



Providing a SAFE space for Sacramento County Youth

To reduce the stress and trauma experienced by children who are victims of sexual abuse and violent crimes, Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services, local law enforcement agencies, and the District Attorney's Office have teamed up at the Sacramento County Special Assault Forensic Evaluation (SAFE) Center.

"The SAFE Center conducts a thorough forensic interview in the least intrusive way possible, and the child only has to be interviewed once, rather than being questioned multiple times by different agencies," said Michelle Callejas, Sacramento County Director of Child, Family and Adult Services.

These interviews are an efficient way to investigate child abuse cases and are core to identifying new leads and gathering evidence in a case. Although the interviews cannot be used in lieu of testimony and children may still have to testify in court, this approach greatly reduces the trauma of having to repeatedly talk about the abuse they have endured.

The SAFE Center moved in February of 2018 to 3701 Power Inn Road to join services and co-locate with the Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center. The Center now acts as a multifunctional place for families to receive services pertaining to abuse, counseling, safety planning and so much more.

The partnership with Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center allows the SAFE Center to offer new opportunities in 2019 that include on-site therapeutic crisis intervention, assessment, psycho-education and ongoing therapeutic treatment through the addition of a trauma-informed mental health clinician.



To learn more about the SAFE Center, please visit www.dcfas.saccounty.net. If you are interested in donating new toys/comfort items for youth visiting the SAFE Center, contact Darby Geller, SAFE Center Director (gelled@saccounty.net).



Left to Right: Darla Garcia, Faith Whitmore, Darby Geller, Sarah Leatherby and Kandyce Seely

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Ag Inspectors Keep Watchful Eye on Pests

Teeny-tiny insects can cause BIG problems. Invasive species like to hitchhike to California in packages, and if these non-native invasive pests come to an area where natural predators are absent, they can cause millions of dollars' worth of crop damage.

The United States Department of Agriculture inspects agricultural products at ports of entry, but Sacramento County Pest Exclusion Inspectors, with the help of specially trained K-9s, look at packages shipped directly to Sacramento County from other states or countries that have history of harboring invasive pests in shipped plants and produce. County inspectors find dozens of dangerous pests in packages each year. Packages that contain pests are taken to the Sacramento County Ag Commissioner's Office to be cleared or quarantined.

Can you guess the Ag Commissioner's busiest time of year? It's Valentine's Day. Due to the influx of flower shipments, inspectors examine hundreds of bouquets to ensure foliage does not have suspicious pests. Under a microscope, investigators have found hazardous ants, mites and insects barely visible to the naked eye. After these insects are removed and the package is confirmed to no longer be a threat, it is sent for delivery.



Pest exclusion is the first line of defense against exotic pests, but it's just one of several programs administered by the Department of Agriculture/Sealer of Weights and Measures. To learn more about how the department keeps Sacramento County safe, visit www.agcomm.saccounty.net.

Assessor Parcel Viewer – How Can It Help?

The Sacramento County Assessor's Office has an updated online tool that makes it simple to obtain real estate information on more than 470,000 parcels within Sacramento County. Whether you own your home, are in the market to buy a home, or are just curious about the size of a house or recent sales in your neighborhood, the Assessor Parcel Viewer has this information and much more.



The Assessor Parcel Viewer contains building characteristics for both residential and commercial properties. A recently added **Data Field Description** link explains the residential data in detail. The **Recent Sales** feature allows you to view sales data for residential as well as other property types such as condominiums, multiple family residences, commercial and industrial properties, vacant land and other miscellaneous properties.

To obtain information on a specific property, simply type in the address or parcel number of the property. You can also locate the property on the interactive map and simply click the parcel. Property information includes assessed values,

land use and property type, image of the **Assessor's Parcel Maps**, zoning, and County Supervisor. Property tax bill information is accessible via the **ePropTax** link. The Assessor Parcel Viewer offers five different interactive maps to choose from, including a new **County Imagery 2018 Map**.

To access the Assessor Parcel Viewer, visit www.assessor.saccounty.net. From the **TOOLS** drop down menu, click on **PARCEL VIEWER/PARCEL MAPS**, and then click on **ASSESSOR PARCEL VIEWER**.

Whether you own, rent, or are looking to buy, the Assessor Parcel Viewer is a useful and interesting tool providing an informative and interactive experience.



The Importance of Spaying/Neutering Your Pets

Did you know a single unaltered cat and her offspring can produce more than 400,000 cats in their lifetime? Over time, this creates a massive burden and impact on local shelters, which can stretch resources and available space. Spaying and neutering pets is one way to lessen this burden.

In 2018, the Bradshaw Animal Shelter cared for more than 13,000 animals. Of those, more than 7,000 were spayed or neutered at the shelter or through available programs, grants and donated funds from organizations like Teaching Everyone Animals Matter (TEAM). Last year, the shelter also provided approximately \$125,000 in low-cost spay and neuter vouchers to low-income Sacramento County residents through the Sacramento Area Animals Coalition's (SAAC) Voucher Program.



In addition to providing a solution to overpopulation, there are numerous health and other benefits to spay/neutering, including:

- » Prevention of pet-related diseases and cancer
- » In some cases, behavior, like roaming, aggression and barking, improves



- » Increases pets' life expectancy and overall quality of life
- » Licensing an altered pet is cheaper than licensing an unaltered pet

For more information about TEAM, visit team4animals.org. Information on licensing your pet can be found on the Bradshaw Shelter's licensing page. To schedule a surgery, call Community Spay and Neuter Clinic at 916-368-7314 or visit their website at communityspayneuter.com.

Spirit Airlines Joins Sacramento International Airport

Spirit Airlines announced it will begin its inaugural service at Sacramento International Airport with daily year-round, nonstop service between Sacramento (SMF) and Las Vegas (LAS) beginning Jun. 20, 2019. Spirit will join Frontier and Southwest to offer nonstop service to LAS from SMF, potentially supporting more competitive fares.



"SMF is thrilled to welcome Spirit Airlines to serve our community," stated Cindy Nichol, Sacramento County Department of Airports Director. "Spirit's low airfares will stimulate traffic for Sacramento passengers heading to Vegas for leisure, business and conventions. We're pleased to provide greater choice to our travelers, and Spirit complements our existing airlines serving SMF."

By July 2019, Sacramento International Airport will offer 175 daily nonstop flights on 14 domestic and international carriers to more than 40 nonstop destinations. In 2018, Sacramento International saw growth of more than 10% year over year passenger growth and served a record 12 million passengers. The regional economic impact of the Sacramento County airport system is more than \$4 billion annually.

Homeless Housing Development Applications Approved

Sacramento County continues to commit funding and services aimed at helping individuals and families experiencing homelessness in our neighborhoods with compassion and dignity and promoting smart strategies and coordination.

On Jan. 29, the Board of Supervisors approved two State applications for the Sunrise Pointe and Capitol Park Hotel No Place Like Home (NPLH) developments to address homelessness in the region. If successful, these developments would result in 180 units of permanent housing for persons experiencing homelessness, of which 87 would be NPLH units reserved for people experiencing homelessness with serious mental illness. The County commits to provide services for 20 years to the NPLH tenants.

Sacramento County Board-approved NPLH development co-applications:

- » Sunrise Pointe is proposed to be located at 7424 Sunrise Boulevard in Citrus Heights and consists of 22 NPLH designated one- two- and three-bedroom units. All units will serve families and individuals experiencing homelessness.
- » Capitol Park Hotel is proposed to be located at 1125 9th Street in downtown Sacramento. This development will be an acquisition and rehabilitation of a historic building and will include 65 NPLH designated units.

Sacramento County is working towards the goal of ending homelessness and ensuring every person that wants care, shelter and services receives them. For more information on the County's efforts, visit www.saccounty.net/Homelessness.

