



**Saturday
Market
Keeps on Truckin’**

PAGE 2

**The A’s
are Coming
to Town**

PAGE 12



The Galt Herald

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APRIL 12, 2024

**SEE
INSIDE**

**CELEBRATING
THE ONE AND
ONLY CHILD**



PAGE 8

**DON'T
GAMBLE
WITH FAITH**



PAGE 9

**WARRIOR STUNT
COMPLETES
SEASON**



PAGE 12

CSD Fire Opens New Station



Despite the rainy weather, attendees at the Fire Station 77 opening take part in a hose-uncoupling ceremony. They included, from left, Elk Grove Vice-Mayor Rod Brewer, Cosumnes Community Services District board President Jim Luttrell, Wilton Rancheria Chair Jesus Tarango, Cosumnes Fire Chief Felipe Rodriguez and Cosumnes Community Services District General Manager Phil Lewis. Photos by Matthew Malon

**By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer**

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - With a ceremony on April 4, Cosumnes Fire Department opened its first new fire station in more than two decades in southern Elk Grove. Officials said the station would shorten response times in a fast-growing area of Elk Grove and support fire services in Galt.

Located at 8350 Poppy Ridge Road, Fire Station 77 will serve an area with multiple housing developments, as well as a Cosumnes River

College facility, Sky River Casino and the potential Sacramento Zoo's future location.

The station will host a fire engine and an ambulance, as well as a grass rig to respond to grass fires. Three staff members will operate the engine and two will staff the ambulance.

Cosumnes Fire operates as part of Cosumnes Community Services District (CSD), providing fire and ambulance service in Elk Grove, Galt and surrounding areas.

The station is named after Elk Grove's first fire chief, J.D. "Dell" Cann,



Cosumnes Fire Station 77 opened on April 4. It is Cosumnes Fire Department's first new station in more than 20 years.

who led the fire department from 1910 to 1940, overseeing the opening of three fire stations. Cosumnes Fire Department Chief Felipe Rodriguez said it

was appropriate that Elk Grove's seventh station — and CSD's ninth — be named after Cann.

"I once heard that
Continued on Page 7

Lozano to Run for CSD Seat

**By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer**

GALT, CA (MPG) - Galt Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano announced on April 6 that he is running for the Division 1 seat on the Cosumnes Community Services District (CSD) board of directors. Lozano said he wants to provide a voice representing Galt on the board.

Cosumnes Community Services District's Division 1 seat, which includes Galt and eastern Elk Grove, is up for election this year. Lozano said Director Gil Albiani, the current District 1 representative, plans to retire after 20 years on the board.

If Lozano is elected, he would be returning to the Cosumnes Community Services District. He served for eight years before winning a Galt City Council seat in 2018.

Since his departure, Lozano said, no directors have been Galt residents. With the introduction of by-division elections in 2022, in which only residents of a given division vote for that division's representative, the Division 1 election is the only one in which Galt residents have a say at the ballot box.

"I really think it's important that that board have representation
Continued on Page 7



Galt Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano stands outside Cosumnes Fire Department Station 45 in Galt as he announces his candidacy for Cosumnes Community Services District Division 1. Photos courtesy of Rich Lozano



**Council
Supports
'Baseline'
Funds
for P&R**

**By Matthew Malone
News Editor**

GALT, CA (MPG) - Galt City Council on April 2 requested a plan to designate a regular share of General Fund money for the Parks and Recreation Department. The change is intended to reinforce the concept of the Measure Q sales tax as a supplement to parks and rec funding.

The city's Parks and Recreation Fund receives most of its revenue from that department's programs, such as the Galt Market but the income regularly falls short of expenses. The General Fund makes contributions to Parks and Rec, covering the difference.

Council members expressed a desire to ensure that Measure Q dollars add to parks and rec funding rather than replacing it. They also wanted to treat parks and rec funding more like that for other departments.

Finance Director Matthew Boring presented information on the past General Fund contributions. The city transferred money to Parks and Rec in eight of the past 10 fiscal years. No contribution happened in fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22 due to scaled-back operations and rising Galt Market income. In years with contributions, the amount ranged from a low of about \$118,000 in 2013-14 to a high of \$1.7 million in 2018-19. Last fiscal year, 2022-23, the General Fund contributed close to \$810,000.

These contributions represented varying proportions of the overall General Fund's overall spending. Fiscal year 2018-19 was also a peak in this respect, with the General Fund transfer making up 11.2% of expenditures. In most other years presented, the contribution was between 3% and 4% of the fund.

"Personally, I think the people of this city who voted for Measure Q feel that it should be to supplement and better Parks and Rec, not replace current funds being put in," Council Member Shawn Farmer said. "That's the consensus I get from almost 90% of the people I talk to."

Farmer advocated
Continued on Page 3

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Saturday Market Keeps on Truckin’

By Matthew Malone
News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt Saturday Market launched its third season on April 6, combining the monthly market on Fourth Street with the city’s annual Touch-a-Truck event. The sounds of horns and sirens rang out as curious children got to imagine themselves behind the wheel of working vehicles from the local area. The trucks on display came from organizations like the Galt Public Works Department, Galt Police

Department and Cosumnes Fire Department, as well as local businesses, like Cal-Waste Recovery Systems. One of the tallest trucks at the market was a bucket truck from Environmental Tree Service. Salesperson Jeremiah Calderon said it can extend to 67.5 feet tall, giving crews access to the tops of trees for removal or trimming. He was handing out popcorn, cotton candy and souvenirs to visiting children. “When a little kid sees a huge truck, their eyes get all big,” Calderon said. “They want to use

the horn. They want to get inside. They want to start climbing around. ... I just want them to have a good time.” Cosumnes Fire Engineer Russell Whitmore said his job of driving Fire Engine 45 to emergency calls is “the best job in the fire service.” He noted the engine’s unique features, including equipment to extricate people trapped in vehicles after car crashes. The children “all love the fire engine, so we’re happy to show it off,” Whitmore said. ★



Above: Cosumnes Firefighter Adam Brazil (left) and Engineer Russell Whitmore with Fire Engine 45.



Right: Environmental Tree Service staff pose with the vehicles their company uses to remove and maintain trees.



A bucket truck from Environmental Tree Service towers over Fourth Street during the Galt Saturday Market. Photos by Matthew Malone



A garbage truck from Cal-Waste Recovery Systems was open for visitors to explore during the Saturday Market.





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Local Tax Prep Firm is Business of Month

By Matthew Malone
News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Galt District Chamber of Commerce on April 4 recognized Taxes & Accounting Xclusive Service (TAXS) as its honorary business of the month. Chamber members gathered at the business’ C Street location to present the award.

The family-owned accounting firm has been in operation for more than 30 years, co-owner Lisa Strapp told the Herald, and she was excited to receive the business of the month recognition for the first time.

Strapp’s mother and fellow co-owner, Sharon Tucker, started the business, following the

example of her own mother, who was a tax preparer and bookkeeper.

“And then I followed in her (Tucker’s) footsteps, and my daughter-in-law who works here ... she is a tax preparer also now. So it’s a family business,” Strapp said.

Strapp noted that TAXS is a small business with a lot of local clients, both individuals and businesses. In addition to tax preparation, the firm offers bookkeeping and payroll services.

Taxes & Accounting Xclusive Service is located at 810 E. C St.


For more information about the business and its services, call 209-745-6006 or email taxacctg@softcom.net. ★



Taxes & Accounting Xclusive Service co-owner Lisa Strapp shows the certificate recognizing TAXS as business of the month of April. Photos courtesy of Galt District Chamber of Commerce




Galt District Chamber of Commerce members and TAXS staff pose for a photo during the honorary business of the month presentation.



MEMORIAL

LILLIAN “DIT” JENKS • JULY 17, 1920 - MARCH 16, 2024



Lillian “Dit” Jenks was born on a dairy ranch in Galt, California, on July 17, 1920 and passed away peacefully on March 16, 2024 in Sacramento, California. Dit was predeceased by her parents Gottardo and Maria Barsetti, older brother, Henry “Ed” Barsetti, former husband, Fred Jenks, brother-in-law, Bill Cippa, and sister-in-law, Delia Barsetti. She is survived by her beloved son, Bart Jenks, daughter-in-law, Helen Jenks, grandsons Andy Jenks (Jill) and Tony Jenks (Emily), great grandchildren, Henry, Andrew and William Jenks, older sister, Emily “Em” Cippa, and her many nieces and nephews.

Dit was raised on the Galt ranch and attended Galt High School. She fondly received her nickname “Dit” from Em when the two were infants. Dit acquired a love of sports at a young age, regularly playing baseball and other sports with Ed and his friends. She was a standout on the softball and basketball teams in high school. She was also an excellent student and graduated from high school in 1937 at the age of seventeen.

After high school, Dit was hired as a secretary at the State Capitol. At that time, Dit continued her excellence in sports as an exceptional short stop on Sacramento’s Cal West traveling softball team. She was later inducted into the Greater Sacramento Softball Association Hall of Fame. Dit met her future husband, Fred Jenks, and the couple married. Fred was a lead navigator in the Air Force and was deployed overseas during World War II. After the war ended, the couple moved to San Francisco where Dit worked as a secretary for the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company.

The family moved back to Sacramento in 1950 where Dit began working as a legal secretary for the law firm of Fitzwilliam, Memering, and McDonald and eventually became the office manager. She enrolled in McGeorge School of Law, graduating in 1967. Dit was admitted to the State Bar shortly thereafter and opened a private practice in 1968. Dit was a

private practitioner for almost forty years, specializing in personal injury litigation. She also volunteered on many boards and associations, including her service as President of the Women Lawyers of Sacramento. Dit retired from the practice of law in 2005 at the age of 85.

Dit’s favorite pastimes included spending quality time with her family and her numerous friends.

It was also a great joy for her to have daily conversations with Em, the two sisters having an extremely close and loving relationship. Dit loved entertaining family and friends in her home where she resided for over 60 years. She also loved a good party, especially those where she could kick up her heels and dance, dance, dance.

Throughout her life, Dit had a passion for sports, both as a participant and as a fan. She began playing golf as a young adult, and it became her favorite sport. For years, she was a member of the Sacramento Women’s Golf Club at Haggin Oaks where she developed close relationships with both members and staff. In 1996, Dit became a member of Del Paso Country Club where she played until she was in her early nineties, still posting scores well below her age. Dit also appreciated all of the wonderful friendships she developed at Del Paso and would look forward to her special golf vacations with her friends.

Dit’s family extends its heartfelt thanks to the wonderful caregivers at the Chateau at River’s Edge, McGregor Home, and Suncrest Hospice for the loving care and support for Dit. The family further extends its thanks to those special friends who visited and supported Dit until the time of her passing. A special acknowledgement is also made to W F Gormley & Sons funeral home for providing their compassionate service and support. Funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Morton Golf Foundation, <https://mortongolffoundation.org>., which funds programs for the local youth, disabled and underserved.

General Fund Contributions to Parks and Recreation

	Total General Fund Spending	Contribution to Parks and Rec	Contribution, Percent of General Fund
2016-17	\$14,221,144	\$551,825	3.88%
2017-18	\$13,583,937	\$470,954	3.47%
2018-19	\$15,533,982	\$1,736,720	11.18%
2019-20	\$14,921,355	\$1,329,169	8.91%
2022-23	\$21,560,343	\$809,510	3.75%

The general fund made no contribution to the Parks and Recreation Fund in fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The chart shows the past five years in which the Galt General Fund contributed to the Parks and Recreation Fund. Chart by Matthew Malone • Created with Datawrapper • Data courtesy of city of Galt

Council Supports ‘Baseline’ Funds for P&R

Continued from page 1

designating a fixed percentage of General Fund spending for parks and rec. At first, he suggested 5% but later changed it to 6%. He said a set dollar amount wouldn’t be responsive to economic changes.

The other council members voiced support for a percentage.

Boring said a fixed dollar amount would be easier to account for in the budgeting process. With the consensus in favor of a percentage, Boring said, staff would develop a formula to propose at a future meeting. He explained that it would probably be based on the previous fiscal year’s actual spending, minus one-time items.

Councilmember Jay Vandenburg emphasized the importance of planning for maintenance with some of the Measure Q funds.

“I want to make sure that ... as much as possible (the Measure Q money) is spent on community recreation but also with the need for forecasting of maintenance and repairs,” Vandenburg said.

Councilmember Kevin

Papineau said the city is facing “a lot of moving targets,” with ups and downs in the economy and the Galt Market. He wanted a way to reevaluate the contribution level in response to such changes but said 5% “is probably right in the ballpark.”

Boring said City Council would have opportunities to adjust the contribution throughout the city’s two-year budget cycle.

Galt Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano noted that the city recently started the process of updating its parks master plan and he voiced concern about how to handle Measure Q funds if the results show that the community wants large projects that the city doesn’t immediately have the money for.

“I don’t know that we as a city, whether it be the staff or the policymakers or anybody, really know what we need,” Lozano said, adding that the money could sit unused for some time as the city saves for a large project.

Farmer later agreed that the master plan would be useful for understanding community priorities but,

he said, there was little likelihood of funds going unused. He criticized the treatment of the contributions to the parks and rec fund as different from the normal allocations for other departments.

“Parks and rec deserves its own budget item, and we need to set a baseline that this is what the budget for parks and rec is,” Farmer said.

In other business, Special Events manager Jackie Garcia gave a preview of the community organizations seeking funding from the city for upcoming special events.

Garcia said 11 applications had been received, with funding asks totaling more than \$29,000, plus requests for services and facility use. Applicants included Galt Teen Center, Galt Area Historical Society, L’Chayim of Galt, Galt and Liberty Ranch high schools, Galt High Alumni Association, and Galt District Chamber of Commerce.

City Council will make a final decision on the requests at its April 16 meeting. ★



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Road Work Will Partly Close C Street

By Matthew Malone
News Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Get ready for a few months of construction on C Street. Parts of the thoroughfare will be reduced to one lane of traffic for construction work on various improvements and beautification measures.

The contractor handling the work will begin to move in on April 15, and shortly after that, it will start the first phase of the project by barricading the north side of the street, between Civic Drive and South Lincoln Way.

Public Works Director Mike Selling said the closure will happen in four phases. During all phases, C Street will remain open to westbound traffic, and eastbound traffic

will detour to surrounding roads. This setup is meant to allow Galt Market traffic to flow into town more easily.

In the second phase, the south side of C will close between Civic and Lincoln. The third and fourth phases will affect the stretch between Lincoln and Sixth Street, closing first the north side and then the south side.

The overall project is expected to last five to six months, Selling said, with completion possible in early October.

Those looking to access the shopping centers to the north of C Street during Phase 1 are advised to use the shopping centers' back entrances on A Street and through Market Street. During Phase 2, accessing the businesses on the

south side of the street will involve taking Caroline Avenue and Maple Street. Selling said patrons for some businesses may need to park offsite and walk the rest of the way.

Selling said this arrangement is safer than the alternative of having two-way traffic on C with one lane closed, and it speeds up the road work.

"What they've estimated by being able to do this is they can probably shave about two months' time off of the construction schedule," Selling said.

The project will add medians along C, some with trees and other landscaping to beautify the corridor and calm traffic. Along with improving bike lanes, the work will also lower the road surface, making it easier to enter



Cars drive along C Street on April 3. The stretch between Civic Drive and South Lincoln Way will close to eastbound traffic on or soon after April 15. Photo by Matthew Malone

and exit parking lots along the street.

Selling called the project "a key enhancement for the city."

"I think this will certainly provide an aesthetic

to the key gateway into the city that will kind of go hand-in-glove with other efforts to enhance tourism, get folks in, and see what Galt has to offer," Selling said.

For updates on the road work, visit cstreetproject.org, email info@cstreetproject.org, or leave a voicemail at 209-213-5942.

★

ABOUT TOWN

Pancake Dinner for GHS Sports April 13

The Galt High School Athletic Boosters will raise money for the school's sports programs with its second annual Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. April 13. The event will be at Nottoli Dome at Galt High, 145 North Lincoln Way. Tickets cost \$12 each. To buy tickets, visit the boosters' Square webpage at bit.ly/4c5Yp5a (case sensitive).

Natural-Remedies Seminar April 14

Galt Seventh-day Adventist Church (619 Myrtle Ave.) will host a free natural-remedies seminar on April 14,

from 1 to 5:30 p.m. A light, plant-based lunch will be provided. There will be instructions on making poultices and herbal sachets for baths. To RSVP, email Piper Smith at smith.piper@yahoo.com.

Earth Day City Cleanup on April 20

The Galt Beautification Committee and Youth Commission invite Galt residents to join a city-wide cleanup on April 20 in honor of Earth Day. Participants can work with the committee and commission or clean their own part of the city. Participants are asked to share before and after pictures with the city of

Galt. The committee and commission will meet at 9 a.m. at Café Latte Co. (1000 E. C St., Suite 70).

Daughters of Isabella Spring Tea, April 21

The Daughters of Isabella will have its annual Spring Tea from 1 to 4 p.m. April 21 at the Littleton Community Center (410 Civic Drive). Tickets are \$30 per person (must be at least 11 years old). Door prizes and raffles will be available. For tickets, contact Betty Pratt at 209-745-4767.

Rotary's Taco de Mayo April 27

Galt Sunrise Rotary

will hold its annual Taco de Mayo fundraiser from 5 to 9 p.m. April 27 at Littleton Community Center (410 Civic Drive). Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. and it consists of three tacos, rice and beans. Margaritas, beers and raffle prizes will be available. Carry-out is available.

Tickets cost \$15 each. To buy tickets, visit galtssunriserotary.com or send payment on Venmo to @galtssunrise. For more information, text 916-662-6915.

Historical Tours Offered Monthly

The Galt Area Historical Society offers tours at McFarland

Living History Ranch (8898 Orr Road) and the Rae House Museum (204 Oak Ave.) from 1 to 4 p.m. the following Sundays: May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3 and Dec. 1. Parking is free and donations are accepted. For more information, call 209-730-3127.

American Legion Post 233 Invites Veterans

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 April 25, 2024.

Post 233 invites veterans and their spouses to a dinner/social hour from 6-7 pm. The veterans' general meeting starts at 7 pm.

Veterans' spouses are welcome to join the Elk Grove American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233 that meets in another room from 7-8 pm in the same location.

For questions, please contact Henry at 916-205-9296 C or Sue at 916-683-6128 H.

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

★

GLANCE BACK

80 Years Ago April 21, 1944

The regular meeting of the Junior Women's club was held on April 18 in the home of Mrs. Dorothy Pearson. Mrs. Harriet Sutton was hostess for the day. Mrs. Alberta Barber is the newly elected president, Mrs. Phoebe Allister vice president, and Mrs. Vera Hobday secretary-treasurer.

□ □ □

Galt's first canine fatality of the war occurred recently when the Doberman pinscher donated to the U.S. Armed Forces by Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Williams was killed in action. Mr. Williams received notice of the

death of "Tex" from the War Department headquarters of the War Dog Recreation & Training Center.

70 Years Ago April 22, 1954

Bennie T. Casado, with six years of service as Galt's mayor behind him, officially entered his seventh Tuesday night when fellow members of the city council re-elected him by acclamation.

□ □ □

Voters of the former Twin Cities School District approved the bond assumption election held Tuesday, April 20 by a vote of 21-9, thus officially becoming a part of the Galt Elementary

School District.

□ □ □

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Pellandini are the proud parents of a son named Gary William, born April 17 at Lodi Memorial Hospital. He arrived at 5:23 p.m. and weighed 5 pounds 12½ ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Curby Goldsmith are the proud parents of a daughter named Sarah Lou, born April 20 at 1:30 p.m., at Buchanan Hospital. The infant weighed 9 pounds.

60 Years Ag April 18, 1964

Galt voters, casting ballots Tuesday, elected Cedro Casado, brother of the present mayor, and Paul

Hagen to the city council. Fifty-three percent of the voters turned out for the election with a total of 451 ballots cast.

□ □ □

Dennis Arrants and Stanley Mote of Galt have been notified that they are among 1,800 winners in the State Scholarship awards for the 1964-65 term.

The two Galt students will receive up to \$1,500 scholarships to the college or university of their choice.

50 Years Ago April 18, 1974

Salary proposals were studied by the Galt Elementary School Board

at the regular meeting April 5.

The board accepted the resignation of Dorothy McFarland who is retiring, and Principal Toby Johnson who is returning to Arcohe School.

□ □ □

An open house luncheon was held in honor of Herman Sturmer's 86th birthday on March 30 at the Alta Mesa Hall. Co-hostesses were daughter Vera Hobday and daughter-in-law Vicki Sturmer.

He has been a member of the Alta Mesa Farm Bureau for 54 years and secretary-treasurer of the Alta Mesa Fair for 33 years.

40 Years Ago April 12, 1984

When the last of a record-breaking 1,146 ballots was finally counted, the citizens of Galt had re-elected Mayor Marian Lawrence, as well as newcomer Luis Urban, to the city council.

Only 17 votes separated Lawrence's first-place finish from last-place candidate Ronald Jacobsen.

□ □ □

The Herald asked Galtonians, "What is your favorite TV program?" Cathy Barnes: "Magnum P.I." Rose Piazzese: "Love Connection." Willie Weatherford: "Hill Street Blues." Jack Strom: "The A Team."

★



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Meals on Wheels Cafe Accepting Older Adults

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

Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla

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

Free Compost for Galt Residents

The city of Galt offers free compost to Galt residents. The compost is for residential use only, available Thursdays through Mondays at the Caroline Avenue parking lot, which is across the street from Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library. Those interested are asked to bring their own shovels, gloves and buckets. In addition, no mechanical loading is allowed; all loading must be done manually. There is a limit of five six-gallon buckets per load and one load per week per household. For more information on the program and the benefits of compost, visit the city website at bit.ly/431ySAI (case sensitive).

Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center

The Commission on Aging wants volunteers to staff the Galt Senior Resource Center, which opened its doors in April. The commission needs volunteers who can operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media and by email. Volunteer slots are available in two-hour

increments for up to four hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, excluding holidays. Volunteers will be trained and can contact commission members if questions arise.

The resource center is at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If interested in helping, call 209-294-3308 and leave a message or inquire in person.

Cosumnes DAR Chapter Accepting New Members

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

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

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

City After-Hours Assistance

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

Office Hours With Mayor Sandhu

Galt Mayor Paul Sandhu opened his office hours to meet one-on-one with residents of Galt. On the first and second Thursday of each month, residents can discuss issues important to them. Meetings are at Galt City Hall (380 Civic Drive). They are

30 minutes each and by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, contact the city clerk's office at 209-366-7130, extension 7, or clerk@city-ofgalt.org.

Library Offers Older Adults Computer Time

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

Recycle Household Batteries

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

green bin is only for dry-cell household batteries.

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

Square Dance Classes on Mondays

The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club hosts social square-dancing classes in Galt. The classes are open to everyone from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall.

The classes are formatted for flexibility and students can learn numerous square dance calls in about three months. The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916.

Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings

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

POLICE LOGS

During the time period of March 29 to April 4, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in 15 arrests.

Friday, March 29
12:09 a.m., DUI/adult arrested at Highway 99/C Street.
7:26 a.m., auto burglary reported on F Street.
9:32 a.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested on First Street.
1:18 p.m., theft reported at West Elm Street/Edelweiss Way.
1:29 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Maria Way/Cardoso Drive.

Saturday, March 30
12:35 p.m., trespassing reported at unique Dental Care on Pine Street.
5:08 p.m., hit-and-run/non-injury at Raley's on

Twin Cities Road.
5:29 p.m., hit-and-run/non-injury at Savemart Supermarkets on C Street.

Sunday, March 31
7:08 a.m., trespassing reported on J Street.
1:11 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Highway 99/Simmerhorn Road.
7:04 p.m., domestic violence/adult arrested on Wendy Hope Drive.

Monday, April 1
9:40 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested on C Street.

Tuesday, April 2
9:24 a.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at First Street/Downing Drive.
11 a.m., hit-and-run/non-injury at Galt Market on Meladee Lane.
12:02 p.m., burglary reported at My Stuff

Storage on Pringle Avenue; storage unit broken into.
4:19 p.m., fraud reported on Daisy Drive.
5:09 p.m., court order violation/adult arrested at McFarland Street/Elm Avenue.
9:14 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested at Highway 99/West Stockton Boulevard.
10:37 p.m., narcotics violation/adult arrested at Moose Creek Way.

Wednesday, April 3
11:08 a.m., missing adult reported on Wagon Way.
3:10 p.m., attempt to serve warrant/adult arrested on Rio Mesa Court.

Thursday, April 4
5:11 p.m., DUI/adult arrested at McDonald's on East Stockton Boulevard.
8:35 p.m., DUI/adult arrested at Valero Gas Station on North Lincoln Way. ★

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MEETING MINDERS

Saturday, April 13

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

Tuesday, April 16

Galt City Council, 6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.
Galt High Alumni Association (GHAA), 7 p.m., Three Palms Mobile Estates Clubhouse, 604 Pringle Ave., 916-835-8690.

Wednesday, April 17

Cosumnes CSD, 5 p.m., Elk Grove CSD

boardroom, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.
Galt Elementary School Board, 7 p.m., City Hall, 380 Civic Drive, 209-745-4545.

Thursday, April 18

Galt High School Board, 6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.
Arcohe School Board, 7 p.m., Media Center (East Campus), 11715 Ivie Road, Herald, 209-748-2313.
Galt Beautification Committee, 9 a.m., Community Development Dept., 495 Industrial

Drive, 209-366-7130.
Galt Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., (at designated locations), 209-745-2529.
Herald Fire Protection District, 6 p.m., Station 87, 12746 Ivie Road, 209-748-2322.
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, 6:30 p.m., Galt Police Department, 455 Industrial Drive, 916-687-1512.

Friday, April 19

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

A Veteran Thank Today



Publisher, Paul V. Scholl

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To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email to: Publisher@mpg8.com.
Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

The Galt Herald

Serving Galt and Sacramento County since 1901

It is the intent of *The Galt Herald* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

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California Spends More on Schools with The Neediest Kids

Here's How It's Succeeded and Failed

By Carolyn Jones,
CALMatters.org

A decade after California revolutionized the way it funds schools, nearly everyone agrees the initiative has done what it was meant to do: improved math and reading scores and brought more resources to students who struggle the most.

And nearly everyone also agrees that the Local Control Funding Formula, as it's known, could use a tune-up. Black and Latino students' test scores have improved but still lag behind their white and Asian peers, and schools in affluent areas still spend far more per student than schools in poorer neighborhoods.

But overall, researchers and superintendents say, the system introduced under Gov. Jerry Brown has remade California's schools for the better.

"Gov. Brown had a good idea," said Adam Clark, superintendent of Mt. Diablo Unified in Concord. "(The funding formula) has given school districts the tools and resources to really address the needs of students. And it gives parents and the community a voice."

Jaime Green, superintendent of Trinity Alps Unified in Trinity County, put it more succinctly: "Without LCFF, our district would not be open."

Under the Local Control Funding Formula, the state gives school districts a base amount of money calculated by attendance, but funnels extra funds for low-income students, English learners and foster youth. Districts have freedom to spend the money on whatever programs they think will help their students, with guidance and accountability through a public local planning process.

Prior to the funding formula, California schools were financed through local property taxes, a system that had been in place for 40 years. Districts with lower tax revenues got extra money from the state, up to a certain limit, and the state doled out dozens of grants for specific programs.

Districts like Trinity Unified, located in California's poorest county, barely stayed afloat under that system because the extra money was not enough to cover expenses, especially considering the large number of students living in poverty.

The overall amount of spending was low due in part to Proposition 13, the 1978 ballot initiative that capped property taxes and resulted in deep cuts to state spending. By the mid-2000s, California was near the bottom of states nationally in school spending, student test scores and nearly every other educational measurement. Linda Darling Hammond, president of the State Board of Education, described it as "a broken system."

Simplifying and Decentralizing School Funding

Brown, who was elected to his second stint as governor in 2010, said he got the inspiration to overhaul school funding from Mike Kirst, who served as president of the State Board of Education during both of Brown's stints as governor. Kirst and his colleagues had proposed the idea of a weighted formula a few years earlier, but it was shelved when the economy crashed in 2008.

Gathering support from legislators, teachers unions, parent groups and school boards, Brown, Kirst and their allies helped get the funding formula enacted in 2013.

The simplicity, along with shifting power away from the state, appealed to Brown.

"I liked the idea of reducing complexity, of giving money where it was most needed," Brown said in December at a conference on the impact of the funding formula. "You need goals, you need standards, but you have to let local people do their thing."

It coincided with a trio of other



The Wellness Center at College Park High School is a place where students can find a quiet and relaxing environment without leaving school. Pleasant Hill, March 15, 2024. Photo by Manuel Orbeagozo

big changes in California education: passage of Proposition 30, a sales tax which raised about \$6 billion annually for schools; introduction of the Common Core reading and math curriculum; and the Smarter Balanced standardized testing system.

Within a few years, the improvements were obvious in California classrooms. By 2019, before the pandemic, reading and math scores in all grades had improved, graduation rates rose, suspensions and expulsions fell, and more students met college admission requirements for the state's public universities. A report by the Learning Policy

Overall School Spending is Still Unequal

Another problem is the overall amount of school spending generally, some said. Even though low-income schools now have much more money than they did a decade ago, it's not enough to address the needs of students facing complex challenges. And schools in affluent areas still spend far more per student, thanks to parent donations and local bonds and taxes.

Jack O'Connell, who was State Superintendent of Public Instruction prior to the Local Control Funding Formula, agreed. While he considers the

who meet more than one of the formula categories should be counted twice, not once. Schools should receive extra money for English learners who are also low-income, for example.

Basing School Funding on Enrollment, Not Attendance

In Trinity Alps Unified, in the mountains of Trinity County in Northern California, the funding formula has made a world of difference — not just for students but for the entire community, said superintendent Green. Prior to the funding formula, the district received less than \$12,000 per student from all sources; now it's closer to \$20,000.

violate Proposition 209, the affirmative action ban that prevents the state from linking money to students' race or ethnicity.

Gov. Gavin Newsom last year introduced a tweak to the funding formula that directs extra funding to specific schools based on high rates of student turnover, low-income students or students whose parents didn't graduate from high school. The equity multiplier, as it's known, is intended to reach students who have the highest needs.

'Deep inequities' in California

But that's not enough, said Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, director of TK-12 education policy at Ed Trust-West, an education research and advocacy organization. California should repeal or scale back Proposition 209.

"We still have deep inequities across the board," Wheatfall-Lum said. "But by fixing LCFF we have a huge opportunity to support racial equity. ... The stakes are very high. How we fund schools is the foundation of our education system."

Ed Trust-West also recommends that the state hold districts accountable for the academic performance of specific student groups, such as Black and Latino students, and pay more attention to the progress of English learners, whose test scores have barely budged since the finding formula was introduced.

But money isn't always the answer, Brown noted at a conference in December. Bumps in school funding, while helpful, can't be expected to solve problems as deeply embedded as poverty, racism and inequality, he said. Factors beyond school play a huge role in students' outcomes.

'More Than Money' to Help High-Needs Students

At College Park High in Pleasant Hill, the district used funding formula money to open a wellness center two years ago. Furnished with couches, comfy chairs, student-created artwork and private enclaves for one-on-one meetings with counselors, the wellness center is a popular place for students to relax and socialize. In addition to mental health services like peer counseling and therapy dogs, the center offers yoga, meditation, games and a quiet place to do homework. A social worker is always present.

Stephanie Perez, a senior at College Park, said the wellness center has been a lifesaver — literally. It's given her a reason to stay in school and motivation to stay healthy.

"If this place wasn't here, I'd be out drinking, smoking, ditching school, getting bad habits," Perez said. "They really care about you, listen to you, give you a shoulder to cry on. I come here to ease my mind." ★



College Park High School students can visit the Wellness Center during school hours and after school to take a break and reset before returning to their activities in Pleasant Hill on March 15, 2024. Photo by Manuel Orbeagozo for CalMatters

Institute found that an increase of \$1,000 in per-pupil spending over three consecutive years resulted in a full grade level improvement in math and reading.

California now ranks near the national average in school spending, as well as in math and reading scores. Although scores fell in the wake of the pandemic, they didn't fall as far as they did in other states and are slowly beginning to creep upward.

But challenges persist. One common gripe among superintendents is the annual plan required to chart goals and priorities. The Local Control Accountability Plan is a key part of the funding formula's accountability and parent involvement components, but it can be a headache, superintendents said. It entails community meetings, surveys, data analysis and detailed explanations of spending for the public, county and state to review.

The plans are often so dense with jargon that even though they're posted online, reviewed at school board meetings and shared with parents, few people wade through them — thereby not providing the accountability they're intended to.

funding formula a landmark in California education, he thinks the state needs to increase the base amount of money it gives schools. Currently, that amount ranges from \$11,000 to \$12,300 per student, which poses a challenge for middle-class districts without large numbers of low-income students or wealthy parents willing to donate thousands.

"There's no question things are better off now," O'Connell said. "But increasing the base grant might be the best way to help all students."

Kirst said he was confident the funding formula would work, but he's surprised at its political staying power and how entrenched it's become in the education landscape.

He'd like to see the formula adjusted to take into account regional costs of living, so districts in expensive areas get more money. And he'd like to see the poverty measurement change. Currently it's based on how many students meet the federal standards for a free or reduced price meals. But with so many districts now offering free lunch to all students, he said, the state should consider using other criteria.

He also thinks that students

That money goes a long way in Trinity County, funding everything from art classes to after-school programs to special education.

"We feel very blessed to have this formula," Green said. "LCFF allows us to stay open and serve our children at a high level."

An improvement Green and other superintendents would like to see is funding based on enrollment, not attendance. Currently, the state disperses money to districts based on average daily attendance. But chronic absenteeism soared during the pandemic, resulting in lower revenues. While enrollment is also declining in many areas, absenteeism is the bigger challenge, Green said.

Going forward, some advocates are calling on the state to tie extra funding directly to students' race. The impact of systemic racism, they say, is too profound to ignore. They argue that Black and Latino students often fall through the cracks, especially if they attend affluent schools, or if they attend low-income schools in affluent districts. The state has shied away from such a policy for fear it would

Galt Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano, center, is joined by supporters, including Cosumnes Community Services District board members, members of Sacramento Area Firefighters Local 522, members of Galt and Elk Grove planning commissions and Galt City Council Member Kevin Papineau (third from left).



Lozano to Run for CSD Seat

Continued from page 1
from the Galt community and I've always believed that," Lozano said in an April 8 interview.
Lozano pointed to a broad range of support, including endorsements from Albiani, Cosumnes Community Services District Director Angela Spease and CSD Board President Jim Luttrell, as well as from Galt City Councilmember Kevin Papineau, Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Hume, the three most recently retired Cosumnes fire chiefs and Sacramento Area Firefighters Local 522.
Choosing to run for the Cosumnes Community Services District board "wasn't an easy decision for me because I absolutely love being on the council," Lozano told the Citizen. "I love the city and doing what I can for city services for residents here."
The vice-mayor listed public-safety measures among his accomplishments on City Council, particularly body-worn cameras, a new drone program and license plate

readers for Galt Police Department. He also cited transparency improvements in the city's finances.
Lozano said he conditioned his candidacy on the support of his wife and children and on Albiani's blessing.
"He has fully endorsed my campaign," Lozano said of Albiani.
Through the Cosumnes Fire Department, Cosumnes Community Services District provides fire and ambulance services for Galt, Elk Grove and surrounding areas. In addition, Cosumnes Community Services District operates parks and recreation in Elk Grove.
"My thoughts on the fire service here in Galt: I think they're tremendous," Lozano said. "I think that we couldn't get any better fire service than we get here. Could we tweak a couple things? Maybe."
He said that call volume is "at a good level" at Galt's fire stations and that he wants to maintain that level as residential areas in the city build out.
Additionally, Lozano

said he wanted to look at options for addressing concerns about service west of the Union Pacific railroad tracks in Galt. Some residents have voiced worries that passing trains might delay emergency responses.
Lozano said he would bring knowledge he gained in his time on City Council, especially an understanding of police department operations and of the funding options available for cities, to Cosumnes Community Services District. He also highlighted the importance of gathering constituent feedback.
Lozano spoke about the responses he has received in the days after his announcement.
"The amount of support that I've received in terms of people willing to get behind my campaign has been tremendous," he said.
The formal candidate filing period for the November General Election opens July 15. Prospective candidates will have until Aug. 9 to file with Sacramento County. ★

CSD Fire Opens New Station



Cosumnes Fire Chief Felipe Rodriguez speaks to attendees about the fire department's history. Photos by Matthew Malone

Continued from page 1
people move to a community for two reasons: for the schools and the parks. Well, I'd say they also move because they want to feel safe, where someone will be at their front door within six minutes after pushing three digits on their phone."
Rodriguez also pointed to the strength of the collaboration between Community Services District, the cities of Elk Grove and Galt, and Sacramento County.
The fire chief noted that, while various stations have been upgraded or moved over the years, the most recent station to be added was Fire Station 76 on Sheldon Road in 2001. Station 77 is the first new station since Cosumnes Fire formed in 2006 from the merger of the Elk Grove and Galt fire departments. Rodriguez said the agency anticipates adding more stations as neighborhoods continue to fill in.
The ceremony included a "hose-uncoupling," the fire station equivalent of a ribbon-cutting. Rodriguez said uncoupling a firehose after a call is the first step in preparing it to return to service.

Wilton Rancheria officials performed a blessing of the fire station, whose service area includes the tribe's Sky River Casino.
"Our blessing songs are us asking our creator to come down here and bless this ground and bless these people and allow them to do the job that they have to do for our community," Rancheria Chair Jesus Tarango said.
Jim Luttrell, the Community Services District board president, said the fire station would "serve the emergency



Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Hume speaks at the station opening while Cosumnes Fire Chief Felipe Rodriguez looks on.

needs of the rapidly expanding part of our community."
Luttrell noted that he lives just north of the station.
"The fire station with an engine and ambulance will greatly enhance the response times to our community and the communities near us," Luttrell said.
The station opening was the "big news" in Elk Grove that day, Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen told attendees.
"As the proud mayor of Elk Grove, I'm so appreciative of the partnership that we have with the city, the CSD and our amazing fire department," Singh-Allen said. "Our firefighters, our police department, they are on the front lines, keeping Elk Grove safe, and that partnership has gotten stronger every year."
Singh-Allen cited Elk Grove's Measure E sales tax, which supports Community Services District operations.
"This is all about the public safety, the safety of our community and our residents. Just look all around you outside. This city is growing, and this station will enhance the public safety of all of our residents. so today is a

great day for the city of Elk Grove."
Galt Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano told the Citizen that Fire Station 77 would help relieve pressure in Galt when a call comes in when both of the city's local stations are handling other calls. He commended the station's "state-of-the-art" features.
Paul Mewton, who will soon retire as Cosumnes Community Services District's chief of planning, design and construction, said the station has "the latest in fire station design," including a separated area for cleaning firefighting gear to keep hazardous chemicals out of the station's residential space.
After the ceremony, Rodriguez commented on overseeing the department's opening of the first new fire station in 23 years.
"This is really exciting as the fire chief here to have this accomplishment from our own personnel being able to do this together with our district personnel and our contractors and architects. I'm just really proud as the fire chief to be serving here in a time that we're adding a fire station to a community where it really hasn't been done for over 20 years," Rodriguez said. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01429
Matthew Dean, PO Box 1694, Sutter Creek, CA 95685 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Jumping Frog Games" 10550 Twin Cities Road #30, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 26, 2024
Publish: March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2027
JUMPING 4-5-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-01437
Leonard Perez, 936 Vintage Oak Avenue, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Leonard Heating & Air Conditioning/ Vintage Oak HVAC" 936 Vintage Oak Avenue, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County February 26, 2024
Publish: March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 2024
LEONARD 4-12-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-02308
Mark Lemieux, 936 Hogan Road, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mark Lemieux Trans" 936 Hogan Road, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 25, 2024
Publish: April 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
MARK 4-26-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DAVID ALLEN GARCIA CASE NO. 24PR000132
To all heirs, beneficiaries, credi-

tors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both, of David Allen Garcia.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Karen Hohn, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Karen Hohn be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows May 1, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the

hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
The name, address and telephone number of the Petitioner is: Karen Hohn, 1266 Levee Road, Walnut Grove, CA 95690; 916-398-1402
Publish: March 29, April 5, 12, 2024
GARCIA 4-12-24



According to the National Day Calendar, on April 12, National Only Child Day celebrates the individual child, the sibling-less, the one-and-onlys. You know who you are. There are more of you these days than in decades before.

According to Pew Research, the number of families with only one child has doubled since 1970. In 2014, statistics show that 22% of women ages 40 to 44 had given birth to only one child. Compared to data from the United States Census Bureau, the statistics continue to gradually trend upward.

What these stats don't tell you is that being an only child comes with certain rewards and some pitfalls, too. Many only children tout the benefits of never having to wait their turn to use the bathroom, unless they live in a multi-generational household. Their parents' attention is rarely divided because there aren't multiple siblings demanding their attention, unless of course, the only child was raised

by a single parent working two, maybe three jobs.

An only child tends to feel secure and loved, too. Since finances aren't split between multiple siblings, they often have their choice of extracurricular activities growing up. These activities have the added benefit of social interaction and friendships.

While only children don't have sibling rivalries, they do face decisions regarding aging parents alone; sometimes siblings make these decisions more difficult, and being an independent adviser is freeing for an only child. However, for others, it can be a challenge. Facing the loss of one or both parents, especially if either of them were also only children can make the grieving process as an only child difficult to face, too.

However, as the statistics show, only children are truly not alone. Your numbers are growing! National Only Child

Day not only celebrates their number but their strength, uniqueness and pure independence. Celebrate today by sharing your experiences as an only child. Remind your parents how perfect you are. Connect with other only children. Celebrate the individual qualities of the only child.

National Only Child Day not only celebrates their number but their strength, uniqueness and pure independence.

I grew up feeling like an only child. My sister was 12 years older. My mom quipped that she raised the babysitter, then the baby. I reaped the benefits of being an only child and I didn't have to share anything. Here's to you, only children of the world. Enjoy your day.

We had a wonderful Easter. There was tasty food: ham, macaroni salad, Caesar salad, cheesy potatoes, deviled eggs. And for dessert, we had "This Ain't Your Mama's Banana Pie" (it has a cookie crust with French vanilla pudding and sliced bananas in a casserole

pan). Very yummy and rich — one square was almost too much. I skipped the traditional Easter gift of clothes. Instead, I put money in plastic eggs and Don hid them in crazy places in the yard, and each child got to find one egg. They had to wait until the last egg was found but there was a lot of oohing and aahing when they finally got to open the eggs. I'm thinking they prefer this to my taste in clothes.

There was a little mix-up with the past two articles. Thank you to those who noticed it. It lets me know you are really reading my articles. All fixed now.

Happy anniversary to my daughter, Lisa, and husband Eric. They celebrated their 30th on April 9. Being with the same person day in and day out, through illness and remodeling, cattle branding and camping trips, for 30 years deserves to be celebrated. I hope you had a wonderful day and wish for you 30 more years.

Until next week - Be strong, be courageous, make a memory. ★

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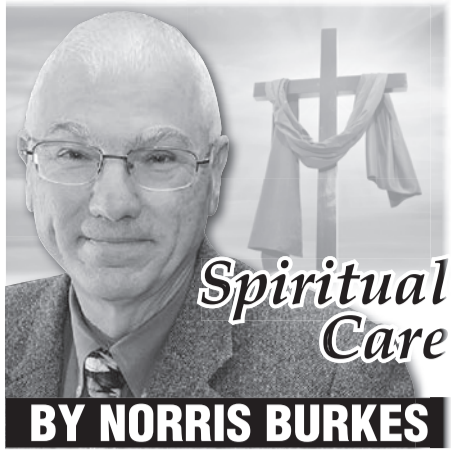
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I'm not sure you played the Powerball this month, but the jackpot skyrocketed past \$1 billion when no one won.

I know the odds are terribly impossible, but maybe Chaplain Norris' winning numbers can help you win that jackpot.

That's right. Today I will reveal my divinely inspired numbers.

Well, the "divine" claim is probably an overreach, but I do know that if you pick numbers above 31, you're likely to be the sole winner. That's because most people choose their birth dates.

So with that in mind, can I get a drum roll?

Chaplain Norris' winning numbers are 35-40-45-50-55-60. Bonus number 65.

Yup, I know choosing numbers in multiples of five may seem wacky, but statistics suggest that the odds never change no matter how many times you play or what numbers you choose. Your winning odds are similar to getting struck by lightning

Don't Gamble with Faith

on your birthday two years in a row.

Truthfully, you really shouldn't take gambling advice from a chaplain. Unless it's "Don't gamble!"

But the whole lotto game provides some analogy for the way folks choose the right kind of faith.

Why is it that we sometimes think faith is all about luck?

We seek out the nearest weeping statue and drive hundreds of miles to light a candle. We say a prayer and hope a god in a good mood hears it.

Sometimes we search for faith like we are playing scratch cards. We scratch at the deep questions of faith, hoping to come up with a win.

Still others rely on some lucky combination that their grandfather passed along to them. "My granddaddy prayed for my grandmother inside that church, and she was healed, so I guess it's a winner."

Yet, still others rely on the big-spin approach and take the one they land on. Others see faith like picking the right card out of a newly shuffled deck.

And some play faith the way they play a bluffing poker hand, refusing to let anyone see the cards of doubt they hold.

The problem with these approaches is they produce a routine of losing, much like those who return each night to the same casino only to lose again.

The faith choice made with these

methods usually ends up discarded, much like a Lotto ticket on a gas-station driveway.

Faith has little to do with winning or losing. Faith is too important to treat with the same glibness we use to choose our winning numbers.

Perhaps it's more about investing in who we are, not about gambling on what we never had.

Maybe faith comes about when we invest in the search. We find it inspired by the conversations, the discussions, the questions, and the debates that we have with others. In fact, I believe God prefers honest "searchers" or "questioners," even when they challenge him directly, even when they are unflattering.

Jesus suggested faith might well be something compared to a mustard seed. A mustard seed is the tiniest of seeds, yet in ratio, it grows into one of the biggest plants. Faith starts from the smallest beginnings in the hearts of people and produces not a personal profit, but a powerful and personal transformation.

Well, all this talk about winning the

lottery made me wonder what might happen if I actually bought a ticket. I mean, if I ever bought just one, what might happen?

I may never know.

But if you do happen to win with my divine numbers, please remember my favorite charity – Chispa Project. I think it's fair to say that any gift can be an investment in faith.

Announcement: Make a sure bet on education. I'm returning to Honduras in June to help Chispa Project create six new libraries, reach 4,000+ more students and 200 teachers. Your donations are needed to buy 9,000

new books.

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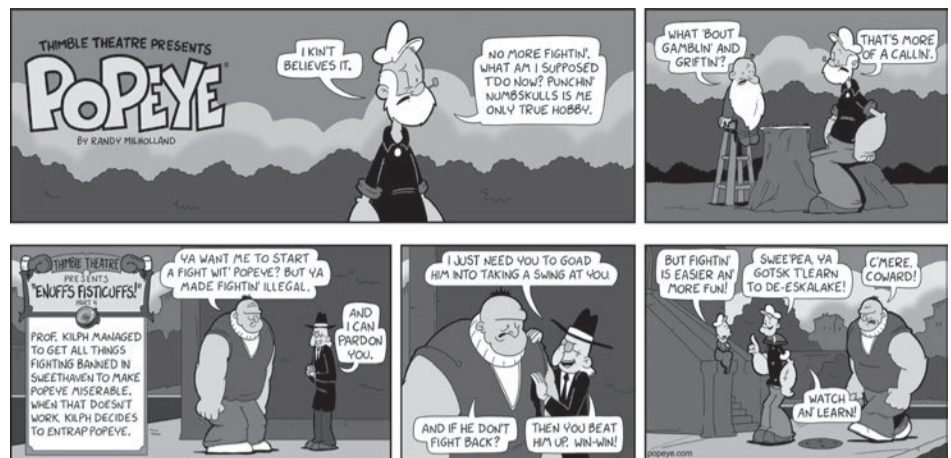
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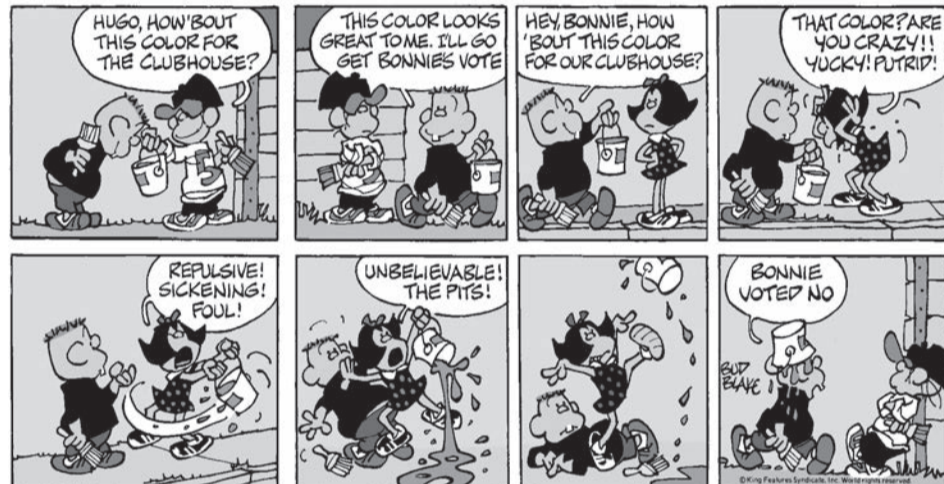
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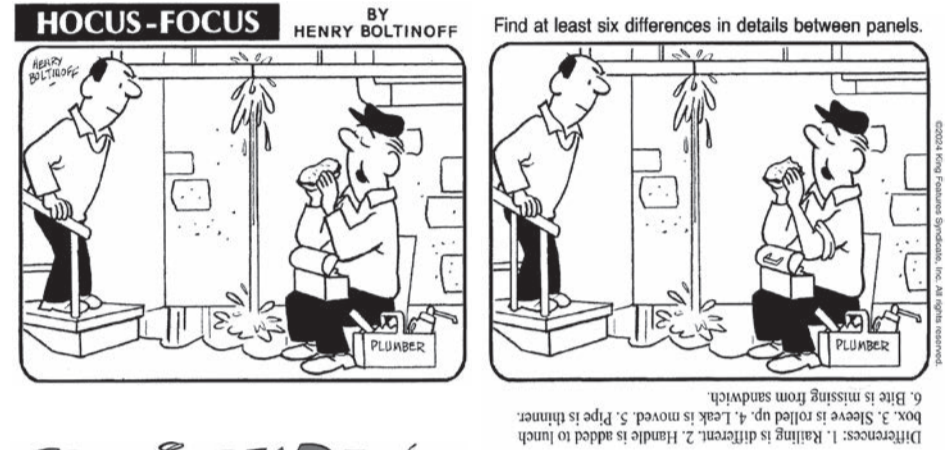


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5. Refrigerator sound
8. Action word
12. Left, in Russia
13. Departed
14. Locomotive hair
15. As opposed to St. in a city, pl.
16. French cordial flavoring
17. Type of lily, pl.
18. *Voyageurs National Park location
20. Like Andersen's duckling
21. Poacher's ware
22. Unit of pressure
23. *Volcanoes National Park location
26. Dionysus' female followers
30. U.N. labor agency
31. Camels' relatives
34. Pelvic bones
35. Smears
37. "_____ of the land"
38. Gertrude Stein's reception room
39. Sicilian rumbler
40. Strong influence
42. To sum
43. Blushes
45. *Utah national park
47. What blanket and landing have in common
48. State before birth
50. Eastern European
52. *Yosemite's famous monolith (2 words)
56. Cockamamie
57. Effect of pain?
58. First weekly news magazine in U.S.
59. South African currency, pl.
60. Tolstoy's Karenina
61. The 15th of March
62. King Kong and Koko, e.g.
63. Hot one in a bun
64. Copper coin

- Down
1. Type of shot
2. Strauss of jeans fame
3. Often found under a range
4. Herzegovina's partner
5. Kind of roll, in school
6. Togetherness
7. * _____ Verde National Park
8. *Shenandoah National Park location
9. Twelfth month of Jewish civil year
10. Frost-covered
11. Like certain relief
13. _____ is a byproduct of _____ (2 3-letter words)
14. "_____ for alarm"
19. See nor hear this? pl.
22. Faux
23. Opposite of seeker
24. Winged
25. One of Florence Nightingale's concerns
26. American Indians of Yucatan
27. Islam's Supreme Being
28. D in LED
29. *White _____ National Park in New Mexico
32. Financial help
33. *Need one to navigate

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- a National Park?
36. *The Lakota called it "Mako Sica"
38. Razor sharpener
40. *Old Faithful _____, lodging spot in Yellowstone
41. Poolside hut
44. Roof overhang
46. Rotten Tomatoes contributor
48. Latin American plain
49. Getting an A
50. Finger-produced sound
51. Muffin Man's Drury

52. "Goodness gracious!"
53. Ocean motion
54. Word of agreement
55. *Bald Eagle's home in Acadia or Olympic National Parks
56. One of the Gershwins

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LOCAL SPORTS
→ COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD



Nayeli Escalera returns the ball while her partner Johnathan Gorbet stands ready. Photos by Paige Lampson



Summer McCoy returns a serve.

Bradshaw No Match for Hawk Tennis

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch co-ed tennis team hosted Bradshaw Christian on Monday afternoon. The matches went well into the evening and

in an upset, the Hawks beat the number one ranked team 5-4. Head coach Hunter Franklin praised the way his Hawks played. “I am really proud of how the team played today,” said Franklin.

“They showed up ready to compete and won the points that mattered. The fact that we were able to compete and win against a team as talented as Bradshaw without our No. 1 girl player really shows the depth and flexibility

that we have in the ladder, and I couldn’t ask for a better start to the second half of the season.” Both James Briggs and Alfredo Ramos lost their singles matches to Bradshaw. Fatima Lopez beat her opponent 6-1, 6-3.

Summer McCoy played a close match but lost in a tie-breaker 7-5, 3-6, 7-10. Liberty Doubles Joseph St Claire and Kymani Fenika lost their match to Bradshaw, but the Lions were forced to forfeit the second boys' doubles. The Liberty Doubles girls brought the wins when Payton Best and Edén Lethbridge won 6-0, 6-1. Bradshaw forfeited the second girls' doubles. With the score tied, it came down to Johnathan Gorbet and Nayeli Escalera in the mixed doubles. Bradshaw fought hard and the game went into a tie-breaker where Liberty Ranch came out victorious, 6-3, 4-6, 10-4. ★



The Galt High School champs: Back, from left: Amanda Griffin, Assistant Coach Madilynn Tyler, Rosie Delchini, Tatiana Arriaga, Head Coach Joy Maestretti. Front, from left: Lolani Aguilar, Elizabeth Tenderman, Natalie Smith (Captain) Maryann Orozco, Miqi Schumacher, Guadalupe Ramos Gonzalez (Not Pictured). Courtesy photo



McCaffrey Middle School champs: Back, from left: Isabel Garcia, Malia Tenderman, Julie St Clair. Middle, from left: Head Coach Joy Maestretti, Sydney Birchell, Prudence Hurley, Trinity Holden, Evelyn Parish and Adele Samuds. Front, from left: Gaothlee Her, Emma McLain, Angela Romero (Captain) Danielle Aragon, Analijah Ware, and Hailey Main. Courtesy photo

Color Guard Champions

Provided by Joy Maestretti

GALT, CA (MPG) -Each year, a small group of students begin a physically rigorous activity called Color Guard. Many students who begin in middle school continue through their high school years and some continue into college. Color Guard is the flag and rifle teams consisting of athletes from the middle school level to the high school level. This season the McCaffrey Middle School and the Galt High/Liberty Ranch High School teams, both coached by Joy Maestretti, qualified to attend championships early in their competition season, which began in February. Each team attended seven different competitions, traveling as far away as San Mateo and as close as Elk Grove. On Sunday, April 7, both teams competed at the Championships at Rodriguez High School in Fairfield. The McCaffrey team came in first and became champions of the 2024 Scholastic Middle School Championships. The Galt/Liberty Ranch team placed fifth out of 12 teams, which is also a commendable feat. As the season is ending, both teams are

looking forward to next year’s competition season which will start this month, with conditioning and welcoming new members. If you want your student to join these award-winning teams, conditioning practices start on April 23 at Galt High School in the Nottoli Dome, beginning at 4 p.m. Congratulations to both teams for a fantastic year. ★



McCaffrey Middle School, left and below.



Galt High School, left and right.



LOCAL SPORTS
→ COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD



The Warrior STUNT seniors are honored at their last home game. Photos by John Van Den Raadt



Galt posts three flyers in full extensions alongside Bradshaw Christian.



The Warriors have one leg raised in a hitch, preparing to step up to a full extension.

Warrior STUNT Completes Season

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The The Warrior STUNT team celebrated their senior night at the only home game of their season on April 3.

STUNT is not traditional cheerleading. STUNT removes the crowd-leading element and focuses on the technical and athletic components of cheer, including partner stunts, pyramids, basket tosses, group jumps and tumbling. These elements are put together in short routines that both teams must perform head-to-head on the floor at the same time. The team that executes the skills best

wins the round and the point. With four quarters of play, they include partner stunts, pyramids and tosses, jumps and tumbling, and team routine.

The Warriors played games on five dates for their season and played a total of eight games completing their season on April 10. The CIF allows a maximum of 23 games played during the season, counting tournaments and non-league games.

The Sac Joaquin STUNT league consists of the Warriors, Liberty Ranch, Bradshaw Christian, El Dorado and Union Mine. They played each team twice. ★



The Warriors, on left, compete against Bradshaw with three basket tosses.



Freshman Hunter Rohner tees off for Liberty Ranch. Photo by Paige Lampson

Rohner Helps Liberty Ranch Take Tournament Win

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch boys golf team competed in the League Tournament on Monday and came out in second place.

Six members of the

12-player team competed, with freshman Hunter Rohner taking first place overall. Quite a feat for a freshman.

With a team total of 481, Rohner shot a 78, Trevor Schweitz-95, Sean O'Brien-97, Kobe Aguillen-100, Jack

Radford-111 and Chris Gutierrez-116.

Head Coach Mike Turpin is looking ahead.

"Hunter Rohner took first place overall and played really well," said Turpin. "I was also really impressed with the play of Trevor

Schweitz, who had a good day overall. The team did enough to secure a solid second-place finish. We have a big match coming up on Wednesday vs. Rosemont. If the boys continue to play this well, we should have a good match." ★

The A's are Coming to Town



The City of West Sacramento and River City Regional Stadium Financing Authority are thrilled that Sutter Health Park will now be home to the Oakland Athletics. Photo courtesy of West Sacramento



Here is the Sutter Health Park entrance, which will welcome thousands of Oakland A's fans now that the Major League Baseball team will call West Sacramento home temporarily. Photo courtesy of West Sacramento

By Angela Underwood

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Oakland Athletics have changed their dug-out location and it's at 400 Ballpark Drive, West Sacramento.

Known as the A's, the Major League Baseball team will call Sutter Health Park home for the next three seasons in West Sacramento before moving into a new stadium on the Las Vegas Strip in 2028. The A's are moving, following failed negotiations with the City of Oakland about a new lease for the coliseum there.

"The A's look forward to making Sutter Health Park their home for the next three years through the move to Las Vegas," an Oakland Athletics spokesperson told the West Sacramento News Ledger on April 5.

The home of the West Sacramento River Cats will become the interim venue for the A's, beginning with the 2025 Major

League Baseball season. Mayor and Chair of the Financing Authority Martha Guerrero shared her excitement over the partnership.

"We're delighted to welcome the Oakland A's and Major League Baseball to West Sacramento," said Mayor Guerrero. "This is a great honor, and we're looking forward to hosting visiting MLB teams and fans from throughout the region at our beautiful ballpark along the Sacramento River."

As a former affiliate of the A's, "there are many shared connections with the River Cats, its players and the wonderful fan base in West Sacramento," according to the Oakland Athletics spokesperson, who added, "The A's extend their appreciation to the Kings and the City of West Sacramento for hosting the A's."

West Sacramento City Manager Aaron Laurel said West Sacramento is ready

for the professional baseball team, noting that Sutter Health Park's location offers stunning views of Tower Bridge and downtown Sacramento.

"As the City of West Sacramento prepares to welcome the A's, excitement is building among residents and businesses alike," Laurel said.

According to Laurel, the beer garden Drake's BARN and the French-inspired wine bar Franquette across the street from the stadium are two businesses that will benefit from the A's new location.

"There are also several other restaurants along West Sacramento's Third Street corridor within walking distance of the ballpark," Laurel said. "Together, with our neighbors across the river in Sacramento, there will be no shortage of amenities available to A's fans and those from visiting teams."

Yolo County Supervisor Oscar Villegas,

who governs the Sutter Health Park region and serves with Mayor Guerrero on the Financing Authority board, said he is proud to support the temporary relocation of "this fantastic franchise" to West Sacramento.

"Hosting the Athletics in Yolo County represents a significant opportunity for economic growth and community enrichment," Villegas said. "I am confident that this will foster a profound sense of community among our residents."

Residents now have two mascots to be proud of, with A's mascot, Stomper, joining Dinger and Sacramento River Cat's mascot. The A's have captured nine World Series titles, including four since moving to Oakland in 1968.

"We're prepared to accommodate the A's and the River Cats to ensure a seamless transition for both teams and their fans," Laurel said. ★