

Yolo County releases guidance on Halloween events during the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact residents, communities and the economy. With upcoming holidays and Halloween around the corner, here are some guidelines to help families and children celebrate Halloween while staying safe and healthy.

Halloween is a holiday that many people celebrate and is often associated with gatherings, candy, and dressing up. Halloween can also be a reminder of childhood, tradition, and joy and for many families, a connection to others, especially in terms of those who dress up and trick-or-treat.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic is still largely impacting how families and friends gather and interact, how we celebrate the holiday



Photo by Marco Verch
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/30478819@N08/50362420083>

and Halloween is also hindered. Our actions can have a direct impact on promoting or limiting the spread of COVID-19 in our community. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the more people interact and the longer they interact, the higher the risk of

getting and spreading COVID-19 and many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses.

Though the Yolo County Health Officer strongly discourages gatherings of any size, Halloween can still be celebrated while following local and state health orders to lower the risk associated with COVID-19, especially for those that are trick or treating.

Please be respectful if neighbors have chosen not to participate in Halloween activities this year.

Trick-or-treating advice

1. Trick-or-treat with others from your household

See Halloween, page 3

West Sacramento Man Convicted of Luring 12-Year-Old Child for Sex

On Oct. 15 after an 8-day trial, a Yolo County Jury convicted Taylor Lewis Gholar, 29, of West Sacramento of luring a 12-year-old to have sex with him.

The jury heard evidence that Gholar met the victim when she was in 2nd grade. He was employed as her after-school teacher. Gholar was the victim's teacher for the next three years. After the victim completed 5th grade, they had no contact until the she was 12 years old and in 7th grade.

Witnesses testified that on Jan. 19, 2020, Gholar began communicating with the victim through Instagram direct message. The victim immediately informed Gholar that she was 12 years old.

Over the course of 12 hours, Gholar asked the victim if she wanted to have sex, requested provocative photos of the victim, and sent her a pornographic photo of himself.

The victim informed her parents when Gholar became concerned that her mother was aware of the conversation.

Once the victim's parents were aware, her parents and police pretended they were the child and continued communicating through social media with Gholar.

In the early morning hours of Jan. 20, 2020, West Sacramento police officers, posing as the child, arranged to meet Gholar in West Sacramento.

See Convicted, page 2

Yolobus Youth Ride Free Program Extended One Year

Yolobus program offers free rides to youth age 18 and younger

On October 12, 2020, the Yolo County Transportation District Board of Directors voted unanimously to extend its "Youth Ride Free" program, to December 31, 2021, offering unlimited free rides to youth age 18 and younger throughout its service area. Kids can ride at no cost to a large number of destinations, including stores, shopping centers, libraries, parks, places of employment, youth internship sites, schools (when they are open to students again), parks,

recreational facilities, places like Old Sacramento, the State Capitol and anywhere else that Yolobus fixed route, microtransit, and para-transit bus service travels.

"Prior to COVID-19, our Youth Ride Free program was having tremendous success, with youth ridership jumping by 189 percent for September, 2019 through March, 2020 (over 7 months), where ridership jumped from 25,548 to 73,837, and it was poised to hit 127,000 rides over 12 months," said Janice Bryan, YCTD's Deputy Director of Finance. Then COVID-19 hit. "We want to expand our outreach to youth throughout the Yolobus

service area and let them know that Yolobus is a safe and dependable way to get around," said Terry Bassett, Executive Director of Yolobus. "Not only will the free rides save money for the kids, it will also save parents from shuttle service duty."

Yolobus officials indicate that the estimated \$30,000 reduction in fare revenue from the Youth Ride Free program through December 31, 2021 will be paid for using transit revenues made available by the CARES Act, also known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

Many safety measures are in place to protect youth and oth-

er bus riders from COVID-19, including:

Face coverings are required for both passengers and drivers. While supplies last, there are limited quantities of extra face coverings available on the buses for passengers who do not come with their own face covering. But Yolobus strongly advises passengers to bring their own face coverings, as supplies are limited.

All employees have their temperatures taken before they can begin their shift.

See YoloBus, page 5

THIS 'n' THAT Fighting Fire with Fire?



BY CAROL BOGART

Here's a true story. Shortly after I bought my farm, I was horrified to see a wall of flame barreling across a dry field toward my barn. I immediately called the fire department, and was gratified to see how quickly it responded.

The rural department was made up of volunteers, most of them farmers. One explained what I was seeing wasn't a runaway fire at all. My neighboring farmer, and others, routinely used fire to 'clean out' a fence row ... along with any nests of baby rabbits.

That's the problem with burning dry scrubby vegetation. Man likes it neat. Nature likes it messy.

On NextDoor recently, Cal Fire posted the following:

See This 'n' That, page 8



PHOTO COURTESY OF USDA FOREST SERVICE
A USDA Forest Service Firefighter using a drip torch to conduct a 'controlled' burn. To learn more about 'prescribed' fires, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/savannahriver/land/fire>.

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Virtual Tours: www.facebook.com/TheJerrettTeam/videos

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WUSD TO HOLD "NEW PARENT UNIVERSITY" TO HELP WITH TECH COMMUNICATION
Save the Date! Washington Unified School District (WUSD) is hosting a NEW Parent University on Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 6 to 7 p.m in English and from 7 to 8 p.m in Spanish, focused on helping families with data confirmation, Aeries Parent Portal, and other general communication information.
Join the session with this Google Meet Link (English): http://bit.ly/oct21wusd
The same presentation will be made in Spanish on Oct. 21, from 7 to 8 p.m. Join the session with this Google Meet Link (Spanish): http://bit.ly/oct21wusdsp

VIRTUAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM
October 22, 2020 5:30 pm - 11:30 pm
Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. with Closed Session, and 6 p.m. with Open Session. Each meeting is open to the public. Please note that start times are subject to occasional changes.
All virtual Washington Unified School District (WUSD) School Board Meetings will now be conducted through Zoom and livestreamed to the WUSD YouTube channel. Watch the Livestream: https://www.youtube.com/c/WashingtonUnifiedSchoolDistrict

CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AT SAFE TRICK OR TREAT STREET:

Join Parks & Recreation and City of West Sacramento (COWS) mascot Mooie Armstrong for a safe and thrilling drive-thru Halloween experience with our FREE Safe Trick or Treat Street! A variety of themed stations for families to enjoy will accompany residents on this drive-thru Halloween course.
Saturday, October 31st from 2 pm-4 pm
Entrance at the intersection of Linden Road and Raider Lane (Behind Target and the back of the River City High School fields). This is a FREE event! Be sure to RSVP in advance online to ensure we have enough treats for each vehicle and to help us facilitate traffic.
RSVP also includes eligibility for Best Decorated Car* prizes, original Halloween and Mooie inspired coloring pages for a coloring contest and sweet treats.
The Safe Trick or Treat Street course is around 5-10 minutes, but be sure to allow time to arrive and leave safely with waiting periods.
During the drive-thru, all participants will stay inside their vehicles.
*Decorated Cars: For safety reasons, we will offer a car decoration staging area near the beginning of the course and a removal area near the end. Please do not drive on the main road with decorations. Traffic Safety laws still apply.
For more information, please e-mail recreation@cityofwestsacramento.org or call us at (916) 617-4620. Registration open.

Convicted

Continued from page 1

The purpose of the meeting was for Gholar to have sexual intercourse with the 12-year-old victim.
Gholar arrived at the location and West Sacramento to officers placed him under arrest and located condoms.
"Mr. Gholar used his position of trust as a teacher to convince a 12-year-old to have sex with him," stated District Attorney Jeff Reisig. "We are pleased that with the diligent efforts of law enforcement and the jury's decision, Mr. Gholar will never be a teacher again."
The Honorable Paul Richardson presided over the trial and is scheduled to sentence Gholar on Nov. 23, 2020 at 9 a.m.
Gholar faces four years in State Prison.

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- Continue building our economy to create local jobs

Martha is a social worker and a proven leader
Check out her website: www.marthaguerrero.com

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- Past Chair of the City's Planning Commission, Aging Commission and Economic Development Advisory Commission
- Past Board Member on the Universal Pre-School for West Sacramento
- Rotary Club Member West Sacramento Centennials
- League of Cities Transportation, Communication/Public Works Policy Committee
- Past Yolo County's Local Mental Health Board and Citizen's Advisory Transportation Committee

Paid for by: Martha Guerrero for Mayor 2020, FPPC ID 1426074

Tanya Aguilera
West Sacramento Specialist

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Halloween

Continued from page 1

Those that live in the same household can trick-or-treat together. It is discouraged to trick-or-treat with others outside your household.

2. Practice healthy habits

Wear a face covering even while outdoors or wearing a costume.

Follow good hygiene habits such as washing hands often, using hand sanitizer often and when available and limiting touching your face.

Also, don't share costume props or food.

Don't go out if you are sick or have been in contact with someone who is sick or has COVID-19 symptoms.

Try not to touch doorbells or other high touch surfaces with your bare hands. Consider gloves, tissue, or using your costume to touch these surfaces.

3. Continue to distance

While walking on the street or in the neighborhood, stay at least 6 feet away from other groups, including when crossing paths or the street.

Walking directly up to doors is discouraged as occupants may be trying to distance or not wanting to come into contact with others, particularly if the lights are off. If you walk up to a door for candy, wait your turn so that crowding doesn't happen.

If there is a doorbell, try not to use your finger or hands, especially if you have touched your face or face covering. Try using an elbow, or if able, tissue paper, costume sleeve, cape or other material as a buffer between your finger and the doorbell.

If there is no doorbell, knock with your knuckles and if possible, knock with a material as a buffer between your knuckles and the door.

4. Accept treats that are in their original, pre-packaged wrapper

Pre-packaged treats from the store are ideal. Be cautious when accepting treats and use your best judgment.

If treats are placed in a bowl or on a table, please follow instructions if there are any.

5. Wait till you get home

Though it may be hard to, wait until you get home to inspect or eat treats. Once home, you can inspect your treats to see if there are any you don't want to eat or may want to dispose

of. Please use your best judgment.

Lower risk activities

The following items are considered lower risk and safer alternatives by the CDC:

- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household
- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space
- Doing a Halloween-themed scavenger hunt outdoors (socially distanced) or indoors with those you live with
- Taking a walk outside and admiring neighborhood Halloween decorations from a distance
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Hosting a Halloween movie night with people you live with

The following items are considered higher risk for contracting COVID-19 as stated by the CDC:

- Participating in traditional door to door trick-or-treating
- Having trunk-or-treat where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in a parking lot
- Attending crowded costume parties held indoors
- Going to an indoor haunted house where people may be crowded together and screaming
- Going on hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household
- Traveling to a rural fall festival that is not in your community if you live in an area with community spread of COVID-19.

Halloween guidance for giving out treats

1. **Use protective equipment:** Wear face coverings any time you

open a door or interact with others outside your household. Consider wearing gloves if you are going to use your hands to give treats away.

2. **Giving Out Treats:** Purchase treats that are pre-packaged by a manufacturer rather than home-made or loose treats, such as brownies or candy corn.

If you don't want to give out treats, you can always turn off your lights so that trick-or-treaters do not bother your home.

Options for giving out treats:

Consider one-way trick or treating where treats or bags are lined up for trick-or-treaters to grab and go from a driveway, yard or table socially distanced from the front door.

Tip: Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing goodie bags.

- Leave treats in a bowl outside the front door.
- Set up a chair and/or table outside so you can give out treats without opening your door. Wear a face covering and use hand sanitizer as needed.
- Use tongs, a spatula, or other grabbing utensil to give out treats.
- Ask trick or treaters to stand in a line to get their treat.
- Pre-place tape on the ground at least 6 feet away from the front door for trick-or-treaters to wait at.

Resources

www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus

www.yolocounty.org/coronavirus-roadmap

CDC

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#halloween>

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UNITED HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Legals

Continued from page 4

Time 9:00 a.m. Dept.: 9
The address of the court is: 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
The News-Ledger
Date: September 15, 2020
/S/Daniel M. Wolk
Judge of the Superior Court
Sep 30 Oct 7 14 21 nl 2994

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NO. CV2020-991
Petition of Guadalupe Puente Garcia For Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Guadalupe Puente Garcia filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Jason Daniel Deoliveira II to **Daniel Deoliveira Puente**
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING Date: November 10, 2020 Time 9:00 a.m. Dept.: 9
The address of the court is: 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
The News-Ledger
Date: September 29, 2020
/S/Daniel M. Wolk
Judge of the Superior Court
Oct 14 21 28 Nov 4 nl 3010

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NO. CV2020-1189
Petition of Nikita Bipin Koraddi For Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Nikita Bipin Koraddi filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Nikita Bipin Koraddi to **Nikita Patil-Bytel**
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING Date: November 9, 2020

Time 9:00 a.m. Dept.: 9
The address of the court is: 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
The News-Ledger
Date: September 21, 2020
/S/Daniel M. Wolk
Judge of the Superior Court
Oct 14 21 28 Nov 4 nl 3012

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NO. CV2020-1292
Petition of Fakhira Rahpo
For Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Fakhria Rahpo to **Mitra Rahpo**
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING Date: November 19, 2020 Time 9:00 a.m. Dept.: 10
The address of the court is: 1000 Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
The News-Ledger
Date: October 1, 2020
/S/Samuel T. McAdam
Judge of the Superior Court
Oct 14 21 28 Nov 4 nl 3016

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Self-Storage unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash or credit card by CubeSmart Self Storage 541 Harbor Blvd. West Sacramento, Ca 95691 to satisfy a lien on Oct. 23, 2020 approx 12:00pm on storagetreasures.com
Dominique Evans, Samantha Hutson
Oct 14 21 nl 3009

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF SHEILA RAE STEPHENS CASE NO: PR2020-0165
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Sheila Rae Stephens
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Robert K. Stephens in the Superior Court of California, County of YOLO. The Petition for Probate requests that Robert K. Stephens be appointed as personal representative 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 personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval.

Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or 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:
Date: **October 29, 2020**
Time: **9:00 a.m.** Dept: **TBD**
Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Yolo 1000 Main Street, Woodland, California 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 decedent, 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 your 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 a person 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.
Attorney for petitioner: Jennifer T. Campbell
9700 Business Park Drive, Suite 305
Sacramento, CA 95827
(916)382-9720
Oct 14 21 28 nl 3014

ORDINANCE SUMMARY
At their regular meeting on October 14, 2020, the West Sacramento City Council adopted by the vote noted below Ordinance 20-11 approving the Development Agreement between the City and Blackpine 440 West, LLC pertaining to development of the Alura Residential Project to take effect on November 13, 2020.
AYES: Guerrero, Ledesma, Orozco, Sandeen, Cabaldon.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
The full text of this ordinance is available in the City Clerk’s Office, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Oct 21 nl 3025

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE T.S. NO.: 2020-01210 LOAN NO.: RMF4020371 APN: 010-494-016-000
NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 1/31/2018.
UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST

YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.
A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: I STRATEGY LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Duly Appointed Trustee: Superior Loan Servicing Recorded 3/7/2018 as Instrument No. 2018-0005110-00 in book , page Rerecorded on 07/10/2018 as Instrument No. 2018-0016174-00 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Yolo County, California, Date of Sale: 11/13/2020 at 12:45 PM Place of Sale: At the rear (North) entrance to the City Hall Building, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$402,037.77 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 550 C. Street West Sacramento, California 95605 A.P.N.: 010-494-016-000 “As Is Where Is” The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. 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 mortgage, 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 (714) 730-2727 or visit this Internet Web site www.servicelinkASAP.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2020-01210. 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. Date: 10/14/2020 Superior Loan Servicing, by Asset Default Management, Inc., as Agent for Trustee 7525 Topanga Canyon Blvd. Canoga Park, California 91303 Sale Line: (714) 730-2727 Julie Taberdo, Sr. Trustee Sale Officer A-4727311 10/21/2020, 10/28/2020, 11/04/2020
Oct 21 28 Nov 4 nl 3024

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO PUBLIC NOTICE FOR WY 2020 WATER TRANSFER
At the October 14, 2020 City Council meeting, the City of West Sacramento resolved to transfer up to 2,000 acre-feet of its Central Valley Project water supply during Water Year 2020 to the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency (WDCWA) as part of the Bureau of Reclamation’s permitted accelerated temporary water transfer program. The water transferred to WDCWA will be used within Yolo and Solano counties.
Comments or inquiries concerning the proposed actions can be addressed to Chris Kania, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor, at (916) 617-4870 or by mail addressed to: City of West Sacramento, c/o Mr. Kania, 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, California 95691. The WDCWA contact information is as follows: Tim Busch, General Manager, 855 County Road 102, Woodland, California 95776.
Oct 21 nl 3026

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE NOVEMBER 5, 2020
Pursuant to Government Code Section 66018, the West Sacramento Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on November 5, 2020 at 6:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the item(s) listed below.
Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20, members of the West Sacramento Planning Commission and staff will participate in this meeting via a teleconference. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, members of the public are asked to watch the meeting Livestream (https://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/government/meetings-agendas/planning-commission), or via Wave Cable Channel 20 and to submit comments in writing by 5:00 PM on November 5, 2020.
To submit a comment in writing, please email Benjaminm@cityofwestsacramento.org and write “Public Comment” in the subject line. In the body of the email, include the item number and/or title of the item as well as your comments. All comments received by 5:00 PM will be provided to the Planning Commission and posted on the website. The comments submitted shall become part of the record of the meeting.
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA
1. **Public Hearing Regarding the Appeal of the Community Development Director’s Design Review Approval of the Linden Point Mixed Use Project at 3101 Allan Avenue** (Allen)
The appellant is requesting that the Planning Commission consider an appeal of the Community Development Director’s approval of the design of the Linden Point mixed use project which is located on a 0.95 acre parcel located at 3101 Allan Avenue (APN 045-490-007-000). The project includes a ±19,300 square foot 3-5 story building which includes 6 live/work units which are 3 stories in height, two ground floor commercial units and 8 apartment units. The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under §15268 (Ministerial Projects). Appellant: Leanne Provost, 2885 Pegler Ct, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Applicant: Archissance, Attn: Samir Hijazi, 20261 NW Acacia St #240, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Owner: H & S Energy LLC, Attn: Sal Hassan, 2860 N. Santiago, Blvd., Orange, CA 92867.
2. **Consideration of Washington Specific Plan Minor Deviations and Design Review for Proposed Multifamily at 219-221 5th Street.**(Laffey)
The applicant is requesting design review approval and Washington Specific Plan minor deviations for an 18-unit, three story multifamily residential project at 219-221 5th Street (APNs 010-495-023-000, 010-495-024-000). The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under §15332 (In-Fill Projects). Applicant: MDH Design, Inc.4329 Marmion Way, Los Angeles, CA 90065. Owner: First Capital Communities, LLC, 2377 Gold Meadow Way, Suite 100, Gold River, CA 95760.
3. **Public Hearing Regarding the Proposed Kind Project Multi-Family Development, Washington Specific Plan Minor Deviations, Development Agreement and Consideration of Planning Commission Resolution 20-13PC** (Allen)
The applicant is requesting approval of the project design, Washington Specific Plan minor deviations for Project Kind, a 148-unit multi family development located at 429 F Street and 620 4th Street (APN 010-464-004-000). The Planning Commission will consider adopting a resolution that would recommend approval to the City Council of a Development Agreement with the applicant. In a separate action the Zoning Administrator will be considering a parking reduction for the project. The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under §15332 (In-Fill Projects). Applicant/Owner: The Kind Project Investors, LP, 1813 Capitol Avenue, Loft 350, Sacramento, CA 95811. David W. Tilley, Secretary West Sacramento Planning Commission
If you disagree with the decision of the Planning Commission, you have a right of appeal. Only persons who participated in the review process by submitting written testimony or oral testimony at the public hearing, may appeal. Appeals are limited to those issues raised at the planning commission meeting. If you challenge any of the above items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of West Sacramento at, or prior to, the public hearing.
Oct 21 nl 3027

YoloBus

Continued from page 1

All buses have a sneeze barrier that separates the drivers from the passengers.
Hand sanitizing devices are now installed on the entire fleet.
Buses placed into service are sanitized daily and sometimes even more frequently.
Drivers have been instructed to wipe down “bus touch surfaces”, like grab rails and stations, at the end of each bus trip.
In an effort to provide social distancing, Yolobus asks riders to honor a limit of no more than 15

passengers on low-floor buses, no more than 26 passengers on MCI highway coaches, and no more than three passengers on paratransit vehicles.
The free rides for youth pilot program is subject to available capacity of routes and schedules in effect. There will be no additional buses put into service or different destinations than the regular bus stop schedule. Because Yolobus passengers have a right to a safe and comfortable ride from the beginning to the end of their trip, youth will be expected to adhere to all passenger rules. A complete list of rules is available at the www.yolobus.com site.

“This program is more than a student program,” adds Bassett. “It is for all youth within our fixed route and paratransit service area. Identification will not be asked for, unless there is a need to verify if someone is over 18, in which case, we advise youth to bring their school ID.”
The free ride for youth program requires children under the age of 12 to ride with a companion aged 12 or older.

About Yolobus
Yolobus operates 57 full-size buses, most of which operate on compressed natural gas (CNG) or are battery—electric units, plus 12 smaller paratransit vehicles that offer curb-to-curb paratransit service. Yolobus serves Davis, West Sacramento,

Winters, Woodland, downtown Sacramento, Sacramento International Airport, Cache Creek Casino Resort, Esparto, Madison, Knights Landing, and Vacaville and connects to Unitrans and Fairfield-Suisun Transit in Davis, and Sac RT buses and light rail in Sacramento. The agency provides about one million rides a year. For route and schedule information visit www.yolobus.com or call (530) 666-BUSS (2877).

About YOUR Ride
YOUR (Yolobus Urban/Rural) Ride is Yolobus’ new Knights Landing and Winters Rural Microtransit Pilot Project, an on-demand ride-share service primarily to help Knights Landing, Winters

and El Rio Villa residents travel more easily within Yolo County, particularly between Knights Landing and Woodland and between Winters, Davis and Vacaville. The service is available on a first-come, first-served, same day basis and operates six days a week for Winters and seven days a week for Knights Landing. Available only to persons traveling in the Knights Landing-Woodland corridor and the Davis-El Rio Villa-Winters-Vacaville corridor, riders can request a ride using the mobile app called TripShot, or by calling (530) 666-2877. For more information visit www.yolobus.com/yourride.

The Female Focus:

Local teens highlight stories of local successful women

BY MONICA STARK

Two local high school juniors Neyha Thandi and Olivia Hemmings, have taken to Instagram to feature stories about inspiring local women under the handle @thefemalefocus. From doctors to lawyers to fitness coaches, the women highlighted hail from various professions and are often found discussing topics like gender equality in the workplace, pay disparity, women's rights and the health and welfare of women.

Neyha said they both share a passion for women empowerment and they wanted to virtually spread information about feminism and women empowerment. "We have been good friends since middle school and we always bonded over our passion for contributing to the worldwide feminist conversation," she said.

At school, Neyha founded a local chapter of Girl Up, the oldest United Nations Foundation's adolescent girl campaign, where girls empower each other and where she had been managing and planning activities.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Neyha had a

goal to hold an event for the community, where women from varying careers would be invited to share their stories with local youth. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the club was unable to hold the in-person event, so Neyha had to pivot and find creative ways to share the stories of various inspiring women.

During the summer, Neyha worked with Olivia on finding alternative ways to broadcast their message and that's where the idea of @thefemalefocus was born. Since the inception of @thefemalefocus Olivia and Neyha have had the privilege of interviewing eight females ranging from the former State Superintendent of Public Education, Delaine Eastin to their most recent guest, Avery Gudel, who is an inspiring fourth grader who shared her experiences being diagnosed with Type I diabetes at age five. The interviews are posted on their Instagram page and they are currently working on additional interviews.

"Being able to see so many different women from various backgrounds who are all unique in their respective ways and who

share their stories" has been most rewarding says Neyha. "We are two high school students doing our best to navigate our education and prepare for our future, however this project/blog has become so important to us. Learning from these women and their experiences continually teaches us so much valuable knowledge that we also wish to share with others," she said.

Due to the fact that Instagram is the fastest-growing and most popular social media platform of 2020, Neyha acknowledges the ability to reach more people, with even more consistency. "Due to this social media platform we can reach a wider audience and update contact instantly," Neyha said.

Neyha said they have received an overwhelming amount of support for our project from the community. "We have had numerous young girls and women who have reached out and told us how they were inspired by reading the stories on our page, which makes everything we do feel so rewarding," she said.

Led by a community of passionate advocates raising awareness and funds, Girl Up's efforts help the



hardest to reach girls living in places where it is hardest to be a girl. They have participated in the 2020 Women's March held in downtown Sacramento and a Holiday Product Drive, where they hosted a drive at school and collected feminine products and diapers for the women and children at My Sister's House in Sacramento - a safe haven which serves Asian and Pacific Islander and other underserved women and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human

trafficking by providing a culturally appropriate and responsive safe haven.

"Although our plans for the in-person Female Focus event were canceled, we still enjoyed the experience of collaborating with City of Elk Grove Councilwoman Stephanie Nguyen to share ideas about the event. We look forward to working together on future events," Neyha said.

Juniors in high school, Olivia and Neyha are both still in the process of figuring out what careers

they want to pursue in the future, however, they know for certain that we want to be powerful, educated women who inspire others. "No matter where we end up after high school, we will continue to educate others about women empowerment and gender equality," Neyha said.

Check out the amazing and inspiring stories @thefemalefocus, and if you would like to recommend someone that they should highlight on their account, email femalefocusblog@gmail.com

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United Way's young leaders society launches remix virtual speaker series

Three speakers to address needs of young professionals in the time of COVID

United Way's Young Leaders Society is hosting a virtual speaker series this fall to meet the most pressing work-related and mental health needs of young professionals during the pandemic. The REMIX speaker series launched on Oct. 6 with a free virtual presentation by **Celeste Sekigahama** of the Yoga Seed and will be followed by a free virtual presentation on

Oct. 27 by **Nihal Satyadev**, MPH, founder of The Youth Movement Against Alzheimer's. The series will culminate on Nov. 17 with a virtual presentation by **Isaac Serwanga**, TEDx-featured speaker, best-selling author, and founder of Inform and Inspire. Tickets for Serwanga's presentation are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for members of United Way's

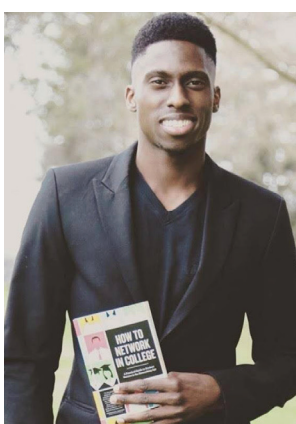
Young Leaders Society. To get tickets to any or all of the three events, visit www.YourLocal-UnitedWay.org/YL-SREMIX2020. "The challenges of 2020 have tested our community's creativity and resilience," said Alison Leary, chair, United Way's Young Leaders Society. "As we work remotely or differently in light of the COVID-19 crisis, it's important that young professionals continue to build professional and leadership skills while also taking time to support their personal well-being and health of communities. We hope young professionals across the region will join us as we work to REMIX our lives and the rest of 2020." On Oct. 6, Sekigahama will provide insight on prioritizing self-care to achieve work-life balance during the pandemic. Later in October, Satyadev will share his story and offer tips on



(Left) Celeste Sekigahama of the Yoga Seed



(Middle) Nihal Satyadev, MPH, founder of The Youth Movement Against Alzheimer's



(Right) Isaac Serwanga, TEDx-featured speaker, best-selling author, and founder of Inform and Inspire.

amping up one's role in the community and taking on more leadership. The series will end with Serwanga's presentation on establishing a healthy professional network online, leveraging personal brand to establish more quality connections, and keeping motivated and inspired to take action. United Way's Young Leaders Society harnesses the passion and energy of the Sacramento region's young professionals to create stronger, healthi-

er, more compassionate communities. The group volunteers and holds fundraisers for United Way's Square One Project, a 20-year project to significantly increase the number of students in the region who graduate from high school ready for success in college and beyond. To join or learn more, visit www.YoungLeadersUW-CCR.org. For nearly 100 years, United Way California Capital Region has brought local people

together to make community change happen. Today, the nonprofit is bringing people together across Amador, El Dorado, Sacramento, Placer and Yolo counties for its Square One Project. United Way believes ending poverty starts in school and is working to ensure kids meet important milestones and their families receive support and resources. To learn more and make a donation, visit www.YourLocalUnited-Way.org.

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This 'n' That

Continued from page 1

CAL FIRE
Public Information Officer Natalie De La Mora • 1 day ago
In which months have the most destructive wildfires occurred? We're changing up things a bit today; in addition to sharing the Fire Situation Report video for today, Friday, 10/9 [https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRE/vid-](https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRE/vid-eos/3662187013832844)

[eos/3662187013832844](https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRE/vid-eos/3662187013832844), we have a question for you: In which months have the most destructive wildfires occurred? Pick the option below that you believe to be true. We will share the answer with you on Monday.

July through September: 24%

September through December: 72%

I am not sure
It prompted a spirited discussion about forest management, or lack

thereof, in California. Here's a sampling:

Mike P.
Bridgeway Island
As of Oct. 6, the majority of fires in 11 states are burning in National Forests (59 fires in 33 forests totaling 3,672,857 acres) and are under the control of the United States Forest Service or are burning in National Parks (five fires in four parks totaling 15,715 acres) and are under the control of the National Park Service. This includes

all fires in Washington State, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona and Montana. Some of the other fires are controlled by states, the Bureau of Land Management or the Bureau of Indian Affairs. 2020 North American Wildfire Season - Center for Disaster Philanthropy <https://disasterphilanthropy.org/disaster/2020-california-wildfires/>

Callie J.
Woodbridge to Sterling
The President has taken the lead on this, has passed a bill for forest management and allowed for more logging on federal lands, the logging industry provide many different solutions to our problems they clean the dead wood and debris off forest floors, logging roads for our firefighters to get to hotspots fast, much needed firebreaks, and replant for a new and healthy forest. The EPA has stood in the way for this kind of management for years and the Sierra Club has sued time and time again the federal government on this very

See Fires, page 10

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Answer

5	1	2	7	8	6	9	3	4
8	7	9	1	3	4	5	2	6
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6	9	5	8	2	1	3	4	7
3	8	7	6	4	9	2	1	5
1	2	4	3	7	5	6	9	8
7	3	6	2	1	8	4	5	9
2	4	1	5	9	7	8	6	3
9	5	8	4	6	3	1	7	2

Mental Health Services and Supports for Children, Adolescent and Young Adult Residents of Yolo County

In an ongoing effort to support the health, safety and economic stability of the community, the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is reminding the public of mental health services that are available to all children, adolescent and young adult residents.

The County's Mental Health Crisis and Access Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to residents of all ages at 1-888-965-6647 (TDD: 1-800-735-2929). The Crisis and Access Line offers immediate assistance and subsequent referral to callers.

Specialty Mental Health Services can also be provided by HHSA staff or a contracted mental health provider for youth who are Medi-Cal recipients. These services can be provided in community-based settings such as homes and schools, with safety modifications in place for COVID-19.

Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) programs are also provided by the County in local schools that focus on linking children to care. These programs offer 1) individual, school-based therapy, 2) resiliency programming, and 3) education for children, youth, their families, and school staff about mental health.

The Yolo Suicide Prevention Crisis Line at 888-233-0228 or 530-666-7778 serves residents of all ages and is funded by Yolo County. Teens can also contact a dedicated Teen Crisis Line at 520-666-8445, or the National Suicide Prevention Crisis Line at 1-800-273-TALK. Additionally, a free Crisis Text Line is available, for 24/7 support. A trained Crisis Counselor can be reached by texting "home" to 741741 from anywhere in the U.S.

Lastly, a variety of free trainings is available to any Yolo County resident or employer by HHSA. These trainings use a variety of curriculums, including Mental Health First Aid, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR). Additional information regarding trainings can be requested by contacting MHSA-MHTrainings@yolocounty.org.

To learn more, visit the County's mental health services webpage at <https://www.yolocounty.org/health-human-services/mental-health/mental-health-services>. Stay connected with Yolo County on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YoloCounty and Twitter at www.twitter.com/YoloCountyCA.

Understanding FEMA Assistance for Individuals, Households

Eligible survivors of California wildfires covered in the Aug. 22 federal disaster declaration may apply for aid covering a variety of expenses.

The first step is to register with FEMA online at disasterassistance.gov, with the FEMA app downloaded to your smartphone or tablet, or by calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585). The deadline to register is Nov. 23.

The scope of FEMA monetary awards is set by law. They are not a substitute for insurance and cannot make up for all losses caused by a disaster. They are intended to help survivors get a start on the road to recovery. These awards, unlike loans, do not need to be repaid and are intended to help disaster survivors who have uninsured or underinsured necessary expenses and serious needs.

FEMA evaluates each application for assistance individually as no survivor's situation is the same.

FEMA's Individual Assistance Program, which issues the awards, has two parts: Housing Assistance and Other Needs Assistance.

Housing Assistance

Whether you are a homeowner or renter, wildfire survivors should save receipts for recovery expenses to submit for reimbursement by FEMA.

Homeowners. To assure a survivor's home is returned to a safe, sanitary and functional condition, FEMA may provide awards to eligible homeowners to repair uninsured damage to their homes. FEMA can also provide funds to help with uninsured costs to replace a destroyed home, as well as utilities. Only homeowners occupying a home as a primary residence at the time of the disaster are eligible for these awards. FEMA cannot offer them for repair of second homes.

When wildfire survivors register with FEMA, survivors can report major home damage that has made the home uninhabitable. This may include smoke that makes the home unsafe for occupancy. A habitable home has plumbing, electricity, windows, a roof, doors and walls to secure it and make it safe from the elements. FEMA inspects all properties with major damage before making awards.

Applicants whose homes are still useable may request an inspection later if they find more damage than they previously indicated.

To keep survivors and FEMA staff safe in the COVID-19 environment, all initial damage inspections are being done by phone. In an interview, inspectors ask applicants questions to record the extent of damage; they play no role in determining FEMA grants. Approved FEMA inspectors will supply part of a survivor's registration number at the start of a call. Survivors who don't have their number may call the FEMA Helpline for assistance. FEMA may follow up after the initial inspector's interview with an exterior verification inspection to confirm the level of damage.

Renters.

Tenants may also be eligible for help from FEMA, such as with rent payments when they move due to damage to their homes or with replacement of essential personal property that was damaged or destroyed.

Survivors with insurance. FEMA may be able to fill the gap where a survivor's insurance doesn't provide coverage for some disaster-related costs, such as those for renting an alternative place to live while a home is rebuilt or repaired, or when coverage has been exhausted and there is still an unmet need. It is important to note that FEMA cannot pay insurance deductibles. FEMA encourages survivors with insurance to register for assistance by Nov. 23 even if they don't know whether they will be eligible. FEMA can determine their eligibility once their insurance claim is settled.

SBA disaster loans. U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all siz-

es, and private nonprofit organizations. When disaster survivors need to borrow to repair damage, the low-interest rates and long terms (up to 30 years) available from SBA make recovery affordable. In some cases, refinancing of prior liens is also available. A disaster loss is unexpected. For most disaster survivors, it is beyond their means to pay for disaster damages with their own resources without hardship.

Other Needs Assistance

Disasters can cause serious financial burdens other than for housing needs. For eligible applicants, FEMA and state grants may help pay for such non-housing costs as:

- Disaster-related funeral and medical or dental costs*
- Necessary educational materials (computers, schoolbooks, supplies)
- Disaster-destroyed tools necessary for the survivor to make a living
- Childcare
- Other necessary expenses or serious needs
- Repair or replacement of a disaster-damaged vehicle*
- Moving and storage expenses related to the disaster*
- Personal property: replacement of clothing, furniture and appliances*

**Applicants who are not referred to the SBA -- or are referred but not approved for an SBA loan -- may be eligible for the following types of help: personal property assistance; transportation assistance to repair or replace an eligible vehicle damaged by a disaster and other transportation-related costs; or assistance with moving and storage expenses. Survivors who want FEMA's help with these types of losses must first complete an SBA loan application. No one is ever required to accept a loan. If you have registered with FEMA and the SBA determines you are not eligible for a loan, it will automatically refer you to FEMA's Individuals and Households program and your file will be reviewed to determine if you qualify for additional assistance.*

CHP reminds parents to be role models for teen drivers

Teen drivers can face challenges with every new experience. During National Teen Driver Safety Week, October 18-24, 2020, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) joins the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to encourage parents and guardians to discuss driver safety with their young drivers.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens in the United States, ahead of any type of injury, disease, or violence. According to preliminary data from the CHP's Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System, 255 people in California were killed last year in crashes involving drivers aged 15-19.

"Teen drivers do not have the experience needed when confronted with new challenges on the road. This can create a potential danger to themselves and others," CHP Commissioner Warren Stanley said. "Through open communication and by setting an example with their own good driving habits, parents and guardians can help keep their young drivers safe."

Discussions about safe driving include avoiding distractions such as cell phones, using seat belts, obeying speed limits, not driving impaired, and limiting the number of passengers. Parents and guardians must be aware that their own driving behavior

and following the same rules is as important as any conversation they may have with their teen.

The CHP provides education to help keep teen drivers alive in its Start Smart course, offered by all CHP offices free of charge. Participating in Start Smart will help parents and guardians learn how to effectively discuss the importance of driving safely with their young drivers. Start Smart also teaches driver responsibility, the Graduated Driver License program, and collision-avoidance techniques. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Start Smart classes are being held online. Contact your local CHP Area office for information on how to enroll.

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News-Ledger Directory of Local Places of Worship

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Seventh Day Adventist Church Sasa Andelkovic, Senior Pastor 2860 Jefferson Blvd., W. Sac. PO Box 447, W. Sac. 95691 Sat. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. 372-6570	American Buddhist Seminary Temple Learn how to practice mindfulness meditation for your everyday happiness in small groupsetting. Free Community Service. Sundays - 8:30-10 a.m. 423 Glide Avenue, West Sac 916-371-8535 www.abstemple.org	New Seasons Church Your Church in West Sacramento Pastor Ron Jackson Sunday 10 a.m. service Westfield Elementary School 508 Poplar Ave., West Sacramento 916-265-4025 pastorron@newseasonsws.com www.newseasonsws.com
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. 371-2111	Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church 911 Park Blvd, West Sacramento Office: 916-371-4814 Fr. Matthew Rappu, Pastor Mass: Mon, Tues, Wed 8:30 AM Fri 8:30 AM at OLG school during school year Sat: 5:30 PM vigil Sun 9 AM, 11 AM	Looking for a place to worship? Check here first! To find out how to list your place of worship in this directory, call 916-371-8030 for more information.

Fires

Continued from page 8

subject thus thwarting good forest management we had in the past.

Alexander M. Northwood

Logging is not quite a silver bullet to this issue. It leads to slash and a less mature forest that is less resilient to fire. It leads to booms of brush growth, which provides the kindling that enables fires to spread quickly. Trusting that loggers have our best interest in mind is like trusting that the fast food industry has our health at top-of-mind. Their incentive to tell a pro-logging story is too strong. They also have a history of replanting, but not watering, areas they clear-cut, resulting in extremely fire-prone areas packed with dry, stunted trees. While many forms of forest management have not

been practiced sufficiently in CA, logging has been ongoing in parallel with increasing fire intensity and magnitude. The claim that increased logging would result in healthier forests is not universally accepted by scientists, but it is universally promoted by loggers.

Angie G. Bridgeway Island

Interesting read: “217 scientists sign letter opposing logging as a response to wildfires” - *Wildfire Today* <https://wildfiretoday.com/2018/09/22/217-scientists-sign-letter-opposing-logging-as-a-response-to-wildfires/>

Those are just a few. There were many more, including: “Don’t build in forests.” To which several pointed out burned out urban areas such as Santa Rosa and homes that burned in the Camp fire (Paradise). In Paradise, sparks landed on roofs

and yards of homes that weren’t in a forest.

Here’s my take, in defense of nature’s forest dwellers: Destroying wildlife habitat is not the answer. Depriving understory of shade simply dries it out faster and makes it more prone to igniting from lightning strikes. Or when poorly maintained equipment or sagging power lines spark when wind blows them together.

Sacramento Bee, 10/9/2020: “PG&E equipment seized as part of investigation into cause of deadly Zogg Fire ... Cal Fire has taken possession of Pacific Gas and Electric Company equipment as part of an investigation into the cause of a deadly wildfire burning in Shasta County.” <https://www.kcra.com/article/pgande-equipment-seized-as-part-of-investigation-into-cause-of-deadly-zogg-fire-reports/34332971>

Planting trees then failing to water them is a waste

of taxpayer money (as we’ve seen here and there in West Sacramento). Let burned out forests replant themselves (thanks to surviving birds and wildlife). Ban clearcutting. Logging companies are interested only in big straight trees, often littering the forest floor with ruts and ‘tinder’ when ‘tops’ are left behind. That discarded canopy was shade for naturally growing younger trees, mosses and understory, in addition to providing shelter for nesting birds.

Current science says ‘hands off’ after wildfires. Regeneration will produce a healthy forest, better able to withstand the well-intentioned but destructive hand of man that plants uniformly-spaced shallow-rooted saplings.

The droppings from birds and wildlife will replant a lot of vegetation – including trees. When I ‘managed’ my 12-acre woodlot, using existing deer paths to make it

walkable, I didn’t remove dead trees or natural wood piles. I knew hollow trees were homes to an array of wildlife, even Wood ducks. Many animals (and reptiles) love a woodpile. Preserving natural forests will mean fewer fires for future generations. So I was told by a U.S. Forester who knows California’s forests because, several times, he’s helped fight California wildfires. As he evaluated my woods for potential income, he told me it was healthy, and pointed out the Ginseng. I opted, instead of selling my veneer quality walnut trees, to hire him to improve my woods by pulling out some, but not all, the briars, such as blackberry.

I understand that logging is needed if we want wood decks and so on, but California can require logging companies to take the ENTIRE tree, not just the trunk. A healthy forest will

produce what’s needed to sustain its wildlife. My farm house was near a creek that was prone to flooding. When I sold the farm, the mortgage lender made my buyer to get federal flood insurance. In California, it may be that federal wildfire insurance will be inevitable in areas deemed vulnerable.

The forester told me if I left my field fallow that was adjacent to my woods, in six years, a young woods would be growing. But that was Ohio. Lots of snow and rain. Wouldn’t it be great if through proper management, we wouldn’t need to drop toxic fire retardant on as many forests, and could use those planes to hydrate them (with recycled water) during dry months? Interested in forest management elsewhere? Go here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire>. Contact Carol Bogart at carol@bogartonline.com.

PREPARING YOUR YARD FOR THE WINTER?

Waste Management offers easy ways to help you turn yard waste, including leaves, tree trunks and branches, into compost.



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