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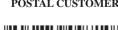


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A 'Night to Shine' at Galt High

By Sean P.Thomas City Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - It was a prom-like atmosphere on Friday evening at Galt High School for the annual "Night to Shine" event, which brings together volunteers and the Sacramento region's special needs community for a night of dancing and revelry.

And shine they did.

More than 200 Queens and Kings attended the event and were given the full celebrity treatment, including a limo ride and a walk down the red carpet with paparazzi-style photo opportunities to help commemorate the evening. One of the lead organizers,

Christina Wilhelm with Horizon Community Church in Galt, which has put on the event for the past eight years, said the celebration was a night to remember for the local community. "It's just an experience to be the

one to just watch it all happen," Wilhelm said. "The looks on their faces, that is what makes it worth it."

The event, spearheaded by the Tim Tebow Foundation, the nonprofit operated by former college and NFL star Quarterback Tim Tebow, was started in 2014 at a single church and has since spread to over 820 churches across 62 countries.

The event has also grown locally. Previously, "Night to Shine" was held in Lodi at Hutchins Street Square, but Wilhelm said the event outgrew that space, leading to a search for a new home. Galt High School stepped up and allowed the event to use its two gymnasiums, but still, it was a tight fit.

This year there were more than 200 honored guests, as opposed to 150

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Katherine Stoebner and her "buddy" Robert Childress strut down the red carpet at the Night to Shine event at Galt High School on Friday, Feb. 7. Photos courtesy of Horizon Community Church

CFD Reviews Fire Readiness

By Sean P.Thomas City Editor

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Elk Grove and Galt are "well prepared" in the case of a wildfire, Cosumnes Fire Department Chief Felipe Rodriguez said during a presentation to the district board last week.

The comment came during a wildfire preparedness presentation given to the Cosumnes Community Services District board around the same time several community agencies across the country are reassessing their wildfire preparedness in the wake of the devastating wildfires in Southern California in January.

The fire department also had similar presentations scheduled for the Elk Grove City Council and the Galt City Council after press time.

"I feel very confident after speaking to our chief and just my knowledge of this area and being in this Central Valley here for the last almost 26 years," Rodriguez said. "I have seen what can happen out here and we have a little difference in our topography than the Pacific Palisades."

Fueled by powerful winds and dry conditions, a series of wildfires erupted on Jan. 7, ripping through the Los Angeles area. The fires started in Pacific Palisades, a neighborhood east of Malibu, as a brush fire before growing to almost 23,500 acres, according to CAL FIRE.

Shortly after, the Eaton Fire and the Hughes Fire erupted near a canyon in the national forest lands north



Cosumnes Fire Department Chief Felipe Rodriguez highlighted the investment of \$11 million into new fire equipment, a fire apparatus replacement plan, the addition of 30 new firefighters and a strategic plan to combat a large fire. Photo courtesy of Cosumnes Fire Department

of downtown Los Angeles and near Castaic Lake. Combined, the two fires burned over 24,400 acres. Other smaller fires also erupted in Los Angeles and have been completely contained.

According to Los Angeles County fire officials, 29 people died in the fires, 17 in the Eaton Fire and 12 in the Palisades Fire, in addition to an untold number of significant injuries.

'I understand there are many types of fire," Rodriguez said. "But based on what occurred in Los Angeles in the beginning of January, I think it's very fitting that we allow our community to know where we are at in

Elk Grove, Galt and all the parts of

Sacramento County."



County Supervisor Pat Hume said the Sacramento County Water Agency collaborates with fire agencies to ensure that water systems can support emergency response efforts. Photo

Rodriguez pinpointed areas at Stonelake Refuge, rural east Elk Grove, rural areas of Galt and seasonal waterways where water tends to dry up throughout the year as potential "influence" areas, but none that compare to "very-high-risk" areas associated with the wildfires in Southern California.

Rodriguez added that fireworks, especially those that explode in the air, cause a greater risk. He said the department tends to stage additional resources around that time to respond to any potential fires but noted that multiple fires at one time could stress resources.

"We have nine fire engines; we

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Surge in State's **EV Sales Stalled**

What Happens to Its Landmark Mandate?

By Alejandro Lazo CalMatters.org

California's push to electrify its cars is facing a potentially serious problem: People aren't buying electric cars fast enough.

After three straight years of strong growth, sales have stabilized in California, raising questions about whether the state will fail to meet its groundbreaking mandate banning sales of gas-powered vehicles.

About a quarter — 25.3% — of all new cars registered in California in 2024 were zero emissions, just slightly more than 25% in 2023, according to new California Energy Commission data. The flat sales follow several years of rapid growth - in 2020, only one in 13 cars sold was zero-emissions. Their share of California's market is now three times larger than four years ago.

growth in the market puts the state's climate and air pollution goals at risk. Under California's mandate, approved in 2022, 35% of new 2026 car models sold by automakers must be zero emissions. That leaves considerable ground to make up as some 2026 models begin rolling out later this year.

But the slowed pace of

The requirement ramps up to 68% for 2030 models, and in 2035, California's rule bans all sales of gasoline-powered

Zero-Emission Vehicle Sales **Remained Flat** in 2024

Annual percent of new California car registrations that were battery electric, plug-in hybrid or hydrogen fuel cell

David Simpson, who owns three car dealerships in Orange County, said he is not seeing increased demand for electric cars. While the initial rollout of some models, such as the GMC Hummer EV, did well at first, the demand did not continue. Sales of the Chevrolet Equinox and Blazer EVs do alright, but aren't strong, either, he said.

"The sales are declining," Simpson said. "We've filled that gap of people who want those cars — and now they have them - and we're not seeing a big, huge demand. I don't see households going

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Surge in State's EV Sales Stalled

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100% EV."

Dave Clegern, a spokesperson for the California Air Resources Board, which oversees the electric car mandates, said in an email that while sales of zero-emission vehicles in California are "less dramatic than in years past," the flat sales occurred in the context of an overall plateauing of car sales last year.

Although the rules limit what automakers can sell, Californians are not required to buy electric cars. That means if consumer demand doesn't increase, it could be a major black eye for Gov. Gavin Newsom, who has made electric cars a cornerstone of his agenda to fight climate change and clean the air. A spokesman for Newsom declined to comment.

The state mandate, however, has some flexibility, Clegern said. First of all, it's a multi-year formula: Each manufacturer's sales of 2026 zero-emission vehicles must be 35% of its total sales averaged for model years 2022 through 2024.

Manufacturers also can buy credits from automakers that have exceeded the target — companies that only sell electric models, such as Tesla or Rivian. To enforce compliance with California's sales requirements, state officials could impose steep penalties of \$20,000 per vehicle on manufacturers that fall short of quotas.

"Manufacturers may still be in compliance even if they do not achieve these specific sales volumes," Clegern said.

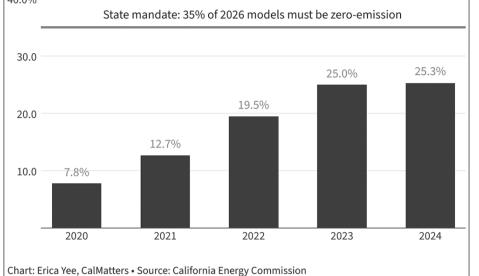
Brian Maas, president of the California New Car Dealers Association, said automakers could seek to avoid the fines by reducing the number of gas-powered cars they send to California dealers. He said that could leave fewer options for buyers, drive up prices and push some consumers to Nevada or Arizona to find the car they want, while others will hold on to their older, more polluting vehicles.

"We're just not going to make the mandate as presently drafted" so automakers will have to take action, Maas said. "The most rational is to constrain inventory."

The auto industry group Alliance for Automotive Innovation has been raising these concerns since at least December, when it published a memo entitled, "It's gonna take a miracle: California and states with EV sales requirements." The group warns the mandate could depress auto

Zero-emission vehicle sales remained flat in 2024

Annual percent of new California car registrations that were battery electric, plug-in hybrid or hydrogen fuel cell



sales in California — as well as in other states that adopt its rules.

Last month, John Bozzella, the group's chief executive, called California's rules "by any measure not achievable" after President Donald Trump signed an executive order repealing federal rules promoting electric vehicles.

"There's a saying in the auto business: You can't get ahead of the customer," Bozzella said.

The outgoing Biden administration's U.S. Environmental Protection Agency granted California a waiver in December that allows the state to enforce its requirements phasing out new gas-powered cars. Many experts believe the Trump administration is likely to challenge the waiver through the courts.

Experts also anticipate that Trump could eliminate the \$7,500 federal tax credit for zero-emission vehicle purchases, which would increase the cost of buying some electric cars. Newsom vowed last year to continue offering the incentive through state funding, although that promise came before Los Angeles faced devastating wildfires and the state released its fragile budget earlier this year.

Californians have purchased more than 2 million electric cars, leading the nation. The number has doubled in about two

But electric vehicle sales, which make up the majority of zero emission cars, grew by only 1.1% in 2024, with 378,910 sold compared to 374,668 in 2023. Plug-in hybrids, once considered a potential alternative to a purely electric model, remained relatively stable. And sales of hydrogen-powered cars all but collapsed last year, with sales plummeting to a meager 600 in 2024 from 3,119 in 2023. The slower growth comes amid over-

all market sluggishness, with all auto sales in California dipping slightly last year to 1.752,030.

Loren McDonald, chief analyst for the charging app Paren, said a major contributor is a shift in consumer demographics.

The state's market has moved beyond early electric car adopters — affluent, environmentally motivated buyers willing to overlook challenges like limited charging infrastructure and higher costs – and into the mainstream.

He said these new buyers, often from middle-income households or who live in apartment buildings without easy access to charging, are far less forgiving when it comes to electric cars. Concerns about range, broken chargers and upfront costs are deal breakers.

Tesla's market dominance has exacerbated the issue. Many left-leaning California consumers, who were once

The outgoing Biden administration's U.S. **Environmental Protection Agency granted California** a waiver in December that allows the state to enforce its requirements phasing out new gaspowered cars. Many experts believe the Trump administration is likely to challenge the waiver through the courts.

loyal to Tesla, appear to have distanced themselves because of CEO Elon Musk's controversial public persona and alliance with Trump.

As Tesla sales have softened, dropping 11% in California last year, the decline has disproportionately affected overall EV registration data in California because of the company's significant market share, McDonald said.

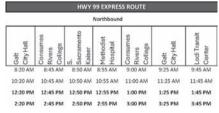
Affordability remains a crucial hurdle, though McDonald sees signs of improvement. Automakers have ramped up production, leading to competitive pricing and aggressive lease deals-many under \$400 per month.

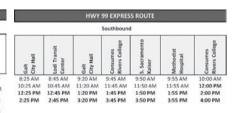
But mainstream consumers are largely unaware that electric vehicles offer longterm savings in fuel and maintenance, McDonald said, adding that better education is needed to convince consumers to take the leap, especially as electric car prices increasingly approach parity with gas-powered vehicles.

McDonald remains optimistic about 2025. The market will benefit from new electric models priced under \$50,000 and technological advancements, such as faster charging and vehicle-to-home power capa-

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THE GALT HERALD • 3 FEBRUARY 14, **2025**

Pastosa Named to Top 100 Eateries List Galt PD to Reveal Memorial

By Sean P. Thomas City Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Pastosa By Lucia, a favorite among local Italian food lovers, was named one of the Top 100 Eateries in the United States by Yelp on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Located at 545 Industrial Drive, Suite 100 in Galt, the restaurant came in No. 36 on the popular review websites 2025 list of top eateries in the country, three spots above Stockton's Genova Bakery.

The restaurant opens 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and features homemade pasta, sauces, ravioli, bread and tiramisu.

The restaurant carries a Yelp rating of 4.7 stars out of 5 as of Wednesday, Feb.

"Everything is made from scratch, so this is the place to go," Gabriella C. wrote in a Yelp review. "We love it here and the servers are amazing. The price is very nice for all the food you get. Can't go wrong here. We will be back soon."

Cassandra N. of West Sacramento wrote in a Yelp review that their pasta was not only excellent, but an amazing quality for the price point.



100 Eateries in the United States on Tuesday, Feb. 11. Photo by Sean P Thomas

"I would absolutely die for their focaccia, and their staff is always so sweet," Cassandra N. wrote. "Their French onion soup, if you can get it, is loaded with deliciously caramelized onion and topped with lots of cheese."

"The quality of the pasta for the price point can't be beat and I am a huge pasta lover," Melissa S. of Stockton wrote in her Yelp review. "I had the butternut squash ravioli with brown butter and sage sauce, and it was mouthwatering."

The restaurant was one of five Sacramento area restaurants to make the list.

The highest ranking was Wally's Cafe, located on Sunset Boulevard in Rocklin, which made No. 6 on the list.

Roseville's Guy's for Lunch made No. 21 on the list and Elk Grove's West Coast Taco Bar made No.

Engawa Fusion on Stockton Boulevard in Sacramento closed out the Sacramento-area honorees at No. 94. ★

for Fallen Officer Grewal

By Sean P. Thomas City Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt Police Department is hosting a public memorial reveal for Officer Harminder Grewal in front of Galt Police Department headquarters at 3 p.m. Feb. 20.

Grewal died four days after his patrol vehicle was struck head on by a pickup truck that broke through a center barrier on Highway 99 near Dillard Road in 2021. Grewal, alongside his partner, Officer Kapri Herrera, were traveling to assist with the Caldor Fire in the El Dorado National Forest before the crash.

Herrera returned to duty in 2024, three vears after the crash.

Grewal's death rocked the local law enforcement community, leading to an outpouring of support from local law enforcement and emergency response agencies, including the Sacramento Sheriff's Office and the Cosumnes Community Services District.

"Officer Grewal took pride in serving his community and his work ethic was contagious to all who worked with him. His service to our community will never be forgotten," the department wrote in a statement following his death.

Grewal had served with the department for two-and-a-half years and was named Officer of the Year in 2020.

Then-interim Galt Police Chief Rick Small said Grewal "made it feel like you knew him forever" during a news conference following the officer's death.

"People were just drawn to him," Small said. "He drew people to him. That's who he was."



Officer Harminder Grewal died in the line of duty in 2021 after a motorist crashed into the officer's patrol vehicle on Highway 99 while he was responding to the Caldor Fire. Photo courtesy Galt Police Department

The department has held annual wreath-laying ceremonies for Grewal since his death. Most recently, on Aug. 26, the department announced the memorial bust that would be installed in honor

"As you can see, the loss of an officer is a hell we walk through as an organization and a family," Police Chief Brian Kalinowski said at the event.

A 'Night to Shine' at Galt High

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the year prior, along with more than 600 "buddies" and volunteers, compared to 500 from the previous year.

Once inside, Tiffany Damert, who Wilhelm described as her right hand for the event, said the guests were able to dance, listen to music and enjoy a carnival room with games, karaoke and a photo booth.

"It turned out really well," Damert said. "It was a fun atmosphere and we were really having a lot of fun with the karaoke and singing. Everyone would clap when someone would go up and sing."

Wilhelm said the night wouldn't be possible without a windfall of donations and hundreds of volunteers that give their time for the event.

Some of the local "buddies" and volunteers for the event included Mayor Shawn Farmer and Council member Tim Reed.

"It was really cool that it was in Galt for the first time, and I really applaud the school district for getting involved and making Galt High School available," Farmer said. "It really felt like you were in a high school prom."

"It totally took me back," Famer added. "It was awesome."

Wilhelm said the church is already starting to work on next year's event, and anyone who would like to participate in the 2026 Night to Shine can contact the church at NTS@horizonweb.



Attendees were given the opportunity to have their prom experience, which included singing, dancing, games and more inside of the Galt High School gym.



Over 600 "buddies" and volunteers combined to make it a night to remember for some 200 quests at the event hosted by the Horizon Community Church and the Tim Tebow Foundation. Photos courtesy Horizon Community Church



Kayla Poppe was one of the 200 honored guests to fill the



The honored guests arrived in limousines before getting the celebrity red carpet treatment.

CFD Reviews Fire Readiness

Continued from page 1

may staff a few extra, but if we have 20 or 30 fires at the same time you can't get to all of them," Rodriguez said.

He also noted areas without hydrants, namely in older parts of the service area that run off wells, as a greater risk.

Currently there are about 1,701 hydrants across Elk Grove that are inspected every three years, 5,631 hydrants for Sacramento County Water Agency that are inspected about every three to five years and 1,152 in Galt. An inspection schedule for Galt is currently under development, Rodriguez

Rodriguez highlighted mitigation factors, including the investment of \$11 million into new fire equipment over the past three years, a fire apparatus replacement plan, the addition of 30 new firefighters since 2020 as well as a strategic plan to combat a large fire.

Fire District to ensure that the systems are ready for fire season and can support The department is also currently seeking emergency response efforts.

accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

Rodriguez said they are lucky to have plentiful access to water in the region, an issue that plagued firefighting efforts during the Palisades fires.

There are multiple tanks across the South Sacramento and Elk Grove areas with over 30 million gallons of storage capacity, which work to maintain consistent water pressure during high-demand periods. "I have a lot of confidence in the water

systems here," Rodriguez said.

District 5 Supervisor Pat Hume in his February newsletter provided an update on the region's water systems and said that the Sacramento County Water Agency collaborates with the Cosumnes Fire Department and the Sacramento Metro

He said the water agency recently met with the Cosumnes Fire Department to reaffirm systems capacity, review storage tanks and hydrant tanks, and to maintain proper communication channels for operational or maintenance issues.

"I sincerely hope we never see another catastrophic fire like that again, where resources are stretched to capacity, but I'm confident that our leaders at the County Department of Water Resources and all the local fire departments, fire fighters and fire responders are learning what they can from these tragic events in order to maintain the highest level of fire safety for Sacramento County," the newsletter read.

The presentations came around the same time that Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an

executive order to "further prepare for urban firestorms." The executive order directs the state board of forestry to increase work to adopt

regulations known as "Zone 0," which

require an ember-resistant zone within five feet of structures located in the highest fire

severity zones. It also directs the state fire marshal to release updated fire hazard severity zone maps for areas under local government responsibility, which will add 1.4 million new acres of land into the two higher tiers of fire severity. The move will lead to updated building and local planning requirements for those communities, per the release.

Lastly, the executive order requires the CAL FIRE and Cal Office of Emergency Services to work with local, federal and tribal entities on improvements to the federal resource ordering system for wildfire response.

In a statement, Gov. Newsom said, "we are living in a new reality of extremes."

"Believe the science and your damn eyes," Newsom said in a statement. "Mother Nature is changing the way we are living, and we must continue adapting to those changes. California's resilience means we will keep updating our standards in the most fire-prone areas."

Kings Korner By V.G. Harris



Close your eyes for just a moment and imagine it's opening night of the 2024/2025 basketball season. The public address announcer introduces the following players for the Kings, Malik Monk, DeMar DeRozan, Keegan Murray, Zach Lavine, and Domantas Sabonis.

Noticeably absent is of course DeAaron Fox, but even so, how did that lineup sound? Oh, did I mention that Jonas Valanciunas is backing up Sabonis, and we added 2nd year man Jake LaRadia, recently acquired from the Memphis Grizzlies.

The starting lineup features three players that have multiple all-star appearances, and the potential scoring power from these five players should wet your lips.

On Saturday night against the only team in the NBA that beat the Kings six times in the 2023/2024 campaign, all three of the recent acquisitions were available and playing for the Sactown ballers.

The first quarter was a basketball nightmare as the hometown team went down by 20 points early, and Kings killer Zion Williamson took the Kings to the woodshed. It was not a pretty sight as Williamson and the Pelicans did pretty much whatever they wanted to do.

The Kings drew within 11 points at halftime, but the best was yet to come. As if deciding it was time to show the faithful hometown crowd what this new assembly was capable of, Sacramento rung up 45 points in the third quarter, and astoundingly held the Pelicans to only 22 points.

Fans were treated to show rarely seen, but it couldn't have come at a more prodigious time. The Sactown boys wowed the home crowd with a collection of 3's, fast break scores, frenetic defense, and in general treated the fans to a glimpse of what this new iteration of players are capable of.

In the end the Pelicans made a game of it, but even after briefly taking the lead in the 4th quarter, the Kings bore down and played solid down the stretch, putting this contest in the win column by the score of 123-118.

What a relief to break the Pelicans winning streak over the Kings, but more importantly, it was eye opener to see what these players are capable of doing

Keep your eyes on Zach Lavine, as he is getting better every game. He is known for being a high percentage 3-point shooter, and although that has yet to be seen in his new uniform, I am looking for him to break out soon.

The real question that every fan is asking themselves, is can this team make the playoffs this year?

Players need to play, and coaches need to coach, but the short answer is yes.

I will say again, coach Christie needs to pay close attention to who is on the bench, and I'm particularly talking about Isaac Jones. Isaac makes his presence felt every time he's on the court, and with his length is constantly getting his hands on the ball. The Kings have a real NBA defender in

Keon Ellis, and I believe Isaac Jones can compliment that defensive effort. He has a nice touch around the rim, can rebound, and in general looks like he belongs when given the chance. 6'9" rookies with game are a hard

commodity to find, and he's already signed to a contract, and showing up for

Just as Mike Brown brought Keon Ellis along last year, and he's paying dividends now, so can Isaac Jones find ways to make the Kings a better team. True, the Pelicans did not have a good

win-loss record, but the win on Saturday night was more than that. If you want to get excited, go back and watch the 3rd quarter again and then sit back and imagine what might be. The Sactown boys hit the road for three

games, starting with the Dallas Mavericks Monday, and then on to New Orleans for back-to-back games on Wednesday and Thursday nights. These three games will give fans a bet-

ter glimpse into the new team chemistry, and in the tightly packed western conference, just one four- or five-game winning streak can catapult a team into playoff contention.

Hold onto your seats Kings fans, because the best is yet to come!

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

Social Security Matters

Why was Social Security Money Moved to the General Treasury?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Why were the Social Security funds moved from the Social Security account to the General Fund with the government? Is it not then called a tax making it an entitlement? That then gives the government control of our retirement. Most of us feel that someone should be in charge and use the Social Security fund with investments that grow our savings.

I invested my 401K and savings, and the original amount made me money during the Trump years, and I'm now trying to catch up. I make this statement because I draw more from my investments than I receive from Social Security. Signed: Questioning Senior Citizen

Dear Questioning Senior: I'm afraid I must inform you that no Social Security funds have ever been moved from the Social Security account to the government's General Fund – this is a pervasive myth which we have refuted many

times over the years. For information, here is one of many articles I have published on this topic, which I hope you find interesting: https:// socialsecurityreport.org/ ask-rusty-about-repaying-social-security-money-taken-by-politicians/. Someone actually is

charged with monitoring our Social Security funds – a board of Social Security Trustees consisting of the Secretaries of Treasury, Labor, and Health & Human Services, as well as the Commissioner of Social Security plus two Public Trustees. Each year the Social Security Trustees do a complete analysis of the Social Security program, especially its financial status and outlook for the future. If you have interest in the Trustee's latest annual report, here is a link to the 2024 analysis: https:// socialsecurityreport.org/ wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ tr24summary.pdf.

What you will find in the Trustees' report is that Social Security will run out of reserved funds in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% for everyone, unless Congress acts soon to reform the program and restore it to fiscal solvency. The Trustees have warned Congress about this problem for many years, but Congress has yet to find the bipartisan cooperation needed to fix the problem.

AMAC (the Association of Mature American Citizens) has steadfastly offered proposals to Congress which would restore Social Security to solvency and will continue to do so with the new 119th Congress, which convened on January 3, 2025.

Please know that we appreciate your feedback and commend you for the wise use of your 401k investments, something that many of our members find necessary to supplement their Social Security. Remember, Social Security was never intended to provide all your retirement income, so earlier saving to supplement your retirement financial needs was a very wise move on your part. This article is intended

for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/ programs/social-securityadvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

California Schools Continue to Struggle with Test Scores in Reading and Math



By Dan Walters,

CALMatters.org When Gov. Gavin Newsom issues one of his periodic boasts about California's superiority vis-a-vis other states — particularly those with conservative politics such as Texas and Florida he conveniently omits aspects that are less than admirable. The exclusions include California's levels of poverty, homelessness, unemployment, utility bills and housing costs that are the nation's highest, or close to it.

One of California's starkest - and most important — letdowns is the consistent failure to help elementary and middle school students achieve higher national test scores in basic educational skills, such as reading and math.

Simply put, California's education system is not only behind most other states, but even trails those that Newsom and other Californians consider to be culturally backward. Moreover, California schools have not yet recovered from the educational losses suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This harsh reality is revealed in the latest round of academic testing by the federal National Assessment of Educational Progress. The data are voluminous and difficult to parse, but EdSource, a nonprofit news outlet devoted to charting California edu-

cation trends, has thankfully

done it for the rest of us.

"The latest scores show mostly no progress,' EdSource reported last week. "Scores in fourth and eighth grade reading fell again, leaving California 9 points and the nation 8 points below 2017. Math was mixed — up in fourth grade, but not enough to catch 2019, with eighth grade taking another dip.'

EdSource further found that average scores "mask widening disparities between the highest and lowest-performing students. On fourth grade reading, student scores at the 90th achievement percentile fell 1 point between 2019 and 2024, and scores at the 75th percentile fell 3 points. However, scores for students in the 10th percentile fell 10 points, and for students in the 25th percentile, they fell 8 points."

Stubbornly low levels of reading and mathematics skills among elementary and middle school students are particularly worrisome because they are tools that must be mastered to successfully navigate high school and post-graduation college classes or job training. The lapses not only affect the students' chances to become successful adults but the state's needs for an educated workforce and voting public.

Current data underscore that negative effect. While California has a huge homeless population and more than a million members of its labor force are jobless, employers are also finding it very difficult to fill job vacancies with workers who are either

"achievement gap" between

skilled or can be trained. This isn't a new issue. California has been lagging behind other states for decades and has a chronic

poor or English-learner students and those from more privileged circumstances.

> More than a decade ago, then-Gov. Jerry Brown and the Legislature overhauled school finance to provide additional funds to schools with large numbers of students at risk of failure. While countless billions of dollars have been rerouted, the outcomes have improved only fractionally at best.

> Money is certainly a factor in the quality of instruction. The state has sharply boosted spending on schools in recent years and they would have nearly \$25,000 per student in Newsom's proposed 2025-26 budget. Newsom has fostered additional state aid for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten, the state is now providing universally free lunches, and has implemented early screening to detect read-

> ing deficiencies. Those are potentially positive steps to close achievement gaps, but money is not the only factor. EdSource notes that "some states whose scores exceeded California's on fourth-grade reading, including Mississippi, Connecticut and Colorado, adopted comprehensive reading plans grounded in the science of reading.' That's the current term for

> phonics, which California's education establishment has often resisted despite ample evidence that it improves kids' ability to read. .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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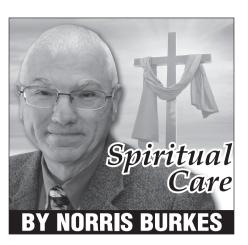




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Did You Miss National Backwards Day?



Apologies for this belated announBut, Jan 31 was "National Backwards Day."

No, it's a real thing, chaplain-honest. My wife, a retired schoolteacher chastised me for not reminding you sooner.

Every year her elementary schools would participate in National Backwards Day, an annual whimsical and fun-filled observance that encourages people to do things in reverse or unconventional ways.

But you don't have to be a kid to do it. All ages are welcome to break routine and engage in activities with a unique twist.

Participants will wear their clothes backward, eat meals in reverse order, or simply do everyday tasks in unconventional ways.

Anyone can participate. Even our president.

Last month, with Backwards Day approaching, he pardoned the Jan 6th criminals and has now began a process to fire the law enforcement that imprisoned those hoodlums. Well-played, Sir. That's pretty backward.

"Chaplain!" you say, "You've careened out of your lane. How can you talk politics in a religion column?" Honestly, not entirely sure, but I think it

comes under the category of standing up for my friends. I have several friends in the FBI and that

friendship began with two different official

The first came when a preschool director told the FBI that my newly adopted daughter bore a canny resemblance to a missing child on a milk carton photo. The milk carton thing was a 1990s public service to raise awareness for missing children.

That report triggered a visit to our Stockton home from an FBI agent seeking proof that we adopted our three-year-old daughter, Brittney. We gave him files and files of proof. No problem.

But my new friend didn't close the investigation until he interviewed social workers and neighbors.

Overboard? Maybe. But that agent was looking out for my family and the family of that missing child. When someone does that, they become my friend.

Don't mess with my friends.

On the second occasion, twenty years later, Agent Steve Dupree knocked on my door. He needed our Elk Grove house to surveil the house of a neighbor who'd used his ill-gotten robbery money to buy

Steve became my friend.

In 2015, Steve invited me to make more FBI friends by joining the FBI Citizens Academy.

The class is invite-only.

For six weeks, we spent three hours every Wednesday at the Sacramento FBI office hearing the agents lecture about famous crimes, surveillance techniques, bomb making, and home terror organizations.

We also learned about the skin heads and the militia movements in this country. Pretty scary class, but I made lots of new friends.

One week, Steve announced that our class would visit a local gun range to shoot the guns FBI agents use.

I told Steve, "I don't want to go."

"Why is that?" he asked.

I told him about the gun trauma I experienced in the aftermath of a mass shooting at an elementary school in Stockton, Calif. Steve listened carefully.

He promised me that it would be OK either way. "If you go, you don't have to shoot." he said. "But if you shoot, I'll stand with you and talk you through it." I went and I did shoot. It was hard, but

Steve stood shoulder-to-shoulder with me as a friend would do.

We finished the class with an optional field trip to the FBI academy in Quantico VA where we were welcomed by, then FBI director, James Comey.

Comey, a man of faith, used the FBI motto as an outline for his talk.

"Fidelity, Bravery, Integrity."

During these backward days, there are forces seeking to locate and identify the agents who employed these principles in their Jan 6th investigations.

I pray their search is unsuccessful.

But in the meantime, I'll let you know where this chaplain is located - He's standing with his friends.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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

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

AA 24-Hour Hotline

For help with an alcohol-related problem, call the Alcoholics Anonymous 24-hour hotline at 209-745-1525.

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.

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

Sunshine Food Pantry Donations

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.

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 planning division@cityofgalt.org.

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

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.

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.

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.

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 to 10 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 209-810-

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Matsui Condemns Trump's Freeze on **Critical Federal Funds**

Rep. Doris Matsui News Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MPG) - On Feb 5., Rep. Doris Matsui (CA-07) and her fellow leaders of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC), including Co-Chairs Reps. Mike Quigley and Paul Tonko and Vice-Chairs Reps. Don Beyer, Suzanne Bonamici, Sean Casten, Mike Levin and Chellie Pingree, released a letter that highlights the real stories that Americans have been sharing as a result of the Trump Administration's illegal freeze on federal funds, which has sown chaos and confusion in communities across the nation.

"As elected members of Congress, we are tasked with the responsible stewardship of taxpayer money to support programs that spur economic growth, advance public health, and protect the health and safety of our children's



Rep Doris Matsui is co-chair of the House Sustainable **Energy and Environment Coalition**. Photo courtesy of Doris Matsui

future. In the past week, we and our members have received an onslaught of outreach from constituents regarding your Administration's multiagency effort to illegally withhold tax-payer funds and rob our communities of promised federal investments," wrote the lawmakers.

"While federal courts have stepped in to halt one of your impoundment orders, we remain

concerned with non-compliance with that court order, and continued direction of other illegal impoundment efforts on the basis of other executive orders. We urge you to immediately comply with federal law and court orders enforcing it, and immediately implement the funding that Congress has already appropriated. The chaos and confusion that you have sown into our communities, by stealing funds from the American people, must stop immediately."

The letter highlighted the real stories that Americans across the nation have been sharing as a result of the Trump Administration's federal funding freeze, particularly highlighting federal programs designed to deliver cost-savings to American families and businesses, a healthy future for our children, and critical financial assistance to disaster-impacted commu-

Locke Foundation to Welcome Year of the Snake with Chinese **New Year Celebration**

By James Xiao

The historic town of Locke is set to host its 17th annual Chinese New Year celebration on Saturday, Feb. 22.

A living monument to Chinese Americans who helped shape the Sacramento River Delta, Locke provides a culturally rich and immersive experience that brings the traditions of the Lunar New Year to life.

This year's festivities will celebrate the Year of the Snake, a symbol of transformation and balance in Chinese culture. From noon to 4 p.m., visitors will be treated to a lively and colorful event featuring traditional performances, cultural workshops and family-friendly activities.

Festivities will begin with a lion dance by the local martial arts team, the Eastern Ways Lions. The Chinese Schoolhouse will feature local artist Annie Zhang demonstrating calligraphy and painting, while the Chinese Capitol Orchestra will perform at the Boarding House Museum. Journalist William G. Wong will discuss his new book, "Sons of Chinatown: A Memoir Rooted in China and America," and historian Maryellen Burns will give a lecture on local history.

Children's programming will include a Chinese Zodiac puppet show and interactive activities at the Jan Ying Museum. Lucky Red Envelopes will be given out to the first 100 children who visit the Locke Boarding House Museum.

The Locke Foundation encourages guests to explore the town's rich history while celebrating the Lunar New Year. The Locke Boarding House Museum will be open to the public, offering insight into the lives of the Chinese residents who built this unique community.

Locke is located 17 miles west of Galt. Admission and parking are free. For more details, email lumys88@gmail.com or visit locke-foundation.org.



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENTS

916-773-2999

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-00204 Paul Pevehouse, 162 Stirup Court, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Name(s) House Repairs" 162 Stirup Court, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 10, 2025 Publish: Jan 24, 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025

2-14-25 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT FBNF2024-09671 Ink House Social, 812 C Street, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ink House Social" 812 Galt CA 95632 with the Clerk of Sacramento County December 30, 2024 Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-00008 Woodworkers,

Sacramento, Souza Circle. CA 95831 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sacramento Area Woodworkers" 7357 Souza Sacramento, Circle. Filed with the Clerk of 95831. Sacramento County January 2, Publish: Jan 24, 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025 WOODWORKERS 2-14

2-14-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-00599 Joseph R Camacho, 865 Golden Heights Drive, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the **Fictitious** Business Name(s) "High Over All Media" 865 Golden Heights Drive, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County January 30, 2025

Publish: February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025

ORDER TO SHOW FOR **CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF **CALIFORNIA** COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE **CHANGE OF NAME**

#25CV001221 Cayla Jo McDonell-Encina has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Cayla Jo McDonell-Encina to Cayla Jo McDonell.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 3, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at Street 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted. Dated: January 15, 2025 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of

the Superior Court Publish: Jan 24, 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO CHANGE OF NAME #25CV001124

Karen Bao Vang has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Karen Bao Vang to Bao Vaaj Nchaiv

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on June 3, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, 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: January 15, 2025 Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: Jan 24, 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DEBRA KAY MCLAUGHLIN AKA DEBRAK. MCLAUGHLIN, DEBRA MCLAUGHLIN, DEBRA ESTRADA CASE NO. 25PR000085

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Debra Kay McLaughlin aka Debra K. McLaughlin, Debra McLaughlin, Debra Estrada.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Bryan J. McLaughlin, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, requesting Bryan J. McLaughlin 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 personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative 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 February 18, 2025, 1:30 p.m. in Dept 129; Superior Court of California, County William R. Sacramento, Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse, 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, CA 95826. IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-

ing of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state vour objections or file written ob-

iections 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 decedent, 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 Attornev for Petitioner is: Ashlev Clower 6207 S. Walnut Street, Suite 800, Loomis, CA, 95650; 916-652-8296

Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 2025 2-14-25 MCLAUGHLIN

SUMMONS

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER: 24CV004320 TO DEFENDANT NOTICE Jerry Edwin Chapman, individually, Jerry Edwin Chapman, as Administrator of the Estate of

Dana Chapman YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: Florence Luna.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days.

Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Center (www.courtinfo. ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Website (www.lawhelpcalifornia. org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo. ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or

arbitration award of \$10,000 or

more in a civil case. The court's

lien must be paid before the court

will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias. la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion.

DIAS CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte v hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que hava un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www. sucorte.ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leves de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le

podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y

Hay otros requisitos legales.

bienes sin mas advertencia.

Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes California, (www.sucorte. ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por lev. la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas v los costos exentos por imponér un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraie en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el The name and address of

the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es). Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Todd A. Murray (SBN 075364), 2377 Gold Meadow Way, Suite 290, Gold River, CA 95670; 916-488-1795. Date: (Fecha) 3/07/2024

Clerk (Secretario) H. Larson, Deputy (Adjunto) Publish: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 2025



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF GALT COMMUNITY **FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2020-1 (PUBLIC SERVICES)** (ANNEXATION NO. 9, FAIRWAY OAKS)

Notice is hereby given that the Galt City Council will hold a Public Hearing on the date and time indicated below, or as soon thereafter that the matter can be heard, to receive and consider all evidence and reports relative to the application described herein. The City Council will take action on the Project.

PROJECT TITLE: Annexation No. 9 (Fairway Oaks) to the Community Facilities District No. 2020-1 (Public Services)

PROJECT LOCATION: The annexation area is the 4 parcels that comprise the Fairway Oaks project along the south side of Glendale Avenue, north side of Cornell Road, west of Highway 99 and east of Southdale Court in the southern portion of the City of Galt. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The City Council will conduct a public hearing with the following

recommendations: Conduct public hearing.

2. Approve resolution of the City Council of the City of Galt, California, calling a Special

Election and submitting to the qualified electors of territory proposed to be annexed to the City of Galt Community Facilities District No. 2020-1 (Public Services), County of Sacramento, State of California, the question of levying special taxes within that Territory (Annexation No. 9 Fairway 4. Conduct election. 5. Approve resolution of the City Council of the City of Galt, acting in its capacity as the

legislative body of City of Galt Community Facilities District No. 2020-1 (Public Services), County of Sacramento. State of California, declaring the results of a special election in such Community Facilities District on the proposition of the annual levy of special taxes within the territory proposed to be annexed to said Community Facilities District to pay the cost of certain services to be provided by the Community Facilities District, determining that the territory proposed to be annexed is added to and part of said Community Facilities District with full legal effect, and ordering the recording of a map of the boundaries of said Community Facilities District including the territory annexed thereto (Annexation No. 9 Fairway Oaks).

6. Conduct a first reading of the Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Galt authorizing the levy of special taxes in Community Facilities District, including certain annexation territory identified as Annexation No. 9 (Fairway Oaks) into City of Galt Community Facilities District No. 2020-1 (Public Services) to complete the annexation of the property to the Community Facilities District

PROPERTY OWNER: Arcadia Development Co., A California Corporation, PO Box 5368

San Jose, CA 95150

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING: DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 6:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter that the matter

can be heard.

Email public comments to the City Clerk at pubcom@cityofgalt.org. If you have issues submitting a written public comment via any of these delivery options or have further questions about the hearing or the proposed project, please contact John Griffin at publicworks@cityofgalt.org or 209-366-7260.

NOTICE REGARDING CHALLENGES TO DECISIONS Pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations, including without limitation, California Government Sections

65009, 66020, and/or California Public Resources Code Section 21177, if you wish to challenge in court any of the above decisions (regarding planning, zoning and/or environmental decisions), you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing(s) described in this notice/agenda, or in written correspondence delivered to the city at, or prior to, this public hearing.

Dated: February 21, 2025

\s\ John Griffin

John Griffin, P.E., Public Works Director

\s\Tina Hubert Tina Hubert, City Clerk

The Galt Herald 2-14-2025

POLICE LOGS

During the time period of Feb. 4 to Feb. 10, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in five arrests.

Feb. 4

2:29 a.m., Burglary, Mama's Sushi & Teriyaki on C Street: Door broken.

7:35 a.m., Burglary, Marengo Road/Walnut Avenue: Storage container broken into.

8:29 a.m., Burglary, Marengo Road/Twin Cities Road: Construction containers broken into.

8:55 a.m., Burglary: Officer initiated activity at Twin Cities Road/Marengo Road.

Feb. 5

8:11 a.m., Burglary, Vinewood Drive: Back door window broken out.

Feb. 6

10:35 a.m., Warrant served/adult arrest, Marengo Road/Chelsham Avenue.

11:04 a.m., Stolen vehicle reported, Adare Way. 6:04 p.m., Trespassing/ adult arrest, Vinewood

Feb. 7

6:18 a.m., Vandalism, Matsuyama Sushi on Twin Cities Road: Glass has a coin-size hole.

3:28 p.m., Hit and run, non-injury, Walmart on Twin Cities Road.

11:02 p.m., Theft reported, Crenshaw Road.

Feb. 8

3:45 a.m., Vandalism reported, Tractor Supply

abio apportations

Company on Twin Cities Road.

Feb. 9

4:44 a.m., Burglary, C Street: Multiple subjects went into the business.

9:46 a.m., Trespassing/ adult arrests, Family Dollar, North Lincoln Way.

10:37 p.m., Fraud reported, Marengo Road: Unauthorized transactions on credit card.

Feb. 10

10:55 a.m., Warrant served/adult arrest, Galt Police Department, Industrial Drive.

12:21 p.m., Theft reported, Three Palms Mobile Estates on Pringle Avenue: Cement planter from front of residence stolen.

ABOUT TOWN

Wilton Bingo Games Monthly

The next bingo will be on Saturday, March 1. Doors open at 5 p.m. with food available for sale and bingo starts at 6 p.m. in the Wilton Community Center (9717 Colony Road, at Dillard Road).

All proceeds go to two non-profits: the local Park Council and the Wilton History Group. Questions, call Lorraine

Robinson at 916-212-8896

American Legion Post 233 Invites **Veterans**

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

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 Listed

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.

Cosumnes DAR 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.

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Volunteer with us and make a heartfelt difference.



SACRAMENTO COUNTY



MEETING MINDERS

Tuesday, Feb. 18 Galt City Council, 6

p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 Cosumnes CSD, 5 p.m.,

Elk Grove CSD boardroom, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

Galt Elementary School

Hall, 380 Civic Drive, 209-745-4545.

Board, 7 p.m., City

Thursday, Feb. 20 Galt High School Board,

6 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Galt Beautification Committee, 10 a.m., Community Development

Dept., 495 Industrial Drive, 209-366-7130.

Galt Chamber Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., (at designated locations), 209-745-2529.

Friday, Feb. 21

Galt Sunrise Rotary, 7 a.m., Comfort Inn & Suites, 10380 Twin Cities Road, 209-745-6617.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

You who have made me see everything and showed me the way to reach my ideals, you who have given me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me, I thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Amen. L.B.

Say this prayer for three days and ask your favor, promise to publish.

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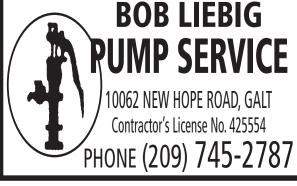
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Will You Be My Valentine?

Happy Valentine's Day! Love is in the air today. Even though we all should believe that love should be spread and celebrated every day, we don't always remember to do that. So, on this dedicated day, go above and beyond in expressing your love for family, friends, and of course your significant other. Today is the day when people express their affection with greetings and gifts.

According to Britannica.com, given their similarities, it has been suggested that the holiday has origins in the Roman festival of Lupercalia, held in mid-February. The festival, which celebrated the coming of spring, included fertility rites and the pairing off of women with the men by lottery.

At the end of the fifth century, Pope Gelasius I forbid the celebration of Lupercalia and is sometimes attributed with replacing it with St. Valentine's Day, but the true origin of the holiday is vague

Valentine's Day did not come to be celebrated as a day of romance until about the 14th century. Although there were several Christian martyrs named Valentine,



the day may have taken its name from a priest who was martyred about 270CE by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter, "from your valentine" to his jailer's daughter whom he had befriended and, by some accounts, healed from blindness.

Other accounts hold that it was St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, for who the holiday was named, though it is possible that the two saints were actually one

Another common legend states the St. Valentine defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. It is for this reason that this feast day is associated with love.

Formal messages, or valentines, appeared in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s commercially printed cards were being used. The first commercial valentines in the United States were printed in the mid-1800s. Valentines commonly depict Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with hearts.

Because it was thought that the avian mating season begins in mid-February, birds also became a symbol of the day. Traditional gifts include candy and flowers, particularly red roses, a symbol of beauty and love. The day is not only popular in the United States, but also in Britain, Canada, France, Mexico and South Korea. In the Philippines it is the most common wedding anniversary, and mass weddings of hundreds of couples are not uncommon on this date.

The holiday has expanded to expressions of affection among relatives and friends. Most schoolchildren exchange valentines with one another on this day.

It is not too late to shower our significant others with love and tokens of our affection.

But you'd better get a move on to make today memorable, or you will be stuck with wilted flowers, valentine cards from the dog and a candy bar. And then it will

be really memorable but not in a good way. LOL!

Now that it is almost spring, well sort of. Let's see – There are three weeks until Daylight Saving Time. Yes, Daylight Saving Time, I know, I know; it was voted to be gone, but it is still hanging around. At least for this year. Anyway, about spring, which is in about five weeks: I have really got to start thinking about a garden. I know I want green onions and

I am thinking about planting the new purple tomatoes that came out last year. They taste the same as red tomatoes but are supposed to be higher in antioxidants and they are PURPLE! That alone is reason enough to want to plant them. And maybe a cucumber and a zucchini squash. That is about all I can handle to keep weeded and watered.

Succulents I can grow. I just plant them, and they get watered when the lawn sprinklers turn on and they get massive. So, I will be planting more of those too.

Until next week – be strong, be courageous, make a memory.

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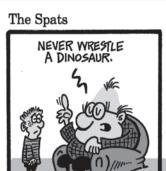
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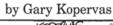




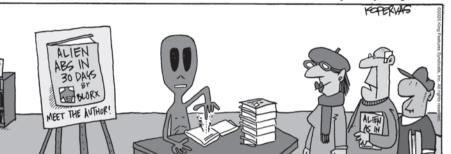








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CLUES

ACROSS

1. Unit of electrical

capacity F 6. Knicks' org.

9. Herring's cousin ity in Belgium

*The Beatles hit "Drive My_

15. Monument to

Buddha 16. Like beer at a kegger

(2 words) 17. Affirmative to

captain

18. Like a beaver? 19. *Che's last name 21. *Stonewall riots location

23. Division of time

24. West African country

25. Refuse to comply 28. *The Jackson 5

co-founder 30. *Don ___

of Barney Fife fame

35. Soon, to a bard 37. Hyperbolic tangent 39. Sunlight's interfer-

ence 40. *Apollo Moon

Landing org.
41. Operatic solos
43. Alexander Hamilton/

Aaron Burr incident 44. Deposit the ashes

46. Related to ear 47. Meat in a can

48. Transport onward, as in letter (2 words)

50. Not written 52. Pilot's estimate, acr.

53. III-mannered one 55. Hawaiian welcome

wreath

57. *Ford's pony car 61. *Assassinated president 65. "_____

_ death do us part" 66. Down Under runner

68. Hindu caste 69. Moonshine maker

70. *Spock's was pointy

71. Comforter stuffing 72. Ruptured 73. Ground cover

74. Coach-and-four

Use a cat o' nine tails
 Hokkaido language

3. Network of nerves 4. Mojave plant

5. Go away 6. March Madness org.

7. *____ of Pigs, failed military operation
8. Madison Square Garden,

e.g. 9. Command to Fido

10. Designer Boss 11. Copycat

12. Sinister side in "Star Wars"

15. Garment-making

20. Yogurt-based dip 22. Benevolent one

24. Hall order keeper 25. *Joplin of "Summer-time" fame 26. Foolish

27. Same as boatswain 29. Tropical tuber

31. Auto pioneer 32. Brownish gray 33. Something yummy 34. *Certain march starting

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20 22 28 29 30 35 37 36 40 41 48 49 53 54 56 63 64 65 66 68 69 70 72 73



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36. Backgammon prede-38. *Place for a flower 42. Part of mermaid's tale

45. Cricket umpire's call (2 words)

49. Not, prefix

51. Optical devices 54. S-shaped moldings

56. Arctic people 57. Necessary thing

58. Archaic preposition 59. *Bob Marley's hit "_

It Up"
60. Fresco piece

61. Kurdistan native 62. Cocoyam 63. Fortune-telling coffee

64. Ready and eager 67. *Zedong of Cultural Revolution

remnants

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

10 • THE GALT HERALD FEBRUARY 14, 2025

Big Sky Women's Golfer of the Week



Sacramento State University Athletics New Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)

- Sacramento State senior Sneha Sharan was named the Big Sky Women's Golfer of the Week, it was announced on Feb. 5. The honor is the first for Sharan this year and the fourth of her career.

Competing at the PDI Intercollegiate in Orlando, Fla., Sharan shot 71-71-71-213 to record the best score for the Hornets. Her 54-hole total is tied for the second lowest of her career and marked the first time this season that she has been below par in each round of a

tournament. The senior completed the tournament with nine birdies, 39 pars and only six bogeys in the three days.

The Bengaluru, India native, leads the team with a scoring average of 72.27 strokes per round this season in 15 rounds. Dating back to the fall, Sharan has now been even par or bet-

This Big Sky Golfer of the Week

award will be added to Sharan's plethora of conference accolades including being chosen as Big Sky Player of the Year for 2023-24.

Sacramento State golf returns to

ter in five consecutive rounds.

Sacramento State golf returns to action at the Causeway Invitational on Feb. 24-25 at Del Paso|Country Club. ★

Left: On Feb. 5, Sacramento State senior Sneha Sharan was named the Big Sky Women's Golfer of the Week. Photo by Sacramento State University Athletics

Beavers Swim to a Pair of Records

American River College News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The American River College Men's Swim and Dive team opened the season on Jan. 31, by setting two new NorCal Relay Records at a swim meet at Los Positas College in Livermore.

First, the Beavers set a record in the 200 Medley Relay (Branson, Pitzer, Long, Tyspan 1:36.41) and then in the 200 Free Relay (Pitzer, Long, Tyspan, Branson in 1:26.57).

In addition to these wins, the men's pair of divers, Juda Ortega and Caden Rutan won both 1-meter and 3-meter diving.

The men's team swam a double dual to open the season vs. Las Positas and Mt. Sac. The men's team was 1-1 with a win over Las Positas and narrow loss to Mt Sac. The men's team returns sophomore All Americans Cayden Pitzer, Gar Long, John Branson and is supported by a strong freshman class including Davyd Tyspan, Josh Sayo, Shane Carter and Caden Rutan.

On Friday Feb. 7, the Los Rios Invite meet was held, with swimming hosted at Sac City College and dive at American River College. Results were not available by press time. ★



American River College swim and dive team members celebrate record breaking performances at Los Positas College on

Ranking Amongst Top 125 Singles Players



UC Davis junior Lucas Bollinger earned the 93rd spot in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's top 125 Division I Men's Singles players. Photo by UC Davis Athletics

UC Davis Athletics News Release

Association announced on Feb. 5.

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - UC Davis junior Lucas Bollinger earned the 93rd spot in the top 125 Division I Men's Singles players, the Intercollegiate Tennis

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association released the ITA Division I Men's National Singles and Doubles Computerized Rankings, on Feb. 5. The rankings feature the Top 125 singles players and the Top 90 doubles teams nationwide.

Bollinger holds down the 93rd spot on the rankings for the Aggies. The junior from Napa has some notable achievements as an Ag on the courts. This spring Bollinger is on a roll and is currently the only Aggie that is undefeated in singles play.

After three canceled matches Bollinger and the Aggies are looking to bounce right back into rhythm. With a renewed focus and determination, they're scheduled to take the court and show what they're truly capable of against Saint Mary's on Feb. 9, after press time.

Kings Celebrate Black History Month

Sacramento Kings News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - On Feb. 3, the Sacramento Kings announced their 25th Annual Black History Month celebration, dedicated to uplifting and honoring the local Black community. Through impactful events, mentorship opportunities and meaningful collaborations, the team continues its tradition of amplifying voices, recognizing leaders, and providing opportunities for diverse youth.

"We are proud to celebrate the profound legacy and enduring influence of the Black community, whose contributions have shaped our shared history and culture," said Sacramento Kings Chief Operating Officer Matina Kolokotronis. "As an organization, we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating pathways for Black and diverse youth to succeed, empowering them to thrive and prioritize their personal and professional growth."

On Feb. 5, the Kings hosted their annual Black History Month and Historically Black Colleges and Universities game as the team takes on the Orlando Magic. Before the game, Lift Every Voice, the Black National Anthem, was performed by

Tayondee Kelly followed by the National

Anthem performed by Jeff Cook. Miss

Spelman College, Mallory Butts, served as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Captain of the Game and co-host for the in-game entertainment. At halftime, sororities and fraternities from the Divine Nine took to the court

the Divine Nine with a special performance. As part of the Kings 916 Amplified initiative, a program that leverages the organization's platform to shine a light on diverse local creatives, artists and small businesses in the Sacramento area, art from the Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum was on display on the arena concourse. In addition, nearly 100 youth

from National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) attended the game and shared resources on the concourse.

On Feb. 8, during the game against the New Orleans Pelicans, the Kings honored the 26th Annual MLK Celebration

Sacramento youth essay winner, who

shared their vision for a better future

and actions to achieve it. Members of the Green Ambitions cohort, a group of 25 Black and Brown youth funded by the NBA Foundation, attended the game and participated in a career panel later in the week. The cohort, which includes

youth affiliated
with GreenTech,
My Brother's
Keeper and United
Way California
Capital Region,
learned about
careers in sports
and entertainment,
with a focus on
sustainability.
The calebration

The celebration will continue Feb. 24, during College Night presented by UC Davis Graduate thool of Management, as ings face the Charlotte

UC Davis Graduate
School of Management, as
the Kings face the Charlotte
Hornets. During the game, the Kings
will announce the recipient of the Future
is Yours Scholarship, awarded in partnership with the Trajectory Foundation
and Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson's G-Unity

Foundation. The scholarship will provide

\$20,000 over four years to assist in higher

education costs. Students from Burbank

High School, ranging from freshmen to seniors who serve on an advisory board dedicated to promoting equity and equality within the Sacramento City Unified School District will also attend the game and participate in a behind the scenes experience with Kings team members.

The NBA Foundation, created in August 2020, is the league's first-ever charitable foundation dedicated to advancing economic opportunity for Black youth. All NBA teams contribute \$1 million annually to support national and local organizations that drive equity and opportunity.

Throughout the month, fans will enjoy

Throughout the month, fans will enjoy food from Kings Pop Up Kitchen featuring the unique flavors of local minority-owned restaurants located at the Market Kitchen stand near Section 201, including Bear West BBQ (2/5), Forgotten Bakery (2/8), Saucy Oysters (2/21) and Dubplate Kitchen and Jamaican Cuisine (2/24).

Peoples Beer Lager and Pride Hazy IPA by Oak Park Brewery will be available at the Power Market Grab and Go near Section 117 and PATH Grab and Go near Section 206.

During the month fans can also purchase merchandise made in collaboration black-owned businesses including Advisry, Brand Seen, and Cross Colours in Label K, the Kings Team Store in DOCO. ★

THE GALT HERALD • 11 FEBRUARY 14, **2025**

LOCAL SPORTS COVERAGE PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Galt Girls' Soccer Claims League Title for First Time in Decades





Warrior Monica Valencia battles Hawks Yoselin Del Toro and Libby Portillo for control of the ball.



Liberty's Keneddy Arechiga pushes off Galt defender Shayla

Story and Photos by Paige Lampson Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - In a momentous achievement that resonates deeply within the community, the Galt Warrior girls' soccer team has clinched the SVC league title, marking their first league championship in decades. While exact records remain elusive, conversations with former coaches reveal no recollection of a previous title, the only hint being a mention in a 1990s yearbook celebrating a league victory almost forgotten in history.

The Warriors finished the season with an impressive record of 12 wins, 1 tie and only 1 loss, which occurred this past week against Liberty Ranch. Their lone tie came against Bradshaw Christian, while their nearest competitor, Rosemont, finished with an 11-3 league record. The Hawks, who took third place, ended their season at 10-3-1.

A key highlight of the season came in the heated rivalry between the Warriors and the Hawks. In their first encounter on Feb. 3, the Warriors emerged victorious with a 2-0 win away at Hawk Stadium. Freshman Brianna Romero and junior Bayley Miller found the back of the net, aided by assists from Monica Valencia and Morgan Erman. This win was particularly special for the Warriors, as victories against their crosstown rivals have been few and far between, with previous wins



Liberty's Juliana Romero and Galt's Katie Dalton in a shoving match.

dating back three years and the Hawks' inaugural season.

The Hawks retaliated in the second matchup, narrowly beating the Warriors 1-0 at Warrior Stadium. Faviola Vasquez scored the only goal of the match with an assist from Juliana Romero. Hawk goalies Zia Rupert and Kennie Thomas combined for an impressive seven saves, while Warrior goalie Kylee Chapman recorded nine saves.

New head coach Alejandro Renteria, who previously coached the Galt boys' team, took the reins of the girls' program



Warrior Emilyann Sheldon and Hawk Faviola Vasquez attack the ball at the same time.

this season. Renteria expressed pride in his team's accomplishment, stating, "Having played in this game myself many times, I know what the pressure is like and I know it can get to the kids. The win against the Hawks and the league title feels really good because my goal this year was to do something with these girls and to try and

Renteria continued, "I know that is a high bar to set, but I saw the talent and I felt like they just needed guidance. I really hope that what we're doing is working. This is the fruits of our labor. We have been working on our conditioning, and we work really hard at practice, and it is paying off. Props to Liberty Ranch; they are a really talented, well-coached team. It is great to have such good teams to compete against in our town."

With the regular season concluded and the playoffs on the horizon, the Galt Warrior girls' soccer team has not only made history but has fostered a renewed sense of pride within the community. The playoffs begin on Feb. 14, and fans are left wondering just how far this resilient team can go as they chase the section title. ★

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Girls Soccer

School 12-1-1 League Champions Galt Rosemont 11-3 Liberty Ranch 10-3-1 Bradshaw 5-5-4 Argonaut 6-7-1 **Union Mine** 2-7-5 El Dorado 3-11 Amador 0-12-2

Boys Soccer School 13-1 Co-League Champions Liberty Ranch Galt 13-1 Co-League Champions El Dorado 8-4-2 Bradshaw 7-7 Rosemont 6-7-1 Amador 4-8-1 Argonaut 1-12 **Union Mine** 1-13

Girls Basketball

School Liberty Ranch 13-0 League Champions Union Mine Argonaut 9-4 El Dorado 7-6 Amador 6-7 Rosemont 4-9 Galt 2-11 Bradshaw 0 - 13

Boys Basketball School Union Mine Argonaut Liberty Ranch 9-3 Rosemont Bradshaw 5-7 El Dorado 4-8 Amador 3-9 Galt 0 - 13

Hawk Girls' Wrestling Nabs League Title

By Paige Lampson Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - In a remarkable display of talent and determination, the Liberty Ranch High School girls' wrestling team has returned home triumphant after securing the 2025 SVC League Championship. Competing at the league tournament held in El Dorado, the nine-member squad not only showcased their wrestling prowess but also united as a team to bring home an impressive collection of medals, celebrating their group accomplishment.

The team's victory paves the way for even greater ambitions as they now shift their focus to individual championships. During the recent tournament, five standout athletes earned the prestigious title of All-League after claiming first place in their respective weight classes. Kaydince Silva, Jordan Gold, Shaylah Sarganis, Veronika Shayhen and Merlina Panteleon all emerged as champions, further spot-

In a commendable

lighting the depth and skill within the roster.



Courtesy photo of Liberty Ranch girls' wrestling team.

performance, Hawk Amealiah Muela also made waves, finishing strong with a second-place finish in her category, demonstrating the overall strength and competitiveness of the Liberty Ranch girls' wrestling program.

together." Coach Brian Robinson praised the team for its extraordinary effort and

commitment throughout hopeful for more accomplishments. Success here

"These young women

have put in countless hours of hard work and dedication," said Robinson. "Their success at the league championships reflects their passion for the sport and their ability to overcome challenges As they prepare for

the upcoming Master's Tournament, the team is

could lead to an even

tunity: competition at the California State Tournament. With a strong finish this

more prestigious oppor-

season and aspirations for state-level success, the future looks bright for the Liberty Ranch team. Fans and followers of the program are encouraged to continue supporting these talented athletes as they aim for glory in the matches ahead.

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Warriors Stun Hawks to Share League Title in Thrilling Crosstown Clash

Story and Photos by Paige Lampson **Sports Editor**

GALT, CA (MPG) - In a spectacular showdown, the Galt Warriors took on the Liberty Ranch Hawks on Feb. 10, with the league title hanging in the balance. The stakes were high, as the Hawks arrived at Hawk Stadium with a perfect 13-0 record, having secured a league title no matter what the outcome, while the Warriors, sitting in second place at 12-1, yearned for revenge after their season's only loss to Liberty Ranch.

The atmosphere was electric as both teams battled through a fast-paced and physical match. The referees allowed the players to fully engage, and by halftime, neither side had found the back of the net. with the score locked at

Tensions ran high, and both teams prepared for an intense second half, knowing that every play could dictate the outcome of the league title.

In an astonishing turn of events, the Warriors clinched their victory without ever scoring themselves. A mishap by a Hawk defender led to one of the most bizarre goals of the season, as he inadvertently headed the ball into his own net, giving Galt a 1-0 victory and securing a share of the league



Hawk defender Aiden Rivera protects the ball from a flying Hayden Miller.

championship.

This unprecedented result leaves both the Warriors and the Hawks as SVC league champions, a remarkable feat for a town that prides itself on its soccer rivalries. After the match, Liberty Ranch head coach Garett Arechiga demonstrated true sportsmanship, crossing the field to shake hands with every player on the Galt side, praising their effort and determination.

Warrior senior Jaylen Mendez reflected on the match by saying, "We kept our heads high. We knew they were going to come out and play hard and fast. We had to set the tone and keep pushing on them. This was the hardest game against the best team we played all year. At the end, a few cards were

thrown, and our emotions were high, but we got the win and that is all that matters. Props to our goalie Adam and our defenders who saved us. What a heck of a game."

Defensive stalwart Breen Velasquez echoed Mendez's sentiments: "At practice, we just put in the work. JP (coach Parra) talked to me personally and told me what to do to fix it, so when I came here. I didn't come to lose," he said, acknowledging the preparation that went into facing the fearsome Hawk offense.

Head coach Julian Parra rallied his team in a huddle after the game, emphasizing their shared victory.

'We can share the league title, but there is one thing we aren't going to share and that is the section title," he declared. "You have value, you have personality, and you belong here. From now until Friday, every time you sweat and every time we do a drill from now until the section playoffs, it's for a purpose."

Coach Parra said they had the first game, where things didn't go Galt's way, in the back of their minds

"First and foremost, I would like to give all glory to Jesus," said Parra. "We look to him a lot, especially me after that first game I had to rely back on my faith. I would like to thank Liberty Ranch because they are a hell of a team. They are the best team we have played all season by far. I don't think the rivalry has a lot to do with it; I just think coach



Galt's Christian Gomez jumps over Hawk goalie Raj Pillay to



The battle for a goal as Galt Goalie Adam Preciado bats the ball away.

Garett has it set that way.

"They are solid in every aspect and it is really hard to break them down. We were lucky tonight to do so. I am very grateful to be in the position I am. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for coach Garett and the love that I have for that man, and everything he has going over there is really special. We also have a really good group of boys here who really

want it and we are hoping for bigger things. We are just happy to be co-league champions with our friends next door; that is friendship right there."

As both teams prepare for the Division 4 section playoffs kicking off Friday, Feb. 14, the spirit of camaraderie and rivalry shines brightly, fostering friendships that exemplify the true spirit of high school athletics.

Senior Season Celebrations



Calderon, Libby Portillo, Yoselin Del toro, Serena Tarifa, Nimran Dhaliwal, Jojo Martinez and Hailey Katen. Photo courtesy of Ellie



Galt High School Boys Soccer Seniors: Gilberto Coss, David Morales Jr., Ulisses Yepez, Josue Diaz, Hayden Miller, Jaylen Mendez, Anthony Zambrano, Ben Stratton, Breen Velazquez, Sebastian Gonzalez, Victor Gonzalez, Christian Gomez, Kitto Gonzalez, Logan Rose (not pictured) with coach Julian Parra. Photo by Paige Lampson



League Champion Galt High girls' soccer seniors: Morgan Erman, Kylee Chapman, Emilyann Sheldon, Krista Meier, Monica Valencia with coach Alejandro Renteria. Photo by Paige



League Champion Liberty Ranch girls' basketball seniors: Summer McCoy, Kendall Duryee and Aneesa Barnes. Photo by Paige Lampson



Liberty Ranch Boys Basketball Seniors: Wyatt Blevins, Jimmy Lopez, Elliott Hawker, Kobe Aguillen, Camren Hudson and Joseph Adams. Courtesy photo



Kylee Chapman, Galt Soccer



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



GALT HERALD



Faviola Vasquez, Liberty Ranch



EZ Duarte, Liberty Ranch Soccer