



Stealing is Stealing

PAGE 10

New Home Sales Up

PAGE 2



West Sacramento News Ledger

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Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964

FEBRUARY 3, 2023

SEE
INSIDE

TUCKED AWAY IN WEST SAC



PAGE 2

CRIME REPORTS



PAGE 4

CALIFORNIA'S BOTCHED PROJECTS



PAGE 5

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Awarding the Thin Blue Line



Above, left to right: Kristina Hunter; Officer in Charge Marc Marquez; Officer Matthew Montez and K9 Yoda; Deputy Chief Carl Crouch; Lt. Charles Meeks; Atasha Snider; Joseph Escobar. Right, left to right: Chief Rob Strange, Volunteer of the year Sharon Kowalski and Deputy Chief Carl Crouch.

Story and photos
by Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - West Sacramento Police Department held its annual awards ceremony on Saturday, January 28, to celebrate the accomplishments and heroic actions of the West Sacramento Police Department during 2022. After a fantastic dinner, Deputy Chief Carl Crouch initiated the ceremony with a curtained backdrop proudly displaying the WSPD logo.

The series of awards presented were: Commanding Officer's Citation – Officer in Charge Alexi Venikov and Cold Case Homicide Team; Exceptional Performance Ribbon – Sgt. Andrea King, Officer Matthew Montez, Officer Scott Farnsworth

and Division Manager Taylor Nelson; Life Saving Award – Officer in Charge Alexi Venikov and Officer Jonas Eiremo; Community Recognition Citation – Yolo County Sheriff's Marine Team; Chief's Citation – Shawnae Brooks, K9 5K Team Officer Matthew Montez, Officer in Charge Marc Marquez, Kristin Hunter, Fleet Service Lt. Charles Meeks, Joseph Escobar, Atasha Snider, Officer Nick Concolino; Special Recognition Award – Patrol Officers, Patrol Sergeants, CSO's.

In addition, awards were received for Volunteer of the year – Sharon Kowalski; Manager of the year – Lt. Charles Meeks; Employee of the year – Veronica

Garcia; and Officer of the year – (name withheld).

As names were called, Deputy Chief Crouch explained why WSPD has such great officers. In spite of the pay authorized by this city, he said, these men and women stayed with the department because they love this community and in an already short-handed department worked even more hours covering for those ill with COVID.

"These are not participation awards. When you work in this profession, you're never just participating," Crouch said. He explained that the men and women in that room

Continued on page 3

Sac Zoo Celebrates the Birth of Masai Giraffe Calf



Shani a Masai giraffe gave birth to a female calf on Sunday, January 22, at 12:28pm at the maternity giraffe barn stall of the Sacramento Zoo. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Zoo

Sacramento Zoo
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Shani the giraffe gave birth to a female calf on Sunday, January 22, at 12:28pm. Her zookeepers noted signs of an impending birth on January 18, and Shani was moved into the maternity stall of the giraffe barn to be monitored. Although animal care and veterinary teams were suspicious that she might still be pregnant, just not on her original timeline, there were no definitive signs until very recently.

We are thrilled to announce that Shani's calf is healthy and nursing well from mom. The pair will be given bonding time but may be visible at their habitat's side yard periodically over the next few weeks. The official debut date will be dependent on the health and welfare of mom and calf. Keep an eye out on our social media pages for when this new addition to our herd will be visible!

Sacramento Zoo is now home to six giraffes: one post-reproductive female reticulated giraffe, one male Masai giraffe, three female Masai giraffe including Shani, and now the new calf. This is the 21st calf born at the Sacramento Zoo going back to 1954 when giraffes were first housed in Sacramento.

The Masai giraffe is the largest giraffe subspecies and is found in southern Kenya and Tanzania. When a calf is born, it can be as tall as six feet and weigh as much as 150 pounds. Within minutes, the calf is able to stand on its own.

Wild giraffes are experiencing a silent extinction. Approximately 150,000 wild giraffes existed as recently as 1985, but it is now estimated that there are now fewer than 97,000. ★

It's Just Plain Wrong



The roadway with a new name on the way. Maybe it should be renamed 'The Wrong Way'?

Story and photo
by Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The City of West Sacramento city council has chosen to rename

a very busy street that will cost some taxpayers a lot of time and money.

The Brown Act reads: "In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the public

commissions, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken

openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly. The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them.

Continued on page 3



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2572 Serenata Way, Sacramento, CA 95835 \$624,800



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December New Home Sales Up 45% from November



While we will see challenges in 2023, we believe the market will likely gradually improve as buyers continue to adjust to the new normal in mortgage rates. Image by Paul Brennan from Pixabay

NSBIA Press Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - New home sales rebounded in December around the greater Sacramento region, with 372 sales recorded in the eight-county area, a 45% increase from November, the North State Building Industry Association reported today. Excepting the past two pandemic years, that is the best December BIA homebuilders enjoyed since 2006 and the best month in 2022 since April.

The solid December figures pushed the year's total sales to 5,010, in line with the yearly totals recorded between 2015 and 2019.

Michael Strech, the BIA's President, and CEO said the yearly totals show that the demand for new homes in the region remains strong.

"It's clear that if we look at the year as a whole and not just the slowdown in mid-summer caused by the steep interest rate increases, sales continue to move towards levels we saw in the

years before the pandemic generated the sharp increase in sales in 2020 and 2021," Strech said.

"The demand for housing, particularly for new homes, remains as strong as ever in the region, so while we will see challenges in 2023, we believe the market will likely gradually improve as buyers continue to adjust to the new normal in mortgage rates."

Highlights of the monthly and annual sales figures (excluding the additional 120 sales during the year) include:

Sacramento County sales broke Placer County's six-month winning streak in December, but just by one sale, 169 to 168. Sacramento County sales narrowly outpaced sales in Placer County for the year as well.

Yuba County reported the third-highest sales totals in the region, outpacing El Dorado County.

Because very few homes are still available in the \$300,000-\$350,000 range as those older communities

are now nearly sold out, the monthly total was actually -3 in that price range as three previous sales were canceled.

Strech said the fact that most sales are in the \$500,000 range and above shows the impact of higher government fees, a limited supply of land on which to build, and regulatory delays and barriers that make production of more-affordable homes extremely difficult.

"As our poll showed last fall, an overwhelming majority of Sacramento-area residents are deeply concerned that their children and grandchildren will not be able to afford to buy a home in our region," Strech said. "It's essential that state and local policymakers enact reforms to encourage new home construction to bring the market back into balance. Otherwise, the affordability crisis will only grow worse."

The BIA's sales figures cover Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Amador, and Nevada counties. ★

Tucked Away IN WEST SAC AMES Drywall Finishing Tools and Services



AMES Drywall Finishing Tools & Services provides materials to complete your sheetrock/drywall job.

Story and photo by Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Tucked Away, back in the area of the CHP Academy, the business complexes are filling up. When WyoTech moved out of there many people wondered what would come of the area. There are all kinds of businesses back there. Most of them have their names on the doors, but that doesn't really help in most cases out there.

One business out there, however, is AMES Drywall Finishing Tools & Services. Ames is a great little store with any tools you may need for doing anything that has to do with sheetrock/drywall. Located next to MESA RV, and tucked back, is this little store that carries everything from hard hats, to bags, to the t-shirts in caution yellow. They have all kinds of tape, trawls, and different sized scaffolding ladders and benches.

Minus the actual sheetrock, Ames has all of your needs. When asked if AMES had any big sales coming up, Assistant Manager Victoria Chavez said, "We have sales going on all the time." Each

month the store has a particular item on sale all month long. Their prices are very reasonable, and they have quite a good selection of items

AMES, pioneers of technology, can be found online at amestools.com or you can call them at (916) 371-5561. If you have any needs in this area of construction, are a tool junkie or even if you just want to check it out, AMES is located at 1030 Riverside Parkway, Ste. 100, West Sacramento. They are open Monday through Friday 5:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., but closed daily from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday they are open from 6 a.m.-11 a.m. Closed on Sundays. ★

Editor's note: "Tucked Away in West Sac" is a recurring segment in the News-Ledger designed to highlight businesses throughout West Sacramento that are interesting, fun, and unique and are easily missed.

We hope to help our community by increasing the visibility of the businesses that help to make our town so unique. In addition, a thriving community is one that takes care of each other. When we shop locally, we keep the money local, which in turns feeds and employs our community.

Tanya Aguilera

West Sacramento Specialist

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It's Just Plain Wrong

Awarding the Thin Blue Line

Continued from page 1

The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.”

This is what the Broderick/Bryte Neighborhood Association (BBNA) believes was violated when it comes to the decision to rename the stretch of road that leads onto the Tower Bridge from West Sacramento. It has been decided by the council that Tower Bridge Gateway, which actually properly describes the stretch of roadway, will be renamed Christopher L. Cabaldon Parkway. Those that oppose the renaming say that it is ridiculous and that they don't mind if the council wants to dedicate something else to Mr. Cabaldon, such as a new street or roadway under future development, a new city building, or maybe even renaming the post office building. With all of the building and developing going on, why can't it be something that is not named yet?

They also say that the Brown Act was violated in the process of this very quick decision made by the City Council. It all comes down to whether a chance for public comment was given or respected, and whether they decided we know or don't know. As Chris Ledesma's last thing done before retiring from the City Council, he wanted to do something to honor Cabaldon. It was then said that a street renaming has been suggested. City Manager Aaron Laurel said that it normally would go onto the future agenda "Probably November" as a proposal for what form of recognition that would include. He said that in the future meeting they would bring the details. He further said if they wanted to have discussion, they could go ahead and have it then.

In the time between the October and November meetings, the City sent out notifications to the residents of the Tower Bridge Gateway Apartments with a deadline of within a ten days. However, it takes 2-3 days for that mail to arrive and 2-3 days to be returned. The City will later say that they reviewed all comments that they got that "qualified". Does that mean that those responses

that they received outside of the ten-day period did not qualify?

Residents of Tower Gateway Apartments, who would not give their names, said that they thought it was "junk mail." Another said he thought it was a survey because of how it was written. Members of the Broderick/Bryte Neighborhood Association claim that what was done was not enough effort to notify those residents and get their proper feedback.

When the November City Council meeting was held, the item of renaming the street was listed as a resolution. It appears the council may have skipped a step. What happened to the actual proposal stage to reveal all details and the cost to taxpayers? When were the total responses recognized from the mailer reviewed by the council? What happened to other options for recognizing Mr. Cabaldon?

During the November 16, 2022 meeting proceedings included were the public comment speaking section, where the public is allowed to speak on topics they want to bring up to the council. One woman, Maria Grijalva attempted to speak about the renaming or the roadway and was stopped by the city attorney, being told she could not speak on it. Another gentleman spoke against the renaming of the roadway as well.

Mayor Guerrero said that before each item listed there would be an opportunity for public comment. During each topic Mayor Guerrero called for public comment. During this topic about renaming the roadway, no call for public comment was made. Only Councilwoman Alcala asked questions and eventually voted no for the reason of public comment being needed.

Since the vote and decision to change the name, the council has been accused of violating the Brown Act. In addition, a petition has been posted on Change.com that has more than 500 signatures. There is also a Facebook page called "Leave Tower Bridge Gateway Alone". The city attorney has reviewed the video of the meeting and says that the City did not violate the Brown Act.

The City released the following statement: "The City followed all applicable laws and policies for renaming Tower Bridge Gateway and notified all

interested government agencies, including the U.S. Postal Service, as well as utility providers in advance of the City Council's decision to change the street name. The City is currently procuring new signage, the cost for which will be minimal. The official changeover is expected to take place this spring. The City will renotify all appropriate agencies as well as the owners and residents of 825 Tower Bridge Gateway, which is the only physical structure with an address on the street, well in advance of the official change."

Will the City reimburse all the taxpayers for their personal costs for making the change to their personal records? There is a real cost of time and money for everyone affected. It is not right to pass these costs on to taxpayers that didn't have the real opportunity to reply, especially when there were so many other options available to the city council. The real costs could be thousands of dollars each.

Isn't "Tower Bridge Gateway" a much more iconic name for the roadway that is a centerpiece to a city with a professional sports team? No offense to Mr. Cabaldon and his history of hard work for the city, but a building or new school would have been more appropriate for this effort.

The BBNA has asked if the council really considered the 77 people that will now have to change their address on their driver's licenses, bank accounts and other accounts. In addition, The Tower Bridge Gateway Apartments will have to change their letterhead, business cards etc. Additionally, anything that has a map on it, such as documents at Sutter Health Park showing directions will now need changing.

The BBNA believes that it is unacceptable to force these people to have to take the time and cost to make this change. To many this entire process was decided upon and was intentionally pushed through without any real public input. Actions like this are where recalls get started.

There is no question that Mr. Cabaldon did a lot for West Sacramento. The BBNA says if the City Council believe in this so much, they should have had full transparency.

If you have a comment about this story, you can always direct it to your city councilmember. ★



Left to right: Chief Rob Strange, Employee of the Year Veronica Garcia, and Deputy Chief Carl Crouch.

Continued from page 1

have the opportunity to change the lives of residents, as well as those in the department. He spoke about helping the community and mentioned that in his 25 years at WSPD, he has risen through the ranks and is now Deputy Chief. "If you don't believe you have the chance to make change, change will be made without you," said Crouch.

After the awards were given out, Chief Rob Strange said he was proud of the many individuals he works with. He highlighted the exemplary work these people do while short-handed and underfunded. Strange was proud that

WSPD began making the necessary changes before the death of George Floyd which the nation has now demanded in the aftermath of his death.

Chief Strange noted that while shorthanded, officers and their families have sacrificed their time and made efforts to ensure empty shifts were covered. Strange said that more community outreach and programs with the community are important but has heard from community members asking for police work in the most traditional sense.

"They want crime being fought, sideshows busted up, mail and catalytic converter thieves caught and those that are filling our

community with deadly fentanyl tracked down and arrested. They want crimes fully investigated and solved, they want us to crack down on bad drivers, they want us to be protecting their homes and their businesses, they want us doing all that we can to protect their children. They want us to be guardians and they want us to maintain a true warriors' spirit on their behalf because [they] want us doing all that we can for them. They want more of you and they want you to stay in West Sacramento," said the Chief. He said, this community values them and wants them to know they are valued. ★



A Community Recognition Citation was awarded to Yolo County Marine Patrol Team.

West Sacramento News Briefs

MPG Staff

Free COVID-19 Test Vending Machine

The COVID-19 rapid test kit vending machine has been relocated from behind City Hall to the Community Center across the street, at 1075 West Capitol Ave.

These are home antigen test kits and they are FREE through a partnership with the Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency. Please only take what you need.

There are also limited free home test kits available at Yolo County libraries including the Arthur F. Turner Library in West Sacramento.

Steps to College 2023

Steps to College 2023 is the largest bilingual and binational university fair in Northern California, taking place on Saturday, February 4, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The fair is a joint project of the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, the California Student Aid Commission, the Cien Amigos advocacy group, and the Mexican Cultural Center of Northern California, as well as public and private institutions.

Representatives from distinguished colleges and universities from California and Mexico, State of California higher education experts, and nonprofit higher education organizations and advocates work together each year to help students navigate the college experience and learn about their



A free COVID-19 test vending machine moves to Community Center. Photo courtesy of the City of West Sacramento

financial options for higher education.

Saturday, February 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, 2093 Arena Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95834

For more information, visit stepstocollegesac.org and register on EventBrite.

Open Enrollment for UTK, Kindergarten & Preschool

SAVE THE DATE! Online registration opened on January 11, 2023, for Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK), Kindergarten, and Preschool for the 2023-2024 school year.

In-Person Assistance Days will be available at the District Office, 930 Westacre Rd., on Saturday, January 21, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Wednesday, February 22, 4:30-7 p.m., and at the Bryte Cafe, 637 Todhunter Ave., on Saturday, February 4, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Eligibility: Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK): 5th birthday falls

on or between September 2, 2023, to April 2, 2024.

Kindergarten: 5th birthday falls on or before Sept. 1, 2023.

Preschool: 3rd or 4th birthday falls on or before Dec. 1, 2023.

Required Documents: Birth Certificate, Immunization Record, and Proof of Address (Utility bill, mortgage statement, rental agreement)

Before + After School Care: Expanded day options before and after school for TK-8th grade. Call (916) 375 7600, ext. 1311. www.enrollatwusd.org

RCHS Culinary Students to Host Pancake Breakfast

Join the FFA and Culinary students at the former Bryte Elementary School in raising funds for their Spring Leadership Events on Saturday, February 11. Students will be cooking, serving, and entertaining guests! The breakfast goes from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. ★

New Referendum Qualified for California's November 2024 Ballot

California Secretary of State Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D. announced today that a referendum has qualified for the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot.

In order to qualify for the ballot, the referendum needed 623,212 valid petition signatures, which is equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the November 2018 General Election.

The Attorney General's official title and summary of the referendum is as follows:

Referendum challenging 2022 law authorizing creation of council to set minimum wage and working standards for fast-food workers. If the required number of registered voters sign this petition and it is timely filed, a 2022 law will not take effect unless approved at the next statewide general or

special election after November 8, 2022. The challenged law:

Authorizes creation of Fast-Food Council (upon submission of 10,000 fast-food worker signatures) to set working standards and minimum wage (up to \$22/hour in 2023, with capped annual increases) at fast-food restaurants with 100+ nationwide locations.


Prohibits retaliation against fast-food workers for making certain workplace complaints.

The proponents of the referendum are Amber Evans and Steven McDermed. They can be reached c/o Kurt R. Oneto of Nielsen Merksamer LLP. The address for Nielsen Merksamer LLP is 1415 L Street, Suite 1200, Sacramento, CA 95814. The proponents can also be reached at (916) 446-6752. For more information about how a referendum qualifies for the ballot in California, visit <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/ballot-measures/referendum/> ★

Crime Reports

WEST SACRAMENTO

January 10, 2022 - January 24, 2023



1-10-23

DESTINY CARDENAS Arrested for Possession of Burglary tools, driving without a license and no evidence of current registration.

1-13-23

HANNA USATA Arrested for DUI/alcohol/drug/refusal to take chemical test, DUI alcohol/0.08 percent/high BA/ refusal to take chemical test.

1-14-23

JUAN MENDOZA Arrested for DUI and DUI/0.08 percent after an alleged single car accident.

1-18-23

VICTOR HILL Arrested for warrant.

1-19-23

MITCHELL CISSNEY Arrested for possession of controlled substance, transport/sell narcotics, possession of controlled substance for sale, transport controlled substance, possession of unlawful paraphernalia, driving on suspended for DUI, no registration and a warrant.

1-19-23

DESTINEE SURTTAMORALEZ Arrested for a warrant when passenger in a vehicle stop.

1-20-23

AURELIO FRIAS Arrested for disorderly conduct/alcohol when WSPD were dispatched to assist CHP with a motorist that had had fallen asleep behind the wheel.

1-20-23

CARL FORE Arrested for a warrant, parole violation, possession of paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance.

1-21-23

JAKE BINFORD Arrested for DUI and DUI / 0.08 percent. After a single car collision.

1-21-23

ALEJANDRO ALVARADO Arrested for a warrant,possession of paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance and assault with a deadly weapon/not a firearm.

1-22-23

NAVNEETA NAIR Arrested for DUI and DUI/0.08 percent after a traffic stop.

1-22-23

MICHAEL TREVINO Arrested for Robbery at Raleys.

1-24-23

DOMINIC ROSS Arrested for possession/purchase for sale narcotics/controlled substance, possession of narcotic, warrant after allegedly being stopped riding a dirt bike on the sidewalk.

INCIDENT/CRIME REPORTS

1-18-23

Vehicle burglary on 5th St. Evidence collected. \$200 loss. Burglary.

1-18-23

Unknown suspect stole bifocals from reporting person's motel room. \$150 loss. Petty theft.

1-18-23

Unknown suspect hit victim on the head with a pipe on West Capitol Ave., causing injury. Assault w/ a deadly weapon/ not firearm.

1-19-23

Subject arrested and booked into YCJ for possession of narcotics for sale.

1-20-23

Vehicle burglary report on Stillwater Rd.

1-20-23

Unknown suspect(s) opened a locked community mailbox and possibly removed mail. Commit mail theft.

1-20-23

Unknown suspect(s) possibly stole mail from community mailbox on Highland Dr. Commit mail theft.

1-20-23

Theft of catalytic converter on Half Moon Bay Cir. \$3,000 loss. Grand theft.

1-20-23

Subject arrested and booked into YCJ for possession of controlled substance, stealing from Walgreens, located with stolen items,on parole, had warrant, and was arrested. Had drug paraphernalia and controlled substance on his person. Parole hold authorized.

1-20-23

Unknown person shot a 9MM handgun in the area of Gregory Ave. Willful discharge of a firearm in a grossly negligent manner.

1-21-23

Subject arrested and booked into YCJ for DUI investigation involved in collision.

1-22-23

Subject arrested and booked into YCJ for robbery. Suspect allegedly attempted to steal items and fought with security.

1-23-23

Catalytic converter stolen on Stone Blvd. \$1,000 loss. Grand theft.

1-22-23

Catalytic converter theft on Finch Ln. \$1,000 loss. Grand theft.

1-23-23

Vehicle rear passenger window has hole smashed into it on 5th St. and entirety of the window is cracked. \$500 loss. Vandalism.

1-23-23

Unknown suspect forced entry into victim's vehicle. Approximately \$850 worth of merchandise stolen. Burglary.

1-24-23

Unknown suspect(s) attempted to steal catalytic converter. Suspects were unsuccessful but took exhaust from vehicle. Tamper w vehicle.

CHURCH DIRECTORY



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To find out how to list your place of worship in this directory, call (916) 371-8030 for more information.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Sasa Andelkovic, Senior Pastor

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PO Box 447, W. Sac. 95691

Sat. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.
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(916) 372-6570

Community Lutheran Church

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Sunday Service at 10 a.m.
920 Drevor St.
(916) 317-8804
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New Seasons Church

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Pastor Ron Jackson

Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
2124 Michigan Blvd.,
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 265-4025
pastorron@newseasonsws.com
www.newseasonsws.com

Trinity Presbyterian Church

1500 Park Blvd. W. Sacramento
(916) 371-5875
www.TrinityWestSac.org
info@trinitywestsac.org
Pastor Jamie Crook

Spanish Ministry Pastor: Miryam Osorio

Sunday Worship Services:
10 a.m. Blended/Traditional
Noon Spanish Language

West Sacramento Baptist Church

Sun. School - 9:30 a.m.
Sun. Worship - 11 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting
& Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.
2124 Michigan Blvd.
(916) 371-2111

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Office: (916) 371-4814
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Mass: Mon, Tues, Wed 8:30 a.m.
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during school year
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ASK THE DMV

New Year New ID!

Start your New Year off the right way by adding obtaining your REAL ID to your resolutions list!



Q: When is the new REAL ID enforcement date?

A: The REAL ID enforcement date has been extended until May 7, 2025. However, there is no reason to delay getting your REAL ID. Why wait when you can check it off your to-do list for this year?

Q: What type of documents are required to apply for my REAL ID?

A: One original or certified proof of identity, and two different printed proofs of California residency are required.

One original or certified document*

Examples: valid passport, birth certificate
*Legal name change document(s) is/are required if the name on the proof of identity is different from the name on the other documents (marriage certificate, adoption papers, etc.)

Two different printed proofs of California residency

Examples: utility bill, bank statement, insurance documents (vehicle, health, homeowner's, etc.), tax return, rental or lease agreement, school documents

Social Security number (exceptions may apply)

Start your online application today and get REAL ID ready in three simple steps:

1. Gather your identification documents

2. Complete your online application and upload your documents

3. Visit the DMV office to complete your REAL ID application

Visit dmv.ca.gov/realid for a complete list of acceptable documents and to begin your online application.

DMV offices are closed on weekends.

For more information or answers to questions not listed here, Please visit www.dmv.ca.gov/online.

January 2023

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West Sacramento News Ledger

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Anti-Christian Bigotry in U.S. and Europe

Add Another to List of California's Botched Projects

Catholic League for Religious & Civil Rights

NEW YORK, NY (MPG) - Last July, Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, who had just recently written the majority opinion overturning Roe v. Wade, upset militant secularists when he spoke honestly about the fate of religious liberty. In his Rome address, he talked about a “growing hostility to religion, or at least the traditional religious beliefs that are contrary to the new moral code that is ascendant in some sectors.”

What Alito said is true in the U.S. and Europe.

In a survey by Lifeway Research, it found that “nearly 60% agreed that Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today.” Those who regularly attend religious services were even more likely to say this is true. Young people and those who are religiously unaffiliated were the least likely to agree.

In a survey of anti-Christian bigotry on the other side of the Atlantic, the Observatory on Intolerance

and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe investigated five countries: France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. It found that anti-Christian hate crimes increased by 70 percent between 2019 and 2020. “These have a higher frequency in France and Germany, although they tend to be more severe in Spain and France, due to a reactionary form of secularism.”

Why the increase in hate crimes against Christians in Europe? What they found is exactly what Alito was saying. “Secular intolerance and discrimination against Christianity seem to be based on the opposition against more traditional and conservative moral view of Christians.” It also said that “It was uncovered that there is a high rate of religious illiteracy among state authorities, public officials and journalists.”

The finding about anti-Christianity in Europe also applies to the U.S. It is not religious extremists who are responsible

for most of the anti-Christian bigotry, it is militant secularists. Similarly, the high rate of religious illiteracy among government officials and reporters is a serious problem in this country as well.

In 2016, Dean Baquet, the executive editor of the New York Times, said on NPR that it is important for journalists to realize that they have to do a better job understanding the “anger and disconnectedness that people feel. And I think I use religion as an example because I was raised Catholic in New Orleans. I think that the New York-based, and Washington-based, too, probably, media powerhouses don’t quite get religion.” He added, “We don’t get the role of religion in people’s lives.”

Nothing has changed. Christian bashing is sport in the very Western nations that gave birth to Christianity. That those doing the bashing fancy themselves as the tolerant ones, the “open-minded” secularists, makes the situation all the more perverse. ★



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Gov. Gavin Newsom often boasts that California is a “nation state” that is – or should be – a model for the nation.

However, when it comes to implementing large-scale projects and programs, California is more a model of bumbling incompetence.

The list of failures to deliver what was promised on time and on budget is endless, but here are a few obvious examples:

—A bullet train was supposed to be whisking passengers up and down the state by now, but the state is still building an initial stretch in the San Joaquin Valley that is probably a decade away from working, if ever, while cost estimates have nearly tripled.

—The reconstruction of one-third of the earthquake-damaged San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge took a quarter-century to complete and cost 25 times as much as the original estimate.

—The Oroville Dam on the Feather River nearly collapsed in 2017 when sections of its main spillway gave way and an emergency spillway eroded the base of the dam. In seeking re-licensing of the dam 12 years earlier, state officials dismissed concerns about the emergency spillway’s

integrity. Later it also was determined that the main spillway had been poorly engineered.

—When the COVID-19 pandemic erased the jobs of two-plus million California workers, the Employment Development Department suffered an operational meltdown in handling legitimate claims for unemployment insurance, but gave as much as \$30 billion in cash to fraudulent claimants.

—Although California is the global center of information technology, the state has run up an almost perfect record of botched projects to use it, with long delays in implementation and immense cost overruns.

Again, this is only a partial list. A book could be written about how state and local governments have spent untold billions of dollars on homelessness without making any visible headway. Another could be written about how California reduced its prison population by dumping more felons into overcrowded county jails and/or releasing them to prey upon the public.

One massive failure that developed largely under the media radar deserves a place on the list – a completely bollixed program to provide long-term care insurance to California’s public employees and retirees.

In 1995, the California Public Employees Retirement System received legislative approval to provide such insurance. Thousands of public workers signed up on promises that premiums would remain affordable.

However, when the program proved to be

actuarially unsound, CalPERS began sharply increasing premiums, finally leading to a class action lawsuit alleging that promises were broken.

“These people were completely, completely misled,” Michael Bidart, an attorney representing the plaintiffs, told the Sacramento Bee in 2019, just before a trial was to begin.

“We raised rates to sustain the plan and we believe they were properly increased in accordance with our contract,” CalPERS General Counsel Matt Jacobs told the Bee, the only media outlet that has followed the case.

Negotiations led to a tentative settlement of \$2.7 billion in payments to the plaintiffs. However, last spring CalPERS pulled out because too many individual plaintiffs rejected the deal and a new trial is scheduled later this year.

Clearly, CalPERS didn’t know what it was doing. Were it a private insurer, the Department of Insurance would have probably cracked down, but CalPERS is exempt from such oversight.

Many managerial debacles have been ignored by the Legislature and the long-term care insurance is one of them. But the affected workers and retirees are now pressing the Legislature to order an investigation by the state auditor and it’s sorely needed to get the bottom of a multi-billion dollar mess.

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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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220974
The following person(s) is doing business as: PDR Auto Dent, 609 Myrtle Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95605.
Oleh Loboda, 609 Myrtle Avenue, 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 December 27, 2022. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 12/28/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb 3, 2023
PDR 2-3-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220972
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MRS. P'S HOUSE CLEANING REFERRAL AGENCY, 1784 Stetson Circle, West Sacramento, CA 95691 County of YOLO Mailing Address: 1784 Stetson Circle, West Sacramento, CA 95691
Vencar LLC (CALIFORNIA), 1784 Stetson Circle, West Sacramento, CA 95691
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.
Vencar LLC
S/ Bryna Athella Pascua, Managing Member,
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 12/28/2022.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
kquam, Deputy
1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3/23
CNS-365268# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_688 2-3-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230015
The following person(s) is doing business as: Fire Wings, 640 W. Covell Boulevard, Suite F, Davis, CA 95616-1064.
Davis Chicken, Inc., 640 W. Covell Boulevard, Suite F, Davis, CA 95616-1064. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 1/1/2023.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 1/5/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3 & 10, 2023
FIRE 2-10-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230030
The following person(s) is doing business as:
CalPortal Properties, 416 Harriet Ln., West Sacramento, CA 95605, County of Yolo.
Felipe Barragan, 416 Harriet Ln., West Sacramento, CA 95605
Peter Weatherman, 416 Harriet Lane, West Sacramento, CA 95605
This business is conducted by General Partnership.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/15/2022
/s/ Felipe Barragan, Partner
/s/ Peter Weatherman, Partner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 01/10/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: kquam, Deputy
1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17/23
CNS-366200# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_000 2-17-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230065
The following person(s) is doing business as: Regal Assets Auto Corp., 1540 South River Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Regal Assets Auto Corp., 2664 Southern Place, Woodland, CA 95776. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 22, 2023.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 1/23/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023
REGAL 2-24-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230013
The following person(s) is doing business as: The John Drewes Company, 3870 Channel Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

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PPJ LLC, 3870 Channel Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691. 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 January 1, 1998. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 1/5/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2023
JOHN 2-24-23

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2023-0003

Kimberly Lynn Blancalana has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Kimberly Lynn Blancalana, aka Kimberly Lynn Blancalana Esposito, Kim Esposito, Kim Blancalana, Kimberly Lynn Esposito to Kimberly Blancalana Esposito.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 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: January 3, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 13, 20, 27, Feb 3, 2023
KIMBERLY 2-3-23

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2022-2200

Wazir Mohammad Zalmi and Haseena Zahmai have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Hela Wazir to Hela Zalmi.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 14, 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: December 22, 2022
Samuel T. McAdam, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3, 10, 2023
WAZIR 2-10-23

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2023-18

Erin Regina Jackson has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Erin Regina Jackson to Erin Regina Lutz Greysen.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 14, 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: January 5, 2023
David Rosenberg, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3 & 10, 2023
ERIN 2-10-23

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2022-1896

Jasmine Marie Molina has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Alibra Faith Alexandria Lanzl to Alibra Faith Alexandria Molina.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 14, Room: Zoom, 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: December 22, 2023
Samuel T. McAdam, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3 & 10, 2023
JASMINE 2-10-23

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2023-094

Sterling Hart Ickes has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Sterling Hart Ickes to Sterling H. Hart.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 14, 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: January 19, 2023
David Rosenberg, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Jan 27, Feb 3, 10 & 17, 2023
STERLING 2-17-23

LIEN SALE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
Notice is hereby given that Easy Moves Holdings, LLC d/b/a Red Rover located at 3520 Carlin Drive, West Sacramento, CA 95691 will sell the contents of the below container(s) at auction to the highest bidder to satisfy owner's lien. Auction will be held online at www.storageauctions.com starting February 13, 2023 and ending February 20, 2023. Registered bidders should refer to the terms and conditions contained in the auction listing. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The following is a brief description of the property to be sold: Personal property, household goods, and other effects unless otherwise noted.

Name: Containers 16-835 & 16-1653, Shashanta & Asher Norwood
CN993485 02-13-2023
Jan 27, Feb 3, 2023
MNC_485 2-3-23

PUBLIC LIEN SALE
Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated: 975 F ST West Sacramento, CA 95605 on 02/21/2023 @ 2:00PM: Bonnie Tienken Household, Diane Brandt boxes and furniture, Antony Huffer Home furnishings, Daniel Quincy Papp and clothes, Daniel Quincy Personal items, Tillery Elder household items, Daniel Quincy household goods, Christopher Beaugez SR Unknown, John Rivera 1 bed room house, boxes, Kay Ebanks 2 California king size bed room sets, Several boxes of clothes, shoes and kitchen supplies. This auction will be listed and advertised on www.storageauctions.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
2/3, 2/10/23
CNS-3662854# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_854 2-10-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LYNNE HAYVE
CASE NO. PR2022-0277

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Lynne Havey deceased.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Renee Braden, in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, requesting Renee Braden be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

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: February 22, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 11. 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: Dylan P. Hyatt, The Law Offices of Hassell and Hyatt, PC, 7420 Greenhaven Drive, Suite 115, Sacramento, CA 95831; 916-292-8009
Publish: Jan. 27, Feb. 3 & 10, 2023
HAVEY 2-10-23

SUMMONS

SUMMONS (PARENTAGE – CUSTODY AND SUPPORT)
CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO): FL2021-989
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name): AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre): Jessica Varatch-Scrase
YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. Read the information below and on the next page. Lo han demandado. Lea la informacion a continuacion y van la pagina siguiente.
PETITIONER'S NAME IS: (NOMBRE DEL DEMANDANTE): Jeffrey M. Burns
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call or court appearance will not protect you. Usted tiene 30 DIAS CALENDARIO después de que se le presente esta Citación y Petición para presentar una response (formulario FL-120)

en el tribunal y tener una copia notificada al peticionario. Una carta, llamada telefónica o comparecencia ante el tribunal no lo protegerá.

If you do not file your response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, el tribunal puede hacer órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. Es posible que se le ordene pagar la manutención y los honorarios y costos de los abogados.

For legal advice contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org) or by contacting your local county bar association. Para obtener asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto con un abogado de inmediato. Obtenga ayuda para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Autoayuda en Línea de los Tribunales de California (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), en el sitio web de Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o comunicándose con el colegio de abogados de su condado local.

NOTICE: RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2: These restraining orders are effective against both spouse or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. AVISO: LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN ESTÁN EN LA PÁGINA 2: Estas órdenes de restricción son efectivas contra ambos cónyuges o parejas domésticas hasta que se desestime la petición, se dicte una sentencia o el tribunal dicte más órdenes. Son exigibles en cualquier lugar de California por cualquier oficial de la ley que haya recibido o visto una copia de ellos.

SEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party. EXENCIÓN DE TARIFAS: Si no puede pagar la tarifa de presentación, pídala al secretario un formulario de exención de tarifas. El tribunal puede ordenarle que devuelva la totalidad o parte de los honorarios y costos que el tribunal renunció para usted o la otra parte.

The name and address of the court are: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Yolo County Superior Court, 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.

The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney are (El nombre, dirección y número de teléfono del abogado del peticionario, o del peticionario sin abogado es): Jeffrey M. Burns, In Pro Per, 1271 Monte Vista Court, West Sacramento, CA 95695; 916-470-5206
Date: (Fecha) 7-29-2022
By: Shawn C. Landry, Clerk of Court

N. Plowman, Deputy
STANDARD RESTRAINING ORDER (PARENTAGE – CUSTODY AND SUPPORT)

ORDEN DE RESTRICCIÓN ESTANDAR (Paternidad – Custodia y Manutención)

Starting immediately, you and every other party are restrained from removing from the state, or applying for a passport for, the minor child or children without the prior written consent of every other party or an order of the court.

This restraining order takes effect against the petitioner when he or she files the petition and against the respondent when he or she is personally served with the Summons and Petition OR when he or she waives and accepts service.

This restraining order remains in effect until the judgment is entered, the petition is dismissed, or the court makes other orders. This order is enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received a copy of it.

En forma inmediata, usted y cada otra parte tienen prohibido llevarse del estado a los hijos menores para quienes esta acción judicial procura establecer una relación entre hijos y padres o una orden de custodia, ni pueden solicitar un pasaporte para los mismos, sin el consentimiento previo por escrito de cada otra parte o sin una orden de la corte. Esta orden de restricción entrará en vigencia para el demandante una vez presentada la petición, y para el demandado una vez que este reciba la notificación personal de la Citación y Petición,

o una vez que renuncie su derecho a recibir dicha notificación y se dé por notificado.

Esta orden de restricción continuará en vigencia hasta que se emita un fallo final, se desestime la petición o la corte de otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de esta orden puede hacerla acatar en cualquier lugar de California

NOTICE: ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE:

Do you or someone in your household need affordable health insurance? If so, you should apply for Covered California. Covered California can help reduce the cost you pay towards high quality affordable health care. For more information, visit www.coveredca.com. O llame a Covered California al 1-800-300-1506
AVISO – ACCESO A SEGURA DE SALUD MAS ECONOMICO Necesita seguro de salud a un costo asequible, ya sea para usted o alguien en su hogar? Si es así, puede presentar una solicitud con Covered California. Covered California lo puede ayudar a reducir al costo que paga pro seguro de salud asequible y de alta calidad. Para obtener mas información, visite www.coveredca.com. O llame a Covered California al 1-800-300-0213.
Publish: Jan 27, Feb. 3, 10 & 17, 2023
BURNS 2-17-23

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 102073-CA APN: 058-150-027-000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 11/11/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 3/6/2023 at 1:00 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 11/19/2004 as Instrument No. 2004-0053212-00 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: JOSE MARTINEZ, A MARRIED MAN AS HIS SOLE & SEPARATE PROPERTY WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; AT THE NORTH ENTRANCE TO THE WEST SACRAMENTO CITY HALL, 1110 W. CAPITOL AVENUE, WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1104 ROSE COURT, WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691-3705 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$170,882.05 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive

remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (800) 280-2832 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.AUCTION.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 102073-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 102073-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (800) 280-2832 CLEAR RECON CORP 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92108
Publish Jan 20, 27 & Feb 3, 2023
STOX_315 2-3-23

LIEN SALE

In accordance with the provisions of State law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner and/or manager's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Life Storage location(s) listed below:

Life Storage #0635 3280 Jefferson Blvd West Sacramento, CA 95691 (916) 492-2056
Christina Ramirez Osuna: Hsld gds/Furn, Tools/AppInces, Off Furn/Mach/Equip
Ricardo C Merced: Hsld gds/Furn

And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of at a public auction to be held online at www.StorageTreasures.com, which will end on **Thursday, February 23rd 2023 at 10:00AM.**

Legal Advertising Hotline
916-483-2299
Legal Advertising Fax
916-773-2099

LEGAL ADVERTISING
News-Ledger Adjudicated For and By the County of Yolo, Adjudication No. CV PT 09-1432 – September 4, 2009

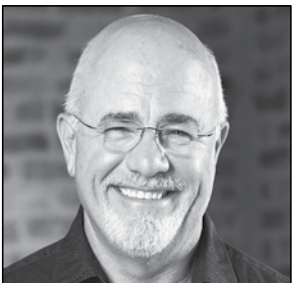
Legal Advertising
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5
Carmichael, CA 95608

TRUSTEE SALE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-22-939749-AB Order No.: EOR20220623-5349106 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/11/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): CARMEN SINGH, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Recorded: 8/17/2006 as Instrument No. 2006-0032067-00 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of YOLO County, California; Date of Sale: 2/24/2023 at 12:45 PM Place of Sale: At the North entrance to the City Hall located at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$633,297.06 The purported property address is: 3130 CARMEL BAY RD, WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691 Assessor's Parcel No.: 045-563-033 NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also

be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-22-939749-AB. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-22-939749-AB to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held,

the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT: Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION . TS No.: CA-22-939749-AB IDSPub #0183608 2/3/2023 2/10/2023 2/17/2023 QLS_C_608 2-17-23



Remember, You're a Team

Dear Dave, Earlier this month, my husband and I both were laid off from our jobs within a few days of each other. The layoffs were not our fault. The company is letting several people go as a cost-cutting measure. We cashed in an annuity because our finances have been tight, but the good news is he began training for a new job last week. We don't have children, so I am interviewing or filling out applications every day. Should we use the cash from the annuity to live on until things are stable again, or should we use it to pay off debt?

– Anjanette

Dave Ramsey Says

Dear Anjanette, If you haven't done so already, contact your creditors and explain what happened. Let them know the layoffs weren't because either of you did anything wrong, and that you'll get current with them as soon as possible. This is a scary situation you're facing, so make sure you two keep the lines of communication wide open and encourage each other while you're solving this problem. The good news, though, is it sounds like things may be looking up. Support your husband all you can as he takes on his new job, and make sure you continue looking for work, too. A little extra money never hurts, so temporarily taking on a part-time gig while you're looking for a permanent position isn't a bad idea, either. Of course, you need to

be honorable and pay your debts if possible. But that may have to be put on hold for a while. Right now, the important thing is keeping food in the house and the lights and heat on. Hug on each other, stay determined and keep each other's spirits up. You're a team, and you'll get through this. Always remember, too, that prayer's a good thing. – Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show," heard by more than 18 million listeners. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, He also serves as CEO of Ramsey Solutions. ★



Riley Reviews

'A MAN CALLED OTTO' MELODRAMA PORTRAIT; DATING SHOW ON FOX

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

"A MAN CALLED OTTO" RATED PG-13 Would it surprise you that Tom Hanks playing a cranky curmudgeon who no longer sees purpose in his life following the loss of his wife would eventually transform into a modern-day version of an essentially warm Jimmy Stewart? On two fronts, the answer is probably not. For one, Hanks is usually the nice guy in films. The other reason is his titular role in "A Man Called Otto" is based on the best-selling novel "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman, which became a Swedish film of the same title. True to its Scandinavian roots, "A Man Called Otto" tells the story of Hanks' Otto Anderson who lives in a townhome development where his daily routine is acting as the enforcer of homeowner rules even though no one asked him to do so. Recently widowed and having no other relatives, Otto lives alone in his gated neighborhood where he spends most of his time muttering that anybody he comes across is an idiot and confronting those who offend his sensibilities. True to his "get off my lawn" persona, Otto yells at a young woman who has the temerity of not curbing her small dog. He chastises the UPS driver for parking on his street that is closed to anyone without a residential permit. Forced to retire from his engineering job at an automotive plant certainly doesn't help his disposition. Buying rope at a hardware store turns into an ordeal when he argues with the clerk about being overcharged by mere pocket change. What troubles Otto the most are the wistful flashbacks to his younger self (Truman Hanks) when he meets his future wife Sonya (Rachel Keller) after chasing her down on a train to return a book she dropped. In the course of these flashbacks, Otto and Sonya become a loving couple who move into the townhome which they made home for their entire adult life together. A fateful bus trip to Niagara Falls has another lasting impact. Depressed by the death of his beloved Sonya has caused Otto to lose the will to live to the point that he not only contemplates suicide but makes some attempts that are foiled by unforeseen circumstances or ineptness. He can only rant so much at the other residents who fail to properly recycle their garbage. Harboring grudges against neighbors who were once friends makes him even more cantankerous and unpleasant. Even the sight of a stray cat on his porch is an irritating annoyance to him. What could possibly happen that

would give Otto a reason to live? The arrival of a Hispanic immigrant couple with two young daughters only seems to make him grouchier when the clumsy husband Tommy (Manuel Garcia-Rulfo) can't parallel park a small U-Haul trailer. Yet, it's the pregnant Marisol (Mariana Trevino), possessing an ebullient good nature that eventually proves irresistible, who chips away at Otto's resistance to her neighborly friendliness. Impervious to Otto's less-than-welcoming attitude, the charm offensive begins when Marisol drops off the gift of a homemade meal. The unassuming housewife is so spirited and feisty that rebuffs from Otto just don't register in a lasting manner. Soon enough, Otto is babysitting Marisol's winsome daughters and teaching her how to drive. He reaches out to estranged friends and helps neighbors make household repairs. He befriends a teenage transgender who gets kicked out of the house. A nice touch is when Otto takes up a fight against a predatory developer (Mike Birbiglia) trying to evict long-term residents who have become incapacitated and tricked into handing over power of attorney of their affairs. "A Man Called Otto" has the comfortable ring of familiarity in its sentimental, heartwarming story, which has also its share of occasional humor with Otto's biting wit when he's most irascible. Despite its PG-13 rating, "A Man Called Otto" is clearly made for an adult audience that welcomes a change of pace with moving performances and an inspirational story. "FARMER WANTS A WIFE" ON FOX That a dating series called "Farmer Wants a Wife" was an international sensational comes as a surprise. Until FOX announced its own version would come to the network in early March, I had no idea of its existence. If you can have hit shows about baking cakes, I guess anything is possible. After all, a series that aired in 32 countries and resulted in 180 marriages and 140 children can't be a fluke. "Farmer Wants a Wife" seeks to exploit the migration from city-centers to suburban and rural locales, and the romance that follows. Four farmers will embark on an adventure of a lifetime in the hopes of finding their future spouse. Superstar entertainer and Grammy Award winner Jennifer Nettles, who has also performed in Broadway musicals, will host the "Farmer Wants a Wife" series. We'll see if this American series lives up to the claim of the international version being the most successful dating show in the world. ★

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PURPOSE: The Governing Board of the Washington Unified School District, in order to comply with the requirements of Board Policy 6141, will hold a public hearing on February 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm for the purpose of adopting instructional materials (World Languages).

DATE: Thursday, February 9, 2023

TIME: Meeting begins at 6:30 pm

LOCATION: West Sacramento Civic Center, Council Chambers.
1100 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, Ca. 95691

West Sac News Ledger 1-27, 2-3-2023

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

February 15, 2023

Pursuant to Government Code Section 66018, the West Sacramento City Council will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday February 15, 2023, at the West Sacramento Civic Center, City Council Chambers, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, California, at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the item(s) listed below.

Members of the public are welcome to watch the meeting Livestream (<https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/government/meetings-agendas/city-council>), or on Astound Broadband Channel 20 and to submit comments in writing by 4:00 PM on February 15, 2023.

To submit a comment in writing, please email clerk@cityofwestsacramento.org and write "Public Comment" in the subject line. In the body of the email, include the item number and/or title of the item as well as your comments. All comments received by 4:00 PM will be provided to the City Council. The comments submitted shall become part of the record of the meeting.

6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Municipal Code Changes Pertaining to Retail Cannabis Sales and Microbusinesses (Tilley)

This item is a public hearing regarding proposed Ordinance 23-1 pertaining to retail cannabis sales (storefront and non-storefront) and microbusinesses. This Ordinance would amend Titles 5 and 17 of the West Sacramento Municipal Code to effectuate retail cannabis sales and microbusinesses in various commercial and industrial areas of the city. Retail cannabis businesses (storefront and non-storefront) and microbusinesses would require discretionary approvals and an administrative cannabis license to be able to operate. A hybrid selection process (merit/lottery) is proposed for storefront retail cannabis in the future. No retail cannabis businesses or microbusinesses are proposed at this time. The draft Ordinance also includes a provision to develop an equity pilot program. The project is categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to the "common sense" CEQA exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

David Tilley
David W. Tilley, Principal Planner

NOTE: If you challenge the nature of a proposed action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

www.cityofwestsacramento.org

West Sac News Ledger 2-3-2023

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Social Security Matters

About Difficulty with Social Security's Sign-in Process



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Last month I tried to contact Social Security who never picked up a phone on their end. The same with the IRS. When I finally got through, they said I had to join ID.me before they could help me. That took me over a week, and many applications and rejects, to get through. The last step was holding up my Social Security card and my driver's license on a Zoom call to an ID.me representative. I found this very peculiar - why do I have to go through this place to get information from my government agencies? Now I am receiving catalog offers to buy things from ID.me online. I think this is very strange and out of line. How do I get unregistered from this place? I am very afraid they will share my information with the world. Is this a government agency and why do we have to register there, only to have offers to buy things? **Signed: Frustrated Senior**

Dear Frustrated: Many others have shared with us their frustration when

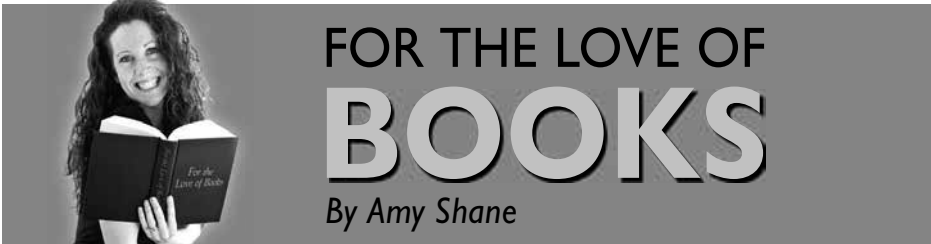
seeking enrollment in the federal government's newest credential verification programs so, though I know it's no comfort, you are not alone.

Social Security has, since September 18, 2021, required all newly created online accounts to use either ID.me or Login.gov to authenticate the user's identity. "ID.me" is a private company contracted by the government to ensure that you are who you say you are, thus avoiding any fraudulent activities. Login.gov is the government's own authentication program set up to allow access to multiple government agencies for the same purpose. The intent of both is to give you one set of sign in credentials which can be used to access multiple government agencies, rather than a unique login procedure for each agency. And, most importantly, the purpose is to protect you from any fraudulent activities which could cause you financial harm. Rest assured that your personal information is safe using either of these government-sponsored methods to verify your identity for government business.

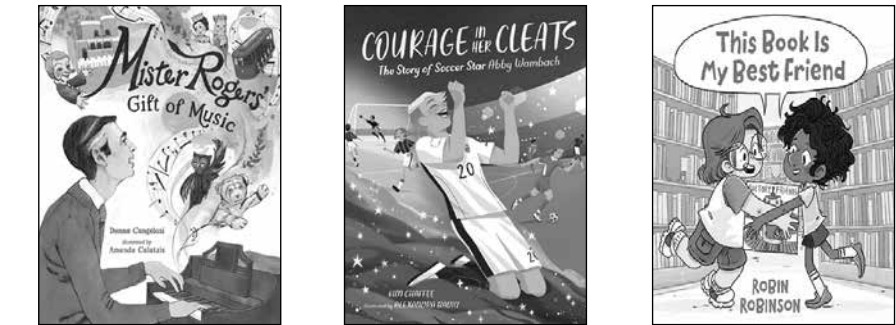
Those who have a "my Social Security" account set up before September 2021 can still use their previous SSA-unique identity verification method (a "2-factor ID process") to access their "my Social Security" online account. This method is as secure as

the newer methods but is only good for accessing your Social Security account (not the IRS or any other government agency). Nevertheless, creating a new online Social Security account now requires you use the government's current identity verification methods - either ID.me or Login.gov. If you select ID.me (a private company) you do have control over the type of communication you receive from them and can opt out of receiving any offers for additional services. To do so, it is basically a matter of signing into your ID.me account, accessing your Profile, and selecting "Unsubscribe All" in the Preferences section. And in the meantime, you can also select "Unsubscribe" at the bottom of any promotional email you receive from ID.me.

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. ★



Spread Love, Joy and Friendship with These Inspiring New Children's Books



Mister Rogers' Gift of Music

by Donna Cangelosi and Amanda Calatzis; Page Street Kids

"It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood...." Thousands of children have tuned into their television sets to sing along with Mister Rodgers. But how did Mister Rogers discover his love for music? As a young child, Fred found the joy of music, using the piano's keys to chase away the loneliness, the blues, and even feelings of being sad or mad. As Fred grew into an adult, he knew what he wanted to do with his gift of music, share it with children everywhere.

Mister Rogers' gift of love, acceptance, and happiness lives on through the many generations who tuned into his show and continue to spread his message. The dynamic duo between the author and illustrator on Mister Rogers' *Gift of Music* encapsulates the sheer magic and joy that fans of Mr. Rogers have come to know and love.

Courage In Her Cleats – The Story of Soccer Star Abby Wambach

by Kim Chaffee and Alexandra Badiu; Page Street Kids

With a "Thump ...whizz...whoosh," Abby Wambach always knew exactly what she wanted shw wanted from life. Pouring every bit of her heart into the game of soccer and bettering herself. Soon, Abby became a force to be reckoned with, taking herself from high school soccer to college soccer and all the way up to representing her country in the U.S. Women's National Soccer team. But things weren't always

easy. Abby didn't always win, and along the way, she had some huge setbacks. Yet, Abby persevered, knowing the power of determination, teamwork, and leadership would give her the tools to be tougher than any challenge ser before her.

The inspiring story, *Courage in her Cleats*, will have anyone standing up and cheering for one woman's exemplary demonstration of hard work, showing everyone that power can rise from struggle and determination and that never giving up is truly life's victory.

This Book Is My Best Friend
by Robin Robinson, Simon and Schuster Children's

Sunny and Aarush can't wait to pick up their favorite book best friend at the library. The only thing is both of them have the same best friend. Who will end up taking home their favorite book?

Sometimes inspiration and joy can be found nestled within your favorite book. Books can be many things, a comfort, a friend, or a safe haven. When Sunny and Aarush both gravitate to the same book at the library, they are at a loss for what to do. Without their book best friend to take home how are they to cope? As each one shares the many reasons why they should be the one to take it home, they quickly realize that they need a solution. Will Sunny and Aarush be able to compromise, or will they discover what is in front of them all along? Readers will fall for Sunny and Aarush as they root for the obvious solution all the way through. ★

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CLUES

ACROSS

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5. Sweet 16 gift

8. Steps to the river, in India

12. *Michael Bubl 's "____ the Last Dance for Me"

13. Bigger than big

14. Nonkosher

15. Big-ticket one

16. October birthstone

17. *#5 Down's target

18. *Reason to celebrate Lupericalia, Valentine's Day predecessor

20. Make over

21. Omit

22. Hexagonal fastener

23. December birthstone, pl.

26. Most gemt tlich

30. Ed.'s request

31. Two dots above a letter

34. Brussels org.

35. Church recesses

37. ____ or chicken?

38. Encourage (2 words)

39. What hoarders do

40. He crossed the Rubicon

42. Jet follower

43. English county courts, in the olden days

45. Gentlemen's gentlemen

47. Chop off

48. Paparazzo's quest

50. Port in Yemen

52. *Heart-shaped box content

56. Range

57. Top notch

58. Baron Munchhausen, e.g.

59. Journalists and reporters

60. Speed unit

61. All is well that does this well

62. Bald eagle's nest

63. Ever, to a poet

64. Tinkerbell's powder

DOWN

1. "Clueless" catch phrase

2. *Get-together

3. End of a break-up phrase

4. Explosive of Czechoslovakian origin

5. *Winged one

6. September stone

7. Bank on

8. * ____ card

9. Not tails

10. '70s hairdo

11. Sylvester, to Tweety

13. Wholism, alt. sp.

14. Monotonous hum

19. Intestinal obstruction

22. "Wayne's World" catchphrase

23. Japanese port

24. Necklace clasp location, pl.

25. Affirmatives

26. *Kisses' partners

27. National emblem

28. Type of weasel

29. BBQ tool

32. Pasturelands

33. Accompanies wisdom?

36. *a.k.a. St. Valentine's Malady

38. *Muse of love poetry

40. Large edible mushroom

41. Long-legged shore bird

44. Regions

46. Bummed about

48. Bell's invention

49. Laurels

50. Homesteader's measure

51. Active one

52. Soap block

53. Hokkaido language

54. Small amounts

55. Formerly, formerly

56. *Romantic destination

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Stealing is Stealing

By Katy Grimes,
California Globe

A massive rise in retail theft is contributing to “shrinkage” at brick-and-mortar retailers, contributing to the growth of online sales.

“The National Retail Federation estimates that shrink – an industry term for loss in inventory – amounted to roughly 1.4% of retail revenue in 2021, or roughly \$94.5 billion. Most of that shrink is caused by theft, the Wall Street Journal reports.

The Globe reported on California’s retail theft last May: The escalation of organized “smash-and-grab” robberies in cities around the country has been costly. CNN reported in January that retailers across America say shoplifting is now 2% to 3% of their total sales, forcing the retailers to install new security systems, video cameras and security staff.

A 2021 survey of retailers found 65% acknowledged an increase in violence, while 37% said Organized Retail Crime gangs were much more aggressive than in the past.

With every legislative solution killed by California’s Democratic supermajority, retailers and Chambers of Commerce formed Californians Against Retail and Residential Theft (CARRT), and launched a campaign to raise lawmakers’ and the public’s knowledge of the growing theft problem in the state. CARRT is a broad-based coalition of business associations, local groups, and victim organizations advocating for California officials to act now to undo the damage done by Proposition 47.

Not the Bee also addresses this shrinkage: the Covid lockdowns. “Whoever had the bright idea to shut down the entire U.S. economy, confine people to their homes indefinitely, foment



Retail theft is a \$94.5 billion crime problem at American stores. Retailers say Covid-19 has worsened the risk of crime. Photo courtesy of Dreamstime

open-ended hysteria about a respiratory virus, and drive inflation to sky-high record rates – congratulations, your strategy is bearing fruit,” Not the Bee reported.

“Brick-and-mortar retail’s indisputable edge over e-commerce is that consumers can get what they want immediately, and can touch and feel the product before buying it. Rising theft – and stores’ measures to prevent it – could dull that edge,” WSJ said.

The National Retail Federation report also found that the vast majority (89.7%) of respondents report that their Loss Prevention department is evaluated according to inventory shrink levels – in other words, shrink reduction is

part of their goals, objectives or performance measures. Just 10.3% reported that they were not.

“Retailers surveyed by the NRF said Covid-19 has worsened the risk of crime, partly because labor shortages have made it difficult to fully staff stores,” WSJ said. “Moreover, supply-chain shortages made certain products more susceptible to theft because they fetched high value in secondary markets.”

“Can you imagine a more predictable outcome from the pandemic policies we enacted to fight COVID-19?” Not the Bee asks. “We threw our entire way of life – our economy, our organizations, our social structures, our education – into a complete

and total tailspin.”

“Shrink can have a substantial impact on already thin retail margins. Target said that the rise in shrink, including theft, reduced its gross profit by more than \$400 million in the first three quarters of its fiscal year, compared with a year prior. For the full fiscal year, it estimates that its gross profit will take a \$600 million hit.”

“Although shrink is a perennial problem in retail, it really took off when the pandemic hit. In the five years leading up to 2019, retail shrink grew at a compound annual growth rate of roughly 7%, according to data from the NRF,” WSJ said. “In 2020, it jumped 47%, and rose another 4% on top of that huge jump in 2021. Some retailers, including

Ulta Beauty and Target, have said that shrink has gotten worse again this year. ‘When times get tough, shrink goes up,’ Ulta Beauty Chief Financial Officer Scott Settersten said on the company’s earnings call on Dec. 1. ‘We’ve seen that in retail over a long period of time.’”

And who will pay for these increasing retail costs? “Retailers will ultimately pay for shrink risk in some form or another – either on the top line if they want to keep stores completely accessible or on the bottom line if they spend heavily on labor and mitigation measures,” WSJ said. “Finding the right balance will be key to preserving brick-and-mortar businesses.”

And if you wonder why toothpaste, shaving cream and laundry detergent is under lock and key at many stores, it is a theft mitigation measure, according to retailers.

California’s nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California released a report that found a direct correlation between Proposition 47 and a marked increase in larceny thefts across California, despite many media reports attempting to refute the correlation, the Globe reported. As for any legislative support from the California Legislature, don’t hold your breath:

The California Assembly Public Safety Committee heard and killed Assembly Bill 1599 by Assemblyman Kevin Kiley (R-Granite Bay) in March, which sought to repeal Proposition 47, and “make crime illegal again.”

“Retail theft losses may be the straw that breaks the camel’s back,” said Julian Canete, President and CEO of the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. “Something needs to be done before mom and pop stores are stolen from our communities.” ★

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To Help Patients Save Money, Congress Needs to Tackle the Middlemen



Commentary
by Sally C. Pipes

As a Republican-controlled House of Representatives with a small majority opens for business in January, one member has especially big ideas for saving patients money on prescription drug costs and the research to back it up.

A year ago, Rep. James Comer (R-KY) released a comprehensive report on the role of pharmacy benefit managers in the nation’s healthcare system. The result does not make for pleasant reading. It is largely a tale of how greedy middlemen have taken advantage of existing legal loopholes and lax oversight to create an industry that raked in \$28 billion in profits in 2019 while providing no actual healthcare to patients.

Insurers use pharmacy benefit managers to negotiate with drug makers on terms for the inclusion of medications in insurance plan coverage. In fact, however, the three biggest PBMs, which account for nearly 80 percent

of prescription claims, are co-owned alongside respective massive insurers like Cigna and pharmacy behemoths like CVS Caremark. The result is an interlocking daisy chain for extracting maximum profit from consumers and payers such as employers and federal and state governments, all while deflecting blame for increasing drug costs away from themselves and onto drug makers.

There’s evidence that to remain competitive with PBMs, drug makers have set list prices higher in expectation of large forthcoming discounts, a move that passes none of the discounts directly to patients but allows PBMs to extract increased revenue for their bottom line.

Insurers, meanwhile, charge coinsurance payments and count toward deductibles patient out-of-pocket costs based on the list price of the medication, not the discounted price the insurers actually pay. Insurers like this arrangement just fine because it allows them to crank up their own revenue without raising premiums.

Insurers and their PBMs also pressure consumers to obtain medications through their own respective pharmacy groups. That can take the relatively benign form of an endless barrage of emails from insurers urging beneficiaries to switch their prescriptions in-house. In more severe cases, PBMs can discriminate against independent pharmacies by offering

lower reimbursement rates and excluding them from insurer networks.

Altogether, this conduct has become so parasitic that more than 50% of each dollar spent on brand-name medicines now goes to middlemen entities.

If lawmakers and regulators at the Federal Trade Commission and elsewhere were doing their jobs, this would all be illegal and patients would save big. Instead, many lawmakers have been happy to look the other way while pointing a finger at “Big Pharma” and pocketing campaign contributions from PBMs and allied grifters.

Rep. Comer hits the nail on the head with his main reform push: meaningful transparency among PBMs. Consumers deserve to know who’s paying what to whom for prescription drugs.

Healthcare reform must allow patients to make informed choices about their care. Greater transparency for PBM practices is the starting point. Next up should be the shocking requirement that drug discounts ostensibly for patients get passed on to patients, not sucked up by middlemen.

Sally C. Pipes (@sallypipes) is president, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book is False Promise, False Promise: The Disastrous Reality of Medicare for All (Encounter 2020). Follow her on Twitter @sallypipes. ★

Farm Bureau President Re-Elected to National Leadership Post

California Farm Bureau Press Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson has been re-elected to a two-year term as one of six executive board members for the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Johansson, who will represent 13 western U.S. states on the executive board for the national agricultural organization, was elected during the AFBF’s 104th Convention in Puerto Rico this month.

“It is an honor to continue to serve during this critical chapter for America’s farmers and ranchers,” Johansson said. “We are working to pass a new Farm Bill in Congress to secure our food supply and to help our family farmers at a time when more than 50% are reporting negative earnings. I am also committed to ensuring that construction begins on long-overdue federal and state water storage and conveyance projects.

“For too long, our farmers have endured

devastating water supply cuts during dry years. And now, after historic storms in California, we are watching uncaptured water simply flow into the ocean due to our state’s lack of resolve for completing projects voters approved years ago. We can no longer accept inaction.”

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 29,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.3 million Farm Bureau members. ★

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