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# Carmichael Times

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MAY 17, 2024

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## Concert Season Kicks Off



Keep on Truckin' vocalist Jenna Hopper gets a groove on in Carmichael Park.

**Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner**

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - After a postponed season-opener, spring concerts kicked off in Carmichael Park last Saturday.

Rock band Keep on Truckin' performed classic hits for a 500-strong audience. Beatles, Rolling Stones and Joe Cocker covers kept dancers hoofing from downbeat to encore. On the previous weekend, a concert by Dayna and the Cherry Kings was postponed, due



Keep on Truckin' rockers kept crowds dancing during the first event of Carmichael's 2024 concert season. From left, musicians are Jeff Vidulich, Carl Winter, Jenna Hopper, Dan Callnon and Bill Bossinger.

to rain. This performance has been rescheduled for Friday, June 14.

Carmichael Park District this year reinvented its 40-plus year-old music

series to skip the sizzling months of July and August. Free public concerts will occur on spring Saturdays and autumn Sundays.

May/June Saturday performances continue with a 5:30 downbeat this weekend. Bands are scheduled as follows: May 18 – Maya Latin Tribute Band; May 25 – Locked and Loaded; June 8 – AKA Live; and June 15 – Wasted Space.

Friday Fall concerts start at 6 p.m. Bands are: Sept. 6 – The Wayside; Sept. 13 – David Perez Band; Sept. 20 – Blackwater; and Sept. 27 – Todd Morgan and the Emblems. ★

## \$3 Million Approved for Neighborhood Improvement Projects

**Sacramento County News Release**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - During the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget hearings, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved \$3,000,000 in funding, budgeted in the Neighborhood Revitalization Fund, for a Neighborhood Improvement Initiative.

The Neighborhood Improvement Initiative aims to target the elimination of blight and enhance public spaces through investments in projects improving safety and livability in underserved areas of the county, with a specific focus on Environmental Justice communities, commercial corridors and areas adjacent to vacant or blighted properties.

"I am extremely proud of this investment," said Third District Supervisor Rich Desmond. "The Neighborhood Improvement Initiative is funding projects that are really important to many of our communities and are crucial to their identity, pride and sense of place."

Said County Board of Supervisors Chair and Second District Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, "This initiative really reflects our support of the diverse needs in the county. We're not just revitalizing spaces; we're improving safety, connections and dignity in our communities."

The County Board of Supervisors directed the Office of Economic Development to conduct extensive outreach to develop a comprehensive list of potential projects for the Neighborhood Improvement Initiative. During summer and fall 2023, the Office of Economic Development, with the supervisory district offices and county Departments of Transportation and Community Development, met with community partners, residents and businesses through community meetings and online engagement to gather feedback and have the public suggest projects.

County staff evaluated project feasibility and community benefits within each supervisory district for recommendations to receive Neighborhood Improvement Initiative funding. On May 7, the Board of Supervisors approved the allocation of all \$3,000,000 for 12 projects, primarily within Environmental Justice communities, commercial

*Continued on page 5*

## California Capital Airshow Welcomes Back the USAF Thunderbirds



The skies will light up July 13 and July 14 with performances by the top airshow performers during the annual California Capital Airshow. Courtesy photo

**California Capital Airshow News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION (MPG)** - The United States Air Force Thunderbirds Jet Demonstration Team will be at this year's California Capital Airshow lineup, in

addition to the much-anticipated visit from the Italian Jet Team, Frece Tricolori.

The 18th annual California Capital Airshow, presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the city of Rancho Cordova, returns to Mather Airport on July 13 and

14. This event will feature an extraordinary lineup of performers, miles of ground attractions and the return of nighttime aerial performances concluding with a massive pyro-musical fireworks show.

"To have both the Thunderbirds and Frece

Tricolori performing at the same show is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Darcy Brewer, executive director of California Capital Airshow. "Our attendees will get to see some of the best pilots in the world fly right here

*Continued on page 3*

# 180-Plus AVID Students Celebrated



Mustafa Al Hilfi, a Mesa Verde High School 12th-grader, said that the AVID program made it easy for him to take the next step to attend college. Courtesy photo

## San Juan Unified School District News Release

### SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

Families and friends filled Mesa Verde High School's stadium on April 25 to celebrate the graduation of more than 180 San Juan Unified School District students at its Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Senior Celebration.

AVID is an elective class that equips students with essential life and academic skills such as reading, writing, organization, communication and collaboration. The overall

mission is to prepare all students for college readiness and success.

This year, seven student speakers represented the seven San Juan Unified high schools in attendance. Each 12th-grader was awarded an embroidered graduation stole because of their commitment and work throughout their time in AVID.

Mustafa Al Hilfi, a Mesa Verde High School AVID 12th-grade student who immigrated from Baghdad, Iraq, said he was initially overwhelmed by the transition but found a sense of belonging and purpose through the program.

"When I first immigrated

to the United States, I kind of had an identity crisis. I didn't feel I belonged here. After joining AVID, I realized everyone around me had the same goals, same ideas and same interests. AVID paved the way and made it really easy for me to go to college," Al Hilfi said.

Leslie Peoples, the Mesa Verde High AVID coordinator, emphasizes the program's focus on deliberate strategies for success, ranging from organization and time management to communication and goal setting.

"I have been an AVID coordinator at Mesa Verde High School since 2011 and 100% of our graduates have earned admission to a four-year college," Peoples said.

Beyond academics, AVID fosters personal growth and development, instilling valuable life skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

"I think AVID builds structure, fosters good relationships and really builds a solid foundation for kids to be successful not only in the classroom but also in their future," Peoples said.

San Juan Unified is proud to celebrate the endless opportunities available to students because of their hard work and dedication. ★

# New Business Stretches Muscle



Stretch Lab manager Jet Cara snips a ribbon to open StretchLab in Carmichael. The owner is Taelor Patnor, center. In the photo, Cara and Patnor are joined by staff and Carmichael Chamber of Commerce supporters.

## Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - It's no stretch to see how Carmichael's latest fitness center hopes to tone a maturing community.

Recently opening at the Bel Air Shopping Center, StretchLab is the second local facility for the wellness franchise. Its methodology is geared to improve flexibility through supervised contracting and relaxing of muscles.

"The process can help everybody," said manager Jet Cara. "Especially baby boomers. As we grow older, some

functional things get harder. Tying shoelaces, pulling on pants or bending down can be chores. With a flexibility coach, longevity of movement can be extended."

The fitness center employs eight trained flexologists.

"We love being in Carmichael," Cara said. "It's a well-established area where we find we can really connect with our clients."

StretchLab is at 4005 Manzanita Ave., Suite 48, and its phone number is 916-258-3300. Learn more about StretchLab at [www.stretchlab.com/location/carmichael](http://www.stretchlab.com/location/carmichael).★

# Artists Imitate Life



Costumed artists at the Sacramento Fine Arts Center include David Peterson, left, as photographer Ansel Adams; Joan Hall, seated, as mediaeval illustrator Jeanne Montbaston; Sally Durante as Frida Kahlo; Paul Dessau as Peter Bruegel the Younger; Skip Lee as Salvador Dali; and Joan McMurray as Vermeer's "Girl with a Pearl Earring." In the background is Skip Lee's canvas, "Geometrics #12."

## Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

Artists saluted historical forebears for the Northern California Arts Inc 85th anniversary show reception at Sacramento Fine Arts Center.

The event was a closing night reception for the 100-works exhibition.

"The idea of dressing as artists of the past was well supported," said watercolorist/show chair David Peterson. "As you'd expect from artists, our members were very creative. We had several Andy Warhols; there was a Frida Kalo and a Salvador Dali. Someone even came dressed up as me."

The exhibition showcased a range of

media including oil, watercolor, fiber art, ceramics and photography.

Begun in 1939 by Sacramento artists, Northern California Arts Inc now boasts 160 members statewide. Founders included the world-famous painter, Wayne Thibaud.

The group first met in a Sacramento restaurant and then occupied rooms at McKinley Garden Art Center. It moved to the former La Sierra High School campus in the 1980s and is now affiliated with Sacramento Fine Arts Center.

The Sacramento Fine Arts Center is located at 5330 B Gibbons Driver, Carmichael and is open to the public. Learn about featured shows at [www.sacfinearts.org](http://www.sacfinearts.org).★

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## MEMORIAL

**SUSAN (SUE) JEAN CRISTONI • 9/22/1945 – 4/27/2024**

Sue passed away peacefully on April 27, 2024 at the age of 78 with her loving family by her side. She was born in Cheshire, England on September 22, 1945. September 6, 1946, she came to America on the last militarized Queen Mary civilian transport to New York, NY, and moved to Sacramento in 1947. She graduated from Mira Loma High School in 1963.



son, David Cruz; seven grandchildren, Justin (Vanessa), David, Tarren (Kari), Tanner, Trenden, Trevin and Chelsea; five great-grandchildren, Kaiden, Adelynn, Aurora, Elias, and Asher; her siblings, Barry (Debbie) Cristoni, Bobby (Lonnie) Layton, Barbara Donoghue, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Sue will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was an exceptional Mother, an amazing Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. She was the best friend a person could ask for.

Sue had a significant love for Angels, as she was truly an Angel on Earth, so... Fly high with your new wings as an Angel in Heaven...there are no goodbyes for us, it's until we see you again!

Sue requested not to have a funeral; therefore, family and friends are invited to celebrate Sue and her Heavenly Birthday on Friday, September 20, 2024 from 2pm-7pm at the Dante Event Center located at 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95825. To ensure we have enough food, please email your name and phone number to [cmsmagoo@gmail.com](mailto:cmsmagoo@gmail.com) prior to July 1, 2024.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, in memory of Susan Cristoni.

Sue worked as a cashier for Raley's for over 20 years until she retired in 2011. She enjoyed her many years of retirement and spent a lot of time with her kids, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed cooking and ensured nobody left hungry. She was famous for her Lemon Curd, Yorkshire Pudding and Texas Cake. She loved gardening, fishing and being outside in the fresh air. She had a huge heart and would help anyone who needed it. She loved and missed her two dogs; Shadow and Miss Magoo.

Sue was preceded in death by her parents James (Elsie) Cristoni, Audrey (Gary) Nichols, sisters Lorna (Jimmy) Greenlee and Gwen Cristoni and many other friends and relatives. She is survived by her three boys, Michael (Laurie) Cristoni, Darren (Brandee) Carskaddon, Corey (April) Carskaddon; one adopted

# Dignity Health and Aetna® Reach Agreement

## Dignity Health News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Dignity Health and Aetna, a CVS Health Company, have reached agreement on a new, multi-year contract that allows Aetna members to maintain in-network access to Dignity Health services, facilities and providers in Arizona, California and Nevada. The effective date of the new agreement is April 1 and health care services received by Aetna members since April 1 will be covered at the members' in-network benefit levels.

"This is a win for our patients who deserve access to local high-quality care," said Robert Quinn, MD, president of Dignity Health Medical Foundation. "Our goal in working with Aetna has always

been about ensuring we can meet the needs of our patients today and in the future. This agreement ensures we can continue to provide value-driven care for Aetna members."

Said Cathy Hughes, Aetna vice-president and chief network officer for the Western and South-Central region, "We are committed to serving Aetna members with access to quality, convenient, affordable care through our network of providers. We are pleased to reach an agreement with Dignity Health that enables us to continue working together to meet the health care needs of our members."

Aetna members can call the number on their Aetna member card for more information.★

# Without More Transparency, We Won't See Real Accountability on Homelessness



Josh Hoover

By Assemblyman Josh Hoover

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Homelessness continues to be a main topic of discussion at each one of my community meetings. Our residents are rightfully concerned that California's current approach to solving this crisis is falling woefully short. The numbers demonstrate that very clearly.

Today California is home to nearly half of the nation's unsheltered homeless. Since 2018, our state has spent nearly \$24 billion taxpayer dollars to solve its homelessness crisis, only to see its unsheltered population rise by 32% during that same period of time. In Sacramento County alone, the homeless population has grown by 67% since 2019 and recently passed San Francisco.

That's why one of the first actions I took as a newly elected member of the Assembly in 2023 was to request an audit of our state's homelessness spending. I was thankful to be joined by a bipartisan coalition of legislators including Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose), Senator Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks), and Assemblymember Evan Low (D-Silicon Valley).

The premise was simple enough: if the billions we are spending to solve this crisis aren't getting the desired results, what are we doing wrong and how can our investments be put to better use?

The results, however, were more troubling than I expected. Not only could the dollars be put to better use, in most cases we do not even have the necessary information to properly assess program effectiveness.

The State Auditor's two-part report, which focused on 5 state level programs and 2 local governments, highlighted a number of eye opening findings:

Despite billions in spending, the homeless population in California has increased by 53% in the last 10 years.

The state has failed to systemically track homelessness spending and is not adequately positioned to collect data and assess outcomes.

Only two of the five state programs audited could provide enough information to assess their cost effectiveness.

Neither San Jose or San Diego centrally tracks and reports its spending and outcomes.

Neither city has properly evaluated the effectiveness of its homelessness programs.

Both cities have sent millions in funding to outside service providers but have not assessed whether these service providers are actually getting results.

One solution the Auditor proposed is for the Legislature to mandate new reporting requirements

telling state agencies to measure the costs and outcomes of state-funded homelessness programs. That seems like something that should have been happening all along to make sure policymakers have the ability to regularly assess program efficacy.

I introduced Assembly Bill 2093 to implement this change and I am happy to report that it passed the Assembly Housing Committee with unanimous bipartisan support.

Before we spend another dollar on homelessness, we need assurances that the dollars are being tracked. The inability to measure outcomes and performance will inevitably lead to wasted resources and broken promises.

Our communities deserve better. At a recent oversight hearing on homelessness, our lead agencies in California admitted that they have no idea where the money has gone or how many people it has helped. This is a complete failure of leadership and it's time for the Legislature to demand more accountability.

Assemblyman Josh Hoover is a member of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and represents the 7th Assembly District in Sacramento County, which includes the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, and Rancho Cordova and the unincorporated communities of Carmichael, Fair Oaks, Foothill Farms, Gold River, Mather, McClellan Park, North Highlands, Orangevale, and Rosemont. You can contact his office at [Assemblymember.Hoover@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Hoover@assembly.ca.gov). ★

# California Capital Airshow Welcomes Back the USAF Thunderbirds

*Continued from page 1* in Sacramento. We hope everybody is ready for jets, jets and more jets!"

This unique show features four hours of nonstop aerial performances beginning at 6 p.m. each day. The United States Air Force Thunderbirds will kick off the event, followed by Frece Tricolori, United States Navy F-18 Super Hornet, U.S. Air Force F-35 Lightning and C-17 Globemaster demo teams and an impressive roster of highly-skilled civilian performers.

As the sun sets, the show will continue with maximum afterburner followed by aircraft lighting up the night sky with pyrotechnics, walls of fire, a spectacular fireworks show, and more.

Airshow tickets are on sale now at [CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com](http://CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com). Tickets are limited and selling quickly, so those hoping to attend are encouraged to purchase their tickets soon.

The California Capital Airshow's partners are Sacramento County, the City of Rancho Cordova, Modern Aviation, Keurig Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Visit Rancho Cordova, Folsom Lake Dodge, Donaghy Sales, SMUD, Thunder Valley Casino Resort, Atlas Disposal, Sunbelt, Teichert, Elite Power, FOX 40, iHeart Media and UPS.

In addition, the Airshow team is grateful to a long list of committed community supporters, as well as the teams of law enforcement and emergency services that give their time



This unique show features four hours of nonstop aerial performances beginning at 6 p.m. each day. Courtesy photo

and energy to keep everyone safe.

For more information, tickets, event details and volunteer opportunities, check online at [www.californiacapitalairshow.com](http://www.californiacapitalairshow.com).

**About the California Capital Airshow**

Established in 2004, the nonprofit California Capital Airshow plans and operates the family-friendly annual event designed to honor the Sacramento region's rich aviation heritage and

veterans while using the power and magic of flight to inspire young people.

The California Capital Airshow gives back to the community through scholarships, charitable group donations and exciting educational youth programming throughout the year. For more information about the airshow, performers and discount tickets, visit the airshow's website at [www.californiacapitalairshow.com](http://www.californiacapitalairshow.com). ★

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# Remembering Those Who Served MEMORIAL DAY

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

Gone from our sight, still in our hearts

**La Sierra H.S. Veterans Memorial**  
**Earl J. Koobs Nature Area**  
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For more information:

**f** Koobs Nature Area/Carmichael Kiwanis Club

**f** La Sierra High School, Carmichael

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Linda Rose Jones @ 916-944-2393



# CDFW Warns Dog Owners to Be Mindful of Salmon Poisoning Disease

CDFW News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Salmon Poisoning Disease is a potentially fatal condition seen only in dogs after they eat certain types of raw or cold smoked fish like trout and salmon that are infected with a bacteria-like organism, *Neorickettsia helminthoeca*, which is transmitted by the parasitic flatworm (or “fluke”) *Nanophyetes salmincola*.

*Nanophyetes salmincola* occurs naturally in waters of northern California and most of the north state can be considered the native range for the fluke. But dogs throughout the state are susceptible. Dog owners are advised to be cautious and to keep their dogs away from salmon, steelhead, trout and other freshwater fish carcasses. The parasite cannot survive in cooked fish, is not harmful to humans and does not affect pets other than dogs.



Dog owners in California are reminded to take precautions to protect their pets from salmon poisoning disease. Photo courtesy of CDFW

If your dog has eaten or is suspected of eating raw fish, watch for signs of the disease. Symptoms are similar to distemper and may include some or all of the following: a rise in body temperature, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, listlessness and/or rapid weight loss. If signs of the disease appear, promptly take your dog to a veterinarian. Salmon Poisoning Disease is treatable if caught in time. If untreated, death usually occurs within two weeks of eating the infected fish. Without treatment, 90

percent of dogs showing symptoms die.

While all fish caught or originating from streams in California could potentially be infected, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) cautions that trout stocked in some waters in CDFW’s North Central Region are more likely to be infected with the flukes that cause Salmon Poisoning Disease.

Weekly fish stocking information is publicly available at CDFW’s Fish Planting Schedule web page. ★

# Carmichael Residents Spend \$2,430 Per Month

Doxo News Release

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - Doxo recently released a report, “2024 Report: Cities in California where Household Expenses are Highest and Lowest.” The report found that in California, the average California household pays \$3,010 a month for the 10 most common household bills, California’s household expenses, on average, are 41.6% higher than the national average of \$2,126, California ranks Number 2 out of 50 states in terms of average monthly spending and California households spend 36% of their income on household bills. Annually, California residents pay \$521 billion in

household bills.

Doxo also has bill pay data for Carmichael, including the average Carmichael household pays \$2,430 a month, or \$29,165 a year, for the 10 most common household bills compared to the state average of \$3,010 and the national average of \$2,126, Carmichael is the 364th most expensive city in California for household expenses and the household expenses in Carmichael, on average, are 14.3% higher than the national average of \$2,126, and 19.2% lower than the state average of \$3,010.

Carmichael households spend 37% of their income on household bills. ★

# CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Carmichael Park  
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RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

Spring Saturdays  
5:30-7:30pm

May 11: Keep on Truckin’

May 18: Maya Latin Tribute Band

May 25: Locked and Loaded

June 8: AKA Live

June 14: Dyana & the Cherry Kings

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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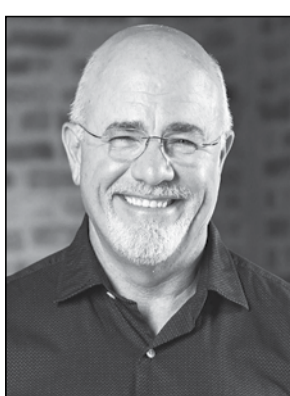
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# Measles Exposure in May at UC Davis



### The Walking Debt

Dear Dave,

A few years ago, I had a real problem with credit card debt. Since then, I've gotten much better at handling my money, and I'm making about \$80,000 a year. Two weeks ago, I received a letter about a credit card I had in 2020. The amount owed is \$7,688. The letter doesn't say I'm being sued, but it says I have to appear before a judge in two months for a pretrial conference. I live in Florida, and I've never heard of anything like this. I only have \$1,000 in savings.

- Damari

Dear Damari,

I'm glad to hear you're handling your finances better now than you did in the past. But at this point, you're learning that old debts don't necessarily die, aren't you? Ignoring debts isn't a good plan, because many times they

# Dave Ramsey Says

come back to life like a zombie and come looking for you.

I'm not an expert on Florida law, but a pretrial conference in a case like this—over a \$7,688 credit card bill—is highly unusual. I've been helping people with money problems for 30 years, and I've never heard of anything like this. It could be some kind of new tactic the collections attorney is using to try to intimidate you.

If I were in your shoes, I'd call the attorney who's suing you and try to negotiate a payment plan or settlement. Do you have anything you can sell? Because I've got a feeling if you can come up with \$3,000 or so and offer it as payment in full, they'll take it. I don't mean to be unkind, but these guys figure you're a deadbeat because you've got a 5-year-old debt hanging over your head and haven't tried to pay it. They'll take almost anything they can get at this point.

In general, when you go to court over a situation like this, you're going to lose. You have a legal debt, and you haven't paid it. It's that simple. So, if you don't have anything to sell to

make some money that way, you need to get busy working an extra job or two. I'm talking about doing Door Dash or something—in the morning before work or in the evening after work. Kiss those weekends goodbye too. Just go nuts for a few weeks, and make a bunch of extra money fast.

It won't be easy, and you're going to be dog-tired for a while. But you can scrape together \$3,000—4,000 before June easily if you'll just put your head down and make it happen. Then, offer it up to the attorney. Demand a written release, with the debt declared settled and paid in full, and chances are, this thing will be off your back!

- 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 ★

UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento County Public Health and Public Health Departments in surrounding counties are contacting identified patients to assess immunization status and provide guidance to individuals who were exposed.

### About Measles

Measles is a contagious viral illness. Measles typically begins with a mild to moderate fever accompanied by cough, runny nose and red/watery eyes. Some cases also report diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. Two to three days later, there is generally a fever and a red, blotchy rash appears, usually first on the face. This rash rapidly spreads downward to the chest and back and finally to the thighs and feet. The rash fades after about a week.

Measles is spread through the respiratory route and can live in the air for up to an hour in the airspace where an infectious person has coughed or sneezed. Other people can become infected by breathing the contaminated air. The time from being infected with the virus to developing symptoms can be as long as 21 days but is typically nine to 12 days.

People with measles are infectious from four days before to four days after the onset of the rash. Anyone diagnosed with measles or suspected of having measles should stay home for four days after the onset of the rash. However, infected people without symptoms of measles might still be able to transmit the virus.

Vaccination against measles is the best protection against measles infection.

Adults who have not had two doses of MMR vaccine can receive the vaccine. However, pregnant patients or individuals who are immunocompromised should not receive it.

While vaccination is currently the best protection against measles infection, no vaccine or medicine is perfect, and vaccinated individuals might still become infected. If you were exposed and not immune, even after getting the vaccine, you can get measles and can transmit it to others.

Learn more about measles through Sacramento County's Public Health page. ★

## Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento County Public Health confirms one case of measles in a child who visited the UC Davis Medical Center Emergency Department between 10 p.m. and 3:15 a.m. May 6 and between 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. May 7.

UC Davis Medical Center is contacting those who were potentially exposed in the Emergency Department during those hours. Unvaccinated persons or those with unknown vaccination status who were in the UC Davis Medical Center Emergency Department during the aforementioned periods of time are at risk of developing measles from seven to 21 days after being exposed.

Exposed individuals should review their immunization and medical records to determine if they are protected against measles. Those who have not previously had measles or who have not received the measles immunization might not be protected from the measles virus. They should talk with a health care provider about receiving measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) immunization. Persons needing vaccination should call the Public Health immunization line at 916- 875-7468.

Sacramento County Public Health advises residents to notify their health care providers as soon as possible about a potential exposure if they are pregnant, have an infant, have a weakened immune system and/or are not immunized regardless of vaccination history. Do not go to providers in-person or go to the emergency department for potential exposure.

Exposed individuals should also monitor themselves for illness with fever and/or an unexplained rash from seven to 21 days after their exposure (the time period when symptoms might develop); if symptoms develop, stay at home and immediately call a healthcare provider. If individuals become ill enough that they need medical attention in person, wear a mask and inform the registration staff about possible measles exposure so that appropriate isolation can occur in the healthcare setting.

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Continued from page 1 corridors and/or areas adjacent to vacant or blighted

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# Politicians Keep Shifting Blame as California's Homelessness Crisis Worsens



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Over the last half-decade, state government has spent about \$24 billion to ameliorate California's worst-in-the-nation homelessness crisis. Local governments and private charities have spent countless billions more.

Despite those immense expenditures, the number of unsheltered Californians has continued to increase to more than 181,000 in the latest federal census. It's not only the most of any state but the highest ratio vis-a-vis population, and 28% of the national total.

The data imply that whatever officials have been doing hasn't worked – or even more ominously that underlying factors, such as extremely high living costs, particularly for housing, and macro economic trends are so powerful that officialdom can only nibble at the margins no matter how much money they spend.

Recent political discourse on the issue indicates that Gov. Gavin Newsom, state legislators and local government officials recognize, if not publicly acknowledge, the virtual impossibility of significantly reducing homelessness, and therefore have evolved into self-protective blame-shifting.

When Newsom was running for governor six years ago, he promised to appoint a "czar" who would wage a frontal assault on homelessness. A year into his governorship,

reporters pestered him about making good on the promise. Obviously irritated, Newsom pounded the podium at a budget news conference and snapped, "You want to know who's the homeless czar? I'm the homeless czar in the state of California."

As the number of homeless people continued to rise, Newsom began shifting from promises of effective action to blaming others for failure – local government officials in particular. Just last month, for instance, Newsom demanded more oversight of local performance and threatened to withhold additional funds for those deemed to be ineffective, saying, "I'm not interested in funding failure any longer."

Local officials, most of whom are Newsom's fellow Democrats, have responded with complaints that one-year budget appropriations prevent them from establishing permanent programs to move people off the streets and into housing.

Both Newsom and local officials complain about a federal appellate court ruling that homeless encampments cannot be cleared unless their occupants have access to housing. That issue is now awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Meanwhile, the state auditor's office last month issued a highly critical report on the Newsom administration's Interagency Council on Homelessness, or Cal ICH, saying it has failed to accurately report on homelessness efforts and coordinate state efforts.

"Until Cal ICH takes these critical steps, the state will lack up to date information that it can use to make data driven policy decisions on how to effectively reduce homelessness," the report declared.

State legislators of both

parties joined the finger-pointing game this week during an "oversight" hearing in an Assembly budget subcommittee.

They took turns roasting Meghan Marshall, the Cal ICH executive officer, for a lack of data on which programs have been effective.

"You come to a budget committee, and there's no numbers," Assemblyman Phil Ting, a San Francisco Democrat, told Marshall. "How many people have we helped? How many people are off the street? ... Because that's what the public wants to know. What's the money been spent on?"

She replied that "data quality issues" have delayed the collection of data Ting wanted. "That sounds like an excuse," Ting snapped back.

"The long and short of it is we have to stop measuring success by how many dollars we're spending," Assemblymember Josh Hoover, a Republican from Folsom, chimed in. "I am frustrated by the lack of urgency that I see today and the lack of data."

The finger-pointing will probably become even more intense as the homelessness crisis worsens, as voters become more frustrated, and as politicians, including a governor with national ambitions, try to avoid the fallout.

*Dan Walters is one of most widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends. He began covering California politics in 1975, just as Jerry Brown began his first stint as governor, and began writing his column in 1981. He has been at CalMatters since 2017. ★*

# Bird Flu Detected in Raw Milk Products

## Yolo County News Release

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION, CA (MPG)** - Public health officials in Solano and Yolo counties advise residents to refrain from consuming raw milk or raw dairy products, such as raw-milk cheese, due to the recent detection of highly-pathogenic avian influenza virus (H5N1), commonly known as bird flu, in dairy cows and their milk.

Avian influenza has been spreading among wild birds worldwide since 2021, with subsequent infections identified in domestic poultry flocks and now in dairy cattle in the United States. Since March, avian influenza has been confirmed in 35 dairy herds across nine states. Notably, raw milk from infected cows has been found to contain very high levels of the avian influenza virus.

During the current dairy cow outbreak, one person is known to have been infected with avian influenza, a dairy worker in Texas who experienced mild symptoms and subsequently recovered. However, little testing has been done in people and workers might be reluctant to report symptoms.

Yolo County Public Health Officer Dr. Aimee Sisson stressed the importance of avoiding raw milk consumption, stating, "Based on the risk of exposure to avian influenza, I strongly recommend that people not consume raw milk or dairy products at this time. Pasteurized milk and dairy products made from pasteurized milk remain safe to consume."

Solano County Public Health Officer Dr. Bela Matyas added, "Besides the current concerns with H5N1 and unpasteurized milk, there are potentially other harmful germs in raw milk that have been proven to cause human disease before, including tuberculosis, brucellosis and gastrointestinal diseases. Pasteurized milk and dairy is

healthy and safe. Why take the risk?"

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have conducted tests on pasteurized milk and dairy products from retail stores, showing the presence of avian flu virus particles but no live virus. This underscores the effectiveness of pasteurization in inactivating avian influenza virus in milk.

Not all milk sold in California is pasteurized. The sale of raw, unpasteurized milk is permitted in California, although health officials have long cautioned against its consumption due to associated health risks. Raw milk can harbor various pathogens capable of causing severe illness and death, including tuberculosis, salmonella, E. coli and avian influenza virus.

Rather than wait for people to contract avian influenza by consuming raw milk before issuing a warning, local health officials are acting based on preliminary data to warn about the potential for contracting avian influenza by consuming raw milk and milk products. The potential symptoms in humans who consume raw milk contaminated with avian influenza virus are unknown. On farms with cows infected with avian influenza, several cats that consumed raw milk developed severe neurological disease and died.

For more information about raw milk safety, visit the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's webpages at [www.fda.gov/food/milk-guidance-documents-regulatory-information/questions-and-answers-regarding-milk-safety-during-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai-outbreaks#rawmilkcheese](http://www.fda.gov/food/milk-guidance-documents-regulatory-information/questions-and-answers-regarding-milk-safety-during-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai-outbreaks#rawmilkcheese), and [www.fda.gov/food/resources-you-food/raw-milk](http://www.fda.gov/food/resources-you-food/raw-milk), or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's webpage at [www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/rawmilk](http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/rawmilk) ★




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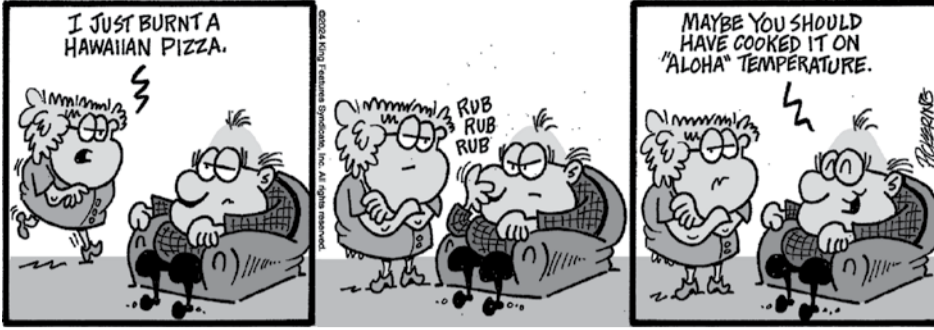




# COMICS & PUZZLES

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Amber Waves

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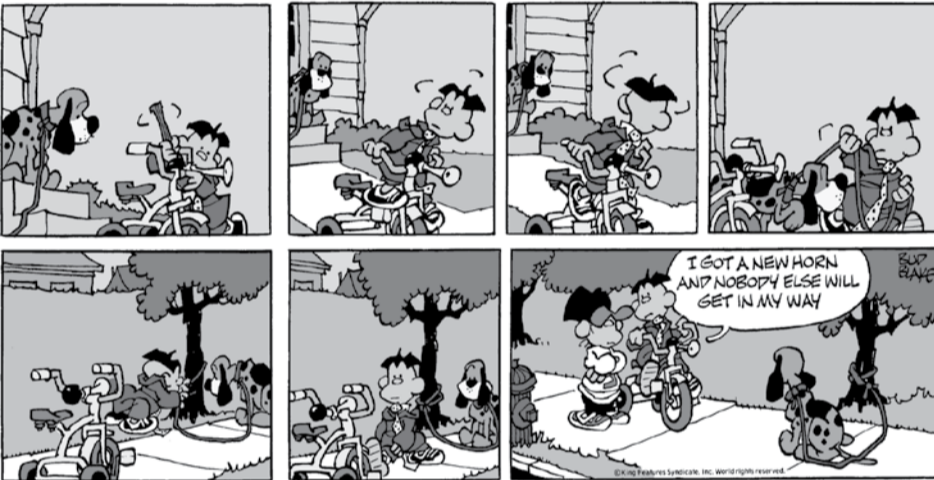
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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  - Catch a wink
  - One weber per square meter, pl.
  - \*Pre-recorded
  - Deed hearings
  - Cribbage piece
  - Bread spreads
  - Plural of focus
  - Making the way, in a way
  - "I Like \_\_\_," 1952 campaign slogan
  - Of somber color
  - \*Like bride's accessories (2 words)
  - 60 mins., pl.
  - Indiana ball player
  - One of Three Bears
  - \*Day periods (2 words)
  - Vernacular
  - Part of church
  - Soap bubbles
  - Type of small salmon
  - Bound
  - Domingo, Pavarotti and Carreras, e.g.
  - Nicholas II of Russia, e.g.
  - Key next to spacebar
  - Where users review
- DOWN**
- Fa follower
  - Between Ohio and Ontario
  - \*Opposite of on land
  - Fluffy dessert
  - Hillsides in Scotland
  - Anti-seniors sentiment
  - \*Opposite of awkward and clumsy
  - \*Door instruction (2 words)
  - Fairy tale opener
  - Flat-bottomed boat
  - Bambino
  - Not like #26 Down
  - Popular breakfast item
  - MCAT and LSAT, e.g.
  - \*Hers
  - \*Switch positions (2 words)
  - Louisiana swamp
  - Glasses, for short
  - Three biblical sages
  - A logical connection (2 words)
  - Extract a memory, e.g.
  - Stitch again
  - R&R spots
  - Tolstoy's given name, in Russian
  - \*Irwin Shaw's title opposites (2 words)
  - Checked out
  - Pimple fluid

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# April was Another Solid Month for New Home Sales



Despite the fact that mortgage interest rates ticked upward in April, Sacramento-area new home sales recorded the third-highest total for the month since 2006. Image by Paul Brennan from Pixabay

## North State BIA News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Despite the fact that mortgage interest rates ticked upward in April, Sacramento-area new home sales recorded the third-highest total for the month since 2006, the North State Building Industry Association reported May 8.

BIA members reported selling 584 new homes regionwide in April, well above the monthly average of 495 and the third-highest total since 682 sold in 2006 at the tail end of the housing boom. Only April 2021 and April 2023 reported higher numbers.

"Our BIA builders are continuing to build the new homes our region so badly needs, but it's also important to remember that they are building a stronger community," said North State President & CEO Tim Murphy. "Neighbors feel connected when they move into a new home community, and the economic growth that follows a strong period of homebuilding helps knit the entire region into a greater sense of community."

Murphy further underscored the community-building efforts of the homebuilding industry through its two charitable organizations.

"The North State Building Industry Foundation plays a crucial role in our local homebuilding workforce by providing job training for out-of-school youth and adults seeking opportunities in

residential construction, whereas HomeAid Sacramento is dedicated to building and maintaining housing and programmatic facilities for nonprofit organizations and public institutions serving those experiencing or at risk for homelessness. These initiatives demonstrate our industry's commitment to building a thriving region.

"BIA builders, trade contractors, and all the affiliated companies that help make homeownership possible give back to their community in so many ways. I am proud to be a part of this great organization, and I know all our members feel the same way." April sales dipped 3% from March and were down 7% from the previous year as interest rates ticked slightly higher each week during the month. Nationwide, rates stood at 7.22 for a 30-year fixed mortgage at the beginning of May, still well below the peak of 7.79% reported last October.

Communities in Roseville again reported the most sales (138), followed by Elk Grove (86), Rancho Cordova (78), Sacramento (60), and Folsom (49). The top 10 was rounded out by Plumas Lake (32), Lincoln (27), El Dorado Hills (24), Natomas (23) and Woodland (17). The vast majority of new homes sold between \$500,000 and \$750,000. (See charts below for more information.)

BIA statistics include sales by members in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. ★

# Sacramento State Experiences Significant Surge in Applications for Fall 2024 Semester



Sac. State has received 3,470 more applications in 2024 compared to 2023. Photo courtesy DevinCook, English Wikipedia

## Sacramento State News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Applications for the Fall 2024 semester at Sacramento State far surpass applications for the previous year, suggesting a potentially significant boost in attendance.

New data reveals that the University has received 3,470 more applications compared to the previous year, encompassing both undergraduate and graduate students. Additionally, the number of transfer students from community colleges has seen a notable increase from 2023 levels.

Applying is a key step, and more follow.

"Students who have been offered admission should complete their intent to enroll and register for new student orientation as soon as possible to reserve their place in the fall class," said Brian Henley, director of Admissions and Outreach. "Taking care of pre-enrollment requirements early will ensure that the requirement to Sac State is as smooth as possible."

The application increase is believed

to be a response to Sac State's direct outreach, new marketing strategies, and growing awareness about new and enhanced programs to attract qualified students.

New programs such as Combat U and the Black Honors College, national recognition for supporting traditionally underserved populations, on-campus housing opportunities, and ongoing excellence in academics, the arts and athletics have added to Sac State's reputation.

Part of the University's outreach includes marketing that targets members of so-called Generation Z – people born between 1997 and 2012 and perceived as being intimately familiar with the use of digital technology, internet and social media. Sac State's campaign, "The Way of the Hornet," is meant to increase University visibility in the region through use of social media, the Sac State website, posters, billboards and advertising on public transportation, and a significant presence at Sacramento International Airport. That campaign will expand in the fall. ★

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## FRESH PRODUCE

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Murcott Tangerine <b>79¢</b> /lb	Honey Crisp Apple <b>2lbs/\$1.00</b>	Orange Navel 10 lbs <b>\$4.99</b> /bag	White Corn 3/ <b>\$2.00</b>

## AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

Dare Grain First Crackers 7.5 oz <b>99¢</b> /ea	Acia Serrincha Ramen Noodles 5 x 5.23 oz <b>\$2.99</b> /ea	Quaker Oats 18 oz <b>\$3.99</b> /ea	Capri Sun Fruit Drinks 10 x 6 L oz <b>\$2.99</b> /ea	Waffle Joy Ice Cream Waffle Bowls 7 oz <b>\$3.99</b> /ea
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## ASIAN GROCERY

Gullin Rice Vermicelli Fine & Thick 35.2 oz <b>\$3.59</b> /ea	Coro Rico Coconut Soda 12 L oz <b>99¢</b> /ea	Quick Cooked Color Lentils 250 g <b>\$1.49</b> /ea	Cha Cha Single Packages Natural & Coconut 2.12 oz <b>79¢</b> /ea	Del Monte Pineapple Juice 46 L oz <b>\$3.99</b> /ea
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## EUROPEAN GROCERY

Santal Avocado Oil 100% pure 2 liters <b>\$17.99</b> /ea	Sunbe Straw Small Mushrooms In Brine 100 oz <b>\$19.99</b> /ea	Sunbe Straw Medium Mushrooms In Brine 100 oz <b>\$19.99</b> /ea	Brinnania Salt Rink 305 gr <b>\$2.19</b> /ea	Premium Orchard Pumpkin Seeds 15 oz <b>\$4.99</b> /ea
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## FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Frozen Basa Swai Fillet lbs <b>\$2.99</b> /lb	Korean Style Salted Mackerel 2.2 lbs <b>\$11.99</b> /ea
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## WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

Beef Cross Rib/Shoulder Roast - Bnls Gullin Cruzado de Ternero Asado Desahucado <b>\$4.99</b> /lb	Beef New York Roast - Boneless Carne de Res Nueva York <b>\$6.99</b> /lb	Beef New York Steak - Boneless Carne de Res Nueva York Filete sin Hueso <b>\$7.99</b> /lb
Chicken Drumsticks Piernas de Pollo <b>79¢</b> /lb	Pork Butt's Boneless Cajitas de Cerdo sin Hueso <b>\$2.99</b> /lb	Country Style Pork Loin Ribs - Bnls Costillas de Lomo de Cerdo al Estilo Compostero <b>\$3.49</b> /lb
		Pork Spare Ribs (Single Pack) Costillas de Cerdo <b>\$3.49</b> /lb

## KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

Wang Bangnwon Rice 15 lbs <b>\$12.99</b> /ea	Korean BBQ Sauce 840 g <b>\$7.99</b> /ea	Kaitai Hot Pepper Paste 800 g <b>\$2.99</b> /ea	Dried Bracken 5 oz <b>\$6.99</b> /ea	Asi Seaweed 2.1 oz <b>\$3.99</b> /ea	O'Good Lunchbox Meat 340 g <b>\$2.99</b> /ea
Red Pepper Powder (Kimchi) 1 kg <b>\$8.99</b> /ea	Puro Milk Banana & Strawberry 6x140ml <b>\$5.99</b> /ea	Deer Andor Red Glowing Premium 60 x 60 ml <b>\$5.99</b> /ea	Doonjang Stew Ramen 4 x 113 g <b>\$3.99</b> /ea	Hi Vermont Curry 3 kits 230 g <b>\$2.99</b> /ea	Bull-Dog Tonkatsu Sauce 500 ml <b>\$3.99</b> /ea
					RF Curry 200 g <b>\$2.49</b> /ea

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WATER KIFEL <b>\$29.99</b> /ea	WATER KIFEL <b>\$39.99</b> /ea			

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