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for This?**
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West Sacramento News Ledger

VOLUME 58 • ISSUE 50 Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964 DECEMBER 16, 2022

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City Council 'Herstory' is Made



All female West Sacramento City Council L to R: New Councilmember Verna Sulpizio, Mayor Pro Tem Quirina Orozco, Mayor Martha Guerrero, and Councilmembers Norma Alcalá, and Dawnté Early West.

**Story and photo
by Michele Townsend**

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - West Sacramento made 'herstory' (history) Wednesday night, December 7th, when the first all-female City Council was sworn in. Mayor Martha Guerrero was sworn in after being re-elected with nobody running against her. She was proudly sworn in by her daughter, with her grandson standing close by.

Dawnté Early West was also re-elected this term to represent District 3. Sporting a red dress and her signature basketball shoes, she was sworn in by her son, with her

husband, parents, daughter, and Girl Scout Troop there in support.

With Chris Ledesma still on the desk, a nomination for Mayor Pro Tem was requested. Dawnté West nominated Quirina Orozco and Chris Ledesma seconded the nomination, making it the last official action of his 12-year career on the West Sacramento City Council.

The real excitement came when the newcomer, Verna Sulpizio, was sworn in by her husband. Verna was elected to represent District 4. In support she had her husband and her toddler son. Verna swore in, in her full term of pregnancy and has since given birth.

These three women added to

Councilmember Norma Alcalá and Mayor Pro Tem Quirina Orozco, made the first all-female City Council in the Sacramento Region. At the completion of Verna's swear in, the crowd erupted in applause leading to a standing ovation. Verna took the seat as Chris stepped down and a long applause ensued.

Verna took her seat at the Council desk. She received encouraging welcoming speeches from each of the City Council members and gave her 'thank you' speech. The meeting adjourned and many pictures were taken. The evening continued with some light refreshments and congratulations all around. ★

WSKGB Care Package Assembly a Success

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - West Sac Kids Give Back (WSKGB) held their 8th annual care packet assembly on Sunday, December 11, in the City Hall Galleria. Eight years ago, some children got bored during Christmas vacation, and their mothers decided to fix that. A group of five mothers, including Mayor Pro Tem Quirina Orozco, got their children together and gathered donations of personal hygiene supplies such as soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, socks, gloves, hats and scarves.

The children then assembled care packets into Ziplock bags. The care packets were taken to organizations around West Sacramento which assisted vulnerable people in our community, including the homeless. That first year, in 2015, the children assembled 50 care packets in their living rooms. Each year it has grown little by little. During the 2022 care pack assembly, over 1000 packets were put together.

Helping to assemble these packets were families, including lots of children, City officials, firefighters, Police Chief Rob Strange, City councilmembers, employees of different organizations that will receive these packets, friends and family. Those who did most of the work were the kids.

After coming into the Galleria and getting tattooed at the station or their faces painted at the face painting station, taking a picture in the holiday photo booth, or enjoying a cookie, the crowd gathered around the stage for introductions and a short holiday dance performance by the West Sac Community Center Dancers.

Quirina was sure to let the crowd know that this year, the Community Center crochet club made over 1,000 hats and scarves to include in the packets. They were beautifully done in all colors and styles.

The children lined up, grabbed gallon-sized
Continued on page 3

Councilmember Chris Ledesma Steps Down

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Heartfelt feelings of pride, sadness and excitement were the atmosphere of the Special City Council Meeting that took place on Wednesday, December 7. With every seat full and people lining the walls, this standing-room-only meeting was a trifecta of excitement. Longtime City Councilmember Chris Ledesma retiring from the Council, the swearing ins of Mayor Guerrero, Councilmember Dawnté Early West and Verna Sulpizio and making local 'herstory' formed the evening's agenda.

Chris Ledesma, senior vice president strategic planning SBA Lending

Group at Wells Fargo, has been a West Sacramento City Councilmember for 12 years. He actually began his career in West Sacramento public service ten years before when he joined the City's Planning Commission. Since then, Chris has been part of the IFD Public Financing Authority, Mayor's Commission on Climate Change, Port of West Sacramento District Commission, Riverfront Joint Powers Authority, River City Regional Stadium Financing Authority, Streetcar Policy Steering Committee, Yolo County Consolidated Redevelopment Successor Agency Board, and served as an alternate representative

Continued on page 3



Councilmember Chris Ledesma received a standing ovation from the crowd after he was awarded a City Council Proclamation for his years of service. Photo courtesy of the City of West Sacramento

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Sac State Football Season Ends in Wild 66-63 Loss in FCS Quarterfinals

Sac State Athletics
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State set school records for yards, plays and first downs but came up short in a 66-63 loss to Incarnate Word on Friday night at Hornet Stadium. The 129 combined points were the most in NCAA FCS Playoff history and the most in Sacramento State history.

The Hornets finished the season with a 12-1 overall record and suffered their first loss of the year. The team set school records for victories and earned a share of their third Big Sky Conference title in as many seasons. UIW improved to 12-1 and will now play at North Dakota State in the FCS semifinals.

Sacramento State compiled 738 yards of total offense which broke the school record of 694 against Montana State which had stood since 2014. The team ran 109 plays in the game and earned a school single-game and FCS Playoff record 49 first downs. The Cardinals finished with 579 yards on 73 plays. UIW was also opportunistic, creating four turnovers which directly led to 21 points.

Incarnate Word entered the fourth quarter with a 38-34 lead and quickly built on it as quarterback Lindsey Scott Jr. dashed 64-yards untouched on the first play of the period. Down 11, Sacramento State was not out. The team dug deep into the play-book as running back Cameron Skattebo caught a lateral and then threw a 19-yard touchdown



Sacramento State junior tight end Marshel Martin dashes into the end zone for a touchdown during a 66-63 loss to Incarnate Word in the FCS Quarterfinals on Friday, December 9 at Hornet Stadium in Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

pass to Marshel Martin to cut the deficit to 45-41.

The Hornets then attempted an onsidess kick which was recovered by Abel Ordaz at the Hornet 45. Six plays later, Martin caught a 14-yard pass from Jake Dunniway to put Sacramento State on top. 48-45, with 10:12 left in the contest.

The defense held the Cardinals on the first two plays of the next series but Marcus Cooper broke free for a 67-yard rush on 3rd-and-2 to swing the lead back to UIW, 52-48. Momentum swung further in favor of the Cardinals when Brandon Richard sacked Asher O’Hara and stripped the ball loose. Kelechi Anyalebechi scooped it up and raveled the remaining 55 yards to seemingly put the game away.

Once again, however, Sacramento State had answers. Dunniway found Pierre Williams for a 10-yard pass in the front corner of the end zone and Marcus Fulcher added a two-point conversion to draw the Hornets within three, 59-56 with just under five minutes remaining. The ensuing onsidess kick bounced off the foot of a UIW player and was recovered by Skattebo giving Sacramento State life.

The drive started with a 14-yard pass to Martin and then saw Williams haul in a 7-yard catch. With the offense slowing down the pace to take time off the clock, Fulcher busted free for a 10-yard gain to take the ball to the 2. Martin scored two plays later on a 4-yard sweep

to move Sacramento State back ahead, 63-59, with 1:43 left on the clock.

Scott showed why he has a leading candidate to win the Walter Payton Award during the next drive. Facing 3rd-and-7, he scrambled for a 14-yard gain. Cooper picked up 14 yards two plays later to bring the ball into the Hornet half of the field. Following an 8-yard rush from Scott, UIW drew a pass interference call to move the ball to the Sacramento State 21. Scott then lofted a ball to the back left corner of the end zone where Taylor Grimes wrestled the ball free from the defender and was able to get a foot down for the eventual game-winning touchdown.

Sacramento State appeared to

be set up for a game-tying field goal with one second remaining by a replay review overturned a completion to Pierre Williams at the UIW 37. Instead the team had one last attempt but Dunniway’s pass was knocked down in the end zone as time expired.

The Hornets rushed for 333 yards and four touchdowns. Fulcher and Skattebo each surpassed 100 yards finishing with 108 and 101, respectively. The pair marked the first time two Hornet running backs each crossed the century mark since Ezekiel Graham and AJ Ellis in 2012. O’Hara was also close to joining the duo as he had 87 rushing yards.

Sacramento State added a season-high 405 passing yards. Dunniway was 19-of-32 for 228 yards and two scores while O’Hara completed 14-of-23 passes for 158 yards and a TD.

Martin and Williams each produced 100 receiving yards for the second consecutive game. Martin caught a career high 12 passes for 144 yards and two touchdowns. Williams brought in eight passes for 102 yards and also had two touchdowns.

Scott threw for 219 yards and four touchdowns to set the FCS single-season touchdown record (58). The graduate student completed 19-of-31 passes to UIW the first team in the last 15 games to complete at least 60 percent of their passes against the Hornets. Scott also rushed for 166 yards and two TDs. Cooper led the team with 176 rushing yards and also scored twice. ★

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Crime Reports

WEST SACRAMENTO

November 6, 2022 - December 6, 2022

11-29-22 WALTER BEACHEM Arrested for bench warrant.

11-29-22 SAID MAALIMCHARTRES Arrested for warrant.

11-30-22 BRETTE BOWERS Arrested for warrant after allegedly being seen in a stolen car.

11-30-22 ANDREW MANNING Arrested for Taking vehicle without owner's consent, possession of stolen vehicle and a bench warrant.

12-02-22 CHAD MCDOWELL Arrested for warrant.

12-03-22 KAMERON CANN Arrested for burglary, obstruction/resisting, false ID to Police officer after Police responded to a burglary in progress. Police set up perimeter and CHP air unit notified Police that subject ran from building and was on a nearby rooftop.

12-03-22 BRIAN LANFAIR Notice to appear for battery.

12-05-22 MARIAH DUMARCE Arrested for taking vehicle without owner's consent and a bench warrant.

12-06-22 DAVID DALEY Arrested for three warrants after car ran out of gas.

INCIDENT/CRIME REPORTS

11-06-22 Catalytic converter theft on Casselman Dr. \$1,500 loss. Grand theft.

11-06-22 Vandalism report on West Capitol Ave. \$400 loss. Vandalism.

11-20-22 An unknown subject was caught on video surveillance puncturing a gas tank of a F-150. \$15,000 loss. Vandalism \$400 or more.

11-29-22 Catalytic Converter Theft. \$950 loss. Tamper with Vehicle, Grand theft.

11-29-22 Victim reported that he was robbed by one female and two males with a knife or cutting instrument. Victim stated he was at bus stop when group of people made him go into the U-Haul parking lot where they demanded his clothes and backpack. Initial call service was for a male standing in front of business naked. Victim was not naked and explained why he had no clothes through a Spanish translator, the victim explained why he was not clothed. Clothing was provided to the victim. \$175 loss. Robbery.

11-15-22 An employee at KTL Transportation reported vehicle repair tools were stolen from inside company vehicle. \$500 loss. Petty theft.

11-28-22 Subject stole property from an air BNB rental. \$1,756 loss. Grand theft.

11-30-22 Victim's rear passenger window was busted while he was parked in the employee parking lot at work. No other damage to the vehicle was reported. No items were stolen. \$250 loss.

12-01-22 Owner of CPCO Nail and Hair Salon discovered unlocked business and approximately \$4,200 in equipment was taken. Burglary.

12-01-22 Owner of Acme Rigging & Supply Co. Inc by the neighboring business security guard that the property fence was vandalized by unknown subject. Unknown if anything was taken. \$300 loss. Vandalism.

12-01-22 Victim found rear passenger window shattered on his rental car. Vandalism.

12-01-22 A woman caught a white Adult Male trying to siphon gas out of her husband's vehicle that was sitting in their driveway. Theft was unsuccessful and no damage was done.

12-03-22 Catalytic converter stolen. Grand theft. \$1,500 loss.

12-03-22 Unidentified suspects broke two windows of a parked vehicle at IKEA Ct. and stole approximately 1 million dollars worth of jewelry and credit cards. \$1,000,501 loss. Burglary.

12-04-22 Theft of wallet from a vehicle. Theft by use of access information.

12-05-22 Theft of more than 300 pallets on Overland Ct. \$6,000 loss. Grand theft.

12-06-22 The following report is in regards to David Daley. The vehicle that was involved returned stolen. Take vehicle without owner's permission was added to charges. \$500 loss.

12-06-22 Unknown suspect walked into Topline, grabbed clothes and ran out. \$75 loss. Petty theft.

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Social Security Matters

Will My Wife's Benefit Change My Claiming Decision?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I'll be 69 in April 2023, and my wife will be 59 later this month. I'm still working and am trying to determine whether I should take Social Security at 69 or 70. My main question revolves around my wife's future Social Security benefits and how they will affect my decision on whether to start mine at 69 or 70. I would like to know how to map this all out. Signed: **Waiting but Wondering**

Dear Waiting: Since you're now 68 and not yet collecting benefits, you have been (since you were 66) earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) which will result in an increased personal Social Security benefit for as long as you delay claiming, up to age 70 when your maximum benefit is reached. If you claim at age 69, your benefit will be 24% more than it would have been at your full retirement age (FRA) of 66; if you wait until age 70 to claim your benefit will be 32% more than it would have been at 66 (8% additional benefit for waiting that extra year).

Your wife's future spousal benefit while you are both living (if she is entitled

to one) will be based on your age 66 amount, not the higher amount you will get because you waited to claim. But your wife's benefit as your surviving widow will be based on the amount you were actually receiving at your death, not on your age 66 amount. So, if your goal is to maximize your younger wife's benefit as your widow, then waiting until you are 70 to claim your benefit will do that. Keep in mind that your wife's surviving spouse benefit will be affected by her own age when she claims. If she has reached her own full retirement age of 67 when she claims, she will get the maximum survivor benefit available to her. Claimed at age 67 while you are both living, her spouse benefit will be 50% of your age 66 benefit amount, if that is more than she is personally entitled to on her own. If you die first and your wife claims her survivor benefit at or after age 67, she will get 100% of the benefit you were receiving at your death instead of her own smaller benefit. But if she claims her survivor benefit before reaching her own FRA of 67, that benefit will be actuarially reduced according to the number of months prior to her FRA it is claimed. Note your wife can wait to claim her survivor benefit until it reaches maximum at her full retirement age.

So, to recap: Your wife's spousal benefit while you are living will be based on your age 66 amount and her age when she claims it, and your wife's benefit as your widow will be based on

100% of what you are getting when you die and her age when she claims it. The maximum benefit for your wife in either case is attained when she reaches her FRA (67) but claimed earlier will be reduced. And you waiting until age 70 to claim will maximize your wife's benefit as your widow.

Finally, since you are still working, you should know that if your current earnings are among the highest of your lifetime, you will still get credit for those earnings even after you start collecting your Social Security benefits. Your SS benefit when you claim will be based on the highest-earning 35 years over your lifetime (adjusted for inflation), but SS will monitor your earnings each year to see if a benefit increase is warranted because your current earnings are higher than any used in originally computing your benefit amount.

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Business Wants Voters to Overturn Legislative Decrees



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Over the last decade, as Democrats solidified their dominance of the state Capitol, they have repeatedly attempted to change how private businesses operate in California.

Those efforts have taken many specific forms, including mandates on employee benefits, making it easier for unions to organize workers, and regulating — or even prohibiting — products and services offered to customers.

All such efforts were aimed, their legislative and interest group sponsors said, at expanding equity and accountability for the benefit of workers and consumers.

Whatever their motives, as those efforts proliferate, the affected businesses have done what they could to block or at least modify what was happening. Nevertheless, those seeking more governmental regulation of business practices have scored some major victories and in response, affected businesses have increasingly used referenda to erase new laws or initiatives to repeal or modify them.

Those countermeasures have a mixed record of success, to wit:

— In 2014, the Legislature passed and then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation to ban single-use plastic bags for groceries or other

consumer goods. An industry referendum to block the new law failed in 2016.

— In 2018, the Legislature eliminated cash bail for criminal defendants. Two years later, the bail bond industry persuaded voters to reject the law.

— In 2019, legislators passed a sweeping law that reduced the ability of businesses to use freelance workers under contract. Rideshare and delivery companies such as Uber and Lyft placed a measure on the 2020 ballot to exempt themselves from the new law. Voters passed it, but it's since been challenged in court.

— In 2020 the Legislature prohibited the sale of flavored tobacco products, saying they encourage young people to smoke. However, the tobacco industry's referendum to block the ban was rejected by voters this year.

Corporate use of the ballot to thwart the Capitol's Democrats is likely to continue.

The fast food industry has submitted signatures for a referendum to overturn the creation of a new agency, dominated by unions and union-friendly appointees, that would set wages and working conditions for fast food employees. If it qualifies, the law would be suspended until voters decide the issue in 2024.

The oil industry is gathering signatures for a referendum to overturn a newly enacted law that would ban new oil wells within 3,200 feet of schools and other public facilities. If it qualifies, it also would go on the 2024 ballot.

Another oil industry

referendum is likely if the Legislature passes Newsom's proposal to impose limits on its profits from gasoline sales and impose financial penalties for exceeding them.

Newsom's original proposal was an excess profits tax, which would not have been subject to referendum because the state constitution declares that tax measures cannot be challenged via referendum.

However, non-tax laws, unless passed with two-thirds margins as "urgency measures," are subject to referendum. If Newsom's limit/penalty law is enacted next year as a non-urgency measure, the industry would have a 90-day window in which to qualify a referendum. The law would be suspended until voters had the final word.

The proliferation of business-sponsored ballot measures to overturn what legislators and the governor decree has angered groups, such as unions and environmental and consumer rights organizations, that support more oversight of business practices. They are pressing the Legislature to make the qualification of ballot measures more difficult.

However, Newsom and his predecessor, Jerry Brown, have opposed such changes for the simple reason that governors sometimes turn to the ballot themselves to enact laws that the Legislature is unwilling to pass.

That's the real scandal.

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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2 Men Arraigned for Stealing Catalytic Converters in Woodland

Yolo County DA News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - On December 1, 2022, 26-year-old Woodland man, Robert Nesbitt, Jr., and 46-year-old Knights Landing man, Michael Crow, were arraigned in Department 1 of the Yolo

County Superior Court on criminal charges arising from the theft of a catalytic converter on West Elliot Street in Woodland, CA. Both men pled not guilty to all charges including Grand Theft, Vandalism, Conspiracy to Commit a Felony, and Tampering with a Vehicle. Crow also

charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and two prior strike convictions. Nesbitt was charged with committing the theft while out on bail for a separate crime. Both men are out of custody on bail and will be in court next, for a Pre-Hearing Conference, on December 16, 2022. ★

Felony Arrest Warrant/Major Collision

WSPD News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On November 10th, 2022, at approximately 9:45 AM, West Sacramento Police Detectives were in Sacramento, CA, attempting to locate a suspect involved in a shooting, which occurred in September 2022, in the city of West Sacramento. The victim in that incident was shot and survived the injuries.

Following the investigation, the suspect was identified, and a felony arrest warrant was obtained for his arrest. This morning, West Sacramento Police Detectives located the suspect in South Sacramento and initiated a traffic enforcement stop on the vehicle driven by the suspect in the area of Hollyhurst

Way and Valley Hi Drive. The suspect initially stopped, however, he then fled in the vehicle, leading officers in a vehicle pursuit. After a short time, the suspect's vehicle was involved in a single-vehicle collision on Consumes River Blvd east of Franklin Blvd. The driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle and was transported to Kaiser South Medical Center for treatment where he was later pronounced deceased.

The collision investigation is being conducted by the Sacramento Police Department Major Collision Investigation Unit. In conjunction, an investigation will be conducted by the West Sacramento Police Department Professional Standards Unit and the West Sacramento Police Department Investigations Division. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220851
The following person(s) is doing business as: Dan's Mission Towing and Danmar Enterprises, 716 Houston Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Marijke M. H. Robinson, 861 42nd Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 1, 1977.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/8/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 & 16, 2022
DANS 12-16-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220849
The following person(s) is doing business as: Yolo Tap Room, 120 Main Street, Suite J, Woodland, CA 95695.
Rougiatiou Cato, 1 West Hays Street, Woodland, CA 95695. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/7/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 & 16, 2022
YOLO 12-16-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220864
The following person(s) is doing business as: After Hours Smash Burger & Fries, 800 Main St., Woodland, CA 95695, County of Yolo.
After Hours Boba & Tea LLC, 800 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695
This business is conducted by Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
/s/ Edward Rodriguez, Managing Member
After Hours Boba & Tea LLC
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/09/2022.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: kquam, Deputy
11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16/22
CNS-3645192# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_192 12-16-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220859
The following person(s) is doing business as: Country Villa Mobile Estates, 26262 Country Road 21A, Esparto, CA 95627, County of Yolo.
Mailing Address: 22880 Savi Ranch Pkwy, Yorba Linda, CA 92887
First Class Country Villa, LLC, 655 Montgomery St. Suite 1705, San Francisco, CA 94111
Country Villa Me, LLC, 22880 Savi Ranch Pkwy, Yorba Linda, CA 92887
This business is conducted by Limited Liability Partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/02/2006
/s/ James Joffee
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/08/2022.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: kquam, Deputy
11/25, 12/2, 12/9, 12/16/22
CNS-3641423# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_423 12-16-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220890
The following person(s) is doing business as: Facial & Lashes By Nicole, 2240 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 130, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Trinh H Van, 6611 Rio Tejo Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the

County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/22/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2022
FACIAL 12-23-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220881
The following person(s) is doing business as: SK Groceries, 813-B Harbor Boulevard, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Sharesh Kumar and Shareen Lata Prasad Kumar, 2609 Stonecreek Drive, Apartment 9, Sacramento, CA 95833. This business is conducted by a Married Couple. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/17/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2022
SK 12-23-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220882
The following person(s) is doing business as: Full Deck Photos, 1583 Columbus Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Patrick Chad Padilla, 1583 Columbus Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/17/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2022
FULL 12-23-22

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220920
The following person(s) is doing business as: Best Rate Motors, 1540 S River Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Waheed Khan, 23 Mount Stephens Court, Sacramento, CA 95835. This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 12/6/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 16, 23, 30, 2022; Jan 6, 2023
BEST 1-6-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20220905
The following person(s) is doing business as: Dress Tech / Sculptress / Skinner, 1237 E. Beamer Street, Suite G, Woodland, CA 95776.
Delta Molding, LLC, 1237 E. Beamer Street, Suite G, Woodland, CA 95776. 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 4/28/2015.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/29/2022.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 16, 23, 30, 2022; Jan 6, 2023
DRESS 1-6-23

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2022-1937
Sajia Farhadi has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Sajia Farhadi to Sajia Farhad.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court at 9:00 a.m. on December 28, 2022, in Department 9, 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: November 9, 2022
Daniel M. Wolk, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 & 16, 2022
SAJIA 12-16-22

COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2022-2009
Maria Elena Ramirez Pimentel has filed a petition with this

court for a decree changing the name(s) of Maria Elena Ramirez Pimentel to Helena Ramirez Pimentel.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court at 9:00 a.m. on January 3, 2023, 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: November 18, 2022
Daniel M. Wolk, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2022
MARIA 12-23-22

LIEN SALE

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 01/02/2022 @ 2:00 PM
Basil Boyd small misc items, Robert Teryniak household goods, Charise Kempton household goods.
This auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.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.
12/16, 12/23/22
CNS-3650629# NEWS-LEDGER
DJ_629 12-23-22

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANNE COOK CASE NO. PR2022-0255
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Elizabeth Anne Cook, deceased.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Alan Philip Cook, in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, requesting Alan Philip Cook be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows January 5, 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, 1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-920-5983
Publish: Dec 16, 23 & 30, 2022
PALMER 12-30-22

T.S. No. 098494-CA APN: 008-131-051
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU

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, 1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-920-5983
Publish: Dec 16, 23 & 30, 2022
COOK 12-30-22

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF SHIRLEY PALMER CASE NO. PR2022-0250

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Shirley Palmer, deceased.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Scott Palmer, in the Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, requesting Scott Palmer 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 January 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 14. Superior Court of California, County of Yolo, 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Dylan P. Hyatt, 1555 River Park Drive, Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95815; 916-920-5983
Publish: Dec 16, 23 & 30, 2022
PALMER 12-30-22

TRUSTEE SALE

ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 4/2/2004. 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 1/5/2023 at 12:45 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 4/21/2004 as Instrument No. 2004-0016372-00 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: ABDUL MUNIF, MUBARAK B MUNIF, HUSBAND & WIFE 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; OUTSIDE THE REAR (NORTH) ENTRANCE TO THE CITY HALL 1110 WEST 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 FULLY DESCRIBED ON SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 620 B MAPLE STREET, WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691. 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: \$182,900.60. 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 (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 098494-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 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 098494-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: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117
Publish Dec 2, 9 & 16, 2022
STOX_373 12-16-22



Riley Reviews

“THE MENU” LAVISH SATIRE; DOLLY PARTON’S “CHRISTMAS” ON TV

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“THE MENU” RATED R

The foodie culture has been satirized in many ways for its pretentious stylish presentation of fine dining, from the artistry of the food on the plates to the modern chic of the restaurant itself.

“The Menu” is taking the concept of haute cuisine to an insane level over the period of a five course (or it is six or more?), where the farm-to-table meal looks more like modern art than an edible experience.

The setting is a temple of exquisite gastronomy called Hawthorn, where the wealthy, celebrities and affected fools fork over \$1,250 per patron to savor the changing menu of Chef Julian Slowik (Ralph Fiennes) who runs the joint like a cult leader.

Save for one person, nobody has arrived at the island restaurant not on purpose. The arrogant Tyler (Nicholas Hoult) considers himself an aficionado of the culinary arts but he’s more the buffoon.

Tyler’s date is Margot (Anya Taylor-Joy), a last-minute substitute for this excursion. From the start, she’s skeptical

about the whole evening, and it turns out for very good reason.

As an unnamed movie star, John Leguizamo finds his acting career is fading and hopes instead to host a travel food show, and his assistant Felicity (Aimee Carrero) is desperate to quit and get away from him.

A trio of obnoxious tech guys (Arturo Castro, Rob Yang and Mark St. Cyr) work for Doug Varick, owner of the Hawthorn, which gives them an added sense of dubious privilege.

Lillian Bloom (Janet McTeer), an arrogant food critic with an overly inflated ego, has a history with Chef Slowik, and she’s joined by her editor (Paul Adelstein), a spineless yes man.

Reed Birney and Judith Light play a wealthy older couple who have been regulars at Hawthorn but over the course of the meal unsettling secrets are revealed about the husband.

Chef Slowik may be at the top of his game, but he’s come to loathe his elite customers, and himself, for being corrupted by them, and his disgust and contempt are a toxic brew for an evening that turns deadly.

The actors are the best thing on “The

Menu” as they deal with the shocking surprises that put them on edge. Oddly interesting, the whole affair is a mysterious thriller mixed with satire and strong violence.

“DOLLY PARTON’S MOUNTAIN MAGIC CHRISTMAS” ON TV

Fans of Dolly Parton are almost certain to love NBC’s most highly anticipated television event of the holiday season in the new original movie “Dolly Parton’s Mountain Magic Christmas.”

The moniker GOAT usually applies to a sports superstar, someone like Tom Brady, but you could say the same goes for Dolly as the most honored and revered female country singer-songwriter with a multitude of awards and number one songs on the Billboard country charts.

Don’t worry about missing the premiere on the network because Dolly’s special will stream on Peacock, and apparently there will be an encore on NBC on December 21st at 8:00 p.m.

While there are numerous songs that capture the spirit of Christmas and the importance of gathering with family during the holidays, Dolly gets to shine with her iconic songs “9 to 5” and “I Will Always Love You.”

There are a few things to be learned during this two-hour film. Such as, Jimmy Fallon may host his own eponymous late night talk show on NBC, but who knew that he was also a singer?

In a duet with Dolly for the song “It’s Almost Too Early for Christmas,” Fallon

wears a black leather sequined jacket as the pair dance with backup singers in a scene that looks like a 1950’s diner.

Keep in mind that “Dolly Parton’s Mountain Magic Christmas,” which has opening scenes at Dollywood, is a movie musical about the making of a network TV special, with all of the frenetic backstage angst of a dress rehearsal.

Speaking of production anguish, Tom Everett Scott’s show producer Sam Haskell frets that they are behind schedule for their live performance, and things only gets worse when the choreographer leaves for a job with the Radio City Rockettes.

Throughout the movie’s production numbers and rehearsal chaos, Dolly finds herself taking a private journey into her past, guided by the mysterious appearances of her personal Wise Mountain Men.

Through the sparkle of magic dust, Willie Nelson tells Dolly to think of him as a wise old mountain man full of wisdom. Her response is to tell him that he is “full of it.”

When Dolly says that Willie Nelson taught her to remember that we’ll always be the kids we once were at Christmas, Billy Ray Cyrus shares his wisdom that who you are with in the present is what really makes it Christmas.

When the time comes for the special to air, a renewed and inspired Dolly goes rogue and shows the world that the real magic of Christmas lies in the hearts of the children and that Christmas is about the people we share it with. ★

Local Classified

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Rental

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The Housing Authority of the County of Butte is currently accepting applications for its Farm Labor Housing property in Gridley, CA. We have 2 Bd. units available at this time. Rental assistance is available and provided by USDA Rural Development for those that meet USDA Rural Development guidelines. For more information contact our office at (530) 895-4474 or TDD 1-800-735-2929.

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CLUES

ACROSS

- Make change
- Used in combination to denote the middle
- *Ammo material
- Star
- The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
- Neutral shade
- Orderly arrangement
- Romanian monetary unit
- Button on electrical outlet
- *Frosty's nose
- *Gingerbread Man, e.g.
- Drench
- What a willow did?
- Famous song by The Jackson 5
- Cone-shaped quarters
- *Snow mover
- A bit of water
- Pakistani language
- Measured in knots
- Tatted fabric
- *"A Visit from St. Nicholas" poet
- Tropical edible root
- Paintings in Orthodox church
- Not swim or swum
- Frozen puddle accident
- Small skullcap
- Dresden's river
- Captain's turf
- Drop of sorrow
- *"Slippery" tree
- *Frozen spike
- *Three-horse sleigh ride
- Words to live by
- Caviar alternative
- On D'Artagnan's hat
- Group of wives
- Boiling emotion
- Furnish with a fund
- Travelers' stops
- Poetic "even"
- Buy second-hand

DOWN

- Agha, alt. sp.
- Artist Chagall's first name
- Poet Pound's first name
- Draws close
- Fungus damage (2 words)
- Shake's cousin?
- *_____ fishing
- Two, in cards
- Station finder button
- Not final
- Curved molding
- Kind of nurse
- Bouillions
- Laudanum ingredient
- Saturn's wife
- As opposed to widow
- Impromptu
- Emergency pedal
- *Hot treat
- Major-leaguers
- Prefers
- Butcher shop offering, pl.
- Ghostlike
- Parkinson's drug
- Philadelphia's Ivy League member
- Russian mountain chain
- *Fireplace glob
- TV offering
- Reef fish
- Kind of bird
- Eagle's home
- Hundred Acre Wood creator

- A Flock of Seagulls' 1982 hit (2 words)
- European Council for Nuclear Research, acr.
- Bad day for Caesar
- Not quite an adult
- Spiral-horned African antelope
- Singer-songwriter Tori
- Tai's partner
- Miner's bounty
- Female sheep



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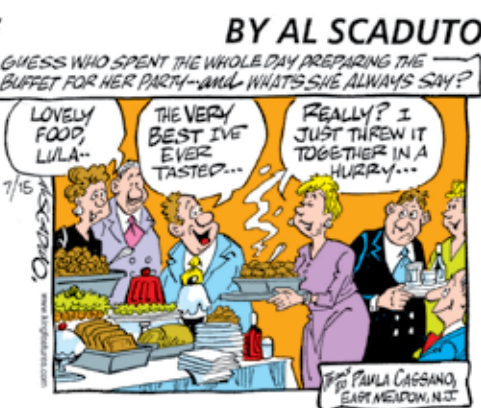
"That reminds me, Mom — have you told Dad about your car yet?"

LAFF-A-DAY



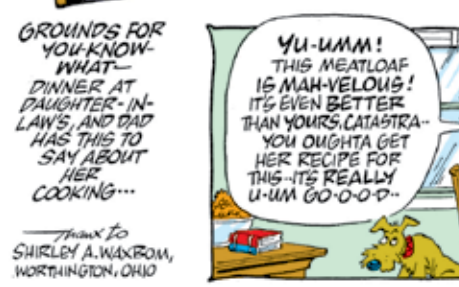
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


Find at least six differences in details between panels




Differences: 1. Cane is different. 2. Chair back is missing. 3. Cap is different. 4. Lid is smaller. 5. Hair is different. 6. Antenna is smaller.



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The Mary Kay logo is positioned in the upper right corner of the page. Below the logo, there is a collection of makeup brushes, including several thin, dark brushes and one larger, round, dark brush, all resting on a light-colored, textured surface that resembles powder or a brush holder.

Are They Ready for This?

By Grace Gedye,
CALMatters.org

A cascade of tech layoffs, the strain of inflation and news of potentially recession-inducing decisions from federal bankers could spell tough economic times ahead.

If more people are laid off, more Californians will turn to unemployment benefits to help them afford the basics while they look for a new job.

It's a process that buckled under the pressures of the pandemic. Residents sometimes waited months for benefits from the state's Employment Development Department, dialing the department hundreds of times. On top of that was a string of fraud scandals: Claims came from 'unemployed' infants and children and according to prosecutors, benefits were paid to tens of thousands of inmates in jail and prison, who are ineligible. The vast majority of the fraud was in temporary, federally funded pandemic aid programs.

The situation has since improved. But how will the system hold up if there's a recession?

Thanks to "the level of testing that the pandemic put us through, we are in such a strong position to weather a typical economic contraction," said Gareth Lacy, communications advisor at the department.

But not everyone is convinced. "There have been some major improvements," said Daniela Urban, executive director of the Center for Workers' Rights. "But I think we're not at the point where if a major crisis hit the unemployment system again, the system would be able to function as it should."

A recession would probably look different than the shocking early months of the pandemic, when claims for new benefits jumped tenfold from February to March of 2020, according to department data. One point of comparison: There were 20 million claims for unemployment benefits during the pandemic and just 3.8 million during the Great Recession, according to Lacy. And during the pandemic, the challenge for the department wasn't just dealing with the surge of claims; it also had to implement new federal aid programs.

The incredible wave of people applying in a matter of weeks was "extreme" says Till von Wachter, an economics professor at UCLA. Normal recessions are more gradual, he said, so the number of claims the department has to process per week would likely be lower. "They just went through trial by fire," von Wachter said. He's optimistic that the department would be able to better deal with a recession.

But, if the agency struggles to keep up with the demands of a recession, it wouldn't be the first time. In the wake of the recession that began in 2008, reports emerged that checks were delayed due to outdated computers, and exasperated workers were met with busy phone lines.

In 2021, state lawmakers required the department to come up with a recession plan; the result is a nearly 90-page report.

One change, the report explains, is that the department created a new team tasked with forecasting unemployment benefit-related workloads and figuring how many staff will be needed. The report also details how the department will adapt if the unemployment rate reaches specific levels. California's unemployment rate is currently around 4%, but if, for example,



Is California's beleaguered jobless benefits agency ready for a recession? The headquarters of California's Employment Development Department in Sacramento. The agency says it's made improvements that have made it better equipped to issue employment benefits if the economy goes south. Photo by Rahul Lal, CalMatters

it ticks up to 6%, the plan includes authorizing overtime, reducing vacation slots during peak periods, and limiting the approval of part-time requests. If it reaches 8%, the department would hire additional staff and "deploy retired annuitants." If it reaches 12%, it's time to call in the contractors.

The report says pulling all this off is challenging because federal funding for unemployment benefit administration is

one day, or were sick one day – two things that could disqualify you from receiving benefits – the department would stop sending payments until it determined whether you were still eligible, which could require an interview, said Urban.

"At the height of the pandemic, (the department) was so behind the determinations (that) people were waiting 15, 16, or

contractors during the pandemic, but that ended in 2021.

Another large group that will find itself without unemployment benefits if a recession hits is undocumented workers – despite a major push from advocates and a bill passed by the Legislature. Under federal law, undocumented workers can't get traditional unemployment benefits, said Gerry.

This year, worker and immigrant advocates pushed for a new pilot program that would have provided unemployment-like benefits to non-citizen workers – an idea Colorado lawmakers embraced this year. But California legislators didn't provide funding for the program in the state budget, said Sasha Feldstein, economic justice policy director for the California Immigrant Policy Center. Curiously, they then passed a bill that laid out how the program would work, but which didn't include funding, and Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed the bill, citing, in part, the absence of "a dedicated funding source."

Another consequence of a recession could be growing California's already massive unemployment debt.

The state's unemployment insurance trust fund ran out of money during the pandemic, after so many laid-off Californians relied on the benefits. The federal government loaned California billions to keep benefits flowing, and the state still is on the hook to pay back about \$18 billion.

California's debt is uniquely large. While many states had to turn to the feds to pay out benefits during the pandemic, at this point just California, New York, Connecticut, Illinois and the Virgin Islands still have debt.

California's debt is roughly double the size of the other four combined.

This isn't the first time the system has gone into debt. In the wake of the Great Recession, the debt grew to about \$10 billion. California didn't finish paying it off until the spring of 2018, according to H.D. Palmer, a spokesperson for the Finance Department, and the state spent about \$1.4 billion on interest on the Great Recession era unemployment debt, according to Palmer.

Unemployment benefits are funded by employers, and in order to pay off the current debt, a federal tax on employers will automatically increase by \$21 per employee in 2023, and ratchet up by an additional \$21 per employee per year until the loan is repaid. This year state lawmakers also decided to kick in \$250 million in state funds toward the loan principal and \$342.4 million to cover the interest accrued so far.

But if the state goes into a recession, that debt could grow even larger.

"If there is a slowdown in the economy, we are totally and completely unprepared to be able to provide for California workers because of the deficit," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable, which represents major employers and has advocated for the state to contribute \$10 billion to pay down the loan principal. "There may not be an interest in Congress to bail out California and New York," Lapsley said.

But it would be unprecedented for the federal government to let a state's unemployment system run out of money and stop providing benefits, said Gerry, with the National Employment Law Project. "That has never happened in the history of the unemployment insurance program since it was enacted in 1935."

"I don't think that there's a real threat that no benefits will be available," Gerry said. But having a system that repeatedly goes into debt means that taxpayers get stuck with an avoidable bill. And, Gerry said, "if we had more money in our trust fund, it would be easier to make the case that we could enhance benefits." ★



The incredible wave of people applying in a matter of weeks was "extreme" says Till von Wachter, an economics professor at UCLA. Normal recessions are more gradual, he said, so the number of claims the department has to process per week would likely be lower. "They just went through trial by fire," von Wachter said. Photo courtesy of Florian Schott. Dreamstime.com