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A BILINGUAL PUBLICATION



Americans lost more years of life to COVID-19 in 2020 than to all accidents combined in a typical year

By Stephanie Kramer

About 600,000 Americans have died of COVID-19 since the coronavirus outbreak began. But behind that huge figure is a more nuanced one that brings the human toll of the virus into even sharper relief.

In addition to the overall number of deaths from a given cause, researchers can estimate the number of “life years” lost due to it – a statistic that takes life expectancy into account. For example, if a person with a life expectancy of 80 dies at age 50, they are estimated to have lost 30 years of life. Examining this statistic underscores the extent to which the virus has cut Americans’ lives short.

COVID-19 caused an estimated loss of nearly 5.5 million years of life in the U.S. in 2020

In 2020 alone, the coronavirus was responsible for about 380,000 deaths and roughly 5.5 million years of lost life in the United States, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That number of life years lost is more than the number lost in a typical calendar year to all accidents combined – including traffic accidents, drownings, firearm accidents, drug overdoses and other poisonings – and more than triple the number of life years lost in a

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Americanos perdieron más años de vida por COVID-19 en 2020 que por todos los accidentes combinados en un año típico

Por Stephanie Kramer

Cerca de 600,000 estadounidenses han muerto de COVID-19 desde que comenzó el brote de coronavirus. Pero detrás de esa enorme cifra hay una más matizada que pone de relieve aún más el costo humano del virus.

Además del número total de muertes por una causa determinada, los investigadores pueden estimar el número de “años de vida” perdidos debido a ella, una estadística que tiene en cuenta la esperanza de vida. Por ejemplo, si una persona con una esperanza de vida de 80 años muere a los 50 años, se estima que ha perdido 30 años de vida. El examen de esta estadística subraya hasta qué punto el virus ha acortado la vida de los estadounidenses.

Solo en 2020, el coronavirus fue responsable de aproximadamente 380,000 muertes y aproximadamente 5.5 millones de años de vidas perdidas en los Estados Unidos, según un análisis del Pew Research Center de datos provisionales de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades. Ese número de años de vida perdidos es mayor que el número perdido en un año calendario típico debido a todos los accidentes combinados, incluidos los accidentes de tráfico, ahogamientos, accidentes con armas de fuego, sobredosis de drogas y otras intoxicaciones, y más del triple del número de años de vida

perdidos en una situación normal en un año calendario debido a una enfermedad hepática o diabetes.

(Este análisis compara los datos provisionales de 2020 para las muertes por coronavirus con los datos finales de 2019 para todas las demás causas de muerte. Adoptamos este enfoque por varias razones: actualmente solo hay datos provisionales disponibles para las muertes por COVID-19 en 2020; los datos provisionales detallados no están disponibles actualmente para todas las demás causas de muerte en 2020; y la pandemia también afectó los patrones de mortalidad por causas no relacionadas con el coronavirus en 2020. Eso hace que 2019 sea un punto de comparación adecuado para el número típico de muertes por diversas causas en un año determinado.)

Las mismas cifras revelan que el número promedio de años de vida perdidos por muerte por coronavirus en EE. UU. en 2020 fue de 14 años. Esto es comparable al número promedio de años perdidos por muerte por enfermedad cardíaca en los EE. UU. En 2019 (13 años) y algo más bajo que el número promedio de años perdidos por muerte por cáncer o diabetes ese año (17 años). Pero está muy por debajo del promedio de años perdidos por enfermedad hepática (24 años) o muerte accidental (31

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Vive Cosmetics Receives Funding from California Capital

Latina Owned Cosmetics Company Applied for Assistance to Grow the Company

(Sacramento, CA) When Leslie Valdivia and Joanna Rosario-Rocha started Vive Cosmetics, the beauty industry was overdue for change. What has grown into an acclaimed national brand with a wide range of lip products began as a problem the pair knew they could solve: the need for authentic representation of the diverse Latina and Latinx communities that constitute the make-up industry’s largest consumer demographic. Now, as their influence grows, the founders are using a loan from California Capital’s Lending Center to expand their reach and continue effecting change.

The pair decided to venture into the world of cosmetics due to the lack of representation and products that support the many differences that exist amongst Latina/Latinx beauty aficionados: skintone,

ethnicity, and shape. “At one point they said, ‘Why should we have to compromise?’” explains Leslie. “That’s when it clicked. Joanna and I looked at each other and said, ‘We have to do something.’”

At that point they went to work doing research and learning the intricacies of development, production and sales of high quality beauty products. They worked with a California Capital Women’s Business Center counselor to develop a business plan, all while maintaining their full time jobs. “What’s so exciting to see is that California Capital has assisted Vive Cosmetics since the beginning,” stated Deborah Lowe Muramoto, CEO of California Capital. “From their business plan, attending various seminars, networking, participating at events,

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Dr. Troy A. Brown Sworn in as San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools

By Zack Johnson

Dr. Troy A. Brown took the oath of office as the 27th San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools during a brief ceremony at the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) on July 1, 2021. He replaces former San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools James A. Mousalimas, who retired from a 36-year career in education at the end of June.

A former coach, teacher, principal, and school district administrator, Brown joined the SJCOE as associate superintendent of Student Programs and Services in 2018. In his new role as County Superintendent of Schools, Brown plans to focus on providing opportunities for all students by offering innovative SJCOE programs and supporting the school districts serving San Joaquin County's more than 150,000 students and their families.

"Every student has a story. It is our duty as educators to build strong relationships with our students and to do all that we can to ensure that our students have the opportunity to tell their stories and be prepared to continue their education, embark on rewarding careers and become engaged members of their communities," Brown said. "I look forward to continuing the culture of service fostered by Superintendent Mousalimas. I am grateful for his guidance as a mentor and for his leadership, which has benefited so many in San Joaquin County."

Brown also intends to focus on strengthening career technical educa-



tion, providing STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) programs to educate students and train teachers, and making professional development and other resources available to school districts as they accelerate learning and increase social and emotional supports as they recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

Brown was appointed to the position by the San Joaquin County Board of Education by a unanimous vote on Oct. 21, 2020, to replace Mousalimas, who was first elected to the office in 2014.

"I am absolutely certain that the SJCOE and public education in San Joaquin will continue to move forward under Dr. Brown's leadership for many years to come," Mousalimas said. "I have had the pleasure of working alongside Troy at both the Tracy Unified School District and the SJCOE. He is a service-centered, forward-thinking leader who is always focused on what is in the best interest of the students and families we serve."

Before joining the SJCOE as the associate superintendent of Student

Programs and Services in 2018, Brown had been the director of Student Services and Curriculum at Tracy Unified School District. In addition to being principal of Merrill F. West High, Brown had also served as a teacher, coach and assistant principal at the district, which he first joined in 2003.

Brown has a doctorate in education, a master's degree in educational administration, and a bachelor's degree in English. He resides in Manteca with his wife Cindy and has four children: Jacob, Nicole, Allie, and Zackary.

COVID

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normal calendar year due to liver disease or diabetes.

(This analysis compares provisional 2020 data for coronavirus deaths with final 2019 data for all other causes of death. We took this approach for several reasons: Only provisional data is currently available for COVID-19 deaths in 2020; detailed provisional data is not currently available for all other causes of death in 2020; and the pandemic affected mortality patterns for non-coronavirus causes in 2020, too. That makes 2019 a suitable comparison point for the typical number of deaths from various causes in a given year. For more about the methodology of this

analysis, read "How we did this.")

How we did this

COVID-19 deaths caused an average loss of 14 life years

The same figures reveal that the average number of life years lost per U.S. coronavirus death in 2020 was 14 years. This is comparable to the average number of years lost per heart disease death in the U.S. in 2019 (13 years) and somewhat lower than the average number of years lost per cancer or diabetes death that year (17 years). But it is far below the average number of years lost per liver disease (24 years) or accidental death (31 years). Life expectancy increases with age

The large number of life years lost

due to COVID-19 in 2020 may not be widely appreciated because people ages 65 and older account for a large majority (approximately 80%) of U.S. coronavirus deaths to date. Some observers have raised the point that the public may believe that these older Americans were nearing the end of their lives anyway.

But life expectancy statistics tell a different story. In fact, life expectancy increases with age. While babies born in the U.S. today can expect to live to be 79, Americans who are 65 today can expect to live to 85, according to the United Nations World Population Prospects. Current 80-year-olds, in turn, can expect to live to an average age of 90.

Life expectancy in U.S. increases with age

The pandemic, in other words, has

killed many Americans who otherwise might have expected to live for years or even decades longer. A 65-year-old who dies from COVID-19 might ordinarily have expected to live until 85 – a difference of two decades, or roughly a quarter of the average American's total expected life span at birth.

Average life spans change with age as common causes of death shift over time. By the time a U.S. adult lives to 65, they are unlikely to die from some common causes of death among younger people, such as homicide, pregnancy complications or congenital diseases. At the same time, older Americans are more likely than their younger counterparts to die from causes including heart disease, Alzheimer's – and now COVID-19.

COVID-19

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años).

La esperanza de vida aumenta con la edad

Es posible que la gran cantidad de años de vida perdidos debido al COVID-19 en 2020 no sea muy apreciada porque las personas de 65 años o más representan una gran mayoría (aproximadamente el 80%) de las muertes por coronavirus en los EE. UU. hasta la fecha. Algunos observadores han planteado el hecho de que el público puede creer que estos

estadounidenses mayores se estaban acercando al final de sus vidas de todos modos.

Pero las estadísticas de esperanza de vida cuentan una historia diferente. De hecho, la esperanza de vida aumenta con la edad. Si bien los bebés que nacen en los EE. UU. hoy pueden esperar vivir hasta los 79 años, los estadounidenses que tienen 65 años hoy pueden esperar vivir hasta los 85, según las Perspectivas de población mundial de las Naciones

Unidas. Las personas de 80 años actuales, a su vez, pueden esperar vivir hasta una edad promedio de 90 años.

La pandemia, en otras palabras, ha matado a muchos estadounidenses que de otro modo habrían esperado vivir durante años o incluso décadas más. Una persona de 65 años que muere a causa del COVID-19 normalmente podría haber esperado vivir hasta los 85, una diferencia de dos décadas, o aproximadamente una cuarta parte de la esperanza de vida total esperada de un estadounidense promedio al nacer. La esperanza de vida promedio

cambia con la edad, ya que las causas comunes de muerte cambian con el tiempo. Para cuando un adulto estadounidense llegue a los 65 años, es poco probable que muera por algunas causas comunes de muerte entre las personas más jóvenes, como el homicidio, las complicaciones del embarazo o las enfermedades congénitas. Al mismo tiempo, los estadounidenses mayores tienen más probabilidades que sus contrapartes más jóvenes de morir por causas que incluyen enfermedades cardíacas, Alzheimer y ahora COVID-19.

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Cosmetics

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working their plan and continuing to focus on their goals, our staff and counselors have been there for Joanna & Leslie the entire venture. We are delighted in their diligence and thrilled to see how this loan will grow their business.”

Now, with capital to work with and a clear picture of their financial goals, the founders are busy expanding and planning for the future. Leslie now works for the company full-time, and they are working with a product development consultant who is providing valuable guidance as they create new products and reformulate some of their traditional offerings. “We find so many of the models, photographers, and creative directors we work with through Instagram,” Leslie says. “We’ll put a call out to our community when we’re working on a campaign

and need talent, and we will get hundreds of people tagging their friends or reaching out themselves. There is nothing better than seeing our followers wearing and loving our products.”

This capital infusion allows them to continue innovating their products to meet the changing needs of customers to include product lines beyond lipstick, and revamping their packaging to make it more sustainable, synergy will remain a priority. Since 2017, they have seen a shift in how many Latinx-owned companies are around, and that has come with different types of representation and different stories being told. Their goal is to uplift the Latinx community as a whole, with the focus on collaboration rather than competition—staying true to their passion for beauty con cultura.

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\$600 Stimulus Checks: Two-Thirds of Californians Expected to Receive New Direct Payments

By Jason Lemon

An estimated two-thirds of California's nearly 40 million residents are expected to receive a stimulus check of \$600 under a new budget plan pushed forward by the state's Democratic governor, Gavin Newsom, and approved by lawmakers there this week.

The federal government has previously approved three rounds of stimulus checks amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and this will mark the second direct payment passed at the state level in California. Under the latest round of direct payments, all taxpayers in the state earning up to \$75,000 per year will receive a \$600 stimulus check, while families with dependents would receive an additional \$500.

Undocumented immigrant families will also receive \$500 payments—with about \$8.1 billion set aside in total to cover the cost of all the new stimulus checks.

State officials have estimated that two out of every three residents in California will receive a stimulus payment. With a population of about 39.5 million people, that means more than 26 million resi-

dents should see checks in the coming weeks.

Newsom first proposed the "Golden State Stimulus II" in May. Under a former California stimulus package, lower-income residents already received a previous \$600 stimulus check. Those payments, which were approved in April, doled out payments to Californians who earned up to \$30,000 per year. The new plan expands on that, providing checks to significantly more state residents.

Lawmakers in California additionally approved a \$5.2 billion plan to pay off all the unpaid rent of lower-income residents from during the COVID-19 pandemic. Newsom hailed this as the "largest rent relief package" the U.S. has ever approved. "NEW: California is investing \$5.2 billion to cover ALL the unpaid rent for lower-income Californians who struggled during the pandemic. This is the largest rent relief package America has ever seen," the governor tweeted on June 25. "California is ROARING back—and leaving no one behind."

Congress passed bipartisan COVID-19 legislation back in March



2020 that provided a majority of Americans with one-time stimulus checks of up to \$1,200. In a second bipartisan COVID-19 stimulus package approved in December, lawmakers in Washington, D.C. approved another round of \$600 direct payments. After President Joe Biden took office, Democrats in March pushed through a third round of stimulus payments of up to \$1,400—which no Republicans in Congress supported.

More than 80 Democratic

lawmakers in Congress have publicly backed providing additional stimulus support to Americans, as millions remain unemployed and face economic difficulties due to the fallout from the pandemic. A petition on Change.org calling for recurring stimulus checks of \$2,000 per month has garnered nearly 2.5 million signatures in support since it was first launched last year.

Newsweek reached out to Newsom's office for further comment, but did not immediately receive a response.



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San Joaquin General Hospital Graduates Medical Specialists Each Spring

Since 1932, every Spring San Joaquin General Hospital has graduated competent medical residents with a high level of specialty medical education. San Joaquin General Hospital sponsors three residency programs: General Surgery, Internal Medicine and Family Medicine. All residency programs are fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Our residency programs provide community-based education, with comprehensive training in inpatient and outpatient services and procedural skills, serving a very diverse San Joaquin County patient population. Medical physicians seeking a specialty through education at San Joaquin General see a wide range of medical conditions. The Hospital trains medical graduates with ad-

vanced medical technologies such as robotic surgery and state-of-the-art medical science practices.

The Hospital's residency programs are affiliated with the University of California, Davis Medical Center. Hospital residents also receive training and education through Dignity Health- St. Joseph's Hospital and UCSF Medical Center. The Graduate Medical Education program is overseen by Sheela Kapre, MD, SJGH Designated Institutional Officer and Chief

Medical Officer. The intent of the Hospital's Graduate Medical Education program is to bring experienced specialty physicians to work in the communities of San Joaquin County. Many of the physicians practicing locally were trained at San Joaquin General Hospital.



Top Row, L to R: Drs. Kirandeep Bains, Gary White, Flynn Kaida-Yip, Peter Lo, Sohni Singh, Danny Ton, Omari Johnson and Steve Zheng.
Bottom Row L to R: Drs. Samy Bendjemil, Nitasha Sharma, Ben Tan, John Grant, Ariel Rodgers, Akhila Suré, Mike Orloff, Alicia August, Keith White, Andrew Huber, Kia Mashayekhi, Danielle Berera and Dr. Frederick Cason (Surgery Residency Program Director)

The Annual San Joaquin Valley Portuguese Festival is Back!

Livingston, CA. - The Carlos Vieira Foundation is proud to host the Annual San Joaquin Valley Portuguese Festival presented by PFSA, the Portuguese Fraternal Society of America. This year the festival will be a two-day event held on Saturday and Sunday, August 28th and 29th at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock, CA. In 2019, the festival attracted over 15,000 attendees from across the state and was featured on several news channels, including Portugal's national news. The festival is

open to ALL people to come discover the culture and heritage of the Portuguese people and honor their contributions to the San Joaquin Valley and the state of California.

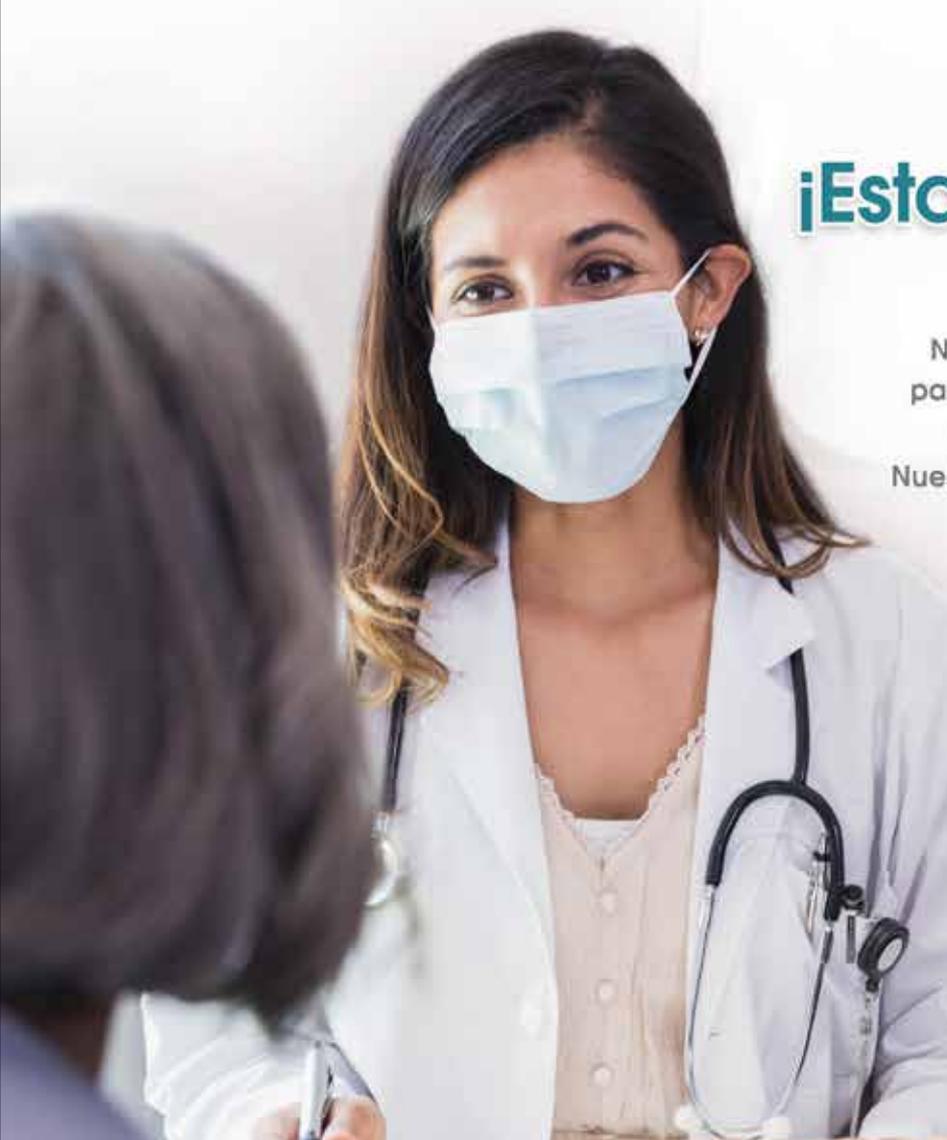
The family-friendly event will showcase traditional Portuguese dancing, music, and cuisine. The festival will be kicked off by a Portuguese parade on Saturday followed by plenty of activities including folklore performances, bull on a rope by Joe Vaz, philharmonic performances, wine and cheese tasting,

a cultural exhibit, carnival rides, plenty of Portuguese food and craft vendors. We will also have exciting performances on the 51FIFTY Stage throughout the day including Generations Band, Alcides Machado, Chico Avila, and all the way from Portugal, Ana Malhoa and Jose Malhoa! Ana Malhoa is one of the hottest pop singers, TV Host and Actresses in Portugal. Jose Malhoa is one of the most popular Portuguese folk/pimba singers in Portugal.

The festivities will continue on

Sunday and the main attraction will be a traditional Portuguese Bloodless Bullfight! Come experience the Portuguese culture while supporting a great cause. All proceeds benefit our Race for Autism campaign which helps families who have children living with Autism in Central California.

Tickets will be on sale soon; two-day advance tickets will be \$15 presale only, tickets at the gate will be \$10 per day, kids under 10 years old get free admission to the festival.



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La elección revocatoria del gobernador de California, Gavin Newsom, será el 14 de septiembre

La posible pesadilla política de Gavin Newsom ya tiene fecha luego que se ha fijado el 14 de septiembre para que se realice la elección revocatoria del gobernador de California.

Eleni Kounalakis, vicegobernadora de California, oficializó este jueves la fecha de la elección que decidirá si Newsom se mantiene en el poder o si se ve obligado a dejarlo según el voto de los californianos. Si esto último ocurre sería apenas la segunda vez en la historia del estado.

“Aunque la ventana de tiempo de la cual pude seleccionar una fecha era estrecha,

creo que hemos escogido una fecha justa y razonable para que esta elección se realice”, dijo Kounalakis en un comunicado.

Relacionado: Latinos serán clave para que Newsom siga como gobernador

“Siempre ha sido mi intención escoger una fecha de elección que les dé a los funcionarios electorales y al público amplio tiempo para asegurar una elección fluida con mucha participación”, agregó la vicegobernadora.

El movimiento para una elección revocatoria de Gavin Newsom fue impulsado por grupos republicanos identifica-



dos con la presidencia de Donald Trump y fue creciendo hasta lograr el número de firmas necesario mientras el gobernador encaraba la difícil situación de gobernar el estado más rico y poblado del país durante la pandemia.

Para tratar de evitar la elección, Newsom se ha dedicado por meses a anunciar múltiples iniciativas y programas respaldados por mucho dinero en una campaña que al final no le ha permitido despojarse del riesgo de ser destituido.

En 2003, el gobernador Gray Davis perdió una elección revocatoria, un demócrata, a manos de Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Los posibles candidatos en la elección revocatoria de Gavin Newsom

Según las reglas de la elección, quienes quieran participar como candidatos deberán registrarse dentro de pocas semanas. Entre los republicanos que han expresado intenciones de competir contra Newsom en la elección revocatoria no parece haber ninguno realmente fuerte como para derrotarlo.

Los nombres incluyen a Kevin Faulconer, exalcalde de San Diego; el empresario John Cox, quien ha hecho una desafortunada campaña apareciendo junto a un enorme oso, y Caitlyn Jenner, el célebre atleta olímpico que luego se convirtió en estrella de la televisión al ser padrastro de las hermanas Kardashian antes de cambiar de sexo.

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Amtrak San Joaquins Announces Service Increase and Schedule Change

As ridership continues to grow and communities are opening up more business and leisure activities as pandemic restrictions ease, Amtrak San Joaquins is increasing its intercity passenger rail and thruway bus services. Amtrak San Joaquins has restored service as follows: Daily service on Train 717, which heads northbound, leaving Bakersfield at 2:12pm, traveling through the Valley and arriving in Oakland at 8:31pm. Daily service on Train 714, which heads southbound, leaving Oakland at 11:36am, traveling through the Valley and arriving in Bakersfield at 5:57pm. Service is restored on southbound Train 716, which leaves Oakland at 1:36pm and arrives in Bakersfield at 7:57pm. Bus service will increase on Route 1, covers Bakersfield to Los Angeles to San Diego, Route 3, covers Redding to Sacramento to Stockton, and on Route 99 connects Oakland to Emeryville and San Francisco.

Ridership on Amtrak San Joaquins fell significantly during the COVID-19 crisis, but held more stable than other Amtrak lines across the country. It is now experiencing a steady increase in ridership week after week. “We are excited to be welcoming back our riders and helping Californians reconnect to the places and people they want to visit,” said David Lipari. “This increase in service will improve connectivity for the summer travel season. We also anticipate making further adjustments to increase service this fall, including restoring the train connection between Stockton and Sacramento.”

Café service resumes on several trains that carry café cars, and on the train-

sets without a formal café car passengers are provided with a free snack box that includes water and locally sourced snack products.

In alignment with guidance from the CDC and state health officials for public transit, face masks will continue to be required on Amtrak San Joaquins. Additionally, stringent cleaning and sanitation protocols will continue. Disinfection wipe downs are being performed multiple times each day on all high touch surfaces, and hand sanitizer is available for use by passengers. Amtrak San Joaquins encourages its riders to review the Visit California “Responsible Travel Code” for tips on how to plan thoughtful, safe, and respectful travel.

For passengers interested in monitoring capacity levels for trains and buses, Amtrak’s capacity indicator system will remain in place. This online tool allows customers to see in real-time the percentage of seats sold for each trip option. This gives customers the opportunity to book a train that is less crowded if they choose or cancel the reservation if needed. Amtrak has extended the waivers on change fees and cancellation fees until September 6, 2021. Reservations can be modified online or in the Amtrak app for free, although a far difference may apply to the new itinerary. For passengers wishing to cancel their reservation with no fee, call 1-800-USA-RAIL and speak with an agent.

Passengers are encouraged to purchase tickets prior to boarding at stations, online at AmtrakSanJoaquins.com, on the Amtrak app, or at a station kiosk.

California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CHCC) Annual Statewide Convention coming in September

The California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CHCC) Annual Statewide Convention is the largest regional business and networking event in the Nation for Hispanic and diverse business communities. For over forty years, the CHCC has served as a leading regional Hispanic and diverse business organization in the United States, working to bring the interests and needs of Hispanic and diverse-owned businesses to the forefront of the California and National economic agendas.

The CHCC attracts the participation of Hispanic business and community leaders, corporate representatives, government officials, and Hispanic business members from our over 105 local and regional Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and diverse business association members statewide as well as from chambers throughout the Nation.

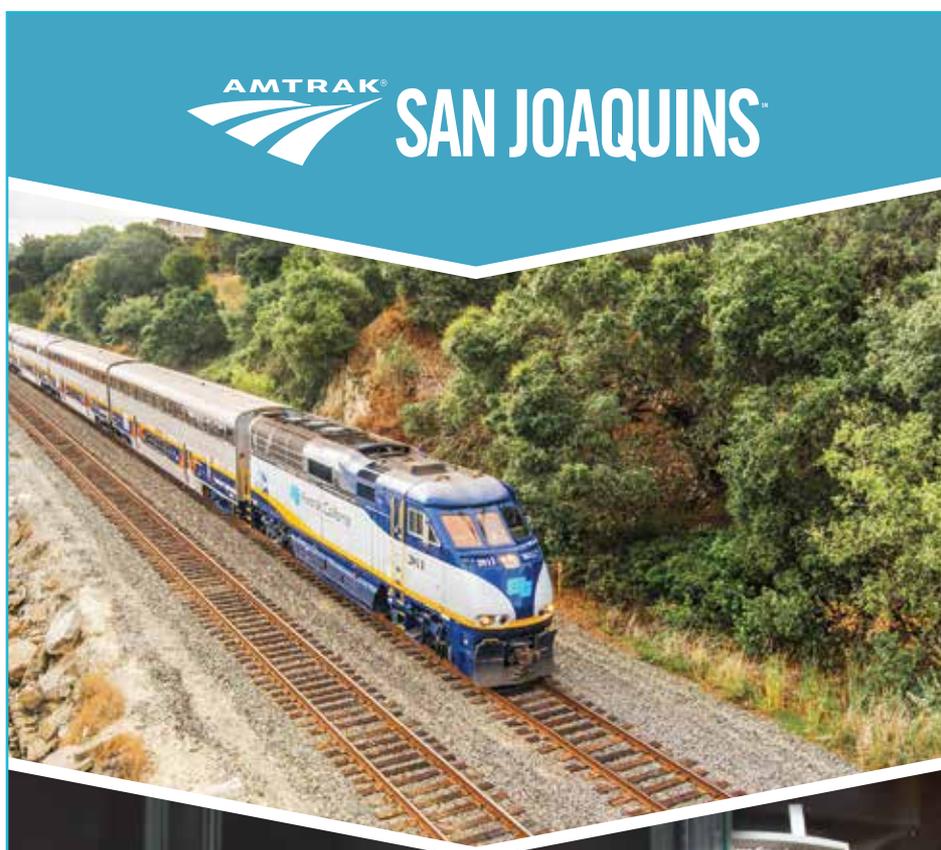
The annual convention fosters

Hispanic and diverse economic development for the greater California and American economy. This year’s Annual Statewide Convention, “Beyond Limits,” will take place September 9-11, 2021, in Palm Springs, California.

The CHCC’s Annual Convention creates opportunities for attendees to establish strategic, long-lasting partnerships through direct personal engagement, sharing of best practices, dialogue, networking, workshops, and more. “Beyond Limits” - will inspire all small businesses to be fearless and challenge barriers they may face to provide more growth opportunities and thrive in today’s economy.

In Palm Springs, we will continue our work to champion practices and policies that lead to growth and innovation in our diverse communities.

We hope to see you this September as we transcend “Beyond Limits” to advocate, educate and empower Hispanic and diverse businesses!



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Port of Stockton Commission announces new Leadership

Kirk DeJesus to become new Port Director

Stockton, CA – Earlier this year the Port of Stockton Commission launched a national recruitment process in search of an experienced Port Director to step in following the retirement announcement of current Director, Richard Aschieris. Director Aschieris has been at the helm of the Port of Stockton since March 2000 and has guided the Port in partnership with the Commission and his staff towards success year after year with huge growth in the Port’s physical acreage, trade and business partners, annual tonnage and job opportunities. After review-

ing an exhaustive list of potential candidates and conducting interviews, the Port Commission has selected Mr. Kirk DeJesus to step into the Port of Stockton Director role.

“Director Aschieris will be greatly missed and we wish him well in his retirement,” stated Port Commission Chairman Allen. “Port Director DeJesus has some big shoes to fill but we are confident and excited with our selection and look forward to working together to see our vision for the Port of Stockton become a reality.” Mr. DeJesus has been

working within the maritime industry for almost two decades with focused attention in operations and business development both on the water and land side. His dynamic background affords him the clear understanding of Port operations, commercial and business development, supply chain and logistics, environmental and strategic planning. Mr. DeJesus has a strong business background with proven change-agent strengths that focus on problem solving and solutions. His leadership philosophy is based on fostering a culture of trust and accountability, mentoring and training to raise up his staff and teams to meet and achieve exceptional results. He has worked for several Ports across North American in a number of capacities including the Ports of Stockton and Vancouver.

As Founder and Principle of DeJesus Consulting, LLC, he successfully assisted clients in managing risk while achieving sustainable and stable growth and profitability working on projects and programs that brought renewable fuel to West Coast terminal operators and new tenants and commodity opportunities to several West Coast Ports. As Director of Operations DeJesus maintains extensive relationships with industry leaders in goods movement, regulatory Agencies such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), OSHA and transportation partners like Union Pacific. “Kirk’s understanding of maritime operations, coupled with his deep industry relationships is what set him apart from other sound and viable candidates,” stated Port



Kirk DeJesus

Commission Chairman Allen. “We have just kicked off our Strategic Planning process and the time is right for a new Port Director to step in and help be a part of creating our roadmap for the future.”

Although 2020 was a very uncertain year for many Ports across the globe, the Port of Stockton, a nimble and diverse Port was able to flex to continue pushing projects and initiatives forward despite a pandemic and has big plans for the future. The new role for DeJesus will begin immediately so that he can onboard with Director Aschieris, Port staff and the Commission over the next several months allowing for a seamless transition to keep the Port focused on continuing its success in the business of maritime and goods movement while this change in leadership occurs.

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Stockton Chamber CEO Doug Wilhoit Announces Retirement Date

Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce CEO Douglass W. Wilhoit Jr. announced he will be retiring effective July 21, 2021 after 22 years of service at the helm of the Stockton Chamber. Timm Quinn will serve as Interim CEO of the Stockton Chamber upon Wilhoit's retirement.

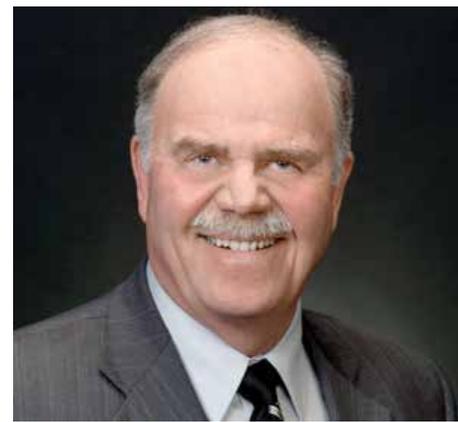
Doug has served in his current role as CEO of the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce since July of 1999. During his tenure as CEO, Doug played a critical role in helping the Chamber grow with the current business climates and stay relevant as the voice of business in the San Joaquin Valley. One of Doug's biggest achievements as CEO was when the Chamber Board of Directors sued the State of California over the placement

of the California Health Care Facility (CHCF) in South Stockton. Under Doug's leadership, the Chamber made sure the State used local contractors and labor to build the facility and secured funding for San Joaquin Delta College and Stockton Unified School District to create programs to feed workers to the facility. Leading to the creation of the Health Careers Academy High School in Stockton Unified School District.

"Doug has been a pillar of our Stockton community for many years, and on behalf of the entire board, both past and present, want to thank him for his tireless work leading the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce. Doug is a true leader, and we want to wish him and Joan the best in his retirement!"

During his time as CEO Doug was also presented with many community awards. Some of the most significant were: receiving the Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) Hero's Award in 2003, being named the 53rd Stocktonian of the Year in 2006, and being awarded the Goodwill Industries of San Joaquin Helping Hands Award in 2016.

Prior to being named Chamber CEO Doug served the community in many ways. From 1995 to 1999 Doug was appointed by Governor Pete Wilson to serve on the State of California Youthful Offender Parole Board. Before that Doug served on the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors from 1979 to 1995. Preceding his time on the Board of Supervisors



Douglass W. Wilhoit Jr.

Doug served his community with the Stockton Police Department as a Patrol Officer (1967 – 1971), Community Relations Officer (1971 – 1973), and Juvenile Division Detective (1973 – 1979).

HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN PUBLISHES COMMUNITY REPORT FOR 2020 – ALSO CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY SERVING LOCAL COMMUNITY

Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) this year marks its 25th anniversary while looking back in their newly released Community Report on another successful year of collaborating throughout the community to improve health.

As many in the Valley disproportionately suffered from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, HPSJ reaffirmed its devotion to local individuals and families. From the pandemic's outset, they scrambled to develop innovative programs and partnerships to aptly meet

the emerging needs of HPSJ members, providers and local stakeholders.

HPSJ Chief Executive Officer Michael Schrader said: "Through these trying times, HPSJ takes pride in our ability to maintain and elevate our service. There remains much to be done to ensure resiliency beyond the pandemic. I am confident our efforts will continue to catalyze progress as we listen to our members' needs and respond with key initiatives on behalf of our community."

HPSJ members, providers and com-

munity are invited to also visit <https://www.hpsj.com/25years/> to:

See the 25 Year Timeline. Take a walk through a rotation of photos – "HPSJ has a commitment to serving and reinvesting in our community. You will find us providing resources at health fairs, reading books to children at local schools, sponsoring community events, presenting at important health conferences, volunteering at COVID vaccination clinics and distributing masks and PPE to commu-

nity residents. Many of our employees live and work in the Central Valley, utilizing the same health care resources as our members." Learn more about HPSJ's COVID-19 initiatives and community partners. "Be Part of the Celebration" by signing HPSJ's Guest Book. Access the 2020 HPSJ Community Report

The online Community Report is at https://issuu.com/healthplanofsanjoaquin/docs/community-report-final_5.14.2021?fr=sZWQ2MDM2NjUwODg.

Health Plan of San Joaquin



Has your child had their annual wellness visit?

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During a well-child visit the doctor will:

- Make sure your child is up-to-date on their shots
- Check for health problems

Back to School, Back to the Doctor

Summer is half way over, it's time to think ahead! Health Plan of San Joaquin wants you and your kids to feel safe and healthy before school is back in session.



Have you been putting off dental check ups?

Summer break is the perfect time to schedule a routine teeth cleaning. Dental checkups are essential. Dentists can find small problems before they become bigger, even more painful problems.

During your child's dentist visit they will:

- Check for cavities
- Do a routine teeth cleaning
- Apply fluoride to protect teeth
- Teach your child how to brush and floss

Your doctor may be able to apply a fluoride varnish to help protect your child's teeth. Cleanings and other check ups are done by dental providers. HPSJ members can get dental benefits through Smile California™, www.smilecalifornia.org.



How do your kids feel about school starting?

The new school year is rapidly approaching. Going back to in-person learning may feel like a relief, but it can also cause anxiety or other emotions for you and your children. HPSJ members have access to behavioral health services through Beacon at **1.888.581.7526**.

Let's start the new school year off right.
Schedule a wellness visit today!



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Deported Veterans Still Fighting to Return Home

We have always been willing to die for our country, the United States; now we have the opportunity to live in it, former deported military officer Alex Murillo told La Opinion.

Murillo spoke at a meeting of about twenty veterans deported to Tijuana to celebrate July 4 and that the administration of President Joe Biden and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) are analyzing the return of soldiers and family members of military men expelled from the country.

"It is what we have fought so hard for, what we hoped for; This shows that the American dream has not died, that if we keep fighting, we will achieve it", declared Murillo.

Robert Vivar, coordinator of Deported Veterans United, explained that all ex-soldiers expelled deserve to return, but Murillo arrived with his parents from the Mexican state of Sonora to Arizona when he was just a baby, still without learning to walk.

He grew up in Phoenix as an American and when he finished high school, Murillo joined the Army and worked as an aviation mechanic, a position that took him to the forefront several times, until he was honorably discharged in 2000.

But after being in the military, he suffered from post-traumatic stress and, among other remedies, decided to consume marijuana.

In 2009 he was arrested with a small amount of marijuana and, although Arizona approved the medical use of marijuana in late 2010, Murillo was deported

to Tijuana in 2011. Now in Arizona marijuana can be used for any reason.

It is a similar story, almost ironic, to those of many veterans deported to Mexico, according to Robert Vivar.

In Baja California there are cases of deported veterans who bravely offered the possibility of losing their lives, and who were deported for not having a license while driving or because at some point in the past in their life they were arrested with alcoholic breath.

The departments of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs announced an initiative over the weekend to return deported veterans to the country.

The American Civil Liberties Union reported that there are hundreds, perhaps ex-military personnel, who, "during the last 25 years, have been unjustly deported and exiled from the United States."

The initiative also seeks "that the soldiers who serve our nation can obtain the promised naturalization."

A veteran of the war in Vietnam who for years has supported the military deported to Baja California, George Johnson, lamented that he will no longer be able to return to the United States "at least a dozen veterans who were deported to Tijuana and have died while waiting return".

"We must remember that until now the only way that veterans who offered their lives for the United States and could return to their country, for which they fought, was inside coffins," said the representative of Veterans for Peace.

"We just buried the most recent of



our deceased brothers in Baja California a couple of weeks ago," he said sadly.

A leader of the deported veterans in Tijuana, Héctor López, congratulated himself that soon the veterans will no longer have to return home in this way.

"I knew that this day would come. Today the United States government recognizes us as members of the United States armed forces," he said.

The leader explained that "we are Americans; Yes, we were born in Mexico but we are the United States military and we want to be at home, this is not our home".

"We are Americans, although we were born in Mexico; In any case, we are Mexican-Americans, and they shouldn't have deported us to begin with," said Marine veteran Richard Avila.

"We do our duty, we serve our country, we love the United States of America; they should think of us as an immigrant group that loves the country like, for example, DACA recipients," the soldier

explained.

The twenty soldiers gathered in Playas de Tijuana declared that they celebrated the 4th of July: "we celebrate the independence of our homeland" just a few meters from the demarcation where California begins.

Rubén Robles, who volunteered to go to war in Vietnam, has been deported in Tijuana 23 years ago, he has survived with countless jobs, as he could.

"I am happy to be able to return, but I would only be interested in crossing the border for health services," Robles Said.

As he was deported for attempted robbery, "I would not like to cross to live under surveillance, and, on the other hand, with what I receive from my pension as a veteran - about \$ 1,000 dollars a month - I could not live in California, it would be impossible" he commented.

He said that living in Tijuana has been difficult but at least he has some good friends and his pension has been enough lately to live modestly.

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PORT IMPROVES CARGO HANDLING CAPABILITIES WITH PURCHASE OF TWO CRANES

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA – The Port of Stockton has greatly improved operational efficiency and expanded its cargo handling capabilities by investing in new equipment. The Port purchased two Liebherr 550 Mobile Harbor Cranes offering a combined lift capacity of 288 metric tonnes.

The addition of the two cranes make it possible for vessels to carry heavier cargo than their own cranes can safely handle. Access to the cranes enable the cargo handling activities to seamlessly unfold with less logistical red tape, saving time, and ultimately opening up markets to new carriers and cargoes calling the Port. In addition to providing flexibility, the two Liebherrs are part of an ongoing program to replace and enhance the Port's fleet of cargo handling equipment as a key strategy to achieving the Port's goal of becoming a carbon-neutral port.

Dedicated to improving local air quality and reducing GHG emissions, the Port of Stockton is making strides to become one of the most eco-friendly bulk ports on the US West Coast. The purchase of these two cranes represents a step in the right direction for several key reasons: direct ownership will allow the Port

to eventually upgrade the engines to further improve operational efficiency, and the increased cargo handling capabilities creates new opportunities for markets and businesses that were previously unable to call the Port. Efficient cargo handling means vessels can increase throughput while reducing their time spent at berth, translating to fewer GHG emissions, and cleaner air for the community. This effort is just one small part of the Port's equipment upgrade and modernization plans.

"The Port Board of Commissioners consistently supports improving the Port's infrastructure, as well as the development of strong environmental programs and directs Port staff to identify opportunities to improve Port operations that ultimately benefits the community. Purchasing these two cranes is representative of our strides towards our goal to become the most efficient West Coast port," shared Richard Aschieris, Port Director.

Port of Stockton is a Special District located on the Delta of the San Joaquin River, within the agriculturally rich community of California's fertile San Joaquin Valley offering flexible solutions for domestic and international cargo distribution by ship, rail, or freight.



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Port Director Kirk DeJesus

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