



Time for Me to Fly!

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Never, Ever Forget



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Family's La Favorita Celebrates



Joel Rabago and Nestor Paredes are two of the three new owners of Viva La Favorita Meat Market and are hosting a grand opening on Sunday. The third party is Rabago's father-in-law, Alfonso Ulloa.

Story and photo by Debra Dingman, Dixon editor

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The delicious aroma of marinated carnitas and authentic mole sauce delights your senses when you first walk into Viva La Favorita at 925 North Adams Street. And, it is not the only change you will experience with the new ownership of the Mexican Meat Market. All the aisles full of typical grocery products are another – but most importantly is the presence of three hardworking Hispanic men: the new owners stocking groceries and making customers happy every day.

Joel Rabago, Nestor Paredes and Alfonso Ulloa, who represent three generations, are all family connected. They are hosting the store's grand opening this Sunday, September 18. They chose that weekend because Mexican Independence Day is on September 16, the day Mexico declared freedom from Spain in 1810. The Dixon Chamber of Commerce will have them officially cut the red ribbon of welcome at 1 p.m.

It was Ulloa who heard from vendors that the Viva store owner out of Sacramento was considering a sale. "My father-in-law is the pioneer in

grocery stores and is very involved," explained Rabago, who left his job in the auto industry to come in as one of the three owners. "There is no time for cars anymore, so the store is my new hobby," he said with a laugh.

White-haired Ulloa was busy serving a hot dish behind the store's lunch counter.

The Paredes family is not new to entrepreneurship as they own an ice cream store in Sonoma and Nestor commutes about an hour to get to Dixon daily. Naturally, they sell scoops of the ice cream in Viva alongside the delicious looking flan, *Continued on page 3*

Bargain Shop Inside

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Succulents, antique and collectibles are just some of the many offerings for sale at Saturday's cool, indoor garage sale at the Dixon Senior Center/Multi-Use Center this coming Saturday, September 17, from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be 15-20 tables of merchandise promised to be priced to move, said the event coordinator Barbara Long of the Senior Club.

"Now is the time to get rid of some of that extra stuff we all have around our homes," she said.

There will be ample selections, except for furniture, inside the air-conditioned hall as tables were rented by a variety of people including two tables by the Dixon Women's Improvement Club. For participants, this is an opportunity to earn some money off the items in your house that you no longer want or need or were otherwise forgotten. In Dixon specifically, there is no place that one can recycle their unwanteds as there is no longer a Good Will store or any drop boxes right now. Plus, it's a great way to find a bargain. For the most part, the sale will be full of items that range from 50 cents to 10 dollars.

"This is a fundraiser for a Senior Treasury to supplement activities like the Ice Cream Social, pizza party, Bingo, Bunco, and our Christmas Dinner. A couple years ago we had to replace the Bingo Board," Long said.

People have still been a little hesitant about coming out to the Senior Center but almost every activity has returned, and they have a solid group of people involved in the Senior Club, she reported. The center is at 201 S. Fifth Street and to ensure a safe environment for members of our community, it is recommended that unvaccinated guests who enter the building wear a mask.

The president of the Senior Club is Phyllis Nixon and the Board meets the second Tuesday of every month. Anyone is welcome to come to the Board meetings if they want. ★

Changes in Churches

By Debra Dingman

DIXON, CA (MPG) - Two Dixon churches and their leadership are undergoing major changes from getting new pastors to getting a new name.

DUMC New Pastor
Dixon United Methodist Church congregation said, 'Farewell for Now' back in May to Pastor Cathy Morris after her 35 years of 'shepherding.' She was off with her husband to care for her aging parents and handed the reins over to Pastor Henry Pablo III, a 27-year-old only one year out of seminary school minister. He started in July with an incredible opportunity to serve a congregation in a smaller community such as Dixon, he said.

The new minister's family is from the Bay Area and were in church on a recent Sunday to meet their son's new community and help the couple move into their new Dixon apartment.

"He's very friendly and he wants to get involved in the community like Pastor Cathy did," said DUMC member Pam Cozzoli. It is planned that he will



Under the direction of Interim Pastor Mike Farias, Dixon Community Church was rebranded as Revive Church and introduced with fanfare to the congregation in late August. Photo by Debra Dingman

stay for at least two years although even the seminary is seeing some labor shortages and Pastor Henry could possibly stay in Dixon longer.

They are located at 209 North Jefferson, across from the Dixon Chamber of Commerce. It is the oldest church in Dixon.

They offer two services: One at 8:30 a.m. which is a more quiet contemplative

service with weekly communion. There is also a 10 a.m. traditional inter-generational worship with children's worship time. The 10 a.m. service is also livestreamed on their YouTube channel for those who are at home. Henry regularly posts a morning message of encouragement on the church Facebook page that anyone can access at any time.

For more information, call (707) 678-1981.

DCC to Revive
Dixon Community Church has also undergone a dramatic change. The church has a new name: Revive Church and is affiliated with the Assemblies of God. Intern Pastor Mike Farias initiated the change after studying the history of the church and *Continued on page 3*



Life's too SHORT



Helpful Guide to Great Meetings

By Debra Dingman, Dixon editor

Pretending to be the meeting guru of Dixon would be just plain silly, but I have learned a few things over the past 30 years of attending and leading them so if you'd like to improve the meetings you lead or attend so that they are not a waste of time; so that they are productive; so that members/people will want to come to them; I will offer here a few helpful ideas.

First, I will point to a couple of great examples of meeting preppers: Denise McBride and Darla Wear. They come an hour before and prepare the room – always over estimating attendance because we know it's better to have more than enough than not enough. They ask questions and you feel that you've participated. Why go to a meeting if you are just going to walk away not being able to help or do something? People come to meetings for two reasons: They either (1) have to (like for job assignments) or (2) they want to get something (knowledge, help, involvement.)

The biggest take-aways from meetings where these two are involved is to know you were anticipated and they want to make you feel like you are of noble descent. There are even matching napkins and/or pretty tablecloths.

So, before anything else, you should review these important facts from the short course on Human Relations: (1) The six most important words are 'I admit I made a mistake.' (2) The five most important words: 'You did a good job.' (3) The four most important words: 'What is your opinion?' (5) The three most important words: 'Would you mind?' The two most important words: 'Thank you.' The most important word:

'We.' The LEAST important word: 'I.'

I cannot overemphasize that when people go to a meeting and they do not say anything, they leave the meeting feeling it was a waste. The purpose of gathering people together is to disseminate information and collect it.

If a leader assigns him or herself all the tasks, the audience is not thinking, "How wonderful, he/she has it all under control." They are thinking, "What's in this for me?" If you've been put into the position of leader, you should have ideas and solutions and direction but you should not have all the answers. And, you certainly should not be doing everything yourself. Unless, of course, you enjoy burn out and eventually, no one attending your meetings.

Provide simple refreshments or at least water – especially when it is HOT or cold and turn on the AC or the heater to make the room comfortable. Who can concentrate on your important message if she or he is shivering or sweating?

Have an agenda and stick to it. Politely cut people off who want to talk an extended period of time by saying, "This is not something we need to decide now," or "Write up your thoughts and email them to me," or "Let's discuss that at another meeting or later." DO NOT ALLOW three-hour meetings. Three-hour diner parties are fine but NOT meetings.

If you cannot get done what needs to be done in 1.5 hours or less, then go back to the drawing board and create committees. At meetings, committee reports are conclusive and require only, 'yes,' 'no,' or 'take that back to the committee.'

Do you have other tips? Email me at debra@independentvoice.com. ★

Dixon News Briefs



The Dixon High School Varsity Team charges out into Finney Field at the start of the home games. Photo by Nicolas Brown

MPG Staff

Home Game

Tonight's Dixon High School Rams football games are at home beginning at 5 p.m. for JV and 7 p.m. for Varsity. The game theme is 'Teacher Appreciation' and we will be playing against Will C. Wood Wildcats from Vacaville. The high school is located at 555 College Way and there is free parking.

Medical Equipment

At the Senior/Multi-purpose Center in Dixon, there are some pieces of medical equipment available for free rental. There are canes, walkers, shower seats, and other equipment that may be used by seniors. They also loan out puzzles and books for seniors to enjoy. Call (707) 678-7022 between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. for more information.

City Council

Next Tuesday, September 20, there will be a City Planning Commission meeting at 7 pm. As always, the meeting is inside the Council Chambers at City Hall, 600 East A Street. But, it is also on Zoom to participate from your computer or through Granicus to watch (but no speaking) on your computer. See the agenda and links on the City of Dixon website.

Maine Prairie

Did you know that Maine Prairie offers a Wellness Center? If students are feeling overwhelmed, anxious or just need to take a timeout to reset, they are encouraged to come to the office to see Mrs. Arias or Mrs. Ramos who can escort the student to the Wellness Center to speak with Angela Lockwood, the new mental health clinician. Also, their Back to School Night is set for Wednesday, September 21.

Montessori School

Volunteer School Crosswalk Guards are needed at Dixon Montessori Charter School for after school by the Kindergarten/1st grade gates for morning and afternoons. If you can help, please call (707) 678-8953. The school is located at 355 North Almond. Also, their picture day is Wednesday, October 25.

Dog Show

The public is invited to the Donner Trail Kennel Dog Show at the May Fair on Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Friday, September 23, there will be a specialty show featuring Doberman Pinschers. There is no admission but a charge for parking. The show has a long history; organized since the early 70s. This is their first show since the pandemic, and they expect 1,000 dogs. For more information, call Adrian Woodfork at (916) 716-2369. Note: only dogs registered for the show are allowed on site.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour at the Dixon Historical Museum will be a book discussion of The Train Never Stops in Dixon by Bil Paul (available at the Museum or on Amazon) on Wednesday, September 28, 3 to 5 p.m. This book is the true story of how Carissa Carpenter came to Dixon to try to sell a scam of building a movie studio in the town. Address is 125 West A Street, downtown.

Steak Dinner

The Friday night dinner at the Veterans Memorial Hall will be steak, baked potato, vegetables, and a roll for \$17. Time is 6 to 8 p.m. while supplies last. It is located at 1305 North First Street. You do not have to be a veteran to attend. The funds help support the hall and veteran activities. ★

Rolling in the Grass



Large 3-foot by 3-foot spools of turf were unfurled on top of fertilized and prepared sod by small tractors at the new Southwest Park on Pitt School Road last week during the heatwave. Several workers who were arranged through Southwest developers packed it snugly into place. Dozens of sprinklers twirled water to keep the new grass moist so that it would take root and be ready in approximately a month for children to be able to play on if the new grass is approved by the City of Dixon. Photo by Debra Dingman

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Family's La Favorita Celebrates

Continued from page 1

fresh-baked Mexican pastries, breads, and a variety of muffins including a delicious-looking large corn muffin. The men rotate working in different parts of the store, so they can learn every facet of the business.

"We all came into the business [full time] and we're living off this so we have to make it work," he said. "All are welcome to celebrate with us. We want to show our appreciation to our customers. It's been a really good year." They plan to have specials, food prizes, and hopefully live music, he added. They are grateful that their customer base has picked up.

They won't have to convince Maria Herrera and Maria Rubio. The two women have shopped at the store for 30 years, they said, and noticed the full shelves right away. There is an entire wall of Mexican spices. Herrera's favorite reason for shopping there is the meat, she said, but also the fruits, vegetables, and the selection of beans in large bins that are sold by the pound.

The fresh meat department allows customers to purchase small or large quantities and they offer a large counter full of

fresh fish including catfish, salmon, crabs, shrimp, and even whole octopus. The fish can be purchased in a variety of ways like whole fish, nuggets, or fillets.

"Our biggest draw is our meat market," said Rabago. "A customer recently made a custom order of an 80-pound hog for a large party. We also have specialized cuts that you can't get elsewhere." Across the aisle was Maria Paraga who has worked in the cheeses and sauces counter at the store for at least ten years and stayed on with the new team.

"I really like them," she said.

The store is busy with Hispanics. All the cashiers are Spanish speaking like Fabiola Juarez who commutes from Sacramento but there are plenty of 'gringos' (not Hispanic or Latino) who shop there as well.

"This is the only place I can buy powdered sugar in the box," said customer Sandy Tipton who makes cookies for neighbors and friends, and who said the store under the new management looks nicer.

"It was a seamless transition," said Brian Johnson, a busy Frito Lay Distributor restocking a variety of Doritos tortilla chips. ★

Dixon High School Principal's Message

By Stephanie Marquez, Principal

Wow! It is crazy hot this week! I hope you are all doing well through this heatwave, and I wanted to take a moment to assure you that we have your students' health at the front of our minds. We will all need to work together to stay engaged in learning as this continues. We will keep your student comfortable and safe. We will be canceling and/or limiting outside time for kids. We have plenty of indoor spaces at lunch and students will not be participating in outdoor PE until the temperatures drop.

We will continue to address HVAC issues as they arise throughout the heatwave and power outages. When we do have a classroom with cooling issues, we will move that class to a classroom with air until the issue is resolved. Our HVAC repair service is working hard to keep things running smoothly.

We need you and your student to do your part too. Please make sure your student has plenty of water in their day and that they let you (or us) know if they are feeling bad due to heat.

Our athletic teams are also in full swing with a big football win against



Stephanie Marquez, DHS Principal

Winters and Armijo (and a growing JV program), a volleyball team is doing great as is cross country. Our water polo team has celebrated some big wins as well.

We are hosting clubs, such as Math Steeplechase and Academic Decathlon Teams. Make sure your student is listening to the announcements every day, so they are aware of meetings and opportunities.

At the first PTO meeting they elected a PTO President (Lisa Altmiller)

and Vice President (Heather Morales). This parent group will be working closely with student/staff activities, programs on campus and in the community so stay tuned.

Coming up: September 19 through September 23 are Senior Picture Appointments from noon to 7 p.m. by Prestige Photography; Friday, September 23 is the Homecoming Football Game DHS vs. Fairfield; and September 24 is our Homecoming Dance. ★

Yolo Basin Foundation to Host Annual Bucks for Ducks Benefit



Yolo Basin Foundation invites the public to its annual fundraising event, Bucks for Ducks, on Sunday, October 9. Photo courtesy Patou Ricard | Pixabay

YBF Special Release

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Yolo Basin Foundation (YBF) invites the public to attend its Bucks for Ducks annual fundraising event. It will take place on Sunday, October 9, 2022 from 3-6 p.m. at the El Macero Country Club in El Macero, near Davis. Bucks for Ducks brings people together to support the future work and legacy of YBF. At the event, featured photography and art will be displayed and guests will learn about the Foundation's educational programs. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served.

This year YBF will recognize Yolo County at Bucks for Ducks, as the first recipient of the Vic Fazio Legacy Award for its integral role in establishing and

signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Water Resources. The Vic Fazio Legacy Award was created by the Yolo Basin Foundation Board of Directors to recognize an individual, entity, or group of individuals who has promoted or contributed to the stewardship of the Vic Fazio Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

YBF will also hold an online public auction October 2-10. Nearly 70 one-of-a-kind photographs, art pieces, jewelry and unique experiences will be available to bid on. Proceeds will help YBF continue to connect, first-hand, our community and school children with the beauty and importance of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

YBF's mission is achieved through the support of generous sponsors and donors. This year's key sponsors include Vice Mayor Angelique Ashby and the City of Sacramento, UC Davis, Knaggs Ranch, Lindsay Anne Weston, MBK Engineers, Robin Kulakow and Bill Julian, and Westervelt Ecological Services.

Limited tickets are available for \$100 each at yolobasin.ejoinme.org/tickets. Details about Yolo Basin Foundation and Bucks for Ducks may be found at yolo.basin.org.

For more information, contact Pam Emery, Development Coordinator, Yolo Basin Foundation at (530) 757-3780 or email pemery@yolobasin.org ★

Changes in Churches

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seeing how the various changes in pastors' ordainments inadvertently contributed to church instability and often affected the rise and fall of membership.

"Dixon Community Church's history goes back 135 years and over the years, there have been many denominational and relationship changes. What we recognized in digging through history, is that with every pastoral change, the pastor would bring their own persuasions and indoctrinations," he said.

"To bring stability to the organization, we felt it would be best to affiliate and we applied with [Assemblies of God] a cooperative fellowship. We're definitely in a new season with bringing [Neighborhood Christian School] on campus. We felt the Lord would be pleased to do a name change and we recognized that we ended a season and we're beginning a new one," he said. Farias is ordained through the Assemblies of God and has brought Jason McNaughton on as an Associate Pastor. McNaughton was a Youth Pastor for DCC

for several years under then Pastor Wes Nordman and ultimately the Associate Pastor under Senior Pastor Dan Vraa. Later, McNaughton served as Senior Pastor at Pioneer Church in Winters.

"I am so happy to be back in Dixon and serving in the church. I want to have a ministry that brings all glory to God and God alone. The central focus of the church should not be to serve ourselves or the world but God only," said McNaughton whose wife, Cecilia and three children moved back to Dixon recently.

"I firmly believe that we need the next generation to lead," Farias said. "I'm pleased that Jason has an interest and I enjoy working with him and watching him grow and develop. There is a lot more [to pastoring] than just preaching," he said.

The rebranding announcement was made with fanfare a few weeks ago at a recent Sunday service with banners, signs, and festive balloons. The church is located at 955 East A Street in Dixon. For more information, call (707) 678-1981. ★

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The Dixon District Chamber of Commerce is proud to welcome the following new members

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James 4:17

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Scammers Use Every Trick to Steal Your Identity, Financial Information

IRS News Release

WASHINGTON, CA (MPG) - Suspicious communications in all its forms designed to either trick, surprise or scare someone into responding before thinking is No. 7 on the 2022 "Dirty Dozen" scams warning list, the Internal Revenue Service announced today, warning everyone to be on the lookout for bogus calls, texts, emails and posts online to gain trust or steal.

Criminals have used these methods for years and they persist because these tricks work enough times to keep the scammers at it. Victims are tricked into providing sensitive personal financial information, money or other information. This can be used to file false tax returns and tap into financial accounts, among other schemes.

"If you are surprised or scared by a call or text, it's likely a scam so proceed with extreme caution," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "I urge everyone to verify a suspicious email or other communication independently of the message in question."

The IRS has compiled the annual Dirty Dozen list for more than 20 years as a way of alerting taxpayers and the tax professional community about scams and schemes. The list is not a legal document or a literal listing of agency enforcement priorities. It is designed to raise awareness among a variety of audiences that may not always be aware of developments involving tax administration.

As part of the Security Summit effort with the states and the nation's tax industry, the IRS has made great strides in preventing and reducing tax-related identity theft. But it remains a serious threat to taxpayers and tax professionals who don't adequately protect Social Security numbers (SSN) and other personal information.

For example, criminals can quickly file a fake tax return using a stolen SSN

in the hope that it has not already appeared on another filed return. People frequently don't know they are a victim of identity theft until they are notified by the IRS of a possible issue with their tax return or their return is rejected because the SSN appears on a return already filed.

Here are some common scams the IRS continues to see. Taxpayers should take extra caution with these schemes, which continue to evolve and change:

Text message scams: These scams are sent to taxpayers' smartphones and can reference things like COVID-19 and/or "stimulus payments." These messages often contain bogus links claiming to be IRS websites or other online tools. Other than IRS Secure Access, the IRS does not use text messages to discuss personal tax issues, such as those involving bills or refunds. The IRS also will not send taxpayers messages via social media platforms.

If a taxpayer receives an unsolicited SMS/text that appears to be from either the IRS or a program closely linked to the IRS, the taxpayer should take a screenshot of the text message and include the screenshot in an email to phishing@irs.gov with the following information:

Date, time and time zone they received the text message; Phone number that received the text message; The IRS reminds everyone NOT to click links or open attachments in unsolicited, suspicious or unexpected text messages whether from the IRS, state tax agencies or others in the tax community.

Email phishing scams: The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. The IRS initiates most contacts through regular mail. If a taxpayer receives an unsolicited fraudulent email that appears to be from either the IRS or a program closely linked to the

IRS, report it by sending the email as an attachment to phishing@irs.gov. The Report Phishing and Online Scams page at IRS.gov provides complete details.

Phone scams: The IRS does not leave pre-recorded, urgent or threatening messages. In many variations of the phone scam, victims are told if they do not call back, a warrant will be issued for their arrest. Other verbal threats include law-enforcement agency intervention, deportation or revocation of licenses.

Criminals can fake or "spoof" caller ID numbers to appear to be anywhere in the country, including from an IRS office. This prevents taxpayers from being able to verify the caller's true number. Fraudsters also have spoofed local sheriff's offices, state departments of motor vehicles, federal agencies and others, to convince taxpayers the call is legitimate.

The IRS (and its authorized private collection agencies) will never:

Call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. The IRS does not use these methods for tax payments; Threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have the taxpayer arrested for not paying; Demand that taxes be paid without giving the taxpayer the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed; Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

Generally, the IRS will first mail a bill to any taxpayer who owes taxes. All tax payments should only be made payable to the U.S. Treasury and checks should never be made payable to third parties. For anyone who doesn't owe taxes and has no reason to think they do: Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately. For more information, see IR-2022-25. ★



Drought, Freeze Take a Toll on California's 2022 Almond Yield

California's almond production is expected to drop by 11% this year, with the yield falling by 2.6 billion pounds. The state's continuing drought and a devastating February freeze in several almond-growing counties is to blame. The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that \$35 million in indemnities were paid to state almond growers this year, with more than 90% of crop losses blamed on the freeze. Major Northern California almond counties, Colusa and Glenn, suffered respective crop losses of \$209 million and \$150 million.

Purple Limes Stoke Discussion on Bioengineering

A new transgenic lime developed by scientists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture can dramatically change the tint of your next margarita. Ready for purple? The new purple lime is created by inserting the pigment gene from the blood orange into Mexican lime plants. USDA research geneticist Jim Thomson says the idea is to stir discussion over bioengineered products in hopes of gaining greater public acceptance. Bioengineering of citrus products is also seen as a potential guard against crop diseases, such as huanglongbing or HLB.

California Union-Organizing Bill Reaches Governor's Desk

Gov. Gavin Newsom last year vetoed legislation that purported to make it easier for farm employees to vote for union representation. Newsom rejected Assembly Bill 616, a mail-order ballot measure criticized as a ruse to impose a card-check union-organizing system that could replace secret-ballot elections. Now he is considering an updated bill, AB 2183, which passed in the Legislature. The governor's office has expressed reservations, saying the bill lacks "critical protections" to safeguard the election process.

Application Period Opens for \$2 Million in State Pollinator Habitat Grants

The California Department of Food and Agriculture is making \$2 million in grants available to help farmers and ranchers install pollinator habitat on agricultural lands throughout California. The grant application period for the Pollinator Habitat Program began Aug. 31 and ends on Nov. 23. The state Legislature last year set aside \$15 million for pollination efforts through such grant programs. Information is available on the Pollinator Habitat Program page of the CDFA website. ★

Legislature Extends COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave to Workers

Paschal Roth Public Affairs

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- On August 31, 2022, the California Labor Federation, the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) California and the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Western States Council came together to applaud the California Legislature's passage of AB 152/SB 136 to extend COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave to essential workers until December 31, 2022. COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave was previously set to expire on September 30, 2022, leaving workers with only the state mandated three paid sick days as the state faces the possibility of fall and winter surges of the highly transmissible virus.

"As California's workers battle the affordability crisis at the same time the transmission of COVID-19 continues to commonly occur in workplaces, schools, and public spaces, we are grateful to see the Legislature extend this safety net to families when their breadwinners are sidelined by infection," California Labor Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher said.

"Our state has understood the value of paid sick leave since California became the first state in the nation to guarantee that protective benefit to every employee, but we've especially seen the benefit that extending paid leave has had on families' own economic security and the public health since the pandemic began two-and-a-half years ago."

Without the extension of this critical leave, workers would have no safety net if they are exposed or sick with COVID-19. Essential frontline workers are placed in situations where they have to choose between either going to work while sick, or staying home and risking their income and their job. They are often unable to follow public health advice and quarantine when sick or exposed, keep sick or exposed children home from school, care for sick family, get vaccinated, or recover from vaccine side effects without risking their job or pay.

"Fast food workers, and all workers, should never be forced to choose between their family's health and a paycheck," said Laura Pozos, a worker at McDonald's in Monterey Park and an activist with Fight for 15 and a Union. "I can't afford any gap in my paychecks

- I've got to pay the rent and feed my kids. I'm thankful California's leaders did the right thing by listening to us and extended this leave."

We know paid sick leave saves lives. One study found that states whose workers newly gained access to paid sick leave through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) saw four hundred fewer confirmed cases per day, translating into approximately one case prevented for every 1,300 workers per day.

"We're glad the California Legislature voted to extend this life-saving benefit so workers can remain protected as the weather grows colder and viruses will be spread more easily throughout workplaces," said Amber Baur, Executive Director, UFCW Western States Council. "Schools are starting back up, so it is critical that workers continue to have access to paid sick leave so they can stay home with their kids when they get sick. Workers should be able to take care of a loved one who is sick without the fear of losing two weeks of pay, or worse, their job. We're glad our legislative leaders chose to stand with the essential workers who power California's economy and extend supplemental paid sick leave." ★

FBI Field Office Warns of Scammers Posing as FBI Agents

Sacramento FBI Field Office

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Federal Bureau of Investigation Sacramento Field Office (FBI Sacramento) is cautioning the public to be wary of any unsolicited call, especially if the caller claims to be from the FBI.

"Nothing sends a person into a panic like a call from law enforcement, especially when the call informs them that they have been a victim of a crime or may be wanted for a crime," explained Acting Special Agent in Charge Dennis Guertin. "Sadly, that response is something scammers are leveraging with increased frequency, so it is important to educate the public about what to look out for."

Scammers are sophisticated and any unsolicited call, text or email can be a path for a scammer to attempt to gain your trust and separate you from your hard-earned money. To ensure your security and safety:

Never click on links contained in unsolicited emails or texts. The links may route you to fake websites or deploy malicious software on your phone or computer; Never trust the caller ID number; the displayed telephone number can be manipulated with software; Never be afraid to hang up on an unsolicited caller; Always consider sending unsolicited phone calls to voicemail. Most

scam call centers will not leave a message; Always check the email address of seemingly official communications and feel free to reach out to your bank or credit card company directly by calling the telephone number on the back of your card to verify if the email is legitimate.

Some scammers impersonate FBI agents over the phone. "The public should not be afraid to hang up on an alleged agent. An authentic FBI agent will find other ways to contact you, if necessary," said Guertin.

An official FBI special agent will never provide you with a badge number or telephone number to attempt to verify their identity without additional verification. Instead, they will direct you to the official FBI website www.FBI.gov to locate the local field office's telephone number and encourage you to make a call.

FBI will never call or email you to do any of the following:

Make demands for money, wire transfers, gift cards, or bitcoin; Coordinate financial transactions of any kind; Threaten arrest.

Reporting scams is an important step to protect yourself and others from victimization. All scams can be reported online on the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center website, www.ic3.gov, or call your local FBI field office. ★



NATIONAL NEWS *courtesy of THE EPOCH TIMES*

Adults Aged 35–44 Died at Twice the Expected Rate Last Summer, Life Insurance Data Suggests

Society of Actuaries analysis of 2.3 million life insurance claims shows major excess mortalities across all prime-age groups

MARGARET MENGE

Death claims for working-age adults under group life insurance policies spiked well beyond expected levels last summer and fall, according to data from 20 of the top 21 life insurance companies in the United States.

Death claims for adults aged 35 to 44 were 100 percent higher than expected in July, August, and September 2021, according to a report by the Society of Actuaries, which analyzed 2.3 million death claims submitted to life insurance firms.

The report looked at death claims filed under group life insurance policies during the 24 months of the COVID-19 pandemic, from April 2020 to March 2022. The researchers used data from the three years before the pandemic to set a baseline for the expected deaths.

While COVID-19 played some role in the majority of the excess deaths for adults over the age of 34 during the two pandemic years, the opposite was true for younger people. For people 34 and younger, the number of excess non-COVID deaths was higher than those related to COVID, the data show.

During the third quarter of last year, deaths in the 25-to-34 age bracket were 78 percent above the expected level and, for people aged 45 to 54, 80 percent higher than expected. Excess mortality was 53 percent above the baseline for adults aged 55 to 64.

The Society of Actuaries (SOA) asked all 20 of the participating life insurance companies how they determine the cause of death for the purpose of recording claims. Of the 18 that responded, 17 said they list COVID-19 as the cause of death if it's listed anywhere on the death certificate, while eight of the 18 said they go further and communicate with relatives and the medical examiner and look at other sources to try to determine the true cause of death.

One life insurance company stated that it recorded COVID-19 as the cause of death only when it could be determined to be the primary cause of death on a death certificate.

The report also notes that white-collar workers had the highest number of excess deaths during the two years studied. The group, which includes accountants, lawyers, computer programmers, and most other jobs done in an office setting, had 23 percent more deaths than expected.

The sharp increase of deaths among working-age people was first brought to light by Scott Davison, CEO of the Indianapolis-based life insurance company OneAmerica, who said in a virtual press conference on Dec. 30, 2021, that his company and the life insurance industry as a whole was seeing a 40 percent increase in deaths among people ages 18 to 64.

Davison said at the time that this represented the highest death rates in the history of



ANGELA WEISS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

People walk through Times Square in New York on July 13, 2021.

The government is required to study all-cause mortality for any drug or vaccine, but there's no indication that they've done this for the COVID-19 vaccines, Malone says.

the life insurance business, and that an increase in mortality of just 10 percent would constitute a “three-sigma” event, a once-in-200-year catastrophe.

OneAmerica is one of the 20 companies that contributed data for the SOA report. The others include Aflac, Anthem, The Hartford, Lincoln Financial Group, MetLife, New York Life, and Principal Financial.

Edward Dowd, a hedge fund manager who has been studying excess mortality for the past several months, says the rate of deaths among young people is alarming. He pointed out that excess deaths peaked around the time the Biden administration mandated COVID-19 vaccines and companies rushed to comply.

“Temporally, in that three-month period, the change was such that, there was something that occurred,” he said. “Well, we all know what occurred in August, September, and October. It was Biden’s mandates on Sept. 9, and a lot of corporations anticipating those mandates.”

President Joe Biden on Sept. 9, 2021, mandated COVID-19 vaccines for federal employees and health care workers in facilities certified by Medicare and Medicaid. The same day, the president tasked the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) with implementing a nationwide vaccine mandate on private businesses with 100 or more employees.

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down the OSHA mandate in January but allowed the mandate for health care workers to remain in place.

The campaign to vaccinate the majority of the population against COVID-19 is the largest vaccination campaign in the history of the world.

Dr. Robert Malone, a physician and research scientist credited with the invention of the mRNA technology for use in vaccines, says excess mortality must always be studied to determine whether a vaccine or

medicine really is safe.

“Excess mortality should be a signal, a trigger,” he told The Epoch Times. “When we see excess mortality like that—basically if you’re running a clinical trial and you see this kind of excess mortality, you stop the trial. And you investigate the cause before you proceed. And if you’re marketing a drug, generally, with this kind of data, you stop the distribution of the drug until you have sorted it out.”

Malone mentioned what he calls the “classic example” of thalidomide, a morning sickness medication prescribed to a small number of pregnant women in the United States in the late 1950s and early ‘60s that was effective in treating morning sickness, but caused severe deformities in their unborn children.

The drug maker had pressured the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to approve the drug, but the FDA refused, based on the deformities that had been reported.

Cholesterol medication is another example, he added, saying cardiologists were convinced in the 1990s that cholesterol was the “bad actor” and that heart disease numbers would drop if it could be brought down.

“So they came out with some really good drugs for dropping cholesterol, and they ran the trials,” he said, “and it clearly showed that they were effective in dropping cholesterol in humans, to a remarkable level, very, very effective. And everything was on track for approval, at those doses. And then the all-cause mortality data started coming in.”

“And paradoxically, people were dying, but they weren’t dying of heart attacks. Their heart attack death rate was better. They were committing suicide, because when you pull cholesterol out of the brain, you trigger depression.”

Malone was a professor of pathology at the University of California–Davis and at the

University of Maryland, where he had a lab.

In the case of COVID-19, he said, the CDC and FDA have been in denial about what all-cause mortality data show, in particular on the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), where the government has only considered deaths that occur within 2 to 3 weeks of vaccination, based on the belief that the mRNA doesn’t stay in the body for longer.

Now, he says, studies clearly show that this isn’t true and the mRNA stays in the body for at least 60 days.

The government is required to study all-cause mortality for any drug or vaccine, says Malone, usually for a period of at least one year following approval. But there’s no indication, he says, that they’ve done this for the COVID-19 vaccines.

“The FDA basically threw away the rulebook, and let Fauci do whatever he wanted to do,” he says.

The Society of Actuaries didn’t have anyone immediately available for comment on the report on excess mortality over the 24-month period, but sent the following statement:

“The Society of Actuaries Research Institute’s January and August 2022 reports regarding U.S. Group Life COVID-19 mortality explore the impact of COVID-19 on the group life insurance sector and does not address or consider vaccine status. The research does not validate any claims made that suggest a causal relationship between COVID-19 vaccines and mortality. Any claims implying such a relationship are a misrepresentation of the data presented in the report and are not reflective of the Society of Actuaries Research Institute’s views.”

The CDC didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment on whether it’s studying all-cause mortality data for safety signals related to the COVID-19 vaccines.

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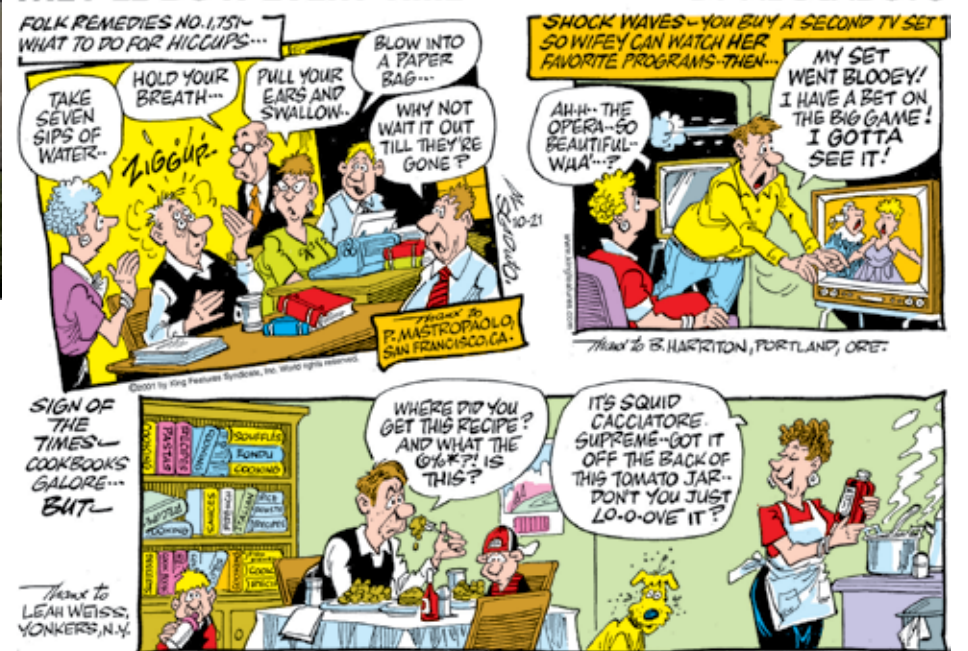
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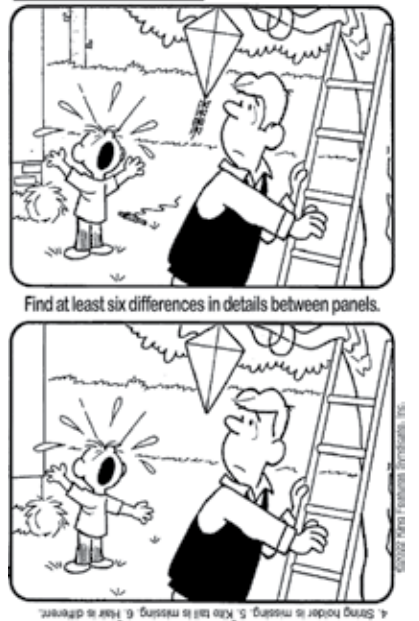
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Time for Me to Fly!

CCA Special Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Capital Airshow (CCA), presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova, are ready to launch another amazing show for 2022.

The popular aviation festival returns to the skies September 30th through October 2nd at Mather Airport in Sacramento, featuring a multi-national salute commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the United States Air Force. Attendees will experience the world's most talented pilots and capable aircraft both in the air and on the ground, including the long-awaited return of the F-22 Raptor, the Royal Canadian Air Force CF-18 Hornet, an extensive list of exhilarating military jet performances, historic warbirds, and activities that will inspire the next generation.

CCA has planned two unique options to enjoy the 16th annual show; Saturday, October 1st, and Sunday, October 2nd will feature an Airshow and massive festival with aircraft displays, attractions, music, food, and interactive STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) experiences along the airport ramp from 9:00 am-5:00 pm each day. But that's not all; buckle up for a wild and loud third day of Airshow excitement on Friday afternoon, September 30th from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm as the Afterburnin' Drive-In



It's gonna get loud! Get ready as our friends to the north, the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), rip through the skies of Sacramento in the custom painted CF-18 Hornet. Photo courtesy of Canadian Forces CF-18 Demo Team/California Capital Airshow

Airshow & Tailgate Party makes a comeback for a second year.

"Wow, what a show we have planned this year!" said Darcy Brewer, executive director of the California Capital Airshow. "We are thrilled to offer a unique family-friendly aviation festival along the ramp and the hottest flying performances in the air. This

year's event will be EPIC and will inspire attendees of all ages throughout the weekend."

Tickets are on sale to the general public via the Airshow website. With limited capacities for 2022, the Airshow expects a sell-out, and no tickets will be available onsite Airshow weekend.

The following sponsors and community partners

have generously contributed to delivering this year's Airshow to the families of our region: Sacramento County, Lasher Dodge, Keurig Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Lockheed Martin, Micron Technology, Modern Aviation, Markstein Beverage, Thunder Valley Casino Resort, Matheson, SMUD, Atlas

Disposal, Elite Power, Fox 40, and iHeart Media. About California Capital Airshow Established in 2004, the California Airshow Group 501(c)3 plans and operates the exciting, family-friendly California Capital Airshow and festival that honors the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and veterans, while using the power and

magic of flight to inspire the next generation.

CCA gives back to the community through scholarships, donations to local nonprofit organizations, and free educational youth programs throughout the year. For more information about the Airshow, performers, and discount tickets, please visit www.CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com. ★



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