

Fire Prevention Efforts Underway

Kaiser to Help Secure Jobs for Unhoused Women

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MAY, **2022**

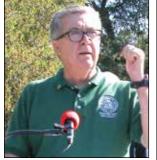
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More Investment Needed



Assemblymember Ken Cooley speaks at the April 15th press conference involving allied agencies from throughout the area including fire engines, fire trucks, heavy rescue, and a firefighting helicopter. From left to right: Rancho Cordova Police Captain Brandon Luke, Mayor Donald Terry, Sacramento Metro Fire Chief Todd Harms, Firefighter Parker Wilbourn. Photo courtesy of the Office of Assemblymember Ken Cooley

By Patrick Larenas

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - The approaching summer in California means to government officials and first responders that a potential season of large fires and large-scale disasters lies just ahead. Which is why Assemblymember Ken Cooley and Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District announced at a press conference on Friday, April 15, a request for funding for the expansion of the Zinfandel First Responder Training Facility on 3801 Zinfandel Drive in Rancho Cordova, CA.

Approval would authorize that building at the existing training facility could commence Phase 3 of the development of the 53-acre site, purchased by Sac Metro Fire in 2008–approximately 2.7 miles from their headquarters.

Earlier in the year, on March 30, 2022, Cooley submitted a one-time state funding request for \$44 million to begin construction at the Zinfandel First Responder Training Facility in order to make it a "central hub" and help increase the resiliency of trainees. Cooley said the proposal, which is expected to be voted on in June of this year, has "strong bi-partisan support... [including] the Governor who encounters large-scale disasters in his watch."

Assemblymember Cooley wrote in a letter submitted to the Assembly

Budget Subcommittee, "The unprecedented demands currently placed on emergency responders, combined with the lack of adequate training facilities, are increasing the risks faced by local first responders."

"This facility will facilitate joint training in firefighting, urban search and rescue, and mutual aid coordination, including enhanced skills in interoperability of fire equipment, by Northern California fire agency personnel," added the office of the assemblymember.

According to Sac Metro Fire Chief Todd Harms, the property signaled for the increased development, located adjacent to Mather

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Sacramento Spare the Air Season Underway

Sac Metro Air District News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sac Metro Air District) and the air districts of the Sacramento region launched the 28th annual Spare the Air season on Sunday May 1

season on Sunday, May 1. The region's Spare the Air program runs each year from May 1 through Oct. 31, and a Spare the Air alert is issued when the Air Quality Index (AQI) for ground-level ozone pollution is forecast to meet or exceed 126, rendering air quality unhealthy for sensitive groups. Air pollution affects everyone. Even healthy people can experience health impacts from polluted air, including respiratory irritation or breathing difficulties during exercise or outdoor activities. In addition to its harmful health effects, air pollution impacts businesses, the economy, and the environment.

Small changes can make a big difference in our community. During the past two years, the Sacramento region saw a vast improvement in air quality. Residents of Sacramento, Placer, Yolo, Solano, and El Dorado counties are encouraged to consider teleworking, taking transit, driving a low or zero emission vehicle, or using other active transportation options such as walking, biking, or riding a scooter when possible. By making individual efforts to reduce air pollution, we can come together as a community to make a much larger impact on air quality in our region and combat climate change.

Please follow these tips to continue to improve the region's air quality: Download the free Sacramento Region Air Quality app to view daily air quality forecasts and real-time air pollution readings for Sacramento, Placer, Yolo-Solano and El Dorado counties. Drive less to help reduce vehicle emissions, especially on a Spare the Air Day

Telework at least once per week, if possible. Use active transportation, such as riding a bike, walking, or taking a scooter for your errands, or as a way to commute to work. Take public transit or carpool to reduce the number of single-passenger vehicles on the road. Use a zero-emission hybrid or electric vehicle.

For more information on Spare The Air, please visit www.SpareTheAir.com, and follow the Sac Metro Air District on Twitter @AQMD or on Facebook at Facebook.com/ScooterTheSpareThe AirDog.

Soroptimists Receive City Proclamation



From left to right: City Manager Cyrus Abhar, Mayor Donald Terry, City Councilperson Siri Pulipati, Rancho Cordova Soroptimist club VP Sheryl Longsworth, RCS club member Julie Abraham, RCS club member Pamela Reed, RCS club member Casie Campbell, RCS club member Christina Ma, RCS club member Rhoda Stewart and City Councilperson Garrett Gatewood. Photo courtesy of Sarontimist International of Rancho Cordova & Gold River

Soroptimist International of Rancho Cordova and Gold River News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG)

- Councilperson Siri Pulipati presented the Soroptimist Int'l of Rancho Cordova & Gold River club with a proclamation honoring Women's History Month during the March 21, 2022, City Council meeting.

The proclamation recalled the origin of Women's

History Month and the Soroptimist organization, as well as celebrated the club's accomplishments helping the community's at-risk women and students over its nearly 13-year history.

nearly 13-year history.

Since the Rancho Cordova/Gold River club's founding in 2009, members have helped over 1,800 Folsom Cordova Unified School District students, provided Comfort Kits to over 1,300 domestic violence survivors, presented college scholarships to 21

single mothers, and it was announced at the 3/21 meeting that they have started a human trafficking awareness and education program.

ness and education program. Soroptimist is an international 501(c)3 non-profit organization who seeks to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. The name, Soroptimist, means "best for women," and that's what the organization strives to achieve.

Soroptimists are people at their best, working to help other women to be their best. To receive more information about Soroptimist International Rancho Cordova οf & Gold River, how to become a member, or just learn how to just volunteer, please email sirancho cordova@soroptimist.net or call club vice president, Sheryl Longsworth at 916-833-1218, or visit http:// www.soroptimistrancho cordova.org.

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Parklands Matter

Office of Assemblymember Ken Cooley

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) -Assemblymembers Ken Cooley (Rancho Cordova), Kevin McCarty (Sacramento) and Jim Cooper (Elk Grove) announced their efforts to address public safety on the American River Parkway after the brutal slaying of 20-year-old Emma Roark. Local communities and neighboring families have been increasingly riled by the level of violence, dangerous debris and environmental destruction left by illegal campers on the American River Parkway.

Sacramento area representatives have introduced AB 2633, which defines parklands with heightened risk of environmental degradation and damage due to the unique and valuable resources within it, such as the American River Parkway, as "special parklands." This bill authorizes the removal of illegal campsites from these parks to prevent unnecessary environmental destruction and addresses public safety hazards.

In addition, they are proposing \$50 million in grant funding to go to counties and regional park districts to support efforts to protect the parkway. Goals of the grant program include 1) preventing fires by reducing the incidents of illegal campfires in regional parks, 2) reducing



Assemblymember Ken Cooley (Rancho Cordova), together Stephen Green (left) President of the Save the American River Association, District 3 Supervisor Rich Desmond and Assemblymember Jim Cooper (Elk Grove) announce legislation to address public safety and environmental destruction on the American River Parkway. Photo by Patrick Larenas

homelessness by providing services and housing options, and 3) protecting park visitors, wildlife and our natural resources.

"I live almost exactly one mile from this precious location. For decades, I have brought my own children and grandchildren here to experience and wonder at the world around them. Public safety and environmental protection are paramount to the value of this parkway," said Assemblyman Ken Cooley.

Severe violence has been committed both against the transient population and by some of its members along the watershed

lands oftentimes under the cover of dense vegetation, right alongside homes and trails frequented by vulnerable populations such as children, seniors and individuals travelling alone.

"I'm proud to author AB 2633, along with Assemblymember Ken Cooley, to preserve and protect our cherished American River Parkway," said Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, Sacramento. "Sadly, because of illegal camping, the American River Parkway isn't safe enough – resulting in locals thinking twice about visiting our jewel of Sacramento.

We can humanely and aggressively address homelessness and ensure that our Parkway remains a regional treasure."

With the climate crisis underway, wildfire has been an increasing threat to California. In the Sacramento region, the American River Parkway, which is an urban parkway nestled alongside multiple communities, teeming with wildlife, presents heightened risks and hazards.

Specifically, illegal campfires have caused wildfires that have destroyed hundreds of acres of regional parklands. In recent years, The American River Parkway has seen incidents of illegal fires, camping, and dumping skyrocket—threatening the parkway's beauty, sustainability, and the safety of visitors, adjacent communities, schools and businesses. The Sacramento Bee reported that by June 2021, 60+ illegal fires scorched more than 130 acres of this treasured parkway, including newly restored habitat.

Including, last year, after countless hours and thousands of dollars in grants and donations for the restoration of an imperiled turtle habitat, the newly restored habitat burned to ashes. More importantly, strong winds can push campfires through encampments with dense vegetation and fuel, and into adjacent neighborhoods, leaving little time for both campers and residents to flee.

Without intervention and protection, California's outdoor spaces that serve multiple specialized environmental, public safety and recreational functions, will continue to be at risk of degradation and damage. Protecting the American River Parkway from illegal fires and providing those suffering from homelessness with services and healthier housing options, will ensure its preservation and lead to healthier and safer communities throughout the greater Sacramento area. The proposed \$50 million in grant funding will support all of these goals.

Meetings for Veterans Held Monthly

By Ben LaPolla, dual member

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - JOIN US as Brothers and Sisters of America to preserve the rights of veterans and support each other, as only those who share in the camaraderie forged by conflict can.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6158 and American Legion Post 383

We veterans who so deeply hold in our hearts love of country and have so valiantly fought to preserve the freedom we enjoy today need to band together and support one another by joining the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and/or the American Legion (AL).

If you are a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces and want to help protect the rights and benefits that you, and all Veterans have earned, then add your voice to the millions of veterans in the VFW and American Legion today. The VFW and the American Legion work with local, state, and federal governments to fight for veteran benefits, strengthen the Veterans Administration and help provide for veteran families in need.

THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 6158 and Auxiliary is located in the center of Phoenix Park in Fair Oaks, at 8990 Kruitof Way, off Hazel and Sunset Avenue.

VFW Post 6158 is open to all veterans with the following qualifications:

- 1. Served in the Armed Forces of the United States with an Honorable Discharge (possess a DD214) or be currently serving.
- 2. Service in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters.
- 3. The VFW Auxiliary is open to veterans, family members and relatives of veterans who have served in a foreign conflict.

You can contact Gary Burns, Commander VFW 6158 via Post Canteen at (916) 966-1663 for more information. Our meetings are at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

The FAIR OAKS AMERICAN LEGION POST 383 and Auxiliary is co-located with VFW Post 6158 American Legion Post 383 is open to all veterans with the following qualifications:

- 1. Served in the Armed Forces of the United States with an Honorable Discharge (possess a DD214), be currently serving or have at least one day of Active-Duty Service from December 7, 1941, to present.
- 2. The American Legion Auxiliary is open to veterans, mothers, daughters, granddaughters and spouses of veterans.

You can contact Mark Rice, Commander American Legion Post 383 at (916) 204-8151 for more information. Our meetings are at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of every month. ★

Sac State Student radio KSSU Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Sacramento State Media Advisory

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)
- Sacramento State's student-run online radio station
KSSU celebrated 30 years
of broadcasting to the campus community and beyond
on April 8 in the University

Union.

KSSU has served as a radio industry training ground and student sounding board since it launched on the airwaves in 1991. More than 3,000 Sac State students have worked at the station.

It now is heard via the internet from its studio on the first floor of the University Union. Each semester about 40 student volunteers, not all looking for broadcasting careers, learn a wide range of skills related to broadcasting, advertising, engineering, programming, journalism, and other fields.

"This is our audio sandbox," said KSSU advisor Aaron Wall, student services coordinator for Associated Students Inc. "Students play music that they love and talk about topics that interest them."

KSSU offers news, talk shows, music and interviews, sponsors campus events, and hosts podcast workshops. It has become a consistent Sac State presence, broadcasting remotely from a variety of university and student events.

During the pandemic lockdown, KSSU maintained its connection with the campus community as DJs worked from makeshift studios at home.

"We didn't have a single pause," said Wall, a 2020 Sac State graduate who began his career at KSSU as a volunteer DJ. ★



Election Information

June 7, 2022 - Statewide Direct Primary Election

Vote Early and Vote by Mail.

May 9 May 23 May 28 June 4

Ballots begin to arrive by mail. Ballot Drop Boxes are now open.

Close of registration. Register today!

Some Vote Centers open through Election Day.

All Vote Centers open through Election Day.

Election Day! Last day to turn in your ballot.

Vote Early! Don't wait for Election Day

Take advantage of early voting and avoid the lines! You can return your ballot in the mail, at any Ballot Drop Box, or at any Vote Center. No postage is necessary.

Update your language preference!

Every registered voter will receive an official ballot in the mail containing contests, candidates, and voting instructions in English and Spanish. If you prefer your bilingual ballot and voter information in English-Chinese, OR English-Vietnamese, update your language preference online by scanning this QR code or call (800) 762-8019.

Vote Early! Vote by Mail.



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More Investment Needed

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Airport in Sacramento County, is strategically placed at a good junction near the intersections of Highways 50, 99 and Interstates 5 and 80 and "is a perfect location for resources to be staged for anything on the northern side of California."

Assemblymember Cooley wrote in his letter, "The training facility would be available to public safety agencies in the Sacramento region and throughout Northern California... The size and scale of the facility, after the completion of Phase 3, will accommodate large scale multiagency and multidisciplinary coordinated

training, which is not possible with existing facilities in the region."

Specifically, the funding would go to commence construction by adding: A) 40,000-50,000 square foot multi-purpose Administration/Classroom/Staging Building; B) 1,000 square foot Outdoor Classroom/Storage/Restroom/Decontamination Structure; C) 4-acre Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC); D) Multi-Story Training Tower.

For more information contact the Office of Assemblymember Ken Cooley at (916) 3139-2008 visit a08.asmdc.org/ or visit metro fire.ca.gov/

Do You Have an Uncashed Sacramento County Check?

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Currently, the County has nearly 6,000 uncashed checks, totaling more than \$2.1 million. How does this happen and could this be your unclaimed money?

If a Sacramento County issued check goes six months without being cashed by the rightful payee, the information becomes available in a PDF document on the Unclaimed County Warrants (checks) webpage. The data is also searchable on the County's Open Data portal.

Think you might have an uncashed check with Sacramento County? Here are quick and easy ways to find out:

From the Unclaimed County Warrants webpage, scroll through the check numbers on the Unclaimed Warrant listing PDF document (use the Find feature [Ctrl+F] to search names or other terms in the PDF).

Go to the Sacramento County Open Data portal. Once on the portal, click the "Finance" icon; click the "County Outstanding Checks" link; then either use the "filter" cone-shaped icon for specific value sorting, or the column headings for alpha/numeric listings to get ascending or descending sorts.

If you find your name or business on the data listing, go to the Unclaimed County Warrants webpage to find out about the documentation and information needed to

validate that you are the rightful payee to receive the funds.

More Unclaimed Monies

The Revenue Recovery Division of the Department of Finance has unclaimed payments that are a result of not having a current address for the recipient. On the Open Data portal, under the Finance category, check out the Revenue Recovery Unclaimed Payments data and search for your name. If you locate a claim due to you, contact Revenue Recovery at (916) 875-7815, and provide the following information:

- Claimant's Name
- Date of Birth
- Address (Current and Previous)
- Phone Number
- Amount of the claim
- DRR Account Number
- Court Docket NumberDate of Order
- Defendant's Name
- Proof of Identity (Driver's License or ID Card)
- Proof of Payment: Copy of check, money order receipt or credit card confirmation number
- Information regarding the incident (case information)

Sacramento County makes this data easily available on its websites, Open Data Portal and other measures to ensure the information is accessible and the monies go to the rightful payees.

Kaiser Donates \$25K to Help Secure Jobs for Unhoused Women



Six Sacramento women experiencing homelessness graduated from Women's Empowerment in March. The organization recently received funding from Kaiser Permanente Northern California Community Benefit Programs. Photo courtesy of Thébaud Communications

By Kristin Thébaud, Thébaud Communications

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -

Women's Empowerment recently received \$25,000 from Kaiser Permanente to empower women experiencing homelessness in Sacramento with the tools to secure a stable job that leads to a livable wage so they can provide a healthy home for their families during the pandemic. Funding will support Women's Empowerment's employment-readiness program, including mental health assistance as well as domestic violence and substance use support groups.

"Kaiser Permanente has been a longtime funder of our programs, and we are honored that they continue to support our comprehensive work to ensure women and children can rise from homelessness during the pandemic and prolonged housing crisis," said Lisa Culp, executive director, Women's Empowerment.

Women's Empowerment provides a two-month employment-readiness and empowerment program, paid job training, childcare and support services so all women and their children can break the cycle of homelessness. Women's Empowerment offers the most comprehensive job-readiness program in the Sacramento area designed specifically for women experiencing homelessness, and their children. On average, 70% of women in the program find housing during the ongoing housing crisis. Last year, 142 job placements were achieved by Women's Empowerment graduates. Since its

founding in 2001, the award-winning organization has graduated 1,740 women and their 3,864 children. Women's Empowerment is funded through private donations from the community and grants. To make a donation, visit Womens-Empowerment.org.

'At Kaiser Permanente, we believe everyone deserves a safe and healthy place to live. Stable housing is critical to health," said Trish Rodriguez, senior vice president and area manager for Kaiser Permanente South Sacramento. "We are proud to support the work of organizations like Women's Empowerment so they can provide resources for women to have a healthy home, stable employment and support for their overall well-being."







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Transportation Projects

Caltrans News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Caltrans announced it is awarding \$34.7 million in state and federal funds to cities, counties, tribes and transit agencies throughout California – including \$25 million funded by Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 - to plan sustainable transportation projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve the state highway system, enhance access to safe walkways and bike paths, and increase natural disaster preparedness.

"These grants are funding the planning for sustainable and more resilient transportation projects that will prepare the state for rising sea levels, wildfires and other climate related impacts," said Caltrans Interim Director Steven Keck. "By collaborating with local communities, we are working together to achieve both our climate goals and an equitable transportation infrastructure for people who rely on transit and intercity bus service."

In total, Caltrans will allocate:

\$18.4 million in Sustainable Communities Competitive and Technical Grants to 57 local, regional, tribal and transit agencies for climate change adaptation, transportation and land use planning, and natural disaster preparedness. This includes more than \$4.5 million to fund planning for 14 projects that improve safety and access for people who walk and bike; \$3.8 million in federally funded Strategic Partnership Grants to 10 projects that will plan for zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, sustainable goods movement, wildlife connectivity, intercity bus systems and other sustainability initiatives; \$12.5 million - all from SB 1 in Sustainable Communities Formula Grants to metropolitan planning organizations to further regional transportation plans and sustainable community strategies. This grant will be awarded later this spring.

Caltrans awards transportation planning grants each year through a competitive process to encourage local and regional projects. Applications are evaluated on how they further state transportation goals by identifying and addressing statewide, interregional, or regional transportation deficiencies on the highway system.

SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually split between the state and local agencies. Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds, including projects that are partially funded

For more information about transportation projects funded by SB 1, visit RebuildingCA.ca.gov.

For a complete list of planning grant project awardees, Caltrans at dot.ca.gov/★

\$34.7 Million Awarded for Local World's Most Extreme Pro-Abortion **Bill Signed as World Recoils**

Commentary by Richard Harris

CHRISTOPHER, HARRIET, **ÁNGEL, HOLLY, AND PHOENIX**

Those are the names given to five children allegedly killed by an abortionist near or at term – whose remains were recently recovered in the Washington, DC, area by pro-life activists. The five were among 115 babies' bodies allegedly discarded by an abortion clinic and scheduled to be incinerated at a Maryland power plant.

The extremely graphic, gruesome, and deeply disturbing images of those five children have now been made public.

The Progressive Anti-Abortion Uprising organization, whose members turned the remains over to authorities, said in a press release, "Their late gestational ages as well as their apparent sustained injuries potentially show violations of the Partial Birth Abortion Act as well as the Born Alive Infants Protection Act which are federal crimes."

Pro-life activists and members of Congress are calling for full investigations. In contrast, Democrat lawmakers in states across America are working to rapidly pass laws granting immunity for the slaughter of babies in the womb up to birth, and in some cases after birth up to 28 days!

Democrats are feeling the pressure to enshrine radical abortion rights now out of fear that the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the pending case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization will reverse its infamous 1973 pro-abortion decision of Roe v Wade. Since Roe, abortion has taken the lives of at least 63 million children in America and has been the number one cause of death worldwide for many years.

In Colorado, only three days after news broke about the 115 aborted baby corpses in Washington, progressive Democrat Gov. Jared Polis brazenly signed into law North America's most extreme pro-abortion law, all the while celebrating the new law's grant of absolute unrestricted freedom to kill innocent babies.

Among the disturbing provisions of new Colorado law (deceptively called the "Reproductive Health Equity Act"):

Unborn babies are explicitly stripped of any rights under state law.

All babies can be aborted at any time up to birth with no civil or criminal legal consequences for anyone.

Minors are empowered to obtain unlimited abortions with no parental notification.

While a number of Republican-led states have passed laws protecting the unborn in anticipation of Roe's reversal, Democrat led states are following Colorado's lead. California and Maryland are even considering measures allowing babies to be killed after birth outright legalizing infanticide. It's a strategy to create abortion 'sanctuary' states ahead of the possible overturn of Roe.

Children are a gift from God (Psalm 127:3), and shedding innocent blood is an abomination to Him (Prov. 6:16-19).

In the Bible, Israel was forbidden from worshiping the false god Molech

(Lev. 18:21), a practice

which involved child sacrifice. Biblical scholars believe Molech's priests would place live infants into the outstretched arms of the idol, which had been superheated by fire, cooking the child to death. The sacrifice was committed to earn prosperity from the false god.

How different are Colorado and other Democratcontrolled states these days from the cult of Molech? In just 50 years, activists have gone from claiming a "right" of abortion (not found in the U.S. Constitution), to demanding taxpayer funding and enthusiastically supporting the death of babies up to and well after birth.

Is the outright butchery exposed in images of aborted children in Washington any different than the detestable ritual of child sacrifice to Molech? Consider recent reports of women happily taking abortion pills on the Supreme Court steps while taunting pro-life activists – all for the attention of the adoring left-wing media.

The overturn of Roe is far from certain. But even if it is ultimately retracted by the High Court, states under Democrat control (like Colorado) will still be abortion havens. Americans who value the sanctity of life and want unborn babies protected must continue to stand for truth, insist that lawmakers protect life, work for the election of genuinely pro-life candidates, and resist all attempts to legalize the barbaric practice of child sacrifice.

Richard Harris is executive director of Truth & Liberty Coalition, a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization based in Woodland Park, Colorado. https://truthandliberty.net ★

What is the California **Climate Credit?**

California Public Utilities **Commission News Release**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (MPG) - This April* your utility bill will include a credit identified as the "California Climate Credit." Your household and millions of others throughout the state will receive this credit on your utility bills.

The California Climate Credit is part of California's efforts to fight climate change. This credit is from a state program that requires power plants, natural gas providers, and other large industries that emit greenhouse gases to buy carbon pollution permits.

The credit on your bill is your share of the payments from the State's program.

The California Climate Credit is one of many programs resulting from landmark legislation called the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. Together, these programs are cutting pollution, creating jobs and investing in cleaner energy and transportation. Your Climate Credit is designed to help you join in these efforts.

For more information about the Climate Credit, visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/climatecredit. For more information about climate change science and programs to reduce carbon pollution, visit www.climatechange.ca.gov. ★



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SEASON 26 Sacramento CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING 2022 **Donald Kendrick, Music Director** Overwhelming drama Monumental virtuosic brilliance Verdi REQUIEM Saturday, May 14 at 8 pm Début concert in the new SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center Performance dedicated to the people of Ukraine and other oppressed nations Featuring world-class soloists Jennifer Forni **Robert Breault** Linda Baird **Timothy Jones** 175+ voice chorus **GUEST CHORUS** New choral risers! Schola Cantorum, Sacred Heart Church Full orchestra **CONCERT SPONSORS**

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Letter to Mom

Hi Mom. I miss you. I only hope you found the peace you were seeking those last couple years. I can't believe you have been gone for twenty-two years. It seems like only yesterday, you, Rick and I would go to your favorite spot for brunch on Sunday after mass...the Waffle House or Denny's. Not fancy, but you felt comfortable there with waitresses who got to know you by first name. Of course on Mother's Day we always tried to do a special brunch that included a lovely buffet and flowers. So many memories to ponder. I still remember how you would convince the waiters to let you take home a couple of desserts because...as you told them... you just could not eat enough to justify the prices they charged. But they would always chuckle, and yes, you got that extra dessert to take home for later. Embarrassing? A little, but you somehow made them laugh and perhaps think of their own mothers and what they

Mom, you would not believe what's going on in the world today. From a pandemic that has devastated the world to a war with innocent people dying because a tyrant wants more power and land to so many shootings in malls, on the streets, at parties, and we cannot understand what is happening mentally to our country. Seems like we are losing control. And don't get me started on how nasty and rude folks are to one another. Don't get me wrong though. There are still some wonderful people who reach out to others in need, whether it's here in our own backyard or overseas. I truly believe that people are still inheritantly good, but perhaps just lost their way. Hopefully, that will change.

On this day, I think back to the good times too. I remember you in your gingham dress tending to your garden on our little farm and having a stand to sell HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



Happy Mother's Day Mom! Photo courtesy of

what we did not need from tomatoes to peppers even corn. You really had a green thumb for growing. It was only for about two years, but it was a good experience for me as a little girl experiencing what the land was all about and learning to love animals. I miss seeing your smiling and proud face when I would be on stage performing and enjoying so many of the events we attended from stage to the terror in your eyes when, live on TV, I held a python around my neck at the State Fair on my show.

There were some rocky times too when we disagreed. It seemed important then, but now just a fleeting moment and then love took over. Mom, I wish I could send you flowers and even an extra dessert, but I know you are in a better place filled with joy! I can still hear your laughter that stood out over the rest. I wish I could give you a BIG hug, but I will have to settle for the good memories. Love you Mom and

Social Security Matters

Payroll Tax and Income Tax on Social Security



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Is it possible for you to go over how the Federal withholding tax is computed on Social Security benefits? Signed: Curious Taxpayer.

Dear Curious: I'm not sure if you're asking about how FICA (or self-employment) tax on your earnings from work is determined, or if you're asking about how much income tax to have withheld from your Social Security benefit, so I'll address both:

The 7.65% FICA tax withheld from your earnings by your employer consists of two elements - 6.2% is for Social Security and 1.45% is for Medicare Part A. Your employer pays an equivalent amount on your behalf. This is a standard amount that all American workers pay, which - after enough credits are earned enables you to collect Social Security benefits when you retire and permits you to enroll in Medicare Part A for free when you're 65. If you are self-employed, you pay a "self-employment tax" on your net earnings instead of a FICA tax, and you must pay both the employee and employer portion of the tax (15.3%). The only excepparticipation in the Federal Social Security program, thus exempting some state employees from paying the Social Security portion of the FICA tax (they must still pay the Medicare Part A portion). These percentages are set by Congressional legislation and will not change unless Congress enacts future legislation to

Determining how much income tax to have withheld from your Social Security is something best discussed with a qualified Tax Advisor with access to all your income data. Your recommended tax withholding rate for income tax purposes depends upon your overall taxable income level and the tax rate which results from that income (considering your dependents and your tax filing status (single or married)). Having income tax withheld from your Social Security benefit is optional, but if you choose to do so you must submit IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security office. Form W-4V permits you to specify that either 7%, 10%, 12%, or 22% of your SS benefit be withheld for income tax purposes. Here's a link to IRS form W4-V: https://www.irs.gov/ pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf.

The IRS may levy income tax on a portion of your Social Security benefits depending on your combined income from all sources. Your "combined income" consists of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on your tax return, plus 50% of your Social Security benefits received tion to this is that certain during the tax year, plus any

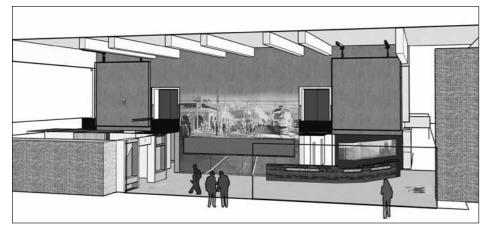
U.S. states have opted out of other non-taxable income you may have had. Tax on your SS benefits is computed at your normal IRS tax rate and based on your tax filing status.

If you file your income tax as "single" and your combined income from all sources exceeds \$25,000, then half (50%) of your SS benefits becomes part of your overall taxable income. And if your combined income from all sources as a single filer exceeds \$34,000 then up to 85% of your SS benefits become taxable

If your income tax filing status is "married-filing jointly" and your combined income is over \$32,000 then 50% of your Social Security benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. If, as a couple filing "married/ jointly," your combined income exceeds \$44,000, then up to 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation. org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.

Railroad Museum Begins Lobby Renovation



A multi-phased renovation project is now underway in the lobby of the California State Railroad Museum. Rendering photo courtesy of the California State Railroad Museum

By Traci Rockefeller Cusack, T-Rock **Communications**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A multi-phased renovation project is now underway in the lobby of the California State Railroad Museum.

Once finished, the renovation efforts will result in a completely refreshed, redesigned, and reinterpreted space to welcome community from near and far. On average, the California State Railroad Museum welcomes nearly 300,000 visitors during a typical year.

The exciting lobby renovation and redesign will allow for a better flow for visitors arriving at and departing from the Museum with easy-to-follow wayfinding signage. As a focal centerpiece to the refreshed lobby, the large interior wall that first greets visitors will feature eye-catching railroading images and compelling video plus provide resource-rich and regularly updated information about new exhibits, related content, directional information and more. The spacious

lavout and thoughtful utilization of space will also better accommodate special events and evening gatherings for interested groups and organizations looking for unique venue locations.

Throughout the renovation process, efforts will be made to minimize impacts to the visitor experience. Periodically, the front desk check-in area, public access points and pathways will need to be adjusted and/or visitors may be redirected through the main hallway or through the East Theater to arrive at the Transcontinental Railroad Gallery. All elevator and stairs will still be accessible for public use throughout the duration of the renovation process.

While subject to change, the first phase of the lobby renovation is scheduled for completion by the end of 2022 and the full multiphase project by the end of

For more information about the California State Railroad Museum and Foundation, please visit www.californiarailroad.

Subscribe to California

State Parks News online at www.parks.ca.gov/news or email us at newsroom@ parks.ca.gov.

California State Parks provides for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation. Learn more at www. parks.ca.gov.

About the California State Railroad Museum Foundation

The mission of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation (CSRMF) is to generate revenue and awareness on behalf of its destinations, while supporting the preservation, interpretation and promotion of our railroad heritage. The Foundation provides funding for ongoing support of numerous programs, both at the museum's Old Sacramento location and at the historic park in Jamestown, Calif. For more information, please visit www.californiarailroad.museum.



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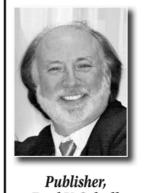
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Fire Prevention Efforts Underway Sac County DA Association Backs

News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Fire season seems to start earlier and earlier, and the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks has already initiated its multi-pronged plan to reduce fire risk, defend wildlife habitats and protect our natural resources and the neighborhoods adjacent to the parks.

For its 2022 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan, the Department of Regional Parks has lined up sheep and goat grazing contracts, is utilizing maintenance crews to maintain fire breaks, and is issuing fuel break maintenance permits to properties bordering Park properties.

"Thanks to the additional funding we were allocated in the last round of budget hearings, we were able to increase – and get a head start on – our fire fuel reduction efforts this year," said Liz Bellas, Director of Regional Parks. "Our maintenance crews have already begun targeted herbicide treatments and removing fire fuels in the areas they can reach, and the goat and sheep grazing will begin shortly for the areas our manned crews can't reach."

To decrease the number and size potential of wildfires in our parks system, the techniques used will be applicable for each area and will include:

• Firebreaks - A combination of mowing, soil discing and targeted



Protecting parks like Gibson Ranch is a priority. Gibson Ranch Regional Park is located at 8556 Gibson Ranch Park Rd in Elverta, CA. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

herbicides will be used where appropriate to create perimeters around open fields, along fence lines and behind neighborhoods. This work is scheduled to be completed by end of June.

 Ladder Fuel Hand-Crews - In limited, hard-to-reach areas, hand-crews will remove vegetation that allows the potential for a fire to climb up or move into urban areas.

• Grazing - There are hundreds of acres of undeveloped or protected land in our Regional Parks. Goats and sheep are ideal for vegetation management and are great at eating down weeds, bushes and grass that manned crews cannot get to. Grazing is expected to occur between April and the end of June.

Permits – Residents who live adjacent to Regional Parks' properties are able to apply for free annual encroachment permits to maintain a fire break behind their property line. These allow residents to string-trim grass

Annual Encroachment

and weeds for up to 50 feet beyond their private property line. To request a permit, provide your name, address and contact information to Regional Parks at parksinfo@SacCounty.gov.

Additionally, the Ranger Division will continue its increased education and enforcement efforts related to illegal fires and cooking along the parkway in an effort to reduce the number of new fire outbreaks.

Visitors to Sacramento County Regional Parks should be aware of the following regulations:

• Open flame fires are not allowed and barbequing is only permitted in designated picnic areas.

Smoking is only allowed in developed picnic areas, asphalt surfaces, golf courses and levee tops along the American River Parkway.

Visit the Regional Parks website to learn more about the 2022 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan for Sacramento County Parks. If you see a fire burning in our Regional Parks, please call 911.

Thien Ho for Sac County DA

Thien Ho for District Attorney News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County District Attorney's Association announced their endorsement of prosecutor Thien Ho in his campaign for Sacramento County District Attorney.

The association joins a growing list of prominent elected, law enforcement and community leaders who have endorsed Ho.

"The Sacramento County District Attorney's Association voted unanimously to endorse Thien Ho for District Attorney," said Tim Carr, President of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Association. "On the long journey to justice, we have seen Thien repeatedly demonstrate empathy and a lasting commitment to obtaining justice for victims and families. We trust Thien to prioritize safety over politics to ensure that our system serves everyone equally."

Ho's campaign has opened a wide lead in fundraising with more than \$519,000 in 2021.

As a refugee who fled Vietnam seeking freedom and opportunities for a better life, Thien Ho is the embodiment of the American Dream. As a lawyer with 23 years of experience, Thien has pursued justice every time he steps into the courtroom. As a deputy district attorney, Thien has prosecuted the most violent and dangerous criminals, including the East Area Rapist/ Golden State Killer. As the Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney for Sacramento County, Thien manages and oversees an entire bureau of lawyers who protect the public, collaborate with community partners, and guard the integrity of the criminal justice system.





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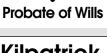
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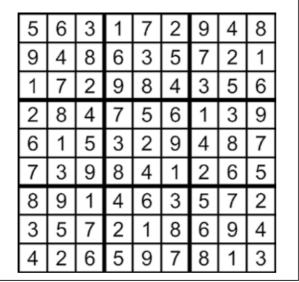


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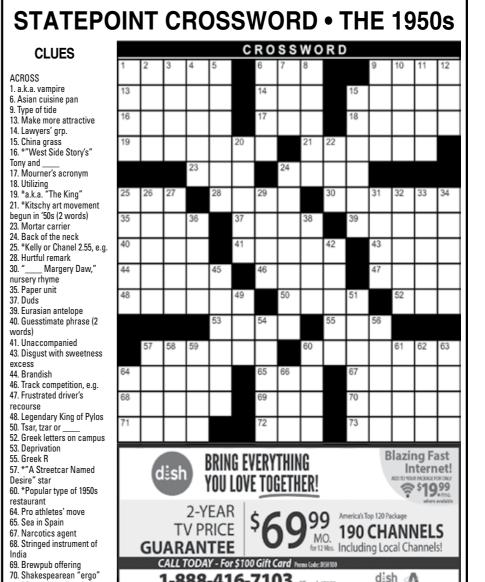


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Effective 5/4/22 - 5/10/22

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•Fat Dog 28 Lb •Vegetarian 28 Lb •Chicken & Srown Rice 26 Lb •Ultra Originatal (Regular & Large Breed) 30 Lb Limit 2 bags 28.5-33 lb Bog SCIENCE DIET DRY DOG FOOD

•Lite •Active Maturity \$ 5399 •Sensitive \$ 5599 •Perfect •Active Maturity \$ 5399 •Sensitive \$ 5899 FRESH STEP

CAT LITTER
21 Lb Bag (14 Lb Bag - \$4.99)
Limit 2 Bags **BOSS DOG** HI-PROTEIN DRY DOG FOOD
Complete Balance with Probiotic 4 Lb & 24 Lb Bag
•Chicken & Ancient Grains •Fish & Ancient Grains
Get One EVERCLEAN PREMIUM CAT LITTER

PESTELL

CLUMPING CAT LITTER 40 Lb. Bag Limit 2 Bags MILK-BONE DOG BISCUITS Flavor Snacks \$ 1049 7 Lb Box

ÖKOCAT CLUMPING WOOD LITTER •Regular •Soft Step 11-13 Lb \$ 1399 16.7 Lb \$ 1999 \$ 17.99

WELLNESS CANNED DOG FOOD Natural 12.5 Oz Full Case
•Regular •Stew •Core Limit 2 Cases

OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES

Limit 2 Bags
DRY DOG FOOD
S 199 Large Breed
Lamb Meal & Rice
Weight Control **PURINA** YESTERDAY'S NEWS CAT LIȚT<u>E</u>R

\$**6**99 Made with Recycled Paper 13.2 Lb. Bag **ESSENCE** CANNED DOG FOOD

Super Pet Ocean/Freshwater
Nutriton 13 Oz.
Limit 2 Cases

• Ocean/Freshwater
• Ocean Recipe • Ranch & Meadow • Land Fowl Recipe MARINELAND POWER FILTER SALE **COASTAL & HAMILTON PET LEASHES** •Leashes •Harnesses Varieties

Lead • Collars SCOTT PET PORK CHOMPS 20% **OFF** NUTRI CHOMPS All Varietites Rawhide Free VITAKRAFT

MULTI-PET 20% SOFT DOG TOYS OFF

VAN NESS 🗚 20% •Liners •Scoops Varie Filters

PENGUIN 200B PENGUIN 350B

AQUEON BOXED 10 GALLON TANK With Economy Kit

Just add Heater For Tropical Fish Limit 1 Per Family \$**48.99** MARINELAND PREMIUM FISH FOOD

& KAYTEE
TREATS & STICKS
• Small Animals • Birds
All Varieties BONUS COUPON **FANCY FEAST**

3 Oz - All Varieties Except Elegant Medley Limit 1 Case Per Family Limit One Coupon Per Family
Price Valid Only With Coupon
Effective 5/4/22 - 5/10/22

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BONUS COUPON **JONNY CAT**

PREMIUM CAT LITTER

ALL VARIETIES

•Goldfish •Cich
•Tropical •Wa CichlidsWafers

20% OFF OUR SUPER LOW PRICES

GOURMET CANNED CAT FOOD

OFF

10 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 5/4/22 - 5/10/22

BONUS COUPON WHISKAS

TEMPTATIONS CAT TREATS •All Varieties 3 Oz. Limit 2 Pkgs with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 5/4/22 - 5/10/22