance for the child?  
- Mike

Dear Mike,  
I suppose a break-up does change the dynamic somewhat, but with my kids I simply left the car in my name and paid the extra insurance cost for a little while. For me, still being in

control of the car as a dad outweighed the additional money I was paying in premiums. Having a minor child running around in the world with his or her name on a car title is not a good plan.

Then, when they turned 18, I put each of their cars into their names. This, of course, was dependent on them behaving and acting responsibly. They were legally liable at that age too. I'm sure the insurance costs went up, but at that point the financial risk and liability factors were on them, not me.

In this kind of situation, especially because there's more of a potential for disagreements, I think I'd do it that way. Just put it in your name for now, especially if you're putting money toward the purchase of a vehicle.

- Dave

## Where To Put The 15 Percent?

Dear Dave,  
My employer recently stopped matching my 401(k) contributions. Together, my husband and I make about \$100,000 a year. Should I continue to invest in this option, or should I put money into an IRA?  
- Linda

Dear Linda,  
If possible, I would put 100 percent of my retirement savings into a Roth IRA with good, growth stock mutual funds before messing with a non-matching 401(k). But remember, my goal if you follow the Baby Steps is to be debt-free except for your home, and have an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses, before you begin setting aside for retirement. These are the steps that allow you to be prepared for emergencies and free up your largest wealth-building tool, which is your income.

With your income, both you and your husband could open Roth IRAs and contribute \$5,500 each in 2013. That's a total of \$11,000 toward retirement next year, and it's only 11 percent of your income. With this in mind, I'd advise going ahead with your 401(k)s after your Roth IRAs are in place. That would flesh out the remaining four percent and give you guys 15 percent of your income going toward retirement!  
- Dave

\*For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.



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