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Altars, Art, Dance Offer Tribute



This and other Día de los Muertos altars showed how families have honored loved ones who have passed away.

**Story and photos
by Emanuel Espinoza**

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Many people gathered for the celebration of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) at Old Town Plaza on Oct. 13.

According to a website devoted to this holiday, Día de los Muertos is a two-day holiday to celebrate

the dead, mostly held on Nov. 1 and 2. Families create altars to honor family members who have passed and decorate them with bright yellow marigolds, photos of the deceased and favorite foods or drinks of the one being honored.

This was the first time since 2021 that this event was held in Old Town Plaza. In 2022 and 2023,

the event was held at District 56. At the front of the plaza, members of the dance group Kalpulli Xihuacoatl set up an altar for the celebration in relation to this Mexican holiday. Other altars were set up in tents at the event.

Adan Gutierrez, event organizer and captain of Kalpulli Xihuacoatl, said that this was the fourth

year that his group partnered with ARTners to do this event. Gutierrez said that he enjoyed how open it was to do this event outdoors compared to the confines of District 56 and that with its visibility from the street, it drew more people to come to the event.

"I really enjoy the open
Continued on Page 3



Michael Hemsworth's music schools have four branches that serve 1,100 students.

Jiving and Thriving at NewSongs School of Music

**Story and photos
by Ramona and Chris Scarborough**

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - A local Elk Grove citizen is making noise as a world-class music teacher and entrepreneur. Michael Hemsworth was raised and educated in Elk Grove and operates the popular NewSongs School of Music.

Even as a young man, Hemsworth seemed to be in a hurry to get important life achievements done. He graduated early from high school and got his college degree at 18. He started his own business as a piano teacher at 18 and married at 19. He has three children, ranging in ages from 12 to 21.

An early put-down by a band instructor helped shape Hemsworth's philosophy about how students should be treated. On a wall in his business are the words, "This is a safe place where mistakes are allowed."

Bright thank-you notes from students, hanging on another wall, prove this is more than just a slogan. Morgan, one of Hemsworth's students, wrote, "Thank you for being so patient with me and being a great teacher."

The school's motto echoes this sentiment of individual progress: "NewSongs-Find Your Voice."

Hemsworth said, "I never expected my business to grow so rapidly, but part of what has happened is due to my inability to say no."

As a result, the total number of students currently being served is 1,100, plus more students on public school campuses. NewSongs School of Music has four locations in total: two in Elk Grove, one in Sacramento and one in Citrus Heights.

Seventy-five employees in total staff these facilities. Several of the NewSongs
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Sutter Expansion Gets First OK from Planning



Sutter Health plans to expand its campus on Laguna Boulevard with a 57,000-square-foot medical office building. Image courtesy of Sutter Health

**By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer**

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Elk Grove Planning Commission on Oct. 17 signed off on initial approvals for a new building at the Sutter Health campus on Laguna Boulevard.

The 57,411-square-foot, two-story medical office building would be constructed to the south of the

existing surgery center. Sutter owns 40 acres of land in the area south of Laguna and east of Big Horn Boulevard; the new building and associated parking lots would take up about 4 acres of that.

As part of the project, Sutter Health has offered to do a full improvement on a trail adjacent to the project, paving it and adding new benches and trash cans, with pathways connecting

to the new project. The city's Trails Committee supported the plans.

Senior planner Kyra Killingsworth described the history of the site, for which Sutter Health previously had different plans.

In 2008, Planning Commission approved entitlements for a medical complex consisting of a hospital and eight associated medical office
Continued on Page 2

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Colorful Fundraiser Blows Powder, Bubbles

Story and photos by Emanuel Espinoza

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - More than 100 people gathered to run and get powdered in the inaugural Dreams in Motion Color Run on the morning of Sunday, Oct. 20.

This event was a fundraiser to help raise funds for youth sports and scholarships for graduating seniors in the Elk Grove Unified School District. It was organized by RISE Women of Elk Grove. RISE stands for "Refer, Inspire, Serve and Empower."

The color run was held at Elk Grove High School. Although many of the runners gathered on the track surrounding the football field, the main course was held on the field adjacent to the stadium where there were people shooting out the colored powder. An obstacle course and a bubble machine also awaited runners.

Jill Johnson, one of the co-founders of RISE Women of Elk Grove, said that for its first year, this event had a great turnout.

"I thought it was amazing," Johnson said. "It was our first year doing it and I didn't see anything go wrong. Everybody was having a good time and cheering everybody on. I thought it was a great turnout."

Johnson said that two days prior to the event, funds raised had reached \$9,000, and with some people having registered at the last minute, the numbers likely exceeded \$10,000.

Many people ended the run covered in colored powder. Some who took part in this event were from other cities. Elizabeth Penaloza of Stockton said she had heard about the event online and that she had fun participating. Penaloza took her baby on a stroller through the course, but said she



Runners navigate obstacles and colored powder at the Dreams in Motion Color Run on Oct. 20.

was well-prepared by putting some plastic over the stroller.

"It's great, it's kid-friendly, so I was able to take my time with it and it was very fun," Penaloza said.

Although the main run was completed at a certain time, the festivities were far from over. Many vendor booths were set up on the football field and some of them provided games for people to win prizes. There were also a couple of bounce houses set up for children.

Joe Kelley, owner of Golden Bray Mortgage Group, one of the event's sponsors, said that this



Patrons frolic in the suds produced by the bubble machine at the Dreams in Motion Color Run.

event supported a great cause to help raise money for the community.

"I think it's a fantastic event for a great cause," Kelley said. "RISE Women of Elk Grove getting and raising money for the

community and highlighting women's organizations, it's fantastic and they provided a great community event."

Brittany Davis, one of the co-founders of RISE Women of Elk Grove, said



With a cover for baby, Elizabeth Penaloza of Stockton rolled through the colors and bubbles.

that for it being the first color run in Elk Grove, it was successful. She said there was great feedback and it was great to see people covered in color and with smiles on their faces.

Davis said that although she was eager to count how much money was raised, this event was really about testing the market to see if people want this kind of event in Elk Grove.

"According to some feedback, it seems like the people can't wait for this event to happen again next year," Davis said. "We're excited for this to become an annual event." ★

Sutter Expansion Gets First OK from Planning



A lot south of Sutter's campus is the location for the new medical building. Photo by J.G. Wirt

Continued from page 1

buildings. Out of the original plans, only an ambulatory surgery center has been built, and the remaining parcels remain vacant.

Sutter Health asked the commission to revoke the entitlements for the unconstructed buildings, including the hospital, which Killingsworth said would grant Sutter more flexibility.

Staff also supported a deviation from city code, allowing some of the building's parking lots to not have islands, given that they will have solar-panel shade structures. Further, staff proposed setting the stage to remove a nearby floodway easement, saying it is out of date.

Landscape architect Thais Del Castillo said the new building would house 30 additional health care providers and 80 support staff, offering the following services: cardiology, dermatology and Mohs surgery, gastroenterology, general surgery, neurology, OB-GYN, orthopedics, physical medicine and rehabilitation, urology, and a lab.

Asked how Sutter Health would handle the construction traffic with patients at the existing building, Del Castillo said Sutter Health is working out the logistics with its contractor, helped by the fact that it owns the site.

Commissioner Sandra Poole and Commission Chair Suman Singha commended staff for the detail in the report, with Poole noting the project is "certainly needed in Elk Grove."

The commission approved the item with a 5-0 vote.

Old Town Use Permits

Planning unanimously approved an increase to Old Town Elk Grove's cap on permits for bars, breweries, wineries and brew pubs, raising it from three permits to six.

City Council at its Sept. 11 meeting instructed staff to draw up the amendment to the Old Town Special Planning Area, as the city has already granted the three allowed permits.

Planning Manager Antonio Ablog said the recipients of the permits are Coatza Brewing Co., Dust Bowl Brewing Co. and, most recently, the planned Elk Grove Pub to the west of the Union Pacific tracks.

Bob's Club operates with city approval but does not count toward the cap. Other businesses, such as restaurants, may sell alcohol under different licenses.

The city is aware of interest in opening businesses such as wine tasting rooms, Ablog said, but it could not consider such

projects due to the permit cap.

Ablog addressed concerns that he said the city has heard about additional liquor permits. Ablog said the hours of operation of any applicant would be limited by a conditional use permit based on the business' requests and effects such as excess noise on surrounding properties.

The Planning Commission's decision allows the city to consider new permit applications but any proposed permit will need individual approval from the commission.

Ablog added that Elk Grove Police Department did not see a particular increase in crime associated with the original three permits and the department raised no objection to raising the cap.

Ablog said staff considers permit applications on a first-come-first-served basis.

Poole noted concerns about the safety of the nearby railroad crossing for pedestrians. Ablog said the city does not have specific plans for improvements to the crossing but is "aware of the safety aspect and (has) looked into what options could be available as we look to implement additional safety measures at the crossing."

During public comment, Historical Preservation Committee member Peggy Forseth-Andrew requested that her committee have an opportunity to review the proposal. She said that "anything that takes place within the historic district affects the historic district."

Ablog later told commissioners that comprehensive updates to the special planning area will be brought to the Historical Preservation Committee; however, he said the permit cap is solely a "land-use question" that expands an existing use. If a future application concerns a historic property, Ablog said, that matter would first go to the Historical Preservation Committee.

Three Old Town residents voiced worries that new permits would harm the quality of life in Old Town. The three residents said they have repeatedly called the police over noise complaints and intoxicated patrons from existing businesses.

Commissioner Juan Fernandez said he has heard similar noise complaints and asked if the city can measure sound levels in the area. Development Services director Christopher Jordan said staff planned to work with the public commenters to assess the issue.

Commissioner Oscar O'con said he spoke to Old Town business owners and "heard a lot of support."

The commissioners voted 5-0 to increase the liquor permit cap. ★



Michael Hemsworth takes to the electronic drum throne in a NewSongs lesson room.

Jiving and Thriving at NewSongs School of Music

Continued from page 1

music teachers specialize in multiple instruments. Some company employees have been with NewSongs for a long time, like Nancy Smith, NewSongs' bookkeeper for seven years.

At NewSongs you can learn to play almost any instrument, get singing lessons and perform at recitals.

All abilities are welcome. This opportunity is open to young ones, starting at the early age of 18 months, toddlers, teens and adults.

Home-schooled kids can round out their music education by attending NewSongs. Also, there is a program through the

Special Needs Center that provides a recreational outlet for special education students. Consumnes River College students can receive work experience and gain college credits.

"The staff wants everyone to have fun," Hemsworth said. "September was pirate month. We wore eye patches and talked like pirates." Argh, Mateys!

October's themes are pajama week, crazy socks and hats, and costumes during Halloween.

Incentives are given to students to produce even more homegrown success stories.

But as with every business, there were obstacles

along the way.

"When COVID hit we geared up with Zoom and that took quite a bit of adjustment," Hemsworth said. "But I'm proud to say we retained all our employees during that time."

Now back on board, and in-person with multiple practice rooms for different instruments, enclosed areas for one-on-one lessons and a recital stage with room for an audience, the business is thriving and contributing new songs to our community.

NewSongs has two Elk Grove locations: 10481 Grant Line Rd #100 and 3159 Dwight Road #100. Learn more at newsong-smusic.com. ★

Skunks Test Positive for Rabies within Land Park

Sacramento County News Release

LAND PARK, CA (MPG) - A Sacramento Zoo visitor was bitten by a skunk on Oct. 15. The skunk was behaving aggressively. Sacramento Zoo officials captured and euthanized three skunks within the area after the incident and submitted them to the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory for rabies testing. On Oct. 17, confirmation was received that two of the three skunks tested positive for rabies.

Sacramento Zoo officials captured and euthanized a fourth skunk on Oct. 17. That skunk will be sent for rabies testing.

Rabies is a severe

infection of the nervous system caused by a virus that is most often transmitted through the bite from an infected animal.

Rabies can infect all mammals, including humans. Preventative treatment is available for humans after exposure but must be started promptly. Once clinical signs of rabies are seen, the disease is almost always fatal. If you are bitten by an animal believed to have rabies, contact Sacramento County at 3-1-1 or (916) 875-4311.

In California, rabies is identified in about 200 animals every year, most often in wildlife like bats and skunks. Domestic animals such as dogs, cats, and

horses can also get rabies, but this is not as common due to legal requirements for rabies vaccination.

With Land Park having popular destinations for families, such as the Sacramento Zoo, visitors should take these steps to minimize exposure to rabies:

Avoid contact with wild animals; call animal control if you see sick or injured wildlife.

Report unusual behavior of wildlife or domestic animals (e.g., stumbling, seizures, aggressiveness) to local animal control.

Immediately wash all animal bites with soap and water and seek medical attention. ★

Sacramento Zoo Animal Statues Larger Than Life



Created by Little Ray's Exhibitions, this giant frog is on display for a limited time. Photos courtesy of the Sacramento Zoo

Sacramento Zoo News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Zoo is excited to unveil Critters Near & Far, a new limited-time installation featuring larger-than-life animal statues created by Little Ray's Exhibitions.

Officially open now, this outdoor display offers a fun, hands-on adventure that brings the wonders of wildlife to life!

Each climbable sculpture represents an animal from around the globe, inviting visitors, especially children, to touch, interact and explore.

With imagination meeting adventure, Critters Near & Far offers more than just photo opportunities.

Each statue is paired with educational information panels, making this exhibit not only visually captivating but also a journey through the diverse animal kingdom.



A little girl enjoys a red panda statue at the Sacramento Zoo.



Little ones are bound to enjoy the limited-time animal statues.

The goal is to spark curiosity, foster learning and inspire a deeper appreciation for wildlife.

This installation is free with regular zoo admission, so add it to your next zoo trip. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity, available for a limited time!



A group of Ballet Folklorico dancers perform at Old Town Plaza.

Altars, Art, Dance Offer Tribute

Continued from page 1

feel, the wind, the sun, the elements," Gutierrez said.

In the first half-hour of the event, dancers of the group Nostalgias de Mexico performed Mexican folk dances for the attendees.

There were also murals on display in the middle of the plaza of artwork related to Día de los Muertos.

Many artists had booths set up to display their art, ranging from paintings to graphic tees, among other types of artwork. Sacramento artist Veronica



Skulls, marigolds and framed photos are shown in a detail photo from the Día de los Muertos altar.

Kovatz Sanchez said this was her third time doing this event and that a lot of her artwork relates to her culture, nature.

"A lot of my artwork can also relate to anxiety and depression that I have experienced in the past," Kovatz Sanchez said. "So it's nice to put some of that on canvas and see if other people can relate to it."

Anna Sissom of Elk



Patrons browse the murals and visit with artists at the Oct. 13 Día de los Muertos event.

Grove attended this event with her two daughters. Sissom said this was the first time she came to this event and also that she was excited to bring her daughters to explore their heritage as they are half-Mexican.

She also said that they want to expand on the cultural traditions.

"We're thinking about building our own altar, so I wanted to bring out the girls to see about the tradition and to get inspired,"

Sissom said.

Teresa Gutierrez, president of ARTners, said the move to Old Town Plaza gave this event a more "earthy feel" because this event is "spiritual" and helps draw more people to come than in an indoor venue.

"We want to thank the city of Elk Grove and the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center for helping us put on this event," Teresa Gutierrez said. ★

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County ROAR Program Receives Funding

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento County Department of Health Services (DHS) has received an \$8 million grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections, funded through Proposition 47, to launch a new program focused on helping formerly incarcerated individuals reintegrate into society. The Reentry Opportunities and Access to Resources (ROAR) program will address core challenges like recidivism, homelessness and unemployment for individuals reentering the community after incarceration. The grant, which was awarded in October 2024 will fund efforts through June 1, 2028.

ROAR aims to reduce recidivism rates by 35% by connecting individuals with community-based resources and support

before they are released. The program plans to expand eligibility for reentry services and establish partnerships with correctional facilities to provide “warm handoffs” for those reentering the community. By connecting individuals with community providers who can help them find housing, job training or mental health services, DHS hopes to offer a fresh start for those reintegrating into society.

Homelessness is a significant barrier for individuals leaving incarceration, and ROAR is set to address this challenge with re-housing funds and access to shelter beds. The program’s objective is to reduce homelessness among its participants by 60% and lower unemployment by 50%, with job training and workforce development as core components of the strategy. Data from the Homeless Management Information System and reports from

community-based organizations will be used to track these efforts.

Substance use and mental health issues are common among justice-involved individuals, with nearly 25% of Sacramento’s incarcerated population affected by substance use disorders alone. ROAR will work to increase participation in mental health and substance use treatment programs by 50%, helping participants build a foundation for stability. By recruiting more service providers and strengthening referral networks, ROAR seeks to offer targeted, timely support to those in need.

With funding secured, Sacramento County will begin developing an implementation plan and budget for ROAR and

is aiming to create lasting change and reduce the barriers faced by formerly incarcerated individuals in Sacramento. ★

Halloween Safety Tips

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Halloween is upon us and Sacramento County has important tips for parents to help make sure children have safe trick-or-treating adventures. Follow the tips below and have a fun and safe Halloween every year!

See and Be Seen

Pick out costumes that don’t interfere with vision, add reflective tape on the front, back and sides and use accessories that are soft or flexible.

Before Going Out to Trick-Or-Treat

If your child has food allergies, it’s important to remind teachers and supervising adults about what they cannot eat. Just before going trick-or-treating, give your kids a healthy snack or light meal. On your way out the door, bring a flashlight, take safe routes, use sidewalks and crosswalks and have children look both ways before crossing the street. If you are driving in residential areas on Halloween, slow down and be extra alert for children crossing the street.

When You Get Home

Inspect treats for tampering, unusual appearance or discoloration, tiny pinholes, or tears in wrappers – throw away anything suspicious and do not eat any

homemade treats unless you know the person who made them.

For young children, consider choking hazards such as the size and texture and remove gum, nuts, hard candies or small toys.

Handing Out Treats


Be sure to turn on your outside walkway lights, and use battery flicker lights for carved pumpkins instead of lighted candles. Give out only factory-wrapped treats and consider handing out healthier treats like mini-boxes of raisins or crackers.

You could also give out non-food items, like stickers, bookmarks, coloring books and crayons.

Don’t Forget Your Pets

While Halloween is fun for children, it can be spooky for your fur children. Keep these tips in mind to ensure your pet feels comfortable and safe. Dressing up pets might be fun for you, but some pets get truly distressed and may even bolt to try to get the costume off. Keep pets safely indoors and put on their I.D. collars with up-to-date license tags – do not take them trick-or-treating.

Consider setting up shop on your driveway so that your doorbell does not continuously ring and further distress animals. Lock candy safely away, a dog’s keen sense of smell will lead them right to the treats that can be life-threatening. ★



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Elk Grove Citizen

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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. ★

POLICE LOGS

Friday, Oct. 11

5:16 p.m., Elk Grove-Florin Road/Silverberry Avenue: Elk Grove Police arrested Kiana Davis, 37, on controlled substance possession and warrant charges.

Saturday, Oct. 12

3:18 a.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Jacob Moon, 24, on corporal injury to an intimate partner and vandalism charges.

3:37 a.m., 9200 block of Woodrow Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Deshawn Hess, 55, on child endangerment charges.

1:51 p.m., 8300 block of Sheldon Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Sionepseisi Kanongataa, 30, on warrant charges.

1:59 p.m., 9100 block of West Stockton Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Albert Franks, 41, and Antone Mouton, 40, on warrant charges and charges of shoplifting, resisting arrest, conspiracy and probation violation.

Sunday, Oct. 13

2:49 a.m., 5100 block of Lenzi Court: Elk Grove Police arrested Adrienne Mae Che, 25, and Vince Elarmo, 38, on charges of concealed weapon possession, carrying of a loaded firearm by someone other than the registered owner, and large-capacity magazine possession.

5:42 a.m., 8600 block of Red Clover Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Charlie Fang, 53, on charges of criminal threats, burglary and resisting arrest.

3:51 p.m., Bruceville Road/Sheldon Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Roque Cruz Fentanes, 45, on warrant charges.

3:32 p.m., 9200 block of Guillermina Court: Elk Grove Police arrested Jessyka Thomas, 33, on false ID and warrant charges.

3:56 p.m., 9200 block of Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Kendrick Shedd, 53, on battery charges.

7:39 p.m., 8500 block of Bond Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Andres Madrigal, 34, on battery and vandalism charges.

Monday, Oct. 14

4:35 a.m., 4800 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Kelton Newman, 29, on DUI and meth possession charges.

4:48 p.m., 8400 block of Elk Grove

Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Andre Dewitt, 31, on warrant charges and controlled substance and drug paraphernalia possession charges.

7:33 p.m., 8700 block of Bond Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Monique Friesen, 34, on warrant charges.

Tuesday, Oct. 15

5:10 a.m., 9600 block of Auto Center Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Gabriel Fuoco, 30, on charges of meth possession, meth transportation or sale, drug paraphernalia possession, and fake ID possession.

7:21 a.m., Jade Creek Way/Amber Creek Drive: Elk Grove Police arrested Cameron Peckham, 40, on meth possession and warrant charges.

3:33 p.m., 8600 block of Nemea Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Zion Weaver, 24, on charges of assault to cause great bodily harm, criminal threats and damaging a communication device to prevent help.

8:04 p.m., 8400 block of Laguna Palms Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Svetlana Garner, 44, on warrant charges.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

5:22 a.m., 7200 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Liberato Atienza, 66, on trespassing charges.

8:35 a.m., Bradshaw Road/Gerber Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Enoch Duplechan, 46, on reckless driving charges.

12 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Emma Lefley, 30, on corporal injury to an intimate partner charges.

Thursday, Oct. 17

5:59 a.m., 4700 block of Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Shayne Johnson, 31, on warrant charges.

6:48 a.m., 10100 block of Bruceville Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Kenneth Gist, 46, on vandalism, probation violation and warrant charges.

8:44 a.m., 5000 block of Laguna Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Andrew Villalobos, 26, on resisting arrest charges.

11:47 p.m., 5200 block of Moon Run Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Keeylan Jeffries, 30, and Kendra Jeffries, 30, on battery and warrant charges. ★



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Nine Commission-Supported Bills Signed into Law

Little Hoover Commission News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Nine bills supported by the Little Hoover Commission were signed into law this year, including four measures that will strengthen efforts against intimate partner violence and other legislation to address labor trafficking, organic waste disposal, and customer-centric government.

“Seeing our recommendations embraced by the legislature and Governor Newsom and then turned into concrete policy improvements speaks to the Little Hoover Commission’s bi-partisan approach to solving California’s complex challenges,” said Commission Chair Pedro Nava. “We are honored that our work is helping to protect many of California’s most vulnerable.”

The Commission is a nonpartisan 13-member body appointed by the Governor and legislative leadership, and charged with making recommendations for policy changes that will foster efficiency, economy, and improved service in state government. The Commission supports legislation and other actions that implement its recommendations.

The four bills addressing intimate partner violence implement recommendations stemming from Commission reports. Among other reforms, those reports urged a focus on prevention and early intervention, accompanied by adequate funding.

Three of the bills address prevention and early intervention:

AB 2308 (Davies) extends from 10 to 15 years the maximum duration of a protective order issued against people convicted of certain domestic violence offenses.

SB 1394 (Min) creates new ways for survivors to stop a

domestic abuser from tracking their car.

SB 989 (Ashby) enhances investigation procedures in cases involving domestic violence-related deaths.

AB 2432 (Gabriel, Cervantes, Reyes), establishes a California Crime Victims Fund, which will disburse fines paid by corporations convicted of illegal activity, to assist victims, including survivors of intimate partner violence.

“These new laws will make a real impact in the lives of people who experience intimate partner violence,” said Commissioner Janna Sidley, the Commission’s on IPV subcommittee chair “We want to congratulate Assemblymembers Davies, Gabriel, Cervantes and Reyes and Senator Min, for their important work in getting these bills passed, and the Governor for signing them.”

Two approved bills further the goals of recommendations from three Commission reports on labor trafficking. Detecting labor trafficking is difficult as few understand the nature of the crime, and implementation of state human trafficking laws has focused on sex trafficking.

Even when these crimes are successfully identified, cases that bring traffickers to justice remain rare. The Commission recommended that the state empower state agencies to investigate labor trafficking crimes and conduct public education and outreach campaigns to increase awareness of all forms of human trafficking.

AB 1888 (Arambula and Ramos) establishes a dedicated labor trafficking unit within the California Department of Justice to receive labor trafficking reports from law enforcement agencies and other entities and refer those reports to appropriate agencies for action. AB 1966 (Davies) requires

ticket sellers to include information and resources for human trafficking victims with all ticket purchases for events at an entertainment venue.

“These reforms will help California serve those victimized by labor trafficking, an often-hidden crime,” said Commission Vice Chair Anthony Cannella. “Assemblymembers Arambula, Ramos and Davies should be very proud of this important milestone.”

In a 2023 report, Reducing California’s Landfill Emissions: SB 1383 Implementation, the Commission determined that California is falling short in the fight against harmful landfill emissions, a major contributor to climate change. The report featured recommendations that would help further the state’s efforts to curb methane emission, including:

Build as much flexibility as possible for local governments to recycle their organic waste.

Expand the list of compliance pathways and products eligible to count toward a jurisdiction’s procurement requirements.

Plan for the necessary infrastructure to achieve the state’s environmental goals, facilitate community composting, speed up the permitting process, and make any necessary changes to the relationship between state and local governments to better reflect shared responsibility for waste management.

Two approved bills will further the goals of these recommendations. AB 2346 (Lee) provides flexibility to local governments in how they comply with procurement requirements for recovered organic material. SB 1046 (Laird) requires a Program Environmental Impact Report for small and medium composts facilities to streamline permitting and help the

state meet its climate goals.

AB 2455 (Gabriel) modernizes whistleblower laws and add protections to prevent the misuse of state funds and is in line with numerous Commission recommendations through the years regarding fiscal accountability.

Here are details of the nine bills that were supported by the Commission and that were signed into law this year.

Intimate Partner Violence

SB 989 (Ashby) expands law enforcement and coroners’ duties when a deceased person has a history as victim of domestic violence. Allows additional access to coroner records for family members when litigating a victim’s death.

AB 2432 (Gabriel, Cervantes, Reyes) establishes the California Crime Victims Fund in the State Treasury and would require that moneys deposited in the fund be continuously appropriated to the Office of Emergency Services to support crime victims’ services.

AB 2308 (Davies) authorizes a court to issue a protective order for up to 15 years. Authorizes the issuing court, upon a written petition by the prosecuting attorney, defendant, or victim, to modify or terminate the protective order for good cause if the parties receive notice at least 15 days before the hearing on the petition. Expands the scope of a crime to create a state-mandated local program.

SB 1394 (Min) establishes a process for the rapid termination of a domestic abuser’s access to app-connected, remote, and GPS-based vehicle technology. Requires car manufacturers to disable an abuser’s access to remote vehicle technology within two business days of a survivor’s request provided sufficient documentation, such as proof of legal possession of the vehicle or

a domestic violence restraining order that awards possession of the vehicle in question.

Labor Trafficking

AB 1966 (Davies) requires a primary ticket seller to include information regarding nonprofit organizations that provide services or support in the elimination of slavery and human trafficking.

AB 1888 (Arambula and Ramos) establishes the Labor Trafficking Unit within the Department of Industrial Relations to receive, investigate, and prosecute complaints alleging labor trafficking and take steps to prevent it. The Unit will also coordinate with the Labor Enforcement Task Force, the Criminal Investigation Unit, the Department of Justice, and the Civil Rights Department to combat labor trafficking.

Organic Waste Disposal

AB 2346 (Lee) authorizes local jurisdictions to be credited for the procurement of recovered organic waste products through an agreement with a direct service provider. Recovered organic waste that local jurisdictions procure from specified compost operations also count towards the local jurisdiction’s procurement target.

SB 1046 (Laird) requires CalRecycle to prepare and certify completion of an environmental impact report that would streamline the process for jurisdictions to develop small and medium organic waste composting facilities.

Customer-Centric Government

AB 2455 (Gabriel) modernizes local and state whistleblower hotline laws and add protections to prevent the misuse of state funds. These changes are meant to improve accountability, increase public trust, and ensure government actions and transactions are transparent. ★

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. ★

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. ★

Democrats Double Down on End of Session Chaos

Office of Assemblyman James Gallagher News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Democrats are doubling down on their mismanagement and undemocratic tactics during a chaotic end of session. In response to an investigation request from Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher (R-Yuba City), Democrats insisted no rules were violated and everything ran smoothly, despite barring Republican members from participating in discussion and limiting debate to just 30 seconds per member.

“Democrats’ refusal to address the chaos on the last day of session is disappointing, but not a surprise,” said Gallagher. “By cutting off debate, Democrats silenced the voices

of our constituents and did a disservice to Californians who deserve a transparent law-making process. We’re not done fighting for what’s right, because Democrats’ business as usual is no longer acceptable.”

Democrats’ response, where they claim “no rules were violated in the final hours of session,” ignores underlying concerns around limiting debate on important legislative issues. Instead, Democrats have justified their actions by citing precedent and twisting parliamentary rules to retroactively defend their actions.

Assemblyman James Gallagher represents the 3rd Assembly District, which encompasses all of Glenn, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba counties as well as portions of Butte and Colusa counties. ★

MEETING MINDERS

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

The Elk Grove City Council has its regular meetings at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. To view the meeting, visit the city of Elk Grove's website, www.ElkGroveCity.org.

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

A live video stream of this meeting can be viewed at the city of Elk Grove's website, www.ElkGroveCity.org.

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

The CSD board meetings can be watched live at www.CosumnesCSD.gov and they are held at 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

The Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. This meeting is in-person at the Cosumnes Community Services District headquarters, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

Members of the public can also view it by using the Zoom application and visiting the school district's website, www.EGUSD.net.

Past board meetings can be watched on the district's YouTube channel, "ElkGroveUnified."

The Florin Resource Conservation District Board, which governs the Elk Grove Water District, holds online meetings every third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. These meetings are held via the Zoom application. To access them, visit www.egwd.org. ★

ARTS CALENDAR

Art Workshops for Adults

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

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

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

The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center is at 9020 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 101.

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

They are open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit us every First Saturday from 4-7PM at the Center for refreshments, an opportunity to

meet featured artists, and enjoy live music.

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

View Artwork from Elk Grove

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

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

Call for Artists at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center

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

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

For more, please visit https://elkgrovetfineartscenter.org/ ★

LEGAL ADVERTISING

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

Legal Advertising Hotline: 916-483-2299
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PUBLIC NOTICE

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL INVITATION FOR CALIFORNIA UNIFORM PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION COST ACCOUNTING ACT (CUPCCAA) BIDDERS LIST

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District (the "District") has elected to participate in the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA). Public projects, as defined by this Act and in accordance with the limits listed in Section 22032 of the Public Contract Code, will be let to contract by informal procedures as set forth in Sections 22030-22045 of the Public Contract Code. All licensed contractors are invited to submit the name of their firm to the District for inclusion in the District's list of qualified bidders for the remainder of the calendar year 2024, and for the next calendar year 2025.

Interested contractors are required to submit the following information via email at facilitiesbids@egusd.net:

- A valid e-mail address to which a Notice to Contractors or Proposals can be e-mailed.
- The complete address, including zip code, telephone and mobile numbers at which the Contractor may be reached.
- The classification of the contractor's license(s) held, contractor's license number(s), and contractor license expiration date.
- The type(s) of work in which the contractor is interested and currently licensed to perform, such as Class A – General Engineering, Class B – General Building, and Class C – Limited.

This announcement has been sent to various trade journals for publication as a requirement of the CUPCCAA procedures to establish and maintain a list of qualified contractors per the applicable sections of the Public Contract Code.

Elk Grove Citizen 10-18, 10-25-2024

CITY OF ELK GROVE

CITY'S FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS REPORT - CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/WORKING CAPITAL

Consolidated Statements
Fiscal Year 2024

	Total Expenditures	Total Revenues	Net Expenditures/ (Excess) Revenues
Expenditures Net of Functional Revenues			
General Government	\$ 59,655,005.00	\$ 3,819,025.00	\$ 55,835,980.00
Public Safety	\$ 64,957,901.00	\$ 8,602,063.00	\$ 56,355,838.00
Public Ways and Facilities	\$ 46,173,279.00	\$ 75,287,693.00	\$ (29,114,414.00)
Transportation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Community Development	\$ 16,739,285.00	\$ 36,283,520.00	\$ (19,544,235.00)
Health	\$ 8,316,740.00	\$ 10,143,411.00	\$ (1,826,671.00)
Total	\$ 195,842,210.00	\$ 134,135,712.00	\$ 61,706,498.00
General Revenues			
Taxes			\$ 119,688,040.00
Licenses and Permits			\$ 1,685,162.00
Fines and Forfeitures			\$ 1,233,359.00
Revenues from Use of Money and Property			\$ 4,811,396.00
Intergovernmental			\$ 345,679.00
Total			\$ 127,763,636.00
Excess(Deficiency) of General Revenue Over Net Expenditures			\$ 66,057,138.00
Excess(Deficiency) of Internal Service Charges Over Expenses			\$ 4,490,928.00
Beginning Fund Balance/ Working Capital			\$ 471,510,804.00
Ending Fund Balance/ Working Capital			\$ 542,058,870.00
Appropriation Limit as of Fiscal Year End			\$ 145,628,959.00

This report, prepared by the City of Elk Grove Finance Department, is published pursuant to Government Code Section 40804.

Date/Published: October 25, 2024
 Jason Lindgren, City Clerk, City of Elk Grove

Elk Grove Citizen 10-25-2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON THE RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENTION TO ANNEX TERRITORY COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1 (ELK GROVE FIRE PROTECTION)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to California Government Code Section 53322, the Board will hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at the meeting place of the Board, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove, California, to consider:

A. A summary of the text of Resolution 2024-33 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COSUMNES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DECLARING INTENTION TO ANNEX TERRITORY TO COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF THE SPECIAL TAX THEREIN is as follows:

The Board has conducted proceedings to establish Community Facilities District No. 1 (Elk Grove Fire Protection) (the "CFD") pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended (the "Act"), Chapter 2.5 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5, commencing at Section 53311, of the California Government Code and The Board hereby finds and determines that public convenience and necessity require that territory be added to the CFD. The name of the existing CFD is "Cosumnes Community Services District Community Facilities District No. 1 (Elk Grove Fire Protection)." The territory included in the existing CFD is set forth in the map of the CFD recorded in the office of the County Recorder of the County of Sacramento in Book 116 at Page 1580 of Maps of Assessment and Community Facilities Districts, to which map reference is hereby made. The territory now proposed to be annexed to the CFD is as shown on Annexation Map No. 54 to the CFD, on file with the Clerk of the Board ("Board Clerk"). The services and facilities to be financed by the CFD (the "Services and Facilities") and pursuant to the Act are described in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 2012-25 of the District, adopted on June 6, 2012 (the "Resolution of Formation") which is incorporated herein by reference. The Resolution, Description of Facilities, Rate, and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax, and the proposed boundaries of the Community Facilities District No. 1 Annexation No. 54 are on file with Nou Vang, Cosumnes Community Services District, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, California, and are available for review there during business hours by any interested persons.

On Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at the meeting place of the Board, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, California, this Board, as the legislative body for the CFD, will conduct a public hearing on the annexation of the territory to the CFD and consider and finally determine whether the public interest, convenience, and necessity require the annexation of the Property to the CFD and the levy of the Special Tax thereon.

At the public hearing, the testimony of all interested persons or taxpayers for or against the proposed annexation will be heard. If owners of one-half or more of the area of land in the existing CFD and not exempt from the Special Tax, or if the owners of one-half or more of the area of land in the territory proposed to be annexed and not exempt from the Special Tax, file written protests against the proposed annexation, and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the protests to less than a majority, no further proceedings to annex the same territory shall be undertaken for a period of one year from the date of the decision of the District Board on the issues discussed at the hearing.

Elk Grove Citizen 10-25-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PRE-QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

Notice is hereby given that all contractors required to pre-qualify for Elk Grove Unified School District ("District") projects must adhere to the following procedures, submit the following documentation and information at least annually, with quarterly certifications or updates, and must be found by the District on a quarterly basis to pre-qualify, as a condition of bidding the District project during any quarterly period. The District is required to have a pre-qualification process pursuant to applicable California law (in particular Public Contracts Code sections 20111.5 and 20111.6) for any projects projected to cost \$1,000,000 or more. Any General Contractors (GCs) and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) Subcontractors bidding on projects projected to cost \$1,000,000 or more are required to participate in the District's pre-qualification process. MEP is defined as subcontractors holding the following license classifications: C-4, C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 and/or C-46. Pre-qualification application packages are available on our website at <http://www.egusd.net/about/divisions-departments/business-services-and-facilities/facilities-and-planning/>, www.egusdplans.com, or via email at facilitiesbids@egusd.net

It is mandatory that all GCs and MEP Subs who intend to submit bids fully complete the pre-qualification questionnaire, provide all materials requested herein, and be approved by the District. No bid will be accepted from a GC that has failed to comply with these requirements, or submits a bid that lists MEP Subs that have failed to comply with these requirements. If two or more business entities submit a bid on a project as a Joint Venture, or expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately qualified to bid.

Pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5, no contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations.

The pre-qualification packet includes, in part, a questionnaire and financial statement, to be verified under oath. The District will use the information and documentation required herein, as the basis for rating contractors in respect to the size and scope of contracts upon which each contractor is qualified to bid. The District reserves the right to check other sources available. The District's decision will be based, in part, on its uniform rating system, including, among other things, objective evaluation criteria and references.

While it is the intent of the pre-qualification questionnaire and documents required therewith to assist the District in determining bidder responsibility prior to the submission of bids and to aid the District in selecting the lowest responsible bidder, neither the fact of pre-qualification, nor any pre-qualification rating, will preclude the District from a post-bid consideration and determination on a specific project of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness. Contractors are encouraged to submit pre-qualification packages as soon as possible, so that they may be notified of pre-qualification status well in advance of the bid process.

If the bidder, within the last calendar year, has submitted to the District a completed Pre-Qualification Application and the District has determined that the bidder is prequalified, the bidder must submit a **Quarterly Update** in each calendar quarter after the calendar quarter in which the initial Pre-Qualification Application was filed, certifying that nothing has changed in the interim period to make the Pre-Qualification Application materially untrue, inaccurate or misleading. If the bidder has been deemed prequalified by the District within the last calendar year but has failed to submit a Quarterly Update in order to maintain pre-qualification, the bidder will be automatically disqualified and must submit a full Pre-Qualification Application in order to be considered for pre-qualification.

The pre-qualification packages should be sealed, marked "CONFIDENTIAL PREQUALIFICATION", and delivered to: **Facilities and Planning Department, Elk Grove Unified School District, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, CA 95624, Attention: Pre-Qualification, by 5:00 p.m. on December 31, 2024.**

The questionnaire answers and financial statements included in the pre-qualification packages submitted by contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All such information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law, although the contents may be disclosed to third parties for the purpose of verification, investigation of substantial allegations, and in the process of any applicable appeal. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for pre-qualification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

Each questionnaire must be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated at the end of the form, by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the contractor on whose behalf that person is signing. If any information provided by a contractor becomes inaccurate, the contractor must immediately notify the District and provide updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury.

Elk Grove Citizen 10-25, 11-1-2024

AUCTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 21700 through 21716 of the Business and Profession Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the California Civil Code. The undersigned will sell at a public sale personal property stored by the following delinquent tenants Evelynne Drinker – B144, S214, S219 by competitive bidding on October 24th, 2024 at 7:00AM at website <https://www.storagetreasures.com/>.

General business and household items are set to be sold. Purchases must be paid for at the time of sale in cash only. All purchased goods are sold as is, where is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale is subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between the owner and tenant occurs.

Auctioneer: <https://www.storagetreasures.com/> Elk Grove Citizen 10-18 - 10-25-2024

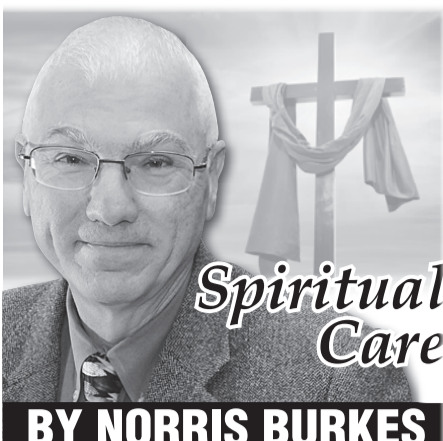
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The Chaplain's Day Off



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 to 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. ★

For an autographed copy of "Tell It to The Chaplain," or any of my books, order from my website or send a check for \$20 (per book) to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602. Email comments to comment@thechaplain.net or by text or voicemail to (843) 608-9715. See past columns and other books at website www.thechaplain.net.

RELIGION NEWS

Chabad of Elk Grove's Weekly Torah Classes

Local community members are invited to attend free weekly Torah Classes that will be offered by Chabad of Elk Grove. Each class will be held from 6:45-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at a private location. The course, "Flashbacks in Jewish History," will examine how our past informs our future. Rabbi Chaim Groner leads the discussion. For location, call (917) 724-4443.

Field of Hope United Church of Christ's Services

Community members are invited to the Field of Hope United Church of Christ's

Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. at 9624 Melrose Ave., Elk Grove.

Sunday School and nursery services are available. For more information, visit www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org.

Grace Church Hosts Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered ministry offering help in finding freedom from the issues (hurts, hang-ups, and habits) controlling your life.

Meetings are held weekly on Friday evenings at 7 p.m. at Grace Church, located at 9766 Waterman Road, next to Mel Dogs Restaurant.

Sunday Morning Worship begins at 10 a.m.

For more information call (916) 714

3444) or email: office@gracechurch.org. Visit GraceChurchEG.org.

Music and Sermon Topics at Elk Grove Presbyterian Church

MUSIC EVENTS: Our JAZZ & BLUES HOUR continues on the first Sunday of the month at 4 pm. Papa Day Blues Band performed to an energetic audience on Oct. 6.

There will be no Jazz and Blues Hour in November as Scotty Inman will perform for the community. He will be in Elk Grove on Nov. 15 for an evening concert of worship and fellowship.

Joining Scotty will be the Herb Henry Family, California's First Family of Gospel Music, and Faith

Valley.

Tickets are \$25 with assigned seating. A portion of the ticket proceeds will benefit several charities - One Thousand Schools (formerly Students Helping Honduras), Chicks in Crisis, Elk Grove Food Bank Services and Sacramento Stand Down. For tickets go online to www.itickets.com/events/479656.

The concert will be held at The Center at District 56, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95757.

Come early before the concert starts and listen to the musical talents of Chan Louie and enjoy some refreshments.

Doors open at 6:00 pm and the concert starts at

7:00 pm.

UPCOMING SERMON TOPICS: Rev. Dexter McNamara has announced upcoming sermon topics:

Oct. 27 - Guest Preacher: Rev. David Ratcliff, topic TBD; Nov. 3 - "What It Comes Down To"; Nov. 10 - "Recognition or Righteousness?"; Nov. 17 - "Suffering: Curse and/or Blessings?"; Nov. 24, (Christ the King Sunday). Topic - "A Tough Question".

Rev. McNamara welcomes members and visitors every Sunday at 10 am.

Our church is located at 8153 Elk Grove Blvd, Suite 50, facing Big Horn Blvd.

For more information

Rev. McNamara can be reached at (916) 683-1435 or elkgrovepres@gmail.com.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church's Mass Schedule

Elk Grove's St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church invites everyone to celebrations of Holy Mass at 8700 Bradshaw Road..

Mass will be held there at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon on Sundays.

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

For more information, call (916) 647-4538, visit www.SMGCC.net, or download the MyParish app and enter the code, 55321. ★

Places of Worship

Full Gospel Church

9286 E. Stockton Blvd.,
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Pastor Daniels

916-531-8429

Tuesday Prayer Healing 6pm

Sunday School 10am

Sunday Worship 11am

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

8701 Elk Grove-Florin Rd.

Pastor Joe Dapelo

916-689-7300

Service Hours:

One in Worship service 8:30 am

Sunday School 11 am

Website: <https://stpeterseg.org>

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Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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8:45 am & 10:30 am

Children's Christmas Program Dec. 22, 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24, 6 pm & 8 pm

Christmas Day Service Dec. 25, 10 am

We look forward to seeing you:

Traditional service at 8:45 a.m.

Contemporary service at 10:30 a.m.

Children's Ministry during Contemporary Service

Nursery available at 10:30 a.m. service

9270 Bruceville Road in Elk Grove

Stream our service at lightofthevalley.net

916-691-3568

Family Praise and Worship Ministries

4099 Emerson Road, Acampo, CA 95220

Pastors Claude & Jan Moore

209-224-8145

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Bible Study Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

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

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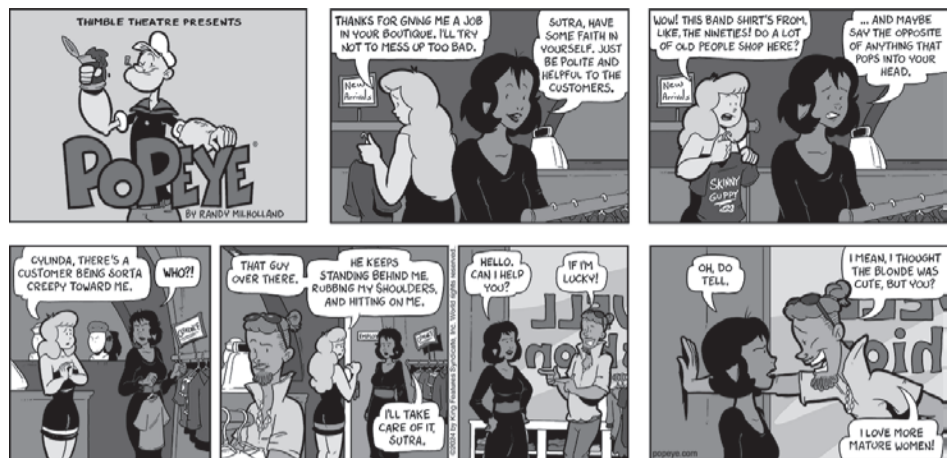
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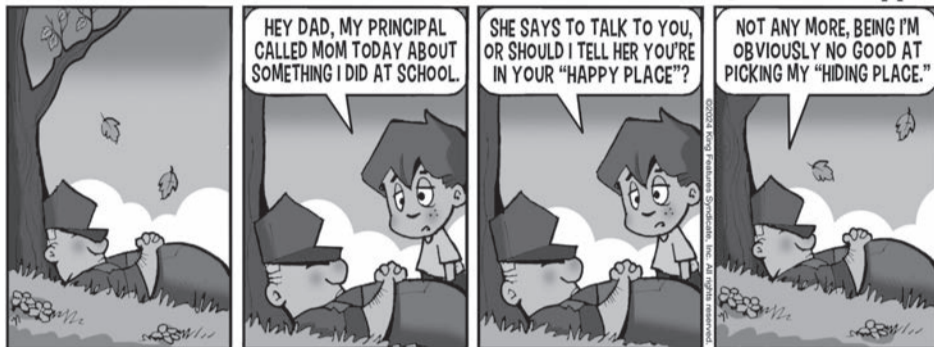
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by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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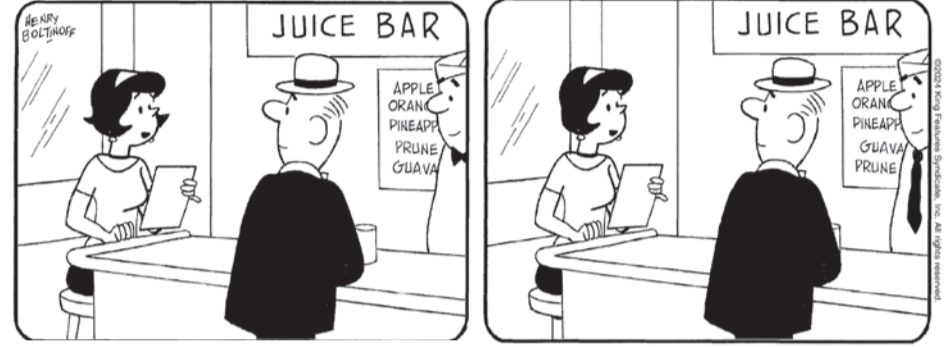
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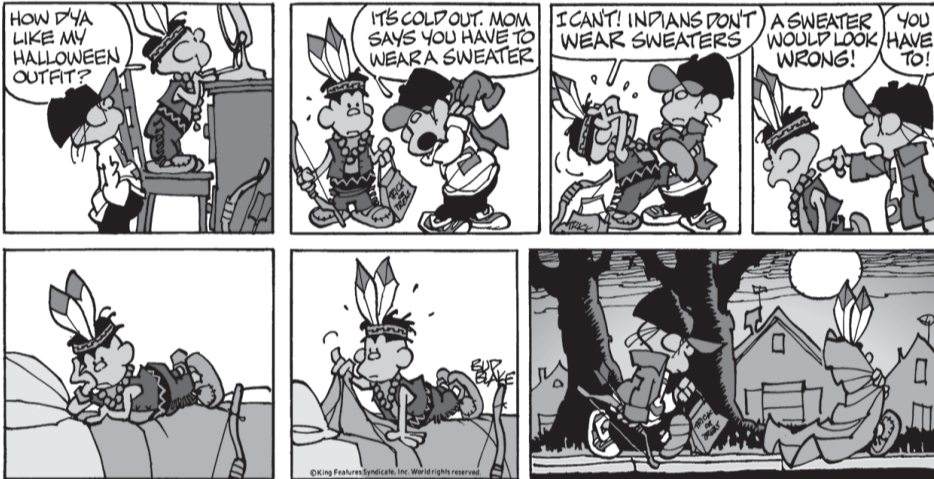
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- Eight performers
 - Air traffic control controlling org.
 - 100-meter race
 - *Fauna, Merryweather and _____, fairy godmothers
 - Adam's body part in Bible
 - Stone fruit
 - Type of bulrush, pl.
 - *"Dawn of a new _____"
 - Pertaining to ear
 - *"_____ list"
 - *"Your wish is my _____"
 - Actor Danson
 - Pottery oven
 - *Migos: "Look at My _____"
 - Cold cuts counter
 - Inner skin layer, pl.
 - Riyadh native
 - One thousandth of a liter, pl.
 - *"Till _____ do us part"
 - Inconclusive
 - Where there's trouble?
 - On a cruise, e.g.
 - Man-made stone pile
 - Purse for a formal affair
 - Animal house
 - When a 3rd party holds assets
 - Prefers
 - Desk well content
 - Withdraw gradually
 - Black and white sea bird
 - *"_____ up the wrong tree"
 - *"A date which will live in _____"
 - Certain monochromatic cookie, pl.
 - Weary traveler's destination
 - Robin Hood's companion Tuck
 - September stone
 - Tolstoy of "War and Peace" fame
 - Salon file
 - Hurly burly
 - Immeasurable period
 - Raja's wife
- DOWN**
- Oftentimes, poetic abbreviation
 - *"Welcome to the _____"
 - Cough syrup balsam
 - Not slouching
 - Assigned a chore
 - Worry
 - *"I'm walkin' on _____"
 - Old-time calculators
 - Ringo Starr's instrument
 - Ambience
 - Bridge, e.g.
 - Kept together
 - *F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Beautiful and the _____"
 - Possible allergic reaction
 - *"What's _____ is new again"
 - One thousand tons
 - *"_____ like no one is watching"
 - La Scala solos
 - Fundamental

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Football Roundup: Three Remain Undefeated in League

Story and photo by Alejandro Barron

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Teams in the area continue their dominance, while others struggle to put points on the board as the conclusion of the regular season is inching closer.

Some teams will conclude their season this week while others have two matchups left with the regular season wrapping up on Nov. 1.

Three teams in the area remain undefeated in league play, with two of them fighting for first place in the Delta League.



The Monterey Trail Mustangs run onto the field before their game against the Pittsburg Pirates on Aug. 30. The Mustangs are 4-0 in Delta League play.

game was Nov. 9, 2018.

Their next game is against the Cosumnes Oaks Wolfpack while the Wildcats will have a bye week and close their season out against the Wolfpack on Nov. 1.



Pleasant Grove 24 - Cosumnes Oaks 0

The Wolfpack have not been able to put it together this season and fall to 0-4 this season after falling to the Eagles by a score of 24-0.

Both rushing and passing were effective for the Eagles with quarterback Cole Davis completing 18 passes for 159 yards and a touchdown while Bobby Mitchell and Davis each rushed for a touchdown, according to MaxPreps.

Mitchell had 83 rushing yards on 19 carries while Davis had 14 on four carries.

The touchdown reception went to Jacob Beals who had six catches in the game for 79 total yards.

On defense, Lamarcus Taylor and Luke Twining each had half a sack while Taylor led the team with seven total tackles. The other two leaders for total tackles were Erik Clark and Maddox Ali with six.

The Wolfpack threw four interceptions which were picked off by Ali, Roman Patterson and Holden MacPherson. Patterson also had a fumble recovery.

The Wolfpack did not enter any stats into MaxPreps at time of publication.

They sit at the bottom of the league standings at 0-4 and will look to get their first league win of the season against the Monterey Trail Mustangs who are currently undefeated in league.

As for the Eagles, they will also take on an undefeated team in the Elk Grove Thundering Herd in their penultimate matchup of the regular season. ★



Bradshaw Christian 49 - Liberty Ranch 9

The Pride continue to roll on their undefeated season after beating the Hawks by a score of 49-9.

With a total of four touchdowns and 149 rushing yards, Brandon Burden led the charge offensively to put a crooked number on the board for his team, according to MaxPreps.

On the ground, Devin Hatcher and Mateo Mojica also rushed for a touchdown with Mojica rushing for 146 yards.

Quarterback Ethan Rickert completed four of his nine attempted passes for 49 yards and a passing touchdown to Max Wolf who had 23 receiving yards for his only reception of the night.

The defense for the Pride limited the Hawks to nine points thanks to performances from Samuel Danilyuk who had 13 tackles.

Other contributors on defense were Myles Damallie with a total of 10 tackles, Mojica with nine tackles and Mason Pisarski with eight total tackles.

Looking to continue undefeated at 8-0 overall and 5-0 in the Sierra Valley Conference, the Pride will take on the Argonaut Mustangs in their penultimate regular season

matchup.

With a win or a Union Mine loss, they will clinch their second consecutive league title and look to obtain a section title that slipped away last season.



Elk Grove 32 - Sheldon 7

The Thundering Herd continue their dominance as well with a six-game winning streak and 4-0 Delta League record after beating the Huskies.

The dominance of quarterback David Hale continues along with the Herd's running game as Hale had 43 rushing yards and three touchdowns, according to MaxPreps.

Hale now has 884 rushing yards with 19 touchdowns and 121 passing yards with three touchdowns this season.

The other touchdown came courtesy of Alphonso Moore Jr. who had a total of 61 rushing yards on 14 carries.

As for the Huskies offense, quarterback Gavin Workman connected

with Zion Johnson for a touchdown pass as he completed all three of his seven attempted passes to Johnson for a total of 19 passing yards.

They couldn't hold on to the football as there were a total of four fumbles on offense but only one was a turnover, while Workman threw an interception to the Herd's Austin Maze.

The Huskies had a total of 99 offensive yards when combining passing and rushing.

Along with the blunders from the Huskies' offense, the Herd was able to play lockdown defense with players like Lucan Amituanai who had four total tackles, a sack for a loss of 10 yards and caused a fumble.

The leader in tackles was Sam Niemeyer and Rio Baltazar with six along with Maze who had five.

The Huskies will look to improve to a .500 record as they currently sit at a 4-5 overall record and a 2-3 record in the Delta League, which is good for fifth place, as they will take on the Laguna Creek Cardinals for their last game of the season.

As for the Herd, they sit in second place behind newcomers into the league the Monterey Trail Mustangs who are also undefeated but have their sights set on their

next matchup against the Pleasant Grove Eagles.



Monterey Trail 48 - Franklin 8

The third team in the area that remains undefeated in league are the Mustangs who were able to dominate the Wildcats which moved them to a 1-4 league record.

The ground game dominated for the Mustangs with D'Adrien Sanders leading the way with 208 rushing yards which were good for four touchdowns. Along with his receiving yards, Sanders had 239 total yards, according to MaxPreps.

Odie Jefferson also contributed with two rushing touchdowns on 129 rushing yards and Christian Coronado who rushed for 50 yards and scored once.

The Mustangs had a total of 399 rushing yards against the Wildcats.

The sophomore quarterback for the Wildcats completed 13 of his 23 attempted passes which included a touchdown pass to senior Tyler Cody for his

single catch of the game for 27 yards.

The Wildcats went for the two-point conversion where Allan Rogers II rushed in to put up the eight points on the night for the Wildcats in the second quarter.

By halftime, the Mustangs were up 22-8 and in the fourth quarter they really ran away with it by putting up 20 points.

The Mustangs shut out the Wildcats for three of the four quarters of the game thanks to their defense stepping up.

Xavier Collins had 1.5 sacks with Subhan Barakzai having .5 sacks while Kharter Turk and Elijah Folau each had a sack.

The leaders of total tackles for the Mustangs were Gabe Coronado and Turk with seven while Ian Guerrero, Barakzai and Collins each had six tackles.

Turk also had an interception and caused a fumble while Collins also caused a fumble and they were recovered by Folau and Gabe Coronado.

The Mustangs never lost a Metro League game and have two matchups left before saying they are also undefeated in their new stint in the Delta League. They are currently 4-0.

The last time the Mustangs lost a league

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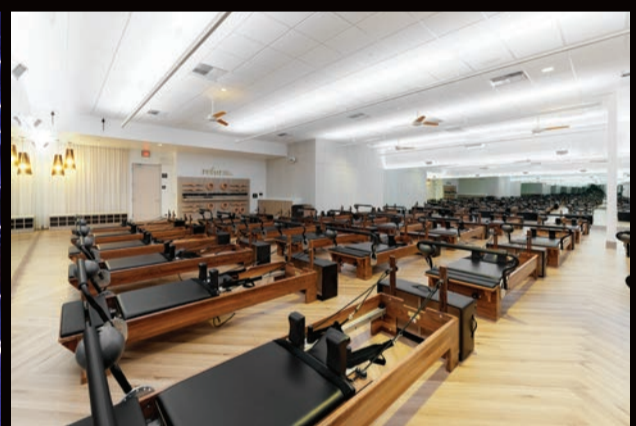
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