



**Horticulture Teacher Wins ‘Outstanding Educator Award’**

PAGE 2

**Chautauqua Playhouse’s “Exit, Pursued by a Bear”**

PAGE 7



# Arden Arcade News

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Bringing You Community News For Over 30 Years

JANUARY 12, 2024

**SEE  
INSIDE**

**GIRL SCOUTS  
KICKS OFF 2024  
COOKIE SEASON**



PAGE 8

**SCPH AWARDED  
GRANT FOR  
CHILD SAFETY ED**



PAGE 4

**VOLUNTEER AWARD  
NOMINATIONS  
ARE OPEN**



PAGE 4

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## Good Samaritan Kim Pachini-Hauch on a Mission



Carmichael businesswoman Kim Pacini-Hauch shows her Good Samaritan award, given for efforts aiding the Union Gospel Mission of Sacramento. The pooch is Koukla, rescued during the realtor's Mexican vacation.

**Story and photo  
by Susan Maxwell  
Skinner**

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - The Union Gospel Mission has given a Good Samaritan

award to Carmichael realtor Kim Pacini-Hauch. One of very few billion-dollar lifetime sales achievers in her industry, Pacini-Hauch (65) is also known for philanthropic

effort. She reached out to United Gospel during the non-profit's 2023 search for a transitional home: a facility to house graduates of a strict program of commitment to sobriety and

Christian adherence. "Kim came to us, wanting to help us find the perfect home," says Union Gospel's Executive Director Pastor Tim Lane. *Continued on Page 2*

## CHP Celebrates 96 New Officers



A graduate is being officially pinned by a family member. CHP Courtesy Photo

**By Debra Dingman  
MPG Editor**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Many people spend years begrudging the California Highway Patrol because they were pulled over by a CHP Officer for some reason they did not feel was warranted. But after attending one of the graduations at the California Highway Patrol Academy in Sacramento, one might easily hold feelings of respect and honor instead. Every facet of the program was succinctly orchestrated from being

directed where to park to lining up to enter the event. Guests were greeted professionally with a genuine smile by blue-shirted cadets. Hundreds of family members waited in anticipation. Upon entering the huge gymnasium with rows and rows of seats, one saw an entire wall of 4 x 8-foot photos of pictures—each portraying a different division of the service including SWAT Team, Mounted Horse Patrol, Academy Instruction, Road Patrol, Air Operations, Motor Officer, Motorcycle and Bicycle

Patrols. What they didn't show was task force members, Headquarters and Division Personnel uniformed and Nonuniformed, Dispatchers, Auto Theft Task Forces, Commercial Enforcement Personnel, K-9s and more. "There have been thousands of officers in this place," said Jim Ward, a retired CHP Officer who lives in Dixon. "But, it is far from routine. This is extraordinary. You are seeing less than 3-percent of those who actually apply." Ward served for 16 years on the Santa Ana freeway

before moving to northern California duties. Soon after the families and friends were seated, nearly 100 men and women marched into the California Highway Patrol Academy graduation ceremony with eyes straight ahead and showing serious faces wearing the traditional CHP uniform symbolizing authority and professionalism: the camel-colored pants, olive green jacket, and the cream-colored Trooper hat. Commissioner Sean Duryee opened the *Continued on Page 4*

## Midway Antique Mall Says Goodbye

**Story and photo by  
Tamara Warta**

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Time is about to move on from a retail location that has enjoyed a long nostalgic pause with the Sacramento community. Midway Antique Mall, which has been selling retro finds to antique lovers since 2006, will close its doors on January 21, 2024. The 30,000 square foot antique mall, which is located at 5130 Madison Ave, is owned and run by Mark and Ann Saunders. Meeting with Mark in one of Midway's staged midcentury rooms feels like coming home for a chat with a cherished grandparent, complete with a record softly playing throughout the mall and the couple's 6 lb yorkie named Ike at his post by the cash registers. "I think the customers will miss Ike more than me and Ann," jokes Saunders, as he reflects upon the start of Midway while surrounded by the various rooms displaying their huge accomplishment. With a passion for antiquing since the early 1990s, the Saunders were regular dealers at the old Antique Plaza in Rancho Cordova. After being in the court reporting business for over 30 years, they decided to shutter their deposition reporting firm and become full time antique retailers following Antique Plaza's closure.

"We decided to open our own little weekend store, maybe 2500 square feet," recalls Saunders. Soon, they started getting calls from other dealers, ending up with approximately 100 inquiries into their new business that was intended to be small and simple. "Ann and I sat down and said, well....okay! And we decided to open Midway." The business started in the building that is now occupied by Green Acres, and moved to their current location in 2008. And, seemingly from the moment it began, Midway has been anything but small in the world of antiquing. Prior to the pandemic, the mall was open 7 days a week, 10am-6pm, with both of the Saunders present everyday. Keeping Midway open has always been a team effort - although Mark lovingly gives most of the credit to Ann. "My job is to keep our booths stocked, help dealers move in, deal with customers, and calendar coverage," says Saunders. "Ann, on the other hand, is the business manager and financial officer. She *Continued on Page 7*



# Meet Parks Commissioner Joe Flores

Interview by  
Kristina Rogers,  
photos by Joe Flores

Recently, I sat down with Joe Flores at Barrio Café to learn about his position.

**What is the role of a parks commissioner?**

“I am a liaison between neighbors, the city council office, and the parks department. I am the unfiltered voice for these groups. I assist in creating events and advocating on behalf of all three. We have over 230 public parks across the city. Each has different neighborhood groups and park stewards with whom I communicate.

I meet with eleven other park commissioners once a month at City Hall. Most of our time is behind the scenes, meeting folks for coffee chats and community events. That’s where the true work happens.”

**How did you become a parks commissioner?**

“District 7 Council Member Rick Jennings appointed me. There is a stipend to attend monthly meetings, but it’s a volunteer position. The term is four years, and I’m in my second year.”

**How have you partnered with the community?**

“Last September, I put together a tree-planting event in William Land Park. We had 20 trees to plant. I first contacted the Land Park Community Association to see if they would partner with me. Then, I got volunteers from a local high school and city college. When there are trees to plant in a park on a lovely day, the answer is usually yes, but I still must ask. Together, many hands make light work!”

**What kind of projects are**



Joe Flores in William Land Park.

**you working on this year?**

“In January, I am working with the South Pocket Homeowners Association to plant ten trees in Marriott Park. Later, I plan to help a neighborhood group near Cervantes Park create a native plant garden. Later this year, the Del Rio Trail will have a ribbon cutting. I am talking with Rick Jennings and several neighborhood associations to celebrate the moment.

Finally, each parks commissioner hosts 916 Day every September. I’m still trying to figure out what to do for it this year. If you have any ideas, I’m all ears.”

**Why do you volunteer?**

“My parents were in public service, and my dad was in law enforcement. My grandparents owned a Mexican restaurant for over thirty years. My great-grandparents were also business owners. Public service is deep in my blood. I take my son to events so he will be the next generation.

It’s the literal planting of seeds where your work will outlive you. When I advocate for youth, their wins feel like my wins. You become a family by teaming up and putting

in sweat equity together. That’s what keeps me going as a volunteer.”

**Who would be a good fit for the Parks Commissioner role?**

“A social person who likes to volunteer and interact with their community. Someone who wants to make a positive impact and can navigate government systems. This is hard work. There will be many “no’s,” but it takes someone to celebrate the “yeses” and allow them to grow. It seems thankless and challenging, but when you see the smiles, it’s all worth it.

For example, I spotted graffiti on a sign in a Pocket-Greenhaven park. It was a holiday weekend and there were no city services, so I went and scrubbed the graffiti off. Some pickleballers and Girl Scouts noticed me and stopped to help. It was that spirit of volunteerism that kept me energized. It was a great example of community ownership in the park. It only takes one person to “spark” and activate others. As parks commissioner, you get to be that spark.”

People can reach out to Joe Flores at [acatl2000@gmail.com](mailto:acatl2000@gmail.com). ★

# Horticulture Teacher Wins ‘Outstanding Educator Award’

California Farm Bureau News  
Release

**ARDEN ARCADE, CA (MPG)** - A Sacramento-area teacher who created a garden and horticulture program to introduce students to agriculture has been honored with the “Outstanding Educator Award” presented by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

Kevin Jordan, a science and horticulture teacher at Leo A. Palmiter Junior and Senior High School in the Sacramento County community of Arden-Arcade, received the award at the 105th California Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Reno.

Jordan, who has worked at the school for 14 years, was also recently named the 2023 Teacher of the Year by the Sacramento County Office of Education.

A graduate of California State University, Sacramento, Jordan built an urban oasis to provide students with a hands-on understanding of growing food. “A school garden is truly a magical place that contains endless opportunities for students to explore, discover, create and grow,” he explained.

Jordan has also created and hosts agricultural-themed programs, including the Field Trippin’ YouTube channel and the Green Acres Garden Podcast.

“Understanding agriculture and where our food comes from helps students appreciate all aspects of food production in California,” Jordan said. “Laying the foundation for students’ passion in agriculture improves their opportunities for pursuing a higher education and paves the way for a potential job in the agriculture industry.”

“Kevin is a true advocate for agricultural education,” said Judy Culbertson, executive director of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. “His dedication and enthusiasm shines through in his classroom in ways that impact his students now and in the future. We are excited to work with Mr. Jordan as our ‘Outstanding Educator’ this year and look forward to seeing his school garden project flourish.”

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 29,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.3 million Farm Bureau members. ★



Kevin Jordan, science and horticulture teacher at Leo A. Palmiter Junior and Senior High School in Arden-Arcade received the 105th “Outstanding Educator Award” for advocating agricultural education. Photo courtesy of California Farm Bureau

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# CHP Celebrates 96 New Officers

*Continued from Page 1*

ceremony and spoke about CHP training which is revered worldwide and consists of a regulated system of academics, exercise, diet, and self-discipline. Those honored had just completed the 6-month live-in Academy where their commitment meant missed birthdays, anniversaries, births of children, and holidays.

He told how they would receive their badge number and badge stating they would stay with them for life and talked about what each point of the star represents: character, integrity, judgment, loyalty, courtesy, honor, and knowledge.

“You’ve earned the right to wear it,” he said. “That badge belongs to the people behind you. That badge represents the trust they have in you.” He also spoke to the graduates about their futures. “The tragedies of others will become your daily routine. You will show empathy, take time to listen, give a shoulder to cry on, and show compassion.

Don’t ever become cocky or arrogant. The moment you stop learning and growing, you start limiting your future.”

Keynote speaker Barbara Rooney, California Office of Traffic Safety Director shared the wide variety of backgrounds that the graduates came from. There were a couple musicians, EMTs, and firefighters.

“Almost all branches of the military are represented here and 1st to 3rd and even 4th generations of officers in the family. There was a preschool teacher, marathon runner, private pilot, computer engineer, and even a juggler,” she said. “Ten have received the Governor’s

Medal of Honor.”

She reminded them they were all joining a 100-year-old agency created in 1929 to provide uniform traffic law enforcement throughout California, assuring the safe, convenient and efficient transportation of people and goods on its highway system.

“Now, there are 7,000 uniform personnel in our state with 40 million people,” she said congratulating them.

The governor added his remarks through a televised message.

“I’m adding my voice to the chorus who honors you,” said Governor Gavin Newsom. “We have the 5th largest law enforcement agency in the country and you have earned our respect and trust. We extend our gratitude, thanks, and welcome.”

A video presentation of the extensive training followed and the audience saw situational experiences where cadets were drilled on how to fight criminals and save lives.

Special recognitions were given for class officers, marksmanship, outstanding athlete, and most inspirational cadet. Afterwards, they lined in front of the buildings for the official ‘badge pinning’ while taking photos with proud spouses and family members. They will earn a generous base salary of \$109,248 during their first year plus full health and dental benefits for themselves and their families.

The ceremony is one of three per year and was closed with the entire graduating class reciting the Code of Honor with raised right hands swearing that they “would lay down their life

rather than swerve from the line of duty.”

**Watch Soon**

The CHP has just released to the public an inside look at its live-in training facility with this month’s programming of the new reality series, Cadets. Premiering Jan. 17 on the CHP’s YouTube page, the nine-part docuseries focuses on a cadet class navigating the six-month journey through the CHP Academy on the way to becoming officers.

The release of Cadets is part of the CHP’s ongoing, multi-year recruitment campaign to recruit and hire 1,000 officers. A trailer for the series, produced entirely by CHP staff, is available online.

“Cadets is not just a series; it’s a testament to the CHP’s commitment to excellence, diversity, and the relentless pursuit of transforming individuals from all walks of life into dedicated officers ready to serve the community,” said the Commissioner Duryee. “We are excited to offer a start-to-finish look inside our Academy as future law enforcement officers are brought to life.”

Viewers will “ride along” with nine cadets as they overcome physical and mental adversity throughout the journey to earning their badge and becoming a CHP officer. The audience will also hear firsthand from the cadets as they speak candidly about their experience.

“By sharing their experiences, in their own words, we hope to inspire more service-minded individuals to follow in their footsteps and join us for a rewarding career in law enforcement,” added Commissioner Duryee. ★



The large photos of various roles of CHP officers were displayed from chin-lift bars in the gymnasium. Cadets, on their way to meals, are required to do chin ups before and after eating. Photo by Debra Dingman



Filing into their graduation ceremony, new CHP Officers were captured in photos by hundreds of proud families. Photo by Debra Dingman



The newest graduating class of the California Highway Patrol at last week’s Sacramento ceremony. CHP Courtesy Photo

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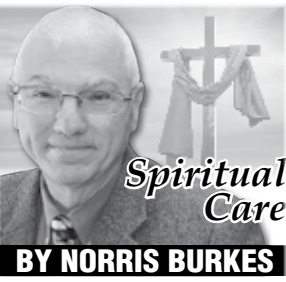
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# Grammar Police Issue Citation

A regular reader wrote me last month to say, “We ALWAYS enjoy your columns and read them to our Sunday-school class.”

I could hear the “but” coming in her compliment about the Chispa Project column when she asked, “May we hazard some chutzpah of our own by pointing out a grammar error?”

“You wrote, ‘The school principal escorted Sara and I...’ It should read ‘... escorted Sara and me....’ ”

I slapped my forehead as I recognized the mistake that has haunted me in at least a half dozen columns. As my proofreader tells me, “The correct pronoun following any verb is the objective pronoun: me, him, her, us, them. It’s never I or myself.”

Sadly, both my proofreader and my wife schoolteacher wife missed it this time.

I can’t begrudge people their grammar peeves. My wife gets in a dither anytime she sees a misplaced apostrophe.

Recently, she let out a shriek while typing an email.

“What’s wrong?” I asked, expecting a spider.

“I accidentally turned a plural into a possessive.” She was simply pale.

I shrugged. Guess everyone has his or her battles.

I save my battles for people who insist on using what I call “comfort grammar.” I call it that because it’s used to comfort the bereaved. The language consists of at least four common phrases.

1. “Everything happens for a purpose.”

When I hear this one, I want to scream, “Really? Is there a purpose for drunk drivers, tornadoes or incompetent medicine? I haven’t found it.”

I think it’s better to tell the grief-stricken person, “God is here. I am here. We will walk through this together.”

2. “They are in a better place.”

If you heard that after losing a son or daughter, wouldn’t you want to ask, “Why is that better than being with me?” Or maybe you’d be ready to conclude, “Then I want to go there too!”

Maybe a better response would be, “Tell me about what you believe happens after this life.”

3. “I know how you feel.”

I actually heard a woman say while commiserating with a new widower, “I know it’s not the same thing, but I lost a dog once.”

It’s better to say, “I can’t know how you feel, but I’d love to hear what she meant to you.”

4. “God won’t give you more burdens than you can handle.”

Just one big problem with that comfort grammar – The Bible doesn’t say that!

The phrase is a poor paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 10:13 which is more accurately paraphrased as “God will not allow us to be tempted beyond our ability to escape.”

The verse refers to the temptation to steal, lie or cheat. It has nothing to do with the number of tragedies we experience. This misquote will often burden people with a message that God “gives” them

calamities.

People who use this comfort grammar aren’t really trying to comfort the bereaved. They are trying to wrap the tragedy into a neat box so they can assure themselves that it won’t happen to them.

The truth is that comforting grieving people has nothing to do with saying the correct thing. It has nothing to do with your thoughts and prayers. Instead, it has everything to do with being present to those who hurt.

That’s why I’m leaving you with this better alternative.

Don’t speak. Just do.

Avoid the halfhearted offer, “IF there is anything I can do, just ask.”

Don’t make them ask. Just do.

At my father’s funeral, my sister made a sign-up list for those who said, “If there’s anything I can do....”

“Yes,” she said. “Here’s our volunteer sign-up list.”

Using the list, people agreed to answer phones, drive relatives to the airport or bring meals. One man agreed to mow my mother’s lawn for a year.

Not everyone will know what to say to the anguished, so my best advice when you find yourself at a loss for words is this:

“Say little. Do much.”

The doing will say more than you can ever imagine.

Send Chispa Project denotations, grammar corrections or comments to 10556 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602 or by email [comment@thechaplain.net](mailto:comment@thechaplain.net) or at (843) 608-9715. For more on how to comfort the grieving, check out my books on my website at [www.thechaplain.net](http://www.thechaplain.net).

# Good Samaritan Kim Pachini-Hauch is on a Mission from God

*Continued from Page 1*

“When our Redemption House was found, she worked to help us purchase it. She did this pro-bono (donating back brokerage fees), out of the kindness of her heart...I’d never met her. Then, with no persuasion from us, she came to our aid. She’s a really upscale realtor with a down-to-earth heart.”

Pacini and husband Dick Hauch are long-time givers to the cause. “My family is Christian,” she explains. “We believe in service to God and to others. Union Gospel Mission needs the right house in the right neighborhood, close to Mission headquarters. Residents also need access to nearby ministries until they’re ready to be on their own. It took months, but we found the right house. I was happy to go on this journey with the Mission. It’s always nice to donate professional services; the value is tangible.”

A 36-year real estate veteran, Pacini-Hauch grew up in Incline Village, graduated from the University of Nevada and moved to Sacramento in 1983. Real estate brought her stellar success. Now specializing in luxury homes, she works under the RE/MAX Gold umbrella, with her own Luxe Living brand.

Giving back seems a secondary career.

Dog-loving Pacini-Hauch supports any number of animal and humanitarian causes. The realtor and her husband, retired anesthesiologist Dick Hauch, have their own charitable foundation.

“You get to a point in life when you recognize the need is so great for so many organizations,” says Pacini-Hauch. “The Bible shows us the Good Samaritan, who cared enough to save a life when the man’s own people left him to die. How can you look the other way when you see suffering?”

“You can’t necessarily be the one who gets people off the streets. But you can support charities that do. If being a check-writer is all you can do, then write a check. If you can’t write a check, volunteering your time is even more valuable. There’s always a way to help.

“Giving is a learned behavior. My parents didn’t have much but they cared. They were always helping with fundraisers and inviting people home to share meals. ‘I’ve made giving back a function of my profession. If you make a living in a community, you owe it a commitment.

“You’ll be richly rewarded by how good you feel.”

Learn about Union Gospel Mission at [www.ugmsac.com](http://www.ugmsac.com). ★

# Public Health Awarded Grant for Child Safety Seat Education

**Sacramento County News Release**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - In our continued effort to enhance child safety on the road, Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has once again joined forces with partner agency Mercy San Juan to continue the successful car seat safety program. Aimed at educating parents and caregivers on the proper installation and use of child safety seats, this initiative is made possible through a \$78,546 grant generously provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

The grant, which funds an array of community outreach events, prioritizes education classes and training sessions tailored to underserved and refugee communities. The comprehensive car seat safety program encompasses various components, all designed to empower parents and caregivers with the knowledge and resources needed to ensure the safety of their little ones as they travel.

**Key features of the program include:**

- Child Safety Seat Inspection Events and Education Classes: The initiative will host events dedicated to inspecting child safety seats and providing educational classes to parents and caregivers.
- Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) Training and Recertification Courses: To bolster expertise in child passenger safety, the program will offer training and recertification courses for Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

-No-Cost Child Safety Seats for Families in Need: Families facing financial constraints will have access to child safety seats at no cost, ensuring that economic barriers do not compromise the safety of children.

-Community Outreach Efforts in Underserved Communities: Collaborating with local organizations, the program will actively engage in community outreach efforts to promote car seat safety in underserved areas.

Dr. Kasirye, the Sacramento County Public Health Officer, highlighted the essential role of OTS grant funding in assisting families, caregivers, and education professionals in ensuring children’s safety. Emphasizing that safeguarding children is a collective priority, “Properly secured car seats are pivotal in preventing harm to children in the unfortunate event of a crash,” states Kasirye.

Sacramento County residents interested in learning more about the program can contact Riley Stoltenburg at [StoltenburgR@sacounty.gov](mailto:StoltenburgR@sacounty.gov) or call (916) 875-6094.

The funding for this critical program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Sacramento County remains committed to ensuring the safety of its youngest residents through proactive community engagement and education on proper car seat usage. ★



Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has once again joined forces with partner agency Mercy San Juan to continue the successful car seat safety program. Photo courtesy of SCPH

# 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award Nominations Open

**Sacramento County News Release**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento County is celebrating individuals who are 50 years of age and older who dedicate their time, energy, and passion to making our community a better place. The Sacramento County Adult and Aging Commission is now taking applications for its 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award.

Nominees must be 50 years of age or older, actively involved in volunteer work, and residents of Sacramento County. If you know someone who meets the criteria and has made an impact in Sacramento County, nominate them for the 5 Over 50 Volunteer Award. Learn more about the application process and access the form by visiting the

Adult and Aging Commission page. Two letters of reference are required. The deadline for nominations is Friday, February 9.

The 5 Over 50 Awards will be presented on May 21 during a Sacramento County Board of Supervisors meeting. The award is presented in May to coincide with Older Americans Month. Five nominees will receive the award, with one person selected from each district within Sacramento County.

Sacramento County’s Adult and Aging Commission members look forward to celebrating the winners. The 5 Over 50 Award not only recognizes these individuals for their hard work but also celebrates their impact in making Sacramento County a great place to live. ★

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Chautauqua Playhouse Presents

“Exit, Pursued by a Bear”

Midway Antique Mall

Says Goodbye



(L-R) Cattaryna Goodin, Katie Ahnberg, Lee Anthony Wilson, John Goodin in character. Photo courtesy of Warren Harrison.

Chautauqua Playhouse News Release

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Chautauqua Playhouse presents “Exit, Pursued by a Bear”, an adult comedy by Lauren Gunderson, beginning on January 12 at the Playhouse. The show will run through February 11.

Performances are on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 pm, and Sundays at 2:00 pm. The performances are held at the Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Road in the La Sierra Community Center in Carmichael. Admission is \$23 General, \$21 Seniors/Students and SARTA members. Premium seating is an additional dollar. Tickets at the door are \$25.

Nan has decided to teach her abusive husband Kyle a lesson. With the help of her friend Simon (acting as her emotional -- and actual -- cheerleader) and a stripper named Sweetheart,



(L-R) Lee Anthony Wilson, Katie Ahnberg, Cattaryna Goodin in character. Photo courtesy of Warren Harrison.

she tapes Kyle to a chair and forces him to watch as they reenact scenes from their painful past. In the piece de resistance, they plan to cover the room in meat and honey so Kyle will be mauled by a bear. Through this night of emotional trials and ridiculous theatrics, Nan and Kyle are both freed from their past in this smart, dark revenge comedy.

PLEASE NOTE: The edgy comedy is rated for MATURE audiences due to

language, adult situations, and domestic violence.

The direction is by Patricia Lee Schmeltz, with set and light design by Andrew Fiffick. The cast features John Goodin, Katie Ahnberg, Cattaryna Goodin and Lee Anthony Wilson.

Information and tickets are available through the Chautauqua Playhouse website: [www.cplayhouse.org](http://www.cplayhouse.org) or call the box office at (916) 489-7529, during business hours. ★

Continued from Page 1  
– by herself – handles all the paperwork... she has done an incredible job for one person. Without Ann, this never would have happened. If something had happened to her, Midway would’ve closed the next day. Without her – the rules she created, the financial management – there’s no way I could do it by myself. Ann gets 100 percent credit for Midway beginning and being maintained.”

Post-pandemic, Midway changed their business model and is now closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays – it gave the Saunders some time to rest while also, surprisingly, improving their business. Sales went up, utility costs went down, and other antique shops up and down California followed suit.

Midway has long been an example to others when it comes to how to showcase antiques the right way, and outside of their throngs of loyal customers, the mall has gotten to be the background for many a photo shoot. It has become the holiday tradition of many couples and families to come sit in the shop’s staged 1950s “Dean Martin room” and nab the perfect vintage holiday card photo.

When HBO came knocking, Midway also got to serve as a movie set for a Carol Burnett documentary.

“It was amazing how those movie cameras can take one of these rooms and make it look like a house,” said Saunders. Both he and Ann got to enjoy the film’s premiere at Sacramento’s Crest theater and had fun spotting one of their kitchen sets.



Mark, Ike, and Ann Saunders in front of an original vintage jukebox at Midway Antique Mall.

When speaking about the photoshoots and documentary, Saunders reflects, “No other mall does anything like that. A lot of customers say It’s just a museum trip back in time.”

While Mark Saunders clearly has a joy for his antiques – especially for the mall’s mid-1950s to 1960s pieces, he is also a serious businessman. During its run, Midway rarely had a spot for a new dealer, and when it did, it would be gone within a week.

“We are very strict on who we let in here. All of our stuff has to be at least 30 years old – no new, no reproductions, no made in China.”

Midway currently has 250 dealer spaces, 160 dealer showcases, and as high as 120 dealers selling at the mall. With Midway closing, Saunders couldn’t provide a definitive answer as to where all of its current dealers will go.

“It’s kind of an end of an era. There will never be another Midway,” says Saunders. “We have customers from all over the world... Ann and I are kind of unusual

dealers. Most want to buy and sell – we care where the stuff goes. Most is priced not to sell until I find the right home.”

Antiquing is not an easy game. Midcentury antiques in particular are getting harder to find because parents are passing away and children are keeping them within the family. And, for the Saunders, Midway is staying within the family as well. They declined offers to sell Midway, with Mark instead saying, “Midway is Mark and Ann. We birthed Midway and we will lay it to rest.”

“For the most part, all of the dealers are great people,” said Saunders. “It’s just been fun, but after 35 years in court reporting and 19 years here, I’m out of gas.”

When asked what he will do now that he’s retiring, the 74-year-old mentions his excitement for playing with his classic 1955 Chevy and 1962 Rambler. But, with a smile, it is clear that something else will take number one spot in the coming days.

“Ann and I are going to start dating again.” ★

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# Girl Scouts of Northern California Kicks off 2024 Cookie Season

Girl Scouts of Northern California News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -** Girl Scouts of Northern California will kick off their 2024 Cookie Season on January 29. Consumers in all 19 counties from Gilroy to the Oregon Border can support their local girl entrepreneurs by ordering from the iconic cookie lineup online at [ilovecookies.org](http://ilovecookies.org). Local shoppers can also locate cookie booths starting February 11 for in-person cookie sales. The 2024 Northern California cookie season will run through March 17, and all cookie flavors are \$6 a box (shipping fees additional).

This season, cookie lovers can enjoy the full assortment of Girl Scout Cookies, including Thin Mints, Trefoils, Samoas, Tagalongs, Do-Si-Dos, Lemon Ups, Toffee-tastic, Girl Scout S'mores, and Adventurefuls. Visit [www.ilovecookies.org](http://www.ilovecookies.org) for more information.

Girls Scouts of Northern California is one of the largest councils in the country, offering unique outdoor experiences, civic engagement, entrepreneurship opportunities, skill-building, leadership, and fun. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the cookie program are used locally and provide critical funds for girls' access to affordable programming, the outdoors, camp and program centers, STEM, financial aid, and volunteer support services. Girl Scouts and their troops depend on these funds to support their community service efforts.



Girl Scouts of Northern California with their cookie display. Photo courtesy of Girl Scouts of Northern California.

This year, over 16,000 Girl Scouts in Northern California will participate in the cookie entrepreneurship program with the goal of selling \$4.3M packages of cookies.

"I am thrilled to kick off another exciting cookie season and to support our cookie entrepreneurs in having a fun and successful year," said Bri Seoane, CEO of Girl Scouts of Northern California. "Each year, these budding entrepreneurs impress us with their dedication to achieving their goals and supporting local initiatives. Through this program, they contribute to their communities and gain invaluable life and business skills that will serve them for a lifetime. I am immensely proud of each and every participant!"

During this highly anticipated time of the year, girls acquire essential life skills, including money management, team building, public speaking, and decision-making. Girl Scouts can earn a variety of badges and awards to develop valuable business skills, including Cookie Business badges, Financial Literacy badges, Cookie Entrepreneur Family pins, and Entrepreneur badges. Ultimately, this entrepreneurship program serves as a vital stepping-stone, equipping girls and

gender-expansive youth with lifelong skills, and instilling a deep sense of confidence that they will carry into the future.

## How to Purchase Girl Scout Cookies This Year

Starting January 29, consumers can source Girl Scout online via digital cookie stores at [ilovecookies.org](http://ilovecookies.org) and have their favorite cookies delivered straight to their home or anywhere in the country or find the closest Girl Scout booth for in-person cookie sales starting February 11 at select businesses and neighborhoods in Northern California communities until March 17.

## About Girl Scouts of Northern California

The mission of Girl Scouts of Northern California is to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. As one of the largest councils in the country, Girl Scouts of Northern California serves a diverse membership of over 24,000 youth and over 21,000 adult volunteers in a 19-county area that stretches from Gilroy to the Oregon border. To learn more about Girl Scouts of Northern California, visit [www.gsnorcal.org](http://www.gsnorcal.org).

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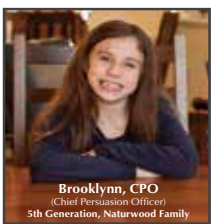
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