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Citrus Heights Messenger

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Laws are Changing in 2025



Starting Jan. 1, 2025, many significant new laws will go into effect across California, impacting everything in daily life from traffic regulations, employment, housing to healthcare. Image from Pixabay

By Omella Rossi

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Starting Jan. 1, 2025, many significant new laws will go into effect across California, impacting everything in daily life from traffic regulations, employment, housing to healthcare.

TRAFFIC LAWS

Senate Bill 1107 will raise the minimum auto liability insurance requirements for California motorists. Currently, drivers must carry liability coverage of \$15,000 for injury or death of one person, \$30,000 for injury or death of multiple people, and \$5,000 for property damage. Beginning Jan. 1, these requirements will increase to \$30,000 for bodily injury or death of one person, \$60,000 for multiple persons and \$15,000 for property damage.

Assembly Bill 413, commonly known as the "Daylighting Law," will take effect in 2025, banning

drivers from parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk. This law aims to improve pedestrian safety by providing clearer visibility at intersections. The law applies to both marked and unmarked crosswalks, and while cities are working to implement signage and curb markings, not all areas will have red-painted curbs in time for the new rule.

Senate Bill 905 closes the "locked door loophole" in California's auto burglary laws. Under the new law, prosecutors no longer need to prove that a vehicle was locked in order to charge someone with burglary. Instead, they only need to show that forcible entry occurred. The change is expected to make it easier for victims of car break-ins to pursue legal action, with felony convictions carrying penalties ranging from 16 months to three years.

EMPLOYMENT LAWS

A statewide minimum wage increase will take effect on Jan. 1,

raising the rate to \$16.50 per hour for all employees, regardless of company size. This adjustment is based on a cost-of-living provision built into California's minimum wage law.

Senate Bill 1100 prohibits employers from requiring a valid driver's license for job applicants unless driving is a core function of the role. Employers must also demonstrate that using alternative transportation would not be comparable in travel time or cost.

HOUSING LAWS

Assembly Bill 2347 introduces stronger protections for renters by extending the timeline for tenants to respond to eviction notices. Under the new law, tenants will have 10 business days, up from the previous five-day deadline, to contest an eviction.

Starting in April, Senate Bill 611 will provide additional protections for renters in California

Continued on page 11

Holiday Tree Recycling Next Week

Sacramento County Waste Management and Recycling News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Give your holiday tree a free and proper send-off and recycle it into a new life as beneficial mulch or compost.

Requirements

Trees must have all tinsel, lights, decorations, nails and stands removed. Flocked trees are not accepted for recycling. Please ensure transported holiday trees are properly secured during transport.

Saturday, Jan. 4, Free Mulching Event

From 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., residents can bring holiday trees to be mulched for free to the SMUD Corporation Yard, located at 6100 Folsom Blvd. (just off Highway 50). Mulched tree is offered free to customers.

Sacramento County Locations

On both Saturday, Jan. 4 and Sunday, Jan. 5, rain or shine, residents can recycle holiday trees for free at two locations.

From 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days, residents can drop trees off at Kiefer Landfill, located at 12701 Kiefer Blvd. (Jackson Highway, north on Grant Line Road, right on Kiefer Boulevard).

Trees can also be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. at North Area Recovery Station, located at 4450 Roseville Road (Highway 80, north on Watt Avenue, left on Roseville Road).

Loads in excess of five trees must be issued a voucher for the trees to be accepted at no charge. Nonprofit civic groups and community organizations can obtain vouchers by submitting the Annual Holiday Tree Recycling Program Application Form. For more information, email SacGreenTeam@SacCounty.gov.

Other Local Drop-Off Locations

On Saturday, Jan. 4, residents can also recycle holiday trees for free at Elder Creek Recovery and Transfer Station, located at 8642 Elder Creek Road (Jackson Highway, south on Florin Perkins Road, left on Elder Creek Road) between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Also on Jan. 4, trees can be taken to Sacramento Recycling & Transfer Station at 8491 Fruitridge Road (Jackson Highway, south on Florin Perkins Road, right on Fruitridge Road) between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sacramento Recycling & Transfer Station
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Bird Flu: What Residents Need to Know



Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) is actively monitoring the bird flu situation locally and coordinating with state and federal agencies. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency on Dec. 18

in response to the ongoing H5N1 Avian Influenza (bird flu) outbreak. The declaration is designed to help state agencies respond more effectively by streamlining resources

and operations. "This emergency declaration ensures agencies have the tools needed to respond quickly," said Dr. Olivia Kasirye, Sacramento County Public

Health Officer. "The risk to the general public remains very low at this time, and we are working closely with state and local partners to monitor and

Continued on page 11

City Council Swears in New Members

City of Citrus Heights News Release

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Newly-elected Citrus Heights City Councilmembers Kelsey Nelson – District 1 and Tim Schaefer – District 3 were sworn in to office during the Dec. 11 City Council meeting.

The new Citrus Heights City Council also selected Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa as mayor and MariJane Lopez-Taff as vice-mayor for the next year. Each year, the City Council selects one of its members to serve a one-year term as mayor and vice mayor.



The Citrus Heights City Council elected two new members on Dec. 11. Photo courtesy of the City of Citrus Heights

Karpinski-Costa was elected to the City Council to represent District 4 in November

2022. Lopez-Taff was elected to the City Council to represent District 2 in November

2022. The City Council meeting video can be viewed on the City of Citrus

Heights website at citrusheights.net. Results of the November General Election are available on

the Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections website at elections.saccounty.net. ★

Chamber Hosts Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez



Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce hosted newly-elected Sacramento County Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez on Dec. 17. Courtesy photo



Installation of the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, presented by Police Chief Alex Turcotte, was held on Dec. 17. Photo by Ornella Rossi

By Ornella Rossi

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - On Dec. 17, the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce hosted a highly anticipated luncheon at the Citrus Heights Community Center, featuring newly-elected Sacramento County Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez.

The event, which ran from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., provided attendees with an opportunity to meet Rodriguez, hear her vision for the future, and learn about the impact of her leadership on the Citrus Heights community and Sacramento County as a whole.

Sheri Merrick, the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce executive director, praised Rodriguez's rise to leadership, emphasizing her journey.

"She has grown from the daughter of an immigrant to become a community leader, a business owner, a former

mayor of Folsom and now the Supervisor-elect for Sacramento County Board of Supervisors District 4," Merrick said. "Her story is one of hard work, dedication and a commitment to making meaningful change in the community."

Rodriguez, a San Francisco native, shared her personal and professional journey with the crowd, detailing her 20 years in healthcare, her experience as a business owner and her path to becoming an elected official.

"I wanted to work for myself, I love food, and I'm a big foodie, so I decided to open a taqueria," Rodriguez said. "We found a location, gutted it, and I started working full time at the restaurant. That was my first introduction to policymaking: there are so many decisions made by the city that directly affect businesses and that's when I started getting

involved with City Council meetings."

Rodriguez's commitment to public service deepened after she was elected to the Folsom City Council in 2020. Reflecting on her time in office, Rodriguez noted her passion for policymaking and her drive to improve the community. "I realized how much I love making decisions that positively impact the city and its residents. The last four years have been truly amazing," Rodriguez said. "As a Latina, I wanted to bring diversity to the table. At that time, the City Council was predominantly all Caucasian for a city that was about 30% people of color."

When former Supervisor Sue Frost announced her retirement in 2023, Rodriguez saw an opportunity to address larger issues facing the county, particularly the challenges of city mandates and regional growth.

She ran for the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, winning her seat outright in the primary election with more than 51% of the vote.

Now, Rodriguez is eager to tackle some of the region's most pressing issues and to support community growth.

"I'm really excited about working more closely with the chambers and other organizations to make improvements," Rodriguez said. "Our communities have so much potential to invest in themselves and I want to help enhance that growth, promote beautification and ensure a safe environment for everyone."

Rodriguez also discussed the most urgent issues facing the county. Homelessness, transportation and public safety topped the list.

"We need more accountability in the organizations receiving county funds. If they're not delivering results,

we need to hold them accountable," Rodriguez said.

On transportation, she noted the limitations of Measure A funding and expressed the need for alternative solutions.

Public safety, Rodriguez added, is a critical priority for her office.

"Government's number one priority is to make sure our community feels safe," Rodriguez said. "We also need to focus on getting young people into public safety careers. It's essential to build a bridge between high school programs and these fields."

With a housing crisis impacting the region, Rodriguez is committed to supporting growth and development to meet the community's demands.

"I want to see accountability and improvements," Rodriguez said. "I have the energy, the time and the drive." ★

City to Review Proposed Sunrise Tomorrow Specific Plan Amendment

City of Citrus Heights News Release

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The City of Citrus Heights will hold a public meeting 6 p.m. Jan. 22 to review and provide direction on a property owner-initiated amendment proposal to the Sunrise Tomorrow Specific Plan. The meeting will be held at the Citrus Heights Council Chambers, 6360 Fountain Square Drive.

The amendment proposal, submitted by Ethan Conrad Properties, details adjustments to the plan approved by the City Council in 2021 that would affect the redevelopment of the Sunrise Mall area.

Proposed changes include the allowance of eight quick-service restaurant and drive-thru businesses, building and landscape materials sales, light industrial and storage uses, and automotive uses, as well as the removal of requirements for open space.

The city encourages community participation in this important review process. Residents and stakeholders are invited to attend the City Council meeting to learn more about the proposed amendments and provide comments.

For more information on the Sunrise Tomorrow Specific Plan and related updates and to provide feedback, visit www.sunrisetomorrow.net. ★

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Henderson Remembered as Electrifying Legend of the Game

Can New State Regulations Resolve California's Existential Insurance Crisis?



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

their shares of the market. Until now, insurers set rates based on past losses.

"Giving people more choices to protect themselves is how we will solve California's insurance crisis," Lara said in a statement as he released details of the modeling plan. "For the first time in history we are requiring insurance companies to expand where people need help the most. With our changing climate we can no longer look to the past. We are being innovative and forward-looking to protect Californians' access to insurance."

He also noted that in setting rates, insurers will be required to consider hardening efforts by threatened communities and property owners to reduce potential losses.

Lara claims support from environmental groups, farmers and other stakeholders, in addition to insurers. But he's drawing sharp criticism from Consumer Watchdog, an organization that has sponsored landmark changes in insurance regulation. The group has also received millions of dollars in fees from intervening in insurance rates cases, and has been a harsh critic of Lara throughout his time in office.

"Full transparency is what keeps insurance rates honest but Commissioner Lara's rule does away with that protection," Consumer Watchdog executive director Carmen Balber said in a statement. "The rule will let insurance companies raise rates based on secret algorithms but not expand coverage as promised."

The new rules take effect in January. Farmers Insurance, California's

second-largest property insurer, has already pledged to expand its coverage in response to Lara's actions. The American Property Casualty Association, a trade group, also reacted positively.

"California will continue to have a robust regulatory and rate approval process that guarantees that rates reflect the actual cost of covering claims," the association said.

While the rules unveiled last week are central to Lara's plans, there are other elements that remain: shoring up the FAIR Plan, California's last ditch insurer for property owners who cannot obtain coverage elsewhere, speeding up insurance rate case approvals, and allowing insurers to include costs of reinsurance — coverage of their potential losses — in setting rates.

Adoption of Lara's plans may result in premium increases, but maintaining a viable insurance market is a vital factor in the state's economy. The inability to buy insurance would devastate the residential and commercial real estate market and require property owners to pay for fire losses out of their own pockets.

Lara's plans may not be perfect, but nobody — including Consumer Watchdog — has offered a better alternative. He should be credited with at least attempting to deal with one of California's existential crises.

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. ★

25-year career including the Athletics, Yankees, Padres, Mets, Red Sox, Dodgers, Angels, Mariners and Blue Jays. He led the American League in steals 12 times and went on to be the all-time record holder with 1,406 thefts, earning him the nickname "Man of Steal."

"It wasn't until I saw Rickey that I understood what baseball was about. Rickey Henderson is a run, man," said Athletics teammate Mitchell Page. "That's it. When you see Rickey

Henderson, I don't care when, the score's already 1-0. If he's with you, that's great. If he's not, you won't like it."

His speed wasn't his only skill. Henderson set all-time records for runs scored (2,295), unintentional walks (2,129) and leadoff home runs (81). The 10-time All-Star won the MVP Award in 1990, leading the

American League in runs scored, stolen bases and on-base percentage. He finished in the top ten in MVP voting five other times.

"He was one of the best players that I ever played with and obviously the best leadoff hitter in baseball," said Hall of Famer Dave Winfield.

Henderson won two World Series during his career, in 1989 with Oakland and in 1993 with Toronto. He spent most of his career in left field and won a Gold Glove Award in 1981. He finished with a .279 batting average, 3,055 hits and 297 home runs. He electrified crowds with his flair and enthusiasm for the game.

Henderson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2009 on his first appearance on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot.

"If my uniform doesn't get dirty, I haven't done anything in the baseball game," said Henderson. ★



National baseball Hall of Fame News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Rickey Henderson used the ultimate combination of power and speed to break numerous major league baseball records during his career.

But what solidified his place in baseball history was his love for the game.

Henderson died on Dec. 20, at the age of 65. His enthusiasm for the game manifested itself in 1,406 stolen bases — by far the best total in history.

"Rickey Henderson was not only the greatest base stealer of all-time, but one of the most memorable personalities of his generation," said Jane Forbes Clark, Chairman of the Board of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. "The


enthusiasm and energy he brought to Cooperstown each year will truly be missed. Our thoughts are with his wife, Pamela, and their family."

Born on Dec. 25, 1958, in Chicago, Ill., Henderson spent most of his childhood in Oakland, Calif. An All-American running back in high school, Henderson turned down multiple football scholarships to sign with the Oakland Athletics in 1976.

In his first full major league season 1980, Henderson broke Hall of Famer Ty Cobb's 65-year-old American League stolen base record of 96 with 100 swipes. In 1982, he stole 130 bases, breaking Hall of Famer Lou Brock's modern era major league single-season record of 118.

"He's the greatest leadoff hitter of all time, and I'm not sure there's a close second," said Billy Beane, senior advisor to the Athletics and the team's former long-time general manager.

He played for nine teams over his




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Del Campo Boosters

Annual Crab Feed

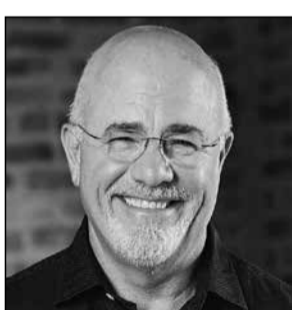
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Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says Compromises Are Part of Marriage

Dear Dave,

My wife and I have been married for two years, and we both have good jobs. Together, we bring home around \$190,000 combined. We also have \$100,000 in a savings account, and no debt except for our mortgage. A couple of weeks ago, I was contacted about an opportunity to take a job in commercial real estate in my hometown. To be honest, this kind of work has been a dream of mine for several years. The problem is my wife is upset by the idea of moving. She says it's because she doesn't want to be even further away from her family, but it seems like something else is bothering her. Do you have any advice?

— Freddie

Dear Freddie,
Anytime you're in a relationship and something like this happens, it's a little like making a sale in that you've got to dig out the

real reason for the objection. It could very well be that she doesn't want to be further away from her family, and that's natural—to an extent. But like you said, there could be other factors involved.

There might be something in your past that bothers her, or something she doesn't want you to revisit. There may even be feelings of discomfort with your family for things that have happened or been said. It could also be the insecurity that goes along with a move, a new home and a new job. I don't know how far away you're talking about moving, but it could also be she's worried about leaving her job.

From a relationship standpoint, you two each need to lay your cards on the table and be honest with each other. Open up, and really talk about it. Otherwise, it's going to become a sore spot and cause even more problems. Part of marriage is making compromises. Sometimes compromises must be made by one, or both, people in order to do what's best for the re-

lationship in the present and in the long run.

It could be that you just need an impartial referee. Would you both be willing to attend a few sessions with a good pastor or marriage counselor together? Talking to either one doesn't mean your marriage is on the rocks, but sometimes a compassionate and objective third party can help dig down below the surface to uncover issues and help find a reasonable solution to problems.

I hope this helps. God bless you both, Freddie.

— 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. ★

MEMORIAL

ISAAC "IKE" H. CORNELL JR. • 08/24/1951 - 10/16/2024

The family of Isaac "Ike" H. Cornell Jr. of Citrus Heights is saddened to announce his passing at the age of 73.

The United States Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran Corporal Cornell "Corny" served his country honorably.


Retired engineer for Intel (Chandler, Az; Folsom, Ca) after many years of dedicated work. His

hobby of driving stock cars brought him joy at Black Canyon Raceway, AZ; Sacramento Raceway; Placer Speedway; (NASCAR Official) All American Speedway, Roseville.

He is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Roberta, as well as his daughter, Barbara Donabedian (Ryan Donabedian); son, Chad Cornell (Madison Seaton); son, Rusty Cornell (Brittany Snelgrove);

grandchildren, Tyler Ryan Donabedian, Logen Mead, Dakota Donabedian, Chad Aiden Isaac Cornell, PO3 Brody Donabedian (Allison Dunbar-Donabedian), Auriela Donabedian, Vincent Cornell; sister, Winifred Mansfield.

Preceded in death by father, Isaac H Cornell Sr.; mother, Marjorie Keller; sister, Susan Cornell.



Social Security Matters

Have I Saved Social Security Money by Claiming at 62?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I had to start collecting Social Security at 62, and I am 75 now. I believe that in the last 13 years I have saved Social Security money, so I do not know why I cannot draw my full benefits now.

If I had started drawing at 65 at \$1,200 per month, then I would have drawn \$16,400 per year. Instead, I got \$680 per month from 62 to 75, or \$8,160 per year, or about \$106,000 over 13 years. Compare that to the age 65 amount of \$14,400 per year for 10 years, which is \$144,000. So, by claiming at 62, at age 75 I have saved the government over \$38,000. It would make seniors lives so much easier if they could draw full Social Security at 75 years old, after getting only part of their SS. **Signed: Second-guessing**

Dear Second-guessing: The difference between benefits claimed at various ages causes many to reflect, as you have done, about what might have been had you waited longer to claim. But there is an error in your calculations. If your age 62 monthly benefit is \$680, your age 65 monthly benefit would have been about \$845, not \$1,200. Thus, at 75 you would have collected about \$101,400 by claiming at 65, vs. the \$106,000 you have received

by claiming at age 62. In other words, you still would not have broken even had you claimed at age 65.

Social Security says that it doesn't matter when you claim — they say that if you claim early your payments will be less, but you'll get more of them. Where SSA's argument falls apart is when life expectancy is longer. Our experience is that if you wait until your full retirement age (FRA) to claim (which is age 66 in your case), vs. claiming at age 62, you will collect the same amount of total money at about age 78. In other words, the "breakeven age" for waiting until FRA to claim is about 78. So, you will reach your personal "breakeven age" in about 2 1/2 years (at age 78). And this is precisely why we encourage everyone to understand their life expectancy when deciding when to claim Social Security — those who expect to live longer will, indeed, get more SS money if they delay claiming.

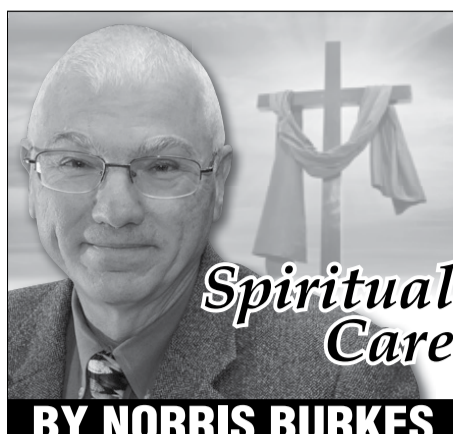
Your benefit is determined by your age when you claim, and if you claim before your FRA your monthly amount is permanently reduced. If you claimed at age 62 and your monthly amount was \$680, then in the four years until you reached age 66 (your FRA) you would have received about \$32,640. If you had, instead, waited until your FRA to claim, your benefit at age 66 would have been about \$906/month. Collecting \$906/month (at 66) vs. \$680/month (at 62) would make your breakeven age about 78. If you claimed at age 65 instead of 62, your breakeven age would have been about a year earlier (77).

So, have you saved Social Security money? Up to this

point, you have not. Since you claimed at age 62, you have collected about \$680/month for 13 years until you were 75 (or about \$106,000). If you had waited until age 65 to claim you would have, instead, collected about \$101,400 — in other words you have received more, so far, by claiming at age 62. But that will change when you reach 77 (your breakeven age, had you claimed at 65). Starting at age 77, you will have received less in cumulative lifetime benefits because you claimed at age 62. Which, again, is why — at the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service — we encourage everyone to consider life expectancy when deciding when to take Social Security. Of course there are other factors too, not the least of which is financial need, but life expectancy is key. And since the benefit you get when you claim is permanent (except for annual Cost of Living Adjustments), deciding when to claim Social Security is a decision which affects a lifetime.

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

Resolved to be Authentic



BY NORRIS BURKES

As I work though the 23rd year of this column, I will confess that column writing isn't always an easy gig. It sometimes requires walking a fine line between expressing what I really think or simply spouting what entertains my reader.

As every columnist can testify, strong opinions can either sell papers or lose subscriptions.

If I play it too safe, I bore you. If I venture too far into religious or political topics, or share personal vulnerabilities and temptations, I run the risk of offending you.

That's why I've made this 2025 New Year's resolution.

I resolve that I will work harder this year to write with more authenticity. I won't focus on the popular or how I might improve the ups and downs of my readership, but on writing authentically.

To that end, today's column will preview upcoming topics of 2025 and how I see where God fits into politics, religion, family and personal struggles.

In politics, I will support voices of reason and grace. I don't subscribe to the argumentative style of liberal commentators like Rachel Maddow or conservative ones like Ann Coulter. Instead of focusing on the noise level, I look for the truth and tone.

As a chaplain, I promise I won't spout politics UNLESS, politicians start spouting religion.

Our social welfare system needs

drastic reform. But from my end, I will promote faith groups that assume their responsibility to help the poor.

When it comes to gun control, I have no use for handguns, nor will I ever own a gun. However, if I felt the need to "protect" my home, I'd use the shotgun my pastor/dad used. He always said that a shotgun blast would either scare the intruder or stop him dead — all without killing a "friendly."

Of course, I obviously have opinions about religion. For instance, if there's a hell, Hitler is surely in it and Gandhi is certainly not. Heaven isn't an exclusive country club. I won't use my faith as a way to eternally divide people.

I love the Christian Bible, and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who came to reveal the entire truth about God. However, the Bible is not a final authority for history or science, and it's certainly not an addendum to the Trinity. Meaning, I use the Bible in worship services, but I don't "worship" the Bible.

I see abortion as a heartrending response to tragic problems. I will portray it in my columns as a decision between a woman and her doctor. BUT, while there are reasons for abortion, it ain't birth control. I support adoption, and those who know my story, know I live that belief.

Finally, in my personal life, I can be selfish sometimes. I've lost my temper with my children, and I've known temptation and depression. I've told some off-color jokes and have even known inebriation. I'm not proud of everything I do, but my shortcomings help me write this column — a column about meeting God in everyday life.

But, at the end of the day when I put the final touches on this column, I leave the most authentic word to my friend Popeye who said: "I am what I yam what I yam ... And I'll never hurt nobodys and I'll never tell a lie / Top to me bottom and me bottom to me top / That's the way it is 'til the day that I drop. What am I? / I yam what I yam." ★

The Worst Christmas I Can Remember

Dr. James L. Snyder

The best holiday for me is Christmas. I enjoy everything about Christmas except paying for many gifts. But looking back, it's all been worth it. I can't think of anything I would ever change.

I remembered something—the worst Christmas I ever had. I had forgotten about this, but all of a sudden, it came to mind.

When I was young, before I became a teenager, my parents would take me and my siblings downtown to meet Santa Claus. We would sit on his lap, take a candy cane from him, and tell him what we wanted for Christmas.

I vividly remember the first time I told him that I would love to have a pony for Christmas. He agreed to bring me a pony, and then he did his "ho, ho, ho" routine.

When I got up that Christmas, I noticed no pony under the Christmas tree. As I thought more about it, I realized that nothing was under the Christmas tree that I had asked Santa for. I couldn't understand it. My parents told me Santa would bring me the Christmas presents I asked for. Of course, I believed them.

At school, we were

having some kind of Christmas party, and they were talking about Santa Claus coming down the chimney to put presents under the Christmas tree and in the stockings hung by the fireplace. I didn't think too much of it at the time.

That Christmas Eve, as we were getting our Christmas tree all "holidayed" up, I felt that something was missing with our Christmas decorations. Then, it hit me rather strongly.

"Dad," I cried in alarm. He looked at me and said, "What's wrong son?"

I looked at him angrily and asked, "Dad, where is the chimney?"

With a curious look, he responded, "What are you talking about?"

"It's beginning to make sense," I seriously said to my father. "I now know what's wrong with our Christmas. I now know why I haven't got my pony."

My dad had no idea what I was talking about and asked me to explain.

"This week in school they were telling us all about Christmas and Santa Claus and Rudolph the red nose reindeer. One of the things they told us was that Santa Claus comes down the chimney to bring his gifts."

I paused for a moment and then continued, "So, that's why I've not got my pony for Christmas. Dad, where is our chimney?"

My dad was momentarily confused and had no idea how to respond to what I was saying.

Thinking back over that now, I couldn't help but laugh. My father had a hard time explaining to me why we didn't need a chimney for Christmas time. Every year, just before Christmas, I ask, "Dad, will we have a chimney this year?"

As I reflected on this, I thought that many things in life need sorting out. We believe something and then find out it wasn't the truth.

Jesus addressed this in John 8:31-33, "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

The truth about Jesus and His birth sets us free, and that truth can only be found in the Word of God.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.james-snyderministries.com ★

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Citrus Heights Messenger

Serving Citrus Heights and Sacramento County Since 2006

It is the intent of the Citrus Heights 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.

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Holiday Tree Recycling Jan. 4 and 5

Continued from page 1

Transfer Station is also accepting trees from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 26 to Jan. 4, Monday through Saturday.

Trees can also be dropped off in Folsom from 9 a.m. to 1

p.m. Jan. 4 at the Dan Russell Rodeo Arena Rodeo Park, located at the end of Stafford Street, next to the arena.

Curbside Organics Collection of Holiday Trees County residents with

the Department of Waste Management & Recycling curbside collection service can also recycle their live cut holiday tree (all tinsel, lights, decorations, nails and stands removed) by cutting it up and

putting it loosely in the curbside Organics cart. Please make sure the lid will close. The cart will be emptied on your next regularly scheduled Organics collection day. Flocked trees can be cut

up and placed loosely in the curbside Garbage cart for collection. Ensure that the lid will close.

Do not put holiday trees on curbs or roadsides for curbside collection. ★

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

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 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

Apt 04, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 17, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 THRIVE 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09027
 Wendi Weston, 9335 Defiance Circle, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wander with Wendi" 9335 Defiance Circle, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 2, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 WANDER 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09094
 Pavo Real Loco LLC, 4713 Good Court, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Pavo Real Loco" 2223 Marie Way, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 5, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 PAVO 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-08899
 Elevated Home Services LLC, 1636 I Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Elevated Home Services" 1636 I Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 22, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 ELEVATED 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09433
 Anthony Ibrahim, 12293 Paleo Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Laundromat Solutions" 12293 Paleo Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 18, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 LAUNDROMAT 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-08471
 Sarah R Blackledge, 50 Iron Point Circle, Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Josephine Estelle Jewelry" 50 Iron Point Circle, Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 7, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 JOSEPHINE 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09476
 Jill Mason, 2529 Sierra Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Slate Creatives" 2529 Sierra Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 SLATE 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09481
 Pearl Investment Co. LLC, 931 Hartz Way, #200, Danville, CA 94526 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wind Chase Apartments" 9745 Old Placerville Road, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 WIND 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09482
 High Roads Pavement Services, 10308 Placer Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "A-1 Advantage Asphalt & Concrete" 10308 Placer Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 19, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 A-1 1-17-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09351
 Wolfe Heights Estates, LLC, 8801 Folsom Boulevard, #260, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Alfonz Cellars" 9351 Rogers Road, Sacramento, CA 95829. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 16, 2024
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 ALFONZ 1-17-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV023738

Heshmat Ateei has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Heshmat Ateei to Danny Ateei.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: November 20, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024
 ATAEEI 12-27-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV022456

Melissa Marie Stone aka Melissa Marie Duran has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Melissa Marie Stone aka Melissa Marie Duran to Sunnie Marie Duran.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: November 5, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, Jan 3, 2025
 DURAN 1-3-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV017656

Shimal McEwen has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Caleb Julian Moraga to Caleb Julian McEwen.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on January 16, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 720 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: September 5, 2024
 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, Jan 3, 2025
 MCEWEN 1-3-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV023842

Ahmadjaved Hashimi & Asma Hashimi has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Said Mohammad Shah Hashimi to Mohammad Jan Hashimi.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 25, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: November 20, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of

the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 HASHIMI 1-10-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV024808

Carina Anne Torres has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Carina Anne Torres to Carina De Alba Lopez.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on February 19, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: December 6, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 CARINA 1-10-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV024250

Albert Allen Lockard and Jennifer Michelle Welch aka Roberta Louise Welch has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Albert Allen Lockard to Albert Allen Branson and Jennifer Michelle Welch aka Roberta Louise Welch to Jennifer Michelle Branson.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 1, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: November 27, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 BRANSON 1-10-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV025064

Iurii Zhoglichev has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Semen Zhoglichev to Simon Zhoglichev.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: December 10, 2024
 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 ZHOGLICHEV 1-10-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV024506

Ahmad Mustaba Abdul Roufi has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ahmad Mustaba Abdul Roufi to Mujtaba Raowfi.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 17, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
 Dated: December 2, 2024
 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 RAOWFI 1-10-25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DENNIS WAYNE ERFERT CASE NO. 24PR003512

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and

persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DENNIS WAYNE ERFERT.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by DONALD R. ERFERT, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento. The Petition for Probate requests that DONALD R. ERFERT be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: January 9, 2025 Time: 1:30 p.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: GILBERT J. PREMO, 500 Northfield Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648; 415-974-6664.
 Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, 2024
 ERFERT 12-27-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF QUANG VAN NGUYEN CASE NO. 24PR003552

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

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows January 8, 2025, 1:30 p.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Ali Gexiafong Moua, 1104 Corporate Way, Sacramento, CA 95831; (916) 333-7498
 Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, 2024
 NGUYEN 12-27-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ROBIN ROXANNE DRENTLAW CASE NO. 24PR003554

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

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows January 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Peter Galgani, 916 2nd Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 498-1357
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, 2024, Jan 3, 2025
 DRENTLAW 1-3-25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

STEVEN MICHAEL HAGY CASE NO. 24-PRO-03584

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

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows January 15, 2025, 1:30 p.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, Gordon D. Schaber Sacramento County Courthouse, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: John E. O'Grady, 3450 Sacramento Street, #428, San Francisco, CA 94118; (415) 986-8500
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 HAGY 1-10-25

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. FBNF2023-01186

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME of: Costpro Lending, 2135 Butano Drive, Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95825. Summit Funding, Inc., 2135 Butano Drive, Suite 150, Sacramento, CA 95825. The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on 2/17/2023 in the County of Sacramento.

Filed with the clerk of Sacramento County: 11/20/2024.
 Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025
 COSTPRO 1-10-25

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. FBNF2023-04052
 The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME of: Citrus Heights Car Wash, 7742 Auburn Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Berg Properties Inc., 6504 Aspen Gardens Way, Citrus Heights, Ca 95621.

The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on 5/25/2023 in the County of Sacramento.
 Filed with the clerk of Sacramento County: 12/10/2024.
 Publish: Dec 27, Jan 3, 10, 17, 2025
 CITRUS 1-17-25



CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-008

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS AMENDING CHAPTER 42 "FLOODS" OF THE CITRUS HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL CODE

The foregoing is a summary of an ordinance proposed to be adopted by the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights at its meeting of **January 8, 2025**.

The City is in-process of applying for a citywide flood insurance discount, through FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS). As a prerequisite to joining the program, updates to Chapter 42 of the City's Municipal Code are required to meet prerequisites for a higher level of discount through the CRS program.

The full text of the proposed ordinance is available in the City Clerk's Office, 6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621, (916) 727-4704 or www.citrusheights.net.

Amy Van
 City Clerk

Citrus Heights Messenger 12-27-2024

Celtic Cross Church Welcomes a New Pastor

By Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Yule be Missed. And there's no doubt that he will.

Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church celebrated the 28 years of service of retiring pastor Bob Yule with a farewell potluck on Nov. 16, recognizing that his ministry accounts for almost one third of the church's overall history in Citrus Heights.

Celtic Cross was organized as a Presbyterian church on Feb. 25, 1962, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Sacramento, and celebrated its 60th anniversary in Citrus Heights last November.

The church has since welcomed a new pastor, Rev. Dr. Sam Sungsoo Jun, (who prefers to be called Pastor Sam) who will now carry the church forward in faith and service to the community.

Yule and his wife, Patty, and their son, Josh, will continue to make their home in Fair Oaks. Looking back, Yule describes the 28 years as Celtic Cross Church pastor as being especially fulfilling for he and his family.

"I credit the people of Celtic Cross with incredible resilience. That is a long time to listen to anyone," said Yule, smiling during a recent interview.

"Our goal at Celtic Cross is to be a church that raises up entire families in discipleship and empowers people to be messengers of Christ in their community," Yule said.

Celtic Cross is a "continually growing community of people committed to following Jesus Christ," Yule said.

"When Patty and I arrived (at Celtic Cross) in late 1996, we were warmly welcomed," he said. "This community (Celtic Cross) has become my home, not only because it is the longest time I have ever lived anywhere but especially because of the encouragement and support we have both experienced here."

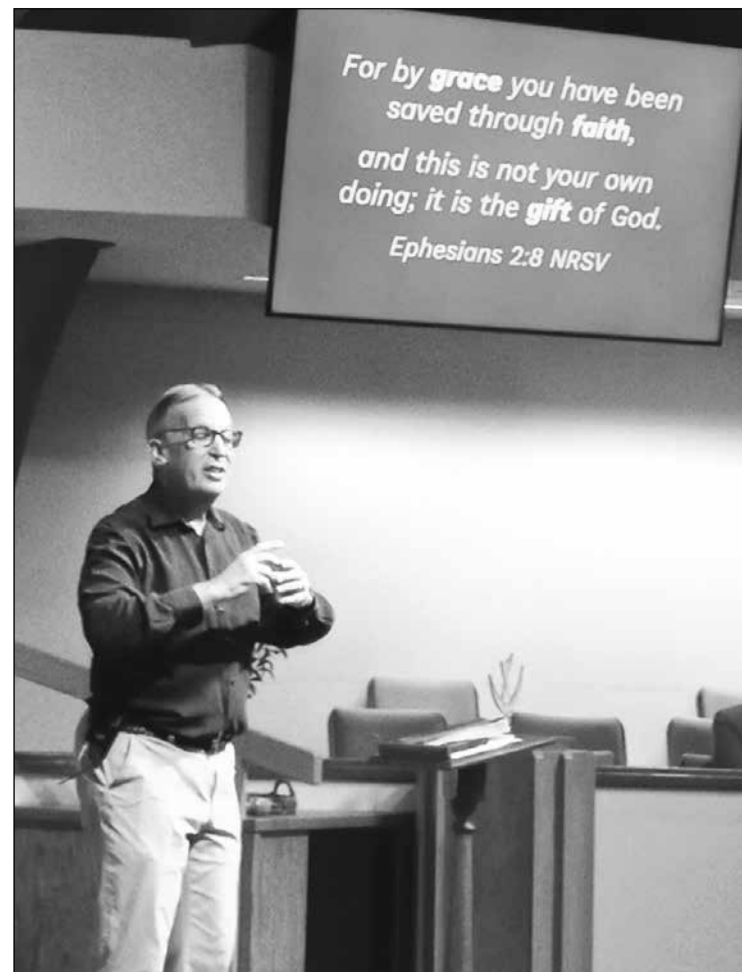
Yule had kind words about Pastor Sam.

"Pastor Sam will bring the same great energy, creativity and a Christ-like love to Celtic Cross which he has demonstrated in his past ministry experience," Yule said. "I am glad to hand over the baton of leadership to you, Pastor Sam, and I am praying that God provides with wisdom and direction as you lead the people of God for years to come."

Pastor Sam was previously senior pastor at the Northern Lakes Community Church in Traverse City, Michigan since 2019. He's now taking time to settle in before relocating his



Pastor Sam and Pastor Bob Yule pose together in the sanctuary at Celtic Cross. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan



Pastor Bob Yule delivers his Sunday message at his final service at Celtic Cross. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

family from Michigan to a new home here.

The new pastor of Celtic Cross is the son of a pastor and has been married to his wife, Annie, for 26 years. He's the father of two college-aged daughters, Hannah and Amy, who are attending interstate collegiate rivals, the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

Pastor Sam provided a guest sermon on Sunday, Sept. 29 at the 10 a.m. combined service at Celtic Cross and was then approved by vote at a congregational meeting that followed.

Born in Korea, Pastor Sam has six sisters and is the only son. His father pastored a large Presbyterian Church in Incheon, Korea for 42 years. Pastor Sam arrived in the United States to attend college in 1991.

"My father's pastoral visits were the most important times for guiding people to faith," he said. "It's in a 'ministry of presence' where God is met and encountered in a very real way, that God's love and grace can fully be felt and experienced."

"Today, I still draw and practice his ministry of presence in my own ministry settings," Pastor Sam said.

Pastor Sam said he looks forward to the congregation of Celtic Cross getting to know a little more about him. He once considered pursuing a much different career than the ministry



Pastor Bob Yule and his wife, Patty, pose together at the farewell potluck. Photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

during his high school and college years. He moved to the United States in 1991.

"For my first three years in high school in South Korea, I was dreaming about becoming an opera singer, as I took some vocal trainings and also led men's quartet and choir in my high school," he said.

"In my senior year in high school, I then dreamt about being a language (English) professor but ended up with going to college to become a religion professor," he said. "Then, after the first year in college, I was given an opportunity to study abroad in

the United States to further my study in religion and liberal arts in Texas. While studying at the University of Texas at Austin, my religion, music and Greek professors all encouraged me to go to seminary to have an in-depth study about Christianity."

Pastor Sam earned his master's in divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey, and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. He most recently served as associate pastor at Pines Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas,

where he focused on Youth and Family, Congregational Care, and Mission. Prior to that, he was a Lilly Resident in Pastoral Ministry at the First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"I'm also a musician (a trained tenor), and sometimes I sing while playing piano but these days, I enjoy much more listening to all kinds of music from classical opera to contemporary Christian jazz and much more watching plays and musical performances in theaters," he said.

Pastor Bob Yule intends to keep busy in his spiritual life and wherever his retirement might lead him.

"There's a need for part-time transitional pastors in our region and in early 2025, I will preach a few times a month at the Auburn Presbyterian Church," Yule said.

"The church is looking to call a new pastor in the next year. I believe I can help the congregation get prepared for the future," Yule said. "I'm also looking forward to having a few more days off to ride my bike on the American River Parkway and have more time to enjoy with my wife, Patty."

Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church is located at 5839 Dewey Drive in Citrus Heights. In-person and online services are available every Sunday. For more information, visit online.celticcross.church/or call 916-967-1414. ★

Citrus Heights Community Center Receives New Name

Story and photo by Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - The Citrus Heights Community Center at 6300 Fountain Square Drive officially has a new name.

The original bronze lettering on a curved retaining wall outside of the building is temporarily covered by a vinyl banner, which announces the name change, with capitalized letters reading the "NEW Citrus Heights EVENT Center."

A comprehensive new marketing plan for the facility is set to start during the first quarter of 2025, according to Citrus Heights communications officer Marisa Brown.

"The name change to 'Citrus Heights Events Center' better reflects the facility's multi-purpose role as a regionally recognized venue for various events," Brown said.

Visitors are greeted at the main plaza entrance, which is surrounded by tall palm trees near a bubbling water fountain dedicated to the city by Jean and Jack Duncan.

The former Citrus Heights Community Center was officially dedicated to city residents on Jan. 23, 2010, by then Mayor Dr. Jayna Karpinski-Costa,



The building is temporarily covered by a vinyl banner that announces the name change, with capitalized letters reading the "NEW Citrus Heights EVENT Center."

Vice-Mayor Jeannie Bruins, and council members Steve Miller, James Shelby and Jeffrey Slowey. Henry Tingle was then city manager.

Another large black commemorative plaque dedicated on April 20, 2012 recognizes the "hundreds of volunteers, past present and future whose devotion and commitment to the city of Citrus Heights has made a difference."

City officials hope that rebranding and enhanced marketing of

the former Community Center starting in 2025 will show measurable results both in utilization and increased rental revenue.

"This branding also supports our city marketing efforts to enhance utilization and attract more opportunities," Brown said.

The 29,173-square-foot facility, located across from the Citrus Heights Police Department and south of City Hall, has meeting and entertainment space to accommodate up to 966 people.

The building also features a high-tech audio-visual system, a first-class commercial catering kitchen which can accommodate two separate events simultaneously and patio and barbecue areas, according to a current city marketing brochure.

Inside, its 11,000-square-foot Community Hall can be separated into three different sections (A, B and C) or rented in full to accommodate large events. Banquet seating in the Community Hall

can range from 150 to 700, depending on available resources.

The facility also houses the Citrus Heights Senior Center in a semi-self-contained area that is set aside for social gatherings and features its own indoor and outdoor fireplace and trellised patio area.

"While many 'community centers' traditionally focus on offering recreational activities and classes, our center does not now specifically serve that function," Brown said. "Instead, we as a city have historically deferred to Sunrise Recreation and Park District (SRPD), which specializes in providing these activities for our residents."

According to Brown, the Citrus Heights Event Center rebranding will run throughout the year and include social media and website updates.

"Our team is planning an open house/ribbon-cutting event to showcase the venue at a yet to be determined date," Brown said.

For current facility rental and pricing information, email tmitchell@citrusheights.net or msaario@citrusheights.net or call 916-727-5400. Appointments are required to view the facility during normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ★

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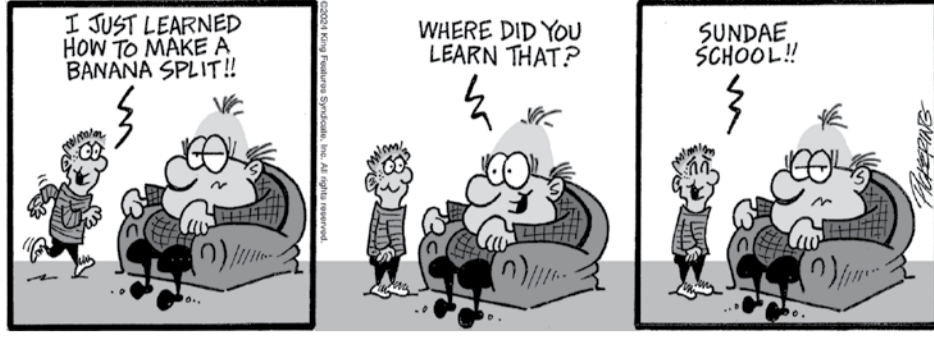
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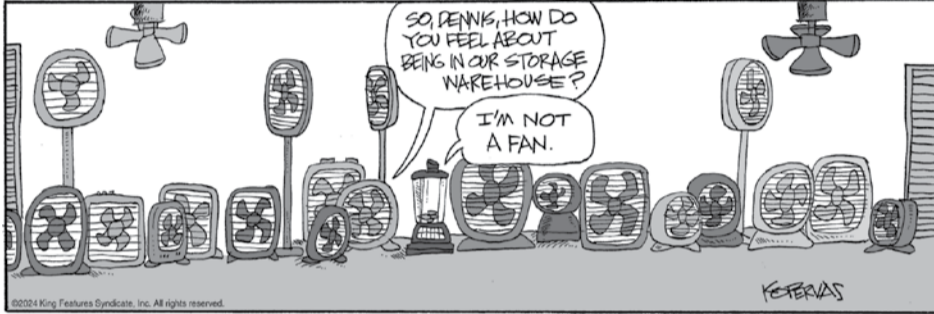
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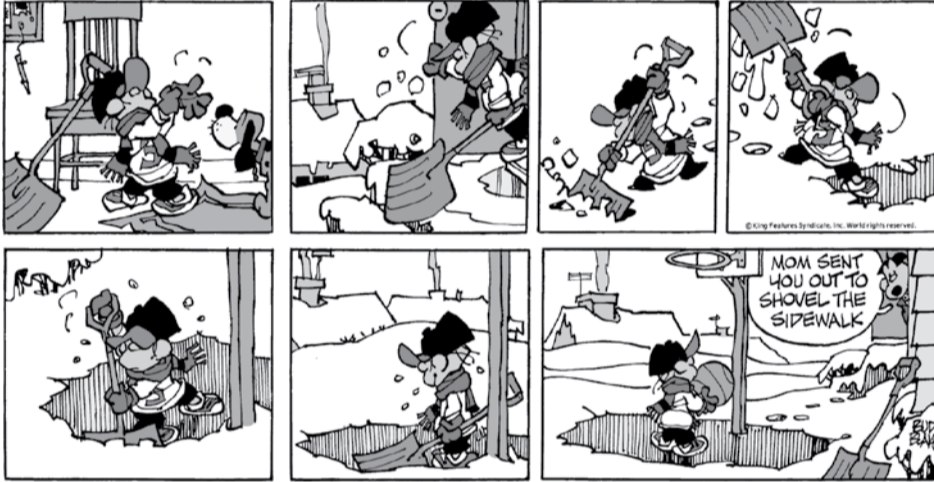
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 - Beware of these in March
 - Spiker and Sponge of "James and the Giant Peach"
 - "Bioengineered humanoid in "Blade Runner"
 - The Beehive State
 - Burn with coffee, e.g.
 - Tire meas.
 - Sea nymph
 - Salad dressing option
 - "Pierre Boulle's Cornelius
 - Hoity-toity
 - Back arrow key
 - Covered with sphagnum
 - Tiny Tim's guitar
 - Allegro ____, in music
 - Sign of escape
 - Apprehension
 - Emergency responder, acr.
 - Neuron junction
 - Sleeping sickness vector
 - "Kattis Everdeen's sister
 - Hammerin' Hank
 - Tennis "innings"
 - "2010 film starring DiCaprio
 - Meat of coconut
 - Desperate
 - Karl of politics
 - "1979 film starring Sigourney Weaver
 - Fail to mention
 - Bo Peep's females
 - "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep" author
 - Was ahead
 - "Spock's are pointy
- DOWN**
- Point of entry
 - Side of a ruler, e.g.
 - S or C follower, in business
 - Two-word threat
 - Relating to node
 - Make corrections
 - Kin for hops
 - "Captain Nemo's submarine
 - Tolstoy's Karenina
 - This and that
 - Bro's sibling
 - Droning insect
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 - In an unfriendly manner
 - Parent org.
 - "He named ____"
 - Strong adhesive
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 - "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" author
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A California Child Tested Positive for Bird Flu



A flock of geese takes off on a flooded-out field at the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge on Nov. 1, 2023. A strain of bird flu circulating in California has infected thousands of cattle and several dozen people. Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

By **Kristen Hwang**,
CALMatters.org

An Alameda County child with mild upper respiratory symptoms tested positive for bird flu, state public health officials announced on Nov. 19. The potential infection is the first known case in California that does not appear to have originated from contact with infected cattle.

State health officials are waiting for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to confirm the test result, as of press time.

Public health investigators suspect the infection may have originated from wild birds, which are the main carriers of bird flu, according to a statement from the California Department of Public Health. The agency did not disclose information describing the child's interactions with wildlife.

The child displayed mild respiratory symptoms and tested positive for multiple viruses, according to Austin Wingate, a spokesperson for the Alameda County health department.

Doctors did not initially suspect bird flu. Officials detected

it through routine influenza subtyping, Wingate said. Family members tested negative for bird flu, but they had other viruses.

Officials are working to notify and test close contacts of the child, which include individuals at a daycare the child attended.

"We want to reinforce for parents, caregivers and families that based on the information and data we have, we don't think the child was infectious — and no human-to-human spread of bird flu has been documented in any country for more than 15 years," said state Public Health Officer Dr. Tomás Aragón.

Aragón emphasized the risk to the general public remains low. People can become infected through close contact with infected animals, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Dairy and poultry workers and people who work with wildlife face the greatest risk of contracting the virus.

Some infectious disease experts are concerned about what this case could signal about the wider bird flu outbreak sweeping the country, which started in 2022.

"We're seeing the numbers go up, the number of infected farms, the number of farm workers, we now have this child. All of these signs to me suggest that things are going in the wrong direction, not the right direction," said Sam Scarpino, an epidemiologist with Northeastern University in Boston who is not involved in the California disease investigation.

Cases spreading in Central Valley dairies

The case comes as California grapples with the country's largest bird flu outbreak among cattle and farmworkers. There are 26 confirmed human cases of bird flu primarily in the Central Valley where the virus has swept through 335 herds, according to state health and agriculture officials. Workers in the dairy industry have contracted the virus through close contact with infected cows.

The state health department has distributed more than 3 million pieces of personal protective equipment to farmworkers. It has also secured 5,000 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine for farmworkers from the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention.

The federal government has a small stockpile of bird flu vaccines, but they have not been distributed. Instead, health officials encourage people to get vaccinated for influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus to help prevent co-infections like the child had.

"We want to make sure in general that we promote people getting up to date on vaccines and protecting themselves from seasonal illness, from seasonal flu," said Dr. Erica Pan, the state's top epidemiologist, in a previous interview with CalMatters.

Scarpino said California has done a good job of testing farmworkers compared to other states where sick cattle have infected humans, contributing to its relatively high number of confirmed cases, but surveillance efforts across the board need to be increased.

As seasonal flu rates increase, it will become harder for public health laboratories to detect rare viruses, such as H5N1, the bird flu, Scarpino said.

Bird Flu Present in California Sewage

The bird flu virus has appeared in 17 wastewater systems in California, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Positive detections appear primarily in Northern California, including in Alameda, San Francisco, Sonoma, Contra Costa and Sacramento. Wastewater surveillance cannot determine the source of the virus, but infections among wild waterfowl can contribute to its presence.

Maurice Pitesky, a researcher at UC Davis who studies bird flu in waterfowl, said it's rare for the virus to jump from birds to humans but it has happened before. The virus is endemic among wild birds, Pitesky said, and has also been detected in other mammals in California, including bobcats, skunks and mountain lions.

"As the virus further evolves within a mammalian host — whether it's dairy cows or felines or all the species that it has affected — it will continue to adapt," Pitesky said. "As it adapts more and more, it has more potential to cause even more problems." ★

Bird Flu: What Residents Need to Know

Continued from page 1
manage the situation."

Sacramento County Public Health is actively monitoring the bird flu situation locally and coordinating with state and federal agencies. Residents are encouraged to stay informed and follow precautions to protect themselves and their families.

Prevention Tips

Avoid contact with wild birds: Even if birds appear healthy, they can carry the bird flu virus.

Use protective equipment: If you work with animals potentially exposed to bird flu, wear N95 masks, gloves and eye protection.

Get the flu vaccine: While the seasonal flu vaccine doesn't protect against bird flu, it can reduce the risk of severe illness and coinfection.

Stick to pasteurized dairy products: Do not consume

or handle raw milk or milk products from animals suspected to be infected. Do not feed pets raw milk products.

How Bird Flu Spreads

Human cases of bird flu are rare but can occur when someone has close contact with infected animals or contaminated surfaces. Farmworkers and others who work closely with poultry or dairy cattle are at higher risk. No person-to-person spread of bird flu has been detected in California.

Watch for Symptoms

If you've been in close contact with infected animals, monitor yourself for symptoms for 10 days. Symptoms include:

- Fever, fatigue or body aches
- Cough, sore throat or runny nose
- Trouble breathing or chest discomfort

Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
Red or irritated eyes (conjunctivitis).

If you develop symptoms, isolate yourself immediately, contact Sacramento County Public Health to report the illness and work, and ask Sacramento County Public Health and your healthcare provider for guidance.

Bird Flu in California

Bird flu is spreading globally through wild bird populations, with outbreaks reported in poultry and dairy herds in the U.S. While human cases remain extremely rare, California health officials continue to work with local agencies to monitor and control the spread.

Sacramento County Public Health will provide updates as new information becomes available.

For the latest details, visit California Department of Public Health bird flu webpage at cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Bird-Flu.aspx that is updated daily. ★

Laws are Changing in 2025

Continued from page 1
by prohibiting landlords from charging tenants a fee for paying their rent or a security deposit by check. In addition, landlords will be required to provide a written statement to tenants if they charge a security deposit that exceeds the standard amount.

CRIME

Senate Bill 1414 introduces stricter penalties for individuals convicted of soliciting a minor for sex. The law raises the crime of soliciting or buying

sex from minors under 16 from a misdemeanor to a felony, carrying more severe legal consequences. If the person solicited is under 16, or under 18 and a victim of human trafficking, the offense could be punishable by jail time of up to a year and a fine of up to \$10,000 or a prison sentence ranging from 16 months to three years. For repeat offenders, the penalties are harsher, with mandatory felony charges and a prison sentence of 16 months to three years.

EDUCATION

In the education sector, Assembly Bill 1780 prohibits private nonprofit universities in California from considering legacy status in admissions. The ban, effective in September 2025, means that ties to donors or alumni will no longer play a role in college admissions decisions.

Consumer Protection

In a move aimed at consumer protection, Assembly Bill 2863 will require companies offering auto-renewal services to provide customers with an easy option

to cancel subscriptions. Starting July 1, 2025, consumers will be able to cancel their subscriptions by the same method they used to sign up.

HEALTH

A major update in healthcare comes with Senate Bill 729, which mandates that health insurance plans cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, including in vitro fertilization (IVF), starting July 1, 2025.

Senate Bill 1061 will protect consumers by prohibiting credit reporting agencies from including

medical debt on their credit reports, ensuring that such debt cannot negatively impact individuals' credit scores.

Assembly Bills 1817 and 2771 will ban the use of harmful chemicals known as PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in clothing, textiles and cosmetics sold in California. These chemicals, which have been linked to serious health issues such as liver damage, thyroid disease, reproductive problems and cancer, will no longer be allowed in products. ★

ARC Volleyball Closes Out Season in State Semifinals

California Community Colleges Athletic Association News Releases

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - After twice being swept by American River College (ARC) in the regular season, a hungry Feather River College team fully savored a third opportunity versus the Beavers in performing a sweep in the 3C2A Women's Volleyball Championship semifinals on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif. Feather River (30-7) defeated American River (28-5), 3-0: 25-19, 25-22, 25-23.

There was no coincidence why American River College was making a sixth straight appearance at the 3C2A State Women's Volleyball Championship. The Beavers have height and that was a factor in a heavy block that was too much for LA Mission's attack in a 4-set quarterfinals victory for the Beavers on Friday, Dec. 6.

In their quarterfinal matchup, American River received another sterling performance by 5-foot-11 Morgan Castaneda, who rifled 21 kills (hit .292) with 10 digs and three blocks, but the Beavers also relied on the blocking and net talents of 6-1 Celestine Hayes (three kills, five blocks), 6-foot Mallory Kuehl (five kills in only six attacks and six blocks), 5-11 Kyla Powell, who chipped in seven kills and two blocks, and 5-10 Amiah Cornejo, who contributed five kills and served



The American River College Volleyball program closed out the 2024 season in the semifinals of the 3C2A State Championships. The Beavers, who closed out the season 28-5 overall and co-champions of the Big 8 Conference, defeated LA Mission College 3-1 in the quarterfinals on Dec. 6, and fell to Feather River College 3-0 in the semifinals on Dec. 7. Photo courtesy California Community Colleges Athletic Association

three aces off the ARC bench.

The Dec. 7 semifinal matchup featured American River College versus Feather River College. The Battle of the rivers began with Feather River's Tiare Faupula scoring four kills and making three blocks in a 6-point opening set triumph. Feather River led 15-7 and ran away with the game and a 1-0 lead.

In the semifinal second set, American River jumped out

to a 9-3 lead only to see the Golden Eagles go on a 5-0 run to slice it to one. The Beavers would then lead 14-11 and 17-14 before Feather River went on an 8-2 run capped by a block by Faupula and Ledua Koi for a 22-19 advantage. Two kills by Ane Tuinauvai and another stuff by Lucy Ryan and Mia Rivera captured the 3-point win and a commanding 2-0 sets lead.

In the third set, the Beavers

tried to rally as 6-foot-2 Jayda Moran came off the bench to record a pair of blocks with teammate Malloy Kuehl and built a 14-6 lead. An Amiah Cornejo/Celestine Hayes block doubled the score at 16-8 and a kill by Kuehl later made it 18-11.

Tuinauvai, who missed both of the first two encounters with American River due to injury, buried three kills in a momentous 11-2 run to give Feather

River a 22-20 lead. A push kill by Kaylynn Whitt, an ace by Sofia McPherson, and an attack error by Feather River regained the lead for American River at 23-22.

The Beavers though couldn't finish off the set as a solo block by Mia Rivera was sandwiched by two rifle kills by Ryan to complete the surprising Feather River sweep.

Overall for Feather River, quarterfinals hero Chloe Albiez powered 10 kills, Tuinauvai eight kills with 12 digs, Faupula seven kills (.313) and five blocks, and Rivera three kills and six blocks. Teya Gibbs was a setting/defensive stalwart on 13 assists and 12 digs while the team's starting setter Maya Cann dished out 24 assists.

For American River, All-American Morgan Castaneda was limited to 10 kills with 10 digs, Kuehl had four kills, five blocks, and two aces, and Cornejo scored six kills.

"Feather River swung aggressively with a nothing to lose, underdog mentality," said American River College head coach Carson Lowden, who brought her team to the state tournament for the sixth straight season. "I thought we served and passed well. We didn't put enough offensive pressure on them. The difference was that they just did a great job in transition."

The loss snapped American River College's 13-match win streak. ★

World-Class Pickleball Event Returns to Sacramento Region



Pickleball players compete at an Association of Pickleball Players event. Photo courtesy of the Association of Pickleball Players.

Association of Pickleball Players News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The 2025 Association of Pickleball Players' (APP) Sacramento Open is set to take place Feb. 26 through March 2, at Johnson Ranch Pickleball Complex in Roseville, marking the Association of Pickleball Players Tour's third event of the season and showcasing the world's top pickleball players competing for gold medals and cash prizes in front of a national television audience. Amateur and pro player registration for the world-class pickleball event in Sacramento is now officially open via www.theapp.global.

Competition at the 2025 APP Sacramento

Open will be open to all pickleball skill levels, plus those playing at the pro level, across a wide range of age brackets. Players are encouraged to sign up quickly to secure their spots with registration now open through Feb. 16.

The event will also be a USA Pickleball-designated "Golden Ticket" event, in which gold medal winners earn the chance to pre-register to compete in the 2025 Biofreeze USA Pickleball National Championships in November. Pro players will compete for their share of a \$100,000 prize pool as part of a nationally televised event.

The Association of Pickleball Players Tour has held events at Johnson Ranch Pickleball Complex for the past two years, including its 2024 pickleball tour event that saw

17-year-old Jorja Johnson capture the triple crown.

"We are thrilled to be back in Sacramento for what will be a spectacular APP Tour event," said Association of Pickleball Players Founder Ken Herrmann. "Northern California holds a special place in our hearts and has one of the best pickleball communities you'll ever find. We can't wait to host you all in February for the third year of the APP Sacramento Open. See you there!"

The Association of Pickleball Players provides opportunities for pickleball players of all ages and skill levels—professionals, amateurs and recreational—to compete in world-class pickleball events for the opportunity to win prize money

and be featured on nationally televised broadcasts on CBS Sports, ESPN and FOX Sports.

Since its launch in 2019, the association has operated the first and only pro and amateur pickleball tour fully and officially sanctioned by USA Pickleball. It also became the first pickleball organization ever to establish an official headquarters and training center with The Fort in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The Association of Pickleball Players Tour's 2025 schedule will feature the most robust pickleball showcase across pro and amateur competitions accompanied by youth development programs, grassroots charity initiatives and international partnerships to continue. ★

River Cats Recognized as Top Triple-A Organization

Sacramento River Cats News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento River Cats, proud Triple-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants, have been named the top Triple-A organization in Minor League Baseball (MiLB) as winner of the prestigious 2024 Bob Freitas Award by Baseball America. This is the second time that the River Cats have earned the accolade, first receiving the distinction following the 2004 season.

Named after longtime MiLB ambassador Bob Freitas, the annual award is given to one team from each of the MiLB's three classification levels (Triple-A, Double-A, and Single-A), recognizing the franchise's overall excellence, community engagement, and long-term success as a business operation through marketing, on-field operation, and fan service.

"This award is a testament to the passion, dedication, and hard work of our entire team," said Sacramento River Cats President and COO Chip Maxson. "Every member of our staff plays a vital role in creating unforgettable experiences for our fans and we are proud to share this honor with our community."

Ahead of celebrating their 25th season, the team sold out the third exhibition game in the shared history between the River Cats and their parent affiliate, the San Francisco Giants. In addition, Sacramento sold their most new season tickets in a single year since their inaugural season in 2000. The team also sold out its newly renovated Diamond View Dugout and all remaining premium memberships reaching capacity for access to the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort Legacy Club.

Including Sacramento's best single-game turnstile

since the 2019 season on Sept. 21, Sutter Health Park and the River Cats saw an 8.8 percent total increase in per-game turnstile. This feat was buoyed by a continued growth of new fans with over 40,000 "first known attendees" visiting this season, four percent more than in 2023, in addition to a 16 percent increase in group tickets sold.

Significant to those successes was the introduction of the Sutter Health Park Summer Pass, a ticket pack that included a lawn ticket to more than 40 home games from the end of May to early September. The Summer Pass sold over 500 packs in a three-week timeframe, outperforming the sales of all other MiLB products of its kind during the year. The Pass is slated for a return in 2025.

Also aiding in fan growth this season was an enhanced focus on producing special game takeovers, drawing

audiences to honor their diverse communities including Hispanic Heritage Night, Pride Night and a Juneteenth celebration. As a result of the DEI efforts, the Consulate General of Mexico recognized the organization for their outstanding work in enhancing visibility and representation.

Giveaways and fan engagement have also played a role for Sacramento, as the River Cats' lead generation database, Fan Compass, grew by 36 percent to become the largest of its kind in MiLB.

The River Cats continued to establish their brand as a trusted marketing platform for regional companies looking to connect with fans, growing their portfolio of corporate partners by 24 percent, including new additions Poppy Bank and Jamba, among others.

Among numerous volunteer and community efforts were a pair of baseball clinics

hosted by the River Cats including Baseball for All at Independence Field, an opportunity for River Cats players and coaches to come together with children of all ages and abilities to play ball. The River Cats generated nearly \$20,000 in donations in partnership with River Cats sponsors to charitable organizations including Sacramento Food Bank, Sutter Gould Medical, Courage House and Foundation Diabetes Program.

The 2024 season is the second time that the River Cats have been Bob Freitas Award recipients, first achieving the honor during their fifth season in Sacramento exactly 20 years ago following the 2004 campaign, making the organization one of only eight multi-time winners. Sacramento is the second consecutive Pacific Coast League team and seventh in the past eight seasons (excluding 2020) to earn the

award, following in the footsteps of the Albuquerque Isotopes who captured the honor for a Triple-A leading third time in 2023.

To celebrate the award, the River Cats have partnered with Drake's Brewing Co, to produce a River Cats Celebration Ale. The limited-edition beer will be available exclusively at Drake's: The Barn located across from Sutter Health Park in West Sacramento.

Sacramento kicks off its season at home with Opening Night on Friday, March 28 against the Albuquerque Isotopes at 6:45 p.m. Tickets to the home opener and the entire first half of the season through July 3 are now available. Individual tickets and the full schedule are available online at www.rivercats.com, while memberships, select ticket packs, and hospitality rentals are available by calling the River Cats ticket hotline at (916) 371-HITS (4487). ★