

A non-profit, public benefits organization serving families and friends of homicide victims.



# JACOB "JAKE" McARTHUR

By his sister, Roxann

My brother, Jake, had a passion for life and so much love for the people he filled his with. He inspired those around him to grow into the best version of themselves and led by example, constantly working on himself and meeting others with an open heart of genuine friendship and generosity that caught people off guard.



Jake sought community and collaboration through his crafts whether he was practicing his fire dancing, creating music, gardening, or working on a new design for his beautiful wire-wrapped jewelry, he wanted to share these experiences with friends and family who made his life rich. As his sister, I was lucky enough to receive a new piece of wrapped jewelry

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There will be no meeting in April 2020

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#### **About Us**

The majority of our CAH Board Members have lost a loved one to murder. We will never "get over" our tremendous losses, but we do "get through" the grief. Becoming proactive; assisting/supporting families throughout the most difficult time of their lives and guiding them through the complicated criminal justice system. We have joined together to create a voice for families of homicide victims.

#### **CAH Objectives**

- Assist families through the complicated criminal justice system;
- Act as Liaison between families and investigative law enforcement;
- Provide assistance with Parole Opposition Letters;
- Accompany families to parole suitability hearings (when possible);
- Provide trial and courtroom support (when possible);
- Facilitate Reward Billboards (when/ where possible);
- Provide information on pending crime legislation

#### **Protecting Your Own Interests**

We cannot prepare for the devastating event that changes our lives forever. We can only react. You will need to know how to deal with the subsequent trial, sentencing and (today) the unavoidable parole hearings. CAH will help you take action to protect your own interests.

If you know of a family or friend who may need our help, please share the information we have provided here.

#### **Location for Meetings**

We hold bi-monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month at Loch Lomond Yacht Club - 95 Loch Lomond Drive, San Rafael, CA. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We encourage anyone interested to attend.

# A Few Words From Jan

#### SPECIAL GREETINGS TO ALL OUR CAH READERS,

By now, most of us have been "sheltering in place" for quite some time, and it now appears we will continue this status quo for another month. Our stress and patience in some households is taxing, to say the least. Our President appears to be doing everything possible for the entire United States with regard to the Coronavirus and financially for so many of us who are struggling. However, in California, we still have a Governor that is doing everything he can to undercut our public safety by releasing to parole more criminals. His actions are clearly not for the benefit of our Public Safety. It would be wise not to lose sight of this man's questionable and dangerous decisions that are contrary to our safety.

My suggestions for "sheltering in place" is to encourage family time; to reconnect with loved ones. For those with young children, story time is a wonderful way to share quiet moments. Allow the children to participate in meal preparation for the family. They will be creative and will learn that cooking is fun, easy and healthy. Stay connected with extended family and friends with Skype and share videos for entertainment. Create a challenge using small home projects. Spend time in the garden. Children love to watch plants grow and, at the same time, it is a calming and learning experience. Spend family time in prayer. Try "sharing" a cocktail time, each from your own homes on your phones and/or chat for a half hour or so. It is important to stay connected with those we love.

The following are not my words, but I enjoyed reading them so much, I wanted to share with you.

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#### Officers

Jane Alexander

Ian Miller Co-Founder/President Gene & Shellie Cervantes Victim Advocates /Consultants/Newsletter Angela Bushnell Gillam Victim Advocate /Communications Boni Driskill Victim Advocate Ora Knowell Victim Representative (Vacant) Treasurer Carol Silveira Corresponding Secretary CAH Consultant Eryn Cervantes Consultant Susan Fisher Legislative (Vacant) Recording Secretary Jazzed About Printing Design & Printing

Co-Founder Emeritus

#### **Advisory Board**

Chuck Mitchell Andi Jarmicki
David Perotti Terri de la Cuesta
Kit Ball Joyce Tuhn

Ken Holmes

#### Citizens Against Homicide

The UPS Store
369-B Third Street, Box 303
San Rafael, CA 94901
Tel 415-455-5944 • Fax 415-721-0788
E-Mail: vctmsmurdr@aol.com
Website: www.citizensagainsthomicide.org

#### **CAH Victim Advocate:**

For advice regarding your individual murder case, I-209-728-2873 cahvadvocate@yahoo.com

#### Jacob McArthur—cont. from page 1

from him every year for a birthday or holiday and personally had the privilege of watching his craftsmanship blossom exponentially with each new piece. Many people pointed out that he could have made a living on his jewelry alone but he knew that he didn't want to lose his passion and love for this creative outlet for monetary value; they were gifts for those he loved, now powerful pieces of his spirit that many of his friends and family hold close to their hearts every day. He also traded them for experiences! It was a way he could earn entry into his favorite music festivals where he was able to meet more people who shared his passions and of course dance, dance, DANCE!

To say Jake loved gardening is an understatement. Jake loved Nature and Nature loved him back. As a child and into adulthood, Jake had an innate green thumb. Whatever he put in the ground didn't just grow, it thrived. "I just like to watch things grow", he simply told me as he watered happy little sprouts in our tiny urban

backyard. I truly believe that pointed quartz crystals and precious stones wanted to be found by him. He seemed to have an eye for revealing Earth's treasures, whatever they were—this was truly a magical part of him. He also earned the singular devotion of his animals. For those who knew Jake, you most certainly know Bruce, his canine companion until the very end, who still faithfully awaits his return.

My brother was beautiful inside and out, his life was worth more than anything stolen from him on the night of December 21st, 2019. Whoever planned Jake's murder never even gave him a chance. Jake's family and friends will never stop seeking justice for his death and have raised a \$20,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest of his murderer. We urge those individuals to come forward so we may have peace sooner rather than later. Every day without answers is torture for his loved ones.

All who knew and loved Jake, understand that he is the kind of person worth fighting for.



#### Words From Jan—cont. from page 2

"I can't wait for a years' time, when all of this is a distant memory and there is a corona baby boom because all the lovers were lovin'.

And there is a rise in small business, because all the entrepreneurs had a moment of stillness and creativity.

And all the children remember nothing but a time when all the moms and dads were at home and drawing and playing board games and we remember it as the time we all got to stop and be present.

We will remember the time our health was our first priority and people learned new ways to use fresh produce to feed their families... and we were all forced to think outside the box and dream up new things, and reinvent old ways and, for once, even amongst the chaos there was community; there was a global rise in togetherness and the streets were quiet, but our homes were bustlin' with love and laughter.

That time is coming... soon just like other crisis before it, this will all be a distant memory; a thing we soon listen to our children discuss in classrooms; a once was... that we share with our grand babies.

So, to you, I know it's unsettling, but focus on the silver lining. We are in this together and there is so much beauty to see." (Anonymous)

Please note, our Annual CAH meeting scheduled for May 17th is on hold until further notice. Please watch for details on our website.

—Jan

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# Perpetrator on Parole!

The Associated Press posted on March 31, 2020 that California is planning to release within days as many as 3,500 inmates from state prison. Thank you, Governor Newsom. Is this what California wants?

### Martha McKay Murdered By The Same Man Who Killed Her Mother Two Decades Ago

#### NICHOLAS MUHORO—03/26/20 AT 1:56 PM

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Martha McKay was found dead at the Snowden house
- Her assailant, Travis Lewis, was also found at the residence though he jumped out the upstairs window.
- He was responsible for the Horseshoe murders that killed McKay's mother and Lee Baker

Martha McKay was found dead late Wednesday morning at her home, the Snowden house at Horseshoe Lake, Arkansas.

The preliminary report suggests she was stabbed to death. Her apparent assailant who broke into the house was Travis Lewis. He had been paroled from prison after serving a long sentence for the double murder of McKay's mother, Sally McKay, and her first cousin Lee Baker.

According to Crittenden County Sheriff Mike Allen, Lewis was 17 when he pleaded guilty to the 1996 Horseshoe Lake murders. He was charged as an adult for the murders and paroled in 2018. Allen claimed that deputies responded to an alarm triggered by Martha at the historical Snowden House.

He said that two of the deputies that came found an open back door, and when they cleared the house, they found a possible suspect.

He jumped from the window upstairs and then ran to a vehicle, which he proceeded to drive across the yard. The suspect then jumped from the vehicle and ran and jumped into the lake. He was supposedly observed going underneath the waves, but he did not come back up.

Rescue teams from the sheriff's department and Arkansas Game and Fish allegedly used Sonar equipment to find and recover the body of Lewis. Allen identified the body of the woman found deceased within the Snowden House as that of Martha McKay.

Dottie Jones of Memphis, a first cousin of the deceased, confirmed some details on the matter. She claimed that her cousin had befriended Lewis !!?? when he was in prison and even when he went on parole.

The members of the family had opposed the capital sentencing during the time of his conviction in 1996. After the double murder, Lewis then set fire to the house.

Neighbors that asked not to be identified reported that deputies told them McKay had been stabbed, though others stated that a hammer was the murder weapon.

The events on Wednesday are going to open wounds that still remain fresh in the minds of the friends and relatives who recall the murders that happened in 1996.

The murders made the property infamous, and it is hard to fathom that the same murderer came back to kill another member of the family.

Lewis, who lived at Horseshoe Lake and whose parents lived on the property, pleaded guilty to the two murders on April 7, 1998. He was then sentenced to 28 and a half years, though the families felt it would be traumatic to go through a trial.

# Parole & Clemency Hearings

# These parole hearings are imminent. Send letters in support of these families today.

The family of 22-month-old Tyler Jaeger is requesting our help in keeping his murderer, Brian John Laudenback, in prison where he belongs. Please send letters today or email to bph.correspondenceunit@cdcr.ca.gov.

(DATE)

Board of Parole Hearings ATTN: Pre-Hearing Correspondence P.O. Box 4036 Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

RE: Brian John Laudenback CDCR# J62437

Dear Chairman and Parole Board Members,

Please DO NOT grant a parole date to convicted murderer, Brian Laudenback. On March 25, 1994, Tyler Cameron Jaeger, 22 months old, was brutally beaten to death by Laudenback, who was entrusted to care for him. This monster had never given Tyler's mother, Karey, any indication of his violent tendencies. On the contrary, he displayed patience and love towards her sweet son while in her presence. Tyler had no chance of defending himself.

On February 5, 2020, Tyler's family received a devastating blow; a two-person panel of the BPH recommended the release of his murderer. Now, they must continue the uncertainty and agonizing wait for the results of your review.

Brian Laudenback made a personal choice to brutally beat to death an innocent little boy and he must continue to accept the consequences of his actions. Anyone capable of inflicting

such horrible life-ending injuries on a defenseless child is clearly mentally damaged. The heinous nature and senseless brutality of his actions should be reason enough to classify him a high risk and danger if released back into society. There is every reason to believe this convicted murderer still poses an unreasonable threat to children.

Little Tyler had a whole lifetime ahead of him; however, he will never get the opportunity or a second chance to live; he is gone forever. Therefore, Brian Laudenback does not deserve a second chance or the privilege of freedom. Because of his complete disregard for human life, unconscionable brutality and lack of remorse, justice demands this convicted murderer remain behind bars for the maximum time allowed by State of California law.

Thank you for your consideration.

(NAME/SIGNATURE)

# How can you request compensation for travel costs to a parole hearing?

The Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services has funds available through a federal grant which allows for reimbursement to victims and next-of-kin for costs associated with travel to parole hearings.

For information on how to apply for travel reimbursement contact OVSRS at 1-877-256-6877.



# Unclaimed Restitution English Spanish

Were you the victim of a crime and the court ordered you restitution? The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation may have collected money for you. Contact the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services to inquire if you have unclaimed money from a direct order of restitution. To update your address or to obtain additional information, call us toll free at 1-877-256-6877.

Si usted fue victima de un crimen y la corte le otorgo restitucion, es posible que el Departamento de Correcciones y Rehabilitacion haya recibido dinero a su favor. Llame a la oficina de Victimas y Sobrevivientes para preguntar si usted tiene restitucion que no se haya reclamado. Para obtener mas informacion, llame gratis al 1-877-256-6877

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# Where There is Smoke, There is Fire

By Gene Cervantes

Two (2) of our most prized possessions as Americans is the knowledge we get from our educational system and our right to vote, guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America.

Gavin Newsom is whittling away both. As voters we have, in several elections, voted in support of the death penalty. We know this because an honest count of votes told us so. On March 13, 2019, Gavin Newsom nullified our vote with an executive order placing a moratorium on the death penalty—allowing his personal feelings to influence his decision making as our governor. He then ordered the gas chamber and the lethal injection room to be dismantled. His moratorium is temporary, yet he directed the dismantling to proceed as if the death penalty was a thing of the past. Prior to his election, Gavin Newsom publicly promised to follow the will of the people. He lied.

If there was any indication the "Recall Gavin Newsom" campaign would not be successful, one only had to pay attention to Mr. Newsom's body language. Swagger was ever so present throughout the Recall Campaign. The swagger of someone who knew he would win the fight before the fight was even over. The kind of swagger more befitting of

someone who knew the fight was "fixed"... and where there is smoke there is fire.

There is information the signatures/ petitions necessary to successfully recall Gavin Newsom were collected, yet the recall failed. Throughout the entire recall campaign process, Mr. Newsom swaggered around like a man without a care in the world. Dismissing the recall efforts as insignificant and not worth any thought on his behalf. Some suggest political corruption influenced the outcome of the recall, and Mr. Newsom knew it.

There is reason to believe a handful of county clerks intentionally withheld petitions to thwart the recall efforts. The notion political corruption influenced the outcome of the recall campaign is disturbing to say the very least. After all, such an attack on one of our most cherished rights would be criminal. If it can be proven that political corruption influenced the outcome of the recall campaign, those suspected of being involved must be held accountable to the nth degree.

Gavin Newsom has been in office just over a year now. In that time, he has granted an unprecedented number of clemencies, commutations for murderers and pardoned many other convicted felons. In addition, California will soon be releasing 3,500 inmates from prison to parole at the behest of Governor Newsom.

Governor Newsom took an oath...
"I (Governor) do solemnly swear
that I will support and defend the
Constitution of the United States
and the Constitution of the State
of California against all enemies
foreign and domestic, that I will
bear true faith and allegiance to the
Constitution of the United States
and the Constitution of the State of
California, that I take this obligation
freely without mental reservation or
purpose of evasion and that I will well
and faithfully discharge the duties
upon which I am about to enter."

Governor Newsom failed to honor the oath he took when he voided the vote of Californians to support the death penalty. When he unilaterally decided his moral compass was more important than our vote. When he dismissed the only justice victims' families will ever know in favor of those who perpetrated the crimes and created the victims.

There comes a time when even Governor Newsom must accept, we are a nation of laws, that no one is above the law; that "Truth in Sentencing", is an expectation of all Californians.

"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."

—Benjamin Franklin

# Jacqueline "Jacque" MacDonald Passed Away March 12, 2020

Our dear friend and fellow victim advocate, Jacque MacDonald, host of The Victim's Voice and recipient of the National Crime Victims Service Award, passed away on March 12 after a long decline in health.

A former nurse—first in her homeland of England and then in the United States—Jacque was a wife, mother, and grandmother living a quiet life in Minnesota with her beloved husband, Dennis MacDonald, when her life and legacy were forever changed. In March of 1988, her older daughter, Debi Whitlock, was murdered in her Modesto, California home while Jacque's three-year-old granddaughter slept undisturbed only a few feet away. There were no viable suspects.

As the investigation lingered without an arrest, lacque and Dennis moved to California, where Jacque drew upon her experience as the daughter of the director of a British theatre troupe and its lead actress to network for local, then national media coverage for her daughter's case. She was the first to use a billboard in Central California to offer reward money for information leading to an arrest in a case, and the first to post similar notices on supermarket shopping carts, city buses, and even flyers attached to takeout pizza from local franchises



of a national corporation. Eventually, Jacque's relentless efforts brought forth her "one person who knows"—the witness she always believed her efforts would reach. That witness, who said he could not escape images of Debi during his nine years of silence, finally provided the information needed to bring Debi's killer to justice. Jacque and Dennis attended the trial and saw Debi's murderer sentenced to 36 years.

There is no indication that Jacque ever considered taking a much-deserved rest after her victory. Instead, with the support of Citizens Against Homicide she established her radio and television show, The Victim's Voice, to share all she had learned about bringing media attention to cold cases. She passed along contact information for national shows

on which she'd appeared, such as America's Most Wanted and Unsolved Mysteries. She helped families learn to work with the law enforcement personnel assigned to their loved ones' cases, and in turn The Victim's Voice became a platform upon which detectives asked to solicit information on their cases throughout the valley. Most importantly, Jacque brought hope to those she called the walking wounded—those who had suffered terrible losses without the answers they needed to begin to heal. "I got my answers," she would say. "It's not to late for you to find yours, too. Don't give up."

Jacque understood that hope is more infectious than despair, and she dedicated her life to bringing that hope to others. Along the way she was honored by District Attorneys, Senators, Congressmen and women, and even the United States Attorney General. While she appreciated the recognition, she always sidestepped the praise. "I'm no hero," she repeatedly insisted. "I'm just an ordinary mother who loved her daughter. And nobody was going to kill my kid and get away with it."

Rest in Power, Jacque. We will never forget you.

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The UPS Store 369-B Third Street, Box 303 San Rafael, CA 94901



# \$50,000 REWARD

ANTHONY BARAJAS MURDERED JUN 28, 2015





CALL (800) 222-7463

