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West Sacramento News Ledger

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Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964

APRIL 14, 2023

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Yolo Food Access Survey Invites Households to Participate



Yolo Food Bank is launching a countywide survey that will shape the future of food access and food security in Yolo County. MPG file photo

Yolo Food Bank News Release

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - During the first two weeks of April, every Yolo County household will receive a survey invitation letter that will invite homes to participate in a survey that will be used to better understand food access, food security levels, and related health issues of people in Yolo County. Whether someone is personally affected by food insecurity or not, it is critical for Yolo Food Bank and its partners to hear from all populations. The data collected will directly inform Yolo Food Bank's services.

"The only way to be really thoughtful about our programs is to understand the unique challenges, hopes, and needs from the people that live here," said Yolo Food Bank Executive Director Karen Baker. "This data will be so important in telling the Yolo County story accurately by capturing important nuances that affect vulnerable populations. If you live in Yolo County, we want to hear about your cultural food preferences, your personal

barriers to accessing food, and any health implications you might be facing."

"Living in a community like Yolo County, we are surrounded by some of the most bountiful farmlands in California, no one living here should struggle to put food on their family's dinner table," said Nolan Sullivan, Yolo County's director of Health and Human Services Agency. "Join local food security leaders like the Yolo Food Bank and Yolo County in assessing the community food need throughout our county, take the survey and encourage others to do so!"

A countywide survey with the following focus areas: charitable food system, food security, and housing, CalFresh & WIC, food access, and health related challenges.

The Yolo Food Access Survey is sponsored by Yolo Food Bank, administered by The Institute for Social Research, Sacramento State University, and designed in partnership with Yolo Food Security Coalition and Valley Vision.

Every household in Yolo County will create a sample size of 77,409

residences. Additional paper copies of the survey will be distributed locally in the community at the Food Bank's distributions and through several of their partner agencies to ensure the survey reaches unsheltered populations, students, seniors, and rural areas in Yolo County.

Households are encouraged to participate by accessing a unique invitation code that will be mailed to them. Individuals may enter it online by following the link or scanning the QR code included in the invitation letter. The code can only be used once, only one survey per residence is permitted.

"The Yolo Food Bank's Yolo Food Access Survey – the first of its kind – will be incredibly important for getting a much more accurate picture of food and nutrition insecurity, and healthy food access challenges that Yolo County residents are facing than provided by current statistics," said Evan Schmidt, CEO of Valley Vision. "The survey findings will help drive investments and actions to ensure

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City Ends Stage 2 Water Shortage Emergency



City of West Sac News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - This winter's extremely wet weather wiped out the drought for most of California and also prompted the end of the Stage 2 Water Shortage emergency in West Sacramento as of March 31, 2023.

This follows a similar action by Governor Gavin Newsom who issued Executive Order N-5-23 on March 23rd, 2023 which terminates the 15% savings mandate and the Stage 2 Water Shortage. The City of West Sacramento has followed suit and on March 31, 2023 rescinded the local water shortage emergency declaration as well.

In West Sacramento, water conservation is a way of life. This means that despite the increase in supply, water waste is still prohibited and the recently passed permanent three day watering schedule remains in place as follows:

For addresses ending in even numbers (0, 2, 4, 6, 8): Wednesday, Friday, Sunday; For addresses ending in odd numbers (1, 3, 5, 7, 9): Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday; No watering between 10:00am and 7:00pm; Exemptions for drip, container plants and new landscapes

"The goal is to be consistent and efficient with our water use regardless of weather conditions," said City Water Conservation Coordinator Ryan Burnett. "Keeping a watering schedule year-round will reduce confusion and will also reduce water bills for residents and businesses long term."

Please visit wsac.city/ water to learn more. ★

City Fights for Rail Safety

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Items of all kinds are transported across the country using trains. Freight trains run through West Sacramento every single day. We never know what is on those trains. For the most part, we assume those responsible know what they are doing and that our community is reasonably safe. When items require more than one mode of transportation in order to reach their final destination, the transferring of modes is either called Intermodal or

Transloading. The difference between the two being that Intermodal is when a load has to change modes of transportation (such as from a train to a truck) and the shipment remains in the same container it was originally shipped in; whereas Transloading is when that load is removed from one container and put into another for transportation. A good example of this is when a liquid of some kind is transported by train in a tanker car and then pumped from that tank into a tank that is on a big truck.

In railway transportation, rail sidings are stretches

of track that are off of the main railroad track or through route. These stretches of track are for low speed or stopped trains or sections of trains. Rail sidings are often seen off the side of the road with train cars just sitting with no engines hooked to them. Another bit of information on train knowledge is that when you see a black tanker car on a train, it is because whatever liquid that is inside the tank is minimally affected by heat. When you see a white tanker on a train, it indicates that whatever is inside of it is heat sensitive.

So, why are we having train terminology 101?

In January of this year the City of West Sacramento sent a letter to Top Rail Solutions Inc. notifying them that they were aware of a proposal to bring railcars of biodiesel and recovered diesel via The Sierra Northern Railroad, into a rail siding, and then blend the two diesel fuels together as they proceed to pump the fuels into truck tanks, thus mixing them together to create a new biofuel.

According to studentenergy.org, Biofuels are

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YCF Issues Call to Action to Support Yolo County Nonprofit Sector

Yolo Community Foundation News Release

YOLO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Yolo Community Foundation has released its third annual State of the Yolo Nonprofit Sector Report. The report enables the Yolo County community to understand the needs and concerns of Yolo nonprofits and to support those nonprofits as they serve our Yolo County community. This year's report focuses on how nonprofits are emerging from the pandemic & what their greatest concerns are for their next fiscal year. To read the complete report, go to: <https://bit.ly/YCFStateoftheSector2023>

Four main themes have emerged from YCF's research:

Expenses outpacing revenues: Nonprofits need stable revenue to cover increasing costs and potentially declining donations. For instance, 48% of respondents expect inflation will drive down revenues and 37% expect stock market returns to do the same. According to one respondent, "I anticipate a recession and/or fear of a recession will impact us similarly to the financial impact of COVID-19. Business/corporate sponsorship to our annual fundraising and individual donations will decrease;"

Maintaining services amid high demand & limited resources: Demand for community services is expected to rise, with rising prices and the end

of COVID-related government assistance programs. Limited resources and funding leave nonprofits struggling to meet community need - 32% worry they will need to cut programming. One respondent reports, "Inflation levels have had a two-fold bite: it increases the amount of need in our community, and increases our costs to meet that increased need;"

Underpaid and overworked staff & the critical need for volunteers: The success of a nonprofit organization largely depends on the hard work and dedication of its employees and/or volunteers. Nonprofits are facing ongoing burnout among staff and volunteers, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, economic instability, climate change, and political polarization. Chronic understaffing and underpayment of qualified employees, coupled with declining volunteerism, has left many nonprofits struggling to keep up with community demands. Says one respondent, "I am most worried about providing sustainable salary increase to staff;"

Nonprofits' continued call for more unrestricted funding: Yolo County nonprofits are urging for unrestricted funding to enhance their flexibility and respond to evolving needs. They seek more autonomy in allocating funds to deliver on their missions, which can be achieved by embracing trust-based philanthropic



The Yolo Community Foundation held its third annual State of the Yolo Nonprofit Sector Report to help understand the needs and concerns of Yolo nonprofits. Photo courtesy of Yolo Community Foundation

giving and empowering nonprofits and communities to distribute resources equitably. In particular, respondents call for multi-year unrestricted support and simplified paperwork requirements. According to one respondent, "We need additional unrestricted funding for (building our) infrastructure;"

Based on the themes that emerged from this year's State of the Sector Survey and the interviews with executive directors, YCF has assembled the following call to action for local donors, elected officials & community members.

Recommendations for Donors:

Trust that our local nonprofit professionals know best how to serve the community. Engage in trust-based philanthropy practices. Provide unrestricted and/or general operating support which

supports capacity building & allows nonprofit organizations to be nimble;

Invest in endowments & building reserve funds. Funding endowments and supporting a nonprofit to build cash reserves is an investment in a nonprofit's sustainability, innovation, & growth;

Fund the full cost of doing business. Offer grants that take into account the entire cost for a nonprofit to implement and deliver on their mission;

Recommendations for Elected Officials:

Reduce restrictions and complexity of government grants to let nonprofits be nimble and reduce the staffing burden associated with reporting;

Increase funding to nonprofits, which are increasingly taking on services that the government has performed in the past;

Raise awareness of the critical roles nonprofits play in our community;

Recommendations for Community Members

Return to (or start!) volunteering. Volunteers are essential to many of our Yolo nonprofits, and volunteers gain physical and mental health benefits from the act of volunteering. Consider donating your time, your skills, etc;

Make monetary donations - even a little goes a long way to a local nonprofit. Consider identifying a local nonprofit whose

work you truly value and commit to providing them with consistent cash donations. This type of sustained funding addresses an important need for many nonprofits - a reliable, sustainable cash flow;

Learn about Yolo County nonprofits, for instance at www.bigdayofgiving.org and in YCF's upcoming Yolo County Nonprofit Directory (visit www.yolocf.org in late April to find it). Learn how they are serving our community and how you can support them in their mission.

The report is based on survey responses from 59 of local nonprofits, collected in February 2023, supplemented by interviews with a cross-section of executive directors.

The Yolo Community Foundation inspires and supports giving & provides philanthropic leadership in our diverse community. We offer philanthropic vehicles, like donor advised funds and scholarships, that make giving easier, more strategic, and tax-advantaged. We provide education, inspiration, & connection for donors, and we serve nonprofits through grant-making, training, and resource development. YCF has nearly 100 philanthropic funds with a collective \$8.5 million in assets and is a proud affiliate of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. Join us! Visit www.yolocf.org to learn more. ★



Panelists at this year's Yolo Community Foundation State of the Sector Report: Stacie Frerichs, Executive Director, Davis Arts Center; Jeneba Lahai, Executive Director, Yolo County Children's Alliance; Genevieve Pyeatt, Director of Programs, Yolo Food Bank. Photo courtesy of Yolo Community Foundation

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State Announces Changes to COVID-19 Isolation and Masking Policies

CDPH News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has announced changes to COVID-19 recommendations and requirements, with varying effective dates. Yolo County previously rescinded all local orders related to COVID-19 and aligns with the updated CDPH guidance.

Isolation: As of March 13, persons with COVID-19 infection are no longer asked to test negative before leaving isolation and returning to normal activities. Instead, persons with COVID-19 can return to normal activity after five days of isolation if their symptoms have improved and they have not had a fever for 24 hours. This change applies to the general public; more stringent requirements are in place in healthcare and long-term care settings. Persons with COVID-19 should wear a mask in public for 10 days after their infection began.

Masking: As of April 3, masking will no longer be required of all persons in healthcare, correctional and shelter settings. Instead, masking will be recommended in these settings based on COVID-19 Community Levels published by

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with masking of all staff, patients and visitors strongly recommended in High, recommended in Medium and for consideration in Low Community Levels. Yolo County is currently in the Low COVID-19 Community Level. Facilities are encouraged to develop their own policies related to masking.

Vaccination: As of April 3, CDPH will no longer require healthcare and adult care workers to be vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19. However, the federal government continues to require healthcare workers in many settings to be vaccinated against COVID-19 with a primary series.

“With effective treatments, vaccines and tests widely available for COVID-19, it is appropriate to loosen previous requirements and bring our response to COVID-19 in line with our response to other infectious diseases,” said Yolo County Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson. “Shifting from masking requirements to masking recommendations in healthcare settings is an important step into a post-emergency world. If the COVID-19 situation

changes, we will revisit masking and other policies as needed.”

While masking will no longer be required of all persons in healthcare settings, protective policies and upgraded ventilation systems remain in place. Prior to the pandemic, healthcare settings had policies and procedures in place to provide masks to persons with respiratory illness or weakened immune systems, and for staff to wear masks around patients with respiratory illness. These policies will be reinstated. In addition, during flu season, workers in healthcare settings in Yolo County are required to wear a mask if they aren’t vaccinated against influenza. This requirement continues through April 30 of this year.

Masking continues to be recommended for everyone two years and older in indoor settings in Yolo County based on ongoing circulation of multiple respiratory viruses. Wearing a high-quality mask like an N95, KN95 or KF94 that fits your face well provides protection against COVID-19 and other diseases that spread through the air. For more information on masking, visit www.yolocounty.org/masks. ★

City Fights for Rail Safety

Continued from page 1

combustible fuels created from biomass; in other words, fuels created from recently living plant matter as opposed to ancient plant matter in hydrocarbons. The term biofuel is usually used to reference liquid fuels, such as ethanol and biodiesel used as replacements for transportation fuels like petroleum, diesel and jet fuel. Biofuels can also include solid fuels like wood pellets and biogas or syngas – however in this summary we will focus on liquid fuels.

There are two main types of biofuels – ethanol and biodiesel. The simplest way to distinguish between the two is to remember ethanol is an alcohol and biodiesel is an oil. Ethanol is an alcohol formed by fermentation and can be used as a replacement for, or additive to, gasoline, whereas biodiesel is produced by extracting naturally occurring oils from plants and seeds in a process called transesterification. Biodiesel can be combusted in diesel engines.

AMSOil, a Wisconsin-based corporation which deals in synthetic lubricants and fuel additives, describes recovered diesel as follows: Diesel applications operating in extremely cold environments face some unique challenges. As the temperature drops, wax naturally found in diesel fuel begins to form crystals. The point at which wax crystals form is known as the cloud point. These wax crystals can eventually clog the fuel filter and starve the engine of fuel, preventing it from starting or even stalling out a running engine.

According to AMSOil, “Diesel Recovery quickly dissolves gelled fuel to allow the operator to continue driving with minimal downtime. Diesel Recovery separates the molecular bonds of wax crystals that have agglomerated in diesel fuel. It thaws frozen fuel filters and reduces the need for a new filter, saving money and preventing an inconvenient trip to an auto parts store.”

The problem with Top Rail mixing their diesels here is how and where they are doing it. In the letter sent to Top Rail Solutions Inc., the City clearly states that the site in which they are doing this is not at a transloading company, or even a reloading company (where there would be proper safety equipment). They want to do it from a side railing. The letter states that in addition to that section of the city not being zoned for cargo handling, they have chosen an area that is in close proximity to the City’s primary domestic water source,

the Sacramento River. The letter also says that “as stewards of the public, they have serious concerns about the proposal, as our raw water intake and related infrastructure is in the immediate vicinity.”

The response that the City of West Sacramento received from Torgny Nilsson, General Counsel for Sierra Northern Railway, stated that they “do not understand the positions taken in their letter.” The response states that the City said they are “near” the water treatment facility, but that the proposed site is more than 2,000 feet from the treatment plant and that there are three gas stations closer than them. In addition, the response from the Sierra Northern Railway states that they fall under Federal statutes and therefore do not need the required land-use permits.

Furthermore, Nilsson says they do not understand the concern as to the proximity to the river because the water in the Sacramento River is “far from pristine” and that it has been identified containing “copper, mercury, toxicity and more than 15 pesticides.” He stated that their property is 300 feet from the river and there is a levee wall that would prevent seepage into the river, should a spill occur. Nilsson also says that even if it got into the river, our treatment of the water would keep the water safe for us to drink. The company therefore finds the City’s concerns unfounded and would be happy to discuss any safety improvements the City would like.

West Sacramento responded with a cease and desist order of blending and transloading operations for Top Rail Solutions Inc., in West Sacramento. City Attorney Schuyler Campbell states in his response that the company that is blending the fuels is a third-party company and therefore does not fall under the Federal preemption of the railroad regulations and protections. He states that, though transloading is protected from local regulations, it is when the activity is performed by rail carrier, on railroad land. This is not the case in this situation, and they must therefore stop.

The City of West Sacramento has also notified Top Rail that in instances where local governments are preempted from enforcing land use and environmental regulations, the City has the right to inspect facilities to ensure compliance with laws and regulations related to Health and Safety codes and that the City therefore requests consent to enter and inspect the facility that exists as well as any newly constructed facilities in order to ensure compliance. ★

Yolo DA and Umpqua Bank Sponsor Free Shred Day

Yolo County DA News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - On Friday, May 5, 2023, the Yolo County District Attorney’s Office and Umpqua Bank will be co-hosting another free shred event for Yolo County residents and Umpqua Bank customers. This is an effort by Umpqua Bank to give back to the community and to support the efforts the District Attorney is making to protect individuals and businesses from identity theft. “Shredding paperwork containing personal information, such as social security numbers, is one of the first steps in reducing the chance of identity theft happening to you,” said District Attorney Jeff Reisig.

Umpqua Bank is mindful of its customers’ banking routines, which adds an additional layer of protection so that if

something out of the ordinary arises, the bank can stop it before the customers’ identities are compromised.

Umpqua Bank and the District Attorney encourage people to take advantage of this free opportunity that will help prevent identity theft. The event will take place at Umpqua Bank located at 203 Main Street in Woodland on Friday, May 5, 2023, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (or until the truck is full). There is no limit to the number of boxes of documents that need to be shredded in a safe and secure manner. Please remember: No stiff metal, plastic bags, CDs or DVDs, or other items that will jam the shredder. For more information about this event, please contact Umpqua Bank at (530) 406-2521. To report suspected fraud, please visit www.YoloDA.org. ★

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Pursuing Happiness in the Age of Reason

American Heritage Special Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - American Heritage Partners, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Nevada, is proud to sponsor a luncheon featuring Professor Caroline Winterer, Chair of the History Department at Stanford University, who will speak about her book "American Enlightenments: Pursuing Happiness in the Age of Reason". In her book, Professor Winterer provides a thought-provoking account of how Americans in the 18th Century came to be "enlightened" - not as the European Enlightenment envisioned it, but in our own American way, with a powerful emphasis on the "pursuit of happiness" - a concept literally written into our Declaration of Independence. What did that mean to Americans? Why did we fight a war against the greatest army in the world to gain it? How did our first settlers in the 17th and 18th centuries think about freedom? How is the "pursuit of happiness" relevant to today's American experience? Professor Winterer will offer her unique perspectives on these critical questions.



Professor Caroline Winterer. Photo courtesy of AHP

This event is co-sponsored by The Sons of the American Revolution, The Mayflower Society, the Jamestowne

Society, and the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, among others. The luncheon is being held at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento on April 22, starting at 11 am. The three-course plated lunch is priced at \$45 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit americanheritagepartners.org. ★

Social Security Matters

Retired Public Servant Feels Government Pension Offset is "Unjust"



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I'm a retired firefighter and live in Ohio. I earned Social Security from my side employment, but the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) hit my Social Security very hard. My wife worked in the school system and earned a state "SERS" pension. I understand the WEP offset and that doesn't bother me as much as the fact that my wife doesn't get my Social Security benefits when I die - her state pension is above the monthly limit for her to receive my Social Security. I earned that benefit by working extra jobs and being away from my family, and it seems unjust that my benefits expire with me. Thanks for letting me vent. **Signed: Retired Public Servant**

Dear Retired Public Servant: The provision you deem as "unjust" isn't the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) which affects SS retirement benefits for those who also have a "non-covered" pension (a pension earned without contributing to Social Security); rather it is the Government Pension Offset (GPO) which also affects those who have a pension earned

without contributing to Social Security. Though I know it is no consolation, your frustration about the Government Pension Offset (GPO) is shared by nearly a million other Americans in a similar situation. The GPO has been law since 1983 and is intended to "equalize" how spousal and survivor benefits are paid to all beneficiaries. I'm certainly not defending it, but I've researched why the GPO was enacted decades ago.

Historically, ever since spousal and survivor benefits became part of Social Security's benefit structure in the late 1930s, if a spouse also has their own personally earned SS benefit, any spousal/survivor benefit they also became entitled to was offset by their personally earned SS retirement amount. The prevailing opinion in the 1983 Congress was that because regular spousal and survivor benefits are normally offset by the spouse's own earned SS benefit, it was unfair that a spouse who had a "non-covered pension" didn't incur the same offset as those who had no such non-covered pension. Thus, GPO was enacted in 1983 to "equalize" how spousal and survivor benefits were paid. It is the GPO which will affect your wife's benefit as your surviving spouse because she earned her state pension while not contributing to Social Security.

To give you a more personal perspective, if your wife had, instead, worked outside of the OH school system and was entitled to a full Social Security benefit based on her own earnings

from which she contributed to SS, any survivor benefit she might become entitled to from you would still be offset by her personally earned SS retirement benefit. If her own SS retirement benefit was more than her entitlement as your widow, she would get no additional amount as your surviving spouse. Or if her own SS retirement benefit was smaller than yours, her survivor benefit would still be offset by her own benefit (her benefit would be paid first and only a supplement added to bring her payment to the higher amount she was entitled to as your widow). The purpose of the Government Pension Offset is to equalize how spousal, or survivor benefits are paid to those with, and to those without, a non-covered pension. Indeed, because the GPO only offsets the potential spousal/survivor benefit by 2/3rds of a spouse's non-covered pension, the GPO is actually a bit more forgiving.

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

First Countywide High School Youth Voter Registration Drive

Yolo County News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - The Yolo County Elections Office in partnership with the League of Women Voters, Davis Area and Woodland chapters, invite all local high schools to host and participate in the first Countywide High School Youth Voter Registration Drive (VRD) in Yolo County.

This countywide voter registration drive was established as a result of the recently adopted Yolo County Board of Education Resolution #22-23/44, in Support of High School Voter Weeks (last two weeks in April). The two-week drive is scheduled from

April 17 to April 28, 2023. This drive is open to all local high schools and students.

"This effort is a direct result of the strong partnership between the Yolo County Elections Office, League of Women Voters local chapters, the Yolo County Office of Education and its Board, and local youth service providers," said Jesse Salinas, Yolo County Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters.

Schools interested in participating should complete the Yolo County Voter Registration Drive Participation Survey: <https://forms.office.com/g/DrUiFFmwwf> by Wednesday, April 5, 2023. During a Youth Voter

Registration Drive students will be able to register or pre-register to vote, learn about the upcoming 2023 Youth Empowerment Summit and be entered for a chance to win prizes.

For more information contact Maria D. Coronel, Outreach Specialist with Yolo County ACE at Maria. Coronel@yolocounty.org.

We encourage residents to connect with Yolo County ACE - Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Elections on Facebook: @YoloACE, Instagram: @YoloCoACE, YouTube: @Yolo County ACE, TikTok: @yolo-coace, and Twitter: @YoloCoACE to receive the most up to date information and updates. ★

LOCAL CRIME REPORTS

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Crime Reports WEST SACRAMENTO

March 30, 2023 - April 3, 2023



- 3-30-23 RACHEL CORTEZ Arrested for seven warrants.
- 3-31-23 APRIL MATHEWS Arrested for attempting to commit, stolen property, possession of burglary tools.
- 3-31-23 RAFAEL FERNANDEZ Arrested for warrant after officers recognizing him as someone with warrants.
- 3-31-23 ROSALIE HARMON Arrested for DUI and DUI>0.08% after a report of a possible drunk driver.
- 4-01-23 MICHAEL JAMES Arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle
- 4-01-23 DARCEL LEWIS Arrested for an outstanding warrant after Police were dispatched to a parental abduction on Lighthouse Dr.
- 4-02-23 ROBERT BARRON Arrested for Robbery after allegedly robbing a delivery driver.
- 4-03-23 OLE BERG Arrested for parole violation.
- 4-03-23 FRANCO MENDOZA Arrested for possession of controlled substance and transporting a controlled substance.
- 4-03-23 ROBERT SAUVAGEAU Arrested for four warrants.

INCIDENT/CRIME REPORTS

- 3-26-23 Vehicle rear passenger window is busted. \$1,600 loss. Burglary.
- 3-26-23 Unknown subject sprayed contents of a fire extinguisher inside store causing damage to merchandise. \$3,710 loss. Vandalism.
- 3-28-23 Vehicle had items stolen. Car was most likely unlocked per reporting party. \$1 loss. Burglary.
- 3-28-23 Vehicles gas tank was drilled and gas was stolen. \$5,150 loss. Vandalism, petty theft.
- 3-28-23 Vehicle had driver window smashed and tire pump was stolen. \$50 loss. Burglary.
- 3-29-23 Two unknown Hispanic female adults allegedly stole approximately \$300 worth of merchandise from sally's Beauty. \$379 loss. Petty theft.
- 3-27-23 Yolo county EDD fraud - fraudulent transaction occurred. \$660 loss. Obtaining money by false pretenses.
- 4-01-23 Catalytic converter stolen from u-haul truck. \$5,000 loss. Grand theft.
- 4-03-23 Vehicle Burglary. Burglary.
- 4-03-23 Three unknown black male subjects entered the open gas station, Core Mark delivery driver attempted to enter gas station to deliver \$1,400 worth of tobacco products, as he was opening the door, 1 subject walked out of store and picked up 2 green totes containing the tobacco products and walked a waiting vehicle. \$1,400 loss Grand theft.

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www.TrinityWestSac.org
info@trinitywestsac.org
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Sunday Worship Services:
10 a.m. Blended/Traditional
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West Sacramento Baptist Church

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Yolo Food Access Survey

Continued from page 1 that no Yolo County community member will go to bed hungry.”

Yolo Food Bank partners with Feeding America, a national non-profit with a network of more than 200 food banks, and annually serves the nutritional needs of more than 21,000 Yolo County residents

through 145 distributions events and via their 84 partner agencies which include local food pantries, senior meal delivery programs, homeless and domestic violence shelters, migrant centers, college campuses, mental health facilities, recovery centers, and more. Working with a network of passionate

volunteers, committed donors, grocers, retailers, farmers, processors and food distributors, Yolo Food Bank recovers, stores, and distributes more than eight million pounds of food each year.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230201
The following person(s) is doing business as: R+H Aesthetic Medicine West Sac, 2240 Lake Washington Boulevard, #130, West Sacramento, CA 95691. R+H Aesthetic Medicine West Sac, 2718 Shell Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 17, 2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/6/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: March 24, 31, April 7 & 14, 2023
R+H 4-14-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230225
The following person(s) is doing business as: Proinso Latam, 1030 Riverside Parkway, Suite 130, West Sacramento, CA 95605. Proinso USA, Inc., 1030 Riverside Parkway, Suite 130, West Sacramento, CA 95605. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on February 24, 2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/13/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: March 31, April 7, 14 & 21, 2023
PROINSO 4-21-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230200
The following person(s) is doing business as: FuyuRain, 38000 County Road 144, Clarksburg, CA 95612, County of Yolo. Kition Noel Connor, 38000 County Road 144, Clarksburg, CA 95612. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A /s/ Kition Noel Connor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 03/06/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: kquam, Deputy
3/31, 4/7, 4/14, 4/21/23
CNS-3682021# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_021 4-21-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230229
The following person(s) is doing business as: Original Aram's, 1002 Waterford Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95605. Aram Sandwich Enterprises LLC, 1002 Waterford Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95605. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/14/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2023
ORIGINAL 4-28-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230265
The following person(s) is doing business as: Night Market, 22 5th St, Woodland, CA 95695, County of Yolo. Ecological Communities Organization, 22 5th Street, Woodland, CA 95695. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/01/2016 /s/ Christin Coulon, President Ecological Communities Organization. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 03/21/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: kquam, Deputy
4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28/23
CNS-3686823# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_823 4-28-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230246
The following person(s) is doing business as: Coding and More, Robin Bell, 1732 Del Rey Street, Woodland, CA 95695. Robin Bell, 1732 Del Rey Street, Woodland, CA 95695. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 1, 2012. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/16/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2023
CODING 4-28-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230181
The following person(s) is doing business as: DoJo Enterprises, 812 Arthur Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95605. Dorothy M Jones, 812 Arthur Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95605. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/1/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 2023
DOJO 5-5-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230277
The following person(s) is doing business as: OT Press, 3166 Pender Island Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Vince Wetzel, 3166 Pender Island Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3/17/2023. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/23/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 2023
OT 5-5-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230224
The following person(s) is doing business as: Alumalux USA / Exterior Perfection / Alumalux Coatings / Alumalux / Speedy Plots, 2509 Del Monte Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Exterior Perfection Builders Inc., 2509 Del Monte Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/13/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 2023
ALUMALUX 5-5-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230308
The following person(s) is doing business as: Absolute Mortgage Company / Boschken Properties / Flat Coat Travel / Boschken Lock & Key, 133 F Street, Davis, CA 95616. Boschken Inc., 133 F Street, Davis, CA 95616. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 3/31/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 2023
ABSOLUTE 5-5-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230393
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CALREPAIRS, 1706 Donner Way, Woodland, CA 95695 County of YOLO Mailing Address: 1706 Donner Way, Woodland, CA 95695 AVG PAINTING LLC, 1706 Donner Way, Woodland, CA 95695 This business is conducted by a limited liability company The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. AVG PAINTING LLC S/ Victor Garcia, Managing Manager, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 03/28/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
kquam, Deputy
4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5/23
CNS-3681418# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_418 5-5-23

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #CV2023-463
Florence Marie Ferreira and Carter Alexander Mudd have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Florence Marie Ferreira to Florence Marie Dawson; Carter Alexander Mudd to Carter Alexander Dawson.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on May 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 14, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 24, 31, April 7 & 14, 2023
FLORENCE 4-14-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #CV2023-383
Mohammad Mahdi Mohammad Nader has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Mohammad Mahdi Mohammad Nader to Mahdi Herawi.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 10, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 24, 31, April 7 & 14, 2023
MOHAMMAD 4-14-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #CV2023-0361
Evelina Girzhu has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Evelina Girzhu to Evelina Kiz.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: February 24, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 31, April 7, 14 & 21, 2023
EVELINA 4-21-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #CV2023-0361
Evelina Girzhu has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Evelina Girzhu to Evelina Kiz.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: February 24, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 31, April 7, 14 & 21, 2023
EVELINA 4-21-23

LIEN SALE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
Notice is hereby given pursuant to California Business and Professional Codes #21700-217 Section 2328 of the UCC of the Penal Code, Section 535 the undersigned, StorQuest Express Self Storage/Ramco St. of West Sacramento, will sell at public sale by competitive bidding the personal property of Dominic Breton, Margarita Lodzhanskiy, Keysha Buckingham, Leonard Tabangura. Property to be sold: Misc. Items. Auctioneer Company: www.storage-treasures.com The Sale will end at 10:00 AM, April 20th, 2023. Goods must be paid in CASH at site and removed at completion of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between the owner and obligated party. 3005 Ramco St. West Sacramento, CA 95691 (916)241-8600
4/7, 4/14/23
CNS-3685066# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_066 4-14-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RUSSELL M. KING CASE NO. PR2023-0078
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Russell M. King. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Eric King, in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, requesting Eric King be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: April 28, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 14. Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Barbara Sonin, 21 Court Street, Woodland, CA 95695; 530-662-2226
Publish: April 14, 21 & 28, 2023
KING 4-28-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RUSSELL M. KING CASE NO. PR2023-0078
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Russell M. King. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Eric King, in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, requesting Eric King be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: April 28, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 14. Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Barbara Sonin, 21 Court Street, Woodland, CA 95695; 530-662-2226
Publish: April 14, 21 & 28, 2023
KING 4-28-23

Notice of Public Hearing

Pursuant to Government Code Section 66018, The West Sacramento City Council will conduct a public hearing on May 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to receive comments on the 2023 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The hearing will be held at the City of West Sacramento City Hall, second floor, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, California 95691.

The City of West Sacramento receives an annual allocation of CDBG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The 2023 Annual Action Plan will cover the second year of the City's 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan. CDBG funds must be used for projects that meet at least one of the three HUD national objectives: 1) benefitting low- and moderate-income households; 2) addressing slums or blight conditions; or 3) addressing an urgent need such as flood or earthquake damage. The City will receive \$518,743 in Entitlement CDBG funding for fiscal year 2023/2024. Additional resources for the 2023 Action Plan will include \$80,000 in anticipated program income and a carry-over amount of \$203,682.99 from prior year resources. The proposed CDBG activities for the 2023 Annual Action Plan do not include programs or projects that displace persons from their homes, businesses, or farms.

Recommended goals and amounts for the 2023 CDBG Annual Action Plan will be as follows:

- Consolidated Plan Goal #1: Address the supportive services needs of persons experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. (\$78,995);
- Consolidated Plan Goal #3: Construct infrastructure improvements in low-income neighborhoods (\$603,682.99);
- General administration and planning expenses shall not exceed 20% of the HUD allocation plus program income. (\$119,748).

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, at clerk@cityofwestsacramento.org, seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting to allow the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

Assistance is available to groups representing low-income residents that are interested in learning about CDBG funding for programs or projects. Questions or comments may be directed to Isaah Alford, Community Investment Specialist, at (916) 617-4555 or by email at isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org.

The City of West Sacramento promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate-income households regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual preference, marital status or disability.

Aviso de Audiencia Pública

En conformidad con la Sección 66018 del Código de Gobierno, el Concejo Municipal de West Sacramento llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el 3 de mayo de 2023 a las 7:00 p.m. para recibir comentarios sobre el Plan de Acción Anual 2023 para el Programa de Subvenciones en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG, por sus siglas en inglés). La audiencia se llevará a cabo en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de West Sacramento, segundo piso, 1110 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, California 95691.

La Ciudad de West Sacramento recibe una asignación anual de fondos CDBG del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés). El Plan de Acción Anual 2023 cubrirá el segundo año del Plan Consolidado 2021-2025 de la Ciudad. Los fondos de CDBG deben usarse para proyectos que cumplan al menos uno de los tres objetivos nacionales de HUD: 1) beneficiar a los hogares de ingresos bajos y moderados; 2) abordar las condiciones de tugurios o deterioro; o 3) abordar una necesidad urgente, como daños por inundaciones o terremotos. La Ciudad recibirá \$518,743 en fondos de CDBG para el año fiscal 2023/2024. Recursos adicionales para el Plan de Acción 2023 incluirán \$80,000 en ingresos anticipados del programa y una suma remanente de \$203,682,99 de recursos de años anteriores.. Las actividades CDBG propuestas para el Plan de Acción Anual 2023 no incluyen programas o proyectos que desplacen a las personas de sus hogares, negocios o granjas.

Los objetivos y montos recomendados para el Plan de Acción Anual 2023 del CDBG serán los siguientes:

- Objetivo # 1 del Plan Consolidado: Abordar las necesidades de servicios de apoyo de las personas sin hogar y las que corren el riesgo de quedarse sin hogar. (\$78,995);
- Objetivo #3 del Plan Consolidado: Construir mejoras de infraestructura en vecindarios de bajos ingresos (\$603,682.99);
- Gastos generales de administración y planificación no excederán el 20% de la asignación de HUD más los ingresos del programa. (\$119,748).

En cumplimiento con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés), si necesita ayuda para participar en esta reunión, comuníquese con el Secretario de la Ciudad, a clerk@cityofwestsacramento.org, setenta y dos (72) horas antes de la reunión para permitir que la Ciudad haga arreglos razonables para asegurar la accesibilidad a esta reunión.

Asistencia está disponible para grupos que representan a residentes de bajos ingresos que estén interesados en aprender sobre el financiamiento de CDBG para programas o proyectos. Las preguntas o comentarios pueden dirigirse a Isaah Alford, Especialista en Inversiones Comunitarias, al (916) 617-4555 o por correo electrónico a isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org.

La Ciudad de West Sacramento promueve la vivienda justa y pone todos los programas a disposición de los hogares de ingresos bajos y moderados, independientemente de su edad, raza, color, religión, sexo, origen nacional, preferencia sexual, estado civil o discapacidad.

West Sac News Ledger 4-14-2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE SELF STORAGE AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to the California Storage Act (Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code.)

West Sacramento Self Storage: Property is located in separate storage units at 2274 Lake Washington Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691. The auction will be conducted entirely online at: <https://bid13.com/> Auctioneer: Bid13.com 1-844-348-2776; agent for Owner. Contents such as household goods, clothes, children's toys, furniture, tools, and other miscellaneous items for the following lien units will be sold:
D016-Julie Dasher

Pictures of unit contents can be seen online. Bidding is held online beginning Friday, April 7, 2023 at 9am and closes Friday, April 14th at 12pm PST. Payment must be paid for at the time of purchase. Cash only accepted. All items in the unit are sold as is and must be removed within two days of the time of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

West Sac News Ledger 4-7, 4-14-2023

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Important, Costly Lessons for California Taxpayers from the COVID Pandemic



Commentary by Jon Coupal

As it did with citizens throughout America, the pandemic caused massive disruption to the lives of virtually every Californian.

Tens of thousands lost their lives, many now have long-term health problems, and countless others lost their jobs or businesses. Moreover, the disastrous handling of the pandemic for school-aged children will likely leave a scar on an entire generation that may never heal.

More unique to California, however, is the extent of government waste associated with the pandemic. Outright fraud, mismanagement, opportunistic consultants, ineffective media campaigns, and simple incompetence put California way ahead of all other states in felony-level stupidity with the spending of taxpayer dollars.

Because this is a column, not a book, we can only review a few of the most egregious examples.

Of course, the big Kahuna is the jaw-dropping amount of fraud in the Employment Development Department

(EDD). Originally thought to be “only” \$11 billion in “improper” payments, we now know that the fraud exceeded \$31 billion. To put that in perspective, that is 10% of the entire budget for the state of California. More insulting is where the money went. Transnational organized criminal groups from China and Africa have made off with billions of dollars, with who knows how much of it used for child trafficking, drugs, and terrorism.

A close second, the waste and incompetence of California’s public education establishment probably engendered more anger, especially among parents, than even the EDD debacle. Taxpayers were obligated to continue paying their full taxes as though our public schools were fully open with students attending in person. The public employee unions were running the show during the pandemic, and that was bad news for both taxpayers and students.

According to a report last July, California school districts had spent \$40 billion in COVID-related funds, but very little went to addressing learning loss. That may be due in part to the failure of the federal government to specify with more particularity how the money should be spent.

According to EdSource, “Most districts appear to have listed most of the money they spent in [an] all-but-the-kitchen-sink category, which could include raises and bonuses to retain staff.” Finally,

there remain billions more in unspent funds at the same time public school enrollment has plummeted in the state.

Not all of the waste was the result of fraud or negligence but rather a simple miscalculation of the severity of the pandemic.

One example of COVID spending “overkill,” was the conversion of Sacramento’s professional basketball facility, then called Sleep Train Arena, into a COVID hospital in April 2020. According to the L.A. Times, the conversion cost millions of dollars and yet only nine patients were treated there.

Far less justifiable than an arguably good-faith response by sending a massive hospital ship to L.A. “just in case,” was Gov. Gavin Newsom’s decision to spend almost \$1 billion in taxpayer funds to purchase masks from a sketchy Chinese company known for building electric cars. Two years after the fact, there remain many unanswered questions.

Finally, California had a golden opportunity to use some of the billions in federal COVID relief to pay down its debt to the federal Unemployment Insurance Fund. That is precisely what virtually all other states did. But California’s failure means much higher costs to the state’s business community.

Taxpayers would like to hope that government agencies learned much from the pandemic. So far, there’s no indication of it.

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. ★

Californians Spring into Action to Remove Litter, Beautify Neighborhoods

Caltrans News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Thousands of Californians took part in more than 600 “Spring into Action” Clean California Community Days events throughout the state during an 11-day period to clean up roadways, local streets and public spaces.

The series of events from March 17-27 were part of the Clean California initiative, Governor Gavin Newsom’s \$1.2 billion, multi-year cleanup effort led by Caltrans to remove trash, create thousands of jobs and engage communities to transform public spaces.

“Clean California is empowering communities and restoring pride in our shared spaces up and down the state, and I thank the thousands of Californians who banded together for the Community Days events to beautify and transform their neighborhoods,” said Governor Newsom. “By making a difference at the local level, we are helping create a cleaner, more beautiful California for all.”

Clean California Community Days included:

Hundreds of local events including: 58 tree planting/gardening events with 363 trees planted; 265 community trash collection events; 202 public community cleanups; 39 educational and entertainment events; and six temporary public art installations;

1.64 million pounds of trash collected during the 11-day period – five times the weight of the Statue of Liberty;

More than 10,500 volunteers participated in community beautification efforts.

“The overwhelming response and participation from Californians throughout the state to transform community spaces



Volunteers pick up trash along the beach at a Clean California Community Days event in the City of Ventura on March 25. Photo courtesy of Caltrans

demonstrates the power of Clean California,” said Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. “With the support of Governor Newsom and the commitment of our communities, we are reducing litter and making lasting positive change.”

“Californians are looking for ways to engage in their communities to green and beautify neighborhoods, and Clean California is a powerful way for them to take action,” said California Chief Service Officer Josh Fryday.

Clean California will continue to engage communities and raise awareness on the negative impact litter has on natural resources, waterways, public safety and public health, driving a cultural shift of shared responsibility and instilling community pride for the cleanliness of our roadways and public spaces. The recently launched “Zero Litter is the Goal” campaign focuses on volunteerism, community activation and grassroots partnerships to maintain the positive momentum of Clean California Community Days.

To encourage local-level engagement, Caltrans is also developing a program in which communities throughout the state can earn a special Clean California

designation by meeting criteria centered around preventing and cleaning up litter, promoting recycling, and greening or beautifying neighborhoods.

To support communities with tools and resources, Caltrans will be providing downloadable public education materials on topics such as litter prevention, volunteer recruitment, and K-12 materials. Additionally, members of the community are encouraged to continue to organize their own cleanup events and can get started by visiting CleanCA.com.

Since launching Clean California in July 2021, Caltrans and local partners have removed 1.45 million cubic yards of litter from state highways – the equivalent of more than 24,400 tons or enough trash to fill the Rose Bowl over 3½ times. Caltrans has hired more than 850 team members as part of Clean California. Clean California grants have funded 231 projects to revitalize and beautify underserved communities, some of which are already complete and now sources of community pride. In February, Governor Newsom announced a new round of \$100 million in grants for local beautification projects. ★

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Golden 1 Center and Partners Seek to Improve Access to Sacramento Events

Disability Rights Advocates Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As Sacramento’s Golden 1 Center welcomes increasing numbers of visitors back to the stadium to enjoy Kings games, concerts, and other events, community members who are blind or have low vision will notice improvements to the stadium’s online ticket purchase platform. These improvements are thanks to collaboration between the Golden 1 Center, non-profit law firm Disability Rights Advocates (DRA), the ACB Capital Chapter of the California Council of the Blind (CCB), and other community members.

DRA reached out to the Golden 1 Center on behalf of the ACB Capital Chapter, Kings season ticket holder Leslie Thom, and community member Margie Donovan to notify the stadium of difficulties that individuals who are blind had experienced attempting to purchase tickets using the Golden 1 Center’s online ticket purchase platform. Due to programming barriers, the ticket purchasing website was incompatible with the software that many customers who are blind use to navigate and interact with websites, called screen readers. Because this online platform is the only way to purchase tickets without going to the box office in person, it is important that the process be accessible for individuals who are blind or have low vision.

When notified, Golden 1 Center got to work to fix the problems by hiring a web access consultant to assess not only the ticket purchase platform, but the entire Kings and Golden 1 Center websites. They also worked with vendors to implement

the recommended modifications. These improvements follow the Golden 1 Center’s recent addition of audio description services for eventgoers who are blind or have low vision so that they can enjoy all aspects of performances at the arena.

“To my knowledge, Golden 1 Center is the first arena with audio description and a fully accessible ticket purchasing system. Being fully accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired is something Golden 1 Center can be proud of,” said Capital Chapter member Margie Donovan.

“It is always great when businesses invest in a relationship with local advocates,” said Meredith Weaver, a senior staff attorney at DRA. “The Golden 1 Center has done just that with the Capital Chapter, and we are encouraged by the company’s recognition that increasing access is good for the community and good for business.”

During the Kings’ February 23 home game against the Portland Trailblazers, Golden 1 Center and the Kings highlighted their dedication to the blind community in Sacramento by featuring DRA and CCB at the arena’s Do Good Corner, which provided the opportunity to spotlight Golden 1 Center’s commitment, share the importance of accessible technology, and connect individually with interested fans.

If you experience barriers to accessing the Golden 1 Center’s website or ticket purchase platform via screen reader, please reach out to Golden 1 Center directly at 888-91-KINGS. To request audio description for an event, contact 1-888-91-KINGS (1-888-915-4647) or email ADAServices@kings.com at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled event or as soon as possible. ★

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How Pelosi Stopped the Jan. 6, Electoral College Count and Installed Biden



By Harold Pease, Ph.D.

According to Conservative Treehouse in a recent breakthrough article titled “The Parliamentary Motive Behind the J6 Fedsurrection,” March 12, 2023, Nancy Pelosi played the dominant role in stopping the January 6, 2021 Electoral College Count. The federal government had motive in creating the J6 crisis which permitted her “to trigger an emergency session and avoid the 2020 election certification challenges,” thus seating Joe Biden without thorough constitutional review.

On the morning of January 6, 2021 three constitutional processes remained, all easily would have solved the election question between Donald Trump and Joe Biden; one involving the President of the Senate, Mike Pence, one the House of Representatives with Nancy Pelosi, and a third involving both houses using the Electoral Count Act of 1887. All were rejected by Pelosi.

The first, and preferred, has Pence on center stage. “The Constitution reads, ‘The President of the Senate [at the time Vice President Pence] shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted’” (Amendment 12). All Pence had to do when a state submitted two slates was to say, “Arizona (et al.) has submitted two slates one from its state legislature, the other forwarded by the state secretary of state signed by the governor. Since I cannot count both, and only the state legislature is recognized by the Constitution as the proper submitter (Article II, Section I, Clause 2), I will count only it.” Since five of the six contested state legislatures were Republican, Trump would have been reelected.

The second constitutional remedy would have involved Pelosi as then Speaker of the House. The Constitution reads, “if no person have

such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers ...the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; ... and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice” (Amendment 12, U.S. Constitution). In the House each state has only one vote for president, regardless of its size, California and Wyoming each have but one vote. Republicans controlled 28 state delegations, two more than the majority needed to reelect Trump.

Instead, of this constitutional clarity both houses chose a process not in the Constitution itself. The confusing 133 year old Electoral Count Act of 1887, not constitutionally tested, which required both houses giving them an objection process. This required a member of the Senate and of the House each to object to any state’s vote, thereafter to dismiss the two houses to their separate quarters for two hours of discussion rendering a decision before reuniting.

But Pelosi wanted none of these constitutional remedies because all, she perceived, gave Trump a second term. Enter a previously contrived government January 6 crisis which permitted her to trigger an emergency session, deny Pence his constitutional role as President of the Senate to count the votes, avoid the 2020 election certification challenges, bypass the above stated parts of the Constitution and the Electoral Count Act of 1887, and reconvene that evening making Biden President—all obstruction to that end just hours before treasonably removed.

A government engineered January 6 is the only way this could happen. To delay “the certification of state electoral votes requires a crisis. A crisis that creates an ‘emergency’ ...An ‘emergency’ that invokes special house rules.” Special house rules, that allow no “motion challenges to halt the certification” and avoids a vote to “look into voting irregularities and fraud.” Nothing was required of the “house to pause the certification and then vote to determine whether the motions of suspend could move forward.” Nothing to prevent their certifying the fraud “with

no detractors on record.” Perfect!! And the MAGA protestors would be blamed.

The Supreme Court too was removed as a potential threat to their plan. “This effectively gives no standing for a SCOTUS ruling appeal! Understand this. If those two motions, even just one had successfully been voted EVEN IF THE MOTIONS were DENIED IN VOTE, this gives those who presented them with STANDING FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL LEGAL ARGUMENT BEFORE SCOTUS.”

The author of the “Parliamentary Motive Behind the J6 Fedsurrection,” Regitiger, continues, “Just moments, literally 3 minutes before two representatives issued a vote for motions to suspend the certification, the House members were ‘informed’ by capitol police and other ‘agents’ that a protest was about to breach the chambers.” Pelosi “UNILATERALLY UNDER EMERGENCY RULES, suspended the business of the congress.” Moments later “key people: Pence, Pelosi, Schumer, McConnell can be seen being walked out and escorted from the chamber. This effectively halted the Entire Chamber Process.”

When reconvened later that evening Speaker Pelosi “initiated the NEW sessions under special emergency rules. These rules abandon and make it clear that the ONLY purpose of the new session was to EXPEDITE the certification and dismiss all prior regular session procedural rules.” Also, “members were allowed to ‘vote’ in proxy, remotely, not being present.” Also, “clearly, it was at THIS NEW SESSION that VP Pence, President of Congress, would also have no ability to even consider pausing the electoral certification, because there were no motions of disagreements on the matter. The motions were never allowed to be floored in the re-convened house rules later that evening.”

BINGO a successful overthrow of the United States government via an election and Nancy Pelosi. Can we please subpoena her emails?

Dr. Harold Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. To read more of his weekly columns visit [www. LibertyUnderFire.org](http://www.LibertyUnderFire.org). ★

Trailer Bills: A Sneaky Way to Make a Big Change in California Law



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California’s governors and legislators have, as often noted in this space, developed a bad habit of using the state budget to make sweeping changes in state law while minimizing or ignoring traditional legislative procedures.

They do it with so-called “budget trailer bills” that are often passed in batches coincident with the budget each June after minimal hearings and debate. Like the budget, they take effect immediately and are shielded from being challenged via referendum.

It can take weeks or even months for those outside the Capitol to figure out the real-life impacts and decipher the dense legalese of trailer bills, which often run hundreds of pages.

The Legislature is once again plowing through the latest budget, this one proposed by Gov. Gavin Newsom for the 2023-24 fiscal year, prior to the last frantic – and largely secret – negotiations on a final version.

Dozens of would-be trailer bills are kicking around, some of them legitimately attached to the budget, and some just using the process to minimize scrutiny.

One of the most complex, potentially important trailer bills, not yet formally

introduced, would overhaul how electrical energy is produced. It would make the state Department of Water Resources the state’s central purchaser of power, citing the need to construct or acquire enough non-polluting generation to meet the state’s self-proclaimed goal of becoming carbon-neutral by 2045.

What could possibly go wrong?

California’s track record on managing the state power supply is, to say the least, spotty.

A quarter-century ago, California experimented with what was termed “deregulation,” but really wasn’t, of electricity, and it quickly became one of the worst human-caused disasters in state history. It allowed power suppliers to game the system, pushed costs through the ceiling, drove one utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, into bankruptcy, almost did the same to another, Southern California Edison, and was a major reason voters recalled a governor, Gray Davis.

The Department of Water Resources became, for a time, the state’s central power buyer because its water supply system was, and is, a major generator of electricity and a major purchaser.

After the experiment was repealed, California returned to its previous system, based on purchases by utilities such as PG&E and SCE and regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. But a few years later, the state embarked on its quest for carbon neutrality, greatly complicating the situation.

Simultaneously, the state is trying to phase out power from generation by

hydrocarbons, such as natural gas, while increasing the overall supply in expectation that demand will grow as other activities, such as transportation, make the same transition to electricity.

It hasn’t gone smoothly. The state has flirted with blackouts on hot days when air conditioning imposes huge demands and has been forced to keep the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant and several gas-fired generators, which had been scheduled for closure, online to avoid shortages.

So would making the state water agency the electric power czar again be the solution to meeting deadlines for decarbonization?

The Legislature’s independent budget analyst, Gabe Patek, is one skeptic. His office issued a report urging lawmakers to take enough time to analyze such a major change and questioning its necessity and its potential effect on California consumers, who are already paying some of the nation’s highest power rates.

Patek’s report also questions the need to use a fast-track budget trailer bill for such a momentous change, saying “Ultimately, ensuring it (the Legislature) has the time and opportunities for developing a greater understanding, sufficient input from stakeholders, and thoughtful deliberation will be vital to ensuring it can make an informed decision on these important proposals.”

Amen. Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. ★

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West Sacramento News Ledger

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FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS

By Amy Shane

BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

Celebrate Earth Day with These New Children’s Books

This Is the Planet Where I Live
by K.L. Going and Debra Fraiser, Beach Lane Books

From the people to their homes, to the fields and the insects, this is a place we all call home. From the animals to the birds to the ocean below, this is all we all share in the planet where we live.

This is the Planet Where I Live is a beautiful celebration of the planet which we all share. A visual explosion of colors and picture photography captures the smallest insect to the vast size of our planet. The perfect celebration book for Earth Day and every day.

Just A Worm
by Marie Boyd; Greenwillow Books

A little worm sets off to see the world. With a slop, a wiggle, and a twirl, he is off. As Worm sets off on his journey, he meets many creatures who can do wonderful things. Worm realizes he can’t fly, spin a web, change into a beautiful butterfly, or eat pests; he is just a worm. Then Worm thinks about all the things he can do. Worm can dig, crawl, keep the garden clean, feed plants, and help them stay healthy. Earthworms are essential, and he is more than just a worm.

Just a Worm celebrates the importance of an often overlooked little creature.

The World and Everything In It
by Kevin Henkes; Greenwillow Books

The world is full of big things and little things. You can hold little things like a pebble or a flower in your hand. But you can also have big things, like water from the ocean, and feel the sun on your face. However, this world is made up

All the World
by Liz Garton Scanlon and Marla Frazee, Beach Lane Books

All the world is here and there and everywhere. All the world is wherever you are right now.

In a celebration of daily life around the world, *All the World* will take readers throughout the day in all the world. Celebrating old and new, cold and hot, wide and deep, quiet and still, and most of all, you and me. With beautiful illustrations capturing everyday moments, the book is a lovely story full of deeper meaning and heart.

mainly of the things in-between things, like all of us.

Celebrate the beauty of everything in this world, whether big, small, or in-between.

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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

TIGER

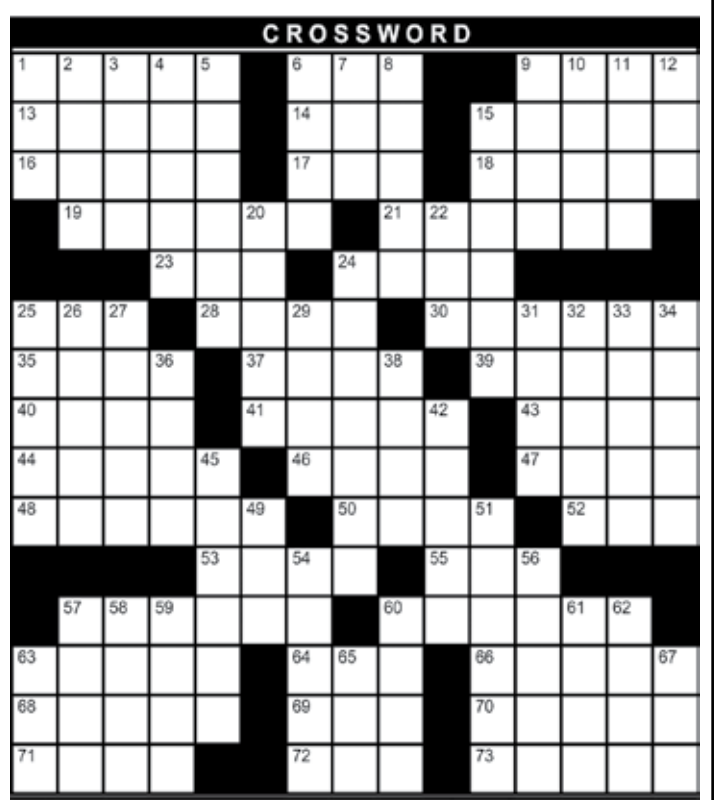


by BUD BLAKE

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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Unsuitable
 - Agency behind food labels, acr.
 - Pastoral sounds
 - More painful
 - "Maggie May" singer
 - Secret storage
 - Haji destination
 - Inflated feeling
 - One in a quiver
 - "Scooby-Doo's best friend"
 - "Stone Age Fred's best friend"
 - Zip
 - Type of wave
 - "Mangia!"
 - Apple leftover
 - Unlike Pinocchio
 - Law school test acronym
 - Tiger's forte
 - Jack Black's Libre
 - For ___ kitchen counter
 - Jewish folklore creature
 - Singer Whitman of "Secret Love" fame
 - Formerly known as dropsy
 - Spanish Surrealist
 - Stay out of its way!
 - Make a remake
 - Shawm
 - Yoda: "Do or do not. There is no ___"
 - Like hard times
 - Tube in old TV, acr.
 - Jessica or Peter
 - "Anthropomorphic squirrel's last name"
 - Small and elegant
 - Mozart's "L___ del Cairo"
 - Like a whistle?
 - Optical illusion creation (2 words)
 - "Time," e.g., colloquially
 - Hint of color
 - "The Way We ___"
 - Farm pen
 - Skedaddle
- DOWN**
- What hedonism and idealism have in common
 - Rejections
 - Flatfoot's lack
 - Pie option
 - Calamitous
 - One of the Eagles
 - *Pluto or Snoopy
 - Acrobat maker
 - Rural building
 - Homesteader's purchase, sing.
 - Nabisco's "Chips ___"
 - To use a Singer
 - Dairy industry missing person-seeking prop
 - Nordic glühwein
 - Ooh and ___
 - Troublemaker
 - *Fudd's first name
 - Line to the audience
 - "It is silent," in sheet music
 - Living space
 - Don Johnson's Bridges
 - Plaudit and pomp
 - Bake an egg
 - *One of the Pickles
 - Like a broken horse



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State Park Peace Officer Cadet Exam Period Opens

California State Parks News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California State Parks invites individuals to “Live the Parks Life” as rangers or lifeguards in the nation’s largest state park system. Starting March 24 and through June 10, 2023, individuals can apply for the State Park Peace Officer Cadet exams. Cadet academy graduates can serve the state as rangers and lifeguards to safeguard both visitors and the historical, cultural and natural resources found in 280 state park units. Offices are located near beaches or waterways, or in deserts, parks, museums, historic parks and state vehicular recreation areas.

“Serving as a ranger or lifeguard in California’s State Park System is a unique opportunity to make an everlasting impact on the state’s natural landscapes and the millions of people who visit them,” said California State Parks Director Armando Quintero. “I know firsthand how rewarding it is to provide natural and cultural resource protection and ensure public safety.”

The minimum age to be a peace officer is 21 years old. Candidates are required to have a valid California driver’s license and have 60 units of college credits, with 21 units being general education.

The entire selection process for becoming a ranger or lifeguard takes approximately 15 months. The first step in the selection/examination process is to mail, email or hand deliver an application during the open application period. The application is used to determine if the candidate meets the minimum qualifications for admission into the examination, which consists of the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Entry Level Law Enforcement Test Battery written exam. This exam is used to admit the candidate into the next phases of the selection



Serving as a ranger or lifeguard in California’s State Park System is a unique opportunity to make an everlasting impact on the state’s natural landscapes and the millions of people who visit them. Photo courtesy of California State Parks

process, which include the physical agility test, background investigation, oral interview, and medical and psychological evaluations. Successful applicants will be sent a notification to attend the eight-month-long POST-certified law enforcement academy.

The academy instruction prepares cadets physically, mentally and emotionally to enter the workforce as a state park peace officer ranger or lifeguard. Rangers and lifeguards are sworn officers equipped with a firearm and badge. Cadets will learn how to conduct investigations, make

physical arrests, use firearms and perform emergency responses. Training also includes how to actively protect park resources, assist visitors and run interpretive programs.

Below are some frequently asked questions regarding the State Park Peace Officer Cadet Academy:

Do I have to carry a firearm to serve as a ranger or lifeguard?

Yes. Cadet training includes how to conduct investigations, make physical arrests, use firearms and perform emergency responses.

What is the age minimum and age maximum to apply?

Candidates must be at least 21 years of age to become a peace officer. State Park Peace Officer’s mandatory retirement age is 65 years, but there is no maximum application age.

I have not completed two years of college yet. Can I still apply while I am still taking classes?

Candidates may be enrolled in college at the time of application but must have at least 21 units of general education credits satisfying general education curriculum standards with courses

(which may include courses in natural science, social science, mathematics, language and humanities). By the time of appointment, a candidate must have completed 60 semester units of study at a state-accredited college or university. A degree in park administration, natural sciences, social sciences, law enforcement or a related field is desirable.

Where is the Cadet Academy located?

Most cadets attend training at Butte College Law Enforcement Academy (Butte County). However, the department may utilize several academy sites, including Mott Training Center at Asilomar in Pacific Grove, South Bay Regional Public Safety Academy at Fort Ord in Monterey, and the Ben Clark Law Enforcement Training facility in Riverside. It is at the department’s discretion to determine an academy location for each class.

Do I get paid while at the academy?

Yes. Cadets earn a salary; currently, the monthly salary range is \$3,930 to \$5,300. Most cadets start at the low end of the range unless they are a current state employee with a salary within the range.

To hire a workforce reflective of California’s diverse population, California State Parks is committed to ensuring equal access and connecting all job seekers to opportunities through fair hiring and employment practices. For more information on the cadet exams, minimum qualifications, additional frequently asked questions and a timeline of the recruitment cycle, please visit LiveTheParksLife.com.

Please send questions regarding other employment opportunities at California State Parks to the Workforce Planning and Recruitment Office at recruiting@parks.ca.gov ★

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