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Bunny Hops in for Breakfast



Between pancake-flipping stunts, Carmichael Kiwanis Club volunteers mob rockstar Peter Rabbit.

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Sausage and pancakes flew hot off the griddle last weekend as the Easter Bunny reigned in spring splendor. Replacing the annual egg hunt, post-pandemic, Carmichael Recreation and Park District's 'Breakfast with the Bunny' event has proved a thumping success.

No one this weekend seemed to miss the tumbles, trauma and tears of hunts of yore. More than 300 adults and children enjoyed a stress-free meal at Carmichael Park Clubhouse.

Kiwanis Club volunteers cooked; Girl and Boy Scouts kept pace with table cleanups. As maple syrup flowed, kids, parents and grandparents flowed into Carmichael Park Clubhouse in orderly shifts.

Precocious in pastels, the rockstar rabbit made several grand entrances and held court in a grotto festooned with balloon-art carrots. A \$5 event admission included photo opportunities, craft bags and the calorific breakfast.

Laughter ruled. The event has proven so popular that sittings filled before Easter Saturday dawned. Walk-ins were also accommodated.

Nearly a thousand pancakes were served; gallons of coffee and orange juice were chugged. By noon, an exhausted Bunny hopped off down the bunny trail. That's all, folks.

Event proceeds will benefit Kiwanis Family House, a Sacramento facility that provides accommodation for families of UC Davis Children's Hospital patients.

Breakfast sponsors included Kiwanis Club of Carmichael, Buck Family Automotive, Carmichael Parks Foundation and Carmichael Recreation and Park District. Learn about the district's programs at www.carmichaelpark.com. ★

Water District Merger is Voted Down

By Susan Skinner and Tamara Warta

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - In a conclusion that brought a standing audience ovation at a special Carmichael Water District meeting on March 26, Carmichael Water District directors voted to end a program exploring a merger with Sacramento Suburban Water District.

Passed by a 4-1 majority, the motion decided that the agency would "cease negotiations to stop the consolidation process with Sacramento Suburban Water District." So ended two-plus years of costly studies, meetings and public outreach.

More than 140 merger opponents cheered the decision. The directors' vote followed 70 minutes of individual presentations. Speakers included representatives of neighborhood organizations, the business community and unionized water district staff. By far, the loudest voice was from residents, two of whom said they moved to Carmichael because of local water quality.

One of few merger supporters was Sacramento Suburban Water District director Craig Locke, who said that Carmichael would benefit from Suburban's 80 wells in times of drought; that two combined districts would better preserve agency resources and together, benefit from greater political lobbying power.

In the end, board director Ron Greenwood's suggestion to end the merger process was met with applause, whistles and foot-stomping.

A second public gathering in one week, the March 26 forum was a final opportunity for Carmichael Water District directors to hear the public voice before voting on the merger's future. During that week, signs of opposition dotted neighborhoods and did much to bolster the meeting room crowd. Those who arrived late waited in a long line for admission. After all seats were filled, 40 residents stood against walls and in the lobby.

Carmichael Water District has faced resident and staff opposition since the consolidation proposition was tabled last year.

At the time, Carmichael Water District General Manager Cathy Lee laid out a five-step plan for the merger, citing logistical and political benefits for its execution.

In the interim, many residents voiced concerns. These included protecting Carmichael's soft water quality and comparatively low water rates.

Continued on page 3

Metro Fire's FIRE CAMP Opens



On day one, campers will be organized into "strike teams," which consist of eight campers who are mentored and supervised by two professional firefighters. Photo courtesy of Metro Fire

Metro Fire News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - FIRE CAMP is an excellent opportunity for our firefighters to help 11, 12 and 13-year-old kids build a sense of teamwork and responsibility while learning what it's like to be a firefighter for Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. On day one, campers will be organized into "strike teams," which consist of eight campers who are mentored and supervised by two professional firefighters. As the week progresses, the teams take

on a character of their own as they learn about the job of a firefighter and experience the following:

- Putting out a flammable liquid fire with a fire extinguisher
- Climbing a 105-foot aerial ladder truck
- Developing the traditional bucket brigade and hand pumper crew skills
- Learning life skills such as Hands-Only CPR
- Water rescue skills at SunSplash, and much more!

FIRE CAMP will be held on June 25-28 and occurs at Fire Station

21, 7641 Greenback Lane, Citrus Heights, 95610. Cost is \$125 and campers will rely on a parent or guardian for daily transportation.

TO SIGN UP: an interest list will be delivered in the Metro Fire newsletter on April 1, 2024! To register for their newsletter, visit <https://metrofire.ca.gov/metro-fire-newsletter>.

For more information about Metro Fire's FIRE CAMP visit their website: <https://metrofire.ca.gov/firecamp>

For sponsorship or to partner with us email: firecamp@metrofire.ca.gov. ★

Development Process Improvements Six-Month Update

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - At the Board of Supervisors Meeting on March 26, Dave Defanti, Deputy County Executive for Community Services, along with representatives from the County Departments of Water Resources, Transportation, and Community Development, gave a report back on progress made on the County's Development Review Process (DRP) Improvement efforts over the last six months.

"I am so incredibly proud of the work County staff from all the Community Services Agency departments have put into these efforts," said Dave Defanti. "We all know that we still have work to do but our staff have made incredible strides, and Sacramento County is well on its way to becoming the best place to build in the region for all of our customers."

Goals of the DRP Improvements include addressing the housing supply and affordability crisis; investing in existing communities, particularly within aging commercial corridors and Environmental Justice communities; facilitating responsible development of new, complete communities to meet the needs of current and future generations while addressing State and local goals to address climate change; providing exceptional customer service and having processes in place that are efficient and easy to navigate while being a trusted and helpful partner to all of our customers.

Two primary themes from the report revolved around staffing and public-private partnerships.

Staffing:
The Department of Transportation (DOT) highlighted their collaboration

with the Department of Personnel Services to host a career fair in fall 2023. The career fair resulted in the hiring of four associate engineers, three assistant engineers, two interns and one bridge operator, and has become a successful model for other County departments to follow for future hiring events.

Partnerships:
DOT also featured a few recent strategies that have been employed to understand the needs of the community and help address solutions for meeting those needs. Examples included utilizing updated data over older projections, where applicable, as well as partnering to design and construct roadway infrastructure projects where delivery and timing were critical.

The Department of Water Resources highlighted recent process streamlining improvements made in collaboration with industry partners, which included updates to submittal requirements for drainage plans and drainage studies.

The Community Development team, particularly the Building Permits and Inspection division, has stepped-up efforts to work closely with the Affordable Housing development community to understand the unique circumstances surrounding the construction of Affordable Housing projects.

Our Chief Building Official shared some recent examples of specific efforts where partnership and understanding resulted in meaningful outcomes and new homes for Sacramento County residents.

In an effort to keep the Board of Supervisors and members of the public up to date on our Development Review Process efforts, these reports back to the Board of Supervisors will continue to occur on a semi-annual basis. ★

SMUD's Shine Program Invests \$580,000 in Local Projects



Local nonprofit leaders gather to celebrate SMUD's 7th Annual Shine Awards. Photo courtesy of SMUD

SMUD News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Twenty-nine local nonprofit organizations will benefit from more than \$580,000 in funding from SMUD's annual Shine program. The Shine program, now in its 7th year, is supporting nonprofit programs that engage communities across SMUD's service area in an equitable transition to a clean energy future.

This year's projects will increase access to clean energy/STEM education and support environmental justice and equity, zero carbon workforce development, habitat restoration and increased tree canopy, energy efficiency and electrification for nonprofits, inclusive economic development, youth entrepreneur development and job readiness programs and trainings for under-resourced community members.

"SMUD's vision for a clean energy future is about much more than transforming our power plants, it's about equitably transforming the communities we serve," said SMUD CEO and General Manager Paul Lau. "The Clean PowerCity movement empowers our region's households, businesses and diverse communities to help us reach and deliver our ambitious 2030 Zero Carbon Plan. From clean energy outreach and STEM lessons in classrooms, to neighborhood revitalization projects, workforce training in under-resourced communities and new apprentices, SMUD's Shine program harnesses the determination and vision of local nonprofits, regional partners and the communities we serve and supports them in making meaningful change that will benefit the entire region for generations to come."

This year, 112 community members participated in program education sessions, 148

community members participated in technical assistance sessions and 84 organizations moved forward and submitted applications in the competitive award process. Per Shine requirements, SMUD's investments are matched by the recipient for maximum impact.

The 29 selected nonprofits include American River Parkway Foundation; Asian Resources, Inc.; Associated General Contractors Construction Education Foundation (AGC CEF); Carmichael Improvement District; Center for Land-Based Learning; City of Trees Foundation; CLEANSTART, Inc.; Folsom Historic Society; Franklin Blvd Business Association; Freedom Through Education; Fulton El Camino Recreation and Park District; Futures Explored; Health Education Council; HumanBulb; Interns2Pros; Iranian American Culture & Education; Kiwanis Club of Rancho Cordova Foundation; Lion's Roar Dharma Center; National Academic Youth Council DBA Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum; NeighborWorks Sacramento; ReImagine Mack Road Partnership; Sacramento Children's Museum; Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services; ShopClass; Soil Born Farms; Square Root Academy; Sunshine Food Pantry and Resource Center; The Salvation Army; Voices of Youth.

SMUD will take an active role in monitoring performance and progress of each project.

Shine awards range from \$5,000 to \$100,000. Any nonprofit organization within SMUD's service area is eligible to apply. Shine awards are available at three funding levels: Spark (up to \$10,000), Amplifier (up to \$50,000) and Transformer (up to \$100,000).

For more information about the SMUD Shine program, visit smud.org/Shine. ★



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County Economic Development Strategic Plan Update

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County's Office of Economic Development (OED) has launched efforts to create an updated Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) to guide priorities, programs, and resources for the next five years.

"The Sacramento County organization, community, and economic landscape has undergone significant change since our last strategic plan," said Crystal Bethke, Director of Economic Development for Sacramento County. "With this transition comes the opportunity to renew our vision and set strategic areas of focus to meet the needs of our community and stimulate sustainable economic growth."

In January 2024, the Board of Supervisors approved a consulting contract with HR&A Advisors, Inc. (HR&A) to lead the EDSP development. Selected through a highly competitive Request for Proposals process, HR&A has four decades of experience in delivering strategic

economic development solutions to cities, counties, and special districts within the region.

Throughout 2024, HR&A will engage with the community and key stakeholders, conduct an in-depth economic analysis, and create an actionable strategy and implementation roadmap for OED. The updated EDSP will build on existing regional economic development work, enhance inclusive economic development efforts, and introduce new and timely strategies for the future focus of economic development efforts.

The EDSP development process will be transparent, with regular updates provided on project milestones, timelines, and opportunities for community involvement. Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to participate in community engagement activities to contribute to the shaping of Sacramento County's economic future.

For more information on the EDSP development process, visit <https://economic.saccounty.gov/StrategicPlan/Pages/default.aspx>. ★

Water District Merger is Voted Down



Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association activists Jim and Mary Christian display one of dozens of street signs that helped rally opposition to a proposed merger between Carmichael and Sacramento Suburban Water districts. Photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

Continued from page 1

Sacramento Suburban Water District's debt (that might become a shared burden for Carmichael customers) was a thorny issue.

Possible contamination of ground water from the now-shuttered McClellan Air Force Base was another worry.

Residents also asked how two water districts could smoothly unite and how staff would be affected.

The fate of Carmichael Water District's Fair Oaks Boulevard offices was questioned. Some residents feared their easy communication with a smaller agency would no longer exist. At both March town halls, audience presentations lasted for more than an hour.

One resident noted that Carmichael Water District directors work for the community. "We don't work for them," he contended. "We have due diligence to ask tough questions and they should be answering those tough questions."

Rising to the microphone, members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees expressed solidarity with the community.

"We do not support a merger, consolidation, or any combination thereof," said federation spokeswoman Tina Acree. "The Carmichael community would lose their voice with only two seats [on a combined-district board]. This decision should not be taken so lightly. We want to maintain the quality of water in this community and anything short of that is not acceptable."

Carmichael Water District Board member Jeff Nelson, an engineer, spoke for consolidation.

"I believe in climate change," Nelson said. "We're going to see more severe weather changes. The merger will give us more flexibility to provide you with water. Our mission statement is to provide you the highest quality of water at the lowest price."

Nelson said that Sacramento Suburban Water District employed specialized staff with skills that Carmichael Water District currently outsourced and consolidation would create more staff opportunities. Nelson asked for more time to continue the merger possibility.

Two hours into the meeting, board Director Ron Greenwood made a motion to end negotiations and cancel the merger. After some discussion, the five-member board voted. Nelson voiced the only nay.

Attendees broke ranks to mob directors with handshakes. Carmichaelites left the meeting with jubilation and congratulations continued in the parking lot.

"Never let it be said you can't make a difference," said Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association activist Jim Christian. "This vote will benefit and protect those who live in Carmichael for generations to come."

"For those who got involved, when you see a Carmichael water truck go by, you can say 'I helped keep those guys here.' So be proud Carmichael! That's what a good community does," Christian said. "They look out for each other. I also should add that there's no disrespect to Sacramento Suburban Water District. We just want Carmichael to remain as it has always been and we want to drink Carmichael water." ★

CONCERTS IN THE PARK
Carmichael Park
5750 Grant Ave

Spring Saturdays 5:30-7:30pm
May 4: Dyana and the Cherry Kings
May 11: Keep on Truckin'
May 18: Maya Latin Tribute Band
May 25: Locked and Loaded
June 8: AKA Live
June 15: Wasted Space

Fall Fridays 6:00-8:00pm
Sept 6: The Wayside
Sept 13: David Perez Band
Sept 20: Blackwater
Sept 27: Todd Morgan

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Sacramento's New Theatre Company Announces First Show

Pioneer Players News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Pioneer Players, a newly formed nonprofit theatre company in midtown Sacramento, have announced their inaugural production, Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest".

Serving as the new resident theatre company of Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ, Pioneer Players is the creative vision of Artistic Director and church member David-Matthew Barnes. The objective of the new company is to produce inspiring and uplifting shows including plays for young audiences and original works written by their planned workshop-based Pioneer Playwrights.

Barnes, whose catalog of more than seventy stage plays have been produced around the world, says he recognized the need for more support for local playwrights. "Many of my stage plays were first performed in Sacramento before moving on to other theatres," he says. "Giving the opportunity to workshop scripts is something I'm very committed to offering to fellow playwrights. We would love for Pioneer Players to be the first theatrical home for many playwrights in Sacramento."

Similarly, Barnes recognized the need for more productions specifically aimed at young audiences. This fall, Pioneer Players will launch their first children's theatre production (featuring adult actors), an interactive musical version of Little Red Riding Hood. "I love the idea of families having a shared experience through theatre," Barnes says. "As an arts educator, I realize how significant having access to the theatre can be, especially for young people."

Also joining this artistic endeavor is Cyndi Lopez-Spencer, who is serving as the Resident Technical Director of Pioneer Players. An alum of Sac State's theatre program, Lopez-Spencer has been working as a stage manager or a technical crew member for over 30 years. "I'm really excited to join Pioneer Players and their effort to provide theatre that is accessible to the community," says Lopez-Spencer.

"This is a really amazing team to be working with. It's exciting to be a part of this company who are doing and planning such innovative things."

First, Pioneer Players will present Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest", with Barnes directing. Performance dates are April 6 - April 21: Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. The Pioneer Theater is located inside the Fellowship Hall at Pioneer Congregational United Church of Christ: 2700 L Street in midtown Sacramento. To reach the Pioneer Theater, enter the church through the doors located in the church courtyard. The theater is accessible. Street parking is available. Concessions are cash only. Patrons arriving late will not be seated until intermission. Tickets are \$15.00.

Advance tickets can be purchased from Eventbrite. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

First performed on February 14, 1895, at the St James's Theatre in London, "The Importance of Being Earnest" is a farcical British comedy classic. The play tells the story of two men, Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff, who both assume the identity of a fictional man named Ernest, leading them both to fall in love and find an assortment of problems along the way. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play's major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage and the resulting satire of Victorian conformity.

"We believe that the Pioneer Players align closely with the mission of our church through their creative storytelling and performances, fostering connections among individuals, providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all, and contributing to the betterment of the community," says Rev. Dr. David C. Bocoock, the Pastor of Pioneer Congregational Church. "This initiative resonates with our core values and exemplifies our commitment to spreading love, building community, and extending our service to all. We are thrilled to support Pioneer Players and look forward to their positive impact on the Sacramento community." ★

SAFE Credit Union Invites Community to Participate in SacTown Run



SAFE employees who participated in and volunteered at the 2023 SacTown Run gather before the event. Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

SAFE Credit Union News Release

FOLSOM, CA (MPG) - SAFE Credit Union will participate in this year's annual SacTown Run on Sunday, April 7, in downtown Sacramento benefiting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. This event is open to the community.

Every year since 2012, thousands of people have turned out for the event hosted by Credit Unions for Kids and the Sacramento Running Association. The event has raised nearly \$2 million for the medical network that provides life-saving treatments and healthcare services for kids, as well as financial assistance to families who otherwise could not afford health services.

SAFE is a sponsor of the event and will field a team of runners as well as provide volunteers to staff stations along the courses.

"SacTown Run is a wonderful way for credit unions across the region to

come together to support a really important cause," says SAFE Credit Union Vice President of Community Relations and Financial Education Rebecca Delmundo. "Children's Miracle Network Hospitals provide such an important service to so many families going through difficult situations."

"Credit unions operate under the principle of people helping people, and the SacTown Run is one of the many ways SAFE and other credit unions directly support our community," Delmundo continues.

The SacTown Run offers courses from a family-friendly 1-mile route to more challenging 5K and 10-mile courses. All courses begin and end at the Capitol Mall in downtown Sacramento.

Those who would like to learn more or register for the event can do so on the Sacramento Running Association website. ★

Minority Report Reveals Federal Tribal Policies Soaked in Critical Race Theory

Christian Alliance for Indian Child Welfare News Release

WASHINGTON, DC (MPG) - A minority report to the congressional 'Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children' has been released, shedding light on the detrimental effects of current federal Indian policies on families of tribal heritage. The report, titled "Minority Report: Commission on Native Children," is a result of extensive research and testimonies from grassroots, individual Native Americans and their families across the country - not powerful entities that subsist on government funding.

The report highlights the existence of an "iron triangle" within federal Indian policy, which has allowed for the implementation of laws and policies that some report as controlling, oppressive, and unconstitutional to Native American families. These policies have had a devastating impact on the well-being of Native American children, leading to high rates of poverty, extreme neglect, physical and sexual abuse, substance abuse, and suicide within these communities.

Commissioner and author of the minority report, Elizabeth Morris, stated, "If tribal members are 'wards' of the federal government, as patronizingly claimed, then the federal government has a 'trust responsibility' to protect the children at all cost -- even if at the cost

of ruffling political feathers. Unless, of course, the 'trust responsibility' only refers to protecting tribal leadership at all cost - even if at the cost of the children."

The minority report calls for urgent action to address the systemic issues within federal Indian policy and to protect the rights and well-being of Native American children. It also includes recommendations for policy changes and reforms that would empower Native Americans as individuals, families, and communities and promote local control.

Morris further stated, "The federal government needs to acknowledge and rectify the harm caused by these current policies on Native American families. The minority report serves as a wake-up call to Congress and the public, urging them to take action and support the well-being of Native American children."

The release of the minority report has sparked a national conversation about the need for reform in federal Indian policy and the protection of Native American children. The full report can be accessed at <https://dyinginindiancountry.com/2024/03/01/minority-report-congressional-commission-on-native-children/>.

Morris hopes that this report will serve as a catalyst for change and bring much-needed attention to the issues faced by Native American families and communities. ★

Second Installment of Property Taxes Due April 10

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The deadline for paying the second installment of your 2023-2024 Sacramento County property taxes is coming up very soon. Payments are due no later than April 10, 2024. Late payments will incur a 10 percent penalty plus a \$20.00 cost for each tax bill. Partial payments are not accepted.

Payment must be received in the Tax Collector's Office by 5 p.m. on April 10, 2024, or either postmarked or paid through our website by April 10, 2024. The Tax Collector also wants to remind property owners to include the appropriate installment payment stub from the tax bill or website or write the parcel number of the property on the check being submitted to make sure that you receive proper credit for the payment. Payment may be mailed to P.O. Box 508, Sacramento, CA 95812-0508. Be sure to mail your payment early enough to ensure a timely postmark and avoid penalties.

Making Payments

Property taxes may be paid by e-check or credit card through Sacramento County's Online Property Tax Bill Information System or over the telephone at 1-844-430-2823, using the 14-digit parcel number. For a convenience fee, a contractor will process your credit card payment if you elect to pay the annual property tax bill using this method. This convenience fee is not revenue to the County. There is no fee to make a payment via e-check.

To avoid penalties, transactions made either on the internet or over the telephone must be completed before midnight on the payment by date. Debit and credit cards will be processed as a credit transaction, and therefore the convenience fee will apply.

Please plan ahead and do not wait until the last minute to make your payment. If you are unable to get through on the internet or telephone, causing you to miss the payment deadline, penalties will NOT be waived. Please verify your data entry very carefully when making online payments.

If your payment is rejected by your financial institution FOR ANY REASON, you will be charged a \$53.00 return payment fee as well as penalties if your payment is rejected after the due date.

If you use your bank's Online Bill Pay service, a paper check will be printed and mailed to the Tax Collector. Because the check is sent without a payment stub, please enter the parcel number, current year's bill number and installment being paid in the online account number field for payment identification. The date on the check issued by your bank is considered the postmark, make sure you are aware of the bank's timeline on issuing the check. Some banks take 5 to 7 business days before the check is issued, and penalties will apply if the check is dated after April 10, 2024.

How to Obtain Information about Your Tax Bill

If you have not received a tax bill, you can obtain your tax bill information and payment stubs (copy) at the Tax Collector's website, over the automated telephone system or by contacting the Tax Collector's Office at (916) 874-6622.

Sacramento County offers an online email subscription service for property tax information to receive e-mail notifications when the annual secured property tax bills are available each year and reminders before the first and second installments delinquent dates. This service is provided at no cost to subscribers. Visit saccounty.gov and enter your email address or mobile number under the "Connect with us" header, located at the bottom right-hand of the page.

For additional information about property taxes, the Sacramento County Tax Collector's website provides answers to most common questions from taxpayers regarding property taxes and links to tax bill information and online payments.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the property owner of their liability to pay taxes in a timely manner or give the Tax Collector reason to cancel penalties imposed for late payment. ★



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Dave Ramsey Says

efit of them calling in and actually wanting help. These folks care about what I think, and in most cases, they realize things aren't working for them. I don't just walk up to people and say, "You know, what you're doing is really stupid. Let me fix you." I think that's kind of the situation you're in right now. So, before anything else, I'd begin to pray for him. Ask God to bring people into his life who will have a positive impact on him.

One of the worst things about these situations is watching people you love do bad things to themselves and the people around them. Honestly, I don't know there's really a lot you can do without becoming the enemy to some degree. You can always try to hold him to a higher standard, and refuse to tolerate immature, irresponsible behavior when you're around him. You might even look for opportunities to use yourself as an example. I'm not talking about puffing out your chest and pretending to be perfect. I'm just saying maybe point out areas in your life where you made mistakes in the past

and how you fixed the problems. But going out and trying to actively intervene in his life without permission, or shaming him in hopes it'll make him grow up and be a man, would probably do more harm than good.

Approach him in a gentle, caring way. Again, not like some know-it-all, but just let him know you care and you're there to help if he's having difficulties. Take him out to lunch once in a while, or invite him over, and let him know you're there for him if he needs to talk.

And remember what I said earlier about prayer? Bringing God into the equation is never a bad idea

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions ★

It's a Tough Situation for Both of You

Dear Dave,

I'm worried about my younger brother, and I need some advice. He's divorced and has a son, and lately, it seems like he only wants to be a dad when it's convenient. On top of this, he's very irresponsible with money for someone in their thirties. Our mom and dad passed away several years ago, so I feel like this leaves me to be the big brother and parent at the same time. I'm not sure how to help him. Can you give me some advice, please?

—Andy

Dear Andy,

You're a good and caring big brother to be concerned and want to help. And it's a tough situation for you, especially with your parents no longer in the picture.

When I help people on my show, I have the ben-



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Social Security Matters

When Should We Claim Social Security?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am almost 63 and my husband will be 61 soon, and we are looking to see when our best time would be to start our Social Security benefits. We would like to know if one of us qualifies for benefits from a previous marriage from 1984 to 1995. And we are wondering if I can start drawing at age 65, in two years, or if it is better that I wait until 67 because my spouse is 2 years younger than me. Also, if I were to continue working limited hours after 65, what would my earning limit be? **Signed: Almost Ready**

Dear Almost Ready: The first thing to understand is that full retirement age (FRA) for both of you is 67. If either of you claim before that, your monthly benefit amount will be permanently reduced and, because you are working, you will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test."

If you claim your benefit at age 65 your monthly payment will be about 87% of what you would get if you claimed at age 67. If your husband claims at age 62, his benefit will be about 70% of his FRA amount. The only way to get 100% of the benefit you've each earned from a lifetime of working is to

claim at your FRA. You can choose to claim at age 65 as long as you're comfortable with the benefit reduction which will occur, and as long as your annual work earnings do not significantly exceed the earnings limit for that year. In any case, when each of you claims will not affect the other's retirement benefit amount.

Social Security's "earnings test" for those claiming before FRA sets a limit for how much can be earned before some (or all) benefits are taken away. The earnings limit for 2024 is \$22,320, but it changes yearly. If you claim early benefits and your work earnings exceed that year's limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They take away by withholding future benefits long enough to recover what you owe for exceeding the limit. If you significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you may be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your FRA (the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA). I cannot predict what the earnings limit will be two years from now, but it will be more than the 2024 limit and published at that time. FYI, in the year you turn 67 your pre-FRA earnings limit will be much higher, and when you reach your FRA the earnings test no longer applies.

Regarding your previous marriage, you cannot receive spousal benefits from an ex-spouse while you are currently married. But when to claim may also be influenced by whether either you

or your current spouse will get a spousal benefit from the other. If the FRA (age 67) benefit amount for one of you is more than twice the other's FRA entitlement, the one with the lower FRA amount will get a "spousal boost" to their own amount when both of you are collecting.

Spouse benefits reach maximum at one's FRA, but each person's personal SS retirement amount will continue to grow if not claimed at FRA. Waiting past FRA to claim allows the SS retirement benefit to grow by 8% per year, up to age 70. So, with an FRA of 67, claiming at age 70 will yield a payment 24% higher than the FRA amount, 76% more than the age 62 amount, and about 37% more than the age 65 amount. But waiting beyond FRA is only smart if financially feasible and life expectancy is at least average (about 84 and 87 respectively for a man and woman your current ages). And, as a general rule, if one's spousal benefit at FRA (50% of their partner's FRA entitlement) is highest, then that spouse should claim at FRA to get their maximum benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Wow, I am hearing fans and pundits alike talking about how the Kings will fare in the Play-in. What happened to just making the playoffs?

I am still firmly in the camp that the Sacramento Kings can make a run that lands on 48 wins and puts them in the playoffs without having to go through the Play-in system.

Without a doubt, the loss, temporarily, of Malik Monk is a gut punch and not to be overlooked, but what a blessing to have both Sasha Vezenkov and Trey Lyles back on the hardwood the very next game after Malik was sadly injured. That is fortuitous for certain, and Lyles looked as though he hadn't missed a game. Trey's three-point shooting should not be overlooked, and will help mitigate the loss of Malik's contribution that this team has come to rely upon.

Eight games to go, and if the Kings can find a way to win five of those games, I for one believe they make the enviable top six, and go into the playoffs with their heads held high.

Losing two games back-to-back to the Dallas Mavericks was, for many, the low moment of the season, and without a doubt made the trip to the playoffs a difficult one. Having said that, hold onto your seats, because these cardiac kids have a way of making believers out of you.

Domantas Sabonis continues his vaunted double-double streak, and Harrison Barnes seems to be finding some of the old magic that made the Kings feel he was someone that had to be signed in the off season. Although many believed the price was too high, all will be forgotten if Harrison can continue contributing 20 points per game as he just did in the victory over the Utah Jazz.

Pay attention to the victory over the Jazz, because it sends a message to all Sacramento Kings fans, that just when you want to count them out, their game rises to the top once again. Don't let mendacious pundits steal your zeal for this team. Yogi Berra

said, "It's not over till it's over," and I'm with Yogi.

For the first time this season, both Keegan Murray and Harrison Barnes scored 20 points in a contest. Yes, the very first time, and if that is a dose of what's to come, bring it on.

Is anyone paying attention to Davion Mitchell, and his consistent outside shooting contribution? Davion continues to be a threat from the perimeter, and can take it to the hole with the best of our players.

The return of Trey Lyles looms large, and perhaps Coach Brown will realize what he's got in this under-appreciated talent. Lyles could be starting for this team, and at the very least has deserved many more minutes than he has received throughout the season.

The sudden loss of Malik Monk will no doubt create a need for more minutes on the court for Trey, and if ever there was a time to show what you've got, now is that time.

The same can be said for Keon Ellis, who has been looked upon much more favorably by Coach Brown, and with Kevin Huerter out for the season, has been granted the starting job.

Keon needs to keep up the tough defense, and add just enough offense to keep the defense honest. Ellis has game, and I believe, like Trey Lyles, that we haven't yet seen the ceiling of what he is capable of doing on the court.

Eight huge games to go, and fans are all over the board as to where the Kings will be at the end of this stretch. I say, for all of you die-hard Kings fans that have lived through a dozen years-plus of languishing on the sidelines, watching other teams in the playoffs every year, enjoy this enigmatic but ultimately dynamic group of basketball players that truly love taking the hardwood together.

If you're not on the edge of your seat now, you never will be.

Your thoughts are always welcome at vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com
Enjoy this team! ★

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Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Dr. Universe: What would happen to female honey bees if male bees didn't exist? - Emmie, 12, Arizona

Dear Emmie,
When I want something sweet, I pull out a jar of honey made by my bee friends at Washington State University. I talked about your question with one of the insect scientists there, Rae Olsson. They told me a honey bee colony includes one female queen, many female workers and, depending on the time of year, some male drones. Workers have lots of jobs. They gather nectar and pollen. They take care of each other, the queen and the baby bees. A drone's only job is to mate with a queen from another colony. The queen's only job is to make more bees. A mated queen stores sperm cells from male bees in a little pouch. Then, she can decide whether to lay female eggs or male eggs. Eggs fertilized with sperm become female bees. Unfertilized eggs become male bees. It works that way because bees and their relatives are haplodiploid. Most animals—including humans like you and cats like me—are diploid. That means we have "double" copies of our genes. Genes are like DNA instructions your cells use. Some of your genes influence the traits that make you, you. Like your eye color or how shy you are. A diploid animal has two copies of its genes because it comes from a fertilized egg. It gets one copy from the egg cell and one copy from the sperm cell. Female bees are diploid with two copies of their genes, too. But male bees only have one copy of their genes. They're haploid. So, if something wiped out all the male honey bees, queens could just lay more male eggs. If those new drones matured in time to mate with the new queens, everything would be fine.

If male bees didn't exist at all—like the idea of male bees vanished or there wasn't time for new male eggs to mature—queen bees wouldn't be able to lay fertilized eggs. That means no new workers and no new queens. "The workers are like 98% of the hive," Olsson said. "So, within a pretty short period of time there would be no female honey bees to take care of the colony." But cape honey bees in South Africa have a cheat code for emergencies that could save them—even if male bees were gone forever. If the queen bee dies, the workers can lay unfertilized eggs that become female bees instead of male bees. Thanks to a quirk in the cape honey bees' egg-making process, the egg cell contains two sets of genes instead of one set. The new bees are clones, or exact copies of the worker bee. "They could have whole lines of just female bees without males," Olsson said. "But they're losing out on the genetic trait changes that might happen with fertilized eggs." The reason animals fertilize their eggs is to mix up the genes. It's like shuffling a deck of cards. You probably aren't going to get the exact same cards you had before you shuffled. When every animal in a group has a different mix of genes, the group can adapt better to changes in their environment. There's probably someone in the group who can survive whatever life throws at them. Still, making cloned workers is a pretty sweet way cape honey bees already adapted. You could say it's their plan bee. Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

Five Tips to Help Safely View the Upcoming Solar Eclipse



Glasses are essential when watching a solar eclipse. Photo by Dave Davidson of Pixabay

By Dr. Premilla Banwait, Vice President of Clinical Programs, UnitedHealthcare

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - For people in Sacramento and hundreds of millions more nationwide, the upcoming solar eclipse offers a great opportunity to view a rare celestial event.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon blocks any part of the sun. On April 8, virtually everyone across the country will have the chance (weather permitting) to see at least a partial solar eclipse, while over 31 million people in a narrow path from Texas to Maine will have the opportunity to witness a total solar eclipse. In Sacramento, the eclipse coverage will reach a maximum of 34.3% at approximately 11:15:59 AM PDT.

While the solar eclipse is a fun and educational opportunity for everyone, there are precautions you should take to help maintain your eye health while safely viewing

this spectacle. Looking at a solar eclipse without proper protection may cause serious eye damage, including blurry vision that can last months, or even permanent problems such as "eclipse blindness."

Prevent Blindness, the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization, has been spreading awareness since 1908 about preventing blindness. Below are five tips from Prevent Blindness to help safely view the solar eclipse:

Get protected. It is unsafe to look directly at the sun at any time and during a partial or total solar eclipse, other than if you are in the path of totality during the brief total phase. Proper eclipse viewing glasses, which are heavily tinted - much more so than regular sunglasses - can enable you to see the moon track across the orb of the sun until it creates a total eclipse, revealing the sun's corona.

Avoid fakes. Use certified solar eclipse glasses, specifically ones that have been reviewed by the

International Organization for Standardization and look out for fake viewers that may be sold. A list of vendors that sell certified solar eclipse glasses is available here. And make sure to read and follow any instructions packaged with or printed on the glasses.

Don't add other devices. Even while wearing approved solar eclipse glasses, it's important not to look at the sun through a camera, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device. Doing so may concentrate the solar rays and damage the filter, enter your eyes, and potentially cause serious injury.

Use caution during the moment of totality. If you are planning to watch the eclipse from along the 13-state path of totality, eclipse glasses should be worn during the entirety of the partial eclipse phase and may only be removed once the moon completely blocks the sun. Once the sun reappears, glasses should be replaced.

Consider a comprehensive eye exam. If you or a loved one experience eye discomfort or vision problems following the solar eclipse, visit a local eye care professional for a comprehensive exam. Importantly, comprehensive eye exams may also identify vision problems while helping with the potential detection of other health issues, including diabetes, heart disease and some types of cancer.

The upcoming solar eclipse can be a fun and educational opportunity, provided you take the necessary precautions to protect your eye health. ★

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LEGAL ADVERTISING

Carmichael Times Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 317294 – February 7, 1984
Rancho Cordova Independent Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 195380 – September 18, 1969
Citrus Heights Messenger Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 34-2020-00273535 – March 12, 2020
The Rio Linda News Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 358073 – March 21, 1988

Legal Advertising
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5
Carmichael, CA 95608

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01327
Michael Pugliese, 3849 Navaho Drive, Antelope, CA 95843 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Laseris Incidit" 3849 Navaho Drive, Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 22, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
LASERIS 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01267
California RVM Solutions, 3672 Stephen Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Simply Recycle" 4802 San Juan Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 20, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
SIMPLY 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01603
SQY Inc, 8732 Fruitridge Road #2, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "SQY Autos Inc" 8732 Fruitridge Road #2, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 4, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
SQY 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01417
Mary E. Moreno, 9032 Rosewood Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sterling Silver Roses & Things" 9032 Rosewood Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 26, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
STERLING 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01681
Niki Staben, 4265 Enchanted Circle, Roseville, CA 95747 and Craig Hall, 8220 Firewood Court, Orangevale, CA 95662 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "S&H Billiard Supply" 8220 Firewood Court, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
S&H 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00838
The Anxiety Treatment Center, 10419 Old Placerville Road, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Anxiety Treatment Center" 10419 Old Placerville Road, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 1, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
THE 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01478
John A. Morrison, PO Box 655, Roseville, CA 95661 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Rush Our Delivery" 4946 Watt Avenue Unit 23, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 27, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
RUSH 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01458
Richard Johnson, 4220 Prospect Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Gold Spur Realty/Gold Spur Land & Home Realty" 4220 Prospect Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 26, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
GOLD 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01537
Duc Pham, 8096 Polo Crosse Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95829 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "DMP Construction" 8096 Polo Crosse Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95829. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 29, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
DMP 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01757
Sloughhouse Corn LLC, 10276 Altameza Road, Wilton, CA 95693 doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sloughhouse Sweet Corn/Davis Ranch LLC" 13501 Jackson Road, Sloughhouse, CA 95683. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
SLOUGHHOUSE 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01807
Seedstar Inc., 1401 21st Street Suite R, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Seedstar Cannabis" 5711 Florin Perkins Road, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
SEEDSTAR 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01464
Dominique Fairbank, 9029 Sutters Gold Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Gold Country Books/Gold Country Books and More" 9029 Sutters Gold Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 27, 2024

Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
GOLD 4-12-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01768
Arrow Drillers, 1850 Diesel Drive, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Arrow Construction" 1850 Diesel Drive, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
ARROW 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01395
Gerry Johnson, 2121 Natomas Crossing #200, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tri-Star Real Estate Group/Tri-Star Diversified" 4030 Truxel Road Suite D, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 23, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
TRI 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01575
Janai Lynne Vernott, 3225 Garfield Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Creative Klutz Studio" 3225 Garfield Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 1, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
CREATIVE 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01677
Larisa Dzyuba, 7045 Patience Court, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Secure Notary Solutions" 7045 Patience Court, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
SECURE 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01409
Mario A Rupert and Gregory Rupert, 6454 Oakridge Way, Sacramento, CA 95831 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Hex & Cull" 6454 Oakridge Way, Sacramento, CA 95831. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 26, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
HEX 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01881
Wali Hassany, 1808 Richmond Street, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Aahoo Document Solutions" 2740 Fulton Avenue 101-16, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 11, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
AAHOO 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01800
Andrea Z Evans, PO Box 4145, Ketchum, ID 83340 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Philanthropy Consulting Group" 205 Raven Road A1-5, Ketchum, ID 83340. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
PHILANTHROPY 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01704
Karen Ortiz, 2335 33rd Street, Sacramento, CA 95817 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Own It Real Estate" 1610 R Street Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
OWN 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01924
Lavender Nail Salon LLC, 1010A Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95831 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Lavender Nail Salon" 1010A Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95831. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
LAVENDER 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01805
Daniel W Todd, 2025 W El Camino Ace Apt 238, Sacramento, CA 95833 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Phantomice Interactive" 2025 W El Camino Ace Apt 238, Sacramento, CA 95833. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
PHANTOMICE 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01911
Xtelnetic LLC, 5252 Sunrise Boulevard Suite 4, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Netellix" 5252 Sunrise Boulevard Suite 4, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
NETELLIX 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01912
Niello Performance Motors II Inc, 1481 River Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Porsche Sacramento" 2200 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
PORSCH 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01928
Gateway Foods LLC, 6 Kitaj Court, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Taqueria La Puerta" 4391 Gateway Park Boulevard Suite 650, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
TAQUERIA 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01656
California Auto House, Inc, 7333 Roseville Road #5, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "California Auto House, Inc" 8636 Antelope North Road BLDG C, Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
CALIFORNIA 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01530
National Vision, Inc., 2435 Commerce Avenue, Duluth, GA 30096 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses" 2922 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 29, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
AMERICAS 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01531
National Vision, Inc., 2435 Commerce Avenue, Duluth, GA 30096 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses" 5899 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 29, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
BEST 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01532
National Vision, Inc., 2435 Commerce Avenue, Duluth, GA 30096 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses" 7721 Laguna Boulevard Suite 128, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 29, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
BEST 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01533
National Vision, Inc., 2435 Commerce Avenue, Duluth, GA 30096 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses" 2395 Iron Point Road Suite 110, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 29, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
EYEGLASSES 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01574
National Vision, Inc., 2435 Commerce Avenue, Duluth, GA 30096 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "America's Best Contacts & Eyeglasses" 6019 Florin Road Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 1, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
NATIONAL 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01848
Victoria Lose, 3432 Gates Way, Sacramento, CA 95832 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Journey to Freedom" 3432 Gates Way, Sacramento, CA 95832. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 8, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
JOURNEY 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01667
Grace Sur, 9545 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Beauty Solutions By Grace" 9545 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
BEAUTY 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01986
Michelle Green-Clark, 4615 Manzanita Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "KM Dance Arts" 4615 Manzanita Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 13, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
KM 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01925
Surinder Singh Bedwal, 7733 Charmain Court, Antelope, CA 95843 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Twin River ATMS" 7733 Charmain Court, Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
TWIN 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01623
Accredited RealEstate Schools Inc, 7840 Madison Avenue #149, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Accredited Real Estate Schools Inc" 7840 Madison Avenue #149, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County

March 4, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
ACCREDITED 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01932
Amanda Dugan, 6550 Sutter Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ritual Cookies" 6550 Sutter Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
RITUAL 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01213
Best Choice Logistics Inc, 1922 Naomi Way, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Best Choice Logistics/BC Cab" 1922 Naomi Way, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 15, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
BEST 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01268
JDV Distribution LLC, 3710 Branch Street, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Jenner Vacation Rentals" 3710 Branch Street, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 20, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
JENNER 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01713
Ryan Stambuk, 3115 Eades Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Off Duty Photography" 3115 Eades Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
OFF 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01622
TNT Industrial Contractors, Inc., 3800 Happy Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "TNT Industrial Contractors, Inc." 3800 Happy Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 4, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
TNT 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02073
Donna R. Chabrier, 1523 Oak Tree Drive, Roseville, CA 95661 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Real Experience Group" 1610 R Street Suite 280, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 15, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
REAL 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02101
Carlos Derreza, 1420 South Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95838 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Derreza Yard Care" 1420 South Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95838. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 18, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
DERREZA 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02097
Aliatta LLC, 7924 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95820 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Faisal Market And Restaurant" 7924 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95820. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 18, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
FAISAL 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01917
T-Rex Auto Repair LLC, 2577 Elkhorn Boulevard, Rio Linda, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "T-Rex Auto Repair" 2577 Elkhorn Boulevard, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
T-R 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02256
Critical Path Consulting, PO Box 2924, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Critical Path Training" 4313 Narraganset Way, Mather, CA 95655. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 21, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
CRITICAL 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02247
Devin Wayne Ford, 8686 Greenback Lane, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Smalz Studios" 8686 Greenback Lane, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 21, 2024
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
SMALZ 4-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02323
Victor R Garcia and Victor M Garcia, 7659 Denio Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "CH Café & Grill/Ericas Café/Garcia's Family Cafe" 6215 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 25, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CAFE 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02196
CR1F Group LLC, 5000 Birch Street #100B, Newport Beach, CA 92660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Credit 1 Finance Group" 5000 Birch Street #100B, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 20, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CREDIT 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02078
Elias Caraska, 5518 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95841 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "D & W Hobbies" 5518 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 15, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
HOBBIES 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02206
Mary Gwaltney, 3416 American River Drive Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95864 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Center for Educational and Social Success/Cognizant Counseling and Assessment" 3416 American River Drive Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 20, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CENTER 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01918
Silverstreak Registration & Permit Services LLC, 8146 Greenback Lane Suite 101, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Silverstreak Registration & Permit Services" 8146 Greenback Lane Suite 101, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 12, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
SILVERSTREAK 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02219
Britanie N. Page and Collin W. Page, 8468 Central Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Page Financial Group" 8468 Central Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 20, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
PAGE 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02183
German Palomares Karrom, 4 Hondo Court, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "G Welding Services" 4 Hondo Court, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 20, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
WELDING 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02153
John R. Watt, 7007 Main Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Scorched Fabrication" 7007 Main Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 19, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
SCORCHED 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01708
Pomme Miel Businesses LLC, 4100 Redwood Road Suite 20A-123, Oakland, CA 94619 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "PizzaForno" 12401 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 5, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
PIZZAFORNO 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01775
Peter Frank Ochoa, 2201 19th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95822 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Universe Network Services" 2201 19th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 7, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
UNIVERSE 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02411
Denis Voyku, 9329 Orangevale Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "DV Transportation Services" 9329 Orangevale Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 28, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
TRANSPORTATION 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02378
ESM Trading Company Inc, 7817 Wooddale Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Craze 4 Pasta/Florian Café and Deli" 2204 Sunrise Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 27, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CRAZEE 4-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02385
Tarjinder Singh Kaler has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Tarjinder Singh Kaler to Tarjinder Singh.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on May 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 1, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
KALER 4-5-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#24CV004736
Mary Kaye Bartholomew aka Mary Kaye Bassett has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Mary Kaye Bartholomew aka Mary Kaye Bassett to Mary Kaye Prentice.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on May 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 12, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
BASSETT 4-12-24

Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
Order to Show Cause
Change of Name
#24CV004689
Isaiah Michael Fennema-Montoya has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Isaiah Michael Fennema-Montoya to Isaiah Michael Montoya.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on July 3, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 12, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
MONTAYA 4-12-24

Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
Order to Show Cause
Change of Name
#24CV004443
Gabrielle Blalock-Tovar has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Gabrielle Nicole Blalock-Tovar to Gabrielle Nicole Blalock and William Bruce Blalock-Tovar to William Bruce Blalock and Eloise Carleen Blalock-Tovar to Eloise Carleen Blalock.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on May 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 8, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
TOVAR 4-19-24

Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
Order to Show Cause
Change of Name
#24CV005403
Indira D. Obediah has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Indira D. Obediah to Indira D. Joshi
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 4, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: March 20, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
OBEDIAH 4-19-24

Superior Court of California
County of Sacramento
Order to Show Cause
Change of Name
#24CV005398
Miguel Marquez Arellano has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Miguel Marquez Arellano to Miguel Arellano Marquez.

Ben Ali Shrine Band to Present Free Concert

Ben Ali Shrine Band News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Ben Ali Shrine Band will perform a free, family-friendly, open to the public concert at 7 p.m. Friday, April 19, at the California Automobile Museum at 2200 Front Street in Sacramento.

Under the baton of Director Jerry Lopes, the band will perform a variety of popular tunes, including a sprinkling of automotive-themed favorites.

Donation envelopes in support of the extraordinary work done by doctors and staff of the Shriners Hospitals for Children -- Northern California, 2425 Stockton Blvd. in Sacramento, will be available on-site. Donations are strictly voluntary.

Ben Ali's history dates back to 1922, highlighted by positive community outreach and support of the Shriners

Hospitals for Children. The Ben Ali Shrine Temple is located at 3262 Marysville Blvd., in Sacramento.

Shriners Hospitals for Children -- Northern California treats children with complex medical conditions, providing care to families throughout Northern California, the western United States and portions of Mexico and Canada. The free care provided by the local hospital -- and Shriners hospitals throughout the United States -- promotes healing that otherwise would represent an enormous economic burden to affected families.

The California Automobile Museum houses one of the nation's most diverse collections of motor vehicles produced over many decades. Its extensive docent program is nationally recognized. For more information on the museum or to become a member, call 916-442-6802 or visit www.calautomuseum.org. ★

Sacramento Native Serves in The South China Sea Aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt



Navy Office of Community Outreach News Release

SOUTH CHINA SEA (MPG) - U.S. Navy Quartermaster 3rd Class Krosavanh Phongphet, left, from Sacramento, Calif., and Quartermaster Seaman Apprentice Saraya Phillips, from Newark, N.J., pull down signal flags aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), March 12, 2024. Theodore Roosevelt, flagship of Carrier Strike Group Nine, is underway conducting routine operations in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet, and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Richard Tinker)

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Carmichael Times Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Adjudication No. 317294 - February 7, 1984
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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on July 16, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: March 19, 2024
 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 2024
 ARELLANO 4-19-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
 #24CV005556

Marie Irene Kiene has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Marie Irene Kiene to Siobhan Aine Luckie.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: March 22, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
 KIENE 4-26-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
 #24CV004347

Michael Donald Rice has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Michael Donald Rice to Michael Dean Tallent.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on July 2, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: March 7, 2024
 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
 RICE 4-26-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RONALD THOMPSON
 CASE NO. 24PR000763

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Ronald Thompson

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Tonja Kraynik in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Tonja Kraynik 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 executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have 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 April 25, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826

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 deceased, 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

ing 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 deceased, 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 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. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Andrew Kern, 755 Baywood Drive, Petaluma, CA 94954, 707-658-4602
 Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 2024
 THOMPSON 4-5-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF WYNETTE O. GARDNER AKA OLETA WYNETTE GARDNER
 CASE NO. 24PR000860

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Wynette O. Gardner aka Oleta Wynette Gardner.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Alison Ann Miller, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Alison Ann Miller be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have 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 May 2, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826

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 deceased, 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 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. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Paula S. Hall, 9048 Brooks Road South, #165, Windsor, CA 95492; 707-836-1563
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 2024
 GARDNER 4-19-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF SHIRLEY ROSANO
 CASE NO. 24PR000904

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Shirley Rosano.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Douglas Paustenbach, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Douglas Paustenbach 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 have 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: May 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826

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 deceased, 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.

The name, address, and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Robert A Gordon, 40 Hanford Street, Suite B,

Sutter Creek, CA 95685; 209-267-1685
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 2024
 ROSANO 4-19-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN WHITMAN AKA PATRICIA WHITMAN AKA PAT WHITMAN
 CASE NO. 24PR000678

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Patricia Ann Whitman aka Patricia Whitman aka Pat Whitman. An Amended Petition for Probate has been filed by Leslie D. Whitman III, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Leslie D. Whitman III be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have 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 May 7, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826

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 deceased, 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 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.

The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Raoul J. LeClerc, P.O. Drawer 111, Oroville, CA 95965; 530-533-5661
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 2024
 WHITMAN 4-19-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF PATSY EADEN COLEMAN
 CASE NO. 23PR001312

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Patsy Eaden, Patsy Jean Eaden, Patsy Eaden Coleman, Patsy Davis.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Tabitha Eaden Thompson, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Tabitha Eaden Thompson 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 executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have 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 May 8, 2024, 1:30 p.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826

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 deceased, 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 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.

The name, address and telephone number of the Petitioner is: Tabitha Eaden Thompson, 8662 Farewell Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624; 916-730-3947
 Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 2024
 COLEMAN 4-19-24

SUMMONS

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
 CASE NUMBER: 23CV001955

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: Flora Taylor, an individual; and does 1-20.

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Angela Bradley, an individual.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing

fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Website (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Superior Court of California, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Robert C. Bowman, Jr. 1451 River Park Drive, Suite 125, Sacramento, CA 95815, 916-923-2800

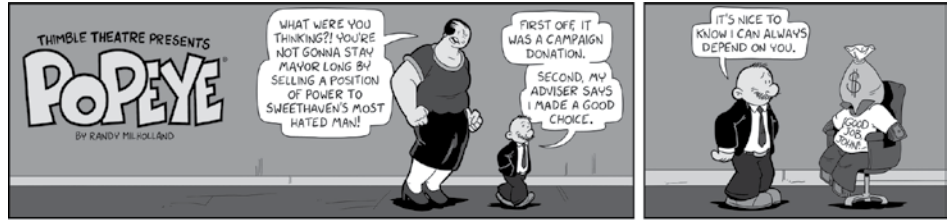
Date: (Fecha) 5/19/2023
 Clerk (Secretario) N. Young, Deputy (Adjunto)
 Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2024
 BRADLEY 4-5-24

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



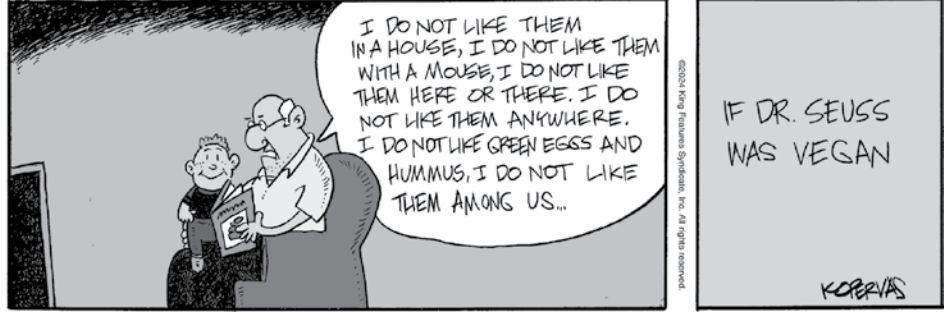
Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

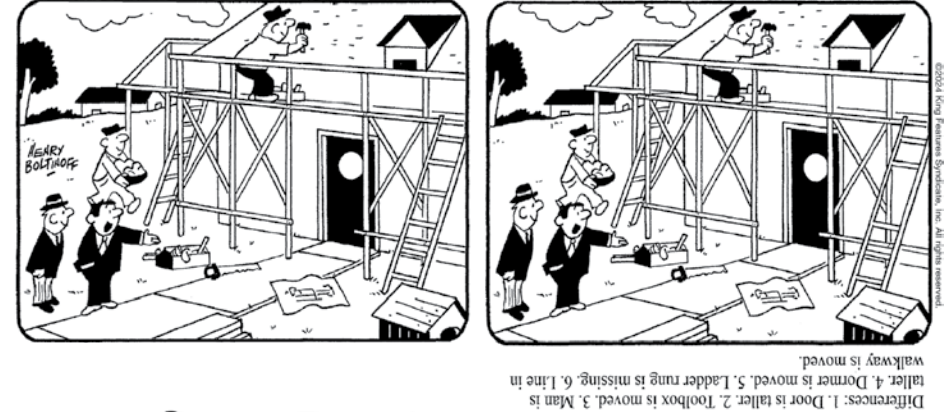


Out on a Limb



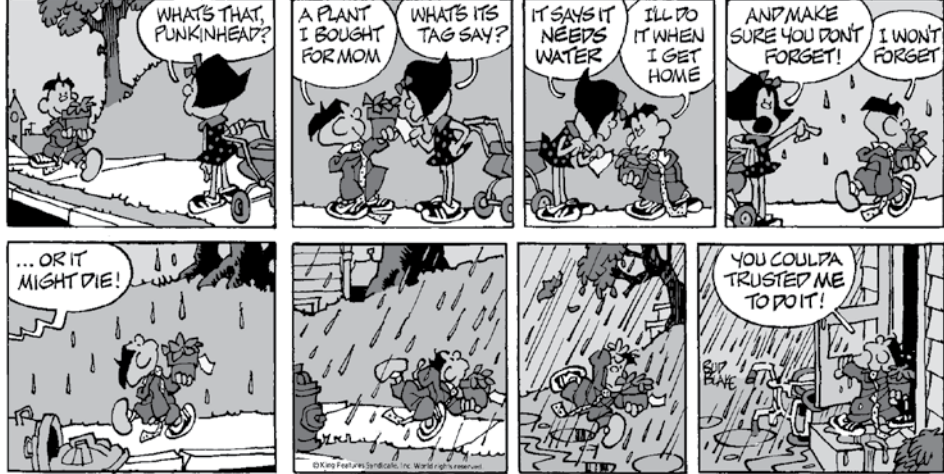
by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS



Differences: 1. Door is taller. 2. Toolbox is moved. 3. Man is taller. 4. Dormer is missing. 5. Ladder range is missing. 6. Line in walkway is moved.

TIGER

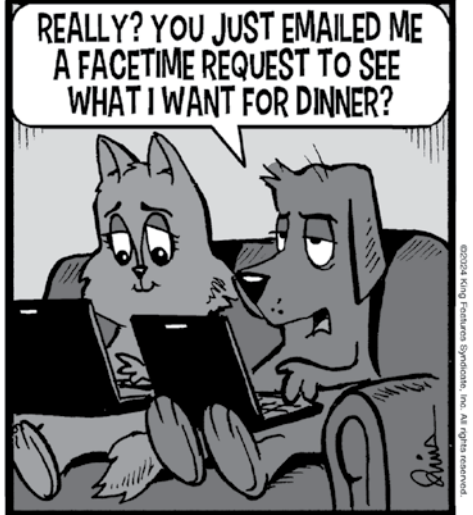


by Bud Blake

GRIN and BEAR IT



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CLUES

ACROSS

- Parting words
- Broadcasting acronym
- Taj Mahal city
- Ernest, to mommy
- "Fat chance!"
- Fits of shivering
- Rundown
- Historical period
- "... its weight in gold"
- *Namesake of famous pact signed in 1955
- **The City of a Hundred Spires
- Financial assistance
- Bird's groomer
- Pod nugget
- Fountain order
- Duck dish a certain way
- Picture on a coat
- Feline vibration
- Stocking fiber
- Stink to high heaven
- Cocoyam, pl.
- Pelvic bones
- Frost over (2 words)
- Stew bean
- Sleeveless garment
- Predicament
- Snakelike fish
- Hi-___ monitor
- Toothy wheel
- *Street, in capital city in #38 Down
- *On the Danube
- *On the Thames
- Virtue, in Italian
- *Street, in capital city in #25 Down
- Dashboard instruments
- Beside, archaic
- Geological Society of America
- Type of heron
- Parks or Luxemburg
- Pecking mother
- Like oboe's sound

DOWN

- "... the land of the free ..."
- Cold one
- Peruvian Empire
- Miss America topper
- Blood infection
- Prepare to swallow
- *Dublin's cultural quarter neighborhood, "Temple ..."
- Parallelogram, e.g.
- All excited
- Spiritual leader
- Network of nerves
- Certain something in a tray
- Rouse
- Take puppy from a pound
- *Hamilton: An American Musical" singing style
- Great ___ Reef
- *On the Seine
- Not slouching
- Arabian chieftain
- Like Roman god Janus
- *Also the most populous city in Ukraine
- More ill
- Neil Diamond's "Beautiful ..."
- Annoying tiny biters
- Arctic jaeger
- *Located in boot-shaped country
- Sound of artillery
- Kind of hickory nut
- Jack's inferior
- Like a Grammy nominee
- Frustration, in print
- "A bird in hand is worth two in the bush," e.g.
- Source of veritas
- Wraths
- Volcano in Sicily
- Ground beef description
- Fairytale giant
- "All You ___ Is Love"
- Variable, abbr.
- Put to work
- Hog heaven

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California Insurance Market 'In Chaos'



Here are the remains of a burned home in Berryessa Highlands on Sept. 21, 2020. Photo by Anne Wernikoff for CalMatters

By Levi Sumagaysay
CALMatters.org

With more California homeowners just discovering their insurance policies are getting canceled — and hundreds of thousands of others stuck with a pricey option of last resort — state Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara's efforts to fix the home insurance market can't come quickly enough.

Lara has introduced two main regulations, with more to come. The first, unveiled last month, aims to streamline rate reviews. State law gives the Insurance Department the power to approve or deny insurers' requests to raise premiums. Insurance companies complain the process has been holding up the increases they seek as a result of what they say are increased costs due to rising climate-change risks and inflation.

The second regulation will let insurers use catastrophe modeling — which combines historical data with projected risk and losses — along with other factors when setting their premiums. California is the last state to allow for catastrophe modeling.

"We're undertaking the state's largest insurance reform," Lara said during a press conference earlier this month. "We can no longer look solely to the past to guide us to the future."

He said catastrophe modeling will lead to "more reliable rates," "greater insurance availability" and "safer communities," because he said it would further encourage and reward wildfire mitigation by homeowners and communities. Insurance Department spokesperson Michael Soller said success will mean fewer homeowners needing to turn to the FAIR Plan, the state-mandated insurer of last resort.

Insurance trade groups, which stand to benefit most from the new regulations, agree with Lara's support for catastrophe modeling and support his so-called sustainable insurance strategy. So do fire chiefs, to an extent. But almost everyone else — homeowners, consumer groups and former insurance commissioners — has lingering concerns.

U.S. Rep. John Garamendi, a Democrat representing parts of Solano and Contra Costa counties, had two stints as state insurance commissioner in the mid-1990s and early 2000s. He says the insurance market is "in chaos" — and that Lara should be holding public hearings and demanding insurance company executives testify to explain to Californians why

their premiums are rising.

"One of the critical things a commissioner does is to analyze the market and provide the public with information," Garamendi said in an interview with CalMatters. "(Lara) didn't use his power to control the industry and second, to inform Californians."

The criticism drew a retort from Soller: "Commissioner Lara is fixing decades-long neglected issues that have led to this crisis. He is focused on safeguarding the integrity of the state's insurance market, not second-guessing from predecessors who had their chance and failed to act."

Dave Winnacker, chief of the East Bay's Moraga-Orinda Fire District, said the upsides of catastrophe modeling include being able to credit what homeowners, communities and governments do to lessen wildfire risk. That includes being able to account for the numbers and proximity of firefighters in certain areas, Winnacker said.

"Depending on where you are in a state, and that's tied to population density, the number of firefighters available could affect the outcome (of a wildfire)," he said, adding that catastrophe models should reflect that.

He also said he and other fire chiefs are working to make sure the interests of consumers, fire professionals, insurers and the state are aligned. Insurers may not know what homeowners, communities and local fire departments are doing to reduce wildfire risk. One idea: a database to share that information.

"There is no future in which we can price our way out of this crisis with just premiums," Winnacker said, adding that everyone needs to work together.

Dave Jones, the state insurance commissioner for eight years before Lara took over in 2019, said he is "trying to avoid looking over the shoulder of my successor."

Jones is now director of the Climate Risk Initiative Center for Law, Energy & the Environment at UC Berkeley School of Law. He said it is good for consumers that the catastrophe-modeling regulation could take forest management into consideration. But he said he's not sure Lara's actions will be sufficient.

Before the end of the year, Lara is also expected to issue a regulation that will allow insurers to factor reinsurance costs into their rates. Reinsurance is insurance for insurance companies in the event of large payouts. That plus the other new regulations may "help in the short to mid term," giving insurance companies the ability to raise



State Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara speaks during a press conference with Los Angeles labor leaders and advocates in Commerce on Sept. 26, 2022. Photo by Alisha Jucevic for CalMatters

premiums, Jones told CalMatters.

But he said those actions may "ultimately be overwhelmed by our failure to stop the fossil-fuel industry, which is contributing to rising temperatures" and therefore insurance losses.

Jones also pointed out that Florida has long allowed insurers to use catastrophe modeling and has let them factor in reinsurance costs in their rates — yet its insurance market is in worse shape than California's.

"Florida has done what insurers are asking for," Jones said. Yet "Florida's rates are three or four times the national average."

Mark Friedlander, spokesperson for the Insurance Information Institute, an industry group, confirmed that the group estimates that Florida's average home insurance premium was \$6,000, or three-and-a-half times the national average, in 2023.

In addition, Jones said Florida's version of California's last-resort FAIR Plan — called the Citizens Property Insurance Corp. because it's funded with a surcharge on policyholders — has more than 1 million policies. California's growing FAIR Plan, run by a pool of insurers, has 373,000 policies, its president told state lawmakers recently.

"That raises the question," Jones said. "Giving insurers (higher rates) and shifting the burden to all Californians... whether that's going to be enough in the face of growing background risk associated with climate change."

Meanwhile, last week State Farm said that it is not renewing policies for 30,000 California homeowners, as well as refusing to cover all commercial

apartments by not renewing 42,000 of those policies.

This is happening despite California approving State Farm's requests to levy double-digit premium increases last year.

"One of our roles as the insurance regulator is to hold insurance companies accountable for their words and deeds," said Soller, the Insurance Department spokesperson. "State Farm General's decision... raises serious questions about its financial situation — questions the company must answer to regulators."

State Farm spokesperson Sevag Sarkissian would not comment beyond the statement the company put on its website last week, which read in part: "This decision was not made lightly and only after careful analysis of State Farm General's financial health, which continues to be impacted by inflation, catastrophe exposure, reinsurance costs, and the limitations of working within decades-old insurance regulations."

Sarkissian also referred CalMatters to the Personal Insurance Federation of California, which counts State Farm as a member. The industry group's president, Rex Frazier, said in an email last week that allowing insurers to use catastrophe modeling would help with insurance availability. Yet in its statement, State Farm acknowledged the actions Lara is taking to try to fix the insurance availability and affordability crisis in California, even as it announced its decision not to renew tens of thousands of homeowners.

Joyce Kaufman, a retiree in June Lake in Mono County,

recently got a notice of non-renewal for her homeowners insurance with Farmers, which she said she and her husband were dreading but expecting.

"I'm not really sure what the state's trying to do, both at the commissioner and legislative level," Kaufman said. And losing the ability to renew her policy is affecting her other insurance needs, she said. As her broker helps look for an alternative, her auto premium is now going up about \$300 a year because it will no longer be bundled with home insurance.

As the new regulations give insurance companies what they had asked for, one part of Lara's strategy — which he first laid out last year after an executive order by the governor — is conspicuously missing. Lara had said insurance companies would be required "to commit to writing at least 85 percent of their statewide market share in wildfire-distressed underserved areas."

That provision is nowhere in the text of Lara's unveiled regulations so far — an omission not lost on consumer groups or former commissioner Jones.

"Where is that 85 percent?" asked Carmen Balber, executive director of Consumer Watchdog. Soller, the Insurance Department's spokesperson, said that part of the commissioner's strategy is coming.

Balber also said she is concerned that the catastrophe-modeling regulation "appears to not comply with the transparency requirements of Prop. 103," the voter-approved law that regulates the insurance industry.

According to the text of the regulation on catastrophe modeling, the public will be able to take part in reviewing catastrophe models before they're deemed acceptable. But anyone who helps review the models will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement.

"If a big chunk of your insurance rate is behind a 'black box,' then that's not what the voters passed," when they passed Proposition 103 in 1988, Balber said. "At the end of the day, if the commissioner passes something that hides something behind closed doors, we'll have to consider challenging it."

Levi Sumagaysay covers the economy for CalMatters. Previously, she was a senior reporter who covered worker issues, the gig economy, inequality and corporate accountability for MarketWatch. She also was a longtime reporter and tech and business editor at the Mercury News. ★

Fix Prop 47

By John McGinness

On the general election ballot in 2014 California voters were given the opportunity to vote for Proposition 47, the so-called Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act.

For those of us who took the time to read the text of the proposition, it was clear that nothing in this law would make schools or neighborhoods safer. On the contrary, the proposition was fraught with damaging ideas. Crimes such as possession and use of dangerous drugs would be reduced from felonies to misdemeanors. Possession of the so-called date rape drug would be an offense that would warrant no jail time whatsoever. Possession of methamphetamine would also be reduced to a mere misdemeanor, those possessing it could claim it was for personal use, regardless of the quantity, and no time in custody would follow. In recent history, very few people had been forced to serious time in custody for mere possession of illicit drugs. However, the threat of incarceration would often be the impetus for defendants to go to drug court, where they would stipulate to their guilt and be forced into treatment to put them on a path to a much better life. The success of drug court was very impressive. We did not see droves of people occupying the streets, parks and sidewalks of our communities looking like

the walking dead, while discarding human waste and dirty hypodermic needles on the playgrounds and streets of cities and towns throughout the state.

The loss of the ability to file felony charges in these cases would foreseeably evaporate the participation in drug court, because the incentive to do so would be lost by removing the criminal justice-imposed consequences for such offenses.

Similarly, changes that would eliminate real consequences for serial theft were a part of this horribly ill-conceived proposition. Previously, repeat thieves would be subject to jail time felony consequences. The criminal element generally knew of the consequences of California Penal Code Section 666 that would make even petty theft with a prior a potential felony that could result in time in-custody for repeat theft. All the penalty enhancements for repeat theft cases would be eliminated by the passage of this proposition.

It was abundantly foreseeable – if this proposition passed it would incentivize chronic dangerous drug abuse, and serial theft. Retailers would have a difficult time staying in business, their incentive to cooperate with the criminal justice system would go by the wayside, because liability risks of stopping thieves would simply become greater than the benefit



John McGinness. Courtesy photo

to be realized from a system that would not punish offenders.

Similarly, drug addiction as the result of chronic drug abuse would skyrocket. The quality of life would be profoundly diminished in urban, suburban, and even rural parts of California.

All of this would be abundantly clear to those who took the time and effort to read the proposition, and realize the predictability of the devastating consequences that would follow if this concept became law.

Regrettably, the good people of California had faith in those they had elected to represent their best interest in state government. Voters were

persuaded to support something seemingly so appealing as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act. After all, who among us does not want safe neighborhoods and schools?

The problem is the Summary and Title of this proposition was disingenuous. There was nothing in this proposition that would make schools or neighborhoods safer. In fact, it was clearly predictable that this proposition would adversely affect public safety in schools, neighborhoods, businesses, and recreation venues to a degree not previously seen in society.

Regrettably, the voters were duped by dishonest messaging from the

very people who had been entrusted with their vote.

Consider the ubiquitous tents in public places; the sickly pathetic souls wandering about in a daze; and the areas lost for use by law abiding, tax paying citizens because of fear for their safety and concerns for their health posed by those who have ravaged their own bodies by chronic drug abuse. Consider relentless images of smash and grab retail thefts that have forced long-time successful businesses to flee the state, because they cannot endure the current conditions.

Retail and cargo theft have exploded in California. Drug addiction and homelessness have become a humanitarian crisis. The consequences are impacting public safety and the quality of life of all Californians.

Members of the California legislature have promised to fix the problem, as have members of the state's executive branch. Do not be fooled into believing these false promises. This mess was created by well-intended voters who were lied to. Proposition 47 is a law that was created by the voters, ONLY the voters can amend it.

There is good news, the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act is very likely to qualify for the November ballot and will give the voters an opportunity to ameliorate the adverse consequences of

Proposition 47. There is still an opportunity to sign the petition to ensure the voters have a legitimate choice this year.

This effort will reclassify theft with two or more prior convictions as jail-eligible felonies, add new laws to address "smash and grab" thefts, add Fentanyl to the list of hard drugs resulting in felony prison time, and provide addiction and mental health services for treatment-mandated felony charges.

Some have asserted that enforcing laws and imposing consequences on offenders represents a lack of compassion. Who do you love that you want to see sleeping on a cold Sacramento sidewalk on a January night with temperatures in the teens, or conversely baking in the summer sun in triple digit heat? Who honestly believes that a young offender who begins to steal, and is not persuaded away from that behavior by predictable consequences for their actions will live a richer, fuller life?

Compassion demands providing the resources and impetus for change.

To sign the petition, or learn more, visit <https://casafecommunities.com>.

John McGinness, MS is the retired sheriff of Sacramento County, an adjunct professor of Criminal Justice and Leadership Studies and the host of the John McGinness Show on KFBK. He can be reached at 916-924-3901. ★

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