

[Wire services. (Dec. 13, 2018). WILLIAM [ALFRED] NEWSOM III, Gov.-elect's father, a former judge and advocate, dies at 84. The Sacramento Bee. Reproduced for educational purposes only. Fair Use relied upon. Source: <https://www.newspapers.com/image/644067594/>]

6A

Capitol & California

THE SACRAMENTO BEE



HECTOR AMEZCUA hamezcua@sacbee.com

Gavin Newsom, right, joined by his wife, Jennifer Siebel Newsom, is sworn in as lieutenant governor by his father, William Newsom III, on Jan. 10, 2011.

WILLIAM NEWSOM III

Gov.-elect's father, a former judge and advocate, dies at 84

Staff and wire services

William Newsom III, a former California judge, environmental advocate and the father of Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom, died Wednesday after a long illness. He was 84.

"Justice Newsom was a proud, lifelong Californian, a public servant of profound accomplishment and a powerful voice for individual rights and envi-

ronmental protection," Nathan Click, a spokesman for Gavin Newsom, said in a statement announcing the death.

It comes less than a month before Gavin Newsom will be sworn in as California's 40th governor.

"He may not have gotten to see Gavin sworn in. But he saw Gavin elected governor of this state, which was a great source of pride for Billy," said John Burton, a close friend of William

Newsom's and former member of Congress from California.

William Newsom was a close friend of oil magnate Gordon Getty and helped manage his finances. He helped deliver ransom money after the 1973 kidnapping of J. Paul Getty's grandson.

William Newsom's connections in San Francisco — in both business and politics — helped launch his son's career. The Gettys and Gavin Newsom ended up investing in several San Francisco businesses.

William Newsom was a staunch advocate for environmental protection, serving on the board of the Sierra Club Foundation and on the Environmental Defense Fund.

In addition to Gavin, Newsom is survived by a daughter, Hilary. He and their mother, Tessa Menzies, divorced.

On the court of appeals, Newsom ruled in one prominent case that the prestigious Bohemian Club, a men's club that counted Ronald Reagan as a member, could not enforce a ban on hiring women.

William Newsom also was a chief fundraiser for Gov. Jerry Brown's father, former Gov. Pat Brown, and had worked on Harry Truman's 1948 presidential campaign.

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TRANSCRIPTION:

Capitol California

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Gavin Gray, 2nd Assembly District, helped organize the "Stop the State Water Grab" rally on the Capitol steps last August. He was among two dozen speakers.

California shifts water from farms

BY FAYAN SARALOW AND DALE RABLER
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Looking to head off one of the biggest California water wars in decades, state officials Wednesday proposed a sweeping, \$1.7 billion plan to prop up struggling fish populations across many of the state's most important rivers.

Spanning 30 days of tough negotiations, the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife unveiled a dramatic plan that would reallocate more than 700,000 acre-foot of water from farms and cities throughout much of the Central Valley, leaving more water in the rivers and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to support atling steelhead and Chinook salmon pop-

ulations.

"That's enough water to fill up three quarters of Folsom Lake, and several thousand acres of farmland would be followed as a result.

In addition, agricultural irrigation districts and municipal water agencies up and down the Central Valley have tentatively agreed to surcharges on their water to pay for massive habitat restorations to help fish — improved spawning grounds, development of nutrient-rich floodplains and more. The districts would kick in a total of \$800 million and the state is planning to contribute \$900 million, using water-bond proceeds and other sources, said Karla Nemeth, director of the Department of Water Resources.

The proposal was quick-

ly blasted by many environmentalists as insufficient to save the fish. But members of Gov. Jerry Brown's administration said it would smooth the way to make progress on the rivers as early as next year.

"It's exciting and an important way to make things actually happen in a timely way," Nemeth told members of the State Water Resources Control Board. Chuck Bonham, director of Fish and Wildlife, said the compromise plan represents an effort at "collaboration over conflict."

It was far from certain, however, if the plan would be peace to wearing water factious. The board was set to vote later Wednesday on an even more dramatic proposal to roughly double the amount of water that stays in the rivers in order to benefit fish populations. The plan, unveiled over the summer, would require Valley farmers and cities such as San Francisco and Modesto to surrender even greater amounts of water than the plan presented by Nemeth and

SEE WATER, 10A

No new detention centers 'at this time'

BY EMLY CADEE
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WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is no longer considering using California military bases to house unaccompanied migrant children, officials told Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein's office on Wednesday.

Feinstein, the state's senior senator, had pressed Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan about reported plans to build more detention facilities for migrant children in California during a Senate hearing Tuesday morning. Those reports in June indicated the U.S. Navy was considering building detention centers, to be run by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Health and Human Services Department, at the Naval Weapons Station in Concord and Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, among other locations.

"My understanding is they're building four separate places to house children in California, alone, now," Feinstein told McAleenan at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in Washington, D.C.

"We are unable to confirm that," McAleenan replied. "We're not aware of any child centers being built in California."

On Wednesday, Feinstein

SEE DETENTION, 7A

New poll shows what Californians want from Gov. Newsom

BY ALEXEY KOSHEV
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Focus on universal health care and free community college. Forget high-speed rail.

That's the message from Californians for incoming Gov. Gavin Newsom, according to a new poll by the Public Policy Institute of California.

The Democratic lieutenant governor won an overwhelming victory in the November election and is preparing to take office next month with a policy agenda full of ambitious, and expensive, items. With state coffers booming from a strong economy, the PPIC survey asked respondents how important it was to them that Newsom pursue a handful of the major issues he mentioned on the campaign trail.

Sixty percent of California adults said uni-

versal health coverage, one of Newsom's biggest campaign promises, should be a very high or high priority, while 53 percent said the same of eliminating tuition for community college.

Universal preschool, an idea that dominated Newsom's final days on the campaign trail, was a very high or high priority for just under half of California adults. Only a quarter considered building a high-speed rail system a very high or high priority.

Several of those policies are among those more than \$40 billion in new spending that lawmakers have already proposed since the new legislative session began earlier this month.

One bill to expand health care access by allowing adults living in the country illegally to sign up for Medi-Cal, California's health insur-

SEE NEW POLL, 7A

3 California fires caused more than \$9 billion in damage in 2018

BY ANDREW SHEELER
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Three California wildfires — the Camp Fire, Woolsey Fire and Hill Fire — caused more than \$9 billion in damage resulting from more than 26,500 claims, according to a preliminary estimate from the California Insurance Commissioner's Office.

The fires killed 88 people and damaged or destroyed nearly 20,000 structures; the Camp Fire in Butte County eclipsed 2017's Tubbs Fire in Santa Rosa to become the deadliest, most destructive wildfire in California history.

The Camp Fire alone destroyed nearly 14,000

homes, damaged nearly 3,000 other structures and resulted in nearly 27,000 claims and totaling \$7 billion.

Behind these numbers are real people that have suffered real tragedies," California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones said in a press conference Wednesday.

Jones said that while these numbers are preliminary and likely to rise, he added that "these are not estimates. These are hard,

SEE WILDFIRES, 7A

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