

Pyramid Peak Park Opens

PAGE 2

Live Outdoor Theatre is Back!

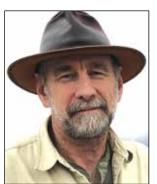
PAGE 3



VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 10 Serving Gold River and Sacramento County

OCTOBER, **2021**

SACRAMENTO TALL CLUB RISES TO NEW HEIGHTS



PAGE 2

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW SELLS OUT



PAGE 3

A TOT OF MONEY **GOING TO NONPROFITS**



PAGE 5

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - A new 17,000-square foot Harbor Freight Tools store which opened this summer in the Rancho Plaza Center at 10873 Folsom Boulevard in Rancho Cordova is helping to bring a dormant shopping center back to life.

Freight Tools opened in the site of a shuttered Joann's Arts and Crafts store. Bright signage and an attractive red, white and blue front façade proudly welcome new customers, advertising "quality tools at lowest prices."

Inside, the store's wellstocked 16 aisles of merchandise offer a full selection of hardware, tools, and accessories in categories including automotive, air and power tools, storage, outdoor power equipment, gener-



The new 17,000-square foot Harbor Freight Tools store is located at 10873 Folsom Blvd in the

Rancho Plaza Center. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

shop equipment, hand community since we've tools, and more. All of Harbor Freight's hand tools come with a lifetime

"We've received a very warm welcome from the local Rancho Cordova

opened," said Matt Patnell, assistant store manager. Patnell worked at the Citrus Heights store on Greenback Lane before moving to the new Rancho is the primary anchor Cordova store.

"We have a great team here," Patnell said. "We're here to help you with all your specialty tool and equipment needs."

Continued on page 5

Free County Flu Clinics **Going on Now**

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - With flu season approaching, Sacramento County Public Health urges everyone to get a flu shot to protect themselves and their families from influenza. Now through Nov. 13, the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program will host free Adult and Family Flu Clinics throughout Sacramento County.

This year it is especially important to get a flu shot as COVID-19 continues to spread. In an effort to fight both viruses, all Public Health clinics will offer flu and COVID-19 vaccines, including at existing COVID-19 vaccine clinics. It is safe to receive flu and COVID-19 vaccines at the same time, according to the CDC.

"Vaccines are proven to reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death," said Sacramento County Public Health Officer Dr. Olivia Kasirye. "Those who cannot receive the vaccine, including infants and individuals with a compromised immune system such as those going through chemotherapy, rely on others being vaccinated to help protect them."

All clinics take walkins, without the need for appointments.

Vaccination of people at high risk for flu complications is especially important to decrease their risk of severe illness. These include seniors and people with chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, lung disease and kidney disease. The same underlying health conditions put people at higher risk for COVID-19. If you are at high risk, it is especially important for you to get a flu vaccine this year. Getting a flu vaccine will not only reduce your risk from flu but also help conserve potentially scarce health care resources.

Flu vaccine is also recommended for infants ages six months and older who do not have a medical condition that makes the flu vaccine inadvisable.

As with COVID-19, it's crucial to practice good health habits:

If you feel flu-like symptoms, limit contact with others to keep from infecting them:

Stay home for at least 24 hours after you fever is gone, except to Continued on page 3

Ready for Fall Run



Fish and Wildlife Department staffer Stephanie Ambrosia surveys fish ladder extensions built to conduct spawning salmon to hatchery processing beneath Nimbus Dam. Recently completed, the \$9.7 million flume begins operation in November.

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - A \$9.7 million project extending Nimbus Hatchery's famous fish ladder into Nimbus Basin is complete. The hatchery's outdated weir final season. When the new passage

Three years in construction, the the hatchery's operational flexibility

ladder and its water-level flume are and improve public and employee designed to lead those fish that have not spawned naturally to hatchery fertilization. Egg and milt harvesting began here in the 1950s, after dam construction blocked migratory paths for American River salmon and steelhead. To divert returning fish, a and ladder system last year served a picket weir previously spanned the gravel to existing beds. The altered American River below Hazel Bridge. is activated this November, salmon The device was laboriously disman- offers insufficient nesting locations will take an elongated route to fish- tled every January and though the and to mitigate, the Nimbus facility ery processing. Their 1,900 ft climb weir operated adequately for 65 sea must hatch and dispatch thousands of will offer visitor viewing windows sons, a better system has long been on and a "Sam-Cam" to observe heroic Fish and Wildlife Department wish Chinooks ending their lifecycles lists. "The new construction," pre- then instinctively head upstream to hundreds of miles from the Pacific dicts Bureau of Reclamation project engineer Mark Curney, "will increase

safety.'

Many migrating fish breed and die before reaching the facility. Currently under construction, a gravel bed restoration project near Ancil Hoffman Park will increase mating chances by adding 16,000 yards of American River nevertheless still fry every spring. These reach maturity after several years in the ocean spawn new generations.

Though recent heatwaves have

Continued on page 4

Harbor Freight Brings Shopping Center Back to Life

By Thomas J. Sullivan

Opened in July, Harbor

ators, welding supplies,

The new Harbor Freight

Cordova Recreation and Park District Opens Pyramid Peak Park



From the left, Cordova Recreation & Park District (District) Director of Parks & Recreation Jill Nunes; District Board Members: Director Brian Danzl, Director Michael Yearwood, Chairperson Rick Sloan, Vice-Chairperson Terri Leimbach; District General Manager Patrick Larkin and Park Planning & Development Manager Laura Taylor celebrate the opening of Pyramid Peak Park. Photo credit CRPD

By Shelby Golden, Cordova Recreation &

Park District RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG)

- On September 20, 2021, the Cordova Recreation & Park District (District) celebrated the opening of Pyramid Peak Park, a Pyramid Peak Park is the Board of Directors. 7th park the District has opened in the last five years and the District's 43rd park overall. This park was named after the beautiful California Sierra Mountains that can be seen in the distance. Pyramid Peak Park offers meandering walkways, picnic areas and a beautiful landscape. In the midst of the densely built environment, people can come to this space to have a picnic, walk a dog or just

relax in nature.

Pyramid Peak Park is the result of a team effort with two years of planning, designing and careful construction. The Pyramid Peak Park team consisted of District staff, Woodside Homes, Pacific Parks, Callander new neighborhood park Associates and the 4053 Red Blush Way, in Rancho Cordova. District's supportive Rancho Cordova.

This park is one of the many examples of the District's sustainable parks. It has droughttolerant landscaping, weather-wise irrigation systems and site furnishings that are durable and tough. The District will continue to bring the community sustainable places as the area grows and is built out. In the next few years, the District will be designing exciting parks, improving existing parks

and planning for a sustainable and bright future.

The District is excited to see the community enjoy and make wonderful memories at this new neighborhood park. Now more than ever, Parks Make Life Better!® Visit Pyramid Peak Park at

Cordova Recreation & Park District is one of the largest independent special districts in Northern California serving over 130,000 residents and four school districts in the greater Sacramento area. CRPD provides over 42 parks and recreational facilities, a full-service 18-Hole course at Cordova Golf Course, as well as youth & adult sports, camps, enrichment classes, educational programs and special events for the community.

Sacramento Tall Club Rises to New Heights

By Thomas J. Sullivan

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Members of the Sacramento Tall Club (STC), a social club of men and women in Rancho Cordova who share a special common attribute are looking to grow their membership.

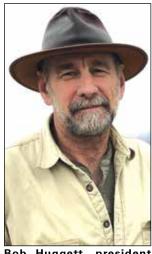
Club members are once again meeting socially for lunch, dinners and "TGIF" events, while following state and social pandemic protocols.

Open to singles and couples, the STC is an active group of people who are tall and love getting together and having fun," said their president, Bob Huggett. "Anyone at least 21 years of age may join if they meet the club's height requirements."

Women must be at least 5' 10" tall, and men must be at least 6' 2" (measurements are taken barefoot). Huggett said if you are a spouse of a regular STC member, you may still be an begin building new friendassociate member if you ships," Huggett said. don't meet the height requirement.

Huggett, a 6-foot-7inch chief engineer at the California Department of General Services, describes what it's like to be vertically gifted and the camaraderie he's found since joining the STC.

"Well, advantages are, of course, being above the others, [but] you're always looked at a little bit differently when you're tall. Not every place is built for tall people. Not every airplane I get in has enough headroom and legroom



Bob Huggett, president of Sacramento Tall Club.

and all that stuff," Huggett

Huggett said STC members are looking at new ways through MeetUp and social media to attract of events which satisfy younger members to join the group as the base age of club members is climbing.

"We want to share the fun and fellowship we've enjoyed through the years as club members as we welcome new people, and

The STC is a member of Tall Clubs International (TCI). Established in 1982, the STC lists some 80 active members in the greater Sacramento region, and a few members from as far away as Reno and Stockton.

Huggett said he is especially proud that one of STC's own, Folsom resident Rusty Bloomquist was honored with the 2021 Tall Clubs International (TCI) Frank Winker Lifetime Achievement Award this summer.

Bloomquist, who has tallclub.org.

served terms as STC treasurer, vice president and sergeant-at-arms, was cited for his work as national TCI vice president during the pandemic to encourage national membership and providing advice to those seeking to launch new local TCI chapters.

The STC awards scholarships to eligible graduating high school seniors.

"They must meet our height requirements and write an essay on "What Being Tall Means to Me," Huggett said. Local scholarship winners can go on to compete for a second national scholarship award.

'We put on all kinds the variety of tastes of our club members. We try to have get-togethers at fun places such as bar and grills, interesting restaurants, night clubs, and whatever else we can think of that's likely to be fun and enjoyable," Huggett said.

"Without the height, we're just normal people, and there's nothing really different about us. In the club, that's really the only common trait we have: We're all tall," Huggett said. "It costs nothing to attend one of our events and check us out."

Upcoming events for the Sacramento Tall Club are posted on social media including Facebook and Meetup, Huggett said. Call 916-469-8255 to learn more about upcoming events or visit their web page at sacramento-



OCTOBER, 2021 GOLD RIVER MESSENGER • 3

California Capital **Airshow Was Sold Out**

By Nancy Mallory, Mallory & Associates

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California Capital Airshow (CCA), presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova, wrapped its 2021 Airshow on Sunday, September 26th with a sellout resulting in 75,000 attendees at the three-day limited capacity outdoor event. The Airshow welcomed veterans, families, and thrill-seekers to Mather Airport with the first-ever Afterburnin' Drive-In Airshow on Friday and the more traditional aviation festival on Saturday and Sunday featuring performances from two North American jet demonstration teams, U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and Canadian Forces Snowbirds, and a robust roster of talented pilots flying the most capable aircraft in the world.

After missing the 2020 show, organizers were eager to deliver more fun and excitement than ever before. The Airshow continued its mission with a 3-day STEM Expo beginning Friday, focusing on young women exposing them to the wide variety of exceptional careers available in aviation and aerospace. From Friday afternoon through Sunday, the Mather Airport skies were filled with the roar of two F-35 Lightnings, the screech of a F-18 Super Hornet, and the emotional tribute performances to the Korean War, Air Force, and Navy. There was something for everyone and all ages, and no matter where you turned, attendees got to experience first-hand the power, technology, and art of aviation.

"By the smiles on the faces of the fans - it was a perfect airshow weekend. The outdoor event was safe with reduced capacity along the ramp, and attendees were thrilled to gather again, explained Terrence McNamara, CCA Board Chairman. "Putting on an Airshow is a massive undertaking, and preparation takes years. This year proved even more difficult due to supply chain issues and the ever-evolving health and safety guidelines. Still, we were successful thanks to our many sponsors and a thousand volunteers," continued McNamara.

Special thanks to CCA sponsors Sacramento County, the City of Rancho Cordova, Lasher Auto Group, Keurig Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Sacramento Jet Center, Budweiser, SMUD, Thunder Valley Casino Resort, Matheson, Atlas Disposal, Sunbelt, Teichert, FOX 40, iHeart Media, and UPS. In addition, CCA is grateful to the a long list of committed community supporters, as well as the teams of law enforcement and emergency services that give their time and energy to keep everyone safe.

Established in 2004, the California Capital Airshow 501(c)3 plans and operates the exciting, family-friendly annual event designed to honor the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and veterans while using the power and magic of flight to inspire young people. CCA gives back to the community through STEM scholarships, charitable group donations, and exciting educational youth programming throughout the year. For more information, please visit CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com.

Live Outdoor Theatre is Back!

Hummingbird Theatre Company Presents "Into the Woods"

By Dana Harrison, . Hummingbird Theatre Company

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG)

- This October, live theatre will be making its grand return to Rancho Cordova, courtesy of Hummingbird Theatre Company. From October 1-24, Hummingbird Theatre Company will be showcasing the Tony awardwinning musical, "Into the Woods", composed by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. All performances are COVID-19 friendly and will be held outdoors at the Village Green Park Ampitheatre in Rancho Cordova.

"Into the Woods" is musical based on the Brothers Grimm fairy tales with a modern twist that follows the classic stories of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapaunzel. All of these beloved tales are tied together by a story involving a childless baker and his wife, who seek to undo a curse set upon them by a witch.

Danielle Mercado, company founder and director of Hummingbird Theatre Company, is the director of the production, accompanied by her assistant director, Sarah Feuerbach. With years of directing and musical experience under her belt, Mercado has so much excitement and gratitude for working with this cast, and she is so grateful to be returning to the stage after the almost two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mercado selected this particular show for her theatre company because in her opinion:

"There's no show like it. Normally musicals don't



The Baker played by Karl Johnson and his Wife played by Beth Beam get threatened by the Witch played by Raquel Burt from next door. Photos by Danielle Mercado

have a great book, because it's so focused on the songs. But, this musical is unique in that it blends the storytelling and the music in a seamless and amazing way. I love the challenging music composed by Stephen Sondheim, and think the script and characters are hilarious and very well written."

The musical composition of Stephen Sondheim has posed a challenge for many members of the cast, but it has been an obstacle they have grown to love. Diane Cooper Standring, who plays Cinderella's Stepmother describes the music in the show as dynamic, rhythmic, and full of chromatic surprises! Though Sondheim's music does throw curve balls, Sandstring claims that performing in this show pushes her musical ability and makes her feel accomplished!

One cast member in particular, Andy Leggett, is living out one of his bucketlist roles as "Jack". Leggett heard about the auditions for "Into the Woods" through serving on the Rancho Cordova City Concert Board. He mentioned that once he learned that rehearsals would be so close to his house, he had no excuse to pass it up!

stepping into the shoes of Jack, Legget stated, "Not gonna lie, it's been stressful at times... this is the closest I've come to a lead role, so it's been a big growing experience for me. I feel honestly blessed to have such a supportive and easygoing director and awesome castmates."

Hummingbird Theatre Company was founded in 2017, and since then has made an artistic impact not just in Rancho Cordova, but in Sacramento County overall by offering classes and workshops, putting on productions and Broadway review shows, and performing for non-profits within the community. In addition, all of Hummingbird's dedicated staff are all unpaid volunteers who pour hours of artistic devotion to create beautiful experiences for our community. Jennifer Reeves, who will be playing Rapunzel in "Into the Woods", has been with the theatre company since their very first show. Reflecting on the four years she has spent with Hummingbird, Reeves said:

For more information on show dates and learn more about Hummingbird Theatre Company at https://www. When asked about hummingbirdtheatreco.com★

Free County Flu Clinics Going on Now

Continued from page 1

get medical care or for other necessities; Cover your coughs or sneezes and wash your hands; Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth; Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with

For questions or to find out more

about the vaccination clinics, contact the Sacramento County Immunization Assistance Program at 916-875-7468 or visit www.sacvax.com.

The influenza vaccine is adjusted every year to work against the most common strains of the flu. Read more about the 2022 flu season on the CDC FAQ page.







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CRPD Staff Donates to Unhoused Students



From the left Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) Human Resources Manager Andrea White, CRPD General Manager Patrick Larkin and Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) Education Services Liaison Marjorie Diaz with donations for FCUSD Homeless Student Services. Photos: CRPD

By Shelby Golden. Cordova Recreation & **Park District**

- The Cordova Recreation & Park District's (CRPD) Community Engagement Program is underway! The Community Engagement Program, children and youth, spearheaded by CRPD General Manager Patrick Larkin, is a quarterly program that focuses on giving back to the community. During this quarter, the District collaborated with the Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) Homeless Student Services. FCUSD Homeless Student the classroom. Helping Services helps ensure homeless children have

obtain a high-quality

education and provides

resources to families. "FCUSD works hand-RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) in-hand with state and federal education programs to provide stability, access, and support for academic success for homeless including preschool-aged children," said Director of Categorical Programs & Grants Elena Cabrera. "Our district Homeless Student Services fosters partnerships with local agencies, businesses and non-profits organization in order to connect families to services beyond others takes teamwork and collaboration rooted

vulnerable students."

Throughout the quarter, District staff and Board of Directors contributed various Target gift cards to be used for new shoes and clothing for unhoused students.

"I'm proud of our generous and caring CRPD staff for their continued support for the unhoused students in Rancho Cordova. Many of the CRPD staff are residents of Rancho Cordova so this opportunity to work with FCUSD for the students in need has special meaning," said Larkin. "We look forward to more opportunities to work in partnership with FCUSD to make the community stronger and to meet the needs of our most vulnerable youth."

On August 23, 2021, Larkin and Human Resources Manager Andrea White presented Marjorie Diaz, Education Services Liaison at FCUSD, with donations totaling \$1,034 to be used for new shoes and

"FCUSD is extremely grateful for the generosity of CRPD employees, and the care and concern they have for our students who are homeless and foster youth," shared Superintendent Dr. Sarah Koligian. "Their donation will provide many basic supplies that will help eliminate barriers to their education."

CRPD is proud to collaborate with FCUSD Homeless Student Services to help support students as they begin the

Ready for Fall Run



Artist Max Erhman adds finishing touches to a mural on fish-food silos at Nimbus Hatchery. The 60-foot long work illustrates salmon and steelhead migration in the American River.

Continued from page 1

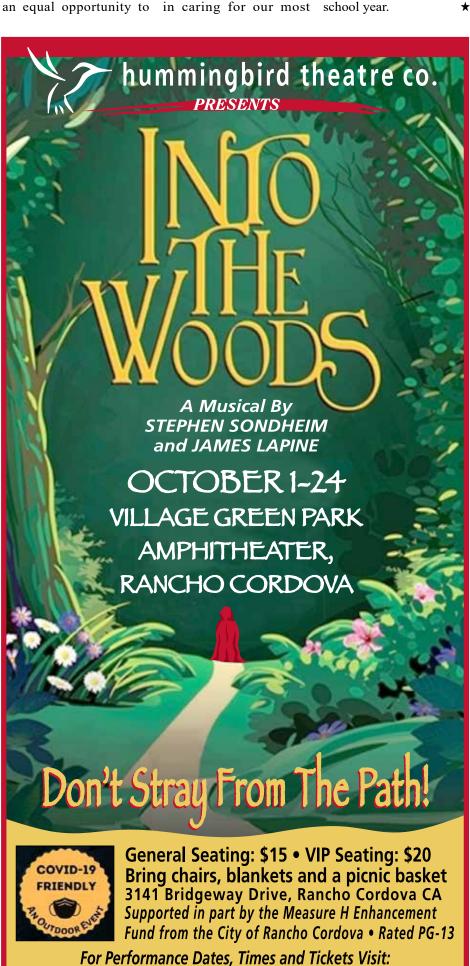
warmed the American River, it is hoped that water temperatures cool to preferred breeding frigidity by November. Fish that reach Nimbus unfulfilled will be lured by churning water. Piped from Lake Natoma, this torrent will fill a 150-yard flume that precedes the final climb. The channel is entirely caged to protect salmonids from poaching and debris; nearby riverbanks are permanently closed to anglers. The new ladder parallels a realigned bike trail that runs between Nimbus and Lake Natoma.

Hell-bent on reproduction, fish will encounter submerged barriers, a 10-foot deep pond and concrete steps. Visitor lookouts are positioned to enhance viewing. "We've wanted submerged windows for ages," says Nimbus interpretive specialist Stephanie Ambrosia. "It's a great way to show how fish group; how they rest between steps and the physiological changes that occur during their long journey from the ocean. Some have bones exposed and fins hanging off. These changes are more visible from underwater."

Some nature lovers might miss the autumn spectacle of massive Chinooks challenging the old hatchery weir. The barrier will nevertheless not be scrapped; its metal sections will remain in storage for emergency service. Heralding a new age of California State Hatchery efficiency, a 60-foot mural was last week completed on the facility grounds. San Francisco-based artist Max Erhman's canvas spans the walls of silos that store fish food near the visitor center. The work was funded by Wide Open Walls, a street art nonprofit supported Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. Central to Erhman's design, a steelhead bursts from the river to symbolize nature's leap of faith to the future.

Nimbus Hatchery is located at 2001 Nimbus Rd, Gold River. Facility parking is open and the completed fish ladder may be viewed from walking trails. The Salmon and steelhead spawning season runs from November to March. For more information, visit: www.wildlife.ca.gov/fishing/hatcheries/





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OCTOBER, 2021 GOLD RIVER MESSENGER • 5

California Experiments with Social Democracy



By Dan Walters **CALMatters**

California, as everyone should know by now, has the nation's highest rate of poverty as determined by the Census Bureau when the cost-of-living is included in the calculation.

While family incomes in California are not particularly low vis-à-vis those in other states, our extremely high living costs, especially for housing, mean those incomes do not stretch as far as they would elsewhere.

The Public Policy Institute of California takes the issue a bit further by calculating how many Californians are living in near-poverty, using methodology similar to that of the Census Bureau.

Altogether, more than a third of the state's nearly 40 million residents experience severe economic distress. They are, for the most part, workers in low-pay jobs and their families, and their plight has been exacerbated by the nearly two-year-long COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit them the hardest both medically and economically.

Backed by unions, Gov. Gavin Newsom and his fellow Democrats have vowed to reduce the state's high levels of poverty and income disparity and this year generated a bushel basket of legislation they contend will narrow the gaps.

California is, in effect, as he signed a bill banning testing long-held beliefs of those on the political left that America should move closer to the European model of "social democracy" by expanding supportive public services and empowering workers in their dealings with employers.

increasing eligibility for Medi-Cal, the state's health care system for the poor which already covers more than a third of California's residents, expanding early childhood education to both improve learning outcomes and free more parents to work, and increasing spending on housing for low- and moderate-income families.

The latter is a variety of bills that impose new workplace and compensation standards on industries that employ large numbers of low-paid workers, most notably garment production, agriculture and the ever-increasing distribution centers operated by Amazon and other big corporations.

"We cannot allow corporations to put profit over people," Newsom said as he signed legislation to ease production quotas in Amazon's massive "fulfillment centers."

"The hardworking warehouse employees who have helped sustain us during these unprecedented times should not have to risk injury or face punishment as a result of exploitative quotas that violate basic health and safety," Newsom added.

"California is holding corporations accountable and recognizing the dignity and humanity of our workers, who have helped build the fifth-largest economy in the world," Newsom said later California newspapers. ★

piecework pay in the Los Angeles-centered garment industry.

Newsom also signed bills to expand protections for household domestic workers, raise minimum pay for disabled workers, increase criminal penalties for "wage The former include theft" by employers, and provide farm workers with protective gear for wildfire

> It has not been, however, a 100% sweep for unionbacked legislation. Newsom vetoed a bill to allow mail ballots in elections for union organization of farm workers and another that would have expanded paid family leave.

Expanding government services will, of course, cost the state billions of dollars, which it can afford now as income taxes pour into its treasury, but whether it can be sustained is questionable. California is inordinately dependent on high-income taxpayers, which means its revenues plummet during economic downturns.

New benefits for workers, meanwhile, will increase employers' costs, which could drive some to shift operations and jobs to lowercost locales. The garment industry is particularly competitive, which is why so much of it has already gone overseas.

Higher public and private costs are the flip side of California's experiment in social democracy. Ultimately, Newsom and the Legislature cannot repeal the laws of economics.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for



By County Supervisor Sue Frost

Through the generosity of the Gold River Messenger, this column serves to provide an update about matters affecting the unincorporated community of Gold River.

One of my favorite things to do as a County Supervisor is support local organizations that give back to the community. Nonprofit organizations fill gaps left by government, providing services and supporting cultural growth in a way that is more personal and more direct. Every year that I have been on the Board of Supervisors, we have been able to support the invaluable work of nonprofits with funds generated by the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), which comes from guests staying in hotels/ motels. Through the TOT Grant Program, the Board of Supervisors awards a million dollars to nonprofits every year to help them enhance their impact on the community. I am thrilled organizations in their disthat we are yet again launching the TOT Grant Program for the 2021-2022 cycle and the applications are open! For that reason, I thought that I would use this as an opportunity to increase awareness of the program and encourage as much participation as possible.

Applications are located here: bdm.saccounty.net/ TOTGrantProgram

Applying organizations are required to be based in Sacramento County and must have specific programs they are requesting to fund. Programs can be for

GOLD RIVER COMMUNITY UPDATE

A TOT of Money Going to Nonprofits

tourism, address community issues, or that reach underserved populations. Applications are reviewed and measured by subject area experts and are divided by the subject areas of arts and culture, community development, economic/ workforce development, and health and human services. The more specific applicants can be, the better. The more information about how an organization and program have helped and will continue to help the community, the better. All applications must be submitted online and on time. I want to stress all of those points because we receive so many applications and I want every organization to maximize its

chances of receiving funds. While the total amount of grant funds available is one million dollars, no single organization can receive that much. Grants can be no smaller than \$5,000 and no larger than \$50,000. Additionally, half of the total grant funds is available for the communal competitive pool. The other half is divided among each Supervisor to award to trict, meaning a minimum of \$100,000 is guaranteed to go to our Supervisorial District 4. I love seeing the organizations in our district submit their proposals and it is never easy to pick who gets funds, but we have always had great successes in each of the communities in our district.

For example, in the past we have been able to secure over \$40,000 for the non-profit "AboutKidz", where the funding went to purchase supplies throughout the year to equip children with a fully stocked Fair Oaks.

training, events that support backpack, new outfit and shoes. And last year we secured \$10,000 to "Citrus Heights HART" who provided rental assistance for Citrus Heights families who were in jeopardy of being evicted from their home due to unemployment as a result of COVID-19.

Applications for the TOT Grant Program are due no later than Monday, October 11th at 5:00 pm. As I mentioned, applications must be submitted online and no late applications will be accepted. The nonprofit organizations of Sacramento County do great work and enhance the quality of life for countless people. Whether your nonprofit organization is seeking to provide school supplies for children, organizing a community clean up, or expanding access to the arts, I encourage you to pull together your team and put together the best application possible. And if you know someone who has a local nonprofit, please send this information to them. The TOT Grant Program is a rare opportunity for us to directly support nonprofit organizations and I hope that many qualified organizations will jump on the opportunity.

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

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

Social Security Matters Will My Social Security Be Reduced in the Future?



By Russell Gloor. AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I started Social Security about 2 years ago and I thought that the monthly benefit amount stated to me by Social Security in their letter was guaranteed. That written amount was what I based my decision on to retire. Now I hear on the news that we may have to take a 24% reduction in the future. That will make me and millions of other seniors homeless. Was the original amount a guarantee of monthly income, and can the government reduce it whenever they want to? Signed: Anxious Senior

Dear Anxious: The reason you're now hearing about the possibility of a future reduction in Social Security benefits is because the SS Trustees 2021 Report to Congress was just released. This report, usually published in April, recaps the program's financial status at the end of the preceding year and provides Congress with a very detailed analysis of Social Security's (and Medicare's) financial picture. The Trustees report that, beginning in 2021, Social Security income will be less than needed to pay benefits, with the gap to be made up from Trust Fund reserves. Unless Congress makes some changes to the SS program,

that trend will eventually result in the Trust Fund running dry, requiring an across-the-board cut in benefits.

This latest report predicts

that the combined Trust Funds, which now hold nearly \$3 trillion in reserves, may be fully depleted by the year 2034 one year earlier than last year's 2035 prediction. Although the 2034 date is new news this year, the mid-2030s potential depletion date has been reported for years, and it is not a new issue. Indeed, the 2019 report predicted 2034 as the possible depletion date and last year's report predicted an improvement to 2035. One obvious reason for the one-year acceleration in the new report is the economic effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. While it certainly isn't good news, the fact is that the bad news isn't as bad as many pundits predicted. Some were suggesting that the depletion date may be as early as 2029, but the economy rebounded faster than expected. Depending on how you look at things, the depletion date only changing by one year could be viewed as positive considering the economic impact of the pandemic. Rest assured that the matter will receive continued analysis in the months ahead.

But here's the bottom line: It is extremely doubtful that Congress will ever let the Social Security Trust Funds be fully depleted, necessitating a benefit cut to all recipients. To allow that to happen would be political suicide because over 64 million people rely on

Social Security. Is your ben-

efit guaranteed? Yes, but only

within the boundaries of cur-

rent law, which says that Social

Security is allowed to only pay benefits using its own money (from payroll tax income, interest income, income tax revenues and Trust Fund reserves). No benefits will be cut for as long as the Trust Fund can make up the difference between income received and benefits paid. But if there are no reserves to make up the difference, then (by law) Social Security can only pay out as much as it brings in.

Congress already knows how to fix this issue and avoid a cut in Social Security benefits. What is missing is the bipartisanship and the political will to accomplish it, because neither side currently appears receptive to solutions offered by the other side. Congress may continue to drag its feet on this issue, as has historically been done, until urgency demands action. But I believe you can rest assured that Congress will eventually find the fortitude to restore Social Security to long-term solvency before any benefit cuts are made. You can help by calling your Congressional Representative and demanding that they adopt a bipartisan attitude toward Social Security reform. A good place for Congress to start would be by adopting the reform proposed by the Association of Mature American Citizens, which

This article presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA).

can be found at www.amac.

us/social-security.

Harbor Freight Brings Shopping Center Back to Life

Continued from page 1

tenant in the Rancho Plaza Center. Nextdoor is the family-owned, Gianelli's Appliance Repair and Installation, servicing Sacramento, Carmichael, Fair Oaks, El Dorado County including Cameron Park, El Dorado, Shingle Springs, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, Orangevale, and Gold River.

As renovations were being completed, Patnell said, Gianelli's, a long-time plaza tenant, was able to expand the size of its business. At the other end of the plaza, El Puerto, a Mexican restaurant is open for

lunch and dinner business. Patnell said he's looking to hire additional retail sales and stocking associates as business continues to grow to add to his sales team. The Rancho Cordova Harbor Freight store now has a staff of 20, he said.

The Harbor Freight Tools began in 1977 as a small family-owned business and has expanded to over 1,200 stores nationwide.

For over 40 years, Freight advertises and offers its customers more than 7,000 different tools and accessories at quality levels that match or exceed competing brands, but at prices that are up to 80 per-

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Harbor Freight at 10873 Folsom Blvd is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Call the Rancho Cordova store at 916-526-3232 for product availability and general information. View an online sales catalog at: https:// www.harborfreight.com/

Kiley Demands Accountability for Newsom's Vaccine Mandates

Office of Assemblyman Kevin Kiley

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Governor Gavin Newsom announced a "first" in the nation vaccine mandate for K-12 students. However, just days ago he actively tried to block a mandate for California corrections officers, whose union contributed \$1.75 million to his campaign against the

In explaining his opposition to the corrections mandate, Newsom's Administration said it is "working with those who remain unvaccinated with educational resources, access to clinicians and experts to answer questions, and ample

access to the vaccine."

"There is no reason the Governor's policy of 'education' and 'access' cannot guide vaccination policy in schools," Assemblyman Kiley (R-Rocklin) said. "At every turn, this Governor has let his top Special Interest donors dictate pandemic policy. It is an abuse of the public trust without precedent in our state's history."

Assemblyman Kevin Kiley represents the 6th Assembly District, which includes the Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado County communities of Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Granite Bay, Lincoln, Loomis, Orangevale, Penryn, Rocklin, Roseville, and Sheridan.

This Is Not about Freedom or Personal Choice



Commentary by Jane M. Orient, M.D.

Today we have two contrasting quotations from world leaders. One said: "Mandatory vaccinations will never be allowed because [this] is a free country and its people are sovereign." The other said: "This is not about freedom or personal choice."

The first was by Vladimir Putin. Russia, a free country! The second was by Joe Biden. The U.S. is no longer a free country, and the people are not sovereign. Nor are the once-sovereign states. If state governors won't cooperate with him, "I'll use my power as president to get them out of the

way." It is not clear exactly now has better immunity how he would accomplish that. Invade the state and occupy its capitol and its courts? Arrest the governor and perhaps the legislature and throw them into prison without bail like some January 6 demonstrators? Already, many states are suing – perhaps we will learn whether the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has any meaning.

would have Who believed that a U.S. President would ever say such things?

Biden claims jurisdiction over 17 million healthcare workers, especially if they work in a facility that gets funding from Medicare or Medicaid. "If you're seeking care at a health facility, you should be able to know that the people treating you are vaccinated - simple, straightforward, period."

Never mind if the alternative may be having no qualified person to care for you. Never mind if the unvaccinated worker, who cared for people before there were vaccines, got

than vaccinated people. Never mind that workers with 20 years of dedicated service will have their careers and their livelihoods ruined if they don't obey the dictator. Never mind that some of the obedient servants die - just coincidentally? - a few days after the shot. Or that some experience heart damage or paralysis. The government with its sovereign immunity does not have to compensate them, and neither do the vaccine makers or administrators, who are protected under the mantle of government.

"This is a pandemic of the unvaccinated," states Biden. This non-evidencebased assertion is false. The most vaccinated countries in the world, including Israel and Gibraltar, are having the worst outbreaks. Both vaccinated and nonvaccinated persons shed virus, get hospitalized, and die. In the UK, a majority of the COVID-19 deaths last month were among vaccinated people, with a death rate dramatically higher was no vaccine.

Why, besides vaccine failure, would public health officials be pushing for continued masking, distancing, and a "booster" injection a few months after a person is "fully vaccinated"?

Can we blame it on the Delta variant? Did unvaccinated persons make it? Or did the vaccine, with its narrowly targeted immunity, actually select out this variant, creating or worsening the problem? Dr. Robert Malone, an inventor of mRNA vaccines, talks about "escape mutants." Could we be creating a "monoculture" immunity, which like monoculture agriculture, is disastrously vulnerable if a resistant pathogen comes along?

ing the bodies of healthcare workers and federal employees and contractors, Biden appeals to the private sector, such as employers of 100 or more persons, to exert his will on other Americans. "To those of you running large entertain-

Not content with own-

nated or show a negative test as a condition of entry."

To "protect" chil-

dren under the age of 12, who are at very low risk, Biden wants everybody around them to get the vax—teenage siblings, parents, caregivers. Children over 12, that magic threshold, should get vaccinated, Biden says, and he "strongly supports independent scientific review for vaccine uses for children under 12." He adds: "We can't take shortcuts of that scientific work." So far, the scientific process has been anything but independent. Moreover, studies are not scheduled to be complete before the end of 2022, and studies on myocarditis, to which teenage boys may be most vulnerable, until 2027. Any shortcutting there? And how long would fertility effects take to show up in a child who is 11 when

vaccinated? The satirical Babylon Bee has dubbed the program: "Your body, my choice." ment venues from sports Are you pregnant, worarenas to concert venues ried about a miscarriage? infected, recovered, and than a year ago, when there to movie theaters, please Hoping to be pregnant?

require folks to get vacci- Aspiring to an athletic career? Do you have a history of allergies, but have not yet had anaphylactic shock from polyethylene glycol (PEG) or Polysorb

> The choice of what risks you have to take will be Biden's. But the consequences will be all yours.

Jane M. Orient, M.D. obtained her undergraduate degrees in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Arizona in Tucson, and her M.D. from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1974. She completed an internal medicine residency at Parkland Memorial Hospital and University of Arizona Affiliated Hospitals and then became an Instructor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and a staff physician at the Tucson Veterans Administration Hospital. She is the editor of AAPS News, the Doctors for Disaster Preparedness Newsletter, and Civil Defense Perspectives, and is the managing editor of the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons.★

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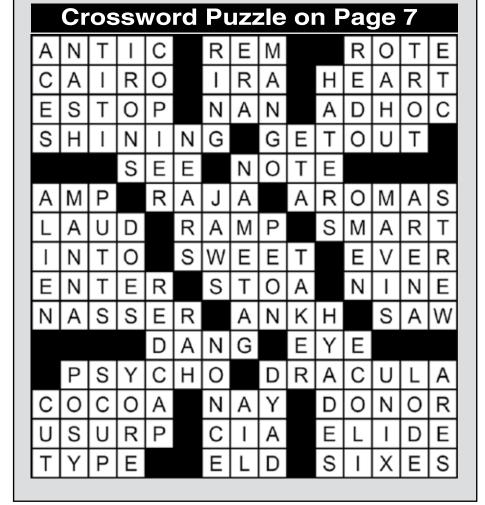
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- ACROSS
- . Shenanidan "Losing My Religion" band
- 9. Kind of learning 13. Capital of Egypt
- 14. Nest egg acronyn
- 15. Cupid's target 16. Bar. legally
- 17. Indian restaurant staple 18. Kind of committee, two
- 19. *Hedge maze, dull boy, redrum, with The
- 21. *Pretend girlfriend, sur-
- gery, body parts 23. Monkey ____ , monkey do
- 24. Post-it message
- 25. It makes a guitar louder 28. Royal Indian
- 35. Glorify 37. Freeway exit
- 39. Like today's cell phones? 40. Keen on
- 41. Like a confection 43. At any time
- 44. One of the large keys on the right
- 46. Greek portico 47. Common workday start
- 48. Former President of Egypt
- 50. Ancient eternal life
- 52. *Bathtub, hacksaws, Jiasaw
- 53. Euphemism for "darn" 55. *Blind violinist, transplant
- surgery, sees ghosts, with
- 57. *Hotel, mother, shower
- 60. *Count. bite. cross 64. Hot winter drink
- 65. Aye's opposite 67. Financial benefactor 68. Seize a throne
- 69. Headquartered in Langley 70. Exclude or omit
- . Done on a Smith Corona 72. Old age, archaic 73.6666...
- **DOWN**
- 1. Single pip cards Crosby, Stills. & Young
- 3. South American monkey 4. Actor Jeremy 5. Xerox machine
- 6. *Videotape, stone well, seven days, with The
- Paleozoic one 8. Tropical smoothie flavor
- 9. Make over 10. Hawaiian island
- 11. Ragtime turkey dance 12. And so on, abbr. 15. Bias crime perpetrators
- 20. Closes in on 22. Pilot's announcement, acr.
- 24. ID badge, two words 25. *Sigourney Weaver, outer space 26. Old Testament miracle food
- 27. Hits while on the green 29. *Beachgoers, police chief, need
- for bigger boat 31. *Boy, shadows in photographs,
- three sixes, with The
- 32. "Transylvania" daughter 33. Entertainment complex 34. Scatter
- 36. "Nobody 38. Low-ranking worker 42. One who accepts the offer 45. Porter's head gear

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49. U Rah

- 51. Seven daughters of Atlas 54. Present
- 56. Food-borne bacteria 57. One in a pocketful, according to Mother Goose 58. Fish a.k.a. porgy
- 59. Bygone era 60. Two of a kind 61. Type of operating system 62. Prospector's mother?
- 63. God of war, son of Zeus 64. Director's cry 66. Be ill
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Solutions on Page 7

Not-so-Happy Halloween

By David Dickstein, **Gold River Resident**

I used to love Halloween. But like so many things we've enjoyed or never gave a second thought about - air travel, walking on trails, getting gas, taking an offramp, going to an ATM at night ... or anywhere at night bad people have left a bad taste in my mouth like a stale Milk Dud.

As a kid, I remember trickor-treating while wearing a suffocating mask and holding a pillow sack or plastic jack-o-lantern in search of full-size candy bars or, if that wasn't happening, a Butterfinger of any proportion. Or a Nestle Crunch Bar or an Oh Henry Bar or a now-obsolete Milkshake Bar or pack of candy cigarettes or a \$100,000 Bar, which is what 100 Grand Bars were called back then. The only time I remember being sad was when I came home and most of my loot was soggy. The culprit wasn't a leaky Nik-L-Nip, those little wax bottles filled with fruitytasting liquid, but a mom who thought scooping fun-size candy from a bubbling cauldron would be cool.

Halloween as a teen had me retiring from sugary scavenger hunts in favor of building and hosting the best haunted house in the neighborhood. My mom and dad allowing the county to use our home as a voting precinct provided me with unassembled cardboard ballot booths that, in my macabre mind, could be



Halloween candy fills a Gold River Rite-Aid aisle. Photo by David Dickstein

repurposed as panels of an awesome maze inside our garage. The game plan: Dangle fishing line from the rafters, make an 8-track mixtape with scary sounds and songs (like the instrumental opening to Elton John's "Funeral for a Friend"), put up spooky decorations collected over time and not with a single visit to a Spirit store that didn't exist yet, and with the help of friends who joined me as fiends for one night.

A few years shy of a half-

century later, this big kid would still be making the coolest haunted garage in Gold River if not for the indelible memory of jerks who took away my Halloween spirit. An unlucky 13 I was when the best spook house I ever made was destroyed by thugs like Tokyo on Godzilla's worst day. They knocked down the maze, took out the fake spider webs, and the scary decorations they didn't steal were thrown to the ground and broken. Of course they were

wearing masks, so identifying them was impossible. To this day I still think it was the feared Hutchinson brothers and their henchman Pat Ketchum. Bad eggs each and every one of them, but I should count myself fortunate that they didn't throw any.

Maybe if I see more kids moving into my Gold River village will I consider making Halloween great again. There's no point putting in all the effort and expense when zero children come to your door on Oct. 31, and that's with the front porch light being on and full-size candy bars being given out with every "please" and 'thank you." (One can dream.)

Perhaps your village doesn't resemble a ghost town like mine on Halloween. If not, I'll bet a bag of Kit Kat miniatures that it's not just the neighborhood kids trickor-treating. Can't blame parents for wanting their children to be where ROI for traveling house to house on a candy quest is likely better and so is the safety of being in a higher-class neighborhood with nicer people who are more likely to be vaccinated – not to sound like a snob or anything.

So, what will Halloween 2021 look like later this month? Will anyone dare to go out? A better question considering our lovely governor is can anyone go out? I wouldn't be shocked if he interrupts "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" on Apple TV+ to announce a state mandate that trick-or-treating be limited to two homes and only if they are occupied by relatives who are fully vaxed, wearing two masks, have had a negative antigen test within 48 hours, and can prove they haven't coughed even once in the past three months.

This might turn out to be the scariest Halloween ever.

David Dickstein is a Gold River resident, award-winning writer and principal at the PR firm Prose & Comms Inc. He can be reached at daviddickstein1@gmail.com. ★

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COUPON . MIX PREMIUM DOG BISCUITS with the purchase of pet, fish food or supply. Limit 1 Lb PLU 332 CHM

Limit 1 Coupon per family

Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

ANY PURCHASE OF \$15.00 OR MORE OF PET OR FISH SUPPUES
(Excluding Pet Food or Litter) Cannot be used in conjunction with similar dollar or percentage off coupons & advertised sale items. Limit 1 PLU 351 CHM Limit: 1 Coupon Per Family Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

Look for Advertised Sale Items Everyweek at www.petclubstores.com

NATURAL BALANCE DRY DOG FOOD •Lamb Meal & Rice (Reg & Lrg Breed)

 Sweet Potato & Salmon & Venison •Sweet Potato & Bison •Sweet Potato & Chicken 24-26 Lb Bag

Limit 2 Bags

FRISKIES BUFFET CANNED CAT FOOD 5.5 Oz All Varieties

Limit 2 Cases **Everyday**

Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

AVODERM NATURAL DRY DOG FOOD 26-30 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family •Lamb Meal & Rice •Chicken Meal & Rice •Lite •Senior •Large Breed

Eureka Rd.

OFF DISCOUNT Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

ARM & HAMMER SUPER SCOOP
CLUMPING CAT LITTER 20 Lb Box •Unscented •Double Duty •Clump n Seal •Slide 19 lb Absorbx 15 lb

Limit 2 Bags ON SA Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

NUTRO WHOLESOME ESSENTIALS **DRY DOG FOOD**

30 Lb Bag Lamb Meal & Rice •Adult •Small Bites •Large Breed

Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

PEDIGREE CANNED DOG FOOD •Choice Cut in Gravy •Chipped Ground Dinner •Selected Varieties Limit 1 Case

FRISKIES TENDER & CRUNCHY **COMBO DRY CAT FOOD**

16 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

SCOOPAWAY **CLUMPING CAT LITTER** 42 Lb Bag

Multi-Cat Formula

Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

10 off

NATURAL BALANCE CANNED CAT FOOD (Platefulls 3 Oz 69 ¢) (Indoor Salmon & Chicken \$1.09) Selected Varieties 5.5 Oz Limit 1 Case Grain-Free HOLISTIC DRY DOG FOOD Per Family Primitive Ferst • Great Deliver Exercised Primitive Ferst • Great Primitive Ferst • Great Primitive Ferst • Gre

 Primitive Feast •Great Plains Feast •Meadow Feast •Coastal
Catch •Weight Control •Large Breed 28 Lb Bag (Reg Price \$43.99) **EARTHBORN** HOLISTIC CANNED CAT FOOD •Catalina Catch •Harbor Harvest •Monterey Medley •Chicken Catcciatori 3 Oz. 8 9 5.5 Oz.

3 Free Core Dog
Food 12.5 oz can
with each purchase
DRY DOG FOOD •Ocean •Reduced Fat \$**61**99

NATURALLY FRESH CAT LITTER 100% Natural Walnut-based 14 Lb Bag 10 Lb \$499 Clumping \$899 Multi-Cat \$999

PURELY FANCY FEAST
CANNED CAT FOOD . All Varieties Limit 1 Case 9 LIVES DRY CAT FOOD

•Grilled Tuna & Egg 12 lb Bag Limit 2 Bags Per Family \$**8**99 GRAVY TRAIN DRY DOG FOOD

BONUS COUPON

2 Lb, 4 Lb, 10 Lb bag

11-12 Lb Bag Limit 2 Bags

•Adult •Mature \$3599 •Sensitive Stomach 15.5 Lb •Urinary 15.5 Lb •Perfect Weight 15 Lb \$4199 FUSSIE CAT Market Fresh Recipe As Marked OUR REGULAR LOW PRICES

WILDERNESS DRY CAT FOOD AS MARKED

Limit 2 Bogs SCIENCE DIET 16 Lb Bog Per Fomily FELLINE MAINTENANCE DRY CAT FOOD

• Probiotic • Gently
Scented • Scent Free
atural & Extra Strength)

• Probiotic • Gently
Scented • Scent Free
CAT LITTER \$200OFF

ASPEN PETMATE PET BEDDING **20% OFF**

20% **SMART BONES** to Rawhide
Made with Real • Chicke
Sweet Potato • Peanut B OFF **STAR-MARK** PRODUCTS

• Treat Balls • Treats
• Bento Ball • Dura Foam Disc & Ball
• Chew Ball • Wheeler All Varieties

20%

OFF

OUR PETS PRODUCTS Toys • Treats • Catnip
 Cat Scratchers All Varieties

RELIANCE

BIRD CAGES

All Varieties

Stock On Hand

20% **OFF**

BOXED GLASS TANK WITH STARTER KIT

29 Gal Tetra LED Deluxe . . **\$119.99** \$59.99 10 Gal Tetra LED Deluxe... 55 Gal Tetra LED Deluxe. . **\$199.99** \$99.99 20 Gal Tetra LED Deluxe . . .

AQUEON BOXED 10 GALLON TANK Just add Heater For Tropical Fish

With Economy Kit TETRA FISH FOOD SALE

REEF CRYSTALS 50 Gal. Salt Mix

BONUS COUPON FANCY FEAST **GOURMET CANNED CAT FOOD**

3 Oz - All Varieties Except Elegant Medley Limit 1 Case Per Family Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21 Everyday CHM PLU 361

FRISKIES PARTY MIX CAT TREATS Limit 2 Pkgs with Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family

Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

JONNY CAT **PREMIUM CAT LITTER**

20 Lb Bag Limit 1 Bag With Coupon Limit One Coupon Per Family Price Valid Only With Coupon Effective 10/6/21 - 10/12/21

Per Family

OCTOBER, 2021 GOLD RIVER MESSENGER • 9



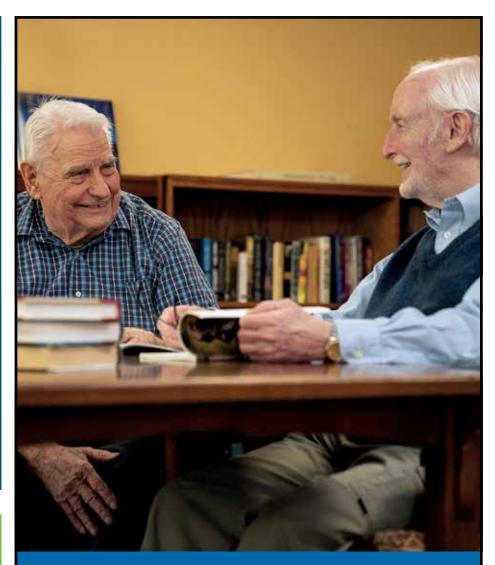
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other business type)?

regulatory inspection? ·One-on-one onsite help at money! your business with local, state, federal regulatory compliance Regulatory and Permit and permits?

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Resource Center (BERC) is a free and confidential non-regulatory consultation service •Managing hazardous materi- designed to help start-up, new existing and businesses ·Starting a new business navigate and comply with (restaurant, food truck/cart, environmental and regulatory automotive, manufacturing, or permit requirements. BERC Consultants clearly help guide Compliance before or after a you through the process, which saves you time and

Assistance : Hazardous materials and wastes (including electronic reporting), Health Permits for food businesses (food trucks/carts, restaurants, markets, gasoline stations, including homebased operations), Air quality, Building inspection, Business license, Development, Economic Planning/Zoning, Solid Waste & Recycling, Cal-OSHA, storm water and Waste Water.

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Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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Equal Housing Opportunity

\$1.4 Million Dig to Aid Chinooks

Above: Giant earthmovers relocate gravel in river shallows near Ancil Hoffman Park. The project will recreate natural spawning riffles for endangered migratory fish. Right: Water Forum Program Manager Erica Bishop (left) and communications officer Christine Kohn inspect habitat restoration sites in Carmichael reaches of the American River.

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

SACRAMENTO REGION. CA (MPG) - In one of the largest movements of American River sediment since the Gold Rush, a Water Forum project is relocating nearly 16,000 cubic yards of gravel in shallows near Ancil Hoffman Park.

Huge excavators, dump trucks and bulldozers have worked against the clock to restore diminished fish spawning habitats before this fall's salmon run. By November, giant Chinooks will return-hell-bent on reproduction-by the thousands to home waters. Soon after, steelhead arrive for the same purpose. Because Nimbus and Folsom dams curtail migration, spawning must occur in river shallows before these obstacles-or be achieved artificially at the Nimbus Fish Hatchery. "We have a narrow work window, as specified

by the Endangered Species Act," explains Water Forum Program manager Erica Bishop. "Our work is targeted over a time frame when it's least likely to affect resident support endangered anadrofish."

Forming a giant alcove upstream from the golf course, the augmented Ancil Hoffman riffle will provide fish increased gravel areas for redd (nest) building.

"Salmon and steelhead have traditionally spawned in this area," Bishop explains. "Over time, rivers move sediment and these gravel beds have become degraded. Because of the dams, new sediment can't replace what's moved downstream. The lower American River is gravel-starved. Fish don't have sufficient breeding habitat. Some return to their home river and find nowhere to spawn."

The \$1.4 million Water restoration programs that Bar, River Bend Park, at www.waterforum.org

mous species that begin and end lifecycles in the American River. Thousands of tons of gravel - sorted to exactly the size preferred by nesting fish – will create an 11-acre alcove at Ancil Hoffman. When temporary levies are bulldozed and water rises, new riffles will accommodate salmon and steelhead breeding. The development includes a rearing inlet to host growing juveniles before their spring swim to the Pacific Ocean. Planting of willows, cottonwood and other native vegetation will bring insects to feed fry. Riverside trails at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center will be improved to allow

Similar restorations have Forum project is one of many achieved success at Sailor

public observation.

Sacramento Bar and at Nimbus and Sunrise stretches of the American River. "Our surveys count the number of redds in the river and juvenile fish," says Bishop. "We know restored habitats are being used. Although we have low water flows due to drought this year, our project is focused on long term improvement of river habitat."

The Ancil Hoffman project is funded by the Bureau of Reclamation. Sacramento City, Sacramento County and local water agencies fund the Water Forum.

Construction areas are off limits for public access. Work-in-progress may be viewed from trails at Effie Yeaw Nature Center preserve. Learn about the Water Forum

Fresh Produ

Senator Dahle's Measure to Expand the Sierra Nevada **Conservancy Signed**

Office of Senator Brian Dahle News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber) was pleased to see his measure to increase the

pace and scale of forest and watershed restoration signed by the Governor. SB 208 will expand the boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), ensuring the resilience of our natural resources and the communities that depend on them.

SB208 modifies the regional boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, as defined in Section 33302 of the Public Resources Code. The modification will add a section of Siskiyou County to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy as well as increase the area of Shasta County already included in the SNC.

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy was created through bi-partisan legislation and signed into California law in 2004. At that time the definition of the region was established to include areas lying within 22 counties of California, including the counties of Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Tehama, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yuba. There have been no modifications since 2004

to the region's definition. "I'm pleased to be adding portions of Siskiyou, Shasta and Trinity Nevada Conservancy. The Sierra, and Siskiyou.



Senator Brian Dahle

conservancy has a superior reputation for thoughtful stewardship of one of California's most important resources, our headwaters." said Senator Dahle. "By having all these headwaters under one local agency, it will give more opportunities to manage important forest management projects as well as meadow restoration projects to ensure that we continue to have healthy forests and a robust headwaters system, ensuring all Californian's have fresh clean water to drink and safe forests to visit."The Sierra Nevada Conservancy initiates, encourages, and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada region, its communities and citizens

SB 208 will become effective January 1, 2022.

of California.

SALES FOR PRODUCE WILL BEGIN ON WEDNESDAYS @ 12:00PM

Senator Brian Dahle represents California's 1st Senate District, which contains all or portions of 11 counties, including Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Counties under the Sierra Sacramento, Shasta,



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