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Panel Discusses Proposition 36



Panel members stand at the recent Prop 36 town hall meeting. From left are Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea, former Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness, State Assemblyman James Gallagher, Butte County Supervisor Bill Connelly, Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey, Oroville Police Chief Bill LaGrone, Oroville Councilman Shawn Webber and U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa.

Story and photos  
by Jordonna Lobese

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - In a Prop 36 town hall meeting on Sept. 16 with a panel of area officials, benefits of Proposition 36 were discussed.

Prop 36 permits felony charges and increases sentences for specific drug and theft crimes. It would undo Prop 47, which made some drug and theft crimes into misdemeanors. Opponents claim that Prop 36 risks progress on criminal justice reform and argue that jails will fill up and rehabilitation funding will be slashed.

During the event, speakers touched on a recent incident that occurred in Marysville when officials were

visiting the Hotel Marysville fire site. Marysville Mayor Chris Branscum was punched without warning by a passerby.

“The guy was a repeat offender and stayed in his addiction without any consequences to his actions. There is just blatant crime happening in our state. He pleaded guilty and will be receiving sentencing later in the month,” said Marysville Councilmember Dominique Belza. “We have gone past the point of sympathizing. Tough love has to be implemented and there has to be some consequences. Once someone gets their head clear, then they can make the right decision to become a productive person in society. That is my hope to get out of 36.”

Said Oroville Councilman Shawn Webber, “The soul of this great state is worth fighting for. Enough is enough. So many have left California. Ten years of erosion in the quality of life due to fentanyl, which is man-made. Prop 47 passed to make neighborhoods safer but it has issues. We want our quality of life back. This county, city, and state are worth fighting for.”

Webber collected about 800 signatures in Oroville for Prop 36 to be on the ballot.

Oroville Mayor David Pittman spoke next.

“Currently, with Prop 47, our public safety officers’ hands are tied. The people will give the tools that are

*Continued on page 3*

Gridley City  
Council  
Recognizes  
Miguel Chavez

By Connie Voss

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Recognition was given to Miguel Chavez, who was promoted to senior accountant technician, at the Sept. 3 Gridley City Council meeting.

Chavez has been an accountant with the City of Gridley for a year. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Chico State. Throughout this last year, Chavez has mastered Accounts Payable, Payroll, Journal Entries and is taking on more complex reporting.

During the Public Comment portion of the meeting, concerns were raised over utility rate increases and the inability to pay already high bills with late fees, especially for seniors on fixed incomes. In response, City Administrator Elisa Arteaga offered the option of establishing a payment plan wherein the late fees are waived. Arteaga indicated she was working with the Community Action Agency of Butte County and Energy Efficiency Services to obtain more assistance for seniors and the disabled.

Several resolutions were approved, including the approval of the application for Cal Recycle Local Assistance Grant Program Extension. Due to the size of Gridley’s population, additional time was needed.

A noteworthy item for consideration was presented by Gridley Rotary Club representatives. Rotary President Lynne Spencer and past President Margaret Hughes requested permission to place a lighted commemorative clock in downtown Gridley. The proposed location for the 10-foot-tall clock is the Hazel Street side of the Gridley Museum. The clock will be in honor of Rotary’s 100 years in Gridley, with a plaque honoring former Rotarian Dick Jones who passed away earlier this year. City Council was asked to install the clock for Rotary. Total cost for installation was estimated at \$4,439 and the council voted unanimously to waive labor and materials costs. Maintenance of the clock will be taken care of by Rotary members.

Next, an update was made by city engineer David Harden on the long-awaited State Route 99 Waterline Relocation Project. This undertaking will replace 1,370 feet of asbestos concrete pipe that

*Continued on page 3*

The Bell is Back!

A Stolen Piece of History Returns to Manzanita School

By Seti Long

**MANZANITA, CA (MPG)** - Late last week, the Manzanita Community got great news – the historical Manzanita School Bell had been found.

The 156-year-old bell that once hung in the old Manzanita School building’s belltower had been installed in front of the school as a tribute to the rich history of the school, its alumni and community.

In November 2021, the bell was stolen. Video footage of the theft circulated in the communities and was provided to law enforcement, but the community demanded more action. Gridley and Manzanita area individuals pooled funds together as a reward for the bells return, with the understanding that if the bell could not be recovered the money would go to help purchase a replacement.

Despite that and search

*Continued on page 2*



Law enforcement returns the Manzanita School Bell to the school with Clark Stowe (right). Photo courtesy of Manzanita School



# The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

Business model disruption of the week -Apple is making their \$279 ear-phones into FDA-qualified hearing aids. The hearing aid business model ends within four years. The Apple technology is better, smaller, and cheaper.

A recent news article - in a major local weekly paper relates the new Gridley Sister City of Comala, Mexico, has the distinction of being a "Pueblo Mágico" or "Magic Town". The Mexican government officially grants this title to cities that offer "cultural richness, historical importance, cuisine, art crafts, and great hospitality." I mean, how do we compete with that? Could we not find an unattractive, underachieving, mediocre, boring Sister City? Linda, Verdi, Fernly; do they not need a good brother or sister? Put Gridley in that family photo - with those three sister cities - and watch the local

community's self-esteem tick up. Like Gridley would get the glass slipper, a night of dancing at a ball, and a mystical pumpkin chariot ride home. Of even greater civic procedural importance, did someone tell the other official Gridley Sister City, Te Puke, New Zealand, that she was being replaced by Comala, the Magic Mexican sister? I have four daughters, and if I added another "magic" sister and stopped talking to the oldest of the sisters, it would not end well (and for the record, my daughters are all certified 100% magico - indeed mucho magico). Elisa Arteaga, the City of Gridley Municipal Chief Head Honcha, may be settling family feuds when the Kiwi sister finds out (and Te Puke plays Rugby). Thank goodness Elisa speaks Spanish and New Zealandish. Less than a year into the job, she landed an international incident.

Gridley Titan football is a great place for young people to learn essential life skills. Thanks to all the people who volunteer their time. John Leonard was my coach. Great man.

Groups in the community that support the Butte County Fair with volunteer labor and supplies may have less funds to do so as

reports come in that many of the service organizations saw a downturn in their Fair time revenue in 2024, while the Fair's - Fair time revenue - went up.

At a recent Liberty Ward baby shower the babe of honor received a full set of baby Taylor Swift outfits modeled on the recent worldwide gigantic Swift concert tour. Ms. Swift changes outfits about 26 times per concert (27 when in Kansas). That is creative gift-giving at its best. It's hard for the rest of us to keep up with the Roberts family. Her gifts are certified Magico.

Did you have a bad CA licensed engineer experience? Engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists can be held accountable. Complaints at the state board, and complaints and their dispositions are public records.

Recent tragedies have again sent the message that wearing seat belts while driving on HWY 99 is important. We hope the message was received.

Josh F.W. Cook is an administrator and educator. This column carries on the decades-long column of Publisher W.D. Burseson.

# The Bell is Back!



The 156-year-old bell that once hung in the old Manzanita School building's belltower had been installed in front of the school as a tribute to the rich history of the school, its alumni and community. It was stolen on Nov. 17, 2021. Photo courtesy of Manzanita School

Continued from page 1  
efforts, the bell remained missing.  
Three years later, a local citizen that prefers to remain unnamed, tipped the school on possible whereabouts of the stolen piece of history. With the help of Sutter County District Attorney's Office, Yuba County Sheriff's Office and Butte County Sheriff's Office, the Manzanita School Bell was found and returned to its home last week.  
In a letter to the community posted on Facebook Friday, Sept. 13, Manzanita School's Principal and Superintendent, Joe Lodigiani said, "Today we have great news to celebrate! Our Manzanita Elementary School bell is back!" he continues, "The bell was the original schoolhouse bell dating back to 1868. On October 6, 1968, the Butte County Historical Society commemorated it with a plaque. Unfortunately, as many of you are aware, the bell was stolen from our school on November 17, 2021. For over 150 years the bell had welcomed our students each morning."  
On behalf of the school, Lodigiani concluded with, "We are thrilled to have our bell back on campus and extremely thankful for the support of our community members and local law enforcement agencies."  
At this time, it is unclear if there have been any arrests made in connection with the theft.



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# Panel Discusses Proposition 36 Benefits



State Assemblyman James Gallagher, Mike Ramsey, Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea, former Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness and U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa listen intently to a speaker in the audience.

*Continued from page 1*  
needed to get the job done,” Pittman said.  
Butte County Supervisor Bill Connelly added, “The shoplifting is atrocious and we all pay for it. These laws need to be tightened up.”

State Assemblyman James Gallagher quoted U.S. Representative Kevin Kiley: “With Prop 36, let’s make crime illegal again in California.”

“Prop 36 does this: first, if you are a repeat offender, you will get a felony. Second, it brings accountability to fentanyl dealers. And third, it brings back the drug court and sentence to put them into treatment,” Gallagher added.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey explained how ineffective realignment AB109 was. The basic idea behind AB109 and Prop 47 is to discipline low-degree offenders with local jail or out-of-custody ‘mandatory supervision’ instead of prison.

“Our local prisons changed. People were staying in local prisons for years. Opponents of Prop 36 call this a war on drugs. It is not. It is a war on addiction. We need to make a change and protect our community to protect those who cannot protect themselves,” Ramsey said.

Ramsey further explained that opponents of Prop 36 don’t want it because of perceived costs and rising prison numbers and how that data cannot be produced to support those claims. The costs, Ramsey said, will be a minimal portion of the state budget.

“This is mass treatment versus mass incarceration,” Ramsey said.

Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea, with 30 years’ experience, spoke.

“I’ve seen the continuous erosion for the rule of law and this progressive march for making our communities less safe brought

about by bad policy made in Sacramento,” Honea said.

“Voters have been duped. Prop 47 was ushered in. Organized retail theft has wreaked havoc. We have seen this explosion and intersection of addiction and mental health issues. California is shutting prisons down, because they have a large number of vacancies,” Honea said. “Drug court worked, because it provided a number of options short of going to prison to address addiction issues. It held them to be accountable. I’m passionate; because I am damn tired of seeing what we are seeing on the streets.”

Oroville Police Chief Bill LaGrone noted that the impact Prop 47 has had on his officers has been detrimental.

“Our officers are being taunted. Prop 47 was far-reaching. My officers give Narcan on a daily basis and have saved close to one thousand lives. Addiction is something that has to be treated on many different levels. You have to meet people where they are at. Incarceration does not deal with the other things that exist,” LaGrone said.

Former Sacramento County Sheriff and radio personality John McGinness explained that under Prop 47, there are no consequences for offenders and that most don’t show when given a Notice to Appear.

“The system has deteriorated so badly that people have been called to action,” McGinness said.

The governor’s bills do not address drug addiction, which is driving retail theft, according to McGinness.

All on the panel agreed that addiction is the root cause of theft and crime and that Prop 36 will directly address this issue and make our communities safe.

“Prop 36 is neither a red or blue proposition,” Ramsey added. ★

# Butte County General Election



Registered voters can vote in the general election by Nov. 5. Photo by Yamu\_Jay via Pixabay

**By Seti Long and Mickey Mrakuzic**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Ballots will soon be arriving in the mail for the Nov. 5 general election.

Butte County will be seeing multiple candidates running for various positions, both locally and at state level, which are listed below. Also included is information on Measures A and H provided by the Butte County Clerk Recorder website. For more information visit: <https://buttevotes.net/326/November-5-2024-General-Election>.

Due to a portion of our readership residing in Sutter County, we have included candidates from the Live Oak area in the following information:

- Gridley**  
**Running for Gridley City Council:**  
Michael W. Farr  
J Angel Calderon  
Raymond Borges  
Catalina Sanchez
- Running for Gridley Unified School Board:**  
TA1 - Cheryl Argetsinger  
TA2 - Eric Waterbury  
Sonia Zarate  
TA3 (Short term) - Ben Taylor
- Running for Manzanita School Board:**  
Jacki L. Fields  
James Clark Stowe II  
Matthew R. Thompson  
Bri Valdivia (Short term)

- Biggs**  
**Running for Biggs City Council:**  
Anita Wilks  
Michael Buck -Incumbent  
Jerome Squires-Incumbent
- Running for Biggs Unified School District:**  
Linda Brown  
Jonna Phillips
- Live Oak**  
**Running for Live Oak City Council - 2 seats:**  
Lakhvir S. Ghag  
Nancy Elizabeth Santana  
Michelle Serpa  
Cruz Mora  
Aaron Pamma

- Running for Live Oak Unified School District – 3 seats**  
Michele Curiel  
Scott Davis  
Peter-Sean Hart  
Jessica Curiel-Ramirez  
Gabriella Alvarado  
Simren Pamma

**Measure A – Biggs Unified School District Improvement Measure**  
To improve the quality of Biggs school facilities; replace leaky roofs; construct/modernize classrooms, restrooms and school facilities; and make health, safety and security improvements; shall the Biggs Unified School District measure be adopted authorizing \$16,500,000 of bonds, at legal rates, raising on average \$988,000 annually while bonds are outstanding at a rate of approximately 6 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, with annual audits, independent citizens’ oversight, NO money for administrator salaries and all money spent locally?

**Measure H – County of Butte – Resolution 24-094 – Tax Measure**  
Shall the measure funding Butte County services such as maintaining emergency 911 response times; preparing for/responding to and recovering from wildfires/natural disasters; protecting abused/neglected children; addressing homelessness, mental health challenges; retaining/attracting qualified firefighters/EMTs/sheriff’s deputies; preventing thefts/property crimes; supporting libraries services and for general government use by establishing a 1¢ sales tax providing \$44,000,000 annually until ended by voters; requiring audits/spending disclosure/funds

- Running for CA State Senate – 1st District**  
Megan Dahle  
David Fennell
- Running for Member of the State Assembly – 3rd Assembly District**  
James Gallagher - R  
Aaron Draper - D
- Running for US Representative – 1st Congressional District**  
Doug LaMalfa - R  
Rose Penelope Yee – D



MEMORIAL

JAIME ALEJO • 10/29/2004 - 9/14/2024

**In Loving Memory of Jaime Alejo**

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our beloved Jaime Alejo, who left us far too soon at the age of 19 on the early morning of September 14, 2024. Born in Oroville on October 29, 2004, Jaime was the cherished third-born son of Pedro Amezcua Gracian and Rosalba Amezcua Alejo.

Jaime recently graduated from Gridley High School in 2023, where he made a lasting impact both on and off the football field. His vibrant personality, characterized by his infectious smile and playful nature, endeared him to everyone he met. Jaime had a rare gift for making those around him feel appreciated and loved, bringing joy and warmth to every encounter.

Jaime’s love for his family was profound, and his enthusiasm for life was evident in everything he did. As a natural leader, he was always ready to lend a hand and make sure no one felt alone. His sense of humor and adventurous spirit were sources of light and happiness. Jaime had big dreams of attending trade school, with aspirations of becoming a barber like his brother, or a lineman, or an electrician. He also dreamed of buying a house for his mom, a goal he shared with his sister Marlene, reflecting his deep commitment and



affection for his family.

He found peace in nature, often sharing quiet moments watching sunsets with friends. Jaime’s authenticity shone brightly; he was always true to himself and never sought to impress others. His dedication was also evident in his time at the gym, where he channeled his energy and drive. He loved cruising around in his new car, his smile as constant as his joy.

Jaime leaves behind his loving parents, Pedro Amezcua Gracian and Rosalba Amezcua Alejo; his brothers, Pedro (Monique) and Pablo; his sisters, Marlene and Esmeralda; and a wide circle of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends who were all touched by his presence.

**A rosary will be held**

**in Jaime’s honor on Thursday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Gridley. A Mass of remembrance will be celebrated on Friday, October 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., followed by graveside services at Gridley-Biggs Cemetery.**

**In addition, a benefit breakfast will be held at the Masonic Lodge on October 6, 2024, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$10 per plate. All proceeds will support the family during this difficult time.**

**We invite all who knew and loved Jaime to join us in celebrating his remarkable life and the joy he brought to us all. Jaime’s memory will forever be cherished in our hearts, and his spirit will continue to inspire us.**

# Gridley City Council Recognizes Miguel Chavez

*Continued from page 1*  
is about 50 years old. The replacement DR-18 pipe is thicker and will last 50 to 80 years. The new water main will be eight feet west of the old one in the middle of the Highway 99 northbound lane. Work will be carried out at night and will take a total of about 90 days. Due to weather concerns, it is hoped that the project will be finished by November. This will clear the way for a Caltrans (California Department of Transportation) project in the area to begin in spring 2025. Total cost for the job is estimated at \$1,040,500, with a 10-percent contingency.

Councilmember Calderon had questions about overseeing the quality of the materials used. City engineers and inspectors will be overseeing the work, ensuring that city specifications are being met. There will be some street closures during construction. The public will be notified when closures will happen. Again, voting to approve the project was unanimous.

The council also approved an amendment to the contract with RSG for public lands planning. An increase of \$16,500 was made to the budget.

Another item for consideration was to approve construction contracts for specialized inspections, in an attempt to streamline the process. Four companies were suggested to have availability for this

purpose: Four Leaf, Unico, Ghirardelli Associates, and Gannett Fleming. Public comment was made by Steve Stapley of S&S Construction that it took three years, 20 pages of plans and more than \$27,000 to complete the process for his development on the south side of town. “It shouldn’t take 100 years” Stapley said. City Council voted to enlist the help of the four companies.

Committee reports were then made by the councilmembers. Councilmember J Angel Calderon attended the meeting of the Behavioral Health Advisory Council, with a special training in schizophrenia. Calderon encouraged City Council to develop a plan to address the high-risk individuals in the county. In addition, Calderon attended the Butte County Association of Governments.

Councilmember James Roberts attended Gridley Chamber of Commerce and National Night Out.

Councilmember Catalina Sanchez reported on the Fair, the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and its Disaster Recovery Center in Carmichael.

City Administrator Arteaga concluded the meeting by reporting on her visit to the Oroville Thermalito Dams to learn more about evacuation protocols. Arteaga also attended the Northern California Power Agency and expressed a desire to “keep moving forward.” ★



# LaMalfa Outlines Passage of Bills to Reduce China’s Influence

**Office of Congressman Doug LaMalfa News Release**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG)** - Last week, House Republicans advanced a series of critical bills aimed at safeguarding America’s economy, infrastructure, agriculture, and national security from increasing Chinese Communist Party (CCP) interference.

Congressman Doug LaMalfa (R-Richvale) released the following statement regarding this important action:

“China’s growing influence in our economy,

our educational institutions, our military installations, and our farmlands is an undeniable threat to American sovereignty. The passage of these bills sends a clear message: we will not sit idly by as the CCP undermines our national security and steals our intellectual property. House Republicans are dedicated to protecting America’s future and standing up to foreign adversaries who wish to harm our nation.”

H.R. 1398, the Protect America’s Innovation and Economic Security from CCP Act, reinstates

President Trump’s “China Initiative,” a vital program that was unilaterally terminated by the Biden-Harris administration. This initiative aggressively prosecutes the theft of U.S. trade secrets, economic espionage, and cyberattacks that threaten our intellectual property and infrastructure. The bill also mandates annual reporting from the Department of Justice to Congress, ensuring transparency and accountability in confronting Chinese-backed threats.

H.R. 1516, the DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese

Entities of Concern Act, cuts off funding to higher education institutions that maintain ties to Chinese entities of concern, including Confucius Institutes. This bill is a significant step toward reducing the soft power influence China has attempted to exert within U.S. academic institutions, particularly through these questionable partnerships.

H.R. 7980, the End Chinese Dominance of Electric Vehicles in America Act, takes direct aim at China’s control over the electric vehicle (EV) industry by prohibiting the

use of the \$7,500 federal EV tax credit for vehicles with batteries that are either manufactured by or tied to sanctioned entities in China, Iran, Russia, or North Korea. This bill ensures American taxpayer dollars are not used to support foreign adversaries in this critical sector.

H.R. 9456, the Protecting American Agriculture from Foreign Adversaries Act, addresses the growing concern over foreign ownership of American farmlands. By adding the Secretary of Agriculture to the Committee on Foreign Investment in

the United States, this bill ensures a more comprehensive review of land transactions that may pose national security risks. With this legislation, Republicans are ensuring foreign entities, particularly China, cannot quietly acquire U.S. farmland and compromise our agricultural resources.

*Congressman Doug LaMalfa is a lifelong farmer representing California’s First Congressional District, including Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba Counties.* ★



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Visit his website at [www.moneymanagementradio.com](http://www.moneymanagementradio.com)

## No Hooray in WHOVILLE as Inflation Hits the Feds

Yahoo finance latest news is that the U.S. inflation rate is approaching the Federal Reserve’s (FED) preferred inflation rate of two percent.

Saints be praised!  
So when will prices start coming down you ask?  
Let me answer that one for you and say “Not in my lifetime and probably yours either”.

As detailed here in Money Matters many times before, although the RATE of inflation may be approaching the preferred two percent FED rate (according to their minions at the Bureau of Labor Statistics) the damage has already been done.

Note: (And it’s not two percent by the way but more like four but who’s counting).

Although the inflation rate is slowing, prices of things are still increasing. And it’s increasing on prices that were yanked severely higher by the horrible inflation we experienced in the last three years or so.

When people stop me on the street after reading the inflation rate is close to the Feds preferred rate, they often ask “So when are prices going to come DOWN, Marc”.

Truth be told, people incorrectly assume if the rate of inflation is decreasing, prices will decrease.

Sorry but we have a misunderstanding sirs and madams.

The target rate of 2% means that the prices pulled higher in the last 3 years are going to *continue to go even higher* by at least 2% a year. And the FEDS prefer this. They always want at least two percent inflation as they believe this is healthy for a vibrant economy to grow. (Again, this analyst disagrees).

So now what happens?

Seeing as the targeted rate by the Fed has arrived at their benchmark, the FEDs will begin their crusade of lowering interest rates making credit of all sorts easier to obtain. That will equate to more spending and higher consumer demand.

However, higher demand is by definition inflationary. Simple math but the Feds seem to have lost their calculator. The rest of us economists that remember Econ 101 scratch our heads in wonder. One does not lower rates if inflation is egregious and I think there is little argument on that one.

Meanwhile, Wall Street and the banking industry celebrate the news that lower interest rates are ahead as that will likely mean more money will be tossed into the markets, driving stocks and bonuses skyward. The banks will

now also be able to lend more money to folks like you, making them more money. And isn’t that the way of it?

Meanwhile back on the farm, Mom and Pop continue to struggle to make ends meet as the FED’s target rate of 2% persistently gnaws on their finances a little more each day.

Not only will us worker bees slowly continue to suffer the “preferred” two percent annual rate of price increases eroding our buying power, small businesses will also suffer and have suffered from inflation.

Just this year alone, nine more restaurant chains have filed bankruptcy. They are Mediterranean fast food chain ROTI, Italian food chain BUCA di BEPPO, World of Beer, Rubio’s Restaurants, Cleveland based Melt Bar and Grilled, Kuma’s Corner, Red Lobster, Tijuana Flats and Oregon based Boxer Ramen. Not all household names mind you but good sized chains nonetheless.

They have all fell victim to inflation and the CoVid policy of the shutdowns. Right or wrong, the shutdowns damaged some balance sheets beyond repair and it is only now we are finding out who those businesses are.

Although some businesses weathered thru the CoVid shutdowns, some of their financial boats were so badly damaged, it just took a little longer for them to hit the rocks.

In conclusion, inflation has and still is the most ardent threat facing consumers and small to medium size businesses.

Although Wall Street and Washington celebrate the FED’s so called victory over inflation, the rest of us see the real deal of debt. The two percent inflation target goal of the FEDs is still hammering us folks on Main Street.

Put simply, everything is still too damn expensive and there doesn’t seem to be an end to it despite the cheers on Wall Street and in the ivory halls of Washington.

And them are the facts Jack.

***“Watching the markets so you don’t have to”***

*This article expresses the opinion of Marc Cuniberti and is not meant as investment advice, or a recommendation to buy or sell any securities, nor represents the opinion of any bank, investment firm or RIA, nor this media outlet, its staff, members or underwriters. Mr. Cuniberti holds a B.A. in Economics with honors, 1979, and California Insurance License #0L34249 His insurance agency is BAP INC. insurance services. Email: [news@moneymanagementradio.com](mailto:news@moneymanagementradio.com)* ★



## Riley Reviews

“BEETLEJUICE 2” HALLMARK ANARCHY; TELEVISION NOMINEE LOUNGE

*A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley*

BEETLEJUICE BEETLEJUICE”  
RATED PG-13

Arriving 36 years later, the “Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” sequel serves to allow Michael Keaton, originally named Betelgeuse, to be as demented and mischievous as he was originally in haunting the Deetz family.

In 1988’S “Beetlejuice,” the young married Maitland couple (Alec Baldwin and Geena Davis) end up being killed in a car crash and awoken to become aware that they are ghosts in their own home.

Taking possession of the Maitland house was Charles Deetz (Jeffrey Jones), his wife Delia (Catherine O’Hara), and teenage daughter Lydia (Winona Ryder), and the ethereal Maitlands were unsuccessfully determined to scare away the Deetzes.

For the sake of continuity, Keaton’s demonic ghoul is reunited with Catherine O’Hara’s Delia and Winona Ryder’s now middle-aged Lydia, the latter the mother to her own teenage daughter, Astrid (Jenna Ortega).

The death of Charles Deetz brings Lydia back to Winter River. Lydia is now the host of her own paranormal reality TV series, which her estranged daughter Astrid thinks is a lame attempt to communicate with her deceased father, Richard (Santiago Cabrera).

Delia, Lydia and Astrid represent three generations of Deetzes, and their return to the Connecticut town where they previously resided is for the funeral of Charles, who turns up in the afterlife as a headless body.

Meanwhile, Lydia is apparently looking at tying the knot with her unctuous boyfriend Rory (Justin Theroux), the producer of her “Ghost House” TV show who uses grief counseling as the occasion to plant the idea of marriage.

Filling the void of missing characters from the original film are several types of weird and interesting persons one would expect to emerge from the vivid and bizarre imagination of Tim Burton.

Most peculiar, Monica Bellucci’s Delores turns up as Beetlejuice’s estranged wife, who pulls herself together by using a staple gun to reassemble her severed body parts so that she can proceed as a soul-sucking stalker.

While out riding a bicycle, Astrid stumbles upon the Maitland house after crashing into the backyard’s tree house, where she meets Jeremy (Arthur Conti), a teen for whom she develops a crush.

Jeremy is not exactly the innocent boy-next-door that he appears to be, as he literally has a closet in the attic that opens the portal to another world that puts Astrid in the kind of danger that Lydia fears.

“Beetlejuice Beetlejuice” allows Tim Burton to unleash his playful sense of the macabre and madcap anarchy that is sure to delight his die-hard fans, who should enjoy Michael Keaton still rocking his

persona with the pasty ghoulish complexion of a disheveled vampire.

THE TELEVISION NOMINEE LOUNGE EXPERIENCE

Swag is a big deal in the entertainment world. Gifting suites connected with industry award shows provide opportunities for companies to shower guests with products ranging from cosmetics and accessories to clothing and the latest gadgets.

An invite landed in our inbox from Secret Room Events to attend a gifting suite party on the rooftop of the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles. Having never been asked before, how could this experience be resisted?

Celebrities and media were invited, and my guess is that a lot of visitors were influencers and bloggers, as well as talent that was likely TV actors.

Interestingly, the products on display were not familiar. That’s not surprising, because the purpose of what was billed as the “Television Nominee Lounge” is the introduction of new brands.

A product being promoted doesn’t necessarily have to derive from a large corporate entity. Local artist Rachel Tribble displayed her dreamlike paintings suitable for hanging on walls, and handed out greeting cards with her artwork.

In the gadget department, Scosche was the standout. Their catalog highlights gear for off-roaders, race car drivers, sports fishermen, rodeo riders, and rock crawlers. For the rest of us, a useful gadget is a cell phone power bank that also functions as a flashlight and jumper cables.

Tea Voila is a unique concept in that the product is packaged in a box with 6 biodegradable cups with built-in tea leave infusers that eliminate tea bags. Each cup may be used three times, and the cup may be disposed with no worry that it harms the environment.

Watching a subpar film or TV show may induce pain in the cranium, and MiGuard comes along to provide samples of its eponymous product for migraine and headache relief with an organic, vegan, and non-GMO over-the-counter supplement containing vitamins, minerals, and herbal compounds.

After feeling better, you could try Andersen’s Crazy Candy which transforms classic sweets into crunchy, freeze-dried candy that is touted as turning “favorite treats into a party in your mouth.”

Poppin’ Love, an online only gourmet popcorn shop, redefines the staple of a movie theater concession with a range of incredible flavors, from a caramel favorite and cheddar jalapeno to garlic parmesan and cookies & cream.

I passed on samples of skin products and lip balm, but it was interesting to see a company coming from Australia to promote their SenQuil line of moisturizers and face cleansers. ★



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# Marysville Stampede 2024 Results



Reno Rosser of Flying U Rodeo helps this lovely little mutton buster as she shoots from the gates! Photo by Chris Pedigo



This cowboy narrowly misses the stomp of this huge beast as he leaps into the air. Photo by Chris Pedigo



This mutton buster holds on tight! Photo by Chris Pedigo



Lovely ladies sped through the arena, rounding three barrels in mere seconds, most rides under 19 seconds' total. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



Teams made taking down steers look easy as one roper hit the head and the other the feet of the animal to take it down. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



The Charros on the Road performers graced the arena with their incredible horsemen skills, standing atop their mounts while twirling the lasso in circles or making their steeds dance while wearing elaborate traditional costumes. Photo by Shamaya Sutton

By Shamaya Sutton

**MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG)** - For many in the Yuba-Sutter community, the Marysville Stampede is an annual tradition - a tradition that helps celebrate the great American West. From bucking broncos to backflipping motorcycles and barrel racing queens, this past weekend spectators were treated to a show with nearly a century's worth of history behind it. But where did the rodeo get its start? For that answer we must head further south and back to the 18th century when Spanish ranchers started introducing their cattle wrangling and bullfighting practices to the resident Mexican ranch hands known as vaqueros. The term "rodeo" itself comes from the Spanish word "rodear" which means to encircle or round up. It was simply a way of life, keeping herds in check and pulling select animals for care or distribution.

The rodeo games we know today evolved from the informal gatherings where groups of ranchers or vaqueros would entertain themselves by seeing who could lasso the fastest or tame the wildest horse. By a matter of human nature and curiosity, these gatherings soon drew a crowd and slowly began taking on more structure. Eventually, American cowboys were pulled into the mix as the United States continued to expand its territory. What resulted was a rough and wild carnival type atmosphere that has steeped itself into the fabric of the American continents.

Now, each year contestants across the country compete for the highest scores in divisions such as Bareback Riding, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping, Barrel Racing and more. Crowd favorites tend to include Mutton Busting where small children cling to the backs of large sheep, and, of course, Bull Riding. "Eventually you have

to just come to grips with the facts you're going to get thrown," said a young ranch hand as he observed a selection of bulls from atop the chutes at the Marysville Stampede. "Next year I plan to ride."

While some might compete as a hobby, others have their sights set on entering the National Finals Rodeo (NFR), a championship rodeo event held annually in December at the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas. To qualify, contestants must win the season title or average title at the regional circuit finals rodeos. There are 12 regional circuits in the United States recognized by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association which include Montana, Mountain States, Wilderness, Columbia River, California, Turquoise, Texas, Prairie, Badlands, Great Lakes, Southeast and First Frontier. The Marysville Stampede resides under the California circuit.

"It's always a great time, and such a beautiful day," said Colleen Morris who sat in the Marysville Stampede's VIP stands.

The Marysville Stampede took place this past weekend, Sept. 14 and 15, at the Cotton Rosser Arena at Riverfront Park in Marysville. This year's winning results, according to the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, are as follows:

**Bareback Riding:** Tucker Zingg with a score of 82.5

**Steer Wrestling:** Tanner Kerr at 5.8 seconds

**Team Roping:** A tie between Joseph Shawnego / Case Hirdes and Dusty Bravos / Zack Engelhart both coming in at 6.3 seconds

**Saddle Bronc Riding:** Spencer Wright with a score of 84

**Tie-Down Roping:** Colton Farquer at 9.9 seconds

**Barrel Racing:** Maren Powers 15.76 seconds

**Bull Riding:** Colby Demo with a score of 85 ★



This buckaroo holds on tight during an extremely wild bronc ride. Photo by Chris Pedigo



Caption PCRA saddle Bronc: Horses tossed, leapt, and wrenched in the air trying to throw their riders during the PCRA saddle bronc riding contest. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



The frothy drool flies from the mouth of this black angus bull as it attempts to toss its rider into the arena. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



This cowboy holds on as the bull he is on goes to his knees in an attempt to throw him off. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



Cowgirls featured at the stampede were just as skilled as their male counterparts, roping and racing through the arena. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



# Decorative Hardscaping and Iron Waterfowl Sculpture Highlight Clean California Beautification Project

*Completed Project Includes Stunning Artwork Celebrating Local Wildlife*

**Caltrans News Release**

**CHICO, CA (MPG)** - Clean California is more than a slogan – it’s a call to action and a powerful catalyst that has transformed communities across the state into healthier, safer places to live and work.

In that spirit, Caltrans and the City of Chico recently completed a \$3.5 million project that unveiled locally themed art and constructed safety enhancements on State Route 99 (SR-99) at the interchanges of Skyway and 20th St.

The new improvements feature decorative slope pavement under the bridges at both interchanges and detailed metalwork that captures a sense of motion as geese fly through iron-clad clouds. The sculpture is a nod to regional culture and local wildlife, while the new slope paving will reduce the need for regular mowing and brush clearing, improving safety for maintenance workers.

This project was made possible by Governor Gavin Newsom’s Clean California initiative — a sweeping, \$1.2 billion, multiyear clean-up effort led by Caltrans to remove trash, create thousands of jobs, and join with communities throughout the state to reclaim, transform, and beautify public spaces and help keep them that way.

“Whether ridding the highways of unsightly



The new artwork includes detailed metalwork that captures a sense of motion as geese fly through iron-clad clouds. Photo courtesy of Caltrans

litter, creating vibrant public art, installing climate resistant landscaping, or building local parks and playgrounds, Clean California continues to transform public spaces, beautify our state, and improve the safety of our transportation network,” said Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. “We are proud to partner with the City of Chico and its neighborhoods to provide these attractive features and rejuvenate this highly traveled portion of Highway 99.”

“The completion of this beautification project on State Route 99 reflects our commitment to enhancing not only the safety and functionality of our highways but also the pride and

identity of the communities we serve,” said Sergio Aceves, Acting Director

of Caltrans District 3. “Through the Clean California initiative, we

are working together with cities like Chico to create spaces that reflect their unique character while providing lasting benefits to residents and visitors alike. This project is a testament to the power of collaboration in building a cleaner, more beautiful California.”

Since launching Clean California in July 2021, Caltrans and its local partners have picked up more than 2.5 million cubic yards of litter – enough to cover nine lanes of Interstate 5 with an inch of trash from San Diego to the Canadian border. This represents a substantial increase compared to the department’s previous trash collection efforts and can largely be attributed to Clean California, along with other Caltrans litter removal efforts. Caltrans has hosted more than 500


free dump days in communities throughout the state – resulting in the collection of 12,000-plus mattresses and nearly 50,000 tires. The initiative has drawn more than 10,000 community clean-up volunteers and created 15,000 jobs, including positions for individuals who were formerly incarcerated, on probation, or experiencing housing insecurity.

To learn more about Clean California, visit [CleanCA.com](http://CleanCA.com).

Caltrans District 3 maintains more than 4,385 lanes miles of state highway in 11 Sacramento Valley and Northern Sierra counties. More information and updates on local projects can be found at [dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-3](http://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-3) or on Twitter via [@CaltransDist3](https://twitter.com/CaltransDist3) and on Facebook at [CaltransDistrict3](https://www.facebook.com/CaltransDistrict3). ★



This new piece of art is a nod to regional culture and local wildlife. Photo courtesy of Caltrans



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## The Thirteenth Child

*by Erin A. Craig*

Hazel Trepas was born the thirteenth child. Castaway and discarded as if her presence didn’t mean anything until the day she was promised to the Gods and sold like a piece of cloth. Hazel waited every year for her godfather to come and collect her. Merrick, the God of Death, was the only one who wanted her, but even following Death himself was a better option than staying with family. Years passed as Hazel slept in the barn, watching her siblings receive the last scrap of food and sleeping as siblings in the house. As the years dragged on, her mother became angrier that the God she sold her daughter to wouldn’t come to collect his ware. Then, on Hazel’s birthday, as she sat cast the shadows, Merrick arrived, promising her greatness and a full life. However, even the life he set before her wouldn’t be easy.

Now blessed with being a notable healer, Merrick gifts Hazel the ability to render the cure for any sickness. But with a great gift also comes a great sacrifice. Hazel



- ◆ Publisher: Delacorte Press
- ◆ Intended Audience: Young Adult
- ◆ Release Date: Sept. 24, 2024

can also see the mark of Death on those patients, and it is up to her to end their suffering. Yet those souls are permanently marked to forever follow Hazel in their ghostly forms. Both blessed and cursed, Hazel finds solace in her new purpose until the day, it leads her to the royal court. The King is deathly ill, and his sickness has no cure, but what if Hazel defies Death and saves him anyway? To make matters even more confusing, she meets the King’s arrogant, defiant

son, Leopold, who has a disdain for everyone and everything but Hazel. Now left with an impossible choice, Hazel must decide between what she is sent there to do and what her heart might be leading her towards.

What happens when you defy Death himself and choose your own path? In a story of life and death and the fragile existence in between, Erin Craig once again takes her readers to the edge of storytelling only to show them what lies just beyond the cliff. Gripping, intense, and even dark, Erin Craig’s story of Hazel and Merrick will creep around readers like a low, dense fog, lulling them into its fold. Like stepping into the pages of a new version of Grimm’s fairy tales, this enchanting story is the perfect addition to her other beautiful retellings. With strong characters that readers cannot help but want to follow and a love story that awakens hope in the most unlikely places. The Thirteenth Child is the perfect read for a fall night, which is best read under a blanket by the light of a candle. ★

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# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



As I begin this column, I'm sobered by the recent happenings in our country. Without question, as I think about the upcoming NBA season, I find a sense of gratitude that within minutes of my home I have the privilege of witnessing 41 professional basketball games, that temporarily remove me from the vagaries of day-to-day life.

Unfortunately, another assassination attempt was made on the life of one of our political candidates running for the highest position in the land. An attempt that should give every American pause, and if anything should unite us all in the contempt for an action that has no place in our country.

As a people and a nation, we can celebrate the sports teams we love with fervor, but let's stop for just a moment, and come together with the overriding thought that our differences should be carried out at the ballot box. Let your voice be heard in the way that our forefathers intended, and on November 5th be that American that proudly helps America decide who should be the next commander in chief of this nation.

By now you know how thrilled I am to have DeMar DeRozan as a part of the Kings family, and I have little doubt that this most capable all-star will help the Kings reach the next level they've been seeking. But more than DeMar's ability on the hardwood, I'm heartened by the many NBA players that have commented on his leadership abilities and the harmony he brings to the locker room. There is no question, that just as I have celebrated the leadership of De'Aaron Fox, Domantas Sabonis, and Malik Monk, the Kings have added one more valued role model that young players can appreciate.

As the preseason approaches, I at times feel like a young boy waiting for Christmas, but just as you do, I have to rise each morning and brave the storms of the day.

The Sacramento Kings provide a moment in time that I can completely escape from the stresses and responsibilities that life brings, and a time when I can sit next to a fellow Kings fan, and not even care what his or her political leanings may be.

I have been high on Kings GM Monte McNair, and I couldn't begin to tell you whether he's a democrat, a republican, or an independent. What I appreciate is his dedication to hard work, albeit with a stoic disposition, and his ability to a steadiness that brings with it a confidence that I have gradually grown to appreciate. Monte has proven to me, that like so much I've seen in our political arena, he will not fall victim to a knee jerk reaction in the Kings arena.

Most importantly, I recognize leadership. Monte McNair isn't just responsible for framing the team we witness on the floor each night, he's given the charge of managing basketball operations in general, and that includes putting the right coaches in place.

Welcome Riccardo Fois and Jim Moran to the Sacramento Kings coaching family. Both men come with a litany of NBA coaching experience, and with the departure of much acclaimed Jordi Fernandez who is now the head coach of the Brooklyn Nets, these men add capable talent to the coaching ranks.

Yes, the Sacramento Kings do more for our community than just play basketball, and for fans like myself, they will always bring a moment in time that I can spend time with my family, and escape to a place of pure entertainment.

I have commented in this column in the past that one of most compelling reasons I am such a die-hard fan of the Kings rests in the pure pleasure they have in playing together. Their camaraderie as a team is obvious and contagious.

It's entirely possible that the team as you assembled today may very well start the season, but it's just as possible that our GM will find a diamond in the rough. Although I'm not against adding a power forward to the lineup, I'm just as curious to see what we have right now.

The preseason will bring some answers for coach Brown and the Sacramento Kings fans as well.

So, I say to this splendidferous team we call the Sacramento Kings, bring it on!!

If you have comments, please send them to [vggharriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vggharriskingsfan@gmail.com). All the best Kings fans!!



## California Schools Face Twin Perils: Chronic Absenteeism and Declining Enrollment



By Dan Walters,  
[CALMatters.org](http://CALMatters.org)

California's public schools have a numbers problem — and it's not just that their students don't score very highly in national tests of mathematics ability.

Their other numbers problem is the financial squeeze posed by declining enrollment, especially in large urban districts, compounded by apparently growing levels of chronic absenteeism, or truancy.

"Thirty percent of California public school students were chronically absent from school in 2021-22 — a near tripling of the percentage in 2018-19," the Public Policy Institute of California declared in a recent report. "Although we do not know if this stark increase in chronic absenteeism, defined as missing at least 10% of the school year or at least 18 days, will continue, the data from last year raises concerns about the pace of students' learning recovery after the educational setbacks of the COVID-19 pandemic."

California is one of just seven states that base state financial support of local school systems on attendance, rather than enrollment, so the declines in enrollment and attendance comprise a double financial whammy, one of the reasons many school districts are facing budget deficits.

Enrollment is an immutable effect of demographic change,

both the out-migration of young families to other states and lower birth rates. Chronic truancy, on the other hand, first became notable during the COVID-19 pandemic, when schools were closed for months and many students were unable to keep up with studies via the internet.

Another report from the Public Policy Institute of California found that "schools with greater increases in chronic absenteeism saw steeper drops in proficiency rates on the Smarter Balanced (SBAC) English and math tests, when comparing pre-pandemic levels (2018-19) to 2021-22."

During the pandemic, the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom temporarily deviated from basing state aid on attendance, given the massive dislocation of school closures. The situation also reinvigorated an old debate over whether using attendance is outmoded and California should shift to an enrollment-based system.

Policy Analysis for California Education, a think tank maintained by the state's major universities, chimed in with its own take on the issue, to wit: "We find that about 90 percent of districts would receive more funding under an enrollment-based formula than they would under the current ADA-based system, with the biggest boost going to high school districts and districts with more low-income, English learner, and foster youth students."

ADA refers to average daily attendance.

The analysis estimated that switching to enrollment would cost about \$3.4 billion a year, since truant students would still qualify their schools for aid. It cautioned, however, that while "switching

from attendance to enrollment may help districts gain greater fiscal stability and may shift more resources to school districts with greater student needs," on the other hand, "the current system includes a fiscal incentive that, most agree, encourages higher attendance, even if that attendance definition is relatively weak."

In other words, switching to enrollment would take schools off the hook in battling truancy.

Last year, Anthony Portantino, a Democratic state senator from Glendale, introduced legislation, backed by the public education establishment, including state schools Supt. Tony Thurmond, to make the change.

"Enrollment-based funding ensures that California schools are funded more equitably and have greater financial stability and predictability," Portantino said.

However, with the state facing chronic budget deficits of its own and barely able to supply schools with their constitutionally mandated levels of money, Senate Bill 98 faltered. It eventually morphed into merely an instruction to the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Legislature's budget advisor, to study the effects of changing to an enrollment-based system and report on it by Jan. 1, 2026.

That's known in political circles as kicking the can down the road, a time-dishonored way for officials to avoid making decisions.

Dan Walters is one of most decorated and widely syndicated columnists in California history, authoring a column four times a week that offers his view and analysis of the state's political, economic, social and demographic trends.



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STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000634  
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
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The following person(s) are doing business as: Daydreamer Hair Loft, 2211 Saint George Lane, Suite 4, Chico, CA 95928.  
Veronica N Evans, 25 Shari Lane, Chico, CA 95928  
Date filed in Butte County: August 19, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: August 30, Sept 6, 13, 20, 2024  
DAYDREAMER 9-20-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000648  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Coach Works Collision Center, 2844 Northgate Drive, Suite A, Chico, 95973.  
Coachworks Collision Center, 2844 Northgate Drive, Suite A, Chico, 95973  
Date filed in Butte County: August 22, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business

ness under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: August 30, Sept 6, 13, 20, 2024  
COACHWORKS 9-20-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000651  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Spirit Soul and Body, 1030 Spruce Street, Gridley, CA 95948  
Mikenna C Lavy, P.O. Box 1081, Biggs, CA 95917  
Date filed in Butte County: August 23, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: July 29, 2024  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: September 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024  
SPIRIT 9-27-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000657  
The following person(s) are doing business as: North Family Tree Service, 3155 Bald Rock Road, Berry Creek, CA 95966  
Rebeka North and Wesley W North, P.O. Box 874, Berry Creek, CA, 95916  
Date filed in Butte County: August 27, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: September 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024  
NORTH 9-27-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000612  
The following person(s) are doing business as: KJ3 Designs, 1011 Lattin Road, Biggs, CA 95917  
Kadie M Williams, 1011 Lattin Road, Biggs, CA 95917  
Date filed in Butte County: August 9, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Sept 13, 20, 27, Oct 4, 2024  
KJ3 10-4-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000672  
The following person(s) are doing business as: Chico Firewood/Chico Firewood Company/Forest Ranch Firewood/Forest Ranch Firewood Company, 2165 Algonkin Avenue, Unit 5, Chico, CA 95926  
Cameron S Dewell, PO Box 6448, Chico, CA, 95927.  
Date filed in Butte County: August 30, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A  
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Sept 20, 27, Oct 4, 11, 2024  
FIREWOOD 10-11-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #24CV02682

Petitioner Sarah Madeline Pladson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Alonzo Alvarado to Alonzo Pladson and Ailiah Alvarado to Ailiah Pladson.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any,

why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing October 16, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 1, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on August 22, 2024  
Tamara L. Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Sept 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2024  
PLADSON 9-27-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #24CV01846

Petitioner Virice Lee Alessio filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Virice Lee Alessio to Vercie Lee Alessio.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing October 2, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on August 20, 2024  
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Sept 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2024  
ALESSIO 9-27-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #24CV02472

Petitioner Mayra Acosta filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Sophia Itzel Quintero-Sanchez to Sophia Itzel Sanchez Acosta and Claudia Ines Quintero-Sanchez to Claudia Ines Sanchez Acosta.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing October 30, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on September 10, 2024  
Tamara L. Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Sept 20, 27, Oct 4, 11, 2024  
ACOSTA 10-11-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE #24CV02471

Petitioner Katherine Cecilia Viamontes filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Katherine Cecilia Viamontes to Katherine Cecilia Sanchez Acosta.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing October 30, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928  
Filed on September 10, 2024  
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Sept 20, 27, Oct 4, 11, 2024  
VIAMONTES 10-11-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
JOHN V. XIONG  
CASE NO. 24PR00390

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of John V. Xiong.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Danielle LeClerc Klein, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Danielle LeClerc Klein be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: October 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Raoul J. LeClerc, P.O. Drawer 111, Oroville, CA 95965; 530-533-5661  
Publish: Sept 13, 20, 27, 2024  
XIONG 9-27-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
STEVEN TITO SALGADO AKA  
STEVEN T. SALGADO  
CASE NO. 24PR00392

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Steven Tito Salgado aka Steven T. Salgado.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Sandra Lois Salgado, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Sandra Lois Salgado be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: October 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Petitioner is: Sandra Lois Salgado, 613 Park Meadow Drive, Modesto, CA 95358; 209-346-2179  
Publish: Sept 13, 20, 27, 2024  
SALGADO 9-27-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
DENNIS DUANE DIVER  
AKA DENNIS D. DIVER  
CASE NO. 24PR00408

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Dennis Duane Diver aka Dennis D. Diver.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Daniel D. Diver, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Daniel D. Diver be appointed as personal representative(s) to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration

of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: October 29, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Raoul J. LeClerc, P.O. Drawer 111, Oroville, CA 95965; 530-533-5661  
Publish: Sept 20, 27, Oct 4, 2024  
DIVER 10-4-24

TRUSTEE SALE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-24-987839-AB Order No.: 240182344-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 2/23/2005. 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. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): NORMA JEAN TALLEY, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Recorded: 2/28/2005 as Instrument No. 2005-0011180 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of BUTTE County, California; Date of Sale: 10/22/2024 at 3:30PM Place of Sale: At the main entrance to the County Courthouse at 1 Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$94,018.08 The purported property address is: 528 W LIBERTY RD, GRIDLEY, CA 95948 Assessor's Parcel No.: 021-132-045-000 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 916-939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-24-987839-AB. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible 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 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-24-987839-AB 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. NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT: Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. TS No.: CA-24-987839-AB IDS Pub #0223954 9/6/2024 9/13/2024 9/20/2024





# Sites Reservoir Authority Steering Course

Story and photo  
by Susan Meeker

**MAXWELL, CA (MPG)** - A half-century ago, the Sites Reservoir Project was just a concept that residents said would never come to fruition.

Today, the threat of serious drought, the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Act, declining reliability of state and federal water projects, and the uncertainty of climate change has cleared the way for public agencies to invest in a multi-benefit 1.5-million-acre-foot water storage project that will increase flexibility, reliability and resiliency of California’s water supply, Sites Project Authority officials said at a Sept. 12 community meeting in Maxwell.

The Sites Project Authority consists of 30 participating public entities (investors), including Colusa County, local water agencies that serve agriculture, state and federal agencies that have environmental needs, and municipal water agencies that provide drinking water to millions of residents.

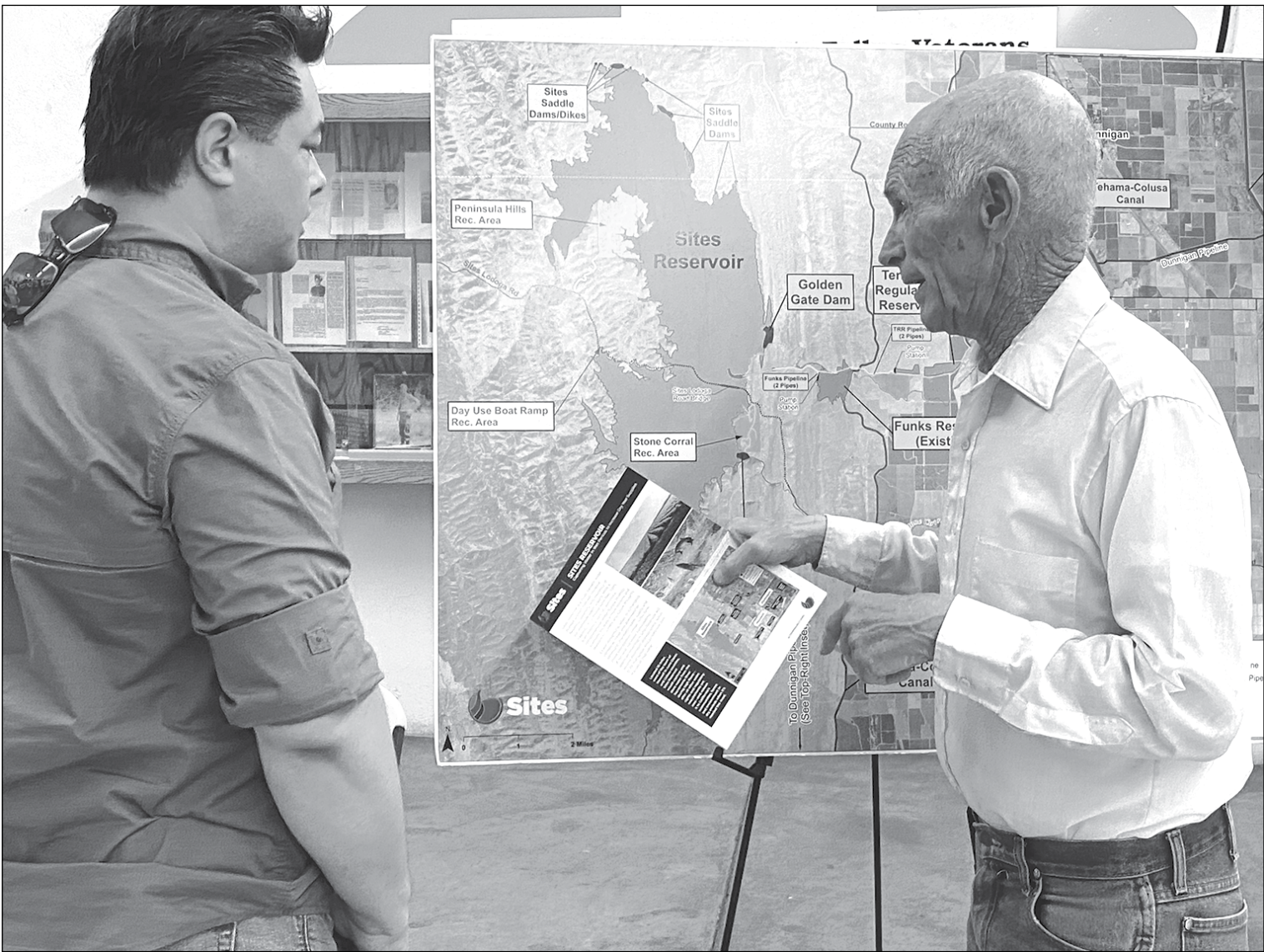
The project authority has made significant milestones to keep its 2032 goal to have fully functional infrastructure that captures and stores flood waters in wet years (without the need to dam any major rivers) to help meet California’s needs during times when water becomes scarce, officials said.

“It’s a big project,” said Jeff Sutton, a Maxwell native who represents Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, a participant in the project. “We haven’t done anything like it in California since 1979.”

The meeting at the Maxwell American Legion Hall was the first direct public outreach meeting held in recent years, although Sites Joint Powers Authority officials and stakeholders have held numerous public meetings to design, fund, construct and operate the \$4.5-billion project.

Sites and local officials are also developing policies and recommendations that are responsive to the needs of the local community, according to Sites Executive Director Jerry Brown, who is not related to the former governor who lives in Colusa County.

Brown said the Sites meeting last Thursday was called to update citizens on the project, so they can distinguish the activities occurring with the construction of the dam, slated to begin in



Sites Reservoir Project officials engage the pubic at a Sept. 12 meeting at the Maxwell American Legion Hall to bring the community up to speed on the project, set to begin construction in 2026.

2026, from Colusa County’s current efforts to develop a Maxwell Community Plan. The community plan is funded by the Sites Authority but deals with local land use issues and community needs before and after the reservoir is built.

Maxwell resident and Sites Authority external affairs manager Kevin Spesert said the local community should remain involved in both processes but particularly the county’s community plan process, which will address potential changes to the Maxwell and Stonyford area as a result of the project’s construction and operation.

“That’s really going to be the map that we, as a community, use into the future with a new Sites Reservoir in our backyard,” Spesert said.

The Sites Reservoir Project started in 2010, when local water districts formed the Sites Project Authority, which will own and operate the facility, which is unlike other water projects owned and operated by the state or federal government.

“There is really nothing else like this in the state,” Brown said.

Brown said the Sites Project

Authority has completed significant milestones in recent years, including the certification of the final Environmental Impact Report and acquiring a streamlined judicial review under Senate Bill 149. Funding for the project includes \$875 million from California Proposition 1 bond funding, more than \$244 million in federal funding and a committed \$2.2 billion low-interest federal WIFIA loan.

The reservoir will be located about 10 miles west of Maxwell and expand north into Glenn County. The site of the reservoir is a natural valley, sealed by two earth-filled dams and nine saddle dams, and will use new pipelines and pumping stations, along with existing facilities, such as Tehama-Colusa Canal, to transfer overflow stormwater to the reservoir for storage. The water, when needed, will be released in the same way to flow into the Colusa Basin Drain and back into the Sacramento River at Knights Landing, Brown said.

About 370,000 acre-feet of storage has been dedicated to the environment; two recreational areas will be located north and south of the Sites-Lodoga Road; a bridge will be

constructed over the reservoir to connect Maxwell and Stonyford; and a small hydroelectric power plant will be constructed to produce energy needed to pump water uphill, among many other components of the project.

The Sites Reservoir is a public project that is 100% funded by local, state, and federal taxpayers, who are represented by the public agencies committed to the project through a beneficiary-pay structure. Participants that have paid for the project will receive the benefits created by the project, including municipal water agencies in Sacramento, the Bay Area and Los Angeles, whose money was needed to make the project feasible, officials said.

About 27% of the water will remain in the Sacramento Valley to support agriculture and the Colusa County Board of Supervisors has committed to securing 10,000 acre-feet of water for local needs.

“This project is going to be important to this area and important to Northern California, continuing to restore flexibility and add to our water supply system, which has

become increasingly challenged and became all too vivid in 2022,” Sutton said.

As investors, project participants will be allowed to sell their water, which was one of many questions raised at the meeting.

Brown said the Sites Project Authority will also use the power of eminent domain to secure the property, if needed, although negotiations with landowners are still underway.

As a public agency, the Sites Project must use union workers, although Brown said they will make reasonable efforts to provide contracting opportunities for local equipment and operators, fuel, materials and supplies.

Most attendees at the Sites meeting had attended one or both Maxwell Community Plan meetings. Following the meeting, which lasted more than 90 minutes, Sites officials stayed to answer questions from the public and provide additional information about the project.

If constructed as currently designed, the Sites Reservoir would be the eighth largest in California but could be later expanded to more than 3 million acre-feet if the need, desire and funding existed, Brown said. ★

# Assembly Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry Applauds Governor’s Regulations to Protect Public from Intoxicating Hemp Products

Office of Assembly Majority  
Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) and key stakeholders, including the California Cannabis Industry Association and United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), applaud the Governor’s proposed emergency regulations to protect the public from intoxicating hemp.

The emergency regulations issued on Sept. 6 by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will explicitly ban synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in hemp products, limit serving sizes, and implement other restrictions on hemp products.

“I want to thank Governor Newsom for moving aggressively to keep these intoxicating products out of the hands of California’s kids. We have worked together since the 2018 Farm Bill legalized industrial hemp nationwide. We collaborated on my Assembly Bill 45 in 2021, which created



Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry. Courtesy photo

the strongest legal structure in the nation for regulating these products, registering companies to fund enforcement against illegal products, and implementing needed guardrails,” said Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters).

“The Governor and our coalition have consistently made it clear that our efforts were meant only to legalize non-intoxicating hemp products, that synthetic intoxicants are illegal, and that the only place to get intoxicating cannabinoids would be in

dispensaries,” added the Majority Leader. “I am thrilled to see the Administration using emergency regulatory authority, including the authority granted in AB 45, to crack down on intoxicating products. The bottom line is that products that can get you high should not be available to youth and should not be sold outside a dispensary. Period.”

“UFCW has always led the nation in promoting and legitimizing the cannabis industry and it’s high time our state curbs intoxicating hemp, an unfettered and dangerous sector of the industry,” said Mark Ramos, President of the United Food and Commercial Workers Western States Council and United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1428. “It’s UFCW members who see how without proper age verification and testing for dangerous substances such as fungus or pesticides – and being sold without serving size and per package caps – the hemp-sourced THC products being sold in gas stations; convenience stores and wine shops are a direct threat to confused consumers and children.

“The Governor’s regulations

will further protect the legal, licensed and unionized cannabis industry that has invested time and money into building and maintaining a legal cannabis commerce framework and UFCW members applaud his actions today,” continued Ramos.

“Governor Newsom is on the right side of this fight by demanding that something be done to protect public health and we’re pleased to stand in partnership with him to ensure profit is no longer put over our kids’ or public safety.”

“We commend Governor Newsom’s decisive action to address intoxicating hemp products in California, protecting public health and ensuring that harmful, unregulated products no longer undermine our state’s rigorous cannabis laws,” said Amy Jenkins, Legislative Advocate for the California Cannabis Industry Association. “These emergency regulations will create a safer, more transparent marketplace while safeguarding our youth and preserving the integrity of — and critical tax revenues from — California’s cannabis

legalization framework. To be clear, we believe there is a place for hemp-derived products in the cannabis ecosystem, once we establish parity and regulate cannabinoids based on intoxication, regardless of their source. We look forward to working with Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry to advance meaningful reforms next year.”

The emergency regulations were issued weeks after AB 2223 (Aguiar-Curry, 2024) was held in suspense in the Senate Appropriations Committee. AB 2223 would have protected public health by eliminating access to intoxicating hemp products while providing a pathway for well-regulated hemp and cannabis industries to participate in the federal and state legal hemp marketplace. The Majority Leader intends to continue her work on this issue by introducing new legislation in the next legislative session.

Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry represents the 4th Assembly District, which includes all of Lake, Colusa, Napa and Yolo Counties, and part of Sonoma County. ★



# Butte County Receives Approval for Private Property Debris Removal for Park Fire

**Butte County News Release**

**BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG)** - Butte County is pleased to announce it has received formal approval from

the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) for a Private Property Debris Removal program for properties impacted by the Park Fire. This program will provide

debris removal on eligible properties at no out-of-pocket cost to residents. The county and state will work together to stand up debris removal program. Information will be shared

on the county website as it becomes available. “We are relieved to have state approval for this much-needed program,” said Tod Kimmelshue, chair of the Butte County

Board of Supervisors. “The ability to move forward with a critical step in recovery will make a significant difference to the households impacted by the Park Fire, helping to address

survivors’ most immediate needs so they may begin the rebuilding process.” Residents are encouraged to stay informed by visiting the Butte County website at [bit.ly/parkfirebutte](http://bit.ly/parkfirebutte). ★

## Chico Woman Sentenced in Death of Child on His First Birthday

**Butte County District Attorney’s Office News Release**

**CHICO, CA (MPG)** - A Chico woman was sentenced Sept. 12 to 10 years in state prison for the fentanyl overdose death of her infant boy. Christy Ann Scarbrough, 40, was sentenced to the maximum term under California law by Butte County Superior Court Judge Kristen Lucena following a plea to all allegations in the charging document - one count of child endangerment and an admission that Scarbrough’s acts resulted in the infant’s death. Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Scarbrough found the boy face down in his crib on the evening of July 6, 2023, the boy’s

first birthday. The child was blue and unresponsive. She took him to Enloe Hospital, where he was ultimately pronounced dead. An investigation by Chico Police revealed there was a straw in the baby’s crib that tested positive for fentanyl. An extensive investigation followed by the police and district attorney’s office including an autopsy that showed an extraordinarily high amount of fentanyl in the infant’s gastric acid, indicating the baby ingested the fentanyl. Ramsey said Scarbrough is an admitted fentanyl user. The use of a straw is a common method of adult ingestion of fentanyl, a powerful opioid. Scarbrough has a long criminal history, including

a prior conviction for felony child abuse where she was sentenced to prison when her then seven-week-old daughter tested positive for methamphetamine. Ramsey said that Scarbrough violated the inherent trust between a parent and child of such a tender age. “Scarbrough admitted she knew the dangers of fentanyl and yet not only had it in her home with her small children, she had it in her child’s crib where he should have been safe,” Ramsey said. “While the sentence today is not enough because an infant lost his life, it is the maximum allowed by California law and serves as a reminder of the consequences of fentanyl use.” ★

## Chico Man Charged with Attempted Kidnapping

**Butte County District Attorney’s Office News Release**

**CHICO, CA (MPG)** - A Chico man was in Butte County Superior Court Sept. 16 to face a charge of attempting to kidnap an 18-year-old woman off the street in downtown Chico near midnight on Aug. 31. Jose Alvarado-Rodriguez, 49, was arraigned on a single count of attempted kidnapping brought by the District Attorney’s Office, who also asked the judge to hold Alvarado-Rodriguez without bail. The judge granted the no-bail hold until Alvarado-Rodriguez’s next court appearance on Sept. 18 (after press time) for further arraignment. Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the incident occurred in the 1000 block of West 1st St. shortly before Chico State University Police officers were flagged down by a witness. The witness told officers he and a friend had seen a young, petite female walk by a local bar where they were playing pool. Concerned for her safety, given the late hour and the fact that she appeared intoxicated and

alone, they watched as she staggered past the bar. The witness said they then saw a white van pull up on the street next to her and the driver got out of the van’s sliding side door and grabbed the young woman. A brief struggle occurred during which the young woman broke free and fell, hitting her head and briefly appearing to become unconscious. The witness yelled at the driver of the van, who then got back in the vehicle and fled the area. University Police took care of the victim and requested Chico Police to take over the investigation. Chico detectives obtained surveillance video from a nearby business that showed that the white van had been slowly tracking behind the victim for some time. Over the next several days, Ramsey said Chico detectives worked to identify the van and its driver and were ultimately able to establish it was Jose Alvarado-Rodriguez. Alvarado-Rodriguez was arrested last Thursday, Sept. 12, and a search warrant was obtained for his residence, person, and vehicle. ★

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# ‘Honor of a Lifetime’ Cotton Rosser Statue Revealed in Marysville

By Shamaya Sutton

**MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG)** - Members from every sector of the community gathered at Washington Square Park in Marysville on Wednesday, Sept. 11, for the unveiling of the Cotton Rosser Bronze Monument. Normally, this day would have hosted the annual Marysville Stampede Cattle Drive but organizers opted to skip the event this year due to ongoing traffic issues related to the Hotel Marysville fire.

“This is such a big turnout, way bigger than I expected,” said Melanie Michel, a Marysville Stampede Committee member.

While the crowd might have surprised some, it pales in comparison to the impact that Rosser’s life has had on the local community.

Born to Canadian immigrant parents in Long Beach California in 1928, Horton Alexander “Cotton” Rosser soon dedicated his life to the world of rodeo and horsemanship. Rosser purchased his first Marysville ranch in 1954, but in 1956 a field accident involving a power post hole auger left him with two crushed legs. Being unable to compete, Rosser set his sights on opening his own western wear store, breeding quality livestock and elevating rodeo performances across America.

Rosser’s contributions to the industry were honored and cemented in the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 1995 and in 1997 he was named California Livestock Man of The Year. His ranch, Flying U Rodeo, can still be seen from the outskirts of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Sacramento in Wheatland and is considered one of the most successful rodeo production companies in professional rodeo. Its legacy can be witnessed locally during the annual Marysville Stampede at Cotton Rosser Arena in Riverfront Park.



Old Glory waves grandly next to the newly installed statue of Cotton Rosser in Marysville. Photo by Chris Pedigo

“Cotton was very special,” said Sue Cejner Moyers who was in attendance during the Sept. 11 bronze monument dedication. “He used to help me do children’s stories in the schools and until he was in his 90’s he would just love it, and he would do the history tours of the rodeo at the local schools until he couldn’t do it anymore.”

It seemed every person had a story to share about Rosser. For Tomas Gargilazo with “Charro on the Road,” Cotton was a close friend and mentor who helped kickstart his success as a world-champion rope artist and specialty act.

“It was an immense honor to be a part of the bronze reveal ceremony for the legendary ‘King of the Cowboys,’” said Gargilazo. “Cotton’s unwavering passion for rodeo and show-business shaped the world of rodeo entertainment as we know it today.”

Luis Gargilazo, Tomas’s son added, “It was fun for me to see him and learn over the years, gosh we miss him.”

The honor of unveiling Rosser’s statue went to Tomas

Gargilazo who fittingly utilized his rope tricks. Gargilazo stood upon his horse as the lasso seemed to dance all around him. With a single flick of the wrist, Gargilazo’s hoop snatched the white tarp in one fail swoop, quickly revealing the bronze underneath.

“I know Cotton would be smiling right now to see his friend of 37 years doing what he does best,” said Anthony Lucia, a pro-rodeo announcer in reference to Gargilazo.

Rosser’s memorial bronze statue has been in the works for several years and its unveiling comes two years after his passing on July 22, 2022. Several locations for the statue were proposed during the initial plans but organizers ultimately settled on Washington Square Park for its visibility. Indeed, honks of support and appreciation could be heard from those passing by on Highway 20 throughout the entire ceremony.

“An old cowboy once said that if you had a million friends, you had a million dollars, so I know Cotton has to be one of the wealthiest men alive,” said Jeff Wolf as he choked back tears.

“Being selected to do this memorial monument... is an honor of a lifetime for me.”

Wolf also got his start in rodeo through Rosser before turning his passion to art and sculpting. The statue’s design implemented a brick foundation engraved with the names of its many generous donors and supporters. During the ceremony, stories were shared of Rosser’s many friends and acquaintances from the king of Austria to a small-town waitress with a big heart.

“We thought that art should imitate life, and these bricks should be the foundation for the bronze just as my dad believed that his friends built his foundation throughout his life,” said Katherine Rosser, one of Rosser’s daughters.

Prior to the Sept. 11 event, Cotton’s family and crew took time to polish the bronze while hiding under its tarp. It was said that this moment felt like



The memory of Cotton Rosser will live on in Marysville, both in its history and the hearts of it’s people. Photo by Chris Pedigo

old times again, getting Rosser ready for the rodeo, except this one would last forever. ★



Tomas Gargilazo, right, and his son Luis, left, were honored to help reveal the Cotton Rosser Bronze Monument during its dedication and celebration ceremony at Washington Square Park on Sept. 11 in Marysville. Photo by Shamaya Sutton

# UC Students Push for A Place to Get — And Stay — Sober on Every Campus



Stephanie J. Lake, M.Ed, LAADC, is shown in her private office on the second floor of the Cowell Building, where Counseling Services support the 40,000-plus UC Davis student body. Aug. 1. Photo by Louis Bryant III for CalMatters

By Mikhail Zinshteyn  
CALMatters.org

A small collegiate recovery program at half of the University of California’s 10 campuses holds regular weekly meetings for students in some stage of battling drug and alcohol addiction or some other form of self-harm.

The University of California Student Association, which represents the system’s 233,000 undergraduates, is mounting a campaign to bring the program and university funding to every campus. After almost a year of advocacy, the student organization brought the program to UC’s largest stage, the UC Regents meeting, in July. Student advocates want a full-time coordinator at every campus, ongoing funding for each program and a private, dedicated meeting space at every UC.

The University Office of the President maintains that every campus has some kind of drug prevention, intervention and treatment program. But student advocates say the collegiate recovery programs are unique and provide an important outlet for students who need a nuanced approach to vanquishing their drug dependencies. The first was founded at Brown University in 1977. Today, scores exist on

campuses across the country.

The need for drug recovery centers

The university system estimates that the existing programs served 4,000 students last year. A 2023 national survey indicates that 1.6% of UC undergraduates are in some form of drug or alcohol recovery.

But likely many more could benefit from a drug recovery program. The same 2023 survey showed that, depending on the campus, around 50% to 70% of undergraduates reported drinking at least once and a third to half have tried cannabis. Smaller, but still notable, shares of students have used other drugs at least once: roughly 3% to 10% used cocaine; as much as 2% tried meth. Among UC Berkeley students, nearly 1% had tried heroin.

What the program does Often with few dollars and no full-time staffer, these programs foster a community of peers who together navigate their sobriety through the thicket of tempting or illicit substances that are often rife on their college campuses.

The programs serve multiple purposes: group meetings, more targeted support from a campus coordinator who may also refer the students to mental or medical help on or off campus, and if there’s money, social events. Some, like the one at UC Davis, distribute fentanyl test strips and Narcan, an overdose-reversing nasal spray, for free.

Unlike more familiar substance recovery programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous, collegiate recovery programs don’t demand abstinence from all substances when a person pursues recovery from one in particular.

The program’s “harm reduction” approach is meant to appeal to more students who aren’t ready to fully abstain from all substances but need help quitting or dialing back from a substance that’s personally destructive.

“What I’ve seen for a lot of

people is, once they get involved in the (college recovery program) and they see people that are totally sober, they’re like, ‘Oh, I can still have fun being totally sober,’” said Stephanie Lake, the coordinator at UC Davis’s college recovery program, Aggies for Recovery, and a full-time substance abuse therapist on the campus. “A lot of them do eventually get to total sobriety but harm reduction at least gives them a way where they’re reducing the harm of their drugs so that they’re able to function in a better capacity.”

Lake said that harm reduction is a newer practice that became more common in the past five years. One of the weekly meetings uses an Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous speaker format to give students a sense of how those meetings look like, she added.

Still, students hooked on certain hard drugs struggle to moderate their consumption. Lake described one student she counseled a few years ago who wanted to continue using heroin on weekends. She told the student to see if he could limit his usage after three weeks. He couldn’t but also didn’t want to quit. A few months later, he came back to her, ready to get sober. Lake then referred him to treatment.

Collegiate recovery programs are located on campus, another benefit, UC officials wrote in an agenda item to regents last month. That’s because not all students have the transportation means or time to seek services that are off campus, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, intensive outpatient services and Suboxone treatment.

Need for full-time coordinators The UC Student Association stresses that each campus needs a full-time coordinator. At UC Davis, Lake officially spends 5% of her time in that role, on top of the four to six students she sees

daily for counseling. The campus intends to hire a full-time coordinator this fall, which she says couldn’t come soon enough.

She couldn’t apply for outside grants to fund the recovery program because she was busy with her full-time therapist job. The recovery program sponsors events on weekends, making it hard for her to attend after a full week’s work seeing other students.

She also guides two student facilitators who work part-time leading the group meetings. They include Ashlyn Reed, an incoming fourth-year student. The program has been instrumental in helping her remain off the substance that she has struggled with the most — nicotine. It’s her fourth time quitting; this six-month stint has been the longest she has gone without smoking. She said the group meetings helped her examine why she relied on nicotine as an emotional crutch. “What am I hiding from or trying to avoid?” she said.

But she also feels the limits of the program without a full-time coordinator. “We’re the best kept secret on campus, and we don’t want to be,” she said. Without a full-time coordinator, there’s no one to market the program on campus, where hundreds of student and community groups compete for attention from the campus’s 40,000 students through leaflets, live events and other outreach.

Students pushing for a recovery program on every campus insist on ongoing university funding to support them as well as dedicated space for the meetings.

Aditi Hariharan, a UC Davis student who has advocated on behalf of the UC Student Association for these centers, expressed concern that some regents at the July meeting encouraged campuses to seek county health grants to fund the programs. Navigating county bureaucracy is difficult, she and other student advocates said,

and even if the funding comes through, it’s not a guaranteed ongoing source.

“County grants are also temporary and need to be reapplied and reapplied, and don’t assure that permanent funding that CRPs should have,” said Hariharan, who recently was elected as the student association’s president.

Ryan King, a spokesperson for the UC Office of the President wrote that each “campus sets priorities within its budget and must balance competing priorities.” He added that the system is exploring additional funding through the California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative and the recently passed Proposition 1, a state initiative to raise billions of dollars for housing and treatment facilities for mentally ill Californians. The UC maintains a \$50 billion budget and about a fifth of that is for its main education mission, including student services.

“If there was a space where they could just hang out during that day, there wouldn’t be so much temptation to relapse,” Lake said. The campus’s program relies on temporary meeting spaces, including the lobby of a student health services building.

UC Berkeley’s center just received its own space. Previously, students attending meetings in an administrative building would need to sometimes enter the police department to gain access to the building — an awkward encounter for individuals trying to confide to each other about substance abuse. Other times, campus deans would cross the communal space during group meetings.

“The fentanyl crisis and everything else, it’s a scary time for me as a counselor,” Lake said. Having the collegiate recovery program “is just super, super important.”

Mikhail Zinshteyn reports on higher education for CalMatters. His coverage tackles state legislation, financial aid, labor issues, student demands, campus housing and college affordability. ★



# Lake Oroville Update

California Department of Water Resources News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) -

## Feather River Floating Classrooms

Feather River Floating Classroom raft tours are returning this fall, and this year they are free! Sponsored and developed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Floating Classroom program takes participants through Feather River spawning habitat while the Department of Water Resources and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission scientists provide information on Chinook salmon conservation efforts, ongoing and planned research, restoration and monitoring projects, and fisheries management activities supported by the Department of Water Resources’ State Water Project.

Free rafting tours this fall are scheduled each Saturday, starting Oct. 5 through Nov. 9. Each Saturday will have multiple floating classroom sessions with limited seats. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis with up to four free tickets available per unique registration. Participants must complete the online risk acknowledgment and liability release form within three days (72 hours) of reservation confirmation or tickets will be forfeited. Reserve your free floating classroom ticket on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/feather-river-floating-classroom-89742378843>.

## Hatchery Fish Ladder Opens

Chinook salmon are completing their life cycle and returning home to the Feather River to lay eggs for the next generation of salmon. The fish ladder opened Sept. 13, with spawning activities at the Feather River Fish

Hatchery expected to begin Sept. 17 once Chinook salmon have traveled up the fish ladder.

Visitors to the Hatchery’s fish barrier dam overlook viewing area can view salmon congregating and jumping in the Feather River and see them up close through the underwater viewing window as they swim up the fish ladder. The overlook is located off Table Mountain Boulevard, east of the green bridge and across from the main hatchery facility. The fish ladder is expected to remain open through June 2025 for viewing opportunities.

The Feather River Fish Hatchery’s spawning operations rear millions of Chinook salmon to be released every spring in the waters of the Feather River, San Pablo Bay, and San Francisco Bay to support Central Valley and Pacific Ocean fisheries. The Department of Water Resources owns and maintains the facility and provides funding to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for its spawning, rearing, and stocking operations.

## Loafer Point Stage II Ramp Reopens

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) reopened the Loafer Point Stage II boat ramp this week. Open for boat launch access between 680 feet and 805 feet elevation, Loafer Point Stage II offers three launch lanes, a boarding float, and is adjacent to the popular Loafer Creek Recreation Day Use Area and Campground.

The Loafer Point facilities, consisting of two separate launch ramps, were completed by the Department of Water Resources in 2020 as part of a multi-year construction project representing the largest single recreation facility build-out at Lake Oroville in the past 50 years. The Loafer Point facilities extend down to a much lower elevation than the original Loafer

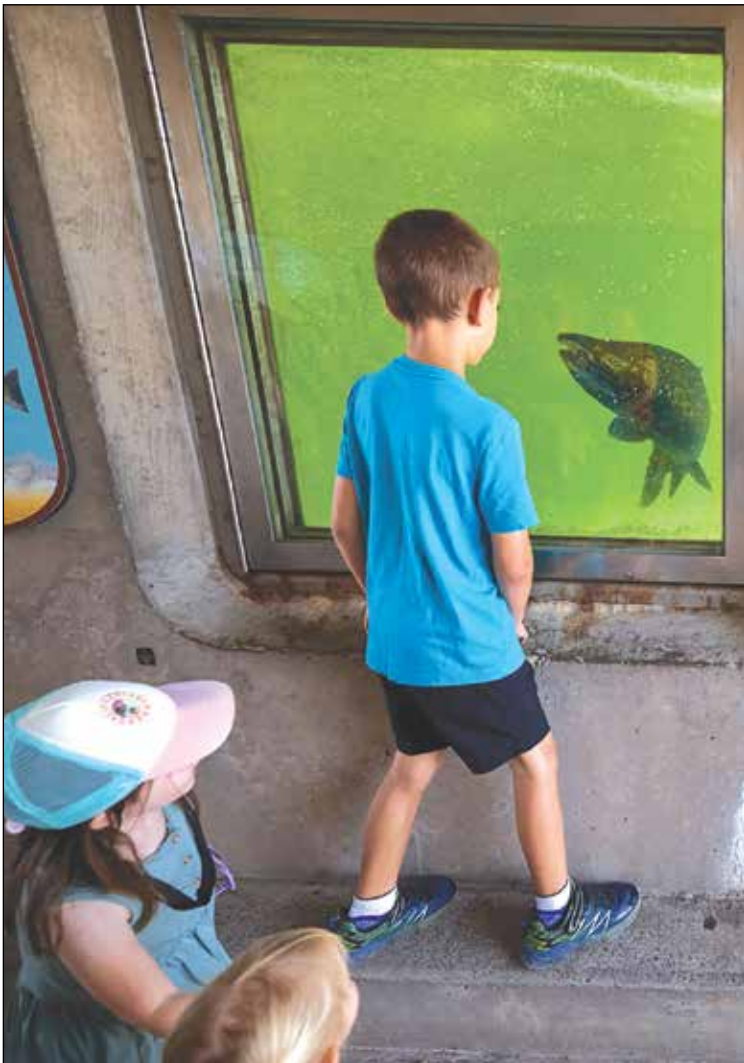
Creek area boat ramp, giving boaters access to Lake Oroville later in the season, when some of the most comfortable temperatures are experienced at the lake. Loafer Point’s launch ramps also provide immediate access to the wide-open waters of Lake Oroville – there are no marina ‘slow speed zones’ to navigate. The popular location also provides nearby access to numerous State recreation hiking and biking trails, campgrounds, swimming beaches, equestrian facilities, and the nearby Bidwell Marina.

## Oroville Recreation

The Department of Water Resources, State Parks and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife maintain over 92 miles of trails in the Oroville area. An interactive map of recreation facilities, including open trails and their permitted uses (hike, bike, horse, multi), is available on the Department of Water Resources’ Lake Oroville Recreation webpage at <https://water.ca.gov/What-We-Do/Recreation/Lake-Oroville-Recreation>. A paper trail map is available at various locations, including most entrance kiosks and the Lake Oroville Visitor Center.

Staffed by knowledgeable guides, the Lake Oroville Visitor Center features interpretive displays on Oroville Dam, area geology, wildlife and habitat, hydroelectric power, and cultural and historical artifacts. View videos in the theater about the construction of Oroville Dam, walk or hike along nearby trails, and visit the 47-foot-tall observation tower that provides unsurpassed panoramic views of surrounding areas. Free guided tours for school and community groups are available by reservation. Parking and admission to the Visitor Center are free.

Lake Oroville is one of the State Water Project’s premier recreational destinations and



Children look through an underwater viewing window of a Chinook Salmon swimming up the fish ladder at the Feather River Fish Hatchery during the Oroville Salmon Festival in Oroville, Sept. 23, 2023. The public was invited to tour the facility as part of the event. Courtesy photo

one of California’s best fishing spots. The lake provides both warm-water and cold-water fisheries. Below the Oroville Dam, the Thermalito Forebay, Thermalito Afterbay and the Feather River offer additional excellent fishing opportunities for Chinook salmon and steelhead. The marinas at Bidwell Canyon and Lime Saddle are open daily and provide a variety of services including a convenience store, gas, boat rentals, and more.

Upstream migrating fish totals through the Feather River Fish Monitoring Station between Jan. 1 and Sept. 10 are:


Spring-run Chinook salmon (March 1 through June 30): 7,124  
Fall-run Chinook salmon (July 1 through present): 9,955  
Steelhead: 1,011

## Current Lake Operations

Lake Oroville is at 803 feet elevation and storage is approximately 2.14 million acre-feet (MAF), which is 62 percent of its total capacity and 107 percent of the historical average.

Feather River flows are at 650 cubic feet per second (cfs) through the City of Oroville with 8,350 cubic feet per second being released from the Thermalito Afterbay River Outlet (Outlet) for a total Feather River release of 9,000 cubic feet per second downstream. The Department of Water Resources continues to assess Feather River releases daily.

The public can track precipitation, snow, reservoir levels and more at the California Data Exchange Center. The Lake Oroville gage station is identified as “ORO.”



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SPARKY'S CORNER

OVEN STORAGE HAZARD

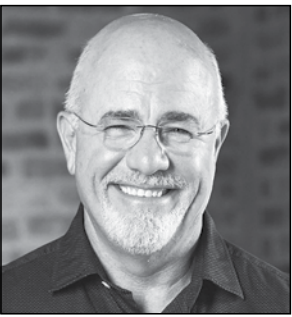
With a recent surge in emergencies that are the result of residents storing pots and pans inside an oven, CAL FIRE / Gridley Fire Department wants to remind the citizens to never store anything inside your oven. The plastic handles and light metal pots and pans can melt onto the heating element and produce large amounts of toxic smoke and easily catch fire. Plastic and rubber handles can melt at temperatures as low as 200 Degrees Fahrenheit. On the self-cleaning setting, an oven can reach temperatures of 900 degrees Fahrenheit easily igniting anything flammable that may be inside. So to reduce the risk of a fire and significant smoke damage to your home, please never store anything inside your oven and always check inside before using.

Thank You, and Be Safe!!

Sparky the Dog  
Gridley Fire Station 74







**Dave Ramsey**

Dear Dave,

I'm pretty responsible with finances, but my girlfriend is in a bad situation with her money and her career. She has a huge car payment, and lots of credit card debt. On top of this, it takes almost 40% of what she brings home each month just to pay rent, and she quit her job because she decided she didn't like it anymore. She's been floating lots of ideas, like filing bankruptcy or moving in with me. She thinks us living together will help her learn to be more responsible with her finances. I'm concerned that if she can't handle her finances on her own, what will happen if we move in together? Your advice would be appreciated.

— Dan

Dear Dan,

I can't say if she's technically bankrupt at this point. But for starters, she definitely needs to sell the car and find a cheaper place to live. I'm also not

# Dave Ramsey Says A "Heart Problem"

sure how long you two have been seeing each other, but this is someone to keep dating, not marry or let move in.

The hard reality is that bankruptcy's not going to solve anything if she's got a heart problem. By "heart problem," I mean if she buys things thinking stuff will make her happy and living way beyond her means in the process. Lots of folks mistakenly think they are where they live or what they drive. Those are the kinds of heart problems I'm talking about. And it's the way I was years ago before going broke knocked some sense into me. It wasn't until then I realized I had to make some serious changes in my life.

Don't get me wrong. What I've just said doesn't mean this lady's a bad person. It just means she's got some growing up to do. And all the money matters aside, you don't just up and quit your job without a solid plan in place unless there's a serious matter of principle at stake, or you're the victim of abuse or harassment. Leaving one job for another is fine. But the idea of suddenly deciding you

just don't like something, then walking away from it when you've got a bunch of financial obligations, is just plain irresponsible. You don't jump off the dock until the boat arrives!

Again, I don't know all the details behind her finances, but chances are she's not bankrupt. There are some character issues in all this that need to be addressed, though. If it were me, I'd suggest she spend some time seeing a good financial counselor—one with the heart of a teacher. Then, you can act as her support system to help keep her on track, and encourage her to keep moving forward toward getting control of her money.

— Dave

*Dave Ramsey is a national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions.* ★

# Gridley Thumbs and Roots



**By Barbara Ott**

Slo-Mo gardening continues a bit faster. I'm not put down for the remainder of the day. This is a huge improvement. My front yard might get cleaned up after all. Of course, I'm changing it as I go. Hey why leave something well enough alone if you can mess with it? Most of all I'm (not me personally) removing rock borders. They are

a hazard for me with my back acting up. So out go the rocks. I'm putting plants farther away from the sidewalk. I've already put in several ground covers that need little work. I've propagated some plants from those ground covers and will be adding to the ground cover areas. I'll still have nice expanses of plants but they are low to the ground. Of course, this will change come Spring due to all of the bulbs I have under the ground. It's hard to make these changes because I really liked what I'd done in the front yard. Now it is sad looking so it needs to be enlivened with a new look. Under the birch trees there will still be a few of the tall plants but even there I'm taking things out and will put cedar bark in. I'm thinking I might go back to using a few more annuals for color, we'll see.

No positive toad signs yet. I think I've seen poops. Now that the nights will be cooler maybe the snails will creep out and get slurped up by hungry toads. That is a nice dream. I'm starting to propagate some easy plants. Things like geraniums. Maybe as I recover from this back situation, I'll get more ambitious. I'm also moving some of the yellow re-blooming iris to the front. I'm thinking of mixing them with the white ones I have out there. I'm ready for fall color. ★



## Avian Flu Cases Put Three California Dairies Under Quarantine

Three Central Valley dairy herds remain under quarantine after cows in the herds tested positive for highly pathogenic avian influenza. The positive findings, which the U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed on Aug. 30, mark the first time highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI, has been detected in California dairy cows. Since March 25, 13 other states have detected HPAI in dairy cows, with a total 197 confirmed cases as of Sept. 9. The sick cows have been isolated, CDFA said, and healthy cows have been cleared to continue shipping milk.

## Biotech Wheat Variety Gets USDA Approval for Cultivation

A transgenic wheat variety with increased drought tolerance and resistance to the herbicide glufosinate has been given the green light for cultivation by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In its review of HB4 wheat, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service last month determined the wheat "is unlikely to pose an increased plant pest risk" compared to similar wheat plants. Completion of the regulatory review paves the way for HB4 wheat to be grown for food and feed, though other steps are needed before the product can be brought to market.

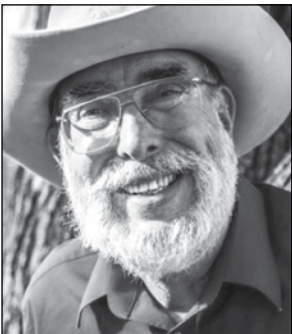
## As Prices Drop, Almond Growers Diversify to Other Crops

As almond prices have dropped, growers say they are focused on their bottom lines, looking for ways to diversify their crop portfolios and identify other income to shore up narrowing profit margins. Fresno County farmer Matt Efrid, who grows almonds, pistachios, walnuts, canning peaches and feed crops, said, "If a grower can have a diversified portfolio, that's the way to go because you can hopefully cover the lows with income from other crops." The average almond price per pound has fallen from \$2.45 in 2019 to \$1.40 last year.

## House Panel Hears Concerns Over Water Supplies for Agriculture

California's role in U.S. food security took center stage last week at a hearing in the Central Valley, where lawmakers and industry experts discussed impacts of environmental regulations on agricultural water needs. Jason Phillips, CEO of the Friant Water Authority, said regulatory decisions and legislative inaction have forced the state away from water abundance. "These decisions have been taking water away from farms and communities," Phillips testified at a Santa Nella hearing of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries. ★

# Slim Randles' HOME COUNTRY



**Slim Randles**

Bert came waltzing in to the Mule Barn truck stop the other day in high spirits. We knew we were in for yet another lecture. Sure enough.

Even as he pulled up a chair at the philosophy counter and world dilemma think tank, he started in.

"The world, gentlemen," he said. "The world is cresting on a multiplicity of inventiveness at the moment and I'm flat in the middle of it!"

He talks like that sometimes.

We all pretended we hadn't heard him and sipped our coffee.

We're like that sometimes, too.

"Maizie got it for me for Christmas," he said, looking at us as he flipped his coffee cup to the upright and

# ZAP!

ready-for-filling position.

Finally, Dud couldn't stand it any more. "What was that, Bert?"

"It's the Rat Zapper!" he said. "The cutting edge in domestic varmint control. The computer age has finally come to the wonderful world of pest whacking, people."

"What do you think?" said Doc. "Think he's going to tell us about it anyway?"

A general nod of agreement. "OK, Bert, what the heck is a rat zapper?"

"That's Rat Zapper, capital letters, Doc, 'cause it's a brand name. You see, you just plug this little box into the wall and put it behind something. When the rat goes in and tries to eat the bait, he steps on this metal plate and is electrocuted. You just take it out and dump it and reset it.

"The first thing you do, though, is put some bait in it and let him go get

it without the electricity, then you plug that baby in, and ZAP! Oh man, it's just great!"

"High tech rat killin'?" Doc said.

"Oh, you bet. And not only that, but for a little extra, you can have the trap ring your cell phone to let you know when you've caught one. And you can get a whole network of these thingies and they'll each call you when they have a fried rat for you. Isn't that amazing?"

"Well, Bert," I chimed in, "I didn't realize you had a rat problem over at your place."

"I don't," he said, looking discouraged. "But you know, if I put some corn out, maybe by spring....?"


*The cover of the new family novel, Whimsy Castle, was painted by the author's 15-year-old granddaughter, Baelee Randles. Her first cover.* ★

# LOCAL ARREST RECORDS

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**Publisher, Paul V. Scholl**

*The Gridley Herald is a member of Messenger Publishing Group*

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Newspapers must be loaded in Carmichael at 8:30 Thursday mornings. Delivery then drops to Marysville by 11:30 am and then drops to Gridley by 1:00 pm.

Round trip is approximately 120 miles. Total time for the delivery is approximately 6 hours.

This is an independent contractor position. You must have a very reliable cargo van to be able to handle the volume of newspapers being delivered. You must have current DMV, drivers license, proper insurance and must be a resident of the State of California.

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# COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

WOW...IT'S WINDY OUT THERE!!

HOW WINDY IS IT??

I JUST SAW A CHICKEN LAY THE SAME EGG TWICE!!

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

OK, DAD, JUST FOLLOW ME AND WATCH MY BACK.

UH, THAT'S OK, YOU STILL HAVE A COUPLE MORE LIVES BEFORE YOU'RE OUT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?? YOU'RE RUNNING ALL OVER AND AIMING AT THE SKY.

I THINK FOR YOUR SAKE MAYBE YOU'D BE BETTER OFF JUST SURRENDERING.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

HELGA, HOW COULD YOU?! DO YOU NOT LOVE ME? DO YOU NOT CARE ABOUT US? IF YOU DO NOT, I DARE YOU... I DARE YOU TO SAY IT TO MY NECK!

LOVE TROUBLES FOR THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ ON T-SHIRTS!

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS POPEYE

BY KENDY PHILLOLLO

LINDEN? HI, CAN YOU PICK ME UP?

POPEYE KNOCKED ME INTO ANOTHER COMIC AGAIN.

SHERIFF TAIT WELCOMES YOU TO HOOTIN' HILLER

I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER REALLY SAT AND LOOKED AT THE STARS.

I NEVER REALIZED HOW INFINITE THEY SEEM TO BE.

JUST WHEN I THINK I SEE 'EM ALL NEW ONE'S POP UP!

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Tree trunk is different. 2. Spout on watering can is longer. 3. Cap is larger. 4. Hair is different. 5. Mountain is different. 6. Flower is different.

GRIN & BEAR IT

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

I WAS WAITING FOR SOME MOTIVATION. NOT SURE WHAT I DID, BUT BASED ON YOUR EXPRESSION, I WANT TO START RUNNING.

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD • GREEKS AND ROMANS

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Fountain order

5. Christian minister, abbr.

8. Betelgeuse or Deneb

12. Isaac's firstborn

13. Senegal's neighbor

14. Nobody (2 words)

15. Bangladeshi currency

16. Chopin's creation, e.g.

17. Like thick smoke

18. \*Greek goddess in 1995 Woody Allen movie title

20. \*Mars, to the Greeks

21. Ooze out

22. Edible tuber

23. \*Poet of "Aeneid" fame

26. \*\*Pair of writing tablets"

30. Outrage

31. A small part

34. European currency

35. Jousting pole

37. B & B

38. Sunni religion

39. Et alibi, abbr.

40. Newspaper VIP

42. First woman, Biblically-speaking

43. Return of disease

45. Washer, during a certain cycle

47. Last month

48. Belittle

50. Taro plant

52. \*Athenian Acropolis tourist attraction

56. Anticipate

57. Black-and-white cookie

58. Small European freshwater fish

59. #18 Across, to Romans

60. Big cat sound

61. Future atty.'s exam

62. Work units

63. Tight one, in football

64. Sunrise direction

DOWN

1. Facebook owner

2. Quickly, acr.

3. Hundred thousand, in India

4. Sahara's Berber people

5. R in R.E.M.

6. Wash out with solvent

7. Workbench holding device

8. \*Plato's famous teacher

9. Ripped

10. Black tropical cuckoo

11. \*Not black-figure, but -figure

13. Spacecraft's detachable unit

14. W.E.B Du Bois's org.

19. Oxygen-containing compound

22. \*Olive derivative

23. More reprehensible

24. About to explode

25. Kidney-related

26. Exertion

27. Christmastides

28. Have a hankering

29. \*Poet of "Iliad" fame

32. Ocean motion

33. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words)

36. \*\*", \_\_\_\_"

38. Like Bushmills whiskey

40. Boston time

41. \*Demosthenes of Cicero

44. Land parcels

46. Conifer's leaf

48. New York Jets' quarterback

49. Bakery offering

50. Pitcher

51. "Shoot!"

52. Minute opening

53. Civil space org.

54. #22 Across, pl.

55. Left after deductions

56. Map abbr.

CROSSWORD

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.





# Gridley Titans Football

## Titans 8U

By Randall Huff, Head Coach

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** -The 8U Titans came into this week hoping to have a great performance and come out with a victory, but unfortunately that wasn't the case.

The 8U Titans ended up being shut-out for the first time this year, losing 38-0.

The kids did their best, but it just wasn't their day on Saturday. Team captains for the week were #16 Morgan Ruggirello, #15 Julian Camargo, #32 Connor Mell and #56 Rhett Moffitt.

The team is looking forward to getting better and moving on to next week's game against the Anderson Cubs



★ Titans 8U players fight the Lions for the ball. Photo by Rhonda Andoe

## Titans 10U

By Jason Davis Sr., Head Coach

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - This past Saturday the undefeated 10U Gridley Titans traveled to Corning to face off against the undefeated 10U Corning Lions.

The anticipated matchup failed to disappoint. The Titans scored first on a big 55-yard run by Deandre Carothers, putting the Titans up 6-0.

The Lions responded in the 2nd quarter to tie it up 6-6. The Titans scored again minutes later, when Quarterback Boss Davis capped off

a 62-yard drive with a 7-yard TD run to go up 13-6. With seconds left in the half the Lions took the lead 13-14.

The second half was dominated by the Titans defense with big plays by Esaias Valdez, Israel Hernandez and Nash Benson at crucial times. The Titans defense held the Lions scoreless in the second half. On offense the Titans retook the lead for good 19-14 early in the 4th quarter on a 7-yard run by Tyler Smith.

Up next the Titans will travel this Saturday to Anderson to take on the Jr Cubs.



★ Gridley Titans 10U Deandre Crothers #13, breaks away from defenders with the ball. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



Titans 10U Quarterback Boss Davis carries the ball looking up-field for a target. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



Full of spirit, the 10U Cheer team shows off their skills! Photo by Rhonda Andoe

## Titans 12U

By Brandon Oakley, Head Coach

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley Titans 12U football team took

on the Corning Lions Saturday, Sept. 14.

Both teams battled hard in the first two quarters and Corning was able to score a touchdown

just before halftime.

During the second half of the game, both teams continued to march up and down the field and the Corning Lions

were able to score a second touchdown.

The Lions ultimately defeated the Titans 14-0. This brings the Titans' record to 3-1.



Titans 12U Football team kicking off. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



Titans 12U Football fights towards a touchdown deep in Lion territory. Photo by Rhonda Andoe

## Titans 14U

By Tony Luquin, Head Coach

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - The Gridley Titans 14U went to battle against the 14U Corning Lions, Saturday Sept. 14.

Going into this week's game the Gridley Titans kept their momentum going, beating the Corning Lions 32-0. The offense kept the foot on the gas with a balanced attack, rushing for 119 yards and one rushing touchdown, while also passing for 94 yards and throwing for three touchdowns

Benny Zumwalt had the team's rushing touchdown, While Alec Luquin

threw two touchdowns to Jaiden Bandy and one touchdown to Hudson Oakley.

The 14U Titans started with great field position all game due to the great work of their defense that didn't allow more than a couple first downs.

Hunter Jacobs had a great game with five tackles and a forced fumble. When the run game was not working for Corning, they tried to pass but that didn't work either, especially when Carson Cornell stepped in for an interception and 15-yard return.

The Titans travel to Anderson next week.



★ Titans 14U Jaiden Bandy, #32 catching the ball for a touchdown. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



# First Half Mistakes Plague the Bulldogs



Gridley Quarterback Gus Stogsdill completing a pass to Luis Murillo out of the backfield. Photos by Yuba-Sutter High School Sports

By Dillon Longmire

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - A sloppy first half was the downfall of the Gridley Bulldogs in their home opener against the Winters Warriors this past Friday, Sept. 13.

As the Bulldogs and Warriors traded punts and turnovers on the first four possessions of the game it seemed as if defense would be the name of the game. That was not the case for the Bulldogs after the Warriors marched down the field and scored their first touchdown with an overwhelming passing attack.

The Bulldogs would get the ball back on the ensuing kickoff but turn the ball right back over to the Warriors. That was the start of the sloppy play for the Bulldogs. Whether it was a turnover, or a snap that went over the head of the quarterback, the Bulldogs could not get moving on offense during the first half. Meanwhile the Warriors would get the ball and score

touchdowns on three of their next four possessions making it 27-0 at halftime.

The Bulldogs received the ball at the start of the third quarter and decided to keep it in the hands of senior quarterback Gus Stogsdill. Stogsdill ran the ball nine total times in the second half and scored the Bulldogs only touchdown late in the fourth quarter. The defense of the Bulldogs stepped up in

the second half, not allowing another score from the Warriors.

If the Bulldogs had avoided mistakes in the first half this could've been a much closer game. Instead, the Gridley Bulldogs will host the Colusa RedHawks on Friday, Sept. 20 as an 0-2 team. The Winters Warriors move to 3-0 on the season and will host the Live Oak Lions on Friday Sept. 20.



The Bulldogs' Noe Moran knocking the ball loose from Winters' Sebastian Rodriguez. Photos by Yuba-Sutter High School Sports

# Hamman Subdivision Project Benefits Discussed



Pictured here is the proposed project site for the Hamman Subdivision Project.

Story and photo by Jordonna Lobese

**BIGGS, CA (MPG)** - Benefits of the Hamman Subdivision Project were discussed at the Sept. 10 Biggs City Council meeting.

The Hamman Subdivision Project is a 7.55-acre site on Sixth Street to be subdivided into a mixed-use development that includes 18 single-family homes and two multi-family residential lots broken into 42 apartments. Part of the property is designated for light industrial and commercial usage as a storage facility.

This project is the city's solution to California's laws that aim at increasing housing options.

Josh F.W. Cook, city administrator and director of utilities, reviewed specific points from September 2022's Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.

The city's strategy is to develop unused land and offer more housing and jobs, as high-density subdivisions can attract new

businesses and employers, according to city staff. The city is anticipating steady population growth and, as a result, school enrollment increases. According to city officials, Biggs' schools have shown a 20% reduction in enrollment since 2018. The enrollment increases that would result from the project would also increase funding from the State of California per student.

Also cited at the council meeting are opportunities for transportation improvements. For transit service, there is Butte County B-Line and a free Butte College bus system in place.

To encourage bicycle and pedestrian transportation, the city has put in place the Biggs Area Bicycle Plan that identifies current and future bike facilities. The city's Planning Department can request funding through Caltrans (California Department of Transportation) for these future projects.

The daily service volume threshold by roadway classifications were studied

and shown as having minimal effects and emergency response times of less than four minutes should remain. One resident inquired about the noise level, at which point city planner Bob Summerville informed him that the storage will be a noise buffer from the trains, which are nearby.

Recently the city voted not to increase building impact fees. This project is estimated to generate approximately \$820,160 of city revenue. Stormwater drainage will be managed by the project and fees per unit will be paid to the city.

The existing wastewater system would have more capacity that could handle up to 2,600 persons at its highest range, according to the city officials.

The city officials reported that the proposed project shows a less than significant impact to the wastewater treatment facilities and the project will generate funds for the city. Biggs Vice-Mayor Chuck Nuchols closed public comment and adjourned the meeting until next month.

# Orchard Hospital

## MEDICAL SPECIALTY Centers

Our Medical Specialty Centers offer quality healthcare close to home. As leading health care centers, we prioritize the well-being of our patients and strive to provide exceptional medical services.

284 Spruce Street  
Gridley, CA 95948  
(530) 846-9080

Experience a new level of healthcare excellence at our Medical Specialty Centers. Our bilingual providers are fluent in Spanish and Punjabi, coupled with comprehensive translation services, flexible hours, same-day appointments, and a commitment to your family's health, ensures your well being is our priority.

2990 Oro Dam Blvd. E  
Oroville, CA 95966  
(530) 353-3332

### WALK-INS WELCOME!

- Respiratory Infections ✓
- Fever or flu-like symptoms ✓
- Cough, colds, and sore throats ✓
- Sprains and strains ✓

### ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

- Primary care visit ✓
- Preventive health ✓
- Referrals to specialists ✓
- Women's wellness visit ✓

[www.orchardhospital.com](http://www.orchardhospital.com)

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