



## A Family Pantry

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# West Sacramento News Ledger

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Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964

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## Rewarding Student Volunteers

### But half the money spent on overhead



Newsom and lawmakers have dramatically expanded the state financial aid program in other ways that give students aid directly, like cash and grants to fully cover tuition. MPG file photo

By Mikhail Zinshteyn, CALMatters.org

A new California program to financially reward college students for volunteering has drawn national attention – but less than half of its budgeted money is going to actual student aid.

The California Volunteers College Corps program, backed by \$159 million in mostly state money, promises to award up to \$10,000 to 6,668 low-income students who volunteer in K-12 education, on climate action or to reduce food insecurity.

That only works out to \$66.7 million for students, though. So where is the other \$92 million going?

Mostly it's going to hiring and administrative costs despite no guarantee the program will continue past 2024. Some experts think that money split makes sense because students

could benefit from training and there's a chance the program would get additional funding in the future. Other experts think the money should go directly to students, so fewer of them will have to work on top of their other responsibilities.

The program is set to last two years, though Gov. Gavin Newsom suggested at a Jan. 18 press event that he'd ask the Legislature to expand the program "if this thing works." Part of the money will go toward an external evaluation of the program.

Almost all of that \$92 million that's not going directly to students is meant for program costs, according to a budget CalMatters received from California Volunteers, the state office running the program. Forty-five colleges and universities – nearly all public – will share the money.

Of that, \$77 million is for a whole array of operations work to

build up the volunteer program. That includes money for the colleges whose students will be in this program to develop their local programs and partner with the nonprofits where students will work. Costs include: hiring consultants and staff, acquiring extra office space and IT equipment; recruiting the actual student volunteers and funding the nonprofits where they'll do their volunteer work; providing students career and academic advice plus training events; and an external evaluator, who'll be hired at a later date, to assess the volunteer program.

Another \$15 million is reserved for California Volunteers personnel.

Not only is the program a way for students to give back to their community but it's also an opportunity that allows students to be "learning about a career and also earning

*Continued on page 2*



## Announce Full 2022 Schedule

Sacramento River Cats Press Release

**WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento River Cats, proud Triple-A affiliate of the 2021 National League West champion San Francisco Giants, are excited to announce their full 150-game schedule for the upcoming 2022 season, including six additional games and a new home finale.

The River Cats will play 75 games at Sutter Health Park in 2022, beginning on April 5. Opening Night has a 6:35 p.m. (PT) first pitch against the newly minted Sugar Land Space Cowboys (Houston Astros), who are playing at Sutter Health Park for the first time.

Following the six-game season-opening series at home, the River Cats will hit the road, taking on the Reno Aces (Arizona Diamondbacks) for the first six of 30 total games against the division rival.

Must-see games include a series against the affiliate-rival Oklahoma City Dodgers (Los Angeles Dodgers) from April 19-24, which includes two fireworks nights. After a quick road trip to Albuquerque, the River Cats return home to celebrate mom at the ballpark, closing out a six-game series against the Las Vegas Aviators (Oakland A's affiliate) on Mother's Day (May 8) at 1:05 p.m. (PT).

July is full of fireworks as more than half the River Cats' home games will have the postgame staple, including a 6:35 p.m. (PT) Independence Eve Celebration and Fireworks Extravaganza on Sunday, July 3.

The six additional games at the end of the season include three at the Salt Lake Bees (Los Angeles Angels) from Sept. 22-24 and a three-game home-stand against the Aviators from Sept. 26-28. The season-finale is set for a 12:05 p.m. (PT) first pitch on Wednesday, Sept. 28.

All Saturday home games will have a 6:37

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## West Sacramento Is Edging Closer to Redistricting

By Michele Townsend

**WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On a state or county basis, dividing citizens by districts can provide a good way to help citizens feel their voices are heard, but setting up districts in a small community can do the opposite. Here's some information about redistricting you might want to read.

People with common interests and beliefs tend to gather naturally. These people create communities, which lead to towns, which lead to cities and so

on. When these groups are together geographically, they become a district.

Every member of the House of Representatives is elected from a district. That legislator represents the beliefs of the people in their district and helps to create policies and laws to assist the needs of the people that they represent. It makes sense in a large scale to create districts. As population grows, the lines of the districts are re-drawn so that all districts have about the same number of people to represent. This is called redistricting.

When there are districts, everyone votes on things only within their district. The legislator then takes the beliefs and decisions (that he just learned because of the vote) to the house. This knowledge will guide them in their decisions. This is the way, in theory, everyone is represented.

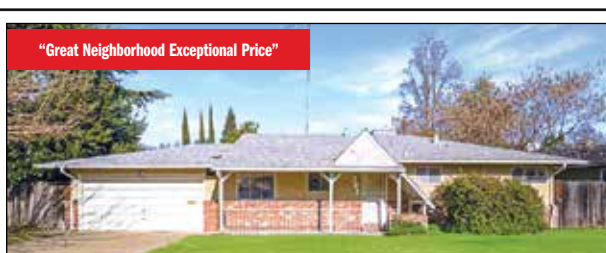
Again, it makes sense on a large scale. It wouldn't make sense for people in Sacramento to be voting on issues taking place in San Diego, for example. The problem is not everyone has the same beliefs

nor does everyone vote. A good example of a group of people who may not feel represented would be a homeless population. These are called 'communities of interest.'

Because of this, some cities have chosen not to divide by districts and those cities run on an at-large system.

The city of West Sacramento currently runs on an at-large system. That means that everyone in town comes out and votes on who we want as Mayor and City Council members.

*Continued on page 2*



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# Rewarding Student Volunteers

*Continued from page 1*

while learning that career,” said California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley.

But a state program for connecting students to careers already exists. Last year’s state budget injected \$200 million into a new work-study program for college students, with \$300 million more planned for this year.

Student participants will begin volunteering through the program fall of 2022. Upon completing 450 hours during the academic year, each will get \$10,000.

The money is split up into two buckets – \$7,000 paid out regularly and a final lump sum of \$3,000 after a year of service. As students fulfill their hours, they’ll be paid as if they’re campus employees through their college or university’s payroll system. Even if students don’t volunteer the full 450 hours, they’ll receive a prorated amount of the initial \$7,000. But to receive the final \$3,000, students will need to complete the full 450 hours of service.

Unlike the federal AmeriCorps, undocumented students may participate in the California volunteer program. State officials want 20% of the volunteers to be undocumented students who receive state financial aid. They’re eligible for the same \$10,000 available to other students, but their pot will come from state dollars only, while federal funds will cover a portion of \$3,000 other students will be awarded.

But all that extra money may create a headache for some volunteers. The \$7,000 volunteers work toward counts as income, which may “impact a student’s financial aid,” reads a program FAQ. Campuses are urged to work with their financial aid offices to “mitigate any impact” for students. Also, the \$7,000 is taxable income, meaning taxes will be deducted each paycheck.

Only full-time students will be eligible for the service program.

The College Corps state volunteer program builds on a smaller effort California launched in 2020, about six months into the COVID-19 pandemic. Though that smaller effort had the goal of attracting 250 students, ultimately 199 participated, according to performance review data that Julie Goggins, a California Volunteers spokesperson, shared with CalMatters. And some – 7% – didn’t complete their full hours of service and so weren’t awarded the full amount for which they were eligible. Most students – 90% – also acquired

professional development skills, according to performance review assessments. Some colleges from the pilot round are also participating in College Corps.

**The budget for the volunteer program makes sense, but the devil’s in the details, said Alexandra Graddy-Reed, a professor who studies nonprofits at the University of Southern California. She likes that students who volunteer will receive various layers of advising. It’s another way for the colleges and the state to expose those low-income students to opportunities wealthier students often already receive through their families’ connections, Graddy-Reed said.**

**All those services require more personnel and hiring people is expensive, which helps explain the program costs, she said. The mix of volunteerism and various advising “sounds good to me” as a way to spend tax dollars, Graddy-Reed added. Still, she’ll want to see the specific hiring decisions colleges will make at the local level and whether most of the operational funding will be for College Corps or for general campus operations.**

Campus-level contract amounts won’t be available until the summer, according to Goggins.

Some campuses have begun advertising their programs. UC Davis and three other Sacramento-area colleges will share up to \$16 million for about 1,000 student volunteers. Fresno State and Fresno City College will bring on about 120 students over two years.

Newsom and lawmakers have dramatically expanded the state financial aid program in other ways that give students aid directly, like cash and grants to fully cover tuition. But those are all ongoing programs, while the money for the volunteer program is just two years. From a publicity standpoint, it’s probably better to create a temporary program, such as College Corps, than to briefly expand access to ongoing grants only to have them disappear soon after, Shireman mused.

Student housing in California is already tight and the state has big plans to expand enrollment at the University of California and the Cal States. A \$5 billion proposal would give campuses loans at no interest

*Mikhail Zinshteyn has been a higher education reporter since 2015. As a freelancer, he contributed to The Atlantic, The Hechinger Report, Inside Higher Ed and The 74.* ★

# West Sacramento Is Edging Closer to Redistricting

*Continued from page 1*

The majority vote wins.

What about redistricting on a smaller scale? Is redistricting still a good idea? More and more cities are redistricting. It is done the same way it is done on the large scale. Lines are drawn to separate the town into sections (as many as five) to group together people that share similar race, family size, education, income, social, cultural, geographical and other concerns. Isn’t this what creates projects?

Those that are in support of redistricting believe that this is the answer for everyone’s voice to be heard. On the large scale it makes sense that in an area where there is primarily farm land, they wouldn’t want someone born and raised in the city to represent their needs.

Remember the rules are still the same on the small scale. You can only vote on things within your district. On a small scale, just like in large, community members elect one person to represent your district. For four years, those people become your City Council. Typically, when a city redistricts, the city council then appoints a Mayor each year. It’s called a rolling Mayor.

Those who oppose redistricting in the small scale say it’s about the money involved in potential lawsuits.

In an at-large system, if there is a group of people, or an individual who feels they have been wronged or discriminated against, they can file a lawsuit against the city. The individual or group has to prove that

they have been discriminated against. Even if they do not prove it, it still can cost the city hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees. If the city loses the lawsuit, it can cost even more.

When redistricting occurs, two things happen. First, it’s extremely hard to prove that someone has been discriminated against when the districts are made up of like individuals. Secondly, with redistricting there is a \$30,000 cap on this type of lawsuit which can be eaten up in legal fees.

Those in favor of redistricting say no. They say it’s a chance for everyone’s voice to be heard. They say it’s a way to include all communities of interest. Populations change, however. Some neighborhoods grow, others dwindle. So how is that fair? The re-districting lines are redrawn every 10 years. Every time they do the census, they redraw the lines.

The problem is that on the large scale the legislature draws the district lines. They do this to shift the power of who’s dominant in the Senate. So, who draws the lines on the small scale? The public!

On Feb. 2, 2022, the West Sacramento City Council decided to retain the current at-large structure for Mayor, but to divide the city into four districts. This is one of the first steps to transitioning to redistricting. As I told you, the public helps to draw the district lines.

According to the City of West Sacramento’s website, on Feb. 19, the

city of West Sacramento will be holding the first of two meetings for the public’s input on district lines. They hired an outside firm to draw the maps and help in the transition to a district-based system, in accordance with the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). The city will have at least five presentations on the CVRA process, and the public is encouraged to watch livestream, or participate via Zoom to offer comments at the meeting. The districts will be the subject of extensive public discussion and will not be decided until approximately June 2022. The plan is to have the transition completed and in effect by Nov. 2022 elections.

The redistricting lines decided during a series of public meetings and outreach events. Public participation is essential. Before drawing these lines, the city would need to know about your community so that the district lines can amplify the voices of the residents.

Examples of communities can include areas of town where many people speak the same language, neighborhoods, areas where residents use the same community facilities, areas of town where people have common interests. Residents will be asked to help create a community map and meetings on how to build that map will be held. According to COWS website, a schedule of the meetings will be available soon. There is a link on the home page of cityofwestsacramento.org to access. ★



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# American Rescue Plan Mini Grants Application Open to Community

**Yolo County Press Release**

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - At the January 11 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board allocated \$250,000 for the development of mini grants in Yolo County to benefit the recovery of our local economy from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Each supervisorial district ("District") has \$50,000 to award. The mini grants allow applications for community members or organizations to fund nimble and transformative projects. Applications close on March 31, 2022.

On September 28, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved the initial American Rescue Plan (ARP) Expenditure Plan, dividing the monies into categories. In addition to these categories, the Board created a concept for an ARP Mini Grants program. These small

grants provide for programs or projects that provide for a community benefit and would typically serve a single community and offer opportunities within each District separate from the County's larger ARP allocation process.

"My colleagues and I are honored to announce the opening of mini grants focused on community level projects in each of our districts to assist in the economic recovery from COVID-19," said Board Chair, Supervisor Angel Barajas. "Starting today, community members and organizations can apply for the mini grants, ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000."

Funding requests should range from \$1,000 and \$10,000 but requests outside of the range will still receive consideration. Eligibility is based on the Federal ARP Eligibility Requirements and awards should honor

the Board's Guiding Principles.

Additional technical assistance and training will be made available with the support of the Yolo Community Foundation to assist applicants. The deadline to apply is Thursday, March 31, 2022, at 5 pm. Once closed, County staff will work with each Supervisorial district to select the most competitive grants for funding.

If your organization is interested in applying and learning more about the ARP Mini Grants program, please visit the American Rescue Plan website or contact Eric Will, ARP Project Manager, at [eric.will@yolocounty.org](mailto:eric.will@yolocounty.org).

The Congress and President Biden approved the federal stimulus plan providing \$350 billion of stimulus funding to State and Local governments. Yolo County will receive approximately \$42.8 million. ★

# Yolo County HHS Director Accepts New Role as CEO

**Yolo County HHS Press Release**

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency (HHS) Director Karen Larsen has officially accepted a new role as the first-ever CEO of the Steinberg Institute. The Steinberg Institute was created to upend the status quo and dramatically raise the profile and increase the effectiveness of mental health policymaking in California. The Steinberg Institute Board of Directors approved Larsen's appointment on February 1, 2022, and she will begin the new role on March 1.

Karen Larsen has served as the HHS Director for the last six years. Since joining HHS, her mission has focused on expanded access and services for those in need. HHS instituted Results Based Accountability to track their outcomes, optimizing metrics for services. During her tenure, HHS's notable achievements have included: Permanent Supportive Housing units increasing by 300% with a 100% increase planned in the next year, Family Homelessness at zero for the past four years, achieving Public Health Accreditation, improving permanency timelines in Child Welfare, and recognition as an integrated agency by the State of California allowing for increased financial flexibilities.

"Karen Larsen's dedication, leadership, and service to Yolo County including two years of facing the challenges of a pandemic leaves a lasting legacy of work towards the integration of health, social services, and behavioral health services in the County," said Yolo County Board Chair, Supervisor Angel Barajas. "She has successfully helped to bridge barriers across departments and larger systems to improve access and outcomes, in particular for Yolo

County's most vulnerable residents."

The Steinberg Institute is dedicated to advancing sound public policy and inspiring leadership on issues of brain health. Founded by Sacramento Mayor and former state Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, the institute is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing sound public policy and inspiring leadership on issues of brain health. Since its inception in January 2015, the Institute has helped enact sweeping improvements in California's mental health policy. They envision a system of care in which brain illness is addressed with the same urgency and sweep as physical illness.

"Karen has a track record of innovation and improving outcomes for California's most vulnerable," said Steinberg Institute founder Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg. "I'm thrilled she is bringing her bold ideas and leadership to the institute at such a critical time for the state's mental health system."

"It has been my absolute honor and privilege to serve the community in Yolo County for the past 23 years. I am incredibly proud of all we have accomplished since I joined the Yolo team," said Larsen. "This new position feels like the culmination of my life's work. I'm looking forward to my work at the Steinberg Institute at this critical time in our State and Nation."

For additional information on Yolo County visit the County webpage at [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org) or follow Yolo County on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/YoloCounty](http://www.facebook.com/YoloCounty) and Twitter at <https://twitter.com/YoloCountyCA>. Follow the mission and work of the Steinberg Institute at <https://steinberginstitute.org/>. ★

# Driver Collides with Tree

**Officer Kenslee Viera, West Sacramento Police Department**

**WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On February 4, 2022, at approximately 8:00 PM, the West Sacramento Police Department responded to the 1000 block of Riverside Parkway for a report of a single vehicle collision into a tree. Officers arrived on scene and found a single unresponsive occupant trapped inside the vehicle, which was fully engulfed in flames. Officers attempted to remove the subject from the vehicle but

were unable to do so due to the intense flames.

West Sacramento Fire arrived on scene and extinguished the fire. They located and confirmed one deceased person in the driver seat. The cause of the accident is unknown at this time.

Riverside Parkway was closed in both directions until the West Sacramento Motors Division completed their investigation of this incident.

Yolo County Corner office will release information on the decedent once next of kin has been notified. ★

# River Cats Announce Full 2022 Schedule

*Continued from page 1*

p.m. (PT) start and all Sundays, outside of July 3, will be 1:05 p.m. (PT) day games. All Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday games will have 6:35 p.m. (PT) first pitches.

The full schedule is available online at

[rivercats.com](http://rivercats.com). Game dates and times are subject to change.

Season ticket memberships and packages are available now by calling the River Cats ticket hotline at (916) 371-HITS (4487), emailing [tickets@rivercats.com](mailto:tickets@rivercats.com), or visiting [rivercats.com](http://rivercats.com). ★

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# Newsom in the Middle of Solar Panel Battle



By Dan Walters  
CALMatters

High-octane battles over major policy issues are nothing new in the state Legislature. Every legislative session has at least one such clash that draws intense public and media interest.

Although the 2022 legislative session has just begun, it already has high-profile battles underway over whether public school students should be required to have COVID-19 vaccinations and whether the state should embrace single-payer medical care.

We sometimes forget that there are dozens of other, less public, venues where conflicts over important policy issues play out — like state regulatory agencies. With all of them directly or indirectly controlled by the governor or other political figures, they make decisions that can have multi-billion-dollar consequences and affect the lives of millions of Californians.

The California Public Utilities Commission, whose members are appointed by the governor, is arguably the state's most influential regulatory agency. Originally created more than a century ago to regulate railroad freight rates, the PUC's portfolio expanded to include utilities supplying electric power,

natural gas and water.

With that broad franchise, PUC decrees affect the finances of virtually every household and business in the state. It now faces one of the most heated conflicts in its history — a utility-backed proposal to reduce the financial incentives for installing rooftop solar panels, primarily the right to sell excess solar energy back to utilities, dubbed Net Energy Metering or NEM.

In December, the PUC released a 204-page proposal to reduce the payments to solar panel owners, largely embracing what the utilities and their unions had been seeking, but angering advocates of rooftop generation. The factions have been waging a fierce battle, mostly in the media, ever since.

The utilities contend that NEM amounts to a subsidy for Californians affluent enough to afford solar arrays that manifests itself in higher power rates for everyone else, particularly the poor, and has assembled a coalition of politicians, consumer advocates and environmentalists.

The opposition, funded mostly by solar panel manufacturers and sellers, contends that it's a grab by utilities that will retard the growth of solar power and make it more difficult for the state to meet its greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Fundamentally, it's an existential issue for both. Utilities fear that widespread self-generation will damage their financial viability while the solar industry sees reducing NEM's incentives as discouraging potential customers.

The PUC's draft was a big tactical win for the utility faction, but its rival redoubled its effort to maintain the status quo, gaining support from such high-profile figures as Sen. Dianne Feinstein and former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

As with so many big issues these days, Gov. Gavin Newsom is the man in the middle. The opposition was buoyed, therefore, when Newsom indicated this month that he wants changes in the PUC's draft.

Asked about NEM at his budget news conference, Newsom replied: "That draft plan that was recently released, I just had a chance to review, and I'll say this about the plan: We still have some work to do."

When asked again later in the news conference about the PUC proposal, Newsom said, "Do I think changes need to be made? Yes I do."

The PUC got the message and delayed a vote on whether to adopt the draft, moving everything behind closed doors. Newsom hasn't specified the changes he seeks but presumably wants to make the NEM overhaul at least marginally acceptable to the solar faction without alienating the utilities or, more importantly, their influential unions.

Whatever happens, it is another reminder about the important role played by regulatory agencies and about the power that politicians have over what those agencies decree.

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

# Public Comment Begins for Amended Draft Election Administration Plan

By Katherine Campos,  
Office of Yolo County Assessor

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - The Yolo County Elections Office is working on fully transitioning to the model of conducting elections under the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA). The Election Administration Plan (EAP) provides information about vote-by-mail (VBM) voting, Vote Centers, Ballot Drop Box locations and the technology that will be used.

Following initial public consultation meetings that were held on December 13, 2021, an initial draft EAP was issued on January 10, 2022. After releasing the initial draft EAP, there was a 14-day public comment period followed by a public hearing on January 26, 2022.

The Yolo County Elections Office has incorporated community feedback and has released an amended draft EAP. The amended draft EAP is available for public viewing on our Voter's Choice Act webpage: <https://www.yoloelections.org/voters-choice-act>. The amended EAP will be available in Chinese,

Korean, Punjabi, Russian, and Spanish beginning Friday, February 4, 2022.

Public comment on the amended draft EAP may be submitted over a 14-day public comment period (until Monday, February 14, 2022). Following this public comment period will be the adoption of the Yolo County EAP. After adoption, Yolo County Elections will submit the EAP to the Secretary of State for approval.

Submittals of public comment are available via email ([elections@yolocounty.org](mailto:elections@yolocounty.org)), on our website's public comment page (<https://www.yoloelections.org/voters-choice-act/contact>) or by mail to: Yolo County Elections, 625 Court Street, Room B-05, Woodland, CA 95695. Please submit all public comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 14, 2022.

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

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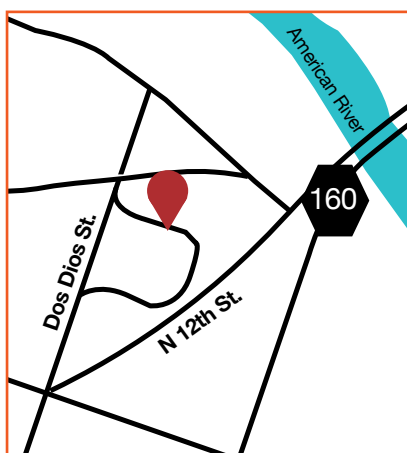
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	5 person: \$58,740 - \$78,320
	6 person: \$63,060
	7 person: \$67,440

\* Amounts are estimates and may change by the time of lease-up.



**NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

February 1, 2022  
 City of West Sacramento  
 1110 West Capitol Avenue  
 West Sacramento, CA 95691  
 (916) 617-4555

On or about February 21, 2022 the City of West Sacramento (City) will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title 1 of the Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended, to undertake a project known as River Walk Trail Extension Project that would consist of trail construction, improvement of existing informal trail facilities along the top of the levee and the addition of new facilities along existing roadways. The purpose of the proposed project is to create a safe, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)- compliant pedestrian/bicycle trail along the existing portion of the River Walk Trail. The City anticipates using CDBG funds in the amount \$502,540 for construction and purchase of materials.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Economic Development and Housing Department, West Sacramento City Hall, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691. The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to the City of West Sacramento, Economic Development and Housing Department, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 or by email to [Isaah Alford at isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org](mailto:Isaah.Alford@cityofwestsacramento.org). The ERR can be accessed online at the following website:

<https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/residents/housing/community-development-block-grant>.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Economic Development and Housing Department, City of West Sacramento at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 or by email to [isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org](mailto:isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org) AND to HUD at [CPD\\_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov](mailto:CPD_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov) with a copy to [Donielle.J.Goldinger@hud.gov](mailto:Donielle.J.Goldinger@hud.gov). All comments received by 5 p.m., February 18, 2022 will be considered by the City and HUD prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. If after the 7-day comment period ends, no comments are received or all comments received have been resolved, HUD may issue the Use Grant Funds (AUGF)

**ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The City of West Sacramento certifies to HUD that David Tilley in his capacity as Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of West Sacramento to use Program funds.

**OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of West Sacramento's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of West Sacramento; (b) the City of West Sacramento has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Director of Office Community Planning and Development, HUD Region IX at [CPD\\_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov](mailto:CPD_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov) with a copy to [Donielle.J.Goldinger@hud.gov](mailto:Donielle.J.Goldinger@hud.gov). Potential objectors should contact Community Planning and Development, HUD Region IX via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

David Tilley, Principal Planner, Certifying Officer

**AVISO DE INTENCIÓN DE SOLICITAR LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS**

1 de febrero de 2022  
 Ciudad de West Sacramento  
 1110 West Capitol Ave  
 West Sacramento, CA 95691  
 916-617-4555

En o cerca del 21 de febrero de 2022 la Ciudad de West Sacramento (Ciudad) procederá a someter una solicitud al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés) para la liberación de fondos del Programa de Subvenciones Globales para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG, por sus siglas en inglés) bajo el Título 1 de la Ley de Desarrollo Comunitario de 1974, Ley Pública 93-383, según enmendada, para llevar a cabo el proyecto conocido como River Walk Trail Extension Project que consistiría en la construcción de senderos, la mejora de las instalaciones de senderos informales existentes a lo largo de la parte superior del dique y la adición de nuevas instalaciones a lo largo de las carreteras existentes. El propósito del proyecto propuesto es crear un sendero peatonal/bicicleta seguro que cumpla con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) a lo largo de la parte existente del River Walk Trail. La Ciudad prevé usar fondos CDBG por un monto de \$502,540 para construcción y compra de materiales.

Las actividades propuestas están categóricamente excluidas bajo la reglamentación de HUD (24 CFR 58) de los requisitos de la Ley de Política Ambiental Nacional (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés). Un Expediente de Revisión Ambiental (ERR, por sus siglas en inglés) que documenta las determinaciones ambientales para este proyecto está disponible en el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Económico, Ayuntamiento de West Sacramento, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691. La ERR estará disponible para el público para su revisión, ya sea electrónicamente o por correo postal. Envíe su solicitud por correo de los EE. UU. al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Económico de la Ciudad de West Sacramento, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 o por correo electrónico a [Isaah Alford in isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org](mailto:Isaah.Alford@cityofwestsacramento.org). Se puede acceder al ERR en línea en el siguiente sitio web:

<https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/residents/housing/community-development-block-grant>.

**COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS**

Cualquier individuo, grupo o agencia puede proveer comentarios por escrito acerca del ERR tanto a HUD como a la Ciudad. Cualquier individuo, grupo o agencia puede enviar comentarios por escrito sobre el ERR al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Económico, Ciudad de West Sacramento en 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 o por correo electrónico a [isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org](mailto:isaaha@cityofwestsacramento.org) y a HUD a [CPD\\_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov](mailto:CPD_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov) con copia a [donielle.j.goldinger@hud.gov](mailto:donielle.j.goldinger@hud.gov). Todos los comentarios recibidos antes de las 5 p. m. del 18 de febrero de 2022 serán considerados por la Ciudad y HUD antes de autorizar que se someta la solicitud de liberación de fondos. Si después de que finaliza el periodo de comentarios de 7 días, no se reciben comentarios o todos los comentarios recibidos se han resuelto, HUD puede emitir la Autoridad para Usar Fondos de Subvención (AUGE, por sus siglas en inglés).

**CERTIFICACIÓN AMBIENTAL**

La Ciudad de West Sacramento certifica a HUD que David Tilley en su capacidad como Oficial Certificador da su consentimiento a aceptar la jurisdicción de las cortes federales si una acción legal fuera iniciada para hacer cumplir responsabilidades relacionadas al proceso de revisión ambiental y que estas responsabilidades se satisfagan. La aprobación por parte de HUD de la certificación satisface sus responsabilidades bajo NEPA, y las leyes y autoridades relacionadas, y permite que la Ciudad de West Sacramento utilice fondos del Programa.

**OBJECIONES A LA LIBERACIÓN DE FONDOS**

HUD aceptará objeciones a su liberación de fondos y la certificación por parte de la Ciudad de West Sacramento por un periodo de quince días a partir de la fecha anticipada de recibo o la fecha en que en efecto se reciba la solicitud de liberación de fondos (lo que ocurra más tarde) solamente si estas se basan en una de las siguientes posibles razones: (a) la certificación no fue firmada por el Oficial Certificador de la Ciudad de West Sacramento; (b) la Ciudad de West Sacramento omitió un paso o no tomó una decisión o determinación que es requisito de la reglamentación de HUD en 24 CFR Parte 58; (c) el beneficiario de la subvención u otros participantes en el proceso de desarrollo comprometieron fondos, incurrieron en gastos, o llevaron a cabo actividades no autorizadas por 24 CFR Parte 58 antes de que HUD apruebe la liberación de fondos; o (d) otra agencia federal actuando de acuerdo con 40 CFR Parte 1504 sometió una determinación de que el proyecto no es satisfactorio desde el punto de vista de calidad ambiental. Las objeciones deben prepararse y someterse de acuerdo con los requisitos procesales (24 CFR Parte 58, Sección 58.76) y dirigirse al Director de la Oficina de Planificación y Desarrollo Comunitario, Región IX de HUD en [CPD\\_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov](mailto:CPD_COVID-19OEE-SFO@hud.gov) con copia a [donielle.j.goldinger@hud.gov](mailto:donielle.j.goldinger@hud.gov). Los posibles objetores deben comunicarse con Planificación y Desarrollo Comunitario, Región IX de HUD por correo electrónico para verificar el último día real del periodo de objeción.

David Tilley, Planificador Principal, Oficial Certificador

West Sacramento News Ledger 2-11-2022

**Raider Scoreboard**



**Girls Basketball**

1/27 Laguna Creek RCV 9 LC 72

**Girls Soccer**

1/28 Burbank RCV 7 Burbank 0 JV 5 Burbank 0  
 1/29 Monterey Trail RCV 4 MT 3 JV 2 MT 1  
 1/31 McClatchy RCV 0 CKM 3 JV 2 CKM 1

**Boys Basketball**

1/28 Laguna Creek RCV 61 LC 69 JV 53 LC 55  
 1/29 Galt RCV 67 Galt 39  
 1/24 Kennedy RCV 63 Kennedy 46 JV 46 Kennedy 53

**Boys Soccer**

1/28 Burbank RCV 5 Burbank 0  
 1/31 McClatchy RCV 0 CKM 1 JV 1 CKM 1

**Season Record**

	<u>Overall</u>	<u>League</u>
Girls Basketball	2-12	1-4
Girls Soccer	10-4-3	7-1-1
Boys Basketball	11-11	2-5
Boys Soccer	5-4-1	4-1-1

**River City Weekly Sports**



Winter Sports 2/11 - 2/17

**RC Sports**

Friday 2/11

Wrestling: Varsity Boys at Divisional

Girls Regionals at Natomas HS

Boys Basketball vs Monterey Trail

Girls Basketball at Monterey Trail

**Game Times**

TBD

TBD

4:30pm / 6:00pm / 7:30pm F/JV/V

5:30pm / 7:00pm JV/V

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Sasa Andelkovic, Senior Pastor  
 2860 Jefferson Blvd., W. Sac.  
 PO Box 447, W. Sac. 95691  
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**Worship 11 a.m.**  
 (916) 372-6570

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**Pastor Ron Jackson**

**Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.**  
 2124 Michigan Blvd.,  
 West Sacramento, CA 95691  
 (916) 265-4025  
[pastorron@newseasons.ws](mailto:pastorron@newseasons.ws)  
[www.newseasons.ws](http://www.newseasons.ws)



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 We welcome all!  
**Sunday Service at 10 a.m.**  
 920 Drevser St.  
 (916) 317-8804  
[Facebook.com/CommunityLutheranWestSacramento/](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityLutheranWestSacramento/)

**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

**Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**

911 Park Blvd, West Sacramento  
 Office: (916) 371-4814  
**Fr. Mathew Rapp, Pastor**  
**Mass: Mon, Tues, Wed 8:30 a.m.**  
**Fri 8:30 a.m. at OLG school during school year**  
**Sat: 5:30 p.m. vigil, Sun: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.**

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1500 Park Blvd. W. Sac. CA  
 (916) 371-5875  
[www.TrinityWestSac.org](http://www.TrinityWestSac.org)  
[info@trinitywestsac.org](mailto:info@trinitywestsac.org)  
**Pastor Jamie Crook**  
 Spanish Ministry Pastora: **Miryam Osorio**  
**Sunday Worship Services: 10 a.m. Blended/Traditional Noon Spanish Language**

**Center for Spiritual Awareness**

1275 Starboard Dr.  
 (916) 374-9177  
*(For prayer line, listen for prompt)*  
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**Rev. Georgia Prescott**  
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# Two Charged with Retail Theft Crimes from Home Depot Stores in the Sacramento Region

Office of the District Attorney  
Press Release

**WOODLAND, CA (MPG)** - On February 1, 2022, a criminal complaint was filed against Alejandro Lopez, of Woodland, and Christina Maria Granados, of Sacramento, alleging multiple counts of organized retail theft, theft, and conspiracy occurring between January 6, 2022, and January 17, 2022. Lopez, 31, was additionally charged with a single county robbery and an allegation that he was convicted of a prior strike offense.

Lopez arrested by the Yolo County Sheriff's Department on January 18, 2022, on unrelated

charges. As a result of the arrest, the Woodland Police Department continued their investigation into thefts from Home Depot in Woodland which then led to connecting the Home Depot thefts in West Sacramento and Sacramento.

Lopez was arraigned in Yolo County Superior Court on the 14-count complaint on February 1, 2022. He entered not guilty pleas and is scheduled for a Preliminary Hearing on February 16, 2022 in Department 14 of the Yolo County Superior Court. Granados, 31, is scheduled for arraignment in Department 1 of the Yolo County Superior Court on March 22, 2022.

Lopez remains in custody on \$100,000 bail.

Regarding organized retail thefts in general, District Attorney Reisig said, "Organized thefts from local shops and retailers cause harm to our entire community through the victimization of businesses and their employees and patrons, passed-through price increases on goods and services and a general feeling of insecurity by all. Yolo County law enforcement is committed to the robust investigation and prosecution of such crimes, including possible felony charges for any conspiracy or theft involving the use of physical force against another person." ★

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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Fantasy sports data
  - Accounting acronym
  - Stark daughter on "Game of Thrones"
  - Branch of economics
  - All talk, no action type of service
  - Relating to symmetry, in geometry
  - Base-8 numeral system
  - "... the land of the free..."
  - Lots and lots
  - "Actor Ryan of "Blue Valentine"
  - "Desdemona's suspicious husband"
  - Big fuss
  - Nose-in-the-air type
  - Uber alternative
  - One on a pedestal
  - Moderately wide
  - Eye layer
  - Twelfth month of Jewish year
  - Cheese-covered chip
  - Popped relief?
  - "Love, ..." movie
  - Splints site
  - Muhammad's teachings
  - Orchestra instrument
  - Past of heave
  - Avoids work, in British slang
  - Give off
  - Dose of sunshine
  - Back seat
  - Hair-raising product
  - "... valentine, an opposite of love note"
  - English author perhaps best known for "The Canterbury Tales"
  - Like Mary-Kate and Ashley
  - Pooh's "wise" friend
  - Bring to an end
  - Potassium nitrate
  - Farm sound
  - Arm bones
  - Back talk
  - Uniting conjunction
  - Imposter
- DOWN**
- Smoke plus fog
  - Comes in hard or soft shell
  - Parts of a play
  - ...-la
  - Plural of solidus
  - Heidi's shoe
  - "Sweetie follower"
  - Cook's cover
  - Wheel holder
  - Cambodian money
  - Two-masted vessel
  - "The Sun ... Rises"
  - Trash can for fireplace (2 words)
  - Source of lymphocytes, pl.
  - Pull along
  - Dormant state
  - "Famous archer"
  - Dispatch boat
  - "... and whistles"
  - Hodgepodge
  - Mr. and Mrs. Incredible's son
  - Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
  - Seven days postmortem
  - "Hive-related endearment"
  - Unfortunately, exclamation
  - Rumpelstiltskin machine

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# A Family Pantry



The Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*). Photo provided by Tuleyome Tales

By Martha Cerda, Tuleyome Tales

I grew up believing that food is meant to be shared with family. To my great surprise, my family is not the only one who thinks so. Among oak woodlands and local parks is the charismatic Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*). A social, rowdy, and extremely hard-working species of bird. Also known as the ‘clown’ bird because of its striking facial color pattern, red crown, and yellowish forehead and throat. Its back is black and slightly bluish with pale white eyes. And like a true clown you can hear it clowning around, projecting big laughs and calls to its family. When they fly, they seem to bounce, going up and down imaginary hills in the air until they reach their

destination. It usually inhabits oak forests (*Quercus spp.*), mixed forests with pine (*Pinus*) and oak, in addition to spruce (*Pseudotsuga*) and redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) forests.

The Acorn Woodpecker family is like a small colony, composed of a dozen or more birds. They may be monogamous, polyandrous, or polygynous. When caring for young, their parenting style is cooperative—one for all and all for one! They take turns feeding and protecting the family’s young.

In mid-fall, acorn woodpecker families are in search of acorns. Acorns are the fruits of oak trees. The acorn is a fruit with a hard shell that protects the seed and is protected by a cup-shaped dome on top. Like everything in nature, they are varied, some elongated,

others round. Oak trees have irregular cycles. In some years they produce many acorns, where the floors of trails and parks are covered with these nuts. In a great year, an oak tree can produce up to 10,000 nuts! But curiously in other years, there is no trace of any.

Most species of woodpeckers typically use their chisel-like beaks to peck trees and build their nests. In the bird world, the Acorn Woodpecker is the only one that, apart from using its beak to build nests, also uses it to store food. This behavior and great strength help to create holes and store acorns to eat in the winter. These acorns are collected by and for the whole family. The family cares for and protects the same oak tree that is maintained and used for generations.

Holes are drilled in dry trunks and branches. Dry trees are preferred, as the sap can affect the acorns. One family may drill millions of holes in a single tree. This is known as a granary tree. But the work doesn’t end after the holes are created—the fun is just beginning! The birds will now have the responsibility of checking that the acorns are not loose. If they are, they are moved to a better fitting hole, because if the acorns get loose, they will be food for other companions—such as the California Ground Squirrel or the California Scrub Jay.

Oak trees are not the only places where acorns are stored. These clever birds have adapted to using human-made structures. Holes can be seen in telephone poles, house shingles, virtually any structure made of wood. In some cases,

using natural holes. And as in any family pantry, food varies. The diet of the Acorn Woodpecker in addition to acorns, includes fruits, insects, flowers, and sap.

This season, remember that where there’s an oak tree, there’s sure to be an Acorn Woodpecker. When you least expect it, you will hear the ‘waka, waka, waka’ cackle echoing around. When you hear it, you may not be able to see it, but you will still be able to appreciate what a determined, family bird it is.

Martha Cerda is a naturalist in Pleasanton, a city in the East Bay. She works at a historic park interpreting the local and natural history of the site. In her spare time, she enjoys exploring the endless beauty of nature and connecting with diverse communities. ★



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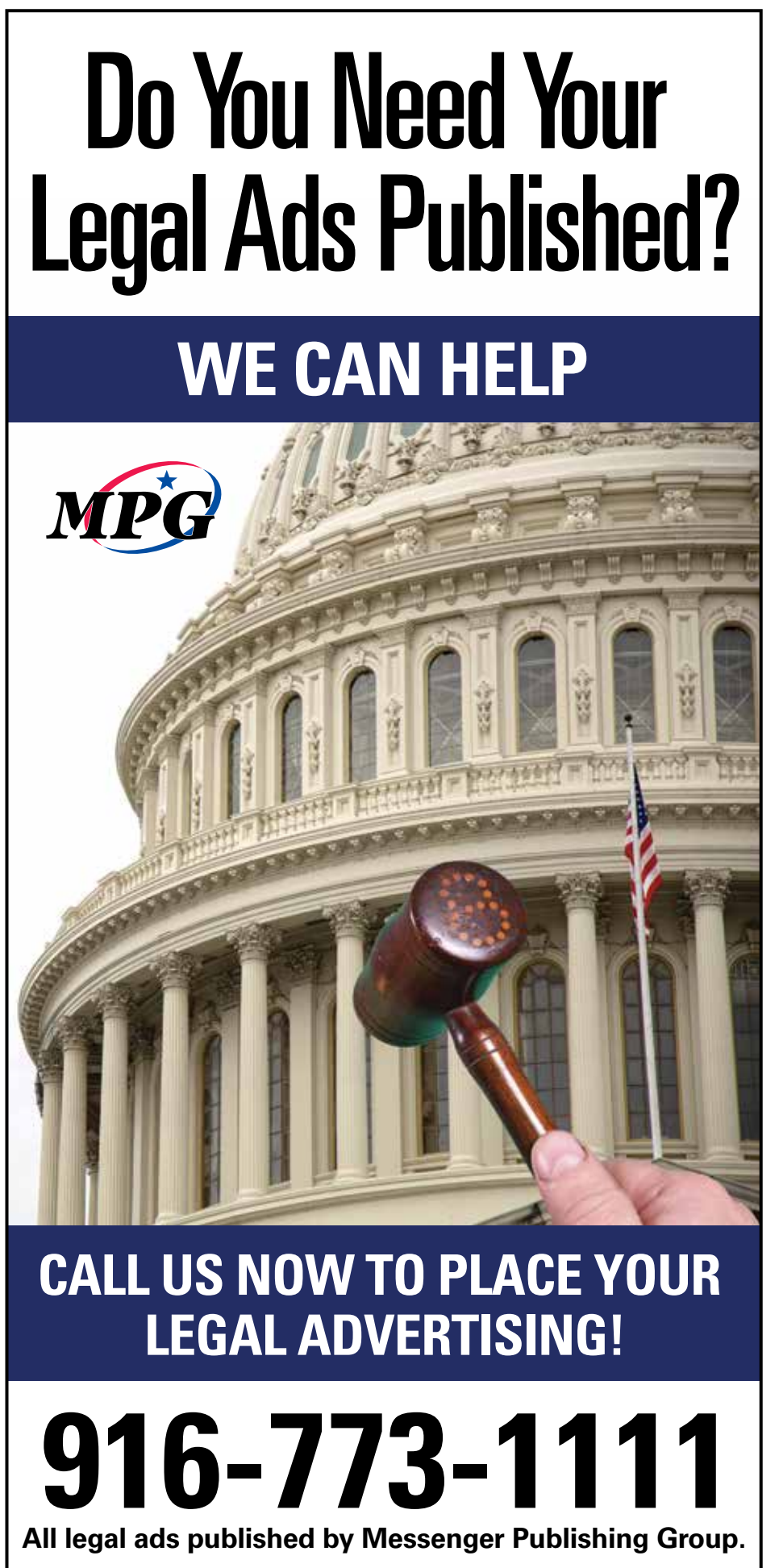
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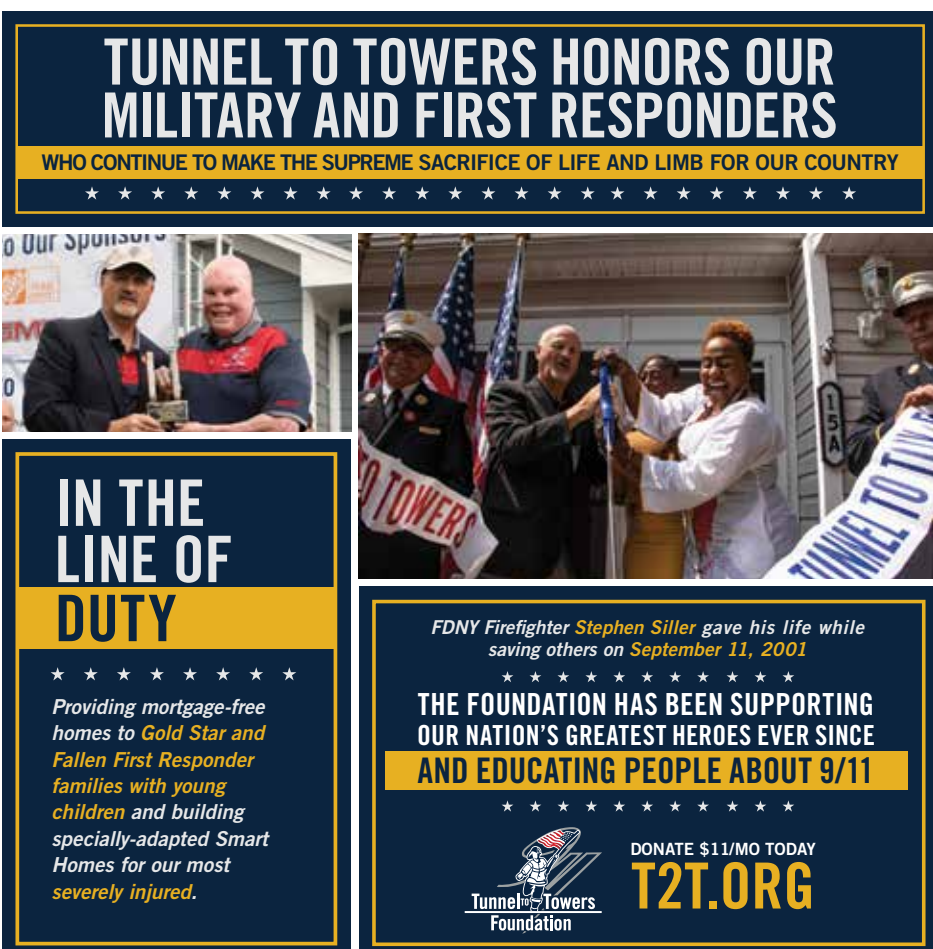


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