

CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE

June 2008

Non-Profit 501(c)3
Tax I. D. #68-0330408

Join Us To Make A Difference

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

Next Meeting:

Sunday

June 8th

10:00 a.m.

302 - 4th St.

San Rafael

DANIEL ZANK



Daniel Zank

By his mother Laura (Dusty) Zank

My beautiful son Daniel Robert (Danny Z) Zank was the most caring, loving person and if you could have met him you would have loved him too. He was very intelligent and could do anything he set out to do.

He always looked out for the less fortunate of the world and always wanted to make sure anyone he came in contact with was happy. He was the focal point of our family, whenever we had a problem, needed anything or just needed to talk, my son was the person we called.

Our family was the most important thing in his life and he loved even the most distant cousin. He adored his sister and tried to be the father figure in her son's life and had made plans to start a cell phone/computer store with him. Dan always called us on every holiday or birthday when he couldn't make it home. I still look for that call even though I know it will never come again.

His being gone has left this huge hole in our hearts and we are lost without him. He was loved not only by his family, but by so many friends that he helped over the years, many said they would not be alive if it hadn't been for my son. He saved so many from suicide and drugs. People were always attracted to him and commented on his beautiful singing voice. I was so very proud of him. He was the lead singer with the band "Jet City" when he was killed and was called a Rock Star, yet he never thought of himself as a Star.

People commented at how easy he was to talk with and how he was almost shy when it came to being praised for his singing. He wrote 8 beautiful songs that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

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Become a CAH Member!

CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE

Who We Are

The majority of the board members of Citizens Against Homicide have had a family member murdered. They are surviving the devastating loss of a loved one and still suffer the continued emotional trauma of coping with our criminal justice system. We have joined together to create a voice for the survivors and friends of murder victims.

CAH Objectives

- ◇ Assist families through the complicated criminal justice system.
- ◇ Provide trial and courtroom support to victims.
- ◇ Accompany victims to parole hearings in their endeavor to keep the convicted murderer in prison.
- ◇ Provide information on pending crime legislation.

Protecting Your Own Interests

You can't prepare for the event that makes you a victim. You can only react. You need to know how to deal with the subsequent trial, sentencing and unavoidable parole hearings. CAH helps you take action to protect your own interests.

If you have friends or family who may be in need of our assistance, please pass along the information regarding our organization.

Location for Meetings

We hold monthly meetings on the second Sunday of each month at 302 4th Street, San Rafael, CA. The monthly meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We encourage anyone interested to attend meetings.

Officers

Jan Miller	Co-Founder
Jane Alexander	Co-Founder
Perfect Printers	Newsletter Editors
Alice Ostergren	Treasurer
Carol Silveira	Corresponding Secretary
Anne Poverello	Victim Representative
Jaque MacDonald	Victims Voice-Publicity
Jude Cote	Recording Secretary

Advisory Board

Jack Miller	Bill Miller
Terri de la Cuesta	Chuck Mitchell
	Ed Sullivan

CITIZENS AGAINST Homicide

P. O. Box 2115
San Anselmo, CA 94979

Tel 415-455-5944 Fax 415-454-0298

E-Mail VCTMSMURDR@AOL.COM

LETTERS

May 11, 2008

Enclosed is the program from the Guardians of Justice luncheon which is the culmination of a week long tribute to Victims in Riverside County. My Victim's Advocate, Marilyn Baldwin, said I HAD to be there and even contacted my employer to be sure I had the day off.

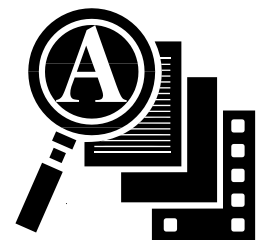
I had no idea she had nominated me for an award! The other recipients were some very courageous people; I was honored to even be there with them. Marilyn had received recognition earlier in the week from Governor Schwarzenegger for her dedication to helping victims and their families.

The letters from CAH members and Marilyn's support were the only reason I found the courage to go to the June 2007 Parole Hearing...and as you know parole was denied with a 3 year extension given.

I enjoy writing denial letters for your other members, and I thank each and every one who wrote one for us.

Thank you again for what you do.

Sincerely,
Abby Rizzo (daughter of victim Jilly Rizzo)
Palm Springs, CA



SCHWARZENEGGER DROPS PLAN FOR EARLY RELEASE OF 22,000 INMATES

By Andy Furillo, Sacramento Bee, May 13, 2008

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has dumped his plan to release about 22,000 lower-risk inmates from prison before they complete their terms, The Bee learned Monday. The revised budget he will present on Wednesday will jettison the plan, which would have freed prisoners doing time for crimes such as drug possession and car theft who had less than 20 months to go on their terms.

The governor had sought the changes as part of a 10 percent, across-the-board general fund budget cut to deal with a multibillion-dollar deficit.

His plan was unlikely, however, to win support in upcoming budget negotiations. Not a single legislator in the state had expressed support for the idea.

Press secretary Aaron McLearn confirmed that Schwarzenegger will drop the early release plan but declined to comment further.

Assembly Public Safety Chairman Jose Solorio, D-Santa Ana, welcomed its demise. "I'm sure the governor realized that up and down the state, no one wants to see prisoners released early," Solorio said. "I was an early advocate for dropping that plan, and I'm glad that he's realizing people need to serve their time."

Critics of the state prison system had seen the early release proposal as a possible opening to a wholesale overhaul of California's approach to handling criminals. Dan Macallair, the executive director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, expressed disappointment with the governor's decision to back away from early release. "The correctional crisis in California cannot be solved through the normal political processes of Sacramento," Macallair said. "This is just another example of that. Nobody has the courage to do the right thing."

California's prisons are jammed to about twice their designed capacity. The overall prison population is a little more than 170,000. In submitting the early release proposal in January,

the governor's budget writers said it could have saved the state nearly \$1.2 billion through the 2009-10 fiscal year.

On Monday, administrative sources said the main factor in their decision to withdraw the idea is that the inmate population has been dropping on its own over the past year. They said the prison system is now housing 2,107 fewer inmates every day in the current budget year than the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation had anticipated. The sources asked for anonymity because the revised budget has not yet been made public.

Fewer inmates coming in from the courts and fewer parolees returning to prison for violating the technical conditions of their releases from custody are accounting for the lower population numbers, the sources said.

Together, the result has been an estimated saving this year of \$ 27.9 million, they said. Projections for next year indicate the potential for another \$78.2 million in savings. Along with early release, the administration had sought to achieve budget savings through what it called a "summary parole" plan.

Schwarzenegger intends to stick with that piece of his proposal. Offenders who violate their parole conditions but don't commit new crimes wouldn't be returned to prison under that plan. They would still be subject to warrantless searches by local law enforcement. While the governor is planning to withdraw the early release plan, efforts to cap the prison population is still the subject of ongoing litigation in the federal courts. "There's more than one way to skin a cat," said Don Specter, director of the nonprofit Prison Law Office in San Rafael. His firm is representing inmates in cases where the state's provision of medical and mental health care in the prisons has been found to be unconstitutional.

Many members of the legislature received letters, phone calls and personal visits regarding this measure from victims, law enforcement, prosecutors and the general public asking them not to agree to this proposal. Special thanks to Chris Ward of Crime Victims Action Alliance for this article.

CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE ANNUAL MEETING

May 18, 2008

It was just last Sunday that CAH had its 14th Annual Meeting and the beginning of our 15th year of being in existence. It was a great meeting - even though our guest speaker did not show up. In the usual impromptu style of CAH and its Board Members we carried on and shared our plans for the next year with all in attendance. We have had some interesting years in the past and expect to have even more excitement in the coming year.

It looks like after about a year of hard work and diligent determination Jim Dalessandro the author of "Citizen Jane" has reached the finish line to have the book reprinted. It won't be long before you will be able to purchase the book from CAH's very own website through Amazon.com.

Yes, I said a web page. Jude Cote along with a few other hard working and very determined folks are planning to launch our website just after the first of June 2008. You will go to www.citizensagainsthomicide.org.

There you should be able to find information about CAH, who we are, what we do, etc. There will be a bio on CAH's co-founders Jane and myself. You will be able to download all of the information from our current monthly Newsletter. As time goes on we expect to have the information from the last 12 months of Newsletters available at all times.

We will have a link for people to sign up to play golf at our Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament and you will be able to

download the Grand Raffle tickets and then mail them in directly to CAH. We plan to have an emergency parole letter writing link for those families that contact us too late to have the parole printed in the monthly Newsletter.

This is a very exciting time for CAH. There are not words enough for all of us to say THANK YOU! THANK YOU! to all that have worked so hard to make all of these wonderful changes possible and to actually make them happen. We all know talk is cheap - it is the actual doing that gets the job done.

Shellie and Gene Cervantes will be working at our Annual Golf Tournament and I am sure there are many of you that have spoken to them on the phone and you will enjoy meeting them - so I suggest that you sign up and bring a foursome to the Golf Tournament.

If all goes according to plan Jane will have her very own seat at a table piled high with "CITIZEN JANE" books and she will be signing and selling these books. It is a wonderful read!

A special THANK YOU to all that took our words to heart and sent your donation for your annual dues. Remember all of us are volunteers and all of the funds CAH receives goes into our Newsletter and to directly helping the families of the murder victims who are trying to achieve Justice for their murdered family member.

See you at the next meeting or at the Golf Tournament!

DANIEL ZANK - con't from front page

On October 24, 2006 at 9:40 AM I received a call, two rings and I picked up and there was no one there. I looked at the caller ID and saw it was Dan's number so I called his phone to ask why he didn't finish the call and got his voice mail, I never received an answer because the police estimated that between the time of that call to around 10:30 AM my son was stabbed to death.

He was stabbed 14 times, two were fatal stab wounds and yet the police medical examiner called his death a suicide. The police stated Dan had defensive wounds on his arms and hands, there was no blood spray on his body from the knife coming out 14 times, plus his body had been moved. None of these things was ever mentioned by the police medical examiner.

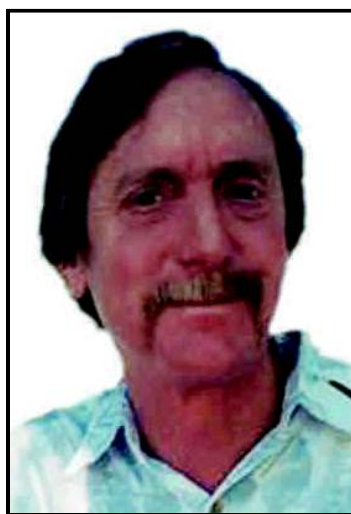
I hired a medical examiner and he found there were too many questionable things about my son's case

and could not understand how they could call his death a suicide by the poor investigation the police and medical examiner had done.

Our lawyer took our medical examiner's report to the police medical examiner and she was rude and refused to look at the report. We cannot get his case re-opened without the police medical examiner changing her decision on cause of death and there is no one above her that can change her decision except to go before a judge and getting a court order.

I don't have the money it takes to do that so we pray that someone helps us to make the medical examiner see that my son was murdered and bring him the justice he deserves and his family some peace of mind.

If you have any information, please contact Daniel Zank's family.



Michael Mitchell
Murdered September 17, 2005

**\$50,000
REWARD**

CITIZENS
AGAINST
HOMICIDE

Join Us To Make A Difference
(415) 455-5944

Contact Merced Police
Department at

(209) 385-6912

for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer(s) of Michael Mitchell

HELP CAH MAKE THIS FUND RAISER A SUCCESS*Remember together we CAN make a difference***MAKE A COPY AND ENCOURAGE A FRIEND TO BUY TICKETS**

Win a one week stay
at one of these beautiful
resorts:

• **LAS VEGAS**
@ Cliffs at Peace Canyon
Las Vegas, NV

2 Bedroom, sleeps 6 privately, kitchen,
and swimming pool on site; casino
golf, tennis, horseback riding, live
entertainment & other amenities
nearby.

• **HILTON HEAD**
@ Port O' Call

Shipyard Plantation
Hilton Head, SC

3 Bedroom, sleeps 8 privately, kitchen, pool
& tennis on site; beach, boating, fishing, golf,
live entertainment & other amenities nearby.

• **SEDONA**

@ Arroyo Roble Resort
SEDONA, AZ

2 Bedroom, sleeps 6 privately, kitchen,
pool, tennis, fishing on site;
horseback riding, golf, live entertainment
and other amenities nearby.

CAH GRAND PRIZE
AUGUST 15, 2008

Drawing to be held at our
Charity Golf Tournament Awards
Banquet.

**Note: Date and Location of these
one week vacations cannot be changed,
under any circumstances.**

You need not be present to win

Tickets must be received at the CAH address by no later than August 12, 2008

Return tickets & or donation to: CAH PO Box 2115, San Anselmo, CA 94979

S U D	CAH SPECIAL GRAND PRIZE DRAWING - AUGUST 15, 2008
I G O	• LAS VEGAS, NV 8/01/09 - 8/08/09
I E A	• HILTON HEAD, SC 11/28/09 - 12/05/09
I S T	• SEDONA, AZ 1/08/09 - 1/15/09
I T I	THESE DATES & LOCATIONS CANNOT BE CHANGED
I E O	NAME:
I D N	ADDRESS:
	CITY: STATE: ZIP:
	PHONE:
\$5.00	

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\$5.00	

Suggested Donation:

\$5.00 each or 5 tickets for \$20.00

PAROLES....

In the first issue of our CAH newsletter, November 1994 we asked our members to write parole letters to keep the murderer of Lucy Shivak in prison.

In 1998 we again asked you to write letters and again in 2002, 2005, and 2006. The 2006 hearing was delayed three times. This is Jeffrey Langnese's sixth parole. I don't even want to think of the stress and emotional pain this family has endured over the years.

On April 9, 1986 Jeffrey Langnese brutally bludgeoned Lisa Marie Shivak, 27, to death with the butt end of a shotgun. The murder took place in the Langnese's home in El Cajon, CA.

She was found in San Diego, her legs bound, her body wrapped in a blanket. The coroner stated you could not tell where one blow started or ended. The brain stem had been severed and the base of her skull was crushed.

This murderer was plea bargained to SECOND DEGREE and sentenced to 15 years to life. He should serve life, never to be released.

Please write today and ask the parole board to keep Langnese in prison. This family has suffered enough.

MURDERER:

Jeffrey Langnese
CDC#D-38652

SEND LETTERS TO:

Jim Davis
Chair, Board of Prison Terms
P.O. Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812

COPY TO FAMILY:

Lucy & Frank Shivak
1126 Masterpiece Dr.
Oceanside, CA 92057

On February 27, 1993 Mark Mancebo along with 5 other friends of Mark Mancebo, kidnapped 21 year old Philip Anthony Rios from a house party in Merced, CA.

They put Philip in the trunk of a car and drove around for some time. They drove to Merced airport, stopping to talk and drink beer. Then drove 7 to 8 miles north of Merced to Atwater, CA where they stopped to buy more beer. Philip was still in the trunk. They finally stopped a little before Planada, CA and Mark took Philip out of the trunk.

Philip was shot seven times in the head execution style even as he pleaded for his life saying he had a 3 year old daughter.

The reason given during the trial for the murder of Philip was because he was dancing with a girl who was having the house party.

I am Connie Diaz, mother of Philip. Mark Mancebo, who murdered my son, received a sentence of 16 years to life. He has only been in prison for 14 years. The Rios and Diaz families are asking for letters to the parole board to help keep this murderer in prison. Please help us.

Thank you,
Connie Diaz

MURDERER:

Mark Mancebo
CDC#K12604

SEND LETTERS TO:

Jim Davis
Chair, Board of Prison Term
P.O. Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812

COPY TO FAMILY:

Connie Diaz
6049 Paseo Acampo, Apt. #255
Carlsbad, CA 92009

CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE

Membership/Contribution Form

(please print)

**Non-Profit 501 (c)3 Tax I. D. #68-0330408
All Contributions Are Tax Deductible**



Name: _____ Home Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Organization: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

City: _____

Please enroll me as a member of Citizens Against Homicide. My \$50.00 membership fee provides me voting privileges and newsletter.

Instead, accept my \$ _____ contribution in support of Citizens Against Homicide and its efforts. June 2008 Newsletter



FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit #50

**Citizens Against Homicide
P. O. Box 2115
San Anselmo, CA 94979**