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VOL 33 • ISSUE 21 Bringing You Community News For Over 30 Years NOVEMBER 22, 2024

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Women's Empowerment Gives Thanks



Graduates from Women's Empowerment's latest job readiness session gather after their ceremony in September. Photo courtesy of Kristin Thebaud Communications

**Kristin Thebaud
Communications
News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Women's Empowerment has received a \$60,000 contribution from U.S. Bank to provide Sacramento women experiencing homelessness with job-readiness programs, paid job training and transitional workforce

housing so they can secure employment with upward mobility as they work toward affording permanent housing. "U.S. Bank continues to be an important partner in our work," said Lisa Culp, executive director, Women's Empowerment. "We are grateful for this contribution to support unhoused women as they search for permanent

homes during the ongoing housing crisis." Each woman in Women's Empowerment's initial two-month employment-readiness and empowerment program receives free transportation assistance and childcare for children up to age 5 in the group's onsite child development center. She works one on one with a social worker, housing specialist,

employment specialist and volunteer career mentor, and attends a range of classes on job-readiness, empowerment and more. Graduates of the two-month program can enroll in Women's Empowerment's paid job training programs in manufacturing, property management, mobility, solar energy,
Continued on Page 4

City Seeks Input on New Parking Strategy

**City of Sacramento
News Release**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The City of Sacramento is inviting residents to weigh in on a proposed Parking Strategy, aimed at advancing housing and climate goals by updating parking requirements and optimizing parking management. The strategy makes recommendations to improve public parking management, expand parking maximums and increase bicycle parking to support active transportation. The city currently has regulations in place that cap the allowed parking for most new developments in the central city, and for offices, warehousing, and manufacturing throughout the balance of the city.

"The strategy recommends expanding parking maximums to the full central city, and to all developments within a half mile walking distance of existing high-frequency transit stops," said Senior Planner Vic Randall. "This sets a cap on new parking spaces for developments in these areas, rather than reducing existing parking." High-frequency transit stops include SacRT's light rail stations and bus routes 1 (Greenback) and 51 (Stockton Blvd./Broadway).

The strategy also creates a Parking Management Toolkit that offers the City's Parking Services Division strategies to manage parking effectively and efficiently in Sacramento.

Additionally, the strategy recommends updating design guidelines to accommodate larger or newer styles of bikes including e-bikes, cargo bicycles or accessible bicycles to provide adequate, secure and weatherproof parking.

Visit the parking strategy web page: cityofsacramento.gov/community-development/planning/housing/parking-revisions for more information.

The draft strategy is available for public comment until Monday, Dec. 2.

Broadway Grows a Creative Corridor Ecosystem



The intersection of Broadway and Land Park Drive is scheduled for an asphalt art installation in 2025. Street photo by Kristina Rogers/Art and painter photo by asphaltart.bloombert.org

By Kristina Rogers

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Over the years, the area around Broadway and 15th Street has had its ups and downs. Past revitalization efforts had some hiccups, and then the pandemic hit. Crime was on the rise, and shops were closing. Other businesses hung on as they suffered an uptick in theft and break-ins. Neighbors began to shy away, which put the area on life

support. But a vibrant upswing is on the horizon. Newly funded projects, robust public safety efforts and the passing of Proposition 36 could be the trifecta Broadway has been waiting for. Joan Borucki, Executive Director for The Tower District, has been proactive in new efforts to improve conditions in the area. That's good news for the surrounding

communities, like the Land Park neighborhood! One improvement project is a creative crosswalk inspired by the Asphalt Art initiative. It will be an artistic pedestrian walkway on the four-way intersection at Broadway and Land Park Drive. Asphalt Art is part of a national effort to mitigate traffic and bring a community feel to public pathways. Other cities have
Continued on Page 9

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CHP Swearing-In Rite Marks Milestone

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Highway Patrol (CHP) proudly announces a major achievement in its ongoing recruitment efforts as it officially swears in 121 new officers, bringing the Department past its goal of hiring over 1,000 officers. This milestone underscores the CHP's commitment to enhancing public safety and strengthening its presence within communities across the state.

The swearing-in ceremony at the CHP Academy in West Sacramento on Nov. 15 marks the culmination of months of rigorous training for these new officers. Each will report for duty to one of the CHP's 102 Area offices throughout the state. This is the largest graduating class since June 2022,



CHP swears in 121 new officers on Nov. 15 at the CHP Academy in West Sacramento. Photo courtesy of California Highway Patrol

when 128 officers were sworn in.

“Two years ago, we set an ambitious goal of recruiting 1,000 new CHP officers – and today, with this class, we have officially surpassed that goal. But I want to be clear: that goal has always been about more than just filling slots

or hitting a number. Each officer is the very manifestation of public service, of peacekeeping. Every cadet graduating today felt a calling to do right by their community and to make the world safer. On behalf of the state and all who call California home, I want to thank each and every

member of this graduating class,” said Gov. Gavin Newsom.

“Today marks a significant step forward for our agency and all of our communities,” said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee. “By surpassing our recruitment goal, we’re adding highly-trained,

committed officers who are ready to make a positive impact and meet the evolving needs of California. We’re grateful for the dedication and passion these officers bring to their new roles.”

The CHP started its successful multi-year recruitment campaign in June 2022.

With over 21,000 applications submitted in the first ten months of 2024, the CHP has already surpassed last year’s application total of more than 16,300 over the same period, representing a 29% increase.

To accommodate this increase, the CHP conducts three concurrent cadet classes at its live-in training facility, where more than 250 cadets are currently in training. A new class of 160 cadets will arrive Dec. 1 at the CHP Academy.

Training at the CHP Academy is comprehensive, beginning with a foundation of nobility in policing, leadership, ethics, and cultural diversity. Cadets also receive specialized instruction in responding to mental health crises, vehicle patrol, crash investigation, first aid, and impaired driver evaluation. Additional training covers traffic control, report writing, stolen vehicle recovery, assisting motorists, emergency scene management, and mastery of the California Vehicle, Penal, and Health and Safety Codes.

The CHP is continuing its recruitment efforts. Join us in shaping the future of public safety in California.

For more information about a life-changing career with the CHP, visit our website, recruitment.chp.ca.gov. ★

CHP Receives Grant to Combat Distracted Driving

California Highway Patrol News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is proud to announce it received a \$350,000 grant to address the growing issue of distracted driving on California roads.

Distracted driving remains a leading cause of traffic crashes across the state, with drivers often diverting their attention from the road to activities such as using mobile devices, eating or drinking,

adjusting vehicle controls or engaging in conversations with passengers. Even a brief distraction can lead to severe crashes, injuries or fatalities.

To tackle this critical issue, the CHP will engage communities statewide through educational presentations, participation in local events, enforcement operations and social media.

This comprehensive strategy emphasizes education and enforcement to reduce incidences of distracted driving. Education

helps foster a safety culture on the road, while enforcement is a necessary deterrent to dangerous behavior.

“Every driver needs to recognize the serious dangers associated with distracted driving. Each time you look away from the road, even for a moment, you put yourself, your passengers and others at great risk,” said CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee.

“We all have a responsibility to make our roads safer by staying focused



behind the wheel.”

The CHP remains committed to ensuring the safety of California’s drivers and will continue

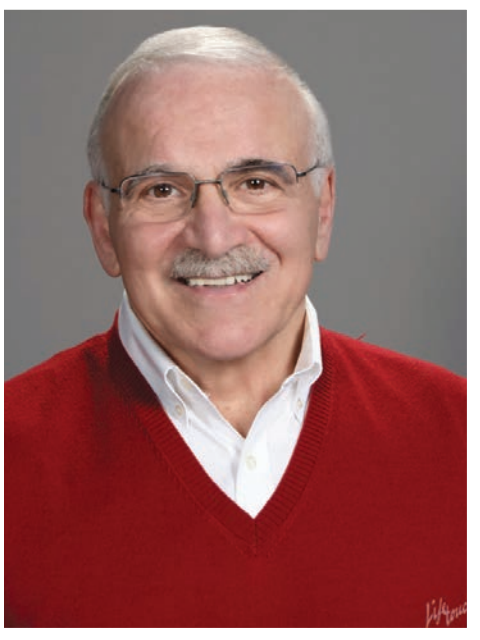
its efforts to reduce the risks posed by distracted driving.

Funding for this program is provided by a

grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. ★

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MLB’s Athletics Announce 2025 Regular Season Home Game Times



Sutter Health Park in West Sacramento will be home to Major League Baseball’s Athletics for the 2025 season. Photo by MPG staff

Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - First pitch of the A’s inaugural game at Sutter Health Park in West Sacramento will take place at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, March 31, as the Athletics take on the Chicago Cubs.

Across the 81-game home slate, the A’s will play 60 night games, including 25 of their 28 games in June and July. Eleven of the A’s 21 total day games will be played in April and May, with only six Sunday day games scheduled from June through August. Night games begin at 7:05 p.m.

The home schedule features matchups against eight National League clubs, including the San Diego Padres (April 7-9), New York Mets (April 11-13), Philadelphia Phillies (May 23-25), San Francisco Giants (July 4-6), Atlanta Braves (July 8-10), Arizona Diamondbacks (Aug. 1-3), and Cincinnati Reds (Sept. 12-14).

The A’s will play at home for three

popular summer holidays, taking on the New York Yankees on Mother’s Day (May 11), the Phillies over Memorial Day Weekend (May 23-25), and the Giants on Independence Day (July 4).

The A’s will share Sutter Health Park with the Sacramento River Cats. MLB and MiLB have coordinated home schedules to accommodate both teams, ensuring that there are no instances in which both teams play at home on the same day.

The 60 home night games would tie the 1968 A’s for the most in a season in franchise history.

A’s season tickets for 2025 are on sale now and will be released in phases.

Current A’s season ticket holders will be notified when seats comparable to their 2024 plan are available to purchase.

Fans who have placed a season ticket deposit will be notified based on priority when tickets are available for purchase. Single-game tickets will go on sale in early 2025.

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Sacramento Kings were 2-2 in the past week, but that doesn’t begin to tell the tale.

Beginning with a disappointing 116-96 loss to the San Antonio Spurs and concluding with a thrilling 121-117 win over the Utah Jazz, the Sac Town ballers had an up and down week that ended on a high note.

Sadly, injuries played a role, sidelining big man Domantas Sabonis and newcomer all-star DeMar DeRozan, both with lower back issues.

In between the Spurs and the Jazz, saw the Kings take a tough overtime loss to a talented Minnesota Timberwolves team, and win decisively over the Phoenix Suns by the score of 127-104.

The real story of the week was none other than the offensive show put on by point guard DeAaron Fox, who scored a total of 109 points in back-to-back games against the Timberwolves and the Utah Jazz.

Setting a Sacramento Kings scoring record, DeAaron put the team on his back against the Timberwolves, scoring 60 points and shattering his previous personal record. Just one game later, with Malik Monk, DeMar DeRozan, and Domantas Sabonis sidelined with injuries, Fox backed up his 60-point performance with 49 more, this time in a win over the Jazz.

Thanks to the offensive explosion of DeAaron Fox, the Kings now have a player in the top ten in scoring. DeAaron is currently #6 in the NBA in scoring, and remarkably the Kings are the only team in the NBA to feature three players with a scoring average of 20 points or higher per game.

In addition to raising his scoring average, DeAaron is fifth in the league in steals, averaging 1.8 per game. I look for Fox to challenge the top spot in steals as the season wears on.

Overall, the Kings are off to an 8-6 start, and most pundits and fans alike are well aware that their record could be decidedly better.

It took a few games for DeRozan to become completely comfortable with his teammates, and that should be taken for granted.

Since the first few games, DeMar has been the perfect fit, and teams are having

a difficult time trying to figure out who the go-to player is going to be. The Kings are spreading the boy to everyone on the court including Keegan Murray, who has had an up and down start to the season as it relates to scoring.

Keegan has made a noticeable move forward as he has focused on rebounding and improving his defensive efficiency.

Domantas continues to rebound with ferocity, and the rebounding champion of the past two seasons, is currently #2 in the NBA behind big man Nikola Jokic.

Nursing a sore back, Sabonis is on the sidelines, and with nothing definite coming from the Kings organization, Domantas is day to day.

So, what kind of a report card should the Kings receive as they play in their 15th game against the Atlanta Hawks on Monday night.

I give the team a solid B, considering the addition of DeMar DeRozan and understanding it takes time for a starting five to jell.

Let’s not forget the energy and scoring punch that Malik Monk brings to this team, and the sooner we see Malik back in action, the better off the Kings will be. Reportedly, Malik has a week to go before he’ll be ready for any hardwood action.


Sadly, after witnessing what I consider to be one of the worst officiating seasons in the past 50 years last season, the zebras were back to their old ways Saturday night and were it not for Kings ability to challenge two horrific calls by the referees, the Kings would have likely lost to the Utah Jazz.

I have no answer for what the NBA needs to do, but clearly the officiating is sadly lacking in quality, and this has not always been the case.

I credit the NBA with putting challenges into the mix, but there is still more that needs to be done.

Meanwhile, keep the faith Kings fans. This team is showing a lot of bright spots, so let’s get everyone healthy and see if the Sac Town boys can get on a winning streak!

All the best Kings fans!
Your thoughts are always welcome at
vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com.



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California Waterfowl Pocket/Greenhaven Fundraiser

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The California Waterfowl Pocket/Greenhaven Committee annual fund-raising dinner is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 5 at Portuguese Hall.

The California Waterfowl Association is a conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of waterfowl, wetlands and habitat within the state of California.

Last year the association saved 706 duck eggs in the egg salvage program

and nearly 26,000 ducklings were hatched from nest boxes enrolled in the California Wood Duck program. The association invested \$9 million in 91 projects to improve wetlands. The association supports various hunt programs, including veteran hunts. In addition, the association teaches youth and all levels of hunters about waterfowl and wetlands, as well as the role hunters play in conservation.

For details or tickets, contact Susan Kammerer at 916-799-9718 or make your reservation at Calwaterfowl.org/events.★



The Pocket/Greenhaven Committee of the California Waterfowl Association supports several wetland conservation efforts through its fundraising efforts. Photo courtesy of California Waterfowl Pocket/Greenhaven Committee.

Pocket Canal Holiday Lights 2024



The Pocket Canal is shown with a dramatic dusk sky in background. Photo courtesy of Pocket neighborhood community

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The holidays are right around the corner, and members of the Pocket community are working hard to continue the wonderful neighborhood tradition of lighting the Pocket Canal Parkway and the community Christmas Tree for the holidays!

Dec. 7 will be the big day (conditions permitting)!

Community members will be hanging the lights in the morning and holding the lighting ceremony that evening at 4 p.m. at Portuguese Park. (Save the date.)

If you are able to donate to support this year's efforts, visit www.giftstoshareinc.ejoinme.org/donate to make a generous donation and help brighten the holidays for the whole community (select "District 7 Canal Holiday Lights"). All donations are tax deductible. ★

Women's Empowerment Gives Thanks

Continued from page 1

medical assisting and more. Women's Empowerment also offers its Trellis Gardens transitional workforce housing program for graduates who have secured employment, but still cannot afford market-rate housing for their families. At Trellis Gardens, they can live in cottages for 12 to 18 months as they work to increase income, savings and credit

scores and prepare to move into permanent housing.

"Supporting the development of a dynamic workforce is an investment in today and our future," said Ashley Bocek, community affairs manager, U.S. Bank. "We're proud to work with organizations like Women's Empowerment to help people succeed in their careers, gain greater financial literacy and build thriving

ABOUT TOWN

Elks Lodge Calendar of Events

Farmer's Market, 9 am-1 pm every Saturday.

Elk's Lodge Sunday Breakfast, 8:30 am-11 am every Sunday.

Bring your friends and family; \$15 tax included. Best deal in town. Made to order Omelets or eggs any way you want. Bacon, sausage, potatoes, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, waffles, coffee. Large parties should call for reservations. Guests are VERY welcome!

Yoga, Monday 12 pm, Wednesday 3:30 pm. Lodge members free.

Martial Arts, Monday 5 pm

Pickleball, Monday, Wednesday 9a-12p, Thursday 4:30-7:30p, Sunday 4-7p.

Improv Night, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 6-8 pm

Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:30 to 7 pm. See elks6.net for weekly menu.

Area Museums Offer Plenty of Experiences

The Greater Sacramento region is rich with museums and popular destinations that offer plenty of must-see and must-do experiences to explore.

The community is encouraged to show support for local museums by making plans to visit favorite locations (or discovering new ones).

A sampling of must-see and must-do experiences and special activations offered by local museums include the following:

California Automobile Museum – Take a ride in a museum car during Sunday Drives, the third Sunday of every month., With paid museum admission, take a ride from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Details at calautomuseum.org/

California Museum – ¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues, Oct. 26-Jan. 25, 2025: This Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition takes audiences on a journey into the heart of American baseball to understand how generations of Latinas/os have helped make the game what it is today. Details at californiamuseum.org.

California State Railroad Museum & Foundation – The California State Railroad Museum & Foundation are proud to offer the Polar Express Train Ride – Enjoy this magical family event!

The evening begins in our passenger station where you will be entertained by Polar Express characters, and then board your train to the North Pole where you will enjoy hot chocolate and a sweet treat courtesy of our hot chocolate chefs.

Once you reach the North Pole, the jolly old elf — Santa himself — will come on board to give each passenger the first gift of Christmas, a silver sleigh bell. For more details and/or to book a train ride, please visit www.californiarailroad.museum.

Sacramento History Museum – Through Jan. 7, 2025, the museum is proud to present a limited-time exhibition titled "America's Monsters, Superheroes and Villains: Our Culture at Play" from SuperMonsterCity. The engaging exhibition will be filled with 400+ vintage and original toys, comic books, games, posters, packaging, TV commercials, movie trailers and more. For details, visit www.SacHistoryMuseum.org.

For more about upcoming activities offered by Sacramento area museums, visit SacMuseums.org. ★

communities."

In 2023, 165 jobs were secured by Women's Empowerment graduates, and 189 graduates secured or maintained housing. Since 2001, 1,903 women have graduated from the program with more than 4,000 children. Women's Empowerment is funded through private donations from the community and grants. To make a donation: Womens-Empowerment.org.

U.S. Bancorp, with more than 70,000 employees and \$686 billion in assets as of Sept. 30, is the parent company of U.S.

Bank National Association. Headquartered in Minneapolis, the company serves millions of customers locally, nationally and globally through a diversified mix of businesses including consumer banking, business banking, commercial banking, institutional banking, payments and wealth management. U.S. Bancorp has been recognized for its approach to digital innovation, community partnerships and customer service, including being named one of the 2024 World's Most Ethical Companies and Fortune's most admired superregional bank. ★

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New Republic FC Stadium Back on Track

By Daniel Canfield

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A project that was on life support had some much-needed life injected into it on Tuesday, Nov. 12, when the Sacramento City Council voted unanimously to approve the framework for a \$321 million downtown railyards soccer stadium and entertainment venue. A long-awaited development needed to provide a permanent home for the Sacramento Republic Football Club (FC).

According to the information provided by council staff in support of the proposal, the projects being approved include a soccer stadium with supporting infrastructure occupying approximately 31 acres, as well as a new 3600-seat live entertainment venue that would occupy existing historic buildings in the railyard.

The agreement, albeit non-binding, does include information regarding project costs, economic impact and anticipated public and private funding sources. The estimated \$321 million price tag breaks down to, \$175 million for the new stadium, \$56 million for the new live entertainment venue and \$90 million for associated



Here is an architectural rendering of the new Sacramento Republic FC stadium to be built in the historic Sacramento Railyards district. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Republic FC

infrastructure. The projects altogether are expected to generate more than 1,500 jobs for the Sacramento region. The agreement includes a provision by which the city would waive reimbursement for municipal services for off-site police, fire, emergency medical services, traffic control and code enforcement for stadium events for up to a maximum of \$300,000 per year for a ten-year period.

The official press release from the city indicates the new stadium will be supported and privately financed by the Wilton Rancheria Tribe which became majority owners of Sacramento Republic FC on Nov. 7. The press release includes a quote from Mayor Darrel Steinberg on the importance of the council's vote.

"We are breaking barriers and making history here in Sacramento," said Mayor

Steinberg. "Wilton Rancheria is the first tribe to own a professional men's sports team in North America, and the projects in The Railyards will double the size of the central business district—what an incredible opportunity! This is the foundation for something beautiful today that will become even more beautiful in the years and decades to come."

In a Nov. 7 press conference, in advance of the Nov. 12

council vote, city officials joined together with representatives of Sacramento Republic FC, Downtown Railyards Venture LLC and Wilton rancheria Tribe members to celebrate the new energy being pumped into the soccer stadium/railyard development. At the press conference, Wilton Rancheria Chairman Jesus Tarango commented on the importance of the project.

"I am deeply proud to witness this moment, which stands as a profound testament to the resilience and determination of the people of Wilton Rancheria," said Chairman Tarango. "In just over a decade, our Tribe has transformed from landless to becoming a significant economic force in the region. The opportunity to drive a project of such scale and importance, on land where our ancestors once walked, is deeply meaningful. This is not only a chance to honor our history and uplift our community, but also to envision a future where we are not only part of Sacramento's past, but an integral part of its future as well."

According to the city, the stadium project is scheduled for completion by late 2026, and the entertainment venue by 2027. ★

Sac State Tennis Doubles Duo Reach Semifinals



Sacramento State doubles duo of Maddy Ferreros and Irene Riva showed well at last weekend's ITA Conference Masters event in Rome, Ga. Photo courtesy of Sac State Athletics

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento State doubles duo of Maddy Ferreros and Irene Riva showed well at last weekend's ITA Conference Masters event in Rome, Ga., reaching the main draw semifinals and falling just one win shy of a berth into the 2024 NCAA Individual Championships.

Facing teams from across the nation, the Hornet tandem opened their run with a straight-set victory over Emilia Valentinsson and Sara Zalukar from Miami University, 7-5, 6-3, then outlasted Bryant's team of Caitlyn Munson and Natalia Vela in three sets, 5-7, 6-4, 10-4.

Ferreros and Riva continued to roll on day two, easing past the Naval Academy's Emily Tannenbaum and Parvathi Shanker, 6-2, 6-0, before suffering their first loss of the tournament in the semifinals to Appalachian State's Savannah Dada-Mascoll and Isabella

Romanichen, 6-3, 6-1.

With the top three doubles teams earning a spot in the NCAA Tournament, Ferreros and Riva faced off against Celia-Belle Mohr and Sophia Webster from Vanderbilt for third place, winning the first set in a tiebreaker, 7-6 (5), before falling by the scores of 6-0 and 10-5 to finish fourth.

In singles, sophomore Lou Baudouin fell in her main draw opening round match to Charleston Southern's Marina Skegro, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2, but rebounded in the consolation draw defeating Illinois-Chicago's Mayu Ushio, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, and advancing to the semifinals with a walkover against South Carolina State's Sofiya Chursina.

In the semis, Baudouin was finally subdued, falling to South Dakota's Beata Havlickova, 6-0, 6-4.

The Hornets have wrapped up the fall portion of the team's schedule and will open the spring championship season on Jan. 26 at home against the University of the Pacific. ★

Hornet's Goalkeeper Sierra Sonko Earns Player of the Week Honors

Sacramento State University Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Redshirt freshman goalkeeper Sierra Sonko came up aces not once, not twice, but three times in penalty kicks for the Sacramento State women's soccer team last week during the Big Sky Conference Tournament, stopping a pair of attempts in all three contests to earn National Player of the Week honors from Top Drawer Soccer on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

It's another award added to the mantle for the Seattle, Wash., native, who was named the Big Sky Tournament Most Valuable Player for her performance in net as the Hornets claimed their first league tournament championship, and the automatic NCAA berth that goes with it for the first time since 2010.

Having appeared in one match and playing in only five minutes during the regular season, Sonko answered when called upon for No. 5-seeded Sacramento State, stopping a pair of penalties following a 2-2 draw against No. 4-seeded Northern Arizona and repeating the feat against regular season champion, host, and top-seeded Montana after the Hornets and the Grizzlies played to a scoreless draw.

Two days later, it took eight rounds of penalties to finally decide a winner, but Sonko stopped defending tournament champion Idaho on its fourth attempt as the Hornets drew even and then denied the Vandals on what turned out to be their final attempt of the day to secure the victory.

Following the match, Sonko became the third Sacramento State women's soccer player to be named the Big Sky Tournament's MVP, joining Katie McCoy (2007) and Elece McBride (2010). She was one of six named to the all-tournament team along with teammates Teysha-Ray Spinney-Kuahua, Ellie Farber, Sydney Sharts, Dalen Lau, and Izzy Palmatier, matching the most selections in school history along with the 2007



Hornet's redshirt freshman goalkeeper Sierra Sonko earned National Player of the Week honors from Top Drawer Soccer on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Photo courtesy of Sac State Athletics

and 2010 squads.

Riding a nine-match (3-0-6) unbeaten streak dating back to their last loss on Sept. 29, the Hornets open the 2024 NCAA Tournament against top-seeded and host USC on Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. at Dignity Health Sports Park Track Stadium in Carson, Calif.

Broadcast information for the match has not yet been finalized, but tickets are now on sale via the link posted on the women's soccer schedule page at HornetSports.com. ★



River Cats Earn Gold, Three Bronze Medals from GOAL

Sacramento River Cats News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Thanks to the continued implementation of sustainability practices, the Sacramento River Cats have been awarded four medals from Green Operations & Advanced Leadership (GOAL) for their work on Waste Reduction, Diversity & Inclusion, and Sustainable Partnerships.

For efforts throughout the 2024 season, the River Cats were awarded one Gold Medal as a Partner with Sustainability Solution-Focused Brands, and

three Bronze Medals in the following categories: Measure & Report Waste Data, Engage & Participate with Community, and Activate Partnerships to Support Community Impact Initiatives.

The GOAL Medals are an opportunity to recognize leadership in a variety of sustainability-related topics from Environmental, to Social, to Governance topics. The ESG categories are

broken into to topics that GOAL Members

can be recognized for various actions at either a

bronze (good), silver (better), or gold (best) level.

"It is such an honor to be recognized by GOAL as leaders in sustainability, and all in great company with many other fantastic sports venues," said Sacramento River Cats Vice President of Facilities and Events Brittney Nizuk. "We are only getting started at Sutter Health Park, and we look forward to continuing the path towards greening

and environmental resiliency through new operating procedures, partnerships, and education."

GOAL provides their members with sustainability support including quantitative data collection, qualitative sustainability storytelling, sustainability validation, and a network of like-minded leaders. GOAL's First Annual Venue & Event All Stars Award Ceremony was held on the evening of Monday, Oct. 14 after the day's GOAL Invitational. This event celebrated best practices in global venue operations, including a spotlight on sustainability. ★



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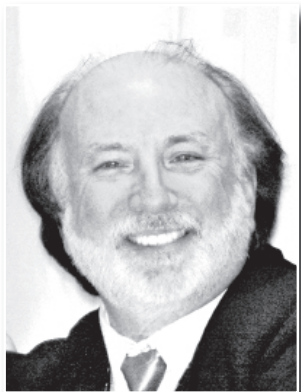
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Why Trump Won and Won Big! The Issue is Liberty!



Commentary by
Harold Pease Ph. D.

November 5 was the most important election in our nation’s political history. American flags were everywhere so patriotism was strong, and the people felt they needed to get back to freedom basics. The silent majority came forward. Donald Trump’s 900-plus rallies were attended in numbers never seen before. Kamala Harris rallies had to have a concert with someone famous, or have a previous president, Bill Clinton or Barack Obama, with her to break a thousand attending; worse, or have rally goers paid to attend. As anticipated, the people came out for Donald Trump.

In a truly fair election without electronic cheating, illegals voting, voter rolls cleaned up, ballot harvesting, totally uncensored information, media not weaponized

and etc. Trump would have won by at least 70%, maybe 75% as we have indicated before. But cheating was off the charts the last two years, more especially the last month, with hundreds of examples, even so, he won with THEIR electronic voting system but not by these percentages. This makes his victory much more profound. No one in American history has experienced more election opposition.

Why this profound victory? Several reasons can be identified. The vast majority of Americans know now that Joe Biden did not win in 2020, Trump did. That Covid-19 was mostly used for mail-in-ballotting, which is, and always has been, prone to cheating. That Hunter Biden’s laptop was real and held back from exposure by America’s intelligence community until after the 2020 presidential election. A fourth of Biden voters would have chosen Trump had they known this. That the laptop revealed 459 crimes, most of which should have put the president’s son in jail for many years—but didn’t. That Biden was personally corrupt, had over 20 shell companies extracting millions from foreign countries, some potential enemies, with

Hunter selling state secrets. Classified documents were in Joe’s possession as a U.S. Senator and Vice President in several different places that should have given him a lengthy prison sentence even before he ran for president in 2020,

Americans now know that the CIA was corrupted decades ago—at least since the Kennedy Assassination. That the FBI has turned rogue even leading the January 6 insurrection while dressed as MAGA. That it is the lead suspect for many in the assassination attempts on Trump both at Butler, Pennsylvania and Trump’s Florida Golf Club—it yet suppresses the telephone conversations on several of the phones of both would be assassins that likely would have exposed accomplices, even themselves, as aiding. That the DOJ was weaponized to go after parents at school board meetings, MAGA, and everyone else exposing Deep State corruption.

Most now believe that the Deep State is real. It has been around since the McKinley presidency preceding the Spanish American War and was in both major political parties thereafter. It was a movement of monopoly tycoons, principally

John D. Rockefeller and JP Morgan, seeking first power over the nation, then world economic dominance. It came out of the shadows and organized publicly in 1921 as the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), anyone of major importance thereafter, in either major political party, was CFR connected. The Deep State maintained control over both major political parties through George W. Bush. Its two principal opponents during those years were John F. Kennedy and Barry Goldwater, both destroyed by the Deep State, Kennedy by assassination and Goldwater by election annihilation. The Tea Party movement rose in 2009 against both political parties and Trump, an outgrowth of that movement although not a part of it, opposed the Deep State entirely. MAGA people rejected their control. Today Deep State control is embedded with the Democrat Party and RINO faction of the Republican Party who both see extinction of themselves if Trump wins.

In this digital war MAGA are the patriots and the Dems and RINOS the globalists. Only the most ill-informed are unaware of this reality. As Democrats flee to

MAGA for freedom from the Deep State, most notably Elon Musk, Robert F Kennedy Jr. and Tulsi Gabbard, they are replaced by illegal immigrants who are immersed with gifting for their loyalty: healthcare, food stamps, social security, placement and housing in cities and promised citizenship. These are the invisible army Barack Obama promised should be created—as big as the armed forces. These are likely to rise with chaos never seen before in America if enough cheating fails and Trump wins.

LibertyUnderFire.org has published on all of these topics over many years—793 columns. Trump has slowly, but successfully, awakened the public to this awful condition. It had to be this way to prevent a very bloody civil war in 2020. Trump had to vacate the White House so that Biden and the Deep State could rule to be exposed. Everyone is at a different place on the exposure trail. Not everything we have written above is believed by all but enough is that in an election without corruption which November 5 was not, Trump would have won by at least 70%. This 9 years of awakening, with Trump the principle victim, has prevented a bloody

civil war.

There is yet another reason for Trump's victory — tyranny, that most believed eventually would have come to all had he not won! Those who visibly oppose are punished. The DOJ and FBI are Deep State assets now. This last week, the week before November 5 election, nearly four years after the J6 event “suspects are still being arrested, convicted and jailed. This week alone:[a] Father and son from New Jersey [were] arrested — West Virginia man arrested—Illinois man pleads guilty — Texas man found guilty, —2 men from Virginia found guilty—Colorado man sentenced to 3 years —California man sentenced to one year” (Ep. 3489b, Nov. 1, 2024, 34:10).

This, after the Supreme Court ruling June 28, 2024, in *Fischer v. United States*, on Section 1512(c)(2), that overturned most J6 convictions (about 350 persons). This SCOTUS decision has been mostly ignored by the Biden/ Harris Admin. as they have most other court decisions and the Constitution. The real issue as to why Trump won so big is liberty!

Dr. Harold Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. ★

Trump Wins BIG and America Self-Corrects

The border is about to be closed and Mexico may be paying for it

Commentary by
Katy Grimes, California Globe

The American people just sent a big message to the left: Men pretending to be women will no longer play in girls’ sports. Trans-women are men, and can’t get pregnant, by the way. The border is about to be closed – and Mexico may be paying for it. Haitians eating the cats and dogs and Venezuelan gangs will be deported. The spigot spending money on illegal aliens will be shut off. Abortion is not the “right” stupid ghoulish leftist women think it is. Pornographic books in our children’s schools should be burned. Trump said he will cut federal funding for any school pushing critical race theory, racial gender

ideology, and DEI. Sex-trafficking children will be stopped and a lot of prominent people will be prosecuted. America will become energy independent once again. Inflation will be reduced and America will be affordable again. World War III will be halted. America’s military will be rebuilt. A recent Gallup poll showed that an overwhelming majority of U.S. voters want new voter integrity laws: 84% want to require all voters to provide photo ID in order to vote; 83% want to require people who are registering to vote to provide proof of citizenship. Trump promised he will secure our elections, including same day voting, voter ID, paper ballots and proof of citizenship. The Democrat talking point was “Trump is Hitler.” Republicans

are not fascists, and Trump isn’t Hitler. In fact, the American people just showed the left how much we love America – the America the founders created. Notably, whenever your debate devolves to “you are Hitler,” you have lost the argument as well as the battle. Equally, Kamala calling Trump a “fascist” when her polling was sinking was heinous – especially after three assassination attempts on the former President. The middle class the left always calls the “white working class” is actually black working class, Hispanic working class, Asian working class and white. Trump even won young people. Identity politics is dead. Voters want tougher criminal penalties and are about to get them. In fact, California voters are so exhausted from the state’s escalating violent crime

and business-killing retail theft, as well as the dismissive response from Democrats, California voters overwhelmingly just passed Proposition 36, which will make significant reforms to California drug and theft laws. This is big. Notably, Gov. Gavin Newsom and most legislative Democrats oppose tougher criminal penalties and have unbridled disregard for crime victims. Trump will make the expiring individual income tax cuts from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act permanent. We all win. On Business Taxes, Donald Trump will lower the corporate income tax rate from 21 percent to 20 percent, and lower the corporate income tax rate to 15 percent for companies that make their products in the U.S. The attacks on Elon Musk for his purchasing Twitter in order to allow free speech on the internet

are now toothless. Free speech is a critical issue for most Americans, and that mattered in the 2024 presidential election. The 2024 Presidential Election may have been the most corrupt, immoral scandalous election ever, and with the weakest presidential candidate in recent history – Kamala Harris. Trump’s win is why they tried to bankrupt him, why they tried to impeach him, why they tried to imprison him, why they tried to kill him. The corrupt left knew that when given a choice and fair elections, the American people would re-elect Donald Trump. *Katy Grimes, the Editor in Chief of the California Globe, is a long-time Investigative Journalist covering the California State Capitol, and the co-author of “California's War Against Donald Trump: Who Wins? Who Loses?”* ★

Sacramento County Republicans Celebrate Election Victory

Sacramento County
Republican Party News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The voters have spoken. They do want change in the USA, and they want President-Elect Donald Trump and Vice President-Elect J.D. Vance to lead our country back to prosperity, sovereignty, safety and strength.

“After two attempted impeachments, a weaponized Department of Justice trying to jail the former President, two attempts on his life, and a non-stop barrage of vitriolic name-calling and lies, Donald J. Trump has demonstrated he is not only a survivor, but the leader our country needs to reverse the course of the new Democrat Party and their foreign influencers,” said Sacramento County Republican Party Chair Betsy Mahan.

Now that Vice-President Harris has conceded, and President Biden has called for Democrats to “bring down the temperature”, it’s up to the current Administration to get through the remainder of their term mindful that Americans don’t want them to impose any changes that would create roadblocks to the incoming Administration’s agenda. “President Biden said the will of

the people should prevail,” said Mahan, “and we hold him to that promise.”

President Trump and Congress have a mandate from the People to bring back our economy and stop the suffering.

“We still need to confirm that the House will remain in Republican control, but indicators are that we have won the trifecta and will be able to let Americans see how common-sense Republican policies can improve their lives,” said Mahan. “I am so optimistic about our national leaders, and those who have been elected or re-elected at the local and state levels. Our local school boards will have better transparency and a focus on academics, and more Republicans will be represented in the State Legislature, bringing needed balance to the Democrat supermajority that now rules. The incredible support for Prop 36, and the loss of several Newsom Administration staffers who ran for office, is also an indication that the Governor has no future in politics. His hypocrisy and his anti-business policies have been exposed as detrimental to the needs of Californians.”

The Sacramento County Republican Party is confident we now have a new way forward, unburdened by what has been for the past four years. ★

Thompson Releases Statement on President-Elect Donald Trump

Office of Congressman
Mike Thompson News Release

NAPA, CA (MPG) - Congressman Mike Thompson (CA-04) has released the following statement on President-Elect Donald Trump:

“The voters have spoken. While half of our country is deeply disappointed — including myself and many community members in the Fourth District — the most important step now is that we start to pick up the pieces so we can continue to make the United States a better place to live.

“I remain committed to protecting the rights and livelihoods of the American people while also working with the President-elect and my colleagues on

both sides of the aisle on issues where we can find common ground. I will continue to work to lower costs, improve community safety, fight climate change, and protect Americans’ fundamental rights and freedoms.”

Congressman Mike Thompson is proud to represent California’s 4th Congressional District, which includes all or part of Lake, Napa, Solano, Sonoma and Yolo Counties. He is a senior member of the House Committee on Ways and Means. Rep. Thompson is Chairman of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. He is also Co-Chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Wine Caucus and a member of the fiscally-responsible Blue Dog Coalition. ★

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Retirement, Really?

“Do you think you’ll ever fully retire?” my wife, Becky, asks a few times a month.

“Definitely!

“Mostly.

“Maybe?” I say, adding an I-dunno for good measure.

She asks because she knows I struggle sometimes to write this weekly syndicated column, travel to speak in different venues and pastor a small church.

Trying to explain my reticence, I simply say, “I’m just not sure of the best timing.”

In past years, you readers have sent me many emails with quick and sound responses to my writings. You’ve rolled out the red carpet for me during our dozen+ years together, hosting me for speeches in your colleges, hospitals, churches and



Spiritual Care
BY NORRIS BURKUS

civic organizations.

You’ve traveled with me to Honduras for Chispa Project, the charity my daughter Sara began for establishing libraries in Honduran elementary schools. Many of you are generous, regular donors.

When I think of full retirement, I’m struck with a sudden case of FOMO. “Fear of Missing Out.” I don’t want to miss out on more wonderful exchanges, meetings and friendships this writing ministry has brought to me.

But alas, I’ve come up with a compromised writing retirement, giving us at least two ways to stay in touch no matter when I fully retire.

First, I’d like you to sign up to get my weekly column by email. You can do this by sending me a quick email to comment@thechaplain.net.

Or even easier, sign up for my weekly email at www.thechaplain.net/newsletter. The website also contains everything I’ve ever written or will write.

Check out the audio versions of past columns too. Remember to spell chaplain correctly, not chaplin. We’ve talked about this.

Second, while you’re on my website, consider ordering one or more of the four books I’ve written. These books are a

compilation of my columns from the past 20 years. And of course, I’ll autograph them.

Keep the book on your nightstand or reading rack so you can read one 700-word story each time you crack open the book.

You can read the books in any order and jump around between stories.

“No Small Miracles” contains stories I wrote as a pediatric hospital chaplain.

“Hero’s Highway” recounts my deployment to a combat hospital in Iraq.

“Thriving Beyond Surviving” is a compilation book of the columns I wrote about faith, family, fun and forgiveness. And my most recent book, “Tell it to the Chaplain” recalls my chaplain experiences in the hospital, hospice and the military.

The last section of “Tell it to the Chaplain” tells the story of Chispa Project, so I especially hope you’ll

read that one. Thanks to readers like you, we’ve helped over 22,000 kids in Honduras get their first books by creating school libraries with my daughter’s charity.

To say thank you, and “spark” you into action one more time, my family and I will be matching all reader donations up to \$5,000 postmarked between now and Giving Tuesday on Dec. 3. I hope you’ll take up my challenge for this ambitious goal.

You can donate online at www.chispaproject.org/chaplain or send a check made to “Chispa Project” to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

Every \$100 gives four kids a school library, training their teachers and parents, and providing books, shelves and colorful, painted murals. There are no words that can completely describe the joy that fills a child’s face when

they hold their first picture book. It’s why I go back year after year to volunteer. (Details for 2025 volunteer trips at www.chispaproject.org/volunteer)

Finally, know that I’m not completely retired. I remain the pastor of Community Church, Nevada City, CA. It’s a little country church of two dozen in California’s Sierra Gold Country. They’ve been patient with me, but they miss me when I travel at least eight Sundays a year as grandkids and foreign adventures keep calling.

Keep me in your prayers and thoughts, as I will for you. Thank you for your faithful reading and support.

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.

★

Broadway Revival: Tower District Maps Out a Creative Corridor



Concept of proposed 3rd Space area under the W/X freeway. Photo by the Tower District

Continued from Page 1 had great results.

Bloomberg Philanthropies conducted an impact analysis to review pedestrian and motorist behavior after these crosswalk installations. They found a 50 percent decrease in the rate of pedestrian crashes and a 25 percent decrease in pedestrian conflicts with drivers.

Speeding and pedestrian accidents have been serious issues in the Broadway area. An art installation that does double duty is appealing. Borucki explained, “A project like this provides both beautification and safety. The U.S. Department of Transportation encourages these crosswalks.” She continued, “It also fits in with the big branding of the district—which is creativity.”

The crosswalk is expected to be completed by spring 2025. The vision

is to install around twenty more creative crosswalks up and down Broadway, which means there are plenty of opportunities for philanthropic work. Those who sponsor a crosswalk could get their name or company added to the artwork. The four-way crosswalk alone will cost from \$10,000 to \$15,000, and Borucki is ready to speak to anyone who is interested in sponsoring.

The Tower District is also ramping up fun, local events. On Oct. 13, the district partnered with the lowrider community to bring “Extra Butter” to the Tower parking lot. A disc jockey set the vibe while folks walked through the vendor booths and enjoyed colorful lowrider cars. Across the street, the new School of Rock hosted activities.

Borucki says, “Cruising was such a big part of Broadway’s history,

why don’t we embrace that?” And that’s the idea: to bring a mix of local cultures and flavors, highlighting Broadway’s unique personality.

Those who participate in these events benefit, too. Borucki stated, “We had an all-woman art event in the parking lot last year. Several female artists came to show their work. Since then, many of them have been commissioned by local businesses to do other pieces.”

Under the W/X freeway a concept project called 3rd Space is on the table. The spot would be outfitted with pop-up vendors, art, food trucks and music. It would also have lounging spots for people to enjoy checkerboard games and other activities.

“3rd Space is an effort to reconnect communities divided by freeways,” Borucki explained. For instance, connecting

Southside Park to the Tower District provides a fun, walkable amenity for nearby residents.

It is clear people want to feel safe, and public safety upgrades are also on The Tower District’s radar. Their new 24/7 security provider, Elite 1, is collaborating with Sacramento PD and the Sacramento County District Attorney’s office to handle criminal behavior. In addition, cutting-edge technology is being installed to identify crime early. Joan Borucki shared the changes are already noticeable, “Walgreens had chronic crime issues, and within one week, there were several arrests. We also have a regular offenders list.” This means they have an eye on consistently troublesome people.

In addition, the Tower District continues to manage graffiti removal, power washing and illegal

dumping. The new efforts could impact these issues as well.

Finally, the district recently signed a lease for an office space in the old comic building between the Tower Café and Joe Marty’s. The office should open by early spring 2025.

The Tower District board wants local business owners and the community to have a welcoming place to drop by and see what they are up to. And they plan to host regular informative

public meetings.

All these efforts are being funded through the city, grants and generous donors.

Joan Borucki and the district board envision a colorful, engaging business ecosystem emerging in 2025.

To learn more about The Tower District, go to sactowerdistrict.com. To review the asphalt art initiative, visit asphaltart.bloomberg.org.

★



More free events like Extra Butter are planned for the Tower parking lot. Photo by Kristina Rogers




The Tower District new Broadway office by the Tower restaurant is scheduled to open in spring of 2025. Photo by Kristina Rogers

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Ice Skate Under the City Lights

Downtown Sacramento Partnership News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - A Sacramento holiday tradition, the Downtown Ice Rink presented by Dignity Health is the perfect place to gather with friends and family to enjoy the holidays. The rink officially opened for the 2024 holiday season on Wednesday, Nov. 6.

For more than 30 years, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink has transformed the neighborhood into a winter wonderland. Located in Ali Youssefi Square right outside Golden 1 Center and some of the best restaurants in the city, the rink is the perfect place to spend a winter day.

We partner with other local organizations throughout the season to offer discounts and themed activations like craft days, silent disco nights, donation drives and more. Lace up your skates and get ready to laugh at your falling friends



The Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink opened for the 2024 season on Wednesday, Nov. 6. Photo courtesy of Downtown Sacramento Partnership

November through January. We'll see you on the ice!

The rink is scheduled to be open Nov. 6 through Jan. 20, 2025. The hours of operation are 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Tuesday-Thursday) and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

(Friday-Sunday). General admission is \$15 and includes skate rental fee. For kids ages 6 and under, admission is \$8 (skate sizes run as small as youth 8).

Seasonal discounts include:

- FREE for Sacramento Kings Kids Club All-Star Members
- FREE for Veterans and Active Duty with Military ID
- \$5 off with Dignity Health Card
- \$5 off with Western Health Advantage card
- \$2 off with same-day SacRT ticket or pass
- \$2 off when you bring your own skates

The ice rink is located at Seventh and K streets. For more information contact the ice rink at (916) 738-0703. ★

Downtown Sacramento Partnership (DSP) is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to harnessing downtown's full potential since 1995.

R Street Corridor Offers Black Friday, Small Business Saturday Deals

R Street Sacramento Partnership News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Filled with locally owned businesses, boutiques bars, eateries, restaurants, artists, creatives and more, the thriving R Street Corridor offers a wonderful opportunity to “Shop R Street” and support local on Black Friday (Nov. 29), Small Business Saturday (Nov. 30) and all season long.

To kick off the holiday shopping season early, festive snowflake street lighting will light up R Street during evening hours throughout the holiday season starting in mid-November. Shoppers, strollers and diners will enjoy a festive and fun ambiance along the popular and walkable R Street corridor (7th through 18th streets). The lighting was made possible with assistance from CADA (Capitol Area Development Authority).

In addition to eye-catching snowflake lighting, R

Street Corridor merchants are providing seasonal offerings on Black Friday and Small Business Saturday that include the following:

- **Free R Street Canvas Totes** (most retailers): Shoppers who spend \$40 or more at participating R Street retailers on Small Business Saturday will receive a free “Explore R Street” canvas tote bag (while supplies last) plus receive special discounts at other R Street restaurants by showing their tote on that day.
- **Audacious Plus Boutique** (1715 R St. #110 in the Ice Blocks): Sacramento's premier tastemaker boutique exclusively for sizes 10+ offers a collection that includes glam staples, funky rompers, chic mechanics jumpsuits and more.
- **Bonobos** (1710 R St. #140 in the Ice Blocks): Offering a personalized, perfect-fit experience tailored to guests, the popular men's clothing retailer is offering 30%

off everything on Small Business Saturday.

- **Kicksville Vinyl & Vintage** (712 R St.): The popular record store and vintage shop is participating in National Record Store Day/Black Friday Edition, a special national record store event they participate in every year. The shop will open at 10 a.m. and will feature limited releases exclusively available (to participating shops) and ONLY on Black Friday. Plus, they will also have special rare records available as well as a fully decorated store for the holidays.
- **Lucid Winery & Tasting Room** (1015 R St.): Starting on Small Business Saturday, shoppers will not want to miss a Holiday Wine Case and Half Case Sale. They can mix it up with any six bottles and enjoy 15% off or mix and match any 12 bottles and enjoy 30% off. It is the perfect chance to stock up on favorites (or try something new) while celebrating the spirit of the

season.

- **Old Gold** (1104 R St. #110 inside The WAL Public Market): The women's boutique selling new and mostly vintage clothes, shoes, accessories, jewelry, sunglasses and gifts is offering 20% off store-wide on Small Business Saturday.
- **Strapping Store** (1715 R Street #115 in the Ice Blocks): Voted Sacramento's Best Gift Shop in 2024, Strapping Store offers thoughtfully sourced merchandise and unique gifts ranging from socks and mugs to greeting cards and cookbooks and oh-so-much more.
- **Tea Cozy** (1021 R St. in the Ice Blocks): On Black Friday, the popular tea shop is offering 5% off all black teas. Then on Small Business Saturday, the shop is offering hot tea samples for customers all day. Specializing in superior quality loose-leaf teas such as rare white teas, exotic greens and oolong, herbal and flavorful black teas from all

Shop R St.

Nov. 30th

Spend \$40 or more at participating retailers and receive a free tote bag.

Special discounts throughout the day at R St restaurants when you show your tote bag.

Free rides from SacRT

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR ONE DAY ONLY!

Scan QR Code to explore R St. corridor businesses

over the world, the local shop has seasonal teas perfect for the holidays such as Horchata, Spiced Apple Cider, Dark Chocolate and more.

Plus, to support Small Business Saturday, SacRT is offering free rides with a free ride flyer on Saturday, Nov. 30 on bus and light rail.

Shoppers can print or screenshot the free-ride flyer to show as

Fentanyl-Related Deaths on the Decline, County Reports

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County has made remarkable progress in the battle against the opioid crisis, reporting a 56% reduction in fentanyl-related deaths between 2023 and 2024. According to the latest data, the County Coroner's Office reported 180 fentanyl-related deaths so far this year, down from 406 in 2023.

“This reduction isn't necessarily due to fewer people using fentanyl, but rather a direct result of the comprehensive support systems we've implemented,” said Lori Miller, Behavioral Health Division manager for the Sacramento County Department of Health Services. “The coordinated efforts of local law enforcement, first responders, healthcare providers and community organizations are saving lives.”

Sacramento County's approach includes an extensive network of partnerships and initiatives designed to combat the opioid crisis.

Law enforcement agencies, including Sacramento County's Sheriff's Office and Probation Department

and the Sacramento City Police Department, have worked tirelessly to conduct enforcement actions, make arrests and seize fentanyl supplies. The partnership with the Sacramento Fire Department and Sacramento Metro Fire's Mobile Medicine Teams have been instrumental in administering Narcan and providing medication-assisted treatment.

In addition, the Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services, along with Sacramento County Public Health, has been critical in raising awareness about the dangers of fentanyl through education and distributing Narcan and fentanyl test strips.

The County's Adult Correctional Health Services has also played a role by expanded access to medication-assisted treatment in jails, while community-based organizations continue to provide prevention education, treatment options and harm reduction resources.

“By working together, we've built a robust system of care and support that is not only addressing substance use but also providing people with the

tools they need to survive and recover,” Miller added.

Maintaining this positive trend requires a continued commitment to education, awareness and accessible resources. Narcan distribution, fentanyl test strips and public education are essential tools in reducing overdoses and keeping people informed. Sacramento County is dedicated to expanding access to these resources, providing community members with the support needed to prevent and respond to fentanyl-related incidents.

While this is an encouraging trend, County officials are cautious as the holiday season approaches -- a time of year that can be challenging for individuals struggling with mental health and substance use disorders.

County officials will continue their efforts and are hopeful that they will end the year with a decrease of 50% or more.

If you need substance use help, need access to Narcan and fentanyl test strips or want to know more about the county's collaborative efforts visit the Sacramento County's Department of Health Services' Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services page. ★

Building Safer Streets for Sacramento

As your representative on the Sacramento City Council, I believe every Sacramentan deserves safe streets where they can walk, bike, and drive without fear. Yet, this year we've experienced the heartbreaking loss of 31 lives in traffic collisions. Each life lost is a reminder of the work we still need to do — and I'm committed to working with each of you to make change happen.

This week, my colleagues and I on the Law and Legislation Committee took a critical step forward by advancing a proposal to declare a state of emergency for pedestrian and cyclist safety. This declaration is more than a statement; it's a call to action to ensure safety becomes a top priority for our city.

Sacramento's Vision Zero pledge to eliminate traffic fatalities by 2027 is an ambitious goal, and while challenges remain, I believe we can get back on track.

Our focus must be on real solutions: investing in infrastructure that protects lives. To do so, we must identify a dedicated and reliable funding source that ensures consistent



progress year after year. As I said during the committee hearing, “If, in fact, we keep using the excuse of our budget deficit or not having the money, we've got to focus on finding the money and making sure that we focus on this priority - safety.”

This issue hits close to home for me. During the hearing, I had the privilege of introducing Alena Wong, a remarkable young woman from District 7. At 12 years old, Alena was struck by a car while biking to school.

She fought through that tragedy and is now thriving at 17, preparing for college. Her resilience is inspiring, and I'm grateful we can share her story of hope and potential.

However, not every family has been as fortunate.

Too many lives, like that of Kaylee Xiong, a promising 18-year-old college student, have been cut short on our streets. These losses are a sobering reminder of why we must act with urgency and determination.

This emergency declaration gives us a chance to create lasting change. By prioritizing funding for road safety improvements, we can build streets where everyone — children biking to school, seniors crossing intersections, and families enjoying their neighborhoods — feels safe.

I'm optimistic about what we can achieve together. We have the opportunity to turn our Vision Zero pledge into reality and make Sacramento a city where every resident can thrive.

Let's work as a community to create safer streets and brighter futures for all.

Sacramento City Councilmember Rick Jennings Represents District 7, which encompasses the Pocket and Land Park areas of Sacramento. ★