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Capital Airshow Soars at Mather



Attendees at the California Capital Airshow could tour large military transport aircraft. Photo by Rick Sloan

By Ornella Rossi

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA (MPG) - The 18th annual California Capital Airshow took over the skies at Mather Airport on July 13 and 14, delivering a weekend packed with aerial acrobatics, educational opportunities and community engagement.

Presented by Sacramento County in partnership with the City of

Rancho Cordova, the event celebrated the rich aviation heritage of the Sacramento region while offering an exciting, family friendly experience. With a diverse lineup of performers and attractions, the airshow proved to be a major draw for aviation enthusiasts from across the state, with nearly 90,000 attendees over two days.

“The airshow is a massive

gathering of people. Our Capital Airshow is unlike most because it is all choreographed and narrated and it all has a mission and purpose to tell a story,” said California Capital Airshow Executive Director Darcy Brewer. “The performances are so unique people are coming from all over the state.”

Among the airshow highlights

Continued on Page 14

Property Tax Roll Sets New Record

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County Assessor Christina Wynn announced on July 8 that the annual assessment roll reached a new record high of nearly \$243 billion, a 5.18% increase over last year. The assessment roll reflects the total gross assessed value of locally assessed real, business, and personal property in Sacramento County as of January 1, 2024. After the deduction of property tax exemptions for homeowners, disabled veterans, and charitable organizations, the net assessed value is just over \$233 billion.

The annual increase is primarily attributed to the sustained increase in average home prices over the last few years and ongoing new housing development and construction projects.

The 2024-25 assessment roll will generate approximately \$2.3 billion in ad valorem property tax revenue.

This year’s roll growth will yield an additional \$115 million in gross revenue over last year. Property tax revenue funds over 175 local government agencies, including schools, special districts such as fire, park, and community service districts, as well as cities, and redevelopment agencies and is one of the largest sources of discretionary revenue for Sacramento County’s General Fund.

While the total assessed value for the County increased by 5.18%, the assessed value of most properties increased only 2% due to the protections of Proposition 13. Most of the roll growth resulted from assessed values established at current market levels for properties that changed ownership or experienced new construction in 2023. Properties appraised and assessed at market value each year include properties impacted by decline in value conditions (Prop 8), mobile homes, and personal property not subject to Proposition 13 such as boats, aircraft, and business personal property. The values of these properties may fluctuate more than 2% each year.

The 2024-25 assessed values of secured real property are viewable at <https://assessor.saccounty.gov/DeclineInValue/Pages/Prop8Viewer.aspx> to access the Assessor’s “Assessed Value Look-Up” and “Parcel Viewer” website tools.

Property owners who

Continued on Page 2

Program Helps Students Earn Math and Science Degrees



Students discuss their work in class at the MESA center at American River College on April 25. Photo by Cristian Gonzalez for CallMatters

By Li Khan
CALMatters.org

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Alina Kralya tinkers with a micro-controller for one of her computer science projects at American River College in Sacramento. Nearby, a group of other first-generation college students sit in green and blue chairs, chatting about their math homework. It’s a typical scene at this community college space for students in the Math, Engineering,

and Science Achievement program, called MESA.

Two years ago, Kralya was in her first year at an engineering university in Ukraine when the Russian invasion and the subsequent war uprooted her family. After moving around Eastern Europe, they sought refuge in sunny Sacramento with \$300 in their pockets.

Between language barriers, a brand new academic system and trying to make sense of trigonometry, it hasn’t been an easy journey for the

20-year-old, who dreams of going into robotics. When she needs tutoring or just a quiet place to study away from her younger siblings, she comes to the MESA center.

She’s still buzzing with excitement about a recent conference for female engineers she attended in San Jose. The program covered her entrance fee and transportation costs, and staff helped her set up her LinkedIn profile for the event. “Listening to all those successful ladies in STEM, oh

Continued on Page 5

Stay Comfortable and Save Money During Heat Wave

SMUD News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

The Sacramento area continues to experience above-average heat this summer, with temperatures expected to top 100 degrees on multiple days. Power reliability is a core value and SMUD (Sacramento Municipal Utility District) has enough power resources to meet expected demand, barring a grid or other emergency such as wildfire or unexpected significant power shortfall.

While SMUD customers enjoy some of the lowest utility rates and bills in California, air conditioning is one of the largest energy consumers in the home and can drive up bills during these hot summer months. SMUD is helping residents prepare to stay comfortable in their homes while staying within their budget, with energy- and money-saving tips.

It's easy to keep energy use in check without giving up cooling comfort. One of the easiest ways to save is to pay attention to when you use energy. Energy rates are cheapest during off-peak hours before 5 p.m. and after 8 p.m. That means customers can save by minimizing energy use on weekdays between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Another easy step is to prevent your home from heating up, which can reduce immediate cooling costs and help save on long-term costs from wear and tear on cooling equipment.

SMUD has more energy-saving solutions on its website and offers additional tips to save.

Use fans and close blinds on windows that get direct sun.

Swap out light bulbs for LEDs.

Change your air filter and clean your HVAC unit. Use a programmable/

smart thermostat to help control HVAC use.

Set your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher. For every two degrees that you turn up your thermostat, you can save five to 10 percent on cooling costs.

Avoid using multiple large appliances at the same time, especially during peak hours.

On hot days, barbecue outside or use small cooking appliances, such as crock pots and microwaves to help keep your house cool.

Pre-cool your home before 5 p.m.

Get customized tips, manage bills and set up alerts at smud.org.

Take control of energy usage and see how much it costs to operate household appliances at different times of day with SMUD's Daily Cost Estimator tool at smud.org/CostEstimator.

More tips and resources are at smud.org/Heatwave. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Two years ago, the Sacramento Kings made the playoffs for the first time in 16 years and Mike Brown captured coach of the year honors as a result.

While compiling 48 wins, the Kings inexplicably led the entire NBA in points scored. Yes, it was the #1 offense in the NBA in no small part due to rookie sensation Keegan Murray, who set a franchise rookie record by scoring 206 three-pointers.

Domantas Sabonis demonstrated his overwhelming value by leading the lead in rebounds, while adding 19 points per night in the scoring column.

Lightning fast De'Aaron Fox lead the team in scoring with a 25-point average, while Malik Monk added 13.5 points coming off the bench.

Yes, the 2022-23 season was fun to watch but the naysayers were quick to note that defense was hard to find.

Davion Mitchell made his defensive presence felt every game, and frequently took on the opposing team's top guard. Davion's rookie season was full of highlights, and although he wasn't known for his scoring prowess, the defensive intensity he brought to the floor frequently brought Golden 1's sellout crowds to their feet.

Well, a lot has happened in the past month, and sadly fan favorite Davion Mitchell is no longer a Sacramento King.

Recent acquisition DeMar DeRozan is the most celebrated addition to the team since Domantas Sabonis came to the team 2-and-a-half years ago, but DeMar is known as a potent scoring threat, and not noted for his defensive presence.

So, what will the 2024-25 Kings look like? With certainty they will light up the scoreboard nightly and might even challenge the point total of two years ago.

It has been said that offense puts butts in the seats, and if true the Golden 1 Center will be sold out every night once again.

The real question as fans are beginning to come down from the high of signing DeMar DeRozan, is whether Monte McNair has another move to make. The Kings still need help in the big man area of the team, and either a power forward or

another center to complement Alex Len would be a more than welcome addition.

Whether or not McNair makes another move, the upcoming season should present a real show every night. Scoring is contagious, and if De'Aaron continues his progress with regards to three-point shooting, and Keegan Murray can find the three-point stroke that set the rookie record two years ago, a Kings ticket will be the most sought-after seat in town.

Domantas will undoubtedly continue his undaunted rebounding and nightly double-double production that has made him one of the most durable big men in team history, but he could use a supporting cast on the boards.

I believe Alex Len's best basketball is still ahead of him, and I applaud the Kings for recognizing his value, and signing him to a one-year \$3,303,000 contract. Drafted 5th overall in the 2013 NBA draft, at 7'1" and 255 pounds, Alex already represents the profile of the big man needed by the Kings, and it remains to be seen if Alex can turn into a late bloomer and make a significant contribution.

Don't give up on Len! This guy could easily surprise us all, and what may have seemed like an insignificant one-year contract, could be big for the Kings.

Keep your eyes on the Summer League team Kings fans! There are a number of interesting players. Undrafted, Monte McNair is looking for a diamond in the rough, and adding Timme to the Kings bench could help the big man position as well.

There were times last season, albeit few, in which Mike Brown played Alex Len alongside Domantas Sabonis, and it gave the team a rebounding edge. I, for one, would like to see more of this experiment, whether with Len or someone like Drew Timme. It wouldn't necessarily represent a starting lineup contingent, but in-game could produce some interesting results.

Stay tuned Kings fans. The team is looking stronger than ever, and whether Monte McNair has one more rabbit to pull from his hat or not, the 2024-25 season is one to look forward to!

All the best!

★

Property Tax Roll Sets New Record

Continued from page 1

disagree with their assessed value should contact the Assessor's office to discuss their concerns. If the market value of a property is less than the assessed value, property owners can request a review online, by mail, or in-person. This free service is available now through Dec. 31, 2024.

Any corrections to annual secured real property values processed by Sept. 1 will appear on the annual property tax bill issued in October. Corrections processed after Sept. 1 will require the issuance of a revised annual secured real property tax bill.

The Tax Collector will mail 2024-2025 unsecured property tax bills beginning July 12. For questions regarding business personal property and fixtures, taxpayers

can contact the Business Personal Property Division at (916) 875-0730 or PPdutyapr@saccounty.gov.

Taxpayers can contact the Marine and Aircraft section to get assistance with vessels and general aircraft valuations at (916) 875-0740 or ASR-marine@saccounty.gov. Leased equipment questions can be referred to (916) 875-0745 or ASR-leasing@saccounty.gov.

Visit the Assessor's website at https://assessor.saccounty.gov to learn about property tax savings programs or contact us at assessor@saccounty.gov or (916) 875-0700.

Technical staff and duty appraisers are available in-person weekdays 8-5, no appointment necessary, at 3636 American River Drive, Suite 200, Sacramento (free parking). ★

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POLICE LOGS

Friday, July 5

5:19 a.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Teron Nash, 18, on charges of domestic battery, assault to cause great bodily injury, criminal threats, child endangerment, handgun and ammunition possession by a minor, possession of a firearm without a serial number, firearm possession in violation of court order, probation violation, and felony possession of a firearm.

Saturday, July 6

3:14 p.m., 9100 block of Elk Grove-Florin Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Aston Belgarde, 40, on parole violation, resisting arrest and burglary tool possession charges.
9:45 p.m., Whitelock Parkway/Poppy Ridge Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Cathryn Whitehead, 51, on DUI charges.

Sunday, July 7

1:03 a.m., 8800 block of Apricot Tree Court: Elk Grove Police arrested Sharad

Lal, 26, on DUI charges.

3:06 a.m., Elk Grove-Florin Road/West Camden Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Joseph Cornes, 34, on warrant charges.

12:20 p.m., 9700 block of Blansfield Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Luke Rivera, 21, on charges of resisting arrest and being under the influence of a controlled substance.

1 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Jessica Nagen, 39, on domestic battery charges.

7:36 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Steve Mesaros, 52, on charges of corporal injury to an intimate partner.

8:12 p.m., Power Inn Road/Orchard Loop Lane: Elk Grove Police arrested Mai Thao, 38, and Nue Her, 42, on warrant charges and charges of burglary tool possession and receiving stolen property.

Monday, July 8

7:38 a.m., 9200 block of Ronan Court: Elk Grove Police arrested Jason Brandes,

46, on charges of elder abuse, false imprisonment and damaging a communication device to prevent help.

2:36 p.m., 8100 block of Sheldon Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Jose Cisneros Ramos, 26, on charges of battery, vandalism and shoplifting.

11:52 p.m., 5100 block of Efthemia Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Gianna Martin, 21, on elder abuse charges.

4:30 p.m., 9100 block of Franklin Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Cedrina McDaniel 32, and Reneyia Atkinson, 30, on charges of organized retail theft and grand theft.

Tuesday, July 9

4:03 p.m., 8500 block of Bond Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Angelita Nunez Chavez, 43, on hit-and-run charges.

4:47 p.m., 8100 block of Sheldon Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Andrew Powell, 28, on warrant charges.

5:01 p.m., 8400 block of Laguna Palms

Way: Elk Grove Police arrested an unidentified 14-year-old on warrant charges.

8:36 p.m., 8600 block of Via Alta Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Shauna Betancourt, 52, on DUI charges.

Wednesday, July 10

10 a.m., 9700 block of Kent Street: Elk Grove Police arrested Angela Ybarra, 43; Mark Loyd, 60; and Rudy Hirschler, 42, on charges of unauthorized driving or taking of a vehicle, conspiracy and receiving a stolen vehicle.

10:34 a.m., 7500 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Destiny Davis, 28, on meth possession and warrant charges.

11:59 p.m., 9500 block of Dunkerrin Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Mayer Caldero Nortiz, 40, on contempt of court charges.

Thursday, July 11

8:26 p.m., 8100 block of Genex Way: Elk Grove Police arrested an unidentified 14 -year-old on battery charges. ★

Sloppy Staff Work and Agenda Hide-And-Seek Taint Board of Supervisors' 2023 Pay Raise, Grand Jury Says

Sacramento County Grand Jury News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Missed crucial details, an uncorrected math error, and an astonishing lack of transparency are among the significant problems the 2023-24 Sacramento County Grand Jury found when it investigated the process used by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to award themselves a hefty salary increase in 2023.

"A critical math mistake in the informational meeting packet given to the Board led some of the supervisors – and the public – to initially think they were approving a

20-percent raise. It was, in fact, 36-percent," said Steve Caruso, 2023-24 Grand Jury foreperson. The error was discovered after the Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted on the raise.

"Even more concerning than the math miscalculation, is the choice by county staff not to update the Board with the correct information after the fact," Caruso said. "Among other things, it raises the question of how many other times mistakes in facts presented at Board meetings are never publicly corrected."

To examine the BOS decision-making process, the Grand Jury interviewed 16 people and reviewed a multitude of regulations

and ordinances, as well as the agenda packets for the BOS meetings on April 18, 2023 – when the raise was first introduced and approved – and May 23, 2023 – when it was adopted.

Surprisingly, the pay raise proposal appeared on the consent calendar at both the April 18 and May 23 BOS meetings. The consent calendar is typically reserved for routine or noncontroversial matters that the BOS votes on as a single item. The consent calendar rarely attracts any public comment. Although the Board's use of the consent calendar was not unlawful, the Grand Jury reported, the consent calendar process

lacks transparency to maintain the public's trust when voting on matters of significant public interest.

"During our investigation, county staff acknowledged that it was a mistake to tuck the salary increase proposal in the middle of the consent calendar," Caruso said. "But we also hold the supervisors accountable because they had the authority to take the proposal off the consent calendar to encourage more public discussion, but they made a conscious decision not to."

In another misstep that limited public input into the process, the Grand Jury's research revealed a serious mistake in the number of days between when

the salary increase was approved by the BOS and its effective date.

The county directed the salary increase to start 30 days after the final vote, but California Government Code Section 25123.5 mandates a 60 day wait. State law allows such a wait to provide time for voters, if they so choose, to organize a referendum to overturn the decision.

The Grand Jury recommends seven actions the BOS and county executive team can take to improve processes. Among them are for staff to explain, in an open BOS meeting, the financial errors made in this salary increase process.

Other recommendations

include that the BOS determine, again in an open BOS meeting, the validity of the salary increase ordinance as it relates to state law as well as determine if any money already paid to the supervisors should be returned to the county.

The Grand Jury also recommends the county form a citizen-based compensation commission.

The Grand Jury is the independent watchdog over public entities within the county. Concerned residents can contact the Grand Jury on a confidential basis through written complaints that alert the Grand Jury to issues within public entities. We would like to hear from you at www.sacgrandjury.org. ★



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Local Author Fair Puts Writers, Readers in Touch

By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - A Seat at the Table Books held its summer Local Author Fair on July 14, giving authors from the Elk Grove area an opportunity to promote their latest writing and discuss their work with readers and other writers.

A Seat at the Table owner Emily Autenrieth said that the bookstore hosted its largest number of authors yet at this edition, with 12 writers split into two groups over the course of the afternoon.

"We actually had one person go around and buy a book from every single table. They were so excited to see the authors in person," Autenrieth said, adding that live book events can help readers connect with writers. "It's kind of funny; you hear a lot with things like this, you kind of forget that authors are these real people that you can meet."

Autenrieth said individuals struggling with their own writing can be inspired by seeing authors in person.

The Citizen spoke to authors and visitors in the first group of the day. The featured authors brought books in a variety of genres, from fantasy and science fiction to realistic fiction and self-help.

Authors such as Catherine Arguelles and Vince Wetzel had drawn inspiration from their own lives. Arguelles was promoting her middle-grade mystery novel, "Flip Turns," which follows a 13-year-old girl on her school swim team, who is dealing with unwanted attention from a classmate. When vandalism threatens to close the pool, she tries to find the culprit.

Arguelles was inspired by an accident at her school swimming pool, imagining a scenario in which the event was intentional. She also had an unwanted admirer during school, and a "fun mystery" would be a way to broach the topic of harassment in a kid-friendly way.

Wetzel brought two books, including "Friends in Low Places," a semi-autobiographical novel that chronicles the evolution of a group of friends over



Catherine Arguelles, writer of "Flip Turns," and Sylmia Britt, writer of "Confidence Unleashed," promote their books at A Seat at the Table Books' local author fair. Photos by Matthew Malone



Kelly Virens, author of fantasy romance "Secrets of Old Giants," wrote about California's natural beauty.



Author Vince Wetzel shows his novels "Friends in Low Places" and "Lose Yourself."



Joanne Kwan promotes her books, including "Secunda" and "Copula."



Ricardo Andrés shows his science-fiction novel, "Luminary: Quantum Rising."

20 years through a yearly camping trip.

"I have had a similar trip with my friends going to the same place every year," Wetzel said, "and it is interesting how you have some of those ride-or-die friends that you grew up with. And then over the years, the conversations become more mature, obviously, but you still have that fun together, that silliness."

Sylmia Britt, author of "Confidence Unleashed: Shattering Ceilings, Claiming Your Seat at the Table," said that she wrote her self-help book for people of color and other marginalized people "who may have felt like they were held out of corporate America and not really able to navigate the constraints related to advancing in their careers."

"And so the book's really about finding your own way, understanding your true voice and

finding all the internal confidence in your identity that you should promote and be so proud of," Britt said. Noting that she grew up low-income and has anxiety, Britt said she felt a lack of control over her own success but eventually realized "that I had full control over my identity and my pathway forward."

Among the author fair visitors was Harriet Schwartz, a Phoenix resident visiting family in Elk Grove. She had just spoken to Britt and Arguelles about their books.

"It was very interesting hearing about their writing process, about how they got started, and they were very open about everything," Schwartz said, noting that her daughter-in-law is a regular patron of A Seat at the Table.

Two authors brought adult fantasy romances. Kelly Virens said her goals in writing "Secrets of Old Giants" included creating

a main couple in their mid-30s ("I don't think fairy tales have to die when you get a certain age") and showcasing the beauty of California's natural landscapes.

"Secrets" takes place in Humboldt County, imbuing the redwoods with magic.

Virens also offered supplemental artwork that she had created, such as a zine of one of the main characters' drawings.

"I wanted to be able to say that it was all my work and I wanted to show a lot of what California has to offer," Virens told a guest.

In Joanne Kwan's romance, "Secunda," a young woman finds a mysterious skull. When she puts on the skull, she becomes the host to a monstrous creature.

"Throughout the story, they navigate their relationship and they eventually fall in love and there's other obstacles that get in the way that they have to

overcome," Kwan said, noting that she has always been a fan of monsters and stories of the paranormal.

Ricardo Andrés was promoting "Luminary: Quantum Rising," a science-fiction story inspired by the comic book movies he enjoys and his family's history of immigration.

The main character, who comes from a utopian planet, is charged with protecting other planets, including Earth, from shapeshifters. Arriving on Earth, he learns that he is "the chosen one," but first he has to figure out what that means.

In writing "Luminary," Andrés wanted to imagine a new universe influenced by older properties such as the Marvel, DC and Star Wars cinematic universes.

"And I was inspired by my mom's story as an immigrant," Andrés said. "And one thing I learned, especially in the U.S., is that there's not a lot of

stories that mix science fiction and immigration."

Other authors featured at the fair were Hanan Harb, Olivia Sosa, Rachel and Alex Perez, and Michaila Oberhoffer, as well as Shea Robinson, who is also A Seat at the Table's bookstore manager.

Autenrieth said she met Robinson through a previous author fair, calling it a "really natural connection" that can happen at smaller, local events.

"I get to have that inside look and help authors along and be excited for them and talk to them about how to best market their book and make sure that their book is really doing well on our shelves," Robinson said.

A Seat at the Table Books, 9257 Laguna Springs Drive, Unit 130, hosts its local author fair in January and July. For more information about A Seat at the Table, visit aseatatthetablebooks.org. ★

'Importance of Being Earnest' Continues

By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - There are three more chances to see the Cosumnes River College production of "The Importance of Being Earnest." The college's second summer play is the "classic British comedy of manners," according to its producer.

"Earnest" opened last weekend, with the last performances on July 19, 20 and 21.

The play, by Oscar Wilde, is about two friends, Algernon and Jack, who each discover that the other has a fake persona that he uses to get out of social obligations. In courting the women they wish to marry, both friends end up using the same false name: Ernest. The result is a play full of witty banter, mistaken identities and farcical situations.

"They cause some problems, and then they have to fix the problems, but it's all done in a very funny way," said Martin Flynn, the play's technical director and producer.

Adapting to an unexpected casting change, director Scott Gilbert had added some comedic sequences before and during scene changes. In an early moment, two actors learn onstage that they have to switch roles.

"Chaos ensues, and they run off the stage in a panic, and then they come back in their proper costumes a couple minutes later, and the show starts. ... The students

really enjoyed these little extra slapstick bits," Flynn said. "It's a fun romp, is how I would describe it."

The students have received praise for their British accents. Flynn said an audience member from the U.K. asked after a performance whether any of the students are English.

"And I said, 'No, they're all from Sacramento,' and she was like, 'Wow, their accents are amazing.'" Flynn said. "You know, she thought that some of them actually had native British accents."

Cosumnes River College is mounting a summer play for the second year as it prepares for a partnership with the city of Elk Grove. In 2025, it will perform a summer comedy at Laguna Town Hall. As far as anyone at Cosumnes River College can remember, Flynn said, the college's theater program has never produced plays in the summer before.

Asked about reasons to come to the play, Flynn noted that Cosumnes River College asks theater patrons to "pay what you can" for tickets, to ensure that finances do not prevent individuals from enjoying theater.

"I think (the play) is just a nice way to step out of the heat of Sacramento into a completely different world for two hours," Flynn said, adding that live theater gives a special experience at every performance.

"There's always some nuances between each show. So you're always seeing something unique," Flynn said. "It's not like



Faye Crook, left, as Merriman, Eric Charlton as Algernon Moncrieff, and Audrey Di Paolo as Cecily Cardew, are in Cosumnes River College's production of "The Importance of Being Earnest." The play continues this weekend. Photos courtesy of CRC Department of Theatre and Dance



From left, Ryan Reece portrays Jack Worthing, Sarah Edwards portrays Gwendolen Fairfax, Stephen Byron portrays Lady Bracknell, and Eric Charlton portrays Algernon Moncrieff.

you go to a movie and it's exactly the same both times."

"The Importance of Being Earnest" will be performed at 7:30 p.m. July 19 and 20 and at 2:30 p.m. July 21.

The Cosumnes River College Black Box Theatre is on the east side of

the campus at 8401 Center Parkway, Sacramento.

Individual tickets are "pay what you can," with a minimum price of \$5 each for orders of two to six tickets. To buy tickets, visit the play's webpage at bit.ly/4f4MeH0 (case sensitive). ★

Program Helps Students Earn Math and Science Degrees

Continued from page 1

my gosh, it was so nice," she said.

California allotted millions of dollars in 2022 to create the same program at community colleges across the state. Currently, 91 out of 115 campuses have programs established, with three more set to create one next year.

The state hopes the expansion will reduce barriers to STEM jobs for "underserved and under-represented" students. As the initiative rolls out statewide, questions remain about how long the funding will last, and how the programs can track how well they're working.

To enroll in the program, students must be both low-income and a first-generation college student. The students' parents can't hold a bachelor's degree in any country to meet the first-generation requirement.

Less than 1 in 5 community college students in California who want to transfer to a university succeed in doing so within four years, according to a report from the Public Policy Institute of California. For Black and Latino students, transfer pathways are even weaker: 13% for Black students and 16% for Latinos.

Beyond bolstering transfer rates, the goals for MESA include increasing representation of Blacks, Latinos, and Native Americans in STEM industries. In 2021, 9% of STEM workers nationwide were Black, while 15% were Hispanic or Latino, according to a report from the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

"The community needs people to be in these positions as doctors, as scientists, as engineers, as computer scientists who actually understand the community that is being served," said Edrina Rashidi, the officer of advocacy for the Community College Association of MESA Directors, who recently lobbied for more legislative support for the programs.

Students in the program have access to a range of support, such as tutoring, academic counseling and help finding internships or scholarships. The physical centers offer computer equipment, textbooks and a place to study. Program directors work closely with students to connect them to resources.

As of fall 2023, 4,279 students were enrolled at a MESA program on their campus, according to state data.

State Funds Expansion of MESA Programs Systemwide

Four years ago, MESA programs had a \$2.5 million statewide budget. After lobbying efforts from the MESA directors association, the program now has a \$39.4 million statewide budget and was written into the California Education Code. Over 50



Computer science major Alina Kralya outside the MESA center at American River College on April 25.



Computer science major, and MESA tutor, Marco Alaniz in the Diane Bryant STEM Innovation Center, which houses the MESA center at American River College on April 25.

colleges have taken advantage of the funds in the last two years, nearly tripling the number of programs from 34 to 94.

Each college received a total of \$428,576 for the 2022-23 school year, in the form of a grant from the state. This past year and every year through 2027 they'll get at least \$280,000 each. However, the state chancellor's office expects colleges to eventually start covering some of the costs, so that the programs can stay afloat if the state money disappears, according to the statewide MESA project monitor Stephanie Ricks-Albert.

The state grants will be up for renewal in 2027. Rashidi said more legislation is being written that could establish a minimum funding level, to guarantee stable funding for the programs.

The program also exists in different forms across the state and nation. In California, many universities and high schools have MESA programs or clubs that are overseen by the UC Office of the President with a budget of about \$7 million.

Inside a MESA Program

Computers, STEM textbooks, whiteboards, a free-to-use printer and a coffee machine occupy the MESA center at American River College, housed on the first floor of the sleek new Diane Bryant STEM Innovation Center. A line of university pennants hangs from one wall; on another, three astronauts smile from a poster that reads, "FROM MESA TO NASA."

Over 200 students have access to this space. It's where tutors like Marco Alaniz, who is also a MESA student studying computer science, can often be found. He's had a love for programming since his mom bought him

a computer as a little kid, but he struggled when he started college the first time over 20 years ago, and ultimately dropped out.

"I just wasn't prepared," Alaniz said. Because his parents never went to college, they didn't have the experience to help him navigate school or teach him time management habits. "So really, growing up, I was kind of on my own on that, just kind of figuring things out."

After about 15 years of working odd jobs to pay the bills, Alaniz enrolled in American River College in 2019 to give his computer science degree another shot. For the past year he's tutored MESA students. It doesn't pay enough for him to quit his job so he can take classes full time, but he really enjoys breaking down difficult concepts for his fellow classmates, and it's even made him consider a career in education.

Samuel Morrison, the college's interim MESA project lead, explained that the cost of living is one the biggest challenges for the low-income students he serves.

He helps connect them to scholarships and internships, as the programs are required to do. One creative way the college has found to financially assist its students is to create paid projects with faculty mentorship and research opportunities students can apply for.

"So students are finding, OK, this is a stipend that I can use to pay for gas to get to school, or I can use to supplement food costs," Morrison said.

Still, the college lacks a designated MESA academic counselor.

Kralya, the Ukrainian student, explained that the general counselors she's seen are not always familiar with STEM-specific transfer programs, which can differ between universities.



Barbie Schmitt chats with interim MESA project lead Samuel Morrison in the MESA center at American River College on April 25. Photos by Cristian Gonzalez for CalMatters



The Diane Bryant STEM Innovation Center at American River College. Cosumnes River College also has a MESA program. Details at crc.losrios.edu/student-resources/mesa.

Adding financial aid to the mix makes things even more complicated; Kralya and Alaniz both had to declare multiple majors to get certain transfer requirements covered by financial aid.

"That's why we have to find a really good counselor who can tell us this, because this information is not listed anywhere," Kralya said.

The state requires the programs to have designated counselors, but getting an in-house counselor can be a lengthy and complicated process, Morrison said. He hopes to have one on board by the spring of 2025.

Students can also sign up for field trips, which include conferences and college tours. Students this semester visited the Sacramento State University planetarium, attended the Women in Engineering conference in San Jose, and toured UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz.

At programs across the state, students who are either low-income or first-generation, but not both, can still access certain resources, such as tutoring and counseling, but can't go on field trips or receive paid research opportunities. There are currently 1,345 of them enrolled systemwide, called ASEM students, or "Friends of MESA" at some colleges.

Growing Pains as Programs Roll Out Systemwide

Two years after new funding opened the doors for more programs, many still need to hire staff, find the required minimum 500 square feet of space to house the center, or recruit students to officially get off the ground.

Just hiring a program director to lead the program can be a lengthy process. A year and a half

after receiving its grant, the program at Laney College in Oakland is still without a director.

The college's dean of math and sciences, Inger Stark, appointed math instructor Kyla Oh as the program's faculty lead for the program in the interim.

"It has definitely slowed us down," said Stark. The bulk of the work falls on Oh, who teaches fewer credits so that she has time to focus on the program. Stark squeezes the administrative side of the program into her workday as a dean.

Right now, the state money covers the entire program, which launched in April with an initial cohort of 14 students. Stark is determined to ensure the program stays afloat through any changes in the funding, but she's spent enough time in her community college district to have seen many "beautiful initiatives" get weeded out. "It is heartbreaking," she said. "A huge amount of work can fall on the ground."

The Need for More Granular Program Data

Tracking MESA programs in a comprehensive way is not easy. Some basic data is available through public dashboards, but directors want easy access to more in-depth information about their programs to help make sure they're meeting their goals.

"We actually have no way of measuring our success, still, with the Chancellor's Office," said Rashidi, the lead advocate for MESA directors.

Basic information, such as the total number of MESA students in the system, is available through the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office public data tool, DataMart.

However, that information isn't broken down by race, gender or major. Granular data could give program directors the ability to quickly check if their efforts to reach students from underserved backgrounds are working.

Limited information on MESA student success is publicly available. Of the MESA students who first attempted to complete a transfer-level math course in the 2021-22 school year, 79% passed within one year, compared to a 54% completion rate for the general student body, according to the Transfer-Level English and Math Completion Dashboard.

CalMatters requested MESA transfer statistics and racial data from the Chancellor's Office. According to the data, about 62% of MESA students were Hispanic or Latino as of December 2023, while 4% were Black.

To count transfers, the Chancellor's Office counted students who were in MESA in one school year, and then enrolled at a university the next year.

By this metric, MESA programs collectively transferred 1,010 students after the 2021-22 school year, including 563 Hispanic or Latino students and 23 Black students.

Nearly half of MESA students enroll at a university within four years of taking their first community college class, as of 2017, the most recent year complete data is available.

Students were considered to be MESA students if they participated in the program at any point during their first three years in the community college system.

The Chancellor's Office will analyze the status of the programs at the end of the current grant cycle, and the results could affect how much money programs will receive in the future, according to an emailed statement from Melissa Villarin, a spokesperson for California Community Colleges. Any additional funding would be based on "program and campus metrics," according to the statement.

Li Khan is a fellow with the College Journalism Network, a collaboration between CalMatters and student journalists from across California.

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Everything is Different Now

California Lawmakers' Safety Gets New Attention After Trump Shooting

By Lynn La
CALMatters.org

Former President Donald Trump evaded serious injury, or death, by mere centimeters after a bullet struck his upper right ear during a campaign rally July 13 in Pennsylvania. The Republican presidential candidate pumped his fist, his face bloodied, as Secret Service agents hustled him off the stage following the shooting. But one spectator was killed, two were critically injured and the Secret Service killed the suspected shooter, identified by the FBI as a 20-year-old Pennsylvania man.

Saturday's mayhem is the most recent known assassination attempt of a president or presidential candidate since the 1981 shooting of President Ronald Reagan, and renewed conversations about the country's deep partisan divide, gun safety and dangerous political rhetoric — especially violent threats toward officials and candidates.

So it's no wonder that beefing up personal security has been a priority for some lawmakers. As explained earlier by CalMatters Capitol reporter Sameea Kamal, the Secretary of the Senate and chief administrative officer of the Assembly said that there has been heightened concern about political violence in recent years, and a bill is underway to protect California lawmakers and candidates from rampant threats.

The measure, Assembly Bill 2041, would allow candidates and elected officials to use more campaign funds for personal security for themselves, family members and staff. Democratic Assemblymember Mia Bonta of Oakland is carrying the bill and said she hopes to "see it across the finish line for the safety of candidates across the state." If passed, Bonta's measure could be enacted in time for the November election.

Bonta, in a statement: "(Saturday's) events show that political violence continues to plague our democracy. ... This bill has had bipartisan support because people on both sides of the aisle recognize the safety needs in this charged political climate."

Gov. Gavin Newsom, whose office did not immediately reply to a request for comment, vetoed similar legislation last year, saying that the bill did not clearly define "security

expenses." Bonta's newest bill, however, has been amended to specify what's considered a security expense, as well as clarifies disclosure requirements for transparency.

The bill sailed through the Assembly this year and is expected to be up for a floor vote in the Senate shortly after the Legislature returns from summer recess in August, according to Bonta's office. It has received no vote in opposition so far, though three Republican senators voted against last year's bill. During a March hearing in the Assembly's elections committee, Republican Assemblymember Tom Lackey of Palmdale raised concerns about the "broad potential interpretation of security expenses."

California is no stranger to shootings tied to the Oval Office. In 1975, a member of the Manson family cult attempted to shoot President Gerald Ford near the state Capitol in Sacramento while Ford was en route to meet then-Gov. Jerry Brown. And in 1968, U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy died shortly after being shot at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles while running for the Democratic presidential nomination.

On July 14, Newsom said he has deployed 61 Highway Patrol and police officers to assist local, state and federal law enforcement during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, which kicks off July 15. "Public safety transcends party lines," said Newsom in a statement. The plan to send these officers has been in the works since May. ★



CALMatters.org

California's elected leaders — Republicans and Democrats alike — quickly condemned the attempted assassination of Trump, the latest violent turn in current politics and a grim reminder of America's history of political killings.

Gov. Newsom promptly posted on social media that "violence has NO place in our democracy," a reaction echoed by Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas.

Assembly GOP leader James Gallagher said in an initial statement that "we must completely shut down those who would use violence to snuff out their political opponents." July 14, he followed up with a post asserting that "calling Trump a modern-day Hitler and making crazed assertions about the end of democracy has not been helpful to the chaos that we now find ourselves in."

In a statement, Senate Republican leader Brian Jones urged "Americans to take a

CA Secretary of State Issues Statement on Trump Shooting Incident

California Secretary of State
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., issued the following statement in response to the July 13 shooting incident in Pennsylvania at Former President Trump's event:

"Over my lifetime, I have witnessed too many acts of political violence in America. Going back decades, too many people have been harmed or killed for what they believe. We resolve political differences at the ballot box, through activism and by participating in political discourse." There is absolutely no room for political violence.

"My heart goes out to the victims and their

step back and acknowledge the need for common ground, rather than seeing politics as a polarizing exercise."

And former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, whose husband Paul was struck in the head with a hammer by an assailant in their San Francisco home, posted on social media: "I know firsthand that political violence of any kind has no place in our society. I thank God that former President Trump is safe."

Saturday's chilling incident comes at a key point in the 2024 presidential race.

Democrats have been divided over whether to rally behind Biden — or to find a way to push him off the 2024 ticket. Republicans, on the other hand, were already in lockstep behind Trump as they gather in Milwaukee to officially nominate him — and see him reveal his running mate.

California is sending the biggest delegation to the convention — and thanks to the state GOP changing its rules for a winner-take-all primary in March, all 169 are pledged to Trump. It's only one sign of how firmly Trump controls the California party.

And while Biden — or any Democrat — is the odds-on favorite to secure California's 54 electoral votes in November (of the 270 needed to win), Republicans hope Trump's coattails and Biden's troubles, fueled by his weak performance in the June 27 debate, will help them add to the dozen congressional seats they now hold (compared to 40 for Democrats).

"We resolve political differences at the ballot box, through activism and by participating in political discourse," said California Secretary of State Shirley Weber in a statement. "There is absolutely no room for political violence." ★

FBI Investigation Encourages Tips from the Public

FBI News Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - The FBI continues to investigate the shooting incident at the July 13 rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, which resulted in one victim's death and injuries to former President Trump and other spectators, as an assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump and as potential domestic terrorism.

The investigation is still in the early stages, and the FBI is providing the following updates, as of 12:05 p.m. July 15:

FBI technical specialists successfully gained access to alleged shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks' phone and they continue to analyze his electronic devices.

The searches of the subject's residence and vehicle are complete.

The FBI has conducted nearly 100 interviews with law enforcement personnel, event attendees and other witnesses. That work continues.

While the investigative work continues, FBI victim services personnel have offered assistance to the victims of Saturday's incident.

While the investigation to date indicates the shooter acted alone, the FBI continues to conduct logical

investigative activity to determine if there were any co-conspirators associated with this attack. At this time, there are no current public safety concerns.

The FBI has not identified a motive for the shooter's actions but is working to determine the sequence of events and the shooter's movements prior to the shooting, collecting and reviewing evidence, conducting interviews and following up on all leads. The shooter's telephone was obtained for examination.

Suspicious devices found at both locations have been rendered safe by bomb technicians and are being evaluated at the FBI Laboratory.

The firearm used in the shooting was purchased legally.

The shooter was not known to the FBI prior to this incident.

The FBI has received hundreds of digital media tips, which include photos and videos taken at the scene, and continues to review incoming tips. Anyone with information that might assist with the ongoing investigation is encouraged to submit it online at tips.fbi.gov or call 1-800-CALL-FBI.

Previous official statements about this incident can be found at fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-statement-on-incident-in-butler-pennsylvania. ★

LaMalfa Wants All Shooter's Details Made Public

Office of Congressman Doug
LaMalfa News Release

RICHVALE, CA (MPG) - Congressman Doug LaMalfa released the following statement on July 13:

"I am very grateful that President Trump's life was spared today. He was centimeters from being killed. The Lord looked over him today, for that we should all be grateful. The loss of life and injury of those in the crowd is heartbreaking, for families and all Americans. Knowing President Trump, he will be even stronger and undaunted after today. We saw his poise and resolute temperament to stand up and rally after just taking a gunshot to the ear.

families of this terrible tragedy. We are praying for the former president and those who were injured for a rapid recovery. We will keep those who have lost their lives and their families in our prayers."

"As your Secretary of State, I am committed to making sure everyone feels safe in participating in every aspect of the political process. Everyone has a right to express their political views, have their voices heard, attend rallies, hold signs, participate as election workers, and vote. We must work together to protect the integrity of our democratic system and the safety of our communities."

"My office continues to work closely with local, state, and federal officials to ensure our elections are safe." ★

Gallagher Statement on Attempted Assassination of President Trump

Assembly Republicans
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On July 13, Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher (Yuba City) issued the following statement on the attempted assassination of

President Trump:

"Today's senseless attack was a shocking and horrific act. We must completely shut down those who would use violence to snuff out their political opponents. Janna and I are praying for President Trump, and everyone impacted by this violence." ★

Office of Congressman Mike
Thompson News Release

ST. HELENA, CA (MPG) - Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Chairman Mike Thompson released the following statement on the apparent shots fired at former President Trump's rally in Butler, Pennsylvania on July 13:

"While we await more information on today's events, one thing remains clear:

Gun violence of any kind is unacceptable. I unequivocally condemn today's act of political violence against the former president, and I am grateful to hear he is safe. My thoughts remain with the former president and those in attendance. I urge my colleagues who are speaking out in horror to join the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in its efforts to pass the commonsense laws that help prevent these threats." ★

Thompson Urges Commonsense Laws to Prevent Threats

ABOUT TOWN

Chamber of Commerce Activities in July

The Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce will host the following activities in July:
 July 19 - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - State of the County with Supervisor Pat Hume.

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 jbvesspers@gmail.com or call Nan Mahon at 916-806-9476.

Upcoming acts are: 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).

Nashville Hit Songwriters at Miner's Leap Aug. 9

Nashville songwriters Sarah Buxton and D. Vincent Williams will perform their hit compositions as part of The Sac Song & Wine Series on Friday, Aug. 9 at Miner's Leap Winery in Clarksburg.

Buxton's songs include "Stupid Boy" by Keith Urban, "PrizeFighter" by Trisha Yearwood, "For Her" by Chris Lane and "Sun Daze" by Florida Georgia Line. Williams penned such hits as "Four Walls" by Randy Travis, "The Last Ten Years (Superman)" by Kenny Rogers, "I'm Moving On" by Rascal Flatts and "Hands of a Working Man" by Ty Herndon.

Attendees will be treated

to a live DJ set by DJ Louie Giovanni, food truck options, lawn games and more.

Future Sac Song & Wine shows are Sept. 20 and Oct. 11. For tickets and more information, see <https://sacsonandwineseries.com>.

American Legion Post 233 Meetings

The Elk Grove American Legion Post 233, established in 1994, invites veterans to our monthly meetings every 4th Thursday of the month at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624.

Our July meeting is scheduled for July 25th.

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

Veteran's spouses are welcome to join the Elk Grove American Legion

Auxiliary Unit 233 that meets in another room from 7-8 pm in the same location.

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

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

Our next Saturday breakfast will be held August 3rd at 9:00 am at Bert's Diner at 8972 Grant Line Road, Elk Grove 95624. NOTE the new location will be for the summer months of June-August.

We hope to see you there.

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.

For questions, contact Bill McClintock by phone at 831-233-8760 or by email at bmcc42@gmail.com.

Widowed Persons Social Club Activities for July

The Widowed Persons Social Club (WPSC) will host the following activities:

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 Codova. 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.

July 18 - noon - General Meeting at Valley Hi Country Club, 9595 Franklin Blvd., \$35 includes lunch. Make reservations at least a week in advance with Pat at 916-802-4524.

A widowed person can attend up to three events before joining Widowed Persons Social Club.

Contact Bonnie Dale at 916-422-1522 if interested in membership. ★

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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. ★

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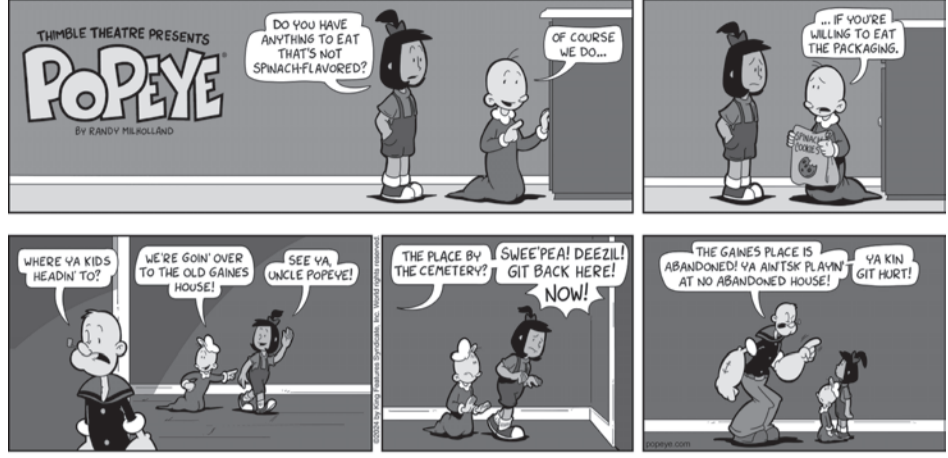


COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves



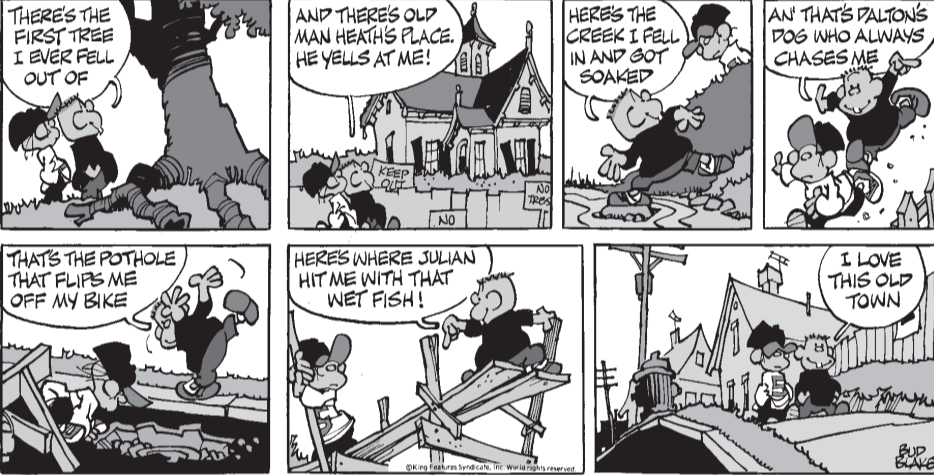
by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb

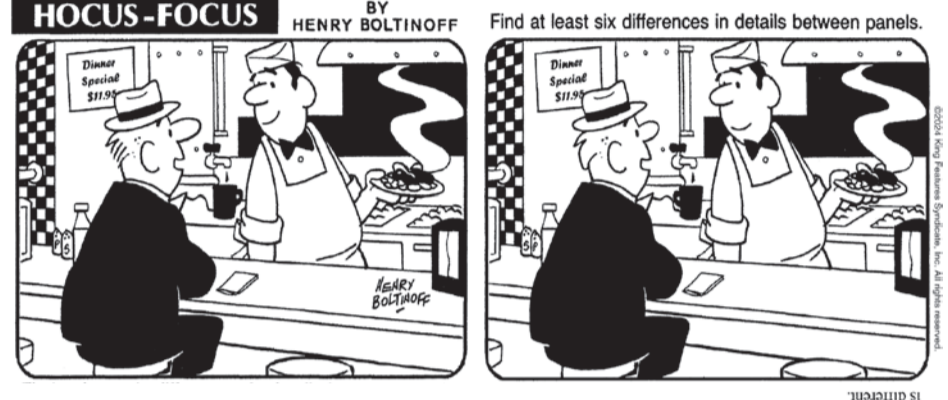


by Gary Kopervas

TIGER

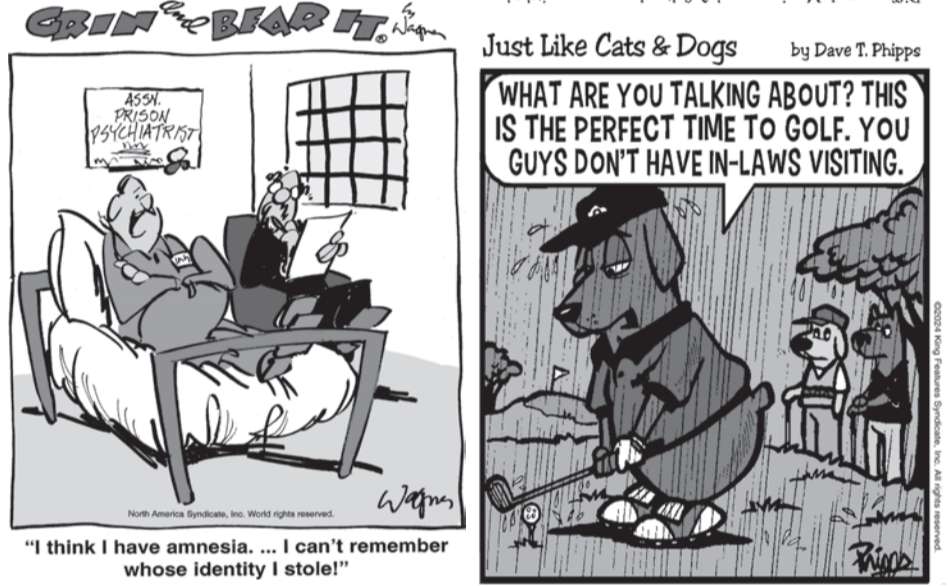


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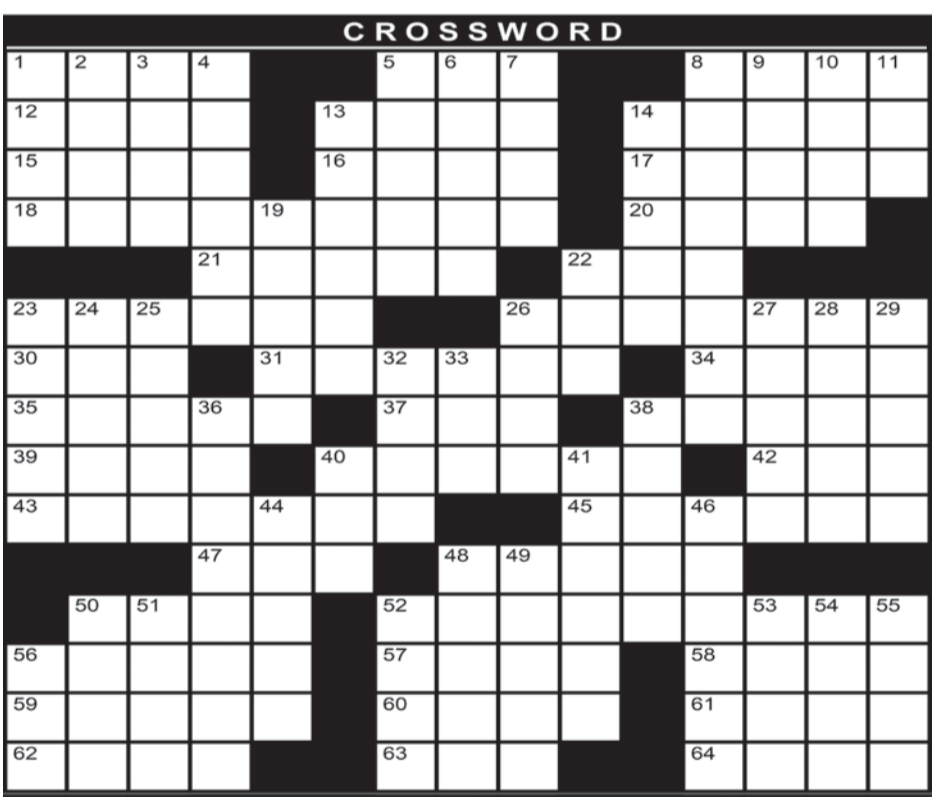
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 - *Famous Olympics basketball team (2 words)
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 - Like Al Yankovic
 - Popular deciduous tree
 - College treasurer
 - Balaclava (2 words)
 - Compass point between E and NE
 - Nullify
 - Diva's delivery
 - Smart ones?
 - Two halves
 - That is, in Latin
 - First queen of Carthage
 - What ivy does
 - ___ chi
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 - *Michael Phelps predecessor
 - "In the Hall of the Mountain King" composer Edvard ___
 - Black and white killer?
 - U.S. lake
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 - Decomposes
 - Against, prefix
 - a.k.a. acid
 - State of vexation
- DOWN**
- Bird feeder morsel
 - a.k.a. Daminozide
 - Hard to find
 - Family addition, pl.
 - *Archer or shooter, e.g.
 - Homer's classic
 - Accepted behavior
 - *a.k.a. Cassius, 1960 gold medal winner
 - Greek H's
 - Landlord's due
 - Heat unit
 - Certain style of humor
 - Obelus, pl.
 - "The end justifies the ___"
 - ___ out, as in a win
 - Mardi Gras souvenir
 - Dark
 - Full of cattails
 - Petals holder
 - Rocky ridge
 - Like certain rug
 - *Swimmer Ledecky
 - *Like 23 out of Michael Phelps' 28
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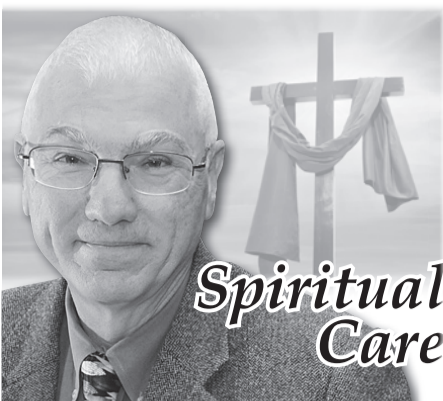
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Spiritual Care

BY NORRIS BURKES

Some Prayers Come in A Different Language

Not too far away or long ago, I was working as a hospital chaplain at Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento when a nurse suggested I visit one of her patients. The only reason she offered for her referral was that our patient might need “some counseling or something.”

Before entering the room, I sought more explanation from the patient’s chart. Turning to the patient history page, I read aloud, “Patient is consuming multiple six-packs each day.”

“Something indeed,” I muttered, repeating the nurse’s euphemism.

A few steps away in the room, I met a man who was writhing in the pain of detoxification. I knew little about the process, but I once heard a doctor say that “Detox makes waterboarding look tame.”

Fixing me with a crazed look, the patient ordered me to “Get some &%@’n

drugs, Doc!” He was, no doubt, assuming that the male entering his room wearing a necktie was his doctor.

I took a deep breath and assured him I was his chaplain, not his doctor.

Arming himself again with a limited vocabulary, he fired another volley aimed at convincing me he didn’t care whether I was the pope; he wanted his drugs.

I nodded and left the room to relay his message to the nurse.

A bit shocked, the old-school nurse asked me, “Did you tell him that he shouldn’t talk to a chaplain that way?” she asked.

My forthcoming answer seemed to surprise her nearly as much as the patient’s vocabulary.

“No. I think his language represents a kind of prayer.”

“Prayer?” she asked, as if now questioning my sobriety.

I took her stance as an invitation to say more. In the next few minutes, I shared my belief that God hears our expressions of agony, loss or pain as a prayer.

These prayers can be expressed in a wordless whimper, and God hears them.

They can be voiced with bloodcurdling screams, and God hears them. They may be vented with words that offend the off-handed listener. The point is no matter how these words are uttered, God hears them and knows how to interpret them.

Our problem often comes when, perhaps like this nurse, we close our hearts and our ears to the kind of language expressed in that level of pain. We do this because we think pain ought not become offensive. “Pain should be neat and controlled,” we reason.

That’s not the way the Psalmist saw it when he wrote, “I cry aloud to the Lord; I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy. I pour out my complaint before him; before him I tell my trouble” (Psalm 142:1-2).

And it certainly wasn’t the way Job saw it when he lost his entire family. “Therefore I will not keep silent; I will speak out in the anguish of my spirit, I will complain in the bitterness of my soul” (Job 7:11).

I’m not saying we should encourage this language in everyday use. I’m saying that if God doesn’t turn his ears away from even the most excruciating levels of

human pain, then how can we?

At the end of the day, I like the metaphor Susan Lenzkes uses in her book, “When Life Takes What Matters.” She says expressing our anger is like beating upon the chest of God, but “... we beat on His chest from within the circle of His arms.”

I returned a few hours later to find that his nurse had finally given him the pain meds he needed.

He apologized for the language he’d used toward his chaplain. “No worries,” I said. “All forgiven.”

A few minutes after that, I found the nurse in her station.

“Thanks for your help,” I said.

“God answers prayer, chaplain, but sometimes he gets help from a nurse.”

Column excerpted from my book, “Thriving Beyond Surviving.” You can request an autographed copy by visiting my website or sending a \$20 check to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

Send comments by email to comment@thechaplain.net or by text or voicemail to (843) 608-9715. ★

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 August with Julie and the Jukes (blues) at 4pm Sunday, Aug. 4 at our church.

SERMON TOPICS

Rev. Dexter McNamara has announced upcoming sermon topics:

July 14th – “The Power of Fear”; July 21st – “Teaching and Touching.”

Rev. McNamara recently attended 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.

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.

Check out our website at 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, 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. ★

Places of Worship



St. Peter’s Lutheran Church

8701 Elk Grove-Florin Rd.

Pastor Joe Dapelo

916-689-7300

Summer Service Hours (June 2-Aug. 25):

One in Worship service 9:30 am

Sunday School 10:45 am (beginning June 2)

Website: <https://stpeterseg.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.PetersLutheranChurchElkGrove/>

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

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ARTS CALENDAR

View Artwork from Elk Grove

At webmaps.elkgrovecity.org/publicartelkgrove/. The Elk Grove Arts Commission has created a virtual Citywide Art Guide to art pieces and art events in Elk Grove.

If you know of a piece or event that should be included, contact the city of Elk Grove's community event center manager, Lana Yoshimura at lyoshimura@elkgrovecity.org.

The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

Check out the local website for featured

rotating local artist. The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center is at their new location, 9020 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 101.

The Center entrance is on Walnut Avenue, with parking available out front or in public lots in Old Town Elk Grove.

They are open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit us every First Saturday from 4-7PM at the Center for refreshments, an opportunity to meet featured artists, and enjoy live music.

For more information, visit www.ElkGroveFineArtsCenter.org or call (916) 685-5992.

Art Workshops for Adults

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

We periodically offer workshops for younger people, dependent upon the instructor and type of class.

If you're looking for basic to advanced instruction in Batiking, Ceramics, Clay, Encaustics, Fabric Art, Mixed-Media, Mosaics, Plein Air, or Watercolor (and more!), you will find it at here..

To learn more, visit elkgrovecityartscenter.org/workshop.

Call for Artists at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

All art competitions require online submission through Smarter Entry. Fees may be paid directly online through this system.

Visit the individual exhibition pages to explore deadlines, fees, awards, and to download the prospectus.

For more, please visit <https://elkgrovecityartscenter.org/>

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MIRANDA 7-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04757
Chrishay Masters, 5650 Whiterock Parkway #130 #2185, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Seeds of Love Doula Services" 5650 Whiterock Parkway #130 #2185, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 20, 2024
Publish: June 28, July 5, 12, 19, 2024
SEEDS 7-19-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04799
Albert Di Paolo, 7542 Ryland Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Di Paolo & Son Machine And Locomotive Works" 7542 Ryland Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 21, 2024
Publish: July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024
DIPAOL0 7-26-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04594
Time and Sky Inc., 8744 Gessnger Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "HI&BUY Market" 7591 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95822 Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 12, 2024
Publish: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024
HI&BUY 8-2-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04905
Quality Solutions Nationwide Inc, 9401 East Stockton Boulevard, Suite 100, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Quality Solutions" 9401 East Stockton Boulevard, Suite 100, Elk Grove, CA 95624 Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 25, 2024
Publish: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024
QUALITY 8-2-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04144
Bao Phung Phu, 9538 Hollow Creek Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sac Valley Automotive" 7728 Fruitridge Road Suite A, Sacramento, CA 95820 Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 28, 2024
Publish: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024
SAC 8-2-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-04965
Thind Family Investments LLC, 8744 Gessnger Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Meadowview Plaza" 7591 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95822 Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 27, 2024
Publish: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024
MEADOWVIEW 8-2-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-05207
Richard Reiff, 8947 N. Camden Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Blue Lake Enterprises" 8947 N. Camden Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 5, 2024
Publish: July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2024
BLUE 8-9-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-05220
Denny Duong, 8422 Villeneuve Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Cozy Spa & Nails" 4801 Laguna

Boulevard #103, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 8, 2024
Publish: July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2024
COZY 8-9-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-05245
Farrukh Zia Hashmi, 7928 Marla Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tandoori Bites/Halal Bites/Catering and Events By Farrukh" 7928 Marla Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 8, 2024
Publish: July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2024
TANDOORI 8-9-24

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #24CV012861

Thi Ngoc Tu Do has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Thi Ngoc Tu Do to Tulip Thi Do. IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on September 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: June 27, 2024
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: July 12, 19, 26, August 2, 2024
DO 8-2-24

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 120827-CA APN: 127-0650-019-0000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 1/3/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED

AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER ON 8/22/2024 at 1:30 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 1/17/2006 in Book 20060117 Page 1659 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Sacramento County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: BUDDY A FONSECA AND VIVIAN JANET LOCKETT WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; OUTSIDE THE EAST MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 720 9TH ST., SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 9443 STONEBROOK DR, ELK GROVE, CA 95624-6055 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances

at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$62,469.24 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your

sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this internet website www.clear-reconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 120827-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 120827-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108
Elk Grove Citizen 7/19/2024, 7/26/2024, 8/2/2024
Elk Grove Citizen 8-2-24

**NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
SECURCARE SELF STORAGE**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to California Business and Professional Codes # 21700-21716, Section 2328 of the UCC of the Penal Code Section 535 the Under-Signed, SecurCare Self Storage, will sell at public sale on or after **Tuesday the 23rd day of July, 2024 at 10:30am** with bidding to take place on Lockerfox.com the following misc. goods: **SecurCare Self Storage 2328 Maritime Dr, Elk Grove, CA 95758.**

Valerie Mcevilly
Festus Samah
Toya Gary

Goods must be paid in CASH and removed within 48 hours of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Elk Grove Citizen 7-12, 7-19-2024

**City of Elk Grove
INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that electronic bids will be received at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids prior to 10:00 a.m. local time (09:59:59 – according to the PlanetBids official Bid clock) on **Thursday, August 8, 2024** for furnishing all labor, materials, tax, transportation, equipment and services necessary for the:

2024 PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROJECT - OVERLAY (WPR024)

Bids submitted after the time specified will not be accepted.

Description of Work:
The proposed work shall be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications and other contract documents and shall consist of the following: repair pavement along Grant Line Road and Laguna Boulevard, replace detector loops, and re-stripe traffic striping (Work).

The Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) for the work is \$2,251,865.

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

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

Construction License:
Bidder must possess a current valid Class A General Engineering or Class C-12 Earthwork and Paving Contractor's Licenses issued by the State of California.

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

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

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

For Pre-Bid Information and Information Pertaining to the Construction Plans and Specifications, Contact:
Robert French, Project Manager, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 478-3648 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

For Obtaining Bid Documents, Contact:
Whitney Yann, Administrative Analyst I, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 687-3062 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

Plans, specifications and other bid documents may be examined and/or obtained at the City of Elk Grove City Hall, Public Works Department, located on the second floor of 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. A copy of the bid documents may be obtained at the City Hall upon request and payment of \$15.00 or may be mailed upon request and payment of \$20.00. The amount of the payment is non-refundable. Bidders may also view and download the plans, specifications, and other bid documents at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. Any Addendum shall only be issued electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids.

By: _____ Date: July 1, 2024

Christina Castro, PE
Capital Program Division Manager

Elk Grove Citizen 7-12, 7-19-2024

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District, hereinafter referred to as the District, will receive sealed proposals for the **Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School, Sidewalk Repairs** project at Facilities and Planning Department, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, California 95624 until **3:00 p.m., local time, on Thursday, August 8, 2024**, at which time bids will be opened.

Each bid must conform to the requirements of the Drawings and Project Manual and other documents comprising the Contract Documents, which are available from Signature Reprographics, 620 Sunbeam Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811, (916) 454-0800. Prime Contractors may obtain copies for a non-refundable cost of **\$50 per set**. Signature Reprographics maintains the project plan holders' list so it is a requirement that prospective bidders purchase their plans from Signature Reprographics to ensure that all potential bidders possess a complete set of documents including any addenda for the project. Plans may be previewed online at **www.egusdplans.com**

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on **Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 11:00 a.m. at Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School, 8737 Brittany Park Drive, Sacramento, CA 95828**. The District's Representative and Engineer will be present to discuss the project. Bids received from parties not attending this mandatory pre-bid conference will be rejected as non-responsive. All bidders are **required** to attend the pre-bid conference in its entirety.

This project involves sidewalk repair as shown in the documents and as required for a complete and operational project. This project requires a **Class A or C-8** license.

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

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

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Sacramento County, California

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

Elk Grove Citizen 7-12, 7-19-2024

**City of Elk Grove - Planning Commission
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, August 1, 2024**, at **6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Elk Grove Zoning Administrator will hold a Public Hearing at City Hall in the **Council Chambers, 8400 Laguna Palms Way**, Elk Grove, California to consider the matter:

STONE SPRINGS ESTATES (PLNG24-015) – TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP AND DESIGN REVIEW FOR SUBDIVISION LAYOUT:

The Project consists of a Tentative Subdivision Map to subdivide a 2.2-acre parcel into nine single family lots. The Project also includes Design Review for Subdivision Layout. Construction of new homes is not proposed at this time. Any future home construction will be required to comply with the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) measures for new single-family construction.

PROPERTY OWNER:	PROJECT APPLICANT/AGENT FOR PROPERTY OWNER:
American AAA and R Developers LLC Ehssan Hamouda (Representative) 659 Hancock Drive Folsom, CA 95630	Tarik Taeha 659 Hancock Drive Folsom, CA 95630
LOCATION/APN:	Intersection of Stone Springs Drive and Violet Springs Court; APN: 127-0140-024
ZONING:	Single Family Residential (RD-5)
GENERAL PLAN:	Low Density Residential (LDR)
ENVIRONMENTAL:	Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15332 (In-fill Development) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.
PROJECT PLANNER:	Joseph Daguman, Associate Planner 916.478.2283 or JDaguman@elkgrovecity.org

Dated / Published: July 19, 2024

NOTICE REGARDING APPEALS
Pursuant to §23.14.060 of the Zoning Code, appeals of a final action by the Planning Commission must be filed with the City Clerk no later than ten (10) calendar days after the day on which the final action was taken, along with the appropriate fee.

NOTICE REGARDING CHALLENGES TO DECISIONS
Pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations, including without limitation, California Government Code Section 65009 and/or California Public Resources Code Section 21177, if you wish to challenge in court any of the above decisions (regarding planning, zoning and/or environmental decisions), you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing(s) described in this notice/agenda, or in written correspondence delivered to the City at, or prior to, this public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call (916) 478-3620 or skyles@elkgrovecity.org or TTY (888) 435-6092. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

Elk Grove Citizen 7-19-2024

Heat is On for Summer Blood Donations to Prevent Shortage

Vitalant News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- Nonprofit Vitalant is urging all eligible volunteer blood donors to help prevent a summer shortage by giving blood this July.

Donations in early July are typically among the lowest of the year but patients' needs don't take a vacation. Accidents happen. Cancers are diagnosed. Childbirth complications occur.

Those who need regular

blood transfusions such as those with sickle cell disease or with immune deficiency disorders continue to need lifesaving support.

It cannot happen without blood donors. Please donate soon and donate regularly. There is no artificial substitute for blood and patients in the Sacramento region and beyond rely on blood donors.

Donors of all blood types are urgently needed,

especially type O, the most transfused blood type. O-negative can be used to help any patient in an emergency and O-positive can help any patient with a positive blood type.

As a special thanks for donating, July 8 through 27, donors will be automatically entered into Vitalant's Summer Car Giveaway of a vehicle valued up to \$30,000. Learn more at Vitalant.org/cargiveaway.

Make an appointment to

give at vitalant.org, download and use the Vitalant app or call 877-25-VITAL (877-258-4825).

Blood Drives Open to the Public
Visit vitalant.org to schedule your appointment.

Enter the zip code or Blood Drive code in the search box or schedule at another mobile blood drive or regional Vitalant donation center.

Thank you!

Saturday, July 20

The Club at Natomas Park
Bloodmobile
2101 Club Center Dr.,
Sacramento
9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Blood Drive Code:
SMFB877

Sunday, July 21

Sikh Gurdwara Hughson
Sahib Sih Temple
1930 Sikh Temple St.,
Stockton
12 to 4 p.m.
Blood Drive Code:
100560254

Wednesday, July 24

Mount Vernon Memorial
Park
Bloodmobile
8201 Greenback Lane, Fair
Oaks
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Blood Drive Code:
10053312

Thursday, July 25

California Department of
Justice
1300 I St., Sacramento
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Blood Drive Code:
100559853 ★

State Fair Honors Military, Veterans and First Responders on July 24

Cal Expo News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)

- On Wednesday, July 24, join Cal Expo for a day full of fun for the whole family in honor of our Military, Veteran & First Responder personnel, complete with

special exhibits, interactive activities and entertainment.

Guests will enjoy a Dinner 911 Cooking Challenge at Save Mart California's Kitchen, while representatives from military and first responder organizations will provide

valuable resources and special displays.

Military, Veteran & First Responder Appreciation Day focuses on paying gratitude and celebrating the individuals and organizations that keep our country and communities safe.

For a day revolved around immense appreciation, we invite active duty, reserve and veteran personnel from all branches of the military as well as active members of law enforcement, firefighters and first responder units to enjoy free Fair admission.

Active-duty military spouses and dependents are also included in free admission on this special day.

Request your free tickets through Veteran Tickets Foundation at www.vet-tix.org or First Tickets at www.1sttix.org. You must

create a new or use an existing account.

Alternatively, veteran, military personnel and first responders may present valid military ID, proof of service, or ID showing active first responder status at the California State Fair Admission Gates. ★

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

Legal Advertising Hotline
916-483-2299

Legal Advertising Fax
916-773-2999

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

**City of Elk Grove
INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that electronic bids will be received at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids prior to 10:00 a.m. local time (09:59:59 – according to the PlanetBids official Bid clock) on **Tuesday, August 20, 2024**, for furnishing all labor, materials, tax, transportation, equipment and services necessary for the:

PERMANENT SHARED HOUSING CONVERSION OF 8679 ADAMSTOWN WAY – PHASE 3 (NEW CONSTRUCTION) PROJECT (NSP-2022-01)

Bids submitted after the time specified will not be accepted.

Description of Work:
The proposed work shall be performed in accordance with the plans, specifications and other contract documents and shall consist of the following: site and tenant improvements at the City owned, unoccupied facility located at 8679 Adamstown Way Elk Grove, CA 95624. The Project shall result in Contractor performing an interior remodel of an existing house to convert a portion of the garage into habitable space, convert living room into a new bedroom, add new exterior patios, walkways, and landscaping. The completed Project will have seven (7) bedrooms, two and a half (2-1/2) bathrooms, new fixtures, new appliances, new HVAC equipment plus ductwork, new casework, and new finishes throughout (Work).

The Opinion of Probable Cost (OPC) for the work is \$532,600.

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

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

Construction License:
Bidder must possess a current valid Class "B" General Building Contractor's License issued by the State of California. The Bidder shall possess and demonstrate such possession or list a Subcontractor that possesses a current valid "C-27" Landscaping Contractor's License issued by the State of California for the Landscaping Work in this area.

Pre-Bid:
A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at 8679 Adamstown Way, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Attendees are encouraged to bring a flashlight. Anyone sensitive to mold should bring proper PPE.

For Pre-Bid Information and Information Pertaining to the Construction Plans and Specifications, Contact:
Alisha Olson, Project Manager, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 261-1840 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

For Obtaining Bid Documents, Contact:
Kimberlee Marlan, Administrative Assistant, City of Elk Grove, Public Works Department
Telephone: (916) 627-3315 or electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids

Plans, specifications and other bid documents may be examined and/or obtained at the City of Elk Grove City Hall, Public Works Department, located on the second floor of 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. A copy of the bid documents may be obtained at the City Hall upon request and payment of \$15.00 or may be mailed upon request and payment of \$25.00. The amount of the payment is non-refundable. Bidders may also view and download the plans, specifications, and other bid documents at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. Any Addendum shall only be issued electronically at the City of Elk Grove Vendor Portal through PlanetBids. In person requests for Addendum shall not be accepted by the City during the pandemic.

By: _____ Date: _____
Christina Castro, PE
Capital Program Division Manager

Elk Grove Citizen 7-19, 7-26-2024

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSAL TO PERFORM LEASE-LEASEBACK PRE-CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE GRANTLINE 208 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

The Elk Grove Unified School District ("District") is requesting a Statement of Qualifications/Proposal (SOQ/P) from Contractors holding a **Class B** license, to perform Lease-Leaseback Pre-construction and Construction Services for the **GRANTLINE 208 Elementary School** project.

If your firm is interested in being considered for this project, the submittal requirements and deadline for SOQ/P responses are as follows:

- Electronic copy in PDF format of a completed SOQ/P, submitted thru Dropbox
- As part of this RFQ, all participants must complete a Pre-qualification Application, if you have not already
- SOQ/P packet, and Pre-qualification Application can be accessed at www.egusdplans.com
- Completed SOQ/P must be received no later than **Friday, August 30, 2024, by 4:59 p.m.**

The District will not review submittals received after the time and date above. Facsimile (FAX) copies of the SOQ/P will not be accepted. The Administration reserves the right to accept or reject any and all SOQ/P, to negotiate with any and all-responsible firms, and to waive any informality in the process. The District is not responsible for any expenses related to the preparation or presentation of the SOQ/P, including travel costs. The SOQ/P may be withdrawn at any time prior to the closing date and time for receipt of SOQ/P.

In order to control information disseminated regarding this SOQ/P, firms interested in submitting SOQ/P are directed not to make personal contact with members of the Governing Board or District Administration with the exception of the individual, or department staff listed above. This includes unauthorized visits to District educating facilities.

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

Elk Grove Citizen 7-19, 7-26-24

**City of Elk Grove - Planning Commission
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Elk Grove Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at City Hall in the **Council Chambers, 8400 Laguna Palms Way**, Elk Grove, California to consider the matter:

CORAL BLOSSOM APARTMENTS (APLA24-001) – APPEAL OF APPROVAL OF MINOR DESIGN REVIEW (SENATE BILL 35), DENSITY BONUS WITH REDUCED PARKING AND CONCESSIONS/INCENTIVES:

Consider an appeal of the Zoning Administrator's approval of the proposed Project. The proposed Coral Blossom Apartments Project (the "Project") consists of a Minor Design Review for a new 100% affordable housing multi-unit residential apartment complex with 81 units and associated site improvements including parking, lighting, and landscaping. The Project will have one, 3-story building as well as indoor and outdoor amenities including a community room, conference room, courtyards, and lawn areas. The Project request also includes a Density Bonus with reduced parking and concessions/incentives for: (1) relief from the requirement to underground utilities, (2) reduction in landscape buffer/tree spacing, and (3) reduction in side yard setbacks on the south and north sides. The Project was approved under SB 35, a state law which provides for streamlined, ministerial review and approval of qualifying housing development projects.

The Zoning Administrator reviewed and approved this matter at its meeting on June 17, 2024.

PROPERTY OWNER:		PROJECT APPLICANT:	
City of Elk Grove Jason Behrmann (Representative) 8401 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove, CA 95757		Excelerate Housing Group, LLC Peter Enzminger (Representative) 3910 Cover Street Long Beach, CA 90808	
LOCATION/APN:	8484 Elk Grove Florin Road; APN: 115-0180-013		
ZONING:	High Density Residential (HDR)		
GENERAL PLAN:	High Density Residential (HDR)		
ENVIRONMENTAL:	The Project is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act per Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(1), Government Code Section 65913.4, and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15268 as the Project is subject to ministerial review.		
PROJECT PLANNER:	Kyra Killingsworth, Senior Planner 916.478.3684 or killingsworth@elkgrovecity.org		

Dated / Published: July 19, 2024

NOTICE REGARDING APPEALS

Pursuant to §23.14.060 of the Zoning Code, appeals of a final action by the Planning Commission must be filed with the City Clerk no later than ten (10) calendar days after the day on which the final action was taken, along with the appropriate fee.

NOTICE REGARDING CHALLENGES TO DECISIONS

Pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations, including without limitation, California Government Code Section 65009 and/or California Public Resources Code Section 21177, if you wish to challenge in court any of the above decisions (regarding planning, zoning and/or environmental decisions), you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing(s) described in this notice/agenda, or in written correspondence delivered to the City at, or prior to, this public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call (916) 478-3620 or skyles@elkgrovecity.org or TTY (888) 435-6092. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

Elk Grove Citizen 7-19-2024

**City of Elk Grove - Planning Commission
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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8767 EXCELSIOR ROAD MAP (PLNG22-041) – TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP:

The Project consists of a Tentative Parcel Map to subdivide one existing parcel into three new parcels, each consisting of a minimum lot size of at least 2.0 gross acres (Parcel 1 is ±2.05 acres; Parcel 2 is ±2.02 acres; and Parcel 3 is ±2.02 acres). Each parcel will have access off Excelsior Road through a proposed 25-foot-wide private road. Any future home construction will be required to comply with the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) measures for new single-family construction.

PROPERTY OWNER/PROJECT APPLICANT:		PROJECT ENGINEER:	
Engel & Lourdes Navea 9763 Kapalua Lane Elk Grove, CA 95624		Claybar Engineering, Inc. Dennis Barksdale (Representative) 9354 Elk Grove Florin Road Elk Grove, CA 95624	
LOCATION/APN:	8767 Excelsior Road; APN: 123-0180-006		
ZONING:	Agricultural Residential (AR-2)		
GENERAL PLAN:	Rural Residential (RR)		
ENVIRONMENTAL:	No further environmental review is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 (Projects Consistent with a Community Plan, General Plan, or Zoning).		
PROJECT PLANNER:	Joseph Daguman, Associate Planner 916.478.2283 or JDaguman@elkgrovecity.org		

Dated / Published: July 19, 2024

NOTICE REGARDING APPEALS

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Elk Grove Citizen 7-19-2024

LEGAL ADS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY?

MPG 916-773-1111

CRC's Smith Takes Soccer Talent to Stanislaus State

By Alejandro Barron

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - When Katie Smith arrived at Cosumnes River College for her first soccer practices, she felt nervous, although she never expected the stand-out season she would have in her sophomore year.

Long before her stellar sophomore year, Smith first started playing soccer during recess in elementary school.

"In first grade with our friends and then I told my parents that we (Smith and her sister) wanted to try playing recreational soccer because it was the thing we did every day at recess," Smith said.

She started playing soccer with her twin sister, Alana Smith, who always pushed her to do her best.

"We're both definitely very competitive so I think that having someone that your parents are also comparing you to because you're right on after games together, you're going to practice together so that definitely fueled my competitiveness and made me want to be better," Smith said.

Smith first started playing club soccer for FC Elk Grove, where she said she played on the lowest team of the club, but she couldn't tell the difference; she was just happy to start playing year-round soccer.

"We switched from rec to club in fourth or fifth grade and when I first started playing club, I was on the lowest team for FC Elk Grove and I didn't even know the difference," Smith said. "It was just so exciting to get to do that and play year-round."

When Smith was in rec soccer, she said she played as a forward, but as she got into club soccer she played as a goalkeeper for a year before playing as a centre-back where her mom was supportive of this position change.

"My mom has always been super supportive and she always hypes up her kids, so I feel like she helped to show me that my role as a defender was just as important, if not more important than scoring all the goals because I was like protecting the goal," Smith said.

When Smith and her sister got to middle school, they switched to play for IR Academy, where they were invited to play on the highest level team.

Once Smith got to high school, she said she had always hated doing try-outs and although she had doubts, she would grow with confidence as time went on.



Katherine Smith, former defender of the Cosumnes River College Lady Hawks, has committed to further her academic and athletic career at Stanislaus State. Photo courtesy of Cosumnes River College

Midway through her high school career, Smith faced hardships with the COVID-19 pandemic, where she would record herself at home completing challenges from her coaches, as well as once returning to school playing in the spring rather than winter.

Returning for her senior season, she had an assistant coach at Cosumnes Oaks High School, Emmanuel Vega, who was also a coach at Cosumnes River College. Since Smith wasn't sure what she wanted to major in she decided to attend CRC.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do so I kind of knew that I was going to end up going to CRC for school instead of going straight to a four-year, and then having that connection with Coach Vega kind of helped me be able to be on the soccer team," Smith said.

This was when the head coach of the Lady Hawks, Cesar Plasencia, took notice of her.

"I thought she had a lot of potential and a lot of strengths in her game that just needed to be polished, and the opportunity to really develop into the player that she ended up developing. To her credit, she was very dedicated and coachable," Plasencia said.

After Plasencia pulled Smith to the side to speak

"It's crazy looking back on where I was coming out of high school to where I am now."

—Katie Smith

about CRC with her, she told him she was 100% committed and would attend CRC to further her athletic and academic career.

When first arriving on campus, she remembers being nervous about practice, especially with conditioning as she says she wasn't the fastest.

"I was just nervous that I was gonna look bad and that my conditioning wasn't gonna translate to what I knew I could do soccer-wise," Smith said.

Slowly but surely, Smith said that as the season got closer and the team would scrimmage, she was on the starting squad, which allowed her to gain confidence.

During her freshman season in the fall of 2022, the Lady Hawks would go 10-9-5, while going 7-0-3 at home to reach the second round of the CCCAA State Championship tournament before they fell to the Delta College Mustangs.

"She (Smith) just

competed and never took a play off and competed every moment of every game, whether it was practice, 1v1 exercises and she made everyone around her better because of that," Plasencia said about Smith's freshman season.

Smith gained recognition as she was named to the Big 8 All-Conference Team and Big 8 All-Tournament Team, the first of many accolades she would rack up.

Overall, Smith said she felt good overall about her freshman year, although this would be just the beginning, as she would solidify herself as one of the best center backs of the region.

"Overall I thought that I could grow more and get better in my next year, and I was looking forward to that next year and being in the older group," Smith said.

In the 2023 fall season and Smith's sophomore season, the Lady Hawks would go 15-3-6 overall and 7-0-4 in conference play and moved on to the conference tournament to defeat Santa Rosa College in the finals to become Big 8 champions.

"I was definitely hopeful because I knew that we had the talent," Smith said. "I knew that we had so many great players, because I saw them at practice every day competing, and we all

really pushed each other to do really well."

The Lady Hawks and Smith would reach the final four in the state after defeating West Valley College, Sierra College and City College of San Francisco in the CCCAA Tournament.

With Plasencia having an offensive play style, a solid defense was important for him, and Smith was the centerpiece of that, he said.

"Katie was the centerpiece of all that as the leader and the sophomore and kept everyone in the position they needed to be in throughout the game," Plasencia said.

They would ultimately fall 3-0 to Cypress College, who would fall to a Big 8 Conference team in Folsom Lake College in the state championship.

I think that our drive (pushed the team), we wanted it and we knew that we could do it so once the whistle was blown we just really turned on the next gear and were able to give everything we had to be able to win some of those games," Smith said.

Regardless of coming up short of the ultimate goal, Smith said that she's proud of this group and what they were able to accomplish together.

"I am really proud of everyone, especially the sophomores because I think our two years were a great two years and I'm really proud of the freshmen as well because a lot of our starting lineup were freshmen and they just worked really hard," Smith said.

Despite coming up short on a team accomplishment, Smith would start gaining recognition as she did her freshman year, repeating as Big 8 All-Conference and All-Tournament team.

It wouldn't stop there as Smith would be recognized as CCCAA Nor-Cal All-Region Team, Big 8 Conference Defensive MVP, CRC's Most Valuable Female Athlete and named by the United Soccer Coaches as an All-American Defender.

The cherry on top is her commitment to furthering her athletic and academic career at Stanislaus State, where she will study elementary education in hopes of becoming a teacher.

For Plasencia, he said Smith committing to Stanislaus State made him extremely happy, and he is always happy when his players choose to continue to play at the next level.

"I was excited for her and really proud of what we did as a group and as a

team to be able to generate the possibility for her to be able to continue to go and excel as a student and as an athlete," Smith said.

Plasencia said that in his 20 years at CRC, Smith has been one of the most pleasant players that he's had the chance to coach.

"She's extremely respectful, always said hello, always in a good mood, always ready to work and just the kind of players you wish you had in all your group," Plasencia said.

Smith said she's excited to continue at Stanislaus State, although she has never lived away from home but thinks that change can be good for her.

As parting advice, Plasencia said that for Smith anything is possible.

"If she commits to something and that she's capable of putting her maximum effort, that anything's possible in terms of the objectives or the results," Plasencia said.

As Smith leaves CRC to continue her playing career, she's thankful for what Plasencia has done for her as well as the rest of the coaching staff.

"I think I've grown a lot as a player in these past couple years and coach Cesar (Plasencia) played a big part in that," Smith said. "He helped me improve my game so I'm very thankful for his coaching as well as the rest of the coaching staff at CRC."

Outside of soccer, Smith likes to hang out with her friends and be outside to go on hikes and walks to talk and observe the nature around her, although she said that soccer takes up most of her time.

Throughout this journey, Smith said, she is grateful for her parents in the role they played in putting her on this path.

"I'm really grateful for my parents for supporting me, especially my dad because he really does everything for me. I could not be more grateful for my dad and my sister since she's on the team with me, and to have her to always hang out with, she's like a built-in best friend," Smith said.

Finally, Smith is grateful for the opportunities, good health and being able to do everything she's accomplished so far in her life.

"It's crazy looking back on where I was coming out of high school to where I am now," Smith said.

Stanislaus State makes its fall debut Sept. 5 in Lacey, Wash., against Saint Martin's University. ★

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California Capital Airshow Soars at Mather

Continued from page 1
 were the impressive performances of the Frece Tricolori, the Italian Air Force's renowned jet team, making its only performance in the western United States. Known for spectacular aerobatic displays, the team captivated audiences with its precision and elegance.

"The Frece Tricolori are the most mesmerizing and elegant performance I have ever seen in my life," Brewer said.

The team's 10 Italian-built aircraft dazzled spectators with synchronized maneuvers and vibrant red, green and white smoke trails.

The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds also took center stage, with its F-16 Fighting Falcon jets performing daring aerial stunts.

"It's incredible; they are so loud I hear my bones shake during their performance," said spectator Patrick Martin.

Another major draw was the F-35 Lightning II Demo and the FA-18 E/F Super Hornet, both showcasing the cutting-edge technology of modern military aviation. The U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III also made a grand appearance, offering a glimpse into the operations of this 250,000-plus-pound aircraft.

"The F-35 jet is one of my favorites, especially when it slows down in the air. It almost looks like it comes to a complete stop," said Emma Davis when asked what she was most looking forward to seeing at the event.

The Patriot Parachute Team demonstrated its precision jumping skills, featuring former members of elite military units such as Navy SEAL Team, Air Force Wings of Blue and Navy Leap Frogs.

On the ground, visitors had the rare opportunity to tour large military transport aircraft such as the C-5 Super Galaxy and the KC-135 Stratotanker. Interactive exhibits provided insights into various missions, including aerial refueling and humanitarian aid. Public safety and first responder displays highlighted the crucial roles that airplanes and helicopters play in law enforcement, medical evacuation and firefighting.

One of the airshow's unique aspects is its commitment to community engagement and education. As a nonprofit organization, the California Capital Airshow uses the event's proceeds to fund scholarships, internships and free educational programs throughout the year.

"We decided this is a massive career day in a way," Brewer explained. "The whole event is designed to share our nation's rich aviation history, honor veterans and inspire the next generation."

Volunteers play a huge role in the success of the event.

"We have at any time around 1,000 volunteers," emphasized media spokesperson Lindsey Nelson.

Volunteer and team leader Michael Funes has been involved with the event for six years and



The Frece Tricolori jet team signed autographs during a meet-and-greet with California Capital Airshow attendees. Photos by Rick Sloan

emphasized the joy of seeing excited young faces at the show.

"After nearly three decades in Rancho, I found myself drawn into volunteering. It's my way of getting closer to the planes I love," Funes said. "Over the past six years, I've met countless genuine people willing to take time out of their day to volunteer. This event is part of the community and is one of the biggest events Rancho has to offer."

Pilot Mike Kelly, 99th Commander, highlighted his love for flying.

"I think any pilot would say it's kind of visceral, a sense of freedom and adventure. Growing up, I always wanted to be a pilot. It's a very cool opportunity to be able to fly for the community because this is home," said Kelly when asked about performing in the show a couple of years ago. "It's pretty cool that every year we get the big names here. Getting those names out here puts this airshow on the map."



The Frece Tricolori, the renowned jet team of the Italian Air Force, dazzled spectators at the California Capital Airshow by releasing vibrant green, white and red smoke, representing the national colors of Italy during its performance.



Children were captivated by thrilling night performances at the California Capital Airshow.



California Capital Airshow attendees watched in awe as the jets soared through the skies.

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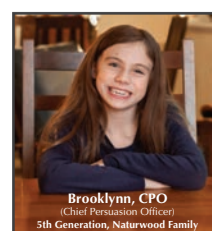


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