



Arden Playhouse Presents
the Award-winning play
“The Costume Ball”

PLUS:
Election Results

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Citrus Heights Messenger

“Written by the people, for the people”

Volume 2 Issue 21

Serving the City of Citrus Heights and Sacramento County

First Edition for November 2012

Ask George: Expert
Answers to Common
DMV Questions



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A Magical, Musical
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Self-publishing
Workshop Comes
to Sacramento



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All-Time High Raised by Gas Tax

SACRAMENTO REGION – George Runner, BOE, recently announced that California motorists paid a record \$8.3 billion in state and local fuel taxes during the 2011-12 fiscal year. “Our latest numbers show that high gas prices resulted in a record wind-fall for government at the expense of California consumers,” said Runner. “It’s bad enough that California’s gas tax is among the highest in the nation. It’s even worse that gas tax goes up whenever gas prices rise.”

From July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, the California State Board of Equalization collected \$6.9 billion in motor vehicle fuel taxes, up from \$6.7 billion the prior year. Excise tax revenues accounted for \$5.2 billion, while sales tax revenues accounted for \$1.7 billion. Over the same time period, the state collected \$1.4 billion in diesel fuel taxes, up from \$1.2 billion the prior year. Excise tax revenues accounted for \$343 million, while sales tax revenues accounted for \$1.1 billion.

“What’s particularly concerning about these numbers is that they would have been even higher had the Governor been successful in extending the higher sales tax,” noted Runner. Had the 1% temporary sales tax not expired on July 1, 2011, Californians would have paid an additional \$96 million in diesel tax last fiscal year. Furthermore, California’s 2010 fuel tax swap law would have required a larger motor vehicle fuel excise tax rate increase, costing Californians more than half a billion dollars extra in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

According to the American Petroleum Institute, California’s gasoline taxes and fees, averaging 68.9 cents per gallon, and California’s diesel taxes and fees, averaging 77.1 cents per gallon, both rank second highest in the nation. Among these taxes



Consumers were all smiles when gas prices dropped down to well under \$4.00 per gallon recently.

and fees are a federal excise tax of 18.4 cents per gallon, a state excise tax of 36.0 cents per gallon (up from 35.7 cents effective July 1) and a sales tax averaging 3.12% when local taxes are included.

Notably, the sales tax is calculated on the total price of the fuel sale including excise taxes, resulting in double taxation—California consumers pay a tax on a tax. For diesel, the federal excise tax is 24.4 cents per gallon,

the state excise tax is 10 cents per gallon (down from 13 cents effective July 1) and the sales tax is 9.42% (up from 9.12%) plus applicable local taxes.

For more information, visit www.boe.ca.gov.

A Vietnam Veteran’s First Thank You After 50 Years



Jacob Alger honoring fallen warriors at Mount Vernon Cemetery. Photo by Elise Spleiss.

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS – Thousands of stories of war, from front line battles to those of crucial non-combatative service, live on in the memories of Veterans

living in our City, and through loved ones of those deceased. Some of these follow here.

I met Jacob D. Alger, 21, following the 2012 Memorial Day service at Mount Vernon Memorial Park in Fair Oaks.

I had noticed a young man far in the distance amidst hundreds of waving flags, dressed in a blue Union uniform and kneeling at one of the cemetery plots. Curious about the uniform and wondering, “what his story is”,

I worked my through the flags and around the gravesites to the young man and we began talking. Alger explained he was in uniform as he is a Civil War Reenactor and had hoped to make it to a Red Bluff Memorial Day event, but decided to attend instead the service at Mount Vernon. There was plenty of history surrounding his visit.

Two members of his family: his mother’s great grandfather and father’s grandfather are buried at Mount Vernon, and he and his brother, Logan, were visiting their gravesites.

Like many families in Citrus Heights and surrounding areas, Alger comes from a long line of brave men and women who have served their country for generations, in many diverse ways, and in almost every one of our wars and conflicts.

His mother’s great grandfather devoted his career to the Marines as an Artilleryman. He served on one of the famous amphibious Ducks (DUKWs) in WWII where he fought in the Battle of Guadalcanal to protect it and surrounding islands from re-invasion by the Japanese.

Continued on Page 4

RT Introduces New “City Ride” Shuttle Service

New Service Offers
“Dial-A-Ride” for
the General Public

CITRUS HEIGHTS – On Monday, October 29, 2012, the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT), in partnership with the City of Citrus Heights, began operation of a new shuttle service for travel in Citrus Heights called “City Ride.” City Ride offers curb-to-curb, “dial-a-ride” service for the general public to and from any destination within the city of Citrus Heights and Mercy San Juan Medical Center on Coyle Avenue in Carmichael. In the near future, RT also plans to offer service to Kaiser Medical Offices on Riverside Avenue in Roseville.

City Ride operates on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 916-556-0258 (during service hours) no earlier than one business day in advance. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Regular RT Basic and Discount fares apply.

City Ride shuttle buses, which can seat 12 to 14 passengers with space for two wheelchairs, are identifiable by the special vehicle exterior featuring photos of Citrus Heights amenities and destinations.

“Residents of Citrus Heights will benefit from City Ride and other bus service improvements implemented in September as part of TransitRenewal,” Mayor Jeff Slowey, City of Citrus Heights, stated. “The City of Citrus Heights continues to work closely with RT on the implementation of TransitRenewal, RT’s comprehensive operational analysis, which will improve transit service in Citrus Heights and connections throughout the Sacramento region.”

Citrus Heights City Ride is RT’s first collaboration to implement a dial-a-ride type of service for the general public. RT currently contracts with Paratransit, Inc. to provide a similar dial-a-ride service dedicated for individuals with disabilities.

“Citrus Heights City Ride is a great opportunity to offer a brand new transportation option that offers more convenience and flexibility for customers,” Mike Wiley, General Manager/CEO, stated.

For more information about Citrus Heights City Ride, call 916-321-BUSS (2877) or visit www.sacrt.com/citrusheightscityride.

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Election Results

Statewide Propositions

	Yes	No
30 - Temporary Taxes to Fund Education	53.9%	46.1%
31 - Establishes a Two-Year State Budget	39.2%	60.8%
32- Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction	43.9%	56.1%
33 - Auto Insurance Based on Driver's History	45.4%	54.6%
34 - Repeals Death Penatly for Life in Prison	47.2%	52.8%
35 - Increases Prison Sentences for Human Trafficking	81.1%	18.9%
36 - Three Strikes Law - Revised to Life in Prison Only	68.6%	31.4%
37 - Genetically Engineered Foods Labeling	46.9%	53.1%
38 - Tax to Fund Education/Early Childhood Programs	27.7%	72.3%
39 - Tax on Multistate Business to Fund Green Energy	60.1%	39.9%
40 - Redistricting State Senate Districts	71.4%	28.6%

Senate		
Dianne Feinstein - Dem	61.4%	
Elizabeth Emken - Rep	38.6%	
Senate District 1		
Doug LaMalfa - Rep	57.8%	
James Reed - Dem	42.2%	
Senate District 4		
Tom McClintock - Rep	61.1%	
Jack Uppal - Dem	38.9%	
District 7		
Dan Lungren - Rep	49.9%	
Ami Bera - Dem	50.1%	
State Assembly Districts		
District 6		
Beth Gaines	69.1%	
Andy Pugno	30.9%	
District 8		
Ken Cooley - Dem	52.2%	
Peter Tateishi - Rep	47.8%	
District 9		
Richard Pan - Dem	57.3%	
Antonio Amador - Rep	42.7%	

SACRAMENTO COUNTY ELECTION RESULTS

SUMMARY REPORT	Sacramento County	SEMI-OFFICIAL
RUN TIME:12:49 AM	Tuesday, November 6, 2012	
VOTES PERCENT		
Member, City Council CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS		
Vote For 2		
(WITH 62 OF 62 PRECINCTS COUNTED)		
JEFF SLOWEY.	7,360	25.63
SUE FROST	7,314	25.47
CHARLES STONE	5,502	19.16
BRET DANIELS	4,555	15.86
TRISH DAWSON	2,212	7.70
DAVID BLACKBURN	1,093	3.81
JIM MONTETON	653	2.27
WRITE-IN.	29	.10
Over Votes	84	
Under Votes	11,940	
Director, Division 1 CITRUS HEIGHTS WATER DISTRICT		
Vote For 1		
(WITH 48 OF 48 PRECINCTS COUNTED)		
DAVID L. GOFORTH	5,935	50.51
CHARLES T. ROSE	5,790	49.28
WRITE-IN.	24	.20
Over Votes	1	
Under Votes	4,229	
Governing Board Member SAN JUAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT		
Vote For 3		
(WITH 274 OF 274 PRECINCTS COUNTED)		
PAM COSTA	41,550	27.03
SAUL HERNANDEZ.	26,726	17.39
LUCINDA E. LUTTGEN	24,556	15.98
MARK LENNON.	23,040	14.99
MIKE MCKIBBIN	23,034	14.98
JOHN EDWARD HAWES.	14,582	9.49
WRITE-IN.	227	.15
Over Votes	66	
Under Votes	125,924	
MEASURE K CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS		
Vote For 1		
(WITH 62 OF 62 PRECINCTS COUNTED)		
No.	10,469	55.77
Yes	8,304	44.23
Over Votes	4	
Under Votes	1,682	
MEASURE N SAN JUAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT		
Vote For 1		
(WITH 274 OF 274 PRECINCTS COUNTED)		
Yes	49,121	58.34
No.	35,084	41.66
Over Votes	21	
Under Votes	9,487	

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Saturday, November 10, 2012
from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Citrus Heights Community Center
6300 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights

For more information
916-721-7487

Free Community Event

Veteran's Day Concert

Featuring the Season of Hope Choir
performing both patriotic and spiritual music
and a special tribute to Veterans

Thursday, November 8, 2012
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
East Lawn Sierra Hills Memorial Park Chapel
5757 Greenback Lane, Sacramento, CA 95841

Refreshments will be served following the concert.
For more information, please call (916)732-2020

THANK A VETERAN TODAY



Publisher,
Paul V. Scholl

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Citrus Heights Messenger

“Written by the people, for the people”

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Soroptimist’s Unique Boutique

By Leslie Carrara

CITRUS HEIGHTS – The local chapter of an international organization is hosting a “Unique Boutique” on Mon., Nov. 19 at the Citrus Heights Community Center. The hours are from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and there is no charge to get in.

Soroptimist International of Citrus Heights, a worldwide organization providing assistance for women and girls, has a number of “home parties” lined up for the event. The home parties include Tupperware, Longaberger Baskets, Juice Plus, Cookie Lee, Mary Kay, Beauty Control, Vault Denim, Jewel Kade and more, according to the flyer. Wine and water will be available.

The Citrus Heights chapter provides Women’s Opportunity Awards to two females each springtime. The women or girls they assist should either be returning to work or going back to school, but somehow bettering their lives, said Lane Parks, region federation public awareness officer. The boutique is mostly for community awareness about the organization, however, some of the monies received will go toward fundraising, she said.

“We’re a diverse, fun group of women that come together for a common cause to help women and girls,” Parks explained.

Total reward money for this chapter is \$2,500 for two recipients. Parks said that in the Americas and in some countries

along the Pacific Rim, \$1.2 million is awarded annually between all of the chapters.

The deadline to apply is for award money next spring is Dec. 15, 2012. If you are interested in applying, please contact Lane at 916-863-2500.

Soroptimist International’s dues for members is \$120 annually and currently, Citrus Heights has 27 members with 1,800 members total in this region, which includes Northern California and all of Nevada. If you would like to join this diverse and fun group, please contact Lane at the phone number listed above.

The Citrus Heights Community Center is located at 6300 Fountain Square Dr.

Aerospace Museum of California Honors Veterans

SACRAMENTO REGION – A special tribute will be held on Sunday, November 11, in honor of Veterans Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a brief ceremony honoring all veterans at 11 a.m. The Air Force Sergeant’s Association of Sacramento is hosting the Museum’s Veterans Day event and the program will be held at the AMC’s Memorial Plaza with a tribute to the flag, followed by the National Anthem, a wreath laying, and will conclude with remarks.

The Museum will also have all of the recently purchased bricks and pavers installed and available for viewing. Active duty military service members receive free admission to the Museum.

To receive free admittance visitors must present a military ID. Standard admission will apply to all other visitors.

The AMC is a non-profit foundation dedicated to inspirational and educational programs, honoring the rich military and aviation history of the greater Sacramento

region, and highlighting the impact and innovation of the Museum’s many community partners.

For more information visit www.aerospaceca.org or join us on Facebook www.facebook.com/AerospaceMuseumCA. The Museum is located at 3200 Freedom Park Drive, McClellan, CA 95652. Source: Strong Communications

Veterans’ Day Ceremonies Planned for Sylvan Cemetery

CITRUS HEIGHTS – Citrus Heights is blessed with a community cemetery thanks to the donation of land by Daniel Lewis in 1862. Since that date, Sylvan Cemetery has become the final resting place for many of those from our community who served the United States Armed Forces.

On Monday, November 12th, a

service will be held at the Sylvan Cemetery, located at 7401 Auburn Blvd. in Citrus Heights. A procession of veterans begins at 10:30 a.m. at the south end of the cemetery, home to the burial sites for the veterans of the Spanish-American War and the Civil War.

The procession will continue

along the “Avenue of Flags” and will include Citrus Heights Police Chief Christopher Boyd and veterans from the community.

The commemorative service will be held at the gazebo at 11:00 am. The general public is invited to attend and participate. Please arrive early to park within the cemetery grounds.

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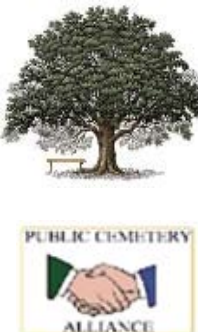
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A Veteran’s First Thank You



Jacob Alger, Historian of Military History. Photo by Elise Spleiss.

Continued from Page 1

Her grandfather served in the Air National Guard during Vietnam as a Decoder, intercepting, sending and receiving critical information during Vietnam and the Cold War. On Alger’s father’s side, his great grandfather served in the Army during WWI protecting the then U.S. colonies of the Philippines during the ‘Philippine Insurrection’. He served with a coastal artillery crew, setting up artillery regiments from the Philippines to San Francisco and up and down the Pacific coast. He is buried at the San Francisco Presidio. Finally, his grandfather, Daniel Alger (I), was a Quartermaster on a sub chaser off the Aleutians in Alaska. He served for 6 years and enjoyed his service but Jacob shares that his grandfather struggled with all the killing. Out of respect, Jacob’s father, Daniel II did not enter the service and has been serving as a firefighter with Sacramento Metro Fire for over 23 years. However, Alger’s brother Logan at 16 years is preparing for possible military service by serving as a Cadet in the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, the Air Civil Patrol. Alger himself has served with the Army Reserve and is planning to return shortly. After relating his family’s

extensive military service, Alger told me a story that had recently reinforced even more his admiration for all who serve, and has strengthened his own resolve to return to duty. The story is as follows: “My father was in the hospital because he had broken both of his heels about 2 years prior. Following reconstruction he had experienced complications, which is what he was being treated for. My family was there to pick him up. We were put in this little waiting room at Sutter. We were all sitting there with a couple of other families, when another family came in. I noticed this gentleman had a Vietnam vet’s cap on and I’ve always supported the military. I come from a family who has ancestors that have fought in all the previous wars. So when the nurse came to take us to see my father, I walked up to him and held out my hand and I said, “Sir I just want to thank you for your service, it really means a lot to me.” He looked up at me and said, “thank you” and I walked out. Later, the nurse stops us in the hall and asks us to wait there. Soon I see the man coming out of the waiting room. He comes up to me and says, “You are the first person to ever thank me for my service. No one has ever thanked me for my service, to

this day, even when I came back from Vietnam. You don’t know how much that means to me.” Alger added, “And to me, that is why supporting the military has always been strongly embedded in me, these people deserve to be honored.” Following the story, Jacob explained his interest in our veterans stemmed from his family’s active involvement in the Services. These stories are just a few represented by the thousands of tombstones and grave markings of our Veterans from the Spanish-American War to today’s conflicts in the Middle East. They could be told by families of Veteran’s interred at more than a dozen cemeteries in Sacramento and immediate surrounding counties. The Veteran’s History Project welcomes Veteran’s stories and those of all civilians actively involved in the war effort for their collection at the Library of Congress. <http://www.loc.gov/vet>. Sylvan Cemetery in Citrus Heights will be having a moving Veteran’s Day recognition of all Veterans beginning at 10:15 on Monday, November 12. Wear your red, white and blue and join in showing our appreciation for all they’ve done and continue to do.


What’s Coming Up In Citrus Heights

Compiled by Leslie Carrara

- November 8, 2012** - Citrus Heights City Council Meeting, 7117 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, 7 p.m.
- November 12, 2012** - Veteran’s Day Holiday, City Offices are closed.
- November 13, 2012** - REACH Area 3 Neighborhood Meeting, 6237 Fountain Square Dr., Trellis Hall, 7 p.m. Second Tuesday each month.
- November 14, 2012** - Planning Commission Meeting, 7117 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, 7 p.m.
- November 15, 2012** - REACH Area 2 Neighborhood Meeting, 7607 Garden Gate Dr., 7 p.m. Third Thursday each month.

- November 15, 2012** - REACH Area 5 Neighborhood Meeting, 5901 San Juan Ave., 7 p.m. Third Thursday each month.
- November 20, 2012** - REACH Area 1 Neighborhood Meeting, 7600 Daly Ave., 7 p.m.
- November 20, 2012** - REACH Areas 7 & 8 Neighborhood Meeting, 8300 Old Auburn Rd., 7 p.m.
- November 26, 2012** - REACH Area 10 Neighborhood Meeting, 6921 Sylvan Rd., 7 p.m. Fourth Monday each month.
- November 27, 2012** - REACH Area 6 Neighborhood Meeting, 7690 Twin Oaks Ave., 7 p.m. Fourth Tuesday each month.
- November 28, 2012** - Planning Commission Meeting, 7117 Greenback Lane, 7 p.m.

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“THE PRIVILEGE OF PLANNING”

CHOOSE ONE OF THESE DATES


Seating is limited to 30 attendees per seminar

Wednesday, Sept 12, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct 19, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: East Lawn Elk Grove Memorial Park
9189 E. Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove, CA 95624 (I-99 @ Laguna)
RSVP to MEL OSBORNE @ (916) 732-2031



PRESENTER: Mel Osborne

Tuesday, September 25, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 31, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 29, 2012 - 11:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: St. Francis Community Hall
6700 Verner Ave., Sacramento, CA 95841 (I-80 @ Greenback)
RSVP to LISA WEST @ (916) 732-2020




PRESENTER: Josh Tuttle

Please note – this is not a sales seminar. “The Privilege of Planning” is a 30-minute presentation followed by a question and answer period. It will focus on the importance of getting your family involved in the entire process of advance funeral planning and all of the options available. Done properly – at the right time and in the right way – pre-planning can become a privilege instead of a chore. Get valuable information on Veteran’s benefits, cremation and burial options and receive a FREE Emergency Planning Guide. Come and learn the steps you can take now to make sure those you care about are always cared for.



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By George Valverde – Director,
California Department of Motor Vehicles

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Q: I was involved in a collision for the first time last week and had no idea what I was supposed to do. What steps should I take?

A: Being involved in a traffic collision can be very traumatic, especially your first one, so it is normal to feel overwhelmed. After any type of vehicle collision, no matter how minor, you must stop. Otherwise you may be convicted of “hit and run” and could be severely punished.

At the scene of a crash, it is important to show the following information to the other driver or persons involved, or to any peace officer.

- Your driver license
- Registration card
- Evidence of insurance
- Your current address

If you hit a parked vehicle or other property, try to find the owner. If you can’t find the owner, leave a note with your name and address (and the name and address of the owner of the vehicle you are driving, if different) and securely attach it to the vehicle. Report the collision without delay to the city police or, in unincorporated areas, to the Highway Patrol.

Following a crash, you or your insurance agent, broker, or legal representative must do the following:

- Move your vehicle off the street or highway. If you do not move your vehicle or have it removed from the street or highway, any peace officer or authorized personnel may have your vehicle removed and impounded

- If someone is killed or injured, report the collision to the police or Highway Patrol within 24 hours

- If there was more than \$750 in damage to the property of any person, or anyone was injured or killed, report the collision to the DMV within 10 days

The DMV has a brochure on what to do in the case of a collision. You can find it online at www.DMV.ca.gov.

Q: I am moving out of state. I know I need to re-register my vehicle. Should I notify California DMV that my car will no longer be in the state?

A: As with any time you move, you should report this change of address to the DMV using a Change of Address form. Save time by going online! This can be accomplished at <http://www.DMV.ca.gov/online/coa/welcome.htm>!

Please also notify DMV, **in writing**, to report that the vehicle was removed from California and will be registered in another state or country. Your letter **must** include the following information:

- California License plate number, and/or,
- Vehicle identification number, and
- Date vehicle left California (MM/DD/CCYY), and mail to: DMV
PO Box 942869,
MS C271
Sacramento, CA 94269-0001

A status will be added to the vehicle record to prevent billing notices from being mailed.

Q: Is it possible to “remove” points from your driving record?

A: Points are not something you want on your driving record, and they can be assigned as a result of collisions or traffic tickets. Generally, collisions where you are at fault are one point and tickets are between one and two points.

The only way to remove points from a driving record is to wait. Most points stay on your record for three years. Depending on severity, points may stay on your record for up to 10 years.

To avoid accruing points, always follow the traffic laws and avoid reckless behavior. Be certain that you are driving defensively and never distracted while on the road. Keep this advice in mind, and you will be able to keep points off of your driving record!

For more information on points on your driving record, visit http://www.DMV.ca.gov/pubs/hdbk/actions_aps_court.htm

The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Acting Undersecretary Traci Stevens. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.

Home Invasion on Pearl Way

CHPD Special Report

CITRUS HEIGHTS – On October 26th, 2012 at approximately 2026 hours, officers from the Citrus Heights Police Department responded to a report of an interrupted residential burglary in the 8400 block of Pearl Way. Initial reports were that the homeowner discovered the suspect inside her home. The suspect fled the home in what was later confirmed to be a stolen vehicle. Witnesses observed the suspect crash the stolen vehicle into a telephone pole at the intersection of Twin Oaks Avenue and Mariposa Avenue. The suspect then fled on foot into a nearby residential area.

Officers from Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department, Roseville Police, Placer County Sheriff’s Department, and

California Highway Patrol arrived on scene to assist with a perimeter to contain the suspect.

A short time later, a resident from the 7600 block of Roberts Lane reported the suspect had just forcibly entered his home and made threats to shoot the people inside. The resident said the suspect stole the keys to his vehicle. The resident was able to flee his home, but said his elderly parents were still inside with the suspect.

Officers in the helicopter spotted the suspect fleeing the rear of the home towards Twin Oaks Avenue. The people inside the home were not injured. The suspect continued northbound and was seen by the helicopter entering an enclosed patio of a residence at 7600 block of Twin Oaks Avenue. The home

was occupied at the time by two people who hid inside a locked bathroom.

Several announcements were made over a loud speaker for the suspect to surrender. Officers on the ground spotted the suspect exiting the patio. Officers moved in on the suspect and took him into custody without incident. The occupants of the home were not injured and there were no additional suspects.

The suspect was later identified as: Daniel Travis Tinney (09/21/1989) of Fair Oaks.

Tinney was booked into the Sacramento County Jail for the charges of burglary, home invasion robbery, stolen vehicle, and attempted stolen vehicle, possession of stolen property, resisting arrest, and controlled substances.

Sacramento County DA Reports

Recent cases of interest

CASE: Jose Gomez (11/2/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Sonia Martinez

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that Jose Gomez was convicted by jury on 12 counts of child molestation and child sex assault charges. The jury also found true a multivictim allegation. Gomez sexually abused a female relative from the age of 4 to the age of 10. The assaults included forcing the victim to perform sex acts on him and eventually to Gomez having intercourse with her. Another female relative disclosed that Gomez sexually assaulted her when she was 8 years old. Gomez had also abused a third female relative when she was between the ages of 3 and 5 years old. The three young victims each testified against Gomez, resulting in guilty verdicts on all counts. Gomez faces a possible maximum sentence of 113 years to life in prison. Sentencing is set for December 7, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Honorable Judge Helena Gweon.

CASE: Joe Orosco (11/2/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Tim Carr

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that the Honorable Judge Russell Hom sentenced 69-year-old Joe Orosco to 30 years to life in prison. On August 22, Orosco was convicted by jury of two counts of lewd and lascivious acts with a minor with a prior conviction allegation. Orosco molested a 7-year-old female family member in 2011. He had previously been convicted of lewd and lascivious acts with a minor in Yolo County in 1986.

CASE: Carlton Reid (10/31/12)


PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Anthony Ortiz

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that Carlton Reid was convicted by jury of first degree murder and a gun enhancement for the shooting death of Gregory Lewis. On June 5, 2010 at approximately 1:40 a.m., the Sacramento Police Department received 911 calls regarding shots being fired at 2415 Northgate Boulevard. A caller stated that his father had been shot in the 7/11 parking lot. Responding officers found Gregory Lewis lying on the ground with multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to UCD Medical Center where he was later pronounced dead. Upon questioning by law enforcement, the victim’s son stated that his father was arguing with someone on his cell phone and set up a meeting with them at the 7/11. He and his father then drove to the convenient store and waited in the car. When the person arrived, his father got out of the car and the two men began to struggle. The person then pulled out a gun and shot his father several times. After a thorough investigation, including interviews and reviewing surveillance video and cell phone records, Reid was identified and arrested. Reid faces a maximum potential sentence of 50 years to life in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for November 30, 2012 in Department 40 before the Honorable Troy Nunley.

CASE: Taurus Aquarius Baker (10/26/12)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Chris Ore

District Attorney Jan Scully announced today that Taurus Aquarius Baker was convicted by jury for the first degree murder of Joseph Wayne Bush with the special circumstance that the crime was committed during an attempted robbery. On the afternoon of February 8, 2006, Baker shot and killed Joseph Wayne Bush during an attempted carjacking in the parking lot of a shopping center on Mack Road in south Sacramento. Baker faces a maximum sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Sentencing is set for January 18, 2013 in Department 21 before the Honorable Steve White.



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By Ronnie McBrayer

And why should we believe it? Our parents never accepted us without conditions. This merciless culture is constantly judging us and our level of success. Our spouse left us for someone younger, better looking, or richer. Our coach tells us we'll never be good enough to make the team, and yes the church gets



By Pastor Ray Dare

Some folks think that when they make a mistake God's ready to kick them out of the kingdom of God. That is so far from the truth. When you are born again, when you ask Jesus to come into your life, when you make a decision to have a personal relationship with Jesus, the Bible says you are born again. There's a birth that has taken place. You have been born into the family of God. Now you're a child of God. It doesn't mean you're a child of God on Monday and Tuesday

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Everywhere***

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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.

God Want You to Be Secure

See, I'm not saying that when you get born again you're not going to have some fruits of good work. Don't get me wrong. I'm just saying those good works don't get you saved and they don't keep you saved. It's the

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Get me to the Airport on Time

By Rev. James L. Snyder

I suppose there are some men who would like to be 25 again. Most men, however, are happy to be as old as they are. Women

I do not want to call attention to myself. I just want to get through the day and back home again. I know I am not as young as I used to be but I take consolation in the fact that I am older than I used to

There is no time like the present that as someone said, "This is the first day of the rest of my life." I am going to celebrate my "Now" with all the energy I have.

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 jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Dependance On Cyberspace Continues To Grow!



***By Marlys Norris,
Christian Author***

cash registers in stores like yesterday! What has education really taught all of us? Even if a grocery store cashier has the intellectual ability to make proper change, the computer now tells them exactly what change to give back. God help us if the electricity breaks down! Then, everything

Cyberspace as fantastic as it is - just may someday in the future turnout to be the "*worlds curse*." It just may already be too late for any of us to complain or do something different. Cyberspace has brought about a strange Utopian phenomenon we all have come to accept and depend on. With everything

The Bible calls Satan the “Prince of the power of the air.” Is it possible that he has brilliantly deceived us, relying on a machine by meeting our need to be a “superior society?” Now computers and cell phones have control over every human being on earth. How close are we to seeing 666 imprinted on every body to have the power to buy and sell? Possibly this will be a time the anti-Christ will come on the scene that the Bible prophets wrote about. It is my understanding that all the prophecies except one are now full-filled for the second coming of Jesus Christ to gather His church.

Marlys Johnsen Norris
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Crossword Puzzle on Page 10

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\$355 to \$669 - Foothill Farms, a newly built affordable senior apartment community in Sacramento has 1 and 2 bedroom apartments available for seniors age 55 and up. AEK, elevators, and swimming pool. Applications will be available and accepted beginning at 10:00 am on Monday, June 18th. Leasing office will not be open prior to June 18th. Temporary leasing office is located at 5415 Palm Avenue (off of Auburn Blvd). Income, age and other restrictions apply. Section 8 is welcome. Applications will be processed on a first qualified, first offered basis. For 24 hour application information, please call 916.484.4007. EHO. (MPG 07-31-12)

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Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice Thrift Store invites volunteers to work as cashiers, sales floor assistants, donation processors or pricers. Training is provided; a four hour weekly commitment is requested. Location: 13342 Lincoln Way, Auburn. Call store coordinator Kim Chase, 530-887-0561. (MPG 12-



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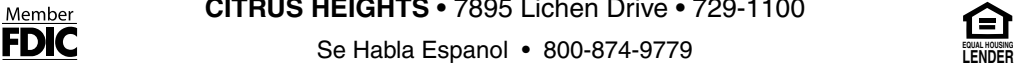
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Roberta MacGlashan: “I support the \$16.6 million allocated to fund inmate housing”



By County Supervisor Roberta MacGlashen

As we all know, the State of California is experiencing a crisis from its management of the State Prison System. To address this problem, in 2011 the State Legislature adopted Assembly Bill 109, which transferred, or “realigned,” to counties the responsibility for housing tens of thousands of prisoners for which the State previously had responsibility. The state provided funding to deal with certain offenders newly sentenced to State prison, but this funding source has fallen well short of the amounts promised. AB 109 creates local Community Corrections Partnerships (CCP). In Sacramento County, the CCP is comprised of the Sheriff, District Attorney, Chief Probation Officer, Chief of Police for the City of Sacramento, the Public Defender, the Presiding Judge, and the head of the County’s human assistance and welfare agency. The CCP is tasked with formulating a plan for allocating the realignment funds, which is forwarded to the

Board of Supervisors for adoption. Only with a 4/5 vote can the Board of Supervisors reject the CCP plan, and the Board has no authority to change the plan. On Tuesday, October 16, the Board of Supervisors adopted the 2012-2013 CCP plan. This plan results from months of deliberations by the CCP, which ultimately adopted the plan on a 6-1 vote. The plan, which allocates \$28 million in current fiscal year revenues along with \$1.9 million in carryover funds from last year, was approved by the Board of Supervisors on a 4-1 vote. The \$28 million in revenues this year are almost 25% less than the \$37 million promised by the State at the time AB 109 was adopted. I am proud to have supported the plan, which I believe properly prioritizes public safety in the post-realignment world, while still providing a balance between incarceration and programs designed to keep inmates from reoffending. My biggest concern with realignment is to ensure that accommodating these offenders in our County jails not impact public safety. If jail funding is insufficient, the Sheriff could find himself in a position of having to either release inmates early or pull deputies from the street to staff the jail. Neither of these options is acceptable to me as your Supervisor, and I support the \$16.6 million allocated to fund inmate housing. The Sheriff also received \$2.2 million for electronic home monitoring, which will responsibly ensure space in County jail facilities for the most serious offenders. Additionally, \$500,000 will go towards a pretrial release program, and \$500,000 will go towards

educational and rehabilitation classes for inmates in custody. The Probation Department received a total of \$8.7 million. Of this amount, \$8.4 million will fund an adult day reporting center at which offenders will be engaged in intensive, on site community supervision. These offenders, who are identified as having a moderate to high risk of reoffending, will be engaged in education and oversight designed to reduce recidivism. The Sheriff and Probation combined will be spending \$750,000 on mental health services and medications for realigned prisoners in their respective custody. Additional funding of \$350,000 has been allocated to the District Attorney to offset costs associated with realignment, and \$430,000 has will be spent for the Department of Human Assistance to provide eligibility assistance and emergency housing for recently-released inmates. While I remain concerned about the risks associated with the State’s realignment of offenders to County oversight, I am confident that the plan adopted provides the greatest protection for public safety with the resources provided. Some feel more funding should be allocated to rehabilitation programs. While I agree that rehabilitation, particularly in-custody, is an important component of reducing recidivism, I point to the \$9 million shortfall in State funding for the County that could have been used at least in part for such programs. Absent full funding from the State, the County must use the resources provided to ensure the safety of the law abiding public.

Heart of the Matter



SSgt Charles A. Bell, Jr and MWD Nico, Founders of Heart of the Matter Daniel and Mary Martinez, SSgt Angel Aroche and MWD Buk at the end of a marvelous evening thrown in their honor. Photo courtesy of Heart of the Matter.

SACRAMENTO, CA – On October 11, 2012, East Lawn Pet Loss Center presented Heart of the Matter’s Night of Music and Magic fundraising dinner on board the historic Delta King Riverboat in Old Sacramento. The evening truly proved to be a special, magical event as the

Marc and Sharon Reichert, guest speakers sharing the importance of our Military Working Dogs/ K9s; keeping families together, which include our four-legged military family members when our troops deploy; and just how important our four-legged ones are to us all in every walk of life. Speakers also included the founders of Heart of the Matter, Daniel and Mary Martinez, who had the true honor of introducing the Guests of Honor: SSgt. Charles Bell, Jr., MWD Nico, SSgt. Angel Aroche and MWD Buk. The guests of honor truly stole the show and everyone’s hearts. All on board that evening were privileged to meet in person the folks (two and four-legged) who are really on the front line to serve and protect our great Country. Mendy of Carmichael’s Western Feed and Pet Supply presented our two heroes, Nico and Buk with gift baskets almost as large as they.

Self-Publishing Workshop Comes to Sacramento



Pamela Varma Brown, author of “Kauai Stories: Life on the Garden Island told by Kauai People,” will be one of four speakers at a self-publishing workshop in downtown Sacramento. Photo by Daniel Lane / Pono Photo.

the “10 Steps to Successful Self-Publishing.” A special Hawaiian hula dance performance will open Brown’s segment of the workshop. Roxanne Langer will speak about selling books in bulk. Langer, a sommelier and author of “The 60-Minute Wine MBA,” will also provide tastes of Thanksgiving wine for those over 21 years old to sample. Graphic designer Vanessa Perez, who has created dozens of book covers, will give advice about what types of book covers will get your book noticed; and Ingrid Lundquist, award-winning event planner and author of “Results-Driven Event Planning” will talk about planning the perfect book launch party. “Self-publishing is easier and more acceptable than ever,” Lundquist says. “Now, anyone who wants to publish a book can do it. All the tools you need are waiting for you. We’ll teach you about many of them in this workshop.” The workshop fee is \$45 per person. Register online at www. TheBookInHandRoadshow. com or call (916) 719-1776 to reserve your seat.

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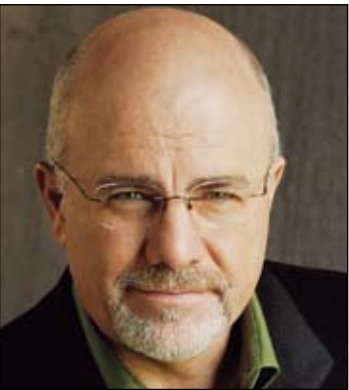
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Now, You Are One

Dear Dave,
I got married in May, and my wife brought student loan debt into the marriage. I had some savings before the wedding, and I could pay this off immediately without putting us in a bind. But is this “her” debt, or should I look at it as “our” debt?
- Ernest

Dear Ernest,
Absolutely, you should view it as “our” debt. It came with the territory when you two walked down the aisle.
A lot of people don’t use the old-fashioned marriage vows anymore, but *The Book of Common Prayer* reads, “... for richer, for poorer, in sickness and


Dave Says

health, and unto thee I pledge my worldly goods.” Basically, that means you’re saying, “I’m ready to take a bullet for you. I’m going to do whatever it takes to serve you, and vice versa.” You’re joining your separate lives into one.
In addition to all this, you guys need to be in agreement on how you’re going to handle money. In other words, it all gets worked out together with both of you sitting down and planning your financial future as one. This is called a budget. Like everything else, you work on it together. It’s not a situation where one of you is making all the decisions or bailing out the other.
But if you guys are on the same page—if your relationship is healthy and you’re in agreement about moving forward with shared dreams and goals—then I’d say write the check today and knock out that debt!
- Dave

Which Job?

Dear Dave,
I’ve been unemployed for three months, but recently I received two job offers. One is a state job that would pay \$50,000 a year. The other is a one-year contract for a position in Afghanistan that pays \$200,000. I know I’d like both jobs, so which would be the smartest choice?
- Nick


Dear Nick,
If it were me, I’d take the state job. I know that any kind of situation with six figures attached to it looks and sounds wonderful, but in my mind we’re talking about a career choice versus risk. Plus, I’m a firm believer in the idea that people make better decisions when they think in terms of 10 years from now rather than 10 or 12 months down the road.
In addition to the risk factor, the biggest problem with the offer in Afghanistan is that once it’s over, it’s over. Then you’re right back where you are now. You may have money in your bank account, but you’re unemployed all over again.
You know, one of the things I’ve noticed over the years is when wealthy people assess a financial opportunity, they almost always think in five-, 10- and 20-year blocks of time. We’re talking long term here. There’s not a whiff of living paycheck to paycheck or “Thank God, it’s Friday. Oh, God, it’s Monday!” on them.
Take the state job and fashion a good, long-lasting career for yourself. Don’t go chasing money on the short term!
- Dave
*For more financial help, please visit daveramsey.com.



Dare to Live Without Limits

TAKE A BREAK

by Bryan Golden



Your schedule is packed. There never seems to be enough time. You have more to do than will fit into 24 hours. You are physically tired and mentally stressed. These are some of the symptoms of today’s hectic lifestyle.
What can you do to recharge and make life more manageable? One of the best ways of coping is to take a break. This provides you with an opportunity to recharge mentally and physically. Taking breaks is more than just a good idea, it’s essential.
The need for sleep demonstrates how important breaks are. Sleep is a biologically required break. Without enough sleep, you are incapable of functioning. In addition to adequate sleep, regular breaks enable you to reduce stress and fatigue while enhancing your overall ability to deal with everything on your plate.
Without breaks, you are operating at full throttle. What would happen if you constantly drove your car with the gas pedal against the floor? The engine would break down in short order. If you treat yourself the same way, you will also burn out.
You need regular, short breaks as well as periodic longer ones. A common misconception is that taking a break reduces productivity. Just the opposite is true. People who incorporate breaks into their lifestyle substantially outperform those who don’t. They get more done in a shorter period of time.
In addition to stress and fatigue, there are a number of other recognizable signs indicating you need a break. Lack of focus, boredom, anxiety, a short temper,

a constant couch potato doesn’t provide long term benefits.
Taking vacations are a great way to unwind. However, if you take work with you, it’s not a true vacation. Vacations don’t have to be long or expensive. A day trip or a weekend away will give you with an opportunity to recharge.
Regardless of what strategy works best for you, taking frequent breaks provides numerous benefits. Don’t feel guilty about taking time for yourself. You will be happier and healthier as a result.
NOW AVAILABLE: “Dare to Live Without Limits,” the book. Visit www.BryanGolden.com or your bookstore. Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columunist.com or write him c/o this paper. © 2007 Bryan Golden.



Outdoor World

TAKE A DOE

There is nothing wrong with taking a doe. If it is food you're after, the steaks and burger of a young buck won't taste near as good as a fat doe.

In fact, taking a doe is something we need to do, especially if you're after trophy bucks. Everyone talks about genetics and food supply, but taking a buck before he is 3-years old never allows that buck to grow to his full potential.

If you forget about your ego, and take a doe instead of a young buck, it allows that buck to grow another set of antlers. Taking a doe will also help provide more food to the bucks in your area and create a better buck-to-doe breeding ratio.

Harvesting does is a way of improving the quality of bucks in your area.

Bob Foulkrod is a member of the RedHead® Pro Hunting Team

For more tips, go to busspro.com and click on the OutdoorSite® Library



By Karen Anderson

I wake up in the morning and once again I am bombarded with the heaviness of yesterday. Why can't I ever be free of it? My life never seems to improve. I'm stuck on a path I don't want to be on. Am I destined to be forever on the whirlwind of life with no hope for change? I know in my mind and heart that I need to make changes, but it is just so hard. Everything and everyone is out just to make my life difficult. I want a way out and don't know where to turn.
Do your thoughts run away with you like this? STOP, LISTEN and READ ON...you are trapped in the Negative Nelly Syndrome. What a miserable way to live your life! I don't know about you, but I would rather live a life full of hope, wonder, and of course abundance. I am sure you have heard all the talk that if you think negative thoughts, the energy it produces will attract more negativity into

Positively Negative?

your life. On the other hand, if you think thoughts of abundance, everything will turn around in your life and the attraction for positive things will happen. Do you believe this is possible? I believe this is true, but there is one VERY IMPORTANT element you are missing from this equation. Do you know what it is? It is God.
First let us think about your prayer life. Recently, I was reminded that so often we pray the prayer of uncertainty. What do I mean by that? What needs do you pray for? Could it be improved health, relationships, or finances? Your prayer may be something like this, “Father God, I need help in (you fill in the blank).” Another way is “God I really need your help now and in a very real way.” The problem is that you repeat this over and over again each time you pray as if God didn’t hear you the first time. What is wrong with you? Don’t you know that God has an extremely excellent memory? He doesn’t forget any conversation you ever have with Him. Remember, God is one of details; He is working on the problem if you will just pray and give it over to Him. Take this to heart. God’s Word says, **“Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.”** The only

thing you need to do now is rest and start praising Him for the answers. After the initial prayer your continued prayers should be, “I praise you for the answer to (fill in the blank). I know the answer is on its way. Thank you for it. In Jesus name, Amen.” Praising God and thanking Him for the answer will also take you from feeling anxious and worried about your life to a sense of overall peace and contentment. Yes the problems are still there but God is on your side and He will bless you for your faithfulness. Also remember that God’s answer is not always yes but He does hear you.
Here is a challenge for you. Keep track of your prayers so you can see the answer from God. Write out your prayers as a praise, thanking God for the answers ahead of time. Now enjoy the freedom in your prayer life and the abundant blessings from He who loves you. NOW, STOP...THINK, and PRAY with Praise and Thanksgiving to the God of details. AMEN!
PASSAGE: Isaiah 65:24 (NIV)
Karen Anderson is an accomplished speaker, author, and chaplain and has a local TV show, *Move Your Mountains*. Contact Karen at www.doab-leststeps.com, or 916-961-4765.

Sacramento Public Library Locations Closed November 22 - 24

All Sacramento Public Library locations will be closed from 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 21 through Friday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving Day holiday observance.
Library locations will also be closed on Saturday, November 24 due to staff furloughs. Library telephone services will also be unavailable on these dates; however, the library’s website (www.saclibrary.org) is available 24/7 to request and renew materials, pay overdue fines, download eBooks, and apply for a library card.

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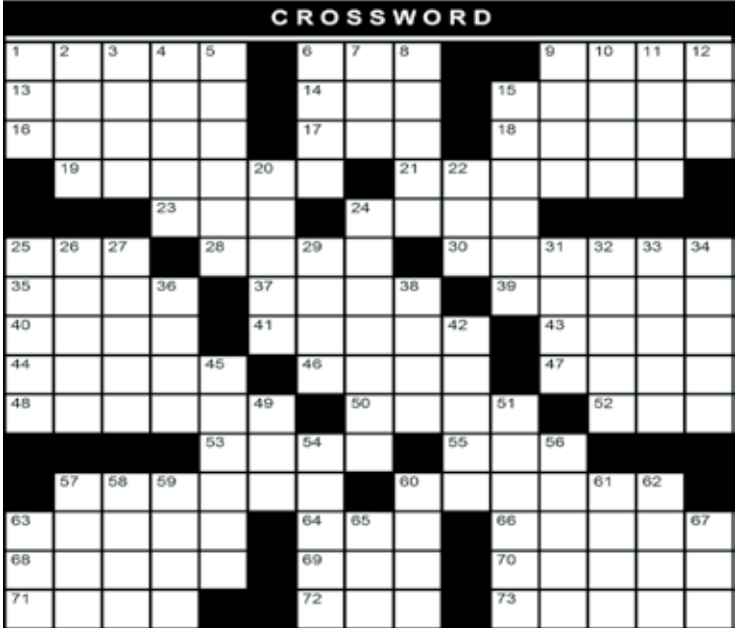
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Come back every week for Sudoku!

For Solution See Page 7.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD ANIMAL WORLD



CLUES

ACROSS

1. Girder that looks like a letter
6. "Largest North American deer"
9. "Methane release by a cow"
13. ____-la
14. Actress ____ Thompson
15. Raneé's wrap
16. Luxurious sheet fabric
17. Opposite of guzzle
18. Donor's loss
19. "Cause of African Sleeping Sickness"
21. "Dangerous delicacy"
23. Nada
24. Rented on the links
25. Distant
28. Fountain order
30. Like body temperature of 98.6°
35. Month of Purim
37. Barber's supply
39. A Judd
40. Rounded elevation
41. Member of the lowest Hindu caste
43. "Goodbye" to Sophia Loren
44. Fat cat in the Orient
46. Toot one's horn
47. Julia Robert's character
48. Bad blood
50. Bassoon cousin
52. Ensign, for short
53. Student aid
55. Grandmother, for short
57. "Dian Fossey's domain"
60. "Bob Dylan's words, e.g."
63. Indian coin
64. Austin Powers, e.g.
66. Inhabitants of Thailand
68. Poker stakes
69. Across, in verse
70. "It opens wide"
71. ____ lighting
72. Country song "Harper Valley ____"
73. Walk through mud

DOWN

1. "____ alive!"
2. Babysitter's nightmare
3. Chow or grub
4. Sci-fi classic
5. "Praying insect"
6. "____ or ____!"
7. "Fantasy Island" prop
8. 10th letter of Greek alphabet
9. Throw up
10. Encourage
11. Infantr'y's last rows, e.g.
12. Mont Blanc, e.g.
15. "____ crime"
20. One-armed bandits
22. Big coffee server
24. Used for boiling
25. "Animal life of particular period"
26. Don Draper of "Mad Men", e.g.
27. Teacher of Torah
29. Slap on
31. Preakness, e.g.
32. Wavelike design
33. At full speed
34. "Tsavo man-eaters"
36. One of "Clue" clues
38. Mr. Eugene Krabs, e.g.
42. "The ____ of defeat"
45. Protrudes outwards
49. Sun in Mexico
51. 3rd rock from the sun, pl.
54. "He used animals to demonstrate morals"
56. Root of nihilism
57. Ellen Page's 2007 role
58. Plotting
59. Financial aid criterion
60. Vega's constellation
61. Al Capone, e.g.
62. Plural of #17 Across
63. Ewe's mate
65. "Not a wild one"
67. Fifth note

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For Solution See Page 7



by David Dickstein

Family Films

“*Rise of the Guardians*”
Opens Nov. 21, rated PG
riseoftheguardians.com

Not since “The Avengers” has such an esteemed team of superheroes been assembled to fight off evil. For this 3-D computer-animated adventure from DreamWorks Animation, Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, Jack Frost, the Sandman and the Tooth Fairy join up against an evil spirit bent on overtaking the world by inspiring fear in the hearts of the world’s children. Heard but not seen are Chris Pine, Hugh Jackman, Jude Law, Alec Baldwin and Isla Fisher.



Homeage Trailer
“*The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn -- Part 2*”
Opens Nov. 16, rated PG-13
breakingdawn-themovie.com

For teenyboppers who can’t get enough of this epic vampire love story (and have parents OK with PG-13 movies), this flick is going to bite big-time. Not because it will disappoint -- the following is so loyal it could throw in Jar Jar Binks and still be adored -- but because it’s over. “Breaking Dawn,” the final installment of Stephenie Meyers’ best-selling series, was split into two films, and this is the finale. What’s to become of Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) now that she’s a blood-sucking mother? What happens to Edward (Robert Pattinson) and Jacob (Taylor Lautner)? Hard to believe that fans don’t already know. Then again, could director Bill Condon do the unthinkable and tinker with the ending?

Films and DVDs
for the Whole Family



“*Wreck-It Ralph*”
Opens Nov. 2, rated PG
disney.go.com/wreck-it-ralph
“Ralph” is a video game character voiced by John C. Reilly who is tired of being the bad guy in his classic ‘80s arcade game. When he doesn’t return to his game as scheduled and starts visiting the worlds of other games, including a modern, first-person shooter game, he turns the entire structure of his arcade upside down. Supporting voices belong to Jane Lynch, Sarah Silverman and Jack McBrayer. Here’s one movie that sounds perfect for 3-D, so get ready to wear those oh-so-stylish plastic glasses.

Family DVDs

“*The Amazing Spider-Man*”
(ages 10 and up, Nov. 9 on DVD and Blu-ray, PG-13): Good-enough reboot of the film series based on the Marvel Comics superhero who must balance the blessing and curse of being both a golden-hearted teenager and a do-gooder with a tragic and mysterious backstory. Andrew Garfield does his best in the role formerly occupied by Tobey Maguire, and Emma Stone is OK

as a love interest, but the latest doesn’t measure up. *Grade: B-*

“*Arthur Christmas*” (ages 4 and up, Nov. 6 on DVD and Blu-ray, PG): Charming, witty and beautifully animated is this undeserved box office bomb of last Christmas. From Aardman Animations, the folks behind “Wallace & Gromit” and “The Pirates! Band of Misfits,” the story finally answers the question: “How does Santa deliver all those presents in one night?” Good seasonal family entertainment with a solid U.K. voice cast led by James McAvoy, Jim Broadbent, Hugh Laurie and Bill Nighy. *Grade: A-*

“*Brave*” (ages 4-12, Nov. 13 on DVD and Blu-Ray, PG): The tale of Pixar’s first female heroine is a conventional one by the studio’s own standards for cleverness and innovation, but that doesn’t detract from the engaging, well-made action-adventure set in mythic Scotland. Merida is at the center, a daughter of royalty who would prefer to leave her mark as an accomplished archer. Her skills and bravery are put to the test when faced with saving her kingdom. *Grade: B*



TOXIC NEGATIVE
NELLIES

Are you exposed to a bunch of negative nellies? What if I told you that being around complainers is not only unpleasant; it’s bad for your brain too!

Brain researchers have long known that the adult brain is surprisingly plastic. We can strengthen connections though repetition, for example, to improve our memory. But a new study using functional MRIs found that negative words actually stimulate the areas of our brain associated with perceptions and cognitive functioning. So who cares, right? Be aware that constant exposure to negative messages from complainers will reinforce negative thinking and behavior. That’s why we need to care. If you keep hearing negative messages, your behavior will change to fit the new perceptions, and not in a good way. Why? Because your brain cannot distinguish fact from fiction, that’s why.

Enter **Trevor Blake** who I had on my POPPOFF Radio Show recently. Trevor is a highly successful serial entrepreneur who started his first company with a few thousand dollars and sold it for more than a \$100 million. Now he has developed a three-step strategy that can change your life in his book “*Three simple Steps*” **A Map to Success in Business and Life**. In the book, he tackles these three messages.

- 1) *Limit your exposure to negativity all around you....and why you must.*
- 2) *Take control of how you interpret and react to situations.*

POPPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

3) *Be more successful by rewiring your brain and boosting the occurrence of positive messages.*

Here are nine ways Trevor mentioned to me to defend yourself against complaints...yours and others...so you can rewire your brain and boost the occurrence of positive thoughts and behaviors.

1) Become Self-aware. When you feel a complaint coming on, no matter how trivial, stop yourself. You can’t delete the thought, but you can revise it before saying it aloud. So instead of saying, “Oh, that’s nice, but I could never afford it,” you might say, “That will look wonderful with my black pants when I can afford to buy it.”

2) Redirect the conversation. When you participate in negative dialogue with a complainer, you’ll walk away feeling depleted. Instead, take control of the direction the conversation is going. If he says, “I hate Mondays. The weekend isn’t long enough,” counter his negative thoughts with a positive set of images: “I’m glad I rested up this weekend! Now I’m ready to dig into that big project.”

3) Smother a negative thought with a positive image. If a negative thought pops into your mind, immediately input a different image. This is the process of neurogenesis...creating new pathways in your brain that lead to positive behaviors.

4) Don’t try to convert others. When trapped in a toxic group of complainers at a meeting or social event, simply choose silence. Let their words bounce off you and not penetrate your mind while you think of something pleasant.

5) Distance yourself when possible. When people around you start criticizing someone or something and you can escape, excuse yourself and take a break somewhere quiet...preferably outside in the fresh air.

6) Wear an invisible mentality shield. Imagine that an invisible shield like a glass cloak made of positive energy descends from the sky and lightly covers your whole body. You can see perfectly well through it, but it protects you from others’ negative words and emotions.

7) Create a private retreat. Mentally retreat to a private, special place in your imagination. Visualize a peaceful setting in your mind...say a sunny trail next to a meadow brook, or a sailboat on a lake. When you’re stuck with someone spewing vitriol, you can appear as if you’re listening while you distract your mind with a visit to your peaceful place.

8) Transfer Responsibility. On occasions when you’re pressed against a wall while someone rants about all the injustices in their life, throw the responsibility back at them by saying, “So what do you intend to do about it?” In most cases, complainers don’t want a solution nor do they want sympathy. They just want to vent and this tactic will stop them in their tracks.

9) Forgive your lapses. Everyone complains sometimes. It’s human to vent once in awhile. Be kind to yourself after a lapse into victimhood and complaining...then start afresh. The less frequently you complain, the more time will pass between lapses into negativity. This is how rewiring the brain works.

Do I get it? I think so. Tune in to positive and tune out to the negative. We have enough negatives in one day to last a lifetime. Be the leader of the pack, and I’ll do the same with my POPPOFF Radio Show! THINK POSITIVE!!!

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Dollars and Sense

by James J. Scherer, MBA, CPA

Pitfall of 529 Saving Accounts

The IRS, under code section 529, provides for a tax free method for paying for qualified education expenses. In general you may gift money to a qualified plan, and if certain rules are kept, there will be no tax to either the owner (normally the parents) nor the beneficiary (normally their child), if the funds and earnings are used to pay for qualified education expenses. This article will discuss some of the pitfalls associated with these plans.

Gifting Issues:

Watch out if you plan to give more than \$13,000 (\$26,000 for a husband and wife) to a qualified individual in a tax year. The excess over these amounts may be subject to gift tax. However, there is an exception to this rule if you make an election on form 709 to “treat the transfers made this year to a qualified tuition program as made ratable over a 5-year period beginning this year”. Translated this means a single individual can give \$65,000 (\$130,000 for a husband and wife) to a qualified individual in year one. However, be sure you file the gift tax return in the year the gift is made and make this election. If a married couple elect’s gift-splitting, both husband and wife must file separate gift tax returns and make the five-year election. The gift tax return is due by April 15th after the year in which the gift is made.

Investment Issues:

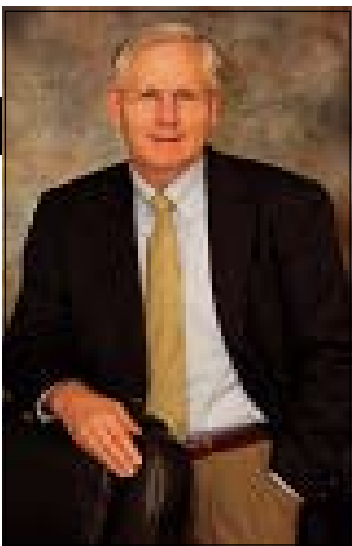
The IRS allows you to change your investments only once a year. In the current secular bear market this rule has wreaked havoc on investment results of 529 plans. Since 2001 the stock market has been flat to down from its March 2000 highs. Many plans are flat and some have even lost money. Therefore, make your yearly investment selection wisely.

Account Rollovers:

Watch out for rollovers! You can rollover a 529 plan to another plan with the same beneficiary only once every twelve months. It is much like the IRA rollover rules. If you break this rule taxes and penalties will be due. If you have two or more 529 plans for the same beneficiary check to be sure that you have not rolled over any of these plans during the last twelve months. Rollovers must be deposited into the new 529 plan within 60 days from the distribution.

Timing the Payment of Qualified Expenses:

Distributions used to pay for qualified expenses should be made in the same calendar year the expense is incurred. However, IRS may allow the distribution if made by March 31 following the calendar year of the expense was incurred. As with all tax law it changes quickly. Be sure to check with your tax accountant.



James J. Scherer of Towne Scherer Private Wealth Management is a Registered Principal and Financial Advisor with, and securities offered through, LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC, and CA Insurance License # 0C20370. He can be reached at 916-797-1188 or by email at james.scherer@towne-scherer.com. The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

This article is not intended to provide specific accounting, tax or investment advice for any individual. If you have specific questions consult your tax professional. Prior to investing in a 529 Plan investors should consider whether the investor’s or designated beneficiary’s home state offers any state tax or other benefits that are only available for investments in such state’s qualified tuition program. Withdrawals used for qualified expenses are federal tax free. Tax treatment at the state level may vary.

Arden Playhouse

The Costume Ball

Harry is Trying on a Dress for a Charity Event, But Gets Caught in a Pickle Instead!

The Costume Ball by Norman Beim • Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. Directed by Michael Messmer



Harry (Mark Stone, right) as Hilary tries to deflect Wilbur’s (Eddie Madrigal) interest with silly talk as Harry’s wife, Gwen (Keri Long) worries that his deception will create problems in the Arden Playhouse production of THE COSTUME BALL. Photos courtesy of Arden Playhouse - Michael Messmer

SACRAMENTO REGION – Arden Playhouse is pleased to present The Costume Ball by Norman Beim. The Costume Ball received the Robert J. Pickering Award for Playwright Excellence.

Harry and Gwen are going to a charity masquerade ball, but Harry’s costume has gone astray. Gwen suggests that he wear an old dress of her aunt’s. He doesn’t like the idea of wearing a dress. They bicker; she wins. Harry tries on the dress and starts to enjoy it. Add some makeup, a wig...and something to make him not look so flat-chested, and he feels like he’s playing a glamorous role.

The doorbell rings. When Gwen opens the door, Harry is discovered dressed as a woman by Wilbur Wilberforce, an upright businessman from Chicago, whom

Harry hopes will save his advertising agency from bankruptcy. Harry panics and pretends to be “Hilary”, supposedly Harry’s sister from Boston. Things get rather sticky when Wilberforce seems to be enamored of “Hilary.” But then there’s one more twist that let’s us know Harry wasn’t as clever as he thought



Having persuaded her husband, Harry (Mark Stone), to go to the ball dressed as a woman, Gwen (Keri Long) helps put the finishing touches to his costume in the Arden Playhouse production of THE COSTUME BALL.

in playing the role of Hilary.

Stars: Keri Long as Gwen Harris, Mark Stone as Harry Harris, and Eddie Madrigal as Wilbur Wilberforce

Michael Messmer has been acting, directing, writing and producing in local community theater for over thirty years. Most recently he has written and produced a number of his own plays at Arden Playhouse, including Soap Solution, Witherspoon Waltz, Wise Guise, Trust Me, and many more.

Performance Dates:

8PM Fridays and Saturdays-- November 9, 10, 16, 17, 30; December 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, & 15 Sunday Matinees 2PM-- November 18; December 2 & 9 All tickets are \$15 with a reservation and \$18.00 at the door. (Cash or check only.) Tickets can be reserved by calling (916) 332-2582.

Arden Playhouse is located at 5640 Roseville Road, Suite D, Sacramento, and seats 150.

Arden Playhouse is a community theater dedicated to continuing its tradition of presenting entertainment in a casual setting. Press Photos Available

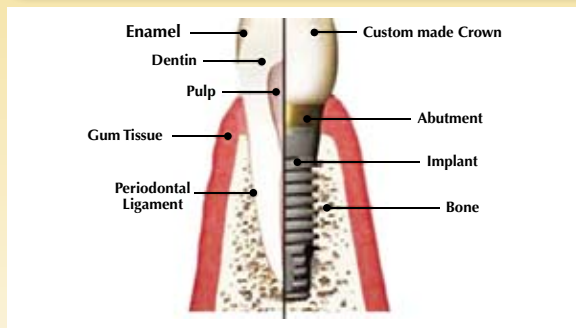
For more information about The Costume Ball or to find out about our group discounts, call the theater office at 332-2582, email admin@ardenplayhouse.com, arden@ardenplayhouse.com, or check the website ardenplayhouse.com.

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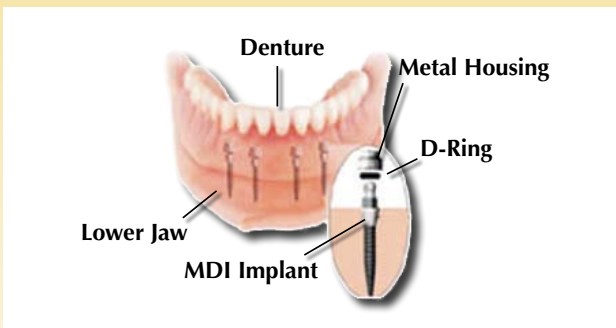
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