

# Daily View

*“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’” Hebrews 3:13*

November 11, 2020

## News, Update & Veterans Day

### News

*Just received from Joe DiGirolamo:*

We are requesting prayers for **Marycris** and our family as she has stage 1 breast cancer and will start undergoing chemo treatments as soon as next week. The treatments are expected to last for about 5 months with surgery to follow.

**Sandy Ashton** is recuperating from surgery and is doing OK, but is in considerable pain. Keep her in your prayers.

Continue to keep **Jay Simmon's mother** in your prayers; she's suffering from some complications arising from a bout with kidney stones.

See Sunday's **View** for others we need to pray for.

### Update: Covid Tiers

Unfortunately, the average daily Covid case rate ballooned up to 9.7% in Sacramento County, which puts us firmly back into the “widespread” tier which is the most restrictive. The other two stats: the positivity rate (4.1%) and the equity index (5.7%) are still in the “substantial” tier (red). Pray that those numbers stay the same or decrease and that the case rate gets back under 7%, both for the health of people in the county and for our ability to meet together. In the meantime, we'll get an email out soon about our plans for the next few Sundays.

We're also watching a lawsuit by two assemblymen that challenged the governor's “one-man-rule” (referring to his over 50 executive orders issued since March). A judge has ruled in favor of the plaintiffs; we'll have to wait and see what transpires and the extent to which the ruling affects our ability to assemble.

Another lawsuit challenges the governor's tier system. The plaintiffs in that case point to the fact that there is no “green” tier – no tier that takes us back to normal, meaning the governor can continue to control the economy indefinitely.

We'll keep you posted on both of those cases.

### Veterans Day

**T**hanks to all of our veterans, especially those who served in combat zones. We all appreciate you very much. I always feel a little embarrassed when people say to me, “thank you for your service.” I am grateful for the thought but at the height of the Vietnam war I was sent to Hawaii instead of Vietnam. So, I served, but there is a huge difference in singing in a soldier's chorus for the troops who came to the island for R&R for a week and actually being *among* those troops who were putting their lives on the line every day.

Several of my close family members served in dangerous areas during wars, including my father (WWII in Europe) and Trey Cain (Middle East, three deployments). I really appreciate what they did but neither of them talk(ed) about it much.

I want to share a little of something I heard today from the legendary baseball announcer, master story teller and one of my favorite human beings, Vin Scully. He spoke today about his memory of WWII.

In 1942, he was 15 years old “happily playing stick ball in the streets of New York.” One day he noticed a little white pennant with a small blue star hanging in several of the apartment windows in his neighborhood. There were so many, he finally asked his parents what it meant. He was told that the pennant meant that a family member was serving in the armed forces and each star represented an individual who was serving.

One day, a man on a bicycle rode up to one of the apartments, rang the doorbell and a minute later, Vin heard the screams — they learned a family member had been killed in action. Sometime later, he noticed that the blue star had been removed and replaced with a gold star. (This, explains why families who have lost loved ones in battle are called “Gold Star Families.” The practice of changing of the blue to the gold star dates back to WWI).

He went on to say, “on Veterans Day, while there is a lot of hoopla, parades and such, which are justified, I always remember that day when the blue star was replaced with the gold star, meaning that someone gave his life for our country.” Vin went on to say, “I spent a year in the Navy, but I didn't do anything or go anywhere...”

So I have something in common with Vin, although I was in the Army, not the Navy, and spent almost two years “doing nothing and going nowhere.” But I take comfort in a sermon I heard my good friend David Barnes preach on I Samuel 30:24 entitled, “Staying by the Stuff.” It describes the attitude of the men who went to war who were critical of those who stayed behind. David (the king, not Barnes) said to them,

Who would listen to you in this matter? For as his share is who goes down into the battle, so shall his share be who stays by the baggage (KJV, “by the stuff.”) They shall share alike.”

\*If you are on Twitter, or can get on it, check out his recorded message at <https://t.co/Qr3y-BXJC8Q>