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Youth Football
Playoff Bound!

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THE GRIDLEY HERALD

PROUDLY SERVING OUR AREA SINCE 1879



FRIDAY • OCTOBER 25, 2024 • VOL. 144 NO. 43

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DOMINATE TIGERS



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Marches to Victory!

Gridley Marching Bands Revival Results in Winning Performances



The Gridley High School Band stands at the parade's start.

Story by Seti Long, photos by
Joanie Grover

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - After years of not seeing Gridley's musicians riding down parade routes on the back of flatbed trucks, Gridley Unified School District Band, Music Technology and piano teacher Ethan Jacobsen has resurrected the marching bands.

Both Sycamore Middle School and Gridley High School bands have started rebuilding the program and putting in the difficult work, practicing formations and memorizing music. As a result, Gridley residents saw both marching bands march the Red Suspenders Day Parade route earlier this year in full uniform.

The Gridley High School Band



The Gridley High School Band took second-place at the Del Oro Band Review.

has taken it one step further and has begun competing in area marching band competitions and parades.

To prepare for the marching season, music director Jacobsen said that

the Gridley High School Band held a five-day Band Camp during the summer where they learned the "Host of Freedom" march by Karl L. King.

Continued on page 11

You Still
Have the
Opportunity
to Register
and Vote

California Secretary
of State News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., reminds Californians who missed the Oct. 21 deadline to register to vote or update their voter registration for the Nov. 5, 2024, General Election, that they can participate in "Same Day" voter registration and cast a ballot by visiting their county elections office or any vote center or polling place in their county of residence.

"If you missed the traditional voter registration deadline, you still have an opportunity to cast a ballot," Secretary of State Weber said. "You don't have to wait for Election Day! To minimize wait times, I encourage Californians who need "Same Day" voter registration to visit an early voting location or their county elections office before Election Day to ensure their voices are heard."

Eligible citizens who missed the Oct. 21 deadline have the option to participate in the "Same Day" voter registration process at their local county elections office or any in-person voting location in their county. Californians who participate in same day registration will be asked to fill out a voter registration form and be provided a ballot. These ballots will be counted once the county elections office has completed the voter registration verification process.

Voters can complete the "Same Day" voter registration process all the way through Election Day on Nov. 5, 2024. Questions about the same day voter registration process should be directed to their county elections office.

For a list of early voting locations by county where voters can complete the "Same-Day" voter registration process, visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov.

Voters who are unsure of their voter registration status can quickly check it online at: voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

Active registered voters can track their ballot by signing up at: wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov to receive automatic text, email, or voice status alerts, including that their ballot has been received, counted, or needs to be corrected before their ballot can be counted. ★

WE SUPPORT
OUR MILITARY

Biggs United Methodist Church Turns 150

Story and photos
by Connie Voss

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - Approximately 100 church members and community members turned out for the 150th anniversary celebration of the Biggs United Methodist Church on Saturday, Oct. 19.

The afternoon began with tours through the main church, and the newer education building. Historical documents and newspaper clippings were displayed on tables.

The church was built with locally-made bricks and then later covered with siding for weatherization. Early on, it was discovered that the building was quite cold in the winter months. For a time, the congregants met at the Baptist church until a coal burning stove was placed in the parlor.

The education building houses the Food and Commodities distribution rooms for the benefit of those in need. Distributions happen twice a month, on the second and fourth Tuesdays, under Dorothea Hodges' direction. There is also a room for an Alcoholics Anonymous group that meets there.

Pastor Martha Waterman was the first speaker. She commended the present membership for the faith, nurturing, and caring for others that have touched countless lives through the light of Christ. She continued by honoring the legacy of those who laid the foundation that the church



Pictured here is Biggs United Methodist Church as it stands today.

continues to stand on today. The pastor concluded by offering a prayer of gratitude for 150 years of worship and hope for many more to come.

Former Pastor David Brick spoke next. He reminisced about his nine years of being pastor there. He was noted for preaching in a Hawaiian

shirt, a practice that caught on among the church membership. Brick spoke fondly of his time with the youth group.

County Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue spoke of the church as a testament to those who built it and to the

Continued on page 3

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

The following is adapted from a talk delivered on July 23, 2024, at Hillsdale College’s Blake Center for Faith and Freedom and printed in Imprimis: In March of this year, Bryan Malinowski, the executive director of the Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport in Little Rock, Arkansas, was killed by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) during a pre-dawn raid of his home. It was an unwarranted and indefensible killing of a kind that should never, ever happen in a free country like the United States. Because we have a media that no longer serves in its traditional role as a government watchdog, this incident was not widely reported. Because too many members of Congress no longer take seriously their responsibility to protect the rights of those who elect them, the ATF has suffered no repercussions. How and why did this killing take place? Bryan Malinowski grew up as an avid collector of coins and, more recently, firearms. He took to displaying his coin and firearm collections at gun shows, where he would occasionally purchase and sell firearms. Under federal law, it is perfectly legal to buy and sell firearms as a collector or hobbyist, even without a Federal Firearms License (FFL). An individual doesn’t need to obtain an FFL unless he is “engaged in the business” of selling firearms. Congress has defined “engaged in the

business” to apply to those who deal in firearms “as a regular course of trade or business with the principal objective of livelihood and profit” as opposed to those who make “occasional sales, exchanges, or purchases of firearms for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby.” Malinowski already had a livelihood—indeed, as the executive director of the airport, he was one of the highest paid city employees in Little Rock. Buying or selling firearms was something he did in his spare time. So it makes sense that he did not see the need to obtain a license. At some point, however, the ATF came to the view that Malinowski had crossed over the nebulous line from hobbyist to “engaged in the business” and that he therefore did need to obtain an FFL. But the ATF didn’t do the obvious thing and contact Malinowski. Here is what we know happened instead. Multiple undercover ATF agents were sent to observe Malinowski selling firearms at a gun show, a GPS tracker was secretly placed on Malinowski’s car, and a search warrant was obtained for his home. Malinowski wasn’t home the first time ATF agents showed up to serve the warrant, so the second time they left nothing to chance. Dressed in SWAT gear, together with Little Rock police, they showed up in ten vehicles at Malinowski’s house before dawn on March 19. They cut the power to his house and put a piece of tape over the doorbell camera so that Malinowski couldn’t see who they were. Less than a minute later, after an exchange of gunfire, Malinowski was dead. And in violation of both ATF and Little Rock police policies requiring body cameras, not one of the law enforcement agents involved in this deadly raid was wearing an activated

camera. What happened to Bryan Malinowski is not an isolated incident. It is part of a growing pattern of KGB-style behavior by U.S. federal law enforcement agencies. Let me mention briefly just a few Other cases could be cited—including the FBI’s unprecedented raid on President Trump’s home in Palm Beach, Florida, in which the use of “deadly force” was authorized—but the point is clear enough. Such actions by federal law enforcement agencies go far beyond what is justified by law and custom in America. The agencies involved respond to criticism by saying that their actions are “by the book.” But this lie, parroted by corporate media, is preposterous on its face. If such a book exists, it represents a radical departure from the historical constraints of constitutional authority and the idea of equality before the law. The flip side of the increasingly thuggish character of these agencies is their diminished effectiveness in fulfilling their core missions, to the point that the American public cannot help but notice. So how do we regain control over the ATF and other federal law enforcement agencies? It is not going to happen through congressional hearings that provide a forum for political showboating and partisan posturing and that go nowhere. We the American people must demand that Congress, on our behalf, either reassert its authority over these agencies in a way to make it stick or else abolish the agencies and start anew. If we don’t, Bryan Malinowski will have died in vain, and the rest of us, as if we are no longer Americans, will be looking over our shoulders. *** Hillsdale offers Imprimis free of charge to anyone who requests it at imprimis.hillsdale.edu. ★

Manzanita Students of the Month Recognized



Manzanita Elementary School's Students of the Month. Photo courtesy of Shelly Cahoon

By Shelly Cahoon, Manzanita Elementary School

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Congratulations to the following students on being chosen as Manzanita Elementary School's Students of the Month for the month of September. They have been recognized by their teachers and principal as students who demonstrate Active Listening, do their best and are great role models for our school. On the front row from left are Julieta Anguiano, Evelyn Romo and Kaylen Black. In the middle row from left are Christopher Infante Martinez, James Hartfield, Lucas Rader, Luis Alejo, Aquiles Canales Martinez, Brooklyn Wilkins and Heath Ogino. In the back row from left are Cali Topete, Evan Barrett, Felanie Lewis, Boss Davis, Mateo Candelario, Elora Driver and Superintendent/Principal Joe Lodigiani. ★

Halloween Community Calendar

By MPG Staff

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Spooky season is here, and the Gridley area offers plenty of family-friendly events to celebrate Halloween in a plethora of ways. Happy Halloween!

Gridley
Oct. 26
The Harvest Festival will take place at Christian Life Assembly from 6 to 8 p.m. Candy, games and a costume contest. Free admission.
Oct. 28, Oct. 29, Oct. 31
White Web’s Haunted House, 1653 Ban Drive, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Oct. 30
The Gridley Library will show “Trick or Treat Scooby Doo” movie at 2 p.m.
GHS Trunk or Treat Loop in front of Gridley High School, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Free candy.
Oct. 31
Gridley Christian Church Trunk or Treat at 5 p.m.
Sacred Heart Catholic Church Vigil Mass, 6 p.m. dinner, All Saints costume contest.
First Baptist Church Trunk or Treat at 5:30 p.m. Free hot dogs and candy

Biggs
Oct. 31
Trunk or Treat Downtown Biggs, cars show up by 5 p.m., event time is 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Oroville
Oct. 27
Riverbend Park 2 p.m. VFW Post 1747 Trunk or Treat (BC B Cornhole Nor Cal), 1901 Elgin St., 6 to 8 p.m.
Oct. 31
Prestige Assisted Living Trunk or Treat, 400 Executive Pkwy, 3 to 5 p.m. Free. ★

Happy Halloween!



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Holly Woods Fundraiser

Why Are We Having This Fundraiser?



We’re having a fundraiser to support Holly Woods family after she was Diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS). Half the raffle money goes to the winner and the other half goes to Holly’s family to go towards bills and general needs. If there are any questions call or message Julie Hilborn.

We Have:

- Tri-Tip Dinners • Desserts • Silent Auctions
- 50/50 Raffles • Raffle Baskets

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. October 25 at:
1533 CA-99, Gridley, CA 95948

Contact Julie
(530) 845-4269

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-holly-woods-in-her-medical-crisis>

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Gridley High School Class of '59



Pictured on front row (left to right): Arnie Stewart, Joanie (Adams) Casillas, Peggy (Haller) Neves, Rodger Biggs, Shirley (Maurer) Stenzel. Back row (left to right): Nancy (Justice) Wright, Don Segur, Mike Dahl, Howard Hamman, Leon Longacre, Gary Carlin, Barbara (Earl) McPherson, Frank Stenzel, George Dockery and Don Bell. Photo courtesy of Mike Dahl

By Mike Dahl

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Gridley High School (GHS) Class of 1959 did it again!

On Saturday, Sept. 21, the mighty Class of '59 celebrated their sixty-fifth class reunion. A great banquet was served, at the Feather Falls Casino, to the 40 guests in attendance.

The class has always placed a premium on relationships. Friends spent the evening walking down memory lane as they reminisced the past and embellished some highlights of their school days together.

They also memorialized 52 of their 85 classmates who have passed since

graduation, with their names and attached photos.

The following morning, on Sept. 22, the reunited classmates said goodbye once again, at a group breakfast. All in attendance agreed, that being together for another reunion had been wonderful.

Plans are in the works for a group cruise in Fall 2024, with 23 classmates planning to have a bon voyage. This will be their sixth cruise together and will travel from Mexico to Alaska.

The GHS Class of '59 alumni figured this would be their last reunion but promised to meet together for breakfast or lunch locally, every six months or so. ★

Biggs United Methodist Church Turns 150

Continued from page 1

members today for the work they do in the community. Kimmelshue has assisted with the distribution of commodities on occasion. He spoke highly of that and the many other services to the community that the church members provide. Kimmelshue ended by presenting a commemorative certificate to Pastor Martha.

After the program, attendees were invited to the sanctuary for a presentation by Peggy Hutsell on the history of the church. The 51 original members hailed from Ophir, Palermo, Gridley and Biggs. In 1874, they held their first quarterly conference and appointed H.R. Land as pastor. He was a circuit rider with five churches, so the congregation only met once a month in the beginning.

To have their own building, several lots were purchased and later sold, until the best location was found. The cornerstone was laid on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 18, 1888.

The building cost \$3,000, and the women raised the money. Bake sales and potlucks were held frequently, both for the original building as well as for repairing fire damage that occurred in 1928.

The Getty Hall was added to the building in 1940 to 1943 by Reverend Donald Getty and the education building was brought over from Beale Air Force Base in 1963.

In 1980, the women's auxiliary group was named S.M.I.L.E. for "Sisters Methodist in Loving Endeavors." The women meet once a month for



Pastor Martha Waterman receives a certificate of recognition from County Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue.



Robin Solansky buries the time capsule in the churchyard.



Food and commodities are distributed twice a month.

games, fellowship and projects.

Once the history presentation was complete, the group sang several old familiar hymns and then had a luncheon in the Getty Hall.

To conclude the event, a time capsule was buried in the churchyard. There was some discussion about a time capsule that was buried 50 years ago but no one seemed to know exactly where it was. ★



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OCT 26th

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Manzanita Booster's Drive-Thru Dinner

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ALL DINNER TICKETS PRESOLD



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OCTOBER 26TH: 4PM-6PM



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Date: Tuesdays, November 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024 | **Time:** 8:30am – 10:30am

Cost: Free | **Location:** Butte College SBDC, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico

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Date: Tuesdays, December 3, 10, & 17, 2024 | **Time:** 8:30am – 11:30am

Cost: Free | **Location:** Butte College SBDC, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico

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Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 | **Time:** 9:00am - 5:00pm

Cost: \$120 per person (includes book); \$80 per person (book not included)

Location: Butte College SBDC, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico

To Register for Trainings: CALL: (530) 895-9017

or REGISTER HERE: <https://www.buttecollegesbdc.com/events/>



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MEMORIAL

LEANNE SONIA CARNE • 6/8/1931 - 10/14/2024

93 Wonderful years. She will be missed...

With great sadness we announce our mother, “Leanne Sonia Carne,” passed away October 14, 2024 at 93 years she took her final breath surrounded by, her children; Jennifer, Jeffery & Stephen.

June 8, 1931 in Tacoma Park, Maryland, the world became a brighter place. Leanne lived a full life, filled with love, happiness & joy. Leanne will forever be missed. She was preceded in death by, her husband of 46 years, Fred K. Carne. Leanne is survived by, her

Macey, Heidi Macey, Stephanie Hanses, Nicole Pazmany, Jessica Thorton, Kyle Macey, Robbie Carney, Kelly Carnie & Miya Massey. She from their love has 19 great grandchildren & 4 great-great grandchildren.

Services will be held at Gridley/Biggs cemetery, October 28, 2024, at 12pm in the gazebo

The family invites you after to the Round Table Pizza, hwy 99, Gridley after the services...

Arrangements entrusted to Gridley-Block Funeral home.

loving children; 2 daughters; Jennifer sharpe (John) & Sheryl Carney (Robert). 3 Sons; Jeffery Macey, Stephen Macey (Julie), & Russell Carne. She had 11 grandchildren; Ronnie Owen, Daniel Prock, Eric

MoneyManagementRadio.com

((BECAUSE MONEY MATTERS!))

Marc Cuniberti hosts “Money Matters” on KVMR 89.5 FM Thursdays at Noon. Visit his website at www.moneymanagementradio.com

The Travesty of Fund Raising

With the arrival of Hurricane Helene, the advertisements petitioning for public donations pepper the news outlets.

When similar disasters befall our nation and indeed the world, as far back as I can remember the public is sought after to donate money to help those affected by the catastrophe.

Not to sound callous but I find myself reacting negatively to such fund raising programs. Not because I’m a cold unfeeling person. Lord knows, as well as many living in Nevada County, my pet peeve toward lifting others up comes in the form of my matching food bank programs called Turkey Matters in which I run several times a year.

Not to stroll too far off topic but my latest fundraiser to address food insecurity is the annual Turkey Matters matching program at Interfaith Food Ministries in Grass Valley where we buy holiday dinners with fixings and I match your donation with my own money. The program runs through Thanksgiving and you can donate by contacting Interfaith Food Ministries at (530) 273-8132.

Most agree we are constantly bombarded to donate our hard earned money to the latest catastrophe or war rescue effort. Considering the billions the governments of the world toss into the bailouts of financial institutions and add to that the willy-nilly spending on every this, that and the other thing, you have to wonder why ask us little people for our money when many of us are starving ourselves.

I continually receive those preprinted return address labels by the truck load looking for a few dollars for war veterans. The Wounded Warrior Project is another organization looking for money to help our war veterans. The flyers for address labels ask for just a few dollars if that, and the Wounded Warrior Project will send you one of their blankets for a mere \$19 a month. Add in fundraisers for the homeless, distressed pets, crumbling schools and what have you, and the extended hands looking to be filled are never-ending.

Now you might ask why in the world would you and I be a bit perturbed at such seemingly worthwhile fund raising endeavors?

Well let’s see.

How about the multi-hundred billion dollar chips act that Washington just doled out to for-profit semi-conductor companies to incentivize these already cash rich companies to make computer chips here in the U.S.?

The stocks of many of these companies have gone ballistic in the last two years and the CEOs of some of these companies are some of the highest paid

executives in the world, many of them having a net worth of many tens of billions.

And how about the 44 billion already spend of your tax dollars going to fight the war in Ukraine which some argue is an unwinnable war?

The infamous bailouts to the banking conglomerates over many decades totals well into the multi trillions. The Federal Reserve’s ongoing Quantitative Easing and FOMO programs are yet another direct money spigot into the financial system. Many more programs are shuttling unimaginable amounts to insurance companies, hedge funds, troubled brokerage houses, foreign entities, foreign countries, foreign banking systems and other financial entities that you will never know of. There seems to be no shortage of funds where our largest institutions are concerned.

Then I open my mail and a veteran organization asks me for a five dollar bill to help them provide for those that served our country, or perhaps a soldier needs a new prosthetic or a hospital or school that doesn’t have paint peeling off its walls.

I could go on with more sickening examples as you probably could and in the midst of writing this article they’re hitting me up again to help those impacted by the recent hurricanes.

What a travesty.

Washington has for decades, and continues to throw billions of dollars out secret windows to God knows who and for God knows what, while many worthwhile programs supporting our own citizens go begging.

Meanwhile the “ultra-connected” throughout the country and indeed the world get billions at the drop of a hat while the programs that support our citizens on the Main Street go scrounging for nickels and dimes wherever they can find them.

And in the midst of all of it, the putrid odor of government audacity permeates my olfactory senses.

Am I the only one in the room who smells the stink of the whole thing?

“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 ★

MEMORIAL

SANDRA LOUISE GROFF BOEGER • 11/11/1942 - 10/10/2024

Sandra Louise Groff Boeger, known to friends and family as Sandi, passed away suddenly on October 10 with close family present. Sandi was born in Long Beach, California on November 11, 1942, the daughter of Lois and Paul Groff. Sandi is survived by her beloved husband and best friend, Michael. They were high school sweethearts and married in January of 1965 in Yuba City. She is also survived by her son Jeffrey Boeger (Pat) of Humboldt, Tennessee, daughter Monica Boeger Terry (Frank) of Gridley, daughter Katherine Boeger Knight of Gridley, grandchildren Michael Terry (Amanda), Dylan Terry, Amethyst Boeger Knight, and sister Linda Haines (Simon) of Sacramento.

Sandi, always an excellent student, graduated from Gridley High School in 1960 as valedictorian. She then attended the University of La Verne, where she graduated in 1964 with honors. She later completed her master's degree in English at Chico State, focusing on British drama. Education was very important to her, and Sandi taught reading in the Biggs school district for five years.

A woman of many talents, contributing to the community was always important to Sandi. She

regarding movies, which she loved. Spending time with family at Lake Tahoe and annual month-long trips to San Diego with Mike to celebrate their anniversary, were always highlights. Cruising and trips to Europe were wonderful, and she especially enjoyed her three-week trip to England in 1977 with a UC Berkeley tour group focusing on Contemporary British Drama.

Sandi’s legacy is one of love, devotion to family, generosity, compassion, and service. Sandi was greatly loved and cherished and will be sorely missed by many.

Given her devotion to literacy and love for her alma mater, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Sandra’s name to the address below. Program Donation Funds will go to support teachers to get training and children who need direct literacy support.

Dyslexia Teacher Training Program Donation, c/o Eron Jacobson, University of La Verne, 1950 3rd Street, La Verne, CA, 91750 (<https://education.laverne.edu/neurodiversity/support/>)

A Memorial Celebration of Life will be held at the Live Oak Church of the Brethren on Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

The Chaplain’s Day Off

BY NORRIS BURKES

Long before the 1986 movie *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, I too imagined a day off work of fun and frivolity.

After all, who hasn’t feigned illness to take a day off from work?

This was my self-justifying question as I called the Baylor University Bookstore one Friday morning in the fall of 1978. When my manager picked up the line, I winked knowingly at my new girlfriend sitting beside me.

“I’m not feeling well today.” Cough, cough. “I can’t come in until Monday.” “Then you’re fired!” he said.

I wasn’t expecting the finality in his answer. I could hear a pulse in my ears.

“Don’t come back,” he added before slamming down the phone receiver.

My face flushed and my eyes suddenly felt overhydrated. I was having a grief reaction, anticipating the loss of the prestige I’d enjoyed interacting with university professors and freshman co-eds.

How had I miscalculated this scenario? Was my boss aware of the love-struck hormonal illness with which I was afflicted? How would I afford to take my girlfriend to the back-to-school dance?

I had to make this right for many reasons. The bookstore was the center of university life and I didn’t want to be dodging my boss for the next year. I needed to apologize.

How does one apologize for such bald-faced lying?

First, it’s always good to allow a cool-down period. I waited a few weeks for the back-to-school rush to end and called for an appointment.

Once inside the manager’s office, I kept it simple. I admitted that I hadn’t been sick. Plain and guileless. “I’m

sorry for lying.”

I didn’t excuse my action or bring my girlfriend into the picture.

Second, I expressed understanding for his situation. I admitted that I abandoned my colleagues, causing them to be short-handed at his busiest time of the year.

Third, I asked for forgiveness. He granted that.

Finally, I think I surprised him when I asked his help to clarify the lessons I needed to learn.

That question brought his deepest thought.

“Who is it you want to be?” he asked.

“Pardon me?”

“Well, I know you’re a ministerial student, so I know WHAT you want to be. But beyond that, WHO do you want be?”

I thought I got his drift, but I wasn’t entirely sure.

“I think above all,” he said, “you want to be a person who people trust. I think you want to be a person who keeps his word.”

“I see three lessons,” he continued.

“First, don’t lie. Lying demonstrates that you don’t believe you’re capable of being who you want to be. Don’t sell yourself short. I know you are capable of being who you want to be.”

“Second, if I’m not mistaken, Jesus said, “Let your yes be yes, and your no, no. Whatever is more than these is from the evil one.”

In other words, my ex-boss was telling me to be sure of what I want before I commit to something. And when I do commit, I should keep my word.

“Third.” He cleared his throat, trying to remember his third point.

He gave up on that. “Just remember those two for now. Don’t lie and keep your word.”

The bookstore manager was OK in my book – even if he didn’t give me my old job back.

Fortunately, he gave me a good reference to a better-paying job as a night watchman in a local bank. Good thing too. I could afford to take the girl to the dance.

Unfortunately, since I can’t dance, she broke up with me.

Happily, I met and married my wife Becky a few years after that. But that’s a story for another day. ★

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Calderon, Fowler Visit Sister City Comala, Mexico



In the center are Comala Municipal President Santana and Councilmember J. Angel Calderon flanked by Comala Municipal President C. Felipe de Jesus Michel Santana's staff. Courtesy photo

By **Connie Voss**

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Acting as the sister city liaison, Councilmember J. Angel Calderon and Fire Chief Chip Fowler recently traveled to Gridley's sister city, Comala, Mexico. Calderon was the guest speaker at the Gridley Rotary Club on Oct. 17. Comala is located in the state of Colima, about 31 miles from the Mexican west coast. Calderon and Fowler spent four days interacting with the people and enjoying the sights and sounds of the "Pueblo Magico" (Magic Town), a designation earned from the Mexican government for towns that offer "cultural richness, historical relevance, cuisine, art, crafts and great hospitality." The Sister City Agreement was signed by Mayor Mike Farr and Comala Municipal

President C. Felipe de Jesus Michel Santana in August. When they arrived, Calderon and Fowler were given a police escort and were impressed that it was very peaceful in Comala, according to Calderon. This has been an outcome of establishing the Mexican National Guard in 2019, not only in Comala but elsewhere in Mexico as well, according to Calderon. In addition, Comala has no homeless residents, according to Calderon, who also indicated that a Gang Affiliation Prevention Program has eliminated drugs and gangs there. The trip itinerary included visiting a coffee farm and a bakery. Coffee is one of the primary crops of Comala, along with corn and sugarcane. Coincidentally, the Mexican Independence

Day celebration took place on Sept. 15 while they were there. The Cathedral of Michael the Archangel and the government palace were patriotically lit up with the colors of the Mexican flag: green, white and red. The celebration included "El Grito," or the cry for freedom, and the ringing of the town bell, traditions since independence was won in 1810. A brainstorming session was held with local officials. Several areas of collaboration were discussed such as culture, education and commerce. However, agriculture was the primary focus since Gridley and Comala are both agricultural. Almost half of the population in Comala is employed in agriculture. Fowler visited the Comala fire department and offered some suggestions for improving it. ★

Investing In the Sacramento River Valley



Twenty-five million dollars is being invested for fish habitat and facility improvements in the Sacramento River Valley. Photo courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation

Bureau of Reclamation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Bureau of Reclamation on Oct. 17 announced the availability of \$25 million from the Inflation Reduction Act for fish habitat and facility improvements in the Sacramento River Valley. This funding will complement the State of California's Healthy Rivers and Landscapes program, which is working to increase river flows, restore ecosystems and strengthen water supply reliability across the state. The rivers of the central valley support populations of fall-run Chinook, spring-run Chinook, winter-run Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Due to water resources development, stream channel changes and other recent actions, historical salmon habitats have been reduced and modified. To address these challenges, President Biden's Investing in America agenda and America the Beautiful Challenge are helping to restore the river and safeguard species in the Sacramento River Valley, including through \$2 million to support the removal of the Sunset Weir in Feather River and \$1.5 million for floodplain and tidal wetland restoration in the Yolo Bypass of the Sacramento River. Today's investments will further advance landscape-level restoration work along the river, safeguarding species and strengthening local water supplies. "This investment from the Inflation

Reduction Act will help central valley communities, private organizations and tribes collaborate to improve fish habitat and facilities that support fish populations," said Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. "These projects are also expected to contribute to the work and partnership we have with the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors and the State of California to increase river flows and strengthen water supply reliability." This funding also builds upon an \$81 million investment announced in May for water conservation and drought resilience south of Sacramento in the San Joaquin Valley. The Inflation Reduction Act includes an overall \$550 million for domestic water supply projects and \$4 billion for water conservation and ecosystem projects in the Colorado River Basin and other areas experiencing similar levels of long-term drought. To date, Reclamation has announced 222 drought mitigation and 16 domestic water supply projects from Inflation Reduction Act funding for a total of more than \$2.5 billion. More information on this funding opportunity will be posted at Grants.gov and Reclamation's Inflation Reduction Act webpage. Applicants must demonstrate an effort to mitigate impacts of drought in the Sacramento Valley while providing measurable benefits to the fish habitat like creating new side channels for improved reproduction habitat or creating passage to and from disconnected habitats. ★

B-LINE IS YOUR SYSTEM!

WHERE DO YOU NEED TO GO?

Butte County Association of Governments operates B-Line and is requesting comments from the community on unmet transit needs. Members of the public are invited to submit comments via mail, email, phone, online, Zoom or in person at our public hearing.

For consideration in the 2025/26 Transit Needs Assessment, comments need to be received by:

5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 12, 2024

All comments received are given equal consideration.



Submit comments via the following:

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- Email** → vproctor@bcag.org
- Phone** → (530) 809-4616, ex. 1
- Online** → Go to the following page: www.blinetransit.com/Contact-B-Line/Comment-Form/ Type "UTN" as the subject.
- In Person** → Public Hearing at BCAG Board Meeting
- Date:** Thursday, December 12, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
- Location:** BCAG Board Room / Online
- Go to:** www.bcag.org/About-BCAG/Board-of-Directors/ Zoom link available December 1, 2024.

¡B-LINE ES TU SISTEMA! ¿DONDE TIENES QUE IR?

La Asociación de Gobiernos del Condado de Butte (BCAG) está solicitando comentarios del público sobre las necesidades de tránsito no satisfechas. Los miembros del público están invitados a enviar comentarios por correo, correo electrónico, teléfono, Internet o a través de Zoom en nuestra audiencia pública. Todos los testimonios recibidos serán considerados por igual. Para ser considerados en la Evaluación de Necesidades de Tránsito 2025/26, los comentarios deben ser recibidos antes del:

5:00 p.m., jueves, 12 de diciembre de 2024

Si desea comentar las necesidades de B-Line, pero no habla Inglés, por favor envíelas por correo o por correo electrónico a BCAG, y se traducirán para su consideración.

Yog koj xav tham txog kev pab los ntawm B-Line, tab sis hais tsi tau lus Askiv, thov hu lossis xa email rau BCAG, cov lus ntawd mam txhais ua lus Askiv.

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5:00 p.m., Hnub Thursday, Kaum Ob Hlis 12, 2024



Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Preseason games don't matter. No one cares about preseason games. Preseason games are just about getting the players in shape. Coaches and fans don't care about wins and losses in preseason games.

Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!

The truth is losing matters, and unfortunately it creates a tone and can be contagious.

Preseason games show teams what they have, and winning creates positive habits that more often and not carry over into the regular season.

So, if I'm right, what do Kings fans make of a zero-win preseason record?

You should be concerned, but not worried. There's a difference, so don't wring your hands just yet.

The good news is the Kings starters overall looked pretty good. In the first two preseason games against the Golden State Warriors, the Kings starters played the Warriors to a standstill for the first half of both games.

The starters did not participate in the second half of either game, and the Kings were forced to take a long look at their bench strength.

I'm not certain how deep coach Brown intends to go as it relates to bench players, but my guess with the recent signing of Doug McDermott, he will probably play 10 or even 11 players.

What we know is that due to injuries to Trey Lyles and Kevin Huerter, the Kings have yet to see a true picture of what their regular season bench will look like.

Both Lyles and Huerter are experienced NBA players, and both can have an immediate impact when they enter a game. Both are good passers, can drive effectively to the hoop and have a better than average three-point game.

What we also know is that Malik Monk is likely to be the first player off the bench, so when Lyles and Huerter return, we can see with some certainty who the first three off the bench will undoubtedly be.

Although in a pinch Lyles can play the five, it is more likely that veteran Alex Len will be called on to give Domantas Sabonis a blow every game, and at times

in the preseason Len has been a bright spot. I have long believed that Len may have another level to his game, and I'm hopeful that if he sees consistent playing time, his game will demonstrate the kind of NBA confidence the Kings have longed for. Seven footers with skills are in short supply, so giving Len every opportunity to shine just makes lots of sense. At age 31 Len is still in his prime, and with every season he brings much needed veteran experience to the lineup and represents a rim protector when Sabonis is off the floor.

So, with Huerter, Lyles, Monk, and Len coach Brown is nine deep, so who do the Kings have that could also make a contribution?

I would hope that the signing of Doug McDermott is not just ceremonial, so this veteran sharpshooter should be seeing 10 to 15 minutes nightly.

If last season proved anything to me it was that coach Brown is anything but predictable as it relates to his bench rotation, and I believe his frenetic experiments last year were a contributor to the Kings missing the first round of the playoffs.

Settling into a bench rotation builds confidence in players and gives the team an opportunity to gel. I'm crossing my fingers that any experiments have concluded in the preseason, and the regular season will bring a level on continuity that was missing last year.

Do I think the preseason matters? Of course I do. But I also know the Sacramento Kings have yet to lose a game *in the regular season, and I believe in the players we have.*

I hope you will all join me in applauding our gladiators as they step on the hardwood for the first time on Thursday night (Oct. 24) and open the regular season against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

The NBA schedulers did the Kings no favors as they will face the number one ranked defensive team in the NBA, but I say bring them on.

Put a smile on your faces Kings fans, and let's celebrate on Thursday night!

Your thoughts are always welcome at
vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com. ★

Record Uncertainty Hanging Over Nation's Main Streets

National Federation of Independent Business News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A double dose of bad news sprung from the latest Optimism Index released by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). The Index showed a 33rd consecutive month below its 50-year average but its uncertainty component raised more than a few eyebrows, rising 11 points to 103.

"Small business owners are desperate to cling to any good news they can and finding nothing to grasp," said John Kabateck, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business in California. "I give equal blame to Congress for dragging its feet on making the Small Business Deduction permanent, and to California for – where to start? – passing new laws curbing the free-speech rights of employers, imposing new requirements on independent contractors, adding new unlawful employment practices, knitting a crazy quilt of minimum-wage laws, and requiring workplace violence prevention plans from every employer no matter the need, time required or paperwork involved. Have the time? I have more. Hopefully, things have gotten so rock bottom with small business and

working families that it will motivate voters to make positive changes at the ballot box this November."

"Small business owners are feeling more uncertain than ever. Uncertainty makes owners hesitant to invest in capital spending and inventory, especially as inflation and financing costs continue to put pressure on their bottom lines," said the National Federation of Independent Business Chief Economist Bill Dunkelberg.

The average rate paid on short maturity loans was 10.1%, up 0.6 of a point from August. The last time it was this high was February 2001.

Thirty-four percent (seasonally adjusted) of owners reported job openings they could not fill in the current period, down six points from August.

Seasonally adjusted, a net 32% reported raising compensation, down one point from August and remaining the lowest reading since April 2021.

Twenty-three percent of owners reported that inflation was their single most important problem in operating their business (higher input and labor costs), down one point from August but remaining the top issue. ★



Riley Reviews

HALLOWEEN PROGRAMS ON TV FOR FRIGHT, THRILLS, CHILLS AND FUN

A Film and TV Review by Tim Riley

Halloween programming offers cable and streaming services an opportunity to load up the month of October with a plethora of thrills and chills. While Peak Screaming at Paramount+ and AMC Networks' "FearFest" deliver in a big way, there's much to absorb even with other platforms.

Maybe not in the same league, FX Network is not to be left out as its "American Horror Stories," co-created by horror genre maven Ryan Murphy, has its own "Huluween" five-episode event which will run on Hulu.

"American Horror Stories" is a spin-off of Murphy's and Brad Falchuk's award-winning hit anthology series "American Horror Story," where the differentiation is that the derivative series features a different horror story each episode.

Leading up to Halloween is the sixth season debut of FX's "What We Do in the Shadows," a popular comedic series that documents the nightly exploits of vampire roommates.

Nandor (Kayvan Novak), Laszlo (Matt Berry), Nadja (Natasia Demetriou) and Colin Robinson (Mark Proksch) navigate the modern world of Staten Island with the help of human friend Guillermo (Harvey Guillen) as well as the vampire bureaucrat, The Guide (Kirsten Schaal).

The vampires are reconsidering their lives when a former roommate reappears after a 50-year nap, and realize they've accomplished little in a half-century. This could be a show to watch if you prefer laughs to frights.

AMC's "FearFest," the long-running annual horror and genre event features over 700 hours of iconic horror films, new series, specials and more. Anyone watching all 700 hours might just become a certifiable couch potato.

Artist, musician and horror enthusiast Janell Monae, as the official host of "FearFest," has curated a list of her favorite horror films to stream, which include "An American Werewolf in London," "The Fly," Killer Klowns From Outer Space," and "Carrie."

AMC's "The Walking Dead" is a familiar franchise, and now a highlight for "FearFest" is the original series "The Walking Dead: Daryl Dixon – The Book of Carol," picking up where season one left off.

Daryl Dixon (Norman Reedus) and Carol Peletier (Melissa McBride) confront old demons while she fights to find her friend and he struggles with his decision to stay in France, which apparently has some ramifications for the future of this European nation.

Within the AMC universe, Shudder presents the original series "Horror's Greatest," a deep dive into everything we love about horror. From fresh looks at classics to unearthing scores of hidden gems, this series has something for every fright film

enthusiast.

What are the must-see films in horror's many sub-genres? What's the appeal of horror tropes, and how do today's filmmakers subvert our expectations? What shape does horror takes in countries outside of our own? "Horror's Greatest" is looking for answers.

Shudder original film "Daddy's Head" finds a young boy left in eerie solitude of a sprawling country estate with his newly widowed stepmother. The stepmother grows distant, and amidst growing family tension the boy begins to hear unsettling sounds echoing through corridors.

The boy becomes haunted by the presence of a grotesque creature bearing a disturbingly familiar resemblance to his late father. But as the boy's warnings are dismissed as the imagination of a grieving child, the sinister entity tightens its grip On their crumbling lives.

To this day, writer, director, and actor Roman Polanski remains a fugitive from our justice system, but he's the undeniable creative force behind great films like "Chinatown" and "Rosemary's Baby," the latter a classic psychological horror film.

Paramount+ has an all-new thriller film in "Apartment 7A," which is set in 1965 New York City to tell the story prior to the legendary "Rosemary's Baby," exploring what happened in the infamous Bramford building before Rosemary (Mia Farrow) moved in.

An ambitious young dancer Terry (Julia Garner) dreams of fame and fortune in the Big Apple, but after suffering a devastating injury, an older, wealthy couple (Dianne Wiest and Kevin McNally) welcomes her into their home in the luxury Bramford apartment building.


When a fellow resident and influential Broadway producer (Jim Sturgess) offers her another chance at fame, it seems that all her dreams are finally coming true.

However, after an evening she can't fully remember, disturbing circumstances soon have her second-guessing the sacrifices she's willing to make for her career as she realizes that something evil is living not only in Apartment 7A but in the Bramford itself.

In the closing days of Halloween week, ABC delivers "Halloween Nightmares" episode on Dancing with the Stars, as the remaining couples get into the Halloween spirit with hair-raising transformations and spine-tingling routines.

Even the ABC game show "Press Your Luck" gets in the act with its "Halloween Spooktacular" episode where the cartoon creature the Whammy delivers a few more tricks than treats as host Elizabeth Banks and the contestants scare up some big bucks.

ABC's new series "Doctor Odyssey" episode "Halloween Week" features a high-stakes costume contest, but when a zombie-like illness plagues select passengers on the cruise ship, the festivities take a dark turn. This episode is a curtain call on Halloween night. ★

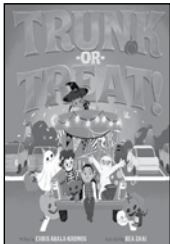


FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS

By Amy Shane

BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • ✉ amy-shane@att.net • 📷 amy_fortheloveofbooks

Get Ready For Halloween With These New Children's Books



Trunk or Treat - A Lift-the-Flap Pop-up Story by Hannah Eliot, illustrations Lydia Jean

It's time to trick-or-treat at your favorite Halloween character's trunk, but what frightful treats await? A monster with a monster truck, a witch with a broom in sight, and even a vampire speed demon in a sports car, all decorated and waiting with their yummy treats.

Little ones will delight in each lift-the-page featuring ghoulish delights and decorated sites in this new board book adventure, where a decorated car is under each flap.

Zooloween by Alan Katz, illustrations Stephanie Laberis

It's Halloween at the zoo. Everyone is dressed and ready for a parade, from the pandas to the rhinos to all the little animals in between. The dandy-lion roars and the bunny moos; there are lots of laughs and giggles at the silly zoo. But wait, the costumes aren't the only surprise that will happen tonight.

A delightfully fun story for the whole family, which might inspire a whole new game of imagining animals matched with Halloween costumes.

Oh Halloween Tree by Dori Elys, illustrations Katya Longhi

How do all the spooky friends celebrate Halloween? With a Halloween tree, of course. Follow along as a group of friends set out to find and decorate a

tree just in time for trick or treat.

Set to the tune of Oh Christmas Tree, Little ones will delightfully sing along. This fun board book and spooktacular illustrations will make this book a new favorite Halloween read.

I Got the Spooky Spirit by Connie Schofield-Morrison, illustrations Frank Morrison

It's time to get into the Spooky Spirit. As fall leaves fall all around, and pumpkins wait to be carved with their ooey, gooey seeds falling on the ground. Then it is time for sweet and sour treats and then decorating the house in spooky galore. But the best part is the costume and going treat or treating. Then it's back for the party with friends all around as they bob for apples, dance, and trade candy, and then it is finally time to say goodnight.

It's time to get into the Spooky Spirit with a day full of festivities, from pumpkin carving to decorations, costumes, and even a party to end the night. I Got the Spooky Spirit is a fun family story celebrating the season.

Trunk or Treat by Chris Ayala-Kronos, illustrations Rea Zhai

The big day is finally here. All the cars are lined up and ready for trunk or treaters! Everyone is dressed up in their favorite costumes, even the cars. Come along for the fun and all the festive decorations as trick-or-treaters enjoy seeing all the spooky sites during the day. ★



California Takes Bold Step to Revolutionize Youth Sports with 25x25 Coaches Challenge

Collaborative Communications News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness and Mental Well-being is teaming up with the Susan Crown Exchange’s Million Coaches Challenge (MCC) to launch 25x25: The California Coaches Challenge. This initiative aims to train 25,000 coaches in positive youth coaching across California by the end of 2025.

Physical activity and sports participation rates are declining nationally, and California is no exception. Today, many children in California are not meeting daily physical activity recommendations, and only half of California’s youth participate in sports. With around 70% of children discontinuing organized sports before reaching high school, the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge aims to create a more positive and inclusive sports and fitness culture that keeps youth engaged in sport and helps them develop the skills needed to thrive.

Through the Council’s Move Your Body, Calm Your Mind campaign, Million Coaches Challenge partners Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) and the Center for Healing and Justice through Sport (CHJS) will spearhead a statewide effort to instill the principles of positive youth development, social-emotional learning, healing-centered practices, and culturally responsive coaching in youth coaches. Coaches will learn a range of youth-centered strategies, including creating safe spaces for all young people, fostering a sense of belonging, and coaching with empathy. The American Institutes for Research (AIR), who leads the multi-year implementation study of the Million Coaches Challenge, will provide research support for the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge.

“A positive and empowering youth sports culture is critical to the mental health and overall well-being of our children,” said First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom. “When coaches are trained to prioritize character development, teamwork, grit, and emotional resilience, young people are more likely to stay engaged in sports and build essential life skills. The partnership between the Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness and Mental Well-being and Million Coaches Challenge will ensure that our youth not only experience the

physical benefits of sports but also gain the social and emotional support they need to thrive on and off the field.”

Through existing relationships with parks and recreation systems, schools, community-based organizations, and club teams, Positive Coaching Alliance and Center for Healing and Justice through Sport will provide training to at least 25,000 coaches across California by December 2025. The Governor’s Advisory Council will promote the initiative statewide, reaching communities with significant need and underrepresentation in youth sports. The Center for Healing and Justice through Sport has existing coach training partnerships across the state.

Notable examples include the Dodgers Foundation, the Los Angeles Clippers, the YMCA of Greater Los Angeles, and, together with Nike, the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. Positive Coaching Alliance, with its robust statewide infrastructure, also has planned trainings this fall with the LA Jr. Clippers, USTA Southern California, Boys and Girls Club of Burbank, Irvine Ice Foundation, Santa Maria Swim Club, and numerous high schools across the state.

“California is setting a powerful example for the country,” said Kevin Connors, Managing Director of the Susan Crown Exchange, funder of the Million Coaches Challenge. “This initiative will help ensure that hundreds of thousands of young athletes experience sports in ways that promote physical, emotional, and mental well-being.”

Coaches and organizations interested in joining the 25x25 California Coaches Challenge can learn more or sign up for training by visiting <https://moveyourbodycalmyourmind.org/> or emailing Info.AdvisoryCouncil@cdph.ca.gov.

Trainings will be available both in-person and virtually. Organizations will be able to schedule specific training sessions for their coaches or join publicly available options. The Center for Healing and Justice through Sport will host a public virtual training focused on healing-centered sport on Nov. 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m. A self-paced online option is also available for the public through Positive Coaching Alliance. Both opportunities will be available at no cost.

To learn more about the Million Coaches Challenge, visit millioncoaches.org. ★

California Has Seen Too Many Debacles. Prolonged School Closures May Be the Worst



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

What truly sets California apart from other states is its sheer immensity.

While Alaska and Texas may be physically larger, in all other respects California towers above other states in population, ethnic diversity, cultural impact and economic power — the latter being equivalent to that of a major nation.

The corollary to California’s outsized prominence, however, is that when its officialdom makes mistakes, they, too, are often gigantic embarrassments.

One that comes to mind is what happened three decades ago when a Republican governor, Pete Wilson, and a Legislature controlled by Democrats decided to completely overhaul the state’s electrical utility system.

Officials called it “deregulation” and promised a new era of more abundant and less expensive power, but it was an ill-conceived mish-mash that opened the door to manipulation by suppliers, forced one utility into bankruptcy, almost destroyed another, and increased consumers’ costs.

There have been too many other California debacles.

For instance, when Oroville Dam was completed nearly six decades ago, California officials bragged about its being the nation’s highest at 770 feet. However,

in 2017 the earthfill dam’s spillway was fully employed due to record amounts of snow runoff, revealing major flaws. As the concrete spillway collapsed, releases were shifted into an alternative spillway, but it was just dirt and rock and also began to erode.

The dam was close to collapse, but while a complete catastrophe was averted, the incident revealed major lapses in the dam’s design, construction and maintenance.

More recently, when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, businesses were forced to close, about 3 million workers lost their jobs and the Employment Development Department was overwhelmed by applications for unemployment insurance.

The chaos resulted in thousands of jobless workers not receiving the benefits to which they were entitled, thereby imposing financial distress on them and their families, while tens of billions of dollars were paid out to fraudsters.

The bullet train project is a looming candidate for the state’s list of shameful failures. It’s decades behind initial promises of completion, is costing many times the estimate when voters passed a \$9.95 billion bond issue in 2007 and lacks a viable financial plan.

That brings us to what may be California’s worst-ever political policy decision: Closing the state’s public schools for many months during COVID-19 and forcing nearly 6 million students to cope as best they could.

Those with affluent parents fared fairly well. They were more likely to work from home, so they could

monitor internet instruction. Some pooled resources, hired teachers and created ad hoc schools.

Students from lower-income families had no such advantages. Their parents more likely had jobs that could not be done remotely, and were less likely to have internet service or their own computers.

The result, later academic testing revealed, was a widening of an already immense achievement gap between kids from poor families — roughly 65% of the state’s enrollment — and their more privileged peers.

Last week, the state Department of Education released results of the latest round of state achievement tests. Overall, there were fractional gains, but California’s students are still behind where they were prior to the pandemic, and the achievement gap is fundamentally as wide as ever — about 30 percentage points in English language and math.

Moreover, national achievement tests have shown that California’s kids are well behind those in all but a handful of other states.

California’s educational achievement crisis is negatively impacting the futures of millions of kids and the state’s economy.

That would have been a far more important topic for the nothingburger special legislative session that Gov. Gavin Newsom called on gas prices.

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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Gridley, CA 95948

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000694
The following person(s) are doing business as: Feeling Farm Books, 1473 Lucy Way, Chico, CA 95973
Robin D Williams, 1473 Lucy Way, Chico, CA 95973
Date filed in Butte County: September 9, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: September 9, 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: October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024
FEELING 10-25-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000665
The following person(s) are doing business as: Boyds Mobile Welding Service, 705 Vermont Street, Gridley, CA 95948
James A Boyd, 705 Vermont Street, Gridley, CA 95948
Date filed in Butte County: July 22, 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: October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024
BOYDS 10-25-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000691
The following person(s) are doing business as: Deep Reserve, 560 East 3rd Street, Chico, CA 95928
Carissa Grace Rystrom, 560 East 3rd Street, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: September 6, 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: October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024
DEEP 10-25-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000733
The following person(s) are doing business as: Urban Edge Brokers, 898 East 7th Street, Chico, CA 95928
Eric R Stofa, PO Box 3117, Chico, CA 95927
Date filed in Butte County: September 23, 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: October 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 2024
URBAN 11-1-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000766
The following person(s) are doing business as: Mechanic Works, 2936 2nd Street, Biggs,

CA 95917
Christopher A Woodward, PO Box 134, Biggs, CA 95917
Date filed in Butte County October 3, 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: October 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 2024
MECHANIC 11-1-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000768
The following person(s) are doing business as: Hemkunt Sahib Farms, 636 Larkin Road, Gridley, CA 95948
Sukhjitt Kaur Dhillon and Harjit Singh Dhillon, 636 Larkin Road, Gridley, CA 95948
Date filed in Butte County: October 4, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: September 22, 2003
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: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 2024
HEMKUNT 11-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000769
The following person(s) are doing business as: Happy Valley Leasing, 2515 Ceanothus Avenue, Suite #100, Chico, CA 95973
Entwood Property Management, Inc., 2515 Ceanothus Avenue, Suite #100, Chico, CA 95973
Date filed in Butte County: October 4, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business 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: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 2024
HAPPY 11-8-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000787
The following person(s) are doing business as: Los Arcos, 2454 Norte Dame Boulevard, #100, Chico, CA 95928
Antonio Hernandez, 2454 Norte Dame Boulevard, #100, Chico, CA 95928
Date filed in Butte County: October 8, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 8, 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: Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 2024
ARCOS 11-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000825
The following person(s) are doing business as: Emic Psychological Health Incorporated, 2108 N Street, Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816
Emic Health, 2108 N Street, Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816
Date filed in Butte County:

October 16, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 7, 2024
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: Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 2024
EMIC 11-15-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000818
The following person(s) are doing business as: Weird Find, 2163 4th Street, Oroville, CA 95965
Mallina D Grey, 7390 Lincoln Boulevard, Unit 642, Palermo, CA 95968
Date filed in Butte County: October 15, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: April 11, 2023
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: Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 2024
WEIRD 11-15-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #24CV02908
Petitioner Salvador Ramirez Arroyo filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Salvador Ramirez Arroyo to Salvador Ramirez.
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 December 4, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBA, Room TBA, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed October 11, 2024
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Oct 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 2024
RAMIREZ 11-15-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
RUBY CABLE
CASE NO. 24PR00436

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

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Curtis Cable, in the Superior Court of California, County of Butte, requesting Curtis Cable 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: November 5, 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: Alyssa Chow, 3626 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95864; 916-619-6163
Publish: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 2024
CABLE 11-1-24

TRUSTEE SALE

TS No: CA09000163-24-1
APN: 102-072-019-000
FKA 102-072-019 TO NO: 240328342-CA-VOI NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only, pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(d)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED September 1, 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 PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On November 19, 2024 at 11:00 AM, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse located at 520 Main Street, Quincy, CA 95971, MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps, as the duly Appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust recorded on September 13, 2005 as Instrument No. 2005-0009730, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Plumas County, California, executed by WALTER L. CROWE, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustor(s), in favor of WASHINGTON MUTUAL BANK, FA, A FEDERAL ASSOCIATION as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1243 PENINSULA DRIVE, WESTWOOD, CA 96137 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the Note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said Note(s), advances if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$305,090.25 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the

property receiver, if applicable. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. 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 Nationwide Posting & Publication at 916.939.0772 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Website www.nationwideposting.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA09000163-24-1. 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 NOTICE TO TENANT FOR FORECLOSURES AFTER JANUARY 1, 2021 You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916.939.0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case CA09000163-24-1 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. Date: September 30, 2024 MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps TS No. CA09000163-24-1 17100 Gillette Ave Irvine, CA 92614 Phone: 949-252-8300 TDD: 711 949.252.8300 By: Loan Quema, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ONLINE AT www.nationwideposting.com FOR AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: Nationwide Posting & Publication AT 916.939.0772 NPP0466063 To: GRIDLEY HERALD - PLUMAS 10/25/2024, 11/01/2024, 11/08/2024
GRIDLEY HERALD 11-8-24

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Foreclosure No. 7146251 APN# 009-260-026 On November 20, 2024 at 3:30 p.m., Mid Valley Title and Escrow Company, Trustee, or Successor Trustee or Substituted Trustee of that certain Deed of Trust executed by Devin J. Waterbury, an unmarried man, and recorded July 21, 2016 as Instrument No. 2016-0026639, of Official Records of Butte, California, and pursuant to that certain Notice of Default thereunder recorded July 9, 2024 as Instrument No. 2024-0017541, of Official Records of said County, will under and pursuant to said Deed of Trust sell at public auction for cash, lawful money of the United States of America, a cashier's check payable to said Trustee drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, at the main entrance to the County Courthouse at 1 Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965, all that right, title and interest conveyed to and

now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: Parcel 1 as shown on that certain parcel map, which map was filed in the Office of The Recorder of The County of Butte, State of California, on April 16, 2004, in Book 159 of Maps at Page(s) 79. (X)The street address or other common designation of said property: vacant land, Gridley, CA (X)Name and address of the beneficiary at whose request the sale is being conducted: Robertson Trust, 9199 Goodspeed St. #10, Durham, CA 95938 Directions to the above property may be obtained by requesting same in writing from the beneficiary within 10 days from the first publication of this notice. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, as to title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the unpaid balance due on the note or notes secured by said Deed of Trust, plus estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Sale: \$306,876.64 NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED JULY 18, 2016 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. 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 1-916-939-0772 or visit this internet website: <http://www.nationwideposting.com> address for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 7146251. 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 <http://www.nationwideposting.com>. 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 1-916-939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.nationwideposting.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 7146251 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. The undersigned mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent for the mortgagee or beneficiary declares that the mortgagee or beneficiary has satisfied the requirements of California Civil Code 2923.5. DATED: 10/10/2024 MID VALLEY TITLE AND ESCROW COMPANY Address: 601 Main St., Chico, CA 95928 Phone: (530) 893-5644 BY: GREG WOOD, FORECLOSURE OFFICER NPP0466409 To: GRIDLEY HERALD 10/25/2024, 11/01/2024, 11/08/2024
GRIDLEY HERALD 11-8-24

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Notice to Contractors is hereby given.

The City of Gridley ("City") will receive sealed envelope bids only for **The Gridley Sports Complex Phase 1** at City Hall of the City of Gridley 685 Kentucky Street Gridley, CA 95948 until 2:00 PM, December 5, 2024. At which time or thereafter said bids may be read aloud. Bids shall be valid for 90 calendar days after the bid opening date.

The work shall consist of the following: Constructing a concrete plaza, gravel parking lot, grading and excavating the existing retention basin, installing sports field lighting, installing a new drainage system, and demoing existing facilities shown on the plans.

The contractor is to carefully examine the site of the proposed work and is to make his or her own determination of the scope of the work to be performed, and he or she is to carefully examine all Contract Documents. No Prebid meeting will be held.

BID SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS: No proposal will be accepted unless it is made on a Proposal form furnished by the City of Gridley within these Specifications. **To ensure consideration, the Proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope. Clearly marked BID PROPOSAL, which also bears the name of the project and the date and time set for opening of Proposals:**

**Bid Proposal
The Gridley Sports Complex Phase 1
December 5th, 2024 2:00 PM**

Bidding requirements, bid forms, plans and specifications for this project can be obtained at the City website Gridley California (<http://gridley.ca.us>), Valley Contractor Exchange website (vceonline.com) or CIPList website ([CIP List.com](http://CIPList.com)).

The Engineer's Estimate for this project is \$3,783,000 including the alternative bid.

Please direct any bidding questions to Dave Harden (dharden@ben-en.com), at November 18th, 2024 at 5:00 PM.

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association’s Statewide Ballot Measure Information, Voting Recommendations

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association News Release

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA (MPG) - Below are Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association’s (HJTA) statewide ballot measure information and voting recommendations. For more information, visit the association’s website at www.hjta.org.

NO on 2
Why we’re against it
Proposition 2 is \$10 billion of bonds, new state debt, to pay for school facilities. It is almost certain to result in higher property tax bills, because school districts must provide a “local match” of funds in order to receive money from the Prop. 2 state bonds. That will lead to districts issuing new local school bonds, which are paid for by adding new charges to property tax bills. Enrollment is declining in both K-12 district schools and community colleges and the declines are projected to continue. But Proposition 2 commits California to pay an estimated \$18 billion, including interest, for school buildings that may not even be necessary. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 2.**

Proposition 3
HJTA takes no position on this measure
Proposition 3 removes language from the state Constitution that defines marriage as between a man and woman. It adds the language, “right to marry is a fundamental right.” This measure has no effect on the current law, because the U.S. Supreme Court held that the federal Constitution protects the right to marry.

NO on 4
Why we’re against it
This is the \$10 billion “climate bond” that state politicians have long planned. California already has too much bond debt, over

\$78 billion outstanding as of Jan. 1. Then \$6.38 billion was added with Proposition 1 in March. Proposition 4 would add another \$10 billion in bond debt to pay for climate “programs.” It’s reckless to use borrowed money, an estimated \$18 billion with interest, to pay for “programs,”



including salaries for all the groups that receive the money. Bond financing only makes sense for necessary projects that will last more than the 30 years it takes to repay the debt. The governor has already declared a budget emergency because the state spends more than it takes in. Spending even more “on the credit card” is a bad idea. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 4.**

NO on 5
Why we’re against it
Proposition 5 is ACA 1, a direct attack on Proposition 13. It makes it easier to raise taxes by eliminating the longstanding two-thirds vote of the electorate required to pass local bonds (borrowed money that must be repaid with interest). All new bond measures for “infrastructure” (nearly everything is “infrastructure”) and for public housing projects would pass with just 55% approval instead of the current 66.7%. Local bonds are paid for with extra charges on property tax bills, adding to the tax burden on homeowners and businesses, leading to higher rents for tenants and higher consumer prices for everyone. If Proposition 5 is

not stopped, property tax bills are likely to go up after every election, forever. Proposition 5 will raise the cost of living in California, which already has the highest poverty rate in the country when the cost of living is taken into account. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 5.**

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association *established in 1978*

NO on 6
Why we’re against it
Proposition 6 bans mandatory work requirements for state prison inmates. It doesn’t seem fair to further increase the burden on taxpayers by creating the conditions to negotiate higher wages for inmates who are paying off their debt to society by serving their sentences in state prison. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 6.**

NO on 32
Why we’re against it
Proposition 32 would raise California’s hourly minimum wage from \$16 to \$18 and then adjust it annually for inflation. Unfortunately, raising the hourly minimum wage has sometimes reduced weekly wages as businesses cut hours and lay off workers. The best way to raise incomes in California is to stop driving job-creating businesses out of the state or into the ground. Raising the minimum wage is counter-productive. It also increases the state’s expenses by raising government labor costs. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 32.**

NO on 33
Why we’re against it
Proposition 33 is a rent control measure that would lead to a reduction in the supply of rental housing. It repeals a sensible 1995 law, the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, which put limits on rent control laws to ensure that

housing providers could make a fair return on their investment and stay in business. Repealing Costa-Hawkins would mean cities could enact radical rent control, even on single-family homes and condos, and prevent property owners from resetting the rent to the market rate after a tenant voluntarily moves out. Proposition 33 would lead to a sharp reduction in new apartment construction as lenders evaluate financial risk due to potential rent control laws. That will worsen the housing shortage in California. Voters have already rejected this proposal twice before, in 2018 and 2020. **VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 33.**

YES on 34
Why we’re for it
Some nonprofit healthcare organizations that receive federal funds to provide health care services have abused the system to spend large amounts of money on political causes. Proposition 34 would end this practice and require that healthcare providers spend most of the money they receive from a federal prescription drug discount program on direct patient care. **VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 34.**

Proposition 35
HJTA takes no position on this measure
California currently taxes managed care organizations (MCOs) such as Anthem Blue Cross and others. The MCO tax is set to expire in 2026, and we expect the Legislature to make it permanent. Proposition 35 would also make it permanent but would require the revenue from the tax to fund Medi-Cal, the government health insurance program for low-income residents, instead of being used to close gaps in the state budget. About 14 million California residents rely on the Medi-Cal program for their health care needs.

YES on 36
Why we’re for it
Proposition 36 is the “Homelessness, Drug Addiction and Theft Reduction Act,” backed by law enforcement groups and retailers. It makes thoughtful changes to Proposition 47 (2014), which reduced some theft and drug felonies to misdemeanors. Proposition 36 would get tougher on third offenses and also offer drug and mental health treatment as an alternative to incarceration. It would allow judges to sentence some individuals to state prison instead of county jail. The surge of retail theft, vehicle break-ins and open drug use on California’s streets has increased the burden on first responders, and on taxpayers, as well as raising insurance costs throughout the state. **VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 36.**

Local Measures
In Folsom
No on Measure G
A sales tax increase of 1%, sponsored by “citizens.”
In Yuba City
No on Measure D
A 1% sales tax increase. ★

Stop Criminals, Drugs, Theft

By John McGinness

California voters will have several very important decisions to make as they complete their November 2024 ballots. One that has the potential to reverse a decade of deterioration of the state’s criminal justice system is Proposition 36. To adequately analyze the merits of Proposition 36, a quick review of history is in order. Ten years ago, voters approved Proposition 47 based upon assurance that it would improve public safety. The voters were deceived – Proposition 47 eliminated compounding consequences for several theft and possession and use of dangerous drugs. Many crimes were reduced from felonies to misdemeanors, eliminating the deterrent value of discipline. The results have been devastating for the state of California. Urban, suburban, and even rural areas once used for recreation have been taken over by critically addicted people living like walking zombies. Retail businesses have become so frequently victimized by “smash and grab” thieves that merchants have been forced to lock up much of their merchandise out of reach, inconveniencing legitimate customers and staff. Fentanyl poisoning has become the leading cause of death for Americans 18-45-years-of-age. On average, over 200 deaths by fentanyl poisoning occur in the United States every day. Consider the tolerance

society would have in an environment in which 200 people were killed in a commercial airline crash every day – public outcry would be extreme and warranted; change would be mandated by an outraged public. Yet persons in positions of leadership seem oblivious or apathetic to the plight of our youth. Proposition 36 will restore the ability of the criminal justice system to impose compounding consequences on chronic habitual offenders for the sake of discouraging unacceptable behavior. Specifically, offenders convicted not once, but twice of possession of hard and dangerous drugs will be eligible for felony prosecution or completion of a court-supervised treatment for addiction. This course of action was common before the passage of Proposition 47, when drug court was a viable option for those first charged with felony drug possession. The impetus for treatment is now gone by virtue of chronic drug offenders suffering through addiction and only being cited for misdemeanor violations of law. That means no time in custody in California, and no incentive to participate

in court supervised treatment. Those cited typically ignore their citations, fail to appear in court and continue to live their destructive lifestyle, wreaking havoc on the streets, parks and public facilities throughout the state. Proposition

consequences be brought against those who habitually violate the law for the sake of discouraging habitual lawlessness. Critics have asserted that Proposition 36 represents a reversion to days of mass incarceration. It does not! Proposition 36 is a bipartisan concept created by elected attorneys of diverse political and philosophical affiliation, supported by big city mayors from California’s diverse communities, to provide incentive for treatment for those chronically addicted to dangerous drugs, as well as common sense solutions to those who habitually break the law and diminish the quality of life for law abiding Californians. If concern for law abiding citizens and those seeking to safely pursue their dreams in this state is insufficient to motivate voters to support this thoughtful proposition, consider the wellbeing of the people directly adversely impacted by the results of the horrific current state of law. Since 2014, when Proposition 47 passed, the number of chronically addicted people living on the streets of California has exploded. Failing to recognize the wellbeing of those

lost to drugs on the streets represents an apathetic disregard for our fellow human beings. Swift, lawful action taken to put these lost souls on the path to a vastly better existence is the compassionate and appropriate action to be taken by the electorate of this state. Ten years ago, the political leadership of the state of California misled the voters, assuring them that Proposition 47 would enhance public safety, that eliminating thoughtful punitive consequences for lawlessness would somehow make the schools and neighborhoods safer. Many of those same people are again describing Proposition as something vastly different than what it is. Proposition 36 is a plan to reduce homelessness, drug addiction, and theft in California. Law-abiding taxpayers deserve better, future generations of Californians deserve better and those in the grip of addiction need our help. Please do not be fooled by the same people who misled the voters to pass Proposition 47. Please help save California. Vote “Yes” on Prop.36. *John McGinness, MS, is the retired sheriff of Sacramento County, an adjunct professor of criminal justice and host of the John McGinness Show on KFBK. He can be reached at 916-924-3901* Paid for by Messenger Publishing Group. Not affiliated with any political campaign.



36 will give incentive to those who badly need treatment. Those who complete the treatment and graduate from the program will have the opportunity to have their record expunged and avoid incarceration, liberating them to live rich full lives. Proposition 36 will also reclassify fentanyl as a hard drug, and provide enhanced penalties on those who possess fentanyl while armed with a firearm. As or thieves, Proposition 36 will impose the potential for felony consequences for persons twice convicted of petty theft and charged with a subsequent theft case. It simply demands that

Man Sentenced to Prison for Palermo Arson

Butte County District Attorney's Office News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - An Oroville man, in Butte County Superior Court on Oct. 16, was sentenced to six years in prison for a Palermo arson incident from last July.

Joseph Patrick Gilbert Jr., 39, of Oroville, was sentenced for intentionally lighting a field on fire near a Palermo mobile home park in the 6600 block of Lincoln Boulevard.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the July 25 arson occurred at approximately 4:40 p.m.

during the ongoing state of emergency ordered for the July 2 Thompson Fire. It burned approximately 0.17 acres before containment. CAL FIRE named it the Lincoln Fire.

Ramsey said after the fire was extinguished, CAL FIRE Investigators collected home surveillance video in the area that showed an individual setting fire to the grass. That individual was later identified as Gilbert and he was arrested the next day.

At the request of the District Attorney's Office at Gilbert's first court appearance in July, Gilbert was denied bail due to a

severe risk to public safety. Gilbert remained in the Butte County Jail since his initial arrest.

Gilbert had previously been convicted of five felonies, including second-degree burglary, obtaining a controlled substance by fraud, grand theft and possession of a dirk or dagger.

Butte County Superior Court Judge Jesus Rodriguez sentenced Gilbert to the maximum term of six years in prison citing the extreme public safety risk, Gilbert's lack of remorse and the setting of the fire during the Thompson Fire state of emergency. ★

Oroville Man Sentenced for Attempted Arson

Butte County District Attorney's Office News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - An Oroville transient was sentenced to two years in state prison on Oct. 17 in Butte County Superior Court on a charge of attempted arson for attempting to light a grass fire next to an Oroville preschool last July 5.

James Robert Price, 35, was sentenced on a single count of attempted arson of wild lands wherein it was charged he attempted to set a grass fire near a preschool near the Montgomery Street and Highway 70 intersection.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said Price was captured near the school after his attempt during the mid-afternoon of July 5, when temperatures were near 109 degrees, and the Thompson Fire was still smoldering on Oroville's east side.

Ramsey said Oroville Police officers responded to 911 calls around 3:20 p.m. that a person with a large burning torch threatened to set a field on fire. Witnesses described a male, who turned out to be

Price, with something burning in his hands, yelling obscenities and threatening to "burn it all down."

According to the District Attorney's Office, quick-thinking bystanders confronted Price and one knocked the burning items from his hands onto the preschool parking lot mere feet from a nearby grassy field. Another witness doused the burning material with water and extinguished it, according to the District Attorney's Office.

Officers subsequently detained Price who admitted to lighting papers in his hand on fire with a lighter found in his possession. Price was then arrested. Officers later found burned cardboard in the preschool parking lot.

Butte County Superior Court Judge Virginia Gingery rejected Price's statement in his probation report that he was merely lighting a cigarette and sentenced Price to prison citing that Price displayed a lack of remorse and engaged in conduct that created a threat of great harm to the community, which demonstrated a high degree of viciousness and callousness. ★

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CHP Receives Native-Tribal Traffic Education Program Grant



By working closely with tribal leaders and members, the CHP seeks to address specific concerns and provide meaningful support to Native American communities throughout the state. Photo courtesy of California Highway Patrol

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is honored to announce its receipt of the Native-Tribal Traffic Education Program (TTEP) grant, a transformative initiative to build stronger relationships and improve outreach with Native American communities throughout California.

This grant will support a series of programs focused on safety, education and cultural understanding.

The Native-Tribal Traffic Education Program grant provides resources to create specialized training, community outreach and educational events that increase awareness of tribal sovereignty and respects cultural traditions. The program also aims to address the unique challenges that Native American communities face.

“This grant is a significant milestone for our



The Native-Tribal Traffic Education grant will support a series of programs focused on safety, education and cultural understanding. Photo courtesy of California Highway Patrol

department and the communities we serve across California,” said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee. “It allows us to enhance safety and foster cultural understanding through essential resources and educational programs.”

Grant funds will be used to conduct workshops and training sessions for CHP personnel, emphasizing culturally-informed law enforcement practices and the historical context of Native American relations. The program will also support the development of educational materials that provide safety information and resources tailored to Native American communities.

This initiative aligns with the CHP’s commitment to improving community relations and enhancing public safety through education and outreach. By working closely with tribal leaders and members, the CHP seeks to address specific concerns and provide meaningful support to Native American communities throughout the state.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. ★

Taxpayer-Funded Political Advocacy is Illegal

By Jon Coupal

As the November election gets closer, there are increasing complaints from voters over local governments openly supporting tax hikes. While local government officials are free to support or oppose ballot measures, they may not authorize the use of public funds on any election matter – be it for or against a candidate or initiative.

Despite the illegality of taxpayer funded advocacy, officials have an incentive to try it anyway because the potential ROI (the return on investment) of millions – if not billions – in new tax revenue would dwarf any fine or other punishment they might face.

That must change. The same First Amendment rights that allow individuals to speak on ballot issues also prohibits the use of taxpayer funds for political advocacy. In 1976, the California Supreme Court ruled, “The use of the public treasury to mount an election campaign which attempts to influence the resolution of issues which our Constitution leaves to the ‘free election’ of the people (see Const., art. II, § 2) ... presents a serious threat to the integrity of the electoral process.” Stanson v. Mott (1976) 17 Cal.3d 206, 218.

Such a “serious threat” deserves a response of imposing real penalties on bad actors including large fines, personal liability on the part of those authorizing those expenditures and, yes, even jail time.

The agency charged with policing campaign finance violations is the Fair Political Practices Commission, which can be an aggressive enforcer against these expenditures. For example, the FPPC imposed a \$1.3 million fine against Los Angeles County for using taxpayer funds for political ads touting Measure H, a sales tax increase on the ballot in 2017. It was the largest fine ever imposed by the FPPC.

The fine against L.A. County was precipitated by a complaint filed by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. It was hoped that the fine levied by FPPC would serve as a warning to government entities in California that they must obey all state laws and regulations relating to both reporting campaign expenditures as well as providing disclosures on campaign advertising. And, to some extent, it has.

However, as noted earlier, the ROI for violations can overcome the deterrent effect of a large fine. Sure, a \$1.3 million dollar fine imposed on the County of Los Angeles seems big. But because the Measure H tax

has generated more than \$2.4 billion since its passage, L.A. politicians could easily conclude, “it was worth it.”

That’s why stiffer penalties are needed to ensure that no amount of ROI would lead a politician to conclude “it was worth it.”

So, what can voters do if they see a taxpayer-funded political ad that crosses the line from “informational” material to outright “advocacy?”

At a minimum, voters may forward a copy or screen shot of the questionable ad and send it directly to the FPPC’s “ad-watch” program, where citizens can report government-financed communications that they suspect cross the line into political advocacy. According to the FPPC’s website, its rules on reporting and disclosures “also apply to communications from public entities when their activity meets the thresholds to qualify as a ‘committee.’ This happens when a state or local governmental agency pays public moneys for a communication to the public and the communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified measure, or, taken as a whole and in context, unambiguously urges a particular result in an election.”

In addition to FPPC engagement, voters have alternative remedies. While the FPPC’s jurisdiction is limited to enforcing the disclosure of campaign spending and the timely reporting of those expenditures, the courts – both federal and state – are not so limited. Taxpayers have the right to proceed directly to Superior Court for claims asserted under the First Amendment of both the U.S. and California Constitutions.

Finally, voters can always contact the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association which has created a Public Integrity Project under the auspices of HJTA’s affiliated Foundation. HJTF’s Public Integrity Project has already proven to be an additional enforcement tool against illegal expenditures of public funds and other violations of law that hurt taxpayers and voters.

It’s bad enough when local politicians work to raise taxes when Californians are already paying one of the highest tax burdens in America. But it’s adding insult to injury to have those efforts supported with the same public funds that could be spent on legitimate government services.

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. ★

Marches to Victory!



From left, Gridley High School Band seniors Armaan Kalka, Christian Harshbarger, Kaiza Quist, Alyssa Hubbard, Will Yost and Cody Grover pose for a photo.

Continued from page 1

Since then, they have participated in two competitive events.

Bands are placed in divisions based on the number of students in the band, Jacobsen said. The Gridley High School band is considered a 1A division band.

On Oct. 12, the Gridley High School Marching Band traveled to Franklin High School in Elk Grove to participate in the Franklin Band Review. According to Jacobsen, more than 30 bands competed, with five in the 1A division. The Gridley High School band performance took home second-place.

Fast forward to the Oct. 19 Del Oro Band Review at Del Oro High School in Loomis. Jacobsen said there were about 15 marching bands vying for titles and three 1A bands that the Gridley High School band was up against.

After receiving a fantastic score of second-place in Franklin, Gridley

band members hoped for another high rank and they were not disappointed. Coming in just .05 points shy of first-place, Gridley High School took another second-place.

In addition, the Gridley High School drumline competed with a cadence by Bob Schofield, Gridley High School’s CTE Pathway teacher and the former Paradise band director.

Jacobson proudly reported on the recent successes of the Gridley High School Band and drumline.

“Our band almost doubled in size this school year and we’re hoping to continue growing the program,” Jacobsen said. He looks forward to a bright and melodious future.

The next Gridley High School Band performance will be at the annual Renaissance Dinner on Nov. 13 and 24. Proceeds support Gridley Unified School District music departments. ★



The Gridley High School Drumline competes in a street percussion performance.

Who Will You Make Your Next Donation to And Why?

Commentary by Dr. Glenn Mollette

Churches raised \$135.78 billion in 2021 (GivingUSA).

Churches in the US received 27% of all donations in 2021 (GivingUSA).

44% of US adults are digital donors (Barna).

An average congregation records a yearly income of \$242,910 (Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion).

Congregations in the US collect around \$74.5 billion each year (Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion).

49% of all donations to churches comes from credit cards or other electronic means (Enterprise Apps Today).

40% tithe by means of cash (Enterprise Apps Today).

60% are willing to give to their church digitally (Enterprise Apps Today).

Churches that accept tithing online see a 32% increase in overall donations (Nonprofits Source).

37% of regular church attendees don’t give money to church (Nonprofits Source).

What is the average giving per person in church?

Studies show that churches of different sizes see different per-person giving rates. The larger the church, the smaller the rate of per-person giving both weekly and annual donations.

For example, ChurchSalary found that churches of 50 people saw

\$2,589 as average annual per-person giving, while churches of 5,000 in attendance reported an average annual per-person giving of \$2,340. For a more detailed breakdown of their findings, see the image below:

Lower rates of giving at larger churches make sense when you keep in mind that 37% of churchgoers do not give money to their church. As attendance increases at a church, the number of people who do not give to that church will also increase.

5% of churchgoers tithe regularly (Church Development)

50% of those who donate give about 2% of their income (Church Development)

Regular attendees give \$1,737 more per year than those who attend less than once a month (Philanthropy Daily)

Source: Churchtrac.com for more information

Giving USA™Key findings from Giving USA 2024: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2023, reports that individuals, bequests, foundations and corporations gave an estimated \$557.16 billion to U.S. charities in 2023.

Average charitable donations by income: The average charitable donation is \$2,588 for those making less than \$50,000 per year, \$3,305 for those making \$100,000 to \$500,000 annually. (The Giving USA 2024 Report)

People give to their churches and charities out of what they have available

to give. Americans don’t give out of what they don’t have. Americans don’t give more than what they have. They give out of what they have. Churches and non-profits are expected to do their work on what they receive from donations and or from the work they conduct. When their money is spent then they are on their own until more is received.

Many Americans give what they can based on the need and their emotional connection to the church or charity. People give based on what they see as the need for their response. If there is no emotional feeling for the entity or the cause, there is most likely very little to no financial support.

For example, Kamala Harris has raised over one billion dollars since entering the Presidential race. No Presidential candidate has ever raised so much so fast. (New York Times)

Former President Donald Trump has raised about 350 million. (Forbes.com)

President Job Biden had raised over six hundred million before he dropped out of the race. (Forbes.com)

Americans are intensely interested in the direction of our country and are giving accordingly.

Who will you make your next donation to, and why?

Dr. Glenn Mollette is read in all 50 states. Find out more at GlennMollette.com. Email is gmollette@aol.com. Find his books at all book dealers and his music at all streaming platforms. ★

Fatal Collision on Pryde Avenue



Pictured here is the white Ford Mustang wrapped around the tree that it collided with. Photo courtesy of CHP – Oroville

California Highway Patrol - Oroville News Release

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - On Oct. 22, at approximately 12:53 p.m., officers from the California Highway Patrol (CHP) - Oroville office responded to a tragic fatal collision on Pryde Avenue, just east of Sixth Street, south of Biggs.

A white Ford Mustang, driven by a solo driver, was traveling southbound on Sixth Street at speeds exceeding 70 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone.

The preliminary investigation determined that the driver was unable to negotiate a left turn as Sixth Street transitions into Pryde Avenue. As a result, the Mustang veered off the roadway and collided with a tree, causing significant damage. Tragically, the driver sustained fatal injuries at the scene.

The identity of the driver is being withheld pending notification of



The fatal crash resulted in debris. Photo courtesy of CHP - Oroville

next of kin. The Butte County Sheriff - Coroner's Office (case number 24-06658) will release the driver's name later and asks for respect and privacy for the family and all involved in this incident.

At this time, it is believed that drugs or alcohol were not contributing factors to the crash.

If you have any information or witnessed the incident, contact CHP

Dispatch at 530-332-1200, referencing log number 241022CH0063.

This incident serves as a stark reminder to all drivers of the importance of adhering to posted speed limits and driving at speeds appropriate for road conditions. Excessive speed significantly reduces reaction times and increases the likelihood of collisions. Please drive safely and responsibly. ★

Chico Man Charged with Attempted Kidnapping Also Charged with Rape

Butte County District Attorney's Office News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - A Chico man previously charged with the attempted kidnapping of an 18-year-old female in downtown Chico in August 2024 was charged Oct. 23 in Butte County Superior Court with multiple rape charges involving an underage family member.

Jose Alvarado-Rodriguez, 49, was previously arraigned on a single count of attempted kidnapping brought by the District Attorney's Office, who asked the judge to hold Alvarado-Rodriguez without bail. Alvarado-Rodriguez was held without bail, and at his next hearing, the prosecutor informed the judge that additional charges would be filed against Alvarado-Rodriguez. The case was put over to Oct. 23, so the new charges could be filed.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the prior attempted kidnapping involved an 18-year-old female who was walking down the 1000 block of West 1st Street near a local bar. Witnesses stated that they observed the young woman staggering as if intoxicated and appeared to be alone. A white van pulled up next to

her and the driver got out of the van and grabbed the young woman, according to witnesses, and he then attempted to get her into the van's sliding side door.

There was a brief struggle, during which the young woman fell and hit her head, according to the District Attorney's Office, witnesses intervened and the driver left the scene. Alvarado-Rodriguez was later identified as the driver and charged with the attempted kidnapping.

On Oct. 23, in Butte County Superior Court, Alvarado-Rodriguez was arraigned on the fresh charges, which included two forcible rape charges against a teenage female family member. One of the rape charges included an allegation that Alvarado-Rodriguez kidnapped the underage female to accomplish the rape in the same van as used in his alleged subsequent kidnapping attempt.

Ramsey also stated there were multiple other instances of sexual abuse of the underage female at Alvarado-Rodriguez's residence.

The new charges increase Alvarado-Rodriguez's possible prison exposure to 37 years to life. Alvarado-Rodriguez's next court date is scheduled for Nov. 6, when he is expected to be further arraigned. ★

Theft Occurs in Live Oak

Sutter County Sheriff's Office News Release

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - Over the weekend, Sutter County Live Oak Deputies observed a vehicle in the Live Oak City Hall parking lot after normal business hours. Upon approach, deputies said, they located drug paraphernalia, a

machete and a knife in plain view from the vehicle's window. Deputies contacted 39-year-old Dale Allen Brooks Jr. from Yuba City and a records check determined he was on probation out of Colusa County.

Due to the circumstances, a vehicle search was conducted. Deputies

said they located two five-gallon gas canisters, numerous shaved keys, burglary tools and a sawed-off .410-gauge shotgun.

Brooks was booked into the Sutter County Jail for possession of burglary items, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a firearm and theft. ★

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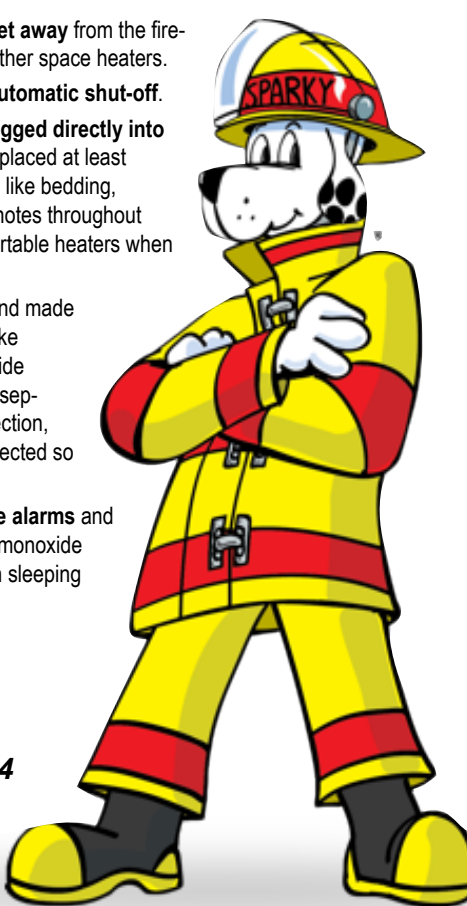
Staying Ahead of the Winter Freeze

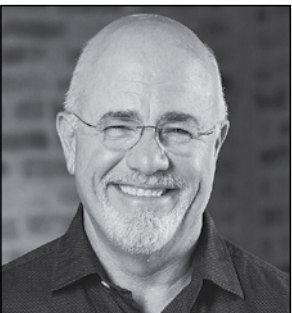
Check These 10 Tips Off Your List And Get Ahead Of The Winter Freeze.

- Our **furnace has been inspected and serviced** by a qualified professional during the last 12 months. (A furnace should be serviced at least once a year.)
- Our **chimneys and vents have been cleaned and inspected** by a qualified professional. I have checked for creosote built-up. (Not cleaning your chimney is the leading cause of chimney fires form built up creosote. This service needs to be done at least once a year.)
- Our wood for our fireplace or wood stove is **dry, seasoned wood**.
- Our **fireplace screen is metal or heat-tempered glass**, in good condition and secure in its position in front of the fireplace.
- We have a **covered metal container** ready to use to dispose cooled ashes. (The ash container should be kept at least 10 feet from the home and any nearby buildings.)
- Our children know to stay at least **3 feet away** from the fire-place, wood/pellet stove, oil stove or other space heaters.
- Our portable space heaters have an **automatic shut-off**.
- Our portable space heaters will be **plugged directly into an outlet** (not an extension cord) and placed at least three feet from anything that can burn; like bedding, paper, walls and even people. (Place notes throughout your home to remind you to turn off portable heaters when you leave a room or go to bed.
- We have **tested our smoke alarms** and made sure they are working. (You need smoke alarms on every level of the home, inside each sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. For the best protection, the smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.)
- We have tested our **carbon monoxide alarms** and made sure they are working. (Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)

Thank You, and Be Safe!!

Sparky the Dog
Gridley Fire Station 74





Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,

I'm getting married next month, and my fiancé and I are both following your plan. I'm on Baby Step 3. I make \$65,000 a year and have \$14,000 in my emergency fund. My fiancé made \$90,000 a year, and he's on Baby Step 2 paying off his car loan. He has his beginner emergency fund in place, and we already have \$3,000 set aside for a honeymoon trip. I said he "made" \$90,000, because the company he was working for just went out of business. He's an experienced heating and air technician, and he has already had a few companies reach out with offers or interviews. Do you think we should still go on a honeymoon, or wait until he officially finds another job and things are a little more stable?

— Charlotte

Dave Ramsey Says A Different Situation Than Most

Dear Charlotte ,

I'm not generally a big fan of spending when someone loses a job. But honestly? I think your situation is a little different than most. I also think you two are different than a lot of folks I talk to. Here's why.

First off, you're both serious about dumping debt and getting control of your finances. That's the big thing. Plus, you make good money, and he will again very soon, based on his prospects and the line of work he's in. On top of all that, you've got a nice pile of cash in the bank. This tells me you're both wise enough and mature enough to know the importance of being on stable ground financially.

Your guy will have another job in a couple of weeks, considering his experience and the fact companies are already reaching out to him. If he's lucky, he might even be able to work a deal that would allow him to start

a new job right after the honeymoon. So, I like the future you two are looking at, Charlotte. You have some financial padding, he's in a field that pays well and I'm pretty sure his income is about to be restored.

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding, and God bless you both. Go have a great time on your honeymoon. I hope you two will have long and happy lives together!

— 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. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. 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

And so, it begins the wonder and beauty of Autumn. Milder days, a little rain while we hope and wait for a lot more. Grey clouds scudding overhead, pausing once and a while like great flocks of filmy birds. The sounds of geese and cranes moving overhead, going to their new winter places. Autumn is a rich time of the year

when leaves let go and seeds wing away. Gradual ends that point to new beginnings.

The fruit that has fallen and not been picked up is making vinegar. The delicate plants hide underground while the tough ones boldly fight back the cool air and less light. The sun seems friendlier with a softer glow. It's a time for baking bread and sipping soup full of root vegetables. A time to hunker down, getting ready for the harsher times to come.

I've been pruning fruit trees again to keep them short. I've been cleaning under them waiting for all the leaves to fall. I've gotten a few more miniature daffodils into the ground. Our artichoke plants are reviving after all the heat. The strawberry plants are rampaging onto the pavement. The Japanese maples look less crispy and ready to become naked. It seems like autumn is a time to breathe and prepare. I am thankful for the mild weather we have this time of year and happy the heat is gone. I started cuttings from the Arctotis ground cover I have out front. The starts are doing very well and will soon go out to fill in the areas I cleaned out earlier. I've been able to do a bit more yard work which is a blessing. I have some major chopping back that needs to happen to the Abutilons in the front yard. So happy our Autumn weather is here.★



Land Values Plunge as Groundwater Law Dims Farm Prospects

The value of farmland in parts of the San Joaquin Valley, California's agricultural heartland, has fallen rapidly this year as commodity prices lag and implementation of the state's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act casts a shadow on the future of farming in the region. In 2014, when SGMA was adopted, the value of farmland without reliable surface water access began to decline. But within the past several months, those values have plummeted, according to appraisers, realtors and county assessors.

Spread of bird Flu 'Baffles' Dairy Farmers in the Central Valley

Even though he has been bracing for impacts of H5N1 bird flu since April, Tulare County dairy farmer Preston Fernandes said it still came as a surprise when milk samples from his farm tested positive for the virus last month. As the leading dairy state in the nation, California now also has the most bird flu cases in its milking herds. As of Oct. 11, 100 cases have been confirmed. Of the 14 states hit by bird flu in dairy cattle, California is one of two that have reported new infections in the past 30 days. Exactly how the virus spreads from herd to herd is not fully understood.

Market Manager Educates People about Food and Agriculture

Cheyenne Erickson, general manager of the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association's North Bay region, is enthusiastic about two things: fostering community and advocating for agriculture. Overseeing farmers markets in Contra Costa and Solano counties, she plays a vital role in connecting farmers, producers and small businesses with the communities they serve, while also informing consumers about their food. Erickson is a member of the California Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers State Committee representing Humboldt and Del Norte counties and serves as president of the Contra Costa County Farm Bureau.

FIRA USA to Bring Autonomous Farming Solutions to Yolo County Trade Show

The third edition of FIRA USA, the premier event for agricultural robots and autonomous farming solutions in California, is coming to Woodland Oct. 22-24. The three-day showcase will feature the cutting edge of technological innovation through live demonstrations and industry round tables. Demonstrations will include technological solutions for farming nuts, fruits, grapes, vegetables, berries and field crops. The event is free for growers to attend. ★

Slim Randles' HOME COUNTRY



Slim Randles

Ah ... politics! If you're a responsible American, as I often pretend to be, you'll have watched and read and listened to as much hogwash on every side of every question ad nauseum, and we'll all troop to the polls, read the names and say "Is this the best you guys can do for candidates?"

And then we'll vote, anyway. And that's why I'd like to suggest March 4 as a new national holiday, it being the entire term of the only non-toxic President of the United States.

His name was David Rice Atchison, who later on had Atchison, Kansas named for him, along with one third of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

"Is this the best you guys can do for candidates?"

Never heard of him? Well, he was a pro-slavery Democrat who never met a bottle of booze he didn't like. But back in 1849, when Atchison became President for an entire day, some people knew how to throw parties. And Atchison spent his entire term as President sleeping off a dandy drunk. (You can always turn here for the real skinny on history, of course).

Here's what happened. At noon on March 4, 1849, the term of President James Polk ended. At that very moment, the term of incoming President John Taylor was scheduled to begin. But Taylor was a religious man, and March 4 was on a Sunday, you see, so he said he'd wait until noon on Monday to be sworn in.

This left a 24-hour period where the United States didn't have a President. Normally, the vice president would take over, but his term expired

at Sunday noon, just like Polk's.

So we look on the list of successors and who do we find? David Rice Atchison of Missouri, who was president pro-tem of the Senate.

His headstone says "President of the United States for one day" too.

But we should set March 4 aside in honor of this man, because he was the only leader of this nation who didn't get at least half the country mad at him. For the rest of his life, Atchison enjoyed polishing this historical hiccup, describing his presidency as "the honestest administration this country ever had."

May his example shine forever.

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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Eight performers
6. Air traffic control controlling org.
9. 100-meter race
13. *Fauna, Merry-weather and ____, fairy godmothers
14. Adam's body part in Bible
15. Stone fruit
16. Type of bulrush, pl.
17. *Dawn of a new ____,
18. Pertaining to ear
19. *"" list
21. *""Your wish is my ____,
23. Actor Danson
24. Pottery oven
25. *Migos: "Look at My ____,
28. Cold cuts counter
30. Inner skin layer, pl.
35. Riyadh native
37. One thousandth of a liter, pl.
39. *""Till ____ do us part
40. Inconclusive
41. Where there's trouble?
43. On a cruise, e.g.
44. Man-made stone pile
46. Purse for a formal affair
47. Animal house
48. When a 3rd party holds assets
50. Prefers
52. Desk well content
53. Withdraw gradually
55. Black and white sea bird
57. *"" ____ up the wrong tree
61. *""A date which will live in ____
64. Certain monochromatic cookie, pl.
65. Weary traveler's destination
67. Robin Hood's companion Tuck
69. September stone
70. Tolstoy of "War and Peace" fame
71. Salon file
72. Hurly burly
73. Immeasurable period
74. Raja's wife

DOWN

1. Oftentimes, poetic abbreviation
2. *""Welcome to the ____
3. Cough syrup balsam
4. Not slouching
5. Assigned a chore
6. Worry
7. *""I'm walkin' on ____
8. Old-time calculators
9. Ringo Starr's instrument
10. Ambience
11. Bridge, e.g.
12. Kept together
15. *F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Beautiful and the ____"
20. Possible allergic reaction
22. *""What's ____ is new again
24. One thousand tons
25. *"" ____ like no one is watching
26. La Scala solos
27. Fundamental

CLUES

29. *"" ____ is like a box of chocolates
31. Madrid's Club de Fútbol
32. Kenyan warrior
33. Dined at home
34. *""Jump the ____, what Fonzie did
36. 100 cents in Ethiopia
38. *""No ____ for you!
42. Previously an Oiler
45. In no manner, archaic
49. Skin cyst
51. Bear pain
54. Quick and light on one's feet
56. Deserved consequence
57. *""You're gonna need a bigger ____
58. Jason's vessel
59. Use a book
60. Japanese zither
61. Involved (2 words)
62. Demeanor
63. Ready and eager
66. New, prefix
68. *J.D. Salinger's "Catch-er in the ____"

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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

PLAYOFF BOUND!

Titans 8U

By Randall Huff, Head Coach

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - On Saturday, Oct. 19, The 8U Gridley Titans finished off the final regular game of the season with a 20-6 win over the visiting Siskiyou Jr Trojans. The win made their final record 7-2 and ranked second in the league going into playoffs.

The Titans had a big game from Morgan Ruggirello who scored all 20 of the Titans' points. This was a big game for all the kids as it was a nice team win. The 8U Titans are heading into playoffs on Saturday, Oct. 26, against Central Valley Jr Falcons. The team looks forward to this weekend and playing our best game. Go Titans! ★

Titans 12U

By Brandon Oakley, Head Coach

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - On Saturday, Oct. 19, the 12U Gridley Titans football team dominated the 12U Siskiyou Jr Trojans with a 36-0 shutout.

The playoffs were on the line for the Titans, and they had no intention of letting that slip away. The team lived up to its motto, "Go for broke!", which they adopted from the historical 442nd Regiment of the United States Army

during WWII. The 12U Titans played a very physical game and struck early to bring the score to 22-0 in the first half. During the second half of the game, the 12U Titans were relentless on both sides of the ball and triggered the mercy-rule with five minutes left in the fourth quarter. This win brings the Titans' record to 5-4. The team will travel to Anderson on Saturday, Oct. 26, to take on the West Valley Jr Eagles in the first round of the playoffs. ★



12U Nickolas Kent sees lots of open field in front of him on Saturday, Oct. 19. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



12U Canon Sannar heading to the endzone against the Jr Trojans. Photo by Rhonda Andoe

Titans 10U



10U Ashton Hoppers with a run against the Jr Trojans on Saturday, Oct. 19. Photo by Rhonda Andoe



10U Nash Benson scores first touchdown of his young career. Photo by Rhonda Andoe

By Jason Davis Sr., Coach

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Saturday, Oct. 19, was the final regular season game for the 10U Gridley Titans. The 10U Titans were at home, taking on the visiting Siskiyou Jr Trojans. The 10U Titans proved to be too much for the Jr Trojans. There were touchdowns for the Titans being scored by players who have never

scored before. First to score was Weston Pequette, followed by Crash Davis and the final touchdown being scored by Jorge Rosas. The final score was 18-0 Titans. The 10U Gridley Titans head into the Playoffs on Saturday, Oct. 26, as the second seed, taking on a tough Corning team in Cottonwood, game time is 12 p.m. ★

Titans 14U



14U Titans Football and Cheer team photo prior to their last home game on Saturday, Oct. 19. Photo by Tony Luquin

By Tony Luquin, Head Coach

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - On Saturday, Oct. 19, the 14U Gridley Titans faced the Siskiyou Jr Trojans team for the last game of the regular season. It was a bittersweet moment due to it being the last game these group of kids will take the home field together. The vibe was definitely different, but in

a good way, with all that being said there was still a game to be played. The 14U Titans defense started off the game with a three and out which allowed the Titans offense to take the field. Isaiah Juarez scored on the first play with a sweep to the right side of the field. On the Titans' next offensive drive Dean Little scored with another sweep to the right side.

As the 14U Titans continued to get the ball back on offense, they continued to score. Alec Luquin threw 2 touchdown passes, one to Max Topete and one to Hunter Manes. The Titans played a great game in all phases of the game, they go into the playoffs as the number one seed to face the Durham Jr Trojans 14U team in Anderson, on Saturday, Oct. 26. ★

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The Bulldogs Dominate the Tigers



Seniors Gus Stogsdill (3) and Nathan Zumwalt (25) leading the Bulldogs onto the field. Photo by Libby Tolman

By Dillon Longmire

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Bulldogs dominated the Oroville Tigers at home in their second league game to get back into the win column this past Friday, Oct. 18.

The Bulldogs did what was expected and picked apart the Tigers. The game started (after a 30 minute delay) with the Bulldogs receiving the ball and moving down the field using the running game. That was until the ball was turned over on a fumble, but that was just about the only thing the Bulldogs would do

wrong.

After forcing a quick three and out, the Bulldogs would get the ball back and score in just five plays using the legs of senior wide receiver Kaleb Sherwood to give the Bulldogs an early 7-0 lead. The Tigers would then get their longest drive of seven plays but still end up punting to the Bulldogs, which was then run back for a touchdown by senior running back Luis Murillo.

Forcing a punt and scoring quickly would be a common theme for the Bulldog. The next offensive possession the Bulldogs would

score on just one play on a pass from senior quarterback Gus Stogsdill to Kaleb Sherwood early in the second quarter giving the Bulldogs a 21-0 lead. Bad went to worse for the Tigers as turnovers became a theme after junior Tiger quarterback Ayden Morales threw an interception that was taken back for a touchdown by junior cornerback Eli Punzo making it 28-0 with 8:54 left in the second quarter.

The Bulldogs would then go to the sideline and give playing time to players who don't typically get much playing time.

After forcing another three and out, the Bulldog offense would go to senior running back Lonnie Keel and give him the ball on 10 consecutive running plays until he was able to punch the ball in for a touchdown making the score 35-0 going into halftime.

The remainder of the game would have a clock that would only stop for timeouts. The Bulldogs would continue to dominate in the second half. The offense continued to move the ball and even give the ball to players who typically wouldn't get the ball such as senior defensive end

Ben Clement who ran the ball 47 yards and scored a touchdown. It was safe to say that at this point, the Bulldogs were just having fun. The same could not be said for the Tigers as they continued to take a beating while not being able to move the ball, and having two more interceptions.

The Gridley Bulldogs are scheduled to go on the road to face the Live Oak Lions in the annual Harvest Bowl while the Oroville Tigers will face the Orland Trojans at home. Both games are scheduled for Friday, Oct. 25, after press time. ★



Bulldogs' quarterback Gus Stogsdill hands the ball off to running back Nathan Zumwalt. Photo by Libby Tolman



The Gridley Bulldogs' running game was on display against the Oroville Tigers on Oct. 18. Photo by Libby Tolman



The Gridley Bulldogs' running game was on display against the Oroville Tigers on Oct. 18. Photo by Libby Tolman



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