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FEBRUARY 9, 2024

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Flocking to Winter Bird Festival



Sandhill cranes look for food on Feb. 1 at Cosumnes River Preserve, during the 17th annual Winter Bird Festival. Photos by Matthew Malone

By Matthew Malone News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - With an extended, weeklong schedule, the 17th annual Winter Bird Festival had no shortage of exciting activities for avian enthusiasts, from seasoned birdwatchers to curious children.

The festival events ran from Monday, Jan. 29, to Sunday, Feb. 4, with craft nights, readalongs and

tours of Cosumnes River Preserve.

On one tour, photographer Jim Dunn explained to a group of about 15 the patience and planning needed to capture images of birds in the wild.

Over 25 years of volunteering of the preserve, he has taken part in water bird surveys and led monthly photo walks. Nowadays, he focuses on monitoring wood ducks and leading

occasional tours.

Dunn said he transitioned to bird photography because he "got tired of photographing weddings," which wasn't artistically stimulating. At the time, he lived above a lake with grebes and other water birds, as well as bald eagles and golden eagles, making his new direction clear.

On the tour, birds generally kept their distance

from the large group, and Dunn said his main goal was to give the attendees the knowledge to locate and photograph birds by themselves, when they could potentially get closer angles.

"I only hope that gives people a chance to enjoy what they do more," Dunn said.

The festivities culminated on Feb. 3 with a

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How to Make Your Vote Count in 2024 Primary

By Matthew Malone News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County Elections Office has started sending out mail-in ballots for the upcoming primary election, and Galt residents have multiple ways of returning the ballots or voting in person. Election Day is March 5. Here are your options:

Vote by mail, ballot drop boxes

You can send in your completed mail-in ballot by dropping it off either at the post office or at one of the drop boxes set up in Galt and the rest of Sacramento County.

In order to be counted, ballots sent through the mail must be postmarked no later than Election Day and received by the Sacramento County Elections Office within seven days after Election Day.

Additionally, the county has set up dozens of ballot drop boxes for voters to use. You can submit your ballot at any of the drop boxes in the county, including the three in Galt, on or before Election Day. The Galt drop-box locations are as follows:

— Comfort Inn & Suites, 10380 Twin Cities Road

— Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library, 1000 Caroline Ave.

— Galt City Hall, 380 Civic Drive

The drop boxes are accessible during those locations' normal business hours. On Election Day, the boxes at Comfort Inn and the Galt library will be available until 8 p.m.

Before returning your mail-in ballot, remember to put it into the pink return envelope, and to sign and date the envelope. No postage is necessary.

If you want to keep tabs on your ballot, and find out when it is received and counted, the BallotTrax system is available as a free

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Erias to Return to Galt as Interim City Manager

By Matthew Malone News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Chris Erias, a former city of Galt department head, is likely to return in order to fill in as interim city manager.

The city announced the plan in a press release on Feb. 5, following the official departure of City Manager Lorenzo Hines Jr. on Feb. 2. The release said Galt City Council is anticipated to appoint Erias as interim city manager later this month.

Erias worked for the city for 15 years, becoming community development director in late 2016. He left in 2020 to lead the city of Manteca's Development Services Office.

"During his time in Manteca, Chris demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication to public service while overseeing a staff of 24 in the Building Safety and Planning Divisions in the growing city," the release read.

"Chris' journey in Galt is a testament to his commitment and

Continued on Page 5



Chris Erias. File photo courtesy of city of Galt

PRSRTD STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID CARMICHAEL, CA PERMIT NO. 350 OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER



How to Make Your Vote Count in 2024 Primary

Continued from page 1 service. Users register or log in using public-record information (name, birth date, ZIP code), and they can choose to receive notifications via email, text or voice call. To sign up, visit ballottrax.net.

Vote in person through Election Day

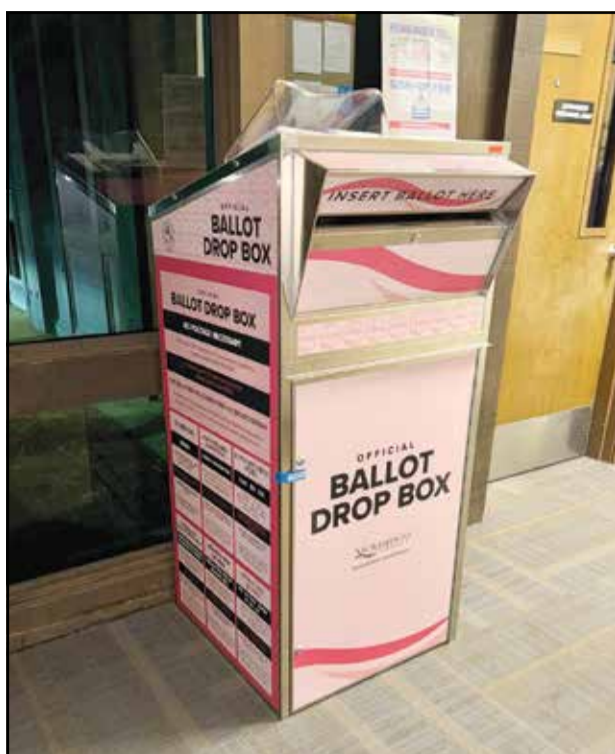
If you want to cast your ballot in person, vote centers will provide the opportunity to vote early or on Election Day. You can visit any vote center in the county. Eighteen vote centers will open on Feb. 24, including one in Galt:

— Littleton Community Center, 410 Civic Drive

The Littleton vote center will be open every day 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Election Day, it will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

An additional 70 vote centers will open on March 2, with one in Galt and another in Herald:

— Department of Human Assistance, 210 N. Lincoln Way, Galt
 — Herald Fire Station



File photo by Matthew Malone

#87, 12746 Ivie Road, Herald

The DHA vote center will be open every day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., while the Herald center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Both will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.

On Election Day, as long as you are in line by

8 p.m., you will be able to vote.

Vote centers can also accept completed mail-in ballots.

For full lists of the vote centers and ballot drop boxes in Sacramento County, visit the elections office website at bit.ly/3SKceMj (case sensitive). ★

Sheila's Country Rose Named Business of Month

By Matthew Malone
 News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Sheila's Country Rose Florist has been named the Galt District Chamber of Commerce's Honorary Business of the Month for February. The chamber presented the honor to owner Lori Martin on Feb. 1, followed by a ribbon-cutting.

Chamber Community Relations Director Kat Seabolt commended Martin's involvement in the community.

Martin has owned the floral business for 10 years, but she began working there in 1990, for the original owner Sheila Frizzell. Martin left Sheila's for a decade to work at a

friend's business, but when Frizzell decided to sell the business, she turned to Martin.

"I love it. I really feel touched. ... I'm just glad to be part of this community," Martin said of the recognition.

Sheila's Country Rose is a full-service florist, and Martin said it offers everything from fruit baskets and bud vases to wrapped roses. It also does events, including weddings and funerals.

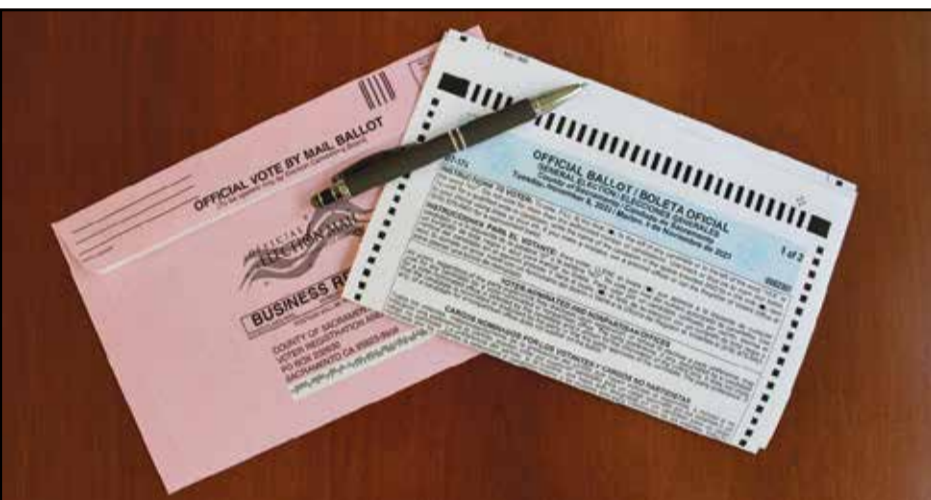
With Valentine's Day coming up, she said there are a lot of specials, including specialized lily-rose vases. She said it is important to order early and encouraged customers to visit the website, sheilascountryroseflorist.com. Sheila's Country Rose Florist is located at 835 C St., Suite 190. ★



Sheila's Country Rose Florist owner Lori Martin (center) receives the certificate for Honorary Business of the Month. She is joined by her staff, family members, and Galt District Chamber of Commerce members. Photos by Matthew Malone



Lori Martin cuts the ribbon outside her business, Sheila's Country Rose Florist.



File photo by Matthew Malone

Share the Love this Valentine's Day...

We are pleased to announce that our "Buy-a-Brick" Campaign is back for 2024!

As we begin to break ground, please don't miss out on a chance to recognize someone in your life and to leave a legacy in Galt - our Great American Little Town!

You will receive a certificate of appreciation as a keepsake for your purchase.

Come, join us! Be a part of something special in 2024!

Thank you for your support!!!

Please use the QR Code Below or navigate to:
<https://www.fundraisingbrick.com/online-orders/sunshinefoodpantry/>

Sunshine Food Pantry Building Fund
 P.O. Box 1265 | Galt, CA 95632
sunshinefoodpantrygalt.org
 EIN 88-2329114

Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center Buy-A-Brick Campaign

For questions, please contact Mark King at 916-662-6915 or mking@prclosing.com
 To Order Go Online to www.fundraisingbrick.com/sunshinefoodpantry/
 Or complete this order form and send along with payment to
 Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center, 571 C Street, Galt, CA 95632
 Make Checks Payable To: Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center

Help support the building of a free-standing Sunshine Food Pantry & Resource Center to serve the needs of the Citizens of Galt.

4 x 8 Brick \$100 (3 lines of text, 20 characters per line)
 8 x 8 Brick \$250 (6 lines of text, 20 characters per line)

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MEMORIAL

DARRELL ALFRED LANCASTER • 3/27/1936 – 01/11/2024

Darrell Alfred Lancaster went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on January 11, 2024 at the age of 87. His family was by his side until the end. Darrell is survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Mary Lancaster, as well as his children - Dan (Rita) Lancaster, Joy (John Meyer), Pam (Dave) Wilson, David (Lupe) Lancaster and their mother Alda Lee Halsey. He also leaves behind 10 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren.

Darrell was born in Hastings, Michigan on March 27, 1936 to Edwin (Ned) and Goldis Lancaster. He graduated from Nashville High School in 1954. At the age of 18, he became a Christian and turned his life over to the Lord, to whom he remained faithful until his last breath.

In 1966, he took his family to Papua New Guinea to support the work of the missionaries with Wycliff Bible Translators. He was assigned to manage the store in Ukarumpa on the base, which was a little operation offering food and supplies to the compound by ship delivery. Over the years, the store expanded to offer more supplies and home goods. Darrell grew his knowledge and expertise in purchasing, shipping and receiving and was very proud of his work. He often reminisced how much he knew about overseas procurement - and getting the best deal was his ultimate goal. In 1976, he and his family returned to Southern California.

Darrell met Mary in 1988 and they were married for almost 35 years. They moved to Galt in the early 90s where they spent

the remainder of his life together. They loved hosting an annual 4th of July party and Christmas Eve celebration for family and friends.

Darrell had a giftware business and would go to gift shows in San Francisco and Las Vegas to get ideas for new products to sell. After the giftware business started to wane, he joined Raley's and worked there for seven years in various roles until he retired.

Darrell and Mary enjoyed traveling and took several trips over the years, which included Hawaii, Caribbean Islands and Alaska. They also enjoyed visiting historic sites in California such as the Gold Country, Lake Tahoe and San Francisco. Darrell described Mary as a great blessing the last 35 years of his life as well as a great companion and wife. He admired Mary's drive, determination and was very proud of her fortitude.

Surrounded by family, just days before going home to be with the Lord, he shared his testimony which began in this way:

"The days that I'm here, I'd like to serve the Lord, and I'd like to be a glory to Him and not to myself...[at my funeral] I don't want to be glorified...I want to hear... 'He was my dad, and he had his shortcomings, and he needed training himself to live his life better but [dad] wanted you to hear that Jesus Christ came to the Earth to save sinners and He died on the cross because of His love for each one of us'."

The funeral service is scheduled on Friday, February 23, 2024 at 11:30 AM at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church located at 604 E Street, Galt, CA 95632

Interment at Galt Cemetery, 14180 Joy Drive, Galt CA 95632.

Flocking to Winter Bird Festival

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day of activities and presentations at Chabolla Community Center. Art competitions showed the work of bird photographers and of local students who submitted their drawings of birds. Representatives from conservation organizations in the region presented about the importance of animals like eagles, owls and bats in the ecosystem.

Keynote speaker Kate Rutter introduced the topic of her talk on nature journaling by discussing the festival's featured bird, the black-crowned night heron. It was an experience with the night heron that ignited her interest in bird watching.

While drawing trees in an urban nature area, she heard unfamiliar birds squawking and looked around to see three black-crowned night herons. The birds squabbled amongst

themselves and chased each other, and she noticed the birds' appearance.

"It's got a long neck, like most herons, but it keeps it tucked in, so it's got this sturdy kind of thing, and this very fierce eye," Rutter told the Herald. "And then when the ruff went up, I was done for. I'm like, what a beautiful bird."

She said nature journaling is a method of quickly sketching the wildlife, weather conditions and other sensory information in a scene, in order to remember it more clearly later on.

She handed out a quick guide to nature journaling that she had co-created. It can be downloaded at wildwonder.org/nature-journaling-resources.

Michele Dodge, the second keynote speaker, gave a photographic tour of the Great Pacific

Flyway, one of the main bird migration routes that crosses North America. The Cosumnes River wetlands have been a major stop on the flyway since time immemorial, and Dodge said more than 1 billion birds travel at least part of the flyway.

While population growth, urbanization and agriculture have encroached on the wetlands, Dodge said the farmlands can be used as artificial wetlands during the winter months to restore some of the habitat. At the same time, the birds clean and fertilize the fields.

Dodge illustrated her review of the seasons at Cosumnes River Preserve with bird photos she took in the area.

To view Dodge's photography, visit her website, micheledodge.shootproof.com. ★

Local HS Theater Students Compete at Lenaea



The Galt and Liberty Ranch high school theater students pose for a photo on Feb. 1 after presenting their Lenaea pieces at Galt High. Photo by Matthew Malone

By Matthew Malone
News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt and Liberty Ranch high school theater troupe competed in the Lenaea High School Theatre Festival over the weekend of Feb. 2-4, showcasing the students' acting abilities in various musical numbers, monologues and short scenes, as well as a one-act play. A performance at Galt High on Feb. 1 gave them a chance to perform their pieces for a crowd of local supporters before the big moment came.

Liberty Ranch seniors Joseph St. Claire and Leonidas Dunfee won bronze and a respondent's award for their duo scene, "The Actors" by Gary Michael Kluger, in which two actors waiting for an audition turn out to have very different approaches to their craft. St. Claire also gave a monologue from "Les Misérables."

Maurena Emslie, a Liberty Ranch senior, sang "Maybe This Time" from "Cabaret" and performed a monologue

from the play "Rather Be a Man" by Joseph Arnone. She got the chance to work with veteran Broadway actor Stephanie J. Block, an opportunity given to only 12 people.

The one-act, "Tracks" by Peter Tarsi, involved 10 students on stage and four on crew. The play tells of a group of people from across the country who suddenly find themselves in a strange subway station. After realizing that they have all recently died, the group struggle to determine whether the subway train is headed for Heaven or Hell — and whether it's worth the risk to get on and find out.

Matia Brunson performed "There Are Worse Things I Could Do" from "Grease" and a monologue from "And Turning, Stay," while Dylan Cowey delivered a monologue from Machiavelli's "Mandrake." The two also did a duo scene from "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves of the Black Forest." Finn Anderson gave a monologue from "Prodigal Son" by John Patrick Shanley. ★



Tree swallows jockey for space on a bird box at Cosumnes River Preserve. Photos by Matthew Malone



Mitzi Martinsen leads children in cawing like a crow during storytime at the Galt library.




JoJo Kerschner from Conservation Ambassadors introduces Nova, the great horned owl, during his presentation at Chabolla Community Center on Feb. 3.



The Galt and Liberty Ranch high school theater students pose for a photo at the Lenaea Festival. Photos courtesy of Malia Jomok Anderson




Maurena Emslie performs at the Lenaea Festival. She worked with longtime Broadway actor Stephanie J. Block.



VOTE EARLY!

AVOID LINES



March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election

All voters will be mailed a ballot

- You should have received your official ballot in the mail.

You can return your ballot starting February 5th


- By mail, no postage necessary
- At a Ballot Drop Box
- At a Vote Center (starting February 24th)

You can find a full list of Ballot Drop Boxes and Vote Center locations in your County Voter Information Guide, in your mail ballot packet, or at www.elections.saccounty.gov

Vote Early! Vote by Mail.


Update your language preference

Every registered voter will receive an official ballot in the mail containing contests, candidates, and voting instructions in your preferred language. If you prefer your ballot and voter information in Spanish, Chinese, or Vietnamese, update your language preference online by scanning this QR code or call (800) 762-8019.




The Presidential Primary is Party Specific

During the March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Election voters will nominate one presidential candidate from each party to run against each other in the November 5, 2024 General Election. To vote for the presidential candidate you want in the primary election, ensure you are registered with your preferred party by visiting www.elections.saccounty.gov or calling our office at (800) 762-8019.



If you would like to change your party, reregister at: registertovote.ca.gov or scan:

Visit www.elections.saccounty.gov or Call Toll Free (800) 762-8019



POLICE LOGS

During the time period of Jan. 26 - Feb. 1, Galt police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in 13 arrests.

Fri., Jan. 26

07:08 a.m., theft reported on Twin Hills Drive.

10:23 a.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Savemart Supermarkets on C Street.

10:58 a.m., theft reported on Moose Creek Way.

12:40 p.m., animal control call at Trudy Way/Mcfarland Street; dog found deceased with a gunshot wound.

04:52 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Dutch Bros. Coffee on Pine Street.

05:29 p.m., domestic violence reported on Creekside Way.

Sat., Jan. 27

12:54 a.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Galt Office Supply on Pine Street.

11:08 p.m., drunk and disorderly person/adult arrested on Alpen Rose Way.

Sun., Jan. 28

12:10 a.m., identity theft/adult arrested at Carol Drive/Ayers Lane.

02:32 a.m., domestic violence reported on Paddington Circle.

04:01 a.m., domestic violence reported on Woodflower Court.

11:52 a.m., violation of city ordinance/adult arrested at C Street/Third Street.

01:28 p.m., theft reported at Galt Mobile Estates on North Lincoln Way.

06:35 p.m., DUI reported at Chabolla Avenue/South Lincoln Way.

Mon., Jan. 29

12:01 a.m., kidnapping reported on Simmerhorn Road.

05:11 a.m., stolen vehicle reported on Elk Hills Drive.

07:40 a.m., narcotics violation/adult arrested on Walnut Avenue.

10:23 p.m., narcotics violation/adult arrested at West A Street/Sterling Oak Drive.

Tues., Jan. 30

07:57 a.m., theft

reported on Chelsham Avenue.

08:26 a.m., vandalism reported at Ace Hardware on C Street.

09:17 p.m., DUI reported on Fourth Street.

Wed., Jan. 31

09:52 a.m., identity theft reported on South Lincoln Way.

10:58 a.m., theft reported at The Galt Place on D Street.

12:16 p.m., narcotics violation/adult arrested at Savemart Supermarkets on C Street.

10:00 p.m., narcotics violation/adult arrested at Galt Express Laundromat on Pine Street.

Thurs., Feb. 1

03:01 a.m., domestic violence reported on Rio Mesa Court.

07:37 a.m., stolen vehicle reported on Steep Rock Court.

09:41 a.m., stolen vehicle recovered on North Lincoln Way.

06:14 p.m., threats/adult arrested on Port Ashton Court. ★

GLANCE BACK

Feb. 18, 1944

Miss Emily Barsetti, Petty Officer 2nd Class of the WAVES, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Barsetti of Galt, accompanied by her friend Miss L. Morrissey, recently spent the weekend at the home of her parents. Miss Barsetti is a graduate of Galt High School and the only Galt girl in the WAVES. □ □ □

Miss Betty Jean Lewis and Miss Louise Bader spent Thursday of last week at the home of Miss Lewis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Lewis. Miss Lewis graduated from Sacramento Junior College and has entered St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco for nurses' training. Miss Bader will enter Mercy Hospital in Sacramento for nurses' training. Both girls are graduates of Galt High School.

Feb. 18, 1954

An award for having had the most outstanding window display of any cub pack in the Delta area has been won by Galt Cub Scout Pack 3060. The display has been in the window of the Galt Pharmacy for the past two weeks and contains handicraft items made by the local cubs. □ □ □

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin

Nix, Galt, are the proud parents of a son, John Steven, born Feb. 10 at Lodi Memorial Hospital. He weighed 6 pounds and arrived at 7:15 a.m. ... Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Sans, Thornton, are the proud parents of a daughter, Loretta Sue, born Feb. 11 at Lodi Memorial Hospital. She weighed 5 pounds 14 ounces and arrived at 10:32 a.m.

Feb. 13, 1964

A variety of community-centered activities have drawn attention to George. L. Barber, 28, of Thornton. Barber will be named the outstanding Citizen of the Year for the community Saturday, Feb. 15 in Thornton. □ □ □

Mrs. Clifford Lane gave a party in honor of her daughter Allison's 8th birthday in the Lane home on Riegl Road. Guests were Susie and Tina Thompson, Sharon and Bruce Raper, Jerry, Arnold, Anita and Beverly Perez, Tommy and Corky Riccobuono and Allison's sisters, Holly and Sidney, all of Alta Mesa.

Feb. 14, 1974

Mayor Cedro Casado was appointed by the mayors of Folsom-Isleton-Galt (FIG) to be the area representative of the three small cities to the Sacramento

Regional Area Planning Commission, announced Joseph Tanner, city administrator. □ □ □

Dorothy McFarland and Alpha Low each received an Honorary Life Membership from the Galt Elementary School PTA at the Founders Day meeting Feb. 5.

Feb. 9, 1984

Four people are vying for Galt City Council in the upcoming elections. As expected, incumbent members Marian Lawrence and Ron Jacobsen declared their candidacy for the two open seats last week. The incumbent duo will be challenged by Luis Urban, a state employment representative and planning commissioner, and Berniece Shelley, Galt's City Clerk since 1959. □ □ □

Recently, the Galt Concilio was burglarized and among the items taken were canned goods from their food closet. Also during the last two weeks, two families were victims of fire which totally destroyed their homes. The Galt Jaycee Women, during the week of February 12-18, are holding a food and clothing drive, to benefit the Concilio and people in need. ★

ABOUT TOWN

Nutritional Program in Feb., March

Galt Adult School will host a series of nutritional workshops called "Families Eating Smart and Moving More" in February and March. The six-session course will be held on Tuesdays, Feb. 13, 20 and 27; and March 5, 12 and 19. Classes are free and all are welcome. Galt Adult School is located at 12935 Marengo Road. To get more information or to register, call 209-745-5852, ext. 7004, or email aliciaramos@ghsd.k12.ca.us.

San Joaquin Interfaith Tea on Feb. 15

The newly formed interfaith group called the Community of Faith of San Joaquin County will host the 71st annual Interfaith Tea on Feb. 15, at 1 p.m. The event will take place at the Buddhist

Church of Stockton (2820 Shimizu Drive, Stockton), and the main speaker will be the Rev. Candice Shibata from the Buddhist Church. The event will include a taiko drum performance and foods from various cultures. Multiple Christian denominations will be represented, as well as Buddhism, Judaism, Islam and Unitarian Universalism.

GAHS Docent Training Feb. 22

The Galt Area Historical Society is offering docent training for the McFarland Living History Ranch House. Training is Thursday, Feb. 22, 1-3 p.m. The training will be held at the ranch, 8899 Orr Road. There is no cost to GAHS members and a \$30 membership fee for nonmembers. Please call Bernice at 209-323-0091 and leave a message to reserve your space for training. ★

MEETING MINDERS

Saturday, Feb. 10

Kiwanis, 8:30 a.m., Comfort Inn and Suites, 10380 Twin Cities Road, 209-327-1098.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Galt High School Board, 6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Arcohe School Board, 7 p.m., Media Center (East Campus), 11715 Ivie Road,

Herald, 209-748-2313.

Galt Beautification Committee, 9 a.m., Community Development Dept., 495 Industrial Drive, 209-366-7130.

Galt Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., (at designated locations), 209-745-2529.

Herald Fire Protection District, 6 p.m., Station 87, 12746 Ivie Road,

209-748-2322.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, 6:30 p.m., Galt Police Department, 455 Industrial Drive, 916-687-1512.

Friday, Feb. 16

Galt Sunrise Rotary, 7 a.m., Velvet Grill & Creamery, 400 Fourth Street, 209-745-6617. ★

IT'S NOT JUST A RENTAL... IT'S A TOYOTA!

Rent a Toyota

LOW WEEKLY RENTALS

Starting at \$419⁹⁴ per week

Over 700 30¢/mile Expires 2/29/2024

ELK GROVE TOYOTA RENT-A-CAR

In the Elk Grove Auto Mall, Elk Grove (916) 405-8085

rental@elkgrovetoyota.com

elkgrovetoyota.com/rental

Ask for San, Cindy, Ju, Ashley, Jenese or Santiago for your rental needs.



Winter Special

4 Runner

\$89⁹⁹ per day

100 free miles/day, 30¢/mile over 100 Expires 2/29/2024

4 Runner

\$539⁹⁴ per week

7 day minimum, 700 free miles/week, 30¢/mile over 700 Expires 2/29/2024

Tacoma

\$69⁹⁹ per day

150 free miles/day, 30¢/mile over 150 Expires 2/29/2024

Tacoma

\$419⁹⁴ per week

7 day minimum, 700 free miles/week, 30¢/mile over 700 Expires 2/29/2024



ALL SERVICES

- Available to EVERYONE
- Discounted Fares for Seniors, Disabled Riders, and Students
- Children 4 and Under Free With Paying Adult
- Lift-Equipped and Accessible to Mobility Aids

HWY 99 EXPRESS

- Intercity Service Connecting Galt with Lodi, Elk Grove, Cosumnes River College, Kaiser South, and Methodist Hospital
- Connects With Local Routes in Each Community Including Sacramento
- Service Monday Through Friday

DIAL-A-RIDE

- Curb-to-Curb Service Within Galt City Limits
- Save With Ticket Books and Group Discounts
- Medical Run for Seniors and Disabled Riders
- Extended service on Tuesdays
- Service Monday Through Saturday

DELTA ROUTE

- Service Connecting Galt with Walnut Grove, Ryde, And Isleton
- Service from Delta Communities to Raley's and Wal-Mart in Galt
- Service Monday Through Friday

ALL SERVICES CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER AT GALT CITY HALL FOR SCHEDULES OR MORE INFORMATION CALL (209) 745-3052 OR (800) 338-8676 www.sctlink.com

Erias to Return to Galt as Interim City Manager

Continued from Page 1
passion for the city. He began his career in Galt as an Associate Planner in 2005, steadily rising through the ranks to become the head of the Community Development Department. His extensive experience and proven ability to lead make him the ideal candidate to guide Galt into the future.”

In a statement, Galt Mayor Paul Sandhu expressed excitement to have Erias back in Galt. “We are thrilled to

welcome Chris back to the City of Galt as our Interim City Manager. His deep connections to the community and his track record of success make him the perfect choice for this role. We look forward to working closely with Chris to continue moving Galt forward,” Sandhu said.

Erias said he was honored to come back.

“I am honored to return to a city where I have deep roots and a strong connection to the community. Galt holds a special place in my

heart,” Erias said, “and I am eager to hit the ground running alongside the dedicated staff and residents to address the opportunities and challenges facing our city.”

Council will consider Erias’ appointment at its Feb. 20 regular meeting; if approved, Erias has a tentative start date of Feb. 26.

In the meantime, Parks and Recreation Director Armando Solis is serving as acting city manager. ★

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Sons of the American Legion 233 Invites Male Descendants

The Sons of the American Legion, Elk Grove Squadron 233, invites male descendants of a parent or grandparent who served or is serving in the United States military to a monthly meeting on the 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 pm to honor their service and sacrifices. Meetings are held at the Veteran’s Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove 95757. This group meets next on March 4th, and April 1st. For further information, please contact Mike McVean at 916-747-3021 [call or text] or email MDMcVean@gmail.com.

American Legion Post 233’s Meetings

The Elk Grove American Legion Post 233, established in 1994, invites veterans to our monthly meetings every 4th Thursday of the month at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Our next meeting will be held February 22th, 2024.

Elk Grove American Legion Post 233 invites veterans and their spouses to a dinner/social hour at 6 pm, followed by the veteran’s general meeting at 7 pm.

Veteran’s spouses are welcome to join the Elk Grove American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233 that meets in another room at 7-8 pm in the same location.

For questions, please contact Henry at 916-205-9296 C or Sue at 916-683-6128 H. [remove website address please]

We invite veterans and spouses to join us each month on the first Saturday for our Elk Grove American Legion Post 233 Family Social Breakfast.

Our next Saturday breakfast will be held February 3rd at 9:00 am at Mimi’s Cafe on the corner of Laguna Blvd and W. Stockton Blvd (just off Hwy 99).

We hope to see you there.

AA 24-Hour Hotline

For help with an alcohol-related problem, call the Alcoholics Anonymous 24-hour hotline at 209-745-1525.

Nar-Anon family group meetings

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon) family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug addiction are held locally on a weekly basis, Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt.

Sunshine Food Pantry Donation Sites

Sunshine Food Pantry is a food closet that helps provide for local residents. Collections of canned food and dry good nonperishable items are received at United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt; call to make an appointment for donations, 209-745-4133.

The food closet is open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 7:30-10 a.m., at the United Methodist Church.

Meals on Wheels Cafe Accepting Older Adults

Meals on Wheels is accepting new participants in its Galt All Seasons Café located in the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. The cafe is open Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. for adults age 60 and older. Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served, or they can call 916-444-9533.

Senior Bingo weekly at Chabolla

The Galt Commission on Aging is hosting Senior Bingo games at the Chabolla Community Center at 600 Chabolla Ave., every Monday, 1-3 p.m. (except holidays and when required by the city). Seniors of Galt and its immediate vicinity are cordially invited to come have fun and play bingo together, socialize, and possibly make new friends. Attendance is free of charge.

Volunteers sought for Senior Resource Center

The Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to staff the Galt Senior Resource Center, which opened its doors in April. The commission is looking for people who can operate a computer, and are willing to answer

questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media or by email.

Volunteer slots are available in two-hour increments for up to four hours, Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., excluding holidays. Volunteers will be trained and will have the ability to contact members of the commission if questions arise.

The resource center is located at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If you are interested in helping, please call 209-294-3308 and leave a message. Or, once the resource center is open, inquire in person.

Cosumnes DAR Chapter accepting new members

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently started their Rio Cosumnes Chapter in the Elk Grove/Galt community, and they are accepting new members.

DAR is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women’s service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America’s future through better education for children. Members are all lineal descendants of those who supported the cause of independence in the Revolutionary War.

For more information on the Rio Cosumnes Chapter’s monthly meetings or membership, contact Registrar Paula Schroeder at egdarregistrar@gmail.com.

City After-Hours Assistance

After-hours assistance is on offer at the Galt Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments. For Public Works concerns, call the Galt Police Department nonemergency line at 209-366-7000. The Parks Maintenance Division is available for scheduled field or facility use assistance only, from Monday to Friday, 4-10 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call 209-810-0293.

Library Offers Older Adults Computer Time

In cooperation with the Galt Commission on Aging, the Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library will schedule a set time for older adults to use its computers, upon request. Those 65 and older who wish to request computer time can call the library at 916-264-2920. Staff will help set up the computer or tablet. The library is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is located at 1000 Caroline Ave.

Recycle household batteries

City of Galt residents can recycle their household batteries in one of two green household-battery recycling bins: on the west side, at the front entrance to the Galt Police Department; or on the east side, at Galt Community Park, just west of the fire station. The green bin is for dry-cell household batteries only.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 209-366-7260.

Square Dance Classes on Mondays

The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club is hosting social square dancing classes in Galt. The classes are open to everyone and are held on Mondays 6:30-8 p.m. at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall. The classes are formatted for flexibility, and students can learn numerous square dance calls in about three months. The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is located at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916.

Nominate your Neighbor

The Galt Beautification Committee is asking you to “nominate your neighbor.” Has your neighbor recently completed a yard project? Does your neighbor have the best flowers in town or the best-looking yard? The Galt Beautification Committee wants to know. Send an email with pictures and why you are nominating your neighbor to planningdivision@cityofgalt.org. The best submissions will be included in future newsletters and City Manager Updates. ★

CLASS NOTES

GALEP Volunteers Needed

Galt Horse Assisted Learning and Enrichment Program, which helps student expand their abilities by working with horses, is seeking volunteers. The program begins in late spring to early summer, at the arena behind Robert L. McCaffrey Middle School, Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. Horsemanship is not required to volunteer. Those interested can register for an informational meeting, to be held Feb. 28, 2-3 p.m. at the McCaffrey library (997 Park Terrace Drive). Sign up using the Google form

at bit.ly/49rHWWF (case sensitive). For more information, contact Lori Jones at 209-744-4545, ext. 332, or ljones@galt.k12.ca.us.

Intradistrict Transfer for 2024-25 School Year

The Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (GJUESD) is accepting intradistrict transfer applications starting through Feb. 29, 2024. Forms are available the district office located at 1018 C St., at school sites or on the District’s website, galt.k12.ca.us. ★

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BY NORRIS BURKES

A Dream For All

"How many of you remember the first time you saw a Black person?" asked my sociology professor in my freshman class at Baylor University.

Several students answered with stories about the first time they saw a Black person walking beside the road or working in their backyard. I was shocked. But I really shouldn't have been. It was 1975 and my southern friends had enjoyed school holidays for "confederated heroes," yet not for Abraham Lincoln.

As a Californian, I was out of my element, but I counted myself lucky to be free of their racist upbringing. Or was I?

With the beginning of Black History Month we might find how confessing our own history can provide insight into understanding racial issues.

As a boy growing up in the San Francisco Bay Area, my skin was as white as the fog that shrouded my hometown hills. But it was mostly the fog of my family's southern roots that made me "color blind" to other races and cultures.

It was from the distant listening post of my Richmond, Calif., home where I began hearing the cries of social change, muffled and off-key.

In 1967, I started fifth grade with the announcement that our school, Balboa Elementary, would soon receive our first Black students.

Few of my classmates said anything, holding our comments for the playground, where we assembled around Keith, our class troublemaker.

Keith seemed to always be fighting someone on the schoolyard. It was even rumored that he was once suspended for hitting a teacher.

He persuaded us that we needn't fear these Black children - as long as "us white kids stick together."

"Don't anyone talk to them," he commanded. We agreed. We'd follow our appointed leader and stick together.

"If they cause any trouble," Keith said, slamming his fist into his palm, "we'll show them who really runs this playground."

We weren't just counting on Keith; we were counting on our geography too.

For you see, while many U.S. towns were segregated by only railroad tracks, Richmond was segregated by a freeway. And with the district out of money for bussing, we thought our school would be safe from integration.

And it would have been - except for one thing.

"The tunnel," as the kids called it, was a darkened pedestrian walkway under our freeway that reeked of urine and was paved with broken soda bottles..

Located only a few hundred yards from our playground, the tunnel was forbidden territory. All of our parents warned that none of us were to ever cross through the tunnel that connected the Black community to the white one.

So, one September morning in 1967, as troop strength in Viet Nam approached 500,000, a small group of 10-year-old soldiers in the war on prejudice emerged from the tunnel. They carried the look of a scraggly group of Pop Warner football

players returning to a half-time deficit - overwhelmed both by the size of the field and the stakes of the game.

Among those kids were Deborah, Agnes, Geoffrey and Gregory. I still remember their names because that was the first time I truly "saw" a Black person.

Usually my columns work toward a dramatic climax, but the most dramatic thing in today's story is that nothing happened. No drama. Nothing

Keith didn't beat anyone up. Nobody rioted or protested. We just had life happen right amongst us. Agnes stole my pencils, but Deborah stole my heart. Gregory beat me out on the history quizzes. Both he and Agnes easily beat me in the 50-yard dash.

No drama until that first Thursday in April 1968. Sometime after the evening fog returned to the Richmond hills, a friend came over to tell me he'd just heard that Martin Luther King had been assassinated in Memphis

Now, almost fifty-five years, it seems to me that in the end, our little school became part of King's dream as it was "...transformed into a situation where little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers."

That's my history. What's yours?

Please email me so I can add you to my weekly column email. My books can be purchased on my website www.thechaplain.net. Comments are received at 10556 Combie Rd Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602 or by email comment@thechaplain.net or at (843) 608-9715.

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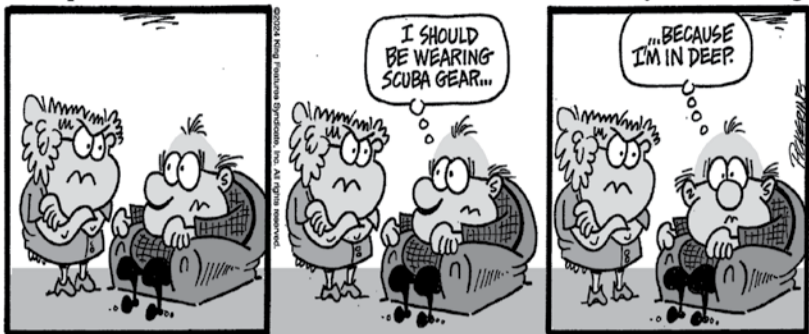
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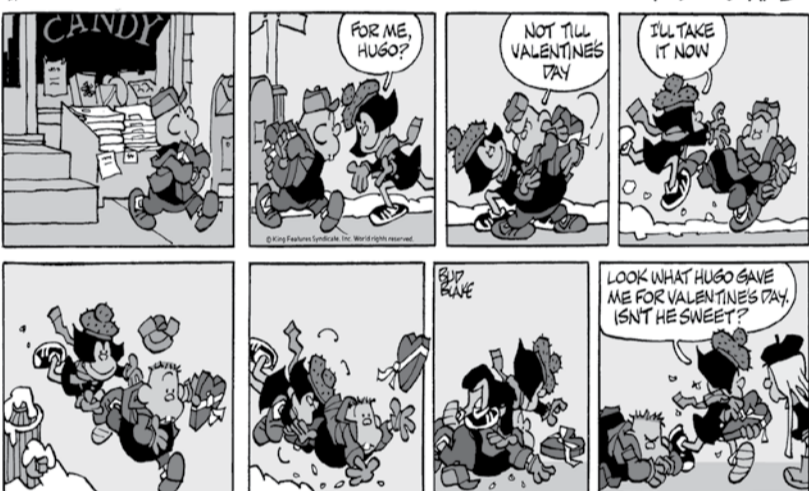
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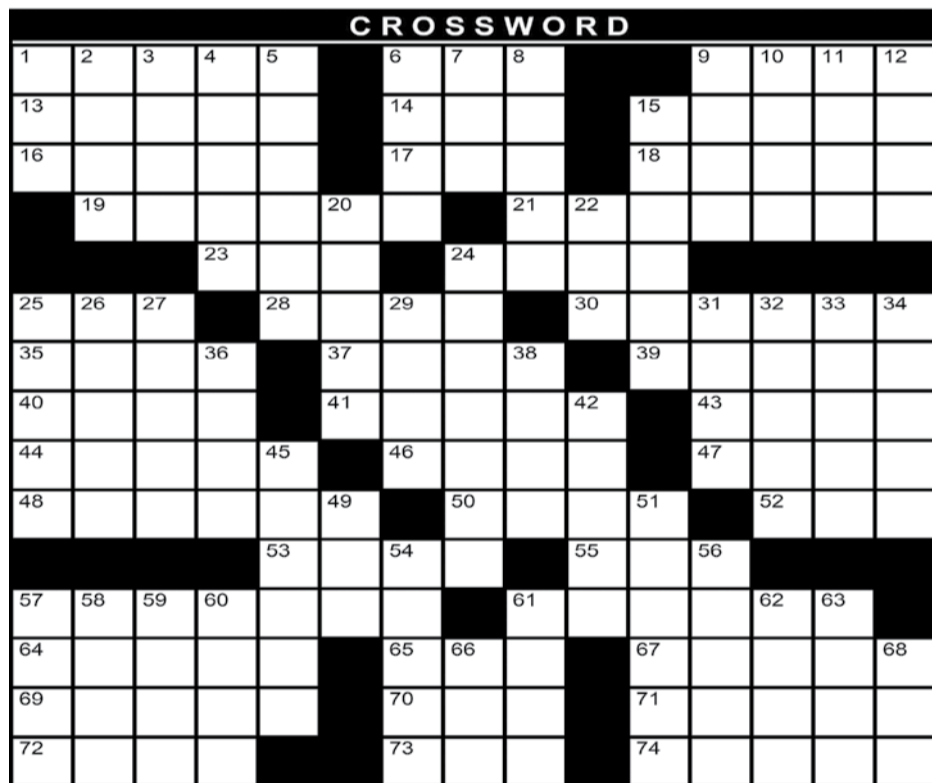
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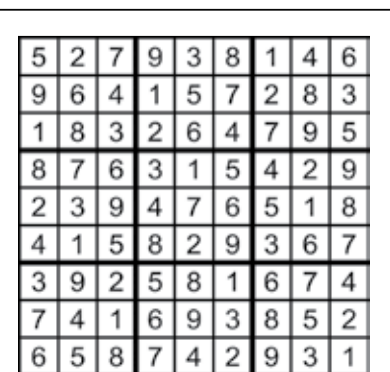


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As we chow down or "nosh," as the young people say, on our favorite pizza, explore a few pizza facts: According to "Who Invented Pizza - The History of 'Za'" by Streets of New York, pizza dates back thousands of years, believe it or not, tracing its roots back to the flatbreads with toppings that were popular with ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans.

But modern pizza, the flatbread with tomato sauce, cheese and toppings, was born along the western

coast of Italy, in the city of Naples. Naples was notorious for its masses of poor, working-class people. Those people needed to eat! That meant inexpensive food, and since much of their lives was spent outdoors, it needed to be able to be eaten quickly.

Flatbreads sold by street vendors were then topped with tomatoes, cheese, garlic, anchovies and oil; they became the food of the time, available for every meal and easily affordable for all. And thus, pizza was born! That's right, even from the beginning people have been eating pizza for breakfast! (Don't let anyone tell you otherwise!)

In the 1940s, immigrants from Naples were landing in America looking for new

opportunities. And with them came pizza, which they sold to the millions of Europeans who immigrated to the United States. One of earliest pizzerias in the United States opened in Manhattan. Lombardi's was named for its owner, Gennaro Lombardi. As of today, 116 years later, Lombardi's is still selling slices of pizza from that same oven! While they moved locations, they took the oven with them.

After that, it was only a matter of time before pizza raced across the nation, spreading with Italian Americans across the United States. After World War II, pizza took off in the United States. No longer thought of as ethnic food, it became a part of American food culture. New regional variants developed in the Midwest,

South and West: New York style, Chicago style, California style — all tasty, all unique.

My favorite is Italian garlic with original crust, white sauce, sausage, pepperoni (most popular topping), garlic, fresh chopped tomatoes and green onions. Don got a pizza baker from Santa, and he has mastered baking the perfect crispy crust and yummy toppings. I think we will be having pizza for dinner tonight. Or maybe for the Super Bowl.

Are ready for some football? I was so happy the 49ers are playing. Brock Purdy's story is almost unbelievable. A good Christian boy drafted last in the 2022 draft as Mr. Irrelevant, and now he is the starting quarterback in the Super Bowl. Yes, God has a plan.

And then on the Chiefs' side, the team has played in the Super Bowl like forever and won a few. A team of very talented men, coached by an equally talented coach. And great commercials. Now there is an added extra — the cherry on top to add a little spice for those who don't truly watch the game — the sweet romance of Taylor and Travis. Wow! Good stuff, there will be something for everyone.

Time for the February countdown; don't want you to be caught unaware or unprepared because you didn't know, so, here goes: five days until Valentine's Day; 10 days until Presidents Day; 30 days until Daylight Saving Time (Ugh!); 51 days until Easter; 93 days until Mother's Day; 108 days until Memorial Day; 127 days

until Father's Day; 146 days until Independence Day; 206 days until Labor Day; 265 days until Halloween; 276 days Veterans Days; 293 days until Thanksgiving; and 310 days until Christmas.

Flower of the Day: Crocus
Recipe of the Day: Italian Garlic Pizza

Dates to remember:
Feb. 10 - Lunar New Year
Feb. 12 - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday - All Galt high school district schools are closed.

Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday
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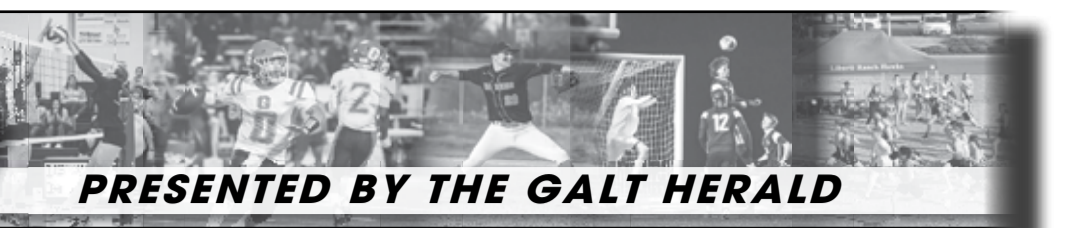
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LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE



PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Warrior Boys' Soccer Celebrates Senior Night as League Champions



Here are the Galt Warrior Senior Soccer players and League Champions. Photos by Paige Lampson

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - There was a lot on the line last Tuesday as the Galt Warriors were getting ready to play crosstown rivals Liberty Ranch. Galt had 7 wins and 1 tie going into the game. Liberty Ranch had 6 wins and 2 ties. The League Championship was on the line.

Earlier in the season, Galt's only tie was against Liberty Ranch. The Hawks hadn't lost a game all season either.

Warrior head coach Alejandro Renteria had the team focus on the future. "As always it was a thrilling game," said Renteria. "Both teams knew that league was on the line and luckily, we came out on top this time. Of course, there's a huge rivalry between these two schools but the respect is always there. I'm sure there were many kids on the sideline that saw this game and are excited to be a part of it one day. This game has a lot of history behind it and every year is just another chapter added."

To top it off the game, that was supposed to be played on the home field, was being played at Walker Park due to a stadium light fire a couple weeks ago. It has not been determined if the light pole is sturdy enough not to fall and the district has closed Warrior Stadium.

This time, Senior Night, Renteria was able to keep his team calm and focused. They played well together and didn't get frazzled, even though the game was very intense at times.

Isai Meza was the first to score for the Warriors with a header into the

goal. Meza got a second goal in with an assist from Miguel Garcia. Before halftime Breen Velazquez scored with an assist from Vicente Marquez. Galt's goalie Adam Preciado was kept busy by the Hawks, but not as busy as the Warriors kept Liberty's goalie Raj Pillay. Stats have not been entered for saves, but there were quite a few of them.

The half time whistle sounded and the Warriors were up 3-0.

The Hawks were finally able to score after halftime when Freshman Humberto Dominguez made it past the defense.

The intense game play continued and top scorer Miguel Garcia was finally able to get the last goal on a penalty kick.

When the final whistle blew, the score was 4-1 and the celebration was energetic as the seniors and team knew they had cinched the League Championship. They had one more game left against Bradshaw Christian and beat them soundly 7-0.

Renteria had his eyes set on a win and not a tie this time. "At the end of the day, we obviously want to win," said Renteria. "As a coach, I'm extremely competitive and I demand a lot from my boys. Nothing has been easy and we have been working hard since day one of conditioning. The fruits of our labor are starting to pay off, and we hope to take this team as far as we can go."

The Playoffs begin Friday with Galt seeded #1, but they are still determining where they will play due to Warrior Stadium being closed. ★



The battle at the Liberty goal is fierce.



Galt's Isai Meza scores the first goal against Liberty Ranch with a header.



Galt goalie Adam Preciado snags the ball with Hawk Danny Juarez running it down.



Liberty's Cristobal Flores pulls on Galt's David Morales in an attempt to get to the ball first.

LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD



Hawk Girls' Soccer Remains Undefeated



Liberty Ranch League Champion soccer seniors jump for joy. Photos by Paige Lampson

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Lady Hawk soccer team celebrated their senior night with a game against cross-town rival Galt High School.

Earlier in the season, the Hawks had bested Galt 5-0. This time, Galt came hungry and they were prepared. Galt's Bricelena Cortez snuck one in early in the game.

Half time sounded and the Warriors were up 1-0. Things got very intense in the second half because the Hawks knew they needed a win or tie to secure the League Championship.

It wasn't for lack of trying. Galt goalie Kylee Chapman had 11 saves and the defenders were helping her out. Liberty goalies Zia Ruppert and Kennie Thomas split the duties and each had 4 saves.

In the closing minutes of the game

Maryn Rogers was able to score on a penalty kick and the game ended in a tie 1-1.

Liberty head coach Rob Huarte would have liked a win, but nevertheless they are still undefeated in League.

"This was a tough Senior Night," said Huarte. "Eight seniors that I am really close with. Each one spent four years in the program and worked really hard to finish at the top of the league. Galt played very well and got on the scoreboard first and very early. This Hawks team however, can never be counted out as we have scored game winners and trying goals often this year."

"This happened to be yet another suspenseful yet rewarding game. The Hawks scored a late goal in the second half to tie the game and remain undefeated in the SVC."

With the Hawks first in League and the Warriors second, both will begin playoff games Saturday. ★



Hawk Ellianna Keiser goes toe to toe with Galt's Whitney Ehlers.



Liberty's Hailey Katen goes kick to kick with Galt's Bricelena Cortez



Liberty's Alora Lopez dribbles guarded by Warrior Katherine Dalton.



Hawk Halle Ory blocks a frustrated Bayley Miller from the ball so Liberty goalie Kennie Thomas can save it.

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LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Lady Warriors Celebrate Senior Night

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt girls' basketball team honored their seniors at their last home game against Rosemont. The Warriors lost 25-60, but they played hard and enjoyed some gametime.

The four seniors honored were Akalya-Joy Gunter, Camilia Gonzalez, Bree Cortez and Carlotta Boldrini.

Akalya-Joy Gunter lead the scoring, as she has all season, with 10-points. Emily Pena scored 4, Camila Gonzalez scored 3 and Carlotta Boldrini, Vanessa Felix Corrales, Bree Cortez and Mia Acuna each scored 2 points.

The Warriors had two League wins this season against Bradshaw Christian which puts them in 5th place with Bradshaw in 6th. ★



Seniors and their families celebrate their last home game. Photos By Ella Ipson



Akalya Gunter keeps the ball away.



Carlotta Boldrini snags a rebound and heads down-court.



Camila Gonzalez looks for an opening.

Galt Boxers Win Belts



Rodrigo Granados wins his match.

Information provided
by Patty Lujan

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Guerrero Boxing Gym had a few boxers from Galt fight at the Dogg Pound Throwdown in Sacramento Sunday January 28, 2024. It was

a USA sanctioned boxing event.

Rodrigo Granados, who is 11 years old and attends Valley Oaks Elementary School, won his bout and belt. It was also his first fight ever.

Layla Lujan is



Layla Lujan listens to her coach between rounds.

becoming quite an experienced boxer and won her belt. Layla is also 11 years old and attends Archoe Elementary School.

The kids work out at Guerrero Boxing Gym in Galt where father and son Russ Guerrero and Russ Guerrero Jr are the owners. ★



Eleven-year-old boxers Layla Lujan and Rodrigo Granados show off their champion belts.

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