



# The Galt Herald

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DECEMBER 27, 2024

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## New Trustees, Leaders for Schools



Incoming Area 3 Trustee Karol Messersmith, left, and incumbent Area 5 Trustee Terry Parker embrace shortly after taking the oath of office for their four-year terms on the Galt Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees on Dec. 19.

**Story and photos  
by Sean P. Thomas  
City Editor**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - A couple of new faces and a few familiar ones were sworn into office last week for seats on both the Galt High School and Elementary School districts' board of trustees, marking a new era for both bodies.

The Galt Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees held a swearing-in ceremony for incoming Area 3 Trustee Karol Messersmith, who narrowly defeated longtime incumbent Patrick Maple with 51% percent of the vote. She was joined during the ceremony by Area 5 Trustee Terry Parker, who ran unopposed and will serve a second term on the board.

"Merry Christmas and thank you for all giving me the opportunity to try to serve," Messersmith said during the Dec. 19 meeting. "Please feel free to ask me a question; I probably won't have the answer, but I will try to serve my best."

During their annual reorganization of the board, Parker was tapped as its latest president, while Area 1 Trustee

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## Loza is New Chief Business Official



**By Sean P. Thomas  
City Editor**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - The Galt Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees approved an agreement to select Rosa Loza as chief business official during its Dec. 19 board meeting.

According to the contract, Loza begins her new position on Jan. 13, and will earn \$195,219 per year for the 2024-2025 school year. The salary will then be bumped to \$201,076 for the 2025-2026 school year. The contract will expire on June 30, 2026.

"Ms. Loza has a proven track record of elevating performance and successfully leading turnaround initiatives in education settings," said Superintendent Anna Trunnell. "Her analytical skills enable her to critically evaluate strategies and implement best practices for organizational growth."

"I am confident that Ms. Loza will serve the students, staff families and Board of Education with experience and an eye for student success," she said.

The district's chief business official is generally responsible, under the direct supervision of the superintendent, with fiscal planning and management, such as payroll, purchasing, budgets, bonds and risk management.

According to Trunnell, Loza has 25 years in education. She began as a custodian before transitioning into administrative roles including lead payroll technician, payroll supervisor, accounting manager, director of finance and chief business official.

Area 2 Trustee Dennis Richardson was absent from the meeting.

Loza will replace Douglas Crancer, who will exit the position in January.

Trunnell fought back tears while thanking Crancer for his support as she settled in as the district's superintendent.

"Douglas, thank you for all that you have done," said Trunnell. "You have been my partner in crime just for a few months and thank you for your spirit, for being so open and giving me the opportunity to kind of bumble around and get a feel for this district."

"I am going to miss you, but like everyone else said, you are not going to be far," Trunnell said. ★

## Galt Comes Together at Community Dinner

**By Ramona  
Scarborough**

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - Three days ahead of the Galt Community Dinner at the Littleton Center, the members of the Sunrise Rotary Club and other volunteers began preparing for the occasion. For 14 years, this event has brought the Galt community together to share a free meal.

Last year, 1,500 people were served. Some 350 residents of senior complexes had dinners delivered to them. No food is wasted. If there are leftovers, the food goes to the Salvation Army.

This year, food was collected from the Sunshine Food Pantry. Jerry Braxmeyer donated the money to purchase 100 turkeys. Rotary fundraisers contributed. Donations came from Walmart, Save Mart and Kirk Smith from The Velvet Grill, as well as private citizens who wanted to help.

On the day of the feast, turkeys were stuffed and roasted in a huge barbecue. Pedro Ramos kept the fire going. As soon as one batch of turkeys was cooked, more were added.

At 9 a.m., youth organizations, such as Interact, a branch of the Rotary Club for Galt High School students, Scout Troop 1119 and 4-H, began decorating the tables. Two Christmas trees bought from the Scouts were dismantled and the fronds graced the



Holiday celebrants and volunteers dish it up at the community meal.

middle of the tables along with Christmas ornaments, candy and crayons for kids to color the paper placemats.

By 11:30 a.m., the kitchen was in full swing. The turkeys were being cut up; the green beans, mashed potatoes, gravy, and cranberry sauce prepared; and rolls and pumpkin pie with whipped cream readied.

Outside at noon, a line began forming. A group of women from the Senior

*Continued on Page 2*



Sunrise Rotary's Makesh Patel, as an elf, visits with Santa (aka Rich Lozano). Photos by Chris Scarborough

# Family Hits Jackpot for Charities at Giving Machine

By Gary Zavoral

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Seven is a special number for Kelvin and Leslie Moss of Granite Bay. They have seven children, and their last child was nicknamed "Seven." And, on the night they went to the Sacramento area's charitable vending machines, there were seven members of their family present.

And sevens are especially lucky for struggling individuals and families throughout the Sacramento region and the world. Because last week, the Moss family typed in "777" into a Light the World Giving Machine and donated 30 gifts to those in need. It is considered a "Giving Machine jackpot," worth \$2,035 for five local charities and two global ones.

"We didn't know we'd do this until we got there that night. We had seven children, and seven of us were at the Giving Machines that night. It just felt right to choose 777," mother and grandmother Leslie Moss said. "We really felt we hit the jackpot for our community. It was a great night."

Light the World Giving Machines, sponsored and financed by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are at the Westfield Galleria at Roseville for a third year and are filled with cards detailing charitable gifts.

When one item is purchased, the card falls to the bottom, just like a candy bar drops when purchased at a vending machine. Joining Kelvin and Leslie at the Giving

Machine were son-in-law Eric Stratton and four grandchildren.

"It was really fun to see every single card drop to the bottom one by one," said Leslie. "The kids would shout as they dropped: 'Someone is getting new underwear!' 'Someone is getting diapers for their baby!'" And so on, she says, until all 30 cards dropped.

Twenty-five of the 30 gifts are for individuals or families in the greater Sacramento region who are suffering financially or emotionally, and the gifts are designed to provide food, comfort, counseling and other services to help them on their path toward self-reliance. The Moss family knows a bit about suffering emotionally, as they lost three of their sons to accidental deaths in the past four years.

"Our grandchildren were really on board with this, in giving to others who are less-fortunate and suffering at this time," Leslie said. "They wanted to make sure that heaven could be involved, that their uncles could be there, too."

Before heading to the Giving Machines, Grandma and Grandpa talked to the children about what the Giving Machines are all about and to think about the specific gift they wanted to choose for a needy person or family.

"We talked about how usually with a vending machine you get something for yourself, but with the Giving Machine, this time you are getting something to help someone else," Leslie said. "They were so thoughtful about why they chose that specific gift."

Bennett, 14, chose suicide prevention therapy from Lighthouse Counseling & Family Resource Center because "it's the gift that will keep giving," Leslie said. Lighthouse, based throughout Placer County, provides counseling, educational classes and programs and assists clients in obtaining resources to help them through a challenging time. The other gifts in the Giving Machine for Lighthouse that the Moss family also purchased are child abuse and domestic violence prevention counseling sessions, one week worth of diapers for a single mother with a newborn, and a three-day supply of emergency food.

Winston, who goes by Win, is 8 years old, and he chose three days of safe shelter for a family or individual in need, provided by Catholic Charities throughout the Sacramento region. Win chose that, Leslie says, "because whenever he sees a homeless person, he feels so sad for them and wants to help take care of them." Other gifts for Catholic Charities are an infant care kit for a new mother, a "dress for success" gift that provides a job seeker a new outfit, one week of food for a senior experiencing food insecurity, and job training for someone entering the workforce.

Daisy, 5, "couldn't bear to think about someone going to bed without a blanket and a pillow," so she wanted to give the "Pillow & Bedding" provided by Al-Misbaah Charitable Aid, Leslie said. The Sacramento-based charity has helped



Kelvin Moss finishes the Giving Machine's jackpot purchase with wife Leslie and grandchildren. Photos courtesy of Gary Zavoral



From left, Eric, Win, Daisy, Freddy and Bennett Stratton show off some of the gifts for others that they purchased.

numerous refugees and vulnerable families get established in Northern California. The other gifts for Al-Misbaah are socks and hat for someone who needs the extra warmth, a hygiene kit to help a community member stay clean, a backpack filled with school supplies for a student, and a bicycle for a child for exercise, adventure and to ride to and from school.

Daisy's twin brother, Freddy, "loves to play soccer, and he couldn't figure out how any child could go without a soccer ball," Leslie said. So, he chose the gift of four soccer balls for a school to help teach students teamwork and promote fitness. That gift is offered by Right to Play, a global charity that helps children in impoverished nations thrive by promoting the "power of play." The other gifts in the Giving Machine purchased are 20 storybooks for primary schoolchildren and menstrual hygiene kits to help female students stay

in school.

The Moss family purchased all those gifts, along with others from three other charities. They are:

First Step Communities in Sacramento and Roseville, which provides interim housing and emergency shelter in the Sacramento area and Roseville.

Their gifts in the Giving Machines are a kit of hygiene essentials, new underwear, a warm blanket and pillow, a winter coat and 100 laundry vouchers.

Rancho Cordova Food Locker's Community Food Hub, whose gifts in the Giving Machines are two gallons of milk for children, an emergency weekend food pack for students, a one-month supply of fresh produce for a family, a kit of essentials to feed 10 senior citizens, and a group cooking class to teach 25 families cooking techniques and nutrition principles.

The global charity Academy for Creating

Enterprise, which provides business opportunities for individuals and families in impoverished countries. The two gifts in the Roseville Giving Machines are a basket as a way to carry goods for a new business owner and, probably the most unique gift in the machines, two piglets to help a family start a business.

"It was just an awesome experience for us to give to so many people at the same time," Leslie said. "We hope to do again next year and make it a family tradition."

The Light the World Giving Machines are located on the first floor of Westfield Galleria at Roseville, near the giant Christmas tree. The Giving Machines will keep giving through New Year's Day.

To see all the gifts available, their prices and links to all the charities, go to the Sacramento and Modesto Giving Machines website at [www.givingmachinesgreatersacramento.org](http://www.givingmachinesgreatersacramento.org). ★

## Galt Comes Together at Community Dinner



Santa visits with Hunter Hogen and Allianna Stoddard.



Volunteer Elly Rodriguez is a member of Interact, a branch of the Rotary Club for Galt High School students.



Cooked turkeys await carving and serving.



A full plate awaits a hungry celebrant.



Carlos Ramos, right, is in charge of barbecuing 100 turkeys for the community feast. Photos by Chris Scarborough



Sherman and Candy Hayhurst were first-timers at the community meal.

Continued from page 1

Center said they heard about the dinner while playing bingo.

"I've been attending these dinners for 10 years," DeAnna Nevins-Dean said.

This was the first time Sherman and Candy Hayhurst had come.

"Friends encouraged us to attend," Candy said.

When the doors opened at 1 p.m. the background Christmas music could hardly be heard over the buzz of friendly conversation.

"Everybody is invited, all ages and nationalities," Makesh Patel, past president of the Sunrise Rotary Club said.

Later, Patel showed up as one of Santa's elves while Rotary Club President-Elect and former City Councilor

Rich Lozano played the role of Santa.

City and school board members alongside members of the Galt Police served the meal from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In shifts, the youths served drinks and slices of pie.

Grace Malson has served in every office for the Rotary Club and is presently treasurer for the group. She has helped with almost all the endeavors of the club. Malson tells about the history of the community meal.

"Project Left, a soup kitchen for the homeless, was started by Kevin Harcourt," Malson said. "For three years, this group provided meals, showers and clothing for approximately 350 people."

That was the start of a unifying Galt happening that now occurs every year.

"Why couldn't we do something like this for the whole community?" Winona Cassidy said. ★

# California Implements Key New Laws in 2025

By Ornella Rossi

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - Starting Jan. 1, many significant new laws will go into effect across California, impacting everything in daily life from traffic regulations to employment, housing to healthcare.

**Traffic Laws**

Senate Bill 1107 will raise the minimum auto liability insurance requirements for California motorists. Currently, drivers must carry liability coverage of \$15,000 for injury or death of one person, \$30,000 for injury or death of multiple people, and \$5,000 for property damage. Beginning Jan. 1, these requirements will increase to \$30,000 for bodily injury or death of one person, \$60,000 for multiple persons and \$15,000 for property damage.

Assembly Bill 413, commonly known as the

"Daylighting Law," will take effect in 2025, banning drivers from parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk. This law aims to improve pedestrian safety by providing clearer visibility at intersections. The law applies to both marked and unmarked crosswalks, and while cities are working to implement signage and curb markings, not all areas will have red-painted curbs in time for the new rule.

Senate Bill 905 closes the "locked door loophole" in California's auto burglary laws. Under the new law, prosecutors no longer need to prove that a vehicle was locked in order to charge someone with burglary. Instead, they only need to show that forcible entry occurred. The change is expected to make it easier for victims of car break-ins to pursue legal action, with felony convictions carrying penalties ranging from 16 months to three years.

**Employment Laws**

A statewide minimum wage increase will take effect on Jan. 1, raising the rate to \$16.50 per hour for all employees, regardless of company size. This adjustment is based on a cost-of-living provision built into California's minimum wage law.

Senate Bill 1100 prohibits employers from requiring a valid driver's license for job applicants unless driving is a core function of the role. Employers must also demonstrate that using alternative transportation would not be comparable in travel time or cost.

**Housing Laws**

Assembly Bill 2347 introduces stronger protections for renters by extending the timeline for tenants to respond to eviction notices. Under the new law, tenants will have 10 business days, up from the previous five-day deadline, to contest an eviction.

Starting in April, Senate Bill 611 will provide additional protections for renters in California by prohibiting landlords from charging tenants a fee for paying their rent or security deposit by check. In addition, landlords will be required to provide a written statement to tenants if they charge a security deposit that exceeds the standard amount.

**Crime**

Senate Bill 1414 introduces stricter penalties for individuals convicted of soliciting a minor for sex. The law raises the crime of soliciting or buying sex from minors under 16 from a misdemeanor to a felony, carrying more severe legal consequences. If the person solicited is under 16, or under 18 and a victim of human trafficking, the offense could be punishable by jail time of up to a year and a fine of up to \$10,000 or a prison sentence ranging from 16

months to three years. For repeat offenders, the penalties are harsher, with mandatory felony charges and a prison sentence of 16 months to three years.

**Education**

In the education sector, Assembly Bill 1780 prohibits private nonprofit universities in California from considering legacy status in admissions. The ban, effective in September, means that ties to donors or alumni will no longer play a role in college admissions decisions.

**Consumer Protection**

In a move aimed at consumer protection, Assembly Bill 2863 will require companies offering auto-renewal services to provide customers with an easy option to cancel subscriptions.

Starting July 1, consumers will be able to cancel their subscriptions by the same method they used to sign up.

**Health**

A major update in health care comes with Senate Bill 729, which mandates that health insurance plans cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, including in vitro fertilization (IVF), starting July 1.

Senate Bill 1061 will protect consumers by prohibiting credit reporting agencies from including medical debt on their credit reports, ensuring that such debt cannot negatively impact individuals' credit scores.

Assembly Bills 1817 and 2771 will ban the use of harmful chemicals known as PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in clothing, textiles and cosmetics sold in California.

These chemicals, which have been linked to serious health issues such as liver damage, thyroid disease, reproductive problems and cancer, will no longer be allowed in products. ★

## New Trustees, Leaders for Schools

Continued from page 1

Mark Beck was named board clerk.

Area 4 Trustee Melissa Neuburger, Area 2 Trustee Dennis Richardson and Beck will serve until their terms expire in December 2026.

Before the board held the swearing-in ceremony, Maple, who had served as a trustee for more than 15 years across multiple stints and had a 55-year career as both a coach and educator, was given a plaque by Superintendent Anna Trunnell for his service as a trustee.

"I feel very honored to have been hired by Trustee Maple as one of the five board members who brought me into the district and so I am forever grateful for Trustee Maple for that," Trunnell said. "As a small token of recognition of which we cannot repay you for the years of service that you have really dedicated to the students, staff communities and families of this district."

"We are forever appreciative (of) you."

Before exiting the meeting, Maple offered a heartfelt message to the students and the rest of the board before welcoming Messersmith to the dais.

"I appreciate this; I appreciate what people have said to me lately," said Maple. "Now we welcome a new board member, but I'd also like to say to all is that for the



Civil Engineer Matthew Ward smiles after taking the oath of office as the Galt Joint Union Elementary School Board of Education's latest Area 4 trustee at its Wednesday meeting.



Outgoing Area 3 Trustee Pat Maple hugs Superintendent Anna Trunnell after receiving a plaque for his 17 years as a Galt Joint Union High School trustee at its Dec. 19 meeting.

past 55 years I've coached and been a part of school boards and I've enjoyed it, but what I'd really like to

say is to the children and it's very simple, I appreciate you for allowing me to be a part of your life."

**Galt Joint Union Elementary School Board of Trustees**

A day prior, civil



Area 3 Trustee Casey Raboy recites the oath of office to return to the Galt Joint Union Elementary School board.



Area 2 Trustee Katherine Harper, left, was appointed president at the Galt Joint Union Elementary School Board meeting and Area 3 Trustee Casey Raboy, right, was named vice president.

engineer Matthew Ward was sworn in as Area 4 Trustee for the Galt Joint Union Elementary School during final meeting of 2024, replacing former Board President Traci Skinner, who opted not to seek reelection. Ward ran unopposed for the seat and will serve his first term in the role.

He was joined by Area 3 Trustee Carol Raboy, who returned after running unopposed for her seat.

One of their first courses of action was to vote for board president, vice president and representative and

clerk. The positions are selected every year during the board's organizational meeting and will reshuffle in December 2025.

Area 2 Trustee Katherine Harper was nominated board president by Area 5 Trustee Annette Kunze and Area 1 Trustee Wesley Cagle nominated Raboy. Harper said she was willing to defer the position to Raboy, but the board ultimately voted in favor of Harper.

Raboy was later appointed vice-president. Cagle was elected board clerk. ★

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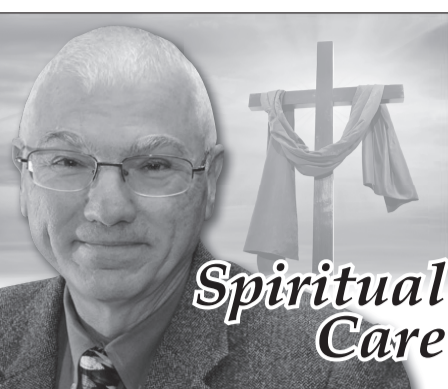
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# Resolved to be Authentic



**BY NORRIS BURKES**

As I work though the 23rd year of this column, I will confess that column writing isn't always an easy gig. It sometimes requires walking a fine line between expressing what I really think or simply spouting what entertains my reader.

As every columnist can testify, strong opinions can either sell papers or lose subscriptions.

If I play it too safe, I bore you. If I venture too far into religious or political topics, or share personal vulnerabilities and temptations, I run the risk of offending you.

That's why I've made this 2025 New Year's resolution.

I resolve that I will work harder this year to write with more authenticity. I won't focus on the popular or how I might improve the ups and downs of my readership, but on writing authentically.

To that end, today's column will preview upcoming topics of 2025 and how I see where God fits into politics, religion, family and personal struggles.

In politics, I will support voices of reason and grace. I don't subscribe to the argumentative style of liberal commentators like Rachel Maddow or conservative ones like Ann Coulter. Instead of focusing on the noise level, I look for the truth and tone.

As a chaplain, I promise I won't spout politics UNLESS, politicians start spouting religion.

Our social welfare system needs

drastic reform. But from my end, I will promote faith groups that assume their responsibility to help the poor.

When it comes to gun control, I have no use for handguns, nor will I ever own a gun. However, if I felt the need to "protect" my home, I'd use the shotgun my pastor/dad used. He always said that a shotgun blast would either scare the intruder or stop him dead — all without killing a "friendly."

Of course, I obviously have opinions about religion. For instance, if there's a hell, Hitler is surely in it and Gandhi is certainly not. Heaven isn't an exclusive country club. I won't use my faith as a way to eternally divide people.

I love the Christian Bible, and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who came to reveal the entire truth about God. However, the Bible is not a final authority for history or science, and it's certainly not an addendum to the Trinity. Meaning, I use the Bible in worship services, but I don't "worship" the Bible.

I see abortion as a heartrending response to tragic problems. I will portray it in my columns as a decision between a woman and her doctor. BUT, while there are reasons for abortion, it ain't birth control. I support adoption, and those who know my story, know I live that belief.

Finally, in my personal life, I can be selfish sometimes. I've lost my temper with my children, and I've known temptation and depression. I've told some off-color jokes and have even known inebriation. I'm not proud of everything I do, but my shortcomings help me write this column — a column about meeting God in everyday life.

But, at the end of the day when I put the final touches on this column, I leave the most authentic word to my friend Popeye who said: "I am what I yam what I yam ... And I'll never hurt nobodys and I'll never tell a lie / Top to me bottom and me bottom to me top / That's the way it is 'til the day that I drop. What am I? / I yam what I yam." ★

## ABOUT TOWN

### Cosumnes DAR Chapter Accepting New Members

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is accepting new members into its Rio Cosumnes Chapter in the Elk Grove/Galt community.

The nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization is dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America's future through better education for children.

Members are all lineal descendants of those who supported the cause of independence in the Revolutionary War.

For more information, contact Paula Schroeder at egdarregistrar@gmail.com.

### American Legion Post 233

American Legion Post 233 and Auxiliary Unit 233 has general meetings the fourth Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove. Dinner at 6 p.m.

Elk Grove American Legion Post 233

Family Breakfast meets the first Saturday each month with location TBD. Currently we meet at Mimi's Cafe on the corner of Laguna Boulevard and West Stockton Boulevard (just off Highway 99).

For information, call Henry at 916-205-9296 or Sue at 916-683-6128.

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 233 meets the first Monday each month at 5:45 p.m. at the Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove.

### Other Veterans Meetings

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

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

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

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**The Galt Herald** **Employment Opportunities**

## Galt Delivery Driver

We have a delivery driver route open for newsstand and home delivery within Galt. Delivery would include taking newspapers into local stores, restaurants and newsstands. It would also include a small area of home delivery within the same route. Each route is designed to take about 3 to 4 hours. Delivery is every week on Thursdays between 11 and 3 and must be completed on Thursday. This is an independent contractor position. You must have a current California Drivers License, proof of insurance for the State of California, and a reliable vehicle. Previous newspaper delivery experience a plus. To apply, email [Publisher@MPG8.com](mailto:Publisher@MPG8.com).

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# POLICE LOGS

During the time period of Dec. 17 to Dec. 22, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in 11 arrests.

### Dec. 17

1:31 p.m., theft, Paddington Circle; package stolen from porch.  
2:53 p.m., vandalism, Quik Stop on Fourth Street.  
9:15 p.m., burglary, Lois Avenue; locked trailer broken into.

### Dec. 18

3:15 p.m., theft, New Hope Road; items taken from vehicle.  
4:15 p.m., burglary, Fifth Street; door to storage unit was kicked in; lawn mower and weed eater missing. Paintings were painted over in all black paint.  
9:03 p.m., narcotics violation/adult arrest, Benner Court.  
9:57 p.m., domestic violence/adult arrest, Cedar Canyon Circle.

### Dec. 19

10:59 a.m., trespassing/adult arrest, 12000 block of East Stockton Boulevard.  
11:03 a.m., theft, Toni Court; backpack stolen from car.  
1:32 p.m., vandalism, Robin Lane; cluster mailbox pried open.

### Dec. 20

12:09 a.m., DUI/adult arrest, Twin Cities Road/Marengo Road.

12:48 a.m., theft, F Street; phone taken.  
1:29 p.m., identity theft, Lyonia Drive.  
11:55 p.m., DUI/adult arrest, A Street/North Lincoln Way.

### Dec. 21

2:12 a.m., DUI/adult arrest; Aisle 1 Gas Station, Twin Cities Road.  
7:51 a.m., trespassing/adult arrest, Kiki's Wings & Tenders, C Street  
2:06 p.m., identity theft, Wallington Drive.  
3:14 p.m., domestic violence/adult arrest, Velvet Grill & Creamery on Fourth Street.  
11:34 p.m., DUI/adult arrest, Glendale Avenue/Fairway Drive.

### Dec. 22

12:08 a.m., theft reported at 4th Street Tavern on Fourth Street.  
2:17 a.m., DUI/adult arrest, McFarland Street.  
7:39 a.m., attempt theft/tamper, First Street; rims stolen from vehicle.  
12:37 p.m., battery/adult arrest, I Street.  
1:21 p.m., hit and run/non-injury, Fifth Street.  
4:36 p.m., vandalism, Kost Road/Meadowview Drive.  
9 p.m., warrant served/adult arrest, Elm Avenue/North Lincoln Way.  
11:05 p.m., vandalism, Hanoverian Circle; reporting party's front door egged. ★

# Henderson Known as an Electrifying Legend of the Game

## National Baseball Hall of Fame News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - Rickey Henderson used the ultimate combination of power and speed to break numerous major league baseball records during his career.

But what solidified his place in baseball history was his love for the game.

Henderson died on Dec. 20, at the age of 65. His enthusiasm for the game manifested itself in 1,406 stolen bases – by far the best total in history.

“Rickey Henderson was not only the greatest base stealer of all-time, but one of the most memorable personalities of his generation,” said Jane Forbes Clark, Chairman of the Board of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. “The enthusiasm and energy he brought to Cooperstown each year will truly be missed. Our thoughts are with his wife, Pamela, and their family.”

Born on Dec. 25, 1958, in Chicago, Ill., Henderson spent most of his childhood in Oakland, Calif. An All-American running back in high school, Henderson turned down multiple football scholarships to sign with the Oakland Athletics in 1976.

In his first full major league season 1980, Henderson broke Hall of Famer Ty Cobb’s 65-year-old American League stolen base record of 96 with 100 swipes. In 1982, he stole 130 bases, breaking Hall of Famer Lou Brock’s modern era major league single-season record of 118.

“He’s the greatest leadoff hitter of all time, and I’m not sure there’s a close second,” said Billy Beane, senior advisor to the Athletics and the team’s former long-time general manager.

He played for nine teams over his 25-year career including the Athletics, Yankees, Padres, Mets, Red Sox, Dodgers, Angels, Mariners and Blue Jays. He led the American League in steals 12 times and went on to be the all-time record holder with 1,406 thefts, earning him the nickname “Man of Steal.”

“It wasn’t until I saw Rickey that I



understood what baseball was about. Rickey Henderson is a run, man,” said Athletics teammate Mitchell Page. “That’s it. When you see Rickey Henderson, I don’t care when, the score’s already 1-0. If he’s with you, that’s great. If he’s not, you won’t like it.”

His speed wasn’t his only skill. Henderson set all-time records for runs scored (2,295), unintentional walks (2,129) and leadoff home runs (81). The 10-time All-Star won the MVP Award in 1990, leading the American League in runs scored, stolen bases and on-base percentage. He finished in the top 10 in MVP voting five other times.

“He was one of the best players that I ever played with and obviously the best leadoff hitter in baseball,” said Hall of Famer Dave Winfield.

Henderson won two World Series during his career, in 1989 with Oakland and in 1993 with Toronto. He spent most of his career in left field and won a Gold Glove Award in 1981. He finished with a .279 batting average, 3,055 hits and 297 home runs. He electrified crowds with his flair and enthusiasm for the game.

Henderson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2009 on his first appearance on the Baseball Writers’ Association of America ballot.

“If my uniform doesn’t get dirty, I haven’t done anything in the baseball game,” said Henderson. ★

## Brighten a Senior’s Day

### Volunteer with Meals on Wheels Sacramento County

We need compassionate volunteers to deliver meals, support our community cafes, or help with clerical tasks. Your kindness helps our elderly neighbors maintain independence and dignity through improved nutrition.

For more information and to sign up, visit [mowsac.org](http://mowsac.org) or call (916) 444-9533.

Be the reason someone smiles today.

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## Find Back Issues at GaltHerald.com



## Attention Galt Businesses: Renew Your Business License Online Today!

Business Licenses issued by the City of Galt will expire on December 31, 2024. Individual renewal notices have been sent to all businesses via email.

Local businesses can renew online at: <https://go.citygrows.com/galt-ca/galt-business-license-application>

Out of Town Businesses conducting business within the City of Galt can renew at: <https://go.citygrows.com/galt-ca/quarterly-out-of-town-license>

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

Questions regarding the application/renewal process: Finance 209-366-7150 or [finance@cityofgalt.org](mailto:finance@cityofgalt.org)

Questions regarding business location, construction, remodel: Community Development Department 209-366-7200

Questions about Fire Code requirements: Cosumnes Fire Department at 916-405-7100

Questions about water, wastewater or storm drain services at the business location: Public Works Department at 209-366-7260

Business License telephone support hours are: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM PST.



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7 day minimum, 700 free miles/week, 30¢/mile over 700 Expires 1/31/2025

# A California Child Tested Positive for Bird Flu

By Kristen Hwang, CALMatters.org

An Alameda County child with mild upper respiratory symptoms tested positive for bird flu, state public health officials announced on Nov. 19. The potential infection is the first known case in California that does not appear to have originated from contact with infected cattle.

State health officials are waiting for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to confirm the test result, as of press time.

Public health investigators suspect the infection may have originated from wild birds, which are the main carriers of bird flu, according to a statement from the California Department of Public Health. The agency did not disclose information describing the child's interactions with wildlife.

The child displayed mild respiratory symptoms and tested positive for multiple viruses, according to Austin Wingate, a spokesperson for the Alameda County health department.

Doctors did not initially suspect bird flu. Officials detected it through routine influenza subtyping, Wingate said. Family members tested negative for bird flu, but they had other viruses.

Officials are working to notify and test close contacts of the child, which include individuals at a daycare the child attended.

"We want to reinforce for parents, caregivers and families that based on the



A flock of geese takes off on a flooded-out field at the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge on Nov. 1, 2023. A strain of bird flu circulating in California has infected thousands of cattle and several dozen people. Photo by Larry Valenzuela, CalMatters/CatchLight Local

information and data we have, we don't think the child was infectious – and no human-to-human spread of bird flu has been documented in any country for more than 15 years," said state Public Health Officer Dr. Tomás Aragón.

Aragón emphasized the risk to the general public remains low. People can become infected through close contact with infected animals, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Dairy and poultry workers and people who work with wildlife face the greatest risk of contracting the virus.

Some infectious disease experts are concerned about what this case could signal about the wider bird

flu outbreak sweeping the country, which started in 2022.

"We're seeing the numbers go up, the number of infected farms, the number of farm workers, we now have this child. All of these signs to me suggest that things are going in the wrong direction, not the right direction," said Sam Scarpino, an epidemiologist with Northeastern University in Boston who is not involved in the California disease investigation.

### Cases Spreading in Central Valley Dairies

The case comes as California grapples with the country's largest bird

flu outbreak among cattle and farmworkers. There are 26 confirmed human cases of bird flu primarily in the Central Valley where the virus has swept through 335 herds, according to state health and agriculture officials. Workers in the dairy industry have contracted the virus through close contact with infected cows.

The state health department has distributed more than 3 million pieces of personal protective equipment to farmworkers. It has also secured 5,000 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine for farmworkers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The federal government has a small stockpile of

bird flu vaccines, but they have not been distributed. Instead, health officials encourage people to get vaccinated for influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus to help prevent co-infections like the child had.

"We want to make sure in general that we promote people getting up to date on vaccines and protecting themselves from seasonal illness, from seasonal flu," said Dr. Erica Pan, the state's top epidemiologist, in a previous interview with CalMatters.

Scarpino said California has done a good job of testing farmworkers compared to other states where sick cattle have infected humans, contributing to its

relatively high number of confirmed cases, but surveillance efforts across the board need to be increased.

As seasonal flu rates increase, it will become harder for public health laboratories to detect rare viruses, such as H5N1, the bird flu, Scarpino said.

### Bird Flu Present in California Sewage

The bird flu virus has appeared in 17 wastewater systems in California, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Positive detections appear primarily in Northern California, including in Alameda, San Francisco, Sonoma, Contra Costa and Sacramento. Wastewater surveillance cannot determine the source of the virus, but infections among wild waterfowl can contribute to its presence.

Maurice Pitesky, a researcher at UC Davis who studies bird flu in waterfowl, said it's rare for the virus to jump from birds to humans but it has happened before.

The virus is endemic among wild birds, Pitesky said, and has also been detected in other mammals in California, including bobcats, skunks and mountain lions.

"As the virus further evolves within a mammalian host — whether it's dairy cows or felines or all the species that it has affected — it will continue to adapt," Pitesky said. "As it adapts more and more, it has more potential to cause even more problems." ★

## Bird Flu: What Residents Need to Know

### Sacramento County News Release

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency on Dec. 18 in response to the ongoing H5N1 Avian Influenza (bird flu) outbreak. The declaration is designed to help state agencies respond more effectively by streamlining resources and operations.

"This emergency declaration ensures agencies have the tools needed to respond quickly," said Dr. Olivia Kasirye, Sacramento County Public

Health Officer. "The risk to the general public remains very low at this time, and we are working closely with state and local partners to monitor and manage the situation."

Sacramento County Public Health is actively monitoring the bird flu situation locally and coordinating with state and federal agencies. Residents are encouraged to stay informed and follow precautions to protect themselves and their families.

### Prevention Tips

Avoid contact with wild

birds: Even if birds appear healthy, they can carry the bird flu virus.

Use protective equipment: If you work with animals potentially exposed to bird flu, wear N95 masks, gloves and eye protection.

Get the flu vaccine: While the seasonal flu vaccine doesn't protect against bird flu, it can reduce the risk of severe illness and coinfection.

Stick to pasteurized dairy products: Do not consume or handle raw milk or milk products from animals suspected to be infected. Do not feed pets

raw milk products.

### How Bird Flu Spreads

Human cases of bird flu are rare but can occur when someone has close contact with infected animals or contaminated surfaces. Farmworkers and others who work closely with poultry or dairy cattle are at higher risk. No person-to-person spread of bird flu has been detected in California.

### Watch for Symptoms

If you've been in close contact with infected animals, monitor yourself for

symptoms for 10 days. Symptoms include:

- Fever, fatigue or body aches
- Cough, sore throat or runny nose
- Trouble breathing or chest discomfort
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Red or irritated eyes (conjunctivitis).

If you develop symptoms, isolate yourself immediately, contact Sacramento County Public Health to report the illness and work, and ask Sacramento County Public Health and your healthcare provider for guidance.

### Bird Flu in California

Bird flu is spreading globally through wild bird populations, with outbreaks reported in poultry and dairy herds in the U.S. While human cases remain extremely rare, California health officials continue to work with local agencies to monitor and control the spread.

Sacramento County Public Health will provide updates as new information becomes available. For more, visit the state bird flu webpage at [cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Bird-Flu.aspx](http://cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Bird-Flu.aspx). ★

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-08686**  
Mark L. Mace, 1018 Lewins Court, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "L.E. Mace Fasteners" 1018 Lewins Court, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County November 18, 2024  
Publish: December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024  
MACE 12-27-24

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2024-09264**  
Martha Esch, P.O. Box 402, Courtland, CA 95615 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Locke Management Association/Town of Locke/Locke Management Co" 13959 Main Street, Locke, CA 95690. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 11, 2024

Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025  
LOCKE 1-10-25

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2023-09308**  
Alicia Cotta, 9414 Kost Road, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Black Vulture Studio" 9414 Kost Road, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 12, 2024  
Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025  
VULTURE 1-10-25

### ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CHANGE OF NAME  
#24CV024003  
Ashiesh Chand has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Ashiesh

Chand to Warenn Chand Vurtan. IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on March 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.  
Dated: December 2, 2024  
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court  
Publish: Dec 13, 20, 27, Jan 3, 2025  
CHAND 1-3-25

### SUMMONS

SUMMONS (CIVIL HARASSMENT RESTRAINING ORDER) CITACIÓN (ORDEN DE RESTRICCIÓN POR ACOSO CIVIL) CASE NUMBER/ NÚMERO DE CASO: 24CH001997  
1. Person asking for protection/ La persona que solicita protección: SUTTER MEDICAL GROUP, ALICIA GORDON, DION PARKS

2. Notice to (name of person to be restrained)/Aviso a (nombre de la persona a ser restringida): KEVIN UFFELMAN  
The person in (1) is asking for a Workplace Violence Restraining Order against you. La persona en (1) esta pidiendo una orden de restricción por acoso civil contra usted.  
You have a court date/ Tiene una audiencia en la corte: Date/Fecha: 01/24/2025  
Time/Hora: 1:30 p.m.  
Dept./Depto: 1  
Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento/Corte Superior de California, Condado de SACRAMENTO,  
Gordon D. Schaber Sacramento County Courthouse, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, 95814  
**What if I don't go to my court date?** If you do not go to your court date, the judge can grant a restraining order that limits your contact with the person in (1). Having a restraining order against you may impact your life in other ways, including preventing you from having guns and ammunition. If you do not go to your court date, the judge could grant everything that the person in (1) asked the judge to order.

**¿Qué pasa si no voy a la audiencia?** Si no va a la audiencia, el juez puede dictar una orden de restricción que limita su contacto con la persona en (1). Una orden de restricción en su contra puede tener otras consecuencias, como prohibirle tener armas de fuego y municiones. Si no va a la audiencia, el juez puede ordenar todo lo que pide la persona en (1)  
**How do I find out what the person in (1) is asking for?** To find out what the person in (1) is asking the judge to order, go to the courthouse listed at the top of page 1. Ask the court clerk to let you see your case file. You will need to give the court clerk your case number, which is listed above and on page 1. The request for restraining order will be on form WV-100, Request for Civil Harassment Restraining Order.  
**¿Cómo puedo entender lo que pide la persona en (1)?** Para entender lo que pide la persona en (1), vaya al tribunal en la dirección indicada en la parte superior de la página 1. Pida al secretario de la corte permiso para ver el expediente de su caso. Tendrá que darle al secretario el número de su caso, que aparece arriba y en la página 1. La solicitud de una orden de restricción se hace en el

formulario WV-100, Solicitud de órdenes de restricción por acoso civil.  
**Where can I get help?** Free legal information is available at your local court's self-help center. Go to [www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp) to find your local center.  
¿Dónde puedo obtener ayuda? Puede obtener información legal gratis en el centro de ayuda de su corte. Vea [www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelpselfhelpcenters.htm?rde-Local=Attr=es](http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelpselfhelpcenters.htm?rde-Local=Attr=es) para encontrar el centro de ayuda en su condado. Do I need a lawyer? You are not required to have a lawyer, but you may want legal advice before your court hearing. For help finding a lawyer, you can visit [www.lawhelpca.org](http://www.lawhelpca.org) or contact your local bar association.  
**¿Necesito un abogado?** No es obligatorio tener un abogado, pero es posible que quiera consejos legales antes de la audiencia en la corte. Para ayuda a encontrar un abogado, visite [www.lawhelpca.org/es/homepage](http://www.lawhelpca.org/es/homepage) o contacte al Colegio de Abogados local.  
Publish: Dec 20, 27, Jan 3, 10, 2025  
THE GALT HERALD 1-10-25

MPG

### NOTICE OF SELF STORAGE SALE

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Galt located at 315 A Street Galt CA 95632 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storage treasures.com](http://www.storage treasures.com) on 1/16/2025 at 10:00AM. Timothy Allen Wilkerson; Andrew Steven Denton. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

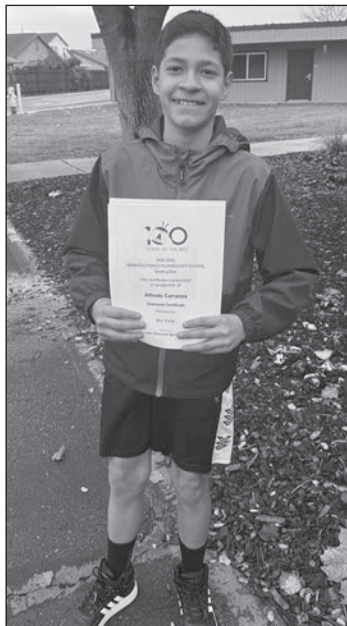
The Galt Herald - 12-27-2024

# Students Get Wordy at Spelling Bee

By Fran Hooper  
Marengo Ranch Elementary School

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - Marengo Ranch Elementary School held its annual spelling bee on Tuesday, Dec. 17. The 10 participants were: Mateo Alfaro, Alfredo Carranza, Bruce Dougherty, Coral Ellison, Lorenzo Granata, Alexis Harrison, Achilles LaScola, Maddie McIntosh, Nala Ogunnaike and Nihal Shergill.

After 21 rounds, Alfredo Carranza was crowned the winner. He will advance to the next level. ★



Winner Alfredo Carranza poses with his award.



Spelling bee participants from Marengo Ranch Elementary School were Achilles LaScola, Alexis Harrison, Coral Ellison, Mateo Alfaro, Nala Ogunnaike, Bryce Dougherty, Lorenzo Granata, Alfredo Carranza, Nihal Sherrill and Maddie McIntosh. Photos courtesy of Fran Hooper

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla

The Galt Commission on Aging is hosting free Senior Bingo games at the Chabolla Community Center at 600 Chabolla Ave. from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays (except holidays and when required by the city). Seniors of Galt and its immediate vicinity are invited to have fun and play bingo together and socialize.

### Cosumnes DAR Chapter Accepting New Members

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is accepting new members into its Rio Cosumnes Chapter in the Elk Grove/Galt community.

The nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization is dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America's future through better education for children. Members are all lineal descendants of those who supported the cause of independence in the Revolutionary War.

For more information on the Rio Cosumnes Chapter's monthly meetings or membership, contact Registrar Paula Schroeder at egdarregistrar@gmail.com.

### Library Offers Older Adults Computer Time

In cooperation with the Galt Commission on Aging, the Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library will schedule a set time for older adults to use its computers, upon request. Those 65 and older who want computer time can call the library at 916-264-2920. Staff will help set up the

computer or tablet. The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 1000 Caroline Ave.

### City After-Hours Assistance

After-hours assistance is available at the Galt Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments. For Public Works concerns, call the Galt Police Department nonemergency line at 209-366-7000. The Parks Maintenance Division is available for scheduled field or facility use assistance only from 10 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 209-810-0293

### Recycle Household Batteries

City of Galt residents can recycle their household batteries in one of two green household-battery recycling bins: on the west side at the front entrance to the Galt Police Department or on the east side at Galt Community Park, just west of the fire station. The green bin is only for dry-cell household batteries.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 209-366-7260.

### Nominate Your Neighbor

The Galt Beautification Committee wants you to "nominate your neighbor." Has your neighbor recently completed a yard project? Does your neighbor have the best flowers in town or the best-looking yard? The Galt Beautification Committee wants to know. Send an email with

pictures and why you are nominating your neighbor to planningdivision@cityofgalt.org.

The best submissions will be included in future newsletters and City Manager Updates.

### Square Dance Classes on Mondays

The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club hosts social square-dancing classes in Galt. The classes are open to everyone and are held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall. The classes are formatted for flexibility and students can learn numerous square dance calls in about three months. The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is at 347 Fifth St.

For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916.

### Sunshine Food Pantry Donation Sites

Sunshine Food Pantry is a food closet that helps provide for residents. Collections of canned food and dry good nonperishable items are received at United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt; call to make an appointment for donations at 209-745-4133.

The food closet is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the United Methodist Church.

### Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center

The Commission on Aging is looking

for volunteers to operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media and by email at the Galt Senior Resource Center. Volunteer slots are available in two-hour increments for up to four hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, excluding holidays.

Volunteers will be trained and can contact commission members if questions arise.

The resource center is at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If interested in helping, call 209-294-3308 and leave a message or inquire in person.

### Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon) family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug addiction are held locally from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt.

### Meals on Wheels Cafe Accepting Older Adults

Meals on Wheels is accepting new participants in its Galt All Seasons Café located in the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave.

The cafe is open at 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays for adults age 60 and older.

Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served or they can call 916-444-9533. ★

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# Nutty as a Fruitcake



Ho! Ho! Ho! Did you have a blessed Christmas? By noon our home was filled with family and friends. Each family brought an abundance of appetizers. And we grazed to our hearts' content or until our stomachs were full, whichever filled up first.

Fruitcake Day each year on Dec. 27. Made with chopped candied or dried fruit, nuts and spices and sometimes soaked in spirits, fruitcake has been a holiday gift-giving tradition for many years.

We had a rousing stealing game. And then afterward as usual everyone bartered and bargained for what they really couldn't live without. I think that's the best part sometimes, watching the conniving and trading. All and all we are very blessed as a family and thank God for the best gift of all: His Son.

Dating back to ancient Rome, one of the earliest known recipes lists pomegranate seeds, pine nuts and raisins mixed into barley mash. Records indicate that in the Middle Ages, bakers depended on available ingredients and traditions.

So, after all the time it took to decorate, when do you start dismantling all the decorations? I'll start tomorrow with the small trees and the tabletop décor. I'll leave the outside inflatables, the Nativity scene and large tree until after the Epiphany on Jan. 6. So, it looks like I will finish by Saturday, Jan. 11, if not before. On to the news you can't live without. LOL.

In the 15th century, two achievements crystallized to make fruitcakes more affordable and accessible. First, sugar from the American colonies became abundant. Second, it was discovered that high concentration of sugar could preserve fruits. These two actions resulted in excess candied fruit. Consequently, fruitcake-making grew.

Some fun facts: Typically, Americans produce fruitcakes abundant in fruit and nuts; in America, mail-order fruitcake began in 1913; charities often sell commercial fruitcakes from catalogs as a fundraising event; in 1935, the expression "nutty as a fruitcake" was coined. The phrase came about because of an excess of nuts some Southern bakeries added to fruitcakes due to their access to cheap nuts; most mass-produced fruitcakes in America are alcohol-free.

Jardine ended his journey on earth Dec. 18 to level, irrigate and mow the pastures of heaven. He was a loving husband, father, father-in-law, stepfather, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was well-known for his tractor work, his cheerful attitude and appreciation of good food (the word "OOOOOO!" comes to mind) we are blessed to have known him. We will miss him.

Some traditional recipes include liqueurs or brandy. Bakers then complete the fruitcake by covering it with powdered sugar; some fruitcake-makers soaked their fruitcakes for weeks in brandy-soaked linens, believing the cakes improved with age.

Guess what? You only have five days to decide which New Year's resolution you will break first, and how long it will take you? LOL. That wasn't very positive, was it? I try to be realistic and think of easy resolutions. Like at the end of the day, name three positive experiences I had for the day. And hopefully it will be a habit.

On a sad note, for our family, and those who knew him, please raise a can of Mountain Dew to wash down the mouthful of potato chips and give a heartfelt toast to the patriarch of our family who passed away last week.

Or say something positive or at least smile at those people I see every day who are perpetual grumps and have nothing good to say. TO YOU AND YOURS - HAPPY NEW YEAR! You have two choices: to make it a great year or ... not.

Until next week - be strong, be courageous, make a memory. ★

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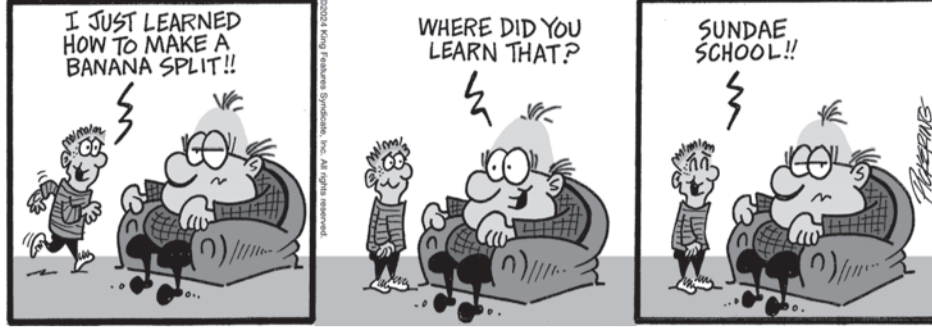
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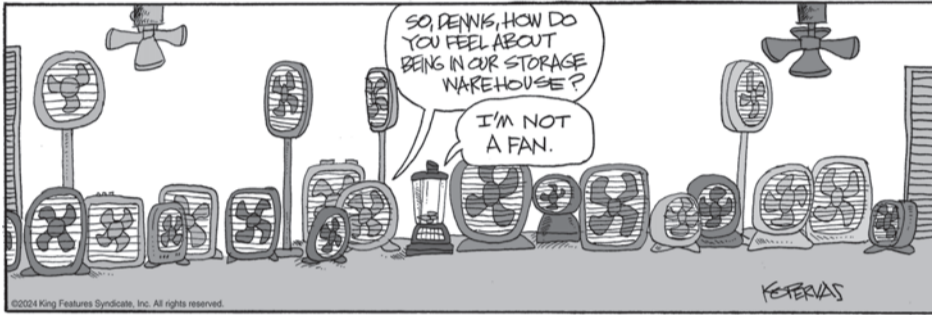
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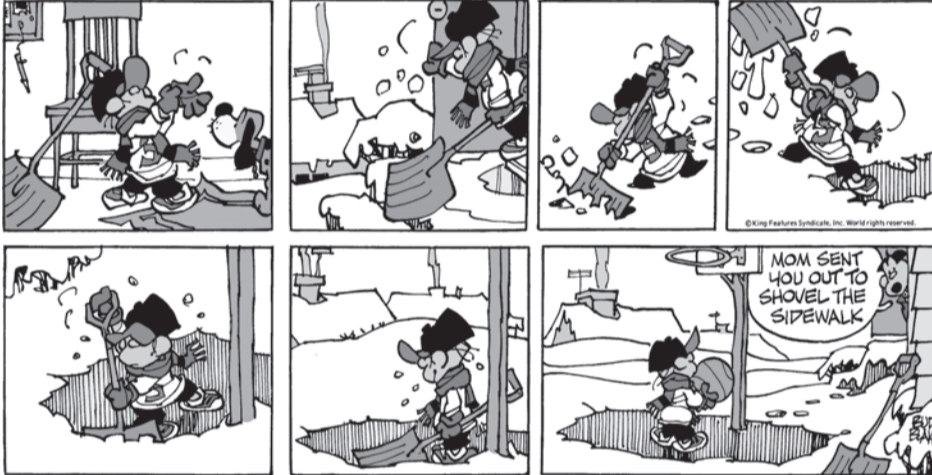


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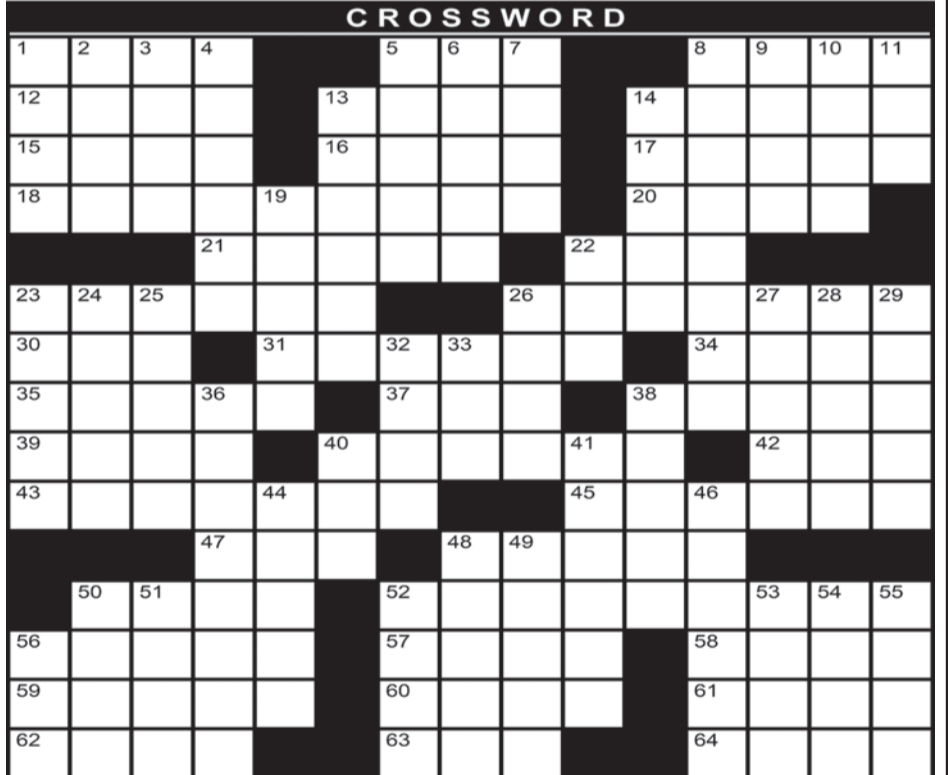
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  - Spiker and Sponge of "James and the Giant Peach"
  - "Bioengineered humanoid in "Blade Runner"
  - The Beehive State
  - Burn with coffee, e.g.
  - Tire meas.
  - Sea nymph
  - Salad dressing option
  - \*Pierre Boulle's Cornelius
  - Hoity-toity
  - Back arrow key
  - Covered with sphagnum
  - Tiny Tim's guitar
  - Allegro \_\_\_\_, in music
  - Sign of escape
  - Apprehension
  - Emergency responder, acr.
  - Neuron junction
  - Sleeping sickness vector
  - \*Katniss Everdeen's sister
  - Hammerin' Hank
  - Tennis "innings"
  - \*2010 film starring DiCaprio
  - Meat of coconut
  - Desperate
  - Karl of politics
  - \*1979 film starring Sigourney Weaver
  - Fail to mention
  - Bo Peep's females
  - \*"Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep" author
  - Was ahead
  - \*Spock's are pointy
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  - Relating to node
  - Make corrections
  - Kiln for hops
  - \*Captain Nemo's submarine
  - Tolstoy's Karenina
  - This and that
  - Bro's sibling
  - Droning insect
  - Niger and Nigeria language
  - In an unfriendly manner
  - Parent org.
  - "He named \_\_\_\_"
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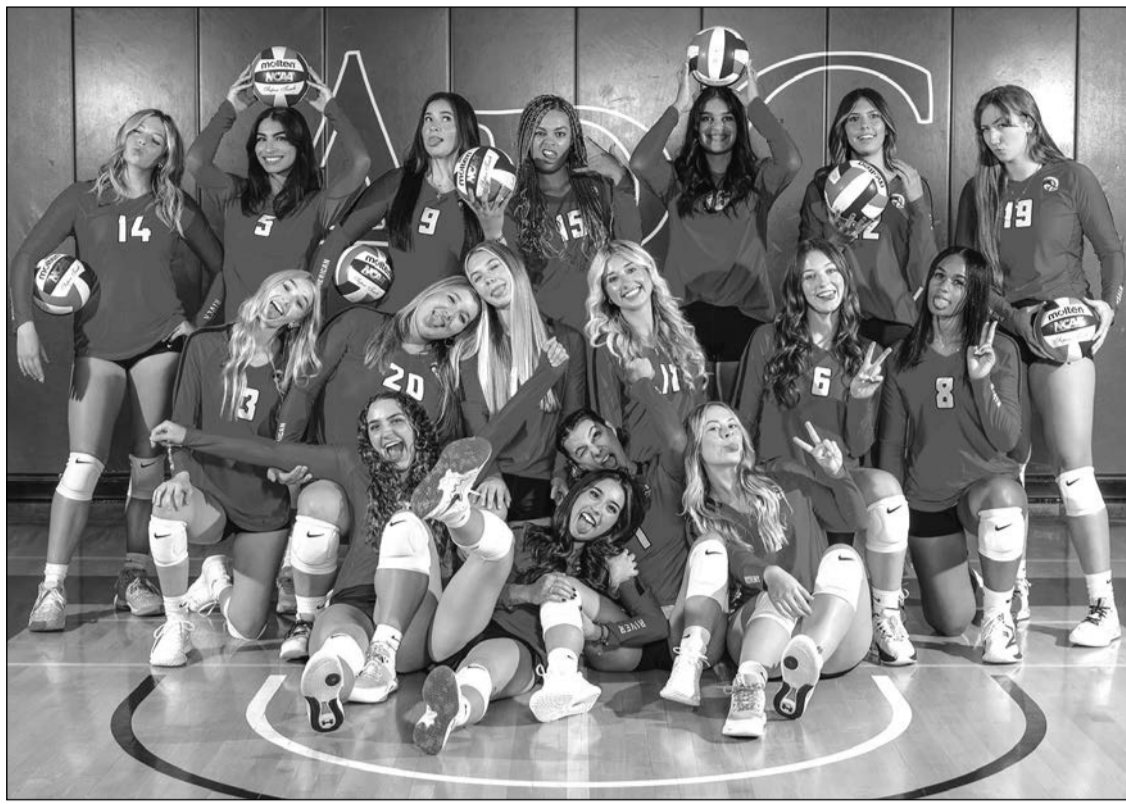
# ARC Volleyball Closes Out Season in State Semifinals

## California Community Colleges Athletic Association News Releases

**SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG)** - After twice being swept by American River College (ARC) in the regular season, a hungry Feather River College team fully savored a third opportunity versus the Beavers in performing a sweep in the 3C2A Women's Volleyball Championship semifinals on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif. Feather River (30-7) defeated American River (28-5), 3-0: 25-19, 25-22, 25-23.

There was no coincidence why American River College was making a sixth straight appearance at the 3C2A State Women's Volleyball Championship. The Beavers have height and that was a factor in a heavy block that was too much for LA Mission's attack in a 4-set quarterfinals victory for the Beavers on Friday, Dec. 6.

In their quarterfinal matchup, American River received another sterling performance by 5-foot-11 Morgan Castaneda, who rifled 21 kills (hit .292) with 10 digs and three blocks, but the Beavers also relied on the blocking and net talents of 6-1 Celestine Hayes (three kills, five blocks), 6-foot Mallory Kuehl (five kills in only six attacks and six blocks), 5-11 Kyla Powell, who chipped in seven kills and two blocks, and 5-10 Amiah Cornejo, who contributed five kills and served



The American River College Volleyball program closed out the 2024 season in the semifinals of the 3C2A State Championships. The Beavers, who closed out the season 28-5 overall and co-champions of the Big 8 Conference, defeated LA Mission College 3-1 in the quarterfinals on Dec. 6, and fell to Feather River College 3-0 in the semifinals on Dec. 7. Photo courtesy California Community Colleges Athletic Association

three aces off the ARC bench.

The Dec. 7 semifinal matchup featured American River College versus Feather River College. The Battle of the rivers began with Feather River's Tiare Faupula scoring four kills and making three blocks in a 6-point opening set triumph. Feather River led 15-7 and ran away with the game and a 1-0 lead.

In the semifinal second set, American River jumped out

to a 9-3 lead only to see the Golden Eagles go on a 5-0 run to slice it to one. The Beavers would then lead 14-11 and 17-14 before Feather River went on an 8-2 run capped by a block by Faupula and Ledua Koi for a 22-19 advantage. Two kills by Ane Tuinauvai and another stuff by Lucy Ryan and Mia Rivera captured the 3-point win and a commanding 2-0 sets lead.

In the third set, the Beavers

tried to rally as 6-foot-2 Jayda Moran came off the bench to record a pair of blocks with teammate Malloy Kuehl and built a 14-6 lead. An Amiah Cornejo/Celestine Hayes block doubled the score at 16-8 and a kill by Kuehl later made it 18-11.

Tuinauvai, who missed both of the first two encounters with American River due to injury, buried three kills in a momentous 11-2 run to give Feather

River a 22-20 lead. A push kill by Kaylynn Whitt, an ace by Sofia McPherson, and an attack error by Feather River regained the lead for American River at 23-22.

The Beavers though couldn't finish off the set as a solo block by Mia Rivera was sandwiched by two rifle kills by Ryan to complete the surprising Feather River sweep.

Overall for Feather River, quarterfinals hero Chloe Albiez powered 10 kills, Tuinauvai eight kills with 12 digs, Faupula seven kills (.313) and five blocks, and Rivera three kills and six blocks. Teya Gibbs was a setting/defensive stalwart on 13 assists and 12 digs while the team's starting setter Maya Cann dished out 24 assists.

For American River, All-American Morgan Castaneda was limited to 10 kills with 10 digs, Kuehl had four kills, five blocks, and two aces, and Cornejo scored six kills.

"Feather River swung aggressively with a nothing to lose, underdog mentality," said American River College head coach Carson Lowden, who brought her team to the state tourney for the sixth straight season. "I thought we served and passed well. We didn't put enough offensive pressure on them. The difference was that they just did a great job in transition."

The loss snapped American River College's 13-match win streak. ★

# World-Class Pickleball Event Returns to Sacramento Region



Pickleball players compete at an Association of Pickleball Players event. Photo courtesy of the Association of Pickleball Players.

## Association of Pickleball Players News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The 2025 Association of Pickleball Players' (APP) Sacramento Open is set to take place Feb. 26 through March 2, at Johnson Ranch Pickleball Complex in Roseville, marking the Association of Pickleball Players Tour's third event of the season and showcasing the world's top pickleball players competing for gold medals and cash prizes in front of a national television audience. Amateur and pro player registration for the world-class pickleball event in Sacramento is now officially open via [www.theapp.global](http://www.theapp.global).

Competition at the 2025 APP Sacramento

Open will be open to all pickleball skill levels, plus those playing at the pro level, across a wide range of age brackets. Players are encouraged to sign up quickly to secure their spots with registration now open through Feb. 16.

The event will also be a USA Pickleball-designated "Golden Ticket" event, in which gold medal winners earn the chance to pre-register to compete in the 2025 Biofreeze USA Pickleball National Championships in November. Pro players will compete for their share of a \$100,000 prize pool as part of a nationally televised event.

The Association of Pickleball Players Tour has held events at Johnson Ranch Pickleball Complex for the past two years, including its 2024 pickleball tour event that saw

17-year-old Jorja Johnson capture the triple crown.

"We are thrilled to be back in Sacramento for what will be a spectacular APP Tour event," said Association of Pickleball Players Founder Ken Herrmann. "Northern California holds a special place in our hearts and has one of the best pickleball communities you'll ever find. We can't wait to host you all in February for the third year of the APP Sacramento Open. See you there!"

The Association of Pickleball Players provides opportunities for pickleball players of all ages and skill levels—professionals, amateurs and recreational—to compete in world-class pickleball events for the opportunity to win prize money

and be featured on nationally televised broadcasts on CBS Sports, ESPN and FOX Sports.

Since its launch in 2019, the association has operated the first and only pro and amateur pickleball tour fully and officially sanctioned by USA Pickleball. It also became the first pickleball organization ever to establish an official headquarters and training center with The Fort in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The Association of Pickleball Players Tour's 2025 schedule will feature the most robust pickleball showcase across pro and amateur competitions accompanied by youth development programs, grassroots charity initiatives and international partnerships to continue. ★

# River Cats Recognized as Top Triple-A Organization

## Sacramento River Cats News Release

**SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento River Cats, proud Triple-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants, have been named the top Triple-A organization in Minor League Baseball (MiLB) as winner of the prestigious 2024 Bob Freitas Award by Baseball America. This is the second time that the River Cats have earned the accolade, first receiving the distinction following the 2004 season.

Named after longtime MiLB ambassador Bob Freitas, the annual award is given to one team from each of the MiLB's three classification levels (Triple-A, Double-A, and Single-A), recognizing the franchise's overall excellence, community engagement, and long-term success as a business operation through marketing, on-field operation, and fan service.

"This award is a testament to the passion, dedication, and hard work of our entire team," said Sacramento River Cats President and COO Chip Maxson. "Every member of our staff plays a vital role in creating unforgettable experiences for our fans and we are proud to share this honor with our community."

Ahead of celebrating their 25th season, the team sold out the third exhibition game in the shared history between the River Cats and their parent affiliate, the San Francisco Giants. In addition, Sacramento sold their most new season tickets in a single year since their inaugural season in 2000. The team also sold out its newly renovated Diamond View Dugout and all remaining premium memberships reaching capacity for access to the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort Legacy Club.

Including Sacramento's best single-game turnstile

since the 2019 season on Sept. 21, Sutter Health Park and the River Cats saw an 8.8 percent total increase in per-game turnstile. This feat was buoyed by a continued growth of new fans with over 40,000 "first known attendees" visiting this season, four percent more than in 2023, in addition to a 16 percent increase in group tickets sold.

Significant to those successes was the introduction of the Sutter Health Park Summer Pass, a ticket pack that included a lawn ticket to more than 40 home games from the end of May to early September. The Summer Pass sold over 500 packs in a three-week timeframe, outperforming the sales of all other MiLB products of its kind during the year. The Pass is slated for a return in 2025.

Also aiding in fan growth this season was an enhanced focus on producing special game takeovers, drawing

audiences to honor their diverse communities including Hispanic Heritage Night, Pride Night and a Juneteenth celebration. As a result of the DEI efforts, the Consulate General of Mexico recognized the organization for their outstanding work in enhancing visibility and representation.

Giveaways and fan engagement have also played a role for Sacramento, as the River Cats' lead generation database, Fan Compass, grew by 36 percent to become the largest of its kind in MiLB.

The River Cats continued to establish their brand as a trusted marketing platform for regional companies looking to connect with fans, growing their portfolio of corporate partners by 24 percent, including new additions Poppy Bank and Jamba, among others.

Among numerous volunteer and community efforts were a pair of baseball clinics

hosted by the River Cats including Baseball for All at Independence Field, an opportunity for River Cats players and coaches to come together with children of all ages and abilities to play ball. The River Cats generated nearly \$20,000 in donations in partnership with River Cats sponsors to charitable organizations including Sacramento Food Bank, Sutter Gould Medical, Courage House and Foundation Diabetes Program.

The 2024 season is the second time that the River Cats have been Bob Freitas Award recipients, first achieving the honor during their fifth season in Sacramento exactly 20 years ago following the 2004 campaign, making the organization one of only eight multi-time winners. Sacramento is the second consecutive Pacific Coast League team and seventh in the past eight seasons (excluding 2020) to earn the

award, following in the footsteps of the Albuquerque Isotopes who captured the honor for a Triple-A leading third time in 2023.

To celebrate the award, the River Cats have partnered with Drake's Brewing Co. to produce a River Cats Celebration Ale. The limited-edition beer will be available exclusively at Drake's: The Barn located across from Sutter Health Park in West Sacramento.

Sacramento kicks off its season at home with Opening Night on Friday, March 28 against the Albuquerque Isotopes at 6:45 p.m. Tickets to the home opener and the entire first half of the season through July 3 are now available. Individual tickets and the full schedule are available online at [www.rivercats.com](http://www.rivercats.com), while memberships, select ticket packs, and hospitality rentals are available by calling the River Cats ticket hotline at (916) 371-HITS (4487). ★

# LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

## Parra New Galt Boys Soccer Coach

By Paige Lampson  
Sports Editor

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - Julian Parra, who himself played soccer at Galt High School has been named as the new boys coach. Parra graduated from Galt High in 2015 and is very excited and focused in his take over of the very successful team.

What follows is Parra's interview with the Galt Herald.

**What have you coached in the past?**

I used to coach county line here in Galt for a season or two. Now I coach at IR Academy in Elk Grove, as well as Galt High School Boys Soccer.

**How many years have you coached soccer?**

I have coached 3 years; well, this will be my third year and it has been nothing but fun getting to experience this side of the sport.

I actually would love



Julian Parra is a 2015 alumnus of Galt High School. Photo by Paige Lampson

to take the opportunity to thank Garrett Arechiga, the varsity boys soccer coach over at Liberty Ranch High School for getting me into coaching consistently and helping me get that sweet opportunity at IR Academy. Seriously, he is one of my mentors and he has helped me a lot with my growth and process as a coach.

**Where did you learn to play?**

I learned to play from a club that is from Galt, it is called Tarascos- that club

will always be home to me and it deserves to be recognized as one the greatest clubs or organizations that has ever taken part in this city. I also played for Real Galt FC which happens to be the semi-pro team here in Galt.

**You have been coaching at GHS for a while, how did you happen to get the head coach position?**

A good friend of mine, Alejandro Renteria brought me in as his JV coach and assistant at the varsity level. Then Renteria went on to pursue the girl's position, which as a school we are fortunate he did because we can see that he is already creating a positive culture shift in the girls' program- but without him I would not be in the position I am right now.

**Can you share a little bit on your motivations and priorities?**

What motivates me especially in high school soccer

is making sure that the student athletes who come across our program here at Galt High School know how to be grateful, respectful and most importantly honorable. I want to make sure that every student athlete who puts on a red and white jersey with the Galt logo on it knows that the jersey they are wearing is not just only representing the high school, it represents the City of Galt.

**What do you hope the men will learn from you?**

The coaching staff hopes that our student athletes know how to say please and thank you, they know how to give a firm handshake and most importantly that they grow to love and care for the people around them. That to us matters- we want our young men to be able to represent themselves with the most class possible, during and after high school. We are aware that it may take time, but we are starting to see rapid

growth in these young pupils.

**What other pursuits do you have?**

I am still attending college and I hope to become a resource teacher like my good friend and mentor Jose Patino, who happens to be a part of the coaching staff here with me. I would love to work myself up in the coaching world, I love this game so much. If I am able to travel the nation or the world to gain better knowledge of the game and receive the appropriate licensing, I will do that. So yeah, coaching is something I am definitely having my eyes set on.

**What else do you want people to know about the program?**

I want people to know that Luis Carlos, who happens to be my assistant coach and best friend has had a very important role in this coaching staff. He has been a part of the coaching journey with me

since I started so this is definitely something that he 1000% deserves recognition for.

I would also like to thank and give flowers to Jose Patino for already making an impact on kids' lives at the junior varsity level. His dedication and love for the game as well as the student athletes he coaches does not go unnoticed.

Thank you for Galt High School's Administration for the trust, belief and support I am definitely not overlooking this or taking it for granted.

Thank you to my family, sister, nieces and girlfriend for always being on my team and my psychologists when needed.

So far this season the team has an 8-2 record with the losses being to non-league Div. 1 teams. The Warriors league record is 3-0 so far and they are looking to win league for the third year in a row. ★

## Galt Boys Top Rio Linda

## Galt Girls Basketball Attends Del Campo Tournament



Anthony Arriaga-Rose shoots a free-throw. Photos Courtesy of Emilyann Sheldon



The proud Varsity Warriors show their second-place trophy. Courtesy photos



Freshman Cooper Cagle dribbles around a Rio Linda player.



Seth Miller takes the ball out for Galt.

By Paige Lampson  
Sports Editor

**GALT, CA (MPG)** - The Galt High girls' basketball teams were on the road at the Del Campo tournament Thursday, Dec. 19 through Saturday, Dec. 21.

The varsity girls took on Valley High in the first-round match and won 38-14. This brought them to play Del Campo in the second round.

They previously lost to Del Campo earlier this year.

A hard-fought game was played by both teams, but the Warriors pulled out a 29-22 victory. They then moved on to the championship round.

The final had them playing Oakmont. The girls put up a valiant effort but took a 57-23 loss. They brought home a second-place trophy.

The JV girls started with Oakmont. They were up 14-6 at the half and never looked back. Ending in a 33-11 victory.

On the second day the JV Warriors faced a very tough Casa Robles team. They were able to hold them to three points in the first half, but Rams got hot,



The Galt JV Girls pose with their third-place trophy.

and the girls lost 35-14. This placed them in contention for a third-place finish.

They played Woodland for the consolation round. They started strong and

never trailed in the game. They scored a 31-20 victory and brought home a third-place trophy.

Allison Garcia was the GHS player of the Tournament. ★

By MPG Staff

**GALT, CA (MPG)** -The Galt Warriors boys basketball team faced Rio Linda at

home on Tuesday, Dec 17. It was a very close game and with about 1:30 left on the clock there was only a one-point difference

between the teams, but the Warriors were able to hold Rio Linda off and win it with a final score of 63-61. ★

# LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE



PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

## Liberty Boys Soccer Starting off Strong



Aiden Rivera takes a header in the fog.

Story and photos by Paige Lampson Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - After a tough preseason, the Hawks have not lost a league game yet. They beat Union Mine 4-0, Amador 7-0, and took out Argonaut 8-1 and are currently standing first in league.

Returning head coach Garett Arechiga is looking for continuity in his players.

"We are trying to get the boys to come together collectively," said Arechiga. "We had a lot of seniors graduate last year, so basically 50% of the team is new to the group."

"We have a freshman on varsity," shares Arechiga. "Ivan Gonzalez has been a pleasant addition as the only freshman we have pulled up to varsity this year and he actually has been our leading goal scorer. We have some players coming back from injury that we are really trying to nurse back so we can get them healthy for that long stretch to the end of the season and into the playoffs."

Even in the fog the team was passing well.

"The ball moved around well for us," said Arechiga. "We got contributions from multiple people. We are not overloading the stat sheet with just one goal scorer, we are having multiple players score each game. We schedule our pre-season very tough when it comes to competition. We got to travel out to Pleasant Grove over the weekend, and in my opinion, got humbled. Now the response from Saturday from the boys has been brilliant. You can tell the momentum is



James Briggs maneuvers the ball around an Argonaut player.



Hunter Owen steals the ball away.

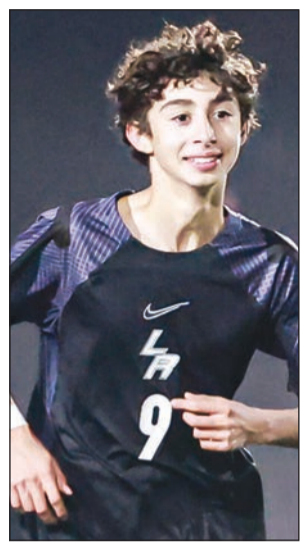
just carrying through."

The team beat Summerville 3-2 on Dec. 17, then came back and beat Amador on Wednesday, Dec. 18, and Argonaut on Friday, Dec. 20.

"Now we have a holiday break till January 2nd and we have to keep

these guys firing and hopefully make some noise this year," said Arechiga. "We are looking to get back up to the top because it has been a long last two seasons with those second-place finish and these boys are hungry for another banner." ★

## GALT HERALD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**Christian Maciel**  
Liberty Ranch High School Soccer



**Bayley Miller**  
Galt High School Soccer

Photos by Paige Lampson

## Warrior Wrestlers Place at Women's West Coast



The Warrior Lady wrestlers show their awards at the Women's West Coast Tournament. Courtesy photo

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - Four lady Warrior wrestlers took to the mat at the Women's West Coast Tournament of Champions on Dec. 20 and Dec. 21, at the Placer County fairgrounds in Roseville, and all four placed.

Freshman Savina Villa

won a first-place varsity gold medal. Margareth Cacino won silver, Niko Gonzales won bronze and Jace Stanek won a fifth-place medal.

New head coach EJ Smith was impressed. "Wrestling isn't easy," said Smith. "It takes Discipline, Consistency, and a whole lot of heart." ★

## Liberty Takes Top Prize in Messersmith Tourney



Madisyn Robbins turns and looks to pass.



Freshman Ella Garcia looks to score two.

Story and photos by Paige Lampson Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Liberty Ranch girls' basketball team hosted the inaugural Todd Messersmith Memorial Tournament earlier in the month. Messersmith was a mentor and coach to many of



Tournament MVP Haley Smith grabs a high pass.

the community's youth and passed away from cancer last year.

The tournament lasted two days and after all was said and done, the Liberty Ranch Hawks came away with the top prize.

Haley Smith was named tournament MVP and Messersmith's granddaughter Kamrynn Blevins was named All-Tourney. ★