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# Elk Grove Citizen

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*Spiritual Care*

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## Rotary Grove Refreshed



Members of Rotary Club of Elk Grove and Cosumnes Community Services District take part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the revitalization of Rotary Grove in Elk Grove Regional Park. Photos by Matthew Malone

**By Matthew Malone**  
Staff Writer

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - The Rotary Grove picnic area at Elk Grove Regional Park is back in service, with Cosumnes Community Services District and Rotary Club of Elk Grove coming together on June 12 to celebrate the “revitalized” space’s new look.

As the previous wooden structure at Rotary Grove aged and became less safe, Cosumnes Community Services District and Rotary worked together to plan a new structure.

The renovated picnic area is built on a circular concrete footprint, with steel shade structures extending inward from the edges. Picnic tables are spaced around the circle, and a large image of the Rotary wheel logo is at the center. Rotary’s Wall of Honor, for recognizing notable members, is engraved with nearly 60 names, with room for more.

Landscape director Christine Manitta said the

shade structures have a cantilevered design that places the support posts toward the edge of the space to avoid blocking views of the center. The steel would ensure longevity, she said, and laser-cut shade panels give “dappled shade, reminiscent of the original structure that was here.”

The Wall of Honor was refurbished using the original granite slabs, which were refinished and re-engraved by the original manufacturer.

General Services director Amanda Chehrezad pointed out that the trees that shade the picnic area, planted by Rotary, are also part of the amenity.

“It’s really a physical representation of the vision of Rotary, which is to see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change,” Chehrezad said.

Elk Grove Rotary President Cathy Guy imagined the kinds of events that the space could host, such as wedding receptions, birthday parties and



The refurbished Rotary Grove features steel shade structures designed to give “dappled shade” and a concrete picnic area.



The picnic area includes Rotary’s wheel logo at the center.

fundraisers.

“This amazing space is made in part by Rotary’s commitment to look for opportunities to improve communities and invest

in the next generation for tomorrow,” Guy said, emphasizing Rotary’s values of service and action.

“The Rotary Club of  
*Continued on Page 2*



## Council Delays Budget Vote

**By Matthew Malone**  
Staff Writer

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - Elk Grove City Council on June 12 took a second look at the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024-25 but it held off on a vote so that all councilmembers could have a say.

City Council agreed to postpone the final vote until its June 26 regular meeting because Councilmember Darren Suen was absent on June 12.

The budget increased by \$1.3 million over the initial presentation on May 22. Budget manager Nathan Bagwill said this additional spending included a \$1 million increase to Wilton Rancheria because of revised project costs for Kammerer Road, \$1 million more expected from state grants for the Elk Grove library relocation, as well as a reduction in expected gas tax and an increase in funds for the city’s curb ramp project.

In a Capital Improvement Program preview, which will be presented at a future meeting, Bagwill listed projects that will advance in fiscal year 2024-25, including trails, library, storm drain and pavement improvements, as well as the Kammerer extension to Bruceville Road.

Bagwill said the city will spend its share of Measure E sales tax revenue on a variety of items based on community priorities, such as additional police officers and license plate reader cameras to address the interest in reducing crime. Money will go toward homeless shelter options and subsidies to support permanent housing. Graffiti abatement efforts, a facade improvement plan and an Elk Grove Automall master plan will also get funding.

Measure E will also fund traffic light enhancements and an overlay of Laguna Boulevard from Laguna Springs Drive to Bruceville.

The budget included the equivalent of 15 new full-time positions. Measure E will fund two police officers and two dispatch supervisors. The General

*Continued on Page 2*

## Support for School Bonds Ticks Up

**By Matthew Malone**  
Staff Writer

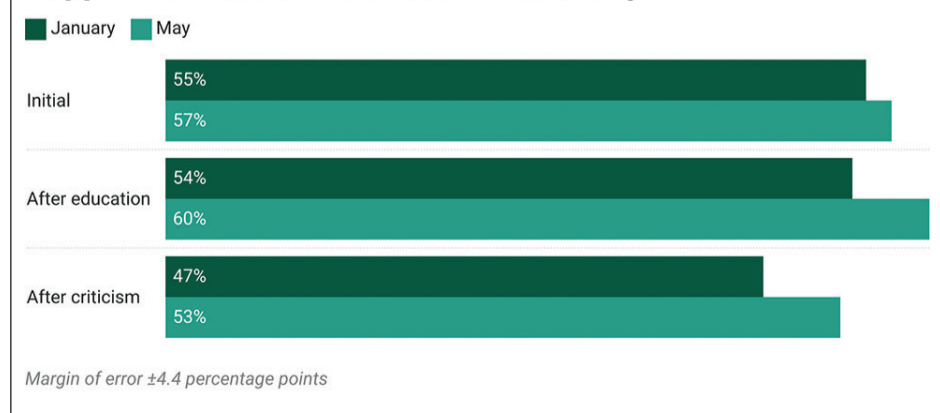
**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - Elk Grove Unified School District might have a “viable path forward” for a bond measure in the November election, district staff said at the Board of Education’s June 11 meeting.

Deputy Superintendent Kristen Coates presented this conclusion while going over the results of an updated opinion poll that surveyed 500 likely voters within the district. Conducted in May by True North Research, the survey is the district’s second after one performed in January.

The board did not take official action during the informational item.

The highest priority among respondents was

### Support for Education Bonds in Jan., May



A survey conducted in May saw increases in support for an education bond since January, both on first impression and after presenting educational and critical statements regarding bonds. Chart by Matthew Malone • Created with Datawrapper • Data via Elk Grove Unified School District

“improving the quality of education in local public schools,” with 89% considering it “very important” or “extremely important.” Repairing and renovating school facilities scored lower, with 67% giving those ratings.

“All that really tells us is voters don’t care about facilities as much as they care about what’s happening in the facilities,” Coates said.

Other major focuses, with at least 80% support, were reducing crime,

improving public safety and maintaining streets.

Coates explained that the district can adjust the bond language and purpose, according to voter preferences. She noted that the district lowered

*Continued on Page 2*

# K-ZAP Radio Launches 'Feed the Kitty' Donation Drive

## K-ZAP News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Sacramento's beloved K-ZAP, the all-volunteer LPFM rock/blues radio station broadcasting 24/7 at 93.3 FM in the metro Sacramento area, on the K-ZAP apps and streaming at k-zap.org, launched its "10 To Feed the Kitty" donation drive on June 9. The station is calling on its listeners to donate just \$10 each to help keep the lights on and the tunes rolling.

Founded by former staff members of the legendary Sacramento radio station KZAP, Dennis Newhall and Tom Cale, K-ZAP has been a staple in the Sacramento community since its return to



**Peter Rizzo is the promotions director and underwriter at K-ZAP.** Photo courtesy of K-ZAP

the airwaves on July 4, 2015. Now, as the station approaches its ninth anniversary, it is looking to the community for support to continue its mission

of providing quality rock/blues music to Sacramento and the world.

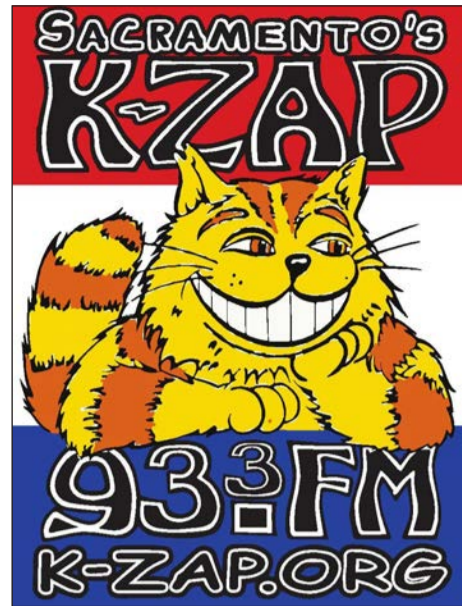
"We've been rocking Sacramento for nine years now, and we want to keep the party going," said Newhall, station general manager and owner. "With the '10 To Feed the Kitty' campaign, we're asking our listeners to help us reach our goal of raising \$100,000 by July 4. It's a small amount that can make a big difference."

The "10 To Feed the Kitty" donation drive will run from now until July 4. Listeners can donate online at k-zap.org/donate using their credit, debit card or Venmo. In addition to the online campaign, K-ZAP

will be promoting the drive at various events in the community, including the Carmichael Concerts in The Park on June 15 and the Red White & Blue Celebration at La Sierra Community Center on June 29.

"We're not asking for a lot, just \$10 from each of our listeners," said Peter Rizzo, promotions director and underwriter. "We know that a little can go a long way, and we're hoping that with the support of our community, we can continue to provide the best rock/blues music to Sacramento and the world."

For more information, contact Newhall at dnewhall@k-zap.org or Rizzo at prizzo@k-zap.org. ★



**K-Zap has been a widely beloved radio station in the Sacramento area for many years.** Photo courtesy of K-Zap

# Rotary Grove Refreshed



**Rotary Club of Elk Grove President Cathy Guy speaks at the ceremony for the revitalized Rotary Grove.** Photos by Matthew Malone



**Rotary International District 5180 Governor Sidney Smith speaks about the significance of the new Rotary Grove.**

*Continued from page 1*  
Elk Grove will continue to look forward with hope, enthusiasm and passion to enhance the quality of life of Elk Grove residents," she concluded.

Cosumnes Community Services District board President Jim Luttrell said

the revitalization would help the district meet the needs of the growing Elk Grove community, and he praised Rotary's collaboration on the effort.

"It's amazing what they've done to make this grotto beautiful," Luttrell said.

Sidney Smith, governor of Rotary International District 5180, said he wanted community members to know that Rotary Grove is there for them. The governor, whose district encompasses Elk Grove and the Sacramento area, continued that the



**Rotary's Wall of Honor was re-engraved, with space to add many more Rotarians in the future.**

grove shows Rotary and Cosumnes Community Services District's dedication to sustainable community.

"Sustainability means that we share what we have in common more than what divides us. Our community is a prime example of what can happen when people come together and work together in unity and

a spirit of cooperation," Smith said, adding that the renovated Rotary Grove shows that "some great things can happen" when delivering on promises and looking for solutions to problems.

Rotary and Cosumnes Community Services District members who collaborated on the project can know that their work is



**Cosumnes Community Services District Parks and Recreation administrator Traci Farris speaks at the Rotary Grove ceremony.**

"not in vain," Smith said.

"For generations to come, people will be able to come to this park and know that not only is this a safe place, a place where you can bring your families, but this is a place that you can be proud of," Smith said. ★

# Council Delays Budget Vote

*Continued from page 1*

Fund will pay for a communications and marketing specialist and two veterinary employees, and boost an administrative assistant from part time to full time.

Seven of the positions are conversions from contract workers to city staff: five engineering positions, a construction supervisor and an administrative assistant.

In five-year projections for the various city funds, Bagwill anticipated moderate growth in gas tax income from \$5.05 million in the current fiscal year to \$5.36 million in 2028-29.

Public commenter Lynn Wheat recommended putting Measure E money toward murals or ivy for regularly defaced walls. She questioned the importance of economic development for community members compared to traffic, homelessness and other issues.

Answering a question on the gas tax projections

from Councilmember Kevin Spease, Bagwill said the city gets the estimates from the League of California Cities.

When Spease noted an increasing number of fuel-efficient and electric cars, finance director Matthew Paulin said this currently has a relatively small impact; he also noted consideration of changes to how the state accounts for road usage in ways that also charge electric-car owners.

Spease agreed with the spending on graffiti and litter abatement and homelessness. He supported Wheat's suggestion of ivy plantings.

Spease and other councilmembers praised the city's favorable financial position, which they partly attributed to Measure E's passage.

Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen called it "compelling" that there were no cuts to jobs or services, saying it was the

aspect of the document that stood out to her most. Singh-Allen commended the budgeting process and Measure E allocations.

Councilmember Sergio Robles asked about recycling and waste collection, noting that since the repayment of bonds for the city's special waste collection center, the related fund has been accruing money.

Staff said the funds would go to repairs and expansion of the center, as well as adding service on Saturdays.

Vice-Mayor Rod Brewer said the budget is "consistent to where we are as a city. We're providing safety, resiliency. It's in tune with our values. It's in tune with our focus on what we want to do with infrastructure and now we can actually focus on the next five years."

Brewer supported graffiti abatement but he voiced concern about the infrastructure deterioration that ivy might cause. ★

# Support for School Bonds Ticks Up

*Continued from page 1*

the proposed bond amount from \$845 million to \$542 million, to reduce the potential burden on taxpayers.

The May survey found slight increases in support from January. Asked their first impression on the measure, 57% of respondents said they would "probably" or "definitely" vote for bonds, 2 percentage points higher than in January.

After hearing educational statements, support rose to 60%, 6 percentage points higher than before. Then, after critical statements, support dropped to 53%, 6 percentage points higher.

An education bond measure needs at least 55% of the vote to pass, and the survey's margin of error is plus or minus 4.4 percentage points.

Coates said True North "believes a bond is feasible but not without community outreach."

Superintendent Christopher Hoffman expressed "guarded optimism" about a measure's chances.

In public comment, former district employee Jennifer Ballerini said the district should prioritize sports stadiums at high school sites.

Trustee Anthony Perez asked about the differences between the proposed bond measure and past bonds, including the district's Measure M, passed in 2016. Coates said Measure M was intended to bring old facilities up to modern standards.

She noted that a priority of the current proposal is to construct new facilities to ease overcrowding.

"I think 'guarded optimism' is a word and a phrase that we will probably continue to use," board President Gina Jamerson said.

During general public comment, Cosumnes Oaks High School students asked for district

support in starting a school chapter of HOSA-Future Health Professionals, formerly known as Health Occupation Students of America.

She said that the organization provides ways for students to explore a future health care career.

They planned to cover many fees through their own fundraising but cited other costs, including attendance and travel to conferences.

Representatives of local performing arts groups voiced frustration with a booking system for the Sheldon High School performing arts center.

Jason Bramham, a manager for the performing arts center, said the system, run by Facilitron, was plagued by delays and uncertainty over date availability.

In other business, the board unanimously passed a resolution encouraging secure firearm storage in homes to ensure on-campus safety. ★



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# Rec Center to Offer 'Holistic' Fitness at Morse Park

By Matthew Malone  
Staff Writer

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - The CORE Recreation Center, under construction at Morse Community Park, is projected to draw more than 1,700 members by 2026, Cosumnes Community Services District (CSD) staff said at the June 5 board of directors' regular meeting.

Deputy project manager Fred Bremerman helped present the CORE business plan, which he said was developed based on demographic data of the surrounding area and a feasibility study on the project.

One of CORE's selling points is its "holistic" approach to fitness.

"CORE is more than a sports and fitness facility; CORE will be the best place to build energy, productivity and longevity for our community," Bremerman said.

Plans for the fitness center include high-quality amenities, workouts for a range of ages and abilities, and a clean environment, according to Bremerman.

Most of the patrons are expected to come from within a three-mile radius or about a 15-minute drive, Bremerman said, which encompasses the West Laguna, Lakeside, Stonelake, Laguna, Laguna Ridge and Southeast Policy Area.

Within the three-mile radius are 111,000 residents and, according to Bremerman, planned development in south Elk Grove would add another 40,000 residents.

Bremerman framed CORE as a "mid-market" and "high customer



A rendering shows the CORE Recreation Center planned for Morse Community Park. Image courtesy of Cosumnes Community Services District

service" offering in the fitness space, with an adult membership fee of \$69 per month. There will be five membership levels for children, additional family members, Cosumnes Community Services District staff and CORE ambassadors. Membership for older adults will cost \$10 per month. There will also be a discount for buying a membership during a presale period.

Enrollment will cost \$20 and daily admission will cost \$14.

Recreation manager Jay Long said CORE would reduce or eliminate wait lists for the district's most in-demand sports programs. Offerings will include open gym, sports academies, peewee sports, court rentals and party packages.

The district has goals of using no additional General Fund money to run CORE, of balancing income and expenses at the center within three years of opening, and of repaying startup funds within five years.

A financial plan projected revenue of about \$500,000 in the upcoming fiscal year, 2024-2025, increasing over the following years to \$2.9 million in 2027-2028. Losses of \$400,000 and \$200,000 were anticipated for the first two fiscal years of operation. In the following two years, CORE is projected to turn a profit.

Bremerman said this projection has to do with a breakeven point at about 1,700 members.

To promote long-term financial sustainability, Bremerman said, CORE will

reinvest profits in its equipment and building maintenance, and in the expansion of its staff and program offerings.

The directors praised the plan and presentation.

Director Peter Sakaris emphasized the plan to pay back the startup funds and asked whether higher enrollment would raise the rate of repayment. Bremerman said that was true.

"I think the model is very unique. It's a lot different than the other what I want to call fitness gyms around. We are going to be interactive with not only the individual but with the family. I think that's a great model," Sakaris said.

The board voted to accept the 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan. Scott Jones, the district's engineering, development and design director, said the 300-page document lays out plans for physical development at all district facilities, including parks and fire stations, as well as repair projects. The plan covers the upcoming five years but is updated annually.

Jones said the implementation of projects in the plan depends on funding availability.

Major projects planned for fiscal year 2024-2025 include the CORE Recreation Center, solar and parking lot improvements, and Unity Park in southern Elk Grove.

Director Angela Spease thanked Jones for the "thorough discussion" and the board approved the plan 4-0. Director Gil Albani was absent. ★

## Planning Passes Lot Split for Sheldon Dialysis, Adult Day Care

By Matthew Malone  
Staff Writer

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - The Elk Grove Planning Commission on June 6 approved a parcel split for an upcoming commercial development on Sheldon Road.

The Sheldon Farms North Commercial Project is located on five acres on the southeast corner of Sheldon and

Bruceville roads. A tentative parcel map submitted to the city requested splitting the parcel into two lots, each of which would be the site of a single building and parking. According to the maps, the eastern parcel will be occupied by a dialysis clinic and the western parcel will house an adult day care.

Construction is already underway at the project.

The commission authorized previous steps in the project, starting in 2020.

Casey Feickert, vice president of applicant TSD Engineering, said the firm had no comment on the conditions of approval and that it is "happy" to move forward with the parcel split.

The commissioners had no immediate comment on the project, and they approved it by unanimous vote.

Later, Planning Commission Vice-Chair Juan Fernandez said that when the project first came before the commission, he had not known what an adult day care is.

"It's good to note that it's under construction," Fernandez said.

The commission agreed to cancel its scheduled June 20 meeting due to a lack of planned items and it canceled its July 4 meeting because of Independence Day. ★

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# Fighting Through Homelessness to Housing

## Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) -** Keri and Sandra look fondly at each other with a bond forged by two people who have shown up for each other during some hard times. Sandra went through other case managers but somehow when she met Keri, she knew that Keri would be the one to help her change her life.

“She loves her clients; you can just tell,” Sandra said. “And she always tells the truth. I appreciate that.”

Keri lowers her head in acknowledgment; it’s true, she does love her clients. But she’s quick to return the compliment: “Sandra always showed up. She always does the work. She is on it.”

The mutual respect they have for one another might seem trivial, but it isn’t. Missed connections and opportunities are the top reasons folks don’t get housed. Lost paperwork, lost phones, lost and broken relationships.

Keri is a Community Health Worker with Community Health Works (CoHeWo), an outreach organization contracted by Sacramento County to do encampment outreach in the parkway, unincorporated county and with the multi-disciplinary teams in the City of Sacramento. CoHeWo outreach staff provide support and services ranging from helping to get an I.D. to rehousing, furnishing a new apartment or helping with a deposit. But more than anything, CoHeWo staff relentlessly show up with compassion and a drive to make a difference in the lives of their clients.

Sandra lost her job driving for Lyft at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. After 20 years as a security guard, she decided to make a change to a job that allowed her to set her own hours and income, and also pay for an apartment and a steady rotation of leased cars. When the pandemic hit, Lyft fired her. She sued

for wrongful termination but the case was tied up for years. Her income vanished. Her ability to pay for her apartment and car: gone. She lost her home and her car within a matter of months and had very little money to live on. Sandra spent a few weeks on her daughter’s couch, but the strained relationship wore out her welcome faster than expected.

Sandra bounced around between living in a tent on the river and near Township 9, living in the City Safe Ground, and eventually living in her car after winning her wrongful termination suit. She went through and graduated from several programs, including Salvation Army, Women’s Empowerment and Mather Community Campus.

“Being homeless is a fight, every day,” Sandra said. “People slashed my tent and stole my stuff. I try to keep to myself; I don’t want trouble. It is dangerous out here as a woman alone.”

One day, a border collie dog jumped into the back of her car. The dog refused to get out and had no collar. Sandra took her to the nearest vet to scan her for a chip. With no chip detected and a seemingly instant bond, Sandra decided to keep her and name her Lady. Sandra scheduled her for spay surgery, but Lady got pregnant before that day came. Sandra was able to rehome all the puppies, except one: a spirited, split-nosed mix that stole her heart and captured the attention of everyone he met! Lucky became quite an attraction. His nasal cavities formed independently, creating a unique look.

When Keri took over Sandra’s case, Sandra knew that somehow, this community health worker was different. She would be the one to get her into housing. Keri and Sandra looked for places to get shelter, but Sandra’s situation proved difficult. Because of her two big

dogs, Sandra’s options were very limited. While some shelters now accept pets, pets have historically been a huge barrier to people getting shelter. Sacramento County has been working to change those restrictions with its Safe Stay shelter model that allows people to shelter, with their pets, in individual units. No one should have to choose between the safety of shelter and their pet.

Keri worked with Sandra for nearly six months before she was able to get her a referral into the Wong Center, now known as Mutual Housing’s project “The Boulevard.” The Boulevard is an affordable housing project with 127 units, 50 of them funded by the Sacramento County Division of Behavioral Health to be used as Permanent Supportive Housing for clients exiting homelessness who also have behavioral health challenges. Applications can be extremely competitive, given the incredible need for affordable housing in the region.

Keri and Sandra worked tirelessly to get all the documents Sandra needed to qualify for her apartment: financial receipts, EBT documentation and Chime receipts. She was able to get into the lottery system for a unit.

“Getting an affordable housing unit requires so much work. You have to jump through a lot of hoops. So many people don’t want to do it, but I was willing to. I did the work. That is why I got in. I met so many people out on the river who really just want winter housing. But I was desperate for permanent housing.”

On March 19, 2024, Sandra, Lady and Lucky moved into their brand-new apartment at The Boulevard. The County’s contract with CoHeWo paid for furniture, towels, a microwave and cleaning supplies to get her started.

“I know I am lucky to be here, but I also know I



Sandra finds lots of happiness through her canine companions. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

earned this,” Sandra said. “I did the work I needed to do. I showed up. I checked in every week. I never gave up. And I had Keri. She helped me so much.”

Sandra is the supervisor of the Garden Club at the Boulevard. She is responsible for making sure the garden is watered and the children stay out of it. At night, she volunteers her time as their security guard. She hopes that she will one day have another paid job doing what she enjoys. Sandra loves to draw, paint and make jewelry. Making skull jewelry is her favorite design.

Everyone loves Lady and Lucky. Lucky, with his bizarre nose, is a great conversation starter.

Sandra lives a pretty quiet life. While she gets along with everyone, she still spends most of her time alone with her dogs and stays out of trouble: “I recognize a lot of people here from out on the streets. I am always thinking like a security guard.”

For now, Sandra can stay at The Boulevard, but one of her main barriers to long-term housing is that she doesn’t have any source of income. Focused on stabilizing her

life, with a strong emphasis on her health, is her No. 1 priority. Sandra has had various forms of cancer for more than 30 years. Sandra is a survivor, but she knows the clock is ticking. Establishing a healthcare provider through CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) will get her the help she needs. Sandra’s referral has been approved and she is just waiting for a primary care provider to be assigned.

“I’m positive God still has a plan for me,” Sandra said. “I am not through yet.” ★

## MEETING MINDERS

Community members can watch these meetings online and submit public comments for the officials to review.

**The Elk Grove City Council** has its regular meetings at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. To view the meeting, visit the city of Elk Grove’s website, [www.ElkGroveCity.org](http://www.ElkGroveCity.org).

**The Elk Grove Planning Commission** has its online meetings at 6 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of the month.

A live video stream of this meeting can be viewed at the city of Elk Grove’s

website, [www.ElkGroveCity.org](http://www.ElkGroveCity.org).

**The Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors** has in-person meetings at 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month. It governs the Cosumnes Fire Department as well as Elk Grove’s parks and recreation system.

The CSD board meetings can be watched live at [www.CosumnesCSD.gov](http://www.CosumnesCSD.gov) and they are held at 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

**The Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees** will meet Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. This meeting is in-person

at the Cosumnes Community Services District headquarters, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

Members of the public can also view it online by using the Zoom application and visiting the school district’s website, [www.EGUSD.net](http://www.EGUSD.net).

Past board meetings can be watched on the district’s YouTube channel, “ElkGroveUnified.”

**The Florin Resource Conservation District Board**, which governs the Elk Grove Water District, holds online

meetings every third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. These meetings are held via the Zoom application.

To access them, visit the district’s website, [www.egwd.org](http://www.egwd.org).

**The Elk Grove-Cosumnes Cemetery District Board** has in-person meetings every second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. They meet at their district office, 8540 Elk Grove Blvd.

Attendees are required to wear face coverings and practice social distancing. Find agendas at [www.EGCCD.com](http://www.EGCCD.com). ★



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## Elk Grove Citizen

*Serving Elk Grove and Sacramento County since 1909*




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

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**Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.**

# ABOUT TOWN

## Historical Society Yard Sale

The Elk Grove Historical Society's yard sale is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 20-23. Members of the public are invited to the society's location at 9941 E. Stockton Blvd. to peruse antique and vintage items, such as clothing, jewelry and furniture. For more information, visit [elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com](http://elkgrovehistoricalsociety.com).

## GOALS Annual Picnic June 29

The annual picnic for Growth Oriented Adapted Learning Skills (GOALS) will take place on June 29 at Elk Grove Regional Park. The free event for families and friends of people with disabilities will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Site 9B. It will include music, dancing, bingo, and food catered by Tequilas Don Juan. RSVP by June 25. To find more information or to RSVP, visit [goals-us.org](http://goals-us.org).

## Girls Basketball Camp Scheduled Aug. 3

Bill McClintock's Frontline Basketball Camp will offer girls ages 12 to 18 the opportunity to build their basketball skills. The camp will be held Aug. 3, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Cosumnes River College, and it is designed for players in the forward and post positions. Registration costs \$100, and the registration deadline is July 15. To register, visit [frontlinebasketball.com](http://frontlinebasketball.com).

For questions, contact Bill McClintock by phone at 831-233-8760 or by email at [bmcc42@gmail.com](mailto:bmcc42@gmail.com).

## Jazz and Blues Hour Held Monthly

The monthly Jazz and Blues Hour concert series will bring various bands and musicians to Elk Grove Presbyterian Church (8153 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 50) on first Sundays through November. Performances start at 4 p.m., and attendees are asked to make a \$10 donation at the door. For more information, email [jbvespers@gmail.com](mailto:jbvespers@gmail.com) or call Nan Mahon at 916-806-9476. Upcoming acts are: July 7, Tressa Gaye's Twisted Jazz; Aug. 4, Julie and the Jukes (blues); Sept. 1, Gary Mendoza Trio (jazz); Oct. 6, Papa Day Blues Band (blues); and Nov. 3, Beth Duncan (jazz).

## Widowed Persons Social Club Activities for June, July

The Widowed Persons Social Club (WPSC) will host the following activities: June 21 - 10 a.m. - Pinochle at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Jim at 916-768-1923. June 25 - 5 p.m. - Dinner at Cattleman's Steakhouse, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Contact is Delberta at 916-769-8869. June 26 - 1 p.m. - Book Club at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact is

Merrylynn at 916-549-4264.

June 27 - noon - No-host Lunch and Bunco at Round Table, 8795 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 1 - 10:30 a.m. - WPSC Board Meeting at the Oaks Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 116 Calle Entrada. Open to all members. July 1 - noon - Lunch at Mongolian BBQ, 8259 Laguna Blvd. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 4 - noon - no-host Lunch & Bunco at Round Table, 8795 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 5 - 10 a.m. Pinochle at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Jim at 916-768-1923. July 6 - 10:30 a.m. - Coffee Gathering at Peet's Coffee, 7127 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 7 - 4 p.m. - Jazz and Blues Hour - Susan Skinner Quartet - Jazz. Elk Grove Presbyterian Church, 8153 Elk Grove Blvd. \$10 donation at the door. July 10 - noon - no-host Lunch followed by Beginners Pinochle at Original Mike's, 9139 East Stockton Blvd. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 12 - 10 a.m. - Hand and Foot card game at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Gerri at 916-698-1940. July 15 - 11:30 a.m. - Mahjongg at the Oaks Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 116 Calle Entrada. Contact is Pat Hunter, 530-559-0191. July 18 - noon - General Meeting at Valley Hi Country Club, 9595 Franklin Blvd., \$35

includes lunch. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance by calling Pat at 916-802-4524. July 19 - 10 a.m. Pinochle at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Jim at 916-768-1923. July 25 - noon - no-host Lunch & Bunco at Round Table, 8795 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact Evelyn at 916-685-9669. July 26 - 10 a.m. - Hand and Foot card game at La Bou, 8694 Elk Grove Blvd. Contact is Gerri at 916-698-1940. July 30 - 5 p.m. - Dinner at Cattleman's Steakhouse, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Contact is Delberta at 916-769-8869. July 31 - 1 p.m. - Book Club at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact is Merrylynn at 916-549-4264.

A widowed person can attend up to three events before joining Widowed Persons Social Club. Contact Bonnie Dale at 916-422-1522 if you are interested in membership.

## American Legion Post 233 Invites Veterans

The Elk Grove American Legion Post 233, established in 1994, invites veterans to our monthly meetings every 4th Thursday of the month at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Our next meeting is July 25th. For questions, please contact Henry at 916-205-9296 C or Sue at 916-683-6128. ★

# POLICE LOGS

## Thursday, June 6

12:11 a.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway: Elk Grove Police arrested Iosefo Tuigamala, 58, on trespassing charges. 10:09 a.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Sione Mafi, 27, on corporal injury to an intimate partner charges. 6:26 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Samantha Singh, 29, on domestic battery charges.

## Friday, June 7

2:11 a.m., Bruceville Road/Calvine Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Brevin Clark, 23, on reckless driving charges. 1:23 p.m., 4400 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Vincent Tomas, 43, on warrant charges. 3:13 p.m., Laguna Boulevard/West Stockton Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Taneeka Williams, 27, on unlawful tear gas possession charges. 4:05 p.m., 9100 block of Harbour Point Drive: Elk

Grove Police arrested Noel Garcia, 26, on carjacking charges. 6:25 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Austin Roman, 32, on corporal injury to an intimate partner charges. 10:17 p.m., 9100 block of Harbour Point Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Lane Holbrook, 42, on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest.

## Saturday, June 8

3:52 p.m., 8800 block of Calvine Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Chane Xiong, 40, and Thomas Vang, 36, on warrant charges and charges of meth possession, drug paraphernalia possession, and burglary tool possession. 6 p.m., Elk Grove-Florin Road/Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Emaud Boctor, 60, on charges of receiving a stolen vehicle; unauthorized driving or taking of a vehicle; drug paraphernalia possession; narcotics, meth, and cannabis possession; controlled substance

transportation or sale; possessing or transporting cannabis to sell; and meth transportation or sale. 7:57 p.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway: Elk Grove Police arrested Ibohim Math, 51, on trespassing charges.

## Sunday, June 9

12:51 a.m., Power Inn Road/Auberry Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Mitchell Nguyen, 30, on charges of felony reckless evading, evading a peace officer by driving against traffic, resisting arrest, and DUI. 3:39 a.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Viktor Kolesnikov, 27, on charges of corporal injury to an intimate partner and child endangerment. 10:12 a.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway: Elk Grove Police arrested Leonard Camero, 42, on trespassing charges. 02:05 p.m., 9600 block of Bruceville Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Darrel Brookins, 23; Gloria Duenas, 23; and


Taniya Harris Davis, 22, on organized retail theft and conspiracy charges. 3 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Jeremy Grissom, 35, on restraining order violation charges. 9:36 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Hollymarie Enrile, 23, on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and corporal injury to an intimate partner. 11:39 p.m., 9100 block of Elk Grove-Florin Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Anthony Gibson, 40, and Brittany Rowe, 32, on warrant charges, and drug paraphernalia and meth possession charges.

## Monday, June 10

2:13 a.m., 10200 block of East Taron Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested an unidentified 15-year-old and an unidentified 13-year-old on charges of unauthorized driving or taking of a vehicle, felony reckless evading, resisting arrest, receiving a stolen vehicle, burglary tool possession, and conspiracy.

9:42 a.m., 8300 block of Power Inn Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Savoux Simpson, 24, on warrant charges. 11:18 a.m., 9100 block of West Stockton Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Allen Michael, 25, and Rafael Fernandez, 32, on charges of grand theft, conspiracy, resisting arrest, and felony reckless evading. 2:44 p.m., 8200 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Jimmy Ching, 31, on charges of resisting arrest, grand theft, and parole violation. 3:53 p.m., 8500 block of Bradshaw Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Amy Kielborn, 47, on warrant charges. Thursday, June 13 8:23 a.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Wendy Kerski, 50, on domestic battery charges. 9:30 a.m., 8400 block of Laguna Palms Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Omar Meneses on warrant

charges. Meneses was wanted on charges of restraining order violation, criminal threats, drug paraphernalia possession, and vandalism, according to jail records. 7:15 p.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway: Elk Grove Police arrested Anthony Schneider, 37, on trespassing charges. 9:39 p.m., Elk Grove Boulevard/Waterman Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Jovin Castro, 29, on DUI and warrant charges. Castro was wanted on charges of battery, battery causing serious bodily injury, assault with a deadly weapon, and weapon brandishing, according to jail records. 9:51 p.m., Kammerer Road/Highway 99: Elk Grove Police arrested Isidro Arciga, 41, on warrant charges. 11:07 p.m., Four Winds Drive/Windy Cove Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Jessica Nagen, 39, on DUI charges. ★

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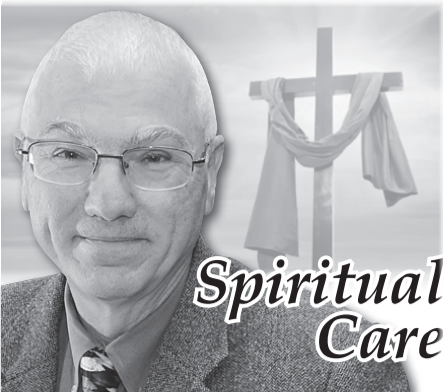
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**BY NORRIS BURKES**

# A Mickey Mouse Prayer

Disneyland here just for us! Amen.”  
It was a short prayer, but before any of us had time to blink, the other youth sponsor, Mrs. Obenshain, blurted her astonishment. “JE! Why would you say that? God didn’t make Disneyland. Mr. Disney did.”

Knowing JE as we did, we knew to expect a well-thought answer. JE was a Ford auto mechanic who had some practical ideas about God. He didn’t claim to know how this universe worked, but he could easily identify the things that did work.

“Sure he did!” JE insisted. “God created Mr. Disney’s mind, right?”

“Well, yes, but JE, honestly,” declared Mrs. O, “you can’t really conclude that ...”

JE was undeterred. “If God made Mr. Disney’s mind, then God must have created the picture of Disneyland in his mind long before Mr. Disney could draw it, right?”

“But JE ...” Mrs. O. was wavering.

“Look,” JE said in his Oklahoma twang, “don’t the Bible say, ‘All good things come from God?’”

Mrs. O. was slack-jawed, so JE continued. “And ain’t Disneyland a good thing?”

Deterred by logic too simple to be

wrong, Mrs. O. simply muttered something like, “Well, I guess so.”

I remember JE’s theology largely because I’ve heard it from a lot of patients over the years. They spoke with assurance that God made a certain hospital just for them. Or they believed that God placed a certain doctor or medicine to specifically help them.

I once heard a father tell me how a surgeon was going to reach into the center of his 2-year-old daughter’s brain and pull out a tumor.

And this was his theology: “God put this surgeon here for my daughter.”

His declaration, like JE’s, sounded at first more self-centered than God-centered.

Yet maybe not.

What I found astounding about both men was how they relied on an innate understanding of the works of God. Neither had graduated from a theological or philosophical school, yet they easily identified “goodness” as one of the most important attributes of God.

The father didn’t need to be a philosopher to acknowledge his good fortune at finding such a talented surgeon. Neither did JE have to be a Bible professor to recognize that Disneyland might provide one

of many tools he could use to mentor and instruct our youth group in God’s ways.

We often search far and wide to understand God. We read so much and attend every sort of lecture. Yet, I believe most of the time God continues to manifest his goodness in those people and things he’s placed directly in our paths.

In the end, Mrs. O. couldn’t refute JE’s theology.

Finally, she managed to mumble, “Do you have our tickets, JE?”

Her request signaled the end of the theological debate, and we rushed to get in line for Splash Mountain. For like JE, we all knew goodness when we saw it.

\*\*\*

*Readers: I’m flying to Honduras on Sunday to help establish the 86th library for Chispa Project. Currently, the library is just over half-funded.*

*Please share God’s goodness by giving online at [Chispaproject.org/chaplain](http://Chispaproject.org/chaplain) or make check to “Chispa Project.” Send to 10556 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602. Email [comment@thechaplain.net](mailto:comment@thechaplain.net) or message at (843) 608-9715. [www.thechaplain.net](http://www.thechaplain.net)* ★

## RELIGION NEWS

### Music and Sermon Topics at Elk Grove Presbyterian Church

Our Men’s Bible study meets every two weeks and we are currently studying the Book of Ecclesiastes.

#### MUSIC EVENTS

There was no traditional JAZZ & BLUES HOUR in May. However, the Triumphant Quartet performed in Elk Grove for the 5th year. It was a wonderful performance at District 56, with well over 100 people attending.

The four charities we help support – Chicks in Crisis, Elk Grove Food Bank, One Thousand Schools and Sacramento Stand Down each received a portion of the proceeds.

JAZZ & BLUES HOUR continues in July with Tressa Gaye’s Twisted Jazz for your enjoyment at 4pm Sunday, July 7th at our church.

#### SERMON TOPICS

Rev. Dexter McNamara has announced upcoming sermon topics:

June 9th – “The Threat of God’s Truth”; June 16th – Guest Preacher Rev. Jack McNary; June 23rd – Guest Preacher Rev. Joshua Trautmann; June 30th – “Love Overcoming Barriers”; July 7th – “Faith and Miracles”; July 14th – “The Power of Fear”; July 21st – “Teaching and Touching.”

Rev. McNamara recently addended a Pastors’ Conference at Zephyr Point focusing on Care for Creation and Relationships with Native Americans.

Rev. McNamara welcomes members and visitors every Sunday at 10 am. Our church is located at 8153 Elk Grove Blvd, Suite 50, facing Big Horn Blvd.

For more information Rev. McNamara can be reached at (916) 683-1435 or [elk-grovepres@gmail.com](mailto:elk-grovepres@gmail.com).

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

Begin your week with a congregation who

seeks to glorify Jesus Christ through singing and God’s Word, the Bible. Sunday worship service begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome. Our gatherings are at 9766 Waterman Road, Suite F (next to Mel Dogs restaurant).

For more information, call (916) 714-3444 or email: [office@gracechurcheg.org](mailto:office@gracechurcheg.org).

Check out our website at [GraceChurchEG.org](http://GraceChurchEG.org).

### St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church’s Mass Schedule

Elk Grove’s St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church invites everyone to their celebrations of Holy Mass. Mass will be held there at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon on Sundays.

They also have weekday Masses at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

The church’s office hours are Mon, Thurs, Fri, 9:30-2:30, Wed, 9:30-6:00. For more information, call (916) 647-4538, visit [www.SMGCC.net](http://www.SMGCC.net), or download the MyParish app

and enter the code, 55321. St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church is at 8700 Bradshaw Road.

### Chabad of Elk Grove’s Weekly Torah Classes

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

The course, “Flashbacks in Jewish History,” will examine how our past informs our future. Rabbi Chaim Groner is leading the discussion.

Classes are free. For location, call (917) 724-4443. Field of Hope United Church of Christ’s Services

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

Sunday School and nursery services are available.

For more information, visit [www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org](http://www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org). ★

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Worship Service 4th Friday 7:00 p.m.

**Full Gospel Church**  
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Elk Grove, CA 95624  
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916-685-6607  
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Sunday Worship 11am

**St. Peter’s Lutheran Church**  
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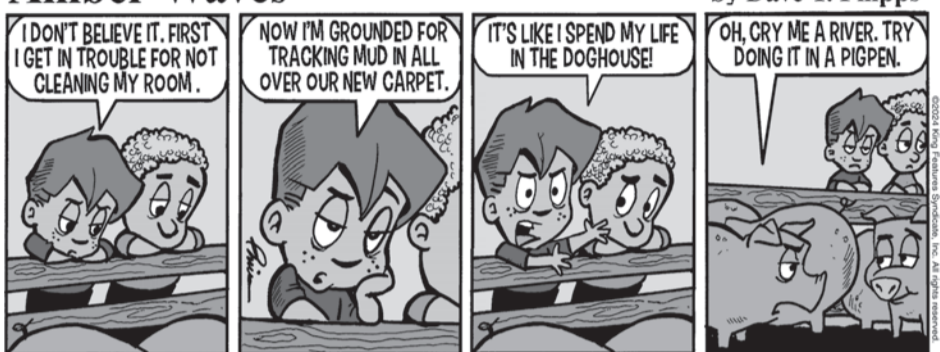
# COMICS & PUZZLES

## The Spats



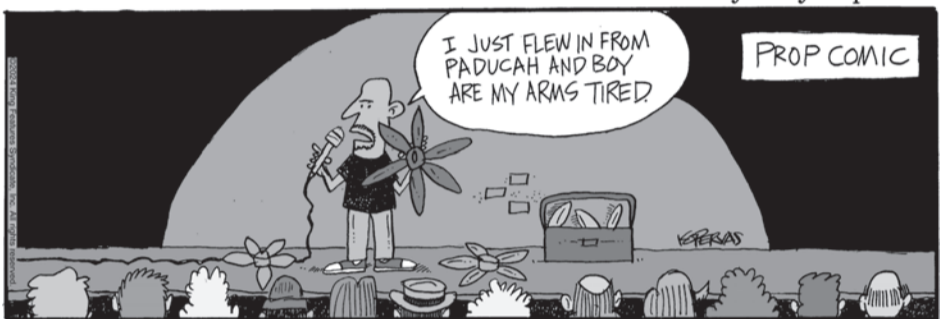
by Jeff Pickering

## Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

## Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas

## TIGER



by BUD BLAKE



## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Door is taller. 2. Man is taller. 3. Punching bag is smaller. 4. Mat is larger. 5. Tannoo is moved. 6. Middle rope is missing.

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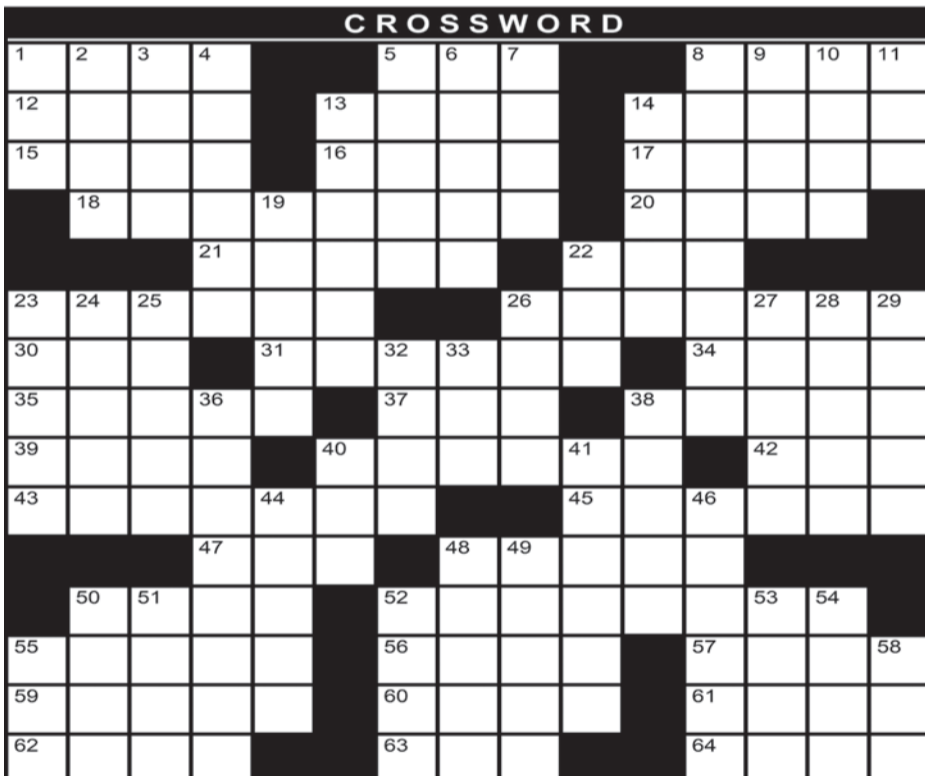
### CLUES

#### ACROSS

1. South American palm berry
5. Chi preceдер
8. Tatted cloth
12. \*Knee high in July?"
13. Hole-making tools
14. Sign in (2 words)
15. Discharge
16. Violin's Renaissance predecessor
17. Nursemaid in India, pl.
18. \*On the grill on the 4th?
20. Tropical tuber
21. Propelled like Argo
22. "Fresh Prince of -Air"
23. \*#18 Across, picnics and such
26. Yellow ride
30. Not well
31. Heavy lifting injury
34. "Brave New World" drug
35. Feudal estates
37. Storm center
38. Rand McNally book
39. Singer-songwriter Amos
40. Deserving veneration
42. Giant "Master Melvin"
43. Y on Periodic Table
45. Unkind one, slangily
47. Clairvoyant's gift, acr.
48. "\_\_\_\_\_ under the rug"
50. Cry like a baby
52. \*Number of stripes on Old Glory
55. Birch bark vessel
56. Object of Frodo's obsession
57. Norse war god
59. Cut mission short
60. Fairy tale beginning
61. Tangerine/grapefruit hybrid
62. MTV's "\_\_\_\_d" (2003-2015)
63. Like Willie Winkie
64. "Team" homophone

#### DOWN

1. Fighter pilot
2. Toothy groomer
3. Operatic solo
4. Openings
5. Between once and thrice
6. Viva voce
7. Maroon's home
8. \*As opposed to Patriot
9. Lab culture
10. Type of salmon
11. Short for ensign
13. Not sympathetic
14. Potentially allergenic glove material
19. Tubs
22. Farm cry
23. \*Number of stars on Old Glory
24. "The Waste Land" poet
25. Heads-up
26. Wedding cake layer
27. 2-dotted mark
28. Stradivari competitor
29. Moistest, as in a turkey
32. 500 sheets
33. \*Largest Fourth of July pyrotechnics display loc.
36. \*Celebratory combustible
38. Highly skilled



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40. Break bread
41. Come into view
44. Even smaller than #7 Down
46. Dined elsewhere (2 words)
48. Use a shoe polish
49. Grimace in pain
50. Hindu Mr.
51. Before long, to Shake-speare
52. Think, arch.
53. Part of a seat
54. World's longest river
55. Upper limit
58. Jodie Foster's "\_\_\_\_'s Island"



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# Franklin Basketball Competes in Pennsylvania

By Alejandro Barron

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - This year marks 52 years of the West Reading-Sacramento Cultural Exchange Program, where the Franklin Wildcats basketball program participated in this year.

The Wildcats traveled to Pennsylvania for seven games and two youth clinics. The student-athletes from Franklin also get to visit Washington, D.C., New York City and Philadelphia.

"We are privileged to represent Franklin High

and the entire Sacramento Region in this amazing basketball exchange with West Reading, PA," head coach Ken Manfredi said on X. "It is such a great experience for our young men!"

According to the Reading Eagle, the Wildcats will be there from June 11-18. On June 13 they were to present a clinic then play three games against local schools.

The next day the Wildcats played two games then attended a game of the Reading Fightin Phils,

the Philadelphia Phillies' Double-A affiliate.

On June 17 the Wildcats made a presentation before conducting their last clinic and last game before they returned home to California on June 18.

In another tweet from Manfredi on June 12 he said, "The Franklin Wildcats are privileged to travel to West Reading, Pennsylvania to represent Sacramento and participate in the 52nd Annual Basketball Cultural Exchange! Today, we toured Washington D.C. and were blessed with

phenomenal weather and amazing sights!"

Student-athletes from the Franklin Wildcats basketball squad visiting the White House on June 12 as a part of their trip to the West Reading-Sacramento Cultural Exchange Program. Photo courtesy of @coachmanfredi on X

The Wildcats took down Wilson High School by a score of 75-47, Wyoming by a score of 78-38, Governor Mifflin by a score of 60-49 and Smithsburg by a score of 78-64 from what was posted on X, as well as live



Student-athletes from the Franklin Wildcats basketball squad visit the White House on June 12 as a part of their trip to the West Reading-Sacramento Cultural Exchange Program. Photo courtesy of @coachmanfredi on X

streamed on YouTube.

A sports broadcaster from Pennsylvania, Paul Roberts, on X said, "His (Manfredi) team really

shares the ball. They can all handle, pass and shoot. I got to see them at today's basketball showcase at Berks Catholic." ★

# Injury Woes Continue for Elk Grove MLB Players

By Alejandro Barron

**ELK GROVE, CA (MPG)** - With almost three months of play through the Major League Baseball season, Elk Grove's stars continue to compete although not with the best results.

**Dylan Carlson** (Cardinals): Of the Cardinals' 70 games, Dylan Carlson has played in 32 games with 70 at-bats that have led to a total of 13 hits.

Carlson entered this season with injury woes as he struggled with an ankle sprain last year and sprained his AC joint in his left shoulder before opening day this year.

Carlson was activated off the injured list on May 5 and made his season debut the same day. Carlson is slashing .186/.269/.214 with five RBIs for a -0.7 wins above replacement (WAR) at the time of publication in what's been a slow start for the Elk Grove High School alumnus.

**J.D. Davis** (Athletics): More injury woes for another Elk Grove High School alumnus, as a right adductor (inner thigh) strain sidelined J.D. Davis, which has led him to playing in 39 of the Oakland Athletics' 74 games.

Davis was placed on the injured list

in mid-April and has split time at first and third base with the A's while he was the primary third baseman for the San Francisco Giants last season, with 116 games at third and only 15 at first.

Through his 39 games, he's slashing .236/.304/.366 for five RBIs with four home runs. Davis has struggled away from the Oakland Coliseum as he's slashing .140/.275/.163 compared to his .299/.321/.475 at home.

Davis has 29 hits on the season with 23 coming at home while only six in away games, as well as all his home runs and RBIs occurring at the Coliseum in 22 games.

Davis was designated for assignment by the A's on June 17, just a few months after being released by the Giants.

**Nick Madrigal** (Cubs): It hasn't been a standout season for Nick Madrigal, who batted .221 without a home run and 10 RBIs for the Chicago Cubs in 51 games.

He was demoted on June 2 by the Cubs to Triple-A Iowa to make way for another player.

To make matters worse for Madrigal, he suffered a left-hand fracture in his first game on June 5.

Madrigal was taken fourth overall in

the 2018 draft out of Oregon State and since then has not been able to play more than 92 games in a full season at the big league level, excluding the shortened 2020 season.

**Matt Manning** (Tigers): In September 2023, Sheldon High School alumnus Matt Manning's season was ended when the Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton lined a 119.5 mph comebacker to his right foot, causing a fracture.

It's been an uphill battle since then for Manning, who started the year in Triple-A and has made five starts for the Detroit Tigers all year.

In five starts, Manning has a 0-1 record with a 4.88 ERA in 27.2 innings pitched, as hitters have a .287 batting average against him.

Manning last pitched for the Tigers on May 19 away in Phoenix against the Arizona Diamondbacks, although in Triple-A Toledo he holds a 2-1 record with a 4.24 ERA in seven games with six games as a starting pitcher in 34 innings pitched.

He has shown flashes of greatness, which is part of why he was drafted ninth overall in 2016 by the Tigers.

His best start this year was his first,

which came on April 4 against the New York Mets.

Manning went 5.2 innings, no hits or runs allowed with three strikeouts in what almost became his second contribution to a combined no-hitter. The Tigers went on to lose 2-1.

**Rowdy Tellez** (Pirates): Tellez is he local player with the most games played at the Major League level, although that's in 58 of the Pittsburgh Pirates' 71 games this season.

This is not so much due to injury but offensive struggles; Tellez is slashing .224/.284/.292 with two home runs and 17 RBIs.

In 2022, the Elk Grove High School alumnus hit 35 home runs for the Milwaukee Brewers with 89 RBIs but was sidelined due to injuries in 2023, which led to a drop-off in offensive production.

So far this year, he's been met by boos by Pirates fans as he's posting a -0.2 wins above replacement (WAR).

Not everything is lost, though, as in June through 10 games Tellez is slashing .419/.471/.581 with a home run and 9 RBIs as he's looking to shake off these struggles and keep any playoff aspirations alive for his team in the Wild Card race. ★

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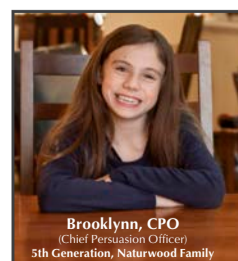


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