

Lace Up Those Skates

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THE NEWS

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Graffiti City

Behind Sacramento's Street Art Scene



A mural painted by Sacramento-based street artist 2hermano (Gabriel Romo). Named "Mayahuel," it is located in Downtown Sacramento. Photo courtesy of 2hermano

By Khushi Salgia

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Art nourishes the soul, and the same is true for public art as well. Anyone who has spent even a bit of time in Sacramento will have noticed the expansive portfolio of murals on display, both in the city and in the suburbs. As a result, Sacramento is one of the top mural hubs in the country.

When it comes to public art, not all of it can be painted with the same broad brush (no pun intended). While graffiti is the most popular term to describe any sort of public art, graffiti is different from other street art. While street art is the broad umbrella term to describe public art ranging from murals to poster pastings, graffiti is different in that it tends to be unauthorized. One of the most common types of graffiti is tagging, which is when someone writes their name or '(their name) was here' in the traditional spray-painted block letters style.

"Graffiti started in Philadelphia and New York when artists wrote their names or nicknames on walls with pens," said Ten Blair, co-founder of Graffiti For Good, a local grassroots nonprofit that supports street art in Sacramento.

This practice of tagging, which started in the 1970s in alternative subcultures—such as the skater and punk communities— has since become widespread throughout the country and the world. While tagging and other forms of graffiti have the stereotype of being affiliated with gang activity, and in certain cases that might be true, it started with artistically inclined kids who were bored after school.

"It was never gangs to start off with." said Blair.

Although graffiti can carry a negative connotation, street art on the other hand, is well-loved by artists and community members alike.

"A wall, when done well, just completely transforms the space,"

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Rail Fair Returns to Cal Expo

By Thomas J. Sullivan

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The 2026 International Railfair model railroad show returns to Cal Expo on Saturday, Nov. 14 and Sunday, Nov. 15, featuring 11 different operating layouts, vendors and special new attractions.

"International Railfair is especially proud to have Patricia Lollis, one of the country's first woman railroad engineers on Saturday, Nov. 14, promoting her recently published memoir, 'Woman Driver, First Woman Locomotive Engineer on the Sante Fe Valley Division,'" said Tom Campbell, event spokesperson for the International Railfair.

In 1974, Lollis was hired as an engineer trainee by the Santa Fe Railroad

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The 2026 International Railfair model railroad show returns to Cal Expo on Saturday, Nov. 14 and Sunday, Nov. 15, featuring 11 different operating layouts in Z, N, HO, S and G scales, vendors and several special new attractions. Photo courtesy of International Railfair

University Gets National Certification

SACRAMENTO STATE

Sacramento State News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Excelencia in Education announced Oct. 27 that California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento State) has earned certification as an Intentionally Thriving Institution (ITI)–the highest level of recognition through the Seal of Excelencia–for demonstrating positive impact in preparing Latino, and all, students for success after graduation and connecting them to the workforce. This marks the third time Sacramento State has earned Seal of Excelencia recognition and the first time it is placed among the now 12 institutions to ever receive ITI certification.

"We are preparing record numbers of graduates to leave Sacramento State ready to build lives grounded in independence, health, purpose, joy, and the ability to support their families and communities," said President Luke Wood. "Earning the Seal and being recognized as an Intentionally Thriving Institution affirms, on a national stage, that our work across recruitment, enrollment, belonging, graduation, and career success is purposeful, informed by data, and delivering real results."

As one of 21 colleges and universities to earn the Seal in 2026, Sacramento State is accountable for delivering value to students, communities, and the country, reinforcing higher education's role as an engine of social mobility, economic vitality, and workforce development. From demystifying the application process to providing access to workforce and financial readiness opportunities to making sure all students and families feel included, Sacramento State provides support at every stage of the student experience.

"This Seal is a testament to the work our faculty, staff, and administrators do everyday to make sure Sac State students are supported throughout their college journey and prepared for the careers of their dreams," said Lilia Contreras, Hispanic Serving Institution director, Student Affairs &

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Graffiti City

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said Gabriel Romo, a Sacramento-based muralist who goes by the name 2hermano. "A lot of times, people can't verbalize what it is, but there's symbols and things that are getting transmitted through the color and the pigment."

While large cities with vibrant art scenes such as New York City and Los Angeles have some of the biggest street art scenes in the world, Sacramento is special because it has quite a comparable street art scene given its size and population. The city sets aside a budget for commissioning street art as well as designated legal painting areas for those who want to voluntarily paint a mural. Due to this specific infrastructure in place, a whole subculture and community is encouraged to flourish here.

Romo, who has also painted murals in San Diego, said that San Diegans tend to be more hesitant to allow street art as there isn't as big of a subculture there.

"We are lucky that Sacramento does embrace it," he said.

Another reason for Sacramento's high number of murals is due to the annual Wide Open Walls (WOW) Festival (formerly called the Sacramento Mural Festival). This multi-day event, hosted by the nonprofit Wide Open Walls, brings in street artists from all over the world.

"It makes you feel proud to be from Sacramento," said David Sobon, founder and executive director of WOW.



An art installation located in the Graffiti For Good gallery, created by artists Child of Helmuth and Jefferson Eisenberg. Photo by Khushi Salgia

During the festival these artists gather across the city to transform building walls and alleyways with vibrant public art. One of the most famous murals to come out of this event is the large painting of Johnny Cash on the side of Marriott's Residence Inn at the intersection of 15th and L streets. Painted by Shepard Fairey in 2018, this mural was created in honor of the 60-year anniversary of Cash's song "Folsom Prison Blues."

This year, WOW celebrates its 10-year anniversary, and over the past decade, the festival alone has led to about 200 murals in Sacramento. In addition to the festival, WOW as a non-profit has created a total of 400 murals in the Sacramento area. Sobon developed an interest in art from a young age due to this mother being a collector. Later, his work as an auctioneer allowed him to learn who all the major funders were in the region. He was inspired by the murals that he would see daily and wanted to find a way for there to be more of them in Sacramento.

For owners of private buildings and businesses, Sobon approaches them directly and explains the benefits of having a mural on the side of their building.

"I have to convince them it's a good idea," he said. "But the tourist benefits are unbelievable."

When a business has a mural on the side of its building, it brings a lot more people to the building. People take pictures with it and post the pictures on social media, generating free advertising.

"Everybody's willing to pay for good art," he said.

The benefits of street art are more than monetary. When an area has high-quality paintings that are aesthetically pleasing and culturally relevant, it makes people feel like their neighborhood is taken care of.

Graffiti For Good "came out of a need to take ownership of our neighborhood and make people feel safer," Blair said. "We want to keep as many artists employed as possible while also making the city more beautiful." ★

Lace Up Those Skates

By Keith Burbank, from press reports and a Downtown Sacramento Partnership News Release



Two children enjoy skating at the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink. Photo courtesy of the Downtown Sacramento Partnership

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Downtown Sacramento's favorite winter tradition is back! Presented by Dignity Health, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink returned Nov. 4 in Ali Youssefi Square at 7th and K streets. The 34th season was scheduled to kick off with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10 a.m., bringing together local leaders, community members and partners to celebrate the rink's return. The rink was expected to open to the public at 2 p.m.

Located in the heart of downtown, the rink puts visitors within easy reach of Sacramento's seasonal attractions, including the Theatre of Lights show and holiday tree in Old Sacramento Waterfront and winter performances at the SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center. Just steps from Golden 1 Center, DOCO, and a wide variety of shops and restaurants, it's an ideal stop for a full day or evening of holiday festivities.

The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink will operate Tuesdays through Sundays from Nov. 4 through Jan. 18, offering locals and visitors plenty of opportunities to hit the ice throughout the holiday season. Groups of 10 or more can book online for dedicated two-hour skating sessions, while those planning a private celebration can reserve the entire rink by calling 916-442-8575. New this season, the rink will offer figure and hockey skating lessons.

"The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink is a place for everyone, from first-time skaters to longtime visitors," said Michael Ault, executive director at the Downtown Sacramento Partnership. "We're excited to introduce figure and hockey skating lessons this season and offer even more opportunities for skaters of all ages and experience levels to learn new skills, build confidence, and make lasting memories on the ice."

Skaters can also look forward to themed events and community activations throughout the season.

Veterans and active military members skate free from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 11 and all season with a valid military ID.

Visitors can skate with superheroes and princesses Nov. 14, which is Princess and Superhero Day from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Skaters can have their face painted and skate with guests dressed as Elsa, Anna, Incredible Hulk, Spiderman and perhaps others. Skaters are urged to dress as their favorite princess or superhero.

Donation week at the rink is Nov. 16 to Nov. 29, when guests can get $5 off admission when they donate an item to the River City Food Bank.

Figure skating lessons begin Nov. 17, with the Sacramento State figure skating team. Sunday sessions begin at 9:15 a.m. and Tuesday sessions begin at 1:15 p.m. Skaters must arrive at 9 a.m. Sundays and 1 p.m. Tuesdays.

Cost of the first session is $30 and includes rink access when public skating begins. Skaters may receive instructions based on age and skill level.

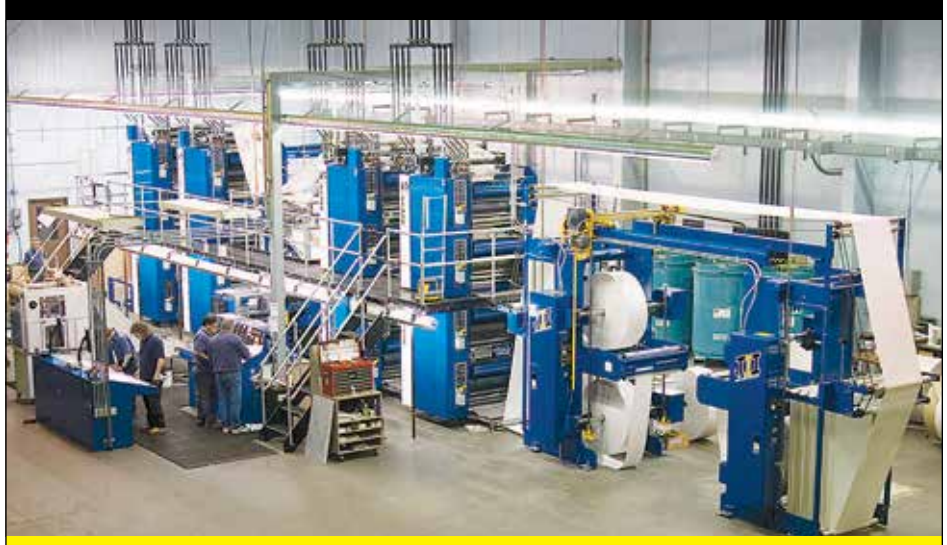
And thanks to the A's, everyone can skate for free from 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 22. Stomper might visit the rink.

General admission to the rink is $15 while children 6 years old and younger can skate for $8. The prices include skate rental. The rink is open 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays through Sundays, weather permitting.

Call 916-743-4669 to see whether the rink is open when the weather is bad.

This report contains information provided by a Downtown Sacramento Partnership news release.★

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Rail Fair Returns to Cal Expo

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— one of the very first women ever to hold that position in the United States.

In 2015, through several railroad Facebook groups, Lollis reconnected with many of the people she had worked alongside on the old Santa Fe Valley Division located in Richmond, California and met other women railroaders from across the country.

"Her book is a collection of short stories with color photographs, written to preserve her memories of the unique people, conditions, and situations she encountered, and to chronicle what railroading in the U.S. was like the 1970s and 1980s," Campbell said.

Lollis will be signing hard and soft cover copies of her new book available for purchase at the West Coast Railroaders Group full-size motorcar display at the International Railfair on Saturday only.

"These motorcars are the actual motorized maintenance vehicles that railroad crews once used to travel along tracks – smaller and more accessible than a locomotive, and a genuinely different look at railroad history than most model train shows offer," Campbell said. "These vehicles are something the public rarely gets to see close-up."

Set against the backdrop of the 1970s and 1980s, Lollis' compelling memoir takes readers inside the world of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway at a time when cabooses still brought up the rear of every freight train, switch engines worked around the clock and station agents wrote up train orders in a trade that was built on grit, skill and tradition.

"That era is sadly long gone," Lollis said in a phone interview. Railroad consolidation, staffing cuts and more automation have now largely reduced the role of the engineer in recent years, she said.

Lollis fondly remembers the unforgettable railroaders and colorful characters she worked alongside while revealing what it was like to enter a profession that once had been closed to women.

She encourages International Railfair guests to stop by her table to learn more about her remarkable professional journey.

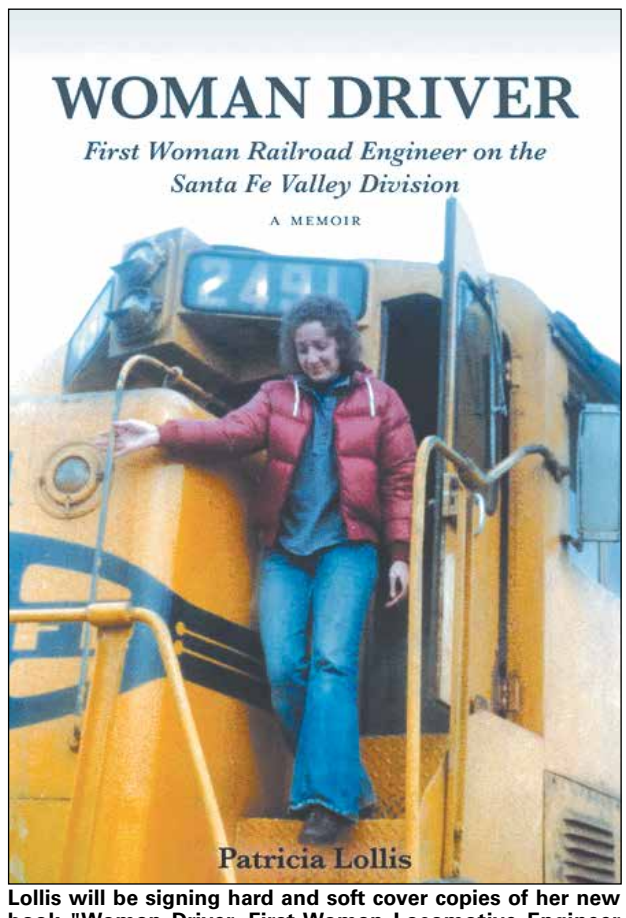
"The IRF show is a locally run not-for-profit train show run by members of the Sacramento Modular Railroaders, the Sacramento chapter of the European Train Enthusiasts, Roseville Roundhouse Model Railroad Association and the Sierra Division of the Pacific Coast Region of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) for over 40 years," said Campbell.

"Buildings C and D at Cal Expo on 1600 Exposition Blvd. in Sacramento will feature 28,000 square feet of model railroad layouts, vendor tables and full-size railroad equipment," Campbell said.

The popular annual event is a decidedly relaxed, inexpensive November weekend activity ideal for seasoned model railroad enthusiasts, yet perfect for families with train-obsessed kids, and for adults who are simply curious about reconnecting with a childhood hobby from their past.



This year's International Railfair welcomes Patricia Lollis, one of the country's first woman railroad engineers, on Saturday, Nov. 14, promoting her recently published memoir, "Woman Driver, First Woman Locomotive Engineer on the Sante Fe Valley Division." Photo courtesy of Patricia Lollis



Lollis will be signing hard and soft cover copies of her new book "Woman Driver, First Woman Locomotive Engineer on the Sante Fe Valley Division" which will be available for purchase at the West Coast Railroaders Group full-size motorcar display at the International Railfair on Saturday only. Photo courtesy of Patricia Lollis



Patricia Lollis seen at the cab controls of a Santa Fe locomotive remembers the unforgettable railroaders and colorful characters she worked alongside while revealing what it was like to enter a profession that once had been closed to women. Photo courtesy of Patricia Lollis

"The two-day show is called 'International Railfair' because one of our participating sponsor clubs, European Train Enthusiasts (ETE) specializes in building and operating European model railroads," Campbell said.

The annual model railroad show covers four popular scales: Z, N, HO and G. For anyone new to the hobby, those letters correspond to the size of the equipment – Z is the smallest (roughly 1:220 scale), N is slightly larger, HO is the most common scale among hobbyists worldwide and G scale is large enough to run in a garden.

Each of the fully operating layouts on display offer a close up look into a realistic, highly detailed world in miniature.

Vendor tables full of equipment, parts, kits and collectibles are well worth a look – even if you're not buying.

"We display operating model railroads to the public and educate the public about modelrailroading, railroad history and prototypical railroad operations,"Campbell said.

One of the most popular family-friendly returning features of the International Railfair is an actual operating children's model train layout where children can run their own train and qualify as a Junior Engineer. Coloring tables with free souvenir International Railfair-themed crayon sets are also set up throughout the weekend while supplies last.

"We want to share the best family hobby in the world with you and your family," Campbell said.

The 2026 International Railfair will be held Saturday, Nov. 14, and Sunday, Nov. 15, in Buildings C and D at Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Blvd., Sacramento.

Advance tickets can be purchased at: https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/63710069/international-railfair-sacramento-cal-expo-events

Ticket prices at the gate on Saturday, Nov. 14 are $15, and $12 on Sunday, but can be purchased for a reduced price with a processing fee if bought online in advance.

Advance online tickets are $12 for Saturday and $10 for Sunday. Children ages 12 and underare free.

Active and retired military receive $2 off ticket price with ID at the gate (only). Parking on the Cal Expo fairgrounds is $10, payable by cash or card. The venue's clear bag policy and unaccompanied minors' policy also apply; visit calexpo.com for more information. ★



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Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says

Realigning, Teaching and Building Expectations Gradually

Dear Dave,

My fiancé and I are getting married next spring. This means I'm also going to become stepfather. The only concern I have is that my fiancé's daughter seems to be a little irresponsible. She's 23 and still living at home. She doesn't care about having a steady job, and if she doesn't have money to make her car payment, she expects her mom to make it for her. My fiancé and I both agree that she hasn't expected enough of her daughter in the past, but we're not sure how to change things going forward. Do you have any suggestions?

– Reece

Dear Reece,

This is a tough situation for you and your fiancé. But I think you're both on the right track in wanting to teach her some discipline and maturity. It's also very important that both of you are on the same page and in agreement every step of the way.

Lots of marriage counselors say you have a really good chance of a successful marriage if you're in agreement on four things—religion, money, children and in-laws. So, first things first. I'd strongly suggest you and your fiancé go through pre-marital counseling to make sure you're on the same page when it comes to handling this and other issues. You might also want to read a book called "Boundaries" by Dr. Henry Cloud. And do this together. It's a great book. It will give you several ideas for creating a reasonable timeline aimed at teaching her more responsibility.

Now, I would recommend letting her mom present any changes to her initially. Let her start the process by explaining that she's made mistakes in not teaching her more about personal responsibility and self-reliance. Then, she can begin to lay out a few simple expectations and rules.

If she doesn't currently have a job, there's absolutely nothing wrong with requiring her to get one within 30 days. I'm not talking about a full-blown career necessarily, just something to put her on the road to becoming a little more self-sufficient. During this first phase, looking for work every day of the week should be her job. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to start teaching her about budgeting, saving and everything else that goes into handling money wisely, too.

Phase two might consist of requiring her to help around the house doing chores on her days off. Then, after a month or two of this, phase three might involve her paying a small amount in rent.

Do you see what I'm doing? By stepping up the expectations gradually, you're building a foundation, so she'll have the tools and knowledge to be able to move out in a few months and start living life like a mature, responsible adult!

– Dave

Dave Ramsey is a nine-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★

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I'm not enough	You are more than enough
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I'm too tired	I will give you rest
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I hate myself	I love you

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MPG — CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

Jackie White Settles in as Sacramento County Superintendent

New Superintendent Reflects on Her Journey and Vision for Public Education

Sacramento County Office of Education News Release



Jacqueline "Jackie" White was sworn in Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools on Sept. 1, becoming the first woman to hold the position in more than a century. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County Office of Education

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Jacqueline "Jackie" White celebrated a historic milestone during her Sept. 1 swearing-in ceremony as Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools, becoming the first woman to hold the position in more than a century.

Surrounded by family, friends, educators and community leaders, White reflected on the people who helped shape her journey, her more than 20 years in public education, and her hopes for the students and communities she now serves.

The occasion marked a new chapter in a career that began in the classroom, where White taught fifth and sixth grades in the Twin Rivers Unified School District. She subsequently served as a principal, district administrator and assistant superintendent at the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), overseeing programs ranging from career technical education and adult education to services for some of the county's most vulnerable students.

For White, the journey has been both professional and deeply personal.

She spoke warmly about her family, particularly her two grandmothers, one a school secretary and the other a science teacher, whose influence helped shape her life and commitment to education.

"They gave me both roots and wings," White said, reflecting on the generations who helped make the moment possible.

White also paid tribute to her predecessor, David W. Gordon, who served as county superintendent for more than two decades and whose career in education spans more than 50 years.

"You are a leader among leaders and have always modeled grace, compassion and kindness," she told Gordon, thanking him for his guidance and generosity during the transition.

The ceremony also featured a spoken-word presentation by Patrice Hill, a longtime educator, poet and director of Sacramento Area Youth Speaks, whose message of hope, resilience and collective responsibility reflected the spirit of the occasion.

"Together as community, embracing transformative leadership, we will light the way. We will fight for education and a brighter day," Hill told those gathered.

Her presentation, built around the theme "Futures Forward," emphasized the importance of working together to overcome challenges and create opportunities for future generations.

While recognizing the significance of becoming the first woman to serve as county superintendent since Minnie O'Neill held the position from 1907 to 1914, White emphasized that her attention is firmly on the future.

She acknowledged the challenges confronting public education, including declining enrollment, financial pressures and rapidly changing technology. But her message was one of optimism, determination and shared responsibility.

"We must stand resolute, arm in arm, knowing our children deserve the best we can give them," White said. "We must dream for them. We must work for them."

White emphasized that meeting those challenges will require schools, families and communities to work together, listening to students, expanding educational opportunities and strengthening the support systems that help young people succeed.

Her vision extends beyond academic achievement to preparing students for college, careers and meaningful participation in their communities.

Throughout the evening, White returned to the importance of the people who supported her journey and the collective effort needed to improve public education.

"It is with great humility that I recognize there is no me without all of you," she said.

As she begins her tenure, White hopes to build on Sacramento County's educational accomplishments while ensuring that every student has the opportunity to succeed.

Her goal is straightforward but ambitious: creating the conditions for every student in the Sacramento region to "belong, learn, lead and thrive."

"That is the work. That is the opportunity," White said. "And it is an honor to do that work with all of you."

The swearing-in ceremony can be viewed online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-WiwuzFHbaE. ★

Health Forum Focuses on Detection

By Kevin Ruse

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Shortly after attending an employer-sponsored health screening event, Andrew Cope received a phone call advising him of his APOE status. Andrew was told he had two copies of the APOE4 gene. This rare genetic profile, which occurs in only about 2-5% of the general population, represents the strongest known genetic factor for developing late-onset Alzheimer's disease. What followed, for Mr. Cope, a natural researcher, was an in-depth study of what his future might hold, all while navigating primary care, neurologists, clinics, and additional testing.

How many of us have wondered how we would feel and what we would do if we received similar information? Does having a family history increase my risk? How can I find out? Are treatment options available today? Who will take care of me, and how?

These questions and many more will be addressed at the 11th Annual Brain Health Forum to be held on Friday, Nov. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Carmichael Elks Lodge #2103 at 5631 Cypress Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608.

This year's theme is: "This Is Our Mammogram Moment." Just as mammograms transformed early detection and outcomes for breast cancer, advances in early detection and treatment are creating new opportunities for patients and families with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

This year's forum will focus on exciting advances in Alzheimer's early detection, including blood-based testing, new treatment options and practical information for families navigating the challenges of caregiving. From 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., resource tables will provide valuable information for caregivers, including help with meals, transportation, home safety and respite care.



Andrew Cope thanks Assemblymember Catherine Stefani at San Francisco's Walk to End Alzheimer's for supporting SB 950's expanded treatment coverage and reduced step-therapy barriers for people with Alzheimer's and other memory conditions. Photo courtesy of Kevin Ruse

Attendees will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from Dignity Health, Sutter Health, UC Davis, the Greater Sacramento Women's Brain Health (GROW) Program, Del Oro Caregiver Resource Center, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Veterans Administration and more.

From 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., the forum will feature a variety of presenters including Dr. Shawn J.Kile, a neurologist who specializes in cognitive disorders including Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Claire Day, Chief Mission and Program Strategy Officer for the Alzheimer's Association Northern California and Northern Nevada Chapter, will speak about the U.S. POINTER lifestyle interventions shown to support cognitive health. Also presenting will be Andrew Cope, who will share his personal story and perspective on the importance of early detection and timely access to treatment.

Whether you're concerned about your own brain health, caring for a loved one or simply interested in the latest advances in Alzheimer's research, this free community event offers an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and connect with valuable local resources.

The 11th Annual Brain Health Forum is presented by the Alzheimer's Association of Northern California and Congressman Ami Bera, M.D. You can register for this free event at https://bera.house.gov/events/brainhealthforum or call 1-800-272-3900. The Brain Health Forum is free of charge. Light refreshments will be served along with giveaway prizes. ★

Weekday Closures of Freeport Bridge in November



During the closures, detour signs will direct travelers south of the project where they can cross at the Paintersville Bridge. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT) will conduct full weekday closures of the Freeport Bridge between Highway 160 and South River Road throughout the month of November.

The Freeport Bridge is about a mile south of the Cosumnes River Blvd on the east side of the Sacramento River and approximately four miles north of Clarksburg on the west side of the river. The bridge connects South River Road in Yolo County with Highway 160 in Sacramento County.

SacDOT is closing the bridge for repair work. Detours will be set up during the weekday closures. The closures will run Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 2 through Nov. 30.

The bridge will reopen to traffic each evening and remain open Saturdays and Sundays.

During the closures, detour signs will direct travelers south of the project where they can cross at the Paintersville Bridge. Traveler on the east side of the Sacramento River can take River Road/ Highway 160 to the Paintersville Bridge and drivers on the west side of the Sacramento River can use South River Road to the Paintersville Bridge detour.

The reconstruction cost for Freeport Bridge Deck Repair is $300,000 and is funded by the Sacramento County Road Fund. Drivers are encouraged to give themselves extra travel time due to the weekday detours.

A detour map can be viewed at: https://sacdot.saccounty.gov/. ★

University Gets National Certification

Continued from page 1

Inclusive Excellence at Sacramento State. "As the No. 1 public university in the state capital, Sac State and its Latine students are helping power the region's economy."

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"Seal of Excelencia certified institutions present strength of purpose and impact at a moment of great change in higher education," said Deborah Santiago, Excelencia in Education co-founder and CEO. "Excelencia is proud to work with these leaders that show us how it looks when students succeed because of their institutions — not despite them. Thanks to the leadership of Intentionally Thriving Institutions in particular, we are cultivating talent that will ensure America's future."

Learn more about how Seal of Excelencia certified institutions model the transformation necessary for higher education to ensure Latino, and all, students thrive — and strengthen our nation's civic leadership and workforce: EdExcelencia.org/seal/seal-excelencia-certified-institutions. ★

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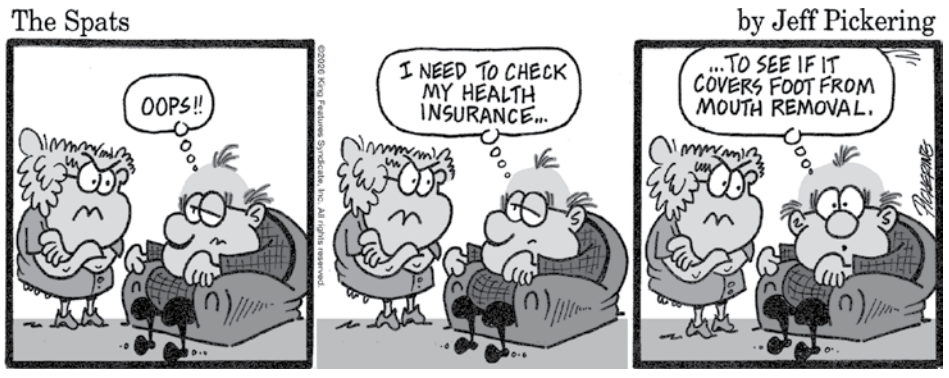
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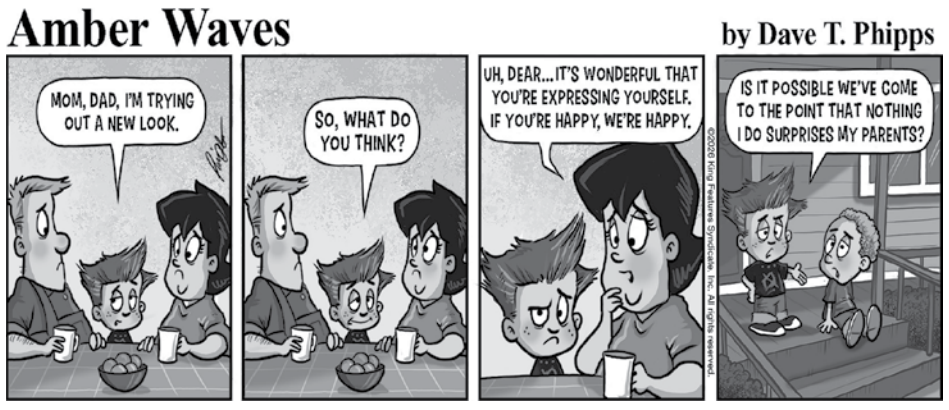
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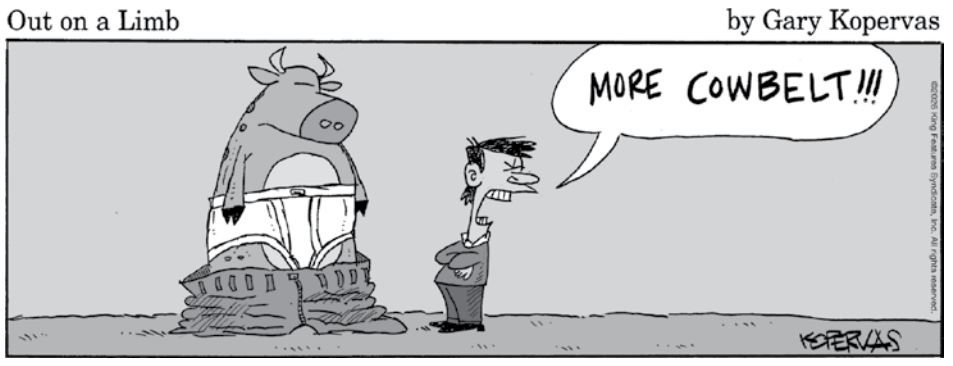
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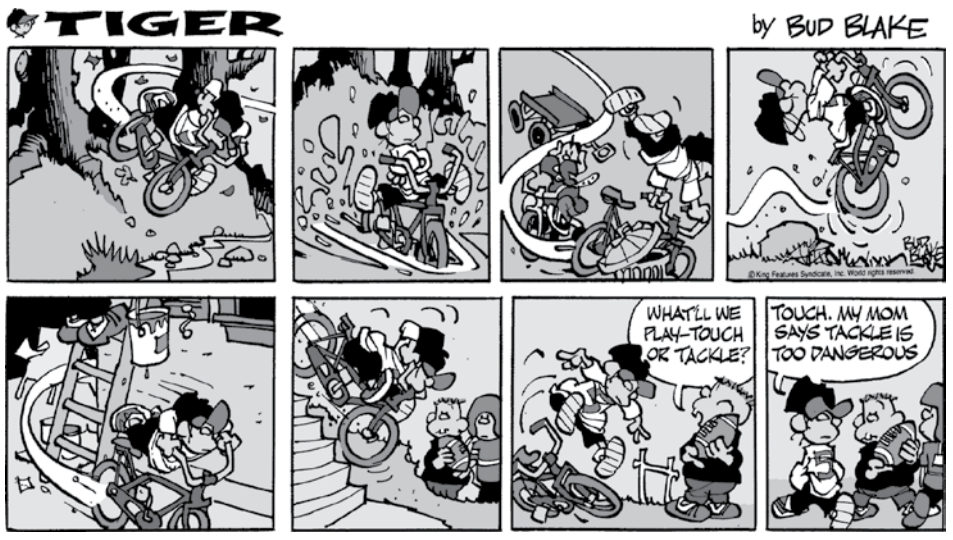
Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

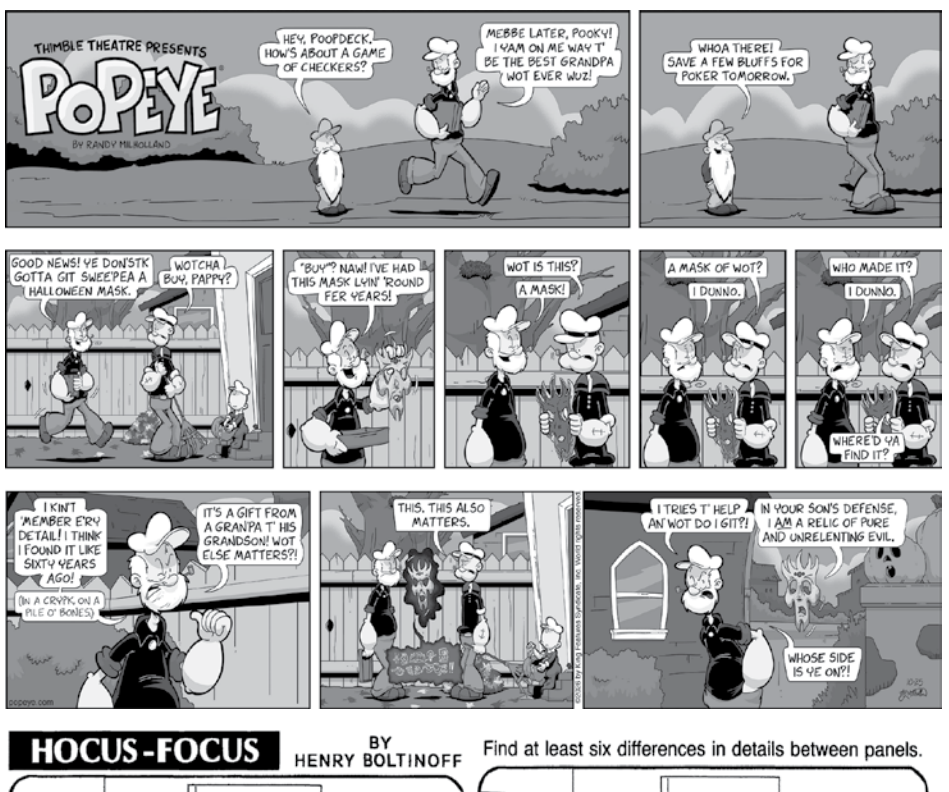


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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



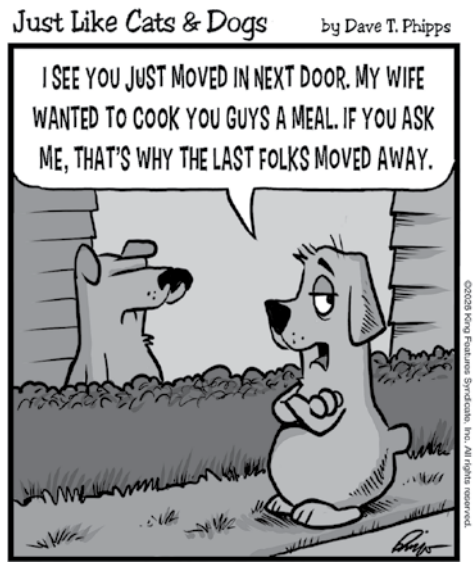
Differences: 1. Door is narrower. 2. Window is smaller. 3. Left arm is not showing. 4. Pencil cup is moved. 5. Chair leg is moved. 6. Plant leaf is moved.

GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner



"Santa wants his letters in Morse code!"

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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CLUES

ACROSS
1. "As the World Turns" and such
6. Hundredweight, acr.
9. Notable achievement
13. Keep a threat ____ ____, or away
14. Across, in verse
15. Jiggly dessert
16. Opposite of bow
17. Sch. grp.
18. Kidman's ex
19. *HomeExchange story, with The
21. *Rudolph's father
23. *Kevin to Buzz in "Home Alone"
24. "Dickens!"
25. Quantity, acr.
28. *"Candy ____ Lane" starring Eddie Murphy
30. Opposite of an-aerobe
35. Russian mountain range
37. Coxae, sing.
39. Tori, sing.
40. Goals
41. Famous Mac & Cheese manufacturer
43. One of auto pioneers
44. Letter-shaped girder
46. Home to Taj Mahal
47. A la _____, with ice cream
48. Relating to teeth
50. "My bad"
52. Eucharist vessel
53. Multicolored horse
55. NHL court
57. *Bailey of Bedford Falls
60. *Mount ____, Grinch's home
64. Supercharger
65. Ewe's mate
67. Alice Halsey on "Little House on the Prairie"
68. Ammo in a quiver, sing.
69. Knot-tying vow (2 words)
70. Sensory threshold, in psychology
71. Artist's inspiration
72. Bajillion years
73. Guns N' Roses lead guitarist

DOWN
1. "Away to the window I flew like a flash, ... and threw up the ____"
2. "Beetle Bailey" pooch
3. Cain's brother
4. *The McCallisters' travel destination
5. Trustee
6. Printer button
7. *Harry and Marv, a.k.a. the _____ Bandits
8. Pro move
9. Shade-loving plant
10. Hamburg river
11. Winglike
12. Freight weight
15. Official work trip
20. Taken where?
22. South American tuber
24. Six-sided polygon
25. *Cousin Eddie actor
26. Human social group
27. Mandarin's headquarters
29. *Luther Krank's wife
31. Living space
32. Lowest deck
33. *Will Ferrell's famous holiday role
34. English county
36. Future J.D.'s hurdle
38. Like Bob Ross' do
42. Short-trunked ungulate
45. Bone filler
49. Yule treat
51. Type of racing boat, pl.
54. Nest for an eagle
56. Not your grandmother's mail?
57. Spiritual leader
58. Makes a mistake
59. Double reed woodwind
60. Slangy "Follow me!"
61. Cat on a shoe
62. Wraths
63. Hyperbolic tangent
64. _____ o' shanter
66. Fuss, to Shakespeare

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

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris

Let's Get a Win

By V.G. Harris

As the Sacramento Kings enter the week with a winless 0-6 record to start the 2026/2027 NBA season, fans scratch their heads and ask the question, "where do we go from here?"

In this column I have discussed the value of leadership, and as the Kings continue searching for their first win of the season, I'm asking from what quarter will that leadership come?

Radio talking heads and pundits from all corners are calling for a change in the coaching staff and for All star Domantas Sabonis to be traded.

Doug Christie appears to be a ships captain without a rudder, and of the 6 losses the Kings have to start the season, only 2 of those games did Sacramento have a legitimate chance of winning.

If I have any criticism, it is not having a collective game plan. Simply telling the team to play better defense or shoot more 3's is not a game plan, and I wonder how long it will be before the players begin to lose faith.

All eyes are on Monday night's game against the Dallas Mavericks, and I am hopeful although doubtful that it will produce a win.

For those fans that simply say we don't have the players, I would say as I have before that there is legitimate talent on this team already.

Domantas Sabonis continues to be the constant foundation of the team, and whether it's scoring, rebounds, or defense, Domantas gives it 100% effort from start to finish.

When we talk about leaders, they come from outside the court and most definitely on the court.

While the organization won't stop talking about trading Sabonis, I completely disagree with their assessment, and if the worst thing that Sacramento will have to endure is a cellar dweller of a season to weather the storm, I believe that the fan base will hold their nose and stay the course.

Let it not be said that Sacramento fans ever turned their backs on this team, because it has never happened.

However, ownership needs to begin the process of making cogent changes that will not just bring energy to this team, but true direction.

The idea of playing the rookies and second year players is a no-brainer, but the offensive is unimaginative, and on defense any semblance of guarding the 3-point line simply isn't there.

Fans need to give credit where credit is due, and both Domantas Sabonis and Zach Lavine have shown up in a big way.

Is it any surprise that a healthy Domantas Sabonis is already leading the league in rebounding once again, and relative newcomer De'Andre Hunter is currently 32nd in the league in 3-pointers made.

Zach Lavine is tied in 32nd place in 3-pointers made, and I look for that to improve dramatically if the Kings can make progress with their offensive schemes.

Yes, Kings fans, it is a dark time in Sactown, but this early in the season it is way too early to throw in the towel.

I am but one opinion, and I'm anxious to hear from you, the fans.

Go to thekingskorner.com and subscribe to my website and please, by all means leave me a comment. What direction do you believe the Sacramento Kings should go?

I'll publish your collective thoughts, and we'll navigate through this difficult time together.

Without question bright spots remain in both Darius Acuff Jr., and rookie Emanuel Sharp, and how the Kings develop these 2 youngsters will be a testament of good things to come.

I heard a poem many years ago that the Kings should take note of and it goes like this:

For want of a nail, the shoe was lost,
For want of a shoe, the horse was lost,
For want of a horse, the rider was lost,
For want of a battle, the kingdom was lost,
And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

Kings fans, Doug Christie and his staff don't need to reinvent the wheel. They need to find one small thing that is wrong and correct it. Once that has been accomplished, find the next thing, and repeat the process.

Once this exercise has been done a dozen times watch the victories mount up, and one more thing. Keep us informed as to what you're doing. We're all waiting for positive things to root about.

All the best! ★

California's Campaign Drama Entices Political Junkies, But Serious Issues Get Short Shrift



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

This year's political campaigns gave California's political junkies plenty of chaotic events to savor: gerrymandered congressional districts; the sudden, scandalous downfall of a frontrunner for governor, and running feuds with President Donald Trump over voting.

However, for those of us who just want effective governance that addresses the multitude of challenges arising from California's socioeconomic complexity, the campaign season has been drearily disappointing.

Few, if any, office seekers have even mentioned such serious issues as unstable water supplies, budget deficits, homelessness or rising living costs, much less offered voters clear-eyed approaches to them.

The Democratic playbook has often been to blame Trump for everything negative, even though those important issues afflicted California long before he appeared on the political scene.

Meanwhile Republicans, with very slim chances of making gains in such a blue state, have pinned every unresolved problem on outgoing Gov. Gavin Newsom, even though he inherited many of them when he took office in 2019.

Polls tell us that Californians are in a sour mood. They're worried about soaring living costs and the economy in general and are unhappy with the status quo. Yet they seem unwilling to make big political changes — preferring the known to taking a chance on the unknown.

That contradictory attitude is particularly evident in the campaigns for the two most important offices being filled this year, the governor and mayor of Los Angeles.

Despite having served in public offices for decades, including a stint as attorney general, Xavier Becerra's support for governor in polls last spring was in the low single digits. Back then the odds-on favorite, Congressmember Eric Swalwell, self-destructed as multiple women accused him of sexual harassment or even assault.

Swalwell not only dropped out of the race but resigned his congressional seat. The only other candidates with double-digit support were left-leaning billionaire Democrat Tom Steyer and Republicans Steve Hilton and Chad Bianco.

But they were unacceptable to Democratic leaders and their labor union allies, who immediately chose Becerra as a known quantity and therefore the most acceptable of the single-digit candidates. With Democrats holding a massive edge in voter registration, that made Becerra the likely next governor, and he still is.

Becerra's campaign has consisted almost entirely of blaming Trump and refusing to offer any tangible approaches to the multiple issues he'll likely inherit from Newsom. He knows he can win without committing himself publicly, so he doesn't.

While Becerra represents the don't-rock-the-boat stance at the state level, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, another veteran of multiple offices, is his counterpart in the state's largest city.

But she, unlike Becerra, cannot coast into victory. Bass is carrying heavy baggage from her sloppy handling of the wildfires that swept through Los Angeles and its suburbs early last year.

Bass was junketing in Ghana when the fires erupted, even though there had been forecasts that hot winter winds could create wildfire conditions. She tried to blame others for the miscue, fired the L.A. fire chief and later attempted to alter an official report on how the fires were handled.

Bass is highly unpopular but offers herself as a known quantity, while her left-leaning opponent, city councilmember Nithya Raman, represents the potentially disruptive unknown. The outcome could go either way.

Thank goodness the cacophony of shrieking TV spots making promises that cannot be kept or portraying rivals as devils incarnate — and the fliers filling our mailboxes — will all end soon.

Sometime after the polls close Tuesday — maybe weeks later in some close contests — we'll learn who survived. The losers will be disappointed, the winners will be jubilant and once again we will hope that they'll do more than plot how to climb the next rung on the political ladder.

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

Am I Entitled to More Social Security as a Veteran?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I served in the U.S. Army from July 1964 to July 1967. Am I eligible for a higher Social Security payment? Thank you. ***Signed: Vietnam Era Army Vet***

Dear Army Vet: Please accept my sincere thanks for your military service. I believe you are referring to the "Special Extra Credit for Military Service" which has been the subject of many published articles. That refers to a special Social Security accommodation available only to those who served in the military during specific periods of time - but it does not add to your monthly Social Security payment. Rather, it adds to your military earnings record for the years you served, which may (or may not) result in a higher Social Security benefit when you later claim Social Security.

Here's how it works in your case:

Serving between 1964 and 1967, if you told Social Security of your military service when you applied for Social Security benefits (or gave them a copy of your DD-214), they would have added up to $1,200 per year to your military pay record (FYI, those who served after 1966 were automatically given earnings credit for their military service years). However, whether those special extra credits would affect your monthly Social Security benefit depends on your lifetime earnings record when you later claimed Social Security.

When you applied for benefits, Social Security reviewed your lifetime earnings and used the highest earning 35 years of earnings over your lifetime (adjusted for inflation) to calculate your "Primary Insurance Amount" (or "PIA," which is what you get if you claim benefits to start at your Social Security full retirement age). If, after your military service, you had 35 or more years of earnings which were higher than your earnings while serving in the military, Social Security would have used your later higher earning years to calculate your benefit, and your military earnings would not have had an effect on your Social Security benefit. However, if any of your military earnings (including the "special extra credits") were among the highest over your lifetime, then those higher military earnings would be included when calculating your Social Security benefit.

So, whether you would benefit from these "special extra credits for military service" depends largely on your earnings history after you were discharged from active duty. If your military earnings were among the highest earning years over your lifetime, and you provided SSA with a copy of your DD-214 when you applied for Social Security, then your current SS benefit already includes consideration of your military service (FYI, Social Security should have asked about your military service when you applied). If you didn't tell SS about your military service when you applied for Social Security, or if you aren't sure, you should contact the SSA at 1.800.772.1213 and ask if you were given those "special extra credits for military service" for your 1960s military service years when you applied for Social Security. But if you had at least 35 years of higher earnings after you left military service, your current SS benefit is already based on those later higher earning years, and you will not get any additional /Social Security benefit because of the "special extra credits" for your military service years.

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Abdul El-Sayed is no JFK

Abdul El-Sayed, the Democratic Senate candidate in Michigan, thinks he's another JFK, not in terms of charm or wit, but as a fellow victim of religious bigotry.

When he ran for president in 1960, Jack Kennedy indeed encountered anti-Catholic prejudice, including the preposterous claim that he'd take orders as president from the Vatican. This was irrational conspiracy theorizing, whereas the questions that El-Sayed is facing about his family's ties to extremist groups are well-founded.

It wasn't a right-wing smear artist who first said that El-Sayed's mother was with the Muslim Brotherhood, but his own half-sister. She tweeted in 2012, "Had an amazing talk with my mom about her activism in the Muslim Brotherhood during the early 70s while she was in college #respect." She suggested that other family members in Egypt were involved in the Muslim Brotherhood. His mom -- just her luck -- also worked for the Islamic American Relief Agency, which the U.S. government designated a supporter of terrorist groups.

Now, El-Sayed could say that none of this has anything to do with him, since his biological mother didn't raise him, and that his mother made a mistake in working for the Brotherhood. Or he could produce evidence of the falsity of what his half-sister said, which, if it's wrong, shouldn't be difficult given that both his mother and half-sister are around (his half-sister is a radically anti-Zionist University of Chicago professor who is very excited about El-Sayed's candidacy).

Instead, he's argued that questions about this constitute rank Islamophobia. He makes it sound as though the Muslim Brotherhood is a fraternal association, a Knights of Columbus for Muslims, such that any concerns about associations with it are inherently hateful. His reaction is a little like someone being asked about his family's alleged KKK associations, and responding, "How dare you question my white Protestant heritage."

In a viral exchange, a questioner at a town hall asked the candidate if he disavows the Muslim Brotherhood. El-Sayed responded with a curt, "Yeah, sure," before challenging his interlocutor about why he was asking and going on a long riff about freedom of religion in America. Of course, no one is challenging his right to worship as he pleases, or to run for public office as a faithful Muslim. The questions have to do with the associations and his own views.

His father-in-law, a major donor to his campaign, served on the founding committee of the Islamic Society of North America, a group designated as an unindicted co-conspirator in the 2007 Holy Land Foundation case. He also -- just his luck -- served as president of the Council on American-Islamic Relations Michigan chapter, another group named an unindicted co-conspirator in that case.

As for El-Sayed himself, the New York Times reports that when he was a student at the University of Michigan, he was president of the Muslim Students Association, an organization founded by the Muslim Brotherhood in the 1960s. In 2012, he joined an open letter backing Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohamed Morsi, who had just become president of Egypt: "We, leaders of the Egyptian community, support the revolutionary decisions taken by the president, and we call on him to purge the media and the police as quickly as possible."

Here one must pause to express a little sympathy for El-Sayed: Who among us hasn't, at least once, urged an Islamist authoritarian to crack down on his political opponents? During this Senate campaign, El-Sayed excused an Islamist attack on a Michigan synagogue (before apologizing). He invited streamer Hasan Piker, who has repeatedly expressed sympathy with terror groups, to campaign with him. And he has refused to say that Iran is more dangerous than Israel.

He doesn't deserve the benefit of any doubt and has responded to questions about all of this with evasions and high dudgeon. No matter how often El-Sayed invokes JFK, Kennedy didn't defend his Catholic faith as a way of distracting from his own extremism and that of people around him.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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VELVET 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07280
Sophia De La Rosby, 17 Advantage Court, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ardently Yours/ Ardently Yours Co." 17 Advantage Court, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 18, 2026
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ARDENTLY 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07606
Dana Tidwell, 10823 Berwick Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wonder & Whimsy Collective" 10823 Berwick Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 30, 2026
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WONDER 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06937
Minds Moving Forward Family Therapy, Inc., PO Box 5113, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Minds Moving Forward" 50 Iron Point Circle Suite 140, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 8, 2026
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MINDS 11-6-26

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StratoX LLC, 2108 N Street Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "HoursLens/ CheckrideDPE" 2108 N Street Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 29, 2026
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HOURS 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07026
Hope Sacramento Inc, 1779 Tribute Road Suite A, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "One Hope Church/One Hope Church Sacramento" 2515 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 10, 2026
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ONE 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06892
G & J Inc, 1622 Farnham Avenue, Woodland, CA 95776 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sam's Market & Beverage" 7601 Sunrise Boulevard #1, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 3, 2026
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SAMS 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06966
Solviva Business Solutions LLC, 8374 Hillsbrook Drive, Antelope, CA 95843 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Solviva Travel Solutions/Solviva Business Solutions" 8374 Hillsbrook Drive, Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 8, 2026
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SOLVIVA 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06681
LeRonn Nelson, 3048 Stanton Circle, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Nelson International Group/ Uncle LeRonn.com/NIG" 3048 Stanton Circle, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 26, 2026
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NELSON 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07726
Marquetta Danielle Phanor, P.O. Box 400, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Black Onyxxx Bundles" 3723 Myrtle Avenue, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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BLACK 11-6-26

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Spec Auto Group Inc, 3340 Leona Circle, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Natomas Smog Shop & Auto Repair/Natomas Smog Shop" 925 National Drive Suite 105, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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NATOMAS 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07674
Baudilio Liriano, 6408 La Cienega Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Words and Voices" 6408 La Cienega Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 1, 2026
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WORDS 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07324
Diversity Venture Co., LLC, 3575 Sue Pam Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Calfix Pros Handyman Services/Calfix Pros Home Services" 3575 Sue Pam Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 22, 2026
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CALFIX 11-6-26

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Reformers LLC (CA). 11768 Village Pond Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Matthew Reneau Consulting" 11768 Village Pond Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 29, 2026
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MATTHEW 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07716
Simone Liggett, 9000 Casals Street, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Joy in Movement" 9000 Casals Street, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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JOY 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07513
Dave Weatherborne and Katherine Vazquez, 10528 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Weatherborne Delivery Services" 10528 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 28, 2026
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WEATHERBORNE 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07785
Leticia S. Mason, 7039 Sprig Drive, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Lil' Cup of Joy" 7039 Sprig Drive, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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LIL 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07366
Boris Blazevic, 2110 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "School of Pop" 2110 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 23, 2026
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SCHOOL 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07715
TBD Route LLC, 9719 Lincoln Village Drive Suite 504, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Community Connect Transport" 9719 Lincoln Village Drive Suite 504, Sacramento, CA 95827. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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COMMUNITY 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07768
Mother Lode Hospitality Group LLC, 6741 Duncan Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mother Lode Airport Shuttle" 6741 Duncan Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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MOTHER 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07723
G & E Investment Service, LLC, 10354 Cardiff Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "G. n. E Courier Service" 10354 Cardiff Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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GNE 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07369
Nicholas Elespuru, 5801 Himalaya Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Next Up Heating and Air" 5801 Himalaya Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 23, 2026
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NEXT 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07730
Nydia Gutierrez, 6111 Terrell Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Morning Brunch Box" 6111 Terrell Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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MORNING 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06733
Bernard Fok, 8250 Calvine Road #C361, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "PC Be Gone" 8437 Amrita Court, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 28, 2026
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PC 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07766
Amin Brothers Group LLC, 8158 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Angry Gyro" 8158 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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ANGRY 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07849
Gay Carroll-Haring, J.D. and Raymond Haring, Ph.D., 901 H Street Suite 120-222, Sacramento, CA 95814 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "GPS Pillow Shop/Healthspan Communications/Bliss Road Studios" 2726 Land Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95818. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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GPS 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07745
Thelma Sanders, 8401 Bernardo Court, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Pretty Crumb Cookie Co." 8401 Bernardo Court, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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PRETTY 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07746
Akira Sushi LLC, 6601 Sunrise Boulevard, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "B Banh Mi" 6191 Greenback Lane, Suite C, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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BANH 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07860
Timothy Griffin and Maggie Griffin, 3137 U Street, Antelope, CA 95843 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Twysted Creations/ Twysted Tunes/Twysted Trinkets" 3137 U Street, Antelope, CA 95843. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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TWYSTED 11-6-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07815
Alexandra Takahara, 3543 Voelke Court, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Allie Mae the Historian" 3543 Voelke Court, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 7, 2026
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ALLIE 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-05855
Jet & Rotor Aviation LLC, 6151 Freeport Boulevard Suite 166, Sacramento, CA 95822 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Advanced International Aviation Academy" 6151 Freeport Boulevard Suite 166, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 24, 2026
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ADVANCED 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07787
Marcelle Renee Stuckey and Marty Louis Tolliver, 9172 Madison Green Lane 47, Orangevale, CA 95662 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Humming Rooster" 9172 Madison Green Lane 47, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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HUMMING 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07558
Sheri Graber, 5306 Aldorae Street, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Hearts Anchored" 5306 Aldorae Street, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 29, 2026
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HEARTS 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07309
Laudi Inc., 2630 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Clock Shop" 2630 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 22, 2026
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CLOCK 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07823
Sky Smoke Inc, 7753 Roseville Road, Sacramento, CA 95842 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sky Smoke Inc" 7753 Roseville Road, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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SKY 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07832
Arn Rand Wilcox and Tina Marie Wilcox, 1720 U Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Rand Wilcox A Partnership" 1720 U Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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RAND 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07501
SwiftCart Prime LLC, 58 Cedro Circle, Sacramento, CA 95833 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "MedRo Healthcare Services" 4206 North Freeway Boulevard Suite 133, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 28, 2026
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MEDRO 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-06773
Joshua Koons, 5523 Millburn Street, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Legacy Texture & Paint" 5523 Millburn Street, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 31, 2026
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LEGACY 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07757
Bobby Willis Fletcher and Terra Lynn Fletcher, 7831 Juarez Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Fresh Fold 916" 7831 Juarez Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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FRESH 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07903
Claudette Pualani Kalili, 5150 Fair Oaks Boulevard Suite 101 #150, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Carmichael Realty Associates" 4065 Las Pasas Way, Sacramento, CA 95864. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 13, 2026
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CARMICHAEL 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07782
Xuezhuo Jiang, 8020 Maybelline Way, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sunflower Care Home" 8020 Maybelline Way, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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SUNFLOWER 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07838
Bradford Todd Andrews and Winifred Clare Andrews, 4100 Wayside Lane #110, Carmichael, CA 95608 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "River Garden Apartments" 4100 Wayside Lane #110, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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RIVER 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07837
Bradford Todd Andrews and Winifred Clare Andrews, 4100 Wayside Lane #110, Carmichael, CA 95608 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wayside Properties" 4100 Wayside Lane #110, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
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WAYSIDE 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07938
Gurbani Inc., 9354 Lost Springs Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Quality Tune Up Shops #51" 10801 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 14, 2026
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QUALITY 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07702
Carmichael Disc Center LLC, 5150 Fair Oaks Boulevard Suite 104, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Carmichael Spinal Care" 5150 Fair Oaks Boulevard Suite 104, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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SPINAL 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07653
Reliable Residential Improvement Inc, 7300 Auburn Boulevard Suite A, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Reliable Home Improvement Inc" 7300 Auburn Boulevard Suite A, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 1, 2026
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RELIABLE 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07722
Mara Fonseca Perez, 2728 Bridgeford Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Bella Fiesta Events" 2728 Bridgeford Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 5, 2026
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BELLA 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07904
Andree R. Vadenais, 5040 Jackson Street #16, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "California Apostille Courier Service/Ca Apostille Courier Service" 5040 Jackson Street #16, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 13, 2026
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CALIFORNIA 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07755
Carvana, LLC, 300 E Rio Salado Parkway Bldg 1, Tempe, AZ 85281 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "ADESA Brasher's/Carvana" 6336 Blacktop Road, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
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ADESA 11-13-26

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Jenna Gonzalez, 8871 N. Winding Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Golden Night Sleep/Golden Night Adventure Club" 8871 N. Winding Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 29, 2026
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GOLDEN 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07956
Erin Helpio, 1401 21st Street #12552, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Moon River Care" 1401 21st Street #12552, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 14, 2026
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MOON 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07984
AR Apparel LLC (CA), 2108 N Street Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Lab by ARA" 11480 Sunrise Gold Circle Suite 5, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 15, 2026
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LAB 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07973
Summit Elevation LLC, 5960 Wave Street, Sacramento, CA 95835 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "TankFlo Services" 5960 Wave Street, Sacramento, CA 95835. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 15, 2026
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TANKFLO 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07954
Carl Tomaselli, 4417 Hackberry Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tom's Marketing/California Phone Marketing" 4417 Hackberry Lane, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 14, 2026
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TOMS 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07981
Daniel Behrens, 7800 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Behr Gold Coins & Jewelry" 7800 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 15, 2026
Publish: Oct 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 2026
BEHR 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07828
Buds Buffet LLC (CA), 1016 10th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tenth Street Halal Burgers & Wings" 1016 10th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 8, 2026
Publish: Oct 23, 30, Nov 6, 13, 2026
TENTH 11-13-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07783
Tapp Family LLC, 3949 Mirecourt Circle, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tapp Into Care SLS" 11344 Coloma Road Suite 660, Gold River, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
TAPP 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07078
Keeley Construction Group, Inc., 500 S. Ewing Avenue Suite G, St. Louis, MO 63103 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Milling Services Inc." 500 S. Ewing Avenue Suite G, St. Louis, MO 63103. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 11, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
MILLING 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08014
101 Autos LLC, 7000 Franklin Boulevard Suite 750, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "101 Autos" 7000 Franklin Boulevard Suite 750, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 16, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
AUTOS 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08044
Felixia Marcosa Anselmo Barias, 12408 Pawcatuck Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tala Ascended/Felixia Thrives" 12408 Pawcatuck Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 19, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
TALA 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07923
Anastasiia Paterikina, 5800 Jameson Court, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Olive Art Studio" 5800 Jameson Court, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 13, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
OLIVE 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08054
Muna Tjoelker, 2130 Gunn Road, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Studio Artless" 2130 Gunn Road, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 19, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
STUDIO 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07083
Derek Schmidt, 5928 Winterham Way, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Derek's Handyman Services" 5928 Winterham Way, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County September 11, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
DEREKS 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08065
Grace Cleaning Co, 7537 Linden Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Grace Cleaning Co/Cleaning Grace" 7537 Linden Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 19, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
GRACE 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08073
All Griffin Security Services, 2725 Fulton Avenue D, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Steel Hawk Security Services" 2725 Fulton Avenue D, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 19, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
STEEL 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08042
Amy Dorene Norton, 7435 Fairway Two Avenue #16, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Notary Services by Amy" 7435 Fairway Two Avenue #16, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 19, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
NOTARY 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07959
Abel Babalai, 6389 Aspen Ranch Court, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "One Life Painting" 6389 Aspen Ranch Court, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 14, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
ONE 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08128
Phet Pompanya, 2130 Bernard Way, Sacramento, CA 95822 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Applied Design" 2130 Bernard Way, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 20, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
APPLIED 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07786
Chanise Hendrix, 3380 Soda Way, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Heal Boldly" 3380 Soda Way, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 6, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
HEAL 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-07963
Joven Care Home, Inc, 3812 Bainbridge Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Joven Care Home 2" 7361 Verdugo Way, Sacramento, CA 95842. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 14, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
JOVEN 11-20-26

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2026-08168
Nick Peinado, 250 McAdoo Drive 522, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "That Guy Window Washing" 250 McAdoo Drive 522, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County October 21, 2026
Publish: Oct 30, Nov 6, 13, 20, 2026
THAT 11-20-26

MPG



Four Generations of Farming Yield a New Craft Venture

The seeds of Far West Cider Co. first sprouted thousands of miles away from the Chinchiolo family's apple orchards in San Joaquin County. Intrigued by the idea of hard cider, company founder and home brewing enthusiast Adam Chinchiolo mixed up a batch while living in Australia. Then came a few years of state-side planning, training and experimentation to yield a new enterprise for the century-old, largely organic Lucky You Orchards. The company is a true family effort for the Chinchiolos, some of whom taste-tested plenty of hard cider fermented in Adam's garage during the research and development stage. "I think there was some trial and error, but as he refined his cider-making skills, it's gotten a lot better," said patriarch Steve Chinchiolo, who noted he was a fan of the concept from the start, as it allowed the farm to incorporate a value-added product to its core business—growing apples. The hard cider business made its first commercial sale a decade ago, building its brand around apples and other fruit grown by the fourth-generation family farm.

Expert Talks Illegal Cannabis Impacts on Agriculture

Although California legalized recreational cannabis in 2016, illegal cultivation continues. State officials have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to address the problem. Dan Sumner, a University of California agricultural economist and co-author of "Can Legal Weed Win?: The Blunt Realities of Cannabis Economics," said a major reason for the continued prevalence of illegal cannabis cultivation is that growers seek to avoid the regulatory costs that are borne by agricultural producers, especially in California. "The problem for a grower switching from illegal to legal is that this involves a group of people who have been operating a business without government licenses, without necessarily paying minimum wage, without having a porta-potty on the farm that met state regulations, without having pesticide-use inspectors come," Sumner told Ag Alert® in an interview. "If I went down the list of regulations that farmers must comply with ... there are a lot of them, and they're costly."

Ag Program Aims to Upskill Farmworkers

A program launched two years ago in California aims to teach farmworkers new skills. The Agricultural Technology and Education Collaborative, or AgTEC, program is offered at six colleges in the Central Valley. So far, the program has seen more than 800 enrolled students and about 150 graduates spread across the participating colleges. The program, launched in late 2024, aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive amid agriculture's evolving technologies and needs. While it's open to students of all backgrounds, it's particularly oriented towards farmworkers interested in expanding their agricultural skills. Karen Aceves, AgTEC's regional director, said the program can help fill a need in the changing world of agriculture while retaining workers already in the industry. "We don't know where our industry is going," Aceves said. "We need someone who's adaptable and can adapt to those changes." ★

Research Inspires Artwork



The event, which will be a presentation and public exhibition, will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity, 400 Jibboom St., Sacramento. Courtesy photo

By Keith Burbank

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Artists and researchers will come together Nov. 12 at ARx Live to unveil artwork inspired by science research, according to SMUD's Museum of Science and Curiosity.

The event, which will be a presentation and public exhibition, will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity, 400 Jibboom St., Sacramento.

"We are proud to welcome ARx Live to MOSAC," said Carlos Gonzalez-Jaime, executive director of the SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity, in a statement. "This exciting collaboration reflects our commitment to STEAM education by bringing science, art, and innovation together in ways that inspire curiosity and connect people. By pairing this unique exhibition with MOSAC's hands-on, interactive experiences, we hope to make these ideas accessible to audiences of all ages and invite our communities to explore the fascinating intersection of art and science."

The Nov. 12 event is the culmination of a nine-month partnership between artists and researchers resulting in visual, digital, literary, performative and mixed media art. Artwork will be on display at the Museum of Science and Curiosity until Dec. 15.

Nine artist-researcher teams took part in the program. They include Geoanna Bautista with the University of California at Davis School of Medicine and Jennifer Lugris, a Uruguayan Korean American painter based in Sacramento.

Leigh Ann Simmons at the University of California at Davis Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing partnered with artist Jessica Wimbley, who is based in Sacramento.

Jennifer Rosenthal of the University of California at Davis School of Medicine worked with artist Jodi Connelly, whose work involves people and their natural environment.

Drew Cingel at the University of California at Davis and artist and photographer Melissa Uroff partnered.

Angie Louie in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of California at Davis worked with artist Muzi Li Rowe, and Nicole Kravitz-Wirtz with the Centers for Violence Prevention at the University of California at Davis partnered with artist Ruby Chacon. Chacon is based in Sacramento and a high school educator.

Industrial biologist Dave Hogsett and Bay Area artist Sunroop Kaur worked together and artificial intelligence researcher Gabriel Simmons worked with visual artist Taner Ilhan Pasamehmetoglu.

Elizabeth Lopez, a wildlife biologist, partnered with community artist, organizer and educator Yared Portillo.

ARx Sacramento is modeled after a similar program at the Phoenix Bioscience Core in Arizona, which is starting its fifth year of partnerships.

"Nine months ago, we set out to show that Sacramento is a city where creativity and research thrive side-by-side - ARx Live is that vision realized," said Megan Van Voorhis, interim Assistant City Manager, in a statement. "Watching these artist-researcher teams translate rigorous science into work the whole community can experience is exactly the kind of inclusive, innovative arts programming we set out to champion." ★

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Informing, Empowering & Engaging Readers With Their Community



Policy Not Partisan 2: Finding Common Ground Without Losing Our Principle

By Patsy McGavock

In interview, Assemblymember Josh Hoover told me about a recent press conference with colleagues from across the aisle celebrating a bill they'd co-authored. "It was just really cool to see, and to feel the accomplishment of doing something with buy-in from all sides."

He brought his teenagers along to see the collaboration firsthand.

"My son was asking me questions, like, 'So you do work with Democrats sometimes?'"

Yes, they do work together. Perhaps more often than we realize.

Last time, I shared the moment my understanding of politics changed. I began seeing politics as policy about people, and how we may be limiting ourselves by associating politics primarily with partisan division.

Today, I'm clarifying something else about collaboration: Consensus isn't unanimous agreement. It's finding a direction people can support, even when differences remain.

That's a harder part of healing our division. An essential part. An essential part.

Hoover described the bipartisan California Problem Solvers Caucus. Members join to seek solutions across party lines, but political expectations can make that difficult in general assembly.

Democratic Assemblymember David Alvarez acknowledged that when colleagues and supporters expect a clear party line, working across the aisle can be perceived as giving something up.

How many possible solutions go unexplored when someone doesn't feel free to explore beyond their party's preferred approach.

While discomfort is expected when we challenge our thinking, meaningful collaboration requires room to disagree without pressure to surrender our principles.

Democratic Assemblymember Anamarie Ávila Farías, offered a refreshing perspective. She hasn't experienced that pressure within the caucus.

"I don't lean in starting with a label. I dissect the problem and engineer outward," she explained.

She described Democrats as "fifty shades of blue," with similar differences among Republicans. Why limit ourselves to one shade when a problem may require ideas from many?

The caucus, she said, provides a "sandbox" where members can explore different solutions without being judged by their particular shade – or color.

Consider immigration.

Last year, members of the caucus developed shared principles on this deeply divided issue. They identified areas of agreement on immigration's economic importance, border security, due process and possible paths toward legal status.

They didn't settle every disagreement. They identified common concerns and a starting point for policy discussions.

Ávila Farías described the significance of agreeing on the problem to solve before debating solutions. If we can't even agree on what problem we're trying to solve, how can we work together to solve it?

Alvarez likewise distinguishes between negotiating the methods of reaching a goal, but not abandoning the purpose behind it.

Compromise needn't mean surrendering principle. Consensus shouldn't mean pressured – or uncomfortably silent – agreement. It takes all voices.

The process can be the beginning of a better solution.

I've been thinking about this as I learn to chair meetings myself. Consensus isn't simply getting everyone to say yes, nor is it settling for a watered-down middle ground.

We want a path people can genuinely support.

How? Identifying the problem and shared outcome. Invite differing perspectives, including quieter voices. Separate principles from preferences. Test alternatives together. Ask whether people can support the direction, even with reservations. And make room for an honest no.

Being heard doesn't mean every preference will prevail. It means having a genuine opportunity to influence the outcome while retaining our integrity. Hopefully shaping something better than any one voice might have developed alone.

It takes bravery to enter an unfamiliar space. Bravery we often find when something is more important than our present discomfort.

Avila Farias emphasized all representatives need to hear from us, including officials outside our own party – she is only one of 80. Encourage them. Let them know we value thoughtful collaboration – solution-based policy - not just agreement with us.

My neighbor Dotty Hayes, 85, recently shared some wisdom from a less divided decade: If we open our hearts and our minds and not take everything so personally - we will grow tremendously. "And besides, it's so fun to learn from each other."

Perhaps healing division is less about eliminating disagreement than learning what we can build together despite it.

Be the collaboration in the room.

Next time, we'll explore how we can carry those relationships into effective advocacy for problem solving for our own communities.

Reach Patsy McGavock at PatsyMcGavock.JustServe@gmail.com.. ★



Popp Talk

With Mary Jane Popp

Why Veterans Day?

We all love celebrations, don't we? We celebrated Memorial Day and now it's time for Veterans Day. Aren't they for the same reason to honor our military men and women. Not exactly. They are six months apart, but the emphasis is quite different. Memorial Day is a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who have died in the service of our country, particularly those who have died in battle. While those who died are also remembered Veterans Day, the day is set aside to thank and honor ALL those who served honorably in the military in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely attended to thank LIVING veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served not only those who died-have sacrificed and done their duty.

That's why I am so proud to have had one of those honorable men in my life for both these special days. My late husband was a Vietnam Vet and served overseas fresh out of OCS as a Second Lieutenant, stayed in the reserves after he served his stint in Vietnam, and retired a LT Colonel. By the way, haven't you wondered why there is no apostrophe in Veterans Day, but does include an "s" at the end of the word veterans? How about this? Because it is not a day that belongs to veterans, it is a day for honoring ALL veterans. I honestly did not know that. Never to old to learn. Veterans Day is always observed officially on November 11, regardless of the day of the week on which it falls.

How about a little history on this special day. It goes back a very long time to 1918. WWI was known at the time as "The Great War" that officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919 in the Palace of Versailles in France. However, the fighting ceased seven months earlier when the armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany, went into effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded "the war to end all wars." It was a true wish for all to hope for, but unfortunately, that was not the end of all wars as WWII was in the wind.

Perhaps we can learn from tragedy of all the wars that were to come from WWII to the Korean War, Vietnam War, even though they didn't call it a war, to Dessert Storm, Iraqi War, Afghanistan, to the Iran War. God willing there will not be more, but I am beginning to believe as long as humanity exists, there will be wars over something that is believed to be justified. For now, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, we will continue to honor all those men and women whose courage makes sure we remain free. GOD BLESS THEM ALL! ★

