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FREE

Legislation Restores Funding to State's Domestic Violence Shelters

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed SBX3 13 by Senator Elaine Alquist (D-San Jose) to restore \$16.3 million of state funding to support California domestic violence shelters. "I want to congratulate the many groups that put victims first and came together to find this creative solution that will keep domestic violence shelters throughout the state open," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "I am proud to sign this bipartisan legislation that is good news for every Californian whose life is devastated by violence in the home and will help ensure domestic violence victims have a safe place to go. And, I encourage the legislature to continue looking for a permanent funding solution for this important program so domestic violence shelters aren't faced with the same uncertainty next year."

By failing to pass a balanced budget that fell \$1 billion short of what legislative leaders had agreed to, the legislature forced the Governor to cut funding for programs he never had proposed cutting, including funding for domestic violence shelters.

Since the budget was signed, the Governor's Administration has been working to restore funding to this important program and will continue to work for a permanent funding solution.

SBX3 13 provides for a one-time \$16.3 million loan from the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Fund to fund domestic violence shelters statewide for the 2009-10 fiscal year. For more information, visit www.cdcr.ca.gov/News/2009_Press_Releases/Oct_21_Database.html.

Sacramento Philharmonic and Musicians Union announce Ratified Contract



Musicians have agreed to a one-year wage freeze and reduced number of performances for the 2009-2010 season, and a return to a full season of performances with restored services for the 2010-2011 season. Included in the new agreement is a provision allowing the release of archival recordings of the Sacramento Philharmonic's live recordings to be broadcast by Capital Public Radio. The new agreement also strengthens provisions allowing musicians to teach and perform in forums such

as schools and hospitals. To view the 2009-2010 performance schedule, please visit: www.sacphil.org/concerts/. Tickets can be purchased online (www.sacphil.org/tickets) or by calling the Community Center Theater Box Office at 916-264-5181. For group sales, call the Sacramento Philharmonic office (Ticket manager: Greg Wellman) at 916-732-9045 ex. 103.

Now in its thirteenth year of operation, the Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra Association, Inc. is the professional

symphonic orchestra for the Sacramento region and receives support from a variety of regional and national sources, including the Sacramento Philharmonic Foundation, the Sacramento Philharmonic League, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, Raley's, Target and numerous individuals, businesses and foundations. The Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra Association, Inc. is a non-profit corporation (501-c-3). Federal I.D. # 91-

1841406. www.SacPhil.org and <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sacramento-Philharmonic/105170952280>.

Free Neighborhood Family Concerts: Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra has partnered with Target and the NEA to bring to you Free Neighborhood Family Concerts. Each concert is a timeless classic bringing music to children for free. Enjoy these favorites as they become available.

Igor Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale*, Thur, Dec 3, 7:30pm at the Benvenuti Performing Arts Center, Natomas. Root for Joseph the Soldier, in his battle with the devil over a violin, a magic book, a far away kingdom, and of course, a Princess! Laugh, listen, and maybe shed a tear with the Sacramento Philharmonic Soloists, B Street Theater and Maestro Michael Morgan in a moment of music and story telling for the whole family. Shows Dec 4-7, locations: www.sacphil.org/calendar.

The Season of the Sandhill Cranes



The 2009-2010 Sandhill Crane Wetland Tour Program, a series of popular wildlife viewing tours, began in October 2009, and runs until February 2010 at the Woodbridge Ecological Reserve (also known as Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve) near Lodi. Each year, bird enthusiasts and novices alike come to observe the grand but threatened greater sandhill crane in its fall and winter wetland habitat. The docent-led tours are scheduled the first three weekends of each month during the

program's operating season. All tours begin approximately one hour before sunset and often include the opportunity to observe a fly-over of cranes in the early evening. The tour is the only way to access the north and south units of the reserve for prime viewing. Register online at www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/3/cranetour/ or by phone at (209) 948-7708. An \$8 per person donation is requested.

The greater sandhill crane is one of the state's larger birds, standing five feet tall with wings spanning up to seven feet. They migrate hundreds of miles along the Pacific Flyway from breeding grounds in northeastern California and eastern Oregon and Washington to reach their winter homes in California's Central Valley. Their calls carry for miles and often herald the arrival of large flocks.

They are considered a threatened species, with only an estimated 7,000 left in California. The number of crane habitats continues to dwindle, making the 353-acre Woodbridge Ecological Reserve (and the Cosumnes River Preserve to the north) vital to the survival of sandhill cranes in Northern California.

Lodi also hosted their annual Sandhill Crane Festival the weekend of November 6-8, 2009. NOTE: It is required that you pre-register for your tour as tour size is limited to 30 people and there are no accommodations for drop-in's at the tour site.

Tours go rain or shine as the birds don't seem to mind a bit of extra moisture. More information is available at www.visitlodi.com. *Courtesy photo to the Gold Country Times*

In This Good News Issue ...

Lost and found Angels ...
Story on Page 6

Dolphins & Whales at
the IMAX ... Story on Page 7

Placerville Art Walk, a
community event ... page 9

Spring Awakening debuts ...
Story on page 10

Sal's West Calaveras History
Vol 2 ... Story on Page 16