

'An Evening with Wayne Carini'

PAGE 7

Conquering the 'Midnight Express' Ultra Marathon

PAGE 8





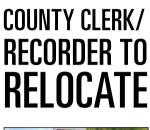
VOL 32 • ISSUE **20** 

SDD

Bringing You Community News For Over 30 Years

OCTOBER 27, **2023** 

# All Aboard the Railfair



INSIDE



PAGE **2** 

PAGE 7







A BNSF engine model on a track. Photo courtesy of IRF

By Thomas J. Sullivan

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - All Aboard the 45th Annual International Railfair (IRF), coming to Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Blvd in Sacramento, on Veteran's Day weekend, Saturday, November 11 and Sunday, November

12. It's the first time IRF has been in Sacramento County since its earliest when it was held at Sacramento City College. The annual

International Railfair show is run by members of the Sacramento Modular Railroaders, the Sacramento chapter *Continued on Page 3* 

**First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest** 

### Sacramento Historical Society Gifts \$500k to Sac City College

On Behalf of the Joan Didion Family; College Library Renamed For Didion

### Los Rios College News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento City College (SCC) will be renaming the college's library in honor of renowned author Joan Didion. The building will now be known as the Joan Didion Learning Resource Center, in recognition of a generous \$500,000 gift from Didion family and the Sacramento Historical Society (SHS). The decision was approved by the Los Rios Community College Board of Trustees at their October 18, 2023 meeting.

"What a great honor it is to name our college's Learning Resource Center after Joan Didion," says Sacramento City College President Albert Garcia. "We're proud that she started her college career here. Her status as an author of international renown, as a creative and incisive thinker, makes her a wonderful inspiration for our college community." Born in Sacramento in 1934, Didion attended Sacramento City College briefly in the 1950s. The gift from her family and SHS will support writing scholarships for students as well as faculty research programs that align with the late author's intellectual interests. "Attending SCC was important to Joan, and we believe she would have been thrilled to support the scholarship for promising young writers who may not otherwise have the opportunity to be recognized," says Kelley Didion Peters, Didion's niece. Peters has been handling Didion's estate with her siblings, Steve Didion and Lori Didion Hunt. It is the family's hope, Peters says, that the Joan Didion Learning Resource Center and the programs being funded by the gift will serve as a "living legacy" to her aunt that will benefit many future generations of students to come. "On behalf of my siblings, I wish to thank the Sacramento Historical Society for not only facilitating this gift to the writing scholarship, but having the

### MARKE

THE GREENHAVEN

**POCKET FARMERS** 



PAGE **4** 

PRSRTD STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID CARMICHAEL, CA PERMIT NO. 350 OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER



Eric Welbaum, the GreenHaven Pocket vendor of the Creature Sauce Company, won the First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest League of Fire Road to the Belt Pepper Eating Competition.

#### *Photos and Story By Stephen B. Clazie, Sacramento Elks*

The First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest was hosted at the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market on Saturday, October 21st, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The pepper-eating competition started at 11 a.m. and had seven competitors. One competitor came all the way from Gold Beach, Oregon to compete.

Vic Cima, the manager of the GHP Farmers Market,

was happy with the large and enthusiastic crowd that came out to witness the pepper-eating competition. Cima said, "We are very pleased to

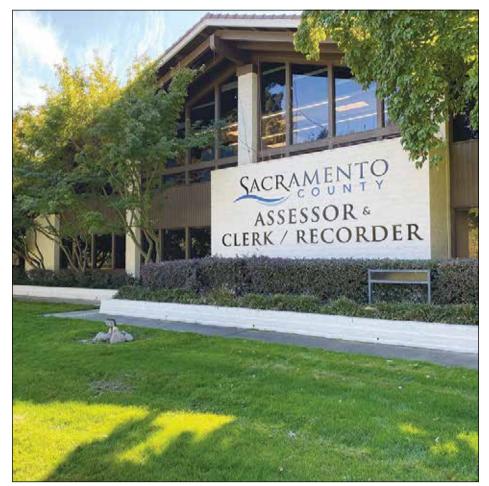
Continued on Page 3

Continued on Page 6



### valcomnews.com

### **County Clerk/Recorder to Consolidate** and Relocate to New Office



The new central office is located at 3636 American River Drive in the unincorporated part of the County near Watt Ave and Hwy 50. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

### Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The County Clerk/Recorder's (CCR) office is consolidating and relocating two of its three offices by early 2024. CCR will be consolidating the downtown office (600 8th Street, Sacramento) and the East Area Service Center location (5229 Hazel Avenue, Fair Oaks) and taking over a 26,952 square foot central office located at 3636 American River Drive in the unincorporated part of the County.

"We are excited for this change!" said Donna

Allred, Sacramento County Clerk/Recorder. "This new location will provide a more streamlined customer experience in an updated and more spacious facility."

The first move will come with the closure of the eastern location in mid-November. Due to deliveries and installations needed at the new American River Drive location, an exact date has not been confirmed yet for when the East location will close. An updated SacCounty News story will be posted when that information becomes available.

CCR continuously

analyzes their structure, efficiencies, public service levels and office configurations for their programs, staff and public. Advancing technology has changed business needs, with more services now offered electronically. CCR determined that a consolidation of two locations into one singular and more centralized location is more efficient for operations.

To learn more about the consolidation and relocation, visit the County Clerk/Recorder'swebsite. For questions or concerns, contact CCR at (916) 874-6334.

### **Gala Salutes Vets Day** at Aerospace Museum



A retrospective on the music of Harry James will feature Tony Marvelli on trumpet and Susan Skinner on vocals. The show is part of a 1940s-style Salute to Service at the Aerospace Museum of California. Photo courtesy of Susan Maxwell Skinner

### Staff Correspondent

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Music, fine food and one of Sacramento's biggest fireworks displays are a build up to Veterans Day at the Aerospace Museum of California. The McClellan Park facility will host a USO-style gala on Friday, November 3.

Its "Salute to Service" fundraiser supports the museum with a 1940s theme. Central to décor, flyable WW II aircraft a P-38 Lighting, a Navy Corsair and a Ryan ST-A - will be eye-popping backdrops for dancing and photo-ops.

Entertainment includes a tribute show celebrating Harry James, a superstar trumpeter whose big band hits contributed to Allied morale during WWII.

American River College Professor and trumpet virtuoso Tony Marvelli will take center stage. Carmichael-based singer Susan Skinner will contribute vocals made famous by beloved 1940s chanteuse, Helen Forrest. Pianist Joe Gilman, bassist Shelley Denny and drummer Tim Metz complete the quintet known as Hey Day.

Hey Day offers a retrospective on James' larger-than-life career: the one-time circus musician discovered Frank Sinatra, Buddy Rich and Doris Day. He married Betty Grable and indulged a legendary Hollywood lifestyle. "With his music, we revisit a special time in American history," says museum director/curator Tom Jones. "During tumultuous times, Harry James made America dance, sing and believe in love."

The museum's massive hangar will house the celebration. Vintage dress is encouraged; Rosie the Riveter lookalikes will serve cocktails.

Following a site tour, guests will dine, dance and be treated to a massive fireworks display. One of the largest pyrotechnic specialists in the world, Pyro Spectaculars company annually provides this blowout to honor veterans and support the museum. Anyone may view this spectacle from Freedom Park, McClellan.

Gala cost is \$150 per person; \$275 per couple. Table sponsorships are also available. Admission includes dinner, dancing, wine, beer and signature cocktails and fireworks. The Aerospace Museum of California is located at 3200 Freedom Park Drive, McClellan. For information and ticket purchases visit www.aerospaceca.org

Sponsors include: Safe Credit Union, McClellan Park, Aerojet Rocketdyne, Boeing, SMUD and Lockheed Martin.





### **Schedule a FREE consultation!** Additional specials - just give us a call!



MIKE YEE, ESQ.

Leading the way top rated

Visit our website:

www.drdogradds.com

**Call NOW for an appointment!** 

(916) 736-2801

2631 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818

### 

SPONSORED BY PLEASANT HILL CHRISTIAN PRAISE CENTER PRESIDING ELDER DAVID C. JAMES JR., PASTOR 3612 16TH AVENUE, SACRAMENTO, CA (916) 402-3525

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

IN CORROBORATION WITH SERGEANT MAJOR NICOLLE JAMES MATTHEWS, U.S. ARMY & CAPTAIN JAMES MATTHEWS, DCF&EMS









### AW GROUP

Start planning now - call to schedule your FREE estate planning consulation today!

### ESTATE PLANNING - PROBATE - ELDER LAW

### PRACTICE AREAS:

- Living Trust
- Advance Health Directive
- Power of Attorney
- Probate
- Conservatorships
- Other Special Planning

### UNIQUE TO EACH CLIENT

The incredible team at Yee Law Group's top priority is client satisfaction and serving each client with exceptional professionalism and precision.

Call 916-927-9001 for Free Consulation 4010 S. Land Park Drive, Suite B, Sacramento 95822 mylawyerslip.com See our awesome reviews on: yelp 🔧

REAL ESTATE WINDERMERE COMPANY

Bruce Reddick 916-919-7338 CalDRE# 01814263



### Welcome to Your Dream Home in the Exclusive Oakshore at Riverlake



This community, where luxury living meets natural beauty, and the Sacramento River is your backgard. This exceptional property offers a modem and architecturally intriguing design, featuring 5 bedrooms, a bonus room,... As you step inside, you'll be immediately captivated by the open great room concept, which seamlessly blends the indoors with the outdoors. Walls of glass flood the living spaces with natural light and provide breathtaking views of the lush surroundings. The heart of this home is a chef's delight. complete with a large walk-in pantry for all your culinary needs. Downstairs primary suite awaits, offering ample room for a sitting area where you The primary bathroom boasts dual sink vanities, A 3-car garage with abundant storage space makes organization a breeze. Outside, you'll discover a yard that's perfect for entertaining and recreation, with enough (6) space to accommodate your dream pool.

7796 Oak Bay Circle, Sacramento CA \$1,095,000



# First AnnualAll Aboard the 45thSacramento Spice FestInternational Railfair

### Hosted by GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market

*Continued from Page 1* announce that Prescribed Burn Sauces, Insomnia Hot Sauce, and Beale Sauce are here today as vendors." He also announced a last-minute addition and welcomed, Big Jake Sauce.

Cima expressed his appreciation for all of the work Eric Welbaum of Creature Sauce Company did in organizing the First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest. He wanted everyone to know that Eric and his Creature Sauce Company are regular vendors at the GHP.

Eric was telling everyone, "Come out, have fun, get some sauce, and explore other spicy products."

Early Saturday morning, Cima informed a fellow Elk, who is also one of the GHP vendors, that they still had an opening for a seventh competitor in the pepper-eating contest.

Nick Newbold, along with his brothers, has been living in Elk Grove for more than 50 years. Newbold said, "We are a family-owned and operated business that strives to provide a personal touch in the window covering business." He is at the GHP Farmers Market with the 3 Blind Brothers mobile showroom trailer on a regular basis. Nick also joked and said, "Yep, we really are three brothers!"

Looking at Nick with his full-length beard and barrel chest, someone might think he looked like a natural contestant for the First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest.

Vic Cima telling his fellow Elk, Nick Newbold, about this last opening was like "the blind leading the blind." Nick thought he could help the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market have a successful Spice Fest.

It was a very successful Spice Fest with Mikey Muscatello as a special guest emcee. Muscatello is famous for the award-winning Mikey Podcast, which was voted Best Podcast by Sacramento Magazine.

The Spice Fest consisted of eight rounds of eating peppers and two rounds of hot sauce in between. Nick Newbold's entry in the competition ended at the second round.

The final round was the speed-eating challenge with seven peppers for each of the three remaining contestants. It was announced that the first contestant to show an empty mouth, by sticking out their tongue, would be the winner.

Eric Welbaum had posted, "This is going to be a great day, so come on down to the Market on 10-21-23." He was correct! Eric Welbaum, the GreenHaven Pocket vendor of the Creature Sauce Company, won the First Annual Sacramento Spice Fest League of Fire Road to the Belt Pepper Eating Competition.

Eric gets to keep that Belt until next year's competition. He also gets to go to the next League of Fire competition, which is to be announced, but will most likely be held in Pennsylvania.

Vic Cima was really happy, "That our customers can be sure they are receiving knowledgeable information about hot sauces from Eric."

Vic also wanted to thank Nick for being a good sport and entering the competition.



The final round was the speed-eating challenge with seven peppers for each of the three remaining contestants.



Supplies for the IRF Square Foot Challenge. Photo courtesy of IRF

Continued from Page 1 of the European Train Enthusiasts, Roseville Roundhouse Model Railroad Association, and the Sierra Division of the Pacific Coast Region of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), said IRF spokesperson Tom Campbell.

"We display operating model railroads to the public at the International Rail Fair and educate the public about model railroading, railroad history, and prototypical railroad operations," Campbell said.

This year, IRF guests will be able to enjoy more than 28,000 square-feet of model railroad fun, explore over 100 vendor tables, and swap goods at a TrainMart consignment store as they see over 12 operating model train layouts in action ranging from Z to G.

"The two-day show is called 'International Railfair' because one of our sponsor clubs, European Train Enthusiasts, specializes in building and operating European model railroads," Campbell said.

A children's layout returns this year where children can run a scale model locomotive and earn a Junior Engineer badge.

The popular "Square Foot Challenge" also returns this year – with a holiday theme. Attendees are invited to vote for their favorite holiday diorama with the highest number of votes named a People's Choice winner. The winning diorama builder will receive a custom trophy based on a machinist's square and a \$50 gift card to RC Country Hobbies.

The individual model railroad layouts which are seen at the International Railfair are modular railroads. A typical modular layout consists of transportable individual modules which are clamped together to create a single model railroad, Campbell said.

Modules are typically lightweight, and are about 30" wide and four feet long, and packed with a lot of scenic detail. Legs fold out from underneath the module and the required electrical wiring drops down at both ends of the module.

General admission, ages 13 and up, good for both days, is \$12. Admission on Sunday, November 12 is reduced to \$10 per person. Youth admission for ages 13-17 is \$5. Children ages 12 and under are free both days. Active and retired military members receive a \$2 discount on event admission at the gate.

For more information email Tom Campbell at tom.c.irf@gmail.com. To purchase advance tickets, visit www.internationalraifair.com.









### *Sue Olson* 916-601-8834

### sue@sueolson.net CalBRE# 00784986

### landparkhomes.com

### LAND PARK

Large corner lot in Land Park. Enjoy this remodeled "move-in" condition 2 bd. / 2 bath home on a lovely tree lined street. Beautifully refinished hardwood floors in the spacious living room with bay window, plantation shutters, fireplace with insert and recessed lighting with dimmer. Enjoy cooking in the delightfully remodeled kitchen with quartz counters, under counter recessed lighting, stainless steel dishwasher & sink, gas range / oven and three door pantry. Both bedrooms have ceiling fans and wood floors. Hall bathroom has restored cast iron tub with shower and vanity with marble counter. Second bath is in the back bedroom and features a large tiled shower. Plantation shutters throughout, many dual paned windows, inside laundry room with cabinets, folding area and access to back porch. Two driveways, single car garage. 3041 17th Street

### LAND PARK

Nestled in the heart of Land Park on a tree lined street, this spacious three-bedroom 2.5 bath home features formal tiled entry, living room with fireplace & bookshelves, oversized formal dining room with window overlooking backyard, galley type kitchen with island eating area, stainless steel appliances, tiled backsplash and access to patio. Downstairs desk area with adjoining bath, and TV / gathering room with sliding door to yard. Three upstairs bedrooms, updated hall bath with new vanity, floor and shower. Primary bedroom with large walk-in closet, updated bath with shower over tub. Lots of wood floors, central heat and air, basement and two-car garage. Backyard covered patio with privacy drapes, brick fence and small storage shed. Don't miss this one! 1154 Swanston Dr. \$1,075,000

*Teresa Olson* 916-494-1452

teresa.olson@cbnorcal.com CalBRE# 00784986





Erica Tescher etescher@cfcssacramento.org 916 840-2144 Pre-Planning Specialist

EORGE L. KLUMPP CHAPEL OF FLOWERS Serving Sacramento & Land Park for 100 years

### 916 443-7917 Call TODAY!

### Advanced Planning & Immediate Need:

- Individual or Group Presentations
- Remote and In-Person Appointments Available
- Ask about our Lunch & Learn Pre-Planning Classes

### 2691 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento 95818 www.klumppsfuneralhome.org



Jessycab Shoemaker JShoemaker@scfssacramento.org 916 840-2147 Manager of Funeral Services Funeral Director FDR3709

### **ABOUT TOWN**

#### California Museum to Host Free "Lowrider Block Party" on Sun., Oct. 29

Free car show, live music, food trucks and more, plus the opening of the "Boulevard Dreams California" exhibit, on view for a reduced \$5 admission

Sacramento, Calif., Oct. 18, 2023: The California Museum will host a day of free festivities on Sun., Oct. 29, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. commemorating the opening of "Boulevard Dreams California," a groundbreaking temporary exhibition celebrating the rich history, artistry, and profound impact of lowrider culture in California. Featuring a lowrider car show, live music, food trucks, pop-up shops and kids' activities, the event will also offer participants the opportunity to the view the exhibit on its opening day for a reduced \$5 admission. Festivities are presented in partnership with the Sacramento Lowrider Commission and Sol Collective.

Media are invited to cover the event on Sun., Oct. 29, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., or from 11:00 a.m. by special request.

WHO: California Museum

WHAT: "Lowrider Block Party"

Car show featuring over 100 lowriders from across the state (pre-registered vehicles only)

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Lowrider oldies by the Sugar High band with special musical guests from the Midnight Players

Kids' activities including paper lowriders and Día de los Muertos crafts

• Pop-up shops from local small businesses • Free limited-edi-

Attending media must R.S.V.P. no later than 3:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 27, 2023 to (916) 653-0399 or ameeker@ californiamuseum.org.

CONTACT: Amanda Meeker, California Museum Executive Director (916) 653-0399 or

ameeker@californiamuseum.org.

On view October 29, 2023 through April 14, 2024, "Boulevard Dreams California" celebrates the rich history, artistry, and profound impact of lowrider culture in California, offering a comprehensive view of the cultural, social, and artistic significance of the lowriding tradition. Lowrider vehicles, custom artwork, photographs, and historic artifacts reveal the vibrant world of lowrider culture and its deep-rooted connection to the local and statewide community.

Part of a dual exhibition curated by the Sacramento Lowrider Commission and presented in partnership with Sol Collective and the Center for Sacramento History, the California Museum display takes a statewide focus, while a companion at the Sacramento History Museum highlights local lowrider history.

For downloadable press kit including exhibit and event materials, visit californiamuseum. org/about/press-room/ media-kits/temporary/

boulevard-dreams-california/.

#### Elks Membership Special in October

Visit the Elks Membership Booth at GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market any

Saturday in October and learn about our indoor swimming pool and athletic facilities. The application fee to join the Elks is \$1 until the end of October. Normally it is \$30. You save \$29. Come by Membership Booth anf fill out a raffle ticket for a chance to win a free farmers market tote bag filled with fresh farmer products and other goodies. The winning ticket will be drawn at 1 P.M. at the close of each market day until Saturday, November 11th. The winner need not be present to win.

Can you stay too long at the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market?

Vic Cima, manager of the GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market, said, "Juan Flores thought he had to shop from 8 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. at the GHP Farmers Market. His dog got so tired that he had to take a dog nap! Juan will be back every Saturday. We hope his dog also comes."

- Elks Lodge Halloween Bash
- Live music FBI band October 28, 2023 6 – 10:30 pm

Pork Tenderloin

Risotto, Vegetable, Salad and Dessert

Costumes Optional but encouraged.

Prize for best costume! \$40.00 tax included Advanced tickets only

Contact the Lodge office 916/422-6666 (9 – 3 Monday – Friday)

Benefits the General Fund

Elk's Lodge Karaoke Nov. 2 Thursday 7:00pm & Nov. 4, Saturday 7:30pm

Come Join the fun - your friends will be there! Talk this event up to friends and family.

You don't need to sing to enjoy the evening.

Project Hope

First in our series of our free community events

Saturday, October 28, 2023 10 ~ 11

ELKS LODGE #6 6446 Riverside Blvd.

6446 Riverside Blvd. call 916-422-6666 for more information

### **Canal Holiday Lights Community Pocket News Event** Hi friends and

Hi friends and neighbors!

Costco has had Christmas decor for a month, so winter must be coming soon! With it comes the return of our Pocket Canal Holiday Lights!

I hope you've enjoyed this great tradition as much as I have. I love

the beautiful show as the lights reflect off the water, but most of all, I enjoy how much it gets our community out, enjoying it together, being with friends, being with family.

We need your help to keep it going and continue to grow this great community tradition.

Can you make a donation to support the effort this year? Any amount helps!

Donations are tax deductible, please donate here:

https://giftstoshareinc. ejoinme.org/donate

(select "District 7 Canal Holiday Lights")

If your business is interested in sponsoring, please let me know!

And save the dates, December 2nd, hanging holiday lights & December 3rd, lighting ceremony with Santa.

Thanks so much for your support!

Your partner in building stronger communities,

Devin Lavelle devinlavelle@gmail. com

#### Sacramento Area Museums Showcase Region's Farmto-Fork Roots All Year Long

SACRAMENTO. Calif. (August 28, 2023) - The Greater Sacramento region is rich with popular museums and destinations that offer diverse and enriching experiences for individuals, families, residents, and visitors alike. Given the critically important role agriculture continues to play in the region, many local museums offer special exhibits, experiences and activations that highlight ever-enduring Farmto-Fork connections. A sampling of some of the Farm-to-Fork offerings at local museums includes the following:

Growers Express refrigerated rail car is on permanent display inside the Museum's Roundhouse. Museum visitors can explore this historic rail car and exhibit, "Farm to Fork: A Public History," and learn about how refrigerated rail cars enabled California farmers, growers, and producers send farm-to-fork freshness all over the country. Visitors can step inside the historic Fruit Growers Express rail car to see how the ice-cooled rail cars transported produce and built an agricultural system that exports more wealth than the California Gold Rush. Plus, the popular weekend excursion train, Sacramento Southern Railroad - currently on pause due to an important rail repair project runs on the historic Walnut Grove Branch Line. This rail line transported pears, asparagus, celery, seeds, and other products from the Delta communities to markets nationwide.

#### Sacramento

Children's Museum - Young visitors hungry to learn about fresh food have a variety of options at the Children's Museum, including at the miniature Leo's Market and Leo's Food Court (a miniature market of food carts), about bees and honey with the in-house beehive, and an interactive train table highlighting Sacramento's agricultural landscape in miniature, complete with mini livestock. Plus, the Children's Museum will be at the Farm-to-Fork Festival (September 22-23) sharing vegetable stamp printing with visitors.

SMUD Museum of Science & Curiosity -MOSAC's interactive exhibits bring the story of water to life, demonstrating how our region is working together to conserve this natural resource for now and future generations. The "Water Challenge" exhibit lets museum visitors actively shape a watershed's flow, create a tune for saving water at home, and choose between local or non-local foods to buy based on how everyday decisions impact conservation efforts — all while learning about the environmental footprint along the way. **Utility Exploration** Center - The City of Roseville's Utility Exploration Center (UEC) is a testament to the region's commitment to sustainable living and resource conservation. Nestled in the heart of a region renowned for its Farm-to-Fork movement, the UEC acts as an educational hub, encouraging residents and visitors alike to delve into the intricacies of energy and water conservation, waste reduction, and sustainable practices. By fostering an understanding

of how we use and preserve resources, the UEC underscores the importance of our agricultural roots.

For more information about upcoming activities offered by Sacramento area museums, "like" them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/ SacMuseums, follow them on Instagram and Twitter @SacMuseums or visit the user-friendly website at www. SacMuseums.org.

### Friends of Sutter's Fort Announces Exciting Line-Up of Special Events and Activations Happening this Fall

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Friends of Sutter's Fort, in partnership with Sutter's Fort State Historic Park, is proud to present a series of family-friendly events and activations this fall highlighted by holiday themed movies, an all-ages concert, and adventurous self-guided evening tours by flashlight or lantern light.

A schedule of fall activities presented by Friends of Sutter's Fort includes the following:

#### Flashlights & Friends After Hour Tours – Friday, December 1 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

For those seeking fun and adventure in a unique space, Flashlight & Friends may be just the ticket. The holiday themed evening provides an opportunity to explore Sutter's Fort Historic Park like never before - by flashlight or lantern light (guests can bring their own or purchase them on-site). The self-guided tour experience is family friendly and includes live music, games, and treats for event attendees. For tickets and/or more information about Flashttps:// suttersfort.org/event/

flashlights-friends/ The special events and activations support the nonprofit Friends of Sutter's Fort to help provide upcoming programming such as field trips and future events at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park. For those interested in visiting inside Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (that is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily), all Fort admission fees will be waived for the duration of a major roof replacement and seismic stabilization project that is currently underway. Visitors can observe the rehabilitation project firsthand and tour the Central Building, which remains open.

tion posters from Sol Collective's bicycle-powered screenprint press while supplies last

Food trucks

· Reduced \$5 admission to the Museum, including the new "Boulevard Dreams California" exhibit

 Free street parking WHERE: 11th
 Street between O and Q
 Streets (car show & food trucks); 1020 O Street (exhibit & courtyard activities)

WHEN: Sun., Oct. 29, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. VISUALS:

Downloadable press kit and images available at californiamuseum. org/about/press-room/ media-kits/temporary/ boulevard-dreams-california/

NOTES: Due to limited cabling opportunities through the Museum's front doors, wireless backpack units are strongly recommended for live feeds.

By special request only, media may tour the exhibit beginning at 11:00 a.m.

### Elk's Lodge October Calendar of Events

### Elks 6's Annual Arts & Craft Festival and Greenhaven Pocket Farmers Market.

Arts & Crafts on Saturday, October 28, from 9 A.M. ~ 3 P.M.

Quality crafts by local artist from 9 A.M. ~ 3 P.M. Vendors both indoors and outdoors along with our GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market Vendors. For more information please go to our Elks 6 site and click on the Crafts Fair flyer, https:// www.elks6.com/events. html

#### The Greenhaven Pocket Farmers Market will open at 8 A.M.

Free Raffle at GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market every Saturday until November 11th

Sunday Breakfast Every Sunday 8:30 - 11 Bring your friends and family \$15 tax included Best deal in town Made to order Omelets or eggs any way you want.

Bacon, sausage, potatoes, biscuits and gravy pancakes, waffles, coffee

large parties should call for reservations

Guest are VERY welcome!

#### The GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market will have a Halloween Costume contest

The GreenHaven Pocket Farmers Market will have a Halloween Costume contest on Saturday, October 28, at 10:30 A.M. Prizes will be given for the best child veggie or fruit costume. A total of three winners will be chosen. Each of the three winners will receive three tickets for a free Elks Sunday breakfast.

#### California

Agriculture Museum – Woodland is home to an entire museum focused on agriculture, filled with a unique collection of harvesters, wheel and crawler-type tractors, combines, trucks, art, artifacts, rotating interactive exhibits and much more. In all, the museum tells the history of Farmto-Fork, dating back to the Gold Rush era and how the industry evolved from horse drawn to steam driven to fuel powered machines to harvest and transport California's bounty.

California State Railroad Museum & Foundation – A Fruit Friends of Sutter's Fort

Friends of Sutter's Fort is a 501c3 charitable foundation. As a state park cooperating association, we collaborate with California State Parks at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park to preserve and protect historic structures, and artifacts, and to engage visitors of all ages. For more information, please visit www.suttersfort.org

# WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS





Call (916) 429-9901 to advertise with us today!

Land Park News • Messenger Publishing Group



### CLASSIFIED ADS

### BOOKKEEPING

### **#1 CONCIERGE BOOKKEEPER**

38 years exp. in industries like Auto, Mechanics, Restaurants, Caterers, Massage, Doctors, Chiropractors, Non-Profits, Retail, Marshal Arts, Barber, Construction, Wholesale, Investment Clubs, Corp, Partnerships, Small Business. We are experts in General Ledger, Payroll, Profit & Loss & Quarterlies. Call for your concierge appt. Same low 1990 rates. Ask for Irene Senst a.k.a. "Mama Bear" (916) 640-3820. www.taxirene.info • taxireneinfo@ gmail.com

#### **BUSINESS SERVICES**

#1 CONCIERGE BUSINESS SERVICES Put our 38 years in Concierge Business Support Service to work for your business. We provide support in: Licensing, Business & Corp Start-ups or Closures, Basic web design, Set-up social media. Business Concierge Shopping, Marketing and much more. Please contact Irene Senst a.k.a. "Mama Bear" (916) 640-3820. www.taxirene.info taxireneinfo@gmail.com HANDYMAN

### **CLEAN-UP SPECIALS!**

FALL Yard Clean-Up Special – Yard
clean-up. Rain gutter cleaning, pressure
washing/power spray, hauling, yard work,
painting, tree & shrub removal, clean-up,
fence repairs, light tree trimming, &
more. Ref avail. Call Les at 838-1247.
22 yrs. exp. Specials for seniors.
Licensed

### TAX PREPARER

### **#1 CONCIERGE TAX PREPARER**

38 yrs. exp. We specialize in Business Tax returns including Corp & Partnerships. FREE Pick-up & Delivery to those who qualify. We prepare expertly all past tax returns including all State returns. Get the most deductions allowed to you by law. CTEC + IRS Registered & Bonded. Please call for your appt. today. Irene Senst a.k.a. "Mama Bear" (916) 640-3820 CA. Same low 1990 rates. www.taxirene.info taxireneinfo@gmail.com



## Do You Need MPG Your Legal Ads Published? We can help.

Call us now to place your legal advertising!

# 916-773-1111

All legal ads published by Messenger Publishing Group.



### Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

Land Park News is a member of Messenger Publishing Group

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email to:

Publisher@mpg8.com. Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

### Land Park News

#### Serving Arden Arcade and Sacramento County since 1993

It is the intent of the *Land Park News* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The Land Park News is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the Land Park News are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the MPG is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to *Land Park News*, 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd. Suite 5, Carmichael, CA 95608.

The *Land Park News* is published weekly. Call (916) 773-1111 for more information.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.







After 30 years serving as a hospital and military chaplain, I returned to the pastorate last year where I'm rediscovering the things I missed.

I can honestly say I missed preaching, potlucks and the playful fun I share with parishioners. (See how well a pastor can force alliteration into his/her points.)

But I must say, I don't miss the pressure clergy feel to recruit new parishioners. I was never much good at that.

However, in the Air Force I had ample opportunities to "troll for souls" because each base chaplain is assigned workplaces they must routinely visit. My assigned areas were the hospital and the Security Police station.

One day during a visit to the police station, I was warmly welcomed by a parishioner who worked as the desk sergeant. We sat down together inside his cubicle to talk about office issues.

But, a few minutes into our conversation, his boss called him away for a moment.

While he was gone, I remained in the cubicle, hidden away from the officers who just then entered the squad room.

Assuming they had an empty office, they began to talk.

Their "talk" quickly turned to the graphic nature of their dating life. As they told their can-you-top-this stories, one officer claimed his leading role as a "ladies man."

Each of his stories centered on his prowess with several women inside his large Ford Taurus.

But when they saw their supervisor reenter the room,

No One is Listening? they retreated to their break

Who Are You When

room. "Do you want to have a lit-

tle fun?" I whispered to my friend.

He gave me a hesitant nod, so I filled him in on the conversation I'd overheard. Then I asked him to introduce me to his fellow officers assembled around the donut box. (Apologies for the cliché.)

The sergeant and I entered the break room wearing matching grins.

Each officer gave me a hearty greeting.

I recognized the distinctive voice of the Taurus officer as I sensed his unspoken question, "How long have you been here chaplain?"

That's when my friend and I began our recruitment drive. "The chaplain thinks some of you might want to join him for chapel service."

Even with the police officers' sixth sense, they still did not surmise they were in the crosshairs of an incoming practical joke. Their answers focused on their excuses.

"I'm Catholic," one said. "My wife's out of town," said the other.

"I don't have a car," said a third.

And with that divinely ordained cue, it was "Bombs away.'

"Well, I understand that one of you has a nice big car you can use for church carpool."

They exchanged puzzled looks, but the eyes of the storied officer widened in fear. He knew we had him in "target lock."

"Yeah, I was sitting behind your supervisor's cubicle when you all walked into the office.

"You couldn't see me, but I could sure hear you. Which one of you has that Ford Taurus?"

Suddenly, my "smart (aleck) bomb" found its target in the one telling the car stories and he doubled over in excruciating embarrassment, retreating into his cubicle. From the noises he was making, I wondered if he was about to lose every donut he'd consumed on shift.

Pointing to the donut box, I said, "You know, I think it might have been Jesus who mentioned that it's not the things that go into a man's mouth that defile a man, but it's what comes out of the mouth that really messes him up." (Matthew 15:11 The Norris Paraphrase)

For a moment, the officer fancied himself the envied Casanova – but in the next moments, the exposure of his words melted him into shame.

In an effort to recruit friends, this officer had tried to be a different person to everyone he met. On his patrol beat, the officer was the protector for his community but to his friends he was the conqueror. And to his chaplain, he was a shy boy ashamed of what he'd said.

Recruiting friends and followers at the expense of who you are can get awfully expensive to one's integrity. My guess is that it's much easier to just be the same person to everyone we meet – which makes it much less likely we'll forget who we are.

My pastor gig starts at 10:30 on Sunday. Will any of you be joining us?

You can buy my new book "Tell It to the Chaplain" on my website, Amazon, or by sending me \$20. Send comments to comment@ thechaplain.net. Leave recorded comments at (843) 608-9715 or write 10556 Combie Rd Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

### **Sacramento County Transitions** to New Benefits System

### Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - On October 30, 2023, Sacramento County joins other California counties and transitions to a new public assistance benefits system, California Statewide Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS).

CalSAWS replaces the existing welfare eligibility system CalWIN. With this change, MyBenefits CalWIN (myBCW) customer web portal will be replaced with a new and improved online portal, BenefitsCal that provides one unified experience for all Californians. BenefitsCal will make it easier than ever to apply for benefits online, upload documents, report changes, renew benefits, view case details, sign up for alerts, and more.

Now customers can apply for a variety of benefits on the same website:

Cash assistance, Food benefits, Health Care To align with the adoption of the new technology, the Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance will replace the current phone numbers for customers with a toll-free 1-800 number. Effective Monday, October 30, 2023 the current phone numbers (916) 874-3100 and (209) 744-0499 will be replaced by the new 1-800-560-0976 number.

To accommodate the transition, all customer service centers and phone lines will be closed on Friday, October 27. Customers may continue to use MyBCW until October 26, 5 pm. The new portal BenefitsCal becomes available on Monday, October 30 at 6 am. Households interested in applying for public assistance benefits during the downtime period can:

Visit www.GetCalFresh.org for CalFresh benefits; Visit www.coveredca.com for Medi-Cal benefits

Customers who may have started an application in the old system should plan to finish by Thursday, October 26, or will need to begin a new application after creating an account in BenefitsCal starting Monday, October 30, 2023. Thank you for your patience as we transition to the new systems.

### Help us Build a More **Equitable Parks System**

#### Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - In an effort to better serve all the residents in our diverse region, the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks has put out an equity survey, and residents are encouraged to participate to let us know what we can do to make their parks experience better.

"Sacramento County is home to such a wonderful mix of people from all different backgrounds," said Liz Bellas, Director of Regional Parks. "We want to make sure that we are creating spaces and services in which people from all different backgrounds and abilities can feel welcome and safe."

The purpose of this survey is to help the department:

Understand how people and communities throughout Sacramento County use, access and experience the Sacramento County Regional Parks, including identifying to the degree possible what users want in their parks; Identify, reach out to and engage people, communities and stakeholder groups throughout the County in order to hear from diverse voices regarding Sacramento County's Regional Parks and its management; Ensure that our regional parks and park events are welcoming to people and communities of many different backgrounds, including various races, genders, ages, socio-economic status

and level of ability.

You can help us improve your park experience in Sacramento County by completing this survey today! The Parks Equity Survey will be open through the end of the year. For those who participate in the survey and leave their contact information, we will be hosting monthly drawings for free annual passes. Responses without contact information will remain anonymous.

This survey is currently available in English, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese and Simplified Chinese and can be translated into additional languages upon request. To request additional languages or a paper copy of this survey, email parksinfo@ saccounty.gov.

### Sacramento Historical Society Gifts \$500k to Sacramento City College

Continued from Page 1 vision to bring other promistook place in November 2022. The Didion family generously

SHS pledged \$460,000 to augment their existing funding for a total gift of \$500,000 that will create the Endowment to Honor the Legacy of Joan Didion at Sacramento City College. SHS and SCC will also partner on academic programs and events that honor Joan Didion in the years to come. In her lifetime, Didion received national and international acclaim and numerous honors for her accomplishments as an essayist, journalist, and author of incomparable fiction. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1981 and won the National Book Award for her book "The Year of Magical Thinking."

### **Tenth Annual Gala for Kids Helping Kids Sacramento**

Kids Helping Kids burdens that may appear children battling pediatric

ing programs to students at Sacramento City College," Peters says. "We also thank Sac City for its decision to rename the learning center to further her legacy as a former student and Sacramento native."

Didion passed away in December 2021 at the age of 87. In 2022, the SHS launched an effort to honor her life and legacy, which included the establishment of the Joan Didion Scholarship for Writers at SCC in July 2022 with a gift of \$40,000.

When members of the Didion family became aware of these efforts, they decided to commit their own funding via an auction of Joan Didion's personal effects that made a major gift to SHS with the request that a specific portion of the gift be directed to Sacramento City College to support the writing scholarship as well as other programs consistent with Joan Didion's legacy.

"We are grateful for the partnership with Sacramento City College and elated to see the Joan Didion Learning Resource Center come to fruition," says SHS President Walt White. "Sacramento was Joan's childhood home and where she spent her formative years.It is so important that we recognize this woman, whose literary contributions have elevated the perspectives of all of those who have been exposed to her work."

### Fatal Collision with Pedestrian on Highway 99

#### **CHP News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -On October 19th, 2023, at approximately 8:02 p.m., CHP-South Sacramento units responded to a vehicle versus pedestrian traffic crash that occurred on southbound Highway 99, north of 12th Avenue.

Upon arrival, preliminary investigation indicates that a 2003 Dodge Ram pickup, driven by a 47-yearold male from Sacramento, was observed by a witness weaving in multiple lanes on southbound Business 80 from Arden Way to E Street. The driver of the Dodge was then seen to sideswipe a large- or medium-size truck towing a car-hauler/trailer in

the number-two lane just south of N Street, causing minor damage to the left side of the Dodge. The witness stated that the impact was so minor that the truck/car-hauler driver may not have felt it as he continued southbound on Highway 99.

The driver of the Dodge followed the other truck and came to a complete stop in front of it on southbound Highway 99, north of 12th Avenue in the middle of the number-two lane. The witness reported that the driver of the Dodge, who was the solo occupant and driver, got out and confronted the other driver at his driver's-door window. The witness then saw the truck/car-hauler accelerate rapidly to go around the Dodge, knocking down and running over the driver/

pedestrian of the Dodge with its rear trailer tires.

The witness was not able to obtain a license plate on the other vehicle as he stopped to help the struck driver/pedestrian. The driver of the Dodge was conscious and alert at the scene and transported to a local hospital. The Sacramento County Coroner notified CHP-South Sacramento that the driver had succumbed to his injuries during surgery. The name of the driver of the Dodge will be released by the Sacramento County Coroner's Office when next of kin is notified. The CHP-South Sacramento office asks if there were any witnesses to this traffic crash/incident, to please contact the office at (916) 897-5600.

### News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) Kids Helping Kids

Sacramento fights pediatric cancer by hosting its Tenth-Annual Benefit Gala at The Harris Center on Saturday, January 20th. At previous galas hosted by Kids Helping Kids, they have had amazing performances by Grammynominated band Switchfoot, singer-songwriter Andy Grammar, successful touring artist Ben Rector, and many more. Along with the benefit concert, the gala includes silent auction bidding on fantastic baskets and experiences you won't find anywhere else. Proceeds raised by this event will go towards improving conditions for children battling pediatric cancer, and helping out with any financial

during a child's treatment.

Kids Helping Kids is an entirely student-run, nonprofit organization made up of juniors and seniors from Del Campo High School. In 2016, Kids Helping Kids was recognized as the number-one student run non-profit in the United States, and as of this year, they have just been recognized as the number-one student run non-profit in the world according to the Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship (SAGE) competition earlier this year. They put on their Signature Gala, along with several other events, to raise money for the populations they serve. Since 2012, Kids Helping Kids has raised over \$1.4 million to give back to the underserved both locally and globally. They support

cancer and their families by providing financial resources during their medical treatment. Kids Helping Kids aids families in paying for expenses which are directly caused by the massive cost of treatment for their child. Each year, they raise \$50,000 to help 100 families battling pediatric cancer, and this year they hope to generate even more so they can reach even more children.

More information to come soon about who our headline artist will be and what kind of unique baskets and experiences will be offered, which their team is currently striving to secure.

For more information on Kids Helping Kids, go to www.kidshelpingkidssac.org.

### **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

#### Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) -Sacramento County employs more than 13,600 full-time individuals. Of those staff members, some have disabilities, including but not limited to: hearing, vision, physical, and cognitive. Despite all their differences, each employee has showcased the indisputable ability to help our County community succeed.

Each October, Sacramento County celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month to highlight the positive impacts that our County employees with disabilities have had in the workplace. This year's national theme is "Advancing Access and Equity."

"Employees with disabilities can offer employers a competitive edge because they often have strong perseverance and problem-solving abilities, often a result of overcoming barriers people with disabilities face throughout their lives," said

Sylvester Fadal, Director of Personnel Services.

Aside from problem-solving skills, Fadal adds that having a diverse staff can promote an inclusive work environment while bringing a level of empathy, respect, and belonging to our customers and clients.

To ensure the success of our employees, the Sacramento County Department of Personnel Services provides guidance and support to all County departments in providing reasonable accommodations for job applicants and employees with disabilities. This guidance is showcased through every stage of employment from application, testing and interviews, the hiring and onboarding process, and on the job when needed to assist in performing their duties.

To learn more about Sacramento County's programs, services and accommodations for County employees with disabilities visit the Sacramento County Disability Compliance Office (DCO) website. https://personnel.saccounty.net/Pages/ DCOHome.aspx

## 'An Evening with Wayne Carini'

#### California Automobile Museum News Release

SACRAMENTO, CC (MPG) -Plans for the California Automobile Museum and Hagerty's "An Evening with Wayne Carini" event on November 10th are well underway!

Guests can enjoy gourmet food & beverages alongside Wayne followed by a presentation along with live and silent auctions. Those wanting something a little more exclusive can secure one of our limited VIP tickets and get more of a one-on-one experience with Wayne from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

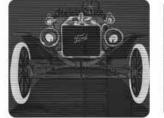
Our list of sponsors also continues to grow and so

far includes Comstock's Magazine, Batteries Plus, & Rudy's Hideaway Lobsterhouse. Drinks at the event will be provided by Deep Eddy Vodka, Heaven Hill Brands, and St. Jorge Winery.

The star of our upcoming event is perhaps most widely recognized as the host of the television show "Chasing Classic Cars," which follows Carini as he travels across the country in search of rare and valuable automobiles to buy, sell, and restore. His carefully curated automotive collection includes a diverse range of vehicles, from iconic American muscle cars to elegant European sports cars.

Tickets are on sale

### CALIFORNIA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM



NOW and start at \$95 for

Museum members and

\$125 for non-members.

Those wishing to become

members can do so for as

Automobile Museum

is located at 2200 Front

Street in Sacramento, CA.

Our hours of operation

California

little as \$25.

The





are 10am to 5pm with last admission at 4pm and closed on Tuesdays. The cost of admission is \$12 for adults, \$10 for vintage (65 & over), \$10 for military & students, \$6 for youth (6-17), and free for

children (5 & under). The mission of the California Automobile Museum is to preserve, exhibit and teach the story of the automobile and its influence on our lives.

The California Automobile Museum is governed by the California Vehicle Foundation, an IRS designated, tax exempt 501 (c)3 non-profit corporation, Federal Tax ID #94-2902791. All contributions to the Museum are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable.

Website: www.calautomuseum.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CalAutoMuseum

Instagram: www. instagram.com/calautomuseum

# One Community Health Acquires New Location in Sacramento

### **One Community** Health News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On October 23, 2023, One Community Health announced its acquisition of a new building in Sacramento as part of its expansion. The building is located on Kings Way in Arden.

"We are thrilled to be able to grow with the needs of our community," said Chief Executive Officer, Michelle Monroe. "This expansion allows us to continue our mission to create a healthier Sacramento by increasing access to care for all

members of our community, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, orientation, or ability to pay. This new property will add 42,000 square feet of health center and support services space, allowing us to better address the growing unmet needs of the community."

One Community Health is a private, nonprofit community health center serving the greater Sacramento area. Founded in 1989 in response to the AIDS crisis, they devoted themselves to the care of people with HIV/ AIDS for more than two decades. In 2015,

they became a Federally Qualified Health Center, providing coordinated and comprehensive primary and preventive services to the whole community, with an annual growth of nearly 7%.

The acquisition of the building and construction planning is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2023, with construction on modifications and improvements beginning in early 2024. For more information about One Community Health's expansion, please visit OneCommunityHealth. com.

### **Grant Fuels the CHP's Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Efforts**

#### **CHP News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Motorcycleinvolved crashes continue to be a major concern for the California Highway Patrol (CHP). The CHP has implemented a yearlong, federally funded program, Get Educated and Ride Safe VI (GEARS), with the goal of increasing motorcycle safety and awareness throughout the state.

The GEARS VI goals are designed to reduce the number of motorcycle-involved crashes and crash victims. Based on provisional data, there were 7,639 motorcycle-involved crashes, resulting in 381 deaths and 6,969 injuries, within CHP jurisdiction in federal fiscal year 2021-22 - an 8% increase from the previous year.

"Motorcycle riders are statistically more likely to be injured or killed when involved in a crash," said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee. "The GEARS VI grant will support the Department's efforts to improve safety for motorcycle riders and other road users through focused education and enforcement."

During the grant period, the CHP will increase motorcycle safety activities in regions with a high number of motorcycle incidents and participate in traffic safety education campaigns such as "National Motorcycle Ride Day" on October 14, 2023. The campaign will promote the use of U.S. Department of Transportation-compliant helmets for all riders and raise driver awareness of sharing the road with motorcyclists. The CHP will also increase enforcement in areas with a high number of motorcycle-involved crashes, which resulted from speed, improper turns, and driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

## **The Insurance Fiasco**

By Ben Christopher,

homeowners

scram-"There's not really much themselves, take out.



#### calmatters.org

A week after negotiations to rescue California's floundering home insurance market stalled out in the Legislature, the state's top insurance regulator put out his own rescue plan that effectively amounts to a trade for the state's major insurers.

Under proposed regulations Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara announced this afternoon, major insurers will be required to cover a certain share of homeowners in the state's most wildfire-prone areas. In exchange, the Department of Insurance will allow companies to charge more to cover the rising costs of doing business in a fire-ravaged state.

Lara called the package of new proposed regulations "the largest insurance reform" since 1988, the year California voters passed a proposition requiring insurance companies to get prior approval before raising premiums.

The plan is meant to reverse what has amounted to a slow-motion exodus of private home insurers from the state. In the last year and a half, seven of the top 12 property insurers operating in California have either placed new restrictions on where they do business or stopped selling new policies here entirely.

The biggest player of all, State Farm, announced a freeze on new policies in May, kicking off a fresh round of panic among

bling to find affordable insurance policies and lawmakers eager to tackle the crisis.

For years, insurance companies have complained that current rates and the existing regulatory process don't allow them to recoup the cost of doing business in the state's most at-risk regions. By easing some of those restrictions, while requiring the companies to expand their coverage, "it's the department calling the bluff of insurers," said Rex Frazier, president of Personal Insurance Federation of California, a trade group.

In principle, that's tradeoff insurers are willing to make, he added, though it will ultimately depend on how the specific regulations are crafted in the coming months.

Amy Bach, executive director of the consumer group United Policyholders, struck a similar note.

Lara "did not sell out to the industry here, in my opinion, he struck a deal," she said. "Whether it's going to manifest positively overall...the proof will be in the premiums."

But Consumer Watchdog — an advocacy group that Lara all but called out by name during his presentation as "bombastic" and a group "materially benefiting" from the current regulatory system — came away with a difficult conclusion.

"He's basically capitulated to the industry," Jamie Court, the group's president, said of Lara.

coming back for the consumer in here."

Despite mounting public angst and calls for action from top lawmakers, the politics of addressing the problem in the Legislature proved too thorny this vear.

In the final weeks of the legislative session that ended a week ago, lawmakers scrambled to bridge the demands of insurers — who called for higher premiums to cover more of their costs and for a more flexible rate-setting process — and those of consumer groups, who resisted calls to add to the financial burdens of homeowners. After negotiations floundered, Gov. Gavin Newsom hinted that his administration and Lara's Department of Insurance might be willing to act on their own.

In a statement, Sen. Bill Dodd, a Napa Democrat involved in the unsuccessful negotiations, cheered Lara's announcement. "Given that the Legislature is not in session right now, utilizing the commissioner's regulatory authority makes good sense," he said. "I know there is work that still needs to be done and I'll be supporting these efforts any way I can."

Insurance companies have pointed to three main reasons that doing business in California is increasingly a losing proposition: Escalating wildfire risk, ever-rising construction costs and the global price of reinsurance — insurance policies that insurance companies,

While costs have increased, the amount the companies are allowed to charge homeowners is tightly capped and closely regulated in California, making home insurance policies relatively cheap by national standards. In order to raise rates, major insurers need a sign-off from the Department of Insurance.

Currently, insurance companies are not allowed to factor in the cost of reinsurance into those applications. They are also prohibited from using forward-looking models to predict future costs — something insurers say they desperately need as a warming climate and residential development encroaching into fire-prone areas results in fire seasons that are longer and more catastrophic than they have been in the past.

Lara proposed giving companies both of those tools, though companies will apparently only be allowed to itemize the cost of reinsurance as it pertains to California. It's unclear how this calculation will be made.

Bach with United Policyholders said allowing companies to use predictive models isn't inherently a bad idea "Are these models nefarious tools of Satan? No," she said — but hopes there will be transparency about which models are used and how they work.

In exchange for these new tools, companies will be required to cover homeowners in

Can This Plan Fix California's Insurance Crisis? MPG Courtesy Stock Photo

wildfire-prone parts of the state at 85% of their statewide coverage. For example, if a company provides 10% of the homeowner policies across California, they would be required to provide 8.5% of the coverage in areas deemed "at-risk."

Court, with Consumer Watchdog, said 85% is 15% too little. "It's a really sh-y deal," he said.

California homeowners currently unable to get insurance on the private market can currently turn to the FAIR Plan, a last resort issuer of fire coverage backstopped through a levy on regulated insurers. Between 2018 and 2022, the number of homeowners covered by the FAIR Plan more than doubled to roughly 3% of all homeowners.

But the FAIR Plan policies are expensive and limited. And if the FAIR Plan runs out of money, it's legally required to refill its coffers by levying a surcharge on major insurers. The prospect of the FAIR Plan running out of cash and slapping the industry with the bill has

also encouraged insurance companies to scale back their coverage.

Consumer Watchdog regularly challenges the applications for higher premiums that insurance companies submit to the state, an intervention allowed for under the 1988 ballot measure. Today, Lara also said he wants to make it easier for the public to see who intervenes and how much they are compensated for doing so.

"One entity is involved in nearly 75% of all interventions for rate approvals, materially benefiting from a process that is meant for a broader public participation," he said, referring to the nonprofit.

Lara also said that "throwing bombs is easy and putting out bombastic statements from entrenched interest groups doesn't benefit anyone."

Court said his organization would continue to fight back as the department drafts the detailed regulations. "We'll be battling over this stuff for many months to come," he said.

# Conquering the 'Midnight Express'

Police Officers Range and Curtis Take on Ultra Marathon

### Submitted by Warriorz Fitness

### LAKE TAHOE, CA / NV (MPG) -On Saturday, October 14, at

9:00 pm, history was made when SWAT Team Member Nick Range of the Elk Grove Police Department and SWAT Team Member Tyler Curtis of the Sacramento Police Department embarked on the daunting journey of "The 72 Mile Tahoe Midnight Express." Beginning from the Valet Parking area of the Hard Rock Hotel and culminating at Lakeside Beach, the event tested the duo's self-discipline and mental fortitude.

This legendary race has been heralded in books and magazines as one of the top 25 most challenging, yet stunningly picturesque ultra marathons in the U.S. Notably, the course poses a unique challenge, taking runners 6,200 feet above sea level and guiding them over undulating hills that fluctuate by hundreds of feet within short distances.

Before the 2023 race, only 14 racers had completed this formidable race in the past four years. SWAT Team Members Range and Curtis now join this elite group. They are the first and only representatives from both the Elk Grove and Sacramento Police Departments to ever sign up, take on, and triumphantly finish the race.

Their remarkable achievement serves as a testament to their dedication, resilience, and passion for pushing the boundaries of human endurance.  $\star$ 



EG Police SWAT member Nicholas Range (left) and Sac Police SWAT member Tyler Curtis (right). Photo Courtesy of Warriorz Fitness





Guests are on their way! Is your dining room ready?

We have over

60" Round Counter Table with Lazy Susan Trackback Barstool **5139** 

Dining Sets IN-STOCK & ready to go for your holiday entertaining!



42" x 60" Extension Table w/ 2-16" leave Side Chair **\$229** Buffet **\$1599** 



40" x 70" Table w/ 2-20" leaves Side Chair **\$199** 



reg \$1459

526111

40" x 80" Sheesham Table Side Chair **\$259** Bench **\$499** Sideboard **\$1549** 





"One Week Only!"

Side Chair \$239 Bench \$449

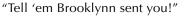
Brooklynn, CPO (Chief Persuasion Officer) 5th Generation, Naturwood Family





Mon – Sat 10am – 6pm • Sun 11am – 6pm

12125 Folsom Blvd. Rancho Cordova 916-351-0227 www.naturwood.com



Largest Selection of



Products

\*Sale applies to all indicated items except all "Clearance" and "Special Buys". Sale price not available in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Allow time for delivery on some items. Sale Ends 11/05/23.