



# AMERICAN RIVER Messenger

VOLUME 19 • ISSUE 21      Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County      NOVEMBER 8, 2024

**SEE  
INSIDE**

**VOTE FOR  
THE BEST OF  
FAIR OAKS**



PAGE 3

**UNCOVERED LONG  
LOST PHOTOS  
OF VETERANS**



PAGE 4

**SUE FROST'S  
FINAL COMMUNITY  
MEETINGS**



PAGE 3



Scan our QR Code for a  
direct link to our online edition!

PRSRTD STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CARMICHAEL, CA  
PERMIT NO. 350  
OR CURRENT  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

## SacRT Receives Grant Funding



Elected officials and dignitaries attended the ceremonial ribbon cutting for the new grant-funded SacRT bus maintenance facility. From left are SacRT Board Vice-Chair Rick Jennings, FTA Region 9 Administrator Ray Tellis, SacRT Board Chair Patrick Kennedy, CARB Board Member Eric Guerra, U.S. Representative Kevin Kiley, U.S. Representative Ami Bera, U.S. Representative Doris Matsui, state Assemblyman Josh Hoover, SacRT General Manager/CEO Henry Li, California State Treasurer Fiona Ma and SacRT Board Director Lisa Kaplan. Photos courtesy of SacRT

**Compiled by  
Daniel Canfield from  
Sacramento Regional  
Transit News Releases**

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) recently announced several grant awards, totaling more than \$105 million, that will benefit Sacramento commuters, public transit riders and the environment.

First on Oct. 23, SacRT announced that the California State Transportation Agency has awarded SacRT \$29 million in grant funding through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. The grant funding will be used for several



The \$700 low-floor light rail trains are designed to enhance accessibility, comfort and efficiency for all riders. Photo courtesy of SacRT

high priority light rail projects. Funding for the program comes from the federal Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund which was created and funded through the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

According to SacRT, the projects, once complete, will offer significant benefits, including a reduction of 78,032 metric tons of CO2 equivalent in greenhouse gases, a decrease of 250 million vehicle miles

traveled, \$160,722,974 in passenger travel cost savings and the support of 984 full-time equivalent jobs.

"This funding will allow us to continue advancing our vision of a more connected, accessible, and sustainable transit system for all Sacramento residents," said Henry Li, SacRT General Manager/CEO. "We are excited to work with our partners to bring these projects to life, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact on our community."

Light rail projects supported through this grant funding include:

**New Low-Floor Light Rail Vehicles**

*Continued on page 2*

## Disc Golf Course Safety Improvements Discussed

**By Shaunna Boyd**

**FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG)** - At the Oct. 16 meeting, the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District (FORPD) Board of Directors considered possible actions to improve safety at the disc golf course that opened at Miller Park in 2020.

Many community members have reported incidents of hits or near misses by errant discs, as well as yelling and rude behavior from disc golfers. In response to these concerns, the district hired consultant Leonard Muise with Whirlwind Disc Golf to review the course and submit a report outlining potential safety improvements.

Parks and Facilities Manager Sean Ventura introduced the report, stating, "There are ways the course can improve and there are ways the course needs to improve." In particular, there are areas of concern around the playground, creek, pedestrian pathways, and picnic areas, as well as various holes on the course with limited visibility for players. These issues cause a risk of injury for other park users, in particular for children as they walk to and from the nearby Earl Legette Elementary School.

Potential mitigation measures include relocating some course tees and baskets, installing trees to create a fairway corridor, installing netting and new landscaping to reduce discs entering other spaces, improving signage and visibility, and stricter enforcement of course closure times. Other measures could also be considered, such as fencing areas of the course or redirecting pedestrian pathways but those could be more costly to implement.

The district was also considering the possibility of relocating the course to another park, such as Gum Ranch Park, Fair Oaks Park, Phoenix Park or Bannister Park but the district would need to ensure that an alternative site wouldn't present the same challenges. The district could also just remove the disc golf course entirely but Ventura cautioned that there used to be frequent homeless encampments in that area of the park, which have been eliminated since the disc golf course was installed. With course removal, Ventura said, could be a resurgence of those encampments, requiring staff time and

*Continued on page 6*

## OV Parks Hosting a Holiday Craft Faire



Holiday craft fair offerings from a past event hosted by Orangevale Recreation and Park District. Courtesy photo

**From OV Parks  
News Website**

**ORANGEVALE, CA (MPG)** - The Orangevale Recreation and Park District will be hosting

a holiday craft fair on Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16. The craft fair is free for shoppers!

Handmade crafts, unique gifts, jewelry,

clothing, and holiday crafts and decorations from over 35 local artisans will be on display for your shopping pleasure!

The holiday craft fair will be held at the

Orangevale Community Theatre, located at 6826 Hazel Ave. For more information visit the Orangevale Recreation and Park District website, [www.ovparks.com](http://www.ovparks.com). ★



# SacRT Receives Grant Funding

Continued from page 1

SacRT will replace aging high-floor light rail vehicles with new state-of-the-art S700 low-floor light rail vehicles from Siemens Mobility. SacRT previously ordered 45 of these new light rail cars, with the first 20 already in service on the Gold Line. This new grant funding will assist with the purchase of 10 additional new low-floor light rail vehicles, bringing our total to 55.

## Light Rail Station Conversions on the Blue Line

SacRT is converting 17 of the 19 light rail stations along the Blue Line to accommodate the height requirement of the new low-floor light rail vehicles, making the system more accessible by eliminating the need to climb stairs to board the vehicles. With this new grant funding, SacRT will be able to complete station conversions at all light rail stations. Learn more about this project at [sacrt.com/modernization](https://sacrt.com/modernization).

## New Dos Rios Light Rail Station

A partnership between SacRT, the City of Sacramento, and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), the new Dos Rios Station on the Blue Line will serve as a key part of the Twin Rivers-River District transformation. This project aims to provide connectivity to the historically isolated area, integrating transit access with Mirasol Village — a new development offering 427 low-income units and market-rate housing. The vision for the River District includes increased access to jobs, services, and cultural amenities, creating a vibrant gateway to downtown Sacramento. Learn more about the project at [sacrt.com/dosrios](https://sacrt.com/dosrios).

## Horn Road Light Rail Station and Complete Streets Improvements

SacRT is working with the



Federal transit administration officials present Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) with a big check. Photos courtesy of SacRT

City of Rancho Cordova and Sacramento County on “complete streets” projects along Folsom Boulevard, creating safer and more accessible routes for bicyclists and pedestrians near the future Horn Road Station. Rancho Cordova’s streetscape work and the design of a new Class IV Bike Trail will further connect the station to regional bike paths like the American River Bike Trail.

## Transition to Digital Fare Technology

SacRT is transitioning to a digital fare system through the Cal-ITP Platform Validator and Smart Fare Vending Machine, in partnership with the CCJPA. This will streamline fare payments and transfers between SacRT services and Capitol Corridor trains, providing a more seamless experience for riders. SacRT plans to extend this template to other regional rail services, such as ACE and San Joaquin trains, making travel throughout Northern California easier and more efficient.

Then on Oct. 30, SacRT

announced the Federal Transit Administration’s award of approximately \$76 million in Capital Investment funds. The federally funded Capital Investment grant program funds transit capital investments, including heavy rail, commuter rail, light rail, streetcars and bus rapid transit.

The grant award will enable SacRT to purchase new hydrogen fuel cell buses, replace aging fleet vehicles, construct a permanent hydrogen fueling station, modernize a key bus maintenance facility, and establish a workforce development program to train local workers in maintaining and operating the advanced zero-emission buses.

As part of the grant award announcement, SacRT hosted a ceremonial ribbon cutting event at the site of the new bus facility to be funded through the grant. Several local elected officials and dignitaries attended the event and shared their thoughts.

“This investment solidifies SacRT’s commitment to a greener, more sustainable future,” said SacRT General

Manager/CEO Henry Li. “The new hydrogen fuel cell buses and modernized facilities will significantly reduce our carbon footprint while enhancing service for our riders. We are grateful for the federal partnership and the strong support from our congressional representatives.”

Said SacRT Board Chair Patrick Kennedy, “This grant is not just about upgrading our fleet; it’s about creating opportunities for the Sacramento community. By investing in workforce development, we’re ensuring that local residents have the skills needed for tomorrow’s jobs in the growing field of green transportation.”

Said U.S. Representative Doris Matsui, “Sacramento is leading the way in the transition to clean energy and this investment underscores our region’s commitment to sustainable transportation. The hydrogen fuel cell buses will make a tangible difference in our air quality, while creating jobs and boosting economic development in our community.”

Said U.S. Representative Ami Bera, M.D., “This federal investment will have lasting benefits for Sacramento. It supports clean energy solutions while improving access to safe and reliable transit. Thanks to funding passed from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, I am proud to support SacRT’s efforts to modernize our transportation infrastructure.”

Said U.S. Representative Kevin Kiley, “This federal grant is not only a win for sustainable transit but also for job creation here in Sacramento. This will provide new employment opportunities for our community, equipping local workers with the skills needed to support innovative transportation for years to come.”

Said Ray Tellis, FTA Region 9 Administrator, “The FTA is proud to support SacRT’s forward-thinking vision for public transit. These funds will help reduce emissions, improve transit services and create opportunities for Sacramento’s workforce, all while moving us closer to a sustainable future.”

Said California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, “This project is a critical step toward achieving California’s ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals. By transitioning to hydrogen fuel cell buses and modernizing transit infrastructure, SacRT is demonstrating the kind of leadership we need to build a cleaner, more sustainable future for our state.”

SacRT acknowledged the bus service improvement projects are made possible through strong partnerships with California Air Resources Board, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Center for Transportation and the Environment, New Flyer of America, American River College, Clean Cities Coalition and the County and City of Sacramento. ★

# KP

## International MARKET

FOOD COURT NOW OPEN

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

PRICES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 06 - NOVEMBER 12, 2024

WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON TUE

06 07 08 09 10 11 12

HAPPY HALLOWEEN 10/25-10/31 10AM-8PM

## FREE PHOTO

Feel free to take your own pictures!

## HERITAGE CONCERT

비전, 한국의 보물을 노래하다  
FREE ADMISSION

11/01/24, 8 PM @ KP FOOD COURT

## FREE flu shot

Nov. 2, 2024 10AM-2PM  
SUITE #403 NEXT DOOR KP MARKET

WITH CLERK TRL, SANJICO CORDOVA, CA 95670

Prof. Ben Aaron Clinic International Market

SYMPHONY d'ORO  
PANCH CORDOVA

## SOUNDS OF AUTUMN

Saturday, November 2nd 4pm  
KP International Market Food Court

Enjoy an afternoon of music celebrating the season including autumn themes, live acoustic guitar, and folk-inspired tunes. The free concert will include songs, seasonal treats, and music by Greg, Gershwin, and Beethoven, as well as the US premiere of a new arrangement of "The Mexican Suite" by Mexican composer Ruben J. Garcia.

## FREE ADMISSION

[www.symphonysdoro.org](http://www.symphonysdoro.org)

## 2024 UPCOMING EVENTS AT FOOD COURT

## FREE PHOTO WITH SANTA!

12/15-12/25  
10AM-8PM FOOD COURT

## WEEKLY MEAT SPECIALS

Beef Rump/Bottom Round Roast - Bnls  
Piquillo de Pileto sin Hueso

**\$4.99** /lb

Beef New York Roast - Boneless  
Carne de Res Nueva York  
Asado Deshechado

**\$5.99** /lb

Beef New York Steak - Boneless  
Carne de Res Nueva York  
Filete sin Hueso

**\$6.99** /lb

Pork Baby Back Ribs  
Costillas de Cerdo

**\$3.99** /lb

Pork Butts Boneless  
Cochinos de Cerdo sin Hueso

**\$2.99** /lb

Pork Loin Chops Bone In  
Chuletas de Cerdo con Hueso

**\$2.49** /lb

Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breasts  
Pechuga de Pollo sin Hueso

**\$1.99** /lb

Pork Butts Boneless  
Cochinos de Cerdo sin Hueso

**\$2.99** /lb

Pork Loin Chops Bone In  
Chuletas de Cerdo con Hueso

**\$2.49** /lb

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 RAINCHECKS.

PRICES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 06 - NOVEMBER 12, 2024.

## FRESH PRODUCE

Mini Sweet Pepper 1 lb **\$2.59** ea

Nopales Cleaned 1 lb bag **\$2.39** ea

Rainbow Bellpepper 2 lbs **\$2.99** ea

Avocado Bag 2 lbs **\$3.29** ea

Small Taro **89c** /lb

Sleeved Garlic 5 pc China **\$2.39** ea

Seafood Mushroom 150 g **89c** ea

Green Papaya **99c** /lb

## AMERICAN/HISPANIC GROCERY

Tinga Kola 2 liters **\$2.99** /ea

Berrilli Pasta Sauce Garlic Alfredo 15 oz **\$4.49** /ea

Lundberg Puffed Grain Cakes 6 oz **\$1.49** /ea

Kingsford Charcoal Original 16 lbs **\$13.99** /ea

Slow Kettle Tomato & Sweet Basil Bisque 15.5 oz **\$1.49** /ea

## ASIAN GROCERY

Qing Tin Longkou Vermicelli 17.6 oz **\$2.49** /ea

Lee Kum Kee Chili Bean Sauce 13 oz **\$3.49** /ea

TH Cassava Flour 16 oz **\$1.99** /ea

Sun Luck La Yu Chili Oil 5 Lbs **\$3.99** /ea

Lee Sriracha Hot Chili Sauce 28.75 oz **\$1.49** /ea

## EUROPEAN GROCERY

Polinka Pitted Sour Cherries in Light Syrup 59 oz **\$6.99** /ea

Mid East Baba with Pineapple 700 gr **\$6.99** /ea

Juicy Chew Assorted Fruit Jellies 40 oz **\$6.99** /ea

Keweenaw Baked Milk Taste Water 200 gr **\$3.99** /ea

Santal Blend Tea w/ Earl Grey 20 T/B **\$3.49** /ea

## KOREAN/JAPANESE GROCERY

RheoChen Brown Rice 15 lbs **\$9.99** /ea

Gonka Crackers 240 g **\$3.99** /ea

Jin Ramen Spicy & Mild 4 x 120 g **\$2.99** /ea

Bibigo BTS Tteokbokki 3 kinds 360 g **\$3.99** /ea

Noodle w/ Black Bean Sauce 640 g **\$3.99** /ea

Roasted Sesame Oil 16 x 4 g **\$2.99** /ea

Santitas Yule Udon 616 g **\$2.99** /ea

Kadaya Roasted Sesame Oil 56 oz **\$15.99** /ea

Goma Shabu Shabu Sauce 245 ml **\$4.99** /ea

## HOUSEWARES

BIGEN SPEEDY HAIR COLOR (REFILL ONLY) **\$5.99** /ea

ELECTRIC BBQ GRILL **39.99** /ea

ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (4 CUPS) **14.99** /ea

ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (6 CUPS) **14.99** /ea

ELECTRIC RICE COOKER (10 CUPS) **14.99** /ea

## FROZEN & FISH DEPT

Stuffed Breaded Corn Dog 14.1 oz/ 5 pcs **\$5.99** /ea

Cuttlefish Noodles 80 g **\$2.99** /ea

## EUROPEAN DELI

Columbus Pan Roast Turkey **\$11.99** /ea

Scallion Style Olives **\$6.99** /ea

Pitted Green Olives **\$4.99** /ea

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 RAINCHECKS. PRICES EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 06 - NOVEMBER 12, 2024.



# Cell Phone Restrictions Increasingly Implemented in Area Schools

By Adam Abolfazli,  
Rio Americano High School

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Before freshmen and sophomores ever make it to their desks in an English classroom at Rio Americano High School, their cell phones are immediately stored in a collection caddy, where they remain until the period ends. But when they return for social studies classes to the room next door, they are free to check texts or step aside to take a call.

The fate of cell phones at Rio Americano – that individual teachers dictate their own policies for in-class use absent a campus-wide rule – is illustrative of the 91% of U.S. high schools that don’t have all-day phone bans.

The number of schools cracking down on phone use is increasing every day, though, in both Sacramento and nationwide.

According to San Juan Unified spokesperson Raj Rai, the district already has a policy that restricts in-class phone use. However, she noted that the rule is more than a decade old, and that enforcement does not look the same at every school.

“We will be reviewing this policy this fall and having conversations with our students, staff and families regarding any potential updates that may need to be made based on feedback collected,” Rai said.

Cell phone policies vary across the Sacramento region: students store phones in designated holders in classrooms at McClatchy High School, while West Campus High School has “phone pockets” for all students. Rosemont High School, on the other hand, adopted an all-day ban this year.

Nationwide, schools are turning to the use of “phone lockers” and Yondr

pouches, device storage bags that can only be unlocked by administrators.

But while the issue has so far been left to the school and district level, California will soon fol-states in mandating cell phone bans.

In late August, the assembly passed AB 3216, new legislation that will require every California school district to create a policy prohibiting student cell phone use during all school hours by July 2026. The bill was signed in September by Gov. Gavin Newsom, who had previously spoken out in support of a ban.

“We know that excessive smartphone use increases anxiety, depression and other mental health issues,” Newsom said in a statement. “This new law will help students focus on academics, social development, and the world in front of them, not their screens, when they’re in school.”

Leaders of AB 3216’s only official opponent, the California School Boards Association, said they feel the legislation is a mistaken “one-size-fits-all approach.”

“This bill limits the decision-making authority of the governing board as they would now have to adopt a policy, even if, through local community meetings, it was found that there was no need to limit/prohibit the usage,” the association said in a statement. “These decisions are best made at the local level by people who understand, reside, are invested in, and accountable to the

communities they serve.”

While they understand the benefits, some students, parents and even teachers and school officials aren’t sure an all-out ban is the best answer to address excessive cell phone use because of the many ways cell phones are utilized.

“I hope that they can make exceptions for those students who may need reminders for medication or need extra support for outside people that they contact through their phone, but I think the general consensus about banning phones is mostly positive,” Rio Americano senior Marin Abood said.

Cell phones are seen as a way to contact students in case of emergency, and limiting access to a student’s personal device at all times might be a step too far, many parents and ban opponents say.

The National Parents Union reports that 78% of parents want their children to retain cell phone access during the school day.

Overwhelming parent opposition to complete phone bans comes amid incidents of school violence nationwide.

When fake social media threats of school violence affected dozens of Sacramento-area schools in September, cell phone access provided parents individualized communication with students in addition to general district statements. During the mid-September threats, students texted their parents to let them know they were OK and coordinated

being picked up, according to several students who spoke with Sacramento School Beat.

At the same time, AB 3216 would require an exemption from the cell phone ban in the case of an emergency or threat of violence.

Meanwhile, many teachers see phone bans as the best solution to remove the distractions they cause.

“(Phones) prevent students from having a creative and original thought, and it makes them anxious and sad,” Rio Americano English teacher Adam Bearson said. “It’s distracting to students.”

School administrators and district officials have been forced to balance the wishes of teachers with the concerns of students and parents.

“If a student is at lunchtime and they’re just talking to their mom or sister or friend or they need to make a phone call to check on their car insurance, I don’t know if the school should necessarily look to be banning that,” Rio Americano principal Cliff Kelly said.

The issue of cell phone bans in schools has quickly emerged since U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, the country’s chief public health officer, this summer recommended schools go phone-free.

Research showing the negative impact of social media and cell phone use on teenagers has also been highly publicized this year. Depression rates are surging in both boys and girls, where symptoms have risen 161% and 145%, respectively, since 2010.

College students have experienced a 134% spike in anxiety rates and 106% rise in depression, according to the American College Health Association.

But some critics of outright bans say they’re essentially unenforceable – and might simply go too far. ★



## Vote for the Best of Fair Oaks



Many of last year's Best of Fair Oaks winners are shown here. Photo by Michelle Massaro

By Judy Andrews

Get ready to vote for your favorite local businesses and service organizations as the Best of Fair Oaks 2024 kicks off on Nov. 14.

Last year was a record-breaking year for the program. More than 425 nominees, from Best Accounting and Tax Services to Best Youth Activities and Sports, competed in 76 different categories.

Additionally, close to 15,000 votes were received and tallied through [www.bestoffairoaks.com](http://www.bestoffairoaks.com).

The chamber is currently accepting

nominees in all categories. Nominees must either be members of the Fair Oaks Chamber or reside within the Fair Oaks boundary.

Voting for this year’s winners begins on Nov. 14 and ends on Dec. 19. You can nominate and vote for your favorites at [www.bestoffairoaks.com](http://www.bestoffairoaks.com). The winners will be announced on Jan. 16 at the annual event gala held at North Ridge Country Club.

Best of Fair Oaks is sponsored by the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, the American River Messenger and VoterFly. For voting rules and guidelines, visit [www.bestoffairoaks.com](http://www.bestoffairoaks.com). ★

## Sue Frost’s Final Community Meetings



I’m excited to invite you to our final community meetings. It’s a great opportunity for us to reflect on our accomplishments and look ahead to what’s coming up next.

I hope to see you there!

**Remaining Community Meetings**

**Orangevale**

Orangevale Community

### Orangevale Community Update

#### Attend My Final Community Meetings

Center (6826 Hazel Ave.)	Nov. 19, 6 p.m.
Nov. 12, 6 p.m.	<b>Folsom</b>
<b>Rio Linda/Elverta</b>	Georgia Murray Library
Rio Linda Elverta Recs and Park District (810 Oak Lane)	(411 Stafford St.)
Nov. 13, 6 p.m.	Nov. 20, 6 p.m.
<b>Rancho Murieta</b>	<i>Sacramento County Supervisor Sue Frost represents the 4th District, which includes the communities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Orangevale, Antelope, North Highlands, Rio Linda, Elverta and Rancho Murieta.</i>
RMA Community Room (7191 Murieta Parkway)	★
Nov. 16, 6 p.m.	
<b>Antelope</b>	
North Highlands-Antelope Library (4235 Antelope Road)	

DENTAL IMPLANTS - THE BEST OPTIONS FOR MISSING TEETH

ALL TREATMENT PERFORMED IN ONE LOCATION FROM START TO FINISH

**SNAP ON**  
Removable

**DENTURE TO IMPLANT**  
Fixed or Removable

**SINGLE IMPLANT**  
Fixed

**ALL ON FOUR**  
Fixed

**BRIDGE**  
Fixed

Please call for  
Free Consultation with an Xray

**916-944-1197**  
 6600 Madison Ave. Ste. 4b, Carmichael, CA 95608



# Orangevale Women Uncover Long Lost Photos of Veterans



Debbie Luce calls her mother Marge, pictured here, a “very proud veteran.” Photo courtesy of Debbie Luce



Photos of veterans were hung on the wall of Hometown Buffet, a former restaurant in Citrus Heights. Photo courtesy of Debbie Luce



Anyone who recognizes faces in the photos can contact Debbie Luce. Photo courtesy of Debbie Luce



A group of veterans poses in an undated photo. Photo courtesy of Debbie Luce

By Annie Kerr

**ORANGEVALE, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento area residents might remember the Veteran’s Wall at the former Hometown Buffet on Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights. Countless photos of veterans were displayed on this wall while the restaurant was open. But when Hometown Buffet abruptly closed in 2016, the photos disappeared

with it, seemingly lost to the abyss. However, Debbie Luce, a member of the Orangevale Grange, and her mother, Marge, came to the rescue. “My mom’s picture was also on the wall. She’s an 86-year-old Navy veteran who wanted to find the pictures and hopefully return them to their families,” Luce said. And find them they did. Luce and her mother discovered that the photos had been taken to

Stockton, where they were tucked away in a storage room. Luce and Marge were able to bring them back to Orangevale and are now planning ways to get the photos back to their rightful owners. “It’s a such a shame to think these photos would probably have been thrown away eventually,” Luce said. “There are generations of pictures.” There are more than 50 pictures of veterans currently in Luce’s

possession at the Orangevale Grange, and they are holding a Veterans Day event to honor those people. From 8 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, the Orangevale Grange will hold a Veterans Day breakfast, where the photos will be on display. According to Luce, the breakfast will feature all-you-can-eat blueberry pancakes along with the Grange’s “infamous” biscuits and gravy.

The Orangevale Grange is located at 5807 Walnut Ave., Orangevale. Luce said the Grange plans to make a “traveling poster” of all the photos and take it around town, including to the Orangevale Community Center. If you recognize any of the photos or wish to view them, Debbie Luce can be reached at 916-425-8561 or debbies.garden1@gmail.com. ★

## Wall Honors Heros

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

**FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG)** - Gold Star families and community leaders gathered last weekend to recall fallen heroes of nation and community. The Wall of Honor ceremony is annually observed at Patriots Park, a Carmichael Park District property in Fair Oaks. The reserve’s stone monument is dedicated to 15 local men, from military, police, CHP and firefighting ranks, who died in service since the park district’s establishment. Plaques recall sacrifice from Vietnam War years until more recent tragedies. “I’m proud we have such an important monument here,” noted County Supervisor and former CHP officer Rich Desmond. “There is no service more meaningful than being willing to give your life for your

community. It’s a solemn privilege to honor these heroes.” The monument and its 15 plaques are a profound reminder of the cost of liberty, according to state Sen. Roger Niello. “The sacrifice of these men is a testament to the power of love,” Niello said. “This wall doesn’t speak but it stands forever as testimony to the community’s gratitude for their service.” Congressman Ami Bera’s representative Matthew Ceccato (a Purple Heart recipient) quoted military slang that indicates loyal support. “We’ve got your six,” Ceccato said, which indicates that buddies have you covered. “We’re here to prove to the men on this wall that we’ve got their six. Each one of them stood up and did his duty for us. We can never forget our debt to them and their families.”



Gold Star families and supporters assemble at the Wall of Honor in Patriots Park, Fair Oaks. The monument commemorates local law enforcers, firefighters and military who died in service.

The Wall of Honor commemorates the following men: Sheriff’s Deputy Robert French; CHP Officer Ronald E. Davis; Army Specialist James E. Schlottman; Army Lieutenant Robert S. Byrnes; Air Force Captain Olin E. Gilbert Jr; Army Sergeant Larry H. Morford; Firefighter Dean W. Rhoades; Navy pilot Lieutenant J. G. David A Warne; Marine and

firefighter Sergeant Brian E. Dunlap; Sheriff’s Deputies Kevin P. Blount and Joseph M. Kievernagel; Army Sergeant Ronald L. Coffelt; Army Specialist Raymond Nigel Spencer Jr; Sheriff’s Deputy Danny Oliver; Sheriff’s Corporal Bruce R. Verhoeven; and Sheriff’s Deputy Patrick Blount. Anyone can visit Patriots Park at 6827 Palm Ave., Fair Oaks. ★



BEST OF

FAIR OAKS

2024

Get your Tickets online!

BestofFairOaks.com

VOTING STARTS NOV 14

Contest Rules

Business must be located in Fair Oaks or be a Fair Oaks Chamber member.

All votes must be cast online at

BestofFairOaks.com

Only one vote per category per person.

All voting entries must have complete information or the votes will not be counted.

You're Invited!

Tickets are expected to sell out fast.

Don't miss your chance to attend the 8th annual "Best of Fair Oaks" event.

This year's event will be held:

Where: North Ridge Country Club, 7600 Madison Ave, Fair Oaks

When: Thursday January 16, 2025

Cost: Tickets starting at \$45 - Tables & Sponsorships Availalbe

Email [Info@FairOaksChamber.com](mailto:Info@FairOaksChamber.com) or call 916-967-2903





# PoppTalk

With Mary Jane Popp

# Honor Them

Veteran’s Day is a special tribute to all veterans who have placed their lives on the line to keep our democracy viable. They selflessly do the job they are asked to do and do it with respect and great dignity. But let’s be honest, unless you were in the military or are part of a military family, you cannot fathom what it’s like to live day by day with the thought that he or she may not return. I know that happens with many other careers from police officers to firefighters and others too. But we ask these men and women to go around the world and try to understand how to get the job done in some really incredible circumstances.

I had a little of that experience too. Rick (my husband) and I were married about four months when he was deployed to Vietnam. It was a long time ago, but it still hits home every Veteran’s Day. I can still feel the emotions he and I felt as we said goodbye at the airport, not knowing if we would ever see each other again, hoping and praying that we would. It was not a popular war as if any war is, but this one was very difficult for those who returned and the names they were called. After several months, we met for R&R in Hawaii. The joy was there, but dread too, because he had to return to Vietnam after just a few days. But we were grateful.

Thank God my First Lieutenant re-



Photo by Timmosholder via Pexels

turned to me with no injuries on the outside, but what about the inside? We never really talked about all that went on for quite a few years. I felt he would share when he was ready. Perhaps it was better that he was a little older...about 24... and he took on the job of looking after some of the younger guys to keep them out of trouble. I remember the letters he sent, which I still cherish and the cassette tapes we sent back and forth just talking about stuff. No computers back then. I can still remember hearing the pouring monsoons in the background and how he tried to keep busy painting his room.

After Hawaii, it was some months before he came home. It was over the New Year holiday, and I can still feel the terror when I did not know where he was as Saigon was falling. I heard nothing for days and then the call came from him that he was in Seattle. I was at Indiana University working on my Phd, but no gift or degree could have given me such joy as when I heard his voice.

I can’t even imagine what it would be like to have a chaplain and officer come to my door, or know that his wounds were so bad, he would never be whole again. My love passed last December, but Veteran’s Day will always be special.

Please think of these brave souls who keep us every day. Thank them for their service! God Bless Them ALL! ★

# SIR Keeps Retired Men Active

By Jerry Westerman

Looking to stay active in retirement? I have a club for you.

As many of us approach retirement age, we may find that our activity level and social interactions start to ebb. Like myself, many may feel a sense of vacuum or void in our lives when we retire that needs to be filled. We realize that staying active physically, mentally and socially improves our health, vigor and hopefully longevity.

Becoming a member of a club or organization is often just the thing to get out and enjoy some activities with other men in my age group. I joined one such group eight years ago. There are several branches in the Sacramento area called SIR (formerly Sons in Retirement).

SIR’s mission is to enhance the lives of its members through fun activities and events while making friends for life. SIR has over 100 branches in California from Bakersfield to the Oregon border. The branch I belong to, SIR Branch 23, has nearly 200 members and meets monthly at the Dante Event Center located on Fair Oaks Boulevard just past Howe Avenue behind Pavilions Car Wash.

Members of the branch reside in surrounding neighborhoods such as River Park, East Sacramento, Arden Arcade, Carmichael and Fair Oaks, although many live in farther-flung parts of the Sacramento region.

Our monthly luncheons provide an

opportunity for members to socialize, enjoy a great meal and hear from interesting speakers from our community on a variety of subjects.

Our branch has many organized activities including an outstanding golf program with weekly 18-hole and 9-hole tournaments at courses around the Sacramento area (during spring, summer and fall); bowling at Country Club Lanes (weekly league play fall and winter); bocce ball at Carmichael Park, hiking, fishing trips, a free library, a book club, poker and bridge. Annual events include the “Ladies Day” luncheon during the holiday season and the Spring Family Picnic, also at Carmichael Park. While membership in most SIR branches is limited to men, spouses/partners are welcome to participate in many activities.

Our branch is always looking for new members. Many new members were friends, family, neighbors or former co-workers of our current members. But many joined after hearing about our great program and activities.

Annual dues are very low (currently \$25), since SIR is a nonprofit social organization and joining is easy.

If you are interested, call our friendly Branch 23 membership chairman, Ray Zelinski, at 916-961-4222, and for more information, visit SIR at <https://sirinc2.org/branch23>. Or feel free to call me, Jerry Westerman, at 916-801-7879. I live right here in Fair Oaks and would be happy to share more information with you. ★

WE SUPPORT  
FIRST RESPONDERS



LOCAL  
CRIME  
REPORTS

Find out what's  
happening in  
your local area

Arrest Logs  
updated daily

AMERICANRIVERMESSENGER.COM



COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
**Heating & Cooling**

Lic # 982478 Bonded & Insured

Service / Installations  
Indoor Comfort  
All Brands

**Enrique Villarauz**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

457 Cedar River Way  
Sacramento, CA 95831

[evillarauz@acpmechanical.com](mailto:evillarauz@acpmechanical.com)

Be a part of something important

Local Writers Wanted

We are looking for local Freelance Writers  
to provide great coverage.

 Call us today at 916-773-1111

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH



## Come and Experience God's Amazing Grace

Come grow with us at Grace Baptist Church where the Old Time Gospel Message is still preached and God-Honoring music is still sung. Grace Baptist still stands on the Principles, Doctrines and Separation, found and taught in The Bible.

### SERVICE SCHEDULES

Sunday Schools (All Ages)...	9:45 am
Sunday Worship.....	11:00 am
Sunday Evening.....	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening.....	7:00 pm

6724 Palm Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA 95628  
(Located one block South of Madison; just East of Dewey)

**PASTOR CHARLES CARTER**

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION (916) 967-3915 [WWW.GBCFAIROAKS.NET](http://WWW.GBCFAIROAKS.NET)

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



What a difference a week makes. Entering last week, the Sacramento Kings had lost all of their preseason games, and the first two games of the regular season.

Enter the Portland Trailblazers on Oct. 28 and the home crowd was treated to what everyone had envisioned the new and improved Sacramento Kings would look like.

DeMar DeRozan carved up the defensive of the Trailblazers along with point guard DeAaron Fox for 23 and 24 points respectively, but the real key was the way DeRozan got to his spots and made his mid-range game look easy.

Combined with the lightning quickness of Fox, this tandem poses a threat to opposing defenses every night, and other teams had better bring their “A” game when they come to Sac Town.

Finally breaking into the win column and lighting the beam for the first time in the 2024/2025 campaign, lifted a heavy weight off the shoulders of the Kings players and fans alike, but the week was not over. Convincing victories on the road over Utah and the Atlanta Hawks gave the Kings a three-game winning streak and lifted the team over 500.

DeRozan looked like a natural fit as the Kings made victories over the Jazz and Hawks look pedestrian, and had the Kings been able to shoot a little better from the charity stripe, it’s entirely possible the overtime loss to the Toronto Raptors could have been the Kings 4th win in a row.

Sacramento will wrap up their road trip Monday night against the formidable Miami Heat (after press time), but it’s obvious that some of the swagger has returned to the team.

I’m impressed with DeMar DeRozan in nearly every facet of his game, and like Malik Monk, DeRozan will be an asset and a role model as it relates to free throw shooting. An 84% career free throw shooter, DeMar has proven his reliability at the charity strip, and with the Kings coming off the 2023/2024 campaign in the cellar of the NBA in free throw shooting, adding a 6-time all-star that can shoot free throws at a consistently high level, is just

what the doctor ordered for the Kings.

Big man and double-double king Domantas Sabonis, like Fox, has struggled in the past from the free throw line, but has looked better so far this season, and has raised his average. It’s still early, but if both Fox and Sabonis can get to 80% or better at the line consistently, look for Sacramento to be lighting the beam with increased regularity.

At 3-3 the Kings may not have a gawdy win-loss record, but the last four games have given all the fans a positive look at what the season can look like.

Although DeRozan has already shown he can connect from long range when called upon, he consistently passes up 3-point opportunities for mid-range looks, and he is deadly from the 10 to 15-foot range. DeMar looks so comfortable in mid-range, his stroke is almost effortless, and with that kind of confidence, he poses a serious late game option to go along with Fox and Sabonis.

Shout out to Kevin Huerter who after a subpar start in game one, has returned to what fans have expected to see, and once again, Huerter has shown his acumen both beyond the 3-point line, and driving to the hoop.

Huerter’s defense has taken a step forward as well, so we’ll give some attaboys to coach Brown for putting Huerter back in the starting lineup and sticking with him. If we can keep Kevin off the injury list, the 2024/2025 season could be a breakout year for a popular player with a big upside.

More than anything, the recent wins, particularly on the road, are spurring a higher volume of optimism, and look for an already loud arena to get even louder.

For any naysayers that felt it would take a long time for newcomer DeMar DeRozan to fit in, he is well ahead of schedule, and the way he and Fox are sharing the ball is a pleasure to watch.

Stay tuned Kings fans. This is what you’ve been waiting for, and the best is yet to come!

All the best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at [vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com). ★



# Disc Golf Course Safety Improvements Discussed



Safety actions to implement at the disc golf course at Miller Park was discussed at the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District (FORPD) Board of Directors meeting. Courtesy photo

*Continued from page 1*

effort to handle ongoing cleanup.

During Public Comment, many residents shared negative experiences they had interacting with some of the disc golfers. One resident, whose property borders part of the course, has found more than 100 discs in her yard and players frequently knock on her door, sometimes early in the morning or into the night, asking to enter her yard to retrieve lost discs. While some have been polite, she said others have been very rude and aggressive, with some even kicking in her back fence to get into her yard, causing her animals to escape into the park.

Another neighboring property has suffered similar problems. A park tree fell onto their back fence many years ago and was not repaired, so golfers frequently trespass onto their property to retrieve lost discs. And when told to leave, many are extremely rude to the property owners.

Many residents shared incidents of golfers yelling and cursing at children and families who are trying to use the park, and many had stories of very near misses with errant discs. They said that the park no longer feels welcoming to families, and that children cannot freely run and play at the park without fear of injuries or altercations. Residents said that they understand the golfers enjoy playing the course, but safety for all park users should be the priority.

One mother recounted how her young daughter was hit in the face by a disc while she was near the playground, and instead of apologizing, the golfer yelled that she was in the way. That child is now afraid to play in the park, and many other families have stopped visiting the park for the same reason.

One resident said that despite many golfers using the course responsibly, sometimes the bad actions of a few can ruin it for everyone else. He said the cost of mitigation or relocation are nothing compared to the possible cost of litigation if someone gets seriously hurt.

More than a dozen disc golfers also spoke during the meeting to explain how important the course is as a recreational opportunity for the community. They said they didn't want to see the course removed or relocated, and they hoped the district would consider the safety improvements so the course could remain at Miller Park. Many said they were shocked to hear of the bad behavior of some players, and there was discussion about the formation of an official disc golf user group that could partner with the district to enforce course rules and closure times.

Vice-Chair Delinda Tamagni said first on her to-do list is fixing the fences of properties that border the course and putting in signage informing players those areas are private property and lost discs will not be recovered. She also suggested installing cameras on that side of the course to

ensure compliance. Another item of immediate concern is enforcing course closure when children are coming to and from school, and Tamagni said the closure times need to be extended to include the earlier release time for kindergarten.

"The idea of an adult cussing at a small child is abhorrent, and I think everyone would agree about that. We cannot be doing that as a community," said Tamagni. She said the next steps should include working with a user group to create a roster of volunteers to oversee enforcement at the course, and to look at mitigation plans to improve the holes that are causing the most issues. Tamagni said, "We have a lot of work to do."

Director John O'Farrell said he wants to find other parks with disc golf courses and look at their best practices for mitigating safety risks. And he asked staff to come back with specific costs for the various safety recommendations.

Director Darren Mounts said, "There's obviously a very strong user group here for disc golf, and I think it's really going to depend on that group stepping up to really help us come and mitigate some issues that we're seeing right now." He said the disc golfers have to be more active ambassadors of the sport and "self-police."

"Safety is paramount," said Mounts, "and it's gut-wrenching to hear stories of children being hit or near misses. I understand all of the concerns, and they're big concerns, and they are concerns of ours. And we're going to work together to try to address them."

Director Raymond James Irwin said he was sorry for the issues that families and neighbors have been dealing with: "I take it seriously. I know our board takes it really seriously."

Irwin said the course can remain at Miller Park but there needs to be a lot of collaboration with a user group to enforce the rules. Irwin added that children need safe areas to play, so some of the baskets have to be relocated.

Chair Ralph Carhart said the safety issues are significant: "I don't think we can ignore that." He said the holes that are causing the most issues should be closed immediately until the district figures out a solution. He said that Fair Oaks Park could be a viable option for the course's relocation, so he asked for that option to be further explored. And he added that they need to get the word out that players will be ticketed for breaking the rules.

The board directed staff to immediately move forward with extending the closure hours, adding more signage, formalizing a user group to oversee enforcement, providing specifics on hole relocations, and analyzing possible course relocation to Fair Oaks Park. The board also asked for monthly updates.

The next Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District board meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20. ★

# California's Transition Off Carbon Fuels Could Upset Gasoline Supply, Prices



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California motorists buy and consume a billion gallons of gasoline each month and are very sensitive about pump prices, which are markedly higher than those in other states. Naturally, they are a political football.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has repeatedly characterized refiners as price gougers, even though most of the differences are caused by taxes, fees and regulatory mandates. Recently, he persuaded the Legislature to pass a watered-down version of his proposal requiring refiners to maintain higher reserves to avoid price spikes.

However the gasoline situation is far more complicated than Newsom's approach, and California may be facing a period of volatility on both supply and price as it attempts to wean itself from combustion-powered transportation, its largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions.

The California Air Resources Board is on the verge of expanding its program of reducing the amount of carbon in the current gasoline recipe, regarded as an interim step before completely converting vehicles to electricity or some other non-polluting power.

Last year, CARB published an analysis of the proposed Low Carbon Fuel

Standard to provide "the economic incentives to produce cleaner fuels like electricity, hydrogen and biofuels that are needed to displace fossil fuels and reduce transportation sector emissions."

The report estimated that adoption could immediately increase gas prices by 47 cents a gallon and then, "on average, from 2031 through 2046 the proposed amendments are projected to potentially increase the price of gasoline by \$1.15 per gallon, the price of diesel by \$1.50 per gallon and fossil jet fuel by \$1.21 per gallon."

The cost estimate generated a storm of media and political attention and CARB backed off, continuing the adoption process but refusing to put a number on the potential pump price. Last week, the board's top official conducted an electronic press conference in which he stressed positive impacts, but continued to sidestep questions about consumer impacts.

"It's a win-win," executive officer Steven Cliff insisted. "We get public health benefits, we reduce health costs, we see lower costs of driving and we help turbocharge those investments in clean energy infrastructure that helps drive our zero emissions future."

CARB now intends to act on the policy three days after Election Day, without offering any estimate of consumer costs — a potential signal that those costs will be hefty.

While Newsom wants to be remembered as someone who tried to reduce gasoline prices, his governorship probably will be one that substantially increased them.

The other uncertainty is whether California will have

enough gasoline, even a variety with less carbon, over the next two decades as it transitions away from carbon fuels altogether.

California once had dozens of refineries producing the state's unique fuel blend, but in recent years just nine. After the Legislature gave Newsom the new laws on gasoline reserves, one refiner, Phillips 66, announced that it would shutter its plant in Southern California that's no longer profitable. The company said the closure had nothing to do with politics.

Very quickly, Valero, which has two refineries in the state, hinted that it may follow suit. CEO Lane Riggs said during a conference call that "all options are on the table" for the company's two California refineries, one in Benicia and the other in Wilmington, because of increasing state regulation of operations.

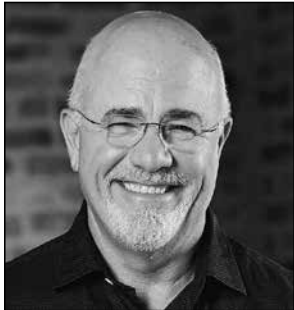
"Clearly the California regulatory environment is putting pressure on operators out there and how they might think about going forward with their operations," Riggs said.

Transitioning transportation to non-carbon power — while maintaining sufficient and reasonably priced supplies for gas-powered cars until they're replaced — was destined to be a fraught process.

If poorly managed, it could be a monumental disaster.

*Dan Walters is one of most decorated and 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.* ★

## Dave Ramsey Says They Handle It? Hang Around for Benefits?



Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

My husband and I began your plan a few months ago. We love the process of living on a budget, and how it has helped us gain control of our finances. Our kids are 14 and 13 now. Do you think it's a good idea to include teenagers in budget meetings and financial discussions?

— Paula

Dear Paula,

This is a great question! As long as you're not in an extreme situation, like you're looking at foreclosure or bankruptcy, or you're on the opposite end of the spectrum sitting on a pile of wealth, I think it's a wonderful idea. Teaching kids about money with a standard, regular, monthly budget is one thing. But as a parent, you don't want to put your kids into situations they aren't emotionally equipped to handle.

As long as mom and dad are having a discussion and making decisions—not fighting—it's good for kids to hear the give and take where handling money is concerned. Parents who never let their kids handle money, and never teach them proper money management techniques, run a high risk of turning financially irresponsible adults loose in the world.

And that's no good for anyone.

But walking through a typical, normal budget will show them how much money is coming in and how much things cost. They'll see on paper exactly how much groceries or the electric bill costs. Then, when it's right there in front of their eyes, they'll begin to realize why mom and dad always tell them not to waste food, and to turn off the lights when they leave a room!

— Dave

**Hang Around for Benefits?**

Dear Dave,

I am currently serving in the military, and I'm not sure I like the life, or what I'm doing, as much as I did a few years ago. Recently, I was approached with some exciting opportunities outside the military in a different field. I'm not sure what to do. Do you think I should make plans to take advantage of these new opportunities, or should I stick with the military and receive full benefits when I'm eligible to retire in 10 years?

— William

Dear William,

There are people who absolutely love the military. It makes a great career for some folks, and I think that's awesome. God

bless them—and you—for serving their country that way. But whether you're in the military or a civilian, I think you should do what you love doing.

If you were just a few months away from retirement, I'd probably tell you to bear down and tough it out. That way, it wouldn't be too long before you could explore the new opportunities and have a nice pension coming in. But 10 years is a long time to do anything when your heart's not in it.

Long story short? If you love it, stay. If you don't, get out. Serving in the armed forces is voluntary, and in a sense, that makes it a little like other jobs. Regardless, hanging around for a decade in a job where you're miserable just to collect benefits? That's not a good plan.

— Dave

*Dave Ramsey is a 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.* ★



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

American River Messenger is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email a Microsoft Word file to: Publisher@mpg8.com.

**Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.**

AMERICAN RIVER  
Messenger

Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale and Sacramento County since 2006

It is the intent of the *American River Messenger* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The *American River Messenger* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *American River Messenger* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the *American River Messenger* is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to:  
*American River Messenger*  
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite #5, Carmichael, CA 95608.

Subscription rate is \$39 per year in Fair Oaks and Orangevale. The *American River Messenger* is published twice-monthly.

Call 916-773-1111 for more information.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS





CALL A PRO BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**SLS**  
**Superior Landscape Services**  
Landscaping and Maintenance

- Sprinkler Repair/Install • Pruning
- Mowing/Trimming • Fertilizing

Insured  
Lic#794551

(916) 728-5812 • Cell (916) 761-0999  
Dave Cochran Owner • dave\_SLS@surewest.net

**A-1 AFFORDABLE ROOFING SERVICES, INC**

- New Roofs • Certifications • Roof Repairs
- Dry Rot Repairs • Roof Inspections • Gutters

**John Fleenor, Contractor**  
1741 L Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673

Cell: **(916) 206-1613**  
Contractor Lic. #1064966

**GREENWAY TREE SERVICE**

Specializing in Expert Tree Pruning,  
Tree Removal & Stump Grinding

**Free Estimates  
Competative Prices**

Licensed and Insured

**(916) 224-9750**

**All American Pro Construction & Restoration**

Family-owned & operated.  
We offer Veterans & Senior Discounts  
Great Craftsmanship & Customer Service

Specializing in Kitchen & Bath Remodels,  
Water Damage, plus Much More.

BIG or SMALL, We Do It All. Give Us a Call.  
**916-504-0188**

CSLB# 1089369,  
Licensed, Bonded & Insured

**Patch Masters Drywall**  
Acoustic Removal & Drywall Textures

- Acoustic (popcorn) ceiling removal
- Water damage & drywall repair
- Sheetrock installation
- Machine applied textures
- Hand applied texture
- Retexturing & Painting
- BBB Accredited

**Mike Church**  
Owner  
CA Lic# 1004984  
Bonded & Insured

**(916) 847-7783**  
PatchMastersDrywall@yahoo.com  
www.DrywallPatchMasters.com

**Rio Linda Eye Care**

Laser Surgery • Eye Glasses • Contact Lenses

- Eyewear for Computer Users

**Dr. William Fleischmann**  
**(916) 991-8444**

Saturday Appointments Available  
6716 Rio Linda Blvd., Suite B, Rio Linda

**THE MASON MAN**  
LICENSE # 810329

**VISUALIZE & CUSTOMIZE MASONRY / FENCING / CONCRETE**

CALL FRED FRANKLIN - THE MASON MAN

**916.826.9796**  
VCMASONRY@ICLOUD.COM

**CONTACT 916 505-4673**

we come to you  
We pickup in 1 hour or less  
We buy other items  
We pay the most!

**CASH for Diabetic Supplies**

WE PICK UP AND PAY YOU CASH ON THE SPOT

**BRIAN OLSON**  
OWNER  
License #982398

916-912-0293  
info@olsonswoodworx.com  
olsonswoodworx.com

**CUSTOM CABINETS CRAFTED JUST FOR YOU!**

**Mr. Handyman**  
Home Improvement Professionals

Professional • Safe • Reliable • Fully Insured

**(916) 487-8655**  
www.mrhandyman.com/arden-arcade

**SENIOR DISCOUNTS!**

**SMOOT LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPES & DESIGN**

DESIGN - RENOVATION - WATER FEATURE  
STONE & CONCRETE - OUTDOOR LIGHTING  
IRRIGATION SYSTEM

**916-454-1300**  
www.SmootLandscaping.com

Lic#633224; Serving Sacramento since 1982  
Recognized in the Sacramento Bee,  
Street of Dreams & Garden Tours of East Sacramento

**TRACTOR SERVICE**

- Mowing • Rototilling
- Discing • Scraper/Loader

Call  
**(916) 991-8431**

Local Classified Advertise in your local community newspaper Call 916-773-1111

**Announcement**

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

**Autos Wanted**

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)

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-855-408-6546 (Cal-SCAN)

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)

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today! (Cal-SCAN)

**Are You a Pro?**

Get the word out!

Advertise in the Classifieds  
Call **916-773-1111**

Visit:  
**mpg8.com**

**Computer Service**

**Zinsky's**  
PC Configurations  
"Don't replace it - REPAIR IT!"  
Custom Desktop Computer Configurations  
• PC Repair • Home Wireless Networking  
• Installations • Virus & Spyware Eradication

Alan Zinsky  
Phone: 916-622-2269  
Zconfig@sbglobal.net  
Bus. Lic. # 305312 • B. E. A. R. Reg. #84416  
www.zinskyspcrepair.com

**Cellular Plans**

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-Scan)

**Elder Care**

GoGo. Live and age your way. Get help with rides, groceries, meals and more. Memberships start as low as \$1 per day. Available 24/7 nationwide. BBB Rated A+ Business. Call GoGo to get started. 1-855-476-0033 (Cal-SCAN)

**Financial**

Struggling with debt? If you have over \$10,000 in debt we help you be debt free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call Now: 1-877-435-4860 (Cal-SCAN)

**Hall Rentals**

**VFW Post 6158**

8990 Kruithof Way,  
Fair Oaks, CA

**916-966-1663**  
vfw6158.org/rent-our-hall/

Advertising Works!

**Health/Wellness**

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 (CalSCAN)

JOIN FOR FREE - NO KITS OR QUOTES & FREE WEBSITE. CTFO (Changing The Future Outcome) Has the best CBD oil available. Products for health, beauty, weight or hair loss and even for your pets. Check out these products: canderson.mycfto.com (TFN)

**Help Wanted**

Vision Service Plan seeks a Senior Software Engineer in Rancho Cordova, CA to own the design construction, devmt., testing, implementation, & tech. delivery for business needs throughout the company. 100% telecom. perm. w/in U.S. \$171,018-\$190K/yr. Pre-employment substance screening required. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com Ref #21202 (11/8/24)

**Now Hiring**

Full Charge Bookkeeper. QuickBooks Experience a Plus. Pleasant attitude. For more info please email: Accounting@brheadblock.com (11/8/24)

**KP International MARKET**

Many Positions are Available. Please no phone calls. Apply in person.

**10971 Olson Dr.  
Rancho Cordova,  
CA 95670**

**Insurance/Health**

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! 1-844203-2677 www.dental50plus.com/calnews #6258 (Cal-SCAN)

**MPG8.COM**

**Home Remodel**

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/29/24.) Call 1-833-985-4766 (Cal-SCAN)

**Need Help?  
Hire a Pro!**

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1888-989-5749 (Cal-SCAN)

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-252-9868 (Cal-SCAN)

**Home Repair**

**WATER DAMAGE CLEAN-UP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-248-0815. Have zip code of service location ready when you call! (Cal-SCAN)

**Home Warranty**

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)

**Landscaping**

**CREATE YOUR PARADISE**

Winter Yard Cleanups, Complete Landscape Design/Installation, Sprinkler System Installs/Repairs, All Types Concrete Work, Fence Installation, Retaining Walls- All Types, Drainage Systems-all types, Landscape Lighting, Residential/ commercial

American Landscape Design & Installation. Est 1987  
American Construction & Property Maintenance Company  
WE ACCEPT VISA & MASTER CARD  
**(916)612-0776**

**YARD SERVICE**

**ONE-TIME CLEANUP**  
Mow, Weed, Prune & Haul  
**NEED: Landscaping bark?**  
Gutters cleaned?  
Light fence work?  
CALL 916/205-9310 or 916/627-9000/

**Miscellaneous**

**DID YOU KNOW** Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Buy and Shop Local!**

**Miscellaneous**

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

**Music Lessons**

**Guitar Lessons**

Beginner to Advanced \$20/ half-hour; \$30 full hour. 916-507-6658, freddiebaltbert@gmail.com (12/31/2024)

**Real Estate**

**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)

**Roofing**

**BERNARDINO ROOFING**  
Reroofs, Repairs, Maintenance, Dryrot, Gutters, Family Operated. BBB MEMBER!

\*\*\*FREE ESTIMATES\*\*\*  
**SENIOR DISCOUNTS**  
Lic.#817945 43 Years Experience  
**916.920.0100**  
www.bernardinoroofting.com

Visit: **mpg8.com** for current and back issues

**RETIRED COUPLE**  
HAS \$1MIL TO LEND ON CA. REAL ESTATE\*

**V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY**  
Buys T.D.s and Buys/Lends on Partial Interests

**OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING**  
Principal **(818) 248-0000** Broker  
**WWW.VIPLAN.COM** \*Sufficient equity required - no consumer loans

Real Estate License #01041073 CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217  
Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans

**Tree Service**

**BP TREE SERVICES LLC.**

TREE & STUMP REMOVAL  
TREE TRIMMING/ SHAPING  
FREE ESTIMATE  
10% OFF WITH THIS AD  
Insured. Workman's comp. Arborist  
**916-722-6321**  
BPTreeServices.com  
VISA / MASTER CARD  
California Contractors Lic #1036031

**LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?**

**We Can Do That!**

Call to place your legal advertising

**916-773-1111**

All Legal Ads Published by Messenger Publishing Group

**MPG**



# COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

I HEARD YOU ONCE SWALLOWED A DICTIONARY.

I SURE DID!!

...AND IT GAVE ME THE SAURUS THROAT I EVER HAD.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HEY THERE, PIGS! LUNCH TIME! COME AND GET IT WHILE IT'S STILL HOT!

DAD MIXED UP A SPECIAL RECIPE FOR ALL OF YOU.

WOW, LOOK AT YOU GUYS GO. YOU MUST LIKE IT.

HOW CAN WE RESIST? ISN'T ALL FINE CUISINE SERVED IN A BUCKET?

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

WHY TELL YOU WHAT I THINK PICASSO MIGHT SAY ABOUT YOUR WORK WHEN YOU COULD ASK HIM YOURSELF...

THE DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND SEANCES

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

HERE'S ONE

HERE'S ONE

HERE'S ANOTHER

ONE'S IN HERE

HERE'S A COUPLE MORE

I FOUND THE REST

I'LL SET 'EM UP FOR ANOTHER GAME

...IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER IF I WIN AGAIN

TIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY KANDY HILKOLIND

RUNNIN' FER RE-ELECKSHUN, HUH? I'LL VOTE FER YE FER FIFTY BUCKS.

ABSOLUTELY NOT, THAT'S ILLEGAL AND UNETHICAL, PAPPY.

HOW KIN I TRUST 'IM TBE MAJOR IF HE DONTSK KNOW HOW TO BE A PROPER POLITICIAN?

WOULD YOU TELL ME WHY YOU VOLUNTEERED US TO WORK AT A POLLING PLACE?

SSSSSH! IT'S PART OF MY PLAN...

...TO DEFEAT POPEYE!

I SUBMITTED ME BALLOT.

THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR CIVIC DUTY.

DOES VA GOTSK ANY 'I VOTED' STICKERS?

NOPE, SORRY, WE'RE FRESH OUT.

AM, WELL, THANKS!

HA! I LIED! WE HAVE PLENTY OF STICKERS!

THAT WAS YOUR PLAN? DENNING HIM A STICKER?

LOOK, ARE THE EVIL SCHEMES YOU COME UP WITH AT TWO IN THE MORNING ANY BETTER?

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Exam table is not as long 2. Pocket is reversed high 6. Furze is added 3. Teardrop is higher 4. Lollipop is larger 5. Curtain is not as high 6. Furze is added

GRIN & BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I THINK THIS SCALE IS BROKEN. THE REALLY DEPRESSING THING THOUGH IS I THINK I ACTUALLY BROKE IT.

"Can you fast-forward it past the election?"

B	U	G	S		P	A	S		R	S	V	P			
E	P	I	C	S		U	L	T		P	A	L	E	O	
T	O	R	A	H		S	E	A		U	T	U	R	N	
A	N	D	R	E	W	S			R	O	B	E	R	T	S
			Y	A	H			Y	E	L	L				
H	O	T			F	E	T	A		D	I	S	C	O	S
A	P	E	S			L	A	R	D		C	H	A	S	M
N	I	N	E			P	O	D	I	A		A	N	T	I
K	N	E	A	D			S	M	O	G		G	A	I	T
S	E	T	T	E			A	R	A	B		L	A	H	
					I	R	O	N		T	E	A			
F	R	E	E	M	A	N			F	E	R	R	E	L	L
O	U	T	D	O			I	R	E		R	E	T	I	E
R	E	N	D	S			O	I	L		Y	A	C	K	S
D	D	A	Y				N	O	T			S	H	E	S

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • FAMOUS ACTORS

CROSSWORD

CLUES

ACROSS

1. QA's focus, pl.  
5. "Svan Lake" steps  
8. Evite request, acr.  
12. Long stories  
14. Final, abbr.  
15. Opposite of neo-  
16. Synagogue scroll  
17. Poseidon's domain  
18. One-eighty  
19. \*Mary Poppins and Maria von Trapp  
21. \*Vivian Ward and Erin Brockovich  
23. Kum Ba follower  
24. Cry out loud  
25. Stolen, slangily  
28. Greek salad cheese  
30. Popular clubs of the 1970s  
35. Chimpanzees, e.g.  
37. Porcine fat  
39. Great divide  
40. Cat o'how many tails?  
41. Podium, pl.  
43. Dead against  
44. Work the dough  
46. Urban haze  
47. Manner of walk  
48. Parlor piece  
50. Riyadh native, e.g.  
52. Sixth note  
53. Common fairway club  
55. Brewed beverage  
57. \*\*Red\* Redding and Nelson Mandela  
61. \*Ricky Bobby and Buddy  
65. Beat the Joneses  
66. Outrage  
68. Adjust, as laces  
69. Tears violently  
70. Aintment liquid  
71. Talks and talks and talks  
72. a.k.a. Operation Neptune  
73. "Just kidding!"  
74. Billy Joel's "Always a Woman"

DOWN

1. Between Phi and Kappa  
2. Second word in a fairytale  
3. Encircle  
4. Like Freddy Krueger, e.g.  
5. Boot-wearing feline  
6. Draft pick  
7. Impolite look  
8. Miles per hour, e.g.  
9. Insult  
10. Between bleu and jaune  
11. Connection between brain and spinal cord  
13. Bundle of wheat  
15. Like certain libraries  
20. Pup  
22. Hemingway's "The \_\_\_ Man and the Sea"  
24. Railway worker  
25. \*Forrest Gump and Jimmy Dugan  
26. Offer two cents  
27. Doctrine  
29. New Mexico town  
31. Deep pile carpet  
32. Atlantic Ocean/Pacific Ocean waterway, e.g.  
33. Ostium, pl.  
34. \*Violet Crawley and Minerva McGonagall  
36. Center of authority  
38. "The New Look" main character  
42. September stone  
45. Phobos' brother, Greek mythology  
49. Time period  
51. \*Catwoman and "Jinx" Johnson  
54. Vidalia one  
56. Regions  
57. \*Han Solo and Indiana Jones  
58. Wished undone  
59. Europe's highest volcano  
60. \*Nelson, star of 8 films with Jeanette MacDonald  
61. Matted wool  
62. Write on tombstone, e.g.  
63. Facebook button  
64. More is \_\_\_?  
67. Duran Duran's 1982 album

Switch & Get \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

Classified Advertising

Sell Your Stuff! Reach 1000's of Readers Every Week!

MPG

916.773.1111

9	8	5	1	6	2	3	7	4
4	6	2	8	7	3	9	5	1
7	1	3	9	4	5	6	8	2
8	5	6	2	3	7	4	1	9
3	4	7	6	9	1	8	2	5
1	2	9	5	8	4	7	6	3
6	7	1	3	2	9	5	4	8
5	9	4	7	1	8	2	3	6
2	3	8	4	5	6	1	9	7

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

SUDOKU

Call today and receive a FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP WALK-UP 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of new Safe Step Walk-Up in 2024. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. See dealer for details. © 2024 Safe Step Walk-Up. All rights reserved.

9	8					3		
	6	2		7	3	9		
				4				
	5					4		9
3			6		1			5
1		9					6	
				2				
		4	7	1		2	3	
	8						9	7

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



# California Takes Bold Step to Revolutionize Youth Sports with 25x25 Coaches Challenge

## Collaborative Communications News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The California Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness and Mental Well-being is teaming up with the Susan Crown Exchange’s Million Coaches Challenge (MCC) to launch 25x25: The California Coaches Challenge. This initiative aims to train 25,000 coaches in positive youth coaching across California by the end of 2025.

Physical activity and sports participation rates are declining nationally, and California is no exception. Today, many children in California are not meeting daily physical activity recommendations, and only half of California’s youth participate in sports. With around 70% of children discontinuing organized sports before reaching high school, the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge aims to create a more positive and inclusive sports and fitness

culture that keeps youth engaged in sport and helps them develop the skills needed to thrive.

Through the Council’s Move Your Body, Calm Your Mind campaign, Million Coaches Challenge partners Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) and the Center for Healing and Justice through Sport (CHJS) will spearhead a statewide effort to instill the principles of positive youth development, social-emotional learning, healing-centered practices, and culturally responsive coaching in youth coaches. Coaches will learn a range of youth-centered strategies, including creating safe spaces for all young people, fostering a sense of belonging, and coaching with empathy. The American Institutes for Research (AIR), who leads the multi-year implementation study of the Million Coaches Challenge, will provide research support for the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge.

“A positive and empowering youth sports culture is critical

to the mental health and overall well-being of our children,” said First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom. “When coaches are trained to prioritize character development, teamwork, grit, and emotional resilience, young people are more likely to stay engaged in sports and build essential life skills. The partnership between the Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness and Mental Well-being and Million Coaches Challenge will ensure that our youth not only experience the physical benefits of sports but also gain the social and emotional support they need to thrive on and off the field.”

Through existing relationships with parks and recreation systems, schools, community-based organizations, and club teams, Positive Coaching Alliance and Center for Healing and Justice through Sport will provide training to at least 25,000 coaches across California by December 2025. The Governor’s Advisory Council will promote the

initiative statewide, reaching communities with significant need and underrepresentation in youth sports. The Center for Healing and Justice through Sport has existing coach training partnerships across the state.

Notable examples include the Dodgers Foundation, the Los Angeles Clippers, the YMCA of Greater Los Angeles, and, together with Nike, the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. Positive Coaching Alliance, with its robust statewide infrastructure, also has planned trainings this fall with the LA Jr. Clippers, USTA Southern California, Boys and Girls Club of Burbank, Irvine Ice Foundation, Santa Maria Swim Club, and numerous high schools across the state.

“California is setting a powerful example for the country,” said Kevin Connors, Managing Director of the Susan Crown Exchange, funder of the Million Coaches Challenge. “This initiative will help ensure that hundreds of thousands of young

athletes experience sports in ways that promote physical, emotional, and mental well-being.”

Coaches and organizations interested in joining the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge can learn more or sign up for training by visiting <https://moveyourbodycalm-ourmind.org/> or emailing Info.AdvisoryCouncil@cdph.ca.gov.

Trainings will be available both in-person and virtually. Organizations will be able to schedule specific training sessions for their coaches or join publicly available options. The Center for Healing and Justice through Sport will host a public virtual training focused on healing-centered sport on Nov. 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m. A self-paced online option is also available for the public through Positive Coaching Alliance. Both opportunities will be available at no cost.

To learn more about the Million Coaches Challenge, visit [millioncoaches.org](https://millioncoaches.org). ★

## Cohen Announces Opening of the Property Tax Postponement Program Filing Period

### California State Controller’s Office News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - State Controller Malia M. Cohen announced Oct. 7 that the filing period for applications for property tax deferment are now being processed.

California’s Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program, administered by Controller Cohen, allows homeowners who are seniors, are blind, or have a disability, and who meet income and other requirements to postpone payment of property taxes on their primary residence.

In the 2023-24 tax year, California homeowners were able to postpone over \$6.2 million in residential property taxes. Over the last few years, eligibility for tax deferment has been expanded several times by the addition of manufactured homes and adjustments to the income limit. This year, the household income limit has been raised to \$53,574, making Property Tax Postponement available to even more seniors and Californians with disabilities. Household income for the upcoming Property Tax Postponement cycle will be based on the 2023 calendar year.

Funding for Property Tax Postponement is limited, and applications will be

processed beginning Oct. 1 in the order they are received. The final filing deadline for the current tax year is Feb. 10, 2025. Participants must reapply each year and demonstrate they continue to meet eligibility requirements. When an applicant is approved, a lien will be placed on the real property or a security agreement be filed with the Department of Housing and Community Development for a manufactured home, until the account is paid in full.

Applications and additional program details can be found online, by calling (800) 952-5661 or email at [postpone-ment@sco.ca.gov](mailto:postpone-ment@sco.ca.gov).

As the chief fiscal officer of California, Controller Cohen is responsible for accountability and disbursement of the state’s financial resources. The Controller has independent auditing authority over government agencies that spend state funds. She is a member of numerous financing authorities, and fiscal and financial oversight entities including the Franchise Tax Board. She also serves on the boards for the nation’s two largest public pension funds. Follow the Controller on X @CACController and on Facebook at California State Controller’s Office. ★

## New Resources Help Promote Teacher Prep Programs

### California Commission on Teacher Credentialing News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** -The State Collaborative for California’s Educator Workforce has released a new suite of tools to make high quality teacher preparation programs more accessible and affordable to prospective teachers across the state.

California faces persistent teacher shortages that force many districts to hire substitutes or teachers who have not completed a preparation program. These shortages are greatest for early childhood educators as well as those who specialize in teaching students with disabilities and who are multi-language learners.

Despite the state’s unprecedented investments to strengthen the teacher pipeline, high quality preparation programs are often inaccessible or unaffordable for many prospective teachers.

To address this challenge, education leaders from state agencies, public, and private teacher preparation programs developed a suite of resources to help prospective teachers identify preparation pathways that best meet their needs given their individual experience and education, as well as guidance on available financial resources to make preparation affordable.

“All students need and deserve well-prepared, credentialed teachers. This resource toolkit will help California attract, grow, and retain the number of talented teachers needed to educate the next generation,” said Mary Vixie Sandy, Collaborative lead and executive director of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing along with Commission Chair Marquita Grenot-Scheyer.

The toolkit, available on the Commission on Teacher Credentialing’s Roadmap to Teaching website, features:

Funding Your Future in Teaching, which offers financial planning steps for every aspiring educator along with sample funding packages for those considering a California-based teacher residency program; and

A Teacher Candidate Funding Explorer database of resources to help prospective teachers offset the cost of earning a teaching credential.

In addition, the site includes a set of similar resources for teacher preparation program leaders that provide guidance on funding programs that pay teacher candidates a living wage while they earn their credential. The resources include:

A Teacher Preparation Program Funding

Explorer, a searchable database of federal and state funding sources that can be used to improve teacher preparation programs; and

A series of Teacher Residency Program Funding Scenarios that describe strategies for combining funding to develop and sustain a teacher residency program.

“Teacher preparation programs are available and can be affordable, but too many prospective teachers are unaware of the pathways available into teacher education. We have come together to increase awareness of those pathways and to give teacher candidates the information they need to select the pathway that’s best for them,” said commissioners and higher education representatives, Annamarie Francois, University of California, Shireen Pavri, California State University, and Kimberly White-Smith, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities.

A new state law allows for individuals who hold a qualifying bachelor’s degree or higher in any subject to be considered for admission to most teacher preparation programs.

“Teacher shortages are a nationwide issue that must be addressed by tackling barriers to equitable access and the affordability of teacher preparation programs,” said Daisy Gonzales, executive director of the California Student Aid Commission. “These new tools will not only help prospective teachers identify high-quality teacher preparation programs, but also allow them and higher education institutions to participate in designing regional educational pathways to meet California’s urgent need for teachers.”

The resources were created through the State Educator Workforce Collaborative – a collaboration between state agencies and teacher preparation programs including the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, California State Board of Education, California Department of Education, California Student Aid Commission, California State University Chancellor’s Office, University of California Office of the President, California Community College Chancellor’s Office, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, and Department of Finance and Office of the Governor – with research and support from WestEd.

For more information on the program visit the Commission on Teacher Credentialing at [www.etc.ca.gov/credentials/roadmap-to-teaching/financial-resources-for-teacher-candidates](http://www.etc.ca.gov/credentials/roadmap-to-teaching/financial-resources-for-teacher-candidates). ★

## County ROAR Program Receives Funding

### Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento County Department of Health Services (DHS) has received an \$8 million grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections, funded through Proposition 47, to launch a new program focused on helping formerly incarcerated individuals reintegrate into society. The Reentry Opportunities and Access to Resources (ROAR) program will address core challenges like recidivism, homelessness and unemployment for individuals reentering the community after incarceration. The grant, which was awarded in October 2024 will fund efforts through June 1, 2028.

#### What is the Proposed ROAR Program?

ROAR aims to reduce recidivism rates by 35% by connecting individuals with community-based resources and support before they are released. The program plans to expand eligibility for reentry services and establish partnerships with correctional facilities to provide “warm handoffs” for those reentering the community. By connecting individuals with community providers who can help them find housing, job training or mental health services, DHS hopes to offer a fresh start for those reintegrating into society.

Homelessness is a significant barrier

for individuals leaving incarceration, and ROAR is set to address this challenge with re-housing funds and access to shelter beds. The program’s objective is to reduce homelessness among its participants by 60% and lower unemployment by 50%, with job training and workforce development as core components of the strategy. Data from the Homeless Management Information System and reports from community-based organizations will be used to track these efforts.

Substance use and mental health issues are common among justice-involved individuals, with nearly 25% of Sacramento’s incarcerated population affected by substance use disorders alone. ROAR will work to increase participation in mental health and substance use treatment programs by 50%, helping participants build a foundation for stability. By recruiting more service providers and strengthening referral networks, ROAR seeks to offer targeted, timely support to those in need.

With funding secured, Sacramento County will begin developing an implementation plan and budget for ROAR and is aiming to create lasting change and reduce the barriers faced by formerly incarcerated individuals in Sacramento.

For more information on the ROAR program contact Sacramento County Public Information Officer Elizabeth Zelidon via email at, [zelidone@sac-county.gov](mailto:zelidone@sac-county.gov). ★





# ESKATON®

VILLAGE CARMICHAEL



## A Community as *Dynamic as You*



### *Resident-driven Culture*

We are incredibly proud of our resident-driven culture, with its diverse range of regularly scheduled activities and events and 40+ Resident Clubs and Groups.



### *Park-like Grounds*

Set on 37-acres of walkable, bike and pet-friendly paths, inviting you to enjoy nature and stay active.



### *Maintenance-free Living*

Experience the convenience of restaurant style dining, weekly housekeeping, 24-hour security and more.

## *Schedule a tour today!*

Life Plan Community / CCRC • Independent Living • Assisted Living  
Memory Care • Rehabilitation • Skilled Nursing