



CHUBB REPORT

August 2010

WHAT'S GOIN' ON BY WAYNE CHUBB

I've come to realize that, while Fall is my favorite time of year, August also holds a special place in my heart. It brings the start of the NFL season – and for Cleveland Browns fans like me, the start is always more optimistic than the finish. If the start of the NFL season isn't the high point of the month for you, try two ongoing events with great names and locations. One is **Sin in the Sagebrush**, through September 26 at the High Desert Museum in Bend, OR. It focuses on the entertainment that was available in the boom towns of the old west, and features displays as well as live characters. The piano player actually plays, so maybe the barkeep and ladies of the evening... Anyway, closer in, **Chomp 2: Return of the Carnivorous Plants** plays out in Golden Gate Park through October 31.

If you haven't lost your appetite in San Francisco, there are several fruit and vegetable based fairs this month, many based on the staple of the valley, the tomato. Start with the **Woodland Tomato Festival** on Aug. 14. That is then one-upped by the **Tomato Weigh-In and Salsa Contest** in Chico the same day, and both are two-upped by the **Tomato Festival and West Coast BBQ Championships** in Fairfield on the 14th and 15th. Here in Sacramento, head for the **Sacramento Buddhist Bazaar** and the finest Teriyaki, Tempura and Sushi of the year on the 13th-15th. The weekend of the 7th shows off the up and coming vintners to our northeast with the **Grape Days of Summer** at all of the Placer County Wine Trail wineries – wine, food and music without the Napa attitude. The month closes with **Blues, Brews and BBQ** in Napa on the 28th, this year featuring barbequed oysters. I've had them in New Orleans, and they are worth an hour's drive (or a 5 hour flight). When you get home that afternoon, head for Fairytale Town and **Crystal's Ice Cream Dream – How the West was Fun**. You say the only way you would go would be if they offered all-you-can-eat ice cream, plus music and events for the kids? Then you're in luck, 'cause that's what they do!

Of course, food and drinks always taste better when they are accompanied by music. The **Nor Cal Blues Festival**, with headliner Elvin Bishop, rolls into Auburn on the 7th. The following weekend another celebration of American born music, the **Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival** brings dueling pianos (seriously) and upbeat tunes to Amador County on

Aug 13-15. Speaking of upbeat, Sacramento's own **Mumbo Gumbo** plays Fairytale Town on the 11th, and if they don't get you dancing with their blues / zydeco sets, you're either deaf or wayyyy too uptight.

But maybe you prefer less melodic noise. Start with the biggest car show along the I-80 corridor, **Hot August Nights** in Reno. This is Reno's biggest summer event, and brings, music, food, and hundreds of vintage autos to the Biggest Little City August 1-8. Later in the month you can head to Pleasanton on Aug 27-29 for the **Goodguys West Coast Nationals** car show, one of the west's largest with over 1000 classic cars and hot rods. I've taken the boys to both this and the one at Cal Expo, and you won't run into a nicer group of people who are extremely eager to show off their cars, especially to kids - highly recommended. Want bigger engines? **Portola Railroad Days**, Aug 19-20, bring all things rail to the Sierras, including the chance to run a genuine diesel engine yourself. After all, isn't that on all our bucket lists?

Still need things to do? Head for the **Nevada Territory Wild West Fair** (formerly the Nevada State Fair) on the 25th-29th, catch the **San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society Show** in Golden Gate Park on Aug 7-8 (see it along with Chomp 2, above), float the American River and support the Parkway on **Down River Day** on the 7th, and wander the old city with **Old Sacramento Underground Tours**, Aug 12-15. That last one sounds intriguing – the entire downtown was raised above flood level one hundred years ago, and the old city – walkways, foundations, etc. - still exists under Old Sac, and this is one of the few chances to step into the city's past.

One other ongoing event opens this month, and offers a chance to get away from the valley heat – as well as a rare reason to go to Oakland. **Pixar – 25 Years of Animation** showcases films, stills, and other behind the scenes displays from the most innovative animation company of the last quarter century. See how films like Toy Story, Cars and Up were made, at the Oakland Museum of California beginning the 1st.

Until September, boogie down, and go Browns!

How Does Your Garden Grow?



* The garden contest continues. Here's a peek at our garden. Finally the tomatoes are in, along with loads of green beans and tons of cucumbers. I managed to kill the cilantro (I'm not sure it's supposed to be yellow), but the basil is growing great. Sunflowers—these are the teddy bear variety chosen by Owen—and zinnias lend vibrant color and cheerfulness.

* Keep sending those photos. **You have until September 15.** I'm going to let the kids choose their favorite. The winner will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate to one of my favorite garden places—Silverado Nursery.

* Email your entry to heatherc@chubblawfirm.com. If there's a story behind the photo tell me that, too.



An Easy Way To Make A Soldier's Day

I would like to ask you to take a few minutes to put a smile on the face of hundreds of our troops overseas and one Eagle Scout in Orangevale. One of Carson's fellow boy scouts, Zac Hatch, is collecting items to create care packages for the men and women in our military. This project is Zac's final requirement to earn the Eagle rank.

I've set up a "Drop Zone" at my office to collect donations until August 16. Every donation is appreciated so stop on by or send something in. You can also sponsor a care package for \$12.50. Thank you so much for your generosity.

The following items are in highest demand:

- Batteries (all sizes)
- Disposable cameras
- Pre-paid phone cards
- Socks (cushioned)
- T-shirts (colored – NO logos)
- Gatorade
- Powered drink mixes
- Teas mixes or tea bags
- Protein/energy bars/ granola bars

- Jerky
- Canned fruit/ canned meat (pop top cans no plastic)
- Cereal (in small boxes)
- Cookies
- Instant soups
- Gum
- Oatmeal (instant)
- Pop-Tarts
- Ravioli (pop top cans)
- Tuna kits
- Candy
- Baby wipes

- Eye drops
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Foot powder
- Hand sanitizer (indiv. Size)
- Lip balm
- Soap
- Tissues (indiv packs)
- Tylenol
- Wash cloths

Know THIS Before Filling Out School Emergency Cards.....BY HEATHER CHUBB

Back-to-school season is a very important time to evaluate your preparedness plan should something unexpectedly happen to you or your child during school hours.

I've learned that far too many parents believe that the emergency card offered by the school is all that's needed to authorize neighbors or nearby family members to help their child in the event of an emergency. Yet sadly, nothing could be further from the truth.

I'm often asked by parents of young children whether school emergency cards really allow friends, family or neighbors to act on their child's behalf if something serious happens during school hours.

This is especially the case among parents who come in for a Peace of Mind Planning Session with me and learn what it really takes to make sure someone has permission to care for their children in the event of an emergency.

So to be perfectly honest and answer this question: YES the school emergency card will give your friends, family or neighbors permission to pick up your child if they are sick and need a ride home from school....BUT...(and it's a big but), they are not authorized to care for your child or make life-saving medical decisions should the unthinkable happen to you.

What do I mean by that? Consider the following examples:

- You are seriously injured or killed in a car accident while your child is at school. Your spouse is out of town and can't be reached. Your emergency contacts are called but none of them have legal permission to take short-term custody of your child until your spouse is contacted via phone. The police are then forced to take your child into custody during the most traumatic moment of his or her life until your spouse can travel home and begin life as a single parent.
- Your child suffers a medical emergency at school and is rushed to the hospital. You're needed to make important decisions, but the hospital is having a hard time reaching you at work. Grandma is the emergency contact on file, but you never filled out a

health care directive giving her legal permission to make such important decisions on your child's behalf. Precious time slips by as the hospital frantically attempts to get you on the phone.

- You have been in a non-traditional relationship for 10 years and have raised your life-partner's child as if she was your own. Your partner is incapacitated after suffering a brain aneurysm and the doctors are now questioning his/ her chance of survival. You, as the emergency contact, pick the child up from school only to be met by cops and the child's biological grandparents who demand you pack the child's bags or they'll have you arrested.

And that's only the tip of the ice-berg of what can happen by simply relying on a school emergency card to protect your child in the event of an emergency.

Instead, parents need a more comprehensive plan that works in conjunction with the school emergency card to give your trusted caregivers the documentation and authorization they need to take control when called upon.

Here at the Chubb Law Firm, we call this our SafeGuard™ Plan, which allows you to legally appoint the people you want to care for your kids if you are unable to do so.

You can learn more about protecting your child with SafeGuard™ by calling our office at 916-635-6800 and scheduling a Peace of Mind Planning Session with me before school starts. These sessions are normally \$750, but simply mention this article and we'll waive the fee.

Finally, if you've already done a SafeGuard™ Plan with me, make sure the people you list on the school emergency card match the guardians/ decision makers that we've documented, and what is on the emergency ID we gave you to carry in your wallet! This is one area that the authorities can't let "slide" because you MEANT to write someone else. So take your time and fill out the card accordingly.

Written by Heather R. Chubb, Life Transition Lawyer, speaker, mom and Sandwich Generation Kid. Heather makes it easy for your family to talk about and plan for tough subjects like money, death and taxes, caring for your parents and other life transitions. Visit her online at www.chubblawfirm.com.



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Where has the summer gone? The garden is putting yummy veggies on my table (and into my kids' tummies). We take daily dips in the pool—the water's finally warm enough for me to play—and enjoy glasses of wine on the back porch. And right before school starts we'll be heading to a friend's SoCal beach house for a little relaxation. Life is good.

The kids start school again on the 23rd and it's going to be a whole new world at my house. Owen's starting kindergarten! He his so excited to be going to the same school as Carson and be a big kid. I know he's going to enjoy it. He loves making new friends and learning new things. He can already count to 100 and he's starting to read.

Back to school also means filling out school emergency cards. This may seem like a routine thing to do, but I want to make sure that you get the most out of the cards and protect your kids in the best way possible. Take a peek inside to discover what you can do to avoid the danger hidden lurking in these cards.

All my best,

P.S. My kids' new favorite holiday takes place on August 10— National S'mores Day! We'll be roasting some, will you?

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