



Cattails

For the Retired Public Employees of San Joaquin County

Member of CRCEA (California Retired County Employees' Association)



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – by Bill Mitchell



As I compose these comments at the beginning of July, much of the nation, California, and San Joaquin County are experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases. Certain sectors of the economy have been ordered closed again. As the reservoir of coronavirus grows, those of us who are particularly vulnerable - dare I say the majority of RPESJC members - are at even greater risk. The central purpose of our organization is "to preserve and promote the general welfare of retired employees of San Joaquin County," including "to improve the quality of life, general health, and well being of our members." Therefore, the board took what it felt was the most responsible course of action and cancelled all scheduled functions for the remainder of 2020. Carol Carson eloquently discusses this further in her Activities Report column.

It is my experience that voluntary organizations generally succeed, because a handful of individuals do the heavy lifting. I want to express our appreciation to two RPESJC Board members who recently stepped down, Bessie Graham and Joni Cannon. Bessie handled the organization's membership database, which involves receiving and inputting new member information, tracking down and processing change of addresses, producing various files and reports, and generating and mailing new member cards and welcome letters. Joni monitored and responded to RPESJC's email, updated the monthly calendar of events, set up and managed the holiday luncheon and picnic check-in process, wrote attendee names on the backs of raffle tickets and made the name tags for those events, sent email confirmations to people registering for all our functions, facilitated the creation of a document retention policy for the organization, and made the flyers for our events. As if all that were not enough,

Joni also maintained the RPESJC website and - get this - was the Cattails editor. Thank you Bessie and Joni. You are personally missed at board meetings, and it will take more than two people to handle all the duties you performed!

Due to other commitments and personal health, there are often vacancies on the RPESJC Board. If you are interested and willing to be considered for board membership, please contact me or any other board member. New ideas and fresh perspectives would be welcomed.

I look forward to a time, hopefully next year, when we can gather once again and enjoy each other's company. Meanwhile, stay safe and stay home. When you do go out, wear a mask. ❖

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ACTIVITIES REPORT — By Carol Carson



We'll be missing you in all the old familiar places that our hearts embrace: the monthly lunches, the summer picnics, the great bus trips, your smiling faces! What took the fun from 2020? How and when do we return to the world we once knew? It'll be awhile, but per the CDC, someday we'll once again be seeing you!

Seriously, our world got pretty small, very quickly. While disappointing, we all understand the current public health crisis and the need for social distancing in the era of COVID-19. While our members are likely active, and studies have shown immune function is pretty good in the 60s or even 70s, the immune functions go down rather quickly after age 75. People in our age group are often susceptible to respiratory diseases, heart and blood pressure problems, diabetes, obesity, and other health problems that leave us vulnerable to COVID-19. Current public health experts agree the single best way to break the chain of transmission is to enforce social distancing, wear masks, and avoid groups, especially indoors.

How do gatherings work while wearing masks and staying six feet apart? From our monthly luncheon gatherings, to our summer picnic, and our bus outings, how can we keep our members socially distant? It is very challenging. Our events just do not lend themselves to safe social distancing.

The RPESJC Board has been carrying on with our monthly meetings by telephone conference call. At every meeting we contemplate what, if any, activities could be done safely? With cases on the rise in San Joaquin County, the Board of RPESJC certainly does not want to raise risk to your health with group activities. In fact, at our most recent meeting, we made the difficult decision to cancel our yearly holiday luncheon, which is so much anticipated and enjoyed. Shutting ourselves off from each other is necessary to preserve our health and help curb the outbreak among our family, friends, and community. Wearing masks, washing our hands constantly, staying six feet from others, and using sanitizer are the new normal.

We joined the retiree group to continue the sense of belonging we had while working, to continue to socialize and connect with each other, and to sustain activities in the company of friends and associates. All of a sudden, we have to rethink what we can do safely. Hopefully, a vaccine will be developed soon and we can return to our friends, groups, places of worship, and activities. Until we meet again, keep up your spirit, and stay safe! ❖

WELCOME NEW RPESJC BOARD MEMBERS

Diane Schultz and Stephen Moore were recently voted as new members of the RPESJC Board of Directors. Diane came to Stockton in 1980 as a Public Health Microbiologist trainee for what was then the San Joaquin Local Health District. As a Public Health Microbiologist, she was active in the Northern California Association of Public Microbiologists and was president for two years. In 1987, she was appointed Senior Public Health Microbiologist. While in that capacity, she was the lead technical person for laboratory services, Training Coordinator for the Public Health Microbiologist program, and lead microbiologist for the Bio-terrorism and Response Program. In 2004, Diane was appointed Supervising Public Health Microbiologist, and retired in 2016 after 36 years of service with the Local Health District/Public Health Services.

Steve began his career in law enforcement with the Oxnard Police Department as a Police Explorer (a division of the Boy Scouts of America) and ultimately became a Police Officer in September 1978. He came to San Joaquin County in July 1982 as a lateral transfer to the Sheriff's Office. It was a homecoming for his wife Robyn, who grew up in the Linden area and was excited to return. Steve holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology and an adult teaching credential. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy 185th session. He has enjoyed community service in a number of capacities, including being a member of the Linden Lions Club, Tracy Rotary Club, Stockton Branch NAACP, and the Waterloo Athletic Club. He currently sits on the board

Continued on Page 3

NEW BOARD MEMBERS CONT.

of directors for the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau and Community Partnership for Families, and has served with various other professional and social organizations. He retired in January 2019 after 36 years with the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office.

Please welcome Diane and Steve to the Board. We look forward to their continued service to County retirees. ❖

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time, the Board of Supervisors announces vacancies on various County boards, committees and commissions. We plan to post the information on the RPESJC website. Johanna Shick, Chief Executive Officer of the San Joaquin County Employees Retirement Association recently said: "Who better to serve on these boards and commissions than retired public employees who know so much about the County's work and responsibilities!" Monitor our website and consider volunteering to help guide the County's work. ❖

AUGUST TRIVIA

Match the animal and bird groups. The animals and birds are on the list on the left and the answers are on the list on the right.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| A. Apes | 1. A Murder |
| B. Elk | 2. A Troup |
| C. Giraffes | 3. A Shredness |
| D. Kangaroos | 4. A Tower |
| E. Crows | 5. A Gang |
| F. Eagles | 6. A Convocation |
| G. Ravens | 7. An Unkindness |

Answers on Page 5

RICHARD CALLISTRO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The RPESJC Board is pleased to announce that Steven Ziemann, grandson of RPESJC member Anne Ziemann (pictured below together), is the first winner of a \$1,000 Richard Callistro Scholarship.

Steven was an accomplished 2020 graduate of Tokay High School in Lodi, placing near the top of his class, and made the Tokay High School Honor Roll, the California Scholarship Federation, and National Honor Roll. Since his sophomore year, he competed with his team in the San Joaquin County Mock Trial, including being the lead prosecutor. One of his letters of recommendation was from the San Joaquin County District attorney, Tori Verber-Salazar, who said "...Steven displayed a strong sense of self and an enlightened understanding of people and their character. His dedication and compassion for those in his community, especially those less fortunate, displayed his dedication to finding positive pathways for all. Steven is an insightful young man who combines exceptional natural ability with a willingness and eagerness to learn."

Mr. Ziemann plans to attend Delta College and then transfer to UC Davis where he will study government, political science, or public policy. After earning his Bachelor's degree, he will pursue a Juris Doctorate in law school.

Congratulations Mr. Ziemann for winning this scholarship, and we wish you success in attaining your career goals. ❖



WELCOME NEW RPESJC MEMBERS!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>		
Terri Almond	Sheriff	Kathy Frazier	SJ General Hospital
Manuel Andrade	Sheriff	Deborah Gacer	Human Services
Catherine Barnhardt	Human Services	John Gleason	Sheriff
Janet Barrett	District Attorney	Melissa Gust	Human Services
Daniel Blake	Sheriff	Marissa Harris	Purchasing
Deanna Borelli	*	Michael Holmes	Child Support
Suzanne Bullington	Human Services	Stephanie James	Probation
James Buzo	District Attorney	P Curly Johnson	*
David Castagna	Purchasing	Dorene Jow	Human Services
Josephine Cervantes	Child Support	Grace Jumanan	Correctional Health
Vince Chunn	Sheriff	Rosa Junqueiro	Superior Court
Sharon Corello	Child Support	Karen Keen	Employ. Econ. Dev.
Connie Donough	Child Support	Kinberly Knapp	Human Services
Helen Ellis	Superior Court	John Krpan	SJ General Hospital
Kasey Foley	Environmental Health		

**Retiree declined to give department name*

NEW RETIREES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years</u>
Ejaz Ahmed	Behavioral Health	19
Manuel Andrade	Sheriff	21
Greg Arnell	Information Systems	20
Catherine Barnhardt	Human Services	20
Janet Barrett	District Attorney	39
Carolyn Bishop	SJ General Hospital	30
Dan Blake	Sheriff	10
Duane Blevins	Probation	30
James Buzo	District Attorney	23
David Campbell	SJ General Hospital	34
Darryl Carter	Human Services	19
Ralph Castro	Probation	20
Josephine Cervantes	Child Support	31
Vince Chunn	Sheriff	29
Bradley Cook	Sheriff	2
Carla Cook	Deferred	29
Michelle Cordova	SJ General Hospital	36
Sharon Covello	Child Support	13
Elizabeth De Jong	District Attorney	4
Ricardo De La Torre	Purchasing	12
Connie Donough	Child Support	33
Darlene Emerson	District Attorney	28
Ron Elliott	Airport	05
Helen Ellis	Superior Court	44
Abigail Fields	Superior Court	30
Lupe Filipowski	Superior Court	32

Corleen Flinn	Sheriff	19
Bernadette Flores	Superior Court	25
Kasey Foley	Environmental Health	26
Deborah Gacer	Human Services	20
Sally Gerling	Deferred	11
Gloria Gonzalez	Substance Abuse	5
Karen Grady	Human Services	14
Melissa Gust	Human Services/Sheriff	34
Marissa Harris	Purchasing	19
Virginia Heptner	Substance Abuse	20
Olivia Hernandez	SJ General Hospital	20
Michael Holmes	Child Support	21
Jeannette Hume	SJ General Hospital	23
Mildred James	District Attorney	35
Richard James	Probation	30
Stephanie James	Probation	25
Noel Jumaoas	Sheriff	20
Joann Jordan	District Attorney	34
Dorene Jow	Human Services	13
Grace Jumanan	Correctional Health	29
Rosaelvira Junqueiro	Superior Court	37
Karen Keen	Employ. Econ. Dev.	29
Kimberly Knapp	Human Services	6
Betty Lao	Human Services	29
John Lauper	Public Defender	33
Linda Lavow	Child Support	27
Doualy Lo	Public Health	26
Stephen Maier	District Attorney	29

Congratulations

NEW RPESJC MEMBERS CONT.

Name	Department
John Lauper	Public Health
Monica Moore	Child Support
Ermelinda Patricio	Correctional Health
Christian Pehl	Sheriff
Lynette Pinto	Auditor Controller
Daniiel Platt	Human Services
Gregory Price	Child Support
Teresa Provencio	Superior Court
Antonia Ramos	Probation
Ronann Robello	Human Services
Rosemary Romero	Information Systems
Ana Sanchez	Child Support
Christina Santos	Human Resources
Vivian Sarina	*
Carolyn Schmidt	*
Michelle Scott	Public Health
Renelle Stoner	District Attorney

Susan Teeslink	Correctional Health
Michelle Turner	Public Defender
Michael Vallery	Sheriff
Luis Victoria	Sheriff
Debra Vinson	Human Services
James Weydert	District Attorney
Dawn Woltkamp	Sheriff
Robert Yoshino	Sheriff ❖

NEW RETIREES CONT.

Name	Department	Year
Royce Mayo	District Attorney	30
Tina Miller	SJ General Hospital	11
Christine Mitchell	SJ General Hospital	12
Nancy Morita	Deferred	10
Rebecca Morris	SJ General Hospital	13
Gordon Ogden	Public Defender	17
Brigida Palaruan	SJ General Hospital	4
Ermelinda Patricio	Correctional Health	16
Christian Pehl	Sheriff	30
Daniel Platt	Human Services	12
Lesley Potter-Martin	SJ General Hospital	15
Gregory Price	Child Support	35
Moonyeen Provencio	Superior Court	35
Claudio Revives	Deferred	1
Mary Lou Rodriguez	SJ General Hospital	20
Richard Rodriguez	Sheriff	15
Winifred Rogers	Cooperative Extension	20
Rosemary Romero	Information Systems	35
Bophasy Saukam	Substance Abuse	25
Mollie Sampson	Deferred	5
Christina Santos	Human Services	20
Michelle Scott	Public Health	26

Emmanuel Sison	SJ General Hospital	19
Debora Smith	SJ General Hospital	15
Bianca Sperry	Assessor	21
Sheila Standridge	Human Services	32
Renelle Stoner	District Attorney	20
Deborah Thompson	Deferred	2
Robin Toschi	Probation	30
Michael Vallery	Sheriff	21
Lisa Vernengo	Environmental Health	14
Luis Victoria	Sheriff	29
Tina Villagomez	Substance Abuse	22
Debra Vinson	Human Services	12
James Weydert	District Attorney	39
Robert Yoshino	Sheriff	16
Mitchell Yturri	Facilities Management	19

AUGUST TRIVIA ... ANSWERS

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| A - 3 | E - 1 |
| B - 5 | F - 6 |
| C - 4 | G - 7 |
| D - 2 | |



Dates To Remember

Thursday, August 13, 2020	Monthly Luncheon - <u>Canceled</u>
Thursday, August 27, 2020	Board Meeting – Conference Call. Call 978-990-5000. When prompted dial in code 898183# to be connected to the meeting.
Thursday, September 10, 2020	Monthly Luncheon - <u>Canceled</u>
Thursday, September 24, 2020	Board Meeting – Conference Call. Call 978-990-5000. When prompted dial in code 898183# to be connected to the meeting.
Thursday, October 8, 2020	Monthly Luncheon - <u>Canceled</u> .
Thursday, October 22, 2020	Board Meeting – Conference Call. Call 978-990-5000. When prompted dial in code 898183# to be connected to the meeting

MEMBERS FINANCIAL SERVICES – By Frank Feng



Frank Feng, CFP®, ChFC®, CRPC®
MEMBERS Financial Services Program®
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frank.feng@cunamutual.com
Insurance License: CA 0B68933

Question: Hi Frank, I have heard that there are some new rules regarding the Required Minimum Distribution on IRAs. Could you tell me more about it? Thanks!

Answer: There are two major legislation changes that are affecting the Required Minimum Distribution: The SECURE Act and the CARES ACT.

The SECURE Act, which took effect 01/01/2020, has pushed the required minimum distributions (RMDs) age to 72, an increase from the prior 70½. This rule change for RMDs only affects Americans turning 70½ in or after 2020. For these taxpayers, RMDs will become mandatory at age 72. If you meet this criterion, your first RMD won't be necessary until April 1 of the year after you reach 72.

Another major change is the removal of the age limit for traditional IRA contributions. Before the SECURE Act, you were required to stop making contributions at age 70½. Now,

you can continue to make contributions as long as you meet the earned-income requirement.

The \$2 trillion "CARES" (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act, on the other hand, suspends the mandate for required minimum distributions (RMDs) for year 2020, regardless of your age. With the CARES rule, you can simply skip your 2020 RMDs if you choose to do so. Please contact your financial advisor or the financial institutions that have your IRA for specifics.

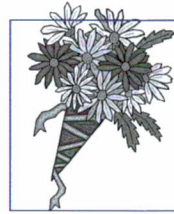
If you would like more information about this topic, or have questions on any other financial issues, please call me at (209) 948-6024 ext 50140 or email me at frank.feng@cunamutual.com.

Representative is NOT a tax advisor. For specific tax questions, please consult a CPA or tax professional. ❖

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IN MEMORIAM JAN TO JUNE

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who meant so much.



Phillip Alderete-Saldana	SJGH
Charles Anderson	Assessor
Lawrence Barrett	District Attorney
Deborah Bettencourt	SJGH
Karen Browning	Mary Graham Childrens Shelter
Kathy Bush	Substance Abuse
Joann Calk	Behavioral Health
Barbara Campbell	Treasurer
Robert Cooper	Lincoln Fire
Patrick Curran	County Counsel
Robert De Chance	Sheriff
Michael Gamroth	Human Services Agency
Earl Gilford	Public Works
Linda Gipson	EDD
George Hansen	SW-Lovelance Transer
Elwood Hausauer	Government Buildings
Sarah Henderson	SJGH
Peter Herrera	Public defender
Mark Huffaker	Agriculture
Robert Hunter	Planning
Mary Kelly	Department of Aging
William Kramer	SJGH Security
Andrew Leos	Sheriff
Fredrick Manding	Lathrop Manteca Fire District
Sharonann Marshall	Mental Health
Ina Mathis	Revenue & Recovery
Nobuko Mitsuda	Human Services Agency
Josephine Molin	Human Services Agency
Richard Moore	Substance Abuse
Mildred Mulder	OE Statewide Planning
Calvin Myers	Sheriff
Bear Neft	Courts
Tomiyé Ohta	Behavioral Health
Isabel Orello	Human Services Agency
Connie Pettijohn	Human Services Agency
Carla Robertson	SJGH
Geraldine Sawyer	Mental Health
Jessie Smith	Public Assistance
Pamela Smith	Substance Abuse
James Sullivan	Sheriff
Ellen Tankersley	Human Services Agency
Pauline Toy	Revenue & Recovery
Carolyn Van Dyke	Human Services Agency
Maria Vance	Child Support
Paula Vierra	District Attorney
Winston Wallace	Facilities Management
Clifford Weaver	Sheriff
Hollee Weethee	Recorder
Rachel Whiteside	Human Services Agency
Deborah Williams	Human Services Agency
Jonathon Wilson	Public Defender
Linda Yopez	SJGH-Admin
Barbara Zaruba	Law library
Bailus Zeigler	Public Works ❖

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Member comments and suggestions should be directed to Staff Advisor, RPESJC Newsletter. Email: rpesjc@gmail.com, or contact

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FINANCIAL CENTER CREDIT UNION - by Michael P. Duffy President/C.E.O.



PHISHING

It is of the utmost importance that you and your family are protected and while you're following the safety precautions to stay healthy, we hope you take steps to protect yourself from scammers too! A couple of tips to prevent phishing:

CDC

Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts saying that they have information about COVID-19. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, we encourage you to visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) by searching their sites directly from your browser instead of clicking any links unnecessarily.

CHECK THE EMAIL ADDRESS

Do you know who the email is from? Does the subject or email content seem odd? If you answered "yes" to either of those questions, give the person a call who sent you the email before you open it.

CHECK THE LINK BEFORE YOU CLICK. OR, DON'T CLICK AT ALL...

Cyber-criminal often use current news to get you to click on malicious links and COVID-19 is no exception. While browsing the internet always ensure you are selecting on links to reliable sources, or you can always navigate to a website directly by entering it into your browser. However, if you're suspicious, not clicking is a good precautionary technique to practice.

BE CAREFUL WHEN PROVIDING PERSONAL INFORMATION.

Always consider why someone wants your information and if it is appropriate. There is no reason someone would need your username and password to access public information.

VACCINATIONS AND TEST KITS

Be wary of advertisements for at home test kits being provided as most of these test kits have not been approved by the FDA and do not give accurate results. Scammers are selling products that they claim to treat or prevent the coronavirus without proof that they work, ignore these offers. ❖

The Newsletter for the
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