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Gets Swept  
on Road  
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# THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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SPLIT WEEK



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## Farewells and Introductions



Cal Fire was present en force to support exiting Division Chief Sean Norman and his successor, Division Chief Chip Fowler.

Story and photos  
by Melody McDowell

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - This week marks several changes of the guard for Gridley and the surrounding community. Monday's City Council meeting opened with a flurry of goodbyes, thank-yous, and introductions.

Police Chief Rodney Harr introduced the most recent addition to the Gridley Police Department, Officer Rollin Luntley.

Gridley City Administrator, Cliff Wagner, is beginning his retirement and will be succeeded by Elisa Arteaga.

This leaves Arteaga's position as Finance Director



Gridley's newest police officer, Rollin Luntley.

vacant, but a near-seamless transition is expected as the sitting Assistant Finance Director, Martin Pineda, has been hired to fill this role.

Cal Fire Division Chief

Sean Norman, who has served in the Butte County South Division for over twenty years, is also retiring. His successor is Chief Chip Fowler, and both men, with several of their division colleagues, were in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Mike Farr expressed appreciation and presented plaques to honor the service given by Chief Norman and Administrator Wagner.

Chief Norman shared that although he was unfamiliar with Gridley when he first took up this post, he quickly "fell in love with the community." He said, "every day I came to work here I

*Continued on page 3*

## Live Oak Fire Contract Agreed to and Submitted to County

By Sharon Pearce

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - Live Oak's City Council met in special session on Friday, December 22, to review and finalize its new fire contract with Sutter County Fire Department for fire protection, first responder, emergency, medical, and hazardous materials response services. The current contract expired on June 30, 2022, but the City has been paying regularly to the County for fire protection to date. The new contract runs from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2029.

Following questions from each councilmember to Sutter County Fire Chief John Shalowitz and to City Manager Aaron Palmer, the council added language to the proposed contract to set out that Sutter County is to provide to Council a pre-expiration notice 12 months before the contract comes to an end. Sutter County Fire, through Sutter County, is also to maintain a program of self-insurance for general liability, and automobile liability, affirmed by Chief Shalowitz.

With that addition, and a modification to the contract requested by Vice Mayor Nancy Santana where one battalion chief's salary and benefit costs would be paid 75% by the City in year one, and increased to 100% thereafter, that it be changed to having even year one paid at 100%. That extra cost will be \$64,059.75 for an annual expenditure of \$256,239 for that item.

The cost share was also increased for the City of Live Oak from 80% to 85% based on call share, as responders reported a growing number of calls from the area. The proposed 5% increase will cost approximately \$40,000.

Mayor Ashley Hernandez asked when it would make sense for the City to have its own fire department. Chief Shalowitz replied, "Hard call...the cost is about \$1,500,000 to cover a station." He explained the County covers all human resources, but there is clothing; it costs \$7,000 for a firefighter to get on the engine and do his job. Shalowitz also explained that to add one firefighter actually means a day of three shifts, with three persons. Cost is approximately \$120K annually for one firefighter.

This special session was

*Continued on page 8*

## A Murky Forecast

By Rachel Becker,  
CALMatters.org

As forecasts tease California with rainstorms this week, the state's reservoirs are already flush with water.

It's a big departure from a year ago: The state's major reservoirs — which store water collected mostly from rivers in the northern portion of the state — are in good shape, with levels at 124% of average. In late 2022, bathtub rings of dry earth lined lakes that had collectively dipped to about two-thirds of average — until heavy winter storms in January filled many of them almost to the brim.

Yet healthy water levels don't mean California's reservoirs are full. Most of California's large reservoirs are operated for flood control as well as water storage, with space kept empty to rein in winter storm runoff.

The wet season has



Storms have arrived in California. The Oroville Spillway at Lake Oroville in Butte County is ready for a wet year. California Department of Water Resources

arrived in California, with El Niño conditions projected to continue strengthening. But for the Golden State, with its unpredictable swings from dry to wet and back again, El Niño doesn't guarantee

heavy rainfall.

And as California's water managers plan for the water year ahead, they're faced, as always, with their dueling responsibilities: forestalling floods while

preparing for possible scarcity in a state where water supplies are often stretched thin and long droughts are common.


When state climatologist Michael Anderson

*Continued on page 2*



MEMORIAL

KARL ADRIAN MEALER • 2/15/1965 – 11/06/2023



Karl Adrian Mealer, a devoted, and beloved member of the Biggs, California community, soared through Heaven's gates on November 6, 2023, answering the sudden call of his "Good Lord". Born on February 15, 1965, in Gridley, California.

Karl Adrian, known to many as Adrian, held a deep and abiding love for his country, and the simple joys of life. His passions included music, hunting, fishing, camping and the companionship of his cherished animals. His heart, however, belonged to "his love" Linda. Adrain un-wavered in

his love for his children and grandchildren.

Adrian was a man whose work ethic was unmatched, leaving an indelible mark on those who had the privilege of working alongside him.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Karl

and Jackie Thompson, and his father, Calvin Mealer. Adrian is survived by his loving mother, Betty Dale Adams, and his children: Ryan, Sheenna, and Seth. His two beautiful granddaughters, Abigail and Serenity, were a source of endless joy and pride.

**A Celebration of Life will be held on January 6th from 12-3 pm at Father's House Church, located at 10720 Live Oak Blvd., Live Oak. This gathering will be an opportunity to come together, share cherished memories, and celebrate the vibrant life of Karl Adrian Mealer.**

MEMORIAL

BILLIE LAVERNE MOON • 10/17/1942 – 12/11/2023



Billie LaVerne Moon passed away on December 11 th , 2023 at Colusa's Comfort Care Unit in Colusa, CA. She was 81 years. Billie was born in Hermosa Beach, CA on October 17 th , 1942. In 1943 with her parents, she moved to Gridley, CA. She attended Gridley Schools and graduated with her class of 1960. She was very active in both grade school and high school participating in sports, band and excelled as a major-ette for several years.

After attending Business College in Utah, she returned home to marry her high school sweetheart Richard Sannar in 1961. They had one daughter Lisa Marie


Sannar, granddaughter Kristen, her husband Jerrod Sheehy and great grandson Ronan Sheehy.

Billie's work career was in the medical field as a Patient Financial Services Manager and Director in Alabama, Tennessee, and Florida. She

wrote and developed policies, procedures of financial operations. She was very organized and structured in her work ethics.

Billie was preceded in death by her parents, Jack W. Moon, La Verne Moon, and younger brother Jack W. Moon Jr. Her living siblings are Barbara J. Gately, Donna Moon Benbarrak and Sharon K. Munoz and John K. Moon.

Under the care of Ullery's Memorial in Yuba City which she chose, she will be laid to rest at Gridley-Biggs Cemetery here in Gridley. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, and the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17



Employment Opportunities

Employment and Independent Contractor Positions at Messenger Publishing Group

We publish 18 local newspapers in the Sacramento Region. Our main office is in Carmichael. We have been publishing for 17 years and are seeking new qualified employees.

CURRENT WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Office Administration – We are seeking a full-time administrative support person for our newspaper group. This position works in the Carmichael office and works directly with the Office Manager. Work hours are between 8:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Previous office management experience is required.

Production Layout/Graphic Design – This part-time position assists with the layout of the newspapers and works with the production staff to create our weekly newspapers. Must have good working knowledge of InDesign production programs. Must be able to work within our current system and be able to take direction to meet our deadlines. Previous layout experience is a must. This is an entry level position. Work hours are between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm. This position is in our Gridley office and begins in January.

Copy Editor – We are seeking a part-time copy editor for our newspaper group. This position works in the Carmichael office and works directly with Editor. Work hours are flexible between 8:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Previous editing experience is required.

City Reporter – We are seeking a part-time City Reporter for our newspaper group. This position may be assigned to work in the Carmichael office or another area office and works directly with the Editor. Work hours are flexible depending on assignments. Previous reporting experience is required.

Advertising Services Support – We are seeking a part-time Advertising Services Support person for our newspaper group. This position works in the Carmichael office and works directly with the owner of the company and the advertising/graphics staff. Work hours are flexible between 8:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Previous office experience is required.

Delivery Driver – We are seeking a part-time Delivery Driver for our newspaper group. This position would transport newspapers from our Carmichael office to our offices in Marysville and Gridley. Work hours are from 8:30 to 4:00 every Thursday. Must be able to lift and move bundles of newspapers without assistance. Must have your own reliable cargo van. This is an independent contractor position and pays a flat rate for your service.

Newsstand Delivery Driver – We are seeking a part-time Newsstand Delivery Driver for our newspaper group. This position works from the Carmichael office and delivers to our locations in the West Sacramento/ Sacramento Region. Work hours are from 8:30 to 5:00 Thursday and/or Friday. Must be able to lift and move bundles of newspapers without assistance. You must have a reliable vehicle. This is an independent contractor position.

To find out more or to apply:  
Email your questions or resume to [Publisher@MPG8.com](mailto:Publisher@MPG8.com)

A Murky Forecast

Continued from page 1

looks into California's water year ahead, he says the crystal ball is cloudy.

Threats of a major storm dissolved into showers in parts of California this week, with another surge of rainfall expected to wrap up this weekend. Rainfall is only expected to reach 1 to 2 inches statewide through Saturday morning, with light snowfall predicted in the Sierra Nevada mountains at higher elevations.

"Overall this is looking to be a beneficial rainfall event for Southern California, which is definitely welcome during the typical peak of our fire season," the National Weather Service office for San Diego reported earlier this week.

Some headlines heralded it as the first storm of many as El Niño continues to strengthen and intensify. Characterized by warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, El Niño is often expected to bring wetter weather.

But in California, the connection is more tenuous. Of seven El Niño events over the past 23 years, Anderson said, two have been dry, three have been roughly average and two have been wet. One recent study reported that El Niño accounts for only about 25% of the year-to-year variability in California's rain and snowfall during the winter.

"What that tells me is anything goes," Anderson said. "El Niño by itself doesn't define our water year."

In fact, the year is actually off to a drier start: Statewide, California has seen only about 45% of average precipitation since this water year began Oct. 1.

Marty Ralph, director of the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes at UC San Diego, suspects that it's atmospheric rivers like the ones that pummeled California last year that will determine whether El Niño will bring a firehose or a trickle to California.

"It's like you're playing poker, and you've got a good hand — that's El Niño for us. But we haven't finished the round of the game, and we still have to draw a couple cards," Ralph said. "But we might not draw the good cards."

With seasonal outlooks unable to reliably say whether a winter will be wet or dry, water managers must plan for both.

Fortunately there's some wiggle room this year, according to Jeanine Jones, the Department of Water Resources' interstate resources manager. Last year's massive snowpack and abundant rainfall filled the state's reservoirs enough that even if this rainy season leans dry, she said, "We're going into next year with a cushion, which is always good."

That doesn't mean the reservoirs are full, though. Lake Oroville — the largest reservoir on the State Water Project, which sends water south to farms and cities — and Lake Shasta — critical to growers and other water users reliant on the federal Central Valley Project — are at about two-thirds of their total capacity.

That's because with reservoirs that serve the dual purpose of flood control and water storage, water managers must release water to keep space empty to wrangle possible floods during the wet season, Jones said.

The water that flows into rivers and streams and out to the ocean is often bemoaned as water wasted. But waste is in the eye of the beholder, said Jay Lund, vice-director of the Center for Watershed Sciences at UC Davis.

"Water that's 'wasted' is always water used by somebody else," Lund said.

The list of benefits for fishing, conservation, Delta farmers, water quality and healthy shorelines is lengthy. Water allowed to flow out into the San Francisco Bay, for instance, washes away salts and pollutants, transports sediment and sand necessary to maintain marshes and restore eroding beaches, assists salmon in migrations and helps maintain healthy ecosystems.

Still, the Public Policy Institute of California reports that California could have socked away more water last year, had there been better ways to ferry water from full rivers to groundwater recharge sites, and better coordination among landowners, local agencies, and others.

"I tend to think that there is room for capturing more surface water ... if you could afford the cost of capturing it," agreed Lund. "That, to me, is the biggest problem."

The controversial Sites Reservoir project, for instance, is projected to cost more than \$4.4 billion. The reservoir, planned in the western Sacramento Valley, would store as much as 1.5 million acre-feet of Sacramento River water, alarming environmental groups that say drawing more water from the river will imperil its already-struggling fish.

In early November, Gov. Gavin Newsom cleared the project to be fast-tracked "to the extent feasible" through any litigation challenging it under the landmark California Environmental Quality Act. That move was made possible with new legislation. Even so, the project is not expected to be completed before 2030 or 2031.

In the meantime, researchers like UC San Diego's Ralph, along with local, state and federal agencies, hope to operate the state's reservoirs more nimbly by incorporating new weather forecasting tools into decades-old rulebooks governing when to hold onto water and when to release it.

The program allowed the Russian River watershed to hold onto about 7,000 to 8,000 acre-feet more water in Lake Mendocino this past year, and an additional 19,000 acre-feet more in Lake Sonoma, according to Donald Seymour, deputy director of engineering with Sonoma Water. The Department of Water Resources announced that it is expanding the effort to two major reservoirs, Lake Oroville and New Bullards Bar, as well.

Many are looking down rather than up for opportunities to store more water. The Department of Water Resources estimates that about 3.8 million acre-feet of water was captured through groundwater recharge by last summer.

The Southern California water import giant, the Metropolitan Water District, also recently announced a \$211 million groundwater bank in the Antelope Valley. The bank can store 280,000 acre-feet of water, enough to fill Castaic Lake, the largest State Water Project reservoir in Southern California. Though construction to allow withdrawals hasn't been completed yet, the bank stands ready to accept deposits.

The bank is aimed at providing a little more net for the tightrope walk that California's water managers start anew every water year.

"We always plan for it to be potentially very dry, or very wet," said Brad Coffey, Metropolitan's water resources manager. "No matter what kind of year we had this year." ★

USAF Thunderbirds to Thrill at Beale Air Force Base in 2025

9th Reconnaissance Wing News Release

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE, CA (MPG) - We are proud to announce the United States Air Force Thunderbirds at the highly anticipated 2025 Air Show, June 7-8, 2025.

Renowned for their precision flying and incredible aerial displays, the Thunderbirds are set to captivate audiences with their thrilling maneuvers and airborne excellence during the upcoming event.

The announcement came Dec. 5, 2023,

at the 2023 International Council of Air Shows (ICAS) Convention at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. ICAS is recognized as a leader of air show-related issues, including safety, and professional ethics.

"I am pleased to announce that we will be hosting the USAF Thunderbirds at 2025 Beale Air Show," said Col. Geoffrey Church, 9th Reconnaissance Wing commander. "This will be an exciting event for Airmen, families, and our local community."

For questions, please contact Public Affairs at (530) 634-8887. ★



WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS





# Farewells and Introductions in the City of Gridley

*Continued from page 1*  
treated this town like it was mine. And that’s the golden rule of the firefighter – to be the kind of firefighter you want showing up at your house. And so every time I came here I tried to do that.”

He went on to say that “your city staff are some of the best, top-notch people I’ve ever worked with.”

Long-time employees and citizens of the City of Gridley, such as Elisa Arteaga, remember Chief Norman’s coming and Arteaga noted she felt a little emotional about this transition of someone who has worked closely with the City for so many years. Councilmember James Roberts presented Chief Norman with an additional handmade plaque recognizing his service.

As Administrator Wagner took the podium, he expressed feeling “deeply and profoundly grateful for the opportunity and for the trust that this Council placed in me to be able to serve this community.” He said, “I understood going into [this role] that there would never be a topic of conversation or an issue upon which I could possibly please everyone. And so you have to be prepared to fight for correct principles and what’s highest and best for this community.”

Wagner indicated that he has full faith in this transition of leadership, stating “this city has outstanding people. And it makes all the difference.” He described Elisa Arteaga as “the velvet hammer.” He said, “she is someone who is willing to fight for this community. She is invested in this community, and I have total confidence in her ability and in the department heads that lead the departments here and every member of staff.”

After a brief recess, business was conducted by three members of the City Council, as Councilmember Calderon and Vice Mayor Johnson were absent. The consent agenda was approved, consisting of City Council minutes from December 4 and a planned schedule of Council Meeting dates for 2024.

The next item of formal consideration was the proposed increase of water and sewer rates for 2024. City Administrator Cliff Wagner reported that after two informative mailings made to the public in October, the 45-day “protest window” has elapsed and there have been only two contacts by community members. This meeting constitutes the formal public hearing to hear any community comments on the matter.



Mayor Mike Farr (pictured far left) and Councilmember James Roberts (far right) presented recognitions on behalf of Gridley’s City Council, expressing appreciation for the excellent service rendered by exiting City Administrator Cliff Wagner and exiting Cal Fire Division Chief Sean Norman.



Martin Pineda, who succeeds Elisa Arteaga as finance director for the City of Gridley.

Community member Patrick Coghlan was present and spoke to his concerns about the fixed rate system and the timeliness and ease of access to the figures and rate studies prior to holding public hearing.

Wagner defended the transparency and



Retiring Chief Norman and the new Chief Fowler shake hands.

legality of the procedures that have been followed in this process of rate increase. He reminded the Council that no adjustments to the current water and sewer rates have been made in 13 years and that changes are needed to ensure future viability. The

council approved the proposed rate schedule, which can be viewed at <http://gridley.ca.us/notice/proposition-218-notice-for-proposed-water-and-sewer-rates>

Christian Garcia, of Waste Management, returned for additional follow-up regarding the contract under negotiation for 2024-2028. Since the concerns brought forward by City Attorney Tony Galyean in November, regarding procedures for handling delinquent accounts, at least one additional study session was held and Deputy City Attorney Landon Little indicated that to his knowledge, all concerns with verbiage or procedure have at this time been resolved.

The contract was approved to take effect in January 2024; however, as a rate increase of 5% is included as part of the contract, City Administrator indicated that this part of the contract cannot be implemented until notice is given to the public (which can happen now, subsequent to tonight’s approval) and the required 45-day window expires.

The final item of business tonight was the approval of a future purchase of a bucket truck for the City Electrical Department. ★



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Business Trainings



**Marketing Funnels: How to Acquire, Measure, Track, Monetize Traffic, Leads and Conversations (Oroville)**  
Do you know what Marketing Funnels are and how they can benefit your business? Do you want to ensure your marketing dollars and time are working for you? Do you want to know how you can use Marketing Funnels to drive increase sales, more loyalty and stronger brand awareness? During this marketing workshop, you will learn how to use Marketing Funnels to acquire, measure, track & monetize your traffic, leads & conversations. You will gain insights from seeing the “big picture” and learn how collecting the right data can help to identify your “Marketing Blindspots.”  
**Date:** Wednesdays, January 3, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** The Barrel Room, 1566 Huntton St, Oroville.

**Using AI for Your Business Marketing (Red Bluff)**  
Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become increasingly beneficial to businesses and our communities. However, very few people understand how to use AI to help them in their marketing and other business strategies. We will take a deep dive into using AI to develop marketing strategies, and content, and will take a step-by-step approach to developing an AI generated marketing strategy.  
**Date:** Thursday, January 4, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 2810 Main St., Red Bluff

**Introduction to digital/Online Marketing (Paradise)**  
This workshop will focus on discussing introductory methods of digital and online marketing. You will learn the basics about Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Search Engine Marketing (SEM), Social Media Marketing (SMM), as well as mobile, affiliate, and online Ad marketing. You will be provided real-world examples of which type of marketing may best fit your marketing goals, as well as ideas for your future marketing needs. This training is perfect for individuals who are either first getting started in digital/online marketing, or those who would like a little more information on how to develop their current digital/online marketing.  
**Date:** Friday, January 5, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Paradise Ridge Chamber, 6161 Clark Rd, Paradise

**The Basics of Bookkeeping Accounting (Orland)**  
Learn basic concepts for setting up and develop an understanding of financial statements to better manage your business. Learn and understand common terms used in bookkeeping so you can converse confidently with lenders and financial advisors. Learn key concepts for good record keeping for your business.  
**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** 1366 Cortina Dr. Orland

**How to Start a Successful Food Truck Business (Colusa)**  
You will learn about the nuts and bolts of starting a food truck business. Topics include the differences in purchasing or leasing a truck, how commissaries work, health permit and requirements, financing, and what your financial and time investment will be.  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024  
**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** 425 Webster St., Colusa

To Register for Trainings CALL: (530) 895-9017

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.buttecollegesbdc.com/events/>

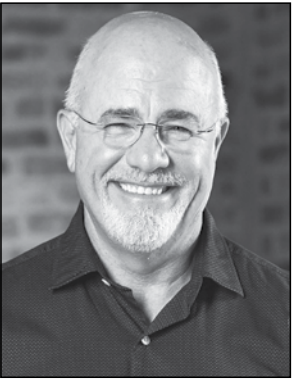


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For Starters, Have A Plan

Dear Dave,

My mom and dad always told me to live within my means. As an adult, I’ve made some mistakes with money, including falling right back into debt after paying off everything. I’m tired of this rollercoaster, and I want to get control of my finances for good. Can you give me some advice on where to start?

– Melissa

Dear Melissa,

It’s frustrating, isn’t it? But making mistakes with money means just one thing. It means you’re human. We’ve all done it. Think about this, though. We’re approaching a traditional time of the year for changes. On top of that, you’re smart enough to have realized what you’ve done in the past hasn’t worked.

Believe it or not, I was once in the exact same spot you are now. When it

## Dave Ramsey Says

happened to me, there were three pieces to the puzzle that helped me break the cycle. One was fear. Specifically, I was scared to death that I wouldn’t be able to take care of my family, and that I’d retire broke. Now, don’t misunderstand me. No one should live their lives in fear. But a healthy, reasonable level of fear can provide needed motivation.

Another was disgust. I realized what I was doing was stupid. I was tired of living that way, and I made a conscious, purposeful decision that things were going to be different.

The third piece, and maybe the most important because it’s connected to our spiritual walk, was contentment. We live in a society that’s constantly having the idea that we’ll be happier, or more successful, or more admired, if we’ll only buy this or that product. We’re constantly marketed to, and when we have this stuff in our faces day after day, we can become unsatisfied with just about every aspect of our lives. Don’t let it drag you down. It’s all just an illusion.

One of the things I did to combat this, was to start living on a strict, written, monthly budget. Also, I

stopped going places where I was tempted to spend money. You shouldn’t give a drunk a drink, right? So, don’t put yourself in a bad situation when it comes to your behavior with money. If you go wandering through the mall without a specific plan, you’ll lose every single time.

When you go to the store make a list of only the things you need. On top of that, take only enough cash with you to buy what you need. If you can walk in and back out without buying a bunch of stuff that wasn’t on your list, it’s a win. Every time you do this, it’s another win and another step away from your old habits and in the right direction.

You can do this, Melissa. God bless you.

– Dave

*Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions* ★

# Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

Another year is ending. Of course, this end and start idea is a man-made device. The natural world works in cycles not in ends and starts. The ancients decided that the New Year starts shortly after the Winter Solstice. Why and when was this decided?

Our calendar began in the ancient Republic of Rome. The calendar was based on the farm-to-market cycle. It was an eight-day week with market day being the end

day. This 38-week cycle began before the start of spring and ran until after the harvest: the end of the market year. Originally there were no winter months. This changed over time and January, February were appointed as new months for the winter.

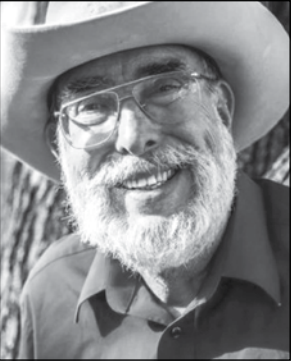
The years were named for the consuls (consuls were the top of the political world in the Roman Republic before it became an empire) who served at that time. The appointing of consuls shifted to the end of the market year (the end of December). Over time people thought of the years as starting in January, when the new consul was appointed.

The Roman calendar wasn’t meant to coincide with astronomical events, like the equinoxes

or solstices. It was not a religious device but a political and economic one. It started when farmers started bringing products to market. In the Mediterranean area this was a bit before the spring equinox. The calendar was originally based on a new year in the spring.

When the emperor Ceasar remade the calendar, he wanted to honor the god Janus (the two-faced god of the past, the future and transitional places) these included doorways, beginnings, the crossing from one place and time into another. The New Year was shifted to January (Janus month) for political and religious convenience. Even we modern people get to live with the whims of the past. Happy New Year! ★

## Slim Randles’ HOME COUNTRY



Slim Randles

The morning conference began innocently enough, with Steve and Doc arguing over which of the little packaged jellies went better on sourdough toast, and no one caring which one was right.

Dud and Bert and I sat silently, sucking down the morning elixir until it spread life to our outermost reaches as the Mule Barn truck stop’s world dilemma think tank crept to life. Bert was unusually quiet this morning and we asked why. He hemmed and hawed a little, then said, “Doc, you know about these things. What exactly is female trouble?”

## “Female Trouble?”

Oh shoot. Pretty heavy stuff for just two cups of coffee, so the rest of us hurried down a third as Doc puffed up a bit and got ready.

“Sure, Bert,” Doc said kindly. Then Doc gave us the best his nine years of college and 50 years of medical practice had blessed him with. He waxed eloquent on hormonal elements, the ebb and flow of female fertility, things that could go wrong with tubular parts, and the effect all of these things could have on the attitudinal proclivities of the dear ladies we all love and admire. He took a break while Mavis returned with more coffee and with strange looks at our faces while we tried not to stare at her. Then she was gone, and Doc began again. Finally, when

we had been pretty well checked out on the mysterious workings of the gentle gender, Doc said, “Bert, if your wife is having some problems, have her give me a call.”

“Oh, it ain’t her, Doc,” Bert said. “It’s Dud.”

We all looked at Dud. He grinned sheepishly. No one wanted to say anything. Finally, Steve said, “I’m not going to be the one to ask.”

“That’s what you said, Dud, right?” Bert asked. “That’s why Saturday’s plans are shot.”

“Female trouble?” Doc said, looking at his old friend.

Dud nodded. “Anita won’t let me go fishing this weekend.”

*Brought to you by the nice folks at Rust Medical Center in Albuquerque. Thank you.* ★

# Thoughts to Ponder

by Kathy Neal

## Gridley United Methodist Church

Doors! Doors! and more Doors! Some open others shut. Merle Haggard had a song called “Swinging Doors.” Television even had a game show where contestants had to choose what is behind door #1 or #2, or #3. The only thing was whatever the person had won before had to be given up to open another door to try to win the big prize. Choices!!!

Not knowing what is behind a closed door can be scary, just as in life. It becomes a choice or a chance you make. Every day we have to make such decisions.

The new year is one of those chances. The time for 2023 comes to an end and 2024 stands ready to enter. As we open the door to a new year, a new beginning, we are closing the door on the old, past year and all its happenings.

God has granted us another hour,



another day, and another year to be and become what God needs us to be. Count yourself lucky, for way too many left this earth this past year and won’t have a chance to experience another.

As they say, when one door closes another one opens, sometimes it just may be a window. Apostle Paul tells us to never look back over the past, but to step forward in faith toward what God has planned for us to prosper, to help, and to grow to aid us.

This next year walk toward the light in faith. Be guided by the light of God’s word, and let your light shine forth to glorify the Lord. BE THE LIGHT!

*Join us on New Year’s Eve Day at 10 am as we prepare to move into the New Year in the light of the Lord. The Gridley United Methodist Church is located at 285 Magnolia Street.* ★



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## CORNER

# Christmas Trees

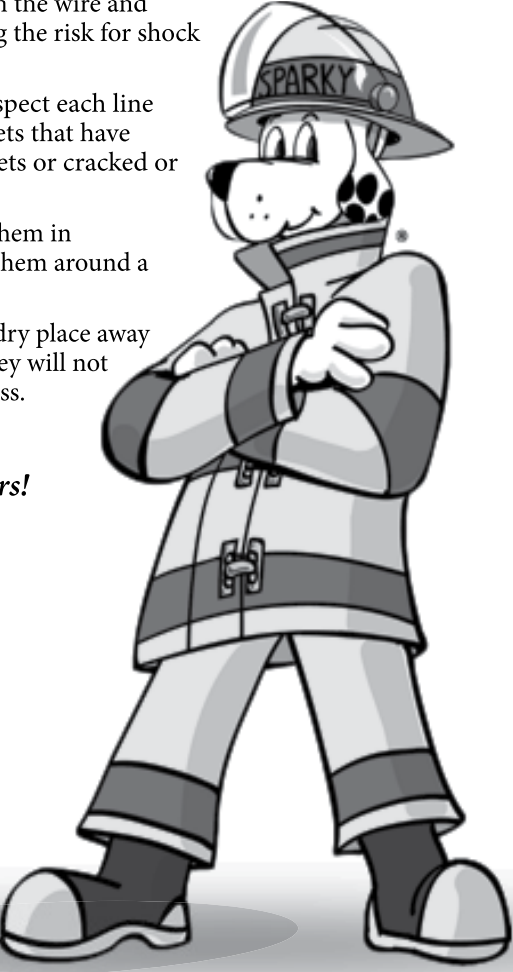

With the holiday now behind us, O Christmas tree, how saggy are your branches? The gifts have been removed from under the pine, the tree is swiftly losing its coat of green, and the needles are piling up on the floor, which means it’s time to remove the tree from your home. Christmas trees are very flammable; dry out the longer they remain in the home, and can be consumed by fire in a matter of seconds.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) statistics indicate that nearly 40 percent of home fires that begin with Christmas trees occur in January. Although these fires are not common, they are much more likely to be serious when they do occur. On average, one of every 31 reported home structure Christmas tree fires resulted in a death. Compare that to an average of one death per 144 total reported home structure fires.

NFPA also offers tips on removing lighting and decorations from trees to ensure they are taken down safely this year and in the right condition for Christmas next year:

- Use the gripping area on the plug when unplugging electrical decorations. Never pull the cord to unplug any device from an electrical outlet, as this can harm the wire and insulation of the cord, increasing the risk for shock or electrical fire.
- As you pack up light strings, inspect each line for damage, throwing out any sets that have loose connections, broken sockets or cracked or bare wires.
- Wrap each set of lights and put them in individual plastic bags, or wrap them around a piece of cardboard.
- Store electrical decorations in a dry place away from children and pets where they will not be damaged by water or dampness.

*Thanks You  
and Happy New Years!*  
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CITY OF BIGGS  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Biggs will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** in the City of Biggs City Council Chambers, 3016 Sixth Street, Biggs, CA 95917, at which time and place interested persons may either attend and be heard thereon or submit in writing comments prior to the conclusion of the hearing.

The proposed action for which a public hearing will be conducted is as follows:

**Code Amendment 2023-02 (City of Biggs)** – Proposed amendments to Title 14 (Zoning) of the Biggs Municipal Code pertaining to implementation of the 2022-2030 Housing Element Update regarding increased minimum density in the R-3 (High Density Residential) zoning district and provisions for reasonable accommodations, emergency shelters, and group homes. The proposed amendments (project) is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed code amendment would have a significant effect on the environment.

As a courtesy to the public, the meeting will be broadcast free via the internet - no comments will be allowed remotely. The zoom link to watch the meeting is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5308680100>.

Public comments on agenda items are welcomed and encouraged in advance and will be accepted until 4 p.m. on January 9, by emailing the City Clerk at [cityclerk@biggs-ca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@biggs-ca.gov) or via the drop box at 465 C Street. Comments will be conveyed to the Council for consideration.

If any person(s) challenges the action of the City on the above-described project in court, said person(s) may be limited to raising only those issues that were raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written comments delivered to the City of Biggs, 465 C Street, either at the public hearing or prior to the public hearing.

If you have any questions, comments, or wish to review the project file, please contact Roben Benish, City Clerk, Biggs City Hall, 465 C Street, Biggs, CA 95917, (530) 868-5493, or email comments to planning staff at: [Planning@Biggs-ca.gov](mailto:Planning@Biggs-ca.gov).

Roben Benish, City Clerk, City of Biggs

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0000975**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bio Alliance Vermicast, 734 Mission Olive, Oroville, CA 95966  
Gregory T Phelan, 3685 Hildale Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966, and Clary M Collins, 734 Mission Olive, Oroville, CA 95966  
Date filed in Butte County: November 16, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A General Partnership. 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: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023  
BIO 12-29-23

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0000899**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Pillo's Yard Service, 2490 Maple Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966  
Elpidio Omelas Rodriguez and Jessica Omelas, 2490 Maple Avenue, Oroville, CA 95966  
Date filed in Butte County: October 16, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 28, 2023  
This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. 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: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023  
PILLOS 12-29-23

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0000917**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Hmong Bright Shop, 1040 Plumas Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965  
Thor Por Yang, 1040 Plumas Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965  
Date filed in Butte County: October 24, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
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HMONG 12-29-23

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0001029**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Grofs Auto Repair, 3201 Silverbell Road, Chico, CA 95973  
Alvin Goularte, 3201 Silverbell Road, Chico, CA 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: December 8, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 27, 1993  
This Business is conducted by: An 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: Dec 22, 29, 2023 Jan 5, 12, 2024  
GROFS 1-12-2024

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0001035**  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bess Electric, 550 Vallombrosa Avenue Suite 8884, Chico, CA 95927  
Lumina Sparks LLC, 2073 Rochester Drive, Chico, CA 95928  
Date filed in Butte County: December 11, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 16, 2023  
This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. 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: Dec 22, 29, 2023 Jan 5, 12, 2024  
BESS 1-12-2024

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #23CV03228  
Petitioner Alyssa Vollendroff

filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Kiyah Laylalee Rain Nunez-Molina to Kiyah Layalee Rain Vollendroff.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing January 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 1, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928

Filed on November 27, 2023  
Tamara L. Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023  
VOLLENDROFF 12-29-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #23CV02546

Petitioner See Ntxwj filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: See Ntxwj to Maissee Ntjw

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing January 3, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 6, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928

Filed on November 22, 2023  
Steven E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023  
NTXWJ 12-29-23

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #23CV02547

Petitioner See Ntxwj filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Vision Muaj Hmoo Ntxwj to Muajhmoo Vision Ntjw and Gineer Tsim Txiaw Ntxwj to Tsimtixiaj Gineer Ntjw and Yeej Xeeb Ntxwj to Zoonraug Ntjw and Txawj Ntse Ntxwj to Txawjntse Ntjw.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing January 3, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 1, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928

Filed on November 21, 2023  
Tamara L. Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2023  
NTUJ 12-29-23

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
EDGAR GORDON GUTHREY, IV  
CASE NO. 23PR00590

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Edgar Gordon Guthrey, IV.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Edith Guthrey, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Edith Guthrey be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: January 23, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within

the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Areta Guthrey, 7207 Yarrow Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610; 707-363-4482  
Publish: Dec 15, 22, 29, 2023  
GUTHREY 12-29-23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
KRISTINA LEE RENDINA FORMERLY KNOWN AS KRISTINA LIPUMA  
CASE NO. 23PR00622

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Kristina Lee Rendina formerly known as Kristina Lipuma.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Michael Rendina, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Michael Rendina be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: January 30, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Mindin J. Reid, ESQ, 950 Sharp Road Suite 701, Yuba City, CA 95993; 530-674-9761  
Publish: Dec 29, 2023, Jan 5, 12, 2024  
LIPUMA 1-12-24

## TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 115935-CA APN: 009-103-001-000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 6/22/2020. 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 PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 3/6/2024 at 3:30 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 6/25/2020 as Instrument No. 2020-0025081 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Butte County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: EVAN WILLIAMS, A SINGLE MAN 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 ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS

ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; At the main entrance to the Butte County Courthouse, 1 Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1595 OAK ST, GRIDLEY, CA 95948 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured 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: \$318,030.91 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 under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding 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 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 the property. 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 (800) 758-8052 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.HOMESARCH.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 115935-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. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 115935-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (800) 758-8052 CLEAR RECON CORP 8880 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92108 GRIDLEY HERALD Publish 12/29/2023, 1/5/2024, 1/12/2024 GRIDLEY HERALD 1/12/2024

T.S. No.: 9543-3577 TSG Order No.: 2834744 A.P.N.: 116-263-015-000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/26/2016. 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 PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NBS Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded 12/13/2016 as Document No.: 2016-0007485, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Plumas County, California, executed by: WILBUR N STUBBLEFIELD, as Trustor, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by 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 association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced

Deed of Trust. Sale Date & Time: 01/24/2024 at 11:00 AM Sale Location: Sale will be held at HUDSON MARSHALL- At the Main Entrance to the County Courthouse Located at 520 Main Street, Quincy, CA 95971 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 250 KAREN ST, QUINCY, CA 95971 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition, 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 said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$115,776.10 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding 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 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 the property. 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 866-826-1670 or visit this internet website, <https://www.hudsonandmarshall.com/>, using the file number assigned to this case T.S.# 9543-3577. 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 website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can pur-

## BUTTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COUNTY INITIATED AMENDMENTS TO BUTTE COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 24, ZONING ORDINANCE – PARCEL WIDTH, RESIDENTIAL DENSITY, DENOVO APPROVALS, ACCESSORY USES & STRUCTURES, CLASSIFICATION OF MIXED USE ZONE, RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES (ZCA23-0004 & ZCA23-0005)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Butte County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on **January 9, 2024**, at 9:30 a.m., or shortly thereafter, to consider amendments to Butte County Code Chapter 24, Zoning Ordinance. The hearing will be open to the public and held at the Butte County Board of Supervisors' Chambers, located at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 205, Oroville, California.

### Summary of Amendments to Butte County Code Chapter 24, Zoning Ordinance

The following County-initiated zoning code amendments are proposed to apply to the unincorporated area of Butte County: 1) Providing a definition of "Parcel Frontage" and removing references to minimum parcel width requirements within certain zones, 2) Modifying residential density standards by replacing references to acreage with references to individual parcels, 3) Applying a reference to the "De Novo" review of appealed applications, 4) Clarifying land use regulations for Accessory Dwelling Units within Mixed Use zones, 5) Re-classifying Mixed Use Zones from "Commercial" to "Urban", 6) Replacing references to "maximum residential density" for certain zones with references to minimum parcel size, 7) Removing the Minor Use Permit requirement for Large Residential Care Homes in the Medium Density Residential (MDR) and Low Density Residential (LDR) zones, and 8) Modifying the definition of Residential Care Homes to add language elaborating on the specific Board and Care, Sober Living Home, and Sober Living Environment and Sober Living Home land use types, and limiting the number of persons allowed under the Large Residential Care Home definition to fourteen (14).

These zoning code amendments are exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which exempts activities covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects with the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment.

The amendments summarized above are on file and available for public viewing at the Butte County Department of Development Services, 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965. For additional project information, please contact Assistant Planner Austin Forde, Development Services, Planning Division at (530) 552.3686 or [aforde@buttecounty.net](mailto:aforde@buttecounty.net). For information, please contact Assistant Planner Austin Forde, Butte County Development Services Department, Planning Division at (530) 552-3686 or [aforde@buttecounty.net](mailto:aforde@buttecounty.net).

Comments regarding the project may be submitted in writing at any time prior to the hearing or orally at the scheduled hearing listed above. Members of the public can submit public comments in the following ways: U.S. Mail to 25 County Center Drive, Suite 200, ATTN: Clerk of the Board; voicemail at (530) 552.3303; eComment (<https://buttecounty.granicusideas.com/meetings>), or by email to: [ClerkoftheBoard@ButteCounty.net](mailto:ClerkoftheBoard@ButteCounty.net). Please include the agenda item number when submitting public comments.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the hearing, please contact us at (530) 552.3300. Notification at least 72 hours before the hearing will enable staff to make reasonable arrangements.

**Paula M. Daneluk, AICP, Director, Butte County Department of Development Services**

The Gridley Herald 12-29-2023



# Contracts and 2024 Holiday Lights Top Live Oak Council

By Sharon Pearce

**LIVE OAK, CA (MPG)** - Bringing to conclusion long-pending contracts with the Sheriff and Fire Dept. dominated discussion at the last Live Oak City Council of 2023 on December 20th. The Fire Dept. contract had run, but returning a new one had been put in abeyance pending working on the more costly Sheriff's Contract. Council started unsure of how long the Fire Dept. contract had been in negotiation, and upon checking, determined the old contract ran in June 2022.

Mayor Ashley Hernandez and Vice-Mayor Nancy Santana expressed much consternation over the fact that the Fire Dept. contract ran the very next month after Council started negotiating the Sheriff's contract. Confusion was expressed as to whether anyone formally said not to continue to focus on the Fire contract until the Sheriff's contract was done. Mayor Hernandez commented "That is unbelievable and embarrassing." Vice-Mayor Santana commented she would never have said "Wait" on a Fire contract. "We need to get the Fire contract done for our community and residents, and not put it on the back burner."

Santana asked for a special meeting, and City Manager Aaron Palmer agreed to set it for 1pm Friday, December 22, with Chief Epperson present. Palmer said he would also show payments made to the Fire Dept. since June 2022, and indicated he would call the County the first thing the next morning, the 21st, to make sure the contract would be sent in for the meeting on the 22nd.

As to the Fire contract, Palmer indicated the Fire Dept. is requesting a third firefighter, and to pick up a battalion chief, and they want the firefighter cost covered on a split of 85/15% up from 80%. The overall increase to the city for the contract would be \$244K. Council discussed details on equipment, and which firefighters were qualified as medics for emergencies, including for administering drugs. Vice-Mayor Santana said she would like the third firefighter, and for him to be in Live Oak 100% of the time.

Council members went through reassignments to committee positions. Vice-Mayor Santana requested to be on the Arts Committee. Jeramy Chapdelaine wanted to stay on the LAFCO and SACOG Committees. Bob Woten requested to stay on Economic Development but switched out to Mayor Hernandez being the Regular, and he being the Alternate. Woten said he wanted to remain on the Executive Committee of the Yuba Sutter Economic Development Commission (YSEDC).

All new assignments were to be laid out and distributed to council.

Councilmember Lakhvir Ghag reported on his meetings, stating the League of Cities meeting emphasized safety, and keeping crime down, followed by Housing, with an emphasis to build smaller houses for affordability. The Mosquito Vector meeting revealed a case of West Nile had been recorded, and vehicles had been sold at auction, returning good money. At SACOG, the emphasis was on a possible toll highway developing with three different toll lanes and how many members for that committee would come from each county. The Feather River Air Quality meeting indicated that trading in vehicles is beginning and Live Oak can put in an application in January.

Council member Ghag commented "Let's work together; strength is in numbers. Let's make this the best community to live in and raise our children." He also shared that an individual connected with the Live Oak Chamber told him the person had a lot of old Chamber records and material that some organization needs to take over and that person would be willing to meet with the city about the material, which may include banners used in the past for holidays. Councilmember Ghag recommended reactivating the office upstairs that had been set aside for meetings for the mayor and council members, to which the council agreed.

Vice-Mayor Santana indicated residents had commented that the city's holiday decorations were few and very old and would appreciate upgrades on our lights, having them down Broadway, and updating decorations. "I'd like to see lights on our City Hall," said Santana, who offered to donate a large tree off her property which could be relocated and decorated. The Vice-Mayor also inquired if candy could be thrown from the Santa on a Fire Truck event on the 21st to make it more special. Mayor Hernandez indicated residents would like to create a volunteer committee where money for decorations could be brought in, so not all of it would just be from the City.

Director of Public Works Ron Walker was recognized with an award and his photo taken.

The Holiday Lights Decorating Contest winners were Bessara, 3rd; the Watson family, 2nd; the Bates family, 1st and the Mayor's Pick, Erlick Hedrick, apartment.

Council approved Additional Business Grant Applications recommending funding all 14, and approving a budget transfer of \$245,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

The meeting adjourned at 7 pm. ★

# Drowsy Dump Truck Driver Sentenced in 2019 Vehicular Deaths

**Butte County District Attorney News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - A Camp Fire dump truck driver was sentenced on December 20 on two counts of felony vehicular manslaughter by a Butte County Superior Court judge. The charges were the result of a four-vehicle collision that occurred on June 21, 2019, and left two people dead and four others seriously injured.

Thomas Fairhurst, 59, of Antioch, was driving a 26,000-pound 2011 Volvo dump truck northbound on Highway 99, as he approached the red light at Neal Road south of Chico. Fairhurst was driving at 55 mph when he collided with the rear of a subcompact Chevrolet Aveo that was stopped at the red light. There was no evidence of braking by Fairhurst before the impact. Fairhurst's dump truck struck the Chevrolet from behind and pushed it into a Toyota Sienna SUV that had also been stopped at the red light. The Toyota was then, in turn, pushed into the rear of and under a semi-truck that had been stopped in front of the Toyota. Both the Chevrolet and Toyota sustained extensive damage.

Donald Shippen, 53, of Chico, and his wife, Apryl Shippen, 56, both passengers in the Chevrolet, were pronounced dead at the scene as a result of the collision. Their adult son, the driver of the Chevrolet, sustained major

injuries and was transported to Enloe Hospital.

Three occupants of the Toyota also suffered major injuries and were transported to Enloe Hospital. Fairhurst and the semi-truck driver were not injured.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said an investigation by the California Highway Patrol Major Accident Investigation Team revealed Fairhurst had engaged in late-night partying and activities in the days leading up to the collision while he was working long days in the Paradise area. Investigators concluded Fairhurst did not obtain the amount of sleep needed to operate his commercial vehicle safely and attentively, and that he fell asleep as he approached the busy Neal Road intersection.

Ramsey said Fairhurst's case was one of many serious cases on the Butte County court docket that were delayed repeatedly during the Covid pandemic.

Fairhurst initially pled guilty on February 15, 2023, to two counts of felony vehicular manslaughter, but he failed to appear at his sentencing hearing on April 20, 2023. A warrant was issued for his arrest. Ramsey stated his office filed an additional charge for failing to appear.

At today's sentencing hearing, Fairhurst was sentenced to both counts of vehicular manslaughter, as well as the failure to appear charge for a total of ten years to be served in state prison. ★

# Cold Case Suspect Pleads No Contest to Murder

**Butte County District Attorney News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - A suspected cold case killer finally admitted to murder in the Butte County Superior Court today. Dustin Troy Kimball, 49, of Magalia, pleaded no contest to a single count of murder for the 2017 homicide of Jennifer Coleen Moore.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Moore was reported missing to the Glenn County Sheriff's Office on June 20, 2017. Friends and family had last seen her the day prior, leaving her home in Orland with her then-boyfriend, the defendant Kimball. Moore left her special-needs son at home with her roommate while she went with Kimball to purchase a car for herself, but she never returned. The Glenn County Sheriff's Office investigated the missing person report, but Moore was not located during their investigation and the case "went cold" for the next three and a half years.

Ramsey said on January 10, 2021, the Butte County Sheriff's Office responded to a call of human remains found in a rural area near the Butte County community of Forest Ranch, off Highway 32. The skeletal remains were evaluated by forensic

anthropologists from Chico State and were ultimately determined to be those of the missing Moore.

At the preliminary hearing on December 20, Ramsey said that the evidence established Kimball was the last person to be seen with Moore on June 19, 2017. After he picked her up from her home in Orland, he drove her to the Chico Walmart, which was the last location they were seen together on store surveillance.

Evidence of Kimball's internet search history revealed that less than an hour before picking up Moore from her Orland home, he was searching topics related to "jugular vein" and "how to cut a jugular vein." Kimball's cellphone location data revealed that after leaving the Chico Walmart that evening, he spent an hour at the exact area where Moore's remains would later be found off Highway 32. The data also showed Kimball returned to that site the following day, on June 20, 2017 – though Moore's remains would not be found at that site for another three years.

Kimball's sentencing is set for January 31, 2024. As a result of the plea, Kimball faces a sentence of 15 years to life in state prison. He is currently being held with no bail in the Butte County Jail pending sentencing. ★

# Live Oak Fire Contract Agreed to and Submitted to County

*Continued from page 1*

set following the wake-up call at the council meeting of December 20 as to how long the fire contract had been pending, though the fire dept. was paid regularly, once attention was turned to negotiating the new sheriff's contract. The latter "shocked" Vice Mayor Santana, she said, at the December 20 regular meeting, with

what was asked for in new expenditure and the negotiation involved.

Chief Shalowitz, in commenting on the delay, said he was told Council wanted to solve the sheriff's contract first. "I came with a wish list. The city manager wanted stats for the 100% of cost. I am sure with the two contracts moving forward, it was very trying, but that is what I had." ★

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# COMICS & PUZZLES

## The Spats



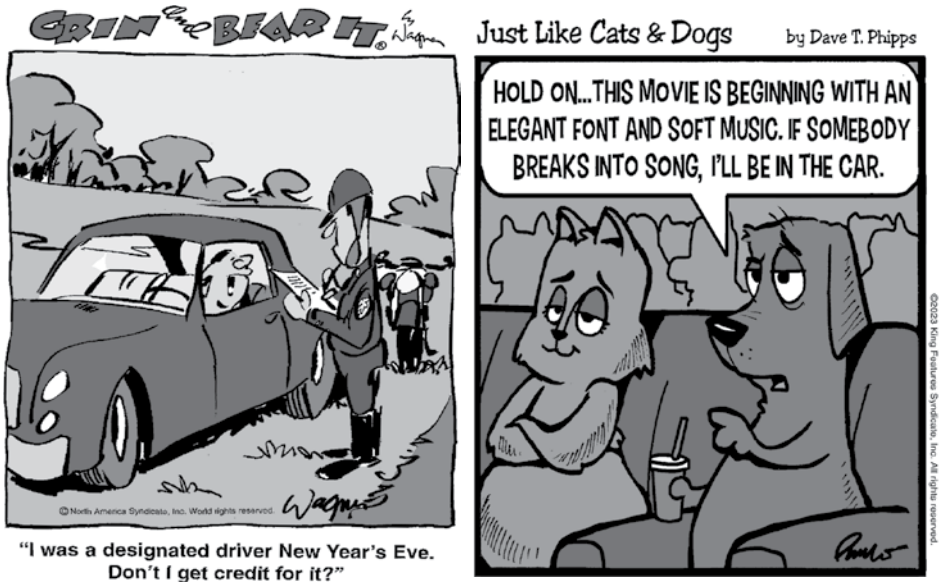
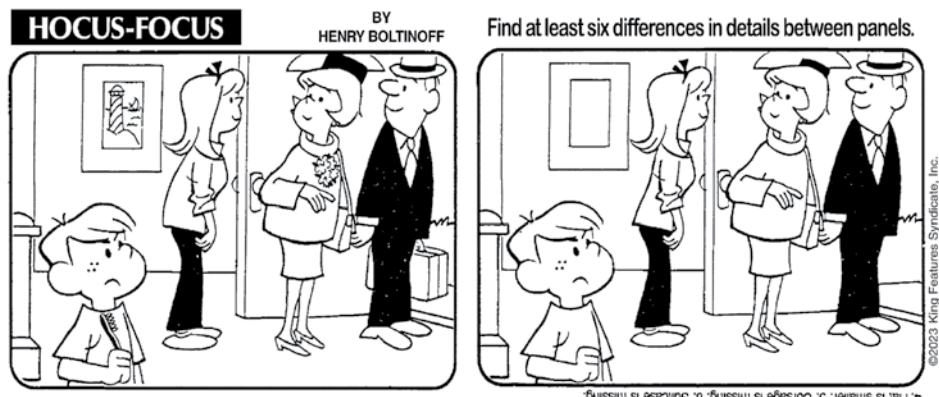
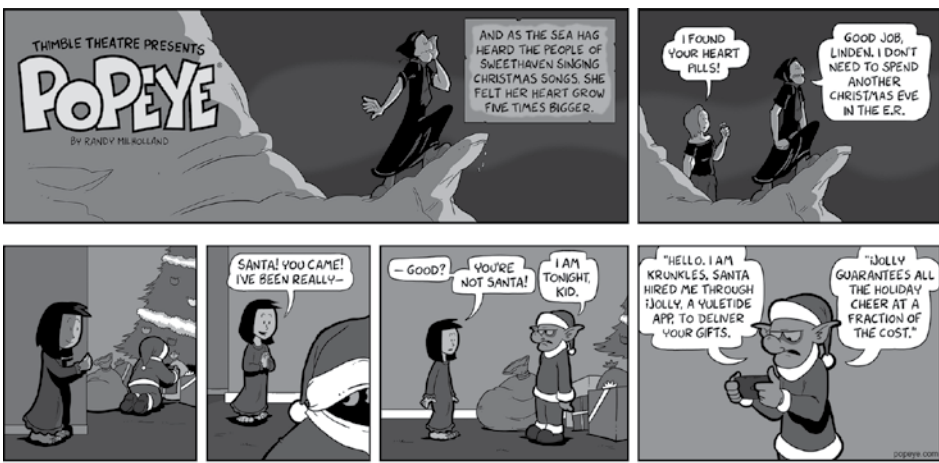
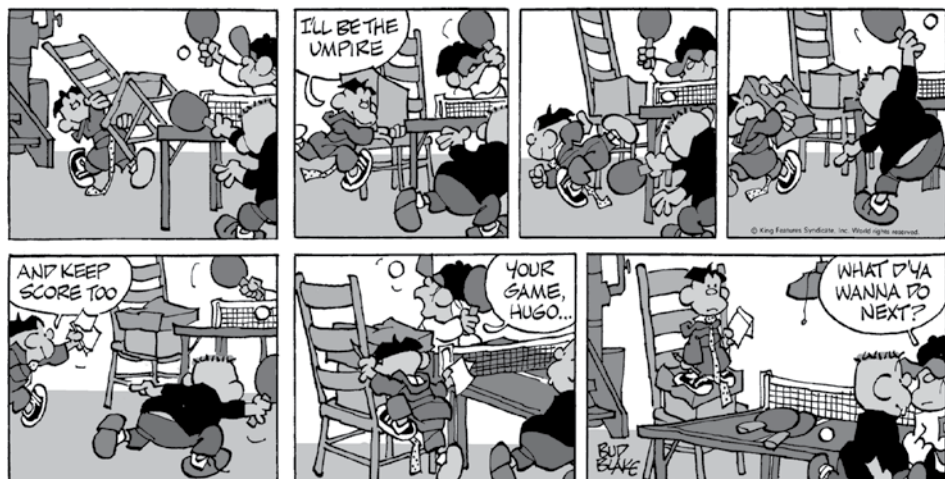
## Amber Waves



## Out on a Limb



## TIGER



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**CLUES**

**ACROSS**

- NASDAQ's TSLA
- Meme dance move
- Feudal laborer
- Plant louse
- Inflated feeling
- Signaling flare
- She turned to stone, Greek mythology
- Barn call
- L in AWOL
- \*Zodiac sign for those born on Halloween
- \*Ford "Zodiac"
- Cash machine, acr.
- Island
- Short for although
- Cul de \_\_\_\_, pl.
- Owing something (2 words)
- Argo's propellers
- Mature
- Passed
- Guilty, e.g.
- Presidential promises, e.g.
- Those against
- Waker-upper
- Skin infection
- King of beasts
- \*1960s California serial killer
- Address a deity
- Short for ensign
- Hoodwink
- New Zealand parrot
- \*Fish sign
- \*Half man/half horse sign
- Blood vessel
- This is well if it ends well
- Body trunk
- Move like ivy
- Grazing field
- Plant with liquorice-flavored seeds
- Catch one's breath
- Trim the lawn
- Roebuck's partner

**DOWN**

- Sun kisses
- Colossal
- Pest command
- \*Zodiac sign or Don DeLillo's 1998 novel
- One who is skilled at something
- Visual presentation
- "Four score and seven years"
- Dora the Explorer's simian friend
- Court petitioner
- Genesis twin
- RPMs
- Extra charge
- Like a native speaker
- Insect, post-metamorphosis
- Prince in Disney's "Aladdin" movie
- Heavy hydrogen, e.g.
- \*Birthstone for some born under Scorpio or Sagittarius
- Hello, alt. sp.
- Mountain nymph
- \*Cancer crustacean
- Lentil soup
- Golfer Els
- Take a chance (2 words)
- \*Gemini
- Delhi dress
- Sound of a fan

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# Gridley Boys Split Week as Girls' Basketball Gets Swept

Story and photos  
by Steven Bryla

## BOYS BASKETBALL

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley boys' basketball team split their two games during the week of December 18th-22nd with a 31-point victory over Colusa and a four-point loss in double overtime to Marysville.

Gridley head coach Nathan Link expressed to the Herald that in the Colusa game, the Bulldogs were able to shoot the ball effectively and defensively didn't let Colusa break out in transition in the Gridley 70-39 victory on Monday, December 18.

Link added that Colusa was also in the process of working their football players back into basketball shape as they recently just finished up a state football championship title run.

Link told the Herald the RedHawks will be a better team overall if they met again in the playoffs and not to let the score of this recent game be deceiving.

Gridley senior forward Aaron Kullar led the Bulldogs with 25 points, senior forward Kiko Castillo added 14 points and junior guard Luis Murillo added 11 points in the big win.

Gridley took the Marysville Indians to double overtime but fell 84-80 on Wednesday, December 20. The Bulldogs had a 10-point lead at the end of the first half.

Kullar had a team-high 26 points followed by Castillo's 16. The Indians had a big fourth quarter comeback to tie the game and it took two extra time periods to pull away from Gridley.

The Bulldogs ended their 2023 part of the season by playing in the Dixon tournament that began this past Wednesday.

Link told the Herald he wants his team to continue to grow for the Butte View League competition and playoffs.



Gridley senior forward Aaron Kullar (23) tracks down a rebound in a Bulldogs loss to Sutter on Friday, December 15 at the Colusa tournament.



## GIRLS BASKETBALL

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley girls' basketball team lost both of their games from December 18-22 with losses on the road at Colusa and Marysville.

Gridley lost an overtime game 58-49 at Colusa on Tuesday, December 19 and got doubled up in a 66-32 loss the following night at Marysville.

Lady Bulldogs junior forward Brook Marr and senior guard AnaGloria Luevano had 22 points each in the loss at Colusa and were the only two to score double-digits in the loss at Marysville with 15 (Marr) and 11 (Luevano).

Marr is averaging 19.1 points per game, 13.2 rebounds per game and 6.4 blocks per game, which was the second best in the nation as of Monday, December 25.

Luevano is averaging 10.4 ppg, 2.3 assists per game and 2.7 steals per game.

Gridley had a brutal schedule this week to close out 2023 as they are competing in a tournament at Lincoln against fierce Division I teams.

The Lady Bulldogs play Inderkum, Foothill and Capital Christian.

Luevano told the Herald the tournament will help with the team chemistry and find what one another's strengths are going into Butte View League play for all kinds of different situations during a game.

Additionally, the Lady Bulldogs know what to expect when they begin their BVL opener against Corning on Tuesday, January 9 but they are pushing and striving to improve better as an overall team. ★

Left: Gridley junior forward Brook Marr (2) goes for a loose ball in the Lady Bulldogs 66-32 defeat to Marysville on Wednesday, December 20.

## Gridley Unified School District COACHING VACANCIES



Gridley High School is currently looking to fill the following coaching positions for the 2023-2024 school year:



## Spring Sports Varsity Baseball

If you'd like more information about the position, contact our Athletic Director:  
**Nathan Link at [nlink@gusd.org](mailto:nlink@gusd.org)**

Applications can be found on the Employment Opportunities page on the Gridley Unified School District website: [www.gusd.org](http://www.gusd.org).

Please submit applications and resumes to:  
**Tammy Carr - [tcarr@guds.org](mailto:tcarr@guds.org)**



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