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West Sacramento News Ledger

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Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964

DECEMBER 22, 2023

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Merry Christmas!



**Yolo County
Board of
Education
Selects New
Officers**



Yolo County Board of Education elected Shelton Yip as president. Courtesy photo



Armando Salud-Ambriz is vice president. Courtesy photo

YCOE News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - On Tuesday, December 12, the Yolo County Board of Education held its final meeting of 2023. The December meeting serves as the board's annual organizational meeting, which requires the selection of new officers.

Trustee Shelton Yip of Davis was elected president. In 2022, Yip was elected to a two-year term for Trustee Area 4, which covers central and south Davis. Yip also previously served as a Trustee on the board from 2012-2020.

Yip is a longtime Davis resident with over four decades of experience as an educator. He was employed for 27 years at Dixon Unified School District, where he served as a teacher, counselor, principal, and director of programs. For 10 years, he worked at Sacramento City Unified School District as the administrator of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA).

Trustee Armando Salud-Ambriz of Woodland was elected vice president. Salud-Ambriz was elected to his first term on the board in November 2022. He is serving a four-year term representing Trustee Area 5, which covers Esparto, Woodland, and Knights Landing.

Continued on page 4

The People That Make Our Community:

Theresa Saechao Rother - Author

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The most important thing that makes up any town is its people. The variety of histories and personal challenges that people have lived through and have grown from build a rich and diverse community. West Sacramento is no exception. This series is to highlight people in West Sacramento that create the fabric of our town.

Theresa Saechao Rother lives in West Sacramento with her husband and three children. Theresa was born in Thailand, where she lived until she was seven years old. Education is



Theresa and Josh Rother display their book *Three sisters and a Black Snake* at an ACC event. Photo courtesy of Theresa Saechao Rother

not as readily available in Thailand as it is in America and many people teach their children through

story-telling. Theresa and her two sisters heard many stories from Theresa's father as they grew up.

When Theresa was 7 years old, her family moved to South

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Senior Lounge Offers Variety of Social Programs and Events



Image by Silviu on the street from Pixabay

West Sacramento Community Center News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The West Sacramento Community Center features a Senior Lounge, where seniors can enjoy complimentary coffee and snacks while they explore a variety of social programs and events designed to keep them active and engaged.

The West Sacramento Community Center would like to announce the following upcoming free 2024 workshops opened to local seniors 50 or better. Membership is not required.

Cal Fresh Presents

Healthy Practice for Everyday Living, January 10th, 1 pm to 2 pm. Learn how to incorporate easy and healthy practices for everyday living. There will be free samples.

Live Strong and Safe, March 5th, 1 pm to 2 pm, presented by Agency on Aging, Area 4. Learn about consequences of falls in older adults and ways to prevent falls. Home safety will also be discussed, and a complimentary night light will be available to all participants at the end of the workshop.

How to Prevent Insurance Fraud and Scams, March 11th, 11 am to 12 pm, presented by California Department of

insurance. The presenter will discuss preventing fraud, financial abuse, common scams, insurance fraud and discuss the California Low-Cost insurance program.

Resources for Independent Living (RIL), April 5th, 11 am to 12 pm. RIL will discuss how to best prepare in case a disaster strikes.

CAL Fresh Presents Smart Strategies for Healthy Food Shopping, Planning And Preparation, April 10th, 1 pm to 2 pm. Learn smart strategies for healthy food shopping, planning and preparation. There will be free samples at the end of the workshop.

Student Artists Invited to 2024 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Art Contest

Yolo County News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - The Yolo County Community Services Department's Sustainability Division, in collaboration with the Yolo County Library and the Yolo County Youth Commission, is excited to host a calendar art contest open to K-12th grade students in Yolo County. Winners will receive a Certificate of Achievement, prizes, and their submissions will be featured in a 2024 Back-to-School Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Awareness Calendar. Student artists are asked to illustrate their response to one of the following prompts:

What does a healthy planet Earth look like to you? What wild animals would you like to see stay in Yolo County? What can people do to help stop climate change? What does a healthy Yolo County look like to you? What does climate action in Yolo County look like to you? How do you like to protect the environment?

Winners will be chosen from four grade categories: K-3, 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12, with three winners selected in each category. The winning artwork will be featured as monthly pages in the 2024 CAAP Awareness Calendar. All other submissions will be compiled into a collage to be displayed in the calendar. All entries must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 1, 2024. Participants can submit their illustrations at the front counter of all Yolo County Library Branches and at the Yolo County Department of Community Services Building.

In 2020, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors set the goal of achieving a carbon-negative footprint by 2030, with a focus on equity and justice. The CAAP is a roadmap that outlines the actions Yolo County will take to meet this greenhouse reduction goal and help our community be more resilient to climate change. Driven by extensive public input, the CAAP will include recommendations for reducing emissions, safeguarding natural resources, increasing renewable energy adoption, supporting the flourishing climate resilient agricultural practices already established in Yolo County, and more.

Yolo County youth are driving local climate action in our community, serving as leaders, agents of change, and innovators. This art contest is an opportunity to highlight their inspiring visions of what it means to live on a healthy planet, how to protect the environment, and ways Yolo County can thrive as a sustainable, resilient, and climate aware community for generations to come.

For more information, including complete contest rules, registration forms, and drop-off locations, visit the Sustainability Division's website at www.YoloCounty.org/CAAPArtContest or connect with the Division on Facebook (www.Facebook.com/YoloCountyClimateActionandSustainability/) and Instagram (@yolosustainability). Please email questions and inquiries to Sustainability@YoloCounty.org ★

Yolo County Landfill Offering Solutions for Holiday Waste

Yolo County News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - From December 26 to January 15, Yolo County residents have the opportunity to recycle up to two holiday trees for free at the Yolo County Central Landfill (YCCL) at 44090 County Road 28H in Woodland or at the Esparto Convenience Center at 27075 County Road 19A in Esparto. YCCL's tree-cycling process transforms holiday trees into valuable, renewable, and recyclable resources. Trees are biodegradable and will be processed at the county's state-of-the-art composting facility, converting them back into organic matter. Before processing, residents are reminded to ensure that trees are free of all ornaments, flocking, tinsel, garland, and lights.

The community is also encouraged to gift time to loved ones by assisting them with the safe collection and disposal of hazardous waste this holiday season. By helping friends and family clean out their storage sheds, garages, or barns and bringing items like batteries, bulbs, paints, and cleaners to YCCL's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off event every Thursday, Friday,

and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., you can contribute toward Yolo County's climate goals. This program is free for Yolo County residents and is conveniently located at YCCL. An excess of hazardous chemicals or old medications can pose risks at home and environmentally if stored improperly. If assisting someone elderly, take advantage of the free at-home pickup program by calling (530) 666-8856 to schedule hazardous waste collection at their doorstep. Residents aged 65 or older or those with a disability may request this service at no charge year-round.

Millions of tons of electronic waste are generated annually during the holidays. If you receive generous gifts such as an upgraded phone, tablet, or television, responsibly offload your previous devices at YCCL. Yolo County residents can recycle electronic waste for free by placing all broken and unrepairable devices in YCCL's recycling totes or by donating working electronics to the Big Blue Barn thrift store.

Holiday parties are another excellent opportunity to practice waste reduction. Minimize waste by using compostable paper plates and napkins, before tossing all food

waste and food-soiled paper into the curbside organics container and cleaning any silverware. Be sure to sort Recycle California Redemption Value (CRV) bottles and cans into a blue bin during holiday festivities in order to start 2024 with a cash reward.

YCCL and the Esparto Transfer Station will be closed on December 25 and January 1 in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day. All other services will be available during YCCL's normal operating hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The Esparto Convenience Center will maintain its regular schedule of every Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and the Big Blue Barn will be open every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a 50% sale on Saturday, January 20, 2024, to support a sustainable start to the new year.

Yolo County extends its gratitude to everyone for properly recycling, composting, and disposing of waste this holiday season. For more information on waste reduction programs offered by the Department of Community Services, Division of Integrated Waste Management, call (530) 666-8856 or visit www.YoloCounty.org/Landfill ★

The People That Make Our Community

Continued from page 1

Sacramento. Her parents opened a popular Thai restaurant in downtown Sacramento. Theresa started school at Newcomers Elementary School, a school designed to help immigrant children adapt to their new home. Theresa went through school in Oak Park, eventually going to Sac State, while working at her parents' restaurant.

As an adult, Theresa worked and became a member of the Asian Chamber of Commerce, was featured in the Sacramento Business Journal and was very active in business throughout Sacramento. However, Theresa's dream was always to be an author. She wanted to write children's books. She wanted to tell some of the stories that her father had told her over the years.

In 2012 she met her husband Josh Rother, who happened to be an artist. The two shared a love for creating. Theresa and Josh got married and began their family. Eight years ago, they moved that family to West Sacramento. Then COVID hit. Like many people, Theresa found herself unable to work. She decided that this was the perfect time to follow her dream and write a children's book.

Theresa wrote Three Sisters and the Black Snake. This was based on a story that her father told them when they were small. The Characters in the book even carry the names of family members. The story has an Asian setting and is basically about how good things happen to those

that deserve them. Theresa's husband Josh did the illustrations for Theresa's books.

Theresa's second book is called Fish for Dinner. It also includes touches of the Lu Mien culture. "In the old days," Theresa said, "living in the countryside as villagers/farmers, which was how my parents grew up. The less fortunate (poor) ate less meat and ate more fish due to what they can afford to eat. Even when it comes to eating fish, when you invite your guests over for a meal, you hope they don't eat the bottom side of the fish, only the top side, so you can save the bottom side of the fish for your own family/children to eat after. But when the guest 'flips the fish' over to eat the bottom, you worry that there is no more fish left for your family. The joke in the story is children are watching the guests closely eat the fish, when they spot the 'fish has been flipped' they shout out loud which should have been kept quiet so it's not embarrassing in front of the guests." At the end of the story is a Thai recipe for cooking Baked Striped Bass

Theresa plans to continue to write diverse children's books. Theresa's books can be found at Barnes & Nobles, at Target's online store and on Amazon Books, or you can email her at Theresa@tjstorybooks.com. Hopefully, West Sacramento will support a local author and show your children to follow their dreams by showing them how Theresa is following hers. ★

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West Sac PD Protecting and Wrapping



Ashley Irby representing WSPD while nearly 2500 toys for the children of West Sacramento are prepared.

Story and photo by Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - West Sacramento Police are so short-handed that they are all working mandatory overtime just to keep officers on our streets, but now that the holidays are here, most of them are putting in even more time. "This is our favorite time of year," said Taylor Nelson, Division Manager of Community Outreach and Support, "and we are already all hands on deck, but our people are really stepping up."

Taylor explained that generally they have 300-400 registrations for toy drive gifts. Last year jumped to 561 registrations. This year it jumped to 800 registrations. The child must be school aged and a West Sacramento

resident. However, for those that have circumstances that make it difficult to provide proof, the program will still work with you. Every registrant receives three wrapped gifts. The parents can either come pick them up, or have them delivered. Usually there are two teams that make the deliveries, but this year that number will be doubled.

So, where do those 2400 toys come from? The Police Department has been collecting toys since the beginning of November. Some are donated, like the ones from the Trail Riders, some were donated by West Sac Play, a motorcycle group did a toy run, and a number of financial donations come in to help support the program. With that money, Police Department staff

and volunteers go shopping for the gifts. In addition, stores like Old Navy gave them a discount on coats and Walmart is always good to folks in Blue.

The Police Department has had the Volunteer in Policing group wrapping presents for hours on end, every day for the last couple of weeks. In addition, staff from City Hall have come over and wrapped. Also, if any PD employees have any down time, they come in and wrap. The Chief's advisory committee came in and wrapped. And of course, if any officers have a chance, they go in and wrap as well.

The caravan teams is to deliver gifts Wednesday, December 21st and those parents that will be picking up the gifts will do that on Friday, December 22nd. ★

Pot Dispensaries Are Getting Closer

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The City of West Sacramento (COWS) held a second workshop to obtain guidance from City Council on the process and requirements that will be established for those interested in obtaining a Cannabis Retail License. This is the license needed to open a cannabis dispensary in West Sacramento. The Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) has of course established a set of guidelines and requirements to do any kind of cannabis business, but cities have room to establish their own policy considerations on top of state laws.

West Sacramento has been trying to figure out the specifics on how licensing will be defined. They have worked out most of those details and soon will be accepting applications. There will be two types of licensing applications: Equity and General

Cannabis Retail License applications. An equity application will be an application from someone who resides in a disadvantaged neighborhood or someone who may have been arrested for cannabis when cannabis was illegal. That is to say, having this type of arrest record will not automatically disqualify you.

West Sacramento City Council is insistent that they want to initially give those people that qualify for an equity application a head start on the licensing process. This does not guarantee that their license will be approved prior to anyone else's (there are too many reasons for possible delay from either side), but it should give them a good chance. The City is just trying to give "the little guy", or newcomer, a chance to get established before someone who already has a string of dispensaries comes in and is already prepared for the process because they've

been through it before.

Those that don't qualify for an equity application will have to file a general application. In the recent workshop, the Council spoke with David Tilly, Principle Planner of the Community Development Department, about details. The Council was very clear that they want the equity applications handled first. "The staff is just the nuts and bolts of how you will receive applications," David said. "We just follow the direction from the council."

Equity applications are expected to be available in January of 2024, with a tentative date for General applications availability beginning January of 2025. For further questions and information, as well as assistance programs that may be available, please contact the Community Development Department at 916-617-4645 Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 3:00 pm. Walk-in services are available 10am-11am and 2pm-3pm Monday through Friday. ★



West Sacramento Community Center Gallery Exhibits the Art of Reggie Turner

By Michele Townsend

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - West Sacramento Community Center Gallery located at 1075 W. Capitol Ave., held this month's reception to spotlight local artist Reggie Turner. Reggie uses fluid acrylic, along with a variety of other mediums to create beautiful abstract art that can be viewed at the Gallery. The art will be displayed through the end of December and might be that unique gift that you are looking for a special someone.

Reggie says that she has always had an artistic side, but only recently has she started to pursue it. She enjoys creating, while it gives her an escape to the hustles and bustles of life. Reggie's art ranges in price from \$25 to \$400. If you are interested in purchasing some of Reggie's art, you can reach her at: Reggie_033@hotmail.com Instagram: reggieturnerart03 or Facebook: Art by Reggie ★



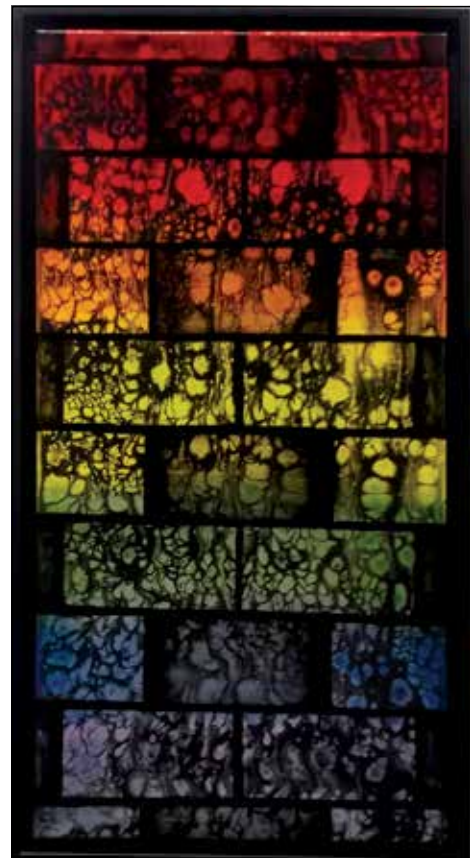
Reggie Turner posing by her favorite piece, now on display at the Gallery on 1075 W. Capitol Ave. in the West Sacramento Community Center. Photo by Michele Townsend



Acrylic on canvas created by Reggie Turner in 2022. Image courtesy of Michele Townsend



Reggie uses fluid acrylic, along with a variety of other mediums to create beautiful abstract art. Image courtesy of Michele Townsend



The art pieces displaying Reggie's talent at the Gallery are available for purchase through the month of December. Image courtesy of Michele Townsend

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Giants & KNBR FanFest Tour to Make Stop in Sacramento

Sacramento River Cats News Release

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (MPG) - On Thursday, Dec. 14, the San Francisco Giants introduced the Giants & KNBR FanFest Tour 2024 – an evolution of their traditional preseason fan event. Known as a single-day San Francisco-based event, Giants & KNBR FanFest has transformed into a four-stop Northern California series, which kicks off in Sacramento at Sutter Health Park on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Giants & KNBR FanFest Tour will expand beyond San Francisco, providing opportunities for fans to interact with their beloved team prior to Spring Training in Scottsdale. This year's iteration will feature four events with current Giants players, coaches, alumni, VIP guests and Lou Seal. The final stop will feature a Spring Training-inspired Open House at Oracle Park with Giants alumni.

As a proud affiliate of the San Francisco Giants, the Sacramento River Cats and their home of Sutter Health Park will host the first stop of the tour on Jan. 20. At the event, fans will have the chance to receive autographs, participate in Q&A sessions, purchase merchandise, and much more. Scheduled to appear at the event is Rocklin, CA, native and Giants ace Logan Webb, along with other current teammates and coaches.

"We are thrilled to host the first stop of the Giants & KNBR FanFest Tour," said Sarah Hebel, Sacramento River Cats director of marketing. "Player and fan interaction is an integral part of the Sutter Health Park fan experience, so River Cats fans will no doubt look forward to this extended opportunity to connect with local product Logan Webb among other Giants favorites."

Outside of Sacramento, the tour will also make stops in San Jose (Jan. 24)

and Napa (Feb. 3) before concluding at Oracle Park (March 9). Giants tickets for the 2024 baseball season will be available for purchase at each tour stop, along with other special offers for those in attendance.

"We are continuously listening to our fans to ensure we are delivering what they want," said Rachel Heit, chief marketing officer of the San Francisco Giants. "With the reimagining of Giants & KNBR FanFest in 2024, we're giving Giants fans even more opportunities and flexibility to connect with their team, while improving and expanding upon a beloved preseason event."

To learn more about the giants & KNBR FanFest Tour 2024, visit rivercats.com and click on the FanFest icon. Fans can also visit mlb.com/giants/fans/fanfest. For more, follow along with @SFGiants on Instagram, X, TikTok, YouTube, and Facebook. ★

Yolo County Board of Education Selects New Officers

Continued from page 1

The Yolo County Board of Education makes decisions regarding the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE), including approving the annual county office budget and acting as the appeals board for student expulsions, inter-district transfers, and charter school petitions. The

Board also encourages the involvement of families and communities and is a vehicle for citizen access to communication about YCOE programs and services.

Additional information on the Board of Education can be located on the Yolo County Office of Education website at www.ycoe.org ★

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Made It Home for Christmas

*A brother calls from Alaska
another calls collect*

*A sister calls from south L.A.
As we guess who's calling next*

*As we grow a little older
each one's sure to realize
how Dad and Mom worked and saved
to put presents before our eyes*

*Our family spans the world now
spreading all that we have learned
from cold showers every holiday
to every Christmas we have earned*

*Christmas Day is changing
We're getting older every year
but its warmth abounds in memories
and in wishing you were here*

*So from Mom and Dad's prayers go out
to our families and their youths
to their hopes and dreams of doing well
and in living Christmas truths*

— Paul V. Scholl

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info@trinitywestsac.org
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Spanish Ministry Pastor: Miryam Osorio
Sunday Worship Services:
10 a.m. Blended/Traditional
Noon Spanish Language

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Sun. Worship - 11 a.m.
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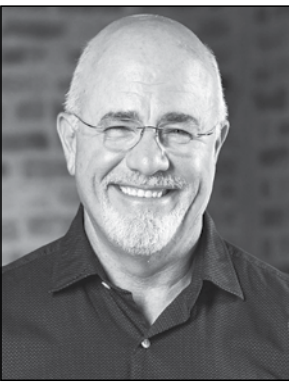


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Don't Be Afraid To Start Small

Dave Ramsey Says

things off the ground. That should be a guideline for every entrepreneur.

But guess what? You may have more money on hand than you think. You're a little heavy on your emergency fund right now. I recommend people have three to six months of expenses set aside for emergencies. You could back your emergency fund down to six months of expenses, and move the extra over to an account designated for your business. After that, grow it slowly each month until you have enough to open your doors. You'd be surprised how much cash will pile up, even if you save just a little bit at a time.

The big thing, Kirsten, is don't be afraid to start small. Don't despise humble beginnings. Some of the best and most successful companies in America started as micro-businesses or cottage industries. I literally started my company

on a card table in my living room. It's easier and safer in a lot of ways. So, I love the wisdom you're showing by wanting to keep your full-time job while starting the business online.

So, yeah. Take three or four months of expenses out of your emergency fund, and move it to a designated business account. Watch your budget carefully, and keep spending to a minimum. Above all, don't take your business into debt. Grow it at the speed of cash. The best, most successful businesses don't outrun their money and other resources!

- Dave

Leadership and small-business expert Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored eight national bestselling books, including **EntreLeadership, and is a host of **The Ramsey Show** and **The EntreLeadership Podcast**.* ★

Information Session Prepares Yolo County Employers for 2024 Labor Law Changes

Yolo County News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - A number of major labor law changes are on the horizon for California employers in 2024. To help support Yolo County businesses, YoloWorks!, the Yolo County Workforce Innovation Board, and the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency have partnered with the California Employers Association (CEA) to provide a series of free informational webinars for Yolo County businesses.

The first webinar, 2024 Labor Law Update, will take place virtually on Thursday, January 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Here are just a few of the upcoming California labor law changes which CEA will cover at the annual Labor Law Update:

Increased mandatory paid sick leave to a full week; New written Workplace Violence Prevention Plan requirement; New cannabis-use rights and restrictions on drug testing; Increased minimum wage and exempt salary minimum;

New National Labor Relations Board Standard impacting employee handbook policies; Revised criminal history regulations; Fundamental changes for fast food chains, including a \$20/hour minimum wage

Employers can register for this event online at www.YoloCounty.org/YCWIB2024 or by visiting www.YoloCounty.org. For more information, please contact Erica Johnson, Workforce Board Director at Erica.Johnson@YoloCounty.org or (530) 631-2289. ★

Dear Dave,

I'd like to slowly start a business online while working my regular job. But even though I'm in pretty good financial shape, I don't have much money left at the end of the month. I have no debt except for my house, and I also have nine months of expenses in my emergency fund. How can I start my business without borrowing the money?

- Kristin

Dear Kristin,

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Miscellaneous

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Randomized Alphabet Drawing Announced for March 5 Presidential Primary Election

Yolo County Elections Office News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - The Yolo County Elections Office will hold a randomized alphabet drawing to determine the order in which candidates' names appear on the March 5, 2024, Presidential Primary Election ballot. The drawing will be conducted at

the Yolo County Elections Office at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2023. The office is located at 625 Court Street, Room B 05, Woodland, CA 95695. All interested members of the public are invited to observe the drawing in person or online via livestream on our social media account. The Elections Office

encourages residents to connect with Yolo County ACE – Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Elections on Facebook: @YoloACE, Instagram: @YoloCoACE, Threads: @YoloCoACE, YouTube: @Yolo County ACE, TikTok: @yoloceace and X:@YoloCoACE to receive the most up to date information.

Crime Reports WEST SACRAMENTO



- 12-05-23 ERIC CROSSMAN Arrested for Obstruction, Possession of Paraphernalia, Shoplifting, Possession of Burglary tools, Felony warrant after Police were on special operation at Target regarding shoplifting.
- 12-08-23 JEFFREY DARNEL Arrested for Petty theft retail.
- 12-09-23 MICHAEL SANDERS Arrested for Grand theft after being asked to empty his backpack for the investigator at his job and allegedly 11 iphones came out.
- 12-09-23 CHRISTINA FLORES Arrested for Disorderly conduct: Alcohol.
- 12-10-23 CASILLAS STEPHANIE Arrested for grand theft.
- 12-12-23 NIKOLAS CABALLERO Arrested for Felon in possession of firearm, Carrying a loaded firearm, Carrying a loaded handgun not registered owner, Prohibited person possessing ammunition, Carrying concealed weapon in vehicle w/ prior conviction, Carrying concealed weapon prohibited class, Carry loaded firearm with prior felony conviction, Contempt of court.

INCIDENT/CRIME REPORTS

- 12-05-23 Subject arrested for multiple offenses after allegedly committing theft, running from Police, being in possession of burglary tools and drug paraphernalia. \$382 loss. Obstruction, Possession of unlawful paraphernalia, shoplifting, possession of burglary tools, felony warrant.
- 12-05-23 Reporting person's window was shattered on his van and his briefcase was stolen. \$8,075 loss. Burglary.
- 12-08-23 Subject cited and released for petty theft. Suspect allegedly stole merchandise from store. \$936 loss. Petty theft.
- 12-12-23 Father and son got into a verbal fight, Father vandalized son's vehicle and son pinned his father to the ground until the Police arrived.
- 12-10-23 Target Loss Prevention suspect who was allegedly shoplifting. \$1,880 loss. Grand theft.

MPG CALL 916-773-1111 TO ADVERTISE

West Sacramento News Briefs

MPG Staff

Parks & Rec Parents Night Out – Parks & Recreation will be holding Parents Night Out on Friday, December 22, 2023 at 6:00 – 9:00pm. Drop your kids off and finish shopping, wrap some gifts or enjoy the evening

with that special someone. Parents Night Out will be at the West Sacramento Recreation Center, located at 2801 Jefferson Blvd. \$10 for Pass holders, \$15 for Non-pass holders, Register at cityofwestsacramento.org
West Sac Repair Café – Fix your bike or sew

your clothes. Come to Turner Library, located at 1212 Merkley Ave. for this month's Repair Café! December 30th, 2023 from 10am – 1pm. Join us!
Want to stop drinking, but can't? – Call the Alcoholics Anonymous 24/7 Hotline at (916) 454-1100. Rides are available. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230925
The following person(s) is doing business as: El Cezar Restaurant, 2248 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Sandra Jaqueline Benitez and Cesar Antonio Benitez, 2728 Northview Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833. This business is conducted by A Married Couple. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/11/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023
CEZAR 12-22-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230975
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
1. L'Academy Language Immersion Preschool, 2. L'Academy Preschool, 2500 Cannery Loop building r, Davis, CA 95616 County of YOLO
Mailing Address: 301 Mission St, 11C, San Francisco, CA 94105
Immersion 10 LLC, 301 Mission St 11C, San Francisco, CA 94105
This business is conducted by a limited liability company
The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
Immersion 10 LLC
S/ Helena Geng, Manager,
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on [FileDate].
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
KQUAM, Deputy
12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22/23
CNS-3756321#
NEWS-LEDGER 12-22-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230983
The following person(s) is doing business as:
Manna Beverages & Ventures, 2150 Stone Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, County of Yolo. Mailing Address: 3309 Collins Ln., Louisville, KY 40245
MBV-CA, LLC, 3309 Collins Ln., Louisville, Kentucky 40245
This business is conducted by Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
S/ Derrick Register, President
MBV-CA, LLC
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/21/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: Jramirez, Deputy
Publish: 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22/23
CNS-3760789#
NEWS-LEDGER 12-22-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230990
The following person(s) is doing business as: Staybridge Suites Woodland, Sacramento International Airport, 1484 E. Main Street, Woodland, CA 95776
Sah Investment LLC, 1731 Research Park Drive Suite 101, Davis, CA 95618. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on February 19, 2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/22/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023
STAYBRIDGE 12-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230967
The following person(s) is doing business as: Vitamin G, 265 Woodhaven Place, West Sacramento, CA 95605
Gianna Flores, 265 Woodhaven Place, West Sacramento, CA 95605. This business is conducted by An Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/14/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023
VITAMIN 12-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230984
The following person(s) is doing business as:
1. **Alumi-Cover Awning, 2. Westland Distributing, 1500 Overland Court, Suite #110 West Sacramento, CA 95691.** County of Yolo
Mailing Address: 2450 Enterprise Street Fremont, OH 43420. Style Crest, Inc., 2450 Enterprise Street Fremont, OH 43420
This business is conducted by Corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A
S/ Tryone G. Frantz, CFO Treasurer & Secretary Style Crest, Inc.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/21/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
By: Jramirez, Deputy
Publish: 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/23
CNS-3761279#
NEWS-LEDGER 12-29-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20231007
The following person(s) is doing business as: Wake Forest, 1313 Wake Forest Drive, Davis, CA 95616.
Shiuh-Wuu Lee GP, 18853 Alendale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070 and Shiuh-Kai Lee GP, 268 Oak Grove Avenue, Atherton, CA 94027. This business is conducted by A General Partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 11, 1996.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 12/1/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 15, 22, 29, 2023 Jan 5, 2024
WAKE 1-5-23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 20230996
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
Three Rivers Heating and Air, 707 Aldridge Road, Vacaville, CA 95688 County of SOLANO
Mailing Address: 707 Aldridge Road, Vacaville, CA 95688
Blue Mountain Construction Services, Inc., 707 Aldridge Road, Vacaville, CA 95688
This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.
Blue Mountain Construction Services, Inc.
S/ Sandra Grouf, Treasurer/Secretary
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/28/2023.
Jesse Salinas, County Clerk/Recorder
Kquard, Deputy
12/15, 12/22, 12/29/23, 1/5/24
CNS-3764171#
NEWS-LEDGER 1/5/24

The following person(s) is doing business as: Spotless Bookkeeping LLC, 2979 Spruce Way, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Spotless Bookkeeping LLC, 2979 Spruce Way, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by A Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 1, 2018.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/27/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 22, 29, 2023 Jan 5, 12, 2024
SPOTLESS 1-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. F20230921
The following person(s) is doing business as: EZ Kidz Equipment Rentals, 3248 San Vicente Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691.
Robert Louis Matthews II and Shelby Ann Matthews, 3248 San Vicente Road, West Sacramento, CA 95691. This business is conducted by A Married Couple. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 30, 2023.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 10/31/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 22, 29, 2023 Jan 5, 12, 2024
EZKIDZ 1-12-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2023-2337
Angelina Blair has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Angelina Blair to Elena Vinogradova.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on January 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 11, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: November 15, 2023
David Power, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023
BLAIR 12-22-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF YOLO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
#CV2023-2325
Rosa Maria Garcia has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Rosa Maria Garcia to Rosa Maria Galvan.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on January 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 9, located at 1000 Main Street Woodland, CA 95695 and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: November 27, 2023
Timothy L. Fall, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023
GARCIA 12-29-23

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. F20230944
The person(s) or entity listed below are abandoning the use of the following fictitious business name(s): Short Night Farm,

30130 County Road 5, Dunigan, CA 95937.
The fictitious business name was originally filed in Yolo County on December 13, 2022, and is being abandoned by the registrant(s) listed below: Jeffrey Edward McAravy and Aruni B McAravy, 30130 County Road 5, Dunigan, CA 95937.
The business was conducted by: A General Partnership.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yolo County on 11/7/2023.
By: Jesse Salinas, Deputy
Publish: Dec 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023
SHORT 12-22-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF KELLEY ANNE WILCOX CASE NO. PR2023-0275
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Kelley Anne Wilcox aka Kelley Wilcox. A petition for probate has been filed by Matthew Scott Wilcox, in the superior court of California, county of Yolo, requesting Matthew Scott Wilcox be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the independent administration of estates act. (This authority will allow the 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: 01/26/24 at 9:00AM in Dept. TBD located at 1000 MAIN STREET, WOODLAND, CA 95695
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the 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 you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are 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 JOHN J. PUGH - SBN 122719 655 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, #100 SACRAMENTO CA 95825 Telephone (916) 927-1800
Publish: 12/22, 12/29/23, 1/5/24
CNS-3766952#
NEWS-LEDGER 1-5-24

LIEN SALE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
1022 Gibson Rd, Woodland, Ca, 95695 on 1/3/24 @11am:
Nalini Jain garage items: Jessica Luna Household Goods/ Furniture: Brent Freeman Household Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment
19389 County Rd 102, Woodland, Ca, 95776 on 1/3/24 @2pm: Justin Liberman House-

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ROBERT AIELLO JR.

CASE NO. PR2023-0301
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROBERT AIELLO JR.. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TAMMIE AIELLO in the Superior Court of California, County of YOLO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TAMMIE AIELLO 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: 01/26/24 at 9:00AM in Dept. TBD located at 1000 MAIN STREET, WOODLAND, CA 95695
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the 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 you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are 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 JOHN J. PUGH - SBN 122719 655 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, #100 SACRAMENTO CA 95825 Telephone (916) 927-1800
Publish: 12/22, 12/29/23, 1/5/24
CNS-3766952#
NEWS-LEDGER 1-5-24

hold Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment, Tools/ Appliances, Office Furn/Machines/ Equip, Landsc 1100 N 1st St, Dixon, Ca, 95620 on 1/3/24 @2pm: Ryan McNamee Household Goods: Charles Harvey Household Goods/ Furniture: Michael Belyea Household Goods/ Furniture: Heidi Hirt Household Goods/ Furniture: Charles Harvey Household Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment: Karen Holt Household Goods/ Furniture: Zachariah Porter Household Goods/ Furniture: Jolie Zook Household Goods/ Furniture: Raul Vicencio Household Goods/ Furniture, Tools/ Appliances: Patrick Conely Household Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment, Tools/ Appliances: Patrick Conely Household Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment, Tools/ Appliances: Patrick Conely Household Goods/ Furniture, TV/ Stereo Equipment, Landscaping/ Construction Equip 975 F St, West Sacramento, Ca, 95605 on 1/3/24 @11am: Jason Madison household goods: Gary Moreno clothes personal items
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may resend any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
Publish: 12/15, 12/22/23
CNS-3765416#
NEWS-LEDGER 12/22/23

CITATION FOR PUBLICATION

CITATION FOR PUBLICATION UNDER CALIFORNIA WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 294
To: STEPHEN B HARRINGTON And anyone claiming to be a Parent of: LSH Born on: September 2, 2012
At: Sutter Memorial Hospital, Sacramento, CA
A hearing will be held on Date: FEBRUARY 8, 2024
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept.: Juvenile
Room: TBA
Located at: Superior Court of California County of Butte
One Court Street, Oroville, CA 9565
At the hearing the Court will consider the recommendation of the social worker or probation officer. The social worker or probation officer will recommend that your child be freed from your legal custody so that the child may be adopted. If the Court follows the recommendation, all your parental rights to the child will be terminated. You are required to be present at the hearing, to present evidence, and you have the right to be represented by an attorney. If you do not have an attorney and cannot afford one, the Court will appoint an attorney for you. If the Court terminates your Parental rights, the order may be final.
The Court will proceed with this hearing whether or not you are present.
Signed: SHARIF ELMALLAH, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California and for the County of Butte
Dated: November 20, 2023 Case Number: 19DP00258
Published on: December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023
West Sac News Ledger 12-22-23





Riley Reviews

“MAY DECEMBER” EXPLORES A SEX SCANDAL;
“ARCHIE” ON BRITBOX

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

“MAY DECEMBER” RATED R

Anyone remembering sex scandals of the late Nineties (not involving Monica Lewinsky) may recall the tabloid fodder story of Mary Kay Letourneau, a 35-year-old teacher convicted of child rape in a sexual relationship with a sixth-grade student.

The Netflix film “May December” is an unsettling reminder of a case of pedophilia that should not be normalized under any circumstance. The characters here are fictional, with the Letourneau story merely a twisted premise for a fraught history of predatory scandal.

Natalie Portman’s Elizabeth is a Hollywood actress preparing for some method acting by exploring first-hand the story of the older woman Gracie (Julianne Moore) having an affair outside her marriage with a 13-year-old co-worker at a pet store.

The child who had sex with Gracie in the store’s stockroom is now 36-year-old Joe (Charles Melton). The scandal happened more than 20 years ago, and even though Joe and Gracie are married and living in Savannah, Georgia, the couple may never escape the opprobrium of the townsfolk.

Embedding herself with the family, Elizabeth took interest in the script of an indie film to take the starring role, thinking aloud that in Gracie she sees “a woman with a lot more to her than I remember from the tabloids and our cultural memory.”

Elizabeth sits down with Gracie’s ex-husband Tom (D.W. Moffett), and discovers that to this day he has not gotten over the shock of being married to a then 36-year-old woman having an affair with a seventh-grade student.

As the affair led to pregnancy, Joe and Gracie have three children, the oldest being Honor (Piper Curda) coming home from college with a chip on her shoulder, while the younger twins Mary (Elizabeth Yu) and Charlie (Gabriel Chung) are about to graduate from high school.

“May December” moves at a laborious pace, seemingly entreating the viewer to savor the dialogue and parse the words for hidden meaning, while figuring out whether the emotions and feelings of the characters reveal some sort of truth.

Throughout the movie, it seems all too often that family members from Gracie and Joe to their three children say things are “fine” when one senses the expression cloaks a deeper sense of anguish bubbling under the surface.

As the film closes with Elizabeth on set with a young lover, I am at a loss on the symbolism of the garden snake she holds, but then the supposed edgy, dark

humor also doesn’t resonate in a meaningful way for me. Viewers will need to arrive at their own suppositions.

Even though the focus is apparently Natalie Portman’s Elizabeth analyzing the essence of Julian Moore’s Gracie for her film role, “May December” belongs in great part to Charlie Melton’s Joe, a man-child at a crossroads in processing the reality of life.

“ARCHIE” ON BRITBOX

The four-part series “Archie” on BritBox is about the life of Hollywood leading man Gary Grant, who was born in Bristol, England in 1904 with the given name of Archibald Alexander Leach.

Tracing his troubled childhood in a family living in extreme poverty, Archie’s story as a child had to deal with his father’s adultery and the loss of his older brother John that tore the family apart and sent his loving mother into a downward spiral of grief and depression.

At fourteen, Archie auditioned for the music hall act of the Bob Pender Troupe, a band of acrobats, stilt walkers, clowns and comedians after seeing them perform at the Bristol Hippodrome.

Lean and athletic, Archie learned the art of stilt walking, and when the troupe went on tour to the United States, teenage Archie was intoxicated by the land of opportunity. Believing he had no family to return to in England, he decided to stay in America to try to make his way in show business.

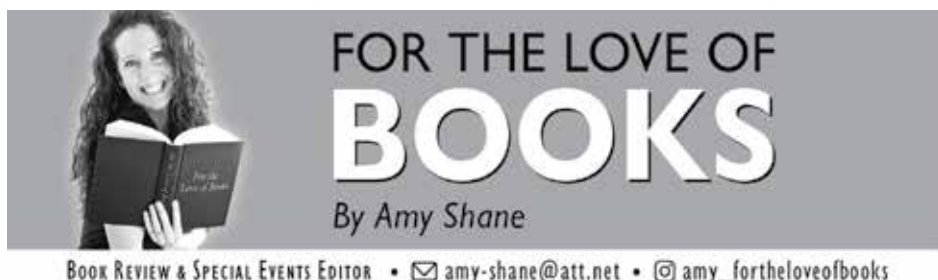
With no thoughts of acting, a chance meeting with the comedian George Burns helped him find his first footing on the acting ladder and a contract with a movie studio who felt he needed to change his name, and Cary Grant was born.

The drama intercuts with scenes from 1961 when at the height of his fame, living in Benedict Canyon, Los Angeles, the legendary actor (Jason Isaacs) was breaking all box office records, but desperately unhappy in his private life.

With two failed marriages behind him, Cary began to woo an actress he’d seen on a TV show, Dyan Cannon (Laura Aikman). Thirty-three years his junior, Dyan didn’t initially fall for his charms, turning down his attempts to meet, because she didn’t feel they could ever be a match.

Dashingly handsome, suave, and sophisticated, Cary continued to pursue her, with introductions to his famous friends, until they eventually wed in Las Vegas in 1965. The marriage didn’t last long but the couple had a daughter.

With the blessing of Cary Grant’s daughter, Jennifer Grant, and ex-wife Dyan Cannon, the pair serve as Executive Producers of “Archie.” Dainton Anderson, Calam Lynch, and Oaklee Pendergast pay young versions of Archie Leach. ★



BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

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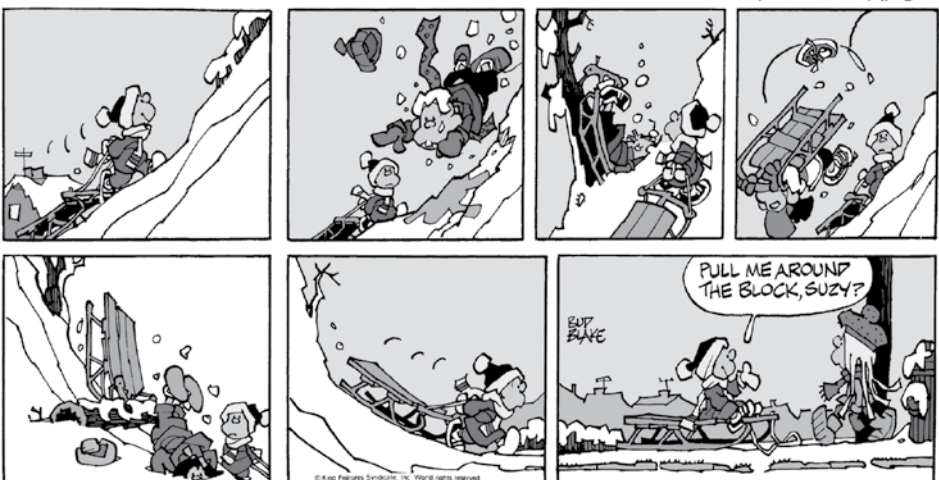
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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ACROSS

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- Priestly vestment
- Took to court
- Haile Selassie's disciple
- 10 decibels
- *Appletini's schnapps
- Rose oil
- Maui garland
- Birth-related
- *Old Fashioned liquor option
- *Gin+vermouth rosso+Campari
- Not him
- Bye, in Palermo
- VA.gov beneficiary
- Puerto follower
- Like Ferris Bueller
- Exclude
- " ___ Your Enthusiasm"
- Green-light
- Tiny coffee cup, or ___-tasse
- Cut mission short
- Not final or absolute
- Makes a sweater
- Wing-shaped
- Bird, in Latin
- One with drug dependency
- Do like a frog
- A U.S. time zone
- Dance with #17

DOWN

- Religious split
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- *Tequila+grapefruit juice+sparkling water
- Kind of golf course
- Razor sharpener
- S.A.T. section
- Balm ingredient
- Baptism or shiva, e.g.
- Asian weight unit
- John Galsworthy's "The Forsyte ___"
- Nukes
- Sewing case
- Gym set
- * ___'s Knees
- Sticking point, in alimentary tract
- Possesses, archaic
- *Bellini with ___ Spumante
- Squirrel away
- a.k.a. felt-pen
- Completely
- M tley Cr e's Tommy
- Russian pancakes
- Practice in the ring
- As far as (2 words)
- Distinctive flair
- Place for a hero
- Fluffy sweater material
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- 2010 Movie " ___ Pray Love"
- Toyota model
- *Moscow Mule spirit
- Make corrections
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Yolo County DA Awarded Grant from the OTS for Specialized DUI Prosecution Team

Yolo County DA News Release

WOODLAND, CA (MPG) - The Yolo County District Attorney's Office will continue to have a specialized prosecution team that handles alcohol and drug-impaired driving cases through a \$213,311 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

According to Yolo County District Attorney's Commons Data Transparency portal (<https://www.measuresforjustice.org/commons/yoloda>), since 2020, driving under the influence (DUI) investigations referred to the District Attorney from local police, CHP, and Sheriff for criminal charges have increased. Recent jury trial convictions, as well as numerous other DUIs that have resulted in pleas, highlight a disturbing and troubling trend of DUIs with Blood Alcohol Contents (BACs) vastly beyond the legal limit of .08. A BAC that is double or triple this rate is an exponentially greater danger to other drivers on the road and the community as a whole.

"Impaired driving is a growing problem, particularly with drivers suspected of operating a vehicle

under the influence of both alcohol and drugs," Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig said. "This program allows us to focus specifically on holding those who decide to drive impaired accountable for their dangerous actions."

The specialized prosecution team will also partner with the statewide Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Training Program (TSRP) to collaborate with law enforcement agencies on best practices for handling and managing DUI cases.

Yolo County's Deputy District Attorneys who are assigned to the program, prosecute the most serious and complex DUI cases, such as those involving injury and death and those involving drug impairment. Deputy District Attorneys assigned to these cases handle them through all stages of the criminal process, from the time of the arrest through sentencing. They also focused closely on training law enforcement throughout California on DUI investigations. To date, close to 1,400 officers have been reached through DUI training by the Yolo County District Attorney's OTS grant.

The program has also been very active in community outreach. The team has taken steps to be involved with local high

schools, youth programs, UC Davis programs, local community colleges, and the Yolo County Citizen's Academy. Over the past six years, the OTS grant program has focused on educating youths on the dangers of DUI especially as it relates to drugs. While marijuana is now legal, the program aims to educate that marijuana causes impairment despite 34% of teenagers believing it is safe to drive after smoking marijuana. Since beginning this program, the Yolo County District Attorney's Office has reached nearly every high school in the area with live DUI trials that are conducted in front of the students.

This is the 12th year the Yolo County District Attorney's Office has received funding from the OTS for a specialized (DUI) prosecution program. Last year, the prosecution team filed 421 DUI cases, including 14 DUI drug cases and 33 DUI combined alcohol and drug cases.

The grant program runs through September 2024.

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

California's Water Wars See Some Breakthroughs But More Clashes Loom



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

The politics of water in California could be likened to the constant grinding of tectonic plates 10 miles or more beneath its surface.

The Pacific Plate battles with the North American Plate for dominance along the 800-mile-long San Andreas Fault tracing California's coast. When one gives way, the state experiences an earthquake.

Similarly, California's water interests – farmers, cities and environmentalists, principally, with infinite numbers of sub-groups – joust constantly over how the state's water supplies will be apportioned.

The conflicts of water buffaloes, as they have been dubbed, play out in legislative arenas, in the many federal, state and local governmental agencies that manage water distribution, and increasingly, in state and federal courts.

Their grinding struggles have been underway for as long as California has been a state (173 years), but on occasions – sometimes separated by decades – major actions change California's waterscape.

This appears to be one of those occasions. California's recent experience of drought followed by torrential rain and snow storms seems to have jolted water stakeholders into doing things that seemed impossible just a few years ago.

California's users of

Colorado River water, principally the Imperial Irrigation District, last week formally signed an agreement with other states to reduce diversions from the much-troubled river. It's hoped that the deal will stave off an otherwise imminent catastrophe in the rivers two major reservoirs, Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

Federal officials pressed for the historic agreement, threatening unilateral cuts if it didn't happen, and lubricated it with many millions of dollars in compensation.

The state Department of Water Resources has released a final environmental impact report on a plan to bore a tunnel beneath the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and carry some Sacramento River water to the head of the California Aqueduct without pulling water from the Delta itself.

Versions of the bypass have kicked around for more than six decades, with officialdom saying it's needed to protect water supplies to the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California and opponents, particularly environmental groups, saying it would worsen water quality in the Delta. Release of the report sets the stage for what could be years of political and legal battles before construction could begin.

Tunnel advocates say that water would be drawn only during periods of high precipitation and snowpack runoff to improve water reliability, which is also the rationale for another major construction project that's languished for decades: the Sites reservoir in Colusa and Glenn counties. In November, Gov. Gavin Newsom designated Sites for streamlined approval of a final environmental impact report, paving the way for

construction that could begin as soon as 2025.

In October, the federal Bureau of Reclamation announced the approval of a storage capacity expansion plan for the San Luis Reservoir, a key element of California's water supply system. San Luis, in the Pacheco Pass, is an off-stream reservoir that absorbs water drawn from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and stores it to meet later demands. It's similar to how the proposed Sites reservoir would function – storing water when it's available to cushion periods when natural flows are diminished. The plan would increase the reservoir's capacity by 130,000 acre-feet.

Finally, the state water regulators are poised to approve first-ever projects that directly convert sewage into drinking water. Reusing water "gives us a supply that in essence is always going to be there," Darrin Polhemus, a water board deputy director, said.

While important, these recent developments don't end California's water wars. For instance, the state is beginning to implement first-ever controls on pumping from underground aquifers under a law passed a decade ago, which could sharply affect agriculture production in the San Joaquin Valley.

Meanwhile, the water buffaloes are gearing up for the most divisive of all potential conflicts – whether the state will breach water rights, some of which date back to the Gold Rush days. Preliminary skirmishes are already underway, as the New York Times detailed last week.

It will be epic.

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

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