



# THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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FRIDAY • MAY 24, 2019 • VOL. 139 NO. 21

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## Red Suspenders Days: Butte Strong!



Smiling faces onboard Gridley's vintage Engine #6 at this year's Red Suspenders Days Photo by Seti Long

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Those courageous enough to brave the cold and gray skies threatening rain, found that even a little weather couldn't stop Gridley from celebrating at Red Suspenders Days last Saturday, May 18th. The 58th annual event was host to an array of vendors, crowd pleasing activities, and of course the parade, which honors our heroic firefighters.

The rain did spoil some of the fun unfortunately. Numerous vendors pulled out at the last minute,

the Gridley Little League Pancake Breakfast was cancelled and the grand Boy Scouts District Championship Pinewood Derby was rescheduled.

Still, there was a good time to be had. The vendors that stayed strong and turned out did brisk business. The mechanical bull saw plenty of riders, the look-a-like princesses were a huge hit, and the Gridley FFA

raked it in selling a variety of plants, from succulents to tomatoes.

The crowd really began to get warmed up as the racers at this

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Paradise Camp Fire Survivors, this year's honored guest. They proudly carried the banner noting the theme of this year's event "Butte Strong" as they kicked off the parade honoring firefighters and first responders. Photo courtesy of Dave Garner

## Gridley Welcomes New Officer, Sets Interviews for Council Seat

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Gridley-Biggs Police Department's newest member, officer Devin Pasley, was sworn in by Chief Byers at Monday night's City Council meeting. Officer Pasley comes to Gridley via the Redding area. After graduation from Shasta High School, Pasley enlisted in the Marines. It was there where he was awarded multiple honors for his service, including the Good Conduct Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal. Pasley then turned his focus on education, obtaining his AA in Administrative Justice and attending the Academy for his police training. Gridley is glad to have him on board.

Next, City Council members reviewed the proposed 2019-20 City of Gridley Budget. City Administrator Paul Eckert broke down the city's general fund spending by function, revenue sources and outlined the trend of past expenditures. Overall the budget continues to remain static, with little change over the past five years.

Eckert relayed to the council that "through tough choices and tightening the belt, we kept expenditures down despite significant challenges." This is all part of the city's goal to reach its target of 20% reserves in the general fund by 2024, a total reaching just over 1 million dollars.

Revenue for the General Fund for the 2019-20 year is expected to come from the 2% sales tax, 1.5% property tax and SBI revenue, estimated at \$110,000. The city expects an increase in expenses, mostly due to healthcare premiums and PERS. Changes to the budget would include FEMA funds designated for the addition of 1 firefighter and 2 new community service officers. The city would also like to expand recreation services.

Following the budget review, council members heard reports from Daryl Dye, who briefed them first on the operating budget and capital projects the electrical department has completed throughout the city for the 2018-19 year.

He then moved on to the Public Works Department budget, sharing street projects slated for the 2019-20 year and finished his presentation with the 2019-20 sewer department budget and planned projects.

The meeting moved to closed session after  
SEE NEW OFFICER  
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## FEMA Construction Begins on Gridley Temporary Housing Community

FEMA Special Release

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Construction on the temporary housing community for displaced Camp Fire survivors in the Gridley Industrial Park is expected to start this week.

In making this announcement, federal, state and local officials said Camp Fire survivors are expected to move into the 400 manufactured housing units (MHUs) by late July. To expedite completion of the temporary community, construction on the site will operate 24 hours a day, six days a week.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), along with its disaster recovery partners - the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES), Butte County and the City of Gridley - selected the Gridley site, in part, for its proximity to the homes survivors lost in the Camp Fire. The location of other facilities, including employment, medical and other essential services was also considered during the selection process.

The Gridley location is the largest of four



Construction of the FEMA temporary housing, which will leave the city with new permanent infrastructure, is a boon to Gridley's economy

temporary housing communities now in development in Butte County. Eligible households may qualify for Temporary Housing assistance while they locate or rebuild permanent homes. Survivors licensed in to a temporary housing unit, must meet with a caseworker monthly to determine a permanent housing plan and make progress towards this plan. Continued housing eligibility is determined on a case-by-case review.

Construction of the FEMA temporary housing, which will leave the

city with new permanent infrastructure, is a boon to Gridley's economy and to the city's taxpayers and utility consumers, officials say.

The 72-acre temporary housing community is located at 1221 Independence Place at the Gridley Industrial Park. All MHUs are newly built - none have been used in previous disasters.

FEMA, which constructs and demobilizes the temporary communities, says that, in addition to housing displaced Camp Fire survivors, they offer other

benefits: Temporary communities for Camp Fire survivors keep these Butte County residents in Butte County; The Camp Fire survivors remain Butte County consumers, patronizing local businesses and assisting in the economic recovery; Survivors will recover sooner with the help of their Butte County neighbors not impacted by the Camp Fire.

The FEMA temporary housing community site is now under the strict control of the construction

SEE FEMA  
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# The New Pi-Line



**The new Pi-Line Honoring Publisher W.D. Bureson**  
By Josh F.W. Cook

I must ponder out loud in print - When will Starbucks in Gridley replace the New York Times with a legitimate local newspaper? Every time I frequent the HWY 99 Starbucks, there is a big stack of unpurchased and unread New York papers, and no Gridley Herald...

Are you wondering why candidates are already politicking around town? You may have seen a number of them at the Red Suspenders Day parade - kissing babies and shaking hands. Answer - the State Primary Elections will be in March of 2020, not June. So prepare yourself to "exercise your franchise" (old fashioned language for vote).

Seems my recent loving memorial tribute column to Supervisor Steve Lambert was so well written he decided to quit;

seeing no path to greater acclaim and notoriety, he decided to get out while he was on top. Now we have Durhamian (Translation for Al and Mike Tarzian - a Durhamian is a person from Durham, not an a new Armenian family in town, sorry for the let down) Tod Kimmelshue is running for Butte County Supervisor. That is not a typo, he only has only one "d" on the end of his first name. Mr. Kimmelshue is a farmer/Ag financier from Durham and a long time high ranking Farm Bureau policy operative. I got a mailer from him last week with a free calendar and map of where each crop is grown in Butte County. Tod deftly included a picture of himself from when he was younger and more handsome; in his FFA jacket receiving an award. Clearly he is subliminally-psychologically signaling that he is the Marvin (MJ) Cassidy candidate, which in Gridley and East Biggs is more important than being a Republican or Democrat. This caused me to do some investigativejournalism - I went to the computer web and Googled TOD FARMER LEADER NUTS DURHAM DAX AG LAMBERT QUIT LOCAL and POLITICS. Upon pushing enter, his green and gold website popped up, and he is indeed endorsed by MJ

Cassidy, Ralph Cassidy, and Mike Cassidy. Signal received. Signing up for the Tod campaign seems to be a competition for Farm Bureau families with multiple farming brothers. He has a lot of same last names lined up. That said, Mr. Kimmelshue seems to be missing 2 Justeson brothers, 1 Boeger brother, 1 Rudd brother, and 10 - 12 Bertagnas and Merlos; he has some campaigning left to do. Of note - his own brother and his son Kirk listed themselves as supporters and endorsers. That is a good sign.

The competition continues to be intense for the near weekly - local high-schools alumni outstanding graduate competition. So speaking of MJ Cassidy, MJ was the State FFA Secretary and a year later the State FFA President (in the early 40's). Moreover, he actually went from the Future Farmers of America to being an actual Farmer. That makes MJ the most successful Gridley FFA student ever (even surpassing the 1988 FFA StarState Farmer, Lisa Dillabo). The biggest building at the Fairgrounds is named after MJ - Cassidy Pavilion. MJ served as a Fair Director form many decades. All of this is more than enough to declare MJ Cassidy the most successful former local High School alumni graduate for this week's episode of the Pi Line. ★

# New Bishop for Local Congregation



Pictured (L to R) Justin Sannar, Josh McLean, Cliff Wagner. Photo courtesy Cindy Scott

By Cindy Scott

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Josh McLean has begun serving as Bishop of the Gridley 1st Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He and his wife, Angela, and their

three children reside in Biggs. McLean will serve members of the Church in the geographical areas of northwest Gridley, Biggs, and Butte City.

McLean will serve with Cliff Wagner and Justin Sannar as his counselors.

Together they form the bishopric. Members of the bishopric serve and counsel ward members and provide leadership to ward programs. McLean follows five years of service by the previous bishop, John Walton, also of Biggs. ★

# Gridley Welcomes New Officer, Sets Interviews for Council Seat

NEW OFFICER FROM PAGE 1

briefing from CALFIRE/ Gridley Fire Department. In the first quarter of 2019, the department has seen a 35% increase in calls. Total calls from 2018, compared to those received in 2017 were up 18%. Fire Station 74 broke down the total calls by incident response, siting medical calls as their

highest at 64%. In addition to the firefighting position the city is hoping to fund, the fire department is hoping to add another, bringing the total to 2 new firefighters for the city. It is felt that a second firefighter is needed in order to fully staff the department's trucks.

Due to Vice Mayor Williams absence, city

council postponed approval of new playground equipment for Vierra Park and the appointment of a partial term council member until the next scheduled Gridley City Council meeting. The city received 5 applications for the council position and intends to conduct interviews with the candidates before filling the position. ★

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# A Run Around The Rice



Runners prepare at the starting line for the 5K run at the 4th annual Run Around The Rice in Richvale, CA on May 19, 2019. Photo Courtesy of Joshua Porcayo

By Joshua Porcayo

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - It was about 7:45 in the morning when I left my house. The sun was shining in the east. The sky was clear to the north, but the clouds were beginning to roll in from the south and southwest. As I drove the back way to Biggs I could see exactly what the future was looking like in about thirty more minutes. I got to Richvale around 8:20am and the rain hadn't started coming down just yet.

The wind was slightly blowing as I walked to the starting line of the 5K. The race was to begin at 8:30am which gave me plenty of time to stretch out my legs. The 10K had already started at 8:00am and people were probably about half way through with that race. I made my way to the back of the pack fully knowing I wasn't trying to win, but merely finish faster than I had the year before. A friend and her children were in the back with me and we chatted for a few minutes. Then the announcer said the race would begin in one minute. Everyone prepared for the sound of the horn to begin the race. The horn blasted and we were off.

I remember from last year the first stretch was probably the most difficult for me because I didn't know where the first turn was located. But this year, I knew exactly how far I

had to go and paced myself. The goal was to make it to that first turn and get to walking. I made it, and gladly took a break. The rice fields are beautiful this time of year. The soil is freshly tilled. Some fields are beginning to be saturated with water. I stopped and took some pictures of the scenery before getting back to running. The clouds were getting darker and the winds were starting to pick up. By the time I hit the second turn point the rain was starting to come down.

I knew this was going to be the toughest stretch. Not only was it the longest part around the rice fields, but the winds were getting stronger and the rain was dropping from the sky faster than my feet could keep pace. A friend had texted me letting me know the weather was going to hit hard, but it was already present. By the time I got to mile marker two, I was running in a torrential downpour. The ground had turned to water soaked mud making it difficult to run in. But the adverse conditions made me push on stronger and longer without walking.

When I finally made it to the next turn the rains were beginning to subside. I grabbed a small cup of water from one of the volunteers and walked for a little bit, again enjoying the scenery. The rice fields which were once freshly tilled and dry were now saturated with puddles of

water. Most of the heavy rain clouds were to the east and north. I could see the last turn in the distance towards the west and started running again. When I reached the final stretch I knew I was almost finished.

As I slowly ran the final stretch, I realized how happy I was in that moment. Not only happy to be finishing the 3.1 miles, but happy to be a part of such an amazing event. I was happy to see how much hard work and dedication goes into putting on such a great event. As I continued to run that last stretch a could see a single engine plane flying overhead; dropping seed into the rice fields in the area. And in that moment it made me realize just how amazing the rice farmers of our community are for what they do.

I finished the race with a time of 36:22, a full minute and twelve seconds slower than last year's race. I'll blame that slower time on the adverse weather conditions. But one of the coolest things about finishing the race is the people waiting at the finish line cheering you on and congratulating you on a job well done.

This event was the 4th Annual Run Around The Rice, and my second time running it. Next year, don't forget to sign up, enjoy the beautiful scenery of the rice fields, and hope the weather is dryer than this year's. ★

**THE GRIDLEY HERALD**  
Serving Butte and Sutter Counties

Published Every Friday • USPS Permit 245

Postmaster send address changes to:  
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650 Kentucky Street, Gridley, California 95948

Periodicals postage paid at Gridley, CA, 95948 under the Act of Congress March 3, 1880. Court Decree Number 27207. The Gridley Herald is an adjudicated newspaper for all legal advertising in Butte and Sutter Counties.

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**MPG**

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# Red Suspenders Days: Butte Strong!

RED SUSPENDERS FROM PAGE 1

year's Bed Races took to Virginia street at 10:00 am. The Gridley Blues, sponsored by Butte Auto Parts, and the Gridley Track beds were the first at the line. The winners, the Gridley Blues, took on the Company 74 Firefighters bed. The Gridley Blues came away with the win, with Gridley Track a close second and Company 74 third. As a consolation, Company 74 took the win for "Best Bed."

A helicopter flyover signaled the parade would



Gridley FFA's Lauren Kelly doing brisk business manning the FFA Plant Sale booth at this year's Red Suspenders Days Photo by Seti Long

and rescue units and crews from all over the Butte and Sutter County areas. Parade

Royal Court, classic cars, including the Feather River Model A's Club, and a mariachi band accompanied by dancing horses, just to name a few.

A break after the parade allowed visitors time to check out the vendors before gathering to watch easily one of the crowd's favorite events, the Firefighter games. Onlookers were sprayed with water as firefighters fought to maintain control of their hoses while pushing a barrel through the streets. Gridley, Biggs, Oroville and the Explorer



Fire breathing dragon returns. Days Photo by Seti Long

start shortly thereafter. The theme of Red Suspenders Day 2019, "Butte Strong" honored this year's special guests, Paradise Camp Fire Survivors. Survivors were the first to take the parade route behind the color guard, provided by Gridley Boy Scout Troop 26, and motorcycle escorts from Gridley-Biggs Police Department.

As always, the parade featured fire engines, from vintage styles to the latest technology, along with fire-fighting equipment, search



Firefighters duke it out at the firefighter games. The crowd was sprayed by blast of water and mist as the teams made up of firefighters from Gridley, Biggs, Oroville and the Explorers Post went hose-to-hose to clench the win. Photo by Seti Long

entries included a huge fire-breathing dragon, Orchard Hospital's 70th anniversary float, the Butte County teams battled it out, with Oroville securing the win. ★

# Gridley United Methodist Church Supports Sober Grad



Pastor Karl Coulter presents senior Benjamin Harp with a check to help with the costs of the Sober Graduation.

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley United Methodist Church donates to the Gridley High School Sober Graduation Party. The Methodist church has supported this cause each year since it began. We feel it is our ministry to support this kind of event to help protect and reward our youth. In the picture, Pastor Karl

Coulter presents senior Benjamin Harp with a check to help with the costs of the Sober Graduation. Brooke Mardesich is the chairperson of this year's event to be held after the formal graduation. It will be held at Farmer's Hall-gym. Contact her at 682-6346 to make donations or for more

information. There are many events planned for the evening with prizes awarded to the grads. They will have a mechanical bull, prize drawings, a punch board, and many other activities. The prizes will be money, gift cards, televisions and many other items all night long. ★

## Public Works Maintenance Worker I/II

Hiring Range: Maintenance Worker I: \$2543 - \$2992, or Worker II: \$2721 - \$3247 Monthly. Depending on Qualifications

The City of Biggs is seeking qualified candidates for one Public Works Maintenance I or II position. Under the direct supervision of the Public Works Superintendent, the primary responsibilities for this position are to perform semi-skilled and skilled work in construction, maintenance of water, sewer, streets, storm drains, parks and buildings. Level would depend upon qualifications. Please see full posting at [www.biggs-ca.gov](http://www.biggs-ca.gov).

The City of Biggs is an equal opportunity employer. Employment applications for this position can be obtained at the Biggs City Hall, 465 C Street Biggs, CA or on line at [www.biggs-ca.gov](http://www.biggs-ca.gov). Applications will be accepted at City Hall until May 24, 2019 at 4 p.m.

The Gridley Herald 5-17-2019



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## Crime Reports



### Gridley- Biggs Police Report

**May 15 - May 21**

**5-15-2019:** At 2:25 PM Fastrip on Highway 99 Gridley CA, David Wayne Pendergrass, 25, was arrested for possession of brass knuckles (21810 PC), possession of ammunition by a prohibited person (30305(a)(1) PC), charges of receiving stolen property (496(a) PC), driving with a suspended license (14601.1 (a) VC), and possession of drug paraphernalia (11364 (a) H&S). Subject was transported and booked into Butte County Jail.

**5-16-2019:** At 11:41 AM at studio J on Spruce Street in Gridley CA, Felicia Louise Burns, 49, was arrested on charges of public intoxication (647 (f) PC) and transported to Butte County Jail.

**5-19-2019:** At 5:03 PM at the City of Gridley on Kentucky Street in Gridley CA, Glenda Louise Kennedy, 51, was arrested on misdemeanor warrant 18CM07979, transported and booked into Butte County Jail.

**5-19-2019:** At 10:54 PM on Highway 99 in Gridley CA, Vance Michael Martin Jr., 45, was arrested on charges of attempting to evade a police officer (2800.1 CVC), driving with a suspended license (14601.1 (a) CVC), possession of methamphetamine (11377 (a) H&S), possession of drug paraphernalia (11364 (a) H&S) and was booked into Butte County Jail. Subjects vehicle was released to Browsers Towing.

**5-20-2019:** At 6:39 PM on Locust Street in Gridley CA, Susan Renee Mitzel, 34, was arrested on charges of domestic battery (243 (e) (1) PC), transported and booked into Butte County Jail.

**5-20-2019:** At 8:31 PM on Archer Avenue in Gridley CA, Jorge Valdez, 26, was arrested on Yuba City misdemeanor warrant CRM190000949B, and fresh charges of possession of drug paraphernalia (11364 (a) H&S). Subject was transported and booked into Butte County Jail.

**5-21-2019:** At 6:10 AM at Sycamore Street and Highway 99 in Gridley CA, Richard Paul Ruggirello, 64, was arrested on charges of possession of methamphetamine (11377), possession of drug paraphernalia (11364 H&S) and transported to Butte County Jail.

get more info at [www.crimegraphics.com](http://www.crimegraphics.com)



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# SPORTS

## Wolverine Baseball Drops First Round of Playoffs to Durham

By Joshua Porcayo

**BIGGS, CA (MPG)** - Biggs' varsity baseball team hosted the visiting Durham Trojans in the first round of the Division V NSCIF playoffs. Durham got on the board first in the top of the second inning with one run across. The Trojans scored again in the top of the third inning with two runs, and again in the top of the fourth inning with three runs to take a 6-0 lead. Durham scored two more in the top of the seventh inning. The Wolverines couldn't get anything started and fell to the Trojans 8-0.

Looking back on the season the Wolverines varsity baseball team accomplished a lot of fantastic feats, ones they should all be proud to



Angel Sanchez poses for a picture after hitting an inside the park home run in his last regular season game of the 2019 season on May 3, 2019. Photo Courtesy of Christina Stohlm

have been a part of. Hunter Roles threw a complete game no-hitter. Angel Sanchez and Dustin Long both hit home runs in their last regular season games of their senior year.

And let's not forget the Wolverines ending a 15 year drought of winning a league championship. The boys of spring should be walking tall after their 2019 baseball season. ★

## Red Suspenders Night is Classic Softball



Community firefighters pose for a post-game picture after the annual Guns n' Hoses softball game at Viera Park on May 17, 2019. Photo Courtesy of Joshua Porcayo

By Joshua Porcayo

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The rain cleared up long enough for firefighters and Little League coaches to hit the diamond and play the game the community kids had been longing for months. For one night the bond of brotherhood reached the pinnacle point in a game of slow pitch softball. Due to various reasons, this year's matchup of the Guns n' Hoses turned into hoses versus hoses, in what would become one of many highlights of the evening.

The crowds began to fill the bleachers of the majors baseball field at about 5:40pm last Friday, May 17th, as the large group of firefighters were divided into two separate teams by fireman Dustin Mattos.

Two booths were set up, one from Gridley Little League with raffle prizes, and another from A+ Custom Vinyl out of Live Oak. Meals By Melissa set up her food cart and served nachos, hot dogs, chips, and drinks.

Community members of all ages came out to cheer on the firefighters. With every magnificent catch in the outfield, diving attempts in the infield, and crushed softballs over the fence for home runs, the crowds cheered and applauded with pure delight.

The men on each team battled hard all evening where the score was tied 16-16 after seven complete innings, forcing extra innings. In the top half of the 8th inning the visiting team scored five runs to put the game away and walked

off the field with the victory, 21-16.

The crowds continued to gather after the firefighter's game to watch twelve contestants compete in the home run derby. Each contestant was given five swings or seven pitches to see who could hit the most over the fence.

Javier Solis led off the contest with two home runs in five swings and set the tone for the next few batters. Andy McClellan took the lead a few batters later when he hit three home runs over the fence. A late contestant, Cody Cloyd, stepped up to the plate and delivered three blasts over the fence to tie McClellan for the lead. After a few rounds of a one pitch playoff, where each contestant got one opportunity to hit a home run, Cloyd walked away victorious as this year's Red Suspenders Home Run Derby champion.

Cloyd walked away with a personalized Home Run Derby Champion softball and some cash in hand.

Following the derby the Little League coaches took to the field. Visiting Biggs coaches stepped to the box first and went three up, three down. Gridley coaches got a hit or two in the bottom of the first, but failed to score as well. In the top of the second the Biggs coaches got on the board first with a couple of runs. Gridley answered back with a few of their own to go up 3-2.

In the top of the third inning Biggs blew the game wide open and took a 9-3 lead. But Gridley coaches

kept chipping away to keep the game close. Late in the game, Bryan Clark blasted a two-run home run to left field to tie the game up at 16-16.

Heading into the top of the seventh inning, the Gridley coaches led by a score of 18-16. Biggs coaches got the first two batters on base with zero outs. A hard ground ball hit between third base and shortstop looked to be promising for a run or two when the shortstop dove to his right and snagged the ball. From his knees he threw the runner out at third base for the force out and first out of the inning. A pop fly to left field secured the second out of the inning. A hard ground ball stopped by third baseman, John McClellan, which he took himself for the force out, secured the 18-16 win for the Gridley Little League coaches.

In the end, it wasn't a matter of who won or who did what on the field. Guns n' Hoses (or Hoses n' Hoses this year), Coaches n Coaches, was an opportunity for a few hours once a year for law enforcement and first responders to take some time off and enjoy the company of friends, family, and community members.

For a few hours, Little Leaguers could watch their coaches play the difficult game on the diamond, showing the truth that anyone who steps onto the field is vulnerable to a mistake, or have the ability to be triumphant in the big moment with a big hit or be defensive play. ★

## Wolverine Softball Season Comes to an End

By Joshua Porcayo

**BIGGS, CA (MPG)** - Biggs' varsity softball team has a lot to be proud of this year; a 16 game winning streak, 23-3 overall record, 8-0 league record, back-to-back league championships. The Lady Wolverines played their hearts out every time they stepped onto the diamond and should stand tall with pride for their accomplishments.

On Friday, May 17th, the

Lady Wolverines hosted the visiting Etna Lions in the second round of the NSCIF Division V playoffs. Biggs took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the third inning for the first runs of the ballgame. The Lady Wolverines would put up another run in the bottom of the fifth inning on their way in what would appear to be another victory.

But heading into the top of the seventh inning, with a lead of 3-0, the Lady Lions

came to life in a last ditch effort and scored five runs to take a 5-3 lead. The Lady Wolverines couldn't produce any more runs in the last half of the inning and fell to Etna 5-3.

Although the Lady Wolverines fell short of their overall goal of a Division V Section championship, they still had a memorable season, one they'll remember forever. ★

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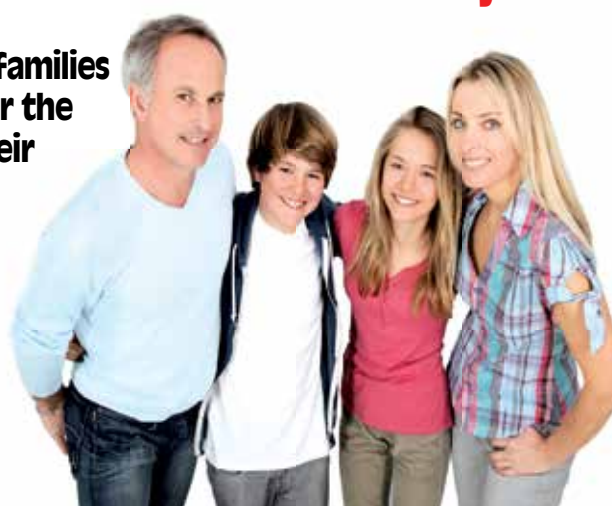
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# Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Considering the threat of rain, the Green Thumb Garden Club booth sold a lot of plants as did our FFA partners, during Red Suspenders Day. We had a great time talking to fellow plant lovers. No rain happened until we had packed

up and were on our way, it was perfect, cold but perfect. The torrential down-pour on Sunday made me run to the window to look at my tree lilies. I expected them to be shredded. Nope, the Birch tree saved them. They are getting ready to open with even a hint of warmth. I love their bright yellow beauty on their long 3 ft stems. I would have been sad if they had been broken. I recently planted three red tree lilies that are supposed to bloom a little later. We'll see if they start blooming earlier by next year. I've been amazed at the number of large amaryllis I see blooming in yards around Gridley. It must be a perfect spring climate for amaryllis. I have one in a

pot in the front in a lot of shade and even it is coming forth in crimson glory. Had a bit of a gardening disaster on the patio with some of the heavy wind we experienced. I had already dropped my large shades to protect from hot sun and did not roll them back up when it cooled down. Mistake! The shade bashed into a shelf and table with plants on them and knocked everything to the ground. Lost one beautiful pot and my variegated jade plant became instantly smaller. I'll root the pieces and probably repot everything together again. It was a mess to clean up. Needless to say, the shades have been rolled up again. ★

# Live Oak HS Track Takes Medals

By Michelle Eller

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - Six track athletes from Live Oak High School qualified for the North Sections meet in West Valley. To qualify for the Northern Sections the Live Oak High School track team competed against other teams in the Northern Divisions III meet. That meet happened at Yuba College on May 10th. Qualifying athletes were Jagger Bains, Jonathan Widener, Odin Moody, Damian Teria, Rajun Bains, and Meliah Eller. The North Sections track meet at West Valley High School was this past Friday, May 17th.

Jagger Bains finished in the 100M with a time of 11.51. Odin Moody, Damian Teria, Rajun Bains, Jagger Bains ran in the 4X100 Meter Relay with a time of 45.86. Other athletes of note were



Live Oak High Track medalist Jagger Bains (Left) and Jonathan Widener (Right) show of their awards Photo courtesy of Michelle Eller

Jonathan Widener in the 300 M Hurdles with a time of 51.18. Junior, Jonathan Widener, medaled in the Northern Sections Track meet with a 45-07.50. ★

# Construction Trailer Stolen

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - With the FEMA announcement heralding the start of construction at the 72-acre Industrial Park just days ago, criminals didn't hesitate to strike.

Construction company MLU, along with subcontractor agencies, began importing equipment, trailers and workers to the location last week. It is common practice for companies to lease spaces or lots of nearby property owners to house equipment while the site of construction is in the initial phase of development. On Sunday May 19th at shortly after 6:45 pm, a call came through Gridley-Biggs Police Department dispatch alerting them that a travel trailer had been stolen from property adjacent to the construction site.

The trailer, allegedly belonging to Royal Electric, a subcontractor at the site, was being stored at Randy Smith Produce on West Liberty Road. According to a FEMA media specialist, the trailer had little inside by way of equipment or tools.

Security around the Industrial Park and neighboring areas has been of utmost importance to the GBPD, City of Gridley and FEMA. Private Security personnel are on-site at the entrance to the Industrial Park construction zone. The theft is currently under investigation by the Gridley-Biggs Police Department.

At this time details of the theft are classified and the trailer has not been recovered. Residents of the area can expect security to tighten as a higher level of vigilance has been implemented due to this unfortunate event. ★

# FEMA Construction Begins on Gridley Temporary Housing Community

FEMA FROM PAGE 1

crews. Hundreds of workers and vehicles will soon be on site. The area is no longer a public space. Only authorized construction personnel are allowed in the Industrial Park. For the safety of construction personnel and of the public, unauthorized visitors will not be allowed in the construction zone. Trespassers may be confronted by security personnel and could be charged with trespassing.

Drivers are strongly encouraged to be vigilant

and to drive safely! Traffic in the Gridley area – already very heavy by any measure – is expected to be even more so, especially in the vicinity of State Route 99 and West Liberty Street. A traffic light has been installed at this intersection and it is expected to help regulate the increased flow of traffic caused by debris trucks and construction vehicles participating in the Camp Fire recovery. In addition to the security personnel, the entire project site will be monitored 24/7 by high-definition

state-of-the-art video.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585 (TTY/TDD).

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**Crossword Puzzle on Page 5**

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4	7	5	1	3	8	9	2	6
7	8	6	4	1	2	5	9	3
9	3	2	5	8	7	4	6	1
1	5	4	9	6	3	2	8	7
5	2	3	8	9	6	1	7	4
6	4	7	3	2	1	8	5	9
8	1	9	7	4	5	6	3	2

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- Outdoor receptacles must have covers that keep them dry even when appliances are plugged into them.
- Ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are special devices designed to protect against electric shock and electrocution. They are required for most pool, spa or hot tub equipment. They may be in the form of an outlet or a circuit breaker. Test the GFCIs monthly according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Electrical appliances, equipment, and cords should be kept at least 6 feet away from the water. When possible, use battery operated appliances and equipment, such as televisions, radios, and stereos.
- Avoid handling electrical devices when you are wet.
- Make sure that any overhead lines maintain the proper distance over a pool and other structures, such as a diving board. If unsure, contact a qualified electrician or your local utility company to make sure power lines are a safe distance away.
- Do not swim during a thunderstorm.
- Have a qualified electrician periodically inspect and— where necessary— replace or upgrade the electrical devices or equipment that keep your pool, spa, or hot tub electrically safe.
- Have a qualified electrician show you how to turn off all power in case of an emergency. ★





## Memorial Day Services      Quota Supports Our Troops



Honoring our veterans. Gridley Herald archive photo

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** -This year's Memorial Day program is set to begin at 10:00, Monday May 27th at the Gridley-Biggs Cemetery at the Military Veterans Court of Honor. Master of Ceremonies, Col Otto Behunin, USAF (ret) will preside, the program opening with a prelude courtesy of Gridley High School Band.

Following the pledge of allegiance lead by VFW Post 5731 commander Cheyenne Bart and invocation by Rev. Heskett, an address of welcome will be issued by Mayor Bruce Johnson of Gridley and Mayor Nate Wilkerson of Biggs.

The program will feature Miss Butte County, Kirsten Grace Baker and Miss Teen Butte County, Hannah Norton sharing their thoughts with speeches "Why I'm grateful to those who served." Kari Wheeler will perform "Amazing Grace" followed by speakers Col Behunin and special guest, 1st Lt. Brittany Curry,

USAF. Commemorative tributes will be given by the Gridley VFW Post 5731, American Legion Post 210 and the Vietnam Veterans Organization.

Throughout the program, musical tributes to our nation's heroes will be provided by the Gridley High School Band, including renditions of "Alamo" and "Taps." Barbara Squires will perform "God Bless America" accompanied by the audience.

The ceremony will conclude with Military Honors courtesy of Beale A.F.B. as jets fly overhead.

As a thanks and tribute to our nation's military, CalFire plans to fly a giant American Flag from the top of Ladder Truck 74 ladder.

The public is urged to join the celebration of our nation's heroes this Memorial Day. Refreshments will be provided by the Quota Club of Gridley, VFW Post 5731 Ladies Auxiliary and Safeway in the Gazebo following the program. ★



The ladies of gridley's quota club have heard the special requests of a naval unit currently deployed and have carefully prepared care packages to send overseas. Photo by Seti Long

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - With Memorial Day right around the corner, one's mind turns to those that have served and who are actively serving in our nation's military branches. The ladies of Gridley's QUOTA Club have heard the special requests of a naval unit currently deployed and have carefully prepared care packages to send overseas.

Gridley native Petty Officer 1st Class Gustavo Llerenas and the members of his unit deployed in March of 2019 for a 7-month tour in Iraq, the location and nature of which is classified for the soldiers' protection. Officer Llerenas, reached out to his mother and Quota Club member, Nicki Llerenas, to relay a special request. The men and women serving in his unit had put together a "Navy wishlist" of items that would bring them comfort during their tour. Always looking for opportunities to serve, the ladies of

Quota sprang into action.

Together the club gathered the items on the list, which included SPF face lotion, bug hats for protection against gnats that plague the area they are stationed in, magazines, and non-perishable snacks and goodies. Although there is coffee, the unit specifically asked for inexpensive coffee makers, filters and pre-ground coffee.

Upon finding out that the care packages were being assembled by the Quota Club, the lieutenant of the unit asked for a throw blanket bearing the Quota Club emblem. Going the extra mile, plans have been set in motion for it to be handmade by a Quota member.

Items were gathered for assembly at the Quota meeting and the club posed for a group picture to accompany their baskets. As she helped load the goodies up for delivery, Nicki Llerenas said "This isn't the first time we have done this for the troops. We are always looking for opportunities to help!" ★

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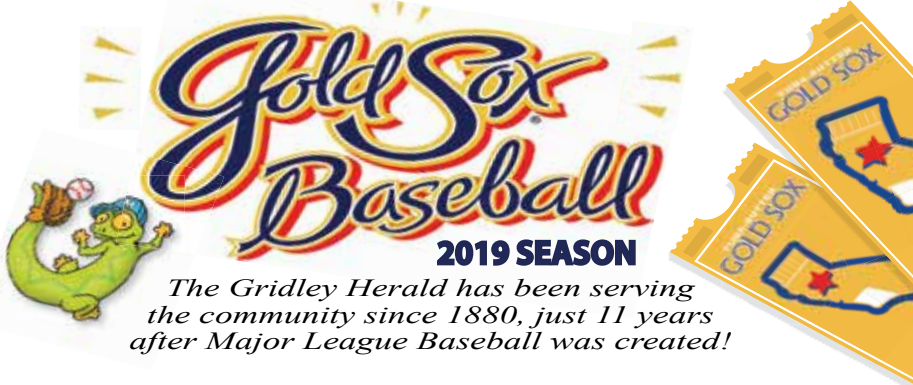
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# Future Military and Memorial Day



By Izabella Fredericks

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - Typically, Memorial Day is a day for everyone to celebrate and honor those who serve and served our country in the military services, but for students at Live Oak High School it is a day to look forward to their future. Many of the Live Oak High seniors have already sworn into the different branches of the military. Some seniors, like Paul Luna, have had their eyes

set on the military since the beginning of high school. Paul has attended a series of Sea Cadet trainings in his summers to prepare himself for his service in the Marine Corps. Sea Cadet Camps are programs for the youth that train young adults in survival situations and special operation programs. Each young man or woman that participates in these programs has to go through a boot camp similar to the one required for entrance into the military.

Mr. Luna describes his experience at a construction battalion camp where he learned welding and electrical practice which is practical for his future service in the military. "Field stripping, where I took apart and assembled weapons under a time crunch was by far the coolest

thing," said Luna. Mr. Luna is "ecstatic" about his upcoming and last Sea Cadet program before he commits himself to a six year contract in the Marines.

Others, like Alejandra Ibanez, chose the military as an alternative to school, "I chose the army for the benefits it had and I wanted to try it out instead of school first." The army in particular provides total compensation as far as health care, food, and housing, providing young adults an opportunity to experience adulthood in a structured and safe environment.

So this Memorial Day, celebrate those who have battled for us, but also, celebrate the Live Oak High School seniors who will be doing so in the coming future. ★

# Gridley VFW Post Grants Scholarship Awards



Pictured Left to right: Courtney Thompson, Cheyenne Bart (VFW Post 5731 Commander), and Jamie McEntire. Photo courtesy of Cheyenne Bart

By Seti Long

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Gridley VFW Post 5731 kicked off their annual VFW Scholarship awards program Wednesday, May 15th at the Biggs Unified School District Awards Night. The scholarship program is designed to promote patriotism among the youth of our nation.

Commander of VFW Post 5731, Cheyenne Bart, had the honor of awarding two \$500.00 scholarships to this year's winners, Biggs High School students, Courtney Thompson and Jamie McEntire.

The VFW considers

multiple factors when choosing the scholarship winners. Applicants participate in interview process with VFW members who judge their responses.

Commander Bart shares, "We ask questions about whether or not family members served in our military, if they plan on joining the military, there is an essay question on what freedom means to them, and whether or not they support kneeling during the National Anthem. Class Rank, grades, grammar, spelling, and staying on topic are considered during our judging."

The VFW scholarship program is open

to students locally, but remains a national program, providing multiple opportunities to win funding for higher education. Recently, Commander Bart traveled to graduation ceremonies held at Sutter Peak Academy in Woodland to award scholarships on behalf of VFW ceremonies for their winning participants - Carmela Parker and Sophie Krlusic.

The VFW organization is proud to support students as they proceed to further their education, continuing to promote patriotism and the awareness of sacrifices made by military veterans in honor of their country. ★



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