



A Big Change
at EDD

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Gridley
Basketball
Aim Towards
Winning BVL

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INSIDE

MAN ARRAIGNED
FOR CHICO TACO
BELL STABBING



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AND ROOTS
By Barbara Ott



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WHAT HAPPENED
IN THE EARLY 70'S?



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Retiring City Administrator Speaks Highly
of Council and New Administration

By Cindy Scott

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Cliff Wagner recently retired as Gridley City Administrator, leaving the position to Elisa Arteaga. In an exit interview, Wagner spoke of his tenure and the team he felt fortunate to work with.

Before Wagner took the position of city administrator, he worked in the California State Legislature for 27 years, 18 of them as Chief of Staff to several assemblymen and senators. However, he had long considered municipal government, taking mostly public administration courses while completing his Political Science master's degree at Chico State.

After graduation, Wagner kept his employment at the Legislature, but continued familiarizing himself with municipal operations and observing the recruitment cycles at area cities. He knew some of the Gridley city council members and eventually let them know he was interested in applying for the next vacancy. After competing with other candidates, he was offered the position of Gridley City Administrator.

Wagner noted that he was fortunate to bring 27 years of legislative experience to the new role, noting, "What we're doing here is legislative



Cliff Wagner, outgoing Gridley City Administrator, stands with Elisa Arteaga, who is now serving as administrator. Photo by Cindy Scott

and policy work. The mechanics are slightly different, but the principles are the same."

Wagner said, "The first objective that I had was alignment, to make sure

I knew what their [the Council's] priorities were, and to make certain that the department heads were clear on the expectations and directions of the Council."

Wagner also focused on deficits in the electric, water, and wastewater funds. Looking over the last several years of budget summaries, he saw

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DUI Driver
Pleads Guilty
in Deadly
Highway 99
Collision

Butte County
District Attorney
News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - In a surprise early plea, a 26-year-old single mother tearfully pleaded guilty on December 27 in Butte Superior Court to gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated for a head-on collision on the Highway 99 freeway in Chico less than two weeks prior.

Shelby Alvarez, 26, of Chico, pleaded guilty as charged at her first court appearance with her public defender, admitting that on December 16, 2023, at approximately 11:00 p.m., she drove with a 0.25% blood alcohol content, while texting on her cell phone, the wrong way on Highway 99 near Highway 32 in Chico. Her 2009 Subaru Outback sedan crashed head-on into a northbound 2007 Chevrolet Corvette driven by Octavio Alcaraz-Jimenez, 21, of Maxwell.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said California Highway Patrol officers who responded to the crash scene found Alvarez had been traveling southbound in the northbound section of the freeway, when her Subaru hit the front of Alcaraz-Jimenez's Corvette, riding over the front of his car, ejecting him out of his car, and killing him at the scene. The Subaru was found on its side, but Alvarez suffered only minor seatbelt injuries and lacerations. Alvarez said she was texting on her phone at the time of the collision and did not see the oncoming car.

Ramsey said Alcaraz-Jimenez had been working building carparks to support his mother and father in Maxwell. He chose to forego school to earn money to support his family, paying for car and home insurance, and groceries.

During questioning on the night of the crash, Alvarez told officers she had been drinking at a family Christmas party when she left to go home. She told officers she knew of the dangers of driving under the influence, as she had a tattoo in memory of one of her high school friends who was killed by a drunk driver.

Ramsey said, "It is exceedingly rare for a person to accept full responsibility for their wrongdoing without any

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First Snow Survey of the Season
Finds Below Average Conditions

DWR Special Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the first snow survey of the season on January 2, 2023, at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 7.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent of 3 inches, which is 30 percent of average for this location. The snow water equivalent measures the amount of water contained in the snowpack and is a key component of DWR's water supply forecast. Statewide the snowpack is 25 percent of average for this date.

After one of the largest snowpacks on record last season, the start of this water year has been dry despite some recent storms in the last weeks of December that provided a

small boost in the snowpack. While state reservoirs are still above average for this time of year and strong El Niño conditions are present in the Pacific

Ocean, the outlook for the rest of the winter remains highly uncertain.

"California saw firsthand last year how historic drought conditions can

quickly give way to unprecedented, dangerous flooding," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "Although El Niño does

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The Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted the first snow survey of the season on January 2, 2023, at Phillips Station. The manual survey recorded 7.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent of 3 inches, which is 30 percent of average for this location. Photo courtesy of DWR

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

From the Original Publisher Burleson Pi Line of January 2, 1980 (43 years ago) we find this: What happened in the early 1970's that didn't change the course of Gridley? The realigned Hwy 99E freeway didn't get built. Now, going into the 1980's, the city continues to grow in spite of the Hwy fizzle, and the first shopping center is about to open. In the waning 70's, there was a flurry of activity towards annexations and homebuilding... dampened considerably by the downturn of the economy and skyrocketing interest rates. Sometime in the 80's we're going to see these plans realized. The demand for them... people needing homes... is still there. We might see zoning completed in the next ten years, allowance for light industry, and

maybe some more jobs. Farmers are going to have to solve the problems created by more government regulations. Restrictions on pesticides will continue to plague the crop dusting industry. And rice straw will still be rice straw unless we see a change to another crop, such as cotton. However, the world's demand for food could change the whole farming picture. Gridley will continue to prosper in comparison to other cities because of its sewage, water, and power situation. But, progress will necessitate more indebtedness for expansion in all utilities and services. More government grants will be pursued. The paper is ten years younger than the city. If you figure, as we do, that the city has a 4,000 population and divide that by 110 years, you come up with a growth rate of 36 persons per year. That would be less than one percent growth this year... but it may be closer to accurate than you think. Most of the growth is outside the city limits these days, particularly in mobile homes, a sign of the problems in the construction industry. Postmaster Dick

Waterbury says he figures there are 12,000 persons served by the Gridley Post Office. This does not count the overlap with rural Biggs and Live Oak, and Oroville Route 2 (Robinson's Corner area). We would guess 18,000 is a better number of people presently in the immediate Gridley trade area. And the predictions for the 1980's now become frightening. Can you compute the idea of doubling the population, 36,000 people in this rural area? It could happen and probably will. Meanwhile, at the post office, there are more immediate problems. The County of Butte is assigning new Gridley addresses and sending notices to all the people concerned except the post office. If you want to receive your mail, fill out a change of address card and leave it at the Gridley P.O. The change of addresses will be county-wide to get the county organized for the future...and expected growth.

Josh F.W. Cook was born in Gridley. Opinions expressed here belong to Bill Burleson, former publisher of the Gridley Herald. ★

BCPH Maintains Status through the Public Health Accreditation Board

BCPH News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Butte County Department of Public Health (BCPH) has achieved national re-accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), making them only the fourth local health department out of California's 58 counties to achieve this accomplishment. In maintaining its accreditation status for another five years, BCPH has demonstrated that it meets quality standards and measures established by PHAB, ensuring the department's effectiveness at improving the health of the residents of Butte County.

BCPH first received national accreditation on September 13, 2017, after undergoing a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process. At that time, they were one of only 10 local public health departments in the state to achieve accreditation.

The non-profit PHAB works to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation. PHAB's accreditation program, which receives support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards against which the nation's governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance.

"We are pleased to again be recognized by PHAB for achieving national standards that foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement," said Danette York, Director of BCPH. "Accreditation is completely

voluntary for local health departments - this achievement should reassure our community that services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our residents and visitors."

WHAT WAS INVOLVED?
To achieve reaccreditation, BCPH successfully underwent the detailed development of narratives, reports, and policies to demonstrate compliance with PHAB's 90 required measures - receiving a score of 100%. Additionally, BCPH received high marks from reviewers after a site visit on September 21st.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?
Launched in 2011, national public health accreditation is a process in the field of public health for State, tribal, local, and territorial jurisdictions. It was developed out of recognition for the importance of a strong infrastructure to address public health challenges that the nation faces. These challenges include but are not limited to combating the epidemic of chronic disease; protecting the public from emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases; responding to emergencies, in a time when terrorism and climate change are additional factors; and advancing health equity across a diverse population.

Often called the "backbone" of the public health system, public health departments are on the front lines of communities' efforts to protect and promote health and prevent disease and injury. PHAB-accredited health departments demonstrate great leadership by placing their work for peer review and using the feedback obtained to improve the services they provide to their communities. ★

DUI Driver Pleads Guilty in Deadly Highway 99 Collision

Continued from page 1
deal and throw themselves on the mercy of the court at such an early stage of the proceeding."
In court today, Alvarez's public defender requested Judge

Cory Caraway allow the own-recognition release of his client to an alcohol rehabilitation program, pending sentencing, noting her lack of any prior criminal history and her acceptance of

responsibility for her actions. Prosecutors objected to Alvarez's release, noting her high blood alcohol content and her personal knowledge of how deadly and dangerous it was to combine

drinking and driving. Judge Caraway denied the defense's request for release citing public safety concerns and remanded Alvarez back to Butte County Jail where she has been since the

crash on a no-bail hold. Sentencing is set for January 31, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Alvarez, who is eligible for probation, faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in state prison. ★



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MEMORIAL

KENNETH E. OLSON 4/17/1932-12/11/2023

Kenneth E. Olson, 91, of Gridley passed away on December 11, 2023. He was born on April 17, 1932 in Aurora, Illinois to Percy and Dorothy Olson. Ken was a veteran of the US Air Force. He was a very active parent to his 3 sons in 4-H, FFA, youth sports leadership and school events. Ken was a very devoted and loving husband, father, grandparent and is truly missed. He is survived by his wife Nancy; sons Gary (Linda) and Steven, and Alvin (Pat); 5 grandchildren, and 2 great-great granddaughters.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Ken's honor on Friday, January 12, 2024 at the Yuba City Moose Lodge at 205 S. Walton Ave., from 11 am to 3



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City Administrator Speaks Highly of Council and New Administration

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“negative trajectories” for these utility funds, saying, “Those don’t self-correct. Someone has to do something. And the process starts with a comprehensive analysis which is best, performed by people who are subject-matter experts in doing that.”

The Council approved an exhaustive rate study, which Wagner said gave the city a clear picture of where they stood if they did nothing and gave several design options for a rate increase. Wagner added, “What we found out...is that our rates are some 40% less than PG&E. That’s a pretty significant difference. The challenge is, if our electric utility fund isn’t managed and kept current, because costs of maintenance only escalate, we have to make a regular review and adjustments to make sure that it stays healthy.”

Wagner explained that the city owns an electrical franchise that, if poorly managed, can be stripped away by the state and given to PG&E, “Notwithstanding the fact that everyone universally opposes rate increases, you have to manage the franchise. If we’re not managing the enterprise, that special fund, or water/wastewater, we won’t be in a position to do rehabilitation of aging infrastructure.”

One challenge Wagner encountered was out-of-date audits, which he called the city’s “fiscal business report card.” Covid had interrupted the auditing process, which affects the city in grant applications and reports. It can also affect the city’s standing with the California State Treasurer’s Office and applications for state and federal funds. A new auditor has been hired, and a two-year audit is underway.

Wagner also addressed the bigger, slower initiatives, projects that take years from inception to completion. He gave Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) as one example. The city currently uses metering technology that is 20 years old—staff drive around

with an Itron device to collect use data.

AMI, a newer technology, provides data on both sides of the meter, revealing urgent transformer problems that need addressed. AMI will be useful as residents install electric car charging stations and the California legislature moves the state toward full electrification. Wagner said, “We want to be able to keep pace with the regulatory machine in Sacramento by having the most modern capabilities.”

AMI will also be useful in times of uncertain power supply. Wagner explained the hypothetical, “The California Independent System Operator contacts NCPA and says, ‘We need you and your affiliates to shed load by 15%.’ NCPA contacts us and says, ‘Your portion of that is 5%.’ AMI metering will allow us to keep all of our medically sensitive homes on and to strategically shed load on a rotational basis, in a way, we might shut off your jacuzzi, but leave your freezer and your refrigerator and AC on.”

The city has seen several development projects during Wagner’s tenure. A trucking company and storage company will operate out of the industrial park, with other parcels in process of development. The cookie company Avatar will operate out of the Stapleton’s facility on the north end of town. When operational, they will produce 4,000 lbs of cookies every hour.

Calling the Orchard View apartments going up on Hwy 99 another example of a slower initiative, Wagner reported that the city first earmarked community development block grant funding for the project in 2017. Orchard View plans to make 33 income-adjusted units available December of 2024. When completely built out, Orchard View will top out a 104 units.

Wagner has most enjoyed working with his colleagues, “I’m grateful for the opportunity that I’ve been given to work with this

team—the employees, the management, and this council. There’s few things more rewarding than being able to make a difference in your own community.”

He reported that there are 37-42 city staff, fluctuating with vacancies and seasonal employees. Wagner said, “My time in the military setting reinforced my experience here, in that we function as a team: the staff, all its departments, which are very interdependent. Go without your sewer main for 12 hours, and your public works department will become your number one priority overnight. All of those departments matter a great deal to our residents. ...We have good people doing good work. We cannot succeed without every department fulfilling its essential role, including the Council.”

Wagner spoke of the role of the city council members, which he described as, “Far more workload than anyone bargains for...” Calling them the policy-making legislative body for the city, he described their work in approving contracts, designing budgets, and reviewing and approving capital outlay. The Council meets twice a month, each meeting with a packet of 100-300 pages with supporting documents and staff recommendations.

Wagner noted the professionalism and capabilities of the council members, saying they take their roles seriously—they don’t rubber-stamp anything. Wagner added they have healthy, vigorous debates on divisive concerns, but “They set aside their personal concerns and work to do what’s highest and best for the residents of Gridley.”

Wagner lauded the council members he has worked for, “... I consider myself very fortunate to have a council of people who are different one from another philosophically. It is a diverse council, but it also represents the makeup of the City of Gridley. They are each independent-minded people.”

Speaking of Mayor Mike Farr,

Wagner noted his background in agriculture and his two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter door gunner and crew chief, “He is a person who cares very deeply about the welfare of this community, and he is someone who volunteers for a second tour of Vietnam. He loves his country.”

He noted that Vice Mayor Bruce Johnson is going on 10 years of service on the Council, “He has, as every city council member does, taken a lot of grief. He’s been doing that for 10 years. He brings an enormous amount of expertise, experience of the city’s history...He helps provide a level of continuity.”

Speaking of Councilmember Angel Calderon, Wagner stated, “He has been serving our community and its members working against gang activity with our youth, through the Catholic church, as an extension of his work as a mental health professional and is someone who cares very deeply about the residents of the city of Gridley.”

Wagner noted that Councilmember Catalina Sanchez grew up in Gridley, attended schools here and “knows everybody.” She has worked in the California State Legislature and understands state policy-making. She is the city’s liaison to the NCPA, serving on several committees and as a member of the NCPA Executive Board, pushing information and attention items to the city admin, utility director, and the Council. Wagner continued, “It requires an enormous commitment, and she’s demonstrated a great level of commitment to this community.”

Wagner noted that Councilmember James Roberts served in the Gridley Police Department, making a career of putting his skin on the line to keep us safe. Roberts has a “heart for public service,” serving as president of the Moose Lodge and as city liaison to the Chamber of Commerce on their events.

Wagner described the

impressive attributes Elisa Arteaga, his successor, brings to the position of City Administrator. Wagner reported that Arteaga has worked for the city for over 20 years in the Financial Department, bringing with her a comprehensive knowledge of the city budget and the status of current capital improvement programs, grants, initiatives, and services.

Arteaga brings experience with grant compliance, working with state agencies, problem solving, and she has well-honed interpersonal strengths. She has served as union rep, bringing an understanding of the needs of employees.

Wagner spoke strongly of Arteaga’s two greatest assets – trust and continuity, noting that, when there’s an opportunity to promote internally, there is added trust: she is trusted by her colleagues, and she has been trusted with the city’s money. Wagner said, “Continuity exerted itself because she had already earned their trust. They [the Council] already had a relationship. When we build upon that, we are able to...achieve that mission.”

Wagner added that Arteaga will, “Bring good decision making and bring an affable approach and a professional approach and unify this team. She’s absolutely that person.”

After serving two years and seven months as Gridley City Administrator, Wagner will return to political consulting, eager to do it from home in his pajamas. He looks forward to being a very present grandfather to his three grandchildren. He plans to continue his community service in the VFW, American Legion, and the Biggs Gridley Cemetery Court of Honor Committee, which organizes the Memorial Day and Veterans Day events.

Calling himself a “faith-driven person,” Wagner also hopes to serve a mission, with his wife Marla, for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. For that, he will have to wait until she retires. ★

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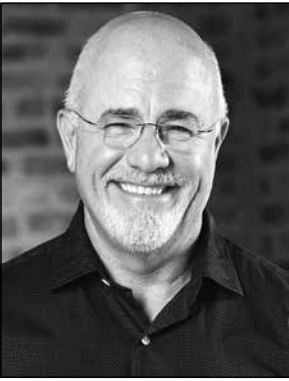
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Meet Dr. Satvir Dhillon, Internal Medicine

Adventist Health and Rideout Gridley Primary Care is proud to welcome Satvir Dhillon, MD to our community. She is an internal medicine physician with a passion for creating access to healthcare. She balances science of medicine with her desire to provide care for others. Her focus on diagnosis and treatment of disease for adults of all ages is foundational to her medical practice. Dr. Dhillon provides in-depth attention to each patient’s condition and uses that knowledge to get to the root cause of a disease or health concern.





But Will He Listen?

Dear Dave,

My best friend is having financial problems, and I'm worried about him. He's "between jobs" now and making less than \$600 a month through a part-time job. He says he's holding out for his dream job, which is about ten hours away, but even when he's working full time, he always asks to borrow money or says he's running low. He interviewed for his dream job several months ago, and I haven't got the heart to tell him he was probably passed over for the position. Is there anything I can do to help him?

– Garrett

Dear Garrett,

I assume that since you're good friends, he's willing to listen to what you have to say. There's absolutely nothing wrong with having a dream job. You just have

Dave Ramsey Says

to be practical and realistic at the same time.

This next part is more observation than insult, so I hope you'll understand. Your friend sounds to me like he might be a little impulsive and unrealistic. When it comes right down to it, maybe a touch immature, too. So, I think what we're talking about here is how to give your friend a gentle, well-intentioned nudge in a more realistic direction. He needs to open his eyes to some positive financial realities of life—like living on a written, monthly budget—and not making a habit of chasing rainbows and making excuses.

If he came to me for advice, the first thing I'd tell him is that the most employable people are ones who aren't broke. When you go into a job interview and you're broke, it's easy to come off as desperate and tense. That doesn't make for a very good interview.

The answer to that, when you're essentially unemployed, is to work any legitimate full-time job. At the very least, two, three or even four part-time jobs. Deliver pizzas, wait tables

and mow yards. It's doesn't matter what you're doing, as long as you're generating a livable income for yourself. Smile and be professional at whatever you're doing, too. You never know when you might come face-to-face with your next real employer. But none of this will happen if you're working three or four hours a day, and spending most of your time at home in front of the television.

I hope this helps. I hope your friend will listen to you and understand you have his best interests at heart. But if he doesn't, all you can do is hope for the best and pray for him.

Best of luck, Garrett. You're a good friend.

– 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 ★

Cal Fire Funded for Groundbreaking Research on Wildfire and Forest Health

CAL FIRE News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has announced the availability of \$4.5 million for Forest Health Research grant projects. CAL FIRE is soliciting applications for research in forest health and wild-land fire science critical to the State of California and that support landowners, resource agencies, fire management organizations, and decisionmakers throughout the state. Research projects are expected to produce scientific publications, outreach and education events, and decision support tools.

Forest Health research grants will be awarded in five categories: 1) Wildfire and Forest Research, which can occur on any landownership; 2) State Forests Research must include at least one study site on a Demonstration State Forest 3) Graduate Student grants, must be led by a graduate student; 4) Scientific Synthesis and Tool Development to synthesize current scientific information and literature, distribution of current scientific data and information, and/or

decision support tools for landowners, managers, and the public; 5) Special Topic Research to address a need identified by CAL FIRE. This year the special topic is enhancing ecological monitoring of vegetation treatments including cultural fire and community-based prescribed fire.

Official Call for Applications:

Forest Health Research Grants Program: The call for concept proposals opens on December 20, 2023, and will be due by 3 PM on January 31, 2024.

A public virtual workshop and applicant office hours will be held during the open application period. Please check the Forest Health Research Grants web page for dates, times, and locations. The workshop will be recorded and made available on the program web page.

"The Forest Health Research Grant Program consistently draws top-tier research initiatives addressing various wildfire and forest health concerns," said Chris Keithley, Assistant Deputy Director of Fire and Resource Assessment at CAL FIRE. "Cumulatively, the findings contribute valuable insights to CAL

FIRE and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, contributing knowledge about shifts in environmental conditions, climate-induced effects on forests and wildfire patterns, and the efficacy of forest management practices."

This program is designed to complement the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Action Plan, the 2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California, and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, which propose to protect lives, property, and resources of California and increase the ability of our natural and working lands to survive and mitigate the effects of climate change.

The Forest Health Research Grant Program is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities.

For more information and to sign up for grant email announcements, visit www.fire.ca.gov/grants ★

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

Happy New Year, 2024. The upcoming year is the Chinese year of the Dragon. That New Year starts on the new moon that appears between 21 January and 20 February. As I said in the last column, we follow a tradition given to Europeans by the Romans. (c.715-673BCE) the Republican calendar was changed by an emperor to have two new months one of which

was in honor of The God of Beginnings ,Janus. Their new year was then on January 1. Previously it had been on March 1.

I know a Navajo person and was told that their New Year starts in October. The Navajo (Dine) live in the southwest. In ancient times they planted their crops in a spiral pattern because they were part of this continuing pattern of growth, on into other generations. The crops were harvested and winter preparations were begun.

For the Dine the new year starts at the new moon in the month of Ghaaii or October. Ghaaii translates roughly to "Back-to- Back" or "The joining of seasons." It was a time to cultivate

the great abundance of the year and prepare to settle in for the long cold winter nights. The winter was a time to rest, renew, teach, learn, reflect and pray. This was a time for stories and ceremonies until the end of the cold, in Atsa Biyaazh (Baby Eagles) or February. The cry of the Eagle wakes the Sky that gives thunder to awaken the Earth. The wind, the water, the soil and the sun awaken and dance together to create the spiral of life.

I saw something in a pet store that I did not know was a "thing." People collect isopods (roly poly, sow bugs). They pay a lot of money for them. Look it up. It will be a weird New Year surprise ★

First Snow Survey of the Season Finds Below Average Conditions

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not guarantee an above average water year, California is preparing for the possibility of more extreme storms while increasing our climate resilience for the next drought."

DWR's electronic readings from 130 stations placed throughout the state indicate that the statewide snowpack's snow water equivalent is 2.5 inches, or 25 percent of average for this date, compared to 185 percent on this date last year.

"While we are glad the recent storms brought a small boost to the snowpack, the dry fall and below average conditions today shows how fast water conditions can change," said DWR's Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit Manager Sean de Guzman. "It's still far too early to say what kind of water year we will have, and it will be important for Californians to pay attention to their forecasts and conserve water, rain or shine."

Last year, California experienced climate whiplash when the driest three year-period on record ended with extreme storm events in January and March that caused damage and flooding across the state. These extreme weather events highlight the need for all Californians to prepare for flood risk. DWR is working with tribal, federal, state, and local partners to provide flood resources and training to communities across the state.

The State-Federal Flood Operations Center (FOC) has pre-positioned flood fight materials at more locations across the state and is starting this winter with more supplies on hand, including 2.2 million more sandbags. This fall, DWR coordinated pre-flood season

meetings with emergency response agencies across the state and organized 38 flood-fight trainings for city, county, state and tribal agencies to prepare for possible local emergencies.

One year ago, the January survey at the Phillips location showed a water content of 177 percent of average and was followed by a series of damaging atmospheric river storms in January and March that caused flood impacts across the state and produced one of the largest snowpacks on record.

In addition to deploying resources including over 1.9 million sandbags across the state last year, the FOC coordinated a joint state, federal and local response to snowmelt-driven flooding concerns and prepared for the historic snowmelt by providing hydraulic and hydrologic modeling and snowmelt forecasts that allowed agencies to deploy resources, reinforce levees and protect communities.

On average, the Sierra snowpack supplies about 30 percent of California's water needs. Its natural ability to store water is why the Sierra snowpack is often referred to as California's "frozen reservoir." Data from these snow surveys and forecasts produced by DWR's Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit are important factors in determining how DWR manages the state's water resources. Due to last year's above average conditions and historic snowpack, a total of 3.5 million acre-foot of water was captured in State Water Project (SWP) reservoirs. Lake Oroville, the SWP's largest reservoir, is currently at 130 percent of average to date and state water managers are prepared to capture and store as much water as possible. ★

Thoughts to Ponder

by Kathy Neal

Gridley United Methodist Church

"Lord we have messed up Your world. But, even if we messed up over and over, You still loved us! Not for what we do, but who we are. We are Yours!"

As we go into the new year, 2024 may we remember who we are and who we belong to. As children of the living we are open to blessings and miracles day in and day out. God made us, God loves us. He wants us to live our best lives. But that is a two-way street.

We as God's people must listen to God's voice, be led by His word, and obey, yes obey commands and laws that guide us daily toward a relationship with a living, eternal Lord.

"I have set before you life and death, blessing and curses. Now choose life." (Deut. 30:19) God since the beginning of creation has put out rules to follow to live the best life possible. Don't do this and live. Do that and perish. Clear as can be! Do what is correct in God's world and be blessed.

We must pass tests in order to drive a car. We have to follow driving laws to keep from crashing. We obey the laws.



Just as we have earthly, man-made rules to keep us safe, we have rules from our Father to keep His family safe. Don't steal. Don't kill. Don't covet. Don't destroy. Don't do harm to others.'

How we live here and now is a picture of how far we go to follow God's laws and rules. Do unto others and love your neighbors are the best laws unto loving God. How we live for and toward the things around us, shows what effect and influence God has had on us.

Start the new year with only one resolution. "Put God first!" He will be your guide, your strength, your wall, your refuge, and your power. There are new hours, new days, new weeks, and new months to make a difference in our communities, towns, states, countries, and world.

Let's make it a practice to make the correct choices with God's creation.

Come help the Gridley United Methodist Church help our community be the best it can be. Our worship service is at 10 am on Sunday. We are located at 285 Magnolia Street. ★

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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

Local Man Sentenced in Shooting Death of Friend/Relative

Butte County District Attorney News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - An Oroville man was sentenced today in Butte County Superior Court to a term of probation on a count of involuntary manslaughter in connection with the reckless shooting death of the man's 15- year-old friend and relative.

Christopher Riley Noakes, 20, of Oroville, was sentenced to a two-year term of probation by Butte County Superior Court Judge Michael Deems over the objections of the Butte County District Attorney's Office and the Butte County Probation Department, who both recommended a three-year term in state prison.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Noakes was arrested for the shooting on May 18, 2023, after a 911 call sent Oroville police officers to a Ft. Wayne Street address, where officers found the 15-year-old male victim suffering from a gunshot wound to the head in Noakes' bedroom. Life-saving efforts were started but were ineffective and the youth was pronounced dead at the scene by medical personnel.

Noakes pled no contest to the felony count of involuntary manslaughter in September of this year.

Ramsey said an investigation by Oroville Police detectives revealed the victim was visiting with Noakes and the victim had brought with him a semi-automatic handgun. The pistol was subsequently determined to be stolen the previous day from a vehicle in Oroville.

Ramsey said Noakes and the victim were friends and in-laws, and were "hanging out" in Noakes' bedroom while "FaceTiming" with a friend of the victim. Noakes said he took the gun, which had been in the victim's waistband, and claimed to be "fooling around" when he pulled the slide back on the gun, then pointed the gun at the victim's head, pulled the trigger, and the gun discharged into the victim's left temple.

Noakes said he did not know the weapon was loaded and claimed to have played with the gun the day before with the victim and it was unloaded.

Ramsey said the evidence pointed to an unintentional shooting, but one with tragic and awful consequences because of its gross and reckless negligence. The victim's mother wrote a statement to the judge noting the devastating effect upon her family, and stating she had tried to keep her son from the Noakes' residence. She also decried the fact that this past summer saw two gun deaths involving juveniles "playing" with guns.

The Probation Department recommended a middle-term three-year state prison sentence given the gross negligence involved. Prosecutors pointed to Noakes' first statements to responders that the victim "had shot himself," and even after later admitting he shot the victim continued to claim the victim had handed him the weapon. However, witnesses on the other end of the FaceTime cellphone call stated Noakes took the gun from the victim's waistband, then "racked" the slide back and pulled the trigger.

Judge Deems said he felt the crime was a result of unusual circumstances and, because Noakes had no criminal record, he gave Noakes the two-year probation term with a condition that he serve 180 days in Butte County Jail.

Prosecutors and the Probation Department asked that Noakes, at a minimum, be remanded into custody to begin his sentence immediately, noting he had been allowed out of jail on his own recognition within five days of the shooting. Judge Deems rejected the request, allowing Noakes to remain out for the holidays with his family and not turn himself in to the jail until January 5, 2024.

Ramsey noted that the victim would not be home for the holidays and said that with normal time credits, Noakes would only serve half of his 180-day probationary jail condition. ★



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Man Arraigned for Chico Taco Bell Stabbing

Butte County District Attorney News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - A Chico man's criminal case was called in Butte County Superior Court today for arraignment on a stabbing at a Chico Taco Bell. Julian Rangel, 25, was charged with two counts of assault with a deadly weapon with additional allegations that he caused great bodily injury and had previously been convicted of a felony assault in Yuba County last year.

The local assault charges stem from an incident on December 12, 2023, when Chico Police

officers responded to a reported stabbing at the Taco Bell on East 20th Street in Chico.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said evidence gathered established that during the busy lunch hour Rangel was inside Taco Bell playing loud music and being verbally aggressive towards patrons. Rangel was approached by the restaurant's manager several times, who told him to lower his music or leave.

A DoorDash driver entered the restaurant to pick up a delivery order when Rangel confronted the driver complaining that he didn't like the way the driver

looked at Rangel. Rangel then grabbed the driver by the neck in an attempt to choke him. Rangel also produced a pocket knife to stab the driver, but fortunately missed. The manager stepped in between the driver and Rangel and was stabbed in the left wrist by Rangel. Seven staples were needed to close the wound when the manager was transported to Enloe Hospital, treated, and released.

Customers ran from the store, and Rangel also left the restaurant. Staff was able to lock the doors to keep Rangel out. Rangel attempted to get back into the

restaurant by kicking and stabbing at the door. When Rangel couldn't get back in through the door, Rangel leaped through the restaurant's open drive-thru window still holding the knife in his hand. Rangel walked around inside the Taco Bell with the knife and appeared to be searching for someone. Staff and an off-duty Enloe-nurse customer however were able to get a hold of Rangel and pin him into the front door until police arrived. Once police arrived, Rangel still possessed the knife and resisted being arrested. During the struggle, the knife slipped out of

Rangel's hand and hit the ground. Rangel was ultimately detained with one officer suffering minor injuries.

Ramsey said his office is awaiting surveillance videos from inside the restaurant to determine if other charges are appropriate.

Rangel refused to leave his jail cell to appear in court where the judge took note of his absence, appointed a public defender to represent Rangel, and set further arraignment for December 21, 2023. Rangel remains in custody on a non-release parole hold for his previous Yuba County assault and \$260,000 bail. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**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

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0001055**
The following person(s) are doing business as: Californiaalmond Blossoms.com, 2265 Maclovía Avenue Apt 108, Chico, CA 95928
Brian J Young, 2265 Maclovía Avenue Apt 108, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: December 19, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 2, 2022
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: January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CALIFORNIA 1-26-2024

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-0001042**
The following person(s) are doing business as: Chico Nails and Beauty, 968 Mangrove Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Tin Thanh Nguyen, 2777 Eaton Road #83, Chico, CA 95926 and David Minh Le, 2189 Huntington Drive, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County:

December 13, 2023. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: December 13, 2023.
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: January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
CHICO 1-26-2024

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #23CV03529**
Petitioner Kayla Leilani Vasquez filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Kayla Leilani Vasquez to Kayla Leilani Pizarro-Vasquez.
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 February 21, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on December 21, 2023
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: January 5, 12, 19, 2024
VASQUEZ 1-26-24

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #23CV03528**
Petitioner Raeven Maxine Barrett filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Raeven Maxine Barrett to Raeven Maxine Pizarro-Vasquez.
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 February 21, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on December 21, 2023
Tamara / Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
BARRETT 1-26-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

**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 Tharp 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.clearreconcorp.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 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 866-826-1670, or visit this internet website <https://www.hudsonandmarshall.com/>, using the file number assigned to this case T.S.# 9543-3577 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. 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. NBS Default Services, LLC 14841 Dallas Parkway, Suite 300 Dallas, TX 75254 800-766-7751 For Trustee Sale Information Log On To: <https://www.hudsonandmarshall.com/> or Call: 866-826-1670. NBS Default Services, LLC, Marissa Adams, Foreclosure Associate This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. However, if you have received a discharge of the debt referenced herein in a bankruptcy proceeding, this is not an attempt to impose personal liability upon you for payment of that debt. In the event you have received a bankruptcy discharge, any action to enforce the debt will be taken against the property only. NPP0444728 To: GRIDLEY HERALD - PLUMAS
Publish: 12/29/2023, 01/05/2024, 01/12/2024
GRIDLEY HERALD 1/12/2024

LIEN SALE

LIEN SALE
1994 Ford Ranger, VIN# 1FTCR14X2RPb24842
LV199502; License # 5C89059 (CA)
Sale Date: January 17, 2024.
Time 10:00 AM
Location: 1157 State Highway 99, Gridley, CA 94958
Publish: January 5, 2024
FORD 1-5-24

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY OF GRIDLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Gridley will hold a public hearing on the project described below. The hearing before the Planning Commission will be held at a special meeting scheduled **Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.** in Gridley City Hall Council Chambers, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley. All interested persons are invited to attend in person, attend remotely, and/or submit comments in writing until 4:00 pm on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, via email to csantana@gridley.ca.us or via the payment/document drop box at Gridley City Hall and will be conveyed to the Planning Commission for consideration.

The information to connect to the Zoom meeting in order to view the meeting, will be provided on the Planning Commission agenda available to the public on Friday, January 12, 2024, located on the City of Gridley website.

RZ 1-24; An application to rezone property to add the Agricultural Overlay District zoning designation to allow commercial agricultural production until the residentially zoned property is developed. The site has a General Plan land use designation of Residential, Medium Density (5- 8 du/ac) and an underlying zoning designation of Single-Family Residential District (R-1). The property is located on the east side of West Biggs Gridley Road, north and contiguous to the Heron Landing Subdivision. (APN 022-210-092)

In accordance with Government Code Section 65009, if any person(s) challenges the action of the Planning Commission on these projects 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 correspondence delivered to the City Clerk or Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. For further information regarding these projects, please contact Carmen Santana, Administration, at (530) 846-3631 or email at Planningdept@gridley.ca.us

COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE.

...PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING.

by Jeff Pickering

Amber Waves

WHAT A SIGHT I AM. THREE LUMPS OF SNOW FOR A BODY, AND ROCKS FOR EYES.

NOT TO MENTION THESE STRAIGHT DEAD BRITTLE BRANCHES FOR ARMS...

OH GREAT, AND NOW MY NOSE ITCHES!

by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

BACK IN THE DAY...
HAPPY NEW YEAR 1983

DO YOU THINK WE CAN STAY UP TILL DAWN?

TODAY...
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024

DO YOU THINK WE CAN STAY UP PAST 10:00 PM?

by Gary Kopervas

TIGER

C'MON, PUNKINHEAD

IT SNOWED!

COME OUT WHEN YOU GET PRESSED

WHERE'S THE SNOW?

IT MELTED

by BUD BLAKE

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS
POPEYE
BY RANDY FLECKNO

SEA HAG, MAY I HAVE THE REST OF THE NIGHT OFF?

SURE, LINDEN. EVERYONE DESERVES ONE LAST GOOD NEW YEAR'S EVE.

I HATE TALKING TO YOU AFTER YOU USE YOUR CRYSTAL BALL.

THOUGHT ABOUT USING YOUR PAID TIME OFF? LIKE, BEFORE APRIL?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SETTIN' OUT BLACK-EYED PEAS T' SOAK.

GOTTA EAT 'EM T'MORROW FOR A LUCKY NEW YEAR.

YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT STUFF?

ABSOLUTELY. WE ALSO GOTSK TEATS CABBAGE, WIT A LIL SPINACH. PER GOOD FORTUNE.

AN' COURSE, THERE'S THE TRADITION OF THAT FIRST NEW YEAR'S KISS!

EXCUSE ME, ME LOVE.

LET ME GUESS, YOU LEAVE A GIANT BOTTLE OF MILK OUT FOR BABY NEW YEAR FOR GOOD LUCK, TOO?

GIVE ME SUSTENANCE, MORTALS.

I DUNNO 'BOUT GOOD LUCK, BUT I KNOWS WE'LL HAVE BAD LUCK IF WE DONTSK!

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. Ottomans are turned. 2. Drawer is added. 3. Phone is moved. 4. Legs are shorter. 5. Hat is turned around. 6. Boy is moved.

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Dave T. Phipps

NEW PLAN...WAIT UNTIL I GET OUT OF THE HOSPITAL TO TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS.

"He has a few good years left if he skips New Year's Eves."

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • WINTER FUN

CLUES

ACROSS

- Mulligatawny and gazpacho, e.g.
- Half of NFL
- "Oscar" of sports
- Relating to sight
- Sargasso
- Dugout glider
- Not fresh
- First H in HRH
- Face-to-face exams
- "Ice fishing" shelter
- "Polar" activity
- Type of Christmas tree
- Diagonal
- Tax return professional, acr.
- Kind of cola
- Diaphragm spasm
- Scepters' partners
- Of two minds
- Jean Baker
- Rabbit's winter one is white
- Sheik's bevy?
- Type of dam
- Butcher's refuse
- Etna's emission
- Secret disclosure
- Stellar
- Chap or fella
- Diabetic ketoacidosis, acr.
- A or O, to blood
- Unit of electrical resistance
- Finger warmers
- *Certain sleigh ride
- Courtroom excuse
- Gobbled up
- Train runners
- Land of taekwondo
- "Caroline in the City" Thompson
- Relating to Scandinavia
- Not home
- *Last winter mo.
- Klondike river

DOWN

- Acronym in a bottle
- Chooses
- Colorado's neighbor
- a.k.a. pilau
- Like a longer route?
- Grayish
- ATM extra
- Carpus, pl.
- Bring home the bacon
- Unforeseen obstacle
- *Skier's aid
- Da or oui
- Jenny McCarthy to Melissa McCarthy
- Engagement, archaic
- ___-di-dah
- Onslaught
- *Warming drink
- Faculty members, for short
- Behind a stern
- *Frosty's eyes
- Type of hood
- Apollo of "Rocky"
- Inuit skin boat
- *a.k.a. anorak
- *Betelgeuse, e.g.
- *Snow, in Italy
- Lord's estate
- Lithuania's neighbor
- NaOH
- Like a rosebush
- Church song
- Meow, alt. sp.
- ___-in-the-dark

CROSSWORD

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Gridley Boys and Girls Basketball Aim Towards Winning BVL

Story and photos by Steven Bryla

STEVE CAUCHI RAM JAM

DIXON, CA (MPG) - The Gridley boys basketball program ended 2023 and their preseason with a sweep in the Dixon tournament from Thursday, December 28, through Saturday, December 30.

Gridley opened the tournament with a dominant win over Armijo of Fairfield as they had a comfortable 20-point lead at the half and ended up winning the game 83-53.

They got their second win in the tournament over host Dixon 61-47. Senior forward Aaron Kullar exploded for 27 points in the victory.

In the final of the tournament, the Bulldogs defeated a competitive team in Foothill of Sacramento.

Gridley had a five-point lead entering the fourth quarter and was able to spread it to 13 to win the championship.

The biggest takeaway from the Bulldogs preseason is the five losses and who they have come from. The three losses from the Gridley Invitational Basketball Tournament (GIBT) a few weeks ago were by prominent programs in the Bay Area (Salesian and San Ramon Valley) along with a Sacramento area power program in past years (Sheldon).

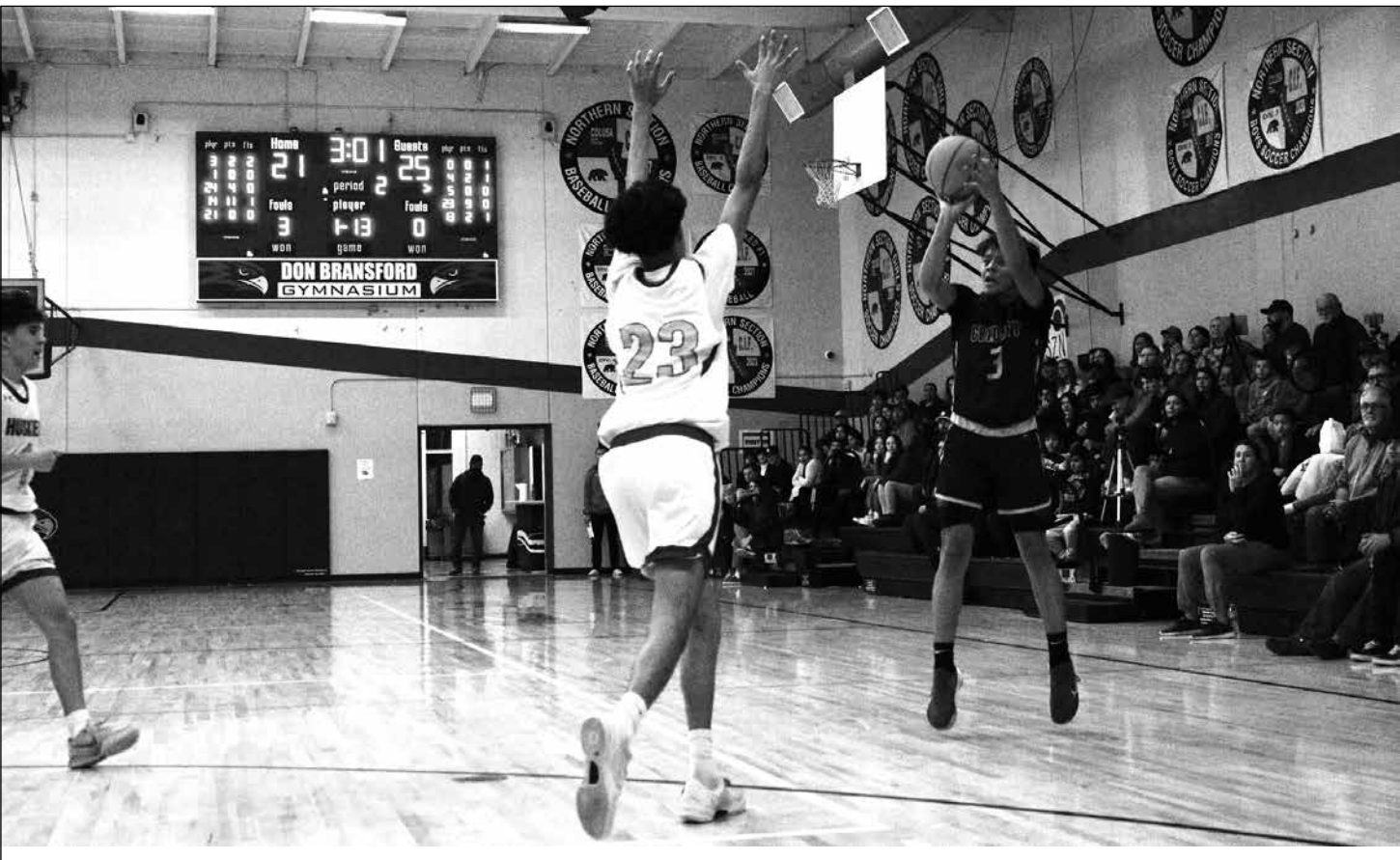
The losses to Sutter on December 15 and Marysville on December 20, 2023, were to competitive teams in the Pioneer Valley League that will be in the upper half of those standings when their league season ends.

Although those are losses, they will help out Gridley in the end when the strength of schedule aspect of playoff points comes into question.

Gridley Head Coach Nathan Link told the Herald that the Bulldogs have ironed out the offense and the players on the team are comfortable with their roles.

Link added that Gridley is also flexible on adapting to multiple different types of playing styles and they have a lot of depth that will help them during BVL play.

The Bulldogs are currently 8-0 against Northern Section teams and 12-5 overall, which is the program's best start since the 2019-20 season. Gridley begins Butte View League play Tuesday as they host Corning at 7:30 p.m in the league opener.



Gridley junior guard Luis Murillo (3) shoots a three pointer in the Bulldogs' 48-47 loss to Sutter on December 15, 2023.



Gridley senior forward Shmaas Khan (13) goes up for a layup in the Bulldogs' 48-47 defeat to Sutter on December 15, 2023.



Gridley junior guard Luis Murillo (3) shoots a three pointer in the Bulldogs' 48-47 loss to Sutter on December 15, 2023.



Gridley senior forward Shmaas Khan (13) goes up for a layup in the Bulldogs' 48-47 defeat to Sutter on December 15, 2023.

LINCOLN TOURNAMENT

LINCOLN, CA (MPG) - The Gridley girls basketball team ended their 2023 part of the season with a win to go 1-2 in the Lincoln tournament that took place from Thursday, December 28, through Saturday, December 30.

Gridley's first two games of the tournament were against top notch cream of the crop teams from the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section teams in Inderkum and Placer.

The Lady Bulldogs lost to Inderkum (65-39) and Placer (58-37), but those losses were good learning lessons as Gridley head coach Becca McCray expressed to the Herald.

The Lady Bulldogs easily took care of Foothill from Sacramento in their final game of the tournament with a 55-9 victory.

McCray expressed to the Herald that the preseason made her team stronger and quicker. Additionally, it taught them control and seeing all of the different situations on the court throughout a game.

There is no question that Gridley has had a rough schedule in the pre-season, and McCray and the Herald both agree being .500 is a huge step for this team.

McCray told the Herald that going into Butte View League play, the Lady Bulldogs are looking for their first crown atop the BVL since the 2019-20 season and everyone on the roster knows their role.

Gridley junior forward Brook Marr continues to lead the Lady Bulldogs in most statistical categories as she averages a double-double in points (20.1) and rebounds (13.0) per game as recently as Monday, January 1, according to MaxPreps.

Marr is still in the top 10 nationally with 6.2 blocks per game and 14th nationally with 14 double-doubles, according to MaxPreps.

Gridley senior AnaGloria Luevano is second in points 10.3 and rebounds 4.1, but first in steals (2.6) and assists 2.5 per game.

The Lady Bulldogs open up BVL play on Tuesday, January 9 at Corning.

A Big Change at EDD

EDD changes unemployment contractor after scams

By Lynn La,
CALMatters.org

California has a new unemployment and disability payment contractor after the state’s multi-billion-dollar pandemic fraud panic. The Employment Development Department hopes it will be the end of an era of brazen scams, which wreaked havoc for laid-off workers and fueled police busts involving stacks of ill-gotten debit cards issued at the department’s direction by then-contractor Bank of America.

EDD tells CalMatters that on Monday it plans to begin notifying 850,000 benefit recipients of the new payment provider: Money Network, an electronic payment company owned by finance tech company Fiserv. Money Network may sound familiar; it was also tapped by the federal government and Gov. Gavin Newsom to pay out COVID-era stimulus funds, which attracted its own waves of debit card scams.

Money Network won the EDD contract after a competitive bidding process. It comes as the agency embarks on a five-year, \$1.2 billion tech overhaul known as EDDNext.

The contract will primarily be paid for through a debit card revenue-sharing agreement, similar to the EDD’s previous deal with Bank of America. The agency will also pay \$32 million over five years for Money Network to offer a long-discussed direct deposit option to



The offices of the Employment Development Department in Sacramento where it all went wrong. Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

workers’ bank accounts, which the EDD says will launch in spring 2024.

In mid-January, people receiving unemployment, disability and paid leave benefits from the EDD will be mailed new Money Network debit cards. Payments will officially begin on these cards on Feb. 15. Anyone who still has a Bank of America EDD debit card will have until April 15, 2024, to spend the money.

In the meantime, fraud analysts tracking an uptick in attacks on government benefit debit cards — not just California’s unemployment program, but also food assistance and others will be watching to see what lessons have (or haven’t) been learned from the pandemic. The new EDD cards will include both security chips and tap-to-pay options common in consumer credit cards.

Still, the EDD is advising cardholders to be vigilant: “Beware of scammers. We will never request your personal information by text message, e-mail or on social media.”

Tens of thousands of

Californians are still awaiting aid from the COVID-19 rent relief program. But as CalMatters housing reporter Ben Christopher explains, the program may run out of money before it can help the remaining eligible applicants.

The \$5.2 billion program launched in 2021 to help Californians pay down rental debt they accumulated during the pandemic. Though it stopped taking new applications in 2022, more than 70,000 households still have applications pending. The program has enough funding to cover a little more than 14,000 people — meaning the remaining 80% of the total applicant pool is out of luck.

That’s devastating news for tenants and landlords alike who may ultimately wait in vain for relief to come. As one graphic designer and single mother told Ben: “I’m trying to find a way to freelance or do whatever I can do to get the money to just pay it myself... I can’t sit and depend on it and wait because it’s been two years.” ★

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