

Renovated STEAM Classrooms Enable Creativity, Collaboration

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Filipino Americans in Spotlight



Dancers from theatrical group Sinag-tala dance to a folk song about two friends who fall in love. Photo by Matthew Malone

By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Filipino Americans spoke about their dual identity and the needs of their community on Oct. 22 at the Elk Grove Diversity and Inclusion Commission's annual Cultural Connections series.

The event featured three storytellers who discussed perspectives on their heritage as well as their work to promote inclusion for Filipino Americans and their culture.

Between talks, the audience enjoyed performances by dance groups Kapitbahay and Sinag-tala and singer Remy Solomon.

Commission Chair Tina Lee-Vogt

said Cultural Connections "is an opportunity for us to share information about the different cultures that make up our vibrant community. And so we hope that throughout the evening, you'll hear stories, you'll see performances but really as the name implies, it's about learning about other cultures but also finding out the

Continued on Page 15

General Election's 18 Vote Centers Open

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Vote Centers in 18 convenient locations throughout Sacramento County opened Oct. 26 for the Nov. 5 Presidential General Election.

At a Vote Center, any Sacramento County resident can register to vote, request a replacement ballot, vote their ballot in person or use the assistive ballot-marking device. Operation times vary prior to Election Day, so check the times and location details carefully.

Voters wishing to return their mail ballot still have time to use a Ballot Drop Box. Visit the Ballot Drop Box page on the county website at elections.saccounty.gov under the How To Vote dropdown menu for more information on locations and times.

Each Ballot Drop Box location has specific hours of operation. Those preferring to mail their ballot can use their pink postage-paid envelope that came with their ballot. Mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Voters must sign their ballot envelope for their ballot to be counted.

For more information, contact the county's Voter Registration and Elections Office at 916-875-6451 or use the toll-free voter assistance hotline at 800-762-8019. The hotline can connect voters with disabilities with TTY (Text Telephone).

Drop Boxes Open

Ballot Drop Boxes are open through Election Day, until no later than 8 p.m. See the Ballot Drop Box list at the county's elections.saccounty.gov for locations, days and hours of operation.

Saturday, Oct. 26

Eleven Day Vote Centers opened.

Tuesday, Oct. 29

Last day a Vote by Mail ballot was mailed. After this date, Vote by Mail ballots are only available at the county's Voter Registration and Elections Office or a Vote Center.

Saturday, Nov. 2

All Vote Centers are open now through Election Day until 8 p.m. See the Vote Centers list at elections.saccounty.gov for locations and hours of operation.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

Election Day. ★

Falling in Love at Elk Grove's Animal Shelter



Shelter volunteers work with pets to get them placed into the right forever home.

Story and photos by Ramona and Chris Scarborough

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Want to fall in love? It's happening at the Elk Grove Animal Shelter. Who could resist those pleading puppy dog eyes? Or that kitty's

meow that translates to "Please take me home."

On Oct. 17, there were 46 dogs, 28 cats, a rabbit, a guinea pig and a cockatiel that wanted to meet all you pet lovers out there.

Sarah Humlie, who is the animal services manager at the shelter, said, "We've

had hamsters, mice, lizards, turtles and even a baby ostrich here."

In two-hour shifts, volunteers - 250 in total - see that these animals are fed, kept clean, walked, petted and played with. In addition, the volunteers greet customers, answer phones

and emails, and organize and restock all areas of the shelter.

A new program that volunteers can apply for is dog training. Stacy Davis, a qualified training instructor, teaches a six-week course. Volunteers learn

Continued on Page 15

Renovated STEAM Classrooms Enable Students' Creativity, Collaboration

By Pia Manez
SacSchoolBeat,
Franklin High School

Editor's Note: SacSchoolBeat is a program funded by the Sacramento County Office of Education that trains Sacramento County high school students to cover education topics. Pia Manez is a student at Franklin High School.

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Over the summer, Franklin High School started to renovate several of its science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) classrooms.

The revamp, which was funded by the Elk Grove Unified School District, resulted in new and significant technology updates for Franklin's animation and engineering classrooms, including a switch from Mac and Z1 computers to Windows PCs and revamping the classroom setups.

The school's principal, Adam Wood, said the new additions to the STEAM classrooms are "state-of-the-art technology."

"You can't get access to this equipment and technology anywhere else when you're 16 years old," Wood said. "It's an incredible opportunity of state-of-the-art equipment, 3D printers and qualified instructors that gets our students excited to be here."

Wood said one of his goals is to get students connected to the many opportunities available to them at Franklin.

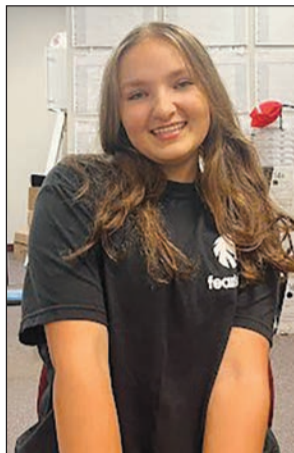
"My biggest thing as a principal is I want something here at school that our students get excited to be here for," Wood said. "For a lot of the students in STEAM, it's the projects they do and some of the opportunities they have."

Wood said he strongly believes that "those resources are well spent, and that class is so important because it's learning what these kids can use after high school, and it's also engaging them about being at Franklin."

Brad Clark, an animation teacher, said the upgrade from Macs to Wacom Cintiq Pro 17 computers in his classroom has been a



Franklin High School STEAM classes now feature state-of-the-art computer terminals. Photos by Pia Manez



Franklin senior and advanced animation student Julia Kurudimov said the new computers are more reliable than the old hardware.



Junior engineering student Laney Garbarino said the new classroom layout helps students interact with each other.

long time coming.

"This was something that was in the works for about a year," Clark said. "It was a major investment from the district with the goal of putting in students' hands the actual tools that are used in the real-world industry."

Clark said the technological advances in his classroom will give students better tools to work with.

"What we received were a major upgrade in technology, with Wacom tablets that permit students to directly draw right on the monitors and new powerful Windows PCs that replaced computers that would have been 7 years old this year," Clark said.

Compared to the new computer tools, Clark said the old Macs "did not allow students to draw as expressly with broader strokes and had a very small drawing space for students," whereas the new computers are "much easier for (district techs) to maintain these computers remotely and will require less hours in our lab taking care of issues that come up

with them."

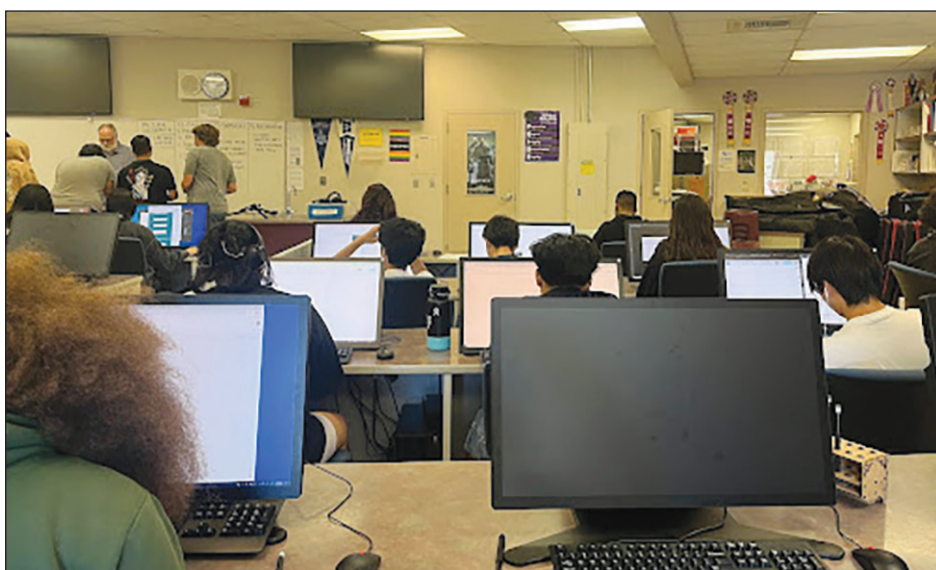
Julia Kurudimov, a senior and advanced animation student, said using the Wacom Cintiq Pro 17 is better than using the older Macs.

"The Macs were easy to work with, considering how old they were, but we ran into issues when it came to uploading some programs," she said. "An example of this would be our 3D software, Maya, which would regularly crash and generally make you lose all of your progress if you did not hit save."

Kurudimov said the Macs constantly overheated and were "difficult to negotiate."

"For the Macs, we had to plug in our tablets every single time that we would come in, and sometimes those cords would rip and were very fragile and could ruin your whole station," she said. "Now with these new ones, everything's plugged in already."

In addition, Kurudimov said there were "tablets that we'd have to stand up by group, and it was very time consuming. Now we



The Franklin High animation classroom has new computers.



The Franklin High engineering classroom has been recently renovated.

can come in, we can log in and get started on our work."

Chris Alburn, an engineering and architecture teacher, said his classroom is still in the process of being renovated, but the Z1 computers have been replaced by ThinkStation P360 Windows computers.

The entire classroom is being renovated, along with new lab stations, electrical and data outlets, 3D mills and printers, and new ceiling tiles and lighting.

"Our previous classroom was 20 years old and outdated with students just facing forward as a lecture hall," Alburn said. "What this new setup allows is students to collaborate and share their ideas and communicate their thoughts with their peers, to get feedback."

Alburn said the differences in performance are palpable.

"The graphics (on the new ThinkStation P360s) are incredible," Alburn said, "so when rendering in Revit, the students' work is a lot faster and quicker."

Alburn said he's excited about his students being able to use better resources that are faster and more engaging.

"I'm really looking forward to students being able to have tangible objects in their hands," he said. "Previously, we only designed computers, and you can then see your parts

on the computer screen or on a print on a piece of paper. Now, the students will be able to see it in 3D printing or professionally with the mills."

Laney Garbarino, a junior and engineering student in Alburn's class, said she especially appreciates the new layout in the renovated classroom.

"Before the renovations started, our classroom was organized in four rows, each with six to 10 students in each row, which hindered my ability to see the whiteboard," Garbarino said. "And the rows made it difficult to navigate the classroom."

Garbarino said she's thrilled with the new classroom setup and revamp.

"We no longer sit in rows, but rather triangular tables that allow the students to face each other and better interact with one another," Garbarino said. "With the new addition of the 3D printers and mills, the students in this course are now able to physically create the objects that they are designing. It is also really rewarding to see your work in the online programs translated into tangible objects because it simulates real engineers' process of designing, manufacturing and testing it to make any changes, if necessary."

And, Garbarino said, the changes are still coming, and they'll bring even

more positive changes.

"Even though the classroom isn't complete," she said, "my classmates and I can already see the benefits of the new classroom."

Franklin High's computer training and support specialist, Dave Dhanda, said it was clear the STEAM classroom layouts needed to change.

One major problem in Alburn's classroom was the "concern that the current layout of the students' desks wasn't working and needed to change for collaboration among students," Dhanda said.

Dhanda said the reconfiguration process in STEAM classrooms was challenging but worth it.

"Installation ... took over three days, and it was somewhat hectic due to construction not being completed until the last week of summer," he said. "(The systems in Clark's classroom) were completed during the summer in one day without any serious issues arising."

Dhanda said the renovations will help teachers emphasize more engagement for students.

It will "open engaging opportunities for collaboration among students," he said, and "having touchscreen Wacom displays will offer students advanced opportunities to learn and experience working with media graphic applications." ★

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Elk Grove Water District Invites Customers to Academy

Elk Grove Water District News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Elk Grove Water District (EGWD) invites customers to apply for the 2025 Citizens Water Academy, a free educational program that offers residents a behind-the-scenes look at how the district delivers safe, reliable water to the community. The academy, which will run from January to April 2025, is designed to inform and engage participants on key water management topics, including where the region's water comes from, how it's treated, and the

various challenges facing the district today. The program is open to all EGWD customers aged 18 and over, and space is limited to 30 participants.

The Citizens Water Academy offers four sessions spread over four months. Participants will learn about the water treatment process, the district's infrastructure, and the financial and policy decisions that impact water delivery in Elk Grove. The sessions also include a VIP tour of the Railroad Water Treatment Plant, offering participants an opportunity to see the district's operations firsthand.

"The Citizens Water Academy is a great way for customers to gain a deeper understanding of how we manage one of the region's most critical resources," said Elk Grove Water District General Manager Bruce Kamilos. "It's also an opportunity for residents to become advocates for water-efficient and sustainable practices."

The sessions are as follows:

- Session 1: Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025 – Introduction to Water Management
- Session 2: Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025 – Water System Operations
- Session 3: Wednesday,

March 5, 2025 – Financial Management and Customer Service

— Session 4: Saturday, April 5, 2025 – Policy, Governance, and Water Treatment Plant Tour

All sessions will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Elk Grove Water District Administration Building, except for the final session, which will take place at the Railroad Water Treatment Plant from 9 to 11 a.m. April 5. To receive a certificate of completion, participants must attend all four sessions.

The Citizens Water Academy provides valuable knowledge about

water issues and gives participants the chance to engage with industry professionals, ask questions and explore roles in public service.

"We encourage anyone interested in water policy or who simply wants to learn more about where their water comes from to apply," Kamilos said. "This program is especially beneficial for those considering serving on the Elk Grove Water District's Board of Directors."

To apply for the Citizens Water Academy, visit the Elk Grove Water District website at www.egwd.org/citizenswateracademy

or pick up an application at the Elk Grove Water District Administration Building, located at 9829 Waterman Road, Elk Grove. The deadline to apply is Nov. 27. Accepted applicants will be notified via email by Dec. 6. For more information, email communityoutreach@egwd.org or call 916-685-3556.

This program is an opportunity for Elk Grove Water District customers to gain insight into the district's operations, understand the complexities of water management and play a part in securing Elk Grove's water future. ★

How Inflation Concerns Could Doom California's Proposition to Increase Minimum Wage

By **Jeanne Kuang**
CALMatters.org

A year ago, a ballot measure to raise the state-wide minimum wage to \$18 seemed poised for an easy win in California, where costs have skyrocketed, affordability is a key concern and many of the state's biggest cities already require businesses to pay close to that much.

But weeks before California decides on a measure that would do that, voter support appears to have fallen significantly amid heightened concerns about the economy that opponents are stressing, and a relatively quiet campaign in favor of Proposition 32.

A poll released Wednesday night by the Public Policy Institute of California shows just 44% of likely voters backing the measure, which would raise the minimum wage in January from the scheduled \$16.50 to \$18, with a delay for small employers. That's a decline from 50% of those polled in September, and more than two-thirds surveyed last November who said they supported raising the minimum wage until it reaches \$18.

The change in voter sentiment could reflect broader concerns about the state's economy and the jump in costs for housing and food that hammered households over the past three years.

Despite signs of a resilient economy that continues to add jobs and falling inflation, Americans continue to remember

lower prices from before the pandemic, and have consistently reported feeling pessimistic about the economy this year in a mismatch experts have dubbed a "vibecession."

Californians are no different: In the new poll, the economy is by far the issue that respondents said is the most important facing the state, with a solid majority of likely voters saying they expect bad economic times in the next year.

Business groups opposed to raising the minimum wage, which include the California Chamber of Commerce, restaurant and grocers' groups, and the agricultural industry, are seizing on the concerns. A digital ad released by opponents this week shows a shopper at a grocery store saying the measure would cause prices to increase, while another says she "can't take it anymore."

The National Federation of Independent Business, another opponent of minimum wage hikes, also is running radio ads saying the measure would worsen inflation, "hurt small businesses and harm their ability to grow and add jobs." In response to questions about inflation falling, spokesperson Anthony Malandra said the group's members still list inflation as a top concern.

Proponents of the wage hike dismissed the ads' claims, but acknowledged it's a powerful message this election year. The pro-Prop. 32 campaign, said spokesperson Angelo Greco, is also running digital ads and sending text

blasts to turn out voters in big cities that are more likely to reliably support the measure.

Proponents say the measure could give raises to about two million California workers, at a time when costs are so high even single Californians with no children need to earn at least \$27 an hour to be self-sufficient, according to researchers at MIT.

"While it's the same argument that we have always heard (from businesses) the last 20 years, it resonates more when people have seen the cost of goods and services go up," said Jane Kim, state director for the Working Families Party, a progressive group supporting the ballot measure. "That's the softening in support that you're seeing. We are concerned, and that's why we are reaching out to voters that we think naturally will support an increase to the minimum wage."

Proponents pointed to recent studies showing the state's \$20 fast-food minimum wage, which began in April, had little effect on employment in that industry, and only raised menu prices by about 3.7%.

California did have slower growth than the nation this year, but Jerry Nickelsburg, an economist who directs the UCLA Anderson Forecast, said that's unusual and he's predicted the state's economy will again grow faster next year.

The state's unemployment rate is 5.3%, higher than the nation's 4.1%. Nickelsburg says



Mirna Hernandez shops at Superior Groceries in Victorville on Aug. 16. Photo by Ted Soqui for CalMatters

that's only in small part influenced by recent minimum wage hikes. Unemployment in California, he said, is driven mostly by downsizing in tech and entertainment, higher wages and reduced reliance on delivery drivers since the pandemic-era peak of online ordering and two stormy winters that put many farm laborers out of work.

"All of those (factors) will dissipate over time," he said.

Mark Baldassare, statewide survey director for the Public Policy Institute, said he suspects likely voters who were surveyed are confused by the relative lack of a vocal campaign for the measure.

After pouring \$10 million into qualifying the measure for the ballot in 2022, the measure's author Joe Sanberg, a startup investor and anti-poverty advocate, resisted some labor advocates' calls to withdraw the measure this year. But he still appeared to take a step back from formal campaigning, telling CalMatters in August that the message of workers needing higher pay to afford living in California

would sell itself naturally.

He closed the proposition's campaign account earlier this year. Aside from money in a campaign account tied to Los Angeles City Councilmember Kevin de León, who supports the proposition along with two other measures, the measure hardly raised any funds this year until Sanberg donated about \$100,000 this week. (Groups opposing the measure have raised more than \$700,000 this year.)

The ballot, which for the first time this year lists supporters and opponents of propositions, does not include the name of any organizations pushing for Prop. 32. The state Chamber of Commerce, Restaurant Association and Grocers Association are listed as opponents.

"Here's the thing about ballot propositions and initiatives in particular: People are cautious about voting 'yes' on them," Baldassare said. "If it's on the ballot, the question is, why? Who put it there? Who's supporting it?"

A spokesperson for the Secretary of State's office told CalMatters that Sanberg declined to list himself or another group as

the supporters. Sanberg did not respond to a request for comment.

Greco called the campaign "more of a grassroots effort." But the quiet campaign drew criticism from a statewide union group. In 2016, unions were instrumental in muscling political support for a series of minimum wage increases that made California the first state in the nation to require \$15 an hour.

"We support an increase in the minimum wage," said Lorena Gonzalez, leader of the California Labor Federation, which endorsed the measure. "We still support Prop. 32. But we're disappointed there's been very little activity from the campaign." ★

Jeanne Kuang is an accountability reporter who covers labor, politics and California's state government. Jeanne came home to California to join CalMatters in 2022. Prior to that, she covered politics in Missouri for The Kansas City Star. Jeanne grew up in the San Gabriel Valley, graduated from Northwestern University and is now based in Sacramento.

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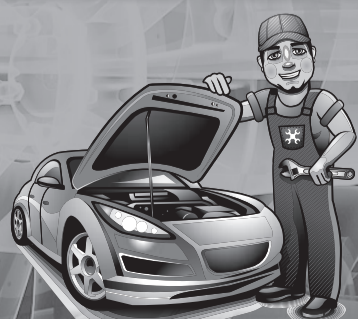
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Tourism Group Gives Yearly Update

By Matthew Malone
Staff Writer



ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Demand for local hotel rooms is reaching a more normal level after a post-pandemic boost, the director of tourism agency Explore Elk Grove said at the Oct. 23 Elk Grove City Council meeting.

In Explore Elk Grove's annual report on its performance in fiscal year 2023-24, Executive Director Aaryn Val also announced that her agency had helped secure a major swimming competition to be held next year.

The city of Elk Grove created Explore Elk Grove and the associated Elk Grove Tourism and Marketing District in 2015. The marketing district assesses a fee on hotel room charges, which funds Explore Elk Grove's promotional efforts.

"Year over year, our team collaborates closely with the community, small-business owners, event producers, tournament directors and so many more, and together we unveil Elk Grove's unique story (and) generate hotel revenue, tax dollars and economic impact that

benefits our community as a whole," Val said.

Hotel occupancy rates in Elk Grove "are still strong but they have been normalizing," following trends seen across the state, Val said. She attributed this trend to economic pressures, changing travel patterns and a fall-off in "revenge travel" that occurred after the end of COVID-19 restrictions.

In 2023-24, the city's hotel occupancy was at 77%, and the average daily room rate was about \$146. Room revenue reached \$27.8 million, and the revenue per occupied room was nearly \$114.

The visitor statistics showed that the vast majority of Elk Grove guests are from California, with Nevada as a distant second. Nearly 59% are repeat visitors.

Val said visitors to Elk Grove spent \$94.6 million. According to credit reporting agency TransUnion,

credit card users spent an average of \$183 per cardholder.

Much midweek travel is for business, Val said, while "a lot of travel on weekends is for sports tournaments." She said the business travel "really drives hotels and the revenues high."

Val highlighted a future swimming competition that is returning to the city after three years. The Western Zones Age Group Championship will be held in 2025 at District56 through a partnership between Explore Elk Grove and Elk Grove Aquatics Club.

Explore Elk Grove has raised engagement with its online marketing materials, Val said, citing an 88% increase in website sessions and a 79% increase in website users. Its listings for local businesses received nearly 14,500 clicks.

"Thank you for all of

the great work that you continue to do in elevating Elk Grove's brand to a wider audience. I sincerely appreciate it," Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen said.

Local Transit Usage Rebounds

Local bus ridership fully recovered from the pandemic in fiscal year 2022-23, Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) Director of Planning Anthony Adams told City Council.

He said that local bus ridership from July 2022 to June 2023 was 16% higher than it was in Fiscal Year 2018-19.

Much of that recovery came from the district's program offering free rides to students, which doubled student ridership from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

While local buses are doing well, other SacRT services in Elk Grove have lost ridership compared to 2019 levels, despite some

gains since the depths of the pandemic. For example, commuter bus ridership dropped from nearly 372,100 in 2018-19 to 75,600 in 2022-23. In the same period, overall ridership went from about 754,900 to 512,600, a decrease of 32%. While transit within Elk Grove is relatively available, Adams said, it is harder to get transit out of Elk Grove.

Adams said SacRT is discontinuing its SmaRT Ride ride-sharing service due to high costs, with plans to replace it with a program called SacRT Flex, focused on vulnerable populations.

Looking to the future, Adams said Elk Grove will be a major focus as SacRT performs a comprehensive review of operations. Adams also raised the possibility of extending light rail into the city from Cosumnes River College; a feasibility study on the topic will be completed in early 2026.

Councilmember Darren Suen appreciated the light rail plans, bringing up the concept of an express line bypassing the college on the way to Elk Grove. Adams replied that SacRT is looking at ways of

increasing its speed.

Vice-Mayor Rod Brewer asked how the district is transitioning to SacRT Flex. Adams said that SacRT has already held two open houses on the change, with a virtual outreach event planned for Nov. 6. (For more information, visit sacrt.com/visual-composer-13850).

Adams added that SacRT would work to ensure that eligible riders are aware of the change.

Singh-Allen, who is a SacRT board member, said she appreciates the district's focus on Elk Grove and acknowledged the room to improve transit options out of the city.

In other business, City Council voted 5-0 to add five new properties to the Elk Grove Register of Historic Resources. These properties join 49 other properties on the register. Four of the properties are maintained by Elk Grove Historical Society at Elk Grove Regional Park, including Rhoads School. The fifth is the Kunsting Residence on Bilby Road, a 19th-century home that "embodies the distinctive characteristics" of its Queen Anne architectural style. ★



DO YOU KNOW THESE GUYS?

What To Do If You're Involved in a Hit & Run Crash

"Hit & Run" accidents are on the rise statewide and the issue has become severe in Los Angeles, Bakersfield, Oakland and Sacramento. Hit & Run is a crime that can be charged as a misdemeanor or may be charged as a felony depending on the facts. It makes no difference if the driver who fled the scene was at fault or not, they are still guilty of a Hit-and-Run. All drivers have the responsibility to stop and exchange information or leave a clear note with that information. **If you're in a Hit-and-Run, there are several steps you should take to better protect yourself:**

- Note Identifying Information: If you are able, gather identifying information about the driver and their vehicle when you realize that they are leaving the scene. This includes the car's color and make, unique features about the car, the driver's appearance, and the license plate. Write this down as soon as you can. If you have the time and presence of mind to take a picture, do that. The picture removes doubt and prevents mistakes.
- Move to a Safe Location.
- Call 911 and report the accident along with any injuries.
- Get Medical Care: When emergency medical services arrive, allow the medical technicians to deliver the care you need promptly.
- Document the Accident: Take photos of the crash and your injuries. Possibly the two most important photos are the other car's license plate and the picture of the other driver. These situations can be volatile and your personal safety and the safety of your passengers are paramount.
- Find Witnesses: Eyewitnesses can be crucial in identifying the at-fault driver or providing supporting testimony.
- Contact Your Insurance Provider: Report the accident to your insurance company.

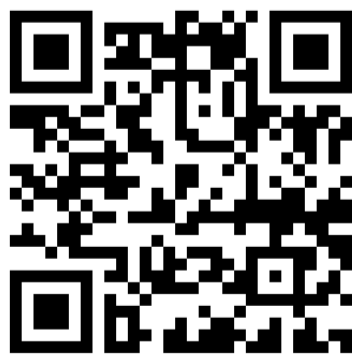
Frequently, Hit & Runs happen when the other driver is at fault and knows that they do not have enough insurance coverage, do not have any coverage or are impaired in some manner. If they don't have insurance coverage, you can file a civil claim against them. An identified Hit-and-Run driver will face criminal charges in addition to any civil claims filed by those they injured. If the driver who left the scene was the driver who was at fault for the accident, you cannot file with their insurance provider unless they are identified. This does not mean that you are entirely out of options, however. You could recover compensation with your own insurance, such as through collision coverage or uninsured motorist protection coverage. This can help you recover a portion of the damages you are owed.

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Elk Grove Citizen

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Is there panic in Sactown? Angry fans? How about just plain dismay?

My response would be no one should panic two games into the regular season.

Do you have the right to be angry? Of course you do, but dismay is probably better and it's a practical emotion when you consider that the hometown ballers lost every preseason game and have now opened the season with a dismal 0-2 record.

More puzzling than the zero-win Kings, however, is trying to figure out what is going through the mind of former coach of the year Mike Brown.

After losing to the Timberwolves in a game that, by my estimation, the Kings should have won, coach Brown relegated his protégé Keon Ellis to the end of the bench. Arguably the Kings best defender sat out the entire game with no explanation from the head coach.

While the Lakers ran off 21 unanswered points to start the fourth quarter, and the Kings allowed LeBron James to literally take over the game by himself, defensive standout Keon Ellis cooled his heels and watched LeBron show the Kings how to shoot 3-point baskets.

From a fans perspective it was hard to watch, but by all accounts, the game was ostensibly over. But no, the Sactown boys came roaring back to make the game a dogfight, and with less than a minute remaining, Sacramento needed only a stop, and a 2-point shot to tie the score.

Sadly, as in the Minnesota game, this one would slip away too, but the question remains, why was Keon Ellis conspicuously absent when defense was so sorely needed.

After being awarded coach of the year two seasons ago, Mike Brown had arguably one of his worst coaching performances last season, as the Kings were eliminated in the play-in series.

What contributed to the abrupt ending was in large part the frenetic way coach Brown managed his bench all season.

Previously much heralded Davion Mitchell never received consistent minutes off the bench, and like Keon Ellis just discovered, was listed as did-not-play (DNP) in the box score too many times.

This should be perplexing for any fan,

but in fairness to coach Brown, I simply want to hear from him the reasoning behind these moves.

Surely there is a cogent reason for starting Keon Ellis in the first game of the season, and then putting him on the bench for the entire game against the Lakers.

It was obvious the Kings had no answer for defending LeBron James, so why not let Mr. defense Keon Ellis have a try?

In the past I have given coach Brown a lot of credit for bringing Ellis along, and certainly taking a player from the G league to starting on an NBA squad is worthy of praise.

But please answer the question. Why is Keon out, completely!

This is exactly what happened to fan favorite Davion Mitchell, and now he plays for another NBA team.

I don't expect coach Brown to reveal every element of his coaching strategy, but lineup changes make for obvious questions.

At the end of the day, the fans are poised to forgive it all for a win Monday night over the Portland Trail Blazers.

As I said before, this is not the time to panic, but it is time for the coaching team to make some practical decisions, which should include playing the best players we have.

Inserting newcomer Doug McDermott into the Minnesota game to start the fourth quarter was a real head scratcher, and although like most Kings fans, I'm curious to see what he can do, bringing in a new player in the heat of the fourth quarter seemed questionable at best.

I would love to see McDermott get some minutes off the bench but getting him some playing time earlier in the game seems like a more practical approach, so let's keep our fingers crossed that we'll see Doug on the hardwood sometime soon.

King's fans let's bring our A game to the arena Monday night (after press time) and root our gladiators onto their first win of the season. Positivity is the name of the game, so let's enjoy this one together!

All the best Kings fans!

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

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ABOUT TOWN

St. Peter's Craft Faire Nov. 1-2

St. Peter's Lutheran Church and School will host its annual Craft Faire on Friday, Nov. 1 from 1 p.m. to 6 pm and Saturday, Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visitors can shop for handmade gifts such as quilts, crocheted cuddly animals and hats, Minions, hand embroidered dish towels, our newly styled aprons, and a variety of unique home decor items to suit your holiday decorating style whether it's shabby chic, Boho or retro.

There will be baked goods and candy, as well as used books for sale. Over 25 tables of one-of-a-kind handcrafted items by skilled artisans.

Proceeds will benefit the school's Tuition Assistance Fund for families struggling financially.

St. Peter's is located at 8701 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Elk Grove, one block north of Sheldon Road. Always free parking available.

Writers Guild Seminar Nov. 2

The Elk Grove Writers Guild invites you to a Fall Seminar from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 2 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, 9175 W. Stockton Blvd.

Box lunches will be served at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at noon. Registration fee is \$50. Register at egweg.org/fall 2024.

Nov. 5 Workshop Offers Guidance on Avoiding Scams

Senior citizens are the No. 1 target of potential scammers who are looking to steal your money and personal information during this holiday season.

Learn how to avoid being a target of holiday scams associated with gift cards, holiday shopping, package deliveries, social media, charities and more.

A program designed to teach you how to avoid these crimes will be presented by the Elk Grove Police Department at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5 at The Park at Laguna Springs Dr. 9670 Laguna Springs Drive, Elk Grove. This program is sponsored by the Alzheimers Aid Society.

Gardeners of the Grove Meet Nov. 5

The Gardeners of the Grove will hold its November meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Our speaker is Jan Fetler, master gardener. Jan will be reviewing "All the

Presidents' Garden Book."

The meeting will be held at the Elk Grove Library, 8900 Elk Grove Blvd. (Entrance is on the Elk Grove Blvd. side.) Social time starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome!

For more information, contact Anne Padilla apadilla0511@gmail.com.

Widowed Persons Activities

Nov. 2 - 10:30 a.m. - Coffee Gathering at Peets Coffee, 7127 Elk Grove Blvd.

Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

Nov. 3 - 4 p.m. - Beth Duncan Jazz. Elk Grove Presbyterian Church, 8153 Elk Grove Blvd. \$10 donation at the door.

Nov. 4 - 10:30 a.m. - WPSC Board Meeting at the Oaks Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 116 Calle Entrada, Elk Grove. Open to all members.

Nov. 4 - noon - Lunch at Jamie's Café, 9101 Laguna Main St. Contact is Barbara at 916-516-6009.

Veterans Parade is Nov. 11

The Elk Grove American Legion Post 233, American Legion Post 55, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Marine Corps League, in partnership with the Cosumnes Service

District (CSD), invite the community to join us in honoring veterans on Nov. 11 with a parade and picnic.

The parade opening ceremony is at 10 a.m. at the CSD Headquarters, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

The parade starts at 11:11 a.m. walking/driving from the CSD building to Elk Grove Park. Please join us at Elk Grove Park for a community picnic.

Sign up to be in the parade at cosumnesCSD.gov/VeteransDay.

Veterans Meetings

American Legion Post 233, Veterans and Auxiliary Units: 4th Thursday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove. Social Breakfast 1st Saturday each month, 9 a.m., Mimi's Café, Laguna Blvd. and W. Stockton Blvd (just off Hwy 99).

American Legion Post 55, Veterans and Auxiliary Units: 4th Wednesday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive. Breakfast: 2nd Saturday, 8-10 a.m., 8830 Sharkey Ave.

Marine Corps League: 1st Thursday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting, 7p.m., Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive.

VFW Post 2073: 2nd Thursday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive. ★

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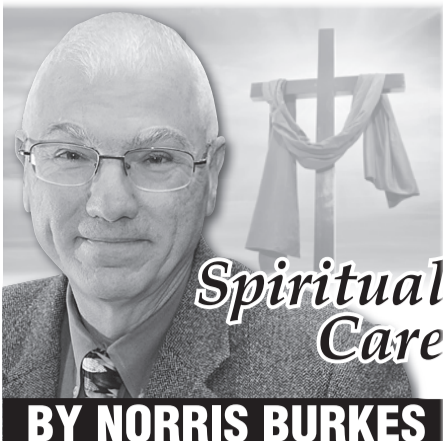
<h3>Announcements</h3> <p>The Circle K Ranch is on the air! Listen to our radio broadcast on KCBC 770 AM every Sunday at 1:30 pm. Where we share the good news of the gospel from a ranchers perspective. Tune in and be happy! Al Kuhn</p> <p>Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)</p> <h3>Autos Wanted</h3> <p>DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 1-877-434-6852 (Cal-SCAN)</p> <p>GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pickup. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-855-408-6546 (Cal-SCAN)</p> <p>Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! 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Rolling with Power, Or Rolling with Jesus?



Tell me, did you have a frightening Halloween? Were you visited by a slew of goblins and ghosts? If you thought that day was frightening, brace yourselves for the election next Tuesday. A good many of us are absolutely terrified who might win. I'll admit, I'm scared, too. Fortunately, I found some clarity about our elected power in an incident recorded in the eleventh chapter of Mark's Gospel, v. 31 and following. In the account, you read that Jesus leads his parade of followers toward Jerusalem, when he decides to share with them a prediction of absolute terror. Jesus prophesizes, he's about to be mocked, flogged and killed. And three days later he will rise. What follows is a request from two

of his main men, James and John. The request seems to be the perfect example of a non sequitur speech – a conclusion or statement that does not logically follow from the previous argument or statement. James and John interrupt Jesus' ghoulish talk with, "Can we get a seat in your Kingdom cabinet, one on the left of you and the other on the right?" These guys are all about me. Me. Me. Can't it be me in power with you? Jesus is like, sure, you'll get a piece of this, too. For following me, you'll be "drinking out of the same cup." Jesus wasn't talking about happy hour here. He was saying, following me has a cost you might not want to pay. But here's where Jesus speaks the truth to James and John as they seem to seek the power then being held by only the influential rulers and religious leaders. Jesus gets in his disciples' faces and tells them. "You've observed how godless rulers throw their weight around," he said, "and when people get a little power how

quickly it goes to their heads." He points out that Christ-followers have to be different. "It can't be the same with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. "That's what I've done," he explains, "I came to serve, not to be served." Power is not the model we follow. Instead, Jesus is showing we wield ultimate power only when we set ourselves aside. We employ true power by serving. But if we serve only to climb a ladder, we will fall. We must serve only for the sake of service — even to the point of giving our lives away. Jesus was patient with James and John in their misguided search for power. And as one who sometimes follows the fame, I count his patience as good news for me. I just might have a chance as well. So, if you count yourself as a servant this election day, let your ballot fall silently into the ballot box and return to service.

And, I must point out, if you're voting to bring Jesus into power, he doesn't want that power. If all we seek in this election is a shortcut to Christian power, we only do damage to ourselves or those around us. The winners this election year will be the ones who serve. Not the ones who demand they be served. That's not how Christians roll. We don't roll with power; we roll with Jesus. *Some inspiration for this column comes from Dr. Derek Weber, director of Preaching Ministries, for United Methodist Church.*

My latest book is called, "Tell it to the Chaplain." All of my books are available on my website or by sending 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 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.

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.

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.

Music and Sermon Topics at Elk Grove Presbyterian

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:

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 elk-grovepres@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>

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

St.PetersLutheranChurchElkGrove/

Light of the Valley

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Find Peace and Joy this Holiday Season:

Advent Worship Services Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22
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

Sunday School 9:30 a.m., | Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

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

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Elk Grove Middle School Volleyball Champions



Seventh Grade Girls 2024 Volleyball District Champions, Edward Harris Middle School. Undeclared Record 11-0. Courtesy photos

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Congratulations to the 2024 Elk Grove Unified School District Middle School Volleyball Champions.

Players

- Iyanna Hollomon
- Alyssa Luu
- Zoey Vogt
- Ella Herrera
- Joilena Fang

- Lily Brown
- Jayda Pompei-Lonaker
- Myella Leon
- Averie Vang
- Raelynn Watts
- Naima Murphy
- Leilani Velasquez
- Aniya Moye

Coaches

- Louie Corpuz, Nicky Swift



Eighth Grade Girls Volleyball EGUSD District Champion, Elizabeth Pinkerton Middle School.

Elk Grove USD Middle School Cross Country Champions

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) -

*7th Grade Girls 1.5 mi
10/16/2024
Elk Grove MS Cross Country Championships*

Ava Lingo (7) Albiani	10:08.0
Lucy Smoldon (7) Toby Johnson	10:21.0
Isabella Rudes (7) T.R. Smedberg	10:21.4
Aprilia Magana (7) Joseph Kerr	10:24.1
Madison Shelton (7) Joseph Kerr	10:55.5
Divya Kumar (7) Joseph Kerr	10:56.9
Sheaneni Sigauke (7) Pinkerton	10:57.7
Zoe Price (7) Albiani	11:04.8
Rosario Ojedasolis (7) Albiani	11:07.4
Pyper Wilcox (7) Albiani	11:13.3

*7th Grade Boys 1.5 mi
10/16/2024
Elk Grove MS Cross Country Championships*

Manuel Amado-Chavez (7) Joseph Kerr	9:09.3
Adam Legarreta (7) Albiani	9:10.1
Carter Pham (7) Toby Johnson	9:11.4
Sihaan Dhaliwal (7) Pinkerton	9:21.3
Hunter Capps (7) Joseph Kerr	9:21.4
Henry Bozdech (7) Harriet Eddy	9:25.9
Ashton Pelote (7) Pinkerton	9:35.3



Joseph Kerr Middle School Seventh Grade Girls, Seventh Grade Boys, Eighth Grade Girls Cross Country EGUSD District Champions. (Not Pictured: Pinkerton Middle School 8th Grade Boys Cross Country EGUSD District Champions) Courtesy photos

Marcus Price (7) Toby Johnson	9:37.9	Elena De Vera (8) Joseph Kerr	10:15.6
Benny Au (7) Toby Johnson	9:41.0		
Jackson Carlinbryan (7) Edward Harris	9:48.4		

*8th Grade Girls 1.5 mi
10/16/2024
Elk Grove MS Cross Country Championships*

Kylie Jones (8) Joseph Kerr	9:15.1	Jesus J.J. Navarro (8) Pinkerton	8:24.5
Taigan Richardson (8) Joseph Kerr	9:26.6	Matteo Abutin (8) Pinkerton	8:30.1
Katelyn Seymour (8) Albiani	9:26.8	Erik Doan (8) Joseph Kerr	8:32.8
Soraya Paavo (8) Harriet Eddy	9:39.2	Haydenn Coffman (8) Joseph Kerr	8:54.6
Averyann Taylor (8) Toby Johnson	9:41.6	Luke Myers (8) Toby Johnson	9:01.3
Ava Collins (8) Pinkerton	9:46.8	Jameson Rodriques (8) Albiani	9:04.2
Camden Hill (8) Joseph Kerr	9:59.5	Wylan Tumlinson (8) Albiani	9:07.3
Shylah Cronquist (8) Albiani	10:11.5	Tyler Ishimoto (8) Toby Johnson	9:12.1
Kiara Robles (8) Albiani	10:14.9	Mohamed Ell Fellah (8) Samuel Jackson	9:12.1
		Devin Candelaria (8) Toby Johnson	9:12.3

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*

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SUMMONS

en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de ser-

vicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos extensos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Superior Court Of

California, 825 Maple Avenue, Torrance, CA 90503
The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Pablo Garcia, 1005 North Graycroft Avenue, Nadison, TN 37115; (615) 506-4916.
Date: (Fecha) 12/01/2023
Clerk (Secretario) C. Davila, Deputy (Adjunto) David W. Slayton
Publish: Oct 18, 25, Nov 1, 8, 2024
GARCIA 11-8-24



**City of Elk Grove – City Council
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at the hour of 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Elk Grove City Council will conduct a public hearing at City Hall in the Council Chambers, 8400 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, California, to consider the following matter:

OLD TOWN SPECIAL PLANNING AREA AMENDMENT – Special Planning Area Text Amendment:

The proposed action would amend the allowed use table for the Old Town Special Planning Area (OTSPA) to increase the number of allowed Conditional Use Permits (CUP) for bars, breweries, wineries, and brew pubs in the commercial areas of Old Town from three to six. This action does not approve any specific bar, brewery, winery, or brew pub; rather it provides additional allowance for CUPs for such businesses on a case-by-case basis subject to the establishment of site-specific conditions of approval at the discretion of the approving authority.

The Planning Commission reviewed this matter at its meeting on October 17, 2024, and voted 5-0 to recommend the City Council approve the Project.

PROJECT APPLICANT:	
City of Elk Grove 8401 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove CA 95758	
LOCATION/APN:	Old Town Special Planning Area
ZONING:	Old Town Special Planning Area - Commercial
ENVIRONMENTAL:	The proposed Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162, and 15183.
PROJECT PLANNER:	Antonio Ablog, Planning Manager 916.627.3335 or aablog@elkgrovecity.org

Information regarding this item may be obtained by contacting Antonio Ablog by email at aablog@elkgrovecity.org, or by phone at 916-627-3335.

All interested persons are invited to present their views and comments on this matter. Written statements may be filed with the City Clerk at any time prior to the close of the hearing scheduled herein, and oral statements may be made at said hearing.

If you challenge the subject matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk, 8401 Laguna Palms Way, 1st Floor, Elk Grove, CA, 95758, at or prior to the close of the public hearing.

This meeting notice is provided pursuant to Section 23.14.040 of Title 23 of the Elk Grove Municipal Code.

JASON LINDGREN
CITY CLERK, CITY OF ELK GROVE

ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (916) 478-3635. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Elk Grove Citizen 11-1-2024

CITY OF ELK GROVE - ORDINANCE NO. 16-2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE REPEALING AND REPLACING ELK GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 16.96, DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES FOR MEASURE A TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS FOR CITYWIDE BENEFIT DISTRICT. The purpose of this Ordinance is to incorporate provisions of the amended Agreement on Operating Protocols between the City of Elk Grove and the Sacramento Transportation Authority related to the Sacramento Countywide Transportation Mitigation Fee Program, and findings of the 2024 Sacramento Countywide Transportation Mitigation Fee Program Nexus Study Update Report into Elk Grove Municipal Code Chapter 16.96 (both documents on file in the Office of the City Clerk). Introduced October 9, 2024; Adopted October 23, 2024; Effective January 1, 2025. **AYES: SINGH-ALLEN, BREWER, ROBLES, SPEASE, SUEN; NOES: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.**

Jason Lindgren, City Clerk, City of Elk Grove, November 1, 2024
A certified copy of this ordinance is available by request; email cityclerk@elkgrovecity.org

Elk Grove Citizen 11-1-2024

CITY OF ELK GROVE - ORDINANCE NO. 17-2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE LEVYING AND APPORTIONING THE SPECIAL TAX IN TERRITORY ANNEXED TO COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2003-2 (POLICE SERVICES) (ANNEXATION NO. 75) AND AMENDING ELK GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.18.010. The purpose of this Ordinance is to levy the special tax at the maximum rates and apportioned in the manner specified in Resolution No. 2024-205 (on file in the Office of the City Clerk) on the parcels in Annexation No. 75. Introduced October 23, 2024; to be adopted November 13, 2024. **AYES: SINGH-ALLEN, BREWER, ROBLES, SPEASE, SUEN; NOES: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.**

Jason Lindgren, City Clerk, City of Elk Grove, November 1, 2024
A certified copy of this ordinance is available by request; email cityclerk@elkgrovecity.org

Elk Grove Citizen 11-1-2024

CITY OF ELK GROVE - ORDINANCE NO. 18-2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE LEVYING AND APPORTIONING THE SPECIAL TAX IN TERRITORY ANNEXED TO COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2006-1 (MAINTENANCE SERVICES) (ANNEXATION NO. 99) AND AMENDING ELK GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.19.010. The purpose of this Ordinance is to levy the special tax at the maximum rates and apportioned in the manner specified in Resolution No. 2024-207 (on file in the Office of the City Clerk) on the parcels in Annexation No. 99. Introduced October 23, 2024; to be adopted November 13, 2024. **AYES: SINGH-ALLEN, BREWER, ROBLES, SPEASE, SUEN; NOES: NONE; ABSENT: NONE.**

Jason Lindgren, City Clerk, City of Elk Grove, November 1, 2024
A certified copy of this ordinance is available by request; email cityclerk@elkgrovecity.org

Elk Grove Citizen 11-1-2024

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Eagles Tame the Herd Running Game

Story and photos
by Daniel Canfield

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - On Friday, Oct. 25, the Pleasant Grove High School Eagles hosted the Elk Grove Thundering Herd at Sheldon-Pleasant Grove Community Stadium. The two high school campuses are a mere 3.5 miles apart but the two approaches to the game plan were worlds apart. The Herd featured a punishing ground attack led by senior quarterback David Hale while the Eagles relied on the passing arm and decision making of senior quarterback Cole Davis.

The Herd and Eagles entered the game ranked No. 2 and No. 3 in the Delta League, respectively. The Eagles came out with a hard-fought victory, winning 31-14 and avoiding a decade-long losing streak against the Herd. The Eagles victory also snapped Elk Grove's six-game win streak.

The first half of the game saw a see-saw scoring affair with each team taking advantage of an opponent's fumble to score a touchdown plus an extra point. Then the Herd put together an impressive run-laden drive that took up almost the entire first quarter and resulted in seven points. With eight minutes left in the second quarter the Eagles embarked on a drive that started on their own 25-yard line and featured a balance of passes and runs. The drive was



The Elk Grove Thundering Herd offense lines up on the Eagles' 10-yard line early in the second quarter of the annual matchup between these neighboring high schools.

aided by two separate penalties on the defense and included a successful fourth and 10 play. The Eagles' drive was capped off by a touchdown pass by Davis. The successful extra point brought the score to 14-14. That score would hold through the rest of the second quarter.

The third quarter started with the Herd kicking off to the Eagles. The Eagles' offense started at their own 33-yard line and put together an impressive drive, picking through the Herd defense with a precise passing attack. The drive resulted in a 19-yard touchdown pass. The extra point was good, bringing the score to 21-14.

The Herd got the ball back on the ensuing kickoff and turned to their powerful running game. The Herd's series of hard runs advanced the ball deep into



The Herd's power-run game was not enough to earn a win against the Pleasant Grove Eagles on Friday, Oct. 25.

Eagles territory but they were ultimately stopped on a fourth down attempt and turned the ball back over to the Eagles.

Both teams then traded possessions ending in punts as the game clock crept into the fourth quarter. With six minutes remaining in the game, the Eagles took advantage of good field position, driving into the Herd red zone with

an array of passes. Faced with a fourth and goal from the Herd 6-yard line, the Eagles elected for a successful field goal attempt, making the score 24-14.

With three minutes remaining, the Herd took over but had their drive derailed by an interception. The Eagles chose not to run time off the clock, but instead go for a long pass from Cole that was

successful for a touchdown. An extra point sealed the deal for the Eagles. Cole ended the day with three touchdown passes to three different receivers.

After the game, Pleasant Grove Head Coach Josh Crabtree reflected on the big win over cross-town rival Elk Grove High.

"They are the gold standard for football in this

community," Crabtree said, pointing to the Elk Grove sideline.

"It's not about me; it's not about the old men in khaki pants and polo shirts; it's about these kids," Crabtree went on to say. "These kids decided to believe in themselves. I've been blessed to have a seat and watch all of this this stuff happen."

"Emotionally and physiologically, to beat that team in gold helmets means everything to these kids," Crabtree added.

Crabtree spoke about some of the special plays and players from the game.

"Cole Davis at quarterback made a couple really, really big throws. Our defense all year, this is our sixth win with four shutouts defensively; they made Elk Grove earn every inch tonight," Crabtree explained. "Our defense is going to keep us in every game: Roman Patterson, Maddox Ali, Erik Clark. I could go down the list of these guys who have made a commitment to not accept anything less than their best."

"It's good to see them smile; it's good to see them validated; it's good to see them get that paycheck. ... This is one that these kids will remember until the day they die." Crabtree concluded.

Next up, Elk Grove will host Monterey Trail at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, while Pleasant Grove will welcome Laguna Creek at 7:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, after press time. ★

Football Roundup: Playoffs on the Horizon

Story and photo
by Alejandro Barron

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Besides the Sheldon Huskies who have a bye week, there's one more game for each local team in the regular season with the playoffs on the horizon.

After another week of football under the Friday night lights, only two teams remain undefeated.



Bradshaw Christian 60 - Argonaut 0

The dominance continues for the Pride, as they remain undefeated overall as well as in the Sierra Valley Conference.

This time it was the Mustangs who had to face the Pride's dominant run as they were on the wrong end of 60 points while being shut out by the Pride defense.

The first half is where the Pride applied all the pressure, going into half-time with a 47-0 score.

Not much of a passing offense, but senior quarterback Ethan Rickert passed for 125 yards on six completions for a touchdown, according to MaxPreps.

For his only touchdown reception of the night, Rickert connected with junior Max Wolf for a 42-yard touchdown.

Many players shared the ball when on the ground, as

the Pride rushed for a total of 374 yards.

Senior Nathan Zeppieri rushed 79 yards for three touchdowns, senior Mateo Mojica rushed for 98 yards for two touchdowns and junior Samuel Danilyuk rushed for 25 yards and two touchdowns.

The offense was able to stay on the field for longer periods of time as their defense was able to recover three fumbles with one each coming from the juniors Mason Pisarski, Bishop Porter and Gavin Bloomstine.

Porter also had an interception.

Three players led the team with eight total tackles on defense. Pisarski, Mojica and Danilyuk. Rickert and Porter followed them with each player having six total tackles.

With a win in the Pride's next game against the Rosemont Wolverines or a loss from league rival Union Mine, they will secure an SVC title.



Laguna Creek 63 - Sheldon 7

Amid some controversy, the Huskies took the field in their last regular season game against the Cardinals without head coach Chris Nixon, all varsity assistants, four team captains and eight two-way players.

Reports say this could be attributed to a discussion between Nixon and a parent following their loss against the Thundering Herd which led to a discussion with athletic director Jason Bumbaca.

This led to Nixon's keys being handed in on Oct. 21 with no clarification if he was fired or suspended.

As a result, the coaching staff chose not to be at the game and some players decided to not take the field.

Nonetheless, the game was played and despite their efforts, the Huskies fell by a score of 63-7.

This was the Armon Thorntona show, as he set a school record for touchdowns in a game with six, also setting a school record for most scores in a half.

In total, Thorntona rushed for 183 yards on 15 carries for six touchdowns along with 23 receiving yards on one reception.

Despite starting the season off with an injury and missing a few games, Thorntona ranks fifth in rushing yards among Delta League running backs with a total of 596 yards and third in rushing touchdowns with 11.

The Cardinals went up 42-7 at halftime thanks to Thorntona, while the only score of the night for the Huskies came on a rushing touchdown from senior Movari Leggett.

The other scores from the Cardinals came on an Owen Burke rushing touchdown and two receptions from Dereus Counts who had 59 receiving yards for a final score of 63-7.



Senior quarterback Cole Davis prepares to receive the snap during the Pleasant Grove Eagles game against Tokay on Sept. 9.

Senior quarterback Mitchell Labrado completed nine passes for 197 passing yards with his biggest target being junior Ryan Eddy who had six receptions for 165 yards.

The Huskies while being short-handed on the field had 110 passing and rushing yards combined.

The Huskies' season comes to an end with a 4-6 overall record and a 2-4 league record amid controversy about their head coach.

As for the Cardinals, their playoff hopes are alive with a 3-2 Delta League record with their remaining game against another playoff hopeful in the Pleasant Grove Eagles for their last game of the season.

Monterey Trail 63 - Cosumnes Oaks 6

The Mustangs continue their undefeated streak in league play that dates back to Nov. 9, 2018.

This time around the Mustangs routed the



Wolfpack in a 63-6 blow-out win which puts Cosumnes Oaks at an 0-5 Delta League record.

For the Mustangs, it was senior quarterback Christian Coronado who aired it out completing seven passes which led to four touchdowns for 170 yards.

The only two targets Coronado had were senior Denzell Butler and junior Jimmy Jackson who each had two touchdown catches.

Butler had five receptions for 55 yards while Jackson had two receptions for 115 yards.

On the ground, D'Adrien Sanders, Gabe Coronado and Kaden Love each had a touchdown.

The leader in rushing

yards on the night was sophomore Albert Dennis for 86 yards on 10 carries.

Sanders had 50 rushing yards, which added to his league-leading 995 rushing yards with his 14 total touchdowns.

The Wolfpack threw two interceptions which were both returned for touchdowns by the Mustangs' Isaiah Costley and Devin Parrow. They threw a total of five interceptions.

On defense, the Mustangs had a total of eight sacks with Gabe Coronado and Kharer Turk having two each.

Along with his two sacks, Gabe Coronado had 15 total tackles while others like Ian Guerrero had 10 and Elijah Folau had nine.

This puts the Mustangs at a 5-0 record in the Delta League with one game left and their playoff hopes alive and well. They will take on the Elk Grove Thundering Herd who up until this past week were undefeated. ★



POLICE LOGS

Friday, Oct. 18

2:55 a.m., Bradshaw Road/Kapalua Lane: Elk Grove Police arrested Oscar Alonso, 27, on DUI and warrant charges.

4:41 p.m., 9100 block of Franklin Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Shimisha Sundar, 18, on charges of grand theft and theft by false pretenses.

4:56 p.m., confidential location: Elk Grove Police arrested Melvin Lal, 23, on

charges of corporal injury to an intimate partner.

Saturday, Oct. 19

5:24 a.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway: Elk Grove Police arrested Miguel Estrada, 45, on charges of trespassing, and drug paraphernalia and meth possession.

12:42 p.m., 8600 block of Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Hector Arce, 54, on

warrant charges.

8:44 p.m., 9000 block of Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested David Abeyta, 55, on charges of assault with a deadly weapon, assault with caustic chemicals and public intoxication.

Sunday, Oct. 20

7:23 p.m., 8300 block of Power Inn Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Michael McCombs, 24, on warrant charges.

Monday, Oct. 21

10:05 a.m., 8100 block of Sheldon Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Justin Lautenchlaeger, 31, and Nicolas Castro, 35, on controlled substance possession and warrant charges.

Tuesday, Oct. 22

2:45 a.m., 7900 block of Dymont Court: Elk Grove Police arrested James Watson, 29, on public

intoxication charges.

2:55 a.m., 6800 block of Romanzo Way: Elk Grove Police arrested Vertrail Payne, 31, on charges of burglary, grand theft, burglary tool possession, resisting arrest, felony reckless evading, and evading a police officer by driving against traffic.

1:22 p.m., 10400 block of Grant Line Road: Elk Grove Police arrested Kimberly Cameron, 53,

and Ronald Anderson, 41, on charges of meth possession, controlled substance possession and drug paraphernalia possession.

Wednesday, Oct. 23

8:25 p.m., 8600 block of Elk Grove Boulevard: Elk Grove Police arrested Juan Garcia, 64, on DUI charges.

Thursday, Oct. 24

No arrests logged. ★

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.”

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 elkgrovecityartscenter.org/workshop.

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://elkgrovecityartscenter.org/> ★

Varsity Volleyball: Five Local Teams in Playoffs

By Alejandro Barron

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - With the conclusion of the girls volleyball regular season last week, five local teams have qualified for playoffs including one team that is undefeated in league.

Wells ranked fourth and fifth in the Delta League in kills with 142 and 138, respectively.

Junior outside hitter Zala Ahmadzai ranked fourth among the Delta League in serving aces with 39.

As for defensive statistics, senior middle blocker Olivia Smith ranks sixth in the Delta League with 26 blocks while senior defensive specialist Caylie Morrison ranks fifth in the league with 156 digs.

Their opponents had a 28-6 overall record while they were 10-0 in league and prior to their playoff matchup had swept in their past three matches.

The winner of this match will move on to the quarterfinals which will be played on Oct. 31, after press time.

Franklin: The 16-14 overall record and 8-4 Delta League Franklin Wildcats have the No. 12 seed and will travel to take on the No. 5 seed Oak Ridge Trojans, who

finished 22-13 overall and 10-4 in league.

The top performers across the league include senior outside hitter Joyce Wang who ranks third with 45 serving aces.

For top performers for their team, senior outside hitter Maelyn Ramirez led the team with 98 kills, Wang with 45 assists, Ramirez with 83 digs and freshman setter Noelani Ramirez with 174 assists.

The Trojans are currently riding a three-game winning streak heading into their playoff matchup where the winner will go on to the quarterfinals between the Pleasant Grove Eagles or Inderkum Tigers on Oct. 31, after press time.

Pleasant Grove: The Delta League champion Eagles with a 12-0 record and 25-5 overall record enter the playoffs as the No. 4 seed and will take on the No. 13 seed Inderkum Tigers.

They will host the Tigers

who were 17-15 overall and 5-7 in their league.

The Eagles have top performers across the Sacramento section and in the Delta League as junior setter Aubrey Tripp had 474 assists which ranks sixth among the section and first in the league.

In the league, senior outside hitter Isis Castille ranks third in kills with 152 and Tripp ranks second in serving aces with 45.

The Eagles currently have a five-game winning streak including three sweeps in their last three matches.

Last season, the Eagles crashed out in the quarterfinals, a stage they are trying to reach where they could potentially face off against the Oak Ridge Trojans or Franklin Wildcats.

Division II

Laguna Creek: The lone Elk Grove team in the Division II bracket is the No. 13 seed Laguna Creek Cardinals who ended their regular season against the 16-14 overall record and 7-5 Delta League record as the newest addition to the league.

They will be taking on the No. 4 seed Del Oro Golden Eagles who

finished with an even 13-13 overall record and 8-6 league record.

Junior Emma Lucchesi ranks ninth in the Sacramento Section with 354 kills while freshman Averi Oldram ranks eighth in the section with 87 total blocks.

Lucchesi among the Delta League ranks first in kills, first in serving aces with 67 and junior Lola Dang ranks third in the league with 271 assists.

The Cardinals dominate in total blocks and digs in league play with Oldram first with 87, senior Salayah Moore ranked second with 66 and Lucchesi ranked second with 51, while Lucchesi ranks first in digs with 284 and sophomore Jaysa Crable ranks second with 174 digs.

This match is set for Oct. 29 (after press time) at Del Oro with the winner set to face off against either the No. 5 seed El Capitan Gauchos of Merced or the Manteca Buffaloes in the quarterfinals.

The Cardinals are looking to break their two-game losing streak from their last two regular season matches and get into the quarterfinals.

Division V

Bradshaw Christian: The Pride are the No. 2 seed in the Division V bracket as they finished the regular season with an 18-11 overall record and a 7-7 record in the Sierra Valley Conference.

Their opponent at their home playoff game are the Rio Vista Rams, who are the No. 15 seed and finished their regular season with an even 10-10 overall record and 9-5 league.

Senior setter Sophia Rios ranks second in the SVC in assists with 550.

Senior libero and outside hitter Emmerson Patterson leads the team with 224 kills, as well as 52 serving aces. Senior middle blocker Chloe Lester leads with 51 total blocks and Rios leads with 281 digs.

This is the first test for the Pride in the playoffs as they won the section last season and went on a regional final run where they lost in a 3-0 sweep, coming up just short of reaching the state finals.

The winner of this match will take on the Futures Knights or Buckingham Charter Knights of Vacaville on Oct. 31 in the quarterfinals, after press time. ★

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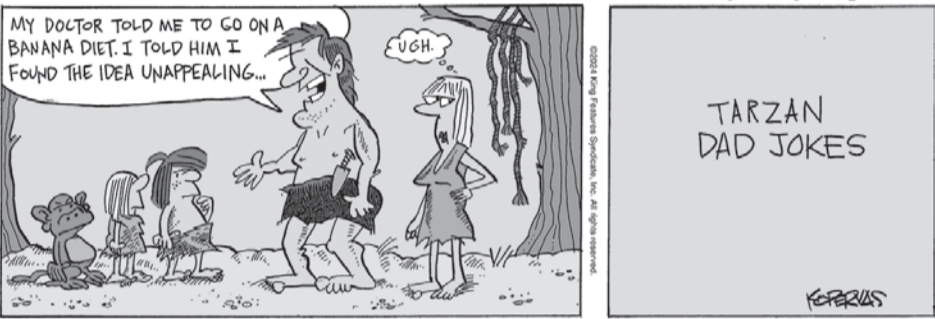
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



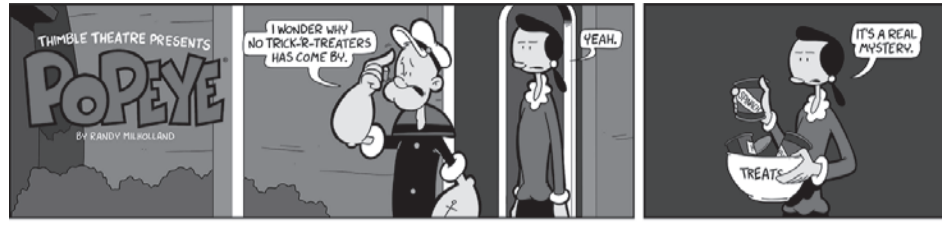
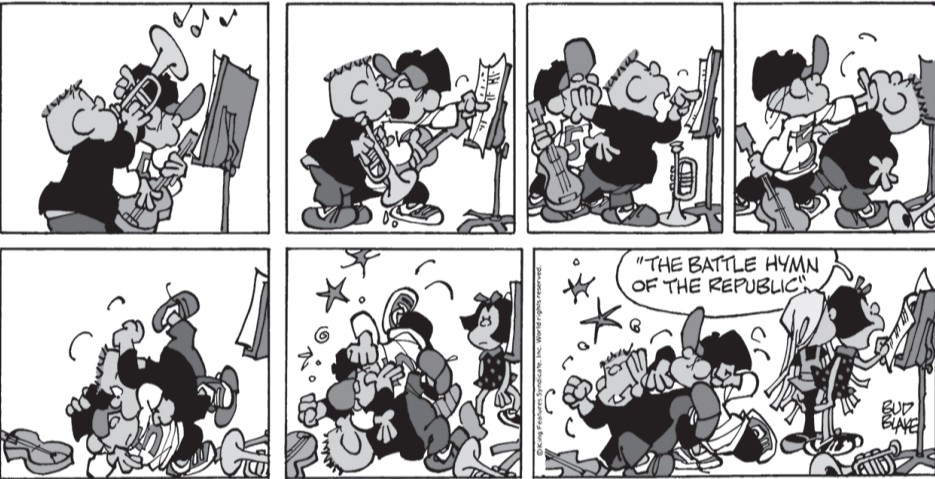
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

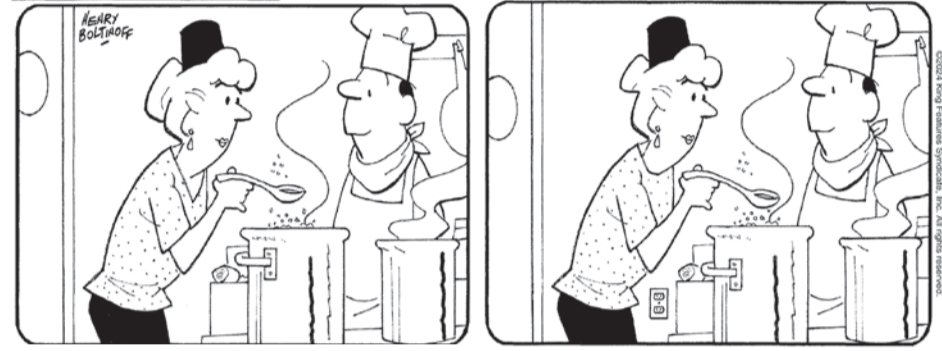


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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
1. Performer's time to shine
 5. Selfie, e.g.
 8. One of five Ws
 11. Très _____, or very stylish
 12. Mandolin's cousin
 13. Knitter's unit
 15. Aren't, colloquially
 16. Mimicked
 17. *Like House with Oval Office
 18. *The Hunchback's home (2 words)
 20. Listening devices
 21. Flirtatious stares
 22. Salt, in Spanish
 26. *_____ State Building
 28. TV shows, e.g.
 30. Will Ferrell's "Funny or _____"
 31. Steve McQueen's "The Great _____" (1963)
 34. Toss a coin
 35. _____ & Young financial services company
 37. Kimono tie
 38. Sweating room
 39. Short skirt
 40. Batter (2 words)
 42. Lake, in French
 43. Anise seed (1 word)
 45. *_____ of Versailles or Buckingham _____
 47. _____ of war
 48. Sinbad the Sailor's home
 50. Not good
 52. *St. Basil's in Moscow or St. Paul's in London
 56. *The Parthenon in Athens is made of this
 57. Capital of Norway
 58. Aeneas' lover
 59. More slippery
 60. Animal protein
 61. Independent chieftain
 62. High degree
 63. TV program interruptions
 64. Retired, abbr.
- DOWN**
1. CAT or PET, e.g.
 - *Key Tower, tallest building in this Buckeye state
 - Laundry room fire hazard
 - Type of local tax
 - Pupa, pl.
 - Things
 - Give up a state
 - Dam-like structure
 - Not misses
 - Football's extra point
 - Soup scoopers
 - Make a solemn promise
 - *Burj _____, tallest building in the world
 - Wading bird
 - "Monkey _____, monkey do"
 - Bodily swelling
 - Rice wine
 - 1/100th of Finnish markka
 - Rotisserie skewer
 - Spurious wing
 - Cancer-treating machine, acr.
 - *_____ Needle, Seattle
 - For boys and girls
 - Lawyers' org.
 - *_____ Chapel, Vatican City
 - Flat replacement

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Florin High Celebrates Farm to School Month

Elk Grove Unified School District News Release

ELK GROVE CA (MPG) - Elk Grove Unified School District's Florin High School Celebrates Farm to School Month with California-Grown Fruits and Vegetables as California Food for California Kids® Network Reaches Its 10th Year.

Florin High presented a Collective Action Day featuring local partners in celebration of Farm to School Month. The event,



Florin High students were able to taste-test new lunch items.

held Thursday, Oct. 24, was made possible in partnership with the Center for Ecoliteracy's California Food for California Kids

Network which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

The organization supports schools to serve more



Farm to School month is celebrated at Florin High School on Oct. 24. Photo courtesy of Center for Ecoliteracy

fresh and local school meals and provides food education for students.

Florin High School students enjoyed local California-grown fruit, taste tested new menu items and learned how they can get involved in advocating for farm to school. The California Food for

California Kids network has grown to over 140 school districts serving 2.3 million students throughout California.

With a decade of experience in transforming school meals, the California Food for California Kids Network shows that while change

takes time, sourcing local fruits and vegetables is a proven strategy to accelerate district-wide farm to school programs.

For more on these programs visit the California Food for California Kids network website, www.californiafoodforcaliforniakids.org. ★

Filipino Americans in Spotlight

Continued from page 1
connections that we have with our own."

Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen, Vice-Mayor Rod Brewer and City Councilmember Darren Suen read out a proclamation for Filipino American Heritage Month.

Murray Navarro, president of Filipino Community of Sacramento and Vicinity, described plans to build a Filipino community center at the corner of 66th Avenue and East Southgate Drive.

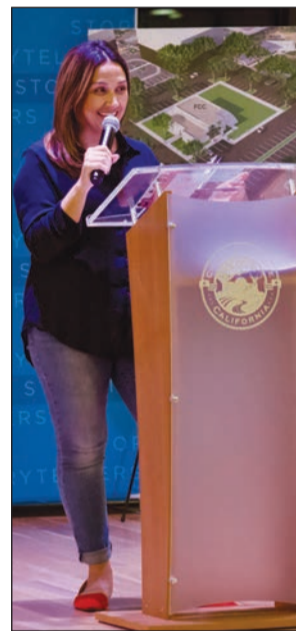
The first of the storytellers, Cheena Moslen, encouraged listeners to take off the "masks" they present to hide their troubles. Moslen serves as an educational equity coach for Elk Grove Unified School District and formerly taught theater and English.

"I want to live an authentic life, I want to live where I can be exactly who I want to be, and I want to encourage the next generation of folks to not be afraid," Moslen said.

Community organizer Megan Sapigao recalled watching Elk Grove evolve demographically; her family moved to the city when she was in high school.

"I saw when Elk Grove became a city and I saw it become diverse," Sapigao said.

Sapigao serves as a board member on the Sacramento Filipino Political Action Committee and has taken leadership roles in multiple other Filipino groups.



The Filipino American storytellers featured in the Oct. 22 Cultural Connections event were, from left, Cheena Moslen, Megan Sapigao and Melissa Javinar. Photos by Matthew Malone



The Kapitbahay dance group performs for Cultural Connections attendees.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sapigao helped form the Sacramento API Regional Network, aiding area Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

"When the pandemic hit, it was a scary time for Filipinos, No. 1, because we were on the front lines as nurses and essential workers," Sapigao said. "No. 2, we're an aging

population." Sapigao was involved in programs to get COVID-19 testing, vaccines and resources in Filipino languages, which she said promoted equity.

"Equity is meeting folks that are closest to the pain where they need to be met," Sapigao said.

The final speaker of the night was Melissa Javinar,

middle school principal at Sol Aureus College Preparatory, who described the challenges of growing up Filipino American in Southern California in the 1980s.

"I always felt like I was balancing two worlds at home because my parents spoke to us in English but they also spoke to us in Tagalog," Javinar said,



Representatives of the local Filipino community accept a proclamation from Elk Grove officials in honor of Filipino American Heritage Month. They are, from left, emcee Vince Sales, Elk Grove Diversity and Inclusion Commissioner Jinky Dolar, and Filipino Community of Sacramento and Vicinity President Murray Navarro, as well as Commission Chair Tina Lee-Vogt, Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen, Vice-Mayor Rod Brewer and City Councilmember Darren Suen.



"Songbird" Remy Solomon sings at Cultural Connections. She is a board member of Filipino Community of Sacramento and Vicinity.

adding that she didn't know the English names of some vegetables until third grade.

"I was never fully Filipino, and I was never fully American, and it wasn't until I became an adult and moved away from home that I learned that I didn't need to be one

or the other. That was the beauty of being Fil-Am."

She concluded her talk by calling on elders to reach out to youth, and vice versa.

"Let's make sure that this culture continues, not for ourselves but for our kids and our future generations," Javinar said. ★

Falling in Love at EG's Animal Shelter

Continued from page 1

to implement training and behavior modification plans.

If you are unable to provide a forever home, you can still enjoy time with an animal by fostering one for a specified period. Interested animal lovers will need to fill out a foster application online.

Input from foster pet parents who share how the animal reacts to a more homelike situation augments information given to potential new pet parents. This facilitates a better match for both pets and humans.

Even if you just want to walk a dog, pet cats, or lend a hand in your area of expertise, the shelter welcomes your help.

Lost Fido or Muffin? Here is another area where the Elk Grove Animal Shelter benefits the community. Hopefully, you have had your pet micro-chipped. If so, the shelter staff can scan the lost animal and contact you. If your lost pet is not chipped, make an appointment to come in and see if



A cat ready for adoption from the Elk Grove Animal Shelter peers through the cage.



Along with cats and dogs, the animal shelter had a rabbit during an Oct. 17 visit.



Volunteers can help with feeding and walking the animals.

someone has found them and taken them to our local facility.

Humlie tells a happy-ending story about a cat lost for a year and a half.

"The owners had moved to the Midwest in the

meantime. A volunteer who was flying to the area where the owners lived offered to bring the cat to the Midwest airport where the overjoyed couple picked up their wandering feline."



Animal Services Manager Sarah Humlie welcomes potential new pet owners at the Elk Grove Animal Shelter.

Are feral cats overproducing in your area? Check out the TNR (trap, neuter, release) program. The shelter has humane traps available (no animals harmed) to rent for two-week periods. Bring the feral cats in for free spay, neutering, vaccination and an ear tip, which shows these procedures have been done. Then you return the feral cat to where it was picked up.

Yes, there is a charge for

scoping up your darling new pets and taking them home. Look online at elkgrovecity.org under Animal Services to find the different fees depending on what type of animal you adopt.

Watch for special sales. If an animal is not adopted in 60 days, often the fees are waived altogether.

However, this new member of your family likely will give you hours of priceless pleasure. Your dog runs to enthusiastically

greet you the minute you step in the door and will help you get lots of walking exercise. Your kitten curls up on your lap as you watch the evening news. Your mature cat purrs while being brushed.

So, what are you waiting for? Find your new love at the Elk Grove Animal Shelter, 9150 Union Park Way.

The shelter is open from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. ★

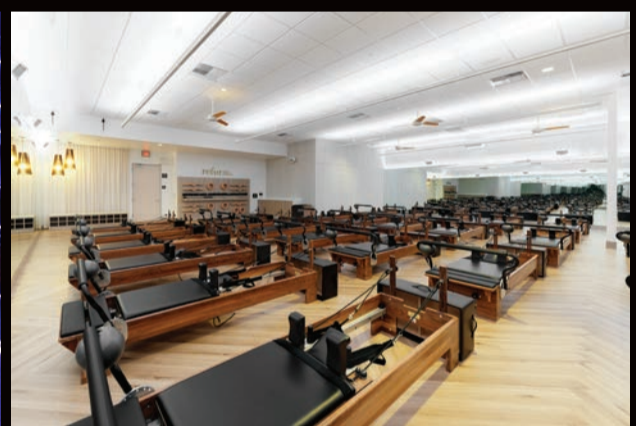
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