



Lost Cross Family Monument Reinstalled in Citrus Heights

PAGE 11

Never, Ever Forget



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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Citrus Heights Messenger

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SEE INSIDE

LOPEZ TAFF: SERVICE STARTS NEXT DOOR



PAGE 12

STATION COFFEE ROASTERS CAFÉ MOVES TOWARD COMPLETION



PAGE 14

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A Local Gem

Inca Threads Keeps Embroidery Thriving



Inca Threads is a small family business. Antonio runs the business with his mother, father and sister who work directly with their customers, reviewing every final detail ensuring that it is perfect for the customer. Photo courtesy of Antonio Reynoso

By Ryley Metten

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - What started as a passion fueled hobby in a garage has now catapulted into a full-fledged beloved brick and mortar business. Inca Threads, a family-operated custom embroidery business has taken the community of Citrus Heights by storm with their precise care and attention to every detail. Inca Threads first began back in 2015 with founder Antonio Reynoso

shortly after the previous embroidery company he was working for moved to Nevada. In the midst of change, he began cultivating his passion for embroidery design in his home garage, creating a business now known as Inca Threads. His time while working for the previous company gave him hands-on embroidery experience launching him into success as he gained more customers through word of mouth. In 2025, Inca Threads opened its

storefront in Citrus Heights located at 8215 Auburn Blvd., Suite K, Citrus Heights. Since 2025, Inca Threads has only continued to thrive, attracting more business each year from individual customers or businesses looking to elevate their brand or create a custom piece they will treasure forever. Although Inca Threads is known for their detailed embroidery, they also offer various other custom

Continued on page 2

FieldHaven Facility Still Underway

Citrus Heights clinic opening delayed, FieldHaven says plans remain on track



The main building at 7555 Old Auburn Blvd. was well known for decades as the home of the Citrus Heights Preschool and features a metal sculpture of a playful dragon on its roof.

Story and photos by Thomas J. Sullivan

CITRUS HEGHTS, CA (MPG) - Makenna Gwatney, executive director of FieldHaven Feline Center in Lincoln, is assuring the

public that plans for a new low-cost veterinary facility at 7555 Old Auburn Road in Citrus Heights are moving forward. An opening date has not yet been announced. In a phone interview,

Gwatney said she wanted to clarify some of the public's misconceptions about why the opening of the Citrus Heights facility has been delayed, and to characterize the quality of the ongoing relationship

FieldHaven has with the city of Citrus Heights as unexpected heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) issues on the rooftop of 7555 Old Auburn Blvd. are currently being addressed.

Continued on page 3

Celebrating Transit Month in September



SACOG is where local government leaders in the Sacramento region come together to advance three strategic goals of equality, economy and environment. Photo courtesy of SACOG

Sacramento Area Council of Governments News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is encouraging community members to try transit during the month of September! By riding transit and logging trips in the NorCal GO app, community members will be entered to win weekly \$25 gift card drawings or one \$100 gift card drawing at the end of month. "Transit connects all corners of the Sacramento region," said Jill Gayaldo, SACOG board chair and City of Rocklin councilmember. "Transit Month gives us an opportunity to highlight the region's transit agencies and routes while encouraging community members to take the bus or microtransit to get to work, go to an event or even to visit friends or family members. We hope the Transit Month celebration and gift card giveaways inspire people to try transit."

The six-county Sacramento region transit system provides millions of trips every year by transit agencies large and small. Each service provides critical connections to support local economies, decrease traffic and keep the region moving. NorCal GO is an app designed to provide convenient, eco-friendly and cost-effective travel solutions for residents across the region. This new platform offers an easy one-stop shop to find transit, bike, and walking routes and carpools for commutes and daily travel alike. NorCal GO is available in app stores and can be accessed at www.NorCalGO.org. ★



A Local Gem



In 2025, Inca Threads opened its storefront in Citrus Heights located at 8215 Auburn Blvd., Suite K, Citrus Heights. Photo courtesy of Antonio Reynoso

Continued from page 1

services. For instance, they offer custom apparel and hats that can be printed and embroidered, professional signs and marketing materials like business cards (which happens to be top sellers), stickers, car magnets and more. Inca Threads also offers promotional products such as custom mugs, pens, tote bags and lanyards. Each piece is decorated in-house at their business location off Auburn Boulevard.

“We can do handwriting embroidery and can convert any graphic into stitching,” Reynoso said.

Inca Threads is a small family business. Antonio runs the business with his mother, father and sister who work directly with their customers, reviewing every final detail ensuring that it is perfect for the customer. Antonio and his family are all bilingual, expanding their

business to Spanish speaking communities.

Antonio and his family are Peruvian and one of their main missions of this business has been to represent the morals and values from their country, Peru. Inca Threads does just that. By catering to both English and Spanish speaking communities, providing honest communication and taking pride in ever personalized project, Inca Threads isn’t just a business, but it is a community within itself.

“When you work with Inca Threads, you’re working directly with the people making your order,” Reynoso said.

Inca Threads doesn’t only serve individuals, but they play a large role in many communities, Inca Threads serves businesses, schools, teams, and non-profit organizations and clothing brands and individuals in the Sacramento

area.

While business is blooming for Antonio’s family business, this has adversely created a few setbacks for a small family-owned business in a massive wave of new customers.

“We try to make customers very happy with the final product. It has been very challenging because our demand has been higher with more customers, but we focus on every order to make it perfect for the customer,” said Reynoso.

Inca Threads continues to remain a cherished staple in Citrus Heights. Business hours are currently 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information on their services or to get a quote you can visit their website at www.incathreads.net. ★

Veterans Center Bringing Elvis Presley Collectable Sale to Citrus Heights

By Elise Spleiss

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - If you are an Elvis Presley fan you do not want to miss this event. On Sept. 18 and 19, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. a community yard sale at the Citrus Heights Veterans Community Center (VCC) will become a tribute to the memory of VCC Co-Founder Jeanne Rounsavell who passed away Aug. 10, 2025, and to the life and times of Elvis Presley.

Throughout her life Jeanne (known as ‘Mom’) was one of Elvis’ biggest fans, collecting hundreds of his music, photos, books, magazines, toys and a myriad of other mementos throughout her life. Come early as this event is on the VCC Facebook page and other yard sale sites. The address is 6921 Sylvan Road, Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

All proceeds go to support the Veterans Center whose purpose is to provide a safe, welcoming gathering place where military veterans can build relationships, share their stories and get other support. Volunteers provide marvelous meals and make the center a fun welcoming place for veterans to gather.

This sale follows Elvis’s appearance this year at the Veterans Center’s Annual Luau Island Celebration on Aug. 22, which featured the serenade of award-winning Elvis Tribute Artist Lloyd Aron Douglas.

When not entertaining, Douglas’s day job for the past six years has been serving his community as a Mounted Deputy Sheriff with the San Joaquin Sheriff’s Office. He has been in law enforcement for more than 20 years.

According to VCC President Michelle Grant, Jeanne also loved Japanese items. Her love of the culture came from her time living in Japan in the 1960s when her first husband was in the service.

The estate sale will be located inside the Veterans Community Center, including the Elvis collection and specialty items consisting of the Japanese cultural pieces, wooden carved art, fine glassware, dish sets, artwork, old albums, lamps, unique figurines and more.

Shoppers at the outdoor yard sale can get “buy in bulk” discounts. Past donations have included small furniture, housewares, family clothing, home decor, tools, pet items and holiday décor.



Throughout her life Jeanne (known as ‘Mom’) was one of Elvis’ biggest fans, collecting hundreds of his music, photos, books, magazines, toys and a myriad of other mementos throughout her life. Photo by Elise Spleiss

According to Grant, both the outside yard sale and estate sale items are appropriately priced, marked for their value after much research.

Available for sale will also be the center’s specially created T-shirts and hats for all branches of the service.

For questions about the community sale, call 916-806-4852. ★



Citrus Heights Mayor MariJane Lopez-Taff dancing with Elvis Tribute Artist Lloyd Aron Douglas at the Veterans Center’s Annual Luau Island Celebration on Aug. 22. Photo by Elise Spleiss

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FieldHaven Facility Still Underway

Continued from page 1

The Citrus Heights FieldHaven clinic was initially projected to open in spring 2026, she said.

“We (FieldHaven) have had an excellent relationship with the city of Citrus Heights,” she said. “They’ve been helpful in listening to our concerns (regarding the main building) and working towards getting interior renovations started,” she said.

“And we’re still very excited about the opening of the clinic once these problems are resolved,” she said.

The city of Citrus Heights did not respond to a request for comment regarding the status of physical improvements of the main building at press time.



A second building on the same property at 7569 Old Auburn Blvd. was also part of the city’s purchase and is being used by FieldHaven for temporary office space until the main building renovations are completed.

FieldHaven Feline Center is a non-profit organization based in Lincoln which is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and adoption of cats and kittens throughout Placer and Sacramento County. Through innovative programs and community partnerships, FieldHaven works to ensure every cat can live a safe, healthy and loved life, according to its website.

The main building at 7555 Old Auburn Blvd. was well known for decades as the home of the Citrus Heights Preschool and features a metal sculpture of a playful dragon on its roof. The school abruptly closed in the spring of 2024, and the city finalized its purchase of the property at the end of October of that year.

The former preschool’s rooftop electrical and HVAC systems were recently upgraded by the city, but later found inadequate for the facility’s expected needs, including surgical wards, patient recovery areas and administrative spaces, Gwatney said.

Part of the lease agreement required the city to remodel portions of the building before the cat clinic could move into the building.

“Once this HVAC and electrical work is taken care of, necessary interior work can also begin to bring the main bathroom of the building previously designed for young children into required Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliance,” Gwatney said.

Other work is to include the removal of existing carpeting, the refurbishment of concrete flooring and the build-out of office and surgical spaces, Gwatney said.

Once open, the center will offer affordable, local spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations and microchipping services to address the veterinarian shortage and reduce barriers to care for pet owners in the greater Citrus Heights area.

The Citrus Heights City Council approved a pilot phase lease agreement with FieldHaven Feline Center, allowing the low-cost, spay and neuter clinic to occupy one of the two buildings of the site of the former Citrus Heights Preschool building on Old Auburn Road.

A second building on the same property at 7569 Old Auburn Blvd. was also part of the city’s purchase and is being temporarily used by FieldHaven until the main building renovations are completed.

This same building will be utilized as a city-operated Animal Control Services temporary holding facility. Animal Services is transitioning from the Citrus Heights Police Department to the city’s General Services Department.

City staff are “actively working alongside the design team to finalize architectural plans and specifications,” city officials said, adding that the project is anticipated to be advertised for construction bids in the coming months.

FieldHaven has brought in two large temporary storage containers to the Old Auburn Boulevard property and is using a secondary building for temporary office space.

During the multi-community annual “Big Day of Service” held in May, FieldHaven representatives and a host of volunteers came together to plant a memorial garden in the main yard.

“The city has a substantial feral cat population and sees a substantial increase in population with each kitten season,” she said.

Pricing for spaying and neutering is \$65 for feral cats and \$150 for owned cats, including vaccines and microchipping, according to FieldHaven’s website.

Gwaltney also recognized the ongoing support of community partners include Berkeley Humane Society, UC Davis Veterinary Teaching Hospital, UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program, Citrus Heights Pet Hospital, Placer County Animal Services, Front Street Animal Shelter and many others who have provided critical donations of operating room equipment.

“We’ll also be looking for general volunteers and trained medical staff once we’re open to join us. Veterinary students and techs who want to gain surgical and field experience will also be welcome in to help assisting in the day-to-day operations of the clinic,” Gwaltney said.

For more information about adoption, volunteering or supporting FieldHaven, visit fieldhaven.com or call 916-434-6022. ★

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Fiscal Year 2026-27 Revised Recommended Budget Available



The FY 2026-27 Revised Recommended Budget includes \$9.2 billion in total appropriations. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors will begin Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 Revised Recommended Budget hearings on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 a.m. in Board Chambers in the Sacramento County Administration building, located at 700 H Street, Sacramento, 95814. If necessary, hearings will continue on Sept. 9, 10 and 11 at the same time and location.

The hearing schedule begins with the IHSS public authority budget deliberation and approval, the presentation of the FY 2026-27 revised recommended budget, then follows with public comment and ends with the board deliberation and approval of revisions to the approved recommended budget and capital improvement plan and approval of adopted budget resolutions

The Board of Supervisors approved the FY 2026-27

recommended budget on June 10. This year’s \$9 billion spending plan consists of \$3.2 billion in enterprise and special revenue funds (utility rates, fees and other dedicated revenue), \$4 billion in general fund (funded with \$1 billion in discretionary revenue, \$1.7 billion in reimbursements from restricted funds, and \$1.3 billion in federal, state and fee revenue dedicated to specific purposes), and \$1.7 billion in restricted funds (amounts transferred to the general fund to reimburse eligible expenditures in general fund departments).

The numbers in the budget change between June and September when the County receives new information, including the impact of the state budget and updated fund balance and revenue totals. Because of that new information, the revised recommended budget comes back to the board for review and adoption in September.

The FY 2026-27 revised recommended budget includes \$9.2 billion

in total appropriations.

Ok, that was a lot of numbers! You may be wondering, “what services does the county offer that I use and what programs do they run that I care about” – fair question! Let’s play a game of did you know?

Did you know? The County runs Sacramento International Airport (SMF) – which is growing year over year. SMF serves award winning food and beverage options, has a vast offering of non-stop flights to new and exciting destinations, and will be opening a brand-new parking garage in time for the holiday rush this year.

The County maintains 23-miles of the American River Parkway – a beautiful greenbelt full of wildlife with breathtaking views of the American River and multiple river access points, and a multi-use recreation trail that runs from Folsom to downtown.

The County maintains thousands of miles of roads, dozens of beautiful parks and four golf courses.

The County collects garbage and provides recycling and organics collection services for more than 165,000 residential customers, collects used mattresses and Christmas trees and runs the Kiefer landfill.

The County provides building permits, and information on land use and ownership, and brings new business opportunities to the region, helping to grow the economy and tax base and helping local small business to thrive.

The County is the connection to general assistance, cash assistance, mental health resources, substance use services and homeless services and manages our youth foster system, child support services and child protective services.

The County also inspects restaurants for food safety and public pools and spas for safety compliance, manages testing and containment on communicable disease and helps people exposed quarantine to limit the spread – potentially saving thousands of

people from exposure.

The County has a robust public safety and justice system – running the multifaceted jail system, including a youth correctional facility, probation, public defender unit and district attorney and law enforcement that all work together to keep our community safe.

The County runs a large, open-intake municipal animal shelter and animal regulation and enforcement operation, caring for tens of thousands of lost and neglected animals a year, facilitating adoptions for thousands of amazing animals back into the community, rescuing abused and neglected animals from abusers, and prosecuting them to the fullest extent of the law.

So – how many did you know? Members of the public may attend the hearings and be heard on any item in the budget, either publicly or through written comments. The budget hearings will also be telecast live on Metro Cable 14 and on the web. ★

State Treasurer Fiona Ma Announces Results of Bond Sale for Sutter Health

Financing will support major health care expansion projects, including new medical campuses across Northern California and refinancing of existing debt



Fiona Ma
California State Treasurer's Office News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA, announced the results

of a \$1.407 billion bond sale for Sutter Health providing financing to support major capital investments in health care facilities across Northern California and refinance existing debt.

“This financing will help Sutter Health make significant investments in health care capacity and facilities in communities across Northern California,” said Treasurer Ma. “These investments will support expanded access to care, modernize health care infrastructure and help ensure that Californians can receive high-quality services close to home. I am pleased that the California Health Facilities Financing Authority was able to facilitate this

financing and help Sutter move forward with projects that will serve patients for years to come.”

The bond-financed capital projects include improvements at health care facilities throughout the Bay Area and the Central Valley. Projects include expansion of intensive care and inpatient capacity; acquisition of land

and medical buildings; laboratory facilities; and improvements to neuroscience and cancer care facilities.

Project locations in the Bay Area include San Francisco, San Mateo, Castro Valley, Pleasanton and Dublin. Two of the largest planned projects include a 1.3 million square foot campus in Emeryville called Emery Yards,

and an 850,000 square foot campus in Santa Clara that will also include a 1-million-square foot additional development nearby. Project locations in the Central Valley include facilities in Sacramento, Roseville, Folsom, Elk Grove and Modesto.

Proceeds were also used to refund Sutter’s outstanding 2016B bonds, which generated approximately \$25.7 million in net present-value savings, or approximately 6.7 percent over the life of the bonds.

The original financing request approved by CHFFA authorized up to \$1.6 billion in aggregate principal amount. The final sale amount was \$1,407,070,000. ★



Election Information

November 3, 2026, General Election

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Oct 5 Ballots begin to arrive by mail. Official Ballot Drop Boxes are now open.



Oct 19 Close of registration. Register today!



Oct 24 11-Day Vote Centers open through Election Day.



Oct 31 All Vote Centers open through Election Day.



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Vote Early!
Vote by Mail.

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

Welcome Ben Simmons

By V.G. Harris

Many of you have now been Sacramento Kings fans for literally decades, and discussions of playoffs have been a topic rarely heard in the city of Sacramento.

Enter new GM Scott Perry who has been promising changes with regard to bad drafts and trades that don’t make sense.

Although Perry has made a couple of moves that I strongly disagree with, the jury is largely still out as he has begun in earnest his quote, “rebuild.”

DeAaron Fox was traded not on his watch, but make no mistake about it, the decision to bring on the first overall pick in the 2016 draft is all about Scott Perry.

Sink or swim, the acquisition of Ben Simmons, albeit for only one year and a price tag of only 3.5 million, lands entirely in the lap of Scott Perry.

Just a week ago in this column I wrote that the possibility existed that the Kings may have interest in signing Simmons, who has had a checkered past to say the least, and now the suspense is over, and Ben Simmons is now about to become a full-fledged member of the Sacramento Kings family.

I am an ardent believer that any player attempting a comeback deserves his opportunity to allow the fan base see what he has in the tank, and I for one will not root against this player that has literally been injury prone for the entirety of his 10-year NBA career.

It is rare that an organization has the opportunity to acquire a player drafted No. 1 overall, and in the case of 6-foot-10 Ben Simmons he is coming to the Kings after sitting out the entire 2025-26 season.

The prevailing problem has been related to back issues for Simmons, but according to Simmons himself, he wasn’t going to try and mount a comeback until he was “bulletproof.”

The Kings recently worked out Simmons in Sacramento, and he had a meeting with Scott Perry that obviously went well.

Simmons stats are not eyepopping, but certainly worthy of taking note. Over a 10-year career spent with three teams, Simmons had a scoring average of just over 13 points per game, seven rebounds, seven

assists and 1.5 steals.

To his credit, although most widely noted for missing games due to injury, Simmons made the all-star team one time, and in 2021 was runner up for the defensive player of the year.

Aside from the perpetual injury bug, if there is one knock on this otherwise talented big man, it is his abysmal free throw shooting.

At an astonishing low 59 percent, he brings back memories of another talented big man who couldn’t make free throws by the name of Wilt Chamberlain. Wilt shot an almost unbelievable 51 percent from the charity strip, and like Shaquille Oneal he was known for his inability to make free throws when it counted.

Sadly, Ben Simmons is coming to a team that is typically dead last in free throw shooting, so who on the Kings team is going to step up and teach this 10-year veteran how to improve in an area that he clearly knows little about?

The Kings coaching staff?

If you thought all eyes were on Darius Acuff Jr., wait till you see Ben Simmons take the floor for the Sacramento Kings.

As I said before, I refuse to root against Simmons regardless of past problems, and I don’t believe the Kings would sign him to a contract of any length if they thought he wasn’t 100 percent healthy.

I want to close my eyes and imagine what a healthy Ben Simmons looks like playing alongside Domantas Sabonis, with a talented rookie point guard distributing the ball, and two capable three-point shooters on the wings in Zach Lavine and Keegan Murray.

Does this new lineup have potential? Absolutely it does, and once again it boils down to staying away from injuries and allowing a group of very talented players to develop chemistry and do what they do.

If you’re an ardent Kings fan it’s almost impossible not to get excited.

Look for an opening night that Sacramento hasn’t seen in years, and all of a sudden ticket sales just went up!

Stay tuned Kings fans because there is more to come.

All the best!

★

California’s Political Hopefuls Remain Silent on State’s Job Losses, Unemployment



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In two months California voters will elect a governor, fill several other statewide offices and choose a new class of state legislators and members of Congress.

The aspirants for those positions are making all sorts of promises to win voters’ approval. But few, if any, have mentioned a slow-motion menace affecting a fundamental facet of life: jobs.

The state has never fully recovered from the virtual shutdown of the economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. It still has more than a million unemployed workers. Its unemployment rate continues to be the highest, or nearly so, of any state. And its signature economic sectors, such as high tech and film production, have been shedding jobs for several years.

As ominous as those data points sound, a deeper dive into employment data reveals an even darker reality.

“California’s labor market is holding up, but its foundations remain troublingly narrow,” Justin Niakamal, research manager at Beacon Economics, said in a recent overview of the state’s economy. Healthcare is the only sector with strong employment gains, he noted.

While healthcare jobs are welcome, they are highly dependent on spending by

federal and state governments, and both have been cutting back. Moreover, while healthcare is a service industry, it does not create added-value wealth the way technology, film production and agriculture do.

Back to the data.

California’s stubbornly high unemployment rate — 5.1% in July — was second-highest among the states, behind Connecticut and Oregon, both at 5.2%. The rate is the percentage of the labor force that is not employed, even in part-time work, during the month.

The size of the labor force, as well as the unemployment figure, are important to note. Over the previous year, California’s labor force — people who are working or seeking work — declined by 286,300, according to the monthly Employment Development Department report.

To some extent, the labor force decline masks the actual decline in employment. Moreover, the widely quoted unemployment figure is simplistic: Even if someone is paid for working just a few hours in a month, he or she is counted as employed.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics makes several other computations of employment that are more sophisticated. One, called U-6, measures underemployment. It takes into account workers who want to work full time but can only find part-time work, as well as those who are “marginally attached” to the labor force.

California’s U-6 rate is a much more realistic measure of the job picture. It was calculated at 10.3% in June, easily the highest of any state.

The bureau also calculated

U-6 for New York City and Los Angeles County because their populations are larger than many states. New York’s rate was 10.2% while Los Angeles’ was 12.1%.

Those are high numbers but may still understate what’s happening — or not — in California’s job market.

The Ludwig Institute for Shared Economic Prosperity takes the U-6 underemployment calculation even further. It discounts jobs, even full-time work, that pay less than a living wage, which it pegs at \$26,000 a year. It calls its number the “true rate of unemployment,” saying it measures “functional unemployment.”

As one might suspect, Ludwig’s calculations for California — reported by major metropolitan area — are very high, especially in rural communities where agriculture is a primary source of jobs.

California’s highest “true unemployment” rate, according to Ludwig, is in Redding (67.4%). Other rural or semi-rural communities fall into the 50%-65% range. But some urban regions see high rates as well, such as 53.8% in the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim metropolitan area.

Only a few regions are under 50%.

Given these numbers, one might expect that California’s officeholders and office seekers would be telling us how they will respond. They are not.

Dan Walters is one of the 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.

★

Social Security Matters

Why change Social Security now? It’s a working “Ponzi



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Maybe everybody has the same reaction that I do to Social Security insolvency. I do not understand a system that has been basically run like a Ponzi Scam since its Inception; why have you decided (in 2026-2027) that now is the time to change a perfectly good Ponzi Scam. In all reality, this began with Babylon. I’m sure that if you searched the meaning of the words “Babylonian money magic,” you would understand what I’m talking about. If this is as good as the Earth has, why would you mess with a perfectly rotten thing. Why would you decide to change currencies to some sort of fragile digital currency? **Signed: Skeptical Senior**

Dear Skeptical Senior: You touch on an item that the AMAC Foundation has dealt with many times over the years, specifically the notion that Social Security has the characteristics of a Ponzi Scheme. Our position in response to that notion is that Social Security was created and operated with full transparency, with its financial

status, formulas, and long-term deficits completely and publicly documented, and reported to the President and Congress annually. Unlike the infamous Charles Ponzi, the government has a permanent pool of contributors through mandatory FICA and SECA (self-employment) payroll taxes and is designed to remain in operation infinitely as long as there’s a taxpaying workforce. Moreover, the Social Security system is overseen by Congress, specifically the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The Social Security Administration is subject to routine hearings by these congressional overseers and maintains an independent Office of the Inspector General to ensure the integrity of its financial operations.

Contrary to Ponzi victims, all participants retiring from the workforce (and their dependents) recover their Social Security contributions via benefit payments, some more than others based on their level of participation in the system. Also, contrary to Ponzi Schemes, Social Security was designed as a social insurance system and has operated successfully in that mode for over nine decades.

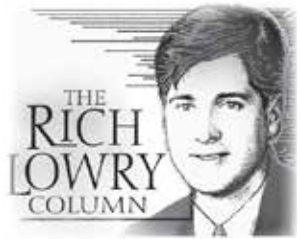
What raises the notion of a Ponzi Scheme comparison these days is the looming insolvency facing Social Security just six

years from now. This financial problem, however, has nothing to do with fraud. Rather, it is a function of workforce demographics and the fact that Congress has long deferred corrective action on a problem that has been known for the past four decades. We sometimes hear well intended (but sometimes uninformed) comments from some Washington politicians invoking the Ponzi Scheme reference, but we believe that Congress is finally waking up to the urgency. And we also believe Congress is now starting to move seriously to set a course for correction in time to ward off the impact of insolvency. AMAC is proud to be a part of the collective thinking currently surfacing, and our Social Security Guarantee is in play as a plan to be considered.

We invite you to review our SS reform plan (at <https://amac.us/social-security-guarantee>) and likewise to stay tuned to our Social Security Report website (<https://socialsecurityreport.org/>) where we post regular updates on a variety of matters pertaining to Social Security and retirement.

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).

★



President Trump’s tariffs aren’t popular, but he’s found a way to make them even less so -- a trade war with America’s most inoffensive ally.

When one thinks of countries that deserve to be subjected to a steady stream of insults (it’s Lake America now, not Lake Ontario) and a punishing regime of tariffs, Canada is far down the list.

Ottawa has been a loyal, if occasionally annoying, friend of the United States for nearly 100 years. The presence of a well-meaning country with similar values along the 5,000-mile border to our north is a gigantic geostrategic blessing, although one that is apparently lost on President Trump.

Both sides deserve blame for the breakdown in negotiations, but news reports suggest it was the U.S. that made additional demands at the 11th hour. Now both sides are imposing new duties on the other, and Trump is threatening 50% tariffs on all Canadian cars, trucks and parts beginning in the new year.

It is certainly true that we can impose more pain on the Canadians than they can on us and grind them down economically. We can also land the 101st Airborne in Nova Scotia. But why would we want to do it?

The contention with Canada is characteristic of Trump’s economically

A Foolhardy Conflict with an Inoffensive Ally

senseless, legally dubious and politically harmful push to tariff everything and everyone he can.

Trump’s imposition of all these duties -- often relying on strained interpretations of U.S. statutes -- has run directly counter to his promise in the 2024 campaign to reduce prices, a pledge central to his victory. Although the administration maintains that the cost of tariffs isn’t passed on to U.S. consumers -- instead borne by foreign countries and producers -- its actions implicitly concede the opposite.

The administration excluded an array of consumer electronics from new reciprocal tariffs on China to avoid unpopular price increases, and it lifted tariffs on a long list of foodstuffs late last year. Twice this year, including about a week ago, the administration widened exceptions for beef imports. If tariffs were genuinely cost-free, none of this would have been deemed necessary by the most protectionist administration since that of Herbert Hoover.

A chief argument for tariffs is that they will revive American manufacturing. Even if this is true, it’s a long-term play, whereas the disruption from tariffs is experienced immediately. It’s also a questionable proposition; increasing the price of imported goods used in manufacturing, which is the effect of the scattershot tariffs, doesn’t do U.S. producers any favors. It is telling that the National Association of Manufacturers opposes the sweeping tariffs.

Polling consistently

finds that the duties are unpopular. Majorities oppose Trump’s handling of the issue, and the public believes that the tariffs have increased prices and should be lowered. The trade war with Canada in particular fares poorly. A YouGov survey found that 62% of people oppose the imposition of 50% tariffs on many Canadian imports.

At the end of the day, Trump has chosen a long-standing ideological goal and his legacy over his short-term political standing. He has advocated for major tariffs for decades and has finally gotten them. They are likely to endure, even if they hurt now. His most probable Republican successor, J.D. Vance, presumably wouldn’t roll them back, and the Democratic candidate in 2028 might be equally protectionist. Regardless, it’s going to be difficult for future presidents to give up the revenue generated by the duties.

And so a president who campaigned on lowering prices has embraced a policy that, at the margins, increases them. Unless things are smoothed over with our Friendly Neighbor to the North, there will be more where that came from -- in a dispute with a country that no one considers an economic threat to the United States.

If the midterms end up sending a broad message of discontent, the tariffs will surely be a reason why.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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★

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS

POPEYE

BY RANDY MILKLAND

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Paper on desk is missing. 3. Desk is not as wide. 4. Window is not as wide. 5. Tie is different. 6. Blinds are higher.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Dave T. Phipps

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • MOVIE QUOTES

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Give benediction

6. World's oldest broad-casting company, acr.

9. Hoodwink

13. H, spelled out

14. Have a cold, e.g.

15. Dogma

16. Raja's wife

17. Shel Silverstein's constrictor

18. Extreme, prefix

19. *__, my dear, I don't give a damn"

21. *Why so __?"

23. "High" beverage

24. Fairytale's second word

25. "Swan Lake" step, e.g.

28. Potassium hydroxide solution, pl.

30. Nincompoop

35. Month of Purim

37. At any time

39. Coastal town in southern England

40. Flick part

41. 4 x 4 race

43. Like most Brothers Grimm stories

44. "Peer Gynt" playwright

46. Actress Campbell

47. Please do not delay, acr.

48. Experienced sailor (2 words)

50. Dispatched

52. a.k.a. Tokyo

53. Window guards

55. Beer faucet

57. *"I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it __"

61. *"What we've got here is __ to communicate"

65. Like United States Capitol

66. Food safety org.

68. Ritual basin

69. Tooth trouble

70. Husk of corn

71. Sharks' domain

72. Fence board

73. Pastrami partner

74. Paper quantities

DOWN

1. Vomit

2. The one with pants on fire

3. Volcano in Sicily

4. *"I can smell the __ of a woman... Honey oil, lavender, soap"

5. Israeli monetary unit

6. *"Hasta la vista, __"

7. Life story, for short

8. Fastener

9. Hero shop

10. "Do __ others..."

11. Paddington Bear's homeland

12. Airport postings, acr.

15. Rutabaga cousin

20. Extra sweatshirt, e.g.

22. Long period of time

24. No-good

25. *"We'll always have __"

26. Hacienda brick

27. Mexican cuisine staple

29. *"She doesn't __ go here"

31. Party garb?

32. Not better

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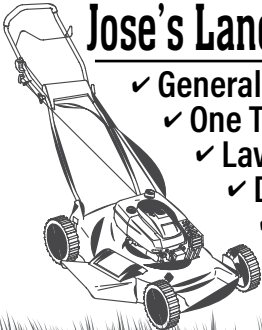
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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Informing, Empowering & Engaging Readers With Their Community



By Patsy McGavock

Welcome back, readers. After a summer break, I return to how we lift our entire community — by finding ways to build the essential skills in our neighbors, and ourselves, that yield growth and success. I asked Roxanne Stellmacher, chief of operations and programs at the CA EDGE Coalition, who works at the intersection of education, workforce development, economic mobility and policy advocacy.

We discussed where policy and people meet — right in our local community — by practicing the skills of success that are even more essential as AI rapidly changes how we work. It’s surprisingly the human, not technical — human-to-human skills of communication, collaboration, critical thinking, adaptability and networking. The skills of relationship-building and reliability.

The most hopeful realization is these skills don’t require a college degree or expensive training. They do require intention and a little expectant courage to open our mouths and open our hearts to practice.

“It’s truly engaging in the everyday,” said Stellmacher, “but through the lens of: What is the skill that I can practice in this place right now that can help me get better at something that will transfer to a work space? It’s incredibly important.”

And it’s a lens we can look through in both directions — allowing skills, knowledge and opportunity to pass both ways. The mentoring mindset of open relationship-building.

Stellmacher continued, “I would say workforce development is really about opportunity development.” It’s not just about getting the next job. “When communities invest in relationship opportunities — in the individuals and employers — our entire

AI, Human Skills and the Power of Connecting for Community Success

community benefits, right? It lifts all ships.”

When we choose to see each other as lifting together, even amid the pressure of not making enough to keep up with inflation, the outcomes are personal and significant. We feel the momentum of not doing it alone, and we learn from each other’s journeys.

“We can capitalize and utilize our connections to each other, we can start lifting each other on the whole, as opposed to being a million different individuals here trying to lift ourselves independently,” summarized Stellmacher.

What does this look like?

Schools bringing community members in to talk about their work, libraries serving as hubs of connection, neighbors volunteering together, chambers of commerce connecting everything in between — especially when we seek out those we don’t already know. Finding ways to connect retirees as mentors to those new to the workforce, or youth deciding their careers.

“You don’t need a classroom or a college degree to practice meaningful conversation. But all of those face-to-face interactions create opportunities to practice your communication skills, to practice problem-solving skills, to practice networking.”

Stellmacher’s daughter was doing exactly that — having coffee with one of her mother’s colleagues to learn about her career. She might decide it’s not for her, or something might spark a passion that her mother never introduced her to. Either way, she has learned, and two more people are connected in ways they can help one another.

“That happens because of community,” Stellmacher said.

Networking can sound transactional — something we do when we need a job or want something from someone. But viewed through a

mentoring mentality, it becomes something much more communal: learning who knows what, sharing what we know, introducing people and opening doors to opportunities. That lifts everyone.

Every such conversation, or every time we introduce someone within our professional or community networks, “can be the spark that changes the trajectory of someone’s personal, professional life,” Stellmacher said.

Yet for some of our neighbors, access to these networks and opportunities is a challenge. Most take time, and financial pressures, transportation, childcare and other barriers matter, too — making it even more meaningful when we intentionally open our circles to others.

Meaningful interpersonally, and in ways that create community advocacy.

Stellmacher believes California could dramatically improve these outcomes by helping more people build these skills — leading to family-sustaining wages, greater civic participation, stronger local businesses and generational economic growth. This is the work EDGE advances through statewide advocacy.

She added, “Still, it is community-level advocacy that pushes policy forward” — particularly when the human stories of our neighborhoods collectively reach those making decisions.

That is where Community Connection will be heading soon: where neighbors, community leaders and elected decision-makers meet, organize and make change for good, and how chambers of commerce build networks for all things in community growth

Patsy McGavock is a volunteer writer and community advocate “informing, empowering and engaging readers with their community.” and can be reached at PatsyMcGavock.JustServe@gmail.com. ★



Roger’s Review

By State Senator Roger Niello

Permanent Daylight Saving Time Is Not the Bright Idea Congress Thinks It Is

By Senator Roger Niello

As the saying goes, “Those who do not learn the lessons of history are doomed to relive them.” One lesson we may soon be reliving: the adoption of permanent daylight saving time.

Let’s fall back more than just an hour and revisit the early 1970s. The United States was in the middle of an energy crisis. Keeping the country on permanent daylight saving time was pitched to help conserve energy. Congress passed legislation to try it from January 1974 to April 1975. The experiment did not go well. In fact, it was so disliked by the American people that the change only lasted until October 1974...not even a full year.

People quickly learned that the lack of morning sun was fundamentally at odds with their circadian rhythm. It negatively impacted their mood, cognition, and overall wellbeing. Also, children’s safety was compromised when there were reports of children being struck by vehicles as they went to school in the dark.

Advocates for the federal Sunshine Protection Act seem to be more focused on having extra daylight in the evenings, but the fact is the summer months would still have plenty of daylight under permanent standard time. For instance, in July, it would still be light until almost 7:40 p.m., versus 8:40pm on Pacific Daylight Time.

Then there’s this: Permanent daylight saving time in the winter means the sun wouldn’t rise until about 8:30 a.m. Does putting your kids to bed while the sun’s still out and having them go to school in the dark make sense?

In California, we pushed back school start times because of the scientific benefits of sleep on students’ performance, physical, and mental health. And just this year, my resolution to acknowledge the health benefits of permanent standard time was approved by our state legislature.

Good sleep is already hard to come by, with one-third of Californians struggling to get enough. If we adopt Congress’ route, those without flexibility in their work schedules will be disproportionately affected. Shift workers and essential workers will have to wake up in the dark many more months each year. This goes against our biological needs and light-sensitive brains.

The benefits of quality sleep cannot be understated. It improves focus and concentration. It lowers the risk of heart attacks, strokes, abnormal heart rhythms, and obesity. Better sleep means better drivers on our roads, decreasing the risk of crashes.

Most Americans agree it’s time to ditch the switch, but standard time is not the switch to ditch. Instead, Congress should be ditching daylight saving time.

Standard time is the safer, simpler, and healthier choice to keep. That is why the California Medical Association, the California Sleep Society and the National Safety Council endorse permanent standard time. In addition, it’s worked out well for Arizona, Hawaii, and Mexico where residents sing its praises.

While the U.S. House recently rushed forward the Sunshine Protection Act, it remains to be seen if it will be approved in the U.S. Senate. Regardless, I will continue to help my colleagues see the light and convince them that adopting permanent standard time is the right choice to make. Otherwise, they should prepare to face the ire of their constituents just as was done in the 1970’s.

Americans are both physically and mentally tired from the twice a year time change, which is why I’ve carried legislation to “ditch the switch” the healthy way in the state legislature multiple times. Backed by science, I’ve advocated keeping California on permanent standard time.

Permanent “summer time” may sound promising, but permanent standard time is a much brighter idea. ★

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Lost Cross Family Monument Reinstalled in Citrus Heights

Crosswoods Homeowners Association News Release

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - After months of determination and teamwork, the historic monument and hitching post dedicated to the Cross Family have returned to Crosswoods and are now proudly displayed next to the Community Bulletin Board on Crosswoods Circle, near the entrance to the HOA office, 6510-B Crosswoods Circle.

For longtime Citrus Heights residents, this landmark and the hitching post may look familiar. Since 1961, the monument and hitching post stood at the Auburn Boulevard entrance to Crosswoods Parkway. Several years ago, a truck struck the monument, knocking it face-down onto the ground. Over time, the monument was largely forgotten, while the hitching post disappeared and was presumed lost.

That changed when Crosswoods Community HOA Board Secretary Norm Hill suspected that a large stone near the entrance might be the long-lost monument. On Jan. 29, armed with little more than levers, lumber, bricks, and the help of several strong Crosswoods HOA residents, volunteers carefully turned the stone over. For



The monument in its new home close to the entrance of the Crosswoods HOA office on Crosswoods Circle on Sept. 2. Photo courtesy of Crosswoods Homeowners Association

the first time in years, the Cross Family plaque saw daylight again.

What followed was a remarkable effort to reinstall this monument to the community. Hill worked with the City of Citrus Heights to find a safer

location for the monument away from busy Auburn Boulevard. During conversations, he also discovered that, thankfully, the city hood recovered and preserved the original hitching post following the accident years earlier.



On Jan. 29, the Crosswoods HOA Residents (from left Scott Allison and Norm Hill) unearth the Cross Family monument once thought lost after a truck knock it down. Photo courtesy of Crosswoods Homeowners Association

On Sept. 2, City crews generously volunteered their time and equipment to relocate the monument and reunite it with the historic hitching post at its new home in the heart of Crosswoods HOA on Crosswoods Circle.

The monument and hitching post now as a tribute to the Cross Family, whose name became part of Crosswoods identity, but also as a reminder of the community spirit that helped preserve an important piece of our shared history. ★

Service Starts Next Door



By MariJane Lopez Taff
Mayor, City of Citrus Heights

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) - Throughout this year, I have used my Mayor’s Messages to highlight the many ways Citrus Heights serves. This month, as we approach National Good Neighbor Day on Sept. 28, I want to bring that spirit of service even closer to home.

Being a good neighbor often begins with something simple: learning someone’s name, stopping to talk or noticing when a little help may be needed. These everyday connections are especially meaningful for older residents who live alone, have limited transportation or may not see friends and family as often as they once did.

Citrus Heights is fortunate to have many active seniors who volunteer, support local organizations and share their experience with younger generations. They contribute immeasurably to the character

of our community. At the same time, some of our senior neighbors could benefit from a helping hand or a little more connection.

National Good Neighbor Day was established in 1978 to encourage people to build stronger relationships with those who live around them. Today, communities across the country extend that spirit through Good Neighbor Week, observed Sept. 28 through Oct. 4. It offers a timely reminder that a connected community is built one relationship at a time.

Supporting a senior neighbor does not have to require a major commitment.

You might bring in a garbage cart or package; offer a ride to an appointment or the grocery store; help with a small household or yard task; have information about a community event or local resource; invite them for coffee or a walk; exchange phone numbers so they know whom to call if they need help; or simply stop by, say hello and spend a few minutes visiting.

These gestures may seem small, but their impact can be significant. A quick conversation can ease isolation. An occasional errand can help someone remain independent. Exchanging contact information can provide reassurance

during extreme weather, a power outage or another unexpected situation.

Citrus Heights also offers places for older adults to stay active and connected. The Citrus Heights Senior Center provides a welcoming space for social gatherings, while Sunrise Recreation and Park District offers activities and resources for older adults. Residents interested in serving more formally can also explore volunteer opportunities with the city and local community organizations.

Good neighbors do more than help one another. They create a sense of belonging and help make neighborhoods safer and more resilient. They also build connections across generations. Younger residents can offer time and energy, while older neighbors share history, perspective and skills developed over a lifetime. Everyone has something to contribute.

During Good Neighbor Week, I encourage you to reach out to a senior who lives nearby. Ask how they are doing, offer a hand or make time for a visit. Better yet, let that first conversation become a lasting connection.

Service does not always begin with a formal program or organized event. Sometimes, it begins by walking next door.

In Community,
MariJane Lopez-Taff ★

Introducing Sue’s Great Gumbo Cook-Off at the 5th Annual Golden Harvest Festival

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Get ready for “GOLDEN,” the 5th Annual Golden Harvest Parade and Music/Dance Festival, a free community celebration showcasing the diverse cultures and communities of the Greater Sacramento region. The festival will be held on the west side of the California State Capitol on 10th Street between L and N Streets, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 24.

The event will feature a cultural parade, live entertainment, music, dance, children’s activities, food, commercial and information vendors, stage performances, an artwork contest display and for the first time Louisiana Sue’s Great Gumbo Cook-Off!

This year’s new flavorful new attraction, Louisiana Sue’s Great Gumbo Cook-Off, features local chefs from restaurants, caterers and food trucks competing and serving their own interpretations of gumbo, one of Louisiana’s most celebrated dishes.

What is gumbo? Gumbo is a rich, aromatic Louisiana dish that brings together a flavorful blend of seasonings, vegetables, meats or seafood with countless variations reflecting the traditions and creativity of the people who make it.

Guests can purchase a taste or a bowl and vote for their favorites in each category. There will be four different gumbo categories. Categories include tradition gumbo with sausage and chicken, seafood



Come taste, compare, vote and find out who makes some of the best gumbo in Sacramento! Photo designed by Magnific

gumbo, vegan gumbo and exotic gumbo featuring alligator or duck. Each chef selects two categories; there are currently 10 to 15 contestants. TV and media personalities alongside festival attendees will vote live at the event.

Prices for a taste and bowl vary depending on category. For instance, the prices for the traditional gumbo are \$6 for a taste and \$15 for a bowl and the vegan gumbo is \$5 for a taste with \$10 for a bowl. Both the seafood and the exotic gumbo cost \$7 for a taste and \$18 for a bowl.

Come hungry and discover how different chefs put their own signature on this Louisiana favorite.

The different chefs featured include Mr. Gumbo making traditional and seafood gumbos, plus fried fish sandwiches; Gator Dave with gator gumbo, BBQ wings and mac & cheese; Louisiana Heaven serving up a build your own gumbo, plus fried gator and Boudin; Lizetta’s Soul Food

serving vegan gumbo, seafood gumbo, Kitchen Sink Gumbo. and Crawfish Sushi.

Fellow chefs and restaurants include Shake It Urself serving Chicken, Traditional, and Seafood Gumbos, plus Fried Chicken Wings & Strips, Red Beans & Rice and Garlic Fries; Soul On A Roll with Duck Gumbo and Gumbo Fries; and Chason’s serving Seafood Gumbo, plus one additional item to be announced.

If you are interested in sponsoring the event or donating, email louisianasuepresents@gmail.com or call 916-806-2820. Sponsor and partner logos appear on all the winners’ plaques, printed and posted promotions. Banners and posters will be placed at the event with donors listed on the website.

Come ready to have some fun, be entertained, sing and taste some Great Gumbo...all in one location! ★



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Citrus Heights Messenger

Serving Citrus Heights and Sacramento County Since 2006

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A Morning Like No Other – Ground Zero at 25 years



An early morning skyline view from the Staten Island Ferry. This was the daily view of thousands of commuters to Manhattan before 9/11. Years later, I met with my friend, the captain of the ferry, in Sacramento for lunch. John had to leave New York because he just couldn't live another day in that memory. He stopped his ship in the middle of the harbor that 9/11 morning, as he and his entire shipload of travelers and crew watched the horror unfold.



Reflections at East River and John Finley Walk. Photo by a savior

Commentary and photos by Paul V. Scholl

After a long night of late work well into the morning, I was in a deep sleep. The repeating ring of the telephone awakened me. I received an alarming telephone call from a close friend frantically trying to get my attention. She said “just get up and turn on the TV. You won’t believe what is happening”. She was absolutely right.

As I sat there on my white leather couch in my small rental home in Roseville, tuned in as the world was tuned in, to the disaster in New York as it unfolded live for everyone to see. We were all New Yorkers that day.

I had previously lived in Manhattan. After returning to California, I traveled to New York City often to teach classes at The Learning Exchange and spiritual training centers as a part of my ministry. I also met with many clients as a spiritual life coach each visit. Through these visits I became friends with so many great people who lived in The City. I stayed at their homes, got to know their families, learned about their lives, loves, and fears. Many of them worked in the immediate area of the Twin Towers.

As I sat there watching the towers fall along with the rest of the world, I had no idea if any of those friends or members of their families were being crushed under the weight of that destruction. It was a personal anguish and horror felt by millions

simultaneously. It was a grief embedded forever. And we as a nation vowed to never forget.

Everything changed for everyone during those hours. Terrorism had come to our shores, and those whom we had charged to protect us failed miserably. We have been paying for their failures ever since.

And for those who paid the ultimate price, giving their lives to save others inside and around the Twin Towers? And for all the First Responders who witnessed the death and destruction at the end of their fingertips and right before their own eyes? What did they get from so many after only 25 years? Many forgot.

Yes, life goes on, but as individuals we do not. Our time is limited. We are here to understand life, liberty, love, and loss. We are here to understand joy and grief. These become the web that builds our evolution, our DNA that we pass on to those who follow us. If we do not teach our emotional history to our children, good and bad, they will suffer repeating our mistakes and the feeling of betrayal from us for not forewarning them.

Enter our current day Neon Nation. Have we lost our way in one generation? Does the “Shiny thing” distract us so easily because it is too hard for us to focus on the truth and explaining it to others as our society crumbles around us?

A few months after 9/11 I traveled back to New York to offer support to any of those friends who needed it. I traveled to the site while the clean-up was still underway. I saw the scorched church and cemetery. There were still many “Missing” flyers posted to walls and lampposts. I saw the many memorials around the site. When I found one memorial that listed all of the names of those lost I read every one of them. I thank God to this day that not one of my



One of the many memorial walls surrounding the Ground Zero site. Photo by Paul Scholl

friends was on that list.

The history of Ground Zero is complex and still unfolding. The more the years fall away the more important it is that we reveal as much as we can about that fateful morning and all that led up to it.

When someone kills your son or daughter, husband or wife, it doesn’t matter what political party they belong to. It doesn’t matter what religion they belong to. It doesn’t matter their motive. All that matters is your loved one is gone forever. Grief takes over. And no one can ever really fill that void. It never truly heals. You just learn how to manage it in the silent times, alone with your Creator.

All those who lost loved ones during those tragic days only asked one thing from us. Never Ever Forget.

On this remembrance weekend 25 years later, take a few moments in silence to share the grief and the weight of the losses experienced by so many on September 11, 2001. If only with that simple action, love will prevail.



Visitors reading through the many memorials and “missing” posters.



A dedication plaque honoring the fallen first responders.



A memorial sculpture remembering all the construction workers.



And then an angel appeared over the site in my camera lens.

**Story and photo
by Thomas J. Sullivan**

In early July, the co-owners posted a Facebook video offering a view inside the café where a curved front counter coffee bar and surrounding seating area is largely ready for customers.

Station Coffee Roasters Café also sells bulk bags of freshly roasted coffee beans, including Brazilian, Colombian and Nicaraguan and offers its customers a coffee bean subscription program. ★

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