



**Something Sweet  
is June Business  
of the Month**

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**Reminder:  
Father's Day  
is Sunday**



# The Galt Herald

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JUNE 14, 2024

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THE RED, WHITE  
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FINDS CHURCH OF THE  
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## Liberty Ranch Sends Off Class of '24



Caps fly as graduation concludes for the Liberty Ranch High School Class of 2024 on June 3. Photo by Paige Lampson

**By Matthew Malone  
News Editor**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - Liberty Ranch High School's Class of 2024 made the leap into the rest of their lives at their commencement ceremony on June 3, while acknowledging those who helped them succeed.

Associated Student Body (ASB) officers Ethan

Woods, Cole Brodehl, Payton Best, Savannah Westlynn and Gianna Graham welcomed their classmates, teachers and family.

"Every single one of us should be proud of what we have done for Liberty Ranch," Woods said.

"Since we had to start our freshman year on Zoom, we had to set the standard

of what high school is supposed to look like for both ourselves and the underclassmen. We had to reestablish a culture that was lost during the pandemic and I'd say we've done a pretty dang good job doing that."

Woods encouraged his classmates to "not look for the easy way out" of problems but trust that "good

things come through hard work, determination and a never-quit attitude."

Best thanked teachers "for building the foundation for us to be successful in life." She highlighted special education teacher Malissa Stotts and English teacher Janine Raybe, who are retiring this year.

The Liberty Ranch  
*Continued on Page 15*



## Council Asks to Clarify Sales Tax Revenue

**By Matthew Malone  
News Editor**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - During a first look at the proposed city budget, Galt City Council requested greater detail on the allocation of Measure Q sales tax funds.

The presentation at the June 4 regular meeting was intended to get feedback from City Council and the proposal will return for final consideration at the June 18 meeting.

Finance director Matthew Boring said that the budget proposal includes a regular General Fund contribution to the Parks and Recreation Fund, which City Council requested at its May 21 meeting.

The policy sets aside 6% of General Fund spending, based on the previous fiscal year's expenditures less one-time expenses and especially volatile costs.

Boring said this leads to a contribution of about \$928,000, based on adjusted spending of \$15.5 million.

Staff had identified possible parks and rec needs above the proposed contribution, Boring added, so staff recommended allocating an additional \$613,000 in fiscal year 2024-25 and an additional \$648,000 in 2025-26.

Regarding the Measure Q sales tax, which has been assigned its own fund separate from the General Fund, Boring projected increased revenue. The tax brought in \$4.58 million in the current fiscal year. For the fund intended to supplement parks and rec spending, the proposed budget predicted revenue of \$4.62 million in 2024-25 and \$4.74 million in 2025-26.

About 64% of the Measure Q income in the current fiscal year has been spent, creating a balance of close to \$2.8 million. The budget proposed spending 100% of the revenue projected in the next two fiscal years.

The Measure R fund supporting law enforcement is also expected to see some income growth but, Boring said, the city plans to spend more to lower the fund's balance. If the city reaches its target balance in 2025-26, Boring said, it will switch to "a more balanced approach."

*Continued on Page 2*

## Galt High Grads Cap Four Years



Caps and confetti fly as Galt High School seniors graduate on June 5. Photo by Paige Lampson

**By Matthew Malone  
News Editor**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - The Galt High School Class of 2024 celebrated four years of hard work on June 5 during the school's graduation ceremony.

Opening the celebration at Erv Hatzenbuhler Field, Galt High Principal Kellie Beck noted that this is the last cohort of students whose high school education was disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic; their

freshman year in 2020 began with a semester of remote learning.

"And so there are so many lessons and so many challenging and unpredictable times," Beck said. "It's most important to not take things for granted in the time that you have. Time is a gift and it has been a gift to give you my time, all of these wonderful kids before me. I really look forward to seeing what the future holds for all of you."

Seniors Josh Cullers and Camilla

Gonzalez Castro welcomed the families of graduates in English and Spanish, respectively.

Cullers said family members had as much reason to celebrate as the students.

"The time has come for us to start our crazy race called life but it's all of you who have gotten us to the starting line, fitted with the shoes of your teaching, to run out and achieve greatness," Cullers said.

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# Rancheria to Expand Casino



Wilton Rancheria Chair Jesus Tarango holds an eagle during an event announcing the expansion of the tribe's Sky River Casino. Photo by Matthew Malone



A rendering shows Phase 1 of the planned expansion at Sky River Casino. The 1,600-space parking garage is visible in this view from Highway 99. Images courtesy of Sky River Casino



A rendering shows the lobby of the 300-room hotel planned for the second phase of the Sky River Casino expansion.



A rendering shows a view from the north of the planned Sky River Casino hotel.

By Matthew Malone  
News Editor

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - Wilton Rancheria announced on June 7 that it is expanding its Sky River Casino, with planned additions over the next three years including a hotel, an expanded gaming floor, and a pool and spa.

The expansion is divided into two phases. Phase 1 will bring a multi-story, 1,600-space parking garage to the south Elk Grove site, along with a revamped valet service area and entryway. Phase 2 will include a 300-room hotel, 400 additional slot machines, an outdoor pool and a day spa, as well as event space and an additional high-limit and VIP gaming area.

The first phase is planned to complete construction by summer 2025 and the second phase by early 2027.

The rancheria and the casino operator, Boyd Gaming, made the announcement at an event that recalled efforts to gain federal recognition and framed Sky River within the tribe's work to maintain its culture. The announcement took place



Sky River Casino President Michael Facenda describes the casino's expansion plans.



Wayne Nelson, far left, and the Intertribal Bird Singers perform during the Sky River Casino event.

less than a week before the 15th anniversary of Wilton Rancheria's restoration of federal recognition on June 13, 2009.

During the event, tribal officials placed rancheria flags in planters of earth, which Tribal Chair Jesus Tarango said "signifies our presence, our commitment and resiliency to ourselves and our community."

"This expansion is not just about growing our facilities; it's about expanding our horizons. We are laying the foundation for a future filled with new possibilities for Wilton Rancheria and the entire region," Tarango said.

He later added, "Today represents our commitment

to reestablishing our cultural heritage and leaving a legacy of opportunity and prosperity for future generations."

In a speech, Sky River President Michael Facenda said the new slot machines would give Sky River a total of 1,500 slots. He said the hotel, planned for the north side of the existing building, would feature a restaurant, retail and a lobby bar. He said construction would not disrupt the experience of guests inside the casino building.

Sacramento County Sheriff Jim Cooper praised the rancheria's dedication to helping tribe members,

and Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Hume highlighted the "magnanimity" of the tribe as it sought recognition.

Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen acknowledged the importance of federal recognition for Wilton Rancheria's sovereignty.

"My friends, you have always been sovereign; this is your land. You need no special piece of paper to recognize your self-worth," Singh-Allen said.

She cited the land acknowledgment adopted last year by the city of Elk Grove, which recognizes the Plains Miwok, and Wilton Rancheria

specifically, as "sovereign caretakers of this land and these waterways since time immemorial."

As the event drew to a close, Tarango came onstage with an eagle perched on his arm, a reference to the eagle on the rancheria's seal.

"The eagle takes everything that we do down here and takes it directly up to the creator," tribal Vice-Chair Raquel Williams said, asking the audience to give the eagle messages to carry. "So with the eagle, it signifies strength. With the eagle, it signifies beauty. And for the eagle here at Wilton Rancheria, it signifies our resilience and our resistance."

Speaking to the Herald after the event, Tarango said he felt a mixture of sadness and happiness:

"the sadness obviously because you're celebrating without people that are no longer with you. The happiness comes from those that are coming to us and we just don't know but we're doing something good for them."

Tarango said Sky River is the tribe's "economic driver" that will allow the tribe to educate members about their culture.

Asked what message he would have the eagle carry, Tarango emphasized that the tribe is listening to its forebears.

"I would want the eagle to carry to our ancestors, letting them know that we remember where we come from. We hear you. We see you. We'll never forget you," Tarango said. "Because we need them." ★

# Council Asks to Clarify Sales Tax Revenue

Continued from page 1

Boring said that some deficit spending is planned in 2025-56, with spending exceeding revenue by \$112,000 or about 0.5%. He said that this was due to one-time expenses from the city's recently approved partnership with Galt District Chamber of Commerce.

"All of our recurring expenditures in General Fund are met with our recurring revenue, so we're not building in a structural deficit," Boring said.

The city is expected to see overall revenue of \$87.2 million and total spending of \$81.7 million in fiscal year 2024-25. In 2025-26, projected income is \$85.1 million while expenditures are \$91 million, a deficit that Boring attributed to capital projects.

Vice-Mayor Rich Lozano questioned why the extra contributions to the Parks

and Recreation Fund would be necessary, and why all of the Measure Q revenue had been allocated.

Boring said the additional contributions wouldn't always be needed, adding that the Parks and Recreation Department has one-time expenses associated with the expansion to restore past service levels. Interim City Manager Chris Erias said he understood the 6% contribution to Parks and Rec to be a "minimum" that can be raised as needed.

Councilmembers Shawn Farmer and Kevin Papineau agreed with Lozano's concerns and asked for more information on the Measure Q spending, which they said was higher than they expected. Boring said staff would create a more detailed breakdown of the spending.

The budget proposal included \$1,000 in discretionary funds for each

councilmember. The money, which councilmembers had in the past donated to various nonprofit causes, was dropped several years ago in budget cuts. Lozano asked to have it removed, saying the funds are "inappropriate."

"I understand the intent of it and it's a very good intention. I just would not like to have it," Lozano said.

Farmer said the \$5,000 total is "peanuts" compared to the overall budget and supported discretionary funds as long as spending is "within our means."

Parks and Rec recommended creating an assistant special events manager position, which would concentrate on special events. Parks and Recreation director Armando Solis said this would allow Special Events manager Jackie Garcia to focus on boosting business at the Galt Market.

"Jackie's done an incredible job with our events throughout the city, including Saturday Market and Concerts in the Park, but those take a lot of time and the time it's taking away is from the Galt Market," Solis said. "There's been a couple comments made wanting to focus on the revenue at the market."

Maria Robles, Sacramento Mosquito and Vector Control District's public information officer, raised awareness about limiting sources of standing water, saying that the district last year had many times more West Nile virus cases in humans than in previous years. Robles said that the high numbers were driven partly by the wet winter. She said the district offers free mosquito repellent wipes and makes presentations for local organizations. For more information about the district and its services, visit [fightthebite.net](http://fightthebite.net). ★

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# Something Sweet Is June Business of Month

By Matthew Malone  
News Editor

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - Something Sweet Bakery in Old Town Galt was named on June 6 as Galt District Chamber of Commerce's honorary business for the month of June.

Owner Desta Stenson said she started her bakery 14 years ago, offering cakes, cupcakes and other sweets, to accommodate growing demand for her cake-decorating skills.

Presenting a certificate to the business, the chamber's community relations director Kat Seabolt thanked Stenson for more than a decade of chamber membership. Chamber members toured the storefront and bakery on C Street and bought some cupcakes for later.

Sitting down with the Herald in Something Sweet's work area, Stenson said the bakery was prepping for six weddings that weekend. The scent of baking brownies filled the air.

"While I am going to start decorating wedding cakes here, my pastry chef is starting to make brownies and French macarons, and she already made lemon cheesecakes this morning," Stenson said.

Stenson voiced appreciation for the recognition from the chamber, saying that she enjoys Galt's "small town feel," which



Something Sweet Bakery owner Desta Stenson packages a dozen cupcakes for sale.

reminded her and her husband of their childhoods in Lodi and Elk Grove. The couple bought a house in Galt when their daughter was young.

"We wanted to move to a small town and raise her in the same kind of environment we grew up in," Stenson said, adding that atmosphere was why she chose to locate in Old Town.

Something Sweet specializes in custom cake design, Stenson said, and sells 16 flavors of gourmet cupcakes each day, half of them permanent offerings and the other half seasonal. Other confections include cannoli and eclairs. Stenson emphasized that she is "picky" about the ingredients she uses, including local eggs and fresh produce.

"It's hard to find truly home-baked



Something Sweet Bakery owner Desta Stenson, second from left, poses in front of her business with Galt District Chamber of Commerce members. Something Sweet is the chamber's honorary business of the month. Photos by Matthew Malone

goods or goods that feel like your grandma made them," Stenson said. "Everything anymore is so overly processed and you just can't get that anywhere. Our ingredients don't come out of a bucket; they come off a tree."

Stenson's baking career started as a hobby, when she made and decorated her brother's wedding cake according to a recipe from their grandmother.

"I did that cake and so many people at that event liked it — it actually turned out pretty well — and next thing I know, friends of friends, then complete strangers, are asking me to do things," Stenson said.

The interest grew to the point that Stenson needed a storefront, which she

opened in 2010. Stenson retired in 2018 from her healthcare career at Kaiser Permanente in order to concentrate on the bakery.

"It is something that I love," Stenson said. "At Kaiser, I saw a lot of people when they were very sick and kind of on the worst day of their lives, and in this industry, I see people on their wedding day or their birthday. It's usually a celebration, and for me, it's amazing."

Something Sweet Bakery, at 440 C St., is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays to Fridays and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays.

For more information, visit something-sweetgalt.com. ★

# Unsheltered Homelessness Decreases 41% in County, According to Point-In-Time Count

Sacramento City Express  
News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - The number of people living outdoors in the City and County of Sacramento plunged 41% between 2022 and 2024 — one of the largest decreases in homelessness statewide.

The biennial Point-in-Time Count released June 5 by the nonprofit Sacramento Steps Forward found that overall homelessness, including those living in emergency shelters, fell by 29% compared to the count two years ago.

Sacramento Steps Forward coordinates community-level efforts to end homelessness. Every two years, it recruits hundreds of volunteers to go out and count people who are unhoused throughout Sacramento County. This year's count, on Jan. 24 and 25, found 3,944 people living unsheltered, down from 6,664 people identified in the 2022 count.

The total number of unhoused people counted, including those in shelter and temporary housing, dropped by 29% from 9,278 to 6,615.

"These results are truly outstanding and, undeniably, reflect Sacramento City and County's 'all in' approach to addressing



this crisis," said Lisa Bates, CEO of Sacramento Steps Forward.

Leaders from Sacramento City and County said the decrease in unsheltered homelessness reflected the tens of millions of dollars invested by both local governments in standing up new emergency shelter beds and permanent supportive housing units, and an increasingly coordinated response to sharing resources and responsibilities.

"There are still too many people who are homeless for us to declare victory, but maybe homelessness is not so intractable after all," said Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg. "The 41% reduction in unsheltered homelessness is dramatic and affirms that the steady course we set seven years

ago to address this state and national crisis is working."

District 2 County Supervisor Patrick Kennedy also cited the work the county has been doing, including opening two Safe Stay sleeping cabin communities in his district.

A Safe Stay community now under construction on Stockton Boulevard in the city of Sacramento will include tiny homes provided to the city by the State of California. It will be run by the County through its partnership agreement with the city.

"It is encouraging to see positive results from the hard work we've been doing for years," Kennedy said. "The County has invested significant resources into new programs, services and shelter beds. I am proud to have many of these shelter beds in my district and more coming this year. Together, we're making a difference!"

Sacramento Steps Forward CEO Bates noted several significant factors that have helped ease the crisis of unsheltered homelessness in Sacramento, including:

Direct assistance from the state to cities, counties and Continuums of Care through the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant (HHAP) program.

The city, county and Sacramento Steps Forward have received \$120 million in HHAP funding since 2019. HHAP currently pays for 97% of the city's emergency shelter beds.

The partnership agreement signed by the County and City in 2022 increased street outreach to homeless encampments with teams that include county behavioral health workers.

A sizable increase in emergency shelter and homeless housing capacity. The number of shelter and transitional housing beds in the city and county has increased by 84 percent from 2020 — to a total of 3,527 beds. The number of permanent supportive housing units has risen 30 percent, an increase of 1,001 units.

An easing of rents and the availability of apartments. Bates noted that the average apartment vacancy rate rose by 58% since 2022, with rents dipping by 3%.

The new Coordinated Access System funded by the City and County and run by Sacramento Steps Forward provides a centralized access point for shelter, housing and homelessness prevention services.

To read the full 2024 Point-In-Time Count report and view infographics, go to [www.sacstepsforward.org](http://www.sacstepsforward.org). ★

# Retire Flags With Dignity at SAFE Credit Union

SAFE Credit Union  
News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - To celebrate Flag Day, SAFE Credit Union will provide flag retirement bins at all its branches in the Sacramento area and its headquarters in Folsom now through Saturday, June 29 for people to bring weathered and damaged flags. At the end of the month, the bins will be collected and the flags properly retired.

"Our branches are honored to be able to provide this service," says Janine Southwick, SAFE Credit Union's vice president Retail Branches. "It's another way we can connect with our members and a unique way to show we honor the national symbol."

SAFE's heritage stretches back to 1940 when it started as a credit union serving Army Air Corps personnel at what would later become McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento. Today, SAFE has many employees and members who are active National Guard and reservists, veterans, and

families and loved ones of active and retired military.

The flag retirement initiative is being led by a new employee resource group at SAFE focused on employees with military connections called Veterans and Loved Ones Resource (VALOR).

"Flag Day is an opportunity to reflect on the significance of the American flag and what it represents: unity, freedom, and the enduring spirit of our nation," says Loan Servicing Manager Yvette Tibbs, who leads VALOR. "The flag is a powerful symbol of our shared values and the sacrifices made to uphold them."

People are encouraged to bring flags ready for retirement to SAFE branches this month or they can find other flag retirement services with Scouting and veterans' groups. For more information regarding proper American flag etiquette, visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) website.

**Participating Area Branches:**

- Antelope Branch, 7887 Walerga Road
- Citrus Heights Branch,



Tyler Batista, Relationship Officer at the SAFE North Natomas branch, poses next to the in-branch bin for retired flags. Photo courtesy of SAFE Credit Union

- 7475 Madison Ave.
- East Elk Grove Branch, 9312 Elk Grove Blvd.
- East Sacramento Branch, 6341 Folsom Blvd.
- El Camino Branch, 3560 El Camino Ave.
- Folsom Branch, 2740 Bidwell St.
- Hazel Branch, 5261 Hazel Ave.
- K Street Branch, 2901 K St. in Sacramento
- Laguna Branch, 9162 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove
- Land Park Branch, 4700 Freeport Blvd.
- North Natomas

- Branch, 2761 Del Paso Road
- Rancho Cordova Branch, 12519 Folsom Blvd.
- Sunrise Branch, 7601 Sunrise Blvd.
- Watt Branch, 4636 Watt Ave. in North Highlands
- West Sacramento Branch, 2105 Town Center Plaza

For more about the flag retirement bins, contact Senior Communications and Design Specialist Susan Burns at [Susan.Burns@safecu.org](mailto:Susan.Burns@safecu.org) or (916) 212-0485. ★

# Birds, Mosquito Test Positive for West Nile

Sacramento Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - On June 10, the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District confirmed that the first mosquito sample of the season has tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV).

The mosquito sample was collected from the city of Sacramento, in the area of south Land Park in close proximity to the first positive bird reported last week.

"As we expected, the very warm weather we've had recently increased the number of mosquitoes and accelerated virus activity," said Gary Goodman, district manager. "It's important for residents to take these findings seriously and do everything they can to protect themselves," added Goodman.

As part of the laboratory results received June 10, two dead birds also tested positive for the disease.

Other counties throughout the state have also started to report West Nile virus activity.

Last year in California, there were 433 confirmed human cases of the disease, including 19 fatalities. ★

The detection of this recent WNV activity is evidence that the disease is present, and the public should take proper precautions to stay protected.

"Summer is around the corner and as more people enjoy outdoor activities, it's important to remember that the best protection against mosquito bites is an effective insect repellent," said Goodman. Residents are also encouraged to report dead birds, neglected pools and other mosquito problems.

As a response to the finding of WNV, the district will increase its mosquito trapping and monitoring in the area to find sources where mosquitoes may be breeding. Targeted ground spraying may also be conducted to rapidly decrease the numbers of adult mosquitoes.

For current information about district activities, please visit [www.FIGHTtheBITE.net](http://www.FIGHTtheBITE.net).

## 2024 West Nile Virus Activity Update:

Sacramento County: 3 dead birds and 1 mosquito sample have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Yolo County: No activity has been registered so far. ★



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**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 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 meets one-on-one with Galt residents on the first and second Thursday of each month to discuss issues important to them at Galt City Hall, 380 Civic Drive. Schedule the 30-minute meetings by contacting the City Clerk's office at 209-366-7130, ext. 7, or clerk@cityofgalt.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 want 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, contact 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 and are held from 6:30 p.m. 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.

**Nominate Your Neighbor**

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

**AA 24-Hour Hotline**

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

**Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings**

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon)

family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug addiction are held locally from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St.

**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 age 60 and older. Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served or they can call 916-444-9533.

**Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla**

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

**Free Compost for Galt Residents**

The city of Galt offers free compost to Galt residents for residential use only from Thursdays through Mondays. It is located 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/43lySAI](http://bit.ly/43lySAI) (case sensitive).

**Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center**

The Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media and by email at the Galt Senior Resource Center. 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, nonpolitical 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](mailto:egdarregistrar@gmail.com). ★

ABOUT TOWN

**Historical Tours Offered Monthly**

The Galt Area Historical Society will offer tours at McFarland Living History Ranch (8898 Orr Road) and the Rae House Museum (204 Oak Ave.), 1-4 p.m., on the following

Sundays: 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.

**Independence Day Fest July 4**

The city of Galt's

annual Independence Day Celebration will take place on July 4, with events throughout the day.

Activities include the Officer Kevin Tonn Memorial 5K, the Independence Day Parade, entertainment at Veterans Soccer Field, and evening

fireworks.

To learn more, visit [www.cityofgalt.org/idc](http://www.cityofgalt.org/idc).

**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 June general meeting [June 27th] has been canceled due to leadership

attending the State Convention.

The rescheduled meeting for June 20th is also canceled. Our July meeting is scheduled for July 25th.

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

MEMORIAL

HARRIET E HESS • 6/29/1932 – 5/25/2024

Harriet E Hess (91) took her last breath quietly in her sleep surrounded by family on May 25th 2024.

Harriet was born in Pennsylvania to Walter Rautter and Anna Sherlock-Rautter on June 29, 1932. She had a big sister, Dolores Solomon, who predeceased her. Harriet met (by chance) her very first boyfriend and a Navy sailor who she married, Ralph J Hess, in 1952. Harriet and Ralph were happily married 50+ years before his passing in 2003.

Harriet graduated from Haverford High School, in Havertown PA, Class of 1950. Soon after graduation she headed west to Northern CA with her husband and started a family. A son first, then two daughters. Harriet is survived by her children, Larry Hess, Debra Krieger, Darlene Calhoun and her husband Bennie. Also Survived by her are 4 grandchildren (Angie, Tony, JD,

Jennifer) and 5 great grandchildren. Harriet's family included 12 nieces and nephews and family throughout AZ, CA, OR, OK and PA.

Harriet retired from the State of California as a shorthand skilled Executive Secretary in 1989. Harriet's passion is she loved animals. She loved cats but especially dogs. Having that big heart, she adopted stray cats, fed them

and took care of their medical needs.

Harriet had other passions including, reading, baseball, football, poker and Bingo! She loved to play cards and her favorite was Texas Holdem' Poker. Harriet became quite adept at bluffing!

Harriet was a shy and tiny 4'11" young girl and became a woman unto her own. Shy, yet friendly. Frugal, yet generous. All of her family and friends will miss her dearly. She is now reunited with Ralph and the family that has gone before her.

In lieu of flowers, Harriet would be pleased if you donated in her name to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. <https://www.sspca.org/>

Harriet will be laid to rest with Ralph at a Graveside service at 12:00 pm, June 18, 2024 at the Hicksville Cemetery, 10035 Arno Rd, Galt CA 95632. Following the service there will a gathering at the "Hess Ranch".

MEMORIAL

MARK EARL MCCUNE • 2/5/1954 – 4/15/2024

On April 15, after a long illness, Mark went home to be with his Lord Jesus Christ. He loved Jesus and loved to tell others about Him. He also loved to organize a Bible study wherever he was.

In his free time, he loved to tinker with his collection of model trains. He was a big Giants and 49ers fan.

Mark was born on February 5, 1954 in Sacramento. After living in Sacramento and Quincy the first five years of his life, the family moved to the Galt and Herald areas in 1960.

He attended first Galt Elementary, then Arcohe Elementary, and Galt High School. He played football and baseball earning All-League honors in football his senior year.

After graduation, he began his career in driving trucks. First, he drove for his dad at Guthmiller Trucking and then eventually out of state with companies such as International Transport and Pirkle and last with Cardinal Glass in Galt. He owned several trucks in his career and loved to drive them.

He is survived by his mother Grace, brothers Mike, Pat, and Gary and sisters-in-law Anne (Dunn) McCune, Robin (Reed) McCune, and Jennifer (McCoy) McCune. Nieces and nephews Rosie, Michael, Joshua, Matthew, Zach, Kristina and two great nieces and eight great nephews.

A celebration of life will be held on June 28 at 11:00 at the Herald Baptist Church.

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2024-45

### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25, AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE WESTSIDE GALT LIGHTING, LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT 1990-02

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Galt, California, on the 7th day of August 1990, adopted a resolution stating the intent to form and ordering the formation of a district to levy and collect assessments for the maintenance of certain improvements pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, being Division 15, Part 2 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California (hereinafter the "Act"), within the Westside Galt Specific Plan area to be known as the "Westside Galt Lighting, Landscaping and Maintenance District 1990-02" (the "District") (Resolution No. 90-131); and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby declares its intent to levy and collect assessments within the District as described in the Engineer's Report, with minor narrative modifications, for Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District is to provide for the maintenance of landscaped street medians and landscaped corridors benefiting the District (including plantings, screen walls and project identification signs), and for the installation and maintenance of street lighting facilities, and for the installation of park improvements or the payment of debt services related to the installation of park improvements, and for the maintenance of a park detention basin and including such other necessary improvements and incidental expenses pursuant to sections 22525 and 22526 of the Streets and Highways Code, respectively and as amended; and

WHEREAS, all properties within the District are located in various subdivisions defined and described as shown on the Assessment Diagram in said Engineer's Report, derive special benefits from the facilities, services or improvements on a proportional basis within a benefit zone; and

WHEREAS, the draft engineer's report, is available and on file with the City Clerk, and provides a full and detailed description of the boundaries of the District, the improvements, and the proposed assessments to be levied upon assessable parcels for the Fiscal Year 2024-25, and has been filed with the City in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed assessments will not increase from the previous year's assessment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the City Council of the City of Galt, California, does resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.** That a public hearing shall be held on the levy of the proposed assessment at 6:00 pm on July 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California.

**Section 3.** The City Clerk shall give notice of the hearing by causing this resolution of intention to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation at least 10 days prior to the public hearing.

**Section 4.** Any interested person may, prior to the conclusion of the hearing, file a written protest with the clerk or, having previously filed a protest, may file a written withdrawal of that protest. A written protest shall state all grounds of objection. A protest by a property owner shall contain a description sufficient to identify the property owned by him or her (address of Assessor's Parcel Number).

**Section 5.** At the hearing, all interested persons shall be afforded the opportunity to hear and be heard regarding the proposed assessments. The City Council shall consider all oral statements and all written protests made or filed by any interested person.

**Section 6.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The City Clerk shall certify the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Galt, California, this 4th day of June, 2024, upon a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Lozano, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Lozano, Papineau, Farmer, Sandhu
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	Vandenburg

/s/ Paul Sandhu  
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:  
/s/ Tina Hubert  
City Clerk, City of Galt

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

## RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25, AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NORTHEAST GALT LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Galt, California, on the 20th day of March 1990, adopted a resolution stating the intent to form and ordering the formation of a district to levy and collect assessments for the maintenance of certain improvements pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, being Division 15, Part 2 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California (hereinafter the "Act"), within the "Northeast Galt Specific Plan area to be known as the "Northeast Galt Landscaping and Lighting District" (the "District") (Resolution No. 90-47); and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby declares its intent to levy and collect assessments within the District as described in the Engineer's Report, with minor narrative modifications, for Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District is to provide for the maintenance of landscaped street medians and landscaped corridors adjacent to property within the District (including plantings and maintenance of the north and south branches of Deadman Gulch), and for the installation and maintenance of street lighting facilities, and for the installation of park improvements or the payment of debt services related to the installation of park improvements, and including such other necessary improvements and incidental expenses pursuant to sections 22525 and 22526 of the Streets and Highways Code, respectively and as amended; and

WHEREAS, all properties within the District are located in various subdivisions defined and described as shown on the Assessment Diagram in said Engineer's Report, derive special benefits from the facilities, services or improvements on a proportional basis within each benefit zone; and

WHEREAS, the draft engineer's report, is available and on file with the City Clerk, and provides a full and detailed description of the boundaries of the District, the improvements, and the proposed assessments to be levied upon assessable parcels for the Fiscal Year 2024-25, and has been filed with the City in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed assessments will not increase from the original assessment.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the City Council of the City of Galt, California, does resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.** That a public hearing shall be held on the levy of the proposed assessment at 6:00 pm on July 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California.

**Section 3.** The City Clerk shall give notice of the hearing by causing this resolution of intention to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

**Section 4.** Any interested person may, prior to the conclusion of the hearing, file a written protest with the clerk or, having previously filed a protest, may file a written withdrawal of that protest. A written protest shall state all grounds of objection. A protest by a property owner shall contain a description sufficient to identify the property owned by him or her (address of Assessor's Parcel Number).

**Section 5.** At the hearing, all interested persons shall be afforded the opportunity to hear and be heard regarding the proposed assessments. The City Council shall consider all oral statements and all written protests made or filed by any interested person.

**Section 6.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.  
The City Clerk shall certify the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Galt, California, this 4th day of June 2024, upon a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Lozano, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Lozano, Papineau, Farmer, Sandhu
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	Vandenburg

/s/ Paul Sandhu  
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:  
/s/ Tina Hubert  
City Clerk, City of Galt

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

## ORDINANCE NO. 2024-03

On June 4, 2024 at a regular meeting commencing at 6:00 pm, the City Council of the City of Galt, California, adopted the following ordinance:

### ORDINANCE NO. 2024-03

#### AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING GALT MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.85.050A (GALT YOUTH COMMISSION) ALLOWING 12 VOTING YOUTH COMMISSIONERS INSTEAD OF 10

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, does hereby ordains as follows:

**Section 1. Purpose.** The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Section 2.85.050A (Membership-appointment and terms).

**Section 2. Authority.** The City Council enacts this ordinance under the authority granted to cities by Chapter XI, Section 7 of the California Constitution.

**Section 3. Amendment to GMC Section 2.85.050 (deletions in strikethrough; additions underlined).** "2.85.050A Membership-appointment and terms.

A. The Commission shall consist of five (5) nonvoting adult members, twelve (12) voting youth members and a nonvoting Council Member appointed by the City Council. Each Council Member shall appoint one (1) adult Commission Member whose term shall run concurrently with that of the Council Member so appointing. The youth members shall be interviewed by two (2) adult members of the Commission. Each youth member shall be submitted for acceptance by the City Council and shall serve for a two (2) year term commencing on June 1st and ending on May 31st.

**Section 4. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unlawful, unenforceable or otherwise void, that determination shall have no effect on any other provision of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unlawful.

**Section 5.** This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final adoption as provided by Government Code Section 36937. Within 15 days after its final passage, the City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Galt in accordance with Section 36933(c)(1) of the California Government Code, or as otherwise authorized by law.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced and the title thereof read at the regular meeting of the City Council on the 21st day of May, 2024, and by a roll call vote of the City Council members present, further reading was waived.

On motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Lozano, the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Galt at a regular meeting thereof, this 4th day of June, 2024, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Lozano, Papineau, Farmer, Sandhu
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	Vandenburg

/s/ Paul Sandhu  
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:  
/s/ Tina Hubert  
City Clerk, City of Galt

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

## RESOLUTION NO. 2024-47

### RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25, AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE GALT LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 3

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Galt, California, on the 17th day of May, 2005, adopted resolutions stating the intent to form and ordering the formation of a district to levy and collect assessments for the maintenance of certain improvements pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, (hereinafter the "ACT"), within the Westside Galt Specific Plan area to be known as the "Galt Landscaping and Lighting District No. 3" (Resolutions No. 2005-68 and No. 2006-69); and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby declares its intent to levy and collect assessments within the "Galt Landscaping and Lighting District No. 3" as described in the Engineer's Report, with minor narrative modifications, for Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District is to provide for the maintenance of the lighting and landscaping improvements within the District which may include parks and facilities, community centers, library, aquatic center, skate park, street-side landscaping (with sound wall), street lights, and appurtenant facilities including, but not limited to, public right-of-way and easements. Services provided include all necessary service, operations, administration and maintenance required to keep the improvements in a satisfactory condition and including such other necessary improvements and incidental expenses pursuant to sections 22525 and 22526 of the Streets and Highways Code, respectively and as amended; and

WHEREAS, all properties within the district as shown on the Assessment Diagram in said Engineer's Report, derive special benefits from the facilities, services or improvements on a proportional basis; and

WHEREAS, the draft engineer's report, is available and on file with the City Clerk, and provides a full and detailed description of the boundaries of the Assessment District and the proposed assessments to be levied upon assessable parcels for the Fiscal Year 2024-25, and has been filed with the City in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed assessments will increase 3.3% from the previous year's assessment, in accordance with the authorized annual price adjustment based on the change in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Western States - Urban ("Area: West Urban") for January of each fiscal year.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the City Council of the City of Galt, California, does resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.** That a public hearing shall be held on the levy of the proposed assessment at 6:00 pm on July 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 380 Civic Drive, Galt, California.

**Section 3.** The City Clerk shall give notice of the hearing by causing this resolution of intention to be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation.

**Section 4.** Any interested person may, prior to the conclusion of the hearing, file a written protest with the clerk or, having previously filed a protest, may file a written withdrawal of that protest. A written protest shall state all grounds of objection. A protest by a property owner shall contain a description sufficient to identify the property owned by him or her (address of Assessor's Parcel Number).

**Section 5.** At the hearing, all interested persons shall be afforded the opportunity to hear and be heard regarding the proposed assessments. The City Council shall consider all oral statements and all written protests made or filed by any interested person.

**Section 6.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.  
The City Clerk shall certify the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Galt, California, this 4th day of June, 2024, upon a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Lozano, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Lozano, Papineau, Farmer, Sandhu
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	Vandenburg

/s/ Paul Sandhu  
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:  
/s/ Tina Hubert  
City Clerk, City of Galt

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

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# The Most Popular Veterans Benefits Don't Expire

By Dr. Paul Lawrence



Paul Lawrence served at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from 2018 to 2021. Photo courtesy of Paul Lawrence

While some people may think that the veterans benefits they have earned from military service could evaporate or disappear, this is inaccurate. The most popular veteran benefits have no expiration date. You can apply at any point and are not time-bound.

The three most popular veterans' benefits are disability compensation, home loan guaranty and education/G.I. Bill.

For these benefits, there are important dates to remember. If you miss those dates, you may be inconvenienced but these benefits are still available, providing you qualify.

Disability compensation is a tax-free monthly payment based on an injury or disability that occurred during service. A veteran completes an application,

completion of active duty and throughout the remainder of a veteran's life. In short, there is no expiration date for disability compensation.

Many veterans file multiple claims throughout their lives as new conditions are identified or previously identified conditions worsen.

This is called a claim for an increase. There is no limit on how often this can be done.

There are two important dates to keep in mind relative to disability compensation. The first concerns the Intent to File. In advance of actually applying for disability compensation, you can complete an Intent to File form. This tells the VA that you will file in the next year and preserves the effective day (i.e., the date on which benefits will

begin).

For example, a veteran completes an Intent to File form establishing Feb. 1, 2024, as his/her effective date. After collecting all the needed information and forms, benefits are granted on Dec. 1, 2024. The first payment would include a retroactive payment reflecting the intent to file date of Feb. 1.

You can get assistance with your VA claim for no cost from an accredited representative such as your county veterans service officer or an accredited veteran's service organization, such as the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans or the VFW.

Home Loan Guaranty allows veterans to purchase a home with no money down.

This is a tremendous advantage over our civilian counterparts, who must

save for a down payment prior to purchasing a home. Subject to restrictions, this can even be used to purchase a mobile home or farm residence.

There is no time restriction on this benefit. It can be used repeatedly by veterans as they move and purchase new homes.

Education/G.I. Bill benefits are significant for veterans. Serve for three years and you can earn four years of free college. It can also be used for high-tech apprenticeships, advanced Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math training, and credentials and certificates.

In 2017, a new law, often known as the Forever G.I. Bill, was introduced. If your service ended on or after Jan. 1, 2013, this benefit will never expire.

If your service ended prior to Jan. 1, 2013, you

still could qualify for the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill or the Montgomery G.I. Bill for active duty or reservists. Each of these has an expiration date, so check those dates carefully at VA.gov.

Veterans' benefits are an important part of the rewards for military service and you can apply at VA.gov. The best time to learn about your benefits is well before applying for them. But remember, it's never too late to start and some of the most popular veterans benefits never expire.

*Paul R. Lawrence, Ph.D., served as Under Secretary for Benefits at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs from May 2018 to January 2021. He is the author of "Veterans Benefits for You: Get what You Deserve," published in 2023.* ★

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### ORDINANCE NO. 2024-02

On June 4, 2024 at a regular meeting commencing at 6:00 pm, the City Council of the City of Galt, California, adopted the following ordinance:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2024-02

#### ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF SPECIAL TAXES IN A COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT, INCLUDING CERTAIN ANNEXATION TERRITORY IDENTIFIED AS ANNEXATION NO. 7 (GREENWOOD COTTAGES), INTO CITY OF GALT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2020-1 (PUBLIC SERVICES)

**A. Recital**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council (the "City Council") of the City of Galt (the "City") has established the City of Galt Community Facilities District No. 2020-1 (Public Services), County of Sacramento, State of California (the "District") for the purpose of levying special taxes on parcels of taxable property therein for the purpose of providing certain services which are necessary to meet increased demands placed upon the City as a result of the development of said real property; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate and method of apportionment of special tax for the District is set forth in Exhibit "B" to the City Council Resolution No. 2024-24, which was adopted on April 16, 2024; and

**WHEREAS** the City has conducted proceedings to annex territory into the District and, with respect to the proceedings, following an election of the qualified electors in the territory proposed for annexation (the "Annexation Territory"), the City Council, on May 21, 2024, adopted a Resolution which declared the results of the special election and determined that the territory proposed to be annexed is added to and part of the District.

**B. Ordinance**

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALT, CALIFORNIA, ACTING IN ITS CAPACITY AS THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE CITY OF GALT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2020-1 (PUBLIC SERVICES), COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

**Section 2.** By the passage of this Ordinance, the City Council hereby authorizes and levies the special tax within the District, including the Annexation Territory, pursuant to the Community Facilities District Law, at the rate and in accordance with the rate and method of apportionment of special tax set forth in Resolution No. 2024-24, which rate and method is by this reference incorporated herein. The special tax has previously been levied in the original territory of the District beginning in Fiscal Year 2020-21 pursuant to Ordinance No. 2020-03 passed and adopted by the City Council on June 16, 2020, and the special tax is hereby levied commencing in Fiscal Year 2024-25 in the District, including the Annexation Territory identified as Annexation No. 7, and in each fiscal year thereafter to pay for the services for the District and the costs of administering the District.

**Section 3.** The City Manager of the City or designee or employee or consultant of the City is hereby authorized and directed each fiscal year to determine the specific special tax to be levied for the next ensuing fiscal year for each parcel of real property within the District, including the Annexation Territory, in the manner and as provided in Resolution No. 2024-24.

**Section 4.** Exemptions from the levy of the special tax shall be as provided in Resolution No. 2024-24 and the applicable provisions of the Community Facilities District Law. In no event shall the special tax be levied on any parcel within the District in excess of the maximum special tax specified in Resolution No. 2024-24.

**Section 5.** All of the collections of the special tax shall be used as provided in the Community Facilities District Law and in Resolution No. 2024-24, including, but not limited to, the payment of the costs of the services, the payment of the costs of the City in administering the District, and the costs of collecting and administering the special tax.

**Section 6.** The special tax shall be collected in the same manner and at the same time as ordinary *ad valorem* taxes are collected and shall have the same lien priority, and be subject to the same penalties and the same procedure and sale in cases of delinquency as provided for *ad valorem* taxes; provided, however, that the District may collect Special Taxes at a different time or in a different manner if necessary to meet its financial obligations. The City Manager of the City, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to provide all necessary information to the auditor/tax collector of the County of Sacramento in order to effect proper billing and collection of the special tax, so that the special tax shall be included on the secured property tax roll of the County of Sacramento for Fiscal Year 2024-25 and for each fiscal year thereafter until no longer required to pay for the Services or until otherwise terminated by the City.

**Section 7.** If for any reason any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid, or if the special tax is found inapplicable to any particular parcel within the District, including the Annexation Territory, by a court of competent jurisdiction, the balance of this Ordinance and the application of the special tax to the remaining parcels within the District, including the Annexation Territory, shall not be affected.

**Section 8.** This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final adoption as provided by Government Code Section 36937. Within 15 days after its final passage, the City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Galt in accordance with Section 36933(c)(1) of the California Government Code.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced and the title thereof read at the regular meeting of the City Council the 21st day of May, 2024 and by unanimous vote of the Council members present, further reading was waived.

On a motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Lozano, the foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Galt at a regular meeting thereof, this 4th day of June 2024, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Council Members:	Lozano, Papineau, Farmer, Sandhu
NOES:	Council Members:	
ABSTAIN:	Council Members:	
ABSENT:	Council Members:	Vandenburg

/s/ Paul Sandhu  
MAYOR, City of Galt

ATTEST:  
/s/ Tina Hubert  
City Clerk, City of Galt

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2024-2025 ARCOHE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED BUDGET

Pursuant to Education Code Sections 42103, 42122, 42123, and 42127, notice is hereby published that a Public Hearing on the Arcohe Union School District's proposed budget will be held at the Arcohe Union School District East Campus Media Center located at 11755 Ivie Road, Herald, CA 95638 on June 24, 2024 at 8 a.m.

Any taxpayer affected by the aforementioned proposed budget may inspect the budget at the Arcohe Union Main School Campus located at 11755 Ivie Road, Herald, CA 95638 on June 18, 2024 between the hours 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Signed Troy Miller  
Secretary to the Board  
CNS-3811496#

The Galt Herald 6-14-2024

### Notice of Regulatory Fee – Water Code Section 10730

The 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that each groundwater basin in the State be managed sustainably within its statutory timelines. Galt Irrigation District overlies the San Joaquin Valley Cosumnes River Subbasin and is one of the groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) responsible for SGMA compliance in that groundwater basin. GID carries out this effort as a member of the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA). If GID and its partner agencies in the CGA fail to act, or if the State determines that those actions are insufficient, the Subbasin would be subject to intervention and fees levied by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

SGMA authorizes a GSA to impose a fee on the extraction of groundwater or other regulated activity to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program. (Water Code, § 10730.) As a California Irrigation District and GSA, GID is separately authorized to levy fees to fund the costs of its groundwater management programs. Here, GID has partnered with CGA to develop a basin-wide model for cost sharing and fee development to support the ongoing sustainable management of the basin.

Previously, these costs were funded by a \$10/acre charge on irrigated lands within GID. If the new fee structure is adopted, this prior charge will be updated to reflect the broader spread of beneficiaries and services provided in GID's current phase of SGMA implementation. Information supporting the fee and its calculation may be found at [www.GID.specialdistrict.org](http://www.GID.specialdistrict.org).

Because the amount to be charged is attributable to the costs assigned to GID part of its participation in CGA (and the attendant groundwater management services that CGA coordinates on GID's behalf), the proposed fee does not outweigh the cost of providing this service to GID irrigators and groundwater users. By participating in this effort, GID will continue to ensure that its interests are represented in the basin, and that the required GSP is implemented in a timely fashion (thus avoiding potential state intervention).

GID will hold a public meeting to consider the proposed SGMA Management Fee on July 9, 2024 at 9:30 am at 12746 Ivie Road, Herald, CA 95638. For further information and data regarding the fee's calculation, to protest, or to provide additional comments, please contact the District by email at [galtirrigationdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:galtirrigationdistrict@gmail.com) or call 209-734-6077.

The Galt Herald 6-14 and 6-21-2024

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# Flag Day: A Salute to the Red, White and Blue

According to the Time and Date website, on July 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand union flag with a new design featuring 13 white stars on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes: one for each state.

Although the Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross is popularly attributed with designing this early version of the flag, historians generally point to Francis Hopkinson as the creator. Hopkinson was a delegate from New Jersey and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

In June 1886, Bernard Cidgrand made the first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "the Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper.

Cidgrand's effort to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916. However, Flag Day did not become



official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day.

In 1966, Congress also requested that the president issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 as Flag Day occurred as National Flag Week.

The president is requested to issue each year a proclamation to call on government officials in the United States to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on Flag Day; and to urge United States residents to observe Flag Day as the anniversary of the adoption on June 14, 1777, by the Continental Congress of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.

The flag started with 13 alternating red and white stripes with a blue rectangle in the upper corner and 13 stars in a circle. But with the addition of more states, the stars got smaller, and 50 stars now represent the 50 states, and the 13 stripes represent the original 13 states.

Please join in today's celebration and fly your United States flag proudly.

\*\*\*

Reminder: Father's Day is this Sunday. Are you ready to celebrate the dads, papas, poppies, grandfathers, brothers, uncles, pet-parents, etc.?

To celebrate the men in our family we will be having a BBQ of massive amounts of beef, pork and chicken. For the breads (sliders): French, sourdough and Hawaiian. Some salads to make the meal somewhat balanced, lots of appetizers for grazing, and for dessert: cream puffs with sliced strawberries or maybe this year, banana splits.

If it is too hot for outdoor games, I will give over the television and remote so boxing, car racing or John Wayne movies

can be viewed in an air-conditioned room.

A question was asked: What do you get "the dad" who has everything? Simple answer: Your time.

Most dads want to spend time with their children individually. They want to hear about your plans, your thoughts, your dreams, etc.

So, make a memory happen, and maybe take them golfing, fishing, biking, driving range, gun range, 4-wheeling, camping or glamping, or sit on the patio and just talk, and don't forget the See's candy and jerky.

And if you are really industrious, put pen to paper and write it all down to really create a memory.

I will say, last year every male in our family received a goodie bag containing jerky, chips, goldfish, cheese-its, candy, frosted animal cookies, gummy bears, microwave popcorn, pretzels, and nuts and seeds. It was well received and was requested for this year.

Happy planning.  
Until next week: Be strong, be courageous, make a memory. ★

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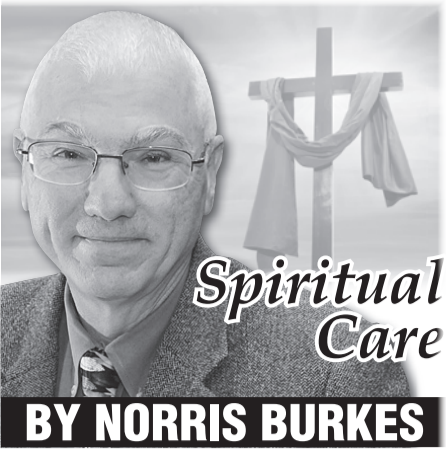
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# Recovering Christian Finds Church of the Inner Light



*Readers: I've asked Dane Dowell to guest-write my column today because Dane recently volunteered for Chispa Project. He is a life coach who loves to explore the confluence of spirituality, psychology and culture. He is also the author of an upcoming book, "The Light That Beckons." Based in Denver, he's often on adventures exploring the world. You can learn more about him at www.danedowell.com.*

In my teens, I grew up in the Methodist church. I sang in choir, played handbells, joined the youth group and sat on the finance committee. I was a "Christian."

In my 20s, I moved to Denver and started traveling the world. Experiencing other cultures, I began to question my faith. I learned to embrace my authentic self and rewrite my beliefs according to my lived experience. I called myself a "former Christian."

In my 30s, I began a spiritual journey learning to acknowledge my inner light.

Organized religion seemed to emphasize the external God. Through my spiritual studies, I began to also see our inner divinity. Christians believe God is Love.

Though not necessarily aligned with any one faith, I believe Love is God. Given my upbringing, I began to use the term "recovering Christian."

Now in my 40s (all of two months), I took a trip last month to Honduras with Chispa Project, and I am now calling myself a "catholic." Not Catholic like the religion, but rather catholic in the true meaning of the word: the universal, undivided church.

The mission of Chispa Project is to partner with schools throughout Honduras to install libraries and bring books into classrooms.

Books empower kids with words. Children learn to tell stories. They read about different subjects. They learn critical thinking and engage their imaginations. Mostly run by Hondurans, the project is occasionally assisted by groups of volunteers who help local staff inaugurate a new school library.

In April, I joined the Chispa Project along with almost 20 other volunteers for one week. I met up with the group at the newly modernized Comayagua

International Airport. We were an odd-looking bunch, but I was curious to hear everyone's story.

After two hours of driving through lush green hills, we arrived at our destination close to Lago Yojoa. Honduras is a beautiful country where plants thrive, and life cannot help but burst forth everywhere. It felt symbolic of the abounding presence of life I hoped to experience that week in Honduras.

Gathered in a circle, we introduced ourselves. Within minutes, it became clear that we were a diverse group... diverse in terms of hometowns, ages, jobs, faith, sexualities, political ideologies and our lived experiences.

Back home, it would have been easy to draw lines and self-segregate. Instead, in Honduras, we spent a week volunteering together, and what a beautiful week it was.

I painted walls with Robert from Colorado, stickered books with Melissa from Florida, assembled bookshelves with Bob from South Carolina and organized classroom activities with Marianne from Tennessee. Throughout the week, I was afforded glimpses into the lives of more than 20 unique individuals.

Yes, we were incredibly different. Yet as volunteers, we became united in our

actions as one collective family. There were many moments of levity and laughter and moments of sincere depth. Spending a week with these people, I came to see how we are all more alike than we are different. We all had an inner light: the Christ within.

In the rural countryside of Honduras, I was reminded of a line from the Apostle's Creed:

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church..." Truly, that week kindness and generosity united us all; we were each connected by the spirit of love. Though a stranger in foreign lands, I found a family; though a "recovering Christian" among diverse beliefs, I found a new home in the "catholic church."

*Readers: I've returned from my cruise but I'm leaving for Honduras Sunday to help establish the 86th library for Chispa Project. Honestly, we still need some big last-minute donations to fully fund this library. Thank you - Norris*

*Give online today at ChispaProject.org/chaplain or make check to "Chispa Project." Send to 10556 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602. Email comment@thechaplain.net or message at (843) 608-9715. www.thechaplain.net. ★*

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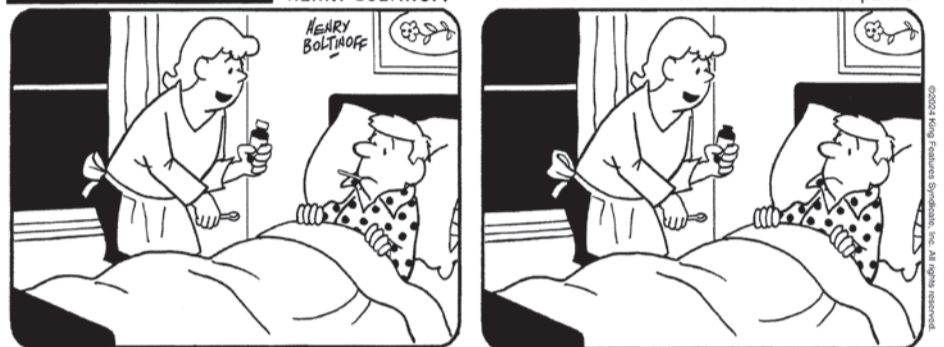


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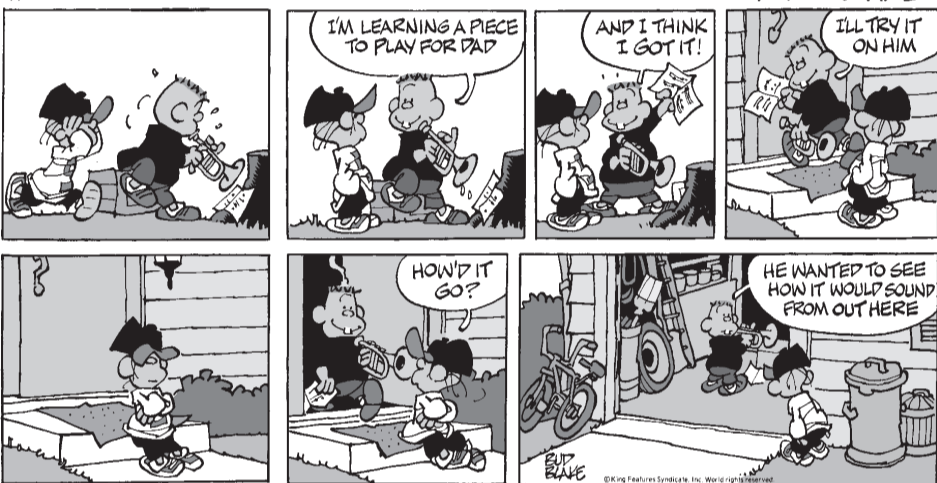
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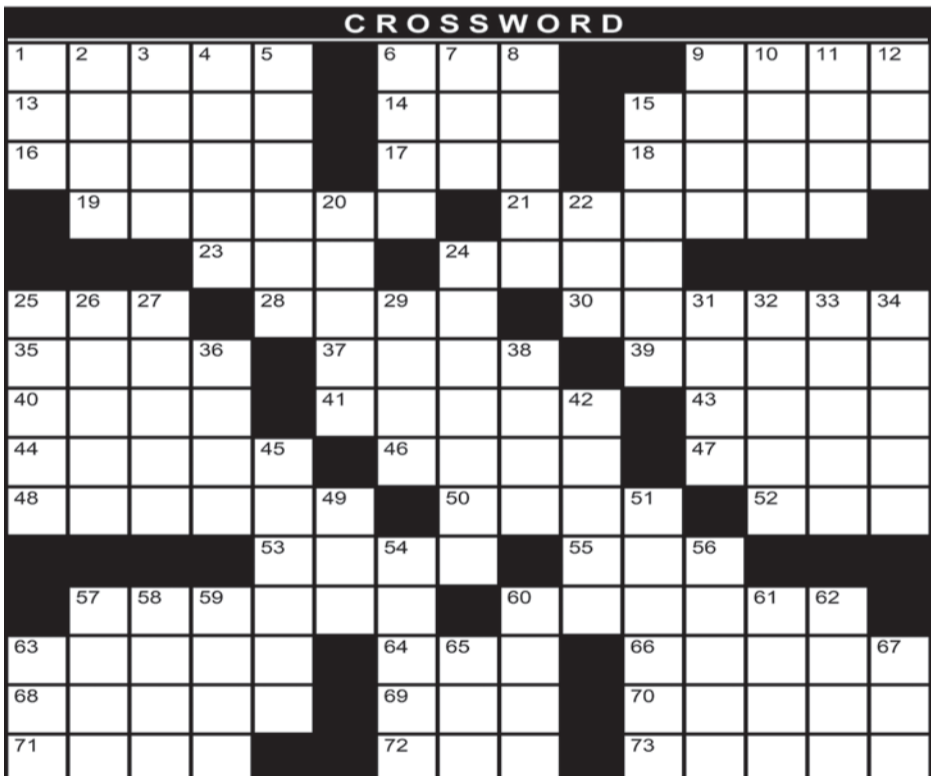
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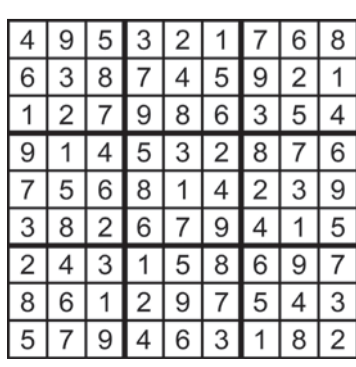


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# Galt High Graduation



Aiden Hall, center left, and Akayla-Joy Gunter, center right, are named scholar athletes of the year. They are joined by Athletic Director John Van Den Raadt, far left, and Assistant Principal Alan Posey.



Galt High School valedictorian Victoria Granados



Galt High School salutatorian Yocelin Sanchez Reyes



Female athlete of the year Hope Garten, left, high-fives co-male athlete of the year Kayson Jones. Miguel Corona Garcia was also named male athlete of the year.

## Galt High Graduates Cap Four Years

Continued from page 1

Gonzalez Castro said her classmates' presence at graduation showed that they were on the right path. When she paused partway through her speech, the audience encouraged her with applause. She continued her speech, thanking staff, family and friends who helped students become the best version of themselves.

Salutatorian Yocelin Sanchez Reyes encouraged her classmates to face the future head-on.

"For those of you who want to further yourself, whether starting a 9-to-5 job right after high school, going to college or going into a trade, you need to give it all you have," Sanchez Reyes said. She called parents "pillars and supporting beams" for the children, saying her mother "taught me that there is an opportunity in everything if you look at things in a positive light."

The school recognized several students for athletic and academic achievement, as well as their contributions to the school community.

Akayla-Joy Gunter and Aiden Hall were named as the Scholar Athletes of the Year, who make a "profound difference" in their sports and earn a grade point average in the top 10% of their class.

Hope Garten was named the Female Athlete of the

Year. For the first time, the school had two Male Athletes of the Year: Kayson Jones and Miguel Corona Garcia.

Galt High staff honored nine students with the Red and White Warrior G Award for exemplifying kindness, bravery, honesty and compassion for others: Jones, Zavion Mitchell, Daniel Magana, Alexa Murillo Cuevas, Natalee Gubac, Dylan Cowey, Maria Perez, Jeffrey Su and Hector Valenzuela.

In valedictorian Victoria Granados' speech, she looked to the many changes she and classmates would face after high school.

"It's time to accept that we now have to take charge of our lives," Granados said. "All our routines for the past four years are over and now will look drastically different. We are going to have to establish new ones, ones with newfound responsibilities."

Granados told the graduates to explore and try new things.

"You don't have to get it right the first time. I encourage you not to settle for something just because you think you have to stick with the first thing you find," Granados said, adding that leaving one's comfort zone is "the only way you will keep growing."

Granados concluded with a call to action.

"As you leave tonight, know that you are ready to



Noah Rhoades, left, and Dalton Corriea, right, lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Photos by Paige Lampson

take this next step in stride," the valedictorian said. "Let everyone outside these gates know what Galt can bring to this world." ★



**G** Congrats, Lorena!

As your brother, I can't promise to solve all your problems, but I can promise you won't have to face them alone.

**S** Hooray, Laura!

Congratulations, Laura. Class of 2024. We are so proud of you!  
Love, Mom, Dad, Autumn & Allana

# Galt High Top Students



**Victoria Granados**  
*Valedictorian*

Victoria will attend University of California, Davis, to study animal sciences, with the goal of becoming a veterinarian. Granados earned the Vanessa Warrior scholarship, the Seal of Bilingualism, and the Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award, and was named scholar athlete.

Victoria is in her church's choir and helps out with vacation Bible school, as well as volunteering at a veterinary office.

Victoria's favorite high school memory is of playing keepie uppie with a balloon in Mr. Burgin's class, which could get very competitive. Victoria's hobbies include swimming, running, reading and exercising.

Victoria thanks her parents, Teresa Magana and Jorge H. Granados Silva, her biggest inspiration and motivation. She also thanks her aunt Aure; her cousin Esme; and teachers Mr. Jonas, Mr. Corona, Mr. Burgin and Mrs. Zely.



**Yocelin Sanchez Reyes**  
*Salutatorian*

Yocelin will attend University of California, Davis, to study biology. She earned Superintendent's Honor Roll; Varsity Scholar Award; and the Hadley Marie, James Nunes and Lodi Memorial scholarships. She also participated in the Rotary Hope Speech Contest, getting first place in the school and third place in the district.

During high school, Yocelin was part of California Scholarship Federation, Early Academic Outreach Program, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Latinos Unidos, Interact, AVID Club, and St. Christopher's Youth Group.

Yocelin's favorite high school memory is of having classes with her best friend, as well as holding a potluck in senior government class. Her hobbies include reading and going out with loved ones.

Yocelin extends special thanks to her mother for her encouragement and support.



**Alexandra Lopez Reyes**

Alexandra plans to start her career by completing a certificate program in the medical field. She earned the BEST Biomedical Award and Honor Roll, as well as a \$30,000 scholarship to University of the Pacific.

During high school, Alexandra placed cat food near areas where stray cats roamed to prevent starvation.

Alexandra's favorite high school memory is from her medical interventions class in junior year. An experiment showing how bacteria respond to antibiotics sparked her interest in antibiotic resistance. Alexandra's interests include following Korean pop music and TV dramas, sketching, and spending time with family, as well as watching health care and true crime YouTube channels.

Alexandra extends special thanks to her family for their support and encouragement of her education, her friends for the memories they made together, and her teachers in BEST Academy for providing her the pathway to a healthcare profession.



**Alexa Murillo Cuevas**

Alexa will attend University of California, Berkeley, to study psychology. She received the Superintendent's Honor Roll, the English and Math department awards, the Seal of Bilingualism, all-league in tennis, and various scholarships.

During high school, Alexa was president of California Scholarship Federation, vice president of Latinos Unidos, and captain of the varsity tennis team. She also served on the Galt Youth Commission, serving as vice chair.

Alexa's favorite high school memories include working at a booth at the FFA Carnival and dancing at homecoming. Her hobbies include reading, writing in her diary, decorating her room, taking walks, listening to music and playing with her cat.

Alexa extends special thanks to her mother, sister and father. Alexa's bond with her mother allows her to prosper; her sister serves as a role model of dedication and discipline; and her father uplifts and guides her.



**Josh Cullers**

Josh will attend San Joaquin Delta College to study business and law. He received the Marine Corps Award for Academic Achievement and Leadership, the Seal of Bilingualism for German, and the Social Science Department and BEST Engineering awards.

Josh is active in his church, Central Church of Christ in Stockton. He teaches at Iron Dragon Tactical School of Self Defense, where he has trained for 12 years. He is a student reporter for Sacramento School Beat, and he was on the Galt Youth Commission for three years.

One of Josh's favorite high school memories is of playing a prosecutor in a mock trial in his criminal justice class. He enjoys teaching himself electric guitar, listening to music, hanging out with friends and family, and playing video games.

Josh thanks his friends for providing a sense of belonging, and his family for providing somewhere full of love to call home.



**Jeffrey Su**

Jeffrey will be attending University of California, Davis, to study biochemistry. He received the Advanced Placement Scholar Award and Superintendent's Honor Roll.

During high school, Jeffrey was active in German Club and helped Art Club with projects such as building a memorial for students' loved ones who have passed away.

Jeffrey's favorite high school memory is of the field trip to Alcatraz. He enjoys playing video games and spending time with his friends and girlfriend.

"I give a special thanks to my parents and sister for always providing me the support I always need, and thank you to my girlfriend for always motivating to keep on trying."



**Daniel Godinez**

Daniel will attend University of California, Santa Barbara, to study computer science and software engineering. Daniel earned honor roll, FFA Greenhand Degree, NorCalCyber Mayors Cup, physical education honors, and the Seal of Bilingualism for Spanish.

During high school, Daniel was an elementary school volunteer, worked with a computer science organization, and volunteered with theater productions as an usher. In FFA, he worked on the floral subscription and helped in the kitchen during the drive-in.

Daniel's favorite high school memory is the senior trip to Six Flags. He also enjoyed ushering and watching plays. His hobbies include playing piano; playing pickleball, tennis and basketball; working on cars; crocheting; and spending time with family.

Daniel extends special thanks to his family for giving him everything a growing kid could wish for. He credits his mindset for maintaining his values while still having fun.



**Emma Christian**

Emma will attend University of Nevada, Reno, to study journalism. She earned Superintendent's Honor roll, the Seal of Bilingualism and the Nunes Scholarship, and she is an agriscience pathway completer.

During high school, Emma participated in Thespians Society and FFA, and volunteered at the class of 1973 reunion.

Emma's favorite high school memory is of the senior trip to Magic Mountain. She enjoys playing tennis, playing guitar and hanging out with friends.

Emma extends special thanks to her parents for always supporting her and to her sister for being her best friend through it all.



**Dylan Cowey**

Dylan will attend Pacific University in Oregon, to major in business with a minor in theater. Dylan received the Visual and Performing Arts Department Award, and a merit scholarship from Pacific University, as well as individual theater awards.

During high school, Dylan participated in the GSA Club and Thespians Society, and in after-school theater events.

Dylan's favorite high school memory is of the final theater activities: the last big stage show, the last competition and the senior showcase. Dylan's interests include art, theater and music.

Special thanks go to Dylan's parents, as well as teachers Mr. Jonas, Mr. Burgin and Mrs. Hafner: "They've all pushed me to be my best this year."

"But most importantly, I want to thank my friends. One specific friend in particular, Alexa. We've been in seven AP/Honors classes since coming into high school, and there's no one that's been by my side like she has."



**Akayla-Joy Gunter**

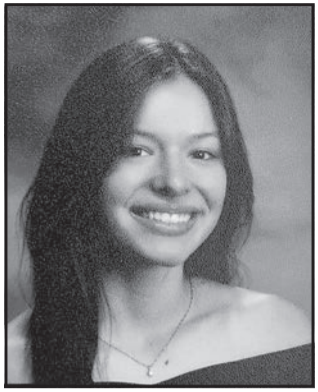
Akayla-Joy will attend San Diego State University to study political science. She received the Seal of Bilingualism, as well as the Ana and Ellinwood, Galt Youth Commission and Lee Worthy scholarships.

During high school, Akayla-Joy served as an ASB officer and a class officer, and she was a varsity athlete. She volunteered at the Boosters' Pancake Breakfast, her church's nursery, and Night to Shine, in addition to track, basketball and wrestling tournaments.

Akayla-Joy's favorite high school memory is of going camping with her friends and staying up until midnight to spend her 18th birthday with them. Her hobbies include playing volleyball, napping, reading and spending time with friends.

Akayla-Joy thanks her mother for being her best friend and biggest supporter, as well as her teachers Ms. Bray, Ms. Piper and Mr. Simperman for helping and encouraging her and having a good laugh every time they are together.

# Liberty Ranch High Top Students



**Sophia Felix**  
Valedictorian

Sophia will attend California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, to study construction management. She earned all-league in her junior and senior years for basketball, and was named female athlete of the year. She earned the LMHF, L. Canfield, T. Messersmith, Galt Chamber and Galt Rotary scholarships, and the U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence award.

Sophia volunteered at McFarland Living History Ranch and Rae House Museum. Through National Honor Society, she ran a prom dress drive for Sacramento Public Library.

Sophia's favorite high school memory is of winning her basketball team's comeback game in senior year against El Dorado High School and dumping water on her coach. Favorite activities include playing with her dogs, exercising, napping, hanging out with friends and playing games.

Sophia thanks her family for supporting her, as well as her coaches. She thanks her teachers, specifically Mr. MacLeod, Mr. Pyles and Mrs. Gorelick.



**Julia Oceguera**  
Salutatorian

Julia will attend University of California, Davis, where she plans to major in psychology and education. She earned the World Language Award and the Seal of Biliteracy.

During high school, Julia was part of the National Honor Society for three years, and participated in California Scholarship Federation and Latinos Unidos for four years.

Julia's favorite high school memory is of going to football games with her friends Issy, Jori, Sophia and Savanna, making memories she will never forget. Her hobbies include reading, camping and watching TV, as well as working at Tacos Romero and hanging out with friends and family.

Julia extends special thanks to her sister Alejandra for being a role model and inspiration: "She is the most intelligent woman I know, and I aspire to be more like her every day." Julia also thanks her mother, Maria; her father, Jorge; and her brother, Jorge, for their support.



**Savannah Westlynn**

Savannah will be attending University of Nevada, Reno, as a pre-nursing major. She is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll, earned all-league in swimming four times, and was honored by the U.S. Army for athletic and scholarly excellence. She received the Lee Roberts Scholarship, Eric Leeworthy Memorial Scholarship and Richard Todd Messersmith Scholarship, as well as scholarships from the Athletic Boosters and the Galt High Alumni Association.

Savannah served as The Flock secretary, Associated Student Body treasurer and junior class vice president.

Savannah's favorite high school memory is of attending homecoming, playing powderpuff with her fellow seniors and being a part of royalty with her friends. She loves to bake and go to the beach.

"Special thanks to my parents as they have continuously supported me and my crazy dreams my whole life."



**Isabella Kunze**

Isabella will be attending Sonoma State University, where she will study history. She received Superintendent's Honor Roll for a GPA of at least 4.0, and she earned the Galt Youth Commission Scholarship.

During high school, Isabella participated in the National Honor Society beginning in sophomore year, and served as an officer in senior year. Her NHS volunteer work included helping out in kindergarten classrooms at Marengo Ranch Elementary School.

Isabella's favorite high school memory is of her junior year Sculpture 2 class. Her favorite activity is taking naps.

"I'd like to give a special thanks to my family for always supporting and encouraging me. I would also like to thank my teachers Mr. Pyles and Mrs. Gorelick for always being such amazing role models and great teachers."



**Aliyah Scarlato**

Aliyah will be attending University of California, Los Angeles, where she will major in political science with a minor in English. She earned the Seal of Biliteracy and the Galt Ag Boosters Scholarship.

During high school, Aliyah participated in FFA, serving as secretary in senior year. She competed in Parliamentary Procedure and won the national championship with her team in October. She also competed in Ag Sales, with nationals this fall, as well as public speaking and floral. She took multiple Advanced Placement courses.

Aliyah's favorite high school memories came from FFA, and her hobbies include working, reading and collecting vinyl.

"Special thanks to my family and friends for always supporting me no matter the occasion, whether it be waking up at 3 a.m. for a competition hours away, or waiting for me to stay up all night doing homework."



**Maryn Rogers**

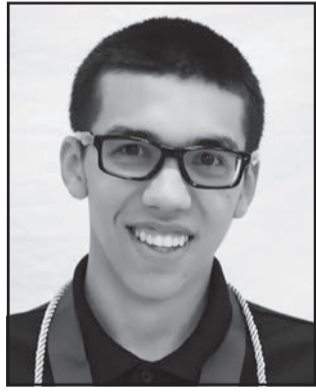
Maryn will attend Folsom Lake College to play soccer, later transferring to San Diego State University. She will major in kinesiology.

Maryn was on the Superintendent's Honor Roll for four years. In girls varsity soccer, she earned all-league three times, and was named league MVP as a senior. She earned all-league in cross-country, and the Seal of Biliteracy.

During high school, she was in National Honor Society, and her senior project benefited special-needs sports. She serves as soccer team captain and senior class president.

Maryn's favorite high school memories are of scoring a touchdown in powderpuff and coaching the boys' buff ball volleyball team. She enjoys hiking, playing sports, exercising, going on runs, and spending time with family and her dog Bailey.

Maryn extends special thanks to her family for their support, as well as teachers, administrators and friends who got her where she is today.



**Antonio Fraire**

Antonio will be attending University of California, Davis, where he will study economics. He earned the Math Department Award and the USMC Scholastic Award.

Antonio's favorite high school memory is of creating and performing in a short Greek play in English class: "I thought the play was hilarious, and I was voted the best actor by my classmates. Everyone played their part very well, and we also won the best play award for that class."

Antonio's hobbies include reading, watching television and playing video games, as well as playing basketball with his father.

Antonio extends special thanks to his physics teacher, Mr. Rea: "I thought his class was the most challenging in high school, which helped prepare me for my math classes the next year. His high expectations were a joy to attempt to meet, and I appreciate that he allowed me to be his TA this year."



**Victoria Bentley**

Victoria plans to become a full-time minister after high school. She is a Jehovah's Witness, and nothing makes her happier than serving God by teaching and helping others. Victoria received Superintendent's Honor Roll, perfect attendance, the Seal of Biliteracy, the Golden State Merit Seal, and other academic recognitions.

During high school, Victoria participated in the sports medicine program and club run by Mrs. Wood. She does more than 100 hours of community service each year.

Victoria's favorite high school memory is of singing an Olivia Rodrigo song in Mr. Pyles' English class, as part of a literary themes project. Her hobbies include art and reading.

Victoria extends special thanks to her parents, Buddy and Kelly Troxler, for their support: "Without their love and support, as well as the blessings from God, I couldn't have done what I did."



**Eden Lethbridge**

Eden will attend University of California, Davis, where she plans to study biology, with an emphasis on pre-med. Eden earned the Sports Medicine Department Award, Seal of Biliteracy, California Golden State Seal, Superintendent's Honor Roll, and the Advanced Placement Scholarship with honors.

During high school, Eden did more than 150 hours of volunteer work through National Honors Society, Sports Medicine Club, California Scholarship Federation, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Eden's favorite high school memory is of her entire tennis team running and screaming during team photos because they were swarmed by thousands of bees. Her hobbies include tennis, reading, hanging out with friends and watching movies.

"Special thanks to my best friends and family for always supporting me and getting me through high school."



**America Trujillo**

America will attend Cosumnes River College to study early childhood education. She then plans to attend California State University, Sacramento, to earn a bachelor's degree and her teaching credentials.

America was named to Superintendent's Honor Roll and earned the English Department Recognition Award.

During high school, America participated in FFA, completing the floriculture pathways and certifications for floriculture and horticulture. She was also part of AVID Club, National Honors Society, Latinos Unidos, 1300 Club and Art Club.

America has made countless memories with her friends in high school, and it is difficult to pinpoint just one. In her free time, America enjoys baking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

America thanks her parents and siblings for supporting her and being her role models: "I would especially like to show appreciation towards my parents for the countless sacrifices they have made to provide their family with a better future."

# Liberty Ranch High Graduation



New Liberty Ranch High School graduates pause for photos after the ceremony on June 3. Photos by Paige Lampson



Jesus San Juan leads the Pledge of Allegiance.



Kassandra Valencia sings "The Star-Spangled Banner."

## Liberty Ranch Sends Off Class of '24

Continued from page 1

varsity football team came onstage to lead a rendition of the school's fight song, which Raybe penned when the school was established.

Westlynn of ASB was named as the recipient of the Citizenship Award for exemplifying "the highest ideals of service, integrity and leadership."

Presenting the award, Assistant Principal Cherise Sims said Westlynn "has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to making our school a better place for everyone," through volunteering in the community, advocating for her peers and fostering an inclusive environment.

Teachers called Westlynn a "go-getter" who finishes assignments early and helps classmates, as well as "one of the greatest silent, behind-the-scenes leaders we have on the campus."

The ceremony featured student musical performances. Kassandra Valencia sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and Isaac Arguello, Israel Lopez and Andres

Ortiz played "El Pávido Návido" and "El Sinaloense."

Social science teacher Kellie Gorelick introduced the valedictorian, Sophia Felix, who is the third of her siblings to be named top of the class at Liberty Ranch (after Zachary in 2020 and Isabella in 2022).

Gorelick commended Felix for the valedictorian's academic and athletic accomplishments, noting that Felix completed more than nine Advanced Placement classes and three honors classes, as well as being named female athlete of the year. Felix's most admirable quality, Gorelick said, is her respect for those around her.

Felix then took the podium, where she thanked her parents for instilling "my siblings and I with strong values that contributed greatly to our academic success."

"I'd also like to thank my siblings, Zach and Bella, who are also valedictorians, for basically pulling me to be valedictorian, because they said they'd make fun of me if I wasn't," Felix added with a laugh.



Valedictorian Sophia Felix gives a heartfelt speech.

The valedictorian encouraged the soon-to-be graduates to spend time with their families before heading off to higher education. Felix urged her classmates not to focus too much on others' progress.

"Remember that comparison is the thief of joy," Felix said. "Comparing yourself to others and what they've done only minimizes your ability to celebrate your own accomplishments."

Felix concluded with the hope that she and her classmates would go on to even better times than they experienced in high school.

Senior class adviser Anngela Schroeder

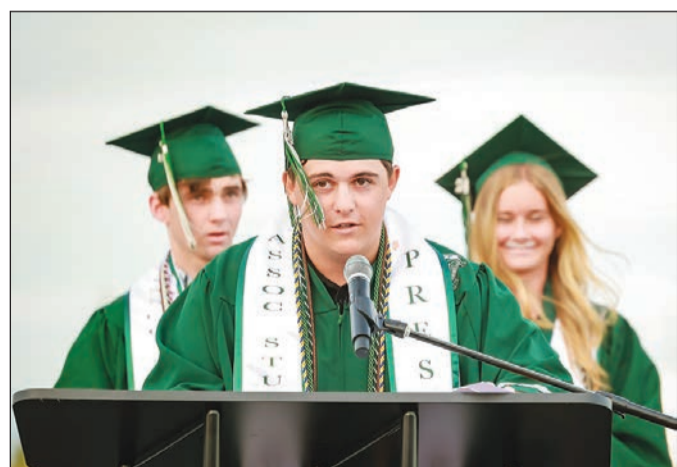


Savanah Westlynn receives the Citizenship Award from Liberty Ranch High School Principal Joe Saramago, left.

told the students that she was reluctant to rush her final time seeing them all together.

"I want to take this moment and freeze it," Schroeder said. She shared some final words of wisdom, calling on the seniors to be patient, choose joy, live in the present and make a difference.

"You are a chosen generation, one that has glory trailing from your feet and endless promise in your eyes," Schroeder said. "Know that we have faith in you and your decisions. We look forward to celebrating your future triumphs because we are your family. We are Liberty Ranch." ★



**Yay, Aliza & Mario!**

*Estamos más que orgullosos de sus logros! Esto es solo el comienzo de su primer capítulo de su vida adulta haci que a seguir dándole duro.*  
 Congratulations, Twins! Remember to keep having each others backs like Bonnie & Clyde (Lol) We love you guys!  
 Mom, Dad, Princess Laysha & Danny.  
 (Remember: The Sky is the Limit )

**Congratulations Jack!**

We are so proud of you.  
 Love, Mom, Dad, & Ava

**Congrats, Mateo!**

We are very proud of you. Good luck at Sonoma State.  
 Love, Familia Maciel

# Estrellita High Graduation

## Estrellita Urges Graduates to Keep on Learning

By Matthew Malone  
News Editor

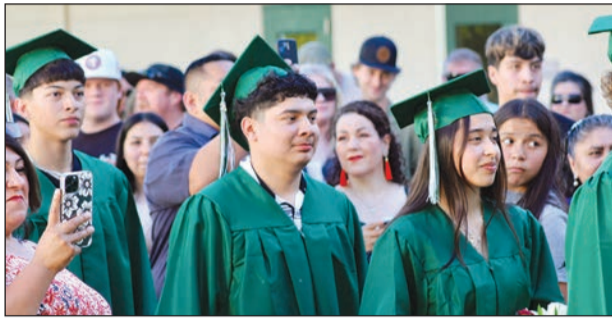
**GALT, CA (MPG)** - With a graduation ceremony on June 4, Estrellita High School celebrated years of hard work by 18 students.

“Each of you has overcome unique challenges, navigated obstacles and persevered with unwavering strength to reach this pivotal moment in your life,” Estrellita Principal Joe Schallberger told the graduating class. “Today, we celebrate not only your academic achievement but your courage and your perseverance and your commitment to never give up, no matter the odds.”

Schallberger continued that “life is a continuous learning experience and every setback, every triumph and every moment of growth is an opportunity to further enrich your understanding of the world and yourselves.”

Estrellita recognizes three students, nominated and selected by teachers, for demonstrating citizenship, “grit” and academic achievement.

The Citizenship Award, for a student exemplifying great character, was given



Estrellita graduates proceed into the graduation ceremony.

to Daniel Zaragoza, who served as Estrellita’s student representative on the high school district board.

“I look forward to what he’s going to accomplish in the future,” social studies teacher Clark Carter said before presenting the award.

The Grit Award recognizes perseverance, and science teacher Doug Till named Joseph Dominguez as the recipient.

“This student kept his focus when those around him didn’t. He didn’t pay any heed to the drama that was surrounding him,” Till said, commending Dominguez’s respectful attitude and dedication to finishing assignments.

The Academic Achievement Award and an accompanying scholarship went to Aurora Watson.

English teacher Doug

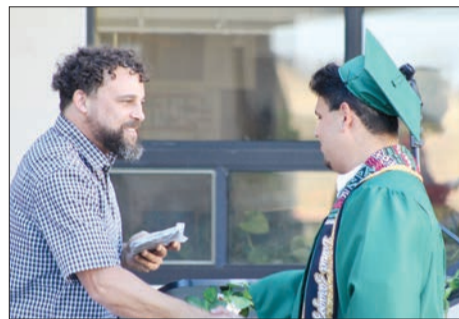
Parrott praised Watson for editing her work multiple times, “aiming for that perfect score.”

“Also, this student had, and I assume still has, a deep desire to actually learn. Almost every day at lunch, I could count on a deeper discussion of the plot, characters and themes of whatever we were reading, which I love,” Parrott said.

The Estrellita graduates of 2024 are Zaragoza, Dominguez, Watson, Briana Alfaro, Joe Bracamonte, Nicole Brinkerhoff, Christopher Campos, Isaac Castillo, Edwin Cervantes, Jordon Davis, Enrique Dominguez, Gabriel Garcia, T.J. Klein, Stefani Medina-Cerros, Matthew Peterson, Omar Ramirez, Justin Razo and Cody Shelton.



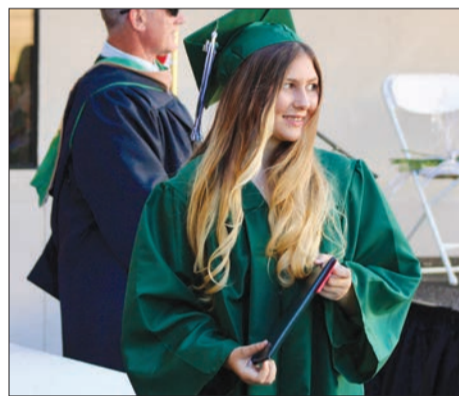
Estrellita High School celebrated 18 students in its Class of 2024. Photos by Matthew Malone



Daniel Zaragoza, right, receives the Citizenship Award from social studies teacher Clark Carter.



Science teacher Doug Till announces Joseph Dominguez as recipient of the Grit Award for perseverance.



Aurora Watson received the Academic Achievement Award.



A graduate fist-bumps a teacher after receiving his diploma.



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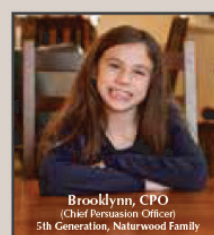
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