

Wolverines Get Revenge on Los Molinos 52-8 PAGE 11

**Gridley** Little League Says "Let's Play Ball!" **PAGE 11** 



## **THE GRIDLEY** FRIDAY • MARCH 26, 2021 • VOL. 141 NO. 13 **PROUDLY SERVING OUR AREA SINCE 1879**

### 500 NSIDE

## **The Next Level for Taylor**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING ETECTION PROGRAM ANNOUNCED



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### **RECALL PROCESS HOLDS ELECTEDS ACCOUNTABLE**



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TAX DOLLARS





Surrounded by his mentors, Jaden Taylor commits to wrestle for Simpson University on scholarship. Pictured left to right: Simpson head coach Rod Forseth, coach Joe Ruggirello, coach Asan Khan, and Jaden Taylor (center front). Photo provided by

#### By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Surrounded by his family, coaches, and future teammates, Gridley High School Senior Jaden Taylor was guest of honor at his commitment ceremonies held at Simpson University, Redding campus March 18th. Taylor will be attending Simpson University on a \$20,000 just continued to work through it ... now, "if anything has gone wrong wrestling scholarship. Taylor began his wrestling career with Gridley's Recreation wrestling program at 5 years old, eventually working with Yuba-Sutter Combat Wrestling Inc. until 8th grade, where he placed 5th in State. He then moved on to wrestle for Gridley High School where he worked with Coaches David Klingsheim and Asan Khan, and met, trained, and wrestled with Alec Flores and Jeffrey Rosales. In 2019, Taylor lost both teammates to two very different, equally tragic events: Flores was struck and killed by a vehicle, Rosales, lost to suicide.

Taylor's close friend and Coach, Asan Khan, says that after that series of ill events – the loss of his friends, his wrestling career not moving in the direction he would like, and then COVID-19 - Taylor made the decision to buckle down hard. Taylor's mother, Rachael Montgomery adds, just take it to the mat every time "

Taylor, who is described as a "man of few words" shares how wrestling has both pushed him to be better and comforted him during difficult times. "It's like an escape I guess," he says. "When I was younger, everything was about strength... I always wanted to be the fastest, I wanted to be the "That was a hard patch for him. He strongest, so that motivated me." But in my life, or like I'm depressed or Private workout sessions with the like just had a hard patch in life, I've Khan family were fine tuning the always had wrestling to take my mind off everything." Taylor looks forward to challenging himself further, "not for the fame," but recognition of his hard work and discipline. Wrestling begins September 8th at Simpson University and Taylor is ready for it. Khan says, "He's very hungry... he's motivated" and the training at the college level will hone his skills further. "I'm so proud of by a larger competitor and that the him." Coach Khan continues, "The quiet, talented, and driven athlete is best years of wrestling are ahead of him ... He's going to be amazing."  $\star$ 

for this year is that the com-

munity will reinvigorate the

tradition of the bed races

and kick off pre-parade fes-

tivities. The Chamber is

hoping Gridley youth can

liven things up with their

own beds! Teams must

have at least one of their

five-member crew aged 18

years-old or younger, make

their own bed-cart out of a

metal framed-bed, and be

ready to don helmets for

the faced paced race! The

Chamber would like to

see adult participation and

supervision during con-

struction and at the time of

the races, Saturday morn-

Other Red Suspenders

Day festivities include

a socially distanced

Unjustice Court at Rotary

Park, Friday, May 14th

from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm,

then on Saturday, begin-

ning at 7:00 am the Little

League Pancake Breakfast,

Continued on page 3

ing at 9:30 am.

## **City Considers New Meters** and Discusses **Feather-River Sewer Work**

#### By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Business was as usual at the Gridley City Council meeting, held March 15th.

Gridley City Council voted unanimously to approve research into and cost analysis of multiple meter companies that would potentially replace Gridley's current, Itron Meter System. The council was informed the current system is inefficient, creating additional manual labor for multiple city departments to obtain clear and accurate data.

Electric Utility Director Danny Howard presented council with a variety of items to consider with regard to the old meter system. The current meters are at the end of their lifespan at 20+ years old, meter screens are unreadable and cumbersome to replace, meters are typically located in difficult to access areas on private property and many meters must be hand-read to get accurate readings or clear discrepancies. Gridley utility crews are often called out 10-20 times a month to take manual readings from meters. In addition, a Field Collection System software update later in the year is expected to cause issues with the already antiquated meters. Howard suggested New Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) software which allows for real-time reads and connection, the ability to disconnect and reconnect of utility services from a City employee's computer, and other beneficial tools that could streamline utility data collection for the City of Gridley. Moving on, City Council heard from City Engineer Dave Harden regarding planning and progression of the Feather River Sewer Crossing Project and additional services needed from Bennett Engineering Services (BENS). BENS has been working on a feasibility study for the replacement of the Feather River Sewer Crossing under a \$500,000 planning grant under Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Concern over the current location and condition of Gridley's 50+ year-old sewer force main has been expressed, specifically by downriver municipalities fearful of a contaminated water supply. Harden says, that "what we thought was going to be a pretty straight forward pipe replacement project" has encountered Continued on page 3

## FOR CAMPAIGNS?



PAGE **2** 

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wrestler's highly competitive skills and renewed drive and ambition in Taylor were noticed by his coaches. Coach Khan says, "I found his work ethic incredible.... he never complains.... he just goes and goes.... He's just such a tremendous teammate." Khan says Taylor's dedication is impressive, that the wrestler is not one to back down or be intimidated on the verge of greatness.

## **Celebrating Our Youth!**

#### By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - After the last year of lockdown, distance learning, and virtually no sports, our area youth could stand a little extra attention! That is why the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce has dedicated this year's Red Suspenders Day to them with the theme "Celebrating Our Youth!"

The Chamber is asking for help from youth in our community, youth groups, clubs, and organizations to get involved! They would like to see Red Suspenders Day 2021 full of kid-friendly fun and overflowing with youth participation. Kidcentric activities are being planned throughout the increased footprint of the Red Suspenders Day in Downtown Gridley. Potential groups or vendors with children's activities or games are asked to contact



This duo is ready to "Celebrate Our Youth" this Red Suspenders Day! L to R: Saxon Ross, Cohen Waite. Photo by Seti Long

count on parade entries for children's organizations is being considered (contact

the Chamber and a dis- the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce for more details).

One of the major hopes

www.GridleyHerald.com

## **The New Pi-Line**



#### By Josh F.W. Cook

Clearly, hands down, no debate - Brian Fesler (and the 16lb Bass photo in the paper last week) is the Outstanding Over Achiever Gridley High Alumni of the week. The guy married Stan Potoski's daughter and he gets paid to catch fish on a bass boat that costs more than the average person in Yuba City makes in a year.

#### \*\*\*

Let's review our city seals (or logos) to get some insight into where we live. Live Oak has an Oak Tree with the words "Live Oak California". That's it - very minimalist, hip, cool, and modern. Live Oak had to add the word California after the 13th package meant for them went to a Live Oak in Florida (that city recently added the word Florida to their city seal). The Gridley City seal used to be a pheasant next to some reeds and rice stalks. Gridley has now upgraded to a seal that says "Gridley California" below a light bulb, the city arch silhouette, two square historic buildings, and a tree. Biggs' Seal is most definitely the busiest. It has a pheasant, a flock of geese, the Sierra Buttes, rice fields, rice stalks, a big shiny sun, and the phrase "City of Biggs - where the people own the power rebranded their seal for more than 30 years.

Mac's Market and Hardware is the official financial, commercial, nutritional, cultural, and self-defense gathering place for people in East Biggs, Manzanita, East Gridley, and the Labor Camp neighborhoods. As we get closer to Easter, they have baby chicks for sale. I love our community, where else can you refill your propane tank, get a loaf of bread, pick up a lemon tree, send money to Mexico and buy a live Chicken.

#### \*\*\*

The Gridley Grille or Gridley Grill and Crab Shack seem to be the only place open for a sit-down breakfast nowadays. It is on Highway 99 between Gridley and the first openpit mine on Nevada Street on the edge of Live Oak. The good news, the food is excellent and not everything is seafood (an issue for me). They have waffles, omelets, breakfast burritos, and pancakes, indeed a full traditional breakfast and lunch menu.

Frank Jr. and I took to the hills hiking this week and we recommend it to everyone. The wildflowers are in bloom and where we hiked there were so many flowers it made the wind smell like a bouquet. So if you have been wondering when you should go to catch the blossoms before they dry up and disappear, now is the time.

#### \*\*\*

Ten extra points for the Lions Club hosting a drivethru egg hunt. It's one of educator.

and water." Biggs has not those - get an A for effort situations. It is good of the Lions to make sure the entire egg hunting celebration did not get canceled completely. Thank you Lions. \*\*\*

> Speaking of egg hunting, our family has a history of adapting the egg hunting activity to keep family members interested. Some years ago hiding soda pop was added to the hard-boiled vinegar dye kit colored eggs. This addition has kept the kids of various ages very enthused, for a while. Now we have kids showing up with grandkids so we have added plastic eggs filled with chocolate candies. Just as I settled in for the new tradition - an announcement went out on the family group chat announcing we are having "\$20 buyin money eggs"- plastic eggs filled with cash - hidden with the hard-boiled eggs, soda pops, and plastic eggs. I must admit that my Jesuit-educated theological concerns have been piqued. This addition of filthy lucre (biblical lingo for money) to these quasireligious Easter traditions of eating rabbit-shaped chocolate, hunting colored eggs and soda pop, buying baby chicks at the hardware store, and hosting a massive Easter Dinner feast could be a distraction from the central message of the events of Holy Week and rejoicing in the Resurrection of Jesus. I bet we'll do both.

#### \*\*\*

Josh F.W. Cook, is a public administrator and

## **Tax Dollars for Campaigns?**



Commentary by Doug LaMalfa

Our country is facing a deadly pandemic, millions have lost their jobs, our freedoms have been violated, free speech and even differing viewpoints are under attack, civil being questioned.

introduced in the House this year - their seemingly top priority – would enable treasury funding for political campaigns... up to \$6 million per candidate!

Are you kidding me? In typical Democrat fashion of mislabeling something to hide its true purpose, they call it the "For the People Act"... but it is really the 'For the Politicians' Act.

It's hard to imagine what more Democrats could have done to clearly signal right out of the gate just how out of touch and selfinterested they really are.

Election integrity is unrest is rampant, and the a critical issue we must integrity of our elections is address but using taxpayer fines to give to candidates Yet, the first bill to get elected is the about

Democratic leadership most absurd idea I can think of.

> To restore trust in our elections we must ensure elections end on election night, we must end ballot harvesting, require voter ID, and we must require signature verification to prevent voter fraud.

> I am continuing to fight for election integrity, and it becomes clearer every day how critical it is that we end Democrat control of our country.

> But I need you, your continued support is the only way we're going to win these fights. Will you help me with \$25 or more now and ensure we have the resources to restore conservative stewardship of our elections and our nation?

Thanks, Doug LaMalfa



## MEMORIAL NOTICE Debra "Debbie" Alyce Berman

February 15, 1952 to February 21, 2021

Debra "Debbie" Alyce Berman, age 69, passed away on Sunday, February 21st, 2021 at 4:36 AM at Enloe Medical Center in Chico, CA. Debbie was born on February 15, 1952 in Castro Valley, CA to her parents Phylis and Barney Nichols. In 1970 she was married to John Bazzano with whom she had two children, Tony and Michael Bazzano. Their marriage ended, and Debbie pursued nursing school in

the spring of 1975. During her senior year she was placed in the Feather River District Hospital in Greenville in a six week training period of the Rural Clinical Nurse Placement Project. During this time she was featured in an educational nursing training film. She successfully graduated in 1978 where she delivered the class graduating speech.

On June 20th, 1982 Debbie married Joel Berman. Together they adopted their child Andrew Berman. They lived for many years in Biggs, CA. On Debbie's long and exciting



adventure, she experienced many achievements including but not limited to; managing her husband's podiatry office, working in many hospitals on the east and west coasts (with a particular fondness for newborn nurseries), case management and consulting, being designated a Cattery of Excellence by the Cat Fancier's Association of America, raising and showing Persian cats, being an active member of the Placer County

Foster Care Support Group while she provided a home for many children, as well as writing and illustrating the book So You Have Diabetes? She was also well known for her creative endeavors in sewing, painting, stained glass, gardening, cross stitch, crochet, and knitting. Debbie was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Judy Arnott. She is survived by her husband Joel, sons Tony, Michael, and Andrew, sister Cathy Bottorff, brother Mitchell Nichols, four grandchildren, and a large list of beloved family members.

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## Dovie Novella Griffin

A funeral service was held o n Thursday March 25 2021 at 10 a.m. at the Victory Chapel in Live Oak for Dovie Novella Griffin, 87 of Gridley. She was born

October 13, 1933, in Reeds Spring, Missouri, one of 11 children born to George and Ova Johnson.

Dovie was a longtime resident of Gridley, having worked at Libby Cannery for many years. She was very devoted to her family and church. She was also instrumental in leading many to the Lord. She was always supporting her kids and grandkids in all their activities. She was a member of Victory Chapel in Live Oak, which was her life.

She was preceded in death by her husband Wayne Griffin, two sons; Jack and James Patrick, and one daughter Janice Gentry.

She is survived by her daughter Linda Cabrera of Gridley, 5 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Pastor Tim Stewart of Victory chapel will officiate the service. Interment was in the Gridley

Biggs Cemetery. Donations in Dovie's honor may be made to the Victory Chapel in Live Oak.



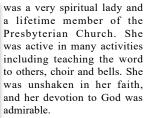
Arrangements entrusted to Gridley-Block Funeral Chapel

#### MEMORIAL NOTICE Kathryn Pfister November 29, 1942 to March 13, 2021

Kathryn Pfister "Kathy or Chech" was a loving mother, grandmother, greatgrandmother, sister, and friend. She left this world unexpectedly on March 13, 2021, at the age of 78.

She was born to Robert and Elizabeth Haller on November 29. 1942. She attended Gridley schools. After graduating from high school, Kathy attended Yuba College. She married Tobe Pfister and together they had 3 children; Kristine, Joseph, and Nannette.

She loved spending time in her kitchen and gardening. Kathy was dedicated to her family and always put them first. She followed all of her family to their sporting events and rodeos and loved to travel up and down the state, and even out of state, to be part of their lives. There was no bigger fan! She never met a stranger and everyone that knew her gravitated to her gracious personality. Kathy



She is survived by her children Kristine (Bill), Joseph (Clarissa), and Nannette; along with her grandchildren Zachary, Ethan (Jessica), Michael, Luke, Tristin, Ally,

and Abigail; one great-grandchild Sage, her sister Margaret (Peggy) Neves, and her two nieces Lenore Rooney and Stacey Cranfill.

A graveside service will be held at Gridley Biggs Cemetery in the gazebo on Wednesday March 24, 2021 at 2 p.m. with a celebration of life immediately following, at the Gridley Moose Lodge.

Arrangements entrusted to Gridley-Block Funeral Chapel.

## Livestock Coming back to the Butte County Fair Celebrating Our Youth!

**Butte County Fair** Press Release

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Butte County Fair is excited to announce the 2021 Livestock Grading/ Evaluation Event. The Livestock show will be held in August. Due to COVID restrictions and the long planning cycle

To create an changes. event that will best meet the needs of the exhibitors in our county and the safety of all individuals involved, the schedule will be slightly elongated. The Fair must follow the State rules related to livestock shows.

for this event, the Fair Fair Board and staff are all this Summer!

has made appropriate pleased to be able to offer our youth exhibitors the opportunity to participate in this event in August. The Livestock event details are in finalization stages. The 2021 Livestock rules will be posted within the next one-two weeks.

So, get your livestock The Butte County ready and we will see you \*

## Food-Truck Fun This FRIDAY!

#### By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley High School Leadership Class has amped up the fun with creative, socially distanced fundraising events and now, something special for their classmates and community!

Friday, March 26th, the GHS leadership class will host their first Food Truck Lunch on the grass in front of the high school. Four favorite food trucks from the Gridley and surrounding areas have agreed to participate, with flavors ranging

from loaded baked potatoes, to burritos and pulled pork!

This is a private event for students until after 12:45, when leadership will open the event to the community and invite all to enjoy tasty treats from Daisy's Churros, Campfire BBQ from Paradise, Spuds 4-U, and Chando's Tacos from Sacramento. Chando's Tacos will stav in Gridley till 4:00 pm. GHS Leadership suggests grabbing some grub before Friday's first Football game of the season!

#### Continued from page 1

Classic Car Show, Donkey-Plop Bingo, Fireman's Games (COVID-19 permitting) and best of all, opening day of Gridley's Farmers Market! The day will culminate with the Gridley Museum's annual Tri-Tip Dinner fundraiser.

Planning for this year's Red Suspenders Day is in full swing, with provisions being

for socially distanced fun. Your continued patience and flexibility are asked for as the Chamber faces the challenges of planning such a large community event during the times of COVID-19. Updates will continue as Red Suspenders Day, May 15th, 2021 approaches. Please contact the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce at info@gridleyareachamber.org or at (530) 846-3142.

## Telecare Services Now Available at Orchard Hospital

#### By Orchard Hospital Auxiliary

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Orchard Hospital Auxiliary is again opening its telecare service to all residents of the Gridley, Live Oak and Biggs communities. There is no charge. Those enrolled in the service will be called every Monday through Saturday morning

at 8:30 am just to be sure that all is well. In this time of isolation, it is good for all of us to keep in touch with others and a friendly voice is always welcome. Regardless of age or health status there is If you or a family memalways a chance of a problem. Usually, it is just a chance for a friendly chat, but if there should be a problem of some kind, the

caller will contact a family member or neighbor to check on them. Almost all of us are feeling a bit alone right now and a call can sometimes help to ease the isolation.

ber would like to take part in our service, please call (530) 846-2030 to be signed up or to find out more about the program. $\star$ 

## **Community Blood Drive Coming Tuesday**

#### By Cindy Scott

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - A Vitalant blood drive will be held Tuesday, March Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints from 2:00-7:00

may donate, 16 and 17-year-olds will need parent permission. Please fill out the parent permission form on site. Eat well 30, at The Church of and drink plenty of fluids tions will be in place. before arriving.

As long as the donor is p.m. Ages 16 and older not having any symptoms

of any illness, there is no waiting period to donate blood after receiving the Covid vaccination.

Covid safety precau-Make an appointment with Kathy Sannar at 530-570-8144.  $\star$ 

## **CAL FIRE Investigators Determine Cause of the Zogg Fire**

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection Press Release

SHASTA COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Last year's Zogg Fire in Shasta County started on September 27, 2020 and burned a total of 56,338 acres, destroyed 204 structures and caused four civilian fatalities and one nonlife-threatening injury.

CAL FIRE investigators were immediately dispatched to the Zogg Fire and began working to determine the origin and cause of the fire. After a meticulous

and thorough investigation, CAL FIRE has determined that the Zogg Fire was caused by a pine tree contacting electrical transmission lines owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) located north of the community of Igo.

The Zogg Fire investigative report has been forwarded to the Shasta County District Attorney's Office.

Californians must remain vigilant and be prepared for wildfire. For more information on how to be prepared, visit www. readyforwildfire.org or www.fire.ca.gov. \*



#### Continued from page 1

major issues with the geography of the terrain, excluding directional drilling from the table.

Harden suggests micro-tunneling as the City's only viable option. Additional services from BENS exceed planning grant reimbursable limit by a total \$68,037. The additional \$68,000 could be minuscule when compared to the cost of environmental impacts if hazardous materials were to

pipe every few years, Harden says, "We don't really have a way to confidently say this pipe doesn't leak in the river and if it ever does, it's basically on Gridley for the environmental impacts."

Therefore, City Council approved additional services for the Feather River Sewer Crossing project and moved into closed session to discuss and review "Scott McMillian et al vs. City of Gridley", Butte County Superior Court, case no. leak in large amounts. Although the ser- 21CV00451. The Gridley Herald did not





## **DWR Adjusts State Water Project** Allocation Following Dry Winter

#### California Department of Water Resources

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As California experiences a second consecutive dry year, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an adjustment to its initial State Water Project (SWP) allocation for the 2021 water year. The department now expects to deliver 5 percent of requested supplies this year, down from the initial allocation of 10 percent announced in December.

Initial allocations are based on conservative assumptions regarding hydrology and factors such as reservoir storage. Allocations are reviewed monthly and may change based on snowpack and runoff information. They are typically finalized by May.

"We are now facing the reality that it will be a second dry year for California and that is having a significant impact on our water supply," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "The Department of Water Resources is working with our federal and state partners to plan for the impacts of limited water supplies this summer for agriculture as well as urban and rural water users. We encourage everyone to look for ways to use water efficiently in their everyday lives."

Ongoing drought conditions require the coordination of federal, state and local agencies. Today, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which operates the Central Valley Project, is also expected to adjust its initial CVP water supply allocation accordingly. The State Water Resources Control Board mailed early warning notices to approximately 40,000 water right holders urging them to plan for potential shortages by reducing water use and adopting practical conservation measures.

As a result of the persistent drought conditions, and in accordance with its permit for the long-term operation of the State Water Project, DWR has submitted a revised Drought Contingency Plan to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan provides updated hydrologic conditions and outlines areas of concern for the joint operations of the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project, water quality, and environmental impacts.

DWR does not anticipate the need to pursue a Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) to allow for temporary changes to the water quality and outflow requirements for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

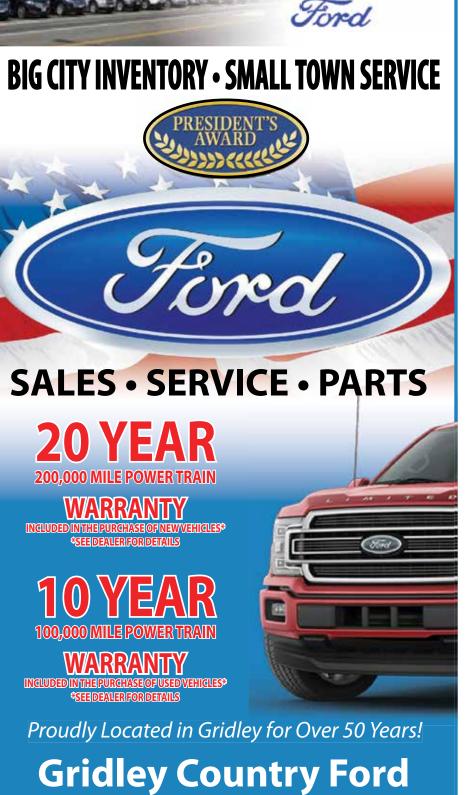
The severity of the situation is particularly evident in the North State. Lake Oroville is currently at 53 percent of average. The Feather River watershed, which feeds into Lake Oroville, has seen significantly less precipitation this year than normal, on track for its second driest year on record. Following a below average 2020 water year, California's major reservoirs are at 50 percent of capacity.

California is better prepared for drought than in the past. Following the 2012-2016 drought, DWR enacted many programs focused on managing the state's water through a strategic, integrated approach with a strong emphasis on water use efficiency and conservation. The state provides assistance and tools to local water agencies to help them reduce their drought vulnerability. DWR's Water Use and Efficiency Branch (WUE) provides agencies and individuals assistance for improving water use efficiency and developing and meeting efficient water use requirements.

The 5 percent allocation amounts to 210,266 acre-feet of water, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP contractors who serve more than 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland.

Allocations represent the amount of SWP water that DWR will deliver for the year and are reviewed monthly based on several factors, such as water in storage, environmental requirements, and rain and snow runoff projections. For 2020, the initial SWP allocation was 10 percent and the final allocation was 20 percent in May.

For information on current water conditions at the state's largest reservoirs and weather stations, visit the California Data Exchange Center website at cdec.water.ca.gov/snow\_ rain.html



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## **New COVID-19 Testing Site in Gridley**

#### **Butte County Public Health** Press Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Butte County Public Health (BCPH) announces a fifth testing location for the State's COVID-19 Testing Site, OptumServe, to open Monday March 22, at Orchard Hospital at 240 Spruce Street in Gridley.

The entrance to this testing site is located in the parking lot in the back of the building. There will be a Spanish speaking interpreter on site. This location is considered a Traveling Testing Team and will operate one day a week.

Appointments are open to the public and scheduled every Monday, 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Additional OptumServe testing locations include:

Oroville: Oroville Unified High School District Transportation Office - remains open to the public one day a week, Monday, from 9:30 am - 5:30 pm.

Durham: Durham Memorial Hall remains open to the public one day a week, Wednesday, from 10 am to 6pm.

Chico State Campus: Shurmer Gymansium - remains open to the public two days a week, Thursday and Friday, from 9 am to 5 pm.

Chico: 900 Mangrove Avenue in Chico remains open to the public six days a week from 7 am to 7 pm.

All OptumServe testing sites are by appointment only.

Schedule your appointment: Online at: https://lhi.care/covidtesting or by phone: 1-888-634-1123.

Testing for COVID-19 remains an important tool to stop the spread of illness and remains a top priority for BCPH. If you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should get tested. This is true even after being vaccinated as you may still be able to spread the disease to others who are not vaccinated.

For more information on COVID-19 testing including a list of all testing sites in Butte County, visit: www.buttecounty.net/ ph/COVID19/Testing.

## **PG&E to Do Night Work** on Bald Rock Road in Berry Creek

#### By Paul Moreno, PG&E

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) crews will be doing nightwork along Bald Rock Road in Berry Creek starting Sunday, March 28 through about April 11.

Motorists are advised to expect intermittent traffic delays as one-way traffic controls will be in effect. The contractor will work between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

seven days a week, from Gamble Road to Rockerfeller Road.

PG&E is constructing an underground line beneath Bald Rock Road in Berry Creek to replace overhead power lines and poles that burned in the North Complex Fire.

PG&E's contractor started working days in January and day work continues on Bald Rock Road and adjoining streets in the coming months.



#### Agricultural Immigration **Bill Faces House Vote**

The U.S. House of Representatives is scheduled to vote on an agricultural immigration bill this week. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act addresses both current and future workforce needs for agricultural employers and employees. The California Farm Bureau and hundreds of other farm organizations have announced support for the bill. It would update agricultural visa programs and accommodate immigrant agri-

#### Food System Continues to Adapt to Pandemic

With the COVID-19 pandemic having passed the one-year mark, farmers and agricultural officials say it has shown the resiliency of the food system. State Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross called it "a year of pivots and adaptation." California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson said farmers remain focused on employee health and feeding communities. Representatives of grocers and food banks said the past year has brought changes in demand.

## **Dear Dietitian Food Addiction**



Commentary by Leanne McCrate

Dear Dietitian,,

My 73-year-old mother was just diagnosed with macular degeneration. I have read that nutrition is a part of the treatment for this condition. Can you elaborate, please? ~ Susan

Dear Susan,

Thanks to developments in research, there are better ways to treat age-related macular degeneration (AMD) today than twenty years ago. Currently, there are about eleven million Americans who suffer from AMD, and that number is expected to double to twenty-two million by the year 2050 (1). Treatment may include surgery, nutrition, and medication.

The macula is the central part of the retina in your eye. It allows 20/20 vision and the ability to see color. One of the earliest symptoms of macular degeneration is blurred vision. As AMD progresses, the macula breaks down, and if left untreated, may lead to blindness.

- The top 5 risk factors for AMD include: • Age – AMD occurs more frequently in
- people over the age of sixty years. Smoking
- · Family history of AMD
- Obesity Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or higher
- High blood pressure

While some studies suggest the consumption of leafy green vegetables and fatty fish may help prevent the disease, the most reliable research has been performed on those who already have AMD.

The Age-Related Eye Disease Studies (AREDS) and AREDS2 evaluated the effects of high doses of certain nutrients on the progression of AMD. AREDS2 modified the supplement derived from the first study and came up with the following: 500 mg vitamin C, 400 IU vitamin E, 80 mg zinc, 2 mg copper, 10 mg lutein, and 2 mg zeaxanthin. This combination was found to reduce the risk of advanced AMD and its associated vision loss (2).

While many of these nutrients can be obtained in your diet, it would be virtually impossible to consume the amount needed every day to treat macular degeneration. Talk to your doctor and follow his or her instructions.

The nutrients in the following foods may help fight AMD:

- Vitamin C- citrus fruits, such as oranges, grapefruit, clementines, lemons, and strawberries
- Vitamin E sunflower seeds, almonds, peanuts, and some plant oils
- Zinc oysters, beef, fortified cereal, and Alaskan King crab
- Copper shellfish, nuts, seeds, wheat bran cereal, and chocolate - yes, chocolate!!
- Lutein and zeaxanthin are antioxidants that function to protect the eye from damaging sunlight. They are plentiful in leafy green vegetables, such as kale, spinach, and turnip greens. Higher amounts are obtained in their cooked form simply because these vegetables cook down, and there is more food in one cup of cooked spinach versus one cup raw. Cooking also makes it easier for the body to absorb these nutrients. One more fundamental reason to eat your veggies!

Until next time, be healthy! Dear Dietitian

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Leanne McCrate, RDN, LD, CNSC, is an award-winning dietitian based in St. Louis, Missouri. Her mission is to educate consumers on sound, scientifically-based nutrition. Do you have a nutrition question? Email her today at deardietitian411@gmail.com. Dear Dietitian does not endorse any products, health programs, or diet plans.



cultural employees already in the country.

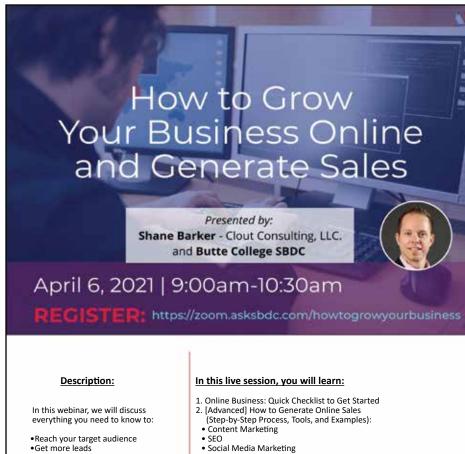
#### **Bill Would Enhance Direct Meat Sales**

The pandemic has brought shifts in meat demand, as people stock freezers with meat. Ranchers who sell whole animals directly to customers say a change in law could help them fulfill that demand. A bill in the state Legislature would allow more ranchers to process small numbers of animals on the farm for direct sale. Cattle ranchers may already do so. The bill would expand that option to include sheep, goats and potentially swine.

#### Plant Nurseries See Rising Demand

With people staying closer to home during the pandemic, more have taken up gardening – and that has brought new demand to plant nurseries. Nursery operators say they may run low on inventory this spring as a result of the surge in sales, which caused some to sell plants last year that they had planned to save for this year. Edible plants remain popular, with nursery owners reporting strong customer interest in herbs, vegetables and fruit trees.







- Email Marketing
  Affiliate Marketing
- Paid Advertising
- Case Studies
  Customer Retention: Pro Tips for Driving Repeat Sales Online



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## Seatbelt Safety

While motor vehicle fatalities have been declining over the past ten years, averages of about 21,000 are killed annually. More than half of those passengers were not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident. By wearing seat belts correctly and properly restraining children in age and size appropriate car seats you can cut the risk of injury and death in half.

Wearing your seat belt is not only safe for you and your passengers it's the law. Still, some people choose not to wear seatbelts. Those least likely to wear seatbelts are teenagers, males, back seat passengers, and people who live in rural areas. So remember, whether you are driving a little ways or a long ways always wear your seatbelt!

Thank You, and Be Safe!!

Sparky the Dog Gridley Fire Station 74

## **COVID -19 One Year Later: Americans Step Up to Address Families' Urgent Needs**

#### By Stephen Walsh, American Red Cross

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - One year since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, people have stepped up to address the emotional needs of families reeling from the coronavirus and 2020's record-breaking disasters.

Throughout our region and across the country, trained American Red Cross disaster mental health and spiritual care volunteers have had more than 53,000 conversations to provide emotional support to people in 2020 – which had the greatest number of billion-dollar disasters in a single year. In addition, trained volunteers have provided free crisis counseling through the Red Cross Virtual Family Assistance Center for grieving families during COVID-19.

"The past year has been overwhelming for many in our community, and yet through it all, people are caring for one another," said Regional Chief Executive Gary Strong. "When help can't wait, they provide families with the support they need during emergencies. During Red Cross Month in March, we honor this humanitarian spirit and ask you to join us by donating, giving blood, volunteering or taking a class to learn lifesaving skills."

What Is Red Cross Month: For nearly 80 years, U.S. presidents have proclaimed March as Red Cross Month to recognize people giving back through its lifesaving mission -which is powered by more than 90% volunteers.

A Growing Desire to Give Back: A 2020 study on a rise in volunteer experiences added to LinkedIn profiles shows that more people want to help others during this unprecedented time. Last year, more than 70,000 people across the country became new Red Cross volunteers largely to support urgent disaster and essential blood donation needs. In addition, thousands of COVID-19 survivors - many new to blood donation - rolled up a sleeve to give convalescent plasma and help patients battling COVID-19.

How to Help: You can help ensure that families don't face emergencies alone – especially during a pandemic:

Donate: Support our Disaster Relief efforts at redcross.org/GivingDay. A gift of any size makes a difference to provide shelter, food, relief items, emotional support and other assistance. Your donation will be part of our annual Giving Day on March 24 to aid families in need across the country.

Volunteer: Visit redcross.org/ VolunteerToday for most-needed positions and local opportunities.

Give Blood: If you're healthy and feeling well, make an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org. Your donation can make a lifesaving difference for a patient in need. As a thank you, those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma on March 15-26 will receive a Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

Learn Lifesaving Skills: Take a class in skills like CPR and first aid to help in an emergency at redcross.org/TakeAClass. Online options include our Psychological First Aid for COVID-19 course, which covers how to manage stress and support yourself and others.

## **COVID Crisis Triggers Increase in Elder** Abuse and Prejudice Aimed at Seniors

#### By John Grimaldi, Assoc. of Mature American Citizens

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - There's been a worrisome increase in cases of elder abuse since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. The senior advocacy organization's CEO, Rebecca Weber, says the surge is mainly due to selfisolation and other preventative measures that are in place to combat the spread of the virus."

According to the Website, PubMed.Gov, "Before the COVID-19 pandemic, elder abuse affected one in 10 American older adults annually. It has been assumed that the pandemic has brought with it a surge in elder abuse due to individuals ordered to stay at home combined with increased interpersonal stressors."

The measures in place to deal with the pandemic can limit in-person visits by caregivers, friends and family, making it difficult for the elderly living on their own to cope with physical and mental needs, leaving them vulnerable to abuse, Weber explains. "And then there are those unpaid family caregivers who have been left with reduced incomes or no incomes at all as a result of the COVID crisis. The stress they are under can readily result in abuse."

Nursing homes get most of the blame for elder abuse. But in too many cases, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse, the perpetrators are family members.

"Elder abuse is a widespread problem in America where 10,000 men and women celebrate their 65th birthdays each day; and where each year more people live longer than

ever before. It is no longer unusual for us to live to be as old as 80, 90 and 100 years or more these days thanks to healthier lifestyles and the miracle of modern medicine. But, with age come new vulnerabilities that can make any of us susceptible to the crimes of angry and greedy predators. And that's why it is up to younger friends and family who truly care to keep a watchful eye open for anomalies that indicate older loved ones may be victims," says Weber.

The Website sixtyandme reports that the most common type of abuse experienced by older Americans is neglect and that when senior citizens self-report abuse, statistics show that they are most likely to report financial abuse. "It is far more socially acceptable, at least in some people's minds, to report that they have been scammed than to state that somebody sexually abused them."

Meanwhile, a wave of "downright shameful intimidation" may be in store for the elderly as a result of COVID-19. The virus appears to have triggered a wave of prejudice directed at our older population, says AMAC's Weber. Younger generations appear to be blatantly revealing ageist tendencies on social media with messages referring to the coronavirus with insulting epithets such as "boomer remover" and "coffin dodger."

According to the medical journal, Psychiatric Times, "A Twitter analysis of 18,128 tweets between March 12 and March 21, 2020, showed that about one-quarter of all tweets [about 4,500] could be considered ageist, either because they included jokes or ridicule aimed at older adults or because their content downplayed the relevance of COVID-19 and/or implied their lives were less valuable."

## The Last Thing We Needed

#### Commentary by Michael Leach

The COVID 19 pandemic has increased substance abuse in America. As many feared, the virus was the last thing we needed, and it is no coincidence overdose demic has taken a toll. rates are at an all-time It began in the early high in America.

issue of magnitude in the Oxycontin, were over-United States. A drug epidemic that started with manufacturer, Purdue Oxycontin is now a part of our country's fabric, raging for over twenty years now. And though it may have taken too long, we finally began to make progress in reversing a trend of overdose deaths that had shortened the average US life rectly and was safer than expectancy. Rates began to drop and continued to do so for concurrent years, marking a substantial victory in just one of many battles that comprise the larger war. But right when we thought we'd turned the tide, rates began to climb again. And then, the pandemic hit, and the last thing on anyone's mind was addiction. But those heroin. who work in the substance abuse treatment industry and the field of addiction knew one thing when we saw the news about COVID-19; things weren't about to get any better. According to the CDC, Over 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States in the cheapest and strongest 12 months ending in May 2020, the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in 12 months. Synthetic opioids (primarily fentanyl) appear to be the main reason

for the increase in over- the biggest killers in jurisdictions with available synthetic opioid data reported increases in svnthetic opioid-involved overdose deaths.

America's drug epi-2000s when prescripprescribed. The drug's Pharmaceutical, took on an aggressive marketing approach that used false claims about the drug's safety to get doctors to push the medication. These claims included that Oxycontin wasn't addictive when used corother opioids. This was far from the truth. Many people were now addicted to potent opioids.

dose deaths. Thirty-seven America. It is many times of the Thirty-eight US stronger than heroin and is causing an overdose epidemic as we speak.

The pandemic causes stress. Many people have become unemployed and have fallen on hard times. Many of us have been isolated from friends and family and don't leave our Substance abuse is an tion opioids, particularly houses much. And then there's the worry. Will we get the virus? Will our parents? Even worse, will we be the ones to give it to them? All of these things can make it difficult for someone in recovery to stay clean. It can make it difficult for someone in active addiction to curb their consumption or consider treatment. And it can make it hard for those in treatment to continue their pursuit of recovery. But it has also been difficult for many people who previously didn't have struggles with substance abuse and now find themselves looking for drug and alcohol treatment services. And even the landscape of these treatment services has changed, and the pandemic hasn't made them any more accessible to people.



Since then, Oxycontin has been heavily regulated, and the formula changed to make it abuseresistant. But the damage was done, and those people who became addicted to opioids just found a new source for the drug,

Heroin is not only stronger than Oxycontin, but it's far cheaper. Once people became addicted, all that restricting the drug did was force people onto illicit opioids. Those who could profit from this new pool of addicts did so by flooding the market with opioids. And some of the career as a health care ones are synthetic.

Synthetic drugs are made in labs, usually overseas, and smuggled into America. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that has become one of Assistant.

The COVID-19 pandemic was the last thing we needed. But we can't forget about the epidemic that was here first.

Michael Leach has spent the majority of his professional in the field of substance abuse and addiction recovery. He is a medical reviewer for the healthcare website Addicted.org and a *Certified Clinical Medical* 

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## **Gridley Thumbs and Roots**



By Barbara Ott

It's Spring! The Spring Equinox has happened and the temperatures will start to warm the soil. You can notice this process by the way weeds grow. Some weeds seem to always growth but if you watch them carefully, you'll notice they stay small when it's cold. To make these observations you need to allow the earth abide and start to our plants.

The

United

Church

"What's wrong with the

world!", was asked by the

London Times at the turn

of the 20 th century. A reply

came from and English

writer, poet, and philos-

opher, G. K. Chesterton,

The apostle Paul even

described himself as, "I

years to realize that only

the grace, mercy, forgive-

"Dear Sirs, I am."

Methodist

your garden whether it is a vegetable garden or flower beds. The need to do weed observations is an excellent reason to not worry over much about getting weeds out of the garden. If they are all gone how can you use them as harbingers of Spring?

One of my favorite sayings is "Earth Abides". The Spring Equinox comes around and one can be assured that the days are getting longer and the soil will warm up. The warm soil will encourage the growth of roots whether they be beloved plants that have rested during the winter or annoying plants that are labeled weeds. The seeds that have rested in

some weeds to remain in to grow. The plants whose roots have kept them alive, abide and start to grow. When that process starts, we know the air will continue to become warmer. Some years it gets too hot faster than in other years but we know this pattern will occur. The cycles of growth and water are part of what makes it so delightful to work in a garden whether vegetable or flower. Sometimes I think plants have done a great job of using us. It is to their benefit to have us well trained. We make sure they get the right light, the right soil, the right water. If they are wilty we try to help. If they are bug ridden, we work hard at getting rid of their pests. What great servants we are

## **Thoughts to Ponder**

#### by Kathy Neal

you, in this country, in the world!

As we pray this Lenten season for peace and blessings, let us pray for changes in our hearts, our minds, and our lives, so we can (through the Lord change the world).

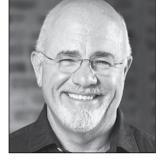
God has patience and love for even the worst of us. None of us are beyond God's mercy and saving grace. Praise God!!!

Sometimes we feel beyond God's help, am the worst." It took him because we have gone down the wrong path too long. Thank Goodness ness of the Lord is the Paul was given a detour

only thing to make the on a road that changed his changes needed in me, in life for all of us gentiles (non-Jewish).

Thank goodness God spit Jonah from a big fish so he could do God's work. Thank goodness a thief on a cross next to Jesus found Paradise so his death on a cross would be remembered through generations because of his 12 th hour repentance. Hope is never lost.

Cry out to the Lord! He hears us all, even the lowest of the low, weakest of the weak, lost of the very lost. What's wrong with this world? "We are!" Make the change and be saved by the Lord.



#### You May Already Have Some

Dear Dave,

I started listening to your radio show recently. and I heard you say people should have 10 to 12 times their yearly income in life insurance. I'm single, with no plans to get married. Plus, I don't have any children. Do I still need a big life insurance policy like that?

-Kris

Dear Kris,

I do recommend most people, if they work outside the home and are married – especially if they have kids - have 10 to 12 times their annual income in a good, level term life insurance policy. You only need life insurance to take care of things you leave behind when you die. So, when it comes to this kind of coverage, just think about anyone who might be left in a bad financial situation if you died. Your family

#### but in most cases, they would need to replace vour income.

**Dave Ramsey Says** 

Someone in your shoes might not need a traditional life insurance policy, especially if you've been smart with your money and saved up a pile of cash. A simple, inexpensive burial policy might work. There's also a good chance you already have a small amount of life insurance coverage built into an existing health insurance policy or bank account.

Good question, Kris. I'm glad you're looking for answers!

-Dave

#### Are You Willing To **Do What It Takes?**

#### Dear Dave,

I owe \$17,000 on my car, and it is my largest and only debt. I think I can have it paid off in two years, because I bring home about \$2,800 a month and my monthly expenses are \$2,100. I also just got a \$2,000 tax refund. Should I pay it off as fast as possible, or sell the car?

-Justice

Dear Justice,

If you think you can have the car paid off in two years could never replace you, or less, that's what I'd do.

The question is this: Are you willing to do what it'll take to make that happen? It's going to mean lots of discipline and hard work on your part, in addition to living on a really strict budget. But in return, you'll have that car loan off your back for good.

You don't want the debt on all your vehicles to be more than half of your annual income. If that's the case, it means you have too much money tied up in things that are going down in value. If you bring home \$2,800 a month, you probably make around \$40,000 a year. Technically, your car loan is under half in this scenario, but it's still pretty expensive. I'd get serious about getting out of debt, and pay the thing off!

Dave Ramsey is a seventime #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. \*

## Tax Day for Individuals Extended to May 17

#### By David A. Tucker II, Internal Revenue Service

WASHINGTON D.C. (MPG) - The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service announced that the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year will be automatically extended from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021. The IRS will be providing formal guidance in the coming days.

"This continues to be a tough time for many people, and the IRS wants to continue to do everything possible to help taxpayers navigate the unusual circumstances related to the pandemic, while also working on important tax administration responsibilities," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Even with the new deadline, we urge taxpayers to consider filing as soon as possible. especially those who are owed refunds. Filing electronically with direct deposit is the quickest way to get refunds, and it can help some taxpayers more quickly receive any remaining stimulus payments they may be entitled to." Individual taxpayers can also postpone federal income tax payments for the 2020 tax year due on April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021, without penalties and interest, regardless of the amount owed. This postponement applies to individual taxpayers, including individuals who pay self-employment tax. Penalties, interest and additions to tax will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of May 17, 2021. Individual taxpayers will automatically avoid interest and penalties on the taxes paid by May 17. Individual taxpayers do not need to file any forms or call the IRS to qualify for this automatic federal tax filing and payment relief. Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the May 17 deadline can request a filing extension until Oct. 15 by filing Form 4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using the Free File link on IRS.gov. Filing Form 4868 gives taxpayers until Oct. 15 to file their 2020 tax return but does not grant an extension of time to pay taxes due. Taxpayers should pay their federal income tax due by May 17, 2021, to avoid interest and penalties.

The IRS urges taxpayers who are due a refund to file as soon as possible. Most tax refunds associated with e-filed returns are issued within 21 days.

This relief does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021. These payments are still due on April 15. Taxes must be paid as taxpayers earn or receive income during the year, either through withholding or estimated tax payments. In general, estimated tax payments are made quarterly to the IRS by people whose income isn't subject to income tax withholding, including self-employment income, interest, dividends, alimony or rental income. Most taxpayers automatically have their taxes withheld from their paychecks and submitted to the IRS by their employer. State tax returns - The federal tax filing deadline postponement to May 17, 2021, only applies to individual federal income returns and tax (including tax on selfemployment income) payments otherwise due April 15, 2021, not state tax payments or deposits or payments of any other type of federal tax. Taxpayers also will need to file income tax returns in 42 states plus the District of Columbia. State filing and payment deadlines vary and are not always the same as the federal filing deadline. The IRS urges taxpayers to check with their state tax agencies for those details. Winter storm disaster relief for Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas - Earlier this year, following the disaster declarations issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the IRS announced relief for victims of the February winter storms in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana. These states have until June 15, 2021, to file various individual and business tax returns and make tax payments. This extension to May 17 does not affect the June deadline.





Slim Randles

"Oh bury me not," Herb sang, "on the lone prairie..."

"You're in a fine mood this morning, Herb. Pass me the hot sauce, will you ?" said Doc. "Thanks."

Doc thought a second. "You feeling okay, guy?"

Herb shrugged. "Sure, Doc."

"How about the rest of you?'

We all nodded. "I'm good too," said Steve, which wasn't always a given in his case.

"Well," said our pal who sports more degrees than a thermometer, "I suppose it's this virus that has us thinking

## How's the View?

about death. I hate it. In normal times, when do we ever think of funerals and burial and all that? Never, really. But now ...."

"I know one thing for sure, Doc," said Dud. "If you keep putting all that hot sauce on your eggs, we'll be digging a hole for you sooner than we planned."

That started the laughing, but it also started us thinking, which can occasionally verge on the dangerous.

"There's always cremation ...," said Steve.

"Yep," Windy chimed in. "Goin' up to Oregon, Steve?" "Why would I do that?"

"Well, they got this yere Tillamooky Rock Lighthouse there. Named it after that Tillamooky cheese I perspect," Windy said. "Filled that sucker up with burned-up bodies. Mebbe so your body would be okay with them

guys. But you gotta burn up first. Just ashes in a can or something."

"You're kidding, right?"

"Nossir, Doc, it's a preimaginated fact fer shore. Lighthousey-type folks say there's over 467,000 burnedup folks in there already."

Steve shook his head. "Not for me, Windy. Don't like crowds."

"Well then," said Windy, "there's outfits that kin dump you in the ocean, or bury you on the lone prairie. And if you don't have a sleepin' bag, they'll sell you one. And if you don't want one, you kin just git ... buried, ya know?"

Doc nodded. "Cheaper than a casket, Steve." "Hmmm," he said. "Lone prairie sounds better to me. How's the view?"

Brought to you by the lone prairie folks at facebook.com/ naturalburialnm/ \*

For more information about this disaster relief, visit the disaster relief page on IRS.gov.





## www.GridleyHerald.com

## How Will California Spend \$150 Billion Windfall?



By Dan Walters **CALMatters** 

Let's assume that your rich Uncle Harry died and when his will was read, he had left you \$50,000.

The unexpected inheritance gives you three choices. You could put the money into a savings account or investment and have it available should you need it in the for colleges, \$4 billion for future. You could use it for a one-time purchase such as a new car, college tuition or a down payment on a house. Or you could ramp up your lifestyle by \$50K a year and hope that Harry's brother George dies and leaves you enough money to continue the party.

Something like that is occurring now as Uncle Joe (Biden) sends out nearly \$2 trillion in "stimulus" payments both to low- and moderateincome families and state and local government entities to offset losses of income during the expand their reach. Public COVID-19 pandemic and, it's assumed, kick-start the pandemic-ravaged economy.

California will be a case study in how the massive transfer of money that the federal government is borrowing from buyers of its bonds and treasury notes plays out.

California is expected to receive the nation's largest single share of the pot, at least \$150 billion. The state has perhaps for California newspapers. \*

Nearly half will be in the form of cash payments to families (\$40 billion) and supplemental payments to the roughly 800,000 unemployed workers now drawing unemployment insurance benefits (\$30 billion). Most of that money, it's assumed, will go directly into the consumer economy, plus another \$3.8 billion for direct assistance on rent, food and other necessities.

The remainder of the \$150 billion will mostly go to state and local agencies as both unrestricted revenue and money for specific purposes, such as \$15.9 billion to help schools reopen, \$5 billion mass transit services, and \$3.9 billion for child care.

Throughout California, officials in the specific government agencies that will benefit from Uncle Joe's largesse are busily deciding how to spend it – and they face the same three choices as Uncle Harry's beneficiaries would.

The political pressure to spend it on new commitments will be immense. Advocates of specific programs, such as those seeking universal pre-kindergarten education and child care, will want to employee unions will seek increases in salaries and benefits.

Elected political figures don't like to say "no" to demands for immediate gratification and few have the courage to insist that one-time windfalls should be carefully husbanded rather than spent.

There's already a miniversion of the syndrome underway in California.

\$15 billion in unexpected revenues because the pandemic-induced recession had little, if any, impact on high-income taxpayers and Gov. Gavin Newsom is under pressure to spend the windfall on program expansions, even though the state faces projected budget deficits in following years.

The problem, of course, is spending windfall money on new commitments, such as salaries, benefits and program expansions, backfires when the money is gone. Those commitments morph into entitlements and their beneficiaries then demand that politicians generate new income streams to pay for them.

There's already a debate underway in Washington over how much of the stimulus spending will become permanent and whether the federal government should continue borrowing to pay for it, or raise taxes.

Left-leaning Democrats in both Washington and Sacramento are floating new tax proposals, such as a "wealth tax" on those sitting atop the economic ladder.

Newsom simultaneously embraces, in principle, big expansions of entitlements, such as universal pre-kindergarten and single-payer health care. while warning that he won't embrace new taxes, apparently fearing they would chase away the high-income taxpayers who supply a huge portion of the state's revenues.

Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working

## Large Amount of Drugs Found During Traffic Stop

#### Butte County Sheriff's Office Press Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - On March 14, 2021, Deputy Runyon made a traffic stop on Lincoln Blvd. at Ophir Road in Oroville, on a vehicle for vehicle code violations. Deputy Runyon contacted the driver, identified as Misty Black, age 33 of Oroville, and passenger, Timothy Jones, age 38 of Oroville. Deputy Arredondo arrived with his K9 partner "Chico" to assist with the traffic stop. Deputy Arredondo's K9 partner Chico alerted to the odor of narcotics after a free air sniff around the vehicle. During a subsequent search of the vehicle, Deputy Runyon located multiple packages of narcotics, totaling 25 grams of heroin, and 5.2 grams of methamphetamine. Deputy Runyon also located items that indicated possible sales of narcotics, to include packaging material (plastic baggies) and a digital scale.

Misty Black was arrested for possession of a narcotic controlled substance for sale (heroin) 11351 H&S, possession of a controlled substance for sale (methamphetamine) 11378(a) H&S, and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia (meth pipes and



Multiple packages of narcotics, totaling 25 grams of heroin, and 5.2 grams of methamphetamine were found. Photo BCSO

used syringes) 11364 H&S. Misty's bail was set at \$47,000.

Timothy Jones was arrested for possession of a narcotic controlled substance for sale (heroin) 11351 H&S, possession of a controlled substance for sale (methamphetamine) 11378(a) H&S, and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia (meth pipes and used syringes) 11364 H&S. After Jones was booked into the Butte County Jail, he was found to be in possession of 1.6 grams of heroin. Jones was also booked for bringing a controlled substance into the jail 4573 PC. His bail was set at \$62,000.

## Housing Authority of the County of Butte **Public Housing - 3 Bedroom Units** Wait List Open

HACB now accepting applications for Public Housing Waiting Lists for three (3) bedroom units located in Biggs/Gridley, Chico, and Oroville.

Public Housing is a form of housing in which the property is owned by a Housing Authority. The aim of Public Housing is to provide affordable housing to low income tenants. Applicants are limited to specific available units designated by the Housing Authority.

Applications can be obtained online at www.butte-housing.com or at 2039 Forest Ave, Chico CA.

Applications can be mailed or dropped off at 2039 Forest Ave, Chico CA 95928

For more information, call the HACB office at (530) 895-4474, TDD (800) 735-2929 or visit our website at www.butte-housing.com

HOUSING AUTHORITY the County of







The following persons are doing business as: D12 HOUSEBOATS 3060 Thorntree Drive, Suite 50, Chico, CA 95973 Dustin Jenks, 68 Bobcat Saddle, Oroville, CA 95966 Date Filed in Butte County: February 24, 2021 The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is Conducted by: Individual

NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code.

Publish: March 26, April 2, 9, and 16, 2021 (The Gridley Herald)

Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 26, April 2, 9, and 16, 2021

Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. (The Gridlev Herald) Publish: March 26, April 2, 9, and 16, 2021

The following persons are doing business as: SISTER MUSE

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is Conducted by: Individual

NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious

business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see

1099 E 1st Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

Aleah Panther, 1099 E 1st Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

(The Gridley Herald)



971 East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

This Business is Conducted by: Individual

Nicole Marie Crippen, 550 Stilson Canyon Road, Chico, CA 95928 Date Filed in Butte County: March 11, 2021

The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the

office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see

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## Hispanic/Latino Neighborhoods Targeted by the Tobacco Industry

#### By Ester Craig, California Health Collaborative -Si Se Puede

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Research shows that the Hispanic/Latino populations is often the target of menthol and flavored tobacco products. These findings are from the 2019 Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community campaign which looks at the availability and marketing of tobacco products, alcohol, condoms and healthy and unhealthy food options in California stores.

Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community is a statewide campaign formed by tobacco prevention, nutrition, alcohol abuse prevention and sexually transmitted disease prevention partners collaborating to improve the health of Californians. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how communities, and specifically youth, are negatively impacted by the saturation of unhealthy products and product marketing in the retail environment.

The California Health Collaborative's Si Se Puede supported Butte County Public Health in conducting surveys in Gridley. Gridley currently has 14 retailers that sell tobacco. With a 47.8% Hispanic/Latino population, and with 26.2% of residents under that age of 21, it is vital that we have this data in order to improve the health risks in the community of Gridley.

The 2019 survey found the following for Butte County: 89.5% of stores near schools have flavored tobacco products; 52.3% of stores have single little cigars/cigarillos; 96.1% of stores sell menthol cigarettes; And 64.1% of stores sell vaping products compared to the 54.7% CA State average.

Comparing Healthy Store data to Hispanic/ Latino specific data available from the CA Tobacco Control program finds: Hispanic/ Latino adult tobacco use prevalence (all tobacco products) is 19.0% and Hispanic/ Latino youth tobacco use prevalence (all tobacco products) is 10.3%; There are on average 103.3 stores selling tobacco per 100,000 residents in Hispanic/Latino areas compared to 78 stores for the general population; The average price for a single flavored little cigar/cigarillo is \$0.91 in Hispanic/ Latino areas; and 90.5% of stores in Hispanic/ Latino areas sell menthol cigarettes.

For state and county- specific data and more information on Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community, please visit www. healthystoreshealthycommunity.com. For more information regarding Si Se Puede contact Esther Craig at ecraig@healthcollaborative.org.



SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102

## **Recall Process Holds Electeds Accountable**



Commentary by Ted Gaines

Governor Newsom looks certain to face a recall election. Voters - even his supporters – should be thankful that California has citizen empowerment tools to check corrupt, incompetent, unresponsive or simply unpopular government officials. If you favor accountability, look kindly upon the recall effort as a means of voters being heard.

In the early 20th century, California state and local governments, media, and courtrooms operated as little more than subsidiaries of the mighty railroads, which abused the public faith by buying and selling influence as though it was rail stock. Republican reform Governor Hiram Johnson revolted against in, to be heard, in ways railroad dominance by creating a direct-democracy end run around the moneyed Colossus that so easily and thoroughly controlled the state.

Johnson championed three major reforms: the initiative, the referendum, and, so critical now, the recall.

Each gave voters the chance grassroots effort to end his to circumvent the existing and corrupted power structure that had silenced them.

Voters went from having little or no way to hold their representatives to account to having a powerful arsenal for self-determination, which they have used many times in the past century.

When runaway property taxes chased seniors out of their homes and broke family budgets, voters came together in 1978 to pass Proposition 13, the most consequential tax reform in state history. Prop. 13 has saved families billions in its four-plus decades of existence. This reform simply could not have originated in the legislature, whose appetite for more and more tax dollars is legendary, but only as an initiative from the people.

When Gray Davis short circuited during the energy crisis, voters famously used the recall to usher in It was not always so. Arnold Schwarzenegger as his replacement, to see if the Hollywood legend could right the ship of state.

Whether you supported Davis or Schwarzenegger or Prop. 13 is secondary to the power Governor Johnson's reforms invested in the people. The key element of his changes is that voters were given the ability to weigh that purely representative democracy does not allow.

Governor Newsom's detractors have accused him of decimating small business, failing to reopen schools, and disregarding his own restaurant-killing safety guidance. These criticisms have fueled another

term early and find a better replacement.

Even if you support Newsom completely and think his handling of California is flawless, is it not a good thing for the Governor - and all politicians – to be haunted by the specter of accountability?

Hiram Johnson left us tools, not toys. It is not easy to place a recall on the ballot. To qualify, proponents need to submit valid signatures equal to 12-percent of the prior election's turnout total. This year, that means roughly 1.2 million signatures were needed to put our current Governor up for a vote of (no) confidence. That threshold is a huge hurdle and ensures that recalls will not be used lightly.

But that threshold also means it now typically costs \$5 million or so to qualify a recall or initiative for the ballot. This tool of the people runs the risk of being transported into the exclusive realm of big-money special interests who can afford paid signature gatherers, advertising, mail pieces and other tools of organization and persuasion. We should not let it turn into the very thing it was intended to fight. We should make it easier to qualify initiatives, referenda, and recalls, to keep them safely within reach of authentic grassroots efforts.

Newsom may or may not fare better than Davis. But win or lose, the recall is a signal to the current Governor and all politicians that they serve at the people's pleasure.

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#### TRUSTEE SALE NOTICES

T.S.No.: 2019-01443-CA A.P.N.:066-270-050-000 Prop-erty Address: 13661 FRITZ COURT, MAGALIA, CA 95954 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUM-MARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR. NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/14/2002. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PRO-CEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAW-YER. Trustor: Wesley Kawagishi and Julie Camacho-Kawagishi, Husband and wife as Joint Tenants Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC Deed of Trust Recorded 08/22/2002 as Instrument No. 2002-0043440 in book --, page--- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Butte County, California, Date of Sale: 04/19/2021 at 03:30 PM Place of Sale: ON THE STEPS OF THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE NUMBER 1 COURT STREET, OROVILLE, CA 95965 Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 61,787.23. THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSO-CIATION, A SAVINGS ASSO-CIATION OR SAVINGS BANK

OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE: All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as: More fully described in said Deed of Trust. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 13661 FRITZ COURT, MAGÁLIA, CA 95954 A.P.N.: 066-270-050-000 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other com-mon designation, if any, shown above. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 61,787.23. Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is locat-ed. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that TS#2019-01443-CA

ding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALL-FORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BUTTE

conditions of which are acceptable to the administrator and the court, escrow and title insurance to be equally split, transfer fees paid by estate, prorations as of close of

attorney for the administrator at the above-address. The administrator reserves the right to reject any and all bids. DATED: March 19, 2021. The name, address and telephone number of the attorney for the Administrator is: Raoul J. LeClerc P.O. Drawer 111 Oroville, CA 95965 530-533-5661 Publish: March 19, 26, and April 2, 2021 170622 4-2-21 PENIX

be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this prop-erty. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site http:// www.altisource.com/Mortgag-eServices/DefaultManagement/ TrusteeServices.aspx using the file number assigned to this case 2019-01443-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.

#### CASE No. 21PR00059 NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Estate of Ray J. Penix, Decedent. NOTICE IS GIVEN that Kevin D. Penix as administrator of the Estate of Ray J. Penix, deceased, will sell at private sale on or after April 5, 2021, that certain improved residential real property located at 8 Hanging Tree Court, Oroville, California, A.P. No. 069-090-024, subject to confirmation of court. The terms and conditions of the sale are: All cash or part cash and part credit, the terms and

#### Notice of Water **Rate Increase**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Biggs-West Gridley Water District approved an increase in rates for agricultural water service at its noticed regular meeting on February 24, 2021. The rate increase totals 2.0%. The rate tables showing the actual amount of the new rates by class of water service are available by contacting the District office at (530) 846-3317, or by emailing bcedillo@bwgwater.com. Consistent with Proposition 218 and Resolution No. 2018-02, the rates will take effect 30 days from approval and will be imposed for the 2021 irrigation season.

The Gridley Herald 3-26-2021

escrow, property to be purchased in its "as is" condition. Ten percent of the amount bid must be paid with the offer and the balance must be paid on confirmation of sale by the court. Bids or offers for this property must be made in writing and directed to the

BIGGS-WEST GRIDLEY WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT CEQA MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and CEQA Guidelines, the Biggs-West Gridley Water District ("BWGWD") hereby provides notice of its intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the following project:

Name of Project: Biggs-West Gridley Water District 2021 Water Transfer Program 1.

 Project Proponent and Lead Agency: Biggs-West Gridley Water District, 1713
 West Biggs Gridley Road Gridley, California 95948; principal contact – Eugene Massa, Jr., General Manager, (530) 846-3317.

Project Description: BWGWD proposes to sell during the 2021 irrigation season up 3. Project Description: BWGWD proposes to sell during the 2021 irrigation season up to 20,658 acre-feet ("AF") of water to participating member districts of the State Water Contractors, Inc. or other south of Delta purchasers, including Central Valley Project contractors (collectively, "Buyers"). Buyers and others are seeking up to approximately 300,000 AF of transfer water from various willing sellers in the Sacramento Valley during the 2021 irrigation season. Purchasing this water would lessen potential water supply the 2021 irrigation season. Furthasing this water would lessen potential water supply shortages to these parties that may occur as a result of dry hydrologic conditions and regulatory restrictions on pumping in the Delta. As a willing seller, BWGWD would make up to 20,658 AF of water available to Buyers by idling cropland (i.e., non-irrigation of farmland by voluntary participants). Water made available by crop idling within the boundaries of the BWGWD would then be retained and stored by the Department of Water Resources (DWR<sup>2</sup>) in Lake Oroville for delivery to Buyers. BWGWD's proposed transfer will comply with the most current Draft Technical Information for Preparing Water Transfer Proposals prepared by DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation dated December 2019 (Draft Technical Information), as applicable to land idling transfers.

4. Project Location: The project area, from which the water for this transfer will be made available, is defined by the BWGWD's legal boundaries, which encompass approximately 34,800 acres in the northern Sacramento Valley, mostly in Butte County with a small portion of that acreage in Sutter County (See attached draft IS/MND). Within the BWGWD's boundaries are approximately 31,300 irrigable acres, of which approximately 22,739 acres are dedicated primarily to the production of rice.

Hazardous Waste Sites: The project location is not identified on any of the lists erated under Government Code Section 65962.5.

Public Review: A copy of the draft Initial Study and related documentation is 6. available for public review at <u>www.bwgwater.org</u> and during business hours at BWGWD's office at the above address. Public comments on this proposal to adopt a negative declaration will be received by BWGWD at the above address beginning on March 26, 2021 and ending at 3:30 p.m. on April 26, 2021. Following the review and comment period, the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will be on the District Board of Directors' agenda for potential adoption at a noticed regular or special meeting to be held at a later-determined date at the District's offices located at 1713 West Biggs Gridley Road, Gridley, California.

Dated: March 17, 2021

(00213917.1)

Eugene Massa, Jr., General Mahager Biggs-West Gridley Water District

Gridley Herald 3-26-2021

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3-26-21

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## **WEEKLY COMICS**



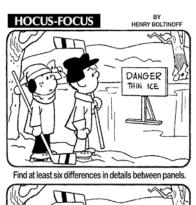


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## SP()R/IS

## Wolverines Varsity Football Get Revenge on Los Molinos 52-8



Biggs High School varsity football players, Cody Roles (#32) and Camren Jackson (#8), celebrate after Roles scores on a 21-yard touchdown reception against the Los Molinos Bulldogs on Friday. Photo courtesy of Joshua Porcayo



Biggs High School varsity football player, Parker Finley (#22) races down the sideline against the Los Molinos Bulldogs as teammate, Shavon Gramps-green (#46) celebrates during the game. Photo courtesy of Joshua Porcayo

#### By Joshua Porcayo

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - 20-10 was the final score of the second round of the 2019 playoff game between Biggs Wolverines varsity football team and Los Molinos Bulldogs; in favor of the Bulldogs. A season filled with huge aspirations abruptly ended, leaving a void for far too long before having an opportunity at revenge.

Friday, March 19, 2021,

second game of their 2020-2021 season. On the first play of scrimmage, the Wolverines recovered a Bulldogs fumble and drove 45-yards for the 1-yard score by Parker Finley. And the Wolverines never let up. The explosive offense and stellar defense controlled the game from start to finish. The Wolverines would put on another spectacular performance to get their revenge on

the Bulldogs 52-8. Finley finished the night

for 98 yards and scored two touchdowns. Shavon Gramps-green tallied 137 all-purpose yards, with 105 yards on the ground with two scores, and one reception for a 32-yard score. Quarterback Gregg Slusser completed two passes for 53-yards, both resulting in touchdowns. Slusser also had 49-yards rushing and one interception on defense. Junior tight end, Cody Roles, got in on the scoring action with a 21-yard touchdown reception.

In a post game interview, Finley had nothing but great things to say about joining this electric Wolverines team. "Feeling great. Best team I've been a part of. They've welcomed me in with open arms. We just went to work right away. The past three weeks have been a blast." And a blast it has been to watch this Wolverines team on the gridiron.

In two games, the Wolverines have outscored their opponents 103-16.

## **Gridley Little League** Says "Let's Play Ball!"



Gridley Little Leaguer, Jaden Solis, runs to first base during Gridley's Opening Day first game on Saturday, March 20, 2021. Solis would go on to score the winning run by stealing home for the 8-7 victory. Photo courtesy of Joshua Porcayo



Gridley Little League softball players pose for a picture during Gridley's Opening Day on Saturday, March 20, 2021. Photo courtesy of Joshua Porcavo

#### By Joshua Porcayo

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - It couldn't have been a more perfect day for Little Leaguers to be back out on the ball fields for some baseball and softball. Family and friends packed the stands, brought their lawn chairs and posted up to watch some much needed competition and feel a sense of normalcy back into their lives. One spectator, in all smiles, said, "Look

Little Leaguers in T-Ball, Farm, Minors, and Majors flooded Manuel Vierra Park in full uniform with their baseball and softball equipment ready to take on the day. For the first time in over a year, ball players got to show their skills in pitching, fielding, hitting, and base running. And what a spectacular showing it was!

The Minors Rangers baseball team took the field against the Minors Braves Solis stole home for the 8-7 victory. The Minors softball Lady Giants walked away victorious in a 15-9 game. The Majors softball Lady Rangers won 8-5. The Majors baseball Giants won 17-7.

Every year on opening day for Gridley Little League, the board invites a special guest to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. This year, opening day ceremonies were canceled, but that didn't stop a special guest from being invited out to be honored. Mr. Dick Jones was this year's special guest at the ball field dedicated to him, where the Majors and Minors baseball players play their games.



fans packed Del Kalbach with 163 all-purpose yards, Their next game is sched-Stadium in Biggs, CA 65 of those coming from a to watch their beloved kick-off return to start that at Del Kalbach Stadium on Wolverines take on Los second half that he took to March 26, 2021, against Molinos Bulldogs in the the house. Finley rushed Portola High School.

uled for another home game \*

around us. The sun is shining. There are ball players everywhere. There are fans everywhere. This feels amazing!" From 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.,

baseball team to get the competition started. In a close back and forth battle, the Braves won the game in walk-off fashion when Jaden

Gridley Little League t-ball player, Maddux Solis, chases down the ball in full catcher's gear during the Opening Day game. Photo courtesy of Joshua Porcayo

## Almost Back to Normal with a Multi-Schools Event

#### By Steve Allard

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - It happened quickly. Within minutes of getting the green light from the county officials, Chico High's head coach, Kevin Girt, threw together a multi-school cross country meet in a few days. Girt explained, "I have been petitioning since January to host a meet and we finally got an approval on Wednesday, around noon." Seven schools (Core Butte, Chico, Gridley, Orland, Oroville, Pleasant Valley and Red Bluff) from Glenn, Tehama, and Butte attended the Butte

County Cross Country Championships Saturday, March 13th, at Hook Oak Park, Chico.

The weather was perfect as the top runner from Chico, Mario Giannini (11) set a new personal record. He finished the 5K course with 15:47.18. 2nd place was teammate Liam Schorn (12) with 16:26.75 and 3rd was Renton McGregor (11) from Pleasant Valley with 17:07.55. Jack Hervey (12) and Nate Solecki (11) finished 4th and 5th with 15:15.70 and 17:37.74, both from Chico.

Damian Mendoza Jr., crossed the line

23rd overall at 20:23.2. "It was the toughest race of the season," as he caught his breath at the finish. Mendoza is currently ranked 15th in Div 4 and 42nd in Norcal. Not bad for an athlete who joined cross country as a way to get into shape his freshman year. Cross Country newcomer, Gordon LaBuff, finished 26th at 22:23.3. Gordon decided to run because swimming (his normal sport) was not allowed this year.

In the women's 3.3K JV/Open race, Janessa Delgado (9) was second behind the first-place runner from Orland, Itzel

Esquivel (10). Itzel broke the tape with 14:33.42 and Janessa was a few steps behind with 14:34.6. The two runners battled for supremacy throughout the entire race, each taking turns leading. It was the final 200 meters when Esquivel turned on the jets towards the finish line and Delgado did her best to keep up. Finishing 7th overall, Giselle Fuentes (9) set a PR and finished with 15:41.9 after recovering from the common cold the day before the race.

Only 4 runners from Gridley competed in the race.

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## Newsom's One-Man Rule Cripples California **Economy, Business and Students' Livelihoods**

#### By Jacqui Nguyen, California Senate Republicans

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - It has been 365 day since Governor Newsom issued a stayat-home order with the promise that it would be only for a few weeks to fight the pandemic and flatten the curve. Fifty-seven Executive Orders later, an estimated 19,000 businesses have shuttered their doors and others are teetering on the brink of closure, 1.7 million Californians are unemployed, and fraudulent unemployment claims climb to \$31 billion dollars, and there is no end in sight with the Governor refusing to relinquish his 'oneman rule.'

Senate Republicans introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 5 last December to end the Governor's state of emergency power, and reestablish the Legislature's Constitutional co-equal status, but so far, a hearing has not been set for this measure.

"A year ago, Governor Newsom shut down the state based on the prediction of a worsecase scenario. At the time, the Governor promised us his decisions would be based on sound science and data, but when the predictions did not pan out, he refused to pivot to a new strategy. Instead, he doubled down on his command and control policies. When questioned about the data driving his decisions, he claimed people would not understand that it was 'too complicated.' What people do understand Governor is that your policies devastated our businesses, cost millions of jobs and have left our children with mental health problems and learning loss. It is time to end your 'one-man rule."" - Senate Republican Leader Scott Wilk (Santa Clarita)

"It's time for the Governor to return power to the people and their representatives in the Legislature. The one-year anniversary of his commandeering of immense emergency powers highlights the arbitrary and haphazard nature of his one-man rule. With many small businesses on life support and in-class school instruction lacking in many communities, having the Governor continue his one-man rule is not working well for many Californians." - Senator Patricia Bates (Laguna Niguel)

"Governor Newsom's COVID shutdown took jobs from millions of Californians, shuttered the dreams of small business owners and left a generation of school children with a learning gap and struggling with the mental health effects of isolation. His government programs have been grossly-mismanaged. Millions of unemployed Californians had to deal with the bureaucratic EDD nightmare, which denied them timely access to critical benefits, all while the department allowed billions of dollars in fraud and waste. The Governor's policies lurched from one proposal to another with confusing, conflicting and ever changing guidelines. While Californians had to comply with his rules, they did not always apply to the Governor himself who infamously dined indoors, unmasked, with powerful lobbyists and sent his children to an elite private school so they could receive in-person schooling. California deserves better than the one-man rule we have seen this past year." - Senator Shannon *Grove (Bakersfield)* 

It's been one year since Governor Newsom ordered California to shut down. Since then, Governor Newsom has issued 57 Executive Orders and unilaterally changed over 400 laws. California's unemployment claims have skyrocketed, businesses have shuttered, and Californians have fled the state in record numbers. Children fell behind in their education as nearly every school across the state shut down. And even with all this sacrifice in the name of safety, California's COVID-19 case and death numbers are no better than states that remained open. Leadership starts at the top. It is time we do better and end the one-man rule." - Senator Brian Jones (Santee)

"It's been a year since Governor Newsom declared a state-of-emergency for the state of California," said Senator Melissa Melendez (Lake Elsinore). "Since that day, thousands of businesses have permanently closed their doors; millions of Californians have lost their jobs and are on unemployment; EDD has doled out billions of dollars in fraudulent claims; and shuttered schools have tarnished the educational experience for California children. It's time we take this unilateral control away from the Governor for good because Californians have had enough!

"As I reflect on California's statewide shutdown anniversary, I am reminded that we are strong and resilient. We have seen many step up to support one another in unprecedented ways. Our state is slowly reopening, but there is still a lot of work to be done. I remain committed to helping every Californian get back to their everyday lives and will continue to work towards providing the tools necessary for our communities to thrive." - Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (Yucaipa)

## **Airport's New Human Trafficking Detection Program Announced**

#### Samantha Mott, Sacramento County News

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -Every year traffickers use trains, buses, planes and ships to transport thousands of victims, hiding them in plain sight while traveling to destinations around the world. As the eyes and ears in airports and global transportation systems, airport employees are uniquely positioned to help combat the issue of human trafficking.

January was National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and in recognition of that, the Sacramento County Department of Airports (SCDA) partnered with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop a new Human Trafficking Awareness and Reporting training program.

Together with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Transportation, the Blue Campaign, a division within the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement, created the Blue Lightning Initiative (BLI).

designed to provide airport to offering this training to our employees with the tools needed to take advantage of their unique position and ability to identify potential are approximately 10 other



As the eyes and ears in airports and global transportation systems, airport employees are uniquely positioned to help combat the issue of human trafficking. Image by Ahmad Ardity from Pixaba

human trafficking victims and notify federal authorities. In 2018, then California Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 2034. This bill requires transit agencies like bus and light rail stations to provide human trafficking training to employees who may interact with traffickers and/or their victims.

Although the bill does not apply to airport agencies, SCDA has decided to move forward and join this partnership to provide training to all of its employees.

"SCDA leadership feels strongly about this program," said Airport Director Cindy Nichol. "We realize the potential impact it can The BLI program is have and we are committed employees."

In addition to a number of other Federal agencies, there airports, 26 airlines, and six industry associations taking part in the program.

Participating BLI partners instruct their employees using the BLI virtual training module and associated printed educational materials. The training may be integrated into partners' initial or refresher training for flight attendants, pilots, customer service representatives, and other aviation industry personnel.

The Blue Campaign is the unified voice for the DHS efforts to combat human trafficking, working with federal, state, and local governments, as well as law enforcement, public, and private organizations. The Blue Campaign strives to protect the fundamental right to freedom and bring those who exploit human lives to justice.



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