

# Placer Sentinel



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Serving Auburn and Placer County since 1987

First Issue of September, 2011

## Build a Kit, Be Prepared

## "Just a Foot Short"



It may be September, but the flood season is not far off. This is the time to prepare the family and home for potential disasters.

**Northern California** - This National Preparedness Month, the American Red Cross Capital Region Chapter is calling on families, businesses, schools and organizations to take steps now to become better prepared for the next emergency or disaster.

Disasters can strike at any time - from earthquakes to wildfires to terrorist attacks like those that occurred on 9/11 ten years ago. National Preparedness Month provides our nation with the opportunity to both remember the victims and honor those who responded, and to make a renewed commitment to being better prepared for the future.

"We all must do what we can to prepare our families and make our communities ready for the next emergency" said Christy Woods, director of preparedness for the Capital Region Chapter. "Everyone can take three key action steps to get started: build a kit, make a plan, and be informed."

Emergency preparedness kits should include enough supplies

for at least three days in case you have to evacuate. Water (one gallon, per person, per day), nonperishable food, a flashlight, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, extra batteries, a first aid kit, a 7-day supply of medications, a multi-purpose tool, sanitation and personal hygiene items and copies of important personal documents should go in every kit. The Red Cross also recommends having at least two weeks worth of supplies at home. A variety of emergency preparedness kits, first aid kits and other supplies are available at [www.redcrossstore.org](http://www.redcrossstore.org).

All members of the household should work together on an emergency plan. Designate a meeting place right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency like a fire. Each person should know how to reach other members of the household. The plan should also include an out-of-area emergency contact person, and a location where everyone should meet if they can't go home.

People should be informed about what types of disasters are

most likely to occur where they live and how local authorities will contact you in the event of a disaster. First aid and CPR/AED training empowers individuals with the confidence and skills to respond to health emergencies in case advanced medical help is delayed. Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for training for details and to register.

"We have learned from previous disasters that the government, communities and organizations like the Red Cross will never be big enough to do it all in every disaster," Woods said. "Every person, business, school and house of worship must be prepared to take care of themselves and their neighbors in an emergency."

Severe weather, power outages and water main breaks can happen anytime. Throughout the year, the Red Cross offers programs to help people be prepared. The "Do More Than Cross Your Fingers" campaign, featuring Jamie Lee Curtis, makes it easy for people to prepare for emergencies, starting with how to customize their emergency kits. The "Ready When

the Time Comes" program trains employees from corporations and mobilizes them as a community-based volunteer force when disaster strikes. "Be Red Cross Ready" is a web-based interactive tutorial that teaches people how to be ready for emergencies.

In addition, because up to 40 percent of businesses fail following a manmade or natural disaster, the Red Cross developed the Ready Rating™ Program. Ready Rating ([www.readyrating.org](http://www.readyrating.org)) is a free, self-paced, web-based membership program that measures how ready businesses, organizations and schools are to deal with emergencies. Members receive customized feedback on how they can improve their efforts. The program is designed for those who are in the beginning stages of planning for emergencies as well as those who have already done so and want confirmation on their preparedness level. It gives these groups ideas of what they can do to better prepare themselves for the next emergency or disaster.

No one can predict where or when the next large disaster will strike, but preparedness steps taken today can save lives and livelihoods tomorrow. People can contact their local Red Cross or visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) to learn what steps they should take to be ready when emergencies strike.

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization - not a government agency - and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or join our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.*



Ken Wright & Mike Robinson enjoying the wild.

By Paula Mosqueda

**Auburn** - What is your first thought when you think of an amputee? If you are one, the first thought is, "Can I do the things I used to do?" If you are missing a limb, some everyday activities become a challenge. In response to this thought, the Gold Country Amputee Support Group, along with some friends and family, recently ventured out into the Eldorado National Forest and set up camp. Tents were pitched. An assortment of ice boxes were placed in the shade. With a fire permit in hand, an outdoor kitchen was created and a fire ring was made. Had there been anyone around to observe the campsite, nobody would have guessed that many of the campers were amputees.

The group planned to eat breakfast together. Then everyone would split up, do as they pleased during the day, and meet up again for dinner. There were kayakers, fishermen, swimmers, and hikers. Unfortunately, the fishermen caught no fish and the swimmers caught sunburn.

It was agreed that everyone had a good time and would like to do it again. Jude Kempainen, of Auburn, said, "It was more fun than we could've planned." But, there were challenges. Just walking on the uneven ground was an adventure. A metal foot does

not allow for a hole or a slant. Getting up from an air mattress on the floor of a tent required preplanning. More than one of us fell. Carlos Lopez, of Rocklin, said, "It was rough going, but a learning experience." Mike Robinson, of Colfax, said, "We laughed and cried, but in the end, we're all stronger and can't wait to do it again."

One of the nicest things about being with others who have the same physical challenges is that you can joke about it. "I feel like I'm on my last leg." "I can't reach that - I'm a foot short." On this occasion, sitting out in the forest, the comment was made, "The bear will get the one who runs the slowest." The answer to that was, "Just give him your metal leg."

The Gold Country Amputee Support Group already knows the destination of their next camping trip. This destination was chosen solely because of its name - Stumpy Meadows.

Everyone has challenges. It is how you deal with them that reveals one's character. A weekend in the woods allowed the group to learn that some challenges are not insurmountable.

The Gold Country Amputee Support Group meets every other Thursday evening at Denny's Restaurant in Newcastle. If you have questions about the group call 530-863-7503 or e-mail us at [gcasgg@yahoo.com](mailto:gcasgg@yahoo.com).

## Discover 'Gold Country Elegance' at Auburn Symphony Fund-raising Home Tour



Five exceptional foothills residences in a variety of architectural styles will be open for viewing during the Gold Country Elegance Home Tour on Saturday, Sept. 24. Courtesy photo by James K. Williams.

**Auburn** - An array of decorating styles and architectural details will be shining in the limelight during the Gold Country Elegance Home Tour on Saturday, Sept. 24, from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hosted by the Auburn Symphony League as a fundraiser for the non-profit Auburn Symphony organization, the self-guided tour

features five exceptional custom homes in the tony Winchester neighborhood of Meadow Vista. All were crafted by award-winning builder Gray Construction

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

"Our last Home Tour featured residences built by Gray Construction. It was such a success that we asked if Doug Gray and his team would participate again," explained Eileen Ferber, co-chair of the event. "The League is grateful that not only Gray Construction, but its generous clients, agreed to support our efforts this year."

The cost to attend the rain-or-shine fundraiser is \$20 in advance; \$25 the day of the tour. Box lunches prepared by Tsuda Café and Bakery of Old Town Auburn will be available for \$10 each. Beverages also will be available for a nominal charge.

Tour ticket holders have the opportunity to attend a free "Meet the Builder" reception on Thursday, Sept. 22, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ceronix business campus, 13350 New Airport Road in North Auburn. This event will feature light refreshments, wine tasting and a chance for tour participants to visit with the Gray design and construction team and preview the private homes they'll be touring.

"Gray Construction feels very

honored that the Auburn Symphony League asked to exclusively feature our homes on the 2011 Gold Country Elegance Home Tour," said Doug Gray, company president. "We were extremely pleased with the amount of funds raised for the Symphony League's last home tour and we are glad to once again be part of an event that benefits the local arts community."

The day of the tour, members of Gray's team will be at each home to answer specific questions about the building techniques, finish materials and architectural detailing. Guests may explore the residences at their own pace, in the order they choose. Homes on display include Arts and Crafts, European-inspired, and Refined Mountain Lodge architecture, as well as American West style with Asian influences.

The Auburn Symphony League's Home Tour is its largest fundraiser for the Auburn Symphony's Community Outreach projects, which include concerts, music education and curriculum programs.

"This Home Tour is not only

a wonderful way for the public to help support the Auburn Symphony," Ferber said, "it's also a natural fit since classic architecture and classic music both are forms of inspired artistic expression."

For Home Tour tickets, reservations or more information, call 530-823-6683; 530-885-1706; 916-663-4188 or visit [www.auburnsymphony.com](http://www.auburnsymphony.com). The day of the tour, tickets and maps will be available beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Foothill Christian Fellowship Church, 1100 Sugar Pine Road, just off Placer Hills Road, in Meadow Vista.



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# “Out with the Old...”



Auburn 49er Lions Club

By Paula Mosqueda

Auburn - When asked, the staff at the Auburn Gold Country Fair could not come up with an answer to the question, “How old is the stove in the kitchen of the Sierra Building?” Possibly the answer could be found within some old files. Possibly not. Maybe it doesn’t matter. Age is only a number. Auburn 49er Lion Ray Arnold is certain that he cooked Easter eggs on this stove some fifty years ago.

Many members of the Auburn

49er Lions Club have had experience using this stove while participating in various community events. For some time, only the adventurous cooks were willing to compete with this unreliable kitchen appliance. It seems to have lost power. Turn on a burner and the flame on another burner gets smaller. Cooking at the Sierra Building had become a challenge.

Recently, the Auburn 49er Lions admitted defeat.

On August 24, 2011, a brand new Southbend, 6 burner, 2 oven,

2’ griddle, stove was delivered to the Sierra Building kitchen. The “Old” stove will be taken away to be cleaned and restored. Its fate is undetermined.

Laurie Johnson, CEO of Gold Country Fair, had this to say, “Due to the loss of state funding, we reached out to the community for support. We are pleased to accept the donation of a new stove from the 49er Lions. Gold Country Fair appreciates the support from the 49er Lions Club and all our service clubs. These valuable partnerships are important to the success of Gold Country Fair. Gold Country Fair runs Sept. 8-11. This will be the first opportunity to fire up the new stove”.

The Auburn 49er Lions have served the community for over 40 years. The Gold Country Fairgrounds have been around since the 1930’s. It is natural for these two members of the Auburn community to help each other out. The new stove is a win-win result for everyone.

For information about the 49er Lions Club and their local activities, contact them at 49erlions@gmail.com.

# Releasing Killers Back in Your Neighborhood

By Assemblyman Dan Logue

Liberal Democrats are just one vote away in the State Assembly from passing one of the most misguided public safety measures in California’s history – Senate Bill 9 authored by San Francisco Democrat Leland Yee.

This bill would allow murderers who were juveniles at the time they committed their crime and who were sentenced to life without parole to ask the court for re-sentencing up to three times. Given the language of the bill and the long history of Democrats supporting efforts to weaken California’s tough-on-crime laws, SB 9 is just the latest attempt by them to prioritize criminal rights.

That is why I joined a number of public safety officials and organizations such as the California Police Chiefs Association and Crime Victims United to oppose this bill because it could give a slap on the wrist to dangerous criminals like Jimmy Siackasom.

Siackasom, who was 16 at the time, shot Sacramento County detective Vu Nguyen three times and killed him while being chased on foot. He later told officers that he knew the detective was a police officer, and shot him because “he deserved it.” Under SB 9, cold-blooded murderers like Siackasom could petition the

court for re-sentencing under the right conditions and not prove he has shown genuine remorse. By just reading a self-help book and saying “I’m sorry,” he could have the opportunity to receive a lighter sentence.

The supporters of SB 9 would have you believe that it is about providing misguided people a chance at redeeming themselves. While I believe in the power of redemption, it has to be accompanied by repentance, which cannot be guaranteed by SB 9.

That is because if you look beyond the rhetoric, you will see that the bill establishes weak criteria where many inmates would be entitled to a court hearing to reconsider their original sentence. This criterion includes availing themselves of education programs in prison such as self-study – which is a ridiculously low standard to meet. A prisoner meeting these guidelines does not have to prove that he has truly recognized the error of his ways.

Even worse, SB 9 could reopen the painful wounds of many crime victim families on up to three separate occasions. If an inmate’s request for re-sentencing is denied the first time, he can try two more times, an agonizing ordeal for any family to go through. Instead of showing compassion to criminals, I suggest showing some compassion to their victims and families, who

deserve justice and who expect the state to uphold the people’s will.

SB 9 is not about ensuring fairness, but rather undermining the strong public safety laws that have kept the worst of the worst behind bars. Keep in mind we are not talking about kids who broke into someone’s car qualifying for a reduced sentence, but potentially giving dangerous criminals a break who brutally murdered their victims. That makes no sense.

Finally, the state already has a system in place to ensure that those who showed genuine rehabilitation in prison can have a shot at a lighter sentence. Prisoners and their families can petition the Governor for a commutation, and previous Governors have granted commutations when the circumstances warranted it.

Although SB 9 fell one vote short of passage in the Assembly, it could come back for a vote in the near future if liberal Democrats can find one other moderate Democrat to vote for it. I will continue to work with the public safety community and crime victim families to ensure that SB 9 does not get that one additional vote. Keeping our communities safe must always remain our top priority.

Assemblyman Dan Logue, R-Linda, represents the 3rd Assembly District in the California Legislature.

# Shopping Spree Bandits

From the Office of Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

Placer County – Thanks to a suspicious clerk and observant Placer County Sheriff’s deputies, two young men on a shopping spree using other people’s credit cards were arrested in Auburn Tuesday night. Detectives suspect the pair spent more than \$100,000 buying items from El Dorado County to the Bay Area.

Deputies were called to the Auburn BevMo store at 8:30 Tuesday night where suspects Michael Ross, 27, of Folsom, and Vyacheslav Berezhenko 23, of Sacramento, were attempting to make a credit card purchase. The clerk was suspicious about the credit card and tried to stall the pair while deputies were en route to the Bell Road store.

The suspects fled before deputies arrived, but patrol deputies saturated the area and located the suspects in the Home Depot parking lot. A search of their car



Michael C. Ross

revealed several counterfeit drivers’ licenses and several fraudulent credit cards. The pair had obtained the credit cards in the names of others by stealing mail in Shingle Springs.

Deputies and detectives also found \$10,000 worth of merchandise that the suspects had obtained with the credit cards. More receipts



Vyacheslav Berezhenko

revealed that the pair had obtained more than \$100,000 worth of merchandise with the fraudulent cards.

Both suspects were booked at the Placer County Jail on charges of identity theft, burglary, grand theft, forgery, conspiracy and making/possessing counterfeit credit cards. Bail is set at \$20,000.

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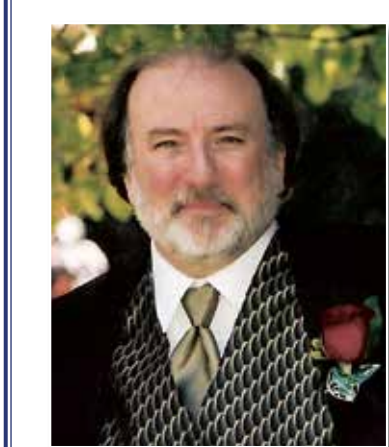
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**Publisher, Paul V. Scholl**

# Placer Sentinel

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# Upcoming Legislation Report

*Introducing Senate Bill 391, the Parole Reform Act of 2011*



**By Senator Ted Gaines**

Last month I invited you all to attend the “Community Discussion on Public Safety” I hosted at the State Capitol on August 3rd, along with law enforcement leaders and victims’ rights organizations, to explore deficiencies in state law and identify potential legislative solutions to prevent tragedies - like the Jaycee Lee Dugard case - from ever occurring again.

On August 17, working closely with El Dorado County District Attorney Vern Pierson, I introduced Senate Bill 391, the “Parole Reform Act of 2011.” This bipartisan legislation will make a critical change to California’s parole system, helping keep dangerous, life-term prisoners incarcerated.

Senate Bill 391 seeks to reverse the California Supreme Court’s 2008 Lawrence decision, which requires the Parole Board to primarily look at the prisoner’s behavior while incarcerated - such as how much counseling they attended and whether they were on time to their work assignments - when deciding whether to put a felon back out on the street. Despite prisoner convictions for the most heinous of crimes Lawrence provides that “release on parole is the rule, rather than the exception.”

This decision has led to a spike in paroles for dangerous life-sentence prisoners. Between 2005 and 2007, 521 lifers in California prisons were granted parole. Between 2008 and 2010 - the three years since the Lawrence decision - that number almost tripled, with 1329 lifers getting parole dates.

“The Parole Reform Act of 2011” will give the Parole Board the ability to consider the prisoner’s committing offense when evaluating them for

parole and help them keep our most dangerous criminals right where they belong - behind bars.

Principal co-authors of Senate Bill 391 include Assemblymembers Susan Bonilla (D-Concord), Alyson Huber (D-El Dorado Hills) and Jim Nielsen (R-Gerber). Senators Mark Wyland (R-Escondido) and Doug LaMalfa (R-Richvale) and Assemblymembers Dan Logue (R-Penn Valley) and Beth Gaines (R-Roseville) are co-authors.

**TRPA Transparency Bill Signed into Law**

I recently announced that Governor Brown signed my legislation to create additional transparency, accountability and oversight within the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA).

Senate Bill 593 requires each California member of the TRPA to comply with the requirements of the Political Reform Act and to file with the Fair Political Practices Commission a statement of economic interests.

I was surprised to learn that there was no existing state law mandating these disclosure requirements. This opened the potential for California members of the TRPA to make decisions in which they had a conflict of interest and left the public with no way of knowing.

Because of Senate Bill 593, these members will now have to file the same conflict disclosure form required of every other elected and appointed official in the state. They will be held to the same high standards when it comes to disclosure and maintaining the public’s utmost trust.

**Hospital Cost Transparency Bill on its way to Governor**

Senator Ed Hernandez (D-West Covina) and I recently announced that

our bill - Senate Bill 751 - cleared both the Assembly and Senate with bipartisan support and is now on its way to Governor Brown.

Senate Bill 751 will give California consumers access to cost and quality information regarding services provided in hospitals in their communities. Consumers will be able to use this valuable information to determine which hospital will provide the best care for their ailment.

This bill is based on one simple principle...consumers have the right to know what the actual costs are for the health care services they are paying for. By giving consumers access to this data, we are empowering them to make informed decisions about their healthcare, which I believe is one part of the equation to stem the tide of escalating costs.

Current law allows consumers to receive price information after their medical service has been rendered. SB 751 will now ensure consumers receive access to this information before they receive their care.

We plan to send a letter to the Governor encouraging him to sign our legislation.

**2011 Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights Hearings**

Every year, the Board of Equalization holds public hearings to provide an opportunity for business and property taxpayers from throughout the state to share their suggestions, comments and concerns.

There will be a Business and Property Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights Hearing on Tuesday, September 20 at 1:30 p.m. at the following location:

Board of Equalization  
Capitol Square Building

1st Floor Board Room, Room 121  
450 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

This hearing provides taxpayers the unique opportunity to present their ideas, concerns and recommendations regarding legislation, the quality of agency services, and other issues related to the Board’s administration of its tax programs.

Taxpayers will have the opportunity to comment on the administration of sales and use taxes, environmental fees, fuel taxes, and excise taxes as well as the property tax programs and laws administered by the Board.

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding these hearings, please feel free to contact the Board of Equalization at (916) 445-2181.

**Town Hall Meeting Schedule**

Have you seen examples of government officials wasting your hard-earned tax dollars, and thought that there was nothing you could do? Do you have creative suggestions for how state government can operate more efficiently, and how it can better serve your needs?

Now you have an opportunity to make sure your voice is heard. You are invited to a special “Suggestion Box” Town Hall Forum to share your ideas on improving state government. Below is a schedule of the meetings I will be hosting throughout the month of October.

All ideas are welcome. It’s time to start putting the people’s interests ahead of the Sacramento special interests. For more information, please call my office at (916) 783-8232. I hope to see you there!

**Town Hall Meeting Time & Locations**

**Auburn, Wednesday, October 5**  
6-8 p.m. Placer County Board of Supervisors Chambers  
175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, 95603

**Community Coffee Schedule**

I have a number of “Community Coffee” events scheduled over the next few months to give you an opportunity to meet with me and discuss issues of importance to you and your community. Also check my website, [www.senate.ca.gov/GAINES](http://www.senate.ca.gov/GAINES), for up-to-date information as Community Coffees are added.

**Tuesday, October 29 - Loomis**  
Flower Farm Coffee House  
9280 Horseshoe Bar Road, Loomis  
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, October 25 - Cameron Park**  
Caffe Santoro  
2531 Merrychase Drive, Cameron Park  
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

## Projects \$5 Million Program for Forest and Watershed Projects to be Considered by Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board

*Auburn* – The Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s (SNC) Governing Board is set to consider proposed guidelines for a \$5 million grant program designed to promote “healthy forests” at its Sept. 8 quarterly meeting in Alturas (Modoc Co.).

Funding for the grant program will come from Proposition 84 bond funds and will be made available through a competitive grant process aimed at restoring the Sierra Nevada’s forests to ecological health. The final draft Grant Guidelines, which reflect changes made as a result of public comment, will be considered for approval by the SNC Board at the meeting.

“We are proposing to focus on projects that improve forest health due to the dire need for action,” said SNC Executive Officer Jim Branham. “Many of our forests are overgrown, with the risk of catastrophic fire presenting a real threat to our Sierra communities, wildlife habitat, watersheds, and drinking water throughout the state.”

Eligible projects would include those designed to preserve or improve Sierra Nevada forest health by reducing the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires and/or preserving or restoring ecosystem function in forests and related meadows.

Public agencies, qualifying nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Tribal entities are eligible to apply. The SNC expects to open solicitations for potential grantees Sept. 26, 2011. Potential applicants may obtain more information on how to develop and submit a project at the SNC website at [www.SierraNevada.ca.gov](http://www.SierraNevada.ca.gov) after that date. The board will also consider final approval of the SNC’s strategic plan, which will guide the agency’s activities for the next three years.

Approved areas of focus in this plan include the following:

- Healthy forests;
- Preservation of ranches and agricultural lands;
- Watershed protection and restoration;
- Promotion of sustainable tourism and recreation; and,
- Long-term effectiveness of the SNC.

Members of the board and SNC staff will participate in a field trip Wednesday, Sept. 7, to explore issues and activities relevant to the SNC’s mission in the area. Members of the public are invited to both the board meeting and the field trip. The field trip will begin at 1:30 in the main parking lot of the Best Western Trailside Inn located at 343 N. Main Street, Alturas. Participants need to provide their own transportation and lunch.

Created in 2004, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency whose mission is to improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region. In its first five years, the SNC, which receives no general fund tax dollars, awarded approximately \$40 million in grants for projects including fuels reduction, conservation easements and acquisitions, and watershed and habitat restoration. Funding for these projects comes from Proposition 84 passed by voters in 2006.

The SNC Governing Board meets quarterly around the Sierra Nevada Region, which spans 25 million acres, encompasses all or part of 22 counties and runs from the Oregon border on the north, to southeast of Bakersfield. Six of the 13 voting members are selected by county boards of supervisors in each Subregion.

*Source: Sierra Nevada Conservancy*

**In Placer County...**

**13**  
average age for first alcohol and illegal prescription drug use

**60%**  
of teens report getting drugs and alcohol from home

**2x**  
11th graders abuse prescription drugs at 2x the national average

In Placer County, alcohol, illegal prescription drugs, and other drug use is happening. Protect your teens from these dangers by talking to them today. If teens hear a “don’t use” message from their parents, they are 42 percent less likely to try alcohol and other drugs.

**Get involved today at:**  
**CoalitionforPlacerYouth.org**



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# TAX HELP from a Tax Pro

Dean Alexander Sr.

## IRS Numbers and What They

I would like to select some newly published statistics and venture into some social interpretation of who we are based on the numbers. The numbers, such as how many people file, how many comply with the law and percentage of wage earner to business income are examples that will shed light on how we live and who we are as a people.

But before I do that I would like to comment on the new tax agreement passed by Congress to the extent that it affects wage earners. Wage earners may have to fill out a new w-4 with their employer in order to reflect the reduction in social security taxes taken out from the employees.

As many may know by now, the new tax agreement will reduce the social security rate from 6.2% to 4.2%. That equates to a reduction of about \$80 a month in taxes if you are making fifty thousand dollars a year.

Now let us have some fun with IRS numbers: I will put the number up, then make a comment or a question. Here we go:

The IRS says that in 2008, we filed 142.5 million returns.

We are a country of 300 million people including the children. It is unbelievable to file that many returns. To file such

large numbers means one of three interpretations: we are as a people extremely conformist, we are believers of public duty, or we are behaving under a typical phenomenon of advanced economies.

Third world countries and less advanced economies such as Greece suffer from notorious non compliance with income tax filings. Many of those countries tap into the American experience (for good or for ill) to improve the tax compliance regime.

We may want to believe that we comply because we want to dispose of our civic duties. But some studies show otherwise. A published study by Kim Bloomquist, Internal Revenue Service, found that matchable income such as income reported on the 1099 has a higher compliance ratio than non-matchable income.

To illustrate this point, suppose that you are a house painter. People either pay you cash or by check. At the end of the year you either report the full income if you want to play by the rule or you may report part of the income. Many taxpayers don't report the cash part of their income. They know that the IRS does not know how much they made that year.

But suppose that you painted a

building owned by Exxon. Exxon sent you at the end of the year a 1099. Now we realize that the IRS knows exactly how much you made because Exxon sends a copy of this 1099 to them. The IRS now knows for sure that you will report every penny Exxon paid you because the income is verifiable or matchable. That is why the matchable income compliance gets a higher ratio of reporting than the non matchable income.

So much for the good citizen. We operate out of fear, not out of certain romantic beliefs. We cheat when we can. We will file if we know we may get caught. It is human nature, at least as some philosophers or theologians such as Saint Augustine would have it, we are all sinners.

*Dean has 30 years experience as a CPA and tax consultant and he is currently on two radio shows. He is the managing director of National Financial Advisors (NFA Tax Help), a national firm headquartered in Houston. He is also a Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered Life Underwriter. He consults exclusively on tax matters particularly tax audits and tax collections at both the federal and the state levels. NFA Tax Help-(877) 758-8537-www.resolvemytaxes.com*



*Auburn - Good vibrations abound as Auburn welcomes back Reiki therapist Therese Johnson from her recent European trip. The glowing Johnson is back to work with her busy schedule including Reiki therapy and workshops. And plenty of energy and enthusiasm are always exuded by massage therapist/Auburn Community Television Manager Paula Johnston who has of this date will have overseen her first workshop for volunteers and interested enthusiasts are invited to call Johnston at 530-887-8778 for an opportunity to help produce community television broadcasting from Placer High School.*

*Johnston receives high marks for her skillful massage from the discerning Jack Smallwood and Paula informs us that she is available for massage therapy at Pathways recently re-*

## Around Town

with Loyce Smallwood

located from Lincoln Way in Auburn to Hillside Drive in Applegate where steam/shower are also available daily. St. Joseph Church Thrift Shop volunteer Mary Stevens informs me that the church thrift shop open 9am to 3pm Monday through Wednesday is now open Saturdays from 9am to 3pm; so shop for great bargains and donate your clothing/home accessories; volunteers always welcome.

And speaking of volunteers, Friends of Placer County book store provides a great outlet for you to surround yourself with books on all subjects all the while helping to support our homeless pets; so stop by and sign up (open daily) and reward yourself with a tasty/zesty selection from The Burrito Shop where I recommend the spicy shrimp tacos and veggie burrito.

And speaking of vibrations, thanks sent to Encore Music DT Auburn for spreading the word as I am now looking to get back to the merry uke scene and dusting off my banjo/uke.

Can we ever get enough good Auburn history? Hop aboard The CONNECTIONS ride when we travel back in time to the 19th Century led by historian/author/Auburn native Art Sommers when he gives forth with his book on Auburn history on September 12 when CONNECTIONS writers group hosts Sommers at 11am at LaBou where award winning author/painter Suzanne Blaney has been showing off her newest book on artist Anita Wolf. Applause and celebration; bring it on. Reference [www.connectionsloyce.wordpress.com](http://www.connectionsloyce.wordpress.com); [loy@foothill.net](mailto:loy@foothill.net)



Paula at ACTV.

## Auburn Scholarship Pageants Deadline

*Auburn - This is the last week to enter the Auburn Scholarship Pageants! Entry deadline is Tuesday September 13th. This pageant has age divisions for young ladies from age 4 to 27,*


as well as a Mother of the Year contest!

You do NOT have to live in Auburn to be eligible! Residents and students from Placer and surrounding counties are eligible!

For information or an application please email: [info@westcoastpageants.com](mailto:info@westcoastpageants.com). The pageants will be held at the State Theater in Downtown Auburn on Saturday, October 8th, 2011.

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# West Nile Positive Bird Found in Virus Activity Spreads East

Placer County – A second dead bird in Placer County to test positive this year for West Nile virus has been found in Auburn. The bird was a western scrub jay, a common bird in the western states.

“This could be an indication that West Nile virus activity is increasing in the foothills area,” said Joel Buettner, General Manager of the Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District.

Buettner reports a decrease in mosquitoes in the surveillance traps along the western Placer County border. This comes on heels of significant mosquito control efforts made by the District in the past week. However, he warns that even though mosquito numbers are low in some areas, West Nile virus is still circulating in Placer County. This new dead bird shows an expanded area

of West Nile virus activity. Buettner states that the District has increased surveillance in the area where the bird was found to see if local mosquitoes are also infected.

“This long weekend may signify the end of summer, but as long as temperatures remain warm, we are likely to see more dead birds and infected mosquitoes, which are indicators of continued risk from West Nile virus,” states Buettner. While residents are enjoying outdoor activities this weekend, the District urges the use of an effective insect repellent. Meanwhile, the District will continue surveillance and treatment efforts to decrease the risk of exposure to the virus and protect public health.

For more information on recommended repellents, visit [www.placermosquito.org](http://www.placermosquito.org).

2011 Placer County West Nile virus activity update: 2 dead birds, 0 sentinel chickens, 24 mosquito samples, and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile Virus to date.

Source: Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District



# Statement from California Retailers Association on the State Assembly's Passage of

Sacramento – California Retailers Association issued the following statement from Bill Dombrowski, President and CEO regarding the Assembly's decision to approve SB 469 (Vargas), legislation that will cost Californians jobs and revenue:

“The California Retailers Association is disappointed that the State Legislature passed SB 469 today that will negatively impact jobs and harm local communities. The legislation will further harm California's economy, hinder job growth, and require unneeded and bureaucratic state mandates onto local communities.

“SB 469 has overwhelmingly been opposed by local officials from across the state including cit-

ies that already require similar reports like the City of Los Angeles. It has also been opposed by local business organizations, tax organizations, ethnic organizations, community organizations, food banks, and agricultural organizations.

“Additionally, the long and short term consequences of this bill would also mean lost opportunity for increased tax revenues to state and local governments that could pay for essential services, such as law enforcement, transportation, parks and libraries.

“The bottom line is that SB 469 is only about one thing – limiting competition to favor one type of retailer over another. Rather than allowing local governments, representing their communities,

to decide what is best, the state will make it even more difficult for communities to create jobs and revenue that they desperately need.

“We encourage Governor Brown to quickly veto SB 469 as it will only harm local economies and delay jobs for this state.”

The California Retailers Association is a trade association representing major California department stores, mass merchandisers, supermarkets, chain drug and convenience stores, as well as specialty retailers such as auto, book and home improvement stores. Members have more than 9,000 stores in California and account for more than \$100 billion in sales annually.

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**"Keeping the Faith"**  
By Ronnie McBrayer

# Seasons Change

of harvest. In our forties and fifties and stretching into our sixties, we begin to reap what we have sown. Our children become adults, and move toward the summer of their own lives. Our careers and ideas about life reach maturity. The colors begin to change, on top of our heads and on our chins.

Traditionally, autumn is the most productive time of our lives, the "prime of life." Maybe we should think of the prime of life as Robert Raines defines it; prime as in prime rib. "Everybody is eating off of me," he said.

In autumn we attempt to raise our children, for who we are too out-of-step, and try to relate to parents for who we are too radical, all while working toward a harvest that simply will not wait. There is a lot to do, and balancing it all is not always easy. In some cases, the harvest season becomes so overwhelming that people leave more to rot in the field that they take into the barn.

Finally, there is the winter, the last twenty or so years of our lives. There are still crops to harvest, and there are still a few seeds to plant, though not always in the big back yards or sprawling farms of life. We plant and cultivate in little flower pots and hanging baskets, the days much shorter.

In the winter we pass along to others the planting seeds we have gathered from our own lives. It is that time of life when we prepare others for their seasons and for the lives they must live, giving away the

tools and the provisions that once sustained us.

Now, this analogy isn't perfect and the seasons aren't as compartmentalized as maybe I have made it sound, but neither is the weather or the seasons of the year. Sometimes it's hot enough to get sunburn in December. Sometimes it snows on the 4th of July.

Sometimes we harvest in February and plant in November. And it's not always clear where people are in their lives. There are fast-learners and late-bloomers; and you can be living in multiple seasons all at the same time.

We cannot stop the movement of our lives, from growing older or moving from summer to winter. The issue at hand is not, "How do I stop the passage of time?" The issue is "What am I going to do with the time that I have?" Spring, summer, fall, and winter: Which ever season your life calls home, what are you going to do within that season of life, for time is always of the essence?

Returning to one of my favorite quotes (and people), Mark Twain said, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you *didn't* do than by the ones you did do." Amen, Brother Twain; it's time to get busy.

*Ronnie McBrayer is a syndicated columnist, speaker, and author. His books include "Leaving Religion, Following Jesus" and "The Jesus Tribe." Visit his website at www.ronniemcbrayer.net.*

# Tiptoeing Through the 60s

Rev. James L. Snyder

Now that I have safely escaped the infamous 50-something stage of life, I am carefully testing the waters before me. They look calm, but you never can be sure. Moreover, at this juncture of my life I am in no mood for taking chances.

Just the other day the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said to me rather sarcastically, "How does it feel to be 60-something?"

I knew she was having too much fun with this so I retorted by saying, "I feel like two 30-year-olds."

"Oh, no," she moaned. "I can't handle more than one of you."  
Ha! Ha! Ha! In her old age, she has not lost any of her sense of humor. I was hoping.

I am taking it rather careful, though. I have heard all the rumors about what happens to a person once they pass the 60 mark. For myself, I am determined to enjoy to the fullest every day I live from this day forward regardless of who I annoy. And I do have a list for this.

Some things, I am finding out, are quite true. Just the other night I discovered one of those rumors to be true. I now know why older men go to the bathroom so often during the night.

I had just gone to bed and started my evening dance with the Sandman. As I approached the shores of oblivion, I had the urge to go to the bathroom. I sat up in bed, adjusted my nightcap, put on my slippers, stood up and put on my bathrobe. In somewhat of a daze I headed for the bathroom.

Once I got into the bathroom, I closed the door behind me, turned on the light and stood there. For a moment, I did not know where I was and then I could not remember why I was where I was. I thought for a moment and then turned around, walked back to my bed,

took off my bathrobe, removed my slippers and tucked myself back into bed.

I dozed off for a moment and then, all of a sudden, it occurred to me why I went to the bathroom. So, I sat up in bed, adjusted my nightcap, put on my slippers, stood up and put on my bathrobe. In somewhat of a daze I headed for the bathroom.

I closed the door and tried to turn on the light only to discover I was in the closet. Extricating my body from the closet, I headed once more in the direction of the bathroom. This time I found the bathroom.

I closed the door, turn on the light and looked in the mirror wondering why I was in the bathroom. I lathered up my face and shaved.

I left the bathroom and headed back for bed, removed my slippers and bathrobe and tucked myself snugly under the sheets. Just as I was dozing off, I remembered why I wanted to go to the bathroom so urgently.

I sat up in bed, adjusted my nightcap, put on my slippers, stood up and put on my bathrobe. In somewhat of a daze I headed for the bathroom. It took me a little longer to get to the bathroom this time but as soon as I opened the door, the light went on. In the bathroom was a quart of milk, a pitcher of iced tea, the makings of a salad and some luncheon meat. I poured myself a glass of iced tea, slowly drank it and then headed back for bed.

As I snuggled myself back into bed, I heard the person on the other side of the bed moan and mumbled something, "You weren't in the kitchen were you?"

"No," I said rather sleepily, "I was in the bathroom."

I soon fell asleep and no sooner did I fall asleep than I awoke with an urge to go to the bathroom. I adjusted my nightcap, put on my

slippers, stood up, put on my bathrobe, and made my way toward the bathroom.

This time, when I opened the door the light did not go on so I had to switch the light on myself. I stood there, looked in the mirror, picked up my toothbrush and toothpaste and began brushing my teeth. I gargled good and long with mouthwash, turned off the light and headed back for bed.

From the other side of the bed I heard another moan, "Were you brushing your teeth?"

"No," I muttered incoherently, "I got a drink of tea from the kitchen."

"You shouldn't drink tea before you go to bed, it'll make you go to the bathroom."

I soon fell asleep but was awakened with a very urgent need to go to the bathroom. In a panic I stumbled out of bed, could not find my slippers, my bathrobe was nowhere to be found but I had to go to the bathroom.

The next thing I remember the alarm clock was ringing and it was seven o'clock in the morning. I still do not know if I ever went to the bathroom but now I know why older men go to the bathroom so often during the night.

That morning in my devotions, I read from the Psalms. "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread" (Psalm 37:25 KJV).

I am thinking this 60-something is going to require some fancy footwork.

*The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whata-fellowship.com.*




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# Time for a New Labor Day

By John Kabateck, NFIB/CA Executive Director

Could there be a more perfect conversion of symbolism about what is wrong with the American economy than what will take place on Sept. 5 in Detroit? There, the president of the United States, whose regulatory excesses have stifled meaningful job creation, will make a Labor Day speech to union workers now only a faint representation of their former numbers in a city whose major industries were rescued not by innovation, but by a massive Berlin airlift of taxpayer dollars.

It's not time to junk Labor Day as a federal holiday. It's time to honor the real labor rolling up its sleeves and pulling the rickety buckboards of the American and California economic wagons—Small-business owners and the self-employed.

Established in 1894 to honor the contributions of union workers, Labor Day is now only a distant echo of the numbers it once stood for. According to a news release issued earlier this year by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, "the union membership rate ... was 11.9 percent, down from 12.3 percent a year earlier." It is worth noting that this statistic includes both government and private-sector union members.

Pull unionized government employees from the 11.9 percent, and the rate of union members working at private enterprises falls to 6.9 percent. By comparison, according to BLS economist Steven Hipple, "In 2009, 15.3 million individuals were self employed, including both those who had incorporated their businesses and those who had not. The self-employment rate ... was 10.9 percent."

Add to the 10.9 percent self-employment rate those small-business

owners considering themselves employers, as opposed to self-employed. Although it is difficult to obtain an exact number for this group, it's not hard to see that combined they number more than unionized workers. And as anyone who has run a small-business or been an independent contractor can tell you, he or she puts in many more hours than just 9-to-5, Monday through Friday.

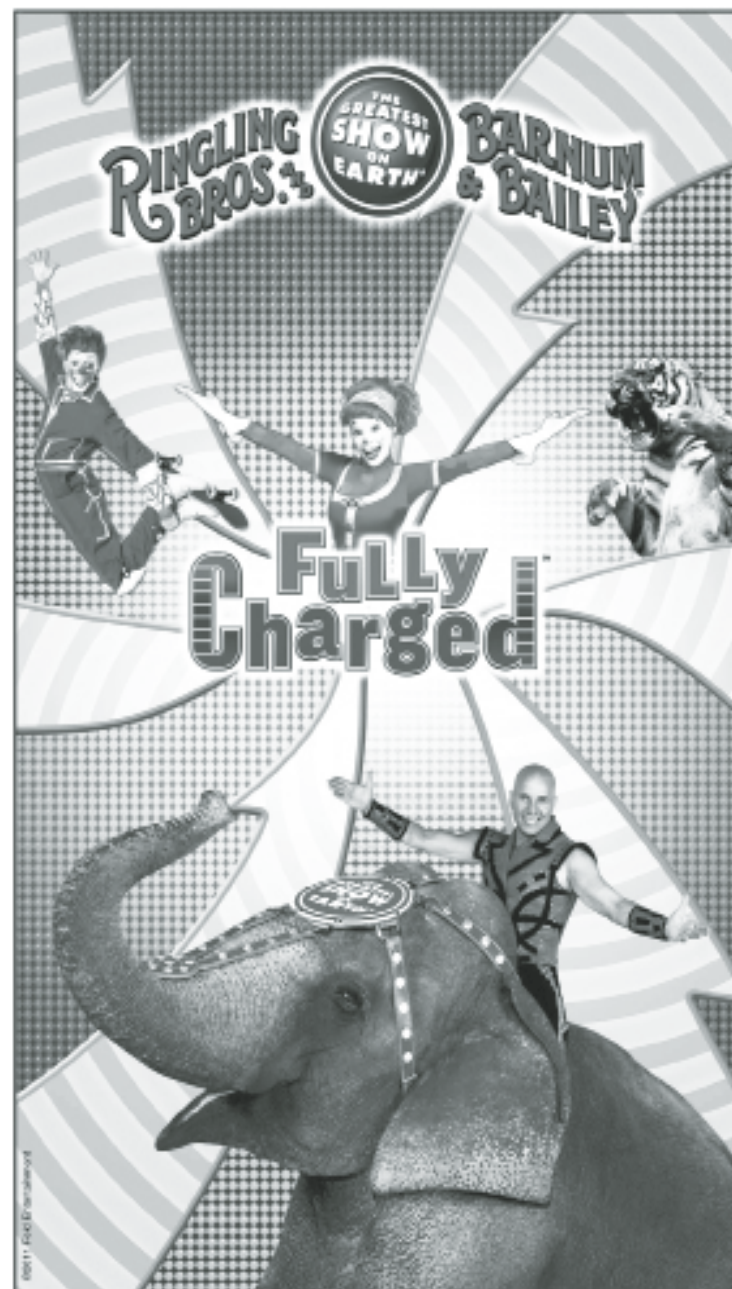
Attribute whatever you will to the decline of union membership, the new labor in need of a new Labor Day has different needs—Needs that their federal and state governments can either help or hinder to the economy's benefit or peril.

The formula for a successful and thriving small-business economy is really no mystery and can be summarized in three goals: low taxes, minimal regulations, and a legal environment that discour-

ages frivolous lawsuits. But much more needs to be done, if we are to really spur the job-creation that small-business owners are the primary generators of especially in California. It's time to roll out the welcome mat to small employers in California and ask "What can we do to help?"

Last year, the Pew Research Center released a study on the negative and positive views people hold on various American institutions. Small business came out first, 39 percentage points higher than labor unions, 46 points higher than large corporations, and 49 points higher than banks and financial institutions.

Now for a day to celebrate. On Sept. 5 we should all reflect on the real labor doing the heavy lifting of the American and California economies: Small-business owners, their employees, and the self-employed.



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# The Bedroom in the Classroom?

By Dr. Jason R. Edwards

Though my mastery of Greek mythology is not strong enough to know off-hand the muse of history's sexual orientation, I do know that Clio might try to persuade her father to hurl thunderbolts from Mt. Olympus into Sacramento as punishment for defiling her beloved discipline.

The crime? On July 14, California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law SB 48, which dictates that California schools adopt instructional materials in social science classes that emphasize "the role and contributions of ... lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans" in history.

When considering the myriad ways such a law tramples on parental rights and academic legitimacy, it is hard to know where to begin. However, since the law will be celebrated by some as a triumph of inclusivity, perhaps it should be noted it solves no conceivable problem currently plaguing California.

Regarding inclusivity, California law already bans discrimination in instructional materials based on "race, sex, color, creed, handicap, national origin, or ancestry." Not content with banning discrimination, earlier California legislators already

mandated emphases on the contributions of both men and women as well as "Native Americans, African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, European Americans" and other ethnic and cultural groups in California textbooks and curriculum.

In other words, it is hard to imagine that historically significant lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans are not already being included. The real change here is that while those in the "LGBT" crowd used to scream for others to "stay out of their bedroom," they now demand that their bedroom be put in everyone's classroom.

The absurdity of the law can be seen when considering that despite the proclivity of lowbrow boasting, rarely does a person's bedroom behavior actually make the person worthy of historical veneration—a fact that undoubtedly contributes to so many students finding history class "boring." In fact, when a person's sexual activity might actually be germane, it is almost always for scandalous reasons; and, ironically, this probably couldn't be covered since negative associations with a person's lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender identity is specifically banned by the law. Therefore, according to this new law, sexual pref-

erence rather than actual historical significance will determine inclusion.

All of this means that rather than relying on historians and teachers to do their jobs—stem the tide of cultural and historical ignorance—California politicians have rushed in and demanded that historians and teachers (K-12) waste time endorsing sexual preferences rather than covering their actual subject. And, yes, the law makes no distinction for age or grade level—including, assumedly, little Johnny's and Suzy's kindergarten class.

Such action makes sense only in a bizarre world where political "leaders" of an economically bankrupt state ignore pressing needs in order to tilt at politically correct windmills. Sweetening the irony is the fact that the legislators' usurpation of others' jobs (and dereliction of their own) places more financial burdens on their already strapped school system by demanding the purchase of new textbooks and curriculum.

Of course, the tragic ironies of SB 48 do not end with economics. Proponents of SB 48 trumpet the law as "anti-bullying," but "bullying" is the mildest term one could have for a law that dictates public teachers trample the values of mil-

lions of parents, children, and taxpayers in addition to disregarding their own professional opinions and personal beliefs.

For those thankful that their residency insulates them from the folly of California legislators, it is important to remember that despite laws to the contrary, the United States does have a national curriculum. That curriculum is created by textbook companies, which must cater to high population states. Thereby, while the nation need not fear the actions of Wyoming's legislature, which publishers will ignore, California's de jure educational mandates often become the de facto curriculum for the entire country.

Selecting historical subjects through a myopic lens of sexual preference is simply bad history—a crime egregious enough to outrage Clio. Furthermore, for freedom lovers nationwide, it is also outrageous educational practice and heinous lawmaking.

Dr. Jason R. Edwards is an associate professor of education and history at Grove City College and a fellow with The Center for Vision & Values. See www.VisionAndValues.org and www.VisionAndValuesEvents.com.

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# POPOFF!

with Mary Jane Popp

- 2) Retail-Oriented: classic car sales, antiques business, gourmet food store, used book dealing.
- 3) Create Products: custom clothing design, pet specialty manufacturing, cake decorating, furniture making.

It is a brief easy-to-digest book with each business listing a concise description, why it's perfect for middle-aged or retired people, skills and investment required, and where to find more information. Like... how about Pet Sitting Service? This is an entrepreneur who visits a client's home to take care of pets while the client is traveling. Not much in the way of skills needed other than it helps if you get along better with cats and dogs than people. Low investment, and people are taking more, briefer trips, and vacations. And they are treating their pets more like children. Hey, I'm one of those folks!

If you have a good stomach, how about the Pooper Scooper Business? You visit a dog owner's yard every week or so to remove dog waste from the yard. Low investment, but you do need a good sense of humor.

Do you cry at weddings? Perhaps you can make it a permanent business by being a Wedding Planner. You handle the planning and logistics for

a wedding and all the details leading up to it. But you've got to be a good organizer with research skills, and a flair for negotiation and lots and lots of diplomacy.

Do you like to get into the good earth thing? How about Herb Farming? You grow herbs to sell to a variety of forms from potpourri to herbal cosmetics, and even loose, in bulk. Got to have a green thumb though.

Not every business is sexy. Some are frumpy, but hey, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK TOO HARD!!! Lisa gives you all the info you need to get started. So, if you have had it with that nine to five stuff, then "The 100 Best Businesses To Start When You Don't Want to Work Hard Anymore" is the key. Now I might consider the Cake Decorating biz, but knowing me, I'd probably eat up all my profits. Oh well, I know there's one out there for me! Happy Job Hunting! And, don't work too hard!!!

**Join Mary Jane for the KAHN Noon News Monday-Friday and then again for POPOFF 10 PM-Midnight.**

## TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT !!!

How many times have you wanted to utter those words, but felt compelled to zip it under the circumstances...like you enjoy eating and having a roof over your head? If you are in your 40's, 50's, and even 60's, haven't you yearned to start your own business, but family responsibilities prevented you from doing anything more than dream? Then there's the huge investment for some businesses and time! You are not ready to put in 100 hours a week-plus that's needed to get the business off the ground.

Well, now there is an alternative. How about "The 100 Best Businesses to start when you don't want to work hard anymore?" Lisa Rogak has come up with some pretty nifty ideas in three different types of businesses:

- 1) Services: adventure travel outfitting, educational consulting, massage therapy, reunion planning.



## A Case in Point

# The Case of the Hidden Camera

By David Graulich, Esq.

Somebody was stealing the inmates' money.

Between February and April 1993, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department was missing \$1,124 in cash that was the property of inmates. The money had been stolen from a small cashier's office in the main county jail's booking/release area. Cash belonging to a newly-admitted inmate was stored with the cashier until the inmate was released from jail, when an officer returned the money.

In addition to officers assigned to the cashiers' office, the area was accessible to a number of civilian employees and to inmates who worked on a cleaning detail.

To catch the jailhouse thief, a concealed video camera was placed in the cashier's office. Managers, supervisors and some jail staff were the only ones aware of the camera. No warrant was obtained.

On the second day of surveillance, two officers in the cashier's office noticed something sticking out of a vent and discovered the camera. They removed the camera and reported the discovery to their union, the Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs' Association. The Association then sued Sacramento County.

The Association claimed that the hidden camera violated protections against unlawful search and seizure in the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Additionally, the Association argued that the hidden camera violated the California Penal Code, which prohibits invasion of privacy, and was an unlawful intrusion into the plaintiffs' seclusion.

The key issue was this: did the officers have a reasonable expectation of

privacy while on duty, with the door closed, in the cashier's office of the county jail?

During trial, one officer testified that used the cashier's office for playing cards, balancing his checkbook, checking statistics for a fantasy football league, and undoing his pants so as to tuck in his shirt. A second officer testified that he used the office to drop his pants and adjust bandages around a knee injury. Although the camera had no audio capabilities, all plaintiffs who testified made a point of asserting they used the office for private conversations.

Sacramento County won the first round. The trial court granted the County's motion for summary judgment - that is, the court dismissed the Association's claims. The Association appealed, and the case went before the Court of Appeals of California, Third District, which is located in downtown Sacramento (621 Capitol Mall).

The Association argued that the presence of hidden surveillance cameras raised the danger of an "Orwellian state," in which Big Brother constantly spied on private conduct. Citing a 1967 U.S. Supreme Court case, Katz v. United States, the Association said that the Fourth Amendment "protects people, not places." In other words, the wrongfulness of a hidden camera shouldn't be linked to where it is located, but rather to whether it violates the reasonable expectation of privacy of those persons who are involuntarily being recorded.

If you were on the three-judge panel hearing this case, what would you have ruled?

Here's what happened on appeal: the Association lost again.

"Fourth Amendment jurisprudence," said the court, "reveals a long history of judicial recognition that privacy expectations may be diminished in prison or jail settings, due to institutional security concerns."

Basically, the court said that when you accept employment inside a jail, you also accept that standards for what's public and what's private will be different than in a typical workplace.

"That plaintiffs may have believed they could exclude others and may have closed the door when they wanted privacy does not mean they had an objectively reasonable expectation of privacy," said the court.

What about places in the jail, such as bathrooms and locker rooms, where employees conducted undeniably personal activities? Such places, even in a jail, still had a reasonable expectation of privacy, the court conceded. However, "the release office is not such a place. It serves as an integral component of the system for recording and releasing inmates' property, and it is a room to which inmates have access."

"The nature of the room," the court concluded, "is such that it is not private."

There's a footnote to this case. Despite the use of the candid camera and all the attention that the case received, the jailhouse thief was never caught.

*David Graulich, Esq. is a resident of Fair Oaks and an attorney with The Law Firm of Tim O'Connor. David welcomes comments on "A Case in Point" columns and can be contacted at (916) 932-2312 or by email: David@timconnorattorney.com.*

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# Arts, Entertainment and Other Fun Things to do!



## Polish Festival Sept. 10th

Placer County - The public is invited to attend the 22nd Annual Polish Festival on Saturday, September 10, 2011.

The festival will be held from noon to 6 p.m. at the Polish American Club, located at 327 Main

Street in Roseville. Fill up on home-made Polish foods – pierogies, golabki, potato pancakes, bigos and Polish pastries! Enjoy live Polka music, folk dancers, a Polish marketplace and more!

Admission is free. For information and directions, go to <http://www.polish-club.org> or call (916) 782-7171.

Photo courtesy of Barbara Wroblecky.

## Lions Giant Flea Market Growing



Auburn – The Auburn 49er Lions Club is planning another of its semi-annual giant Flea Market events. Buyers and sellers alike have enjoyed participating in the past two events. The up-coming Giant Flea Market will be held on October 1st, from 7 am to 2 pm, on the upper ball field of the Gold Country Fairgrounds.

Venders may rent a space, about 15'x30', for \$35.00. Also, there are spaces, 20'x40', available for \$50.00. Space choices are on a first-

paid basis. Vender set-up begins at 5 am. Plans are in the works to make set-up easy. For space reservations, call Andy at (530) 273-6847.

The 49er Lions Club will be on hand to take care of any hunger pangs. The aroma of cooking pancakes may entice visitors to take a moment and eat a hot breakfast. For lunch, the BBQ will be full of hot dogs and hamburgers.

For those who are feeling lucky, sign up for free prize drawings at the 49er Lions information booth.

There will also be a DJ playing music and free balloons for the kids.

“Practice makes perfect”. The 49er Lions Club expects the Giant Flea Market to grow and get bigger and better. Everybody wins. Venders can gain from cleaning out their unwanted items, and buyers may find treasures at as reasonable cast.

If you have questions, call Andy at (530) 273-6847 or contact him at [andyson1312@yahoo.com](mailto:andyson1312@yahoo.com) or [49erlions@gamil.com](mailto:49erlions@gamil.com).

## Bayside Auburn’s Prayers and Squares

### “Knock Your Socks Off” Chili Cook-Off

Bayside Auburn is a small but growing church in the Foothills of the Sierra. The Bayside Auburn Quilt Prayer Ministry, otherwise known as Prayers and Squares, is holding:

The Second Annual “Knock Your Socks Off” Sheila Trimmer Memorial Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, October 2, 2011 from

5 – 7 p.m.

Awards will be given for Judged Chili and “The Peoples Choice”

A \$5.00 Donation gets you all the chili tasting you can handle, a ticket for you to decide “The Peoples Choice Award”, and a choice of your favorite

condiments.

Hotdogs and your favorite soft drink will be available for purchase.

All proceeds benefit The Bayside Auburn Quilt Ministry (Prayers and Squares)

For more information call 530-885-9400.

## Rivercats Playoff Tickets on Sale

The River Cats’ first-round opponent will be the rival Reno Aces (Triple-A affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks), who own a 5.5-game lead in the North Division.

If the River Cats advance to the PCL Championship Series (also

a best-of-five format) they would again host games 3, 4 and 5 (Sept. 16, 17 and 18) at Raley Field (Games 4 and 5 if necessary). Games 1 and 2 would be played on the road. If the River Cats were to win this series and be crowned Pacific Coast

League Champions, they would then play the International League Champion in the Triple-A Baseball National Championship Game in Albuquerque, NM, on Tuesday, September 20.

## A Gift of the Heart-“Homeland”

On the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001, A Gift of the Heart presents a patriotic concert honoring the heroism of that day, and celebrating our American heritage and unconquerable spirit. The Gift of the Heart Orchestra and Singers, with special guests Placer Pops Chorale (formerly Sierra Community Chorus), pres-

ent an inspiring evening of music featuring vocal and instrumental arrangements of American classics, for all your family and friends. Included in the program will be “Star Spangled Banner,” “America, the Beautiful,” “The Cowboy’s Overture,” “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy,” and much more!

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# END of the BENCH

by Gerry Scholl

## The Giants Must Believe in Science

At this point in the Major League Baseball season the annual discussion of "Chemistry" pops up — which teams have it and which are lacking.

Of course, the winning teams have it and the losing teams don't. Teams hanging on the edge of a pennant race — such as your San Francisco Giants — are at the center of the debate.

Philadelphia, Atlanta and Milwaukee in the National League have all but locked up playoff berths. Those teams sure have the chemistry. The Giants, trying to catch and pass the Arizona Diamondbacks, must restructure a winning formula through the final weeks to claim the last post-season spot.

San Francisco obviously had its atomic systems in order last season while winning its first World Series in The City. But the negative forces of professional sports have broken down the cohesion of that unit.

Trying to defend a championship introduces a unique pressure. No NL team since the '75-76 Cincinnati Reds has done it successfully. And, only the New York Yankees and Toronto Blue Jays have done so in the American League. The odds are greatly against a repeat.

Roster changes due to free agency, trades, promotions and demotions

affected the composition of the club. Replacing the Edgar Renteria/Juan Uribe infield tandem with an aging Miguel Tejada, journeyman Mike Fontenot and sometimes youthful Brandon Crawford just didn't work out. Struggling, now Tejada seems to have checked out as a "team player." Hopefully, 2B Jeff Keppinger will fill the void.

But, certainly, the destructive abnormalities of injuries introduced into the equation have had the most profound effects. The catastrophic loss for the season of Rookie of the Year catcher Buster Posey ripped at the core of the team. Losing another "glue guy" in No. 2 hitter second baseman Freddy Sanchez for the season was a major blow.

A quick count reveals at least 18 players have spent significant time on the disabled list. Manager Bruce Bochy has seemingly turned in a new lineup on a daily basis. None of that does much for continuity. Still being in the race should be a surprise.

Chemistry: "Elements of a complex entity and their dynamic interrelation."

I guess bad elements can produce "bad chemistry."

The most positively charged particles on the Giants as they are now are on the

pitching staff. If they can get that group back together as they were, including injured closer Brian Wilson, perhaps that could recharge the team as a whole down the stretch drive.

A photograph in one newspaper showed three Arizona outfielders in a mid-air "bump" — joined as one molecule. The D-Backs have streaked past the Giants to the West Division lead.

These two forces will collide head on six times in September. The actions and reactions in those games should determine the ultimate outcome.

To prevail the Giants will have to make the proper adjustments in their structure to create a substance greater than its parts, as they did a season ago. They'll need "good chemistry" to produce a synchronicity of events such as last year.

Talent, good health, good luck, good rapport equals chemistry, equals winning.

Bochy should hold a closed door meeting and show his team a video of the team from Huntington Beach, Ca., winning the Little League World Series in walk-off fashion. Show the victory celebration. Now there's some bonding, some chemistry.

# KOVAR'S CORNER

on Real Estate Q&A



By Tim Kovar, Realtor/Broker, DRE# 01831154

### Four Options

We've shared information about saving your financial future by empowering yourself with real estate knowledge. However, most of the terminology, process and consequences of falling behind on your mortgage payments is still a mystery to many. First, what are the homeowner's options?

Some parts of Sacramento have seen their home values decline as much as 60% from the price peak just a few years ago. This means that everyone who purchased a home in the last 8 years or so probably owes more than the home is worth. This is what we hear referred to as 'underwater' on your loan.

If someone owes more than the property is worth, and they need to sell their home, they are faced with 4 options. The first option is to pay off the loan from their savings account (in today's market very few can do this). The second option is to attempt a mortgage modification. This is where the homeowner negotiates with the bank to get them to reduce the amount owed. So far the banks haven't been very cooperative in this department. In fact, I do not know anyone who has had a significant modification. The third option is to let the bank foreclose. The problem with this option is that a foreclosure, like bankruptcy, will stay as a

'blemish' on your credit report for up to 10 years. In today's lending environment you will not be able to finance another home, or for some any loan, until the foreclosure drops off the credit report.

Additionally, depending on the type of loan, the banks have a right to recover their loss from you, up to years in the future — subject to statute of limitation laws. Yes, depending on your type of loan, the bank could actually sue you to recover the loss they took on your foreclosed or defaulted loan! Do you have a home loan that has exposed you to tens of thousands of dollars in potential loss? In our next column, short sales and how they work.

*Arm yourself with real estate knowledge! Real estate, mortgage and other property questions can be emailed to [tim.kovar@gmail.com](mailto:tim.kovar@gmail.com) or get immediate assistance by calling (916) 549-4340. Kovar Family Real Estate, DRE# 01831154.*

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# Remembering 9/11

## The \$3 Million 'Fisher' Man to Talk to Rooster Tails Fishing Club



This photograph was taken while on a visit to New York City just a short time before the September 11th tragedy. I flew to New York often on business and while on teaching schedules. When the Towers were struck that day, I watched with the rest of the world and did not know if any of my friends or students were a part of the horrific scene. On another trip back there in May after the attack the shock was still so evident on the faces of the good people of New York. As even more years pass and life goes on, let us not forget those who lost their lives, nor forget to offer our prayers for all those who suffered. Photo by Paul V. Scholl.

many lives that day: more than 2,800 in total, including 343 firefighters and 72 peace officers. A few days ago, as we reflected on their courage in the face of the worst terrorist attack ever on American soil, we came across a quote from the widow of Battalion Chief Orio J. Palmer. Up until the very moment the tower came crashing down around him, Chief Palmer was organizing the evacuation of those injured by the airplane's devastating impact.

After listening to an audiotape of her husband's heroic efforts that was released in 2002, Mrs. Palmer said: "I didn't hear fear, I didn't hear panic. When the tape is made public to the world, people will hear that they all went about their jobs without fear, and selflessly."

In the decade since 9-11, police departments, fire departments and other public-safety agencies throughout America have worked closely with county, state and federal departments, locally implementing policies and procedures that were enacted following creation of the Department of Homeland Security. Guided by our goal of enhancing public safety, we've focused our efforts on preventing terrorist attacks against vulnerable targets, and prepared rapid, coordinated, effective responses if and when an attack occurs.

While the terrorist attacks ushered in changes in the way public safety agencies operate, those changes were all based on something that will never change: our steadfast commitment to ensuring the safety of the citizens we are sworn to serve and protect.

As we observe the 10th anniversary of 9-11, it is with solemn reverence and gratitude to the fallen heroes who gave everything that September morning. Inspired by their sacrifices, we will echo their promise when called to duty:

"We're on our way."

## "We're On Our Way"

Commentary by David L. Maggard, President of the Board, California Police Chiefs Association and Sheldon Gilbert, President of the Board, California Fire Chiefs Association

"All right, ten-four, we're on our way."

"We're on our way." Simple, direct, powerful. Those four little words speak volumes about the extraordinary heroism, bravery and determination demonstrated by the hundreds of police officers and firefighters who rushed into the chaos on September 11, 2001. Knowing the situation was bad – but amidst the panic and confusion, not fully aware of its enormity – they did what they were sworn to do: Get on their way as quickly as possible to reach those who needed their help.

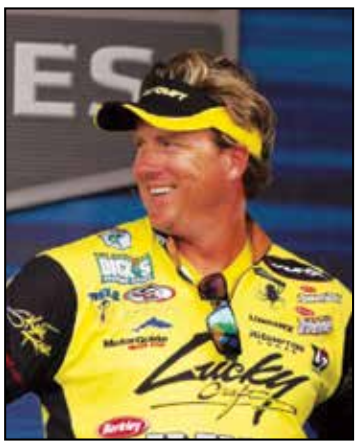
That they did so without hesitation – and that firefighters and police officers in cities across our nation continue to do so ev-



ery day – at tremendous personal risk, commands our unending respect, admiration and gratitude.

While it has been 10 years since "the day that changed everything," the raw emotions that images and transcripts of 9-11 still bring to the surface make it seem like it was just yesterday. For those of us in public safety, it might as well have been, because we will never forget the enormous personal sacrifices our colleagues made that terrible morning.

New York City lost many,



Bass Pro Angler Skeet Reese

Auburn - Seldom do Auburn organizations or clubs have the opportunity to hear a nationally recognized champion as a guest speaker. The Rooster Tails Fishing Club is proud to announce that Bass Pro Angler Skeet Reese will be the special guest speaker at our September 16 breakfast meeting at the Auburn Elks Lodge, 195 Pine St., Auburn, CA 95603. The doors at the lodge open at 7:00 AM with a fantastic \$12 buffet breakfast served from 8:00 to 9:00 and the presentation by Skeet begins at 9:00 sharp.

Skeet Reese, a Bassmaster Elite Series winner, a 2009 Bassmaster Classic Champion and the 2007 Bassmaster Angler of the Year and has compiled more than \$3 million in career earnings. The 42 year old bass fishing pro has qualified for 12 Bassmaster Classics, and has 53 'Top 10' finishes including six wins in B.A.S.S. competition in his 13 year career. Reese has been featured on the cover of Bass Masters and Parade Magazines and is endorsed as a spokesman for thirteen major fishing manufacturers, including Lucky Craft, Berkley, Stratos® Boats, Mercury Outboards, Lowrance Electronics, and Dick's Sporting Goods. Reese also provides a complete line of custom fishing related products including rods, reels, lures, and more at [www.skeetreeseinc.com](http://www.skeetreeseinc.com). Skeet, a California native, resides in the Auburn area with his wife Kim and his two daughters. He is community minded, supports many local charities and enjoys sharing the outdoors with his family.

The 28 year old, 135-member Rooster Tails Fishing Club

of Northern California, Inc. is a non-profit organization that meets the third Friday of each month to educate, entertain, and enhance a fishing experience. Unlike many bass and fly fishing clubs that concentrate on very specific types of fishing, the Rooster Tails Fishing Club provides a balanced mix of fishing techniques presented by fishing experts targeting a variety of fish species on multiple types of waters. Further information can be found at [www.roostertailsfishingclub.org](http://www.roostertailsfishingclub.org).

For more information on attending Rooster Tails Fishing Club of Northern California, Inc. meetings, contact Jim, Club Chairman, 530-887-0479, or [pres@roostertailsfishingclub.org](mailto:pres@roostertailsfishingclub.org).



### A PRAYER SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 11



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