



**Music, Comedy,  
Classic Cars  
and More**

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HAPPY  
**4th of July**



# AMERICAN RIVER Messenger

VOLUME 19 • ISSUE 12

Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County

JUNE 28, 2024

**SEE  
INSIDE**



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FEED THE KITTY'  
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PROVIDE FREE  
MEALS TO YOUTH**



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**ART AND FUN  
AT EFFIE YEAW  
GALA**



PAGE 4

## Two Days of Celebration



In keeping with decades-old parade tradition, the Shriners organization will field Keystone Kops, clowns and Go-Karts.

**Story and pictures  
by Susan Maxwell  
Skinner**

**CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG)** - Carmichael will parade patriotism on June 29 and July 4.

Carmichael and Mission Oaks Park Districts fanfare the nation's 251st birthday this Saturday with a \$20,000-plus fireworks show at La Sierra Community Center. The festivities will be accompanied by a live concert featuring the rock band Hipper than Hip, setting the stage for the "Red, White, and Blue"



Carmichael's Banning family gets in the patriotic spirit during last year's Red White and Blue fireworks night at La Sierra Center.

celebration. The music kicks off at 6:30 p.m.

Ten food trucks will offer sustenance and a beer garden will

benefit Carmichael Parks Foundation. A free kid's zone will feature bounce houses and art activities hosted by Sacramento Fine

Arts Center. Fireworks thunder at 9:30 p.m. No dogs or private fireworks are permitted. La Sierra Center is located at 5325 Engle Road.

On July 4, Carmichael's popular Independence Day parade will cover two miles of hot tar between Marconi and Cypress avenues. The local Elks Lodge has orchestrated this tradition since 1959.

Carmichael "karate king" Dave Kovar is the 2024 grand marshal. According to Elks member Jim Warrick, the VIP personifies the pageant's

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## 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 cabin communities in

*Continued on page 3*

## Youth Offered Free RydeFreeRT Cards

**Sacramento Regional Transit News Release**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Area youth can enjoy more freedom this summer to get to jobs, shopping centers, restaurants and more via Sacramento Regional Transit District's RydeFreeRT, the fare-free transit program for students/youth.

The cards are valid for transitional kindergarteners through 12th-graders.

New RydeFreeRT cards with a valid date of June 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, are now available for students to ride for free the entire SacRT transit network, including Sacramento Regional Transit District fixed-route buses, light rail and SmarT Ride on-demand micro transit service.

RydeFreeRT is available daily during regular SacRT service hours.

To ride free, students/youth need a valid RydeFreeRT card. Youth who are experiencing homelessness or taking



Youth from transitional kindergarten through 12th-grade can ride free for the summer with the RydeFreeRT card. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Regional Transit District

part in foster programs can participate in the program, regardless of their current residence or school address.

Students and youth who do not have a RydeFreeRT card can visit Sacramento Regional Transit District's Customer Service and Sales Center at 1225 R St. (adjacent to the 13th Street Station) or a participating Sacramento library. For more information, visit rydefreert.com or call 916-321-BUSS (2877).

Launched in 2019, RydeFreeRT was the first unrestricted youth fare-free ride program in the country, according to Sacramento Regional Transit District. The 265,000 youth living in Sacramento Regional Transit District's service area, from transitional kindergarten to 12th-grade, including home-schooled students, foster and unhoused youth, can ride all buses and light rail trains for free, all day, any day of the year.

The RydeFreeRT program has helped boost student ridership, which now accounts for nearly 25% of all Sacramento Regional Transit District bus and light rail rides over the last year. In fact, student ridership is on pace to carry 4.2 million youth in Fiscal Year 2024, double what it was in 2019 pre-pandemic.

*Note: The RydeFreeRT program does not apply to those over 18 years old that are pursuing their GED. ★*



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# Libraries to Provide Free Meals to Youth This Summer

By Annie Kerr and Mitch Barber

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - As another blisteringly hot summer unfolds, library officials make it a priority to provide support to youth while they are out of school and parents are working.

Fourteen public libraries throughout the area are offering free meals to local youth as needed throughout the summer.

Lunch at the Library provides free meals for young people when school is out for the summer. Starting June 18 through Aug. 9, meals will be distributed at 14 library locations Tuesdays through Fridays from noon to 1 p.m.

Lunch is available for youth 18 and under who are physically present for free. Meals must be consumed on-site. No registration is required. Drop-ins are welcome. Eligibility documentation is not required. Look for signage at the library or meeting room entrance.

"The Sacramento Public Library has been doing this since 2013," said Christie Hamm, youth services director.

"Libraries have stepped in to help kids whose families might be stressed. Our meals come with whole grains and fruits and vegetables. So, they get a good healthy meal, and we also help them get connected with our different summer reading programs," she continued. "It's a great time, and a friendly and welcoming place for them to come to."

According to Hamm, all are welcome to enjoy

the free lunches and there is no income requirement. The youth are encouraged to come to the library and engage in reading programs, computer and STEAM programs, book groups, and could even win prizes. The programming varies by library branch.

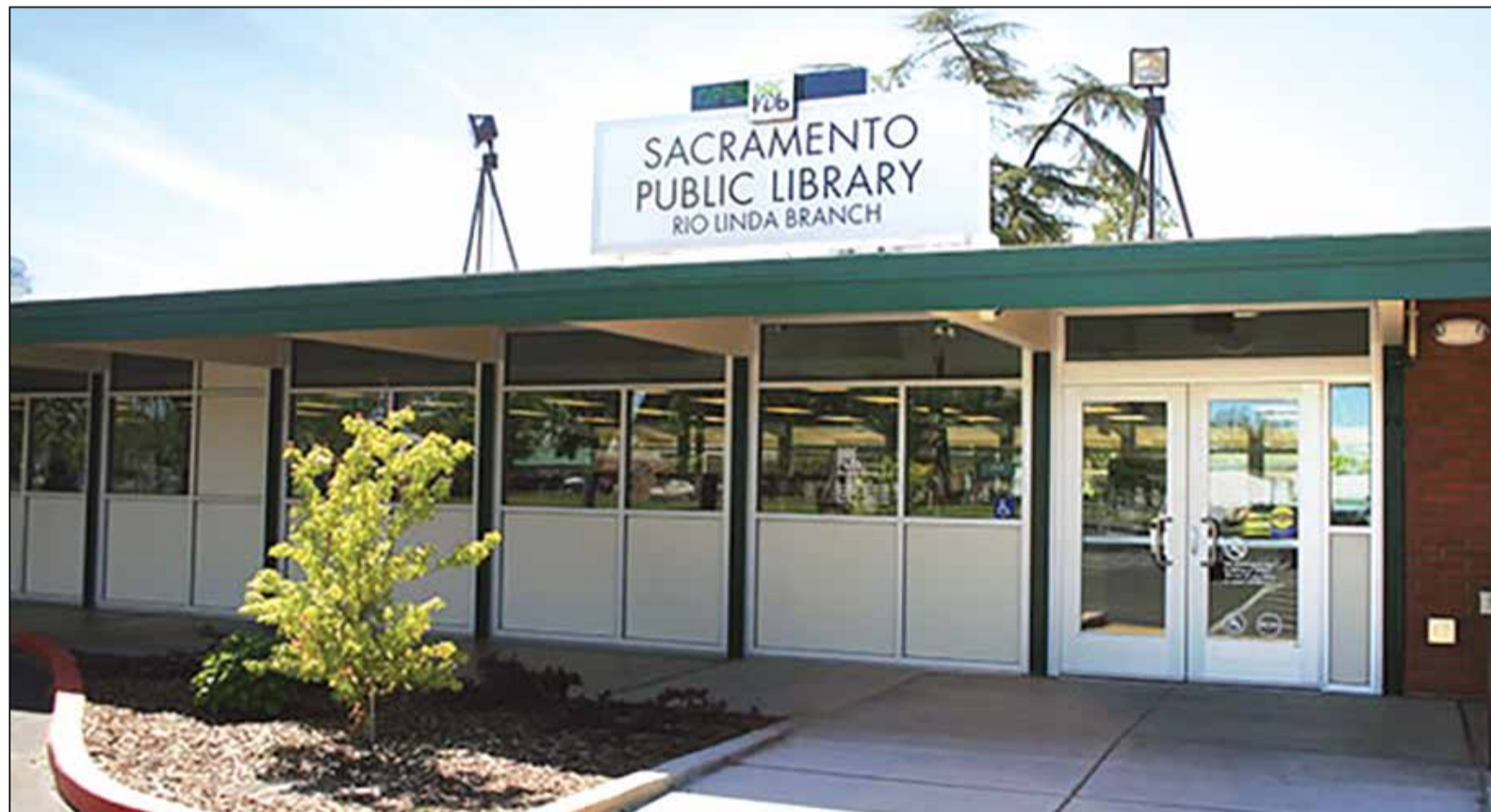
"Lunch is just the beginning of connecting people to other services the library provides," Hamm said.

The lunches are funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and programs are funded by the California State Library.

*Lunch will not be served on Independence Day (July 4). All libraries will be closed for that holiday.* ★



Teen volunteers help with the Lunch at the Library program. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Public Library



Meal sites are available at 14 library locations: Arcade, Carmichael, Colonial Heights, Del Paso Heights, Elk Grove, Fair Oaks, Martin Luther King, Jr., North Highlands - Antelope, North Sacramento - Hagginwood, Rancho Cordova, Rio Linda, Southgate, Sylvan Oaks, and Valley Hi - North Laguna. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Public Library

KP

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Rainbow Bellpepper 2 lbs <b>\$2.99</b> bag	Grapefruit 3 lbs <b>\$2.99</b> ea	Murcott Tangerine 4 lbs <b>\$3.59</b> bag	Garlic 5 pcs <b>2 for \$3</b>

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Capri Sun Drink 10 x 6 Ltr <b>\$2.99</b> ea	Snow Time Ice Pops (helado) 6 x 2.37 oz <b>2 for \$2.99</b>	Match Light Charcoal Briquettes 12 lbs <b>\$14.99</b> ea	Kuli Coconut Milk Drink 16.4 Ltr <b>99¢</b> ea	Tropic Mist Fruit Flavored Wines 750 ml <b>\$3.99</b> ea
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## FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Yellow Croaker 3 lbs REG. \$21.99/ea <b>\$15.99</b> /ea	Spicy Webfoot Octopus 300 gr REG. \$9.99/ea <b>\$5.99</b> /ea
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## ASIAN GROCERY

Excellant Bihon Rice 16 oz <b>\$3.99</b> ea	Ajinomoto Crispy Fry Breading Mix 8.40 oz <b>\$2.99</b> ea	Coco Rico Coconut Soda 6 pk 6 x 12 Ltr <b>\$6.99</b> ea	Elephant King Maltose Rice Sweetener 500 g <b>\$1.99</b> ea	China Slim Tea Herbal Tea Delight 72 T/B 6.34 oz <b>\$9.99</b> ea
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## WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

Beef Rump/Bottom Round Roast - Bnls <b>\$4.99</b> /lb <i>Pajpa Costra en Trozo sin hueso</i>	Beef T-Bone Steak <b>\$6.49</b> /lb <i>Filete Chateau de Ternera</i>	Beef Porterhouse Steak <b>\$6.99</b> /lb <i>Filete Biste de Ternera</i>
Pork Baby Back Ribs <b>\$2.99</b> /lb <i>Cocillitas de Cerdo</i>	Pork Butts Bone In <b>\$2.99</b> /lb <i>Trozo de Puerto con Hueso</i>	Pork Loin Chops Bone In <b>\$2.99</b> /lb <i>Chuletas de Cerdo con Hueso</i>

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CJ Korean Cold Noodles 2 kinds 474.4 g 905 g <b>\$3.99</b> ea	Brush Bros Gift Set 2 kinds 4 x 960 ml <b>\$13.99</b> ea	Korean Rice Wine 3 kinds 750 ml <b>\$2.99</b> ea	Soyuzilly 2 kinds 5 x 9 g <b>\$5.99</b> ea	Tomyum Drink 4 kinds 300 ml <b>99¢</b> ea	VT Vermont Curry 3 kinds 230 g <b>\$2.99</b> ea
Kadoya Roasted Sesame Oil <b>\$15.99</b> ea					

## HOUSEWARES

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ELECTRIC BBQ GRILL <b>\$39.99</b> ea
ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (4.5 QT) <b>\$14.99</b> ea
ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (5.5 QT) <b>\$19.99</b> ea
ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (6.5 QT) <b>\$29.99</b> ea

## FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Sponge Cake Original & Cheese 7 pcs/bag REG. \$9.99/ea <b>\$6.99</b> /ea	Columbus Pastrami <b>\$12.09</b> ea
Pan Roasted Turkey Breast <b>\$11.99</b> ea	Cerignola Olives <b>\$6.69</b> ea
Kalamata Olives w/ Garlic & Pepper <b>\$5.59</b> ea	Columbus Pastrami <b>\$11.99</b> ea

## EUROPEAN DELI

Columbus Pastrami <b>\$12.09</b> ea	Cerignola Olives <b>\$6.69</b> ea
Kalamata Olives w/ Garlic & Pepper <b>\$5.59</b> ea	Columbus Pastrami <b>\$11.99</b> ea

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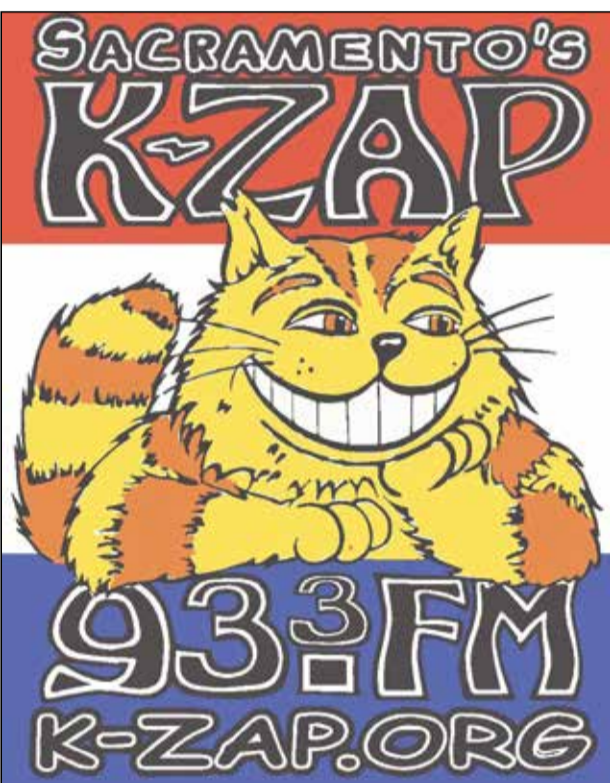
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# Sacramento's K-ZAP Launches '10 to Feed the Kitty' Donation Drive



Peter Rizzo is the promotions director and underwriter at K-ZAP. Photo courtesy of K-ZAP



K-Zap has been a widely beloved radio station in the Sacramento area for many years. Photo courtesy of K-Zap

**K-ZAP News Release** - Sacramento's beloved K-ZAP, the all-volunteer LPFM rock/blues radio

station broadcasting 24/7 at 93.3 FM in the metro Sacramento area, on the K-ZAP apps and streaming at k-zap.org, launched its "10 To Feed the Kitty" donation drive on June 9.

The station is calling on its listeners to donate just \$10 each to help keep the lights on and the tunes rolling.

Founded by former staff members of the legendary Sacramento radio station KZAP, Dennis Newhall and Tom Cale, K-ZAP has been a staple in the Sacramento community since its return to the airwaves on July 4, 2015. Now, as the station approaches its ninth anniversary, it is looking to the community for support to continue its mission of providing quality rock/blues music to Sacramento and the world.

"We've been rocking Sacramento for nine years now and we want to keep the party going," said Newhall, station general manager and owner. "With the '10 To Feed the Kitty' campaign, we're asking our listeners to help us reach our goal of raising \$100,000 by July 4. It's a small amount that can make a big difference."

The "10 To Feed the Kitty" donation drive will run from now until July 4. Listeners can donate online at k-zap.org/donate using their credit, debit card or Venmo. In addition to the online campaign, K-ZAP will promote the drive at various events in the community, including the Carmichael Concerts in The Park on June 15

# Two Days of Celebration



Sons of American Revolution members (pictured with former Assemblyman Ken Cooley) are traditional parade leaders.

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"Celebrating American Spirit" theme.

"Dave has worked for many years to shape a positive spirit in our community," Warrick said. "His dedication to young people makes him a great American."

An international name in martial arts, Kovar has supported his hometown pageant for almost 40 years.

"When we moved our school to Carmichael in 1986, my studio members and I walked (kicking and chanting) in our first parade," Kovar said. "I remember waving to the crowds and seeing many important people. It's a huge honor to be grand marshal."

"I've participated in many civic events over the years but this parade is still my favorite. It really bonds our community," Kovar added.

Transported by a red 1966 Mustang, Grand Marshal Kovar will begin at 10:30 a.m. A Sons of the American Revolution color guard and flag-bearers from Del Campo High ROTC will march in advance.

Hundreds of participants, including Boy Scouts, belly dancers, classic cars, floats, bicycles, politicians and clowns; will follow the whoop of fire trucks.

Five car clubs are contributing vehicles. Little League teams, church members and businesspeople will wave from floats.

El Camino High School musicians will orchestrate the long march with stirring anthems.

Fair Oaks Boulevard closes from 10 a.m. to noon for the cavalcade. Thousands of spectators are anticipated to applaud from sidewalks while big crowds accumulate in shade near the Carmichael Park corner. At the park clubhouse (5750 Grant Ave.), Carmichael Kiwanis will fortify merriment with a \$5 pancake breakfast.

All roads lead to Carmichael Elks Lodge. Here, dancing, barbecue lunches and swimming will continue until the sun sets on the Glorious Fourth. Everyone can attend these celebrations at 5631 Cypress Ave.

Red, White and Blue fireworks celebration sponsors include Carmichael and Mission Oaks park districts. Gateway Community Charters Virtual Academy hosts the kids' zone.

Parade supporters include Kovar's Karate, El Rancho School, the Carmichael Times, Carmichael Chamber of Commerce, Blain Stumpf Fencing, Carmichael Improvement District, Carmichael Elks, Bonney Plumbing, Buck Family Automotive, All Stages Canine Development, the Ron Greenwood family, Carmichael Kiwanis, Nick Bloise and St. John the Evangelist Catholic School. ★

# Music, Comedy, Classic Cars and More



Tom and the Broken Hearts will play at Concerts in the Park on July 25. Courtesy photo



By Judy Andrews, Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce

are 8 to 10 p.m. at the Fair Oaks Park Softball Field (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.). Performances are free to attend. Event sponsors include the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District, and the Fair Oaks Foundation for Leisure and the Arts. For more info on Concerts in the Park, visit fairoakschamber.com.

**More Dates and Events**  
**June 28, July 26, Aug. 23** – Comedy Under the Stars, 8:30 to 10 p.m. (Gates open at 7:30 p.m.), Fair Oaks Park Softball Field (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.) Join the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District and Laughs Unlimited for a night of laughs this summer. Advance tickets are \$15 per person or \$20 at the door. All shows are open to ages 18-plus. Visit forpd.org for more information.  
**June 28 and 29, July 26 and 27** – The Fair Oaks Theatre Festival presents "The 25th Annual Putman County Spelling Bee," 7:30 to 9:15 p.m., American River College Theatre (4700 College Oaks Drive, Sacramento). For ticket

info, view fairoakstheatre-festival.com.

**July 17** – Vibes in the Village, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. (10120 Fair Oaks Blvd. in the Village). Grab your neighbors and join us for this monthly series where the Fair Oaks Village Enhancement Committee presents a great lineup of entertaining artists and genres.

**July 25, Aug. 22** – Concerts in the Park, 8 to 10 p.m., Fair Oaks Park Softball Field (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.) Free event. Gates open at 7:30 p.m. No glass or dogs allowed. Visit fairoakschamber.com for event rules.

**Aug. 1** – Classic Car Meetup, 5 to 8 p.m., Fair Oaks Park (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.) Don't miss a night of family fun with classic cars, music and food from local food trucks. Sponsored by the Fair Oaks Chamber and the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District, this event occurs the first Thursday of each month through summer.

For more information on these events, visit fairoakschamber.com.  
 See you in Fair Oaks!

# Unsheltered Homelessness Decreases 41 Percent in Sacramento

*Continued from page 1*

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 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. ★

# Highest New Home Sales in May

**North State Building Industry Association News Release**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Sales of Sacramento-area new homes maintained their rapid pace during May as North State Building Industry Association (BIA) members reported selling 666 new homes in the seven-county region.

That is the highest number of new homes sold during May since 2005 during the peak of the housing boom. The total is also 200 sales higher than the average number sold during the month.

North State Building Industry Association President and CEO Tim Murphy said the continued strong sales volume reflects the advantages that new homes provide to buyers.

"Besides the fact that new homes come with extended warranties, the latest in technology and the opportunity for buyers to customize their homes, in today's market, homebuilders are able to offer incentives that buyers can't get when purchasing existing homes," Murphy said. "Simply put, builders can offer creative solutions to

today's higher interest rates and help make buying a new home possible.

"And with June being National Homeownership Month, I'd encourage anyone thinking of buying a home to explore the nearly 200 new home communities in our region to find the home and lifestyle they're looking for," Murphy said.

As has been typical, the highest number of new homes were sold in Placer County's Roseville (137) and the next four highest sales volumes were reported in Sacramento County: Rancho Cordova (98), Elk Grove (87), Sacramento (74) and Folsom (63). The Top 10 was rounded out by Lincoln (29), Plumas Lake (26), Woodland (26), Natomas (23) and El Dorado Hills (21). See the graphs below for more details.

Building Industry Association statistics include sales by members in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

The North State Building Industry Association represents more than 500 members. For more information, visit www.northstatebia.org. ★



# ART and Fun at Effie Yeaw Gala

Story and photos by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - By June tradition, a gala and art auction hosted more than 200 guests in the Effie Yeaw Nature Center last weekend.

Supporters of the beloved Carmichael non-profit organization wined, dined and opened wallets to purchase art and cultural experiences.

Much of the proceeds will fund programs at the 48-year-old facility, named for pioneer nature educator and Carmichael resident Effie Yeaw.

Outreach continues under the aegis of the non-profit American River Natural History Association.

Reinvented this year with a camp theme, the Camp Effie Yeaw fundraiser included a barbecue dinner and s'mores dessert buffet. A quartet from nearby Rio Americana High School provided jazzy interludes.

Auctioneer Keith McLane encouraged



Auctioneer Keith McLane whips up excitement during bids for Deladier Almeida's Birthday Creek riverscape. The auction volunteer is Sue McCullough Sanden.

bidding; patrons raised paddles to fund Nature Center needs. Television anchor Molly Reihl was the emcee.

2024 sponsors included CBEC Eco Engineering, Charles Dailey, Helen Diepenbrock, Marcy

Friedman, Bob and Deborah Moskovitz, Drs. Kevin Tanner and Gabrielle Rasi, Supervisor

Rich Desmond, Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Council. Proceeds are not known,

as of press time. For Nature Center information, visit [www.sacnaturecenter.net](http://www.sacnaturecenter.net). ★



Rio Americana High School students provided a jazzy ambiance. The musicians are, from left, Salome Ospina, Miles Rothman, Zack Long and Colin Thowtho.



Good Day Sacramento anchor Molly Reihl (third from left) joins gala guests, left to right, Johnny Javanifard, Elke Von Schlosser, Sylvia M. Fitzgerald, Gary Zilaff and Chuck Halnan.



A sold-out event with more than 200 attendees includes supporters, from, left Richard Hauch, Kim Pacini Hauch, Janet Crooks and Mark Drobny.



Stephan Booth (left) celebrates his winning bid for a Tom Sellas Riverscape called Rio Pond. Auction volunteers from, left, are Sara Tabatabai and Ryan Digman.

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FRECCCE TRICOLORI



# SAFE Credit Union Announces Scholarship Award Recipients



**Aamina Phineas, a scholarship recipient, is currently studying at Los Rios Community College.** Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union



**Daniel Fomichev, one of the scholarship recipients, attends American River College and is a Fair Oaks native.** Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union



**Scholarship recipient Fouzia Khan attends Elk Grove Charter School.** Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

## SAFE Credit Union News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - On May 20, SAFE Credit Union announced this year's scholarship recipients. SAFE Credit Union's Scholarship Program granted \$4,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors and community college students who met various eligibility requirements.

SAFE is pleased to congratulate Daniel Fomichev, Fouzia Khan, Aamina Phineas, Jayha Buhs-Jackson and Ronit Prasad for their continued commitment to their studies within the community.

The recipients were selected based on their academic achievement, personal statement and a letter of recommendation and are SAFE Credit Union members with either a checking or savings account.

Scholarship recipients were either a graduating high school senior or a current community college student with 60 or fewer credits with a GPA of 3.0 or above and must

currently attend a high school or community college in one of the 13 counties in SAFE's service area: Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Yolo, San Joaquin, Contra Costa, Solano, Yuba, Sutter, Butte, Nevada, Alameda, and Amador.

"We are thrilled to share that we increased our scholarship awards from \$2,000 to \$4,000 so we can make a larger financial impact for our recipients," said Johnna Ali, Community Relations Program Manager, SAFE Credit Union. "SAFE understands that college is a major expense and that's why we expanded our application eligibility from high school students to now include community college students with 60 or fewer credit hours to apply."

The recipients were asked to share how this scholarship will support their academic goals:

"Education plays a crucial role in fostering community engagement and collaboration. As a firefighter with a solid educational foundation,



**Fair Oaks' Jayha Buhs-Jackson is a student at Bella Vista High School.** Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

I can actively engage with community members to raise awareness about fire safety, emergency preparedness, and risk mitigation strategies. By organizing workshops, training sessions, and outreach programs, I can empower individuals and communities to take proactive steps towards creating a safer environment for everyone," said Daniel Fomichev of Fair Oaks and a student at American River College.

"I aspire to pursue a career in the medical field.

I plan to attend Cosumnes River College for two years and then transfer to a university. After my four years are done and I graduate with a degree, I plan to attend medical school to become a pharmacist or physician assistant. The medical field is something I'm personally very passionate about," said Fouzia Khan of Elk Grove and a student at Elk Grove Charter School.

"My educational goals in entrepreneurship are intrinsically linked to my desire to positively impact



**Scholarship recipient Ronit Prasad is a student at Whitney High School in Rocklin.** Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

my community. By harnessing the power of entrepreneurship, I aim to create innovative solutions to address societal needs, generate employment opportunities, and foster collaboration and empowerment within my community," said Ronit Prasad of Rocklin, and a student at Whitney High School.

"By being a lawyer, I would be able to advocate for individuals affected by mental illness, or as a physician I would treat and

diagnose patients in the psychiatric specialty," said Jayha Buhs-Jackson of Fair Oaks and a student at Bella Vista High School.

"This scholarship not only represents financial assistance but also signifies a profound acknowledgment of the challenges I have faced and overcome, fueling my determination to make a positive impact in both my life and the lives of others," said Aamina Phineas, a student at Los Rios Community College. ★

# Sacramento Native Competes for Team Navy in the 2024 Warrior Games

**By Alyssa Ross, Navy Installations Command**

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - A Sacramento native will join more than 250 seriously wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans at the Department of Defense (DOD) Warrior Games Challenge June 21 to 30 at ESPN Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Florida.

Navy Lt. (ret.) Jarek Neczypor will be competing against athletes representing the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Space Force, and U.S. Special Operations Command. During the 10 days of competition, Neczypor will compete in cycling, shooting, track, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair rugby.

Hosted by U.S. Army Training & Doctrine Command (TRADOC) the DOD organizes an annual premiere and elite adaptive-sports competition, the Warrior Games. This year is the 14th Anniversary, highlighting the exceptional physical skills and mental toughness of seriously wounded, ill, and injured active-duty and veteran service members.

Though there are medals distributed during Warrior Games, the competition most highly celebrates personal tenacity, perseverance, and the triumph of the spirit.



**Navy Lt. (ret.) Jarek Neczypor, (second from right), will compete against athletes representing the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Space Force, and U.S. Special Operations Command.** Photo courtesy of Navy Outreach

Neczypor joined the Navy because he wanted to serve his country and travel the world. During his time in service, he was forward deployed and sailed across Asia. After his injuries and throughout his recovery, he was involved with Navy

Wounded Warrior.

Neczypor connected with other service members who had similar stories to his own, building a new community of support for him on his healing journey. In this network, Neczypor and his shipmates have

swapped resources related to education, jobs, and veteran-support organizations. These experiences inspired him to attend law school to pursue legal work at Yale's Veterans Legal Services Clinic.

"Through Navy

Wounded Warrior, I was able to make new friends and have a community I can rely on, which is unlike any other," said Neczypor. "It also inspires me to be the best version of myself and to help other veterans. The program provided

a chance to recover with people who understood. No matter the challenges, we support each other."

For more information about the 2024 DoD Warrior Games Challenge, visit [dodwarriorgames.com](http://dodwarriorgames.com). ★



# Social Security Matters

## Why is there a Social Security Earnings Limit?



By Russell Gloor,  
AMAC Certified Social  
Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I try to read your article in the Carmichael Times each week and appreciate the information you provide. I am 62 and considering my retirement options and when I should do that to get the most benefit. I understand my full retirement age is 67, but what I don't understand, and I hope you can answer, is why there is such a thing as the Social Security earnings limit? I know that if I was to retire before 67, my benefits would be reduced. But since I have been paying into SS for 45+ years, and that money is technically money I have earned, why does SS care if I make more than the earnings limit? It doesn't affect them or my benefits. Can you tell me about the reasoning behind the earnings limit? I will, for many years after "retiring," continue working in my field.

**Signed: Working American**

**Dear Working American:** This is a great question and, as a point of interest, our parent company, the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC), advocates doing away with Social Security's earnings test which affects those collecting benefits before reaching their SS full retirement age (FRA). In AMAC's view, it discourages

people from working and, thus, paying Social Security taxes on their earnings. It is, after all, SS taxes from the earnings of working Americans which largely pays for the benefits provided to Social Security beneficiaries. Eliminating the restriction would tend to improve Social Security revenue and help ease Social Security's current financial stress.

The reasoning behind the earnings test? Well, when Social Security was first enacted in the 1930s, the intent was that Social Security was for retired workers, meant to keep them from poverty in old age. The logic back then was that if a person worked they didn't need Social Security to sustain them, so those who worked could not collect Social Security at all. The current rule, after many adjustments over the years, says that annual earnings for those who collect early SS benefits are limited. If each year's earnings limit (\$22,320 for 2024) is exceeded, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 over the limit (FYI, the penalty is less severe in the year FRA is attained).

Historical accounts suggest that the reasoning behind the wording in the original Social Security Act - that "No person shall receive such old-age annuity unless . . . he is not employed by another in a gainful occupation" - was quite controversial, except for the fundamental thought that if someone worked they didn't need Social Security. Over the ensuing decades the rule has been softened to provide that only those who collect benefits before their full retirement age (FRA) would have a portion of

their SS benefits offset by their work earnings. In any case, the earnings test, in its mitigated form, still persists today. FYI, H.R. 5193 - The Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act was recently introduced in Congress proposing to repeal the SS earnings test but has not advanced in the legislative process since introduced in August 2023.

In any case, under current rules, if you continue working after your FRA, the earnings test will not apply to you. And, if you lose any benefits before your FRA due to the earnings test, when you reach your FRA you'll get time credit for any months that benefits were withheld, resulting in a somewhat higher monthly payment after your full retirement age.

One final point: if you continue to work after starting your Social Security benefits and your recent earnings are higher than any of those in the inflation-adjusted 35 years used to originally calculate your benefit, your entitlement will be recalculated to give you credit for those higher recent earnings.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). ★*

# In Rain, Snow and Drought, California's Fights Over Water Rights, Supplies Persist



By Dan Walters,  
CALMatters.org

Legal rights to use water — particularly those obtained prior to 1914 — lie at the heart of California's perpetual wrangling over the allocation of increasingly limited water supplies.

For years state officials have been trying, with limited success, to reduce farmers' diversions, increase river flows and restore declining numbers of fish, particularly salmon, and other wildlife.

The conflict occurs even during periods when the state receives abundant rain and snow and its reservoirs are full. But it becomes more intense during the state's periodic droughts, as illustrated by what happened in 2014 when then-Gov. Jerry Brown, citing "one of the driest years in recorded state history," proclaimed a state of emergency.

The state Water Resources Control Board began notifying agricultural water agencies that they must curtail diversions from the Sacramento and San Joaquin river watersheds — essentially the entire Central Valley — having "determined that the existing water supply . . . is insufficient to meet the needs of all water rights holders."

The state clearly had the authority to curtail diversions by agencies, with rights granted after the state assumed managerial control of California water in 1914 — ironically exactly one century

earlier. However, those with pre-1914 rights balked, contending that under state law the board could not order them to decrease diversions.

Political and legal squabbling ensued and the issue wound up in the courts, and in 2022 an appellate court ruled that the water board did not have legal authority to order pre-1914 rights holders to reduce diversions.

Although the case centered on the board's drought-induced curtailment orders, everyone involved knew that the outcome could affect the larger issue of water rights and the overall allocation of water supplies.

Environmental groups that had been pressing the board to become more assertive on water rights were disappointed.

"A recent decision by California's Sixth District Court of Appeal highlights everything that's wrong with California water law," two officials of CalTrout, one of the environmental groups, wrote in a guest commentary for CalMatters two years ago, adding, "the decision shields a class of property owners whose rights were enshrined in law at a time when the rights of citizenship, land ownership and common decency were only afforded to a privileged few."

Farm interests were, of course, pleased with the decision as they sparred with the water board over the larger issue of how much water must remain in rivers to support wildlife.

Environmental groups have urged the board to issue new water quality standards for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that would indirectly reduce agricultural diversions. Jerry Brown and his successor, Gavin Newsom, have urged

the adoption of "voluntary agreements" on diversions without a legal showdown over water rights, but that effort has not yet succeeded.

Last year, legislation was introduced to bolster the water board's curtailment authority, implementing a report by UC Berkeley's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment, underwritten by the water board, recommending that "the state needs to implement curtailments on a regular basis, not only in times of extreme crisis."

The most important, Assembly Bill 1337, would have given the water board direct authority to order curtailments of pre-1914 rights holders. However, it sat in limbo for more than a year until its author, Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks, an Oakland Democrat, finally dropped it this month.

The only survivor is AB 460, by Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, a San Ramon Democrat, which would increase fines for illegal water diversions and is blessed by a multi-party agreement.

The drought orders, the appellate court decision and the non-action by the Legislature this year indicate that California's water rights remain a major bone of legal and political contention as the larger struggle over water allocation continues.

*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. ★*

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Subscriptions should be mailed to:  
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Subscription rate is \$39 per year in Fair Oaks and Orangevale. The *American River Messenger* is published twice-monthly.

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# County Supports Housing for Veterans and Homeless



Sacramento County approved the funding to Mather Veterans Village Phase 4. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

## Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - On June 11, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved the transfer of 2.2 acres of land and \$3 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to the City of Rancho Cordova for the development of Mather Veterans Village Phase 4, located on the former Mather Air Force Base. This project will provide new affordable housing and services for homeless and disabled veterans and homeless families at very low incomes.

Mather Veterans Village is collaborative effort between Sacramento County, the City of Rancho Cordova, Mercy Housing California and Nation's Finest. This initiative builds upon the success of three previous phases, which serve more than 160 formerly homeless veteran households. Phase 4 will include a three-story building with 70 apartments, 58 one-bedroom units, 12 two-bedroom units, a community building and parking for 45 cars.

Sacramento County has more than 75,000 veterans. The latest point in time count shows there are nearly 600 veterans currently homeless and more

than 60% are unsheltered. The Mather Veterans Village Phase 4 project aligns with ongoing efforts to expand access to housing and supportive services within the county.

"This project is a significant step forward in providing much-needed support to our homeless and disabled veterans," said Emily Halcon, director of Sacramento County's Department of Homeless Services and Housing. "We're proud to contribute land and create additional permanent supportive housing and affordable units for our veterans that are exiting homelessness."

Said Fifth District County Supervisor Pat Hume, "This collaboration shows our commitment to supporting those who have served our country and those who are in need. It's a hopeful sign of what we can achieve when we work together."

The conveyance of the land and allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the City of Rancho Cordova is being coordinated by Sacramento County's Office of Economic Development and the Real Estate Division. For more information on the Mather Veterans Village, visit the Veterans Housing Development Corporation website at housingvets.org. ★



This is Way Out of Line

Dear Dave,

I'm trying hard to get control of my money and get out of debt, but I had a situation come up the other day, and I really don't know what to do. I'm one of four brothers, and our parents' fiftieth wedding anniversary is early next month. My two oldest brothers got together and made plans for a party without consulting the rest of us. They want everyone to chip in \$1,000 to help pay for things. I love my mom and dad, but the only savings I have is \$1,000 in my beginner emergency fund. Will you tell me how to address this situation?

— Ronald

Dear Ronald

## Dave Ramsey Says

I'm going to be blunt here, okay? Since you weren't asked about any of this ahead of time, and had no say in anything, fair would be for you and your brother who weren't consulted to pay zero. Zilch.

Planning something that expensive without consulting everyone involved well ahead of time—and expecting them to lay out \$1,000 without warning—is way out of line. And don't let your older brothers lay a guilt trip on you, either. This has nothing to do with how much you love your parents, being greedy or anything like that. It has everything to do with consideration and communication, or in this case, a lack of these on their part.

If I were you, I'd let your oldest brothers know exactly what your financial situation is like right now. Explain what you're doing and why you're doing it, then let them know in a nice, but firm, tone

you'll give them whatever you can scrape up, but you won't be chipping in anything close to \$1,000. Oh, and I'd tell them next time they hatch up a big, expensive plan like this, to check with all their brothers way ahead of time.

Best of luck, Ronald. I'm sorry you have to deal with this.

— 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.* ★

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# 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



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

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 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



With Mary Jane Popp

## Did You Know?

I love writing "Did You Know" columns because we get caught up on holidays with fun parades and picnics, and hardly pay attention to some of the less known facts. So it is with the Fourth of July. So, as you see the parade go by and munch on snacks at the family picnic, here are a few facts that may surprise you and maybe put a smile on your face. Our founders were very human as you will see.

Here are twelve facts to ponder.

**1. ONLY TWO FOUNDERS SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ON JULY 4TH.** John Hancock and Charles Thompson, Secretary of Congress.

**2. NOT EVERYONE WAS ON BOARD WITH CELEBRATING ON JULY 4TH.** It may have been the day Congress approved the Declaration, but John Adams, who became our second President, wanted to celebrate on July 2nd the day Congress voted for independence. He even refused to attend festivities on July 4th.

**3. ONE U.S. PRESIDENT WAS BORN ON JULY 4TH.** That was Calvin Coolidge and so were Nathaniel Hawthorne, George Steinbrenner, and Malia Obama.

**4. JULY 4TH WAS NOT A FEDERAL HOLIDAY BACK THEN.** It was nearly 100 years later in 1870 after the nation was founded that it became a federal holiday and a paid holiday for federal employees in 1941.

**5. GEORGE WASHINGTON DID SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR HIS SOLDIERS.** He ordered a double ration of rum to celebrate the holiday.

**6. WHAT ABOUT FIREWORKS?** Fireworks have been a major part of Fourth of July since earliest celebrations. In 1884,

miners blew up the post office in Swan, Colorado because it wasn't supplied with fireworks.

**7. WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO CELEBRATE THE FOURTH.** The Philippines gained their own independence from the U.S. on July 4th, 1946 by signing the Treaty of Manila.

**8. THERE'S MORE.** Other countries... including Denmark, England, Norway, Portugal, and Sweden celebrate the Fourth. Why? Because so many citizens moved to the U.S. or simply attract American tourists.

**9. WHAT'S A FAVORITE FOURTH FOOD?** Americans consume around 150 million hot dogs on July 4th.

**10. AND TO WASH IT DOWN?** We spend more on beer on the Fourth than any other national holiday. 11) **SO WHEN WAS IT OFFICIAL?** The first commemoration of July 4 was 1777 in Philadelphia.

**11. WHEN WAS THE CELEBRATION AT THE WHITE HOUSE?** Thomas Jefferson was the first President to celebrate July 4 at the White House in 1801, featuring horse races, parades, food, and don't forget the drinks.

It's fun to look at the lighter side of the Fourth of July, but we need to remember it was serious business after the hard fought revolution with many lost lives. Some colonists celebrated Independence Day during the summer of 1776 by putting on mock funerals for King George III of England. They symbolized the death of the Crown's rule in America. The main purpose of this holiday is to honor all those who fought to make this new land America, the land of the free. Please don't forget how it all started.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!**



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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Announcement</p> <p>Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior &amp; Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Childcare/ Baby Sitting</p> <p>Sharon and Shelly's Childcare and Babysitting. Come play with us! 916-988-2669. Email dnsmhny@yahoo.com (6/21/2024)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Financial</p> <p>Struggling with debt? If you have over \$10,000 in debt we help you to debt free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call Now: 1-877-435-4860 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Health/Wellness</p> <p>Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-888-256-9155 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Home Repair</p> <p>BATH &amp; SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty &amp; professional installs. Senior &amp; Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-252-9868 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Music Lessons</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">Guitar Lessons</p> <p>Beginner to Advanced . \$20/ half-hour; \$30 full hour. 916-507-6658, freddiebaltbert@gmail.com (12/31/2024)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Real Estate</p> <p>RETIRED COUPLE \$\$\$\$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Autos Wanted</p> <p>DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 1-877-434-6852 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Computer Service</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Zinsky's</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">PC Configurations "Don't replace it - REPAIR IT!" Custom Desktop Computer Configurations • PC Repair • Home Wireless Networking • Installations • Virus &amp; Spyware Eradication</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Alan Zinsky Phone: 916-622-2269 Zconf@zsbglobal.net Bus. Lic. # 305312 • B.E.A.R. Reg. #84416 www.zinskyspcrepair.com</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">For Sale</p> <p>Very Nice '94 Camaro T top rims interior immaculate \$5k Call Dawna (916) 470-7247 (6/28/24)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Help Wanted</p> <p>SEASONED PAINTER NEEDED URGENTLY. Select Realty has an opening for Industrial Painter/Residential/Commercial Painter. Competitive compensation &amp; benefits package will be offered based on cost effective estimates to be provided by a suitable Painter. Candidates should submit a letter of interest &amp; work history to: Massey Anthony at email: anthony-massey210@gmail.com or Call/Text: (424) 327-8028 (7/19/24)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Home Warranty</p> <p>Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-855-411-1731 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Roofing</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">BERNARDINO ROOFING</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Reroofs, Repairs, Maintenance, Dryrot, Gutters, Family Operated. BBB MEMBER! ***FREE ESTIMATES*** SENIOR DISCOUNTS Lic.#817945 43 Years Experience <b>916.920.0100</b> www.bernardinoroofting.com</p> </div>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Autos Wanted</p> <p>Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-855-408-7368 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Cellular Plans</p> <p>Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-Scan)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Hall Rentals</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">VFW Post 6158</p>  <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">916-966-1663</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">vfw6158.org/rent-our-hall/</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Call or come by</p>  </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Help Wanted</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 12px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Kp International MARKET</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Many Positions are Available. Please no phone calls. Apply in person.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">10971 Olson Dr. Rancho Cordova, CA 95670</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Insurance/Health</p> <p>DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-203-2677 www.dental50plus.com/calnews #6258 (Cal-SCAN)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Tree Service</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">BP TREE SERVICES LLC.</p>  <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">TREE &amp; STUMP REMOVAL TREE TRIMMING/ SHAPING FREE WITH THIS AD 10% OFF WITH THIS AD Insured. Workman's comp. Arborist <b>916-722-6321</b> BPTreeServices.com VISA / MASTER CARD California Contractors Lic #1036031</p> </div>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">GOT LOCAL NEWS?</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">Call (916) 773 1111</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Elder Care</p> <p>Hardworking, tender-hearted, Christian woman available for full-time Elder Care. References. Maria 650-861-0256 (7/12/24)</p>	<p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Visit: mpg8.com</p>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">RETIREDCOUPLE</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">HAS \$1MIL TO LEND ON CA. REAL ESTATE*</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Buys T.D.s and Buys/Lends on Partial Interests</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Principal (818) 248-0000 Broker</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">WWW.VIPLoAN.COM *Sufficient equity required - no consumer loans</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Real Estate License #01041073 CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217 Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points &amp; fees than conventional discount loans</p> </div>		<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Yard Sale</p> <p>Yard Sale. Bluff Ct. 95608 Saturday June 29. 8am-2pm (6/28/24)</p>
<p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Buy and Shop Local!</p>		<p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Visit: mpg8.com</p>		<p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Visit: mpg8.com</p>		







## Prepare for Boating Hazards



As fun as boating can be, it is also very important to practice it safely. Photo courtesy of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

### U.S. National Weather Service News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Before you go out on the water, check the forecast at your local National Weather Service coastal office. You should also check for the latest National Weather Service buoy observations from the National Data Buoy Center.

You should also make sure your boat has essential, and in cases, required, safety equipment and communications tools.

#### Life Jackets

Before you and your family get out on the water this year, grab a life jacket and "Wear It!" Nearly 85 percent of those who drown while boating were not wearing a life jacket. Wearing a life jacket is one of the most effective and simple life-saving strategies for safe recreational boating. Boaters are required to have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket on board for every passenger on their vessel.

Today's life jackets are available in a wide variety of shapes, colors, and sizes. They are comfortable, lightweight, and perfect for any boating activity. The most important thing is this: remember to grab a life jacket and "Wear It!" To learn more, visit the National Safe Boating Council online at [www.safeboatingcouncil.org](http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org).

#### Fire Extinguishers

U. S. Coast Guard approved, marine-type fire extinguishers are required on boats where a fire hazard could be expected

from the engines or fuel system. When required, boats less than 26 feet must carry at least one B-I, Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. Boats 26-40 feet must carry two B-I or one B-II Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher(s). Boats 40-65 feet must carry three B-I or one B-II and one B-I Coast Guard approved extinguishers.

Fire extinguishers are classified by a letter and a number symbol. The letter indicates the type of fire the unit is designed to extinguish, and the number indicates the size of the extinguisher. A type B extinguisher for example is intended to extinguish burning liquids such as gasoline, oil or grease, all of which are common on a boat.

You shouldn't have to travel more than half the length of their boat to get to the fire extinguisher. Check your fire extinguishers at least once a year to ensure they are properly charged, stored and are undamaged. Start your boating season with this vital safety check.

#### Communications: Cell Phones, Weather Radios and Other Options

If you have a smart phone, get weather news at [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov).

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio All Hazards will sound an alert when the National Weather Service issues a weather advisory. Weather radio is a vital tool for a mariner.

There are many other communications options available to mariners on the U.S. National Weather Service marine site. ★

## 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](http://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](http://SprayNotifications) 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. ★



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