

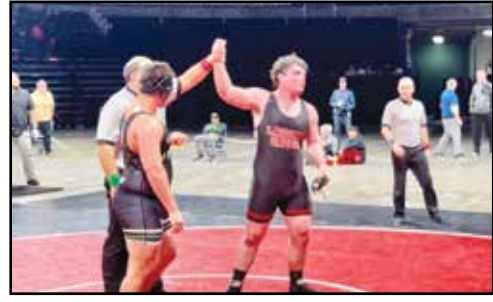


**Local Girl Scouts
Sharpen Their
Business Skills**

PAGE 14

**Hoover, Follette,
Sandoval Win Masters
Championships**

PAGE 13



Elk Grove Citizen

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Official Newspaper of Elk Grove Since 1909

FEBRUARY 23, 2024

**SEE
INSIDE**

**RANCHO MURIETA
SUPERVISOR KELLY
BENITEZ RESIGNS**



PAGE 9

**SEASON'S OVER
FOR SHELDON,
FRANKLIN & MT**



PAGE 14

**KIWANIAN
CRAB FEED
IS A SELL-OUT**



PAGE 10

Camellia Show Celebrates 100 years

Show to be Held on March 2, 3



The Pink Perfection camellia is featured in this year's Camellia Show sponsored by the Camellia Society of Sacramento. The photo contest is focused on this particular variety.

**By Carol Feineman,
photos by Julie Vierra,
Camellia Society of
Sacramento**

**SACRAMENTO REGION,
CA (MPG)** - It's not every day that nonprofit organizations celebrate a centennial so Camellia Society

of Sacramento members are especially excited about its Camellia Show on March 2 and March 3.

The nonprofit gardening organization's first Camellia Show, highlighting the plant that is a member of the tea family, was in 1924.

This year's 100th show

includes hundreds of camellias to view, floral arrangements, camellia waxing, plants for sale, raffle, collectible camellia buttons and a Matsuyama, Japan display. The Japanese city is the organization's sister city. The Sacramento History Center will have an informational

table with memorabilia about camellias, the show and the former Camellia Festival.

"Our 100th is going to be a big deal for us! We are hoping lots of people attend," said Camellia Society of Sacramento President Julie Vierra this week.

Continued on Page 2



CITY OF
ELK GROVE

Approval of Subdivision Map and Two Restarts Zip Through

By Sharon Pearce

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG8) - The Elk Grove Planning Commission wasted no time moving through three agenda items on Feb. 15, disregarding a couple of public complaints that reviewing water agencies had not been properly identified by staff on a proposed subdivision map.

Summer Gardens Estates raised a few questions about whether water oversight agencies were listed appropriately. It would be located in a rural area at 8577 Bader Road where the parcel would be subdivided into 19 lots on one to two acres with a well and septic system permitted for each lot.

A homeowner questioned whether Bader Road would remain the size it is or if present homeowners would lose their easements along the road.

Commissioner George Murphey stated that no changes would be made to their properties. Murphey asked if the development would reduce the flood plain of the nearby river and appeared satisfied that it would not be an issue.

The resolution that unanimously passed was to exempt further environmental review under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, and to approve the tentative subdivision map and design review for subdivision layout.

The project for approximately 40 acres states that no municipal water will be pulled. Speakers expressed concern that the subdivision map might not be "up front as to what it will really be." The Sacramento County Water Review Board reportedly was given an opportunity to comment on the project at this stage but did not do so. Murphey also suggested that there be limited street lighting in that area to reduce glare.

Applicant Amanda Holliday provided her profile and history in operating her business, Hard 2 Love Tattoo and Supplies in Sacramento, as part of her request for a conditional use permit to relocate the business to her Elk Grove hometown to 8819 Elk Grove Blvd. Kathy Wilson made a statement of support. The Planning

Continued on Page 3

California Wildlife Photo of the Year 2023 Winner Announced



'Juvenile Burrowing Owls' is by Paulette Donnellan.

**California Watchable
Wildlife News Release**

**SACRAMENTO REGION,
CA (MPG)** - A winner has been announced for the 2023 California Wildlife Photo of the Year. This year's winner is Paulette Donnellan, who took "Juvenile Burrowing Owls" at Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge.

Burrowing Owl nests are not made public to protect this endangered species.

While discovering Burrowing Owls can be a challenge, Paulette's experience and time in the desert have taught her where to look. Her entrée into photography started as a pandemic hobby in 2020, and she has never looked back.

"They are so amazing

to photograph," said Donnellan, who loves burrowing owls so much she can often be found wearing an owl necklace, "Their eyes, they are just full of personality, and I really enjoy photographing them."

The winning image was selected by California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Director Charlton H. Bonham. "The opportunity to choose the

wildlife photo of the year is one of the perks of my job, even though it's never easy," said Director Bonham. "The eyes of the burrowing owl family in Paulette Donnellan's photo are captivating, it was difficult to peel my own eyes away. The concrete in the shot is also a reminder that nature is all around us and we need to learn to live with wildlife

Continued on Page 3

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Camellia Show Celebrates 100 years March 2, 3

Continued from Page 1

Vierra has more than 100 of the flowering plants in her West Sacramento front and backyard.

“Did you know the flower of Sacramento is the camellia?,” Vierra stated. “We will be going to the State Capitol on the 29th. Our 100th resolution will be presented to us by Kevin McCarty (California Assemblymember, 6th District).”

New this year is a partnership between the camellia society and the Camellia Coffee Roasters at 12th and R streets in Sacramento. That includes Camellia Coffee Roasters Instagram “infomercials” with club members describing how to care for the plants. The cafe and coffee wholesaler company has also named one of its coffee blends in the society’s honor. The Camellia Coffee Roasters will be at the Camellia Show on March 3.

Camellia Show hours are from 3 to 6 p.m. March 2 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 3 at the Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St., Sacramento.

Admission is free both days.

“If you enjoy gardening, you will love the show. We are all gardeners,” Vierra said.

The Camellia Society



The trophy table in the 2022 show included yard art and gardening items. In honor of the 100th-year celebration, this year’s trophies will be crystal and cut glass.



Camellia Society of Sacramento members will dip fresh flowers into paraffin to make the flowers last longer at the Camellia Show on March 2 and March 3 in Sacramento.

of Sacramento meets once a month from October to April. Northern California Camellia Society President Justin Bergamini will speak about grafting techniques at the Feb. 25 2 p.m. meeting at Sierra 2, 2791 24th St., Room 12, Sacramento.

The society’s 60 members are from Sacramento, Orangevale, West Sacramento, Fair Oaks, Carmichael, Folsom, Davis, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova,

Roseville, Gold River, Lincoln and Woodland. New members are always welcome.

“We have fun, we have food and we have lots of knowledgeable camellia people if you have any questions,” Vierra said.

For more information about the 100th Camellia Show or the organization, call Vierra at 916-812-3202 or visit <https://camelliasocietyofsacramento.org>. ★

MEMORIAL

JOHN ANTHONY LEWIS II • 1/26/1960 – 2/02/2024

John Anthony Lewis II, a life long resident of Elk Grove and Wilton died on Friday, February 2nd 2024 at the age of 64. He was born January 26, 1960 in Sacramento to John and Joan Lewis, grew up in Elk Grove and Graduated Elk Grove High School in 1978. He worked in Construction as a Foreman with Cal-Sierra Pipelines for many years then became self-employed and went into the Cattle Transportation Trucking business with his brother Tim. He had many passions, and especially enjoyed sunning, fly fishing, watching soccer and golfing. He loved to

travel, his favorite, to tropical destinations. He was involved from birth with raising cattle and ranch life participating as a child and teen and later with sons in 4-H and FFA. He was also involved in the High School Rodeo program and rode Saddle Broncs. He was very devoted to his family and many friends. John absolutely loved life, he was an incredible story teller and he always brought happiness, laughter, joy and love to all who he touched. He is survived and will be missed by his wife, Liz; sons, Jeff and Stephen; daughter-in-law’s, Ryndee

and Alex; brothers, Bobby and Tim; sister-in-law’s, Shawna and Stephanie; grandsons, Mason, Colton and Rhett; granddaughter, Amelia; nephews, Cody, Cole, Jack and James; nieces, Shelby, Brittany, Nataley and Victoria; aunt’s, Elda and Marion; mother-in-law, Carolyn; father-in-law, Darrell; and many cousins. A Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, March 1st at 11:00a.m. at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, 9961 Elk Grove-Florin Rd. Elk Grove, CA 95624 across from the main entrance to the Elk Grove Park. A lunch reception will follow.

MEMORIAL

GENE SWEHLA • 3/03/1963 – 2/25/2024

Gene was born to Roy and Gail in Sacramento Calif.

Gene is preceded in death by his father Roy, and his brothers Larry and Michael.

Gene is survived by his mother Gail and Karen his loving partner of over 30 years. His nephew Preston, and his children Rydder, and Alivia, Glendon

their grandson and nephews Charles and Jaylen.

Gene was hard working, and generous. He would drop everything if you needed help. He loved his family and friends. And will be missed by all.

A celebration of life will be at a later date. Donations can be made to Light Of the Valley church.



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SATURDAY | MARCH 2 | 3PM

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Maggie Renée, Mezzo

Salvatore Atti, Tenor
David Soar, Bass



Smith



Renée



Atti



Soar

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SACRAMENTOCHORAL.ORG

California Wildlife Photo of the Year Winner Announced



'Black Bear with Salmon' is by Steve Harms.

Continued from Page 1
to preserve California's unmatched biodiversity." On February 12, 2023, Paulette joined Senator Brian Jones (D-California Senate 38th District) and Central Subregion Representative Chris Dallas, Sierra Nevada Conservancy in a presentation where she received a Proclamation honoring her photograph. She also received a pair of Zeiss Conquest HD 8x42 binoculars donated by Out of This World Optics, a two-night stay at Abbey House Inn, and a gift certificate from Chirp Nature Center. Leading up to the announcement, the top winning images from the 2023 contest were part of a week-long social media presentation.

The year's top finishers included two winning entries selected by representatives from Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Out of This World Optics.
2023 Sierra Nevada Conservancy Winner

- Black Bear with Salmon, Taylor Creek Visitor Center, Photographer: Steve Harms
2023 California Watchable Wildlife Winner
Great Blue Heron & Iris, Effie Yeaw Nature Center, Photographer: Michele Dodge
The Photo of the Year was selected from the top 17 winning images for 2023. The other contenders are below. All images are viewable online.
- Alyn Brereton - Common Ravens Mating
 - Collin McKahin - Humpback whales lunge feeding
 - Randy Robbins - A barking gray fox
 - Larry Venus - Bald Eagle and coot
 - Jean Zuo - Sandhill Cranes Dancing
 - Larry Whiting - Yellow-bellied marmots
 - Cindy Croissant - Metaphid Jumping Spider
 - Randy Robbins - Bald eagle catching rainbow trout
 - Larry Whiting - Merlin

- Ryan Wickiser - Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog
 - Kevin Lohman - Double-crested Cormorant & American White Pelicans
 - Michele Dodge - Great Blue Heron & Wild Irises
 - Parham Pourahmad - Red-shouldered Hawk
 - Steve Harms - Black Bear with Kokanee Salmon
 - Ryan Wickiser - Great Gray Owl * Cindy Croissant - La Jolla Cove Crab
- Now, the California Wildlife Photo of the Year 2024 is officially underway. The contest celebrates California's native wildlife in their natural habitat. The contest is co-hosted by California Watchable Wildlife and California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and is sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Out of This World Optics, Chirp Nature Center, and Abbey House Inn. Photos are submitted bi-monthly five times a year. Photographers are encouraged to submit their photos for consideration. ★



'Great Blue Heron & Iris' is by Michele Dodge.

Elk Grove News Briefs

City of Elk Grove News Release

Celebrating Black History Month

Join us in recognizing and appreciating the contributions and achievements of Black Americans throughout our history in this annual celebration. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month.

Curious about where your Measure E tax dollars are going and how they're making a difference?

Join the Measure E Citizens Oversight Committee this Tuesday, February 13 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (8400 Laguna Palms Way) for a review of the numbers and results being generated by Measure E tax dollars aimed at enhancing Elk Grove's quality of life.

The Measure E Citizens Oversight Committee, composed of dedicated residents appointed by the City Council, plays a crucial role in ensuring transparency and accountability in the allocation of funds that directly impact our city. Come voice your thoughts, ask questions, and be an active part of the process that shapes the future of Elk Grove.

What Makes Our City Run? Find Out at Elk Grove 101!

If you've considered becoming more involved in city government, this free class is for you! Elk Grove 101, an immersive new seven-session course is designed to engage, empower, and enlighten community members about their local government. The City of Elk Grove is offering this course for anyone 18 and older who lives or works in Elk Grove. Classes will meet weekly from April 2 to May 7. Most sessions are scheduled 6-8 p.m. at District56 with dinner and materials provided.

Join the Diversity & Inclusion Commission

Elk Grove's diversity is one of its most amazing characteristics. Our community reflects the entire range of human differences including, but not limited to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender spectrums, socio-economic status/history, national origin, veterans title, age, and other identities. Members of the Diversity and Inclusion Commission assist the City through education and outreach, advocacy, and engaging the community as ambassadors. Commissioners provide the City Council with feedback and recommendations for creating a more equitable, accessible, safe, welcoming, and inclusive government and community.

Recruitment is now open for one seat on the Diversity and Inclusion Commission. This is a non-paid, volunteer position for Elk Grove residents appointed by the Mayor

with the consensus of the City Council. Applicants must be able to commit to attending monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month and participate in at least 70% of all Commission-hosted activities throughout the year. Apply at <https://www.elk-grovecity.org/commissions-and-committees/vacancies-appointment-opportunities>.

Honoring Elk Grove's Stars of Service

Do you know a volunteer who goes above and beyond to improve the quality of life in our beautiful city? Recognize them by sending in a nomination for the City of Elk Grove Stars of Service award.

The City Council is now accepting nominations in the following categories:

- Residents, Neighborhood and Community Groups
- Social and Community Service
- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Sports and Recreation
- Service Organization/Groups
- Young Volunteer of the Year

Learn more about the awards and nominate someone today at elkgrovecity.org/starsofservice.

America's Best Butcher?

Elk Grove's Oscar Soto has made the cut and is advancing as a Top 5 finalist in the National Meat Cutting Challenge presented by Texas Roadhouse on March 5 in Independence, Missouri. Oscar is already recognized as one of the top 25 meat cutters in the nation. A win in Missouri could earn him bragging rights and a \$25,000 grand prize. Congratulations and best of luck in the finals, Oscar. Your hometown is rooting for you! View the story on ABC10.com.

Youth Commission Event Supports Teen Mental Health

If there is a teen in your home, please share this information. The Path to Positivity, hosted by the Elk Grove Youth Commission, aims to destigmatize and raise awareness about the critical issue of mental health in the teen population. This free event is scheduled on Saturday, February 24 from Noon to 4 p.m. at the Wackford Complex (9014 Bruceville Road). The event will provide resources from city-wide organizations, guest speakers, opportunities to make new friends, physical activities and food, music, and games. Teens can even earn volunteer hours! RSVP to the event at:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=6-03ND52IEuVS-gGaa46SQJHJQJhrVTIMmJ-Vxvk2ncx-UMkRXMUtJSORFWIIUSjFRM1k3M-FEwUzdOTy4u>. ★

Approval of Subdivision Map and Two Restarts Zip Through

Continued from Page 1
Commission unanimously approved the requested conditional use permit.

A conditional use permit was requested for an auto body and auto paint service business to be located at 9882 Waterman Road, Suites 140 and 160. Applicants previously operated Premier Autobody

but stated they had to close it because of a downturn in business during the COVID-19 lockdown. The commission unanimously exempted the project from a CEQA review and approved it to receive a use permit.

Staff informed the Planning Commission that the deadline for

submissions on the Zoo Environmental Impact Report was Feb. 20.

Commissioner Murphey announced he was stepping down, but at the mayor's request, would stay until his replacement is selected.

Staff requested that the March 7 regular meeting be vacated. ★

Don's
MATSUI
FOR CONGRESS

“Voting for the March Primary is underway! Mail in your ballots or vote on March 5th”

www.MatsuiForCongress.com

Paid for by Matsui for Congress



ABOUT TOWN

Garden Club slates Pre-Mother's Day plant sale

The River Valley Garden Club would like to thank the communities of Wilton, Sloughhouse, and Rancho Murieta for their continued support of our club's projects and activities. Your support of our Garden Stroll in May 2023 allowed the club to award three scholarships to outstanding community college students, and five grants to exceptional community organizations and nonprofits. The club will host a Garden Stroll every other year during the years ending in an odd number, the next one to be in 2025. During years ending in an even number, the club will host a spectacular plant sale on the Saturday before Mother's Day. This year that date will be Saturday, May 11. We look forward to seeing you there.

Alzheimers Support Group Presentation Feb. 27

The Elk Grove Alzheimers Caregiver Support Group meets every Tuesday at 10-11:30 a.m. at The Park at Laguna Springs, 9670 Laguna Springs Drive. Family and friends caring for people with Alzheimers disease are welcome to come to discuss the many difficult issues that caregivers face. It is a seven-days-a-week, emotional, often physical and financial journey for anyone caring for someone with this disease. Education, resources and support are provided in this group, which is always confidential and free. On Tuesday, February 27, Sheila Clark, president and CEO of the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association will tell us about the value and quality of end-of-life care for patients and their families. Please join us for this informative and educational presentation. EG Historical Society speaker series Feb. 19

The Elk Grove Historical Society's speaker series continues on Feb. 19 with a presentation by author Amy Gorder, who has written the novels "Ghosts of Autumn" and "Ghosts of Winter." Her talk will start at 6:30 p.m. The speaker series program is presented at the Presbyterian Church, 8153 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 50, EG (facing Big Horn Boulevard).

Alta Mesa Gun Club Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner March 16

The Alta Mesa Gun Club of Wilton will kick off the St. Patrick's Day season and host their annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 16.

Social hour begins at 5 p.m., followed by the 6 p.m. Dinner. Tickets are \$30 per person (ages 13 and up) and \$15 per person (ages 12 and under). Dinner tickets can be purchased at the clubhouse Mondays, Thursday, and Fridays from 5-9 p.m. or via GPay at altamesagunclub@gmail.com.

For more information on tickets, call 916-716-7329 or 916-996-8861. The Alta Mesa Gun Club is at 10100 Reigl Rd., Wilton.

Square Dance Classes on Mondays in Galt

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. There will be a Social Square Dancer "SSD" beginning Jan. 15, 2024 from 6:10pm - 8:00pm. Jan. 15 & 22 classes are FREE, then 12 weeks of classes \$60. No experience necessary! The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is located at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916 or Gary at 916-838-6138.

Widowed Persons Social Club Activities for February, March

The Widowed Persons Social Club (WPSC) will host the following activities in November. Attendees can join up to three gatherings before joining the club. For information on membership, contact Bonnie Dale at (916) 422-1522.

February 27- 5:00 PM - Dinner at Shelton Inn, 9000 Grant Line Rd. Contact is Diane at 541-892-5334.

February 28 - 1:00 PM - Book Club at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact is Merrylynn at 916-549-4264.

March 1 - 10:00 AM Pinochle at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is

Jim at 916-768-1923.

March 2 - 10:30 Coffee Gathering - Meet at Peets Coffee, 7127 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

March 4 - 10:30 AM - WPSC Board Meeting at the Oaks Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 116 Calle Entrada, Elk Grove. Open to all members.

March 4 - 12:00 Noon - Lunch at Taqueria los Compadres II, 9771 E. Stockton Blvd., #150, Elk Grove. Contact is Barbara at 916-516-6009.

March 7 - 12:00 Noon no-host Lunch & Bunco at Round Table, 8795 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

March 8 - 10:00 AM Hand and Foot card game at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Gerri at 916-698-1940.

March 13 - 12:00 Noon no-host Lunch followed by Beginners' Pinochle at Original Mike's, 9139 East Stockton Blvd. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

March 15 - 10:00 AM Pinochle at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Jim at 916-768-1923.

March 21 - 11:45 AM - General Meeting at Valley Hi Country Club, 9595 Franklin Blvd., \$32 includes lunch. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance by calling Pat at 916-802-4524.

March 22 - 10:00 AM Hand and Foot card game at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Gerri at 916-698-1940.

March 28 - 5:00 PM - Dinner at Olive Garden, 7480 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove. Contact is Joyce at 916-896-0831.

March 27 - 1:00 PM - Book Club at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected.

Contact is Merrylynn at 916-549-4264.

March 28 - 12:00 Noon no-host Lunch & Bunco at Round Table, 8795 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

A widowed person may attend up to three events before joining WPSC.

Contact Bonnie Dale at 916-422-1522 if you are interested in membership

Gardeners of the Grove March 5, 2024 Meeting

The Gardeners of the Grove will hold its March meeting on Tuesday, March

5, 2024.

Our speaker will be Mackenzie Wieser, CEO, Sacramento Splash (rescheduled from January's meeting.) Sacramento Splash provides science based programs that help children understand and connect to the natural world. Through their formal and informal programs, tours and projects, Splash makes science fun, sparking natural curiosity and interest in the world around us.

The meeting will be held at the Elk Grove Library, 8900 Elk Grove Blvd. (Entrance is on the Elk Grove Blvd. side.) Social time starts at 6:00 PM and the meeting begins at 6:30 PM.

All are welcome! For more information, contact Anne Padilla apadilla0511@gmail.com

Caregivers Support Group's Weekly Meetings

The Caregivers Support Group meets every Tuesday at The Park, 9670 Laguna Springs Drive, from 10-11:30 a.m. They offer support for people who take care of friends or loved ones who have dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer's Aid Society sponsors this 25-year-old support group. Their meetings are anonymous and free.

EG Lions Club's Monthly Community Breakfasts

Community members are invited to enjoy breakfast every month at the Gil Albani Recreation Center, courtesy of the Elk Grove Lions Club.

This feast is held 8-10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month. On the menu: pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, and fruit. The Lions also serve biscuits and gravy on special occasions.

Breakfast is \$10 for adults and \$4 for children. The Albani Recreation Center is at 8830 Sharkey Ave., Elk Grove.

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 February 5th, 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.

Kiwanis Club of Laguna-Elk Grove's Monthly Meetings

The Kiwanis Club of Laguna-Elk Grove invites you to attend their monthly meeting currently held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Wackford Community Center (9014 Bruceville Road) in Poppy Room B. Join in for social time at 6:30pm by bringing your own meal and dining with the club members or come at 7:00pm for the meeting. Learn how you can help out the kids of our community and be a part of this fun and engaging club. Visit them on Facebook for updates on fundraisers and changes to meetings at www.facebook.com

LagunaElkGrove Kiwanis2015.

Elk Grove Garden Club Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month with a summer break in July and August. Check-in and social time is at 10:00 a.m. and the general meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. Annual dues are \$25. Our meetings are held at the Gil Albani Recreation Center, 8830 Sharkey Ave., Elk Grove, California.

To reserve your seat as a guest, email the President (see below). Occasionally we change the venue or date and time because of a special program or event, and we will update you when that happens. For more information, contact Mary Anne Strohmaier at marystrohmaier@yahoo.com

American Legion Post 55's Monthly Meetings

Elk Grove's new American Legion Post 55 will meet at 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Elk Grove Veterans Memorial Hall. This hall is at the District56 center, 8230 Civic Center Drive.

For more information, call (916) 585-3807, email p55eg2022@gmail.com, or visit www.Post55.AmericanLegionElkGrove.com.

Marine Corps League Monthly Meetings

The Marine Corps League, Detachment #1238 of Elk Grove resumed their monthly meetings at the Veterans Hall inside the District56 center. They meet every first Thursday of the month.

District56 is at 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove. The Veterans Hall is next to the Senior Center of Elk Grove.

Toastmaster Club's Meetings

Local community members are invited to improve their public speaking and leadership skills with Elk Grove's Speaking Machine Toastmasters Club.

They meet every Tuesday from 7-8:30 p.m. at The Park at Laguna Springs, 9670 Laguna Springs Drive.

For more information, visit www.SpeakingMachine.org or call (916) 202-5563. ★



Election Information

March 5, 2024 - Presidential Primary Election

Vote Early and Vote by Mail.



Feb 5 Ballots begin to arrive by mail. Ballot Drop Boxes are now open.



Feb 20 Close of registration. Register today!



Feb 24 11-Day Vote Centers open through Election Day.



Mar 2 All Vote Centers open through Election Day.



Mar 5 Election Day! Last day to turn in your ballot.

Vote Early! Don't wait for Election Day

Take advantage of early voting and avoid the lines! You can return your ballot in the mail, at any Ballot Drop Box, or at any Vote Center. No postage is necessary.

Track your Ballot

Sign up for "Where's My Ballot?" with Ballottrax, a free ballot tracking and alert system. It is available to all voters who wish to track the status of their Vote by Mail ballot - from printed to accepted. This provides additional transparency to voters on the status of their ballot.



Vote Early! Vote by Mail.

ARTS CALENDAR

Elk Grove Dust Bowl Upcoming Events
Local artists playing at our taproom, visit our website for more information!
Thursday, February 22
Nikki Perez, 5pm-8pm
Americana, Modern
Thursday, February 29
The Taylor Chicks
5pm-8pm
Folk, Country
Elk Grove's Dust Bowl Brewing Taphouse is located at 9679 Railroad St. in Old Town Elk Grove.
For more information, please visit dustbowlbrewing.com

The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center
Check out the local website for featured rotating local artist. The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center is at their new location, 9020 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 101. The Center entrance is on Walnut Avenue, with parking available out front or in public lots in Old Town Elk Grove. They are open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit us every First Saturday from

4-7PM at the Center for refreshments, an opportunity to meet featured artists, and enjoy live music. For more information, visit www.ElkGroveFineArtsCenter.org or call (916) 685-5992.

Elk Grove Festival of the Arts, Apr. 27
The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center presents the Elk Grove Festival of the Arts, a full day of creative expression at the Old Town Plaza in the heart of our city. This partnership with the City, and the Elk Grove Arts Commission, together fine artists, musical performers, creative students, and the community to enjoy a bit of culture in the beautiful California spring.

Collectors will find dozens of fine artists with work at accessible prices – a vast open studios with live painting demonstrations, hand-crafted jewelry, and fine and decorative artwork suitable for any home or business.

This year's festival is calling for sponsors and artists! Please visit www.ElkGroveFineArtsCenter.org for find out more!

Art Workshops for Adults at Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

Enhance your visual arts skills or learn a new technique in an art class or workshop at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center.

At the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center you can find art workshops for adults in a variety of mediums and techniques. We periodically offer workshops for younger people, dependent upon the instructor and type of class. If you're looking for basic to advanced instruction in Batiking, Ceramics, Clay, Encaustics, Fabric Art, Mixed-Media, Mosaics, Plein Air, or Watercolor (and more!), you will find it at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center. *(Availability of these classes can change at any time)*

- Register Now For Upcoming Classes:
- Plein Air Watercolor with David Peterson – March 30, 2024
 - Building Multimedia Collages with Terri Bianco – April 19, 2024
 - Beginning Acrylic with Andrea Morris – May 25, 2024
 - Portrait Drawing with Andrea Morris – April 20, 2024
 - Plum Blossoms Painting with Joy Kuo – March 1,

- 2024 Watercolor Landscape with Teresa Steinbach-Garcia – February 21, 2024
- Beginning Acrylic with Andrea Morris – March 23, 2024
- Beginning Acrylic with Andrea Morris – February 24, 2024
- To sign up for classes and learn more about the classes, please visit <https://elkgrovetofineartscenter.org/workshops/>

Call For Artists at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

All art competitions require online submission through Smarter Entry. Fees may be paid directly online through this system. Visit the individual exhibition pages to explore deadlines, fees, awards, and to download the prospectus. Here's the calendar for the upcoming themes for submissions:

- March: All Creatures Great and Small Competition, Helen Plenert in the Foyer Gallery
- April: Elk Grove Festival of the Arts, Caiti Chan in the Foyer Gallery, and Member Art exhibition

- May: Abstractly Speaking Competition, Amy Vidra in the Foyer Gallery, Stop Stigma Sacramento
- June: Wide Open Spaces Competition
- To find out more information about the monthly contests and for more details about submissions, please visit <https://elkgrovetofineartscenter.org/>

A Seat at the Table Books

This bookstore is hosting these ongoing events at their bookstore: every Wednesday, 4:30-5 p.m., Reading Circle Storytime with Samantha Tucey; every Saturday, 11-11:30 a.m., Family Storytime; every Saturday, 10:45-11:15 a.m., Mindfulness Drop-in Group with the store's co-owner Ryan; every first Friday, 5:30-6 p.m., Aloha Friday Storytime with Sergio; every first Friday, 6:15-8:45 p.m., Poetry Night, admission is \$15, which includes a \$10 voucher for anything in the store, suitable for ages 16 or older. A Seat at the Table Books is at 9257 Laguna Springs Drive. For more information, visit www.ASeatAtTheTableBooks.org or call (916) 538-3482.

Elk Grove Artists Inc. (EGA)

Each month, Elk Grove Artists Inc. engages established and recognized guest artists who conduct workshops, presentations, demos, critiques and more, often sharing stories and experiences that inspire their creativity. To sign up for future workshop notices, call (916) 715-3749 or (916) 591-7446, or visit elkgroveartists@att.net

View Artwork from Elk Grove

At: <http://webmaps.elkgrovecity.org/public-artelkgrove/>. The Elk Grove Arts Commission has created a virtual Citywide Art Guide for the benefit of the residents and visitors that includes a comprehensive inventory of art pieces and art events in Elk Grove. If you know of a piece or event missing from the guide that should be included, contact the city of Elk Grove's community event center manager, Lana Yoshimura at lyoshimura@elkgrovecity.org. ★

Northern California Eggstravaganza Egg 'N Art Show & Sale

April 12-14, 2024. Seminars. Pre-registration required go to www.norcaleggshow.com
Facebook: Northern California Eggstravaganza

SES Portuguese Hall
10428 E. Stockton Blvd., Elk Grove CA. 95624

	April 13th	April 14th
10a-5p	Open to the Public	10a-3p Open to the Public
	Free admission	11a-1p Learning Table Projects
11a-1p	Learning Table Projects	Nominal Fee to be donated to Shriners

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Legal Advertising 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5 Carmichael, CA 95608

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00108
Crescent Group LLC, 7902 Gerber Road, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Crescent Imports" 9245 Laguna Springs Drive Suite 200, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 3, 2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00395
Rock Hedlund and Landy Hedlund, 8174 Dillard Road, Wilton, CA 95693 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Rock Hedlund Cutting Horses" 8174 Dillard Road, Wilton, CA 95693. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 12, 2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00513
Purchu, LLC, 5650 Whitelock Parkway Suite 130 #1050, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Purchu LLC/Purchu" 5650 Whitelock Parkway Suite 130 #1050, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 19, 2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00573
Locke Connect Inc., 9841 Castelli Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Locke Connect/ Locke Mortgage" 9841 Castelli Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 23, 2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00346
Karly McComas, 7106 Sutherland Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "KarlyJo ABA/Chaos to Calm" 7106 Sutherland Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 11, 2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-00640
NorCal Compressors LLC, 4820 Mastodon Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "NorCal Compressors" 4820 Mastodon Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 24, 2024

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV000910
Ismael Zenon Rodriguez has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Priscilla Arely Zenon Garcia to Priscilla Arely Zenon Rincon and Alyzza Guadalupe Zenon Garcia to Alyzza Guadalupe Zenon Rincon and Ismael Angel Zenon to Ismael Angel Zenon Rincon and Arely Mariel Zenon to Arely Mariel Zenon Rincon.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on April 30, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: January 22, 2024 Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV001836

Bennet Omalu; Prema Mutiso has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ashly Chimdi Omalu to Ashly Ivy Chimdi Omalu.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on May 23, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: January 30, 2024 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV002653

Mir Mohammad Tareq Afaq has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Mir Mohammad Tareq Afaq to Mir Tareq Afaq.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 6, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of

Name should not be granted. Dated: February 14, 2024 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: Feb 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2024 AFAQ 3-15-24

TRUSTEE SALE

APN: 119-0500-080-0000 TS No.: 22-05134CA TSG Order No.: 230398418 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED JULY 10, 2017. 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. Affinia Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded July 14, 2017 as Document No.: 201707141100 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, California, executed by: Laura P. Zaragoza, an unmarried woman, as Trustor, will be sold 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: March 15, 2024 Sale Time: 2:00 PM Sale Location: At the East Main entrance to the County Courthouse, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 File No.:22-05134CA The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 6720 Paseo Del Sol Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. 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: \$381,092.05 (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, (800) 758-8052 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website, www.xome.com, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 22-05134CA. 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 bidder," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. 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. 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time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website http://www.qualityloan.com, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-23-963286-NJ. 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 bidder," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. 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

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Carmichael, CA 95608

TRUSTEE SALE

been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 23-02380-RM-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 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 a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" you may be able to 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 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-02380-RM-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 a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. *Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 02/06/2024 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 714-730-2727; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative A-4808967 Publish: Elk Grove Citizen 02/16/2024, 02/23/2024, 03/01/2024 Elk Grove Citizen 3-1-24 APN: 119-0580-033-0000 TS No: CA05000438-23-1 To No: 230511031-CA-VOI NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d) (1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED March 11, 2002. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On March 19, 2024 at 09:00 AM, East Main Entrance, Gordon D. Schaber Sacramento County Courthouse, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814,

MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps, as the duly Appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded on March 19, 2002 in Book 20020319, on Page 0247 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, California, executed by MYRA C. LOZADA, as Trustor(s), in favor of WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, FA, A FEDERAL ASSOCIATION as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 5014 SOUTHGLEN COURT, ELK GROVE, CA 95758 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 without covenant or warranty, express 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. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$102,435.39 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a 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 California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the property receiver, if applicable. 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. 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 Auction.com at 800.280.2832 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Website address www.Auction.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA05000438-23-1. 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 NOTICE TO TENANT FOR FORECLOSURES AFTER 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 800.280.2832, or visit this internet website www.Auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case CA05000438-23-1 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. Date: February 9, 2024 MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps TS No. CA05000438-23-1 17100 Gillette Ave Irvine, CA 92614 Phone: 949-252-8300 TDD: 711 949.252.8300 By: Bernardo Sotelo, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ONLINE AT www.Auction.com FOR AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: Auction.com at 800.280.2832 NPP0456921 ELK GROVE CITIZEN

Publish: 02/23/2024, 03/01/2024, 03/08/2024
ELK GROVE CITIZEN 3-8-24

SUMMONS

CASE NUMBER: (NUMERO DEL CASO): CIVSB2303052
SUMMON ON FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT (CITACION JUDICIAL)
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): **NAIM MOHAMMAD HEMAT, an individual; and DOES 1 to 20, Inclusive.**
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO) EL DEMANDANTE): **ANGELINA RAMOS, an individual; ISSACK RAMOS and LUCAS RAMOS, both minors, by and through their Guardian Ad Litem, LINCHEY BANOS.**
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online

Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una

respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

FOR: Milk & Dairy Products, Food and Nutrition Services

BID#: 780-23/24

OPEN: March 29, 2024

TIME: 2:00 P.M. Standard

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, (District) County of Sacramento, State of California, will receive up to and not later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 29, 2024**, sealed BIDs for **Milk & Dairy Products, Food and Nutrition Services** and that such BIDs shall be opened at the **Purchasing & Warehouse Department, Student Support Center, 8431 Gerber Road, Sacramento, CA 95828**, on the above date at the stated time.

Please return your original BID along with an electronic copy on a flash/thumb drive in a sealed envelope with the BID number and the date and time of BID opening.

Each BID must conform and be responsive to this invitation; the information for bidders, specifications, and all other documents comprising the pertinent award documents, and submitted on the printed forms provided by the District.

All inquiries regarding this BID must be submitted in writing to Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor, Purchasing & Warehouse at **kgarcia@egusd.net** no later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 22, 2024**.

Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor

Elk Grove Unified School-Excellence by Design

Elk Grove Citizen 2-23 and 3-1-2024

City of Elk Grove INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that electronic bids will be received at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids prior to 10:00 a.m. local time (09:59:59 – according to the PlanetBids official Bid clock) on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024** for furnishing all labor, materials, tax, transportation, equipment and services necessary for the:

Southeast Industrial Storm Drain Improvements Project Phase 2 (WDR052)

Bids submitted after the time specified will not be accepted.

Description of Work:

The proposed work shall be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications and other contract documents and shall consist of the following: construction of 1,300 feet of 60-inch storm drainpipe along the Waterman Road Extension, approximately 1900 feet southeast of the intersection of Grant Line Road and Waterman Road (Work).

The Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) for the work is \$1,195,000.

Bidder shall have current standing as a City approved pre-qualified Bidder prior to submitting a bid for this Project. Bidders that submit a Bid without being pre-qualified shall have their Bid deemed non-responsive.

In order to bid on or to be listed on the bid proposal for this Public Works Project all Contractors and subcontractors shall be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations and be qualified to perform Public Work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the California Labor Code. Unregistered Contractors may still submit bids provided the bid is authorized by Section 7029.1 of the Business and Professions Code or by either Section 10164 and 20103.5 of the Public Contract Code and all Contractors including subcontractors are registered with the Department of Industrial Relations to perform Public Work pursuant to California Labor Code Section 1725.5 at the time the bid is submitted. DIR registration is not required on Projects that do not exceed \$25,000, which are for construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work or for public works projects for maintenance when \$15,000 or less.

Construction License:

Bidder must possess a current valid Class A General Engineering and/or Class C34 Pipeline Contractor's Licenses issued by the State of California.

Local Hire and Community Workforce Training Agreement Requirements:

This Project is subject to the requirements of the City's Local Hire and Community Workforce Training Program and the City's Community Workforce Training Agreement (CWTA). A copy of the CWTA and a summary of its requirements (CWTA Summary) is attached to this solicitation. By submitting a bid, the Contractor acknowledges that they have read and understand all the requirements, terms, and conditions of the CWTA, and have included all costs associated with compliance with the CWTA in its bid.

In accordance with the CWTA, the Contractor and all listed subcontractors must execute Addendum A to the CWTA ("Agreement to be Bound") and provide a copy of the executed document to the City before the contract can be awarded. Each subcontractor for Work covered by the CWTA listed on the bid, hired in anticipation of the bid, after the time of bid or after contract award must also execute Addendum A to the CWTA. No subcontractor shall perform Work prior to executing Addendum A and providing a copy of the executed document to the City.

Contractor must include the provisions of this section, as well as a copy of the CWTA, in every subcontract for Work covered by the CWTA.

Pre-Bid:

This Project does not have a Pre-Bid meeting scheduled.

For Pre-Bid Information and Information Pertaining to the Construction Plans and Specifications, Contact:

Michael Karoly, Project Manager, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 662-3204 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

For Obtaining Bid Documents, Contact:

Kim Marlan, Administrative Assistant, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 627-3315 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

Plans, specifications, and other bid documents may be examined and/or obtained at the City of Elk Grove City Hall, Public Works Department, located on the second floor of 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. A copy of the bid documents may be obtained at the City Hall upon request and payment of \$15.00 or may be mailed upon request and payment of \$10.00. The amount of the payment is non-refundable. Bidders may also view and download the plans, specifications, and other bid documents at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. Any Addendum shall only be issued electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids.

By: _____ Date: _____

Christina Castro, PE
Capital Program Division Manager

Elk Grove Citizen 2-16 and 2-23-2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) has selected F&H Construction, Inc. of Lodi, California as the lease-leaseback prime contractor for the Band Room upgrades at Joseph Kerr Middle School. F&H Construction requests: All Subcontractors bidding for the project to submit proposals **no later than Thursday, March 7th, 2024 no later than 2:00 p.m. PST. All bids are to be submitted and received by F&H Construction, Inc. via email to estimating@f-hconst.com, Fax to 209-931-4427, or mailed to 1115 E. Lockeford Street, Lodi, California, 95240 Attention: Estimating.** Bids shall conform to all Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents, which may be obtained from: F&H Construction / estimating@f-hconst.com Local Builders Exchange Dodge Construction Network **Project Description:** This project will generally consist of the following upgrades to the existing band room in the Administration / Multi-Purpose building on the Joseph Kerr Middle School Campus: Remove and replace existing carpet and resilient base. Remove and replace music instrument storage cabinets. Paint walls, doors, frames, and ceilings. Provide and install new wall and ceiling acoustical panels. Provide and install new casework and sink at instructor's office. Remove and replace existing audio / visual system. Remove and replace existing lighting. Additional work as identified in drawings and specifications. Scope / Trades included in the project: Demolition, Concrete Polishing, Custom Casework, Acoustical Ceilings, Carpeting, Painting, Specialty Casework, and Electrical **Please Note:** Project construction - starting June 2024 with completion August 2024. All critical material procurement items and associated durations need to be provided with proposals. This will be a factor in the selection of subcontractors. Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing (MEP) subcontractors complete and submit a standardized prequalification questionnaire and financial statement, verified under oath. MEP is defined as subcontractors holding the following: C-4, C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 and/or C-46. The submitting contractors shall be pre-qualified with the district no less than ten (10) days prior to submittal of bids. The pre-qualification packages should be sealed, marked "CONFIDENTIAL PREQUALIFICATION", and delivered to: **Facilities and Planning, Elk Grove Unified School District, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624, Attention: Pre-Qualification** Subcontractors must comply with all Skilled and Trained Workforce Compliance requirements per the Education Code 17407.5 and Public Contract Code 2600-2603 This project requires contractors to be registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations and possess an active DIR# throughout the entire project duration. The project requires prevailing wages. F&H Construction is signatory to the Carpenters and Laborers Unions, and all scopes covered by these agreements shall be signatory. Prime contract terms and conditions shall apply to all subcontracts. There is a Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise (DVBE) good faith effort requirement of 3% Pursuant to California Labor Code 6409.6 and California Code of Regulations- 8 CCR 3205, all contractors must possess a written COVID-19 Prevention Program. F&H Construction will require the submission of the plan review and approval as a condition of work on the project site, inclusive of required compliance with applicable portions of the law and all plans and notification procedures. A pre-bid job walk is scheduled for **Thursday February 22nd, at 10:00 AM at the construction site located at 8865 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove, CA 95624.** Attendance is not mandatory but strongly recommended. All Requests for Information (RFI's), any and all questions must be submitted in writing to F&H Construction, Inc. (per CC) at **estimating@f-hconst.com NO later than, Monday, February 26th, 2024, 12:00 PM.** Please label email "Joseph Kerr Middle School – Band Room Upgrades" F&H requests that all interested contractors, planning on bidding, submit written descriptions of intentional provisions of "**Scopes Only**" two days before the bid date. This enables F&H Construction to review and identify any potential scope gaps that may need to be addressed prior to the bid submission deadline day of **Thursday, March 7th, 2024.** If you have any questions, contact Joe George at jgeorge@f-hconst.com or 209-931-3738. Thank you in advance for your proposal, and on behalf of F&H Construction and EGUSD, we look forward to working with you on this very important project and all future projects.

Elk Grove Citizen 2-23 and 3-1-2024

Legal Advertising Hotline
916-483-2299
Legal Advertising Fax
916-773-2999

LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Case No. 14303 - October 14, 1910
The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the City of Elk Grove, Case No. CS01032 - August 25, 2000

Legal Advertising
7144 Fair Oaks Blvd #5
Carmichael, CA 95608

SUMMONS

ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO:** Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos extras por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): OWILI K. EISON, Esq., [SBN 271802], BD&J, PC., 9701 Wilshire Blvd., 12th Floor, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, (310) 887-1818
Date: (Fecha) _____
Clerk (Secretario)
By: ALISSA LEER, Deputy (Adjunto)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served
1. as an individual defendant.
CN103884 RAMOS
Publish: Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024
ELK GROVE CITIZEN 2-23-24

FILE NO. FBNF2021-01653
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME of: Le Cadeau Shop, 8197 Rick Chapman Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624.
Rofiah Abdol, 8197 Rick Chapman Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624.
The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on 2/22/21 in the County of Sacramento.
Filed with the clerk of Sacramento County: 2/22/2021.
Publish: Feb 9, 16, 23, March 1, 2024
LE 3-1-24

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District, hereinafter referred to as the District, will receive sealed proposals for the **John Reith Elementary School, Hardcourt Repave Project** project at Facilities and Planning Department, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, California 95624 until **3:30 p.m., local time, on Thursday, March 7, 2024**, at which time bids will be opened.

Each bid must conform to the requirements of the Drawings and Project Manual and other documents comprising the Contract Documents, which are available from Signature Reprographics, 620 Sunbeam Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 454-0800. Prime Contractors may obtain copies for a non-refundable cost of \$25 per set. Signature Reprographics maintains the project plan holders' list so it is a requirement that prospective bidders purchase their plans from Signature Reprographics to ensure that all potential bidders possess a complete set of documents including any addenda for the project. Plans may be previewed online at www.egusdplans.com

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024, 10:30 a.m.** at **John Reith Elementary School, 8401 Valley Lark Dr, Sacramento, CA 95823**. The District's Representative and Architect will be present to discuss the project. Bids received from parties not attending this mandatory pre-bid conference will be rejected as non-responsive. All prime bidders are required to attend the pre-bid conference in its entirety.

This project includes removal and replacement of all existing play court AC paving including new lime treatment, installation of new retaining wall, irrigation and landscape planting, new striping, and basketball, volleyball and pickleball courts including posts, backstops and nets. This project requires a **Class A or B** license.

In accordance with California Labor Code Section 1770 *et seq.* payment of the appropriate general prevailing rate of wages for all crafts employed on the public works site is required of the Contractor and all subcontractors. This project has a goal of 3% Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises (DVBE) participation per the State Allocation Board requirements. Compliance with California Education Code Section 45125.1 mandating fingerprinting requirements applies to this project.

NOTE: The complete Notice to Contractors is included in the bid documents.

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Sacramento County, California

BY: Michael Bean
Michael Bean
Senior Construction Manager
Elk Grove Unified School District

Elk Grove Citizen 2-16 and 2-23-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

There is a list of unclaimed disbursements by payees and held by the Cosumnes Community Services District in the General Fund at <https://www.cosumnescsd.gov/153/Finance>. If you have a claim against these funds, please contact the Cosumnes CSD, Finance Office by email unclaimedchecks@cosumnescsd.gov or by phone (916) 405-7150. Funds not claimed after 45 days following publication will become the property of the Cosumnes CSD. This notice and its contents are in accordance with California Government Code Section 50050 and 50051. Proper proof of claim and current identification must be provided before funds will be released. An unclaimed property form may be obtained from the Finance Department or on the district's website.

Elk Grove Citizen 2-23 and 3-1-24

City of Elk Grove INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that electronic bids will be received at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids prior to 10:00 a.m. local time (09:59:59 – according to the PlanetBids official Bid clock) on Thursday, March 14, 2024 for furnishing all labor, materials, tax, transportation, equipment and services necessary for the:

PUBLIC WORKS – PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE (PIM) (OM2404)

Bids submitted after the time specified will not be accepted.

Description of Work:

The proposed work shall be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications and other contract documents and shall consist of the following: providing Public Works – Public Infrastructure Maintenance, and other related items as directed by the Engineer (Work).

The Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) for the work is \$795,000.00.

Bidder shall have current standing as a City approved pre-qualified Bidder prior to submitting a bid for this Project. Bidders that submit a Bid without being pre-qualified shall have their Bid deemed non-responsive.

In order to bid on or to be listed on the bid proposal for this Public Works Project all Contractors and subcontractors shall be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations and be qualified to perform Public Work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the California Labor Code. Unregistered Contractors may still submit bids provided the bid is authorized by Section 7029.1 of the Business and Professions Code or by either Section 10164 and 20103.5 of the Public Contract Code and all Contractors including subcontractors are registered with the Department of Industrial Relations to perform Public Work pursuant to California Labor Code Section 1725.5 at the time the bid is submitted. DIR registration is not required on Projects that do not exceed \$25,000, which are for construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work or for public works projects for maintenance when \$15,000 or less.

Construction License:

Bidder must possess a current valid Class "A" General Engineering Contractor's Licenses issued by the State of California.

Pre-Bid:

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at City of Elk Grove Corp Yard located at 10250 Iron Rock Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624.

For Pre-Bid Information and Information Pertaining to the Construction Plans and Specifications, Contact:

Robert French, Project Manager, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department

Telephone: (916) 478-3648 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

For Obtaining Bid Documents, Contact:

Whitney Yann, Administrative Analyst I, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department

Telephone: (916) 687-3062 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

Plans, specifications and other bid documents may be examined and/or obtained at the City of Elk Grove City Hall, Public Works Department, located on the second floor of 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. A copy of the bid documents may be obtained at the City Hall upon request and payment of \$15.00 or may be mailed upon request and payment of \$20.00. The amount of the payment is non-refundable. Bidders may also view and download the plans, specifications, and other bid documents at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. Any Addendum shall only be issued electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. In person requests for Addendum shall not be accepted by the City during the pandemic.

By: _____

Date: February 7, 2024

Jeffrey R. Werner, PE
Public Works Director

Elk Grove Citizen 2-16 and 2-23-2024

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District, hereinafter referred to as the District, will receive sealed proposals for the **Florin High School, BBQ Pavilion** project at Facilities and Planning Department, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, California 95624 until **3:00 p.m., local time, on Thursday, March 7, 2024**, at which time bids will be opened.

Each bid must conform to the requirements of the Drawings and Project Manual and other documents comprising the Contract Documents, which are available from Signature Reprographics, 620 Sunbeam Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 454-0800. Prime Contractors may obtain copies for a non-refundable cost of **\$25 per set**. Signature Reprographics maintains the project plan holders' list so it is a requirement that prospective bidders purchase their plans from Signature Reprographics to ensure that all potential bidders possess a complete set of documents including any addenda for the project. Plans may be previewed online at www.egusdplans.com

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on **Tuesday, February 27, 2024, 9:00 a.m.** at **Florin High School, 7956 Cottonwood Lane, Sacramento, CA 95828**. The District's Representative and Architect will be present to discuss the project. Bids received from parties not attending this mandatory pre-bid conference will be rejected as non-responsive. All prime bidders are **required** to attend the pre-bid conference in its entirety.

This project includes construction of new concrete pad and new gas, electrical and low voltage utilities extended from existing buildings to new pad. This project requires a **Class B** license.

In accordance with California Labor Code Section 1770 *et seq.* payment of the appropriate general prevailing rate of wages for all crafts employed on the public works site is required of the Contractor and all subcontractors. This project has a goal of 3% Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises (DVBE) participation per the State Allocation Board requirements. Compliance with California Education Code Section 45125.1 mandating fingerprinting requirements applies to this project.

NOTE: The complete Notice to Contractors is included in the bid documents.

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Sacramento County, California

BY: Michael Bean
Michael Bean
Senior Construction Manager
Elk Grove Unified School District

Elk Grove Citizen 2-16 and 2-23-2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

FOR: Food Products & Commodity Processed Potatoes, Food and Nutrition Services

BID#: 779-23/24

OPEN: March 29, 2024

TIME: 2:00 P.M. Standard

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, (District) County of Sacramento, State of California, will receive up to and not later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 29, 2024**, sealed BIDs for **Food Products & Commodity Processed Potatoes, Food and Nutrition Services** and that such BIDs shall be opened at the **Purchasing & Warehouse Department, Student Support Center, 8431 Gerber Road, Sacramento, CA 95828**, on the above date at the stated time.

Please return your original BID along with an electronic copy on a flash/thumb drive in a sealed envelope with the BID number and the date and time of BID opening.

Each BID must conform and be responsive to this invitation; the information for bidders, specifications, and all other documents comprising the pertinent award documents, and submitted on the printed forms provided by the District.

All inquiries regarding this BID must be submitted in writing to Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor, Purchasing & Warehouse at kgarcia@egusd.net no later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 22, 2024**.

Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor

Elk Grove Unified School-Excellence by Design

Elk Grove Citizen 2-23 and 3-1-2024

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

FOR: 100% Fruit Juice Slushie, Food and Nutrition Services

BID#: 781-23/24

OPEN: March 29, 2024

TIME: 2:00 P.M. Standard

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, (District) County of Sacramento, State of California, will receive up to and not later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 29, 2024**, sealed BIDs for **100% Fruit Juice Slushie, Food and Nutrition Services** and that such BIDs shall be opened at the **Purchasing & Warehouse Department, Student Support Center, 8431 Gerber Road, Sacramento, CA 95828**, on the above date at the stated time.

Please return your original BID along with an electronic copy on a flash/thumb drive in a sealed envelope with the BID number and the date and time of BID opening.

Each BID must conform and be responsive to this invitation; the information for bidders, specifications, and all other documents comprising the pertinent award documents, and submitted on the printed forms provided by the District.

All inquiries regarding this BID must be submitted in writing to Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor, Purchasing & Warehouse at kgarcia@egusd.net no later than **2:00 P.M. Standard, March 22, 2024**.

Kirsten Garcia, Supervisor

Elk Grove Unified School-Excellence by Design

Elk Grove Citizen 2-23 and 3-1-2024

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Community Service District Improvement Committee Debates Use of State Money

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG) - The idiom “Don’t look a gift horse in the mouth” might hold wisdom, but members of the Rancho Murieta Community Services District (CSD) Improvements Committee found themselves doing just that when they convened on Jan. 6.

The proverbial gift horse in question amounted to \$1.3 million in funding, courtesy of former Assemblyman Ken Cooley, nestled within the 2021 California budget. The intended purpose was to cover the entire cost of three vital CSD infrastructure projects. Among them, two aimed to replace the chlorine disinfection systems at the water treatment and wastewater treatment plants, while the third aimed at enhancing safety at Granlees Dam, the intake point for the district’s water system from the Cosumnes River.

Director of Operations Michael Fritschi unveiled some sobering updates during the meeting. The initial estimate of \$1.3 million for the three projects had burgeoned to \$2.74 million, a staggering escalation in costs.

“Staff is concerned that delays in moving forward will result in increasing costs which could potentially jeopardize the district’s ability to utilize the funding within a reasonable time,” Fritschi said.

After a thorough deliberation, the committee devised a strategy to optimize the allocation of the state funding in light of the inflated construction costs. Essentially, the majority of the state funds would be allocated to cover the safety enhancements at Granlees Dam, originally earmarked at \$174,000 but now estimated at \$834,000. Some of the state funds had already been disbursed to engage consulting engineering firms for the three project designs.

Directors Randy Jenco and Martin Pohl directed Fritschi to expedite the Granlees Dam project bidding process. “Let’s get this thing out to bid and see what it is really going to cost us,” urged Pohl.

The Improvements Committee, consisting of Jenco, Pohl, and Fritschi, alongside General Manager Mimi Morris, Plant Supervisor Travis Bohannon, and other staff, meticulously analyzes infrastructure matters, offering recommendations to the entire board.

Losing state money

Morris initially expressed doubts about whether the SB 170 projects represented the most prudent use of reserves. “This \$1.3 million gift is turning into \$1.3 obligation forcing us to do these projects, as opposed to anything else that might be more necessary,” she said.

Citing her experience with state auditors, Morris highlighted a shift in their scrutiny towards local expenditures, raising concerns about the potential ramifications of inactivity on the SB 170 projects.

“My concern is they could just come back and say, well you didn’t do anything with it so you need to pay it back,” Morris said. “But I don’t think that would necessarily be the worst outcome because it doesn’t seem like the great gift it seemed three years ago because it was insufficient to fund the projects.”

Granlee’s Dam is priority

Morris asked Fritschi if there were any other projects on his “gotta do” list that go back even further than the SB 170 projects. Fritschi said his priority would be the Granlees project.

Fritschi said his contact at Department of Water Resources, which is administering the state money, told him the district can move the money among the three projects “So, we could put a lion’s share of resources towards one project,” he said.

Fritschi said he became increasingly amazed at how high construction bids have been coming in over the past years. “So, that Granlee’s bid is probably very conservative,” he said.

Pohl asked him if there were a way to cut costs on the Granlees project. Fritschi said he couldn’t think of anything except

cutting the contingency allowance. “There are a lot of things that probably should have happened a long time ago to have a fully functioning forebay, which is really the heart of our water system as far as intake goes,” he said. “We’ve also got two gates that aren’t there anymore and a gate that should have been replaced 15 years ago,” he said.

Jenco asked about completing only part of the project. He said when Paul Siebensohn, the prior operations director, first envisioned the project he was only thinking about replacing the cover that was already there. “And, sometimes his idea was just to use our people and not even put the thing out to bid,” Jenco said.

Fritschi said that in his opinion the district should move forward on the Granlees project because of what has happened in the past and how long it has taken. He also said the gates pose a safety and liability issue, which is why he included a guard in front of the gates (that was incorporated into final design by the consulting engineers.)

“So, if the gates are open, which they are most of the time, someone jumping into the water won’t get sucked into the forebay and stuck to the gates,” he said. “There’s no way we can stop people from walking across the dam and there are people who kayak out there.”

(The past incident to which Fritschi referred was the drowning of a teenager in 2002 after the youth jumped into the water intake diversion to retrieve some swimming goggles and was trapped by the currents.)

Fritschi said his second priority would just be replacing the recycled water contact basin at the wastewater plant, which is part of the conversion to bleach project.

Morris asked if CSD staff could be used for the Granlees project as envisioned by Siebensohn.

Fritschi asked Bohannon to explain why the answer was no. Bohannon said that Siebensohn designed a bleach conversion project for the wastewater plant, bought the materials and equipment and began construction with staff before he left the district.

Bohannon said when the consulting engineers looked at their work, they said nearly everything had to be scrapped because it wouldn’t operate and wasn’t appropriate. “The staff here doesn’t have the knowledge to do that stuff and do it safely,” Bohannon said. “Just by past experience alone, doing the work in-house has created more issues than it is solved.”

When asked how much money remained from the state grant, Fritschi said his “just off the top of my head” estimate is that the district has spent \$250,000 so far to design the three SB 170 projects.

After further discussion, Morris recommended moving forward on the Granlees project. “A big chunk of the \$1.3 million has already been eroded by thinking and planning for it,” she said. “My worry is that it is just going to be more expensive, so I feel like you might as well dive in and take care of it.”

By the close of the discussion, Jenco and Pohl agreed that the district should move forward on advertising the requests for a proposal in March, aiming for construction in late spring or early summer. They also directed that the district’s engineering firm prepare the bid documents.

Fritschi and board members have lamented at prior meetings that CSD didn’t ask Cooley for more money for the projects. When Cooley advised of the funding possibility in 2021, Siebensohn had already submitted his resignation. Given the time constraints before he walked out the door, Siebensohn probably came up with the best project cost estimates he could, according to comments at past meetings.

In other business, Jenco and Pohl tasked Bohannon with soliciting additional bids to address rust issues at the Rio Oso water storage tank, with plans to put the repair approval on the consent agenda at the upcoming board meeting on Feb. 21.

CSD Security Supervisor Kelly Benitez Resigns

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG) - Kelly Benitez, the former chief of security chief of the Rancho Murieta Community Services District (CSD), has stepped down from his position to join law enforcement. His resignation was effective Jan. 16.

Benitez has secured a position as a police captain with an undisclosed law enforcement agency within the Sacramento Metropolitan Area. He refrained from disclosing the specific agency because he hadn’t officially assumed his new role.

Benitez initially planned to stay with CSD for at least five years after his recruitment 2 ½ years ago. However, his plans shifted after residents voted down Measure R in November 2022.

Placed on the ballot by the CSD Board, Measure R would have provided additional funding so CSD could deliver patrol services 24/7 without using property taxes to supplement the security budget. The underfunding stemmed from insufficient revenue generated by Measure J over the past decade.

Benitez said Mark Matulich, the CSD director of finance and administration, will take over security supervisory responsibilities with help from Sgt. Mel Outram who will help handle day-to-day operations.

The arrangement will free up his salary so that CSD can hire another patrol officer. “I think that is the best thing to do because Rancho Murieta needs some patrol help,” he said.

Board President Tim Maybee said he understood and respected Benitez’s decision to leave. “Kelly has brought a level of professionalism and calmness to the security services, for both customers and staff,” he said. “He has always been one to identify the issues and bring them forward.”

Maybee said Benitez used his skills to work effectively with other law enforcement agencies. He also was “the 24-hour, on call – go to person...On numerous occasions Benitez had to come back in to staff the gates or patrol services,” Maybee said.

Maybee also addressed the district budget. “Everything comes back to one issue and that is, very simply, the lack of Measure J funding. The current board has been stating this for several fiscal cycles, and it was also identified in the Grand Jury report,” he said. “No one in the community can be surprised at the lack of resources currently available for security.”

Benitez has extensive law enforcement experience, including 20 years with Los Angeles Police Department, where he served 14 years as a sergeant, before opting for early retirement in 2015. While at LAPD, he earned a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and a master’s degree in leadership and management. After moving to the Bay Area, he worked as a police officer for the City of San Rafael and then as an investigator for the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability for five years. He accepted the CSD position in August 2021.

Upon assuming the role of CSD security chief in August 2021, Benitez prioritized enhancing professionalism and modernizing the security department, following the lead of Interim



Kelly Benitez is leaving his position as the security chief of the Rancho Murieta Community Services District to work as a police captain at a local agency. Photo by Gail Bullen

Security Supervisor Tina Tamantes.

Another accomplishment was hiring good people, three as full-time gate officers and two part-time and one patrol officer who was promoted to sergeant. With continuous training and ongoing evaluations, the newest full-time employees are nearing two years on the job

Benitez also terminated employees because they weren’t appropriate for the work. “The bad news is they weren’t replaced,” he said. “On the other hand, “The officers we have left are really squared away,” he said.

Benitez said another major accomplishment was improving officer safety by securing board approval to buy ballistic vests for patrol. “You have guys going to quasi-police calls all by themselves, so at least they have that level of protection,” he said.

He also secured approval for the replacement of older vehicles and equipping the units with life preservers and trauma kits.

An unmet goal was setting up an emergency operations center inside the James L. Noller Safety Center, located in a trailer across from the CSD office.

Benitez cited a low turnover rate among CSD security personnel, attributing it to the organization’s supportive environment. He highlighted the board’s decision to introduce a second tier of pay as a morale booster and emphasized the competitiveness of CSD job offerings, particularly its comprehensive benefits package.

Since Rancho Murieta is essentially a city with 6,000 residents, Benitez believes the community should increase patrols. Ideally, two patrol officers would cover each shift, and a supervisor would overlap on nights and weekends.

Although the security department has operated three patrol officers in the past year, versus five or six positions in earlier years, Benitez believes he managed fairly well by assigning them to shifts with the most call volume. Having two Rancho Murieta Association (RMA) compliance officers working the day shift also helped mitigate the reduced coverage.

He said another factor that would help compensate for a decrease in patrol would be better coordination between CSD and RMA surveillance cameras.

Benitez said he has already begun strategizing with RMA, Sacramento County Probation, the Sacramento Sheriff’s Office, and the sheriff’s POP (problem-oriented police) officer to prepare for next summer. Last summer, large groups of juveniles trespassed through private property to drink and set bonfires on the South Beach. Some of the same juveniles gathered at the Gazebo for the July 4 fireworks show, one of whom set off an illegal firework that injured seven people.

Benitez has asked that at

least six deputies respond to future beach incidents to cite every participant to ensure real consequences instead of just ordering them to leave. Whether that will happen remains to be seen.

Although the long response time from sheriff’s deputies continued to be an issue during his tenure, Benitez has recently enjoyed a closer connection to the sheriff’s office after a Rancho Murieta resident took over as the day watch commander. He said that Lt. Greg Coquette has helped him a half dozen times.

Benitez said the extent of drinking by 13 and 14 olds probably has been the most shocking behavior he has seen in Rancho Murieta. On July 4, several kids nonchalantly admitted drinking a six-pack at the river before coming to the gazebo.

Benitez also has been shocked at how angry some residents become over small issues such as open garage doors. Benitez didn’t see that level of anger even when working as a police officer in high-crime areas of Los Angeles.

When asked to speak at a security committee chaired by RMA Director Chris Childs last September, Benitez compiled some footage from the security officer video cameras to show them. Childs, who was number three at the California Highway Patrol before retiring, told the other RMA directors he was shocked by the misbehavior directed at patrol officers that was captured in the video footage.

Benitez said the gate officers encounter more “yellow language” than patrol officers because of sheer numbers. About 15,000 motorists pass through the visitor gates each month.

Another serious problem Benitez has seen in the community is the failure to report crimes to law enforcement and the security department. Residents frequently say they don’t make a report because they believe nothing will happen. Others worry about property values going down in the community.

Benitez said reporting crimes to the sheriff’s office is essential so that the patterns and frequencies can be ascertained to help determine response to the community. “At least make it a statistic,” Benitez said.

Ideally, such crimes should also be reported to Security because the patrol officers work inside the community and can be on the lookout, he said. In a recent instance, however, a business owner refused to share surveillance video with security because they had already given it to the sheriff’s office.

Even though Benitez is leaving the district, he sees light at the end of the tunnel. “I have great confidence that Mimi Morris (general manager) and Mark Matulich (director of finance and administration) will solve or greatly resolve the security and financial issues with the current work they are doing,” he said. “I wish I was around to see the final outcome.”

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Kiwanian Tenth Annual Crab Feed is Another Sell-out



Volunteers celebrate after delivering 58 drive-through meals at the 10th Annual Crab Feed presented by the Kiwanis Club of Rancho Murieta on Feb. 3. Photos courtesy Catherine Blaisdell and Dia Utterback

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG) - A horde of enthusiastic diners who devoured nearly 1,150 pounds of crab while keeping their thirst quenched lent a hand to two organizations supporting children on February 3.

The affair marked the Tenth Annual Crab Feed, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Rancho Murieta and held at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church. This crab feed stands as the primary fundraiser for the Kiwanians, who collaborate with The Knights of Columbus for this beloved event.

Jeanette Edwards, a Kiwanian, managed ticket sales this year, stating, "Dine-in tickets sold out in the first hour on the first day of sales on Jan 6th. People were lined up outside the Local Bean, waiting for us to set up to buy tickets."

The club managed to sell 296 dine-in tickets and 58 drive-through tickets.

Expressing delight at the response, Kiwanis Club President Angelo Lutz remarked, "Thanks to the entire community and particularly the committee members and generous sponsors for making our 10th-anniversary crab feed a terrific success. The proceeds allow our Kiwanis Club of Rancho Murieta to continue our projects and objectives of assisting children together."

John Slamkowski reported that the Knights of Columbus raised approximately \$1,800 from their no-host bar, all of which will be donated to Special Olympics of Northern California. Slamkowski praised the collaboration, saying, "We love working with the Kiwanis Club. They make it a fun, enjoyable night. We also value their mission of donating all proceeds to those in need."

Dubbed the "Dynamic Duo," past Presidents Dia Utterback and Bonnie Shewchuk co-chaired the crab feed organizing committee, securing 33

sponsors and numerous valuable raffle and silent auction prizes. Shewchuk even assembled all the raffle prizes into attractive baskets in the week leading up to the crab feed.

Although the expenses were still being submitted at press time, the Kiwanians made about \$36,000 at last year's event. "This year will be less," Utterback conceded.

The theme, black, silver, and gold, commemorated the event's 10th anniversary. Kiwanian Carol Prinzo headed the decorating committee, crafting beautiful flower arrangements. A fortunate diner at each table won the flowery centerpiece as a door prize.

Chef KC Brown, also the Rancho Murieta Country Club chef, took the reins as caterer this year following the retirement of Charles Mehrtens of Red Oak Barbecue. Brown and his team effortlessly prepared about 1,150 pounds of Dungeness crab, over 100 pounds of shrimp, along with salad, pasta, and dessert. Diners could also bid on elaborate desserts organized by Patty Long.

Seventeen Key Club members from Sheldon and Pleasant Grove High Schools and the Rancho Murieta Club served the food inside the church and assisted with the drive-through. Members of Boy Scout Troop 633 helped with the clean-up the following day.

Adult volunteers, seven from the community and between 20 and 25 Kiwanians, played crucial roles in making the event a success.

Utterback emphasized the indispensable role of sponsors, noting that of the 33 sponsors this year, nine were new. Rancho Murieta Homes and Land (Karen Hoberg) stood as the Diamond Sponsor, while Town and Country Real Estate (Ron and Ina Semaru) and Firecode Safety Equipment Inc. were Gold Sponsors. ★



RJ Camacho is ready to dig into the delicious meal. His grandmother Dia Utterback is one of the two event organizers.



Trays of crabs and melted butter await delivery to the tables.



Key Club members volunteering as servers wait by their tables inside St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church. Photos courtesy Catherine Blaisdell and Dia Utterback

Hypnotist Entrances Volunteers at Women's Club Luncheon

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG) - Hypnosis and hysterical laughter were synonymous at the Rancho Murieta Women's Club luncheon at Rancho Murieta Country Club on Jan. 24.

The entertainer was Dr. David Hill, renowned for his comedy hypnosis show since the 1990s when he was promoted by luminaries Frank Sinatra and Wayne Newton.

The club officers also conducted a short business meeting before the performance.

Hypnotism show Hill began his show with anecdotes about his encounters with Frank Sinatra and Wayne Newton in Las Vegas in the 1990s. Sinatra, impressed by Hill's performance, insisted he sign up with his agent immediately. Newton even invited Hill to fill in for him during one of his shows in Las Vegas, a stint that lasted two years.

After Hill found a dozen women's club members willing to be hypnotized, his first order of business was putting them all to sleep. Throughout the performance he guided his subjects through a series of amusing antics: from mimicking zombies to balancing a pail of sand while balloons lifted their hands, to laughing at the tap of his microphone, watching a hilarious movie, conversing with imaginary birds, and even playing the piano with unconventional body parts.

Among the volunteers was Kirschman, who happened to glance up as another subject began playing the piano with her legs. Kirschman began



After being hypnotized by Dr. David Hill, on the right, Deb Vining believes she is dancing with Sean Connery. The hypnotist entertained at the Rancho Murieta Women's Club luncheon on Jan. 24. Photos by Gail Bullen

laughing hysterically causing even more hilarity among the audience and participants.

However, the highlight of the show was Deb Vining, who was most deeply hypnotized. After Hill handed her a cloth puppet, Vining believed she was dancing with Sean Connery, even stopping to pose for a photo and to sniff his cologne.

At another point in the show, Vining reacted to the theft of her bird. Then she changed her mind and told the thief to keep the bird.

Post show, club members gathered around Vining, showing her videos and confessing to stealing her imaginary bird. Vining described the hypnotic experience as strange, recalling the sensation of letting go of her body and feeling refreshed afterward.

Business meeting

Boots Conway, who was the 2023 club president, opened the business meeting. She said that after three years as Sunshine, four years as vice president, and two years as president, she was ready to hand over the reins to Bonnie Kirschman. "It's been fun, but it also has been work," Conway said.

Kirschman then

introduced the other 2024 slate of board members.

They are President - Bonnie Kirschman; Past President - Boots Conway; Secretary - Susan Kurtz; Treasurer - Ruth Lecheler-Moore; Activityline Editor and Publisher - Vickie Joyner; Activityline Layout and Design - Debra Medrano-Wertz; Interest Group Coordinator - Kathleen Barrow; Membership - Janet Nicholson and Marilyn Laver; Reservations - Cindy Shamrock and Barbara Armstrong; and Sunshine - Cheryl Cannon.

Conway also highlighted the vacancies for vice president and publicity, emphasizing the challenge of filling the shoes of the late Nicole Sullens as the publicity chair. "She was unbelievable, but we just need somebody to do the job," Conway said.

Kirschman, also in charge of the blood drive, reported on the success of the Jan. 22 event, with 78 pints collected by Vitalant. She announced the next drive scheduled for April 29.

The club's next luncheon will be on March 27 and will feature "Easter Bonnet Bingo." ★



New board members for 2024 introduced at the luncheon are, from left, Cheryl Cannon, Barbara Armstrong, Vickie Joyner, Bonnie Kirschman (president), Boots Conway and Ruth Lecheler-Moore. Six new board members aren't pictured.



Hill begins his hypnosis show by putting his volunteers to sleep.

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Council Selects Development Partners for Affordable Housing Projects on City-Owned Land

Story by Shaunna Boyd

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - At the Feb. 14 Elk Grove City Council meeting, the city's Housing and Public Services Manager Sarah Bontrager provided an update on two potential affordable housing developments on city-owned properties.

Affordable housing is such a critical issue in California and "more investment is needed in this area," Bontrager said.

So, in recent years, the city has shifted the focus of its Affordable Housing Fund (which collects the fees generated by new housing developments) into the acquisition of suitable properties for affordable housing projects. The city owns four sites and two were discussed at this meeting: sites at Old Town (two acres at Elk Grove Boulevard and Webb Street) and Sheldon Farms North (five acres on Bruceville Road near the Sheldon Road intersection). Both properties are zoned for high-density

residential, and the city envisioned affordable housing for seniors at the Old Town site and affordable family housing at Sheldon Farms North.

The city's goal was to find developers to partner with on these sites, so a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued and a total of 23 responses—11 for Old Town and 12 for Sheldon Farms North—were received.

"We got an incredible number of responses," Bontrager said. "These were very popular sites. A lot of folks were interested in partnering with us."

Staff narrowed down the options by looking at each developer's financial capacity, as well as their experience in construction and long-term management of affordable housing.

"We looked at how closely they were aligned with the city's vision for the site and how they would approach partnership with the city, because the city wants to be very involved in the process," Bontrager said. "These are sites we acquired for very

specific purposes and we want that design control or to share that vision."

For the Old Town site, Mutual Housing California was selected as the potential partner. Proposed were 89 units of senior housing in a three-story building with an elevator. Mutual Housing California, an established local developer with solid in-house resident services and a strong and creative financial plan, had the lowest proposed cost and a good track record of community engagement.

For Sheldon Farms North, Abode Communities was selected. Its project vision is a seven-building community with a total of 240 units of affordable family housing. Staff liked the overall design ideas and the high number of proposed units, as well as the developer's community engagement strategies and creative funding ideas.

Staff recommended that the City Council approve Letters of Intent with both Mutual Housing California and Abode Communities. The Letters of Intent are not loan

commitments or guarantees of land transfer. However, they do offer the developers exclusive rights to develop the properties and provide the initial terms of agreement as the city and the developer begin their collaboration. The city can terminate the agreements at any time, but if it terminates without cause, would have to pay any fees that the developers had invested into the projects up to that point.

Bontrager said it will be a long process and construction on these projects would likely not begin until 2027.

"But we need to move forward at this point to get that process started," Bontrager said.

Mutual Housing Project Manager Danny Kolosta spoke at the meeting about the company's excitement to "keep the ball rolling" on this project. Mutual Housing is a Sacramento-based nonprofit founded in 1988, with a track record of successfully competing for state affordable housing funds. He said that their vision for supportive senior housing includes

various in-house services as well as indoor community spaces and inviting outdoor courtyards.

Abode Communities Associate Vice President of Development Maegan Pearson also shared her firm's excitement to work with the city on developing affordable housing in Elk Grove. Founded in 1968, the mission-based nonprofit has experience on large-scale projects that are well integrated into the surrounding community. Its vision is to deliver responsive in-house resources that will stabilize families and create a place to belong.

During the meeting's Public Comment, Elk Grove resident Randy Becker said he and others from Old Town are planning to "cautiously move forward," as they keep an open mind about the project. He said that they plan to be "extremely involved" in the design process.

Jackie Perez from Old Town agreed: "The design is very important."

Perez said it was critical

that any new building match the existing aesthetics of Old Town. While Perez acknowledged the need for affordable housing, she expressed concern that new housing in that area would increase traffic. But, Perez also said, she wants to see plans to draw people in, such as commercial spaces including coffee shops on the new building's ground floor.

Councilmember Kevin Spease said he was excited to have developers "who are willing to work with us."

Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen said, "This is much needed in our city. We're far behind. ... We're not as far behind as other cities but we can continue to do more. So, I appreciate this."

City Council voted unanimously to approve the Letters of Intent and begin the collaboration with Mutual Housing California and Abode Communities, with community engagement as the next step in the process.

The next Elk Grove City Council meeting is scheduled for Feb. 28. ★

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- "Peter, Peter Pumpkin ____"
- "Le ____ des cygnes"
- Like yesteryear
- *Greta Gerwig's Oscar nominated movie
- *He's nominated for playing Leonard Bernstein
- Nothing
- White ____ shopping event
- Federal food safety agency, acr.
- It ran away with the spoon
- ROTC happenings
- Figure skating jump
- Grad
- Arrogant one
- Archaic preposition
- Passé
- Scrubbed
- Sugarcoating
- Money in Mexico City
- What DJs do
- Trickery
- Swerves
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon
- *Typical number of nominations in one Oscar category
- Emergency responder, acr.
- **"Nyad" nominee
- *What kind of moon?
- "Finnegan's Wake" author
- Mother load offering
- Java cotton tree
- Artemis' companion
- Fat of olives
- *What actors do
- Spinner's product
- Wisecrack
- Like Phoenix

DOWN

- Cornelius of the movies
- Snap up
- 'I' in Greek alphabet
- Howard of radio fame
- Death-related
- One of the Earnhardts
- Spermatozoa counterparts
- Muhammad's birthplace
- Review service, with .com
- Use a ladle
- At any time
- **"No Country for Old ____" multi Oscar winner
- Suitors
- Trojan War story
- "Just an ____-fashioned love song"
- Slumber
- Fl., as in fl. oz.
- "A Confederacy of ____" sing.
- Place above a ceiling
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- Overnight lodgings
- Shoelace bunny ears
- Divine saying

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			9		7			
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34. *Producer and star of "Poor Things"

36. *The ____ of Interest"

38. Table hill

42. Wooden pin

45. *Like nominated ones

49. Love-love, e.g.

51. Meat-cooking contraction

54. Roaring of an engine

56. Hindu religious teacher

57. Forum, pl.

58. Deed hearing

59. Medical diagnostic test

60. Abe Lincoln's hat material

61. #20 Down, e.g.

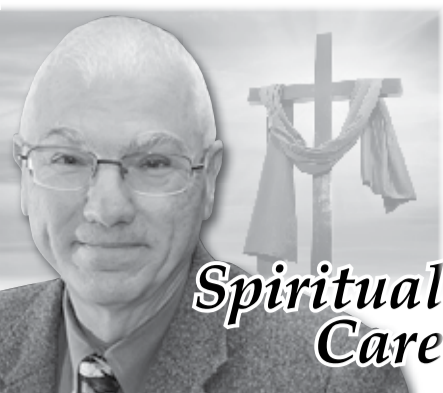
62. Traditional learning method

63. *Da'Vine ____ Randolph

65. Orinoco or Grande

67. *Ryan Gosling's character

The Hefty Price of Love



BY NORRIS BURKES

If Valentine's Day gave you sticker shock last week, I have a tip for you. If you buy them after the big day, they'll be much cheaper.

I learned this lesson recently, when a floral clerk asked me which day I needed the flowers.

Suspecting a trick question, I answered cautiously. "Valentine's Day, the actual day."

That's when he offered an economics lesson. Apparently, Valentine's Day roses are cheaper if you don't buy them on the actual day.

I pointed to his sign advertising \$10 roses, and he added a "but" – roses delivered on Valentine's Day jump to a steep \$70.

"Hmmm," I mused as I walked backward toward the door like a sherriff cornered by some bad guys.

Man! I thought. How much is love supposed to cost?

Scripture defines love's highest price: "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

That price makes \$70 roses seem like a bargain.

However, I have met people who've shown that kind of love, either deliberately or accidentally. Several years ago, I sought to comfort the family of a 17-year-old boy who had been pronounced dead after our emergency room staff had done everything they could to save him.

Employed inside a popular water park, he and his co-workers were playing after-hours volleyball when one of the employees decided to see how far he could shimmy up a light pole.

As the light pole began to sway, the climber jumped clear. But when our patient saw the pole continuing to descend toward the gamers, he shoved his friend out of danger.

It was at that moment the young man caught the pole in outstretched hands. Tragically, the pole had lost its electrical ground and our patient fielded 220 volts. From that moment on,

neither his grieving lifeguard friends, nor the valiant paramedics were able to encourage another breath from this hero.

As the doctors explained the events of the boy's heroic sacrifice to his grieving parents, I struggled for the words that would begin some kind of closure. I noted how remarkable it was that their son had given his life for his friend, naively referencing John 15:13.

The mother thanked me kindly for the "sentiments," adding sardonically she was sure her son's heroics would be a comfort someday, but right now she would beg my forgiveness for wishing it was some other boy in that morgue instead of her son.

For love to be complete, the sacrifice has to be accepted. The friend whose life had been saved undoubtedly accepted the sacrifice, but the mother of the boy who made it could not. Knowing she had reared a brave son who would "lay down his life for his friends" didn't ease her pain.

Not yet anyway. Meanwhile, back in the shop of roses, I was contemplating the same principle. No matter the sacrificial cost of roses, my love can only be fulfilled

if my wife accepted equal part in that sacrifice.

After leaving the florist shop, I called my wife. "You know I love you more than \$70, right?"

"Yeah," she said, her answer unsuccessfully masking her suspicion. "I suppose so."

"Valentine's Day roses are \$70!"

"That's crazy," she said, releasing an exhausted breath. "Forget about it!"

"But you know I love you more than that, right?"

"Yes," she cooed. "I know you love me more than that." Then she paused. "You can buy me roses for my birthday next month — they'll be cheaper then."

And with that comment, we reached an agreement on this year's market price of love.

Please email me so I can add you to my weekly column email. Column excerpted from my book "No Small Miracles." My books 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.

RELIGION NEWS

Easter Events and Sermon Topics at Elk Grove Presbyterian Church

ADVENT ACTIVITIES
Under our sanctuary "Giving Tree" we collected items for Chicks in Crisis and Elk Grove Good Bank. Special events included an Advent potluck at church, a Women's Christmas Tea and our Annual Christmas Party at a member's home. The December 24th Christmas Ever service was held at 10am and was enjoyed by many members and guests.

UPCOMING SERMON TOPICS

Rev. Dexter McNamara has announced upcoming sermon topics in February and March: Feb 25th – "About Our Understandings"; Mar 3rd – "About Missing the Point"; Mar 10th – "A Demanding Love"; Mar 17th – "A Confusing Response"; Mar 24th – "To Celebrate and to Observe"; and Mar 31st - **EASTER...HE HAS RISEN!!** Sermon Topic "Uncertainty and Belief".

Rev. Deter McNamara welcomes members and visitors every Sunday at 10 am. Our church is located at 8153 Elk Grove Blvd, Suite

50, facing Big Horn Blvd. For more information Rev. McNamara can be reached at (916) 683-1435 or elk-grovepres@gmail.com.

EASTER and other EVENTS

Easter time is a festal season in the liturgical year of Christianity that focuses on celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter is March 31st. Leading up to this event we will have a Mardi Gras Dinner on Feb 10th, the Imposition of Ashes on Feb 14th (drive-thru), and traditional Lenten services on Palm Sunday and Easter. On Good Friday, the church will be open from noon to 3pm for quiet meditation and prayer.

Our Mens' Bible study resumed in January and will meet every two weeks thereafter. We are currently studying the Book of Ecclesiastes.

Light of the Valley's Upcoming Events

Light of the Valley Lutheran Church is gearing up for its annual Easter Services & Spring Events.

•Spring Fling: Saturday, March 23, 11a -1:30p. This event is free to the community with an Easter

egg hunt, bounce house, hot dogs and more.

•Palm Sunday: 8:45a & 10:30a.

•Maundy Thurs.: 7p

•Good Friday: 7:00p

•Easter Sunday: 8:45a & 10:30a.

Breakfast 9:30a to 11:00a.

Light of the Valley is at 9270 Bruceville Road, Elk Grove. For more information: 916-691-3568.

Field of Hope United Church of Christ's Services

Community members are invited to the Field of Hope United Church of Christ's Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. at 9624 Melrose Ave., Elk Grove. Sunday School and nursery services are available.

For more information, visit www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church's Mass schedule

Elk Grove's St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church invites everyone to their celebrations of Holy Mass. Mass will be held there at

5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and noon on Sundays. They also have weekday Masses at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

The church's office hours are Church hours should be Mon, Thurs, Fri, 9:30-2:30, Wed, 9:30-6:00.

For more information, call (916) 647-4538, visit www.SMGCC.net, or download the MyParish app and enter the code, 55321.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church is at 8700 Bradshaw Road.

Grace Church Welcomes You to Join Us as We Worship the One True God

Begin your week with a congregation who seeks to glorify Jesus Christ through singing and God's Word, the Bible. Sunday worship service begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome. Our gatherings are at 9766 Waterman Road, Suite F (next to the Mel Dogs restaurant). For more information, call (916) 714-3444 or email: office@gracechurcheg.org. Check out our website at www.GraceChurchEG.org.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church Offers Food Pantry

All Nations Seventh-Day Adventist Church is offering a food pantry for community members in need. This pantry is open every second and third Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. Organizers request identification such as a driver's license, Social Security card, or a food stamp card before they offer supplies to recipients.

For more information, contact Rudy at (916) 271-9315. The church is located at 8280 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Sacramento.

Good Shepherd Parish Group Helps Needy in Area

St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in the Laguna Creek area of Elk Grove maintains a small storage locker for items for the needy in the church's immediate area, ZIP codes 95757 and 95758.

Members help those in need with utility bills when funds are available, and have clothing and miscellaneous

items available on Monday mornings. They do home visits to assess the needs of the family and discuss furniture needs on a one-on-one basis. The organization also offers assistance with utility bills.

St. Vincent de Paul's hours of operation are 10-11 a.m. from Oct. 1 through April 30, and 9-10 a.m. from May 1 through Sept. 30.

It is located on the south side of the church parking lot, 9539 Racquet Court, near the tennis courts of the Racquet Club. For more information, call (916) 647-1243.

Chabad of Elk Grove's Weekly Torah classes

Local community members are invited to attend weekly Torah classes that will be offered by Chabad of Elk Grove. Each class will be held from 6:45-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at a private location.

The course, "Flashbacks in Jewish History" will examine how our past informs our future. Rabbi Chaim Groner is leading the discussion. Classes are free.

For location, call (917) 724-4443.

Places of Worship



Full Gospel Church
9286 E. Stockton Blvd.,
Elk Grove, CA 95624
Pastor Daniels
916-685-6607
Tuesday Prayer Healing 6pm
Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
8701 Elk Grove-Florin Rd.
Pastor Joe Dapelo
916-689-7300
In-Person Services:
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages
at 9:45 a.m.
Website: <https://stpeterseg.org>
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916-691-3568

Family Praise and Worship Ministries
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Pastors Claude & Jan Moore
209-224-8145
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., | Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Worship Service 4th Friday 7:00 p.m.

Season's Over for Sheldon, Franklin, and Perhaps, Monterey Trail

By John Hull
Citizen Sports Editor

ELK GROVE (MPG) - It happened all within the same three hours the evening of Feb. 16 that three Elk Grove Unified boys basketball teams were potentially knocked out of the Sac-Joaquin Section Division I playoffs. Sheldon, a six-seed, dropped a 71-62 decision to No. 3 Rocklin, while No. 8 Franklin sort of hung around but couldn't overcome the always-powerful and, this season, the No. 1 seed Modesto Christian, losing 62-50. Then, No. 2 Monterey Trail saw their offense go flat midway through the fourth quarter, squandered an 11-point third quarter lead and then drop a 93-88 double-overtime game to No. 7 Lincoln of Stockton.

To clarify the adjective "potentially" in the opening sentence, the top four teams left in the playoffs will all proceed next week into the CIF NorCal Regionals, but the Section does have the option for one "at-large" team to be selected. Being the No. 2 seed and going 26-4 this season with the only two losses to Section opponents being games that went into overtime, the Mustangs may be a prime candidate.

"I think we had a tremendous season, great in league, great in non-league, it took a lot to put us down, so if you invite me to the dance, I'll bring my dancing shoes," Mustang coach Robert Fields said of that prospect of more basketball this month for his team. That may not be determined by the State CIF officials until Feb. 24 or 25.

The possibility may give this talented squad some relief from the pain inflicted

by the Feb. 16 loss. Coming out of the locker room for the third quarter, Monterey Trail had a 40-36 lead and quickly added to that. A quick three by Derron White followed by a bucket by Kentrell Kelly and then a jumper by White and the Mustangs were up 47-36. From there, though, things turned south. They turned the ball over twice which led to Lincoln baskets and then Quentin Thompson's three-point play and the Trojans were back to within two. The rest of the way, the teams were back and forth within one bucket of each other.

Brandon Gibson, who led the Mustangs with 29 points, was about the only scorer for Monterey Trail who put up points while his teammates struggled in shooting. Monterey Trail led 72-70 with :08.7 remaining and Thompson drew a foul from Kelly to send himself to the free throw line. He made both tosses to tie the game. Thompson ended up leading the Trojans with 29 points.

Fields called a double timeout to set up a play for the game winner, but White's shot was blocked by Zeke Davis and the game went into overtime.

At the end of the first overtime and the score tied at 80 Lincoln's Anthony Moore had a shot at the horn that hit the front of the rim. In the second extra period Davis and Moore each hit key free throws to solidify the win for Lincoln, who advanced to a Feb. 19 semi-final showdown at Rocklin. Davis ended up with 28 points.

"We feel really great," Lincoln coach Anthony Matthews said. "We haven't been to the third round (of the playoffs) in, like, 30 years. Hats off to (Monterey



Monterey Trail coach Robert Fields saw his team's season likely end Feb. 16 when the Mustangs dropped a 93-88, double overtime, decision to Lincoln. It was just the fourth loss of the season by Monterey Trail (26-4) and being the No. 2 seed in Division I, it could be that the Mustangs could get selected as an at-large entrant into next week's CIF NorCal Regional tournament. Photo by John Hull

Trail). We played them in the Foundation Game. We saw what they were. I talked to Coach Fields and after we beat them in that game they really turned it on. Their resume is freakin' impressive."

"The ball just didn't bounce our way," Fields said after the game. "Shots will fall, shots will not fall, I don't think it was anything we did. Things just didn't go our way. It's playoffs, man, these are young kids and this is a great experience for them. We are happy with our effort, we're happy with our preparation, we're just not happy with the results."

Bradshaw, Fortune still alive in D-V

Both Bradshaw Christian and Fortune Early College School made it to the

Division V boys basketball semi-finals. On Feb. 20 the Pride traveled to No. 1 Ripon Christian while the Panthers, the No. 2

seed, hosted No. 6 Futures Academy.

Because of other events scheduled at the Golden One Center, the

Section championships for Divisions I, II and III were Feb. 21 and the Divisions IV, V and VI title games will be Feb. 23. ★

Basketball Playoffs



Cosumnes Oaks' Wesley Flowers makes a reverse layup in the Wolfpack's 77-39 win over Turlock in the Sac-Joaquin Section's Division I playoffs. The next night Cosumnes Oaks was knocked out of the post-season, losing to No. 1 seed Modesto Christian, 83-56. Photo by Ray Iaea ★

WHAT'S ON TAP

Local Sports Schedules

Friday, Feb. 23

Baseball

Sheldon vs. Laguna Creek, 3:30 p.m.
Foothill vs. Monterey Trail, 3:30 p.m.
Argonaut vs. Bradshaw Chr., 3:30 p.m.

Softball

Elk Grove vs. Rocklin, 3:30 p.m.
Christian Bros. Vs. Sheldon, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Baseball

Elk Grove vs. Valley Christian, 12 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 26

Softball

Vista del Lago vs. Elk Grove, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Baseball

Sheldon vs. Vista del Lago, 3:30 p.m.

Pleasant Grove vs. Oak Ridge, 3:30 p.m.

Monterey Trail vs. Venture, 4 p.m.

Softball

Elk Grove vs. Del Oro, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 28

Baseball

Laguna Creek vs. Sierra, 3:30 p.m.
Del Campo vs. Pleasant Grove, 3:30 p.m.

Franklin vs. Folsom, 3:30 p.m.

Softball

Sheldon vs. Folsom, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 29

Baseball

Kennedy vs. Sheldon, 3:30 p.m.

Rosemont vs. Monterey Trail, 3:30 p.m.

Softball

Liberty Ranch vs. Elk Grove, 3:30 p.m.

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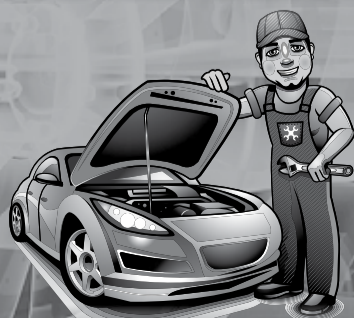
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LC's Hoover, Follette; EG's Sandoval Win Masters Championships

By John Hull
Citizen Sports Editor

STOCKTON, CA (MPG) - A pair of Laguna Creek High School wrestlers and a 120-pounder from Elk Grove won their weight class' championship Feb. 17 at the Sac-Joaquin Section's Masters Wrestling Championships in Stockton. Those who qualified for the semi-finals of the Masters on Feb. 16, the first day of the two-day event were : Elk Grove – Nick Bulanin (126) and Josiah Sandoval (120) Laguna Creek – Zachary Hoover (106) & Declan Follette (285) Sheldon – Noah Daniels (157).

But it was Follette, Hoover and Sandoval that pulled out a championship. Hoover defeated Nathanie Granados of Merced, 4-2, in the final match. Follette pinned Troy Ceja of Pitman in 3:55. In fact, Follette won every match in the Masters via a pinfall.

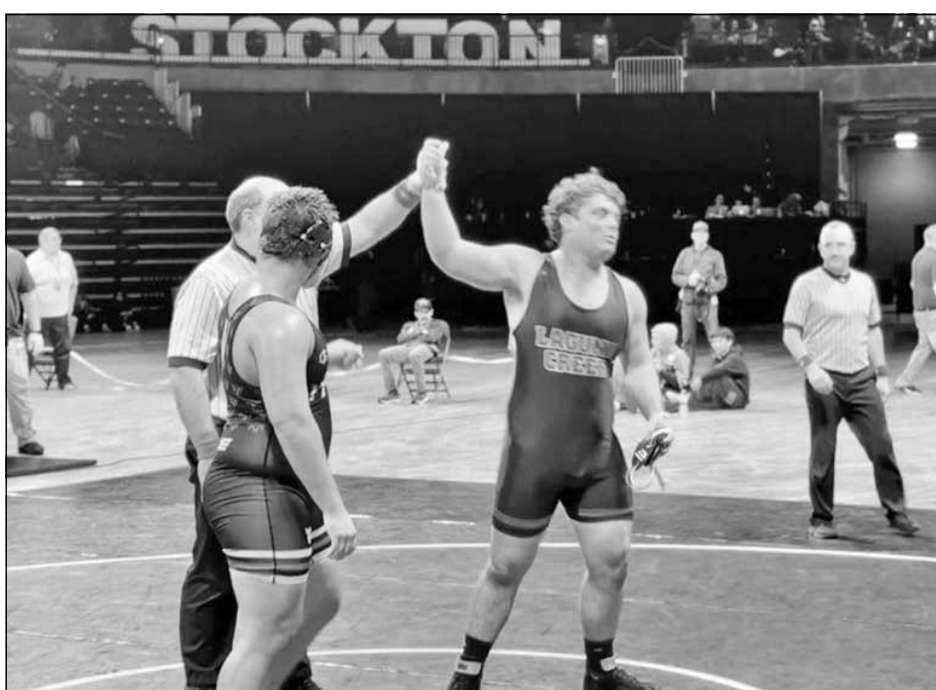
Sandoval decisioned Orion Hill of Folsom, 4-2, to win his weight group.

The top six in each weight class qualified for the CIF State Wrestling Championships Feb. 22-24 in Bakersfield. Those qualifiers were: (Masters finish in parenthesis)

- 106 – Hoover, Laguna Creek (1st)
- 113 – David Maxson, Elk Grove (5th)
- 120- Sandoval, Elk Grove (1st)
- 126 – Bulanin, Elk Grove (4th)
- 157-Noah Daniels, Sheldon (3rd)
- 285-Follette, Laguna Creek (1st)

Those who did place in the top eight included Paul Johnson of Elk Grove, 7th place at 144 pounds, Jacob Briggs of Elk Grove, 7th place at 150 pounds, Jordan Ford of Elk Grove, 8th at 165 pounds, Jonathan Houston of Franklin, 8th place at 190 pounds, and Peyton Reiser of Pleasant Grove, 7th place at 285 pounds.

In the team standings Vacaville placed first with 230.5 points. Oakdale (197 points) was second and Folsom placed third (184 points). Elk Grove finished seventh with 115 points and Laguna Creek was tenth (69 points). ★



Laguna Creek senior Declan Follette won all his matches via pinfall and took the championship at 285 pounds Feb. 17 at the Sac-Joaquin Section Masters Wrestling Championships in Stockton. Photo by Jonathan Ussery

Herd Soccer Loses Last-Second Heartbreaker to Golden Valley



Golden Valley goalkeeper Marco Zarco-Zarate consols Elk Grove's Angelo Ghio who scored the Herd's only goal in the Cougar's 2-1 win over Elk Grove in the Sac-Joaquin Section Division II semi-final soccer game. Photos by John Hull

By John Hull
Citizen Sports Editor

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) —When following your favorite sports team, the one adage to recall is that no one wins the last game of the season except the one who takes the championship game. The Feb. 15 2-1 loss in the Sac-Joaquin Section's Division II semi-finals by the Elk Grove boys soccer team is one of those examples.

The defeat at the hands of Golden Valley High School of Merced can be likened to losing a basketball game by one point when the opponent makes a three-pointer from long range at the horn.

The time on the scoreboard clock was frozen at 2:00. The game was in "extra time." The guy with the timer was the referee. No one knew exactly how much time was on his wristwatch. Both the Cougars and the Thundering Herd were playing at a furious pace, tied at one goal apiece.

Elk Grove had a golden opportunity to take the lead in that extra time when the Golden Valley goalkeeper slipped down and the Herd's top scorer, Angad Singh, had the

ball with an empty net in front of him just outside the goal box. But, at the last moment in slid one of the Cougar defensemen to kick the ball out of from under Singh and across the end line.

Then moments later with Golden Valley on the attack, the Cougars' Joshua Perez took a cross-field pass from the team's top scorer, Carlos Miranda, and rifled it into the Elk Grove nets. As the Cougars celebrated, the referee whistle went off. The game and the Herd's season were over.

The number three seed defeated the number two seed. The Herd players, almost without fail, went to the ground in disbelief and shock while the Cougars and its fans celebrated on the east side of Thunder Stadium.

To make it worse the game was marred with continual shoves and bumps on both sides. The yellow cards, though, pretty much stayed in the referee's pocket. Numerous free kicks were called for the offended team, but the guy wearing the lime green jersey let them play, even on collisions that left players laying on the turf for a prolonged period. If it was

American football, there would have been pass interference, roughing the kicker and clipping penalties galore.

The student section on the Elk Grove side was loaded with comments for Golden Valley players. Early in the game, the referee and a linesman stopped play and headed over to the home bleachers to say something to the students.

That really didn't do much.

At the 24-minute mark of the second half, the Cougars got on the board when Miranda scored his 42nd goal of the season. In jubilation he and a handful of his teammates then ran onto the running track, a few feet away from the Herd student section and started trash talking. They were greeted with a chorus of middle fingers.

Calmer heads quickly prevailed, and the Cougars quickly headed back to their own side of the pitch.

While Golden Valley moved on to face top-seeded Del Oro in the Division II final on Feb. 24, Elk Grove's Johnny Cuatecontzi did what he could to console his emotionally wrecked team afterwards. He pulled



Angelo Ghio (#33) headed the ball into the Golden Valley net for Elk Grove's lone goal in its 2-1 defeat in the Sac-Joaquin Section's Division II boys soccer semi-final game.



Angelo Ghio, left, celebrates with Jack Gerber following his goal early in the second half of its 2-1 loss to Golden Valley Feb. 15 in the Sac-Joaquin Section's Division II semi-final game.

together the boys along with the parents to passionately thank them for their 10-5-7 season which included the school's first playoff win in 19 years.

"It hurts to see (the players) cry, but they wanted it so bad," he said. "One thing I taught the boys from day one – they're not boys, they're men – life is going to hit us hard. And at the end of the day, it's a game, yes,

it's a life lesson for the boys. (The parents) have supported us from day one. There's absolutely no words for a loss like this. All I can say is I am proud of them."

Valley boys advance

Meanwhile across town, the No. 1 seeded Valley Vikings took its Division III semi-final, 1-0, over Rio Linda. The Vikings advanced to the Section championship game Feb.

22 at Cosumnes River College against No. 7 Pacheco. Valley is now 23-4-4 going into that game.

But the season is over for the Franklin girls soccer team. The No.1 seed in Division I was upended by Del Oro, 1-0 in overtime on Feb. 16. They ended the season 16-3-2. The Wildcats are the defending champions in Division I. ★

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Go 4 Pizza Makes National News

Local Girl Scouts Sharpen Entrepreneurship Skills

As 2024 Cookie Season Kicks Off



The outside view of Go 4 Pizza's Rancho Cordova location. Photos by David Nguyen, G Tour Photos

Go 4 Pizza News Release

RANCHO CORDOVA, RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG) - Go 4 Pizza, a popular local restaurant with locations in both Rancho Cordova and Rancho Murieta, has been honored as one of the top 35 pizzerias to watch for in 2024.

Owners Mark and Donna Kendro say: "We're thrilled to announce that Go 4 Pizza in Rancho Cordova, CA & Rancho Murieta, CA has been recognized by Pizza Today as one of the top 35 pizzerias to watch in the US in 2024! Pizza Today is the leading pizza publication in the United States. Out of 44,000 pizzerias in the United States, Go 4 Pizza has stood out and earned this prestigious honor in the Pizza Industry. Pizza Today felt our total operation, from sales and employee programs to community outreach, marketing, and



The party room at the Go 4 Pizza Rancho Cordova location, available to rent out.

our family-friendly interior design is justified to be highlighted in the pizza industry. This is a tremendous achievement in our industry and reflects the dedication and passion of our team in delivering delicious and exceptional pizzas to our community. We couldn't have achieved this without the continued support of our amazing customers! We couldn't be more honored to make their list." Go 4 Pizza opened in 2009, and since then, has seen much success. But what sets them apart from other pizzerias is that it is a center for communities

and has heavy community involvement. They support local schools and sports teams by having fundraisers throughout the year, including offering their party room and party patio at no costs to sports teams' parties. Go 4 Pizza also includes live music, weekly trivia, paint night, corn hole tournaments, comedy nights, and much more. To see their menu, locations, and more, find Go 4 Pizza's website here. To keep up with Go 4 Pizza, follow on Instagram @go4pizza2.0.



Residents will soon have an opportunity to help Girl Scouts while also enjoying their favorite cookie favorites. Photo courtesy of Girl Scouts of Northern California

Girl Scouts Heart of Central California News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- Girl Scouts Heart of Central California (GSHCC) is excited to announce the official launch of the 2024 Girl Scout cookie season, bringing delightful treats and smiles to communities in the Greater Sacramento, Stockton, and Modesto regions. The Cookie Program not only spreads joy but also fosters the entrepreneurial spirit of numerous local Girl Scouts.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world. Proceeds from the Program support local Girl Scout troops and enable GSHCC to organize workshops, events, and initiatives that help create the next generation of empowered and innovative female leaders. GSHCC's Cookie Program supports two Girl Scout camps, two STEM Centers + MakerSpaces, a mobile STEM Center + MakerSpace, and provides resources to more than 4,000 volunteers.

"Entrepreneurship remains one of Girl



Scouts' most powerful program pillars," said GSHCC Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Linda E. Farley. "More than 8,000 local Girl Scouts will participate in the Cookie Program this year, gaining real-world opportunities to practice their entrepreneurship skills. Beyond the goal setting, money-management, and decision-making skills these girls learn, they also make connections with their community, develop friendships with their sister Girl Scouts, express creativity, and build their capacity to be leaders."

Local Girl Scouts have already begun taking orders from family and friends, and supporters will begin to see cookies available for local purchase in front of stores beginning February 23 through March 17. Additionally, GSHCC encourages the use of the Cookie Finder feature on the Girl Scouts' website, which provides a convenient and accessible way for cookie enthusiasts to locate nearby cookie booths. Cookie connoisseurs can input their zip code in the Cookie Finder tool to see where cookies are being sold in their community.

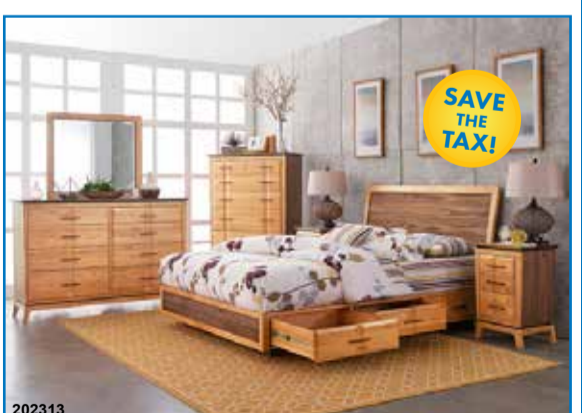


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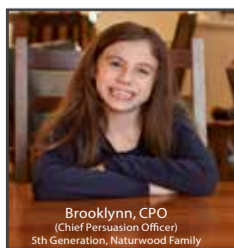
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