



**Newsom Promised
1,200 Tiny Homes
for Homeless**
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**Celebrate
Father's Day!**



Citrus Heights Messenger

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FOR HAM RADIO
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Stars and Stripes Celebration is Back



The Purple Pageant will be at the Kids Zone, where kids can get their faces painted. Photo courtesy of the City of Citrus Heights

**City of Citrus Heights
News Release**

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights is excited to bring back the Stars and Stripes Celebration for its second year after the success of its inaugural celebration last year.

The Stars and Stripes Celebration, a patriotic, family-friendly event and fireworks show, will run from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 29 at Van Maren Park, 6601 Thalia Way. Stars and Stripes brings the Citrus Heights community together to celebrate the country's patriotism and city pride.

This Independence Day



Last year's band CC Seger entertains the crowd. Photo courtesy of the City of Citrus Heights

celebration will feature live music, food trucks and a kids' zone. This year rocking out on the Republic Services Stage will be Pop Fiction, a Northern

California's premier party band, with dance hits, sing-alongs and favorites from the 1970s to 2000s.

Featured food trucks include SanTacos, Daisy's

Desserts and Hefty Gyros.

The kids' zone, hosted by two community partners, Sunrise Recreation and Parks District and Citrus Heights Police Activities League, will provide family fun such as face painting and yard games.

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets to sit and enjoy the music at Van Maren Park. At 9:45 p.m., a festive fireworks show will illuminate the sky to close out the celebration.

For more information on the Stars and Stripes Celebration and other events, visit the City Events page online at citrusheights.net or text "Hello" to 844-95-HELLO (43556). ★

Unsheltered Homelessness Decreases 41 Percent in Sacramento

**Sacramento City
Express News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The number of people living outdoors in the city and county of Sacramento plunged 41 percent between 2022 and 2024, one of the largest decreases in homelessness statewide.

The biennial Point-in-Time Count released June 5 by the nonprofit Sacramento Steps Forward found that overall homelessness, including those living in emergency shelters, fell by 29 percent compared to the count two years ago.

Sacramento Steps Forward coordinates community-level efforts to end homelessness. Every two years, it recruits hundreds of volunteers to go out and count people who are unhoused throughout Sacramento County. This year's count, on Jan. 24 and 25, found 3,944 people living unsheltered, down from 6,664 people identified in the 2022 count.

The total number of unhoused people counted, including those in shelter and temporary housing, dropped by 29 percent from 9,278 to 6,615.

"These results are truly outstanding and, undeniably, reflect Sacramento city and county's 'all in' approach to addressing this crisis," said Lisa Bates, CEO of Sacramento Steps Forward.

Leaders from Sacramento city and county said the decrease in unsheltered homelessness reflected the tens of millions of dollars invested by both local governments in standing up new emergency shelter beds and permanent supportive housing units, and an increasingly coordinated response to sharing resources and responsibilities.

"There are still too many people who are homeless for us to declare victory but maybe homelessness is not so intractable after all," said Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg. "The 41% reduction in unsheltered homelessness is dramatic and affirms that the steady course we set seven years ago to address this state and national crisis is working."

District 2 County Supervisor Patrick Kennedy also cited the work the county has been doing, including opening two Safe Stay sleeping

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City Scoop Ice Cream Social Series Returns

By Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - An estimated crowd of 400 gathered under the shady trees outside the front of the Sylvan Oaks library branch of the Sacramento Public Library on 6700 Auburn Blvd. to beat the heat and enjoy a refreshing cold cup of Leatherby's ice cream.

The crowd members were at the first of three "City Scoop" ice cream social events that are sponsored by the city of Citrus Heights.

The popular second annual "City Scoop" series, held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, continues at Metropolitan Fire Station 27 at 7474 Grand Oaks Blvd on July 11 and wraps up at the Lichen K-8 public school on 8319 Lichen Drive on Thursday, Aug. 8.

Families and community leaders mingled on the grounds of the Sylvan Oaks library to connect, as they shared ways to chip in



Many residents braved the heat to meet their neighbors and indulge in ice cream. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

to help their community in their neighborhood.

"City Scoop is back to celebrate community in our neighborhoods," said Marisa Brown, the city's communications officer in between taking turns with City Manager Ash Feeny and city Economic Development and Community Engagement

director Meghan Huber to

hand out individual serving cups of ice cream to those waiting in line.

Portable seating was plentiful for those needing it, as younger children played games on the library's front lawn.

In 2023, the inaugural City Scoop summer series featured ice cream socials throughout the summer at various locations in

Citrus Heights, including Greenback Greenspace, Sylvan Community Center and Westwood Park.

The opening June ice cream social featured multiple booths where the public could learn about city programs and services that include the rental of its community block party trailer and how to join and

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Birds Tests Positive for West Nile Virus



Lab director Sarah Wheeler tests a dead bird for signs of disease. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District

Sacramento Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - On June 10, the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District confirmed that the first mosquito sample of the season has tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). The mosquito sample was collected from the city of Sacramento, in the area of south Land Park in close proximity to the first positive bird reported last week. "As we expected, the very warm weather we've had recently increased the number of mosquitoes and accelerated virus activity," said Gary Goodman, District Manager. "It's important for residents to take these findings seriously and do everything they can to protect themselves," added Goodman. As part of the laboratory results received today, two dead birds also tested positive for the disease. Other counties throughout the state have also started to report West Nile virus activity. Last year in California, there were 433 confirmed human cases of the disease, including 19 fatalities.

The detection of this recent WNV activity is evidence that the disease is

present, and the public should take proper precautions to stay protected. "Summer is around the corner and as more people enjoy outdoor activities, it's important to remember that the best protection against mosquito bites is an effective insect repellent," said Goodman. Residents are also encouraged to report dead birds, neglected pools and other mosquito problems.

As a response to the finding of WNV, the district will increase its mosquito trapping and monitoring in the area to find sources where mosquitoes may be breeding. Targeted ground spraying may also be conducted to rapidly decrease the numbers of adult mosquitoes.

For current information about District activities, please visit www.FIGHTtheBITE.net. Residents may also subscribe to mailing lists to receive email notifications for upcoming mosquito treatments by zip code. To sign up, go to Spray Notifications on the website.

2024 West Nile virus activity update:

Sacramento County: 3 dead birds and 1 mosquito sample have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Yolo County: No activity has been registered so far. ★

Retire Flags with Dignity at SAFE Credit Union

SAFE Credit Union News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - To celebrate Flag Day, SAFE Credit Union will provide flag retirement bins at all its branches in the Sacramento area and its headquarters in Folsom now through Saturday, June 29 for people to bring weathered and damaged flags. At the end of the month, the bins will be collected and the flags properly retired.

"Our branches are honored to be able to provide this service," says Janine Southwick, SAFE Credit Union's vice president Retail Branches. "It's another way we can connect with our members and a unique way to show we honor the national symbol."

SAFE's heritage stretches back to 1940 when it started as a credit union serving Army Air Corps personnel at what would later become McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento. Today, SAFE has many employees and members who are active National Guard and reservists, veterans, and families and loved ones of active and retired military.

The flag retirement initiative is being led by a new employee resource group at SAFE focused on employees with military connections called Veterans and Loved Ones Resource (VALOR).

"Flag Day is an opportunity to reflect on the significance of the American flag and what it represents: unity, freedom, and the enduring spirit of our nation," says Loan Servicing Manager Yvette



Tyler Batista, relationship officer at the SAFE North Natomas branch, poses next to the in-branch bin for retired flags. Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

Tibbs, who leads VALOR. "The flag is a powerful symbol of our shared values and the sacrifices made to uphold them."

People are encouraged to bring flags ready for retirement to SAFE branches this month or they can find other flag retirement services with Scouting and veterans' groups. For more information regarding proper American flag etiquette, visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) website.

Participating Branches:

- Antelope Branch, 7887 Walerga Road
- Citrus Heights Branch, 7475 Madison Ave.
- East Elk Grove Branch, 9312 Elk Grove Blvd.
- East Sacramento Branch, 6341 Folsom Blvd.
- El Camino Branch, 3560 El Camino Ave.
- Folsom Branch, 2740 Bidwell St.
- Granite Bay Branch, 8789 Auburn Folsom Road
- Hazel Branch, 5261 Hazel Ave.

K Street Branch, 2901 K St. in Sacramento

Laguna Branch, 9162 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove

Land Park Branch, 4700 Freeport Blvd.

Lincoln Branch, 111 Ferrari Ranch Road

North Natomas Branch, 2761 Del Paso Road

Rancho Cordova Branch, 12519 Folsom Blvd.

Rocklin Branch, 6190 Stanford Ranch Road

Roseville Branch, 121 N. Sunrise Ave.

Sunrise Branch, 7601 Sunrise Blvd.

Watt Branch, 4636 Watt Ave. in North Highlands

West Roseville Branch, 1541 Blue Oaks Blvd.

West Sacramento Branch, 2105 Town Center Plaza

For more information about the flag retirement bins, contact Senior Communications and Design Specialist Susan Burns at Susan.Burns@safecu.org or (916) 212-0485. ★

KP International MARKET
 12131415161718
 10971 Olson Drive
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
 916.853.8000
 Market 7 Days: 8am - 9pm
 Food Court 7 Days: 11am - 7:30pm
 Korean/Mex/Viet: 7:30pm last call
 Chinese/Japanese 7:00pm last call

NOW OPEN
 ENJOY OUR FRESHLY BAKED BREAD & CAKE
 10971 OLSON DR RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670

Images of various breads and pastries.

FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Headless Black Cod lbs REG. \$6.99/lb \$4.99/lb	Shrimp Peeled & Deveined 2 lbs REG. \$16.99/ea \$10.99/ea
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WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

Beef London Broil/Top Round Roast \$4.99/lb	Beef New York Roast - Boneless \$6.99/lb	Beef New York Steak - Boneless \$7.99/lb
Chicken Drumsticks \$2.99/ea	Pork St. Louis Ribs - Single Pack \$3.99/lb	Pork Loin Chops Boneless \$3.99/lb

FRESH PRODUCE

Mushroom Baby Bello 8 oz \$1.99/ea	Mini Sweet Pepper 1 lb \$2.49/bag	Fuji Apple 79¢/lb	American Cucumber 69¢/lb
Russet Potato 10 lbs \$1.99/bag	Mexican Papaya 99¢/lb	Avocado Bag \$1.99/bag	Spinach 2.5 lbs \$5.99/bag

AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

Sunny D Tangy Orange Juice 64 fl oz \$1.99/ea	Heinz Tomato Ketchup 35 oz \$3.99/ea	Bonilla Classic Spaghetti 1 lb \$1.79/ea	Town House Original & Pita Crackers 13.5 oz & 9.5 oz \$4.79/ea	Lewy's Garlic Salt 11 oz \$4.79/ea
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ASIAN GROCERY

Lee Kum Kee Abalone 7.8 oz \$7.99/ea	Chili Shake Mando Chili Mild 17.64 oz \$9.99/ea	Maggi Seasoning Sauce 27 fl oz \$9.99/ea	Indo Mie BQ Chicken Noodle 15 pk 35 x 65 g \$2.79/ea	Indo Mie BQ Chicken Noodle 15 pk 35 x 65 g \$6.99/box
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EUROPEAN GROCERY

Inci Sunflower Oil 5 liters \$17.99/ea	Polinka Deli Pickles 57.4 oz \$5.99/ea	Polinka Deli Pickles 57.4 oz \$7.99/ea	Ahmad Tea Ceylon Tea 16 oz \$9.99/ea	Ahmad Tea Darjeeling Tea 200 gr \$9.99/ea	Dania Assorted Soft Candy 550 gr \$5.99/ea
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KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

Worcestershire Sauce 15 lbs \$9.99/ea	Korean BBQ Sauce 540 g \$4.99/ea	Lee Kum Kee Soy Sauce 3000 ml \$4.99/ea	Deid Bracken 5 oz \$6.99/ea	Bokong All-Purpose Wheat Flour 2.5 lb \$3.99/ea	Serrano Soy Sauce 500 ml \$2.99/ea
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HOUSEWARES

BIGEN SPEEDY HAIR COLOR (REFILL ONLY) \$3.99/ea	KAZEN WOK PAN 30 CM \$5.99/ea	WATERMELON SLICE KNIFE \$2.99/ea
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FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Seaweed Rolls 1.1 lbs \$3.99/ea

EUROPEAN DELI

Columbus Roast Beef \$12.19/lb	Mediterrean Olives \$5.69/lb
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Advertised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAUNCHES. PRICES EFFECTIVE JUNE 12 - JUNE 18, 2024.

Advertised items good at KP International Market - Rancho Cordova location ONLY. We reserve the right to LIMIT QUANTITIES. Not responsible for TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. All advertised items are SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Sorry NO RAUNCHES. PRICES EFFECTIVE JUNE 12 - JUNE 18, 2024.

Ice Cream Social Series Returns



Members of the Sunrise Recreation and Parks District helped children choose from a carousel of sweet toppings to add to their cups of ice cream and answered questions about summer classes which are now enrolling. Free copies of the copies of the district's summer recreation guide were also available. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

Continued from page 1

learn more about the specific neighborhood association in their area of the city.

Citrus Heights is divided into 11 neighborhoods with nine neighborhood organizations representing each area, with areas 7, 8, and 9 being combined. If you're not sure what neighborhood you're in, visit online <https://www.citrusheights.net/450/Neighborhood-Areas>.

Representatives from the Citrus Heights Police Athletic League (PAL) described youth law enforcement programs and staff from Sacramento Public Library, which

hosted the event, provided helpful information about available summer reading programs for younger residents.

In addition to helping children choose from a carousel of sweet toppings to add to their cups of ice cream, staff from the Sunrise Recreation and Parks District also answered questions about summer classes now enrolling and provided copies of the district's summer recreation guide.

For more information about this summer's "City Scoop" series, visit <https://www.citrusheights.net/1301/City-Scoop-Neighborhood-Event-Series>. ★

Unsheltered Homelessness Decreases 41 Percent in Sacramento

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cabin communities in his district. A Safe Stay community now under construction on Stockton Boulevard in the city of Sacramento will include tiny homes provided to the city by the state. It will be run by the county through its partnership agreement with the city.

"It is encouraging to see positive results from the hard work we've been doing for years," Kennedy said. "The county has invested significant resources into new programs, services and shelter beds. I am proud to have many of these shelter beds in my district and more coming this year. Together, we're making a difference!"

Sacramento Steps Forward CEO Bates noted several significant factors that have helped ease the crisis of unsheltered homelessness in Sacramento, including:

Direct assistance from the state to cities, counties and Continuums of Care through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant (HHAP) program. The city, county and Sacramento Steps



The number of people living outdoors in the city and county of Sacramento plunged 41 percent between 2022 and 2024, one of the largest decreases in homelessness statewide. Photo courtesy Pixabay

Forward have received \$120 million in HHAP funding since 2019. HHAP currently pays for 97% of the city's emergency shelter beds.

The partnership agreement signed by the County and City in 2022 increased street outreach to homeless encampments with teams that include county behavioral health workers.

A sizeable increase in emergency shelter and homeless housing capacity. The number of shelter and transitional housing beds in the city and county has increased by 84 percent from 2020 — to a total of 3,527 beds. The number of permanent

supportive housing units has risen 30 percent, an increase of 1,001 units.

An easing of rents and the availability of apartments. Bates noted that the average apartment vacancy rate rose by 58% since 2022, with rents dipping by 3%.

The new Coordinated Access System funded by the City and County and run by Sacramento Steps Forward provides a centralized access point for shelter, housing and homelessness prevention services.

To read the full 2024 Point-In-Time Count report and view infographics, go to www.sacstepsforward.org. ★

California Highway Patrol Swears in 106 New CHP Officers



The mission of CHP is to provide Safety, Service, and Security. Photo courtesy of CHP

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The newest members of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) were sworn in May 10 during a graduation ceremony at the CHP Academy in West Sacramento. The 106 officers are part of the CHP's multiyear recruiting campaign to fill 1,000 vacant officer positions by hiring qualified individuals from California's diverse communities.

"These men and women have chosen to dedicate themselves to a career in public service. They have completed several months of rigorous training at the CHP Academy to prepare them to serve the people of California," said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee. "While this job is one of the most difficult things they will do in their entire life, it is also the most rewarding thing that they will do, and we are proud to have them as part of the CHP family."

The swearing-in ceremony for the new officers marks the completion of a challenging 26-week journey at the CHP Academy. They will report to one of the 103 CHP Area offices throughout the state to begin serving the people of California.

At the CHP Academy, cadet training starts with nobility in policing, leadership, professionalism and ethics, and cultural diversity. Additionally, cadets receive

instruction on mental illness response and crisis intervention techniques. Training also covers vehicle patrol, crash investigation, first aid, and the apprehension of suspected violators, including those who drive under the influence. Cadets also receive training in traffic control, report writing, recovery of stolen vehicles, assisting the motoring public, issuing citations, emergency scene management, and various codes, including the California Vehicle Code, Penal Code, and Health and Safety Code.

The CHP has seen an outpouring of interest in joining the ranks since the onset of a multiyear recruitment campaign in June 2022. In the first four months of 2024, the CHP received more than 7,600 cadet applications - a more than 100% increase from the same period in 2022. To accommodate the surge of interest, the CHP has been holding three Academy classes simultaneously for the first time in the Department's history. The next cadet graduation from the CHP Academy is scheduled for July 12, 2024.

For more information about a life-changing career with the CHP, visit our website and register for our online hiring seminar at 6:30 p.m. on May 22.

The mission of the California Highway Patrol is to provide Safety, Service, and Security. ★

Make our communities bright with our Shine Awards. Nonprofits can apply for a chance to receive funding for projects that support and revitalize local communities in the Sacramento region.

We're seeking proposals that promote zero carbon workforce development, environmental justice and equity, inclusive economic development and STEM education. Shine projects align with SMUD's goal of eliminating all carbon emissions from our power supply by 2030, so all our customers will live in a Clean PowerCity®.

- Shine Awards range from \$5,000 to \$100,000.
- Applicants must be incorporated nonprofit organizations within SMUD's service area.
- Awards are competitive and funds are limited.
- Attend an informational webinar.
- Apply online by **July 31, 2024 by 11:59 p.m.**

As your community-owned, not-for-profit electric service, we're always looking for ways to make our communities shine!

Learn more at smud.org/Shine

Powering forward. Together.



Fatal Structure Fire in Citrus Heights

Citrus Heights Police Department News Release

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On June 7, at approximately 11:53 a.m., the Citrus Heights Police Department received several 9-1-1 calls regarding a structure fire in the 7500 block of Oak Grove Ave.

Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department responded to the scene and extinguished the fire. Tragically, firefighters discovered a deceased individual inside the home. The cause of death is unknown at this time.

Citrus Heights Police detectives, working alongside firefighters, are investigating the fire's cause. The identity of the deceased was unknown, as of press time.

Anyone with information about this incident, or any Citrus Heights crime, is encouraged to contact the Citrus Heights Police Department Crime Tip Line at 916-727-5524. If you would like to remain anonymous and share information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of a crime you can be considered for an award by contacting the Sacramento Valley Crime Stoppers tip hotline at 916-443-HELP. ★

News to Know: The Most Popular Veterans Benefits Don't Expire



Paul Lawrence served at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from 2018 to 2021. Photo courtesy of Paul Lawrence

By Dr. Paul Lawrence

While some people may think that the veterans benefits they have earned from military service could evaporate or disappear, this is inaccurate. The most popular veteran benefits have no expiration date. You can apply at any point and are not time-bound.

The three most popular veterans' benefits are disability compensation, home loan guaranty and education/G.I. Bill.

For these benefits, there are important dates to remember. If you miss those dates, you may be inconvenienced but these benefits are still available, providing you qualify.

Disability compensation is a tax-free monthly payment based on an injury or disability that occurred during service. A veteran completes an application, referred to as a claim. Accompanying this claim is information about their service and medical conditions. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) evaluates the claim and grants or denies benefits.

A disability compensation claim can be filed as early as 180 days prior to completion of active duty and throughout

the remainder of a veteran's life. In short, there is no expiration date for disability compensation.

Many veterans file multiple claims throughout their lives as new conditions are identified or previously identified conditions worsen. This is called a claim for an increase. There is no limit on how often this can be done.

There are two important dates to keep in mind relative to disability compensation. The first concerns the Intent to File. In advance of actually applying for disability compensation, you can complete an Intent to File form. This tells the VA that you will file in the next year and preserves the effective day (i.e., the date on which benefits will begin).

For example, a veteran completes an Intent to File form establishing Feb. 1, 2024, as his/her effective date. After collecting all the needed information and forms, benefits are granted on Dec. 1, 2024. The first payment would include a retroactive payment reflecting the intent to file date of Feb. 1.

You can get assistance with your VA claim for no cost from an accredited representative such as your county veterans service officer or an accredited veteran's service organization, such as the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans or the VFW.

Home Loan Guaranty allows veterans to purchase a home with no money down. This is a tremendous advantage over our civilian counterparts, who must save for a down payment prior to purchasing a home. Subject

to restrictions, this can even be used to purchase a mobile home or farm residence.

There is no time restriction on this benefit. It can be used repeatedly by veterans as they move and purchase new homes.

Education/G.I. Bill benefits are significant for veterans. Serve for three years and you can earn four years of free college. It can also be used for high-tech apprenticeships, advanced Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math training, and credentials and certificates.

In 2017, a new law, often known as the Forever G.I. Bill, was introduced. If your service ended on or after Jan. 1, 2013, this benefit will never expire.

If your service ended prior to Jan. 1, 2013, you still could qualify for the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill or the Montgomery G.I. Bill for active duty or reservists. Each of these has an expiration date, so check those dates carefully at VA.gov.

Veterans' benefits are an important part of the rewards for military service and you can apply at VA.gov. The best time to learn about your benefits is well before applying for them. But remember, it's never too late to start and some of the most popular veterans benefits never expire.

Paul R. Lawrence, Ph.D., served as Under Secretary for Benefits at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from May 2018 to January 2021. He is the author of "Veterans Benefits for You: Get what You Deserve," published in 2023. ★

San Juan Unified Celebrates First Student-Run Literary Magazine

San Juan Unified School District News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - San Juan Unified School District celebrated its first-ever published student-run literary magazine on May 17. This opportunity, driven by passionate students and mentored by educators, gives young writers a platform to share their creative works and showcases the power of creative writing in promoting identity, equity and educational justice.

Julia Clauson, founder and editor of the San Juan Unified literary magazine, brought the idea to district staff to give fellow students a space to express themselves freely. Clauson chose "Identity" as the theme for the first issue to explore what identity means and how it evolves through personal experiences and external influences.

One of the student writers, Ava Commandatore from Rio Americano High School, wrote an essay about identity that was featured in the magazine. The piece explores the complexities of identity and how it is perceived in today's life.

"I wrote my essay based off my opinion of [identity], how it reflects in our everyday life, how others perceive our identity and how it can alter your identity or make you want to change your identity just for someone else," said Commandatore.

Reflecting on the journey that brought the magazine's vision to life, Rachel Nguyen, a teacher



A San Juan Unified student reads aloud a piece she wrote. Photo courtesy of SJUSD

on special assignment and co-facilitator of the magazine, shared, "A few years ago, I started a writing club at Bella Vista High School. Students were writing such interesting and exciting fiction that I saw a need for an outlet for creative writing."

Nguyen emphasized that the literary magazine was a joint effort, particularly highlighting Julia Clauson's important role.

"Julia arrived at the Writing Club last year as a sophomore. It was our first full year of the club and Julia had an idea: a vision to start a literary magazine for the entire district to give all students a chance to contribute to a shared writing community," said Nguyen.

Az'Jah Jones, an Encina Preparatory High School student, found joy in expressing herself through her poem, "My Honest Poem."

"I felt really happy writing it because I was getting a lot of emotions out that I didn't really know I had," Jones said.

Students were encouraged to submit various forms of writing, including short stories, poetry, comic strips, essays, scripts, and novel excerpts. Submissions in languages

other than English were also welcomed, reflecting the rich diversity of San Juan Unified's student body.

"One of the best memories of my entire school experience is the Literary Magazine reading day," said Clauson, "We were 10 students from different high schools gathered at the District Board Room to go through all the submissions together. We were so surprised at the number of submissions there were and how wonderful, incredible and diverse they were."

After months of preparation and hard work, the Literary Magazine was published in March 2024, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity of San Juan's young writers. During the May 17 ceremony, student writers read their literary pieces in the presence of district leaders, staff and family members.

Looking ahead, the team plans to publish the magazine annually with the goal of eventually turning it into a bi-annual publication. Clauson hopes the magazine remains a platform for students' creative writing at the district level and continues long after she graduates. ★

Field Day a Celebration for Ham Radio Enthusiasts

Friends & Amateur Radio Communications Enthusiasts News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Ham radio operators from the Friends & Amateur Radio Communications Enthusiasts in the Sacramento County area will participate in a national amateur radio exercise from 11 a.m. Saturday, June 22 to 12:59 p.m. on Sunday, June 23.

If you are new to Field Day, it is like Ham Radio's Open House.

Hams set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to showcase the science, skill and service of amateur radio. It is an exciting opportunity to learn, connect and demonstrate the capabilities of this hobby. Use the Field Day Locator at www.arrl.org/field-day-locator to find a site near you and join the celebration. The Friends & Amateur Radio Communications Enthusiasts group will set up operations in Diamond Springs.

The event is the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Field Day (www.arrl.org/field-day), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by the league. Hams from throughout North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring



Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network. Photo courtesy of Pixabay

people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network from the Sacramento, El Dorado and Placer County area will also use radio stations set up in their homes or take to their backyards and other locations to operate individually or with their families. Many hams have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources such as generators, solar panels and batteries to power their equipment.

Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers. Ham radio functions are completely independent of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in

a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.

During Field Day 2023, more than 40,000 hams participated from thousands of locations throughout North America. Hams range in age from as young as 9 to older than 100.

For more information about American Radio Relay League Field Day and ham radio, contact the California Department of Technology Radio Association (N6CDT) at soudabeh.najarzadeh@stateofca.gov or visit the Amateur Radio Club (KF6NNM) Friends & Amateur Radio Communications Enthusiasts page at www.kf6nnm.net.

Introductory information can be found at www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio.

A self-study license guide is available from American Radio Relay League: The American Radio Relay League Ham Radio License Manual is online at www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual. ★

Fair Oaks Theatre Festival Presents



THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

June 28, 29 and July 26, 27 2024

7:30 PM Show Time

Temporary location!

America River College Theatre
4700 College Oaks Drive, Sacramento

\$25 Adults
\$10 Children under 10
available at the door or online



The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor.

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Dave Ramsey Says

met, you begin to feel the need to find other things to motivate you. It sounds like you're both hard-working, performance-driven people. I am, too. And people like us get our relaxation, and even fulfillment, away from work in different ways than most people.

If I were in your shoes, I'd start trying to think about ways you can serve other people or causes you care about. Maybe there were dreams you had a long time ago, and you put them aside for your career. What really speaks to you right now, at this stage of your life? For you, if you have kids in the house, it might mean becoming a stay-at-home mom and really pouring yourself into them. It might mean starting an animal shelter, or providing meals for people who are homebound. Everyone has dreams, and everyone's dreams are different.

It sounds like you've been thinking about this for a while, so here's my advice to you. Take a day, or even a weekend, all to yourself. Get away from everything and everyone—and any and all outside distractions—and think about your future self. Bring along things to eat and drink, a bunch of notepads, pencils and a

Bible. Then, before you do anything else, take a deep breath, relax and pray.

From that point on, be completely honest with God and with yourself. Open up your heart and mind to things you care about and all the possibilities. You have to have a goal that's worthy in mind, and that's the one thing that's missing. But a time of thoughtful prayer—and yes, even daydreaming—may just put you closer to an answer than you've ever been before.

Congratulations on your success, Amanda. You and your husband truly have been blessed. But now, it may be the time to become a blessing to others!

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time No. 1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions. ★

Think, Pray and Find Your Calling

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have been very blessed financially over the course of our lives. We make a little over \$200,000 a year combined, and we currently have a net worth of around \$4 million. But what do you do when you're not motivated by that kind of thing anymore? How do you find and live out God's purpose for your life, when you've already had a better life than you ever expected?

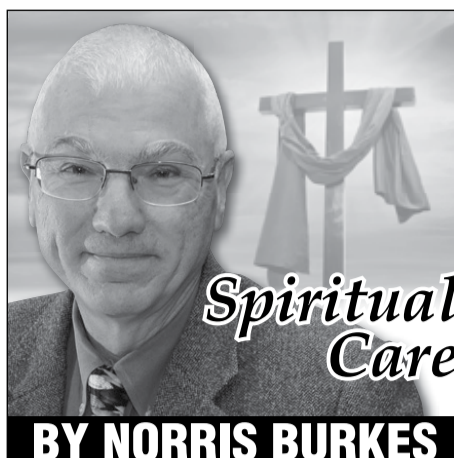
—Amanda

Dear Amanda

I can't tell you what your calling is, but I can say this. There's a lot of fulfillment and joy to be found when you're doing something that serves the people and things in your life that matter most.

If you've studied psychology a bit, you may remember something called Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Basically, it says once your physiological and safety needs have been

A Recovering Christian and the Catholic Church



By Dan Dowell

In my teens, I grew up in the Methodist church. I sang in choir, played handbells, joined the youth group and sat on the finance committee. I was a "Christian."

In my 20s, I moved to Denver and started traveling the world. Experiencing other cultures, I began to question my faith. I learned to embrace my authentic self and rewrite my beliefs according to my lived experience. I called myself a "former Christian."

In my 30s, I began a spiritual journey learning to acknowledge my inner light. Organized religion seemed to emphasize the external God. Through my spiritual studies, I began to also see our inner divinity. Christians believe God is Love.

Though not necessarily aligned with any one faith, I believe Love is God. Given my upbringing, I began to use the term "recovering Christian."

Now in my 40's (all of two months), I took a trip last month to Honduras with Chispa Project, and I am now calling myself a "catholic." Not Catholic like the religion, but rather catholic in the true meaning of the word: the universal, undivided church.

The mission of Chispa Project is to partner with schools throughout Honduras to install libraries and bring books into classrooms.

Books empower kids with words. Children learn to tell stories. They read about different subjects. They learn critical thinking and engage their imaginations. Mostly run by Hondurans, the project is occasionally assisted by groups of volunteers who help local staff inaugurate a new school library.

In April, I joined the Chispa Project along with almost 20 other volunteers for one week. I met up with the group at the newly modernized Comayagua International Airport. We were an odd-looking bunch, but I was curious to hear everyone's story.

After two hours of driving through lush green hills, we arrived at our destination close to Lago Yojoa. Honduras is a beautiful country where plants thrive, and life cannot help but burst forth everywhere. It felt symbolic of the abounding presence of life I hoped to experience that week in Honduras.

Gathered in a circle, we introduced ourselves. Within minutes, it became clear that we were a diverse group—diverse in terms of hometowns, ages, jobs, faith, sexualities, political ideologies and our lived experiences.

Back home, it would have been easy to draw lines and self-segregate. Instead, in Honduras, we spent a week volunteering together, and what a beautiful week it was.

I painted walls with Robert from Colorado, stickered books with Melissa from Florida, assembled bookshelves with Bob from South Carolina and organized classroom activities with Marianne from Tennessee. Throughout the week, I was afforded glimpses into the lives of more than 20 unique individuals.

Yes, we were incredibly different. Yet as volunteers, we became united in our actions as one collective family. There were many moments of levity and laughter and moments of sincere depth. Spending a week with these people, I came to see how we are all more alike than we are different. We all had an inner light: the Christ within.

In the rural countryside of Honduras, I was reminded of a line from the Apostle's Creed:

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church..." Truly, that week kindness and generosity united us all; we were each connected by the spirit of love. Though a stranger in foreign lands, I found a family; though a "recovering Christian" among diverse beliefs, I found a new home in the "catholic church." ★

I've asked Dan Dowell to guest-write my column today because Dan recently volunteered for Chispa Project. He is a life coach who loves to explore the confluence of spirituality, psychology and culture. He is also the author of an upcoming book, "The Light That Beckons." Based in Denver, he's often on adventures exploring the world. You can learn more about him at www.danedowell.com.

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California Seeks a More Resilient Water Supply as Familiar Sides Battle for Access



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California is a semi-arid state in which the availability of water determines land use, and in turn shapes the economy.

That, in a nutshell, explains why Californians have been jousting over water for the state's entire 174-year history.

The decades of what some have dubbed "water wars" may be approaching a climactic point as climate change, economic evolution, stagnant population growth and environmental consciousness compel decisions on California's water future.

A new study, conducted by researchers at three University of California campuses, projects that a combination of factors will reduce California's water supply by up to 9 million acre-feet a year – roughly the equivalent of all non-agricultural human use. They include effects of climate change, new regulations to stem the over-draft of underground water, reducing Colorado River diversions and increasing environmental flows, especially those through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

In an average year, around 200 million acre-feet of water fall on the state as rain or snow. Evaporation and percolation take most of it, leaving about 80 million acre-feet to be divided up among three major uses. Agricultural irrigation and environmental flows to

the ocean are roughly equal at around 35 million acre-feet while residential, commercial and industrial users take the remainder.

The latter is not only the smallest of the three uses but has been remarkably stable – even declining somewhat, despite decades of high population growth – thanks to intensive conservation programs.

Although water officials constantly beseech Californians to limit their personal consumption of water, the real conflict in recent years, particularly during periods of drought, has pitted agricultural interests against environmentalists over the flows needed to nurture fish and other wildlife.

Environmentalists have pressed state water officials, particularly the Water Resources Control Board, to compel farmers to reduce diversions from rivers to enhance flows. Agriculture is also being squeezed by new restrictions on tapping aquifers via wells. Moreover, California's largest-in-the-nation agricultural sector has also been shifting from seasonal crops to nuts, grapes and other permanent, high-value products, which need year-round watering.

"Good management and policy for this situation requires organized serious attention and consistent long-term policy, without complacency or panic," the UC study concludes.

The new study bolsters a 2022 policy paper issued by the Newsom administration calling for 4 million acre-feet of new water storage, another 1.3 million in savings through conservation and reuse of wastewater, and new supplies from desalination and other processes.

The study also arrives as legislation that would set new

targets for increased water supply, Senate Bill 366, makes its way through the Capitol with broad support from water interests of all varieties.

It's one thing to point out that California faces a potential water supply crisis and should be earnestly trying to avoid the effects, but actually doing something confronts two steep hurdles: the glacial pace of water projects of any kind, and unresolved conflict over water rights, some of which date back to the state's founding in 1850.

The Sites Reservoir exemplifies the former. The western Sacramento Valley project, which would add 1.5 million acre-feet of off-stream storage, has moved closer to reality in recent years after seven decades of sitting on the shelf. Ditto for the long-planned canal or tunnel that would bypass the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The notion of a comprehensive, long-range program making California's uncertain water supply more resilient sounds great, and the clock is ticking. However, it assumes that officialdom has the legal authority to make it happen.

Until and unless the issue of water rights is resolved, the much-discussed reallocation of supplies – more for environmental flows and less for agriculture – will remain stalled.

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. ★

Social Security Matters

Social Security's "Guaranteed" Annual Cost-of-living Adjustment (COLA)



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I've been reading a lot lately about speculation on what next year's benefit increase will be, and it seems like most of the experts are suggesting a range of 2.5% to 3%. My neighbor says don't worry about it, because there will always be some level of increase come January. It's guaranteed, right? **Signed: Retired But Questioning**

Dear Retired: You've brought up a common belief about the annual Social Security COLA, one that we hear often. Let's start with some background. Each year's COLA results from comparing the third quarter average Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) each year to the same average from the preceding year. The result of dividing the current year's average by

the previous year's average produces the COLA for the following year. For 2024's adjustment, the 2023 third-quarter average was 301.2 and the comparable figure for 2022 was 291.9, producing the 3.2% benefit addition.

It's not always the case that the year-to-year CPI calculation produces a positive result, as was the case three times so far this century. As recently as 2016, for example, the 2015 third-quarter average was 233.3 and the comparable figure for 2014 was 234.2, producing a negative change. Fortunately for beneficiaries, Social Security law prohibits a negative COLA, so the negative result was ruled out and the COLA for 2016 was zero.

So, the rumor that there will always be a benefit increase in January is untrue, although having only three zero COLA years since the start of automated adjustments in 1974 leads folks to assume there will always be a boost in the new year. The size of the adjustment fluctuates with economic cycles and has ranged from a high of 14.3 percent in 1980 to 0.3% in 2017 (excluding,

of course, the zero years). Incidentally, the historical average since automatic COLAs began is 3.8%, so the 2024 adjustment of 3.2% isn't that far from the average.

Social Security's rules are myriad and often confusing, but no question is too simple to be asked. The AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service is available, at no charge, to answer all your Social Security questions, via email at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org or call 1.888.750.2622. *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). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.* ★

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Invasive Fruit Fly Quarantine Lifted in Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Thanks to the cooperation and diligence of county residents and the local agriculture department, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), working in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner, declared the end of the Oriental fruit fly quarantine in Sacramento County following the eradication of the invasive pest.

The declaration comes nearly eight months after

we first detected populations of the Oriental fruit fly in the area and established a quarantine encompassing parts of Rancho Cordova, and the communities of La Riviera, Carmichael, Fair Oaks and Gold River.

During the quarantine, crops that are hosts for the invasive pest — which include more than 300 varieties, such as citrus and other fruits, nuts, vegetables and berries — were not allowed to be moved from the properties where they were grown. Commercial crops were required to meet stringent treatment or processing standards before being harvested or moved.

As the temperatures rise



Invasive fruit fly. Photo courtesy of Martin Hauser/California Department of Food and Agriculture

and vacationers ramp up their travel plans, residents are urged to refrain from bringing back potentially infested produce from their trips. While at home, we encourage residents to stay vigilant for signs of invasive pests.

To help prevent any future introductions of invasive species, residents should follow these guidelines:

Cooperate with the agriculture department and allow them access to your garden to place

traps, inspect plants, conduct necessary treatments or remove potentially infested produce.

Determine if your property is located within an active quarantine area by visiting CAFruitFly.com.

Buy fruit trees and vegetable plants from licensed California nurseries. Purchasing agricultural goods from uncertified sources can spread invasive pests. Source your plants locally and responsibly. To find a licensed nursery near you, visit California Department of Food and Agriculture's Directory of Licensed Nurseries.

Inspect your garden for signs of invasive fruit flies or maggots and report any

findings to the agriculture department.

When entering the United States from another country, avoid bringing agricultural products, including fruits or vegetables. Help us protect our agricultural and natural resources and California's unique biodiversity from invasive fruit flies: Don't pack a pest when traveling or mailing/receiving packages.

To learn more about invasive species and how to protect the county's fruits and vegetables, visit California Department of Food and Agriculture's Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Division at www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-03442
Naqib Jami, 2740 Fulton Avenue Suite 27, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Fast Service Towing" 2740 Fulton Avenue Suite 27, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 2, 2024
Publish: May 24, 31, June 7, 14, 2024
FAST 6-14-24

der the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Auto Splash" 7320 Winding Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 17, 2024
Publish: May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 2024
AUTO 6-21-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-03120
Christian Baird, 35111 Del Paso Road Suite 160, PMB419, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "On The Fly Notary" 5433 Duck Walk Way, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 23, 2024
Publish: May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 2024
NOTARY 6-21-24

TSHIRTS 6-28-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-03888
Cheng Corp, 2378 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95822 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Encore Dental Services" 2378 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 15, 2024
Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
ENCORE 6-28-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-03996
Robert John Harris, 7552 Fusion Way, Sacramento, CA 95829 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mr Wonderful's Trucking" 7552 Fusion Way, Sacramento, CA 95829. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 21, 2024
Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
WONDERFULS 6-28-24

County June 4, 2024
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
PROGRESS 7-5-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04299
Home Care Plumbing, Inc, 11584 Linday Way, Gold River, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Home Care Plumbing" 11584 Linday Way, Gold River, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 3, 2024
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
HOME 7-5-24
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04250
Uyen Vo, 821 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Uvglamorous/UVO Beauty" 821 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 30, 2024
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
UVGLAMOROUS 7-5-24

Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
PHAM 6-28-24
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV008290
Kavita Devi and Daniel Chand have filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Hridhaan Chand to Ethan Chand.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court July 31, 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: April 25, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
CHAND 6-28-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV010691
Tamika Nashae Bledsoe has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Tamika Nashae Bledsoe to Mika Nashae Bledsoe.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 26, 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: May 31, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
BLEDSOE 7-5-24
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV010014
Mohammad Haroon Obaidi has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ahmed Belal Obaidi to Tayeeb Obaidi.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 19, 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: May 20, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
OBAIDI 7-5-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOSE HERNANDEZ CASE NO. 24PR000505
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Jose Hernandez.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Michelle Hernandez, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Michelle Hernandez 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 June 27, 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: Huck Ingram, 110 Bank Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945; 530-432-1996.
Publish: May 31, June 7, 14, 2024
HERNANDEZ 6-14-24
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF RAYMOND KENT SHEBELUT, AKA RAYMOND K. SHEBELUT AKA RAYMOND SHEBELUT CASE NO. 24PR001631
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV009845
Taqwaallah Hasnawi has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Taqwaallah Hasnawi to Nancy Aram.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 18, 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: May 20, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: May 31, June 7, 14, 21, 2024
HASNAWI 6-21-24
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV009902
Gurmukh Singh has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Gurmukh Singh to Gurmukh Singh Nagra.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 18, 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: May 17, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
SINGH 6-28-24
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV010203
Neville Ricardo Ferron has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Neville Ricardo Ferron to Neville Ricardo Fearon.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 19, 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: May 22, 2024
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024
FERRON 6-28-24
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV010744
Victoria Dianne Facino has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Victoria Dianne Facino to Victoria Dianne Glass.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on August 27, 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: June 3, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 2024
FACINO 7-5-24

Newsom Announces New Appointments to Sacramento Superior Court

Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Gov. Gavin Newsom recently announced the appointment of three judges to the Sacramento Superior Court bench.

“The court looks forward to these additions to the bench,” Presiding Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi. “The collective experience that comes with Commissioner Badiga, Ms. Holliday and Ms. Zuvela will serve continued access to justice in Sacramento County.”

Jaya Badiga, of Sacramento County, has served as a Commissioner at the Sacramento Superior Court since 2022. She was a Sole Practitioner from 2018 to 2022. She served as an Attorney at the California Department of Health Care Services in 2020 and at California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services in 2018.

Badiga was Managing Attorney at WEAVE Inc. from 2013 to 2018 and Attorney Advisor at Galaxy Architects & Infrastructure from 2010 to 2013. She served as Staff Counsel at the California Employment

Development Department from 2009 to 2010.

Badiga earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Santa Clara University School of Law and a Master of Arts degree in International Relations and International Communications from Boston University. She fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Robert S. Lapham.

Amy Holliday, of Sacramento County, was elected in March 2024 to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Allen H. Sumner. The Governor’s interim appointment allows her to immediately assume the position she

would otherwise begin in January 2025.

Since January 2020, Holliday has served as Assistant Chief Deputy managing prosecutors in the Central Operations Bureau and use of Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy to solve and prosecute cases. She has prosecuted several cold cases including People of the State of California v. Joseph James DeAngelo (the East Area Rapist/Golden State Killer).

Holliday earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Allison Zuvela, of Sacramento County, has served as a Retired

Annuitant Deputy Public Defender at the Yolo County Public Defender’s Office since 2023 and served in several positions there from 2003 to 2021, including Chief Deputy Public Defender and Assistant Chief Deputy Public Defender. She served as a Deputy Public Defender in the Tulare County Public Defender’s Office from 1995 to 2003.

Zuvela earned a Juris Doctor degree from California Western School of Law. She fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Sharon A. Luceras. ★

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of Raymond Kent Shebelut, aka Raymond K. Shebelut aka Raymond Shebelut.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Kent Shebelut, in the Superior Court of California, County

of Sacramento, requesting Kent Shebelut 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 es-

tate 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 au-

thority 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 July 16, 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. Zoom Telepresence: <https://saccourt-ca-gov.zoomgov.com/join/9231129> Meeting: 161 3352 9231

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: Daniel K. Marvin, Law Offices of Sherwood & Marvin, 1025 North Demaree Street / P.O. Box 7208, Visalia, CA 93290; 559-733-3900

Publish: June 14, 21, 28, 2024
SHEBELUT 6-28-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER JAMES COLLINS CASE NO. 24PR001642

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

A Petition for Probate has been filed by James C. Collins, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting James C. Collins 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 July 17, 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: David R. Morris Esq, 5137 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 110, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; 916-789-9810

Publish: June 14, 21, 28, 2024
COLLINS 6-28-24

CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS will be received at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, California, until the hour of 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 27, 2024 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read for the **DEWEY DRIVE / VAN MAREN LANE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**, City of Citrus Heights, California. Any bid received after this date and time will be deemed non-responsive. Bids received by fax or e-mail will not be considered.

The work to be performed consists, in general, of a multi-layer micro surfacing application on the specified segments of Dewey Drive and Van Maren Lane including pavement grinding, constructing PCC curb and gutter, PCC curb extensions (bulbouts), ADA compliant curb ramps, adjusting manholes, minor storm drain improvements, restoring traffic striping, legends, and markings, and all other works as shown on the contract documents.

It is the bidder’s responsibility to check the City’s website for any updated information at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled bid opening.

Bidders shall obtain copies of the Contract Documents by logging on to <https://www.citrusheightsplanroom.com> or by calling BPX Printing and Graphics at (916) 760-7281 or emailing sac@bpxprinting.com. Cost of Contract Documents shall be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per set, non-refundable. Shipping and handling costs are extra and prices range depending on the delivery method. At the bidder’s request and expense, the Contract Documents can be sent by overnight mail. Bidders can supply their shipper account number to expedite processing. Electronic Contract Documents (PDF format) can also be ordered for a non-refundable fee of \$50 per set. All bidders must purchase a complete set of contract documents (hard copy or PDF format) from BPX Printing and Graphics to be included on the planholder’s list and to receive addenda notifications. It is the responsibility of each prospective bidder to confirm his/her firm is on the planholder’s list held at BPX Printing and Graphics to ensure receipt of any subsequent communications, including addenda. Contract Documents are not available directly from the City.

There is no pre-bid meeting for this project. All questions regarding this project are to be submitted in writing by email to generalservices@citrusheights.net with a CC to lblomquist@citrusheights.net by **WEDNESDAY, June 19, 2024 at 5:00 PM**.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 1770 of the Labor Code of the State of California, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations has ascertained the general prevailing rate of wages applicable to the work to be done in accordance with the standards set forth in Section 1773 and which is on-file in the office of the City Clerk.

The successful bidder shall pay not less than the specified prevailing wage rates to all laborers, workers, and mechanics employed in the performance of the work specified herein. The successful bidder will be required to post a copy of the general prevailing rates per diem wages in a conspicuous place at the job site forthwith upon undertaking the public work called for herein. The successful bidder shall also keep an accurate certified payroll record in accordance with requirement set forth in Labor Code Section 1776 and the Contract Documents.

Each bid must be accompanied by cash, cashier’s check, certified check or Bidder’s Bond made payable to the City of Citrus Heights in the amount of 10% of the total bid amount, such guaranty to be forfeited should the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded fail to enter into the Contract within the time period required by the Contract Documents.

No bid will be accepted unless it is made on a proposal form furnished by the General Services Director and is for the entire work described herein. The bid bonds for the three acceptable lowest bidders shall be retained until the City Council has accepted the successful bidder. All other Bidder’s Bonds shall be returned to the bidder five (5) working days after bid opening. The Contract shall be

awarded, if an award is made, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder within sixty (60) calendar days from the date the bids are publicly opened and declared. If the award is not made within that period, all bids submitted are deemed rejected by the City Council and all remaining Bidder’s Bonds shall be returned to the bidder. The successful bidder shall apply for and obtain at its costs any permits required for all work, except as otherwise specified in the Contract Documents.

A bidder may propose one or more “equals” or substitutions for products listed in the Contract Documents by manufacturer name, brand or model number, unless the Contract Documents specify that the product is necessary to match others in use. Complete information for products proposed by a bidder as an equal must be submitted to the General Services Director for review, at least ten (10) working days before the time specified for bid opening in accordance with the Instructions to bidders contained in the Contract Documents.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish, prior to the performance of any work hereunder, a payment bond in an amount equal to **one hundred percent (100%)** of the Contract price, and a faithful performance bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract price. The bonds must be approved by the City.

The successful bidder shall also furnish a Warranty Bond, in a form acceptable to the City in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total Contract price plus change orders, to hold good for a period of one year after the completion and acceptance of the work, to protect the City against the results of defective materials, quality of work, and equipment during that time. This bond shall be delivered to the City before the final payment under this Contract will be made. The successful bidder will also be required to furnish insurance as set forth in the Contract Documents.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22300, bidders may substitute securities for any monies which the City may withhold pursuant to the terms of this Contract to insure performance. Such securities must be furnished on a form acceptable to the City and by a company, acceptable to the City, that is authorized and licensed by the Insurance Commissioner as an “admitted surety insurer” and which maintains at least one officer in California for conducting business. Prior to such approval, the surety shall provide the documentation required by California Civil Code Section 995.660.

The City of Citrus Heights reserves the right to reject any or all bids or portions thereof, to accept a bid or portion thereof and to waive any minor informality or irregularity.

The license classification required for this project is Class “A”: General Engineering Contractor issued by the State of California. The license must be active and in good standing as of the date of receipt of bids and must be maintained in good standing throughout the term of the contract. For contracts involving federal funds, the license must be active and in good standing as of the date of the Contract award and must be maintained in good standing throughout the term of the contract.

Each bidder, and any subcontractor listed in a bid proposal pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 4104, must be currently registered with the Department of Industrial Relations and qualified to perform public work consistent with Labor Code section 1725.5, except in limited circumstances as referenced in Labor Code section 1771.1(a).

This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.


Amy Van, City Clerk

06/04/2024
Date

Citrus Heights Messenger 6-14 and 6-21-2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

OF THE CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL FOR A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS AND ANTIOCH STREET LP AND A PROPOSED PARCEL MAP TO ALLOW A FUTURE HOTEL AT 6100 SUNRISE BOULEVARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Citrus Heights City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on **June 27, 2024**, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, California at 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter.

Project Name: Sunrise Tomorrow Hotel Parcel Map and Development Agreement

Project Location: 6100 Sunrise Boulevard (243-0192-016-0000)

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider recommending to the City Council an ordinance to approve a Development Agreement between the City of Citrus Heights and Antioch Street LP to guide the development of a proposed Sunrise Tomorrow hotel at 6100 Sunrise Boulevard and consideration of a Parcel Map to subdivide the existing property into three individual parcels of approximately 0.928 acres net, 1.484 acres net, and 0.386 acres net.

A copy of the Development Agreement and the staff report is available for review on the City’s website at www.citrusheights.net.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN pursuant to Government Code Section 65009 that any legal challenge to these actions may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City, as applicable, during or prior to the hearing.

INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED to submit written comments prior to and may testify at the Public Hearing. Written comments may be submitted to Amy Van, City Clerk, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, California or may also be emailed to cityclerk@citrusheights.net. If the matter is continued for any reason to a later date, written comments and public testimony will be accepted until the close of the final Public Hearing. All comments will be considered by the Approving Authority.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Amy Van, City Clerk, at 916-725-2448. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. TTY/TDD users with questions or comments can call the California Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1.

For further information contact Casey Kempenaar, at (916) 725-2448.

Dated: May 31, 2024

Citrus Heights Messenger 6-14-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Epic Wireless Group Inc is proposing to construct a 115 ft broadleaf mono-eucalyptus telecommunications tower facility located at 7908 Hazel Avenue, Orangevale, Sacramento County, California 95662, (38 42 35.08 N / 121 13 24.66 W). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 015409-PR - MPH, EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at 504.458.4444.

Citrus Heights Messenger 6-14-2024

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COMICS & PUZZLES

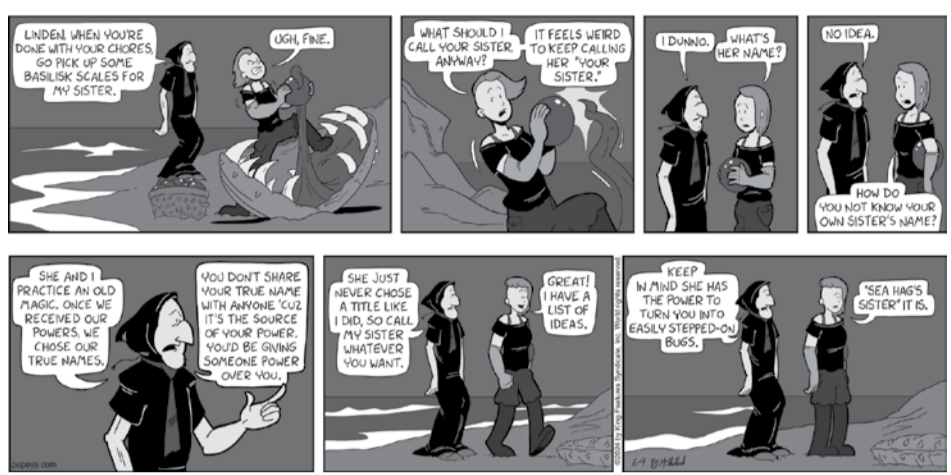
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

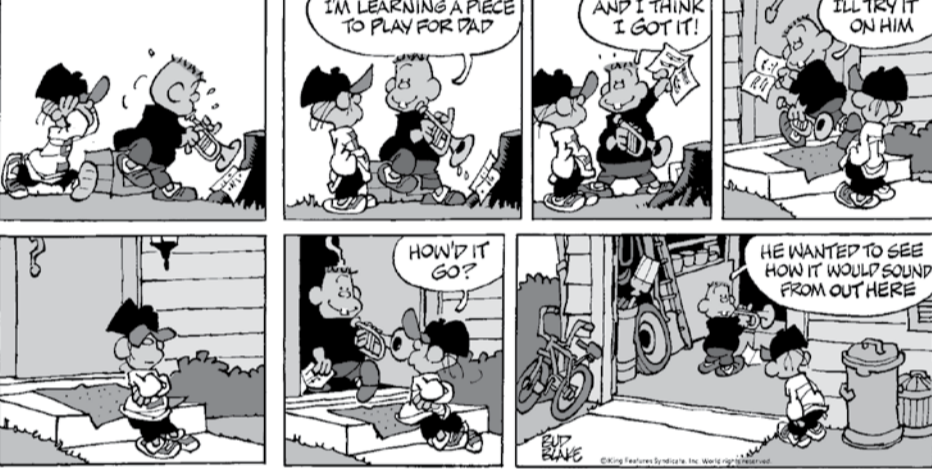
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Thermometer is missing; 2. A iron bow is different; 3. Cap is missing from bottle; 4. Headboard is taller; 5. Fingers are moved; 6. Leaf is missing from flower.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN & BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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M	E	E	K	I	D	S	S	L	E	E	K	

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • SUMMER BLOCKBUSTERS

- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Molten rock in earth's crust
 - Scarlett Johansson's 2013 voice only role
 - Jezebel's idol
 - Not silently
 - Pro vote
 - Italian bowling
 - Proclaimed as true without proof
 - Rob Manfred's org.
 - Savory taste sensation
 - *Tom Cruise's 1986 blockbuster
 - "It featured the song 'What Was I Made For?'"
 - Wrath, e.g.
 - Milton Bradley's "The Game of..."
 - General Post Office
 - A woodwind
 - Group of trained professionals, pl.
 - Icy precipitation
 - Concert units
 - Charles Dickens' Heep
 - Scandinavian capital
 - Rebroadcast
 - Khrushchev's domain, acr.
 - "What the gang did in 1988's 'A Fish Called Wanda'"
 - Exploding star
 - Clarified butter
 - Airport surface
 - Highway hauler
 - Breed
 - Miss Muffet's repast
 - Not flow
 - *Tim Burton's 1989 and 1992 title character
 - "It featured the song 'Summer Lovin'"
 - Popular fashion magazine
 - Road in Rome
 - Comment to the audience
 - Deposit the ashes
 - Giant Hall-of-Famer Mel _____
 - Canine skin infection
 - Humble and docile
 - Name badges, acr.
 - Streamlined
- DOWN**
- Bonkers
 - Sir Mix-_____
 - Kind of boots in the '60s
 - One M in MMR vaccine
 - Slowly and gracefully, in music
 - Mass number
 - Snake-like reef dweller
 - Teacher of Torah
 - **Oppenheimer" subject
 - Popular smoothie berry
 - Pinnacle
 - Hula dancer's neckpiece
 - B in FBI
 - Open up
 - Half of NFL
 - a.k.a. Hansen's disease
 - *1990 Swayze/Moore blockbuster
 - Trattoria staple
 - Petroleum tanker
 - *It premiered in the U.K. on 6/6/76, with The
 - Chemical cure
 - Revered Hindu
 - Drawing support

CROSSWORD

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LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?

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Newsom Promised 1,200 Tiny Homes For Homeless.

A Year Later, None Have Opened



An emergency non-congregate housing site in Chico on Sept. 6, 2023. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

By Marisa Kendall
CALMatters.org

In March 2023, Gov. Gavin Newsom stood before a crowd in Sacramento's Cal Expo event center and made a promise: He'd send 1,200 tiny homes to shelter homeless residents in the capital city and three other places throughout the state.

The move was part of Newsom's push to improve the homelessness crisis by quickly moving people out of encampments and into more stable environments. But more than a year later, none of those tiny homes have welcomed a single resident. Only about 150 have even been purchased.

Irontown Modular, one of six vendors the state chose to supply the tiny homes in Sacramento, San Jose, Los Angeles and San Diego County, is "absolutely shocked" that they've received no orders, said Kam Valgardson, general manager of the Utah-based company.

"The big problem is that the homeless people aren't getting served," Valgardson said. "I can complain as a business, but these homeless people are getting no support, no relief. The money's been promised, but something's broken in the process and nobody's placing orders."

There have been multiple delays and about-faces, over everything from the way the state is funding the units to the ability of local cities and counties to find places to put them. The state has suggested the delays are the fault of local governments. But tiny homes have failed to materialize even when local leaders moved quickly to approve a project site.

In some cases, it's difficult to know exactly what's holding up these projects. Communications involving the governor's office are exempt from the California Public Records Act. Multiple requests by CalMatters for emails between the governor's office and the cities and counties slated to receive the tiny homes were denied.

The state has started construction at the Sacramento tiny home

site, and has made funding available to the other three cities and counties to buy their own tiny homes — delivering on its promise, Monica Hassan, deputy director of the state's Department of General Services, said in an email to CalMatters. That bolsters the state's "already substantial efforts to help tackle the homelessness crisis," she said.

"Focusing solely on timelines diminishes the hard work of numerous individuals dedicated to providing much-needed housing," she said.

BRINGING TINY HOMES TO CALIFORNIA

The governor set up a big to-do when he made his tiny home promise in March of last year. He had sample tiny homes set up in the Cal Expo event center to use as a backdrop as he spoke. Local officials, including Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan, flanked him to show their support and gratitude.

The venue also was strategically chosen — Sacramento planned to set up its allotted 350 tiny homes right there, a Cal Expo.

The plan was simple: The state would buy the tiny homes. The California National Guard would help prepare and deliver them, "free of charge and ready for occupancy." Los Angeles was promised 500 tiny homes, Sacramento 350, San Jose 200 and San Diego County 150.

In October 2023, Newsom's office gave its first concrete update: It revealed the six companies it contracted with to supply the tiny homes. They ranged from Pallet, a Washington-based company that specializes in sheltering unhoused people and already has multiple sites up and running in California; to AMEG, a company based outside of Sacramento that does disaster recovery and modular home building, but hasn't built a community for homeless residents before.

But the project's parameters changed. Instead of buying and delivering the units, the state decided to send several of the

cities cash grants and let them order the tiny homes themselves. In San Jose, this left the city on the hook for more money than anticipated. The state awarded the city \$13.3 million. Building the planned tiny homes for 200 people will cost \$22.7 million, according to Mayor Mahan.

The mayor said San Jose told the state it would rather get tiny homes with en-suite bathrooms, which are more expensive. But, Mahan said, San Jose was willing to cover the cost difference. Instead, Newsom's administration decided to provide cash grants in place of fully built tiny homes. It's more efficient, Hassan said.

San Jose plans to open its tiny home site by July 2025.

"This is a solution that even under this timeframe is significantly faster and lower cost than many alternatives," Mahan said. "And we're grateful for the support, and when unexpected things come up, we just roll with the punches."

Finding space to put these tiny homes — which is the responsibility of local cities and counties — also proved challenging. Plans to place Sacramento's tiny homes at Cal Expo, where Newsom made his splashy announcement last year, fell apart. Instead, the state intends to set up 175 tiny homes on Stockton Boulevard. The county plans to install the remaining 175 on Watt Avenue.

In March, a year after Newsom named San Diego County as one of the tiny home recipients, the County Board of Supervisors finally approved a location for the project in Spring Valley. But there's still a lot to do. The county has to test the soil and make sure the site is safe. After that, officials plan to start getting community feedback on the planned project. The county has not yet bought the tiny homes or set an opening date.

"Like every other homelessness policy solution, local governments are fundamentally the drivers and fundamentally the implementers," said Jason Elliott, Newsom's deputy chief of staff.

"What the state has done is provide billions of dollars in new investment, dozens and dozens of bills to cut red tape and a policy framework that pushes for faster action to resolve unsheltered encampments. But as we have seen time and time again in California, local commitment and partnership is the other side of that coin."

San Jose, in contrast to San Diego County, approved plans to set up tiny homes at the Cerone bus yard back in October. Even so, the state didn't send San Jose a grant agreement until March, Mahan said.

Of the four communities promised tiny homes, the state has made the most progress in Sacramento. In late January and early February, the state bought 155 units from BOSS, a tiny home company based in Montebello in Southern California. Those units, most of which are 70 square feet, have been built and are ready to ship to Stockton Avenue, said Kris Van Giesen, senior vice president of community development.

After a brief delay due to rain, a contractor hired by the state has started building out the infrastructure at the Stockton Avenue site, Hassan said. It's slated to open this fall.

In Los Angeles, city officials still haven't finalized locations for their tiny homes.

"The city has been working diligently to evaluate potential sites, coordinate relevant departments and prepare plans that will be submitted to the state by the end of May," Gabby Maarse, a spokesperson for the mayor's office, said in an email.

NO ONE IS ORDERING TINY HOMES

Another big selling point of Newsom's plan: His administration opened up the contracts so that other cities and counties (in addition to the chosen four) could use their own money to buy tiny homes from the six approved vendors, without going through a time-consuming and bureaucratic request for proposal process.

That move was supposed to help get more tiny homes

deployed quickly, and therefore, move more people out of encampments. But CalMatters spoke with all six approved vendors, and none have received any orders through that process.

Several companies said a handful of cities have reached out and expressed interest. But without cash from the state, many are finding it hard to pull the trigger.

"A lot of these cities are struggling to find the funding they need," said Amy King, founder and CEO of Pallet.

The cheapest Pallet tiny home approved by the state contract sells for \$18,900. Add an en suite bathroom, and the price jumps to \$55,350. That's still considerably cheaper than other housing options.

Other companies said the state hasn't done as much as it could to promote the effort. There's no website that lists the vendors covered by the state contracts, the available models and price comparisons, said Anmol Mehra, co-founder of Plugin House, an Austin-based modular home company and one of the six approved vendors.

And the state insists on approving any promotional materials the vendors put out on their own, Valgardson said. After his company, Irontown Modular, accidentally posted marketing materials online prematurely, the state made them take the materials down and get approval. It took almost two months to get the green light, Valgardson said.

The tiny home companies said they had to jump through myriad hoops to secure the state contracts. Several said they had to design new products specifically to meet the state's strict requirements for everything from vapor-resistant light fixtures to emergency exit lighting. It took months and cost tens of thousands of dollars, Valgardson said.

David Baldwin, owner of AMEG, expected orders to start rolling in by December of last year. It's "a little bit frustrating," he said.

"We're ready to go," he said. "We have people chomping at the bit that want to go help." ★

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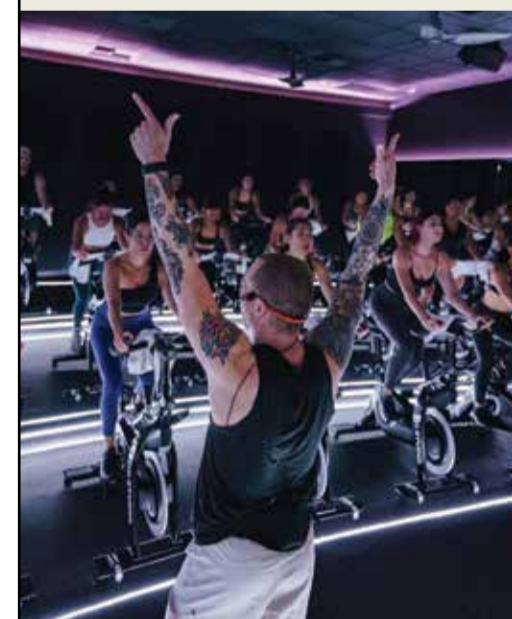
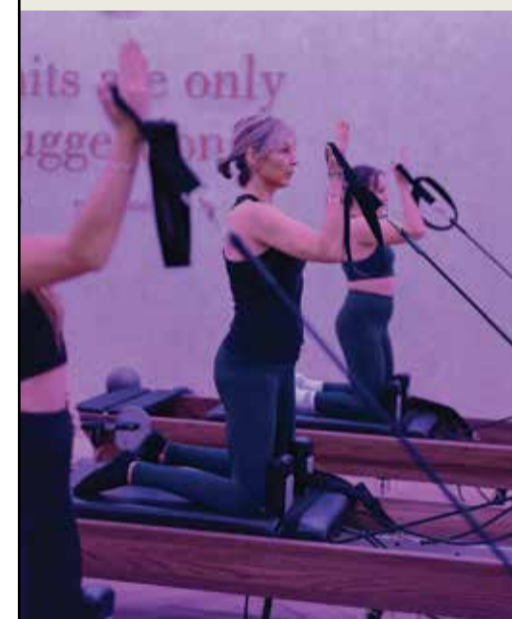
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