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THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 29, 2024 • VOL. 144 NO. 48

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Kory Hamman Hamman Real Estate



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Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce: Princesses Anna and Elsa, with friends Olaf and Lynne Spencer invite you to the 2024 Winter Wonderland Festival and Parade of Lights! Photo courtesy of Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The streets of downtown Gridley will be filled with magic next week, as the Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce presents the Winter Wonderland Festival & Parade of Lights.

Each year the holiday event grows in popularity, making it a community favorite. Virginia and Hazel streets are filled with crowds, the smell of hot chocolate and cinnamon-flavored goods, and of course, smiles!



Smiles were abound at last year's Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce Winter Wonderland Festival and Parade of Lights. Photo courtesy of Christopher Pedigo

Gridley's holiday traditions will be subject to changes this year, with the towering cedar at the

Orchard Hospital campus not starring as the city's Christmas Tree this year. Instead, the tree lighting has been moved to downtown Gridley's Daddow Park, to the tree situated at the north end.

Unfortunately, safety concerns surrounding the large tree at Orchard Hospital has retired it as the town's Christmas tree. Worries included pedestrian safety crossing Spruce Street, the safety of CAL FIRE/Gridley Fire Department staffers who hang the lights, and

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City Reports Low Levels of "Forever Chemicals" in Some Wells

By Shaunna Boyd

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - During Public Comment at the Nov. 20 Live Oak City Council meeting, resident and former Councilmember J.R. Thiara asked that Item 3 be pulled from the Consent Calendar for a public discussion. Item 3 was an official Notification of Detection of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) above the required notification level in Well 2A.

Another resident, Cruz Mora, also spoke about Item 3, stating that PFAS are known as "forever chemicals" because they don't break down in the environment or in our bodies. He suggested that the well with the detected chemicals should be taken off-line until a solution can be found.

Councilmember Lakhvir Ghag requested the removal of Item 3 from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

Public Works Director Jeff Nelson introduced the item, explaining that PFAS are "ubiquitous" in the environment now, since they are found in many common items such as non-stick pans, furniture and fast food wrappers.

City staff collected water samples for testing in June 2023 and no PFAS were detected at that time. In August 2024, samples were taken by the State Water Resources Control Board, and the recent results showed one type of PFAS at 3.3 nanograms per liter in Well 2A, which is above the required notification level of 3.0 nanograms. However, Nelson said the state does not require the city to take any action at this time, since the required response level is 20 nanograms per liter, six times higher than the current level.

To provide a sense of scale, Nelson stated that the PFAS were detected at three parts per trillion, which would be equivalent to 3 seconds out of 31,700 years, or 3 inches out of 15.7 million miles.

"I'm not trying to dismiss it or say it's not something people should be alarmed about," said Nelson, "but the levels are low and below the threshold where the state would require any action." And he added that one of the actions recommended with higher levels of detection is dilution with other water sources and Well 2A is already blended with other

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Shop Small Business Saturday

Story and photos by Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Local small businesses in Gridley would love to have your support this holiday season, especially this Saturday, Nov. 30.

The Wishing Corner at 611 Magnolia St. is owned by former Police Chief Rodney Harr and his wife, Becky. A local favorite since 1987, the store specializes in custom floral arrangements for special occasions, in addition to offering delivery service. The gift shop also offers purses, home décor, locally made soaps from Bend Soap Company, and a new line of children's puzzles and books.

The store is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is closed Sundays. The phone number is 530-846-0869.

One of the newest small



Molly McClarrinon is the owner of The Mercantile shop on the corner of Hazel and Ohio streets.

businesses in Gridley, the Farmer's Wives Boutique, opened this year at 1030 Spruce St. as an expansion of Studio J Salon. Good friends Kourtney Becker, Brooke, Ally and Maddi Mardesich are the proprietors. They sell women's

clothes, as well as locally-made MIR Jewelry Designs by Shannon Mariani, Truck Ya custom-made hats and custom decorative signs by Amie Little of The Wildflower.

Custom gift baskets and year-round giftwrapping

are also offered. Small parties with a sampling of merchandise can be arranged for either large events or private residences.

"We really like the idea of having things that are

Continued on page 3

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

kicked off the season with victories over Reedley College (45-7) and Laney College (30-4). They continued their winning streak with dominant wins over Santa Rosa Junior College (49-14) and Feather River College (62-42). The only loss for Butte came at the hands of American River College (31-30). After that, they bounced back with wins over Sequoia College (14-12) and Sierra College (35-28). Butte College's offense was a major strength this season, regularly scoring over 50 points in multiple games. In last year's Northern California Bowl, the Roadrunners defeated the Reedley College Tigers.

Slurpees are big business. 7-Eleven, home of the Slurpee, sold 153 million of them in 2023—making it a brain-freezing

cornerstone of an \$80 billion convenience empire. The reach of 7-Eleven's corporate parent, Tokyo Japan-based Seven & I, spans 85,000 stores across 19 countries, including Gridley.

Thanksgiving was first proclaimed as a national celebration on October 3, 1789, by President George Washington. He declared it "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness." Happy Thanksgiving. The race to Christmas is on.

Josh F.W. Cook is an educator and administrator. ★

The 2024 Butte College football team is waiting to hear which bowl game they will participate in after finishing the regular season with 9 wins and 1 loss. I'd pay more than \$25 a ticket if they could get a rematch with American River (their only loss) as their final game of 2024. It would make a remarkable season even more remarkable if they could take their impressive 9-1 record and finish 10-1. The Roadrunners

City Reports Low Levels of "Forever Chemicals" in Some Wells

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sources before distribution.

Nelson said current statistics show that since PFAS are so prevalent in the environment, cross contamination during the sampling process is common. So city staff will take more samples and send them to the testing laboratory for analysis. Nelson said there is a long wait list for testing, so results probably can't be expected until January.

Councilmember Ghag asked if Well 2A was the only one where PFAS was detected, and Nelson said two other wells showed even lower levels of PFAS, which were below the level requiring notification.

"I don't really feel comfortable with what's going on. I think this is a real, serious issue and we need to approach this properly and take proper action," Ghag said.

Water is essential to life, Ghag said, and "that's how we survive."

Ghag will not be returning to City Council for another term and this was likely his last meeting, so he urged his fellow councilmembers to "please take this issue seriously and please take the proper action in the future."

Nelson assured Ghag that staff was "taking it seriously" and moving forward with taking their own water samples.

"I'm not trying to dismiss this. ... Of course, no one wants PFAS in their water" or any kind of chemicals or contaminants.

Vice-Mayor Nancy Santana said she's looking forward to getting the new test results and "finding a solution to not have it at all in our water."

Mayor Ashley Hernandez said that PFAS are found in makeup, fabrics, cleaning products and many common items.

"It's concerning that we're all coming in contact with this stuff that can never be taken out of our bodies. It makes you a little more aware," Hernandez said.

It would be worthwhile to ensure that the city's drinking water isn't yet another source for PFAS, Hernandez said, and suggested looking into grants or partnerships that would facilitate full removal of PFAS from the wells. She agreed that it might be a good idea to temporarily remove the affected wells from the system: "At least to give residents some assurance. I know these are not high detectable levels but maybe that's something we could show them that we're trying to be proactive."

Nelson said that the city's water system barely meets demand as it is, so removing the well might not be feasible. And with the detection levels well below the state's required action levels, Nelson said, "I don't feel it warrants that at this time."

Mayor Hernandez said that regardless of the state's level of concern, it does affect people in the community and it would be best to be "more proactive than reactive."

During Public Comment, J.R. Thiara thanked City Council for their "well-founded concerns," since any level of toxins can damage the body over time. He agreed that PFAS are ubiquitous in the environment because "corporate America is responsible for telling us that's OK." But Thiara said there are no acceptable levels of PFAS and complete non-detection should be the goal.

The next meeting of the Live Oak City Council is scheduled for Dec. 4. Typically, that's when newly-elected councilmembers would be sworn in but Interim City Manager Rick Crabtree said the county clerk might not have the election results certified by that time. Council consensus was to wait and see whether the results are ready on Dec. 4, and if not, then they will decide whether to hold a special meeting or conduct the swearing in at the next regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 18. ★

County Department of Water and Resource Conservation Receives Award

Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation
News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - On Nov. 4, the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation (BCDWRC) received the prestigious Farm City Celebration Community Service Award.

This award recognizes organizations that significantly contribute to Butte County's agriculture industry and support the Farm City Celebration Program.

The presentation was held during the Farm City Celebration's first kick-off event of the month at the Butte County Farm Bureau's new location, Four Corners Hall, in Durham.

In addition to this award, Butte County Department of Water and Resource

Conservation received commendations from Sen. Brian Dahle, Assemblymember James Gallagher and Congressman Doug LaMalfa, who each recognized the department's dedication to sustainable water resource management and its positive impact on the community.

Other honorees included Northgate Petroleum, awarded Agri-Business of the Year, and Butte County Farm Bureau Executive Director Colleen Cecil, who received the Ag Service Award.

This honor underscores Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation's commitment to the agricultural community through dedicated service, research and public engagement. The department actively collaborates with local organizations and participates in events such as the Farm City Agri-Business Bus Tour, now

in its 44th year. The annual tour fosters connections between urban and rural residents, promoting education and raising awareness about the vital roles agriculture and water resources play in Butte County.

"We are honored to receive this award," said Kamie Loeser, director of Butte

County Department of Water and Resource Conservation. "It reflects our team's dedication to sustainable practices and community-centered water management. By educating and involving the community, we aim to protect our resources for future generations." ★

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Letters to Santa

Ways to get your letters to Santa:

- Drop off Letters at City Hall 685 Kentucky St, Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm
*Letters can also be dropped off in the outdoor "payment box" at City Hall after hours
- Drop off Letters at the Recreation Department 194 Washington St 9:00am-2:00pm
- Mail Letters to: Santa Claus
attn: Gridley Recreation
685 Kentucky St
Gridley, CA, 95948

*Please have ALL Letters to Santa by December 9th. He will no longer be able to respond after that due to getting his sleigh & reindeer ready!

*Teachers, if your classes are participating please have classroom letters turned in no later than December 2nd

Shop Small Business Saturday



The Wishing Corner also sells Bend Soap Company products.



Pictured is a sample of the holiday merchandise and fashionable women's clothing available at Farmer's Wives Boutique.



Kourtney Becker is one of the four "Farmer's Wives" that own the boutique.



Floral arrangements for every occasion are offered at The Wishing Corner, as well as delivery service.



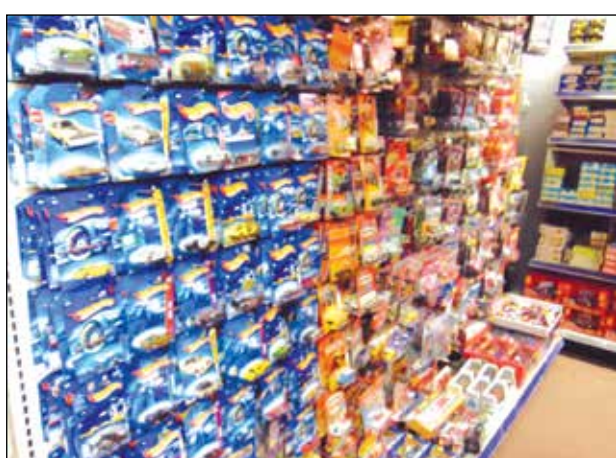
It wouldn't be Christmas without toy trains. Check out this set up at Packratt Trains & Toys.



Farmer's Wives Boutique's jewelry is displayed in a bowl of rice.



Floral arrangements for every occasion are offered at The Wishing Corner, as well as delivery service.



Packratt Trains & Toys has a large selection of new Hot Wheels and Matchbox cars.



Locally-made Fern Valley soaps are some of the many items found at The Mercantile.



Vintage furniture is available at The Mercantile. Patio items are offered in the spring.

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locally made and sourced. From time to time, we have locally-made honeys and barbeque sauces as well," said Becker.

When you're done shopping, estheticians and spa services are also available at the same location.

The hours for The Farmer's Wives Boutique are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed Sundays. The phone number is 530-870-6117.

The much-loved Packratt Trains and Toys has been serving Gridley residents for 10 years. Purposely located near the railroad tracks at 546 Kentucky St., the store is owned and operated by Matt Padgett. A life-long train enthusiast, Padgett and his customers used to drop everything and run outside to see passing trains. A nearby business expansion now obscures the view.

Padgett has a large customer base that brings customers from distant places such as Medford, Reno, Lodi and others. Customers can buy, sell or trade.

Packratt is much larger than it appears on the outside. Shelves and shelves of merchandise are there, with one whole wall devoted to the popular HO gauge model trains. The other model train gauges are also available, along with new Hot Wheel and Matchbox cars, books and myriads of other toys, both new and collectible.

Padgett has two young men that come in every Wednesday to work: his grandson, Aaron Quist, and Peyton Quist, Aaron's cousin. They assist by cleaning and testing used model trains and other items that are brought in, preparing them for sale.

"They are a big help," said Padgett.

Packratt's hours are Wednesday through Friday, from 12 to 3 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Sundays. The phone number is 530-797-7264.

The Mercantile at 999 Hazel St. has been in operation since 2022. Proprietor Molly McClarrinon began by selling vintage items she inherited but soon branched out to sell locally-made merchandise from Orchard Beauty Company - skin care products, Luanna Fischer - jewelry and essential oils, Fern Valley - soaps and shampoo bars, Shakti Herbalism - body care and herbal remedies, and Rendered Revival Tallow Company - soaps and lotions. Most recently, Voluspa Candles were added. The new, locally-made items have been the most popular, according to McClarrinon.

Molly and her two dogs run the store, while Molly's husband makes jewelry to sell in the back.

Visit The Mercantile Thursday through Saturday, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., closed Sundays. The phone number is 530-456-6599. ★

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If you think you'll be in a higher tax bracket when you retire, you might want to consider a Roth IRA. Conversely, if you think you might eventually be

in a lower tax bracket, you might lean toward a traditional IRA.

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Matt Maples Sworn in as Captain and Jail Division Commander



Sutter County Sheriff's Office Matt Maples, center, is sworn into his new position as captain and jail division commander for the Sutter County Sheriff's Office.

By Shamaya Sutton

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - Back in September, Brandon Barnes, the 24th sheriff elected to Sutter County, announced that two members of his command staff would retire by the end of the year.

Both happened to be working in Sutter County's corrections facility, the first being Captain Chad Niswonger, Jail Division Commander for the Sutter County Sheriff's Office, and the other Corrections Lt. Kristie Garza.

"I'm losing my two top people who oversee the jail for me," said Barnes during a community radio interview.

Barnes went on to say that Lt. Matt Maples had tested very early on for the position and that he would be promoted to captain on Sept. 21. After this announcement, Maples worked with Niswonger and Garza for several months to get his operational knowledge up to speed.

"I'm looking forward to the change," said Maples. "Sometimes change can feel bad at first but change is good; bringing different people into new roles can be good. I'm going to miss the role that I'm leaving. I greatly care about all the people that I've worked with but I'm excited about working with people on the corrections side and I think it's going to be rewarding and a challenge as well."

Maples has been with the Sutter County Sheriff's Office since 2009. Previously, he worked as the county's patrol lieutenant

in the Operations Division overseeing Main Office Patrol, along with other assignments such as Sheriff's Posse and Search and Rescue.

While his roots might be planted with his family in Fair Oaks, Maples has worked the majority of his professional career in Sutter County and said he feels like a part of the community.

On Nov. 25, Sheriff Barnes and his staff held a special swearing in ceremony, commemorating Captain Maples' new position as overseer of the county's correctional division. When Maples isn't busy keeping his corner of the world safe, he enjoys cooking and has his own business called Silver Sage Catering, which he often uses to cater various fundraising events.

"He's very involved with a lot of our nonprofits in the area," said Barnes. "Even if you don't know Matt, you've probably eaten one of his delicious dinners, I know I've had a few over the course of my career."

It was this type of servitude and commitment that Barnes said showed through in Maples early testing process for the captain position.

"One of the things I always say is, 'I know who people are at work but who are you outside of work, what do you give back?'" said Barnes. "I see that in Matt, he gives back to the community. We're very proud of him and the steps he's taken to come oversee our jail." ★

Magic and Wonder Approaches!

Continued from page 1

Chamber of Commerce members have stated that a portion of the tree caught fire last year.

Gridley's holiday festivities this season will be conveniently centralized in the downtown area.

Gridley Area Chamber of Commerce members and volunteers have decorated downtown with hundreds of lights and flairs, adding more twinkle to the event.

The Winter Wonderland Festival & Parade of Lights starts at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4. Food trucks, vendors and live music from the WSB Band will entertain guests until the tree lighting

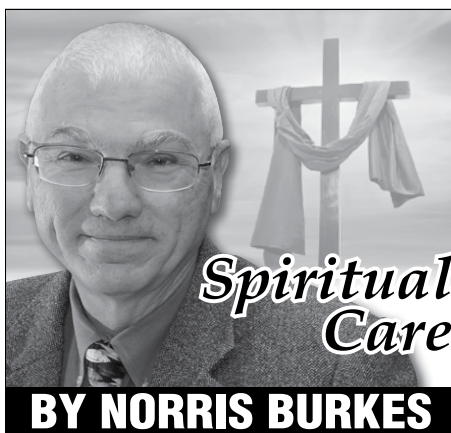
ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Carolers will perform up until the flip of the switch, with a special selectee lighting the tree for the 2024 holiday season.

Shortly thereafter at 6:30 p.m., a caravan of brightly-lit vehicles and participants will stroll merrily down the parade route, with Santa not far behind. Santa will also be available for selfies, along with princesses Elsas, Anna and their quirky sidekick Olaf.

Friends and neighbors from surrounding areas are invited to join the community and Chamber of Commerce in this magic event that will officially mark the start of Gridley's holiday season. ★

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Thanksgiving in Godawfulstan



BY NORRIS BURKES

As I built a post-election gratitude list and remembered a question routinely asked by the minister of music in a church I pastored.

He'd stand behind the big Baptist pulpit and ask this question of his sleepy and aging congregation:

"Would you rather be in the best prison in America or here in church today?"

He used the question to roust our aging congregation and inspire them to sing louder. He often used it at the Thanksgiving service because he felt like it gave congregants a bit of gratitude perspective.

I find the reasoning a bit haggard as it's the same kind of sermonic reasoning ministers use every year that urge us to remember those less fortunate.

I ask you, can't we just hold the guilt this year and sit back and relax with our holiday pie?

Newspaper columnists like myself, and most especially ministers, of whom I am both, try to make you see that your life is not as bad as it could be.

This approach comes off sounding a lot like a parent trying to get their kid to eat turnips. "At least we have turnips and broccoli on our table," goes the paternal reasoning, "I'll bet the kids in Godawfulstan wish they had turnips." ★

That line of reasoning never did much for me.

The problem with that perspective is that gratitude and thankfulness has never been about comparing your good fortune to the misfortunes of others. Thanksgiving will never be about trying to equalize the imbalance of those fortunes.

Thanksgiving isn't just about being grateful you don't have a loved one deployed to a war-torn country. It's also about being thankful we have brave service members who are willing to serve when their country calls.

Thanksgiving isn't just about being grateful you aren't poor. It is also about being grateful you have resources to give to the poor.

It is not only about being grateful you aren't hungry. It is also about sharing your gratitude with the hungry.

Being truly thankful is not about comparing what you have with what others do not have. It is not about being glad your home is not a shanty cardboard shack under the freeway. It's about the help we give the homeless as we humbly realize that most of us are one paycheck away from building our own shack.

Gratitude is not about giving thanks for what you have, where you work, where you live or even who you are. Thanksgiving is not about you at all.

Thanksgiving is about keeping perspective between recognizing the blessings we've received and utilizing our capacity to return those blessings to others.

At the end of the calorie-laden day, perspective will be a constant reminder that we are not alone on this planet. It is the perspective of gratitude that teaches us we've all journeyed from the same place and, as Scripture suggests, "to dust we will return."

That is the perspective from which humility comes, and humility will always be about gratitude. ★

Christmas Bazaar at Christian Life Set for Dec. 7

By Cindy Scott

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Humble Avenue will be busy with holiday Christmas spirit at their second annual bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The raffle will feature Christmas quilts, crocheted afghans, gift baskets, prizes and more. There will be food trucks and local craft vendors to make it an easy destination for Christmas shopping.

There will be a bake sale and gift-wrapping station for the Oroville Rhinos Cheerleading squad to raise funds for their cheer competition travel. Bring your unwrapped gifts and let the cheerleaders do the wrapping.

Stop by Christian Life Assembly between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Dec. 7 at 1526 Humble Ave. in Gridley, just off East Gridley Road. ★

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What They're Saying: LaMalfa Elected Chairman of Western Caucus

Congressman Doug LaMalfa News Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - On Nov. 19, Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-Richvale) was elected as chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus for the 119th Congress. This position will help bring rural America's voice to the forefront and push for policies that reflect our way of life. Leaders from across the West — spanning agriculture, forest management, energy, and conservation — are celebrating this news, underscoring the value of Rep. LaMalfa's leadership in standing up for Western priorities. Their comments, shared below, highlight the importance of this milestone for the Caucus.

Said Shannon Douglas, president of the California Farm Bureau, "The California Farm Bureau congratulates Rep. Doug LaMalfa on his election as Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus. As a fourth-generation rice farmer, Rep. LaMalfa has spent more than a decade proudly representing an agriculturally diverse district and advocating for farmers and ranchers through his work on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committees. He continues to bring Western and rural issues to the forefront, and we look forward to working with him and other members of the Western Caucus to support these communities."

Said Kaitlynn Glover, executive director of Public Lands Council, "We are thrilled to congratulate Chairman-elect LaMalfa as he continues his long history of fighting for the western way of life. He is a strong advocate for livestock producers and has been instrumental in improving grazing flexibility on public lands and bringing much-needed common sense to conversations about fighting wildfires and other multiple use issues. As a western agriculture producer with decades of on-the-ground policy experience, he is perfectly suited to take on this role leading the Congressional Western Caucus. Ranchers congratulate Chairman-elect LaMalfa on his successful leadership election and look forward to continue working with him in the 119th Congress."

Said Scott Dane, executive director of the American Loggers Council, "Congressman LaMalfa represents the

epicenter of poor National Forest management and the people that have experienced the catastrophic consequences of wildfires. The American Loggers Council looks forward to working with him, as the chairman of the Western Caucus, to aggressively address the threat to American forests, property, and lives through reform and active forest management."

Said Rich Nolan, president and CEO of the National Mining Association, "Congratulations to the Congressional Western Caucus's new Chairman, Doug LaMalfa, who will no doubt bring his passion and dedication to this new role in the 119th Congress. The hard-working men and women of the mining industry have long benefited from the chairman-elect's strong support, and we look forward to working with him to ensure that made in America also means mined in America. We also thank outgoing-Chairman Dan Newhouse for his strong engagement and commitment to the American Miners."

Said Paul Petersen, executive director of United Aerial Firefighters Association, "UAFA congratulates Rep. LaMalfa on being elected as Chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus and we are excited to continue working with him and the Western Caucus on supporting the aerial firefighting industry. Rep. LaMalfa has long been a staunch supporter and advocate for aerial firefighting and the wildland firefighting industry."

Said Mike McShane, senior VP of Public Policy at Ducks Unlimited, "Rep. LaMalfa has a long track record of working with DU to promote voluntary, incentive-based conservation practices on working agricultural lands. His knowledge of rural America coupled with his background as a leader on the House Agriculture and House Natural Resources Committees make him a strong choice to lead the Congressional Western Caucus. We look forward to working with him to support policies that benefit waterfowl, other wildlife, and people."

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

Doctors Say Bacterial Pneumonia Increasing, Especially Among Children

UC Davis Health News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Cases of pneumonia caused by the bacteria *Mycoplasma*, also known as "walking pneumonia," have been on the rise this year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The agency reports an increase among all age groups across the United States from March 31 to Oct. 5 of this year, with the peak in August, and levels remaining high. The data come from the National Syndromic Surveillance Program and bioMérieux BIOFIRE Syndromic Trends.

Young children, particularly those ages 2 to 4, have been most affected this year, with an increase from 1% to 7.2% among children ages 2 to 4. Children ages 5 to 17 also saw an increase from 3.6% to 7.4%.

Dean Blumberg, chief of pediatric infectious diseases at UC Davis Children's Hospital, answered some questions about walking pneumonia and what parents and families can do to keep their children healthy. His comments follow below.

What is Mycoplasma Pneumonia?

"Pneumonia from *Mycoplasma*, also known by the nonmedical term 'walking pneumonia,' is caused by the bacteria *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*, which causes a respiratory tract infection. These can be mild infections which, most often, do not require hospitalization, but for some, they can be severe and require antibiotics to get better. Both children and adults can get pneumonia from *Mycoplasma*."

What are the Common

Symptoms of Pneumonia Caused by Mycoplasma?

"Common symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, headache and feeling tired.

It's often called 'walking pneumonia' since some people don't feel sick enough to stay home but they are still contagious and can spread the disease to others. Complications can occur that require hospital care, including new or worsening asthma, severe pneumonia and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Children under 5 often have different symptoms, including diarrhea, sneezing, sore throat, stuffy or runny nose, vomiting, watery eyes and wheezing

Symptoms typically last for several weeks.

Some infected people may have no symptoms but it can still damage the lining of the respiratory tract, including the throat,

windpipe and lungs."

How is it Spread?

"It can spread person-to-person through the respiratory route, particularly when people are coughing or sneezing. People who live or work in crowded settings are at an increased risk for outbreaks.

It can take one to four weeks for symptoms to appear after someone has been exposed to the bacteria."

Who is at Highest Risk for This?

"Anyone is susceptible but those recovering from a respiratory illness are at an increased risk for serious infection. Anyone with a weakened immune system or with preexisting lung conditions such as asthma or reactive airway disease are also at greater risk for serious infection."

Is there a Vaccine Available for Mycoplasma Pneumoniae?

"No, unfortunately there is no vaccine."

How is it Diagnosed?

"Testing is available through a nose or throat swab PCR test at your doctor's office."

How is this Treated?

"Macrolides (such as azithromycin) are a class of antibiotics used commonly to treat bacterial pneumonia including infections caused by *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*. Make sure to take the full course of antibiotics and don't stop when you start feeling better."

What are some ways to keep Families Safe?

"I think a lot of families may not have heard of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* or know that it is going around. I would advise families to follow these common-sense strategies:

Stay home when you are feeling sick. Keep your children away from others if they are not feeling well.

Cover your cough and sneeze and teach your kids to use their batwing to cover their cough or sneeze.

Wear a well-fitted KN95 or N95 mask if you feel sick and need to be out in public or if you are in crowded settings with others. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children ages 2 and older can safely wear a mask. But the exception is for anyone who cannot easily remove their own mask or who has trouble breathing.

Those who get worsening symptoms, have difficulty breathing or are unable to keep liquids down, should seek medical attention immediately." ★

SPARKY'S CORNER

Stop-Drop-n-Roll

While not something we often think about, an average 4,300 people are seriously burned from their clothing catching fire every year. A popular misconception is that synthetic fabrics like polyester burn easier than natural fabrics like cotton. This is not true. Cotton and Rylan ignite faster than polyester. However, synthetic fabrics like polyester can melt and stick to your skin. Since wearing wool or special fire resistant clothing all day every day is unrealistic, CAL FIRE/Gridley Fire Department would like to offer these helpful tips to prevent burn injuries:

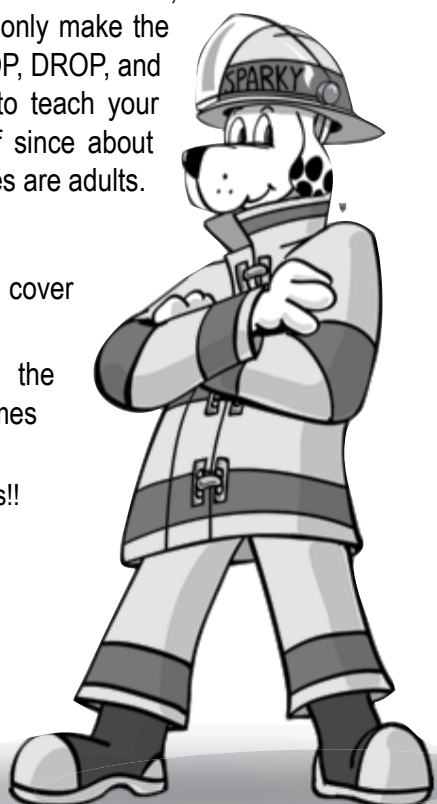
- Be cautious around open flames like bond fires or camp fires
- Keep a close eye on children, and don't let children run or play around open fires
- Don't be heavily intoxicated around open fires
- Don't wear hanging clothing while cooking or grilling
- Wear the proper safety equipment when welding, grinding or using a gas torch

In the event your clothing does catch on fire, DON'T run, the rushing air will only make the fire worse. Remember this: STOP, DROP, and ROLL! This is important both to teach your kids and to remember yourself since about half of all burning clothing injuries are adults.

- **STOP**, don't run
- **DROP** to the ground and cover your face with your hands
- **ROLL** back and forth on the ground to smother out the flames

Thank You, and Happy Holidays!!

Sparky the Dog
Gridley Fire Station 74



Butte College SBDC In-Person Business Trainings

Financial Management Series for Existing Businesses – 3 Weeks, 3 hours per week Series (Chico)

This 3-weeks, 3 hours per week series, sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank, is designed to teach you how to utilize your financial statements to better manage and understand your business operations, cash flow, and profitability. Focus includes: Interpreting and understanding your financial statements (Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet) hands-on exercise and case study; Identifying cash flow cycle and how it impacts your business; Learning how to calculate and use financial ratios to troubleshoot fiscal dangers, and analyzing trends to improve business performance; Using financial tools to make good business decisions for effective spending and break-even analysis; Knowing how to think critically when looking at pricing and costs; and Developing forecasts and budgetary tools and techniques to improve profit.

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

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

World Trade Connect: Unlocking Global Markets for Business Growth (Webinar)

Attend this free 30 minutes information session and discover the benefits of exporting & how the World Trade Connect Program can help you enter international markets with confidence. You will learn how exporting can make your business more resilient, increase growth & profitability, and how to tap into the 70% of purchasing power outside the U.S. Information will include Overview of the Exporting Program Customized for you: The advantages of entering international markets, details about the World Trade Connect program, and how the program can support the unique goals of your business; and The World Trade Connect Accelerator - a 10-week virtual program designed to help businesses like yours expand internationally with a structured, supportive approach. You will receive: One-on-one business consulting customized for your business; Funding Opportunities - Pitch to access up to \$7,500 in funding; Market Research Assistance - Identify promising markets; and Website Globalization Assessments - Market to a global audience.

Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 | **Time:** 9:00am - 9:30am

Cost: Free | **Location:** Online (A Zoom Link Will Be Provided Upon Registration)

Register Here: Scan QR Code to the right to go to the registration page.



ServSafe Food Safety Training and Certification (Chico)

California Uniform Retail Food Facility Law requires re-certification of competence in Food Safety and Sanitation every 5 years. Passing the ServSafe® exam is necessary to renew your certification. Training includes National Restaurant Association ServSafe® Exam, Essentials book, Answer Sheet and Certificate. Training is recognized by the California Health Department and fulfills the State of California certification obligations. Learn the importance of food safety practices and how to implement them. Trainer is State certified. Participants must register and purchase books 3 weeks before training.

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

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

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

Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for your Business Marketing (Chico)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become increasingly beneficial to businesses and communities. However, very few business owners understand how to use AI to help them in their marketing and other business strategies. We will take a deep dive into using AI to develop marketing strategies, and contents, and will take a step-by-step approach to developing an AI generated marketing strategy for your business.

Date: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 | **Time:** 8:30am – 10:30am

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

To Register for Trainings: CALL: (530) 895-9017
or REGISTER HERE: <https://www.buttecollegesbdc.com/events/>



Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and a grant with the California Office of the Small Business Advocate. All opinions, conclusions and/or recommendations expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA, California Office of the Small Business Advocate, or Cal Poly Humboldt Sponsored Programs Foundation.

SBDC programs are nondiscriminatory and available to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least 72 hours in advance. Contact Sophie Koniwa, director, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico, CA 95928. KoniwaSo@butte.edu. (530) 895-9017





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

Inflation and It's Causes

Awhile back I suggested that no matter who was elected, the chance of either candidate getting a handle on inflation was slim to none. My opinion of course, but my reasoning is based on 50 years or so of economic study and the subsequent historical events of inflation of a plethora of economies around the world and throughout time.

There are many types of inflation such as demand pull inflation, supply push, scarcity, regulatory and monetary to name but a few. Rather than go off into the weeds on the various causes of all these types of inflation, I will just explain the most insidious and common type of inflation which is monetary inflation.

Monetary means money and money is commonly referred to as currency. Currency is basically a receipt for a good or service obtained from someone else. You buy something, and you get the goods (pun intended) and the seller of whatever it is you received gets a handful of money (currency) that he or she can spend elsewhere whenever and on whatever it is they may desire.

Since currency is always given a specific value, such as one dollar or half a dollar, or whatever, it is essentially a receipt much like you get when you drop off a shirt at a dry cleaner, a car at a repair shop or a chainsaw at a saw shop. The receipt is the proof you have that someone else now has something of yours.

Currency is such a receipt. You furnished something to somebody and the currency replaces that thing with a unit of value that you can then swap later for something else.

Enter the dreaded event of monetary inflation.

Imagine a room full of people and I lock the door and give each person \$1,000 dollars. I then hold up a Rolex watch worth \$5,000 dollars and tell them there is a person outside the room that will give them \$5,000 for the watch as soon as they step outside. I then offer the watch for sale and the only rule is people cannot combine their money with anyone else in the room. The highest bid in the room would be \$1,000 as that is as much as any one person has and they could immediately sell the watch for \$5,000 upon leaving the room, instantly netting a \$4,000 profit.

Now imagine before concluding the sale, I give everyone an extra \$1,000 and restart the bidding. Since they could still sell the watch at a profit, the highest bid would then go to \$2,000 as that is now how much everyone has.

Presto chango.

You have now witnessed monetary

inflation. The price for the watch has now climbed from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Keep in mind, the watch has not changed, nor has any other condition in the room. The price for the bidding of the watch has now increased simply because the amount of money in the room has increased.

Now replace the "room" and substitute it with "the economy". Regardless of how many people are in the "economy" (city, state, country or globe as the case may be), the simple economic fact is that if you increase the amount of money in the system, the price for whatever it is for sale increases.

The "increase" in the money supply occurs when an institution who controls the issuance of currency issues *more of it*. Prices of whatever it is for sale in the economic system will increase as well, even though all other conditions remain the same.

In conclusion, the only way to bring prices back down is to reverse the process and *remove money from the system*.

On the grand scale of our economies and our inflation, to decrease the money supply is to first *stop deficit spending*, then remove money from the economy as well. Simply put, that means cutting government expenses, stop government borrowing, and stop creating new money on a grand scale. Unfortunately, that translates, like it or not, to putting the screws down on government spending and its programs, stop governments ability to create (print) new money and kill demand by crushing the consumer's ability to obtain credit.

All that translates into a very unpleasant situation for the majority of those people in it. And considering the amounts of money the global governments have created over many decades, it will be a very long and painful process.

And ain't no one gonna sit still for that.

Like I said, I pity whoever was elected. And please don't shoot the messenger.

"Watching the markets so you don't have to"

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



BOOK REVIEW & SPECIAL EVENTS EDITOR • amy-shane@att.net • [@amy_fortheloveofbooks](https://www.instagram.com/amy_fortheloveofbooks)

Children's Holiday Gift-Giving Guide from Abrams Publishing

With the Holidays quickly approaching Abrams Publishing has you in covered with this year's best, notable and most popular titles to add to any young reader's library.



Knock Knock Merry Christmas

by Rob Hodgson

A giggly google-eyed knock-knock adventure will have readers laughing with each turn of the page. This board book with cutouts and google eyes is the perfect laugh-out-loud book for merriment during the holidays.

In My Heart Deluxe Gift Edition

by Jo Witek,

illustrated by Christine Roussey.

A heart feels all types of feelings and big emotions. Sometimes, a heart is shiny, bright, and happy; sometimes, it can be angry, like a big boom. Sometimes, it is heavy like an elephant or quiet and shy.

This big book of emotions is not just a fun read, but also a valuable tool for toddlers to understand and express their feelings. The heart peek-a-boo cutout, paired with bright illustrations, guides children through a journey of emotional learning, making it a perfect addition to any library.

Disney Princess Block

Princess Block book pairs Disney Princesses with strong values and traits, interactive lift-a-flap, and cutouts.

This storybook is a delightful combination of wonderful illustrations, a captivating story, and excellent interactive pages. The interactive lift-a-flap and cutouts featuring Disney Princesses with strong values and traits will keep any child engaged and entertained, making it a perfect gift for young readers.

Things That Go

by Shannon Hale, Leuyen Pham

Kitty and Unicorn are back with a new board book adventure.

It's time to explore all things, from a tricycle to a space plane and everything in between. Every vehicle zooms, pedals, and even hovers its way across the page with a few little silly additions by Kitty.

This board book is the perfect addition to any library for fans of Kitty-Corn and even those new to the adventures. Check out all the adventures of Kitty-Corn in their other picture books.

The perfect gift series for the young adult reader on your list

The Umbrella Academy Young Blood

by Alyssa Sheinmel

For fans of the Netflix series The Umbrella Academy comes the prequel fans have been waiting for. This book answers the questions fans have been asking while keeping the essence of the characters and the show. A wonderful gift for the Umbrella Academy comic or Netflix series fan on your list.

Ada Twist, Scientist

by Andrea Beaty

and Dr Theanne Griffith

It's time to learn about sustainability with Ada. Young readers will learn everything about sustainability, conservation, and renewable and nonrenewable natural resources. There is so much to learn about recycling and natural energy, and with Ada, your budding scientist will be eager to join the quest to protect Earth. ★

How Three Trump Policy Decrees Could Affect California's Agricultural Industry



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Voters in California's farm belt, stretching more than 400 miles from Kern County on the south to Tehama County on the north, delivered solid majorities for Donald Trump in this month's presidential election.

They were obviously outvoted in heavily populated coastal and urban counties, so rival Kamala Harris claimed the state's 54 electoral votes. However, it is Trump who will be moving into the White House, and of all California economic sectors, agriculture arguably has the most to gain or lose during his second presidency.

There are three policy issues particularly important to California's farmers that Trump wants to change. If he does what he has promised, one might benefit the industry and two might damage it.

The beneficial change is what California Farm Bureau President Shannon Douglas, in a post-election statement, calls "securing a sustainable water supply."

For years, state officials have been trying, either through regulatory decrees or negotiations, to reduce the amount of water San Joaquin Valley farmers take from the San Joaquin River and its tributaries to enhance flows through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, thus improving its water quality to support fish and other wildlife.

Farmers are miffed that after two wet winters filled the state's reservoirs, state federal water managers still limited agricultural deliveries.

A few days before the election, the state Water Resources Control Board issued the latest version of its water quality plan, but the supposed compromise is being critiqued by both farmers who want to minimize restrictions and environmentalists who demand a crackdown on water diversions.

Trump stepped into the issue during his first presidency, directing federal water regulators to increase agricultural supplies, and is likely to do so again.

Just before the election, Trump described California water policy, in all caps on his Truth Social website, as "INSANE POLICY DECISIONS," which he defined as "the ridiculously rerouting of MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF WATER A DAY FROM THE NORTH OUT OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN, rather than using it, free of charge, for the towns, cities & farms dotted all throughout California."

The two pending issues that could backfire on farmers who voted for Trump are imposing tariffs on imports from China, which could invite retaliatory tariffs on agricultural exports, and deporting undocumented immigrants, who comprise at least half of the state's agricultural workers.

Despite objections from California's Republican congressional delegation, Trump hit China with tariffs during his first term and "China retaliated with import tariffs that target U.S. agriculture," according to a report from

the University of California's Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics.

"For almonds and pistachios, the tariffs did not reduce the volume of U.S. exports to China," the report continued. "However, the trade war diminished California exports of walnuts, wine, oranges, and table grapes."

Cracking down on undocumented immigrants has been a bedrock issue for Trump throughout his political career, and he's promised to make good on his deportation pledge immediately after taking office.

For a variety of reasons, the state's farmers have had difficulty finding enough workers to till and harvest their crops in recent years. Immigration restrictions, California's high living costs and the creation of new factory jobs in Mexico are among the reasons.

California has as many as 2 million undocumented residents, many of whom work in industries ranging from construction to agriculture. The full-blown roundup Trump promises would have an immense economic effect on the state, with agriculture arguably the most vulnerable.

When Central Valley farmers were enthusiastically backing a second term for Trump, they undoubtedly were hoping for relief from water restrictions. Yet that could be the smallest impact Trump 2.0 may have on their industry.

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

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000665
The following person(s) are doing business as: Green Clean, 5470 Cabernet Way, Forest Ranch, CA 95942
Chris A Sjostrom, 5470 Cabernet Way, Forest Ranch, CA 95942
Date filed in Butte County: August 29, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024
GREEN 11-29-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000854
The following person(s) are doing business as: Troy Farms Hay Sales & Delivery/Troy Hay Sales, 1554 CA-70, Oroville, CA 95965
Troy Gene Ingram, PO Box 84, Main OR, 97632 and Samantha Anne Gilko-Ingram, 1554 CA-70, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: October 23, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 4/18/1993

This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
TROY 12-13-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000763
The following person(s) are doing business as: Divine Touch Skincare, 8 Meadowview Drive, Oroville, CA 95966
Whitney M Riley, 8 Meadowview Drive, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: October 01, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: 10/01/2024

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
DIVINE 12-13-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000856
The following person(s) are

doing business as: Harmony Holistic Detox & Wellness Studio, 6B Williamsburg Lane, Chico, CA 95926
Michelle Thorwaldson, 10478 Cohasset Road, Cohasset, CA 95973

Date filed in Butte County: October 23, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
HARMONY 12-13-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000868
The following person(s) are doing business as: Sepulveda Transports, 1720 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
David W Sepulveda, 1720 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

Date filed in Butte County: October 28, 2024. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024
SEPULVEDA 12-20-24

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME - STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT FILE NO. 2024-0000861
The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Shell Energy Solutions, 21 Waterway Avenue, Suite 450, The Woodlands, TX 77380
MP2 Energy NE LLC, 909 Fannin Street, Suite 3500, Houston, TX 77010
The Registrant began transacting business on: N/A. Business conducted by: A Limited Liability Partnership.
Date Filed in Butte County: October 25, 2024.
This statement was filed in the office of Keaton Denlay, County Clerk of Butte County s/J. Ramirez, Deputy
Publish: Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024
SHELL 12-20-24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #24CV03618
Petitioner Cathleen Marie Greenwell filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Cathleen Marie Greenwell to Cathleen Marie Poor.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing December 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBA, Room TBA, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on October 28, 2024
Tamara L. Mosbarger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Nov 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024
GREENWELL 11-29-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #24CV02600
Petitioner Sarah Danielle Sedillo filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Sarah Danielle Sedillo to Sarah Danielle Sedillo Anderson.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing December 18, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department 6, Room TBA, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on October 24, 2024
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Nov 15, 22, 29, Dec 6, 2024
ANDERSON 12-6-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #24CV03552
Petitioner Susan Edith Cliff-Hovey filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Susan Edith Cliff-Hovey to Susan Edith Cliff.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing December 18, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on November 1, 2024
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Nov 15, 22, 29, Dec 6, 2024
CLIFF 12-6-24

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME
CASE #24CV03573
Petitioner Lucio Acosta filed a

petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Lucio Acosta to Lucio Acosta Topete.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing January 8, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department TBA, Room TBA, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on November 6, 2024
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: Nov 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
TOPETE 12-13-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOSE ABELARDO LUQUIN, JOSE A. LUQUIN, JOSE LUQUIN CASE NO. 24PR00505

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Jose Abelardo Luquin, Jose A. Luquin, Jose Luquin.

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

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: December 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Hyatt McIntire & Associates; Amanda J Pedrett, 950 Sharp Road, Suite 701, Yuba City, CA 95993; (530) 674-9761
Publish: Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
LUQUIN 12-13-24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MALCOLM S. WILLIAMS, JR. CASE NO. 24PR00503

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate of Malcolm S. Williams, Jr..

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

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

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the executor to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the executor will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or have consented to the proposed action.) The independent

administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: December 24, 2024, 9:00 a.m. in Dept 1. Superior Court of California, County of Butte, 1775 Concord Avenue, Chico, CA 95928.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. The name, address and telephone number of the Attorney for Petitioner is: Raoul J. LeClerc, P.O. Drawer 111, Oroville, CA 95965; (530) 533-5661
Publish: Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 2024
WILLIAMS 12-13-24

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 24-69762 APN: 010-360-043-000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 7/26/2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: LISA MARIE BURNS, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, AND CHARLES LYLES II, AN UNMARRIED MAN, JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP Duly Appointed Trustee: ZBS LAW, LLP Deed of Trust recorded 7/28/2022, as Instrument No. 2022-0025257, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Butte County, California, Date of Sale: 12/11/2024 at 3:30 PM Place of Sale: At the main entrance to the Butte County Courthouse, 1 Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$466,576.06 Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 210 LITTLE AVEGRIDLEY, CALIFORNIA 95948 Described as follows: As more fully described on said Deed of Trust. A.P.N #: 010-360-043-000 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the

property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 1-866-539-4173 or visit this internet website www.servicelinkauction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 24-69762. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 1-866-539-4173, or visit this internet website www.servicelinkauction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 24-69762 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Dated: 11/4/2024 ZBS LAW, LLP, as Trustee 30 Corporate Park, Suite 450 Irvine, CA 92606 For Non-Automated Sale Information, call: (714) 848-7920 For Sale Information: 1-866-539-4173 www.servicelinkauction.com Ryan Bradford, Trustee Sale Officer This office is enforcing a security interest of your creditor. To the extent that your obligation has been discharged by a bankruptcy court or is subject to an automatic stay of bankruptcy, this notice is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a demand for payment or any attempt to collect such obligation. EPP 41631
Pub Dates 11/15, 11/22, 11/29/2024
GRIDLEY HERALD 11-29-24

Gridley City Council ORDINANCE 850-2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRIDLEY AMENDING CHAPTER 3.16 OF THE GRIDLEY MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO PROCUREMENT POLICY

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on November 18, 2024, by the following vote:

Ayes: Johnson, Farr, Sanchez, Calderon, Robert

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed, 5-0

This ordinance will go into effect 30 days after its adoption. A complete copy of this ordinance is available for viewing at City Hall, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley.

The Gridley Herald 11-29-2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT CHANGING DATE FOR THE DISTRICT'S REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pursuant to California Water Code Section 21378, Notice is hereby given that at its special meeting on December 18, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at 1148 Richvale Hwy, Richvale, CA 95974, the Board of Directors of Richvale Irrigation District will consider and act upon a Resolution proposing that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors be changed from the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m., to the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. The resolution proposing such change is as follows:

(PROPOSED) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT ESTABLISHING A NEW DATE FOR THE DISTRICT'S REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Richvale Irrigation District ("District") currently holds its regular monthly meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds that is in the best interest of the District to change its regular meeting date to the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Richvale Irrigation District that commencing with the regular meeting for December 2024, the regular monthly Board of Directors meeting shall be changed from the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. to the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m.

Any and all persons wishing to be heard on this proposed resolution should communicate by letter or email to the District sent no later than December 12, 2024, on the District's website or addressed to P.O. Box 147, Richvale, CA 95974, or by attending the December 18, 2024 special meeting at 8:00 a.m.

The Gridley Herald 11-29, 12-6-2024

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MPG

Farm Stand Tour Returns!

By Seti Long

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - After their first farm-stand tour in early September was a major hit, the local women that peddle their home-made and home-grown goodies at their respective stands are bringing the tour back for the Holidays!

The second Gridley-Biggs Farm Stand Tour returns on the weekend of Dec. 7, with seasonal crafts, jams, gifts and fresh season fruits available for purchase.

The five original farm stand tour locations are joined by Wile Rye Farm in Gridley. This time around, each farm stand will have a personalized stamp. Visit each of the farm stands and collect a stamp from each to win a holiday gift basket with good from each of the 6 stands.

Participating in the December Farm Stand Tour are stands: Reis



The Crackleberry Hut features unique items to create a one-of-a-kind gift basket for those on your list this year! Photo provided by The Crackleberry Hut



Do you love the smells of the holiday season? Enjoy them for hours with homemade potpourri simmer pots and citrus wreaths from the Windmill Flower Farms. Photos provided by Windmill Flower Farms.

Ranch Produce – 405 Larkin Road., Gridley; The Sheldon Stand – 78 Sheldon Ave., Gridley; Windmill Flower Farms, 535 Obermeyer Ave., Gridley;

The Crackleberry Hut, 1565 Palm Lane., Gridley (across from Eagle Meadows); Aldrich Farm Cart – 666 Little Ave., Gridley and Wild Rye Farm, 1692 Grace

Road., Gridley.

Maps are available on Facebook on each of the stand's individual pages. While some of the stands do accept Venmo,

visitors will want to have cash on hand.

The winner of the gift basket will be announced Sunday, Dec. 8. ★

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Riley Reviews

“GLADIATOR II” A SWEEPING
SWORDS-AND-SANDALS EXTRAVAGANZA

A Film and TV Review
by Tim Riley

“GLADIATORS II” Rated R

English filmmaker Ridley Scott, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II two decades ago, also goes by the honorific “Sir Ridley Scott” conferred upon him in recognition of his contribution to the arts, joining other entertainment icons like Sean Connery, Elton John, and Mick Jagger.

Aside from a slew of other honors, Ridley Scott has distinguished himself for an eclectic style in film genres from science-fiction like “Blade Runner” and “Alien” to historical dramas such as last year’s “Napoleon.”

His resume encompasses a lot more than that, including directing the road trip crime drama “Thelma & Louise,” for which he was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Director, an honor also bestowed for his directing of “Black Hawk Down.”

Arguably, no bigger success came for the director than his work in the 2000 swords-and-sandals epic “Gladiator,” which won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and his second award nomination for directing.

Now more than two decades later, Scott returns to directing “Gladiator II,” a sequel to the story of Russell Crowe’s Maximus, a Roman general who runs afoul of Emperor Commodus (Joaquin Phoenix) and ends up enslaved to be a captive combatant.

Reviewing the quasi-historical story of Maximus’ quest for revenge against Commodus for the murder of his family and Marcus Aurelius (a historical figure of the time) would take up too much space here.

While the original film was set in 180 AD, “Gladiator II” appears to be only a couple of decades in the future where a prime character in the form of Lucius (Paul Mescal) turns out to be a heroic warrior against the Roman Empire in the name of strength and honor.

Amazing battle scenes on land and sea find the Romans led by General Marcus Acacius (Pedro Pascal) storming the fortress in Numidia where Lucius’s beloved wife Arishat (Yuval Gonen), a warrior in her own right, is killed by Acacius during a bloody siege.

On the losing end of battle, Lucius becomes a slave under the custody of Denzel Washington’s Macrinus, a former slave himself who became a Roman businessman who has amassed enormous wealth thanks to his acumen and brutal ambition.

Macrinus has a stable of gladiators, and he sees in Lucius a natural-born leader and great fighter, which he finds useful in many ways to make himself more powerful than he already is. He relies on his vicious trainer Vigo (Lior Raz) to run his stable with an iron hand.

The Roman Empire is under the control of truly mad twin emperors Caracalla (Fred Hechinger) and Geta (Joseph Quinn), both self-indulgent and unserious, with the former obsessed with a pet monkey perched on his shoulder.

Returning from battle a bit weary, Acacius is reunited with his partner Lucilla (Connie Nielsen, reprising her role from the original), and he’s less than thrilled with the tyrannical rule of the twin emperors who are bent on further conquest of distant lands.

The people of Rome expect the gladiator combat at the Colosseum to deliver thrills that keep them distracted from everyday troubles. They are ready to cheer for bloody carnage in any form.

The hero turns out to be Lucius whose maiden foray at the Colosseum, alongside other warriors, is fending off an attack by a pack of ferocious baboons, much to the delight of bloodthirsty spectators.

What Lucius thinks about, as he channels his rage and which pleases the crowd at the Colosseum, is how he’s going to eventually get to his mortal foe Acacius. Part of the problem may be complicated by the presence of Lucilla for reasons that may be surprising.

Like many sequels of blockbuster success stories, “Gladiator II” has the unenviable task of trying to top the original film which went on to become an iconic cultural touchstone for fans around the world.

The world of the Roman Empire and the unforgettable characters of “Gladiator” were so brilliantly crafted. Attempting to go for a grander scale was necessary, and certain aspects of the powerful battle scenes and the gripping action in the arena of the Colosseum deliver.

What appears lacking is the emotional core of the original film that involves the tragedy of a warrior bent on revenge that mirrors a basic theme repeated in the sequel.

Paul Mescal’s Lucius, though solidly physical in the role of reluctant gladiator, was given a challenging task of bringing the same gravitas and charisma to a warrior that Russell Crowe’s Maximus conveyed with visceral single-minded pursuit.

Arguably, Denzel Washington steals the show as a cunning manipulator who has achieved his station in the gilded milieu of the Roman power center, interacting with Roman senators and the emperor twins.

In the end, “Gladiator II,” playing loose with history, comes close enough to achieving its grandiose ambition of a grand spectacle of choreographed battles and gladiatorial combat such that not capturing the original film’s emotional intimacy can be overlooked. ★

Gridley Christian Church Hosts Kids’ Choir Performance

Gridley Christian Church News Release

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - On Sunday, Dec. 8 at 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., the Kids’ Choir will present the Christmas musical, “Wise Guys and Starry Skies” at Gridley Christian Church.

Fifteen talented children will present the importance of Jesus’ birth with singing, drama, costumes and lights.

Jesse (Isaac Boykin) wants to learn how to become a Wise Guy. He shares with Melchior (Arabella Johnson), Gaspar (Celeste Watson), and Balthasar (Declan Hildebrand) the prophecies he has learned about the Messiah. As they all travel to find the heavenly king, Cookie (Isabella Taylor) prepares unique menu items. When the star disappears, what will they do?

When the stable comes into view, Mary (Lyla Watson) gratefully receives the precious gifts offered. Surprisingly, Jesse gives the most important gift of all. At the end, our narrators (Georgia Morgan, Marcus Hildebrand) help us understand how we can become wise guys, too.

Come and celebrate Jesus’ birth with us. Nursery services are available for small children.

Children four years old through eighth-grade are invited to join the Kids’ Choir for the spring musical, “Rock Solid.”

Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, Jan. 7. The performance date is Sunday, March 23. Call Bonnie at 530-933-9845 for more information.

Gridley Christian Church is located at 580 Washington St. Call 530-846-4002 to talk with Pastor Ed about any concerns you might have. ★

Biggs’ Big Christmas Fair is This Weekend!

By Seti Long

Biggs, CA (MPG) - It doesn’t snow much locally but Biggs can honestly say they get the white flurries every year during their Biggs Christmas Street Fair & Tree lighting.

Held on the weekend, the event starts mid-afternoon and runs into the evening, offering shopping, tasty treats and contests to those that turn out for the fun! Volunteers have added extra cheer, decorating the downtown corridor with lights and festive decorations in anticipation of the community event.

This coming Sunday, December 1, Biggs closes B Street beginning at 3 p.m. for the Marketplace. Santa will be available for selfies beginning at 4 p.m. and at 5 p.m., the most horrendous “Ugly Sweater” will be chosen as the winner of the Ugly Sweater Contest. Make sure you are decked out in yours to participate!

The holidays will officially come to life for Biggs at 6 p.m. when the community tree is lit.

Project Biggs, who brings this event to the community, invites all to come out and enjoy the warmth of this small-town holiday celebration. ★

Ask DR. UNIVERSE

Dr. Universe: What is cancer? – Austin, 9, New York

Dear Austin,

I love a predictable schedule. Knowing when to eat, sleep and answer your questions keeps me chill.

That how the cells that make up our bodies work, too. They grow and die on a predictable schedule. Our bodies constantly make new cells to replace the ones that die. They grow for a set time and then die, too.

But sometimes cells grow out of control. They may grow faster or for a longer time than normal cells.

They ignore the signals that tell a cell it’s time to die. They can even spread to other parts of the body and start growing there. That’s cancer.

That’s what my friend Weimin Li told me. He’s a medical doctor and scientist at Washington State University. He studies breast cancer.

He said that cancer happens because of changes in our genes. They’re called mutations.

Inside each of your cells, you have a copy of your DNA. It’s like a recipe book that tells your body how to make all the proteins that make your body work. A chunk of DNA that tells your body how to make a specific thing is called a gene.

When your body makes new cells or proteins, it copies your DNA. Usually, it copies it exactly right. But sometimes it makes a little mistake or mutation. That’s one way cancer starts.

This is pretend DNA made from licorice and gummy bears. The gummy bears represent the bases in your DNA. There are 4 kinds of bases. Their order is the code that tells the cell how to make proteins. Sometimes the cell copies the wrong base (B). Sometimes it leaves a base out (C) or adds an extra base in (D). Those are all mutations. Cancer can also

start if something in the environment changes your DNA. That mutation can come from chemicals or viruses. It could come from getting too much of the sun’s light or pollution in the air, soil or water.

“Exposure to harmful substances, unhealthy lifestyles, aging and infections may cause cancers,” Li said. “This is a good reminder for us to take care of our living environment and our health.”

Sometimes DNA changes get passed down from our parents. That’s why doctors ask if anyone in your family has ever had cancer. Usually, mutations are no big deal. They don’t make a difference in how your body works. They don’t cause cancer or any problems at all.

But sometimes mutations happen in genes that manage the predictable schedule of your cells. It could change the genes that tell your cells to grow or stop growing. It could change the genes that tell your cells when it’s time for them to die. It can change the genes in charge of fixing mistakes or changes in your DNA.

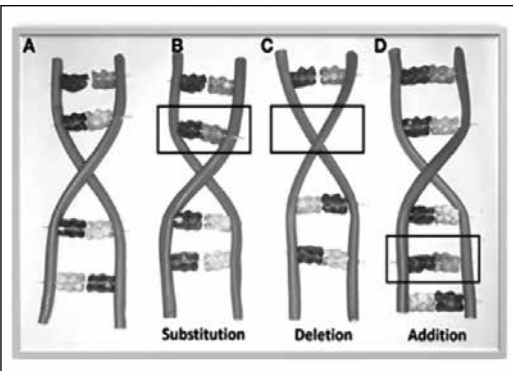
Those are the mutations that can cause cancer. Cancer can be scary to think about. The truth is that it’s something that can happen to all animals. Even the dinosaurs sometimes had cancer.

The good news is that scientists and doctors like Dr. Li are working hard to figure out new ways to fight cancer. Other scientists and public health experts are helping people avoid things that cause cancer—like smoking, pollution and forgetting to wear sunscreen.

It’s one of the ways we can see science helping make our lives better.

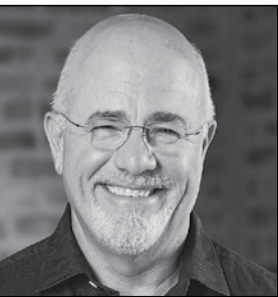
Sincerely,

Dr. Universe



This is pretend DNA made from licorice and gummy bears. The gummy bears represent the bases in your DNA. There are 4 kinds of bases. Their order is the code that tells the cell how to make proteins. Sometimes the cell copies the wrong base (B). Sometimes it leaves a base out (C) or adds an extra base in (D). Those are all mutations. Image: Frontiers for Young Minds

Dave Ramsey Says He Knows What's Best for Us



Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave,
My wife and I are currently on Baby Step 2 of your plan. We attend church regularly, and we've always made sure we tithed 10% to 15% in the past. Do you think it would be okay to lower our tithe while we're getting out of debt and working through our debt snowball?

—Karl

Dear Karl,

When you look up the Hebrew word "tithe," it means tenth. Not 10 to 15 percent—a tenth. I've studied Scripture on this subject for about 25 years and taught in Christian settings. But please keep in mind you shouldn't do this because I gave you a "rule." I'm not the final authority on this. What we're about to get into comes from God.

In Proverbs, it refers to the tithe as first fruits, off the top, before anything else. The book of Deuteronomy says to give a tenth of your net in-

crease. Centuries of protestant Christian teaching has focused on the idea that the tithe goes to the local church, because it's the New Testament representation of the Old Testament storehouse. The storehouse took care of the Levites, which were the priests—or pastors—and the orphans and widows. Today, the New Testament church is supposed to use it for the same kinds of things: pastor's salaries and helping people who are struggling.

Before we go any further, I want you to remember one thing. Tithing isn't a salvation issue. God doesn't love you more just because you tithe a larger amount than the person sitting next to you in church. God loves you. Period. You're His child, and He's going to love you even if you don't tithe. But He knows what tithing does for us. It makes us focus on something other than ourselves. Doing it makes us less selfish, and more selfless. It makes us a little more Christ-like. And he wants us to be

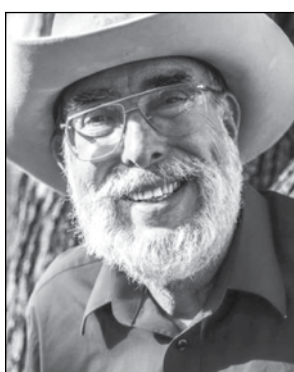
giving and loving to the people around us.

Do you see what I'm saying, Karl? God doesn't need your money. He doesn't need your money. It was my choice decades ago when I hit bottom financially to continue tithing all the way into bankruptcy court and all the way out. But if someone literally can't afford to tithe for some reason—or can't hit 10% and still wants to attend and support a church—I'm pretty sure God understands.

—Dave

Dave Ramsey is a national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS Mornings, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions. ★

Slim Randles' HOME COUNTRY



Slim Randles

Alphonse Wilson here, you know ... yore pal Windy? And I'm here to set the record straight, once and forever more, on turkeys.

Now for those folks out there who think a turkey is something hot and brown and tasty and is full of stuffing, this here'll come as a shock. You see, before he becomes a tasteful delicacy, the turkey is a big ol' bird who lives in the woods, or on a farm, and ain't too awful smart,

Ain't but two things a turkey can do proper, folks

neither. Iffen a turkey was smart, we'd probably have to eat vegetables for Thanksgiving. Now that's a fact. Truth be told, if you had a big ol' dial thingie with Alfred Linestein on one end of the smart meter ... you know, like to measure who is the intellectual prairie fire and who ain't? ... wellsir, at the very other end of that dial you'd have a flat brown rock, and then, 'way off in the distance ... the other side of the rock, there'd be a turkey.

And that there turkey'd be there all by hisself, too. So you might think he'd get kinda lonesome out there all solitaried,

right? Nossir. That's 'cause he ain't smart enough to get lonesome.

Ain't but two things a turkey can do proper, folks. Just two, and you can take this to the blank, too. For one thing, he companionizes right well with cranberry sauce twice or once a year. Yes he does. And for another? Well, he just might make a likely candidate for the United States Congress of America!

And you can tell 'em I said so.

This year, disguise your turkey as something that doesn't taste as good. You know, like a porcupine, or squash. Ideas at www.simpleeverydaymom.com. ★

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

When you are a gardener, gratitude comes with the territory. Every step of the way whether one grows flowers, fruit trees or vegetables there is an ongoing flow of gratitude. Gratitude that the earth is warm enough to grow plants. Gratitude that the ambient temperature is just right for seeds to sprout. Gratitude that the snails, earwigs and sow bugs eat only a little of whatever plant they find

most succulent. Gratitude that each day brings such beauty into your life. Gratitude that the work is strenuous but not overpowering. Gratitude that the flowers brighten the day and the fruit trees and vegetable plants nourish your body and soul. All of the gardeners I know are gracious and full of gratitude for their lives, their families and their community not to mention their soil and their ability to grow plants. It is said that if you want to banish darkness and travails from your life, practice gratitude in which ever form is meaningful to you.

What are some of the other words that mean the same as gratitude? Gratefulness; thankfulness; appreciation; recognition; acknowledgement; credit; regard; respect; honor;

praise; responsiveness. Surprisingly the word gratitude has no exact synonyms only associated synonyms. If you want to find a substitution synonym for gratitude that is the same in exact meaning and intent, you are out of luck. You can find words related to gratitude but not interchangeable in every way. They are similar in nature but not the same exact idea or sensation as gratitude. That is one powerful word.

Whether you see dark days ahead or delightful days ahead, remember to help yourself by remembering a daily gratitude practice. You have it easy if you are a gardener because gratitude is exactly associated with digging in the dirt. May your life be full of the gratitude contained in every colorful Autumn leaf. ★



Virtual Fencing 'Game-Changer' for Ranchers Grazing Cattle

After the Caldor Fire destroyed 7 miles of fencing on their cattle ranch in 2021, Leisel Finley and her family needed to replace the fence. Finley, a sixth-generation rancher at Mount Echo Ranch in Amador County, learned about a pilot program for virtual fencing that uses GPS enabled collars to monitor each animal's location in near real time. Livestock producers can draw a perimeter on a map of their pasture using a laptop or smartphone application and send those instructions to the collar. The collar then uses audio and tactile cues to contain the animal in the area.

Farm Families Emphasize Importance of Mental Health

The Voice of California Agriculture podcast, produced by the California Farm Bureau, discussed the importance of mental health on farms. Tricia Stever Blattler, executive director of the Tulare County Farm Bureau, spoke with host Gary Sack about losing her husband, Robert, to suicide, and about the need to speak up about mental health in farming communities that face many stressors. "We have to keep normalizing and bringing that conversation forward," Stever Blattler said. The episode also covers efforts in California to combat the oriental fruit fly and a message from the California Farm Bureau

to president-elect Donald Trump and other newly elected leaders.

Port of Oakland Continues to be an Agricultural Export Powerhouse

The Port of Oakland continues to be one of the most important gateways for U.S. agricultural products. As of October, the port has exported nearly \$8.5 billion in agricultural commodities this year, ranking No. 1 in the nation in the volume of international refrigerated exports. "Agricultural exports are especially important commodities for our port's business," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "In any given year, agricultural products comprise between 37% and 45% of total exports from Oakland." *Probiotics and Prebiotics: Hype or Health?*

Consumers may have noticed a recent trend in food and beverage products labeled probiotic or prebiotic. The products often say they "support a healthy gut" or "boost your immune system" by providing good microbes that are often missing from people's diets. But how can consumers know if these products are really good for them? A new episode of the University of California, Davis, podcast Unfold took a closer look at the proliferation of probiotics and interviewed Maria Marco, a microbiologist and professor in the department of food science and technology at UC Davis. ★

Chico Man Convicted for Embezzling from Veterans' Associations

Butte County District Attorney's Office News Release

BUTTE COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Michael David Zylstra, 60, of Chico, entered a no-contest plea Nov. 21 in Butte County Superior Court to embezzling more than \$73,000 from two different Chico veterans' associations.

He was ordered to return to court on Jan. 30 to face sentencing of upwards of three years in jail.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said as part of his plea Nov. 21, Zylstra agreed that when he is sentenced, he will repay the monies he stole in the amount of \$68,546 from the American Legion Post 17 and \$4,568 stolen from the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 125.

Ramsey said the case began in September 2023, when the Chico Police Department received a complaint from a member of the local American Legion post who stated the post's bank account had been almost completely emptied by Zylstra, who was the post's acting treasurer for several years.

Later that same month, the Police Department received another complaint from a member of the local Disabled American Veterans chapter claiming that their bank account was also drained by

Zylstra, who had been the chapter's acting commander for several years. As commander, Zylstra's duties did not include handling finances; however, he kept possession of the chapter's checkbook and debit card.

After an extensive review of bank accounts, bank statements, cash withdrawals and check deposits, Chico police detectives discovered Zylstra had been slowly withdrawing money from both organizations without permission since September 2021 while occasionally forging the signature of another association member to make check transactions appear legitimate.

Ramsey stated that Zylstra's embezzlement was particularly egregious as he stole from those who faithfully served their country and besmirched the names of the outstanding organizations that served those veterans.

"Zylstra betrayed the trust placed in him by the good men and women of the American Legion and DAV. We will be asking the court to not only order the repayment of his theft with interest but to also sentence him to the maximum term," Ramsey said.

Zylstra will return to court at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 30 where he will appear with his public defender for his sentencing. ★

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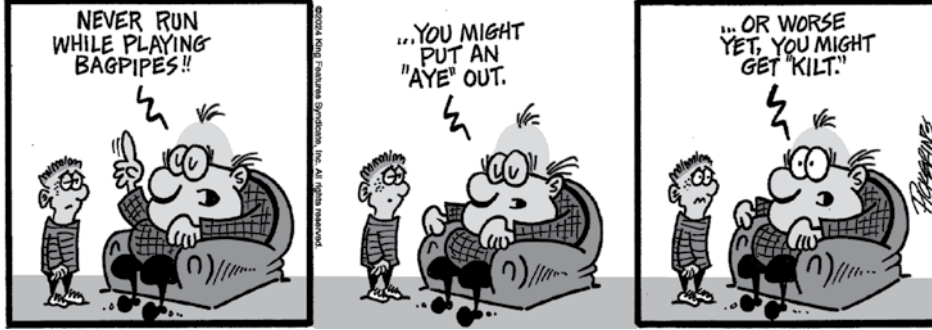
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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



The Bulldogs Season Ends Against Grizzlies



The Gridley Bulldog battled the Lassen Grizzlies on a rainy, muddy field in Susanville on Friday, Nov. 22. Photos by Libby Tolman

By Dillon Longmire

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Bulldogs ended their season in a battle of the run against the Lassen Grizzlies in Susanville, on Friday, Nov. 22. The Grizzlies were hosting the Bulldogs in Round 2 of the CIF-Northern Section D3 football playoffs. The final score was 13-6.

On a muddy field with the rain pouring down the game plan was obvious for both teams, to pound the defense with the run. The game would start with the Bulldogs running the ball four straight times but ultimately going nowhere and turning the ball over on downs. The Grizzlies would get the ball on a short field but fumble the ball on their first play.

The Bulldogs would get the ball back and almost completely repeat their first drive except this time punting the ball away on fourth down. The Grizzlies would then get the ball moving on the slick field but ultimately punt the ball back to the Bulldogs after nine plays. The Bulldogs would once again go to the ground game and get their first big play of the game after senior quarterback Gus Stogsdill exploded for a huge gain putting the Bulldogs in field goal range. The Bulldogs would get another first down but were forced to kick a field goal at the start of the second quarter. That field goal would be missed, and the score would hold at 0-0.

The Grizzlies and Bulldogs would trade punts on their ensuing drives and run the first-half clock out pinning the score at 0-0 going into halftime.

The Grizzlies would receive the ball at the start of the second half but end up going three and out giving the ball right back to the Bulldogs. The Bulldog offense would continue to run the ball with quarterback Gus Stogsdill who had carried the ball 14 times up to that point but ended up punting the ball once again.

The Bulldog defense would once again hold up and force a turnover on downs giving the ball back to the offense. This drive would look promising for the Bulldogs as they would start with four straight quarterback designed runs and move the ball downfield. The Bulldogs would take this possession into the fourth quarter and on the first play of the fourth, the ball was given back to the Grizzlies on a fumbled center-to-quarterback exchange. The Bulldog defense would once again shine and force a punt.

The Bulldogs would start this drive with 8:27 left in the game, knowing that they had to mix things up and score a touchdown. They would do exactly that



Bulldogs senior quarterback Gus Stogsdill tries to find running room against the Lassen Grizzlies on Nov. 22.

and score a touchdown on a short pass to senior running back Luis Muriilo who was wide open. Muriilo would take that pass and score the first points of the game making the score 6-0 (after a missed PAT) with 5:23 left in the game.

Just when it looked like the Bulldogs had taken all of the momentum, the Grizzlies would capitalize on a potentially worn-out Bulldog defense and score a touchdown on a huge run from senior running back Dathen Moore. They would fail on a two-point conversion attempt and tie the game 6-6 with 4:31 left. The Bulldog offense would go with three straight designed quarterback runs but not move the ball and had to punt the ball away.

The Grizzlies would then score in just one play on another huge run from Dathen Moore and kick their PAT making the score 13-6 and leaving the Bulldogs 2:03 on the clock to make something happen. The Bulldog offense would look to pass consistently for the first time in the game. Their first pass would be completed for a short game, they would take a deep shot on second down, but the ball would be thrown out of bounds, after an incomplete pass on third down, the fourth-down play would be the biggest play of the game for the Bulldogs up to that point. The pass would be completed short of the first down marker and after trying to make a play, the receiver would be tackled right at the first down line. The ball was too close to call, forcing the measuring chains to be brought out to reveal that the ball was just inches short of the line to



The Bulldog offense lines up against the Lassen Grizzlies in Round 2 of the 2024 CIF-Northern Section D3 football playoffs on Nov. 22.



The Bulldogs defense tries to corral the Grizzlies run game in Susanville on Nov. 22.

gain, turning the ball over on downs to the Grizzlies.

The Grizzlies would only need a first down to seal the victory. After running the ball, and timeouts from the Bulldogs, the Grizzlies picked up the first down

and ultimately ended the game and the Bulldogs season.

Penalties (11) and the inability to move the ball were the downfall of the Gridley Bulldogs in this game. That being said, this

season was truly special for the Bulldogs as they finished with an 8-4 record and had a real chance to advance to the championship game. While the team may be disappointed with the outcome of the game,

it's hard to be disappointed with the season as a whole.

The Lassen Grizzlies are scheduled to play the Orland Trojans at home in the D3 NSCIF 2024 championship game on Saturday, Nov. 30. ★