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Bok Kai Festival Shines Once Again



Above: Acrobatic Lion Dancers perform near the judges table during the annual Bok Kai parade on March 1 in Marysville. Right: Isabella Wong, the 2025 Bok Kai hostess, waves to the crowd during the annual Bok Kai parade on March 1 in downtown Marysville. Photos by Chris Pedigo

By Shamaya Sutton

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - The 145th Bok Kai festival was an explosive success in Marysville this past weekend starting with the Bok Kai Hostess Reception dinner on Feb. 28 at Peach Tree Golf and Country Club. This was the first time in several years that the Marysville Chinese Community held an official Bok Kai Hostess dinner, an event that included many monetary gifts and certificates presented to 16-year-old Isabella Wong

- this year's Bok Kai hostess. "I had a lot of fun," said Wong, "I had no idea how much of an honor this would be." The Bok Kai Parade was held the following morning on March 1 on a clear crisp day full of sunshine. Nearly 50 entries caravanned through the historic streets of downtown Marysville, followed by the sound of gongs, drumbeats and firecrackers. "I personally love the marching bands," said Gary Jensen, one of the

Bok Kai parade announcers hosted by 93Q Radio. Speaking of bands, the Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts placed first in the category of High School band. Next was Edgewater Elementary, which took first in the category of K-5 bands. The Bing Ong Award went to the Andros Karperos School band and the Katie Lim Youth Award to Anna McKenney Band. Yuba County *Continued on page 2*

CASA Program Needs Volunteers

By Shaunna Boyd

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - Marysville Mayor Chris Branscum commended Court Appointed Special Advocates for the work they're doing during the Feb. 18 Marysville City Council meeting. The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), a nonprofit organization supporting local foster youth, gave a presentation at the meeting.

Court Appointed Special Advocates representatives explained that the program began 50 years ago when a judge realized he didn't have enough information to make life-changing decisions for the children who came through his courtroom. So, Court Appointed Special Advocates volunteers stepped in to serve as the voice of the children and share their needs with the court.

The local Court Appointed Special Advocates chapter has been working in Placer County for 20 years and expanded to Yuba County in 2023. Volunteers undergo a background check and 30 hours of extensive in-person training to learn about the court system and rights of the children. They advocate for the children's best interests in the court, as well as ensuring they receive proper medical care and school support.

There are approximately 60,000 foster youth in California, the highest in the nation. In Yuba County, 130 children are in foster care. Court Appointed Special Advocates is currently serving 40, so more volunteers are needed.

Foster youth experience significant trauma and stress, which puts them at higher risk for poor school performance and behavioral issues, as well as potential sex trafficking and future homelessness, according to the presentation. Having just one person who consistently shows up and focuses on their needs can dramatically improve outcomes for foster youth, the presenters said. Court Appointed Special Advocates assigns volunteers to the children most in need of that support, ensuring they experience the comfort of weekly outings with a trusted adult.

Court Appointed Special Advocates volunteers learn about the children's needs directly from the source, and they share that information with the judge on *Continued on page 9*

Spring Comes Early

A Seasonal Transformation to the Yuba-Sutter Region:



A field of mustard flowers off Highway 99 Northbound toward Yuba City. Mustard. Mustard cover crops help suppress weeds, improve soil health, and provide a natural form of pest control. Courtesy photo

By Shamaya Sutton

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - While much of the country still grapples with winter's chill, the Yuba-Sutter region in Northern-Central California is already embracing the arrival of spring. Thanks to the area's mediterranean climate, residents and farmers alike regularly witness the early

emergence of fragrant blossoms and vibrant crop cover that signal the coming of summer. In the fertile valley surrounding Yuba City and Marysville, February and early March bring an explosion of color to the landscape. Almond orchards, which are plentiful in the region, are among the first to display their

delicate pink and white blossoms. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, these early blooms serve as both a visual spectacle and a crucial indicator to local farmers who rely on successful pollination for their annual yield. Following closely behind, fruit trees such as peaches, plums, and cherries add to the

floral display, painting the region in soft pastels well before spring officially begins on the calendar. Another unmistakable sign of the changing season is the appearance of mustard plants blanketing fields, roadsides, and orchard floors. These gold-en-yellow crop covers are more than just picturesque: *Continued on page 12*

California Community Colleges Celebrate Career Education Month

California Community Colleges News Release

BUTTE, CA (MPG) - The California Community Colleges, the nation's largest workforce training provider, celebrates February's Career Education Month by highlighting the powerful role their programs play in shaping California's workforce and boosting its economy. Serving more than 2 million learners annually across 116 campuses, the system offers cutting-edge, hands-on career training, paving the way for high-wage, high-growth careers.

"California Community Colleges are leading the way in career education, providing students with the skills needed for high-demand jobs in key industries such as healthcare, climate action, agriculture, technology and artificial intelligence," said California Community Colleges Chancellor Sonya Christian. "In alignment with Vision 2030, our system is driving multiple innovative workforce initiatives to meet the rapidly evolving demands of the job market. As emerging technologies reshape the world of work, we are committed to supporting employers, equipping working Californians with the skills to advance their careers, and strengthening our state's diverse communities to fuel a sustainable workforce and economic growth."

The California Community Colleges' work is guided by its strategic plan, Vision 2030, which aims to create a workforce that thrives on innovation, inclusivity, and skills-based education. There are eight demonstration projects that are key to achieving the Vision 2030 goals, including: The Central Valley Transfer; Credit for Prior Learning; Pathways for Learners with Low Incomes; Mental Health for Veterans; Common Cloud Data Platform; Apprenticeship Pathways; Rising Scholars; and the Nursing Demonstration Project. These projects



Bek Gray, Butte College Accelerated RN Track program graduate. Photo courtesy

have already started to expand pathways for those who may have thought a college education was out of reach.

The Nursing Demonstration Project includes a new program at Butte College, the Accelerated Registered Nursing (RN) Track, which speeds up the program from four semesters over two years to three semesters over one. It's a program that is already setting up students, like 24-year-old Bek Gray, for success.

"This accelerated program changed my life. It opened so many doors for me," said Gray.

Gray, along with three siblings, grew up in a single parent household and had to learn how to care for herself at a young age. As soon as she was old enough, she moved out and into her own place.

"When I did finally get out it was this overwhelming feeling of, 'Wow, I do have control now,'" Gray said.

Living alone at 18, she was completely responsible for all her needs, and she succeeded by embracing her independence and getting right to work, first as a caregiver and then—for the past three years—as a Certified Nursing Assistant at California Park Rehabilitation Hospital.

Last year, Gray became part of the first cohort of Butte's Accelerated RN Track. While she admits the pace of the course was challenging, she said accomplishing the work was made possible by instructors and her classmates working as a team.

"This year was the most enlightening and transformative of my life. I feel I've changed the way I approach others, saving space and being present. Presence is so emphasized in nursing, having one of the most lasting impacts on our patients," Gray said.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 73 districts and 116 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. California community colleges provide career education and workforce training; guaranteed transfer to four-year universities; and degree and certificate pathways. As the state's engine for social and economic mobility, the California Community Colleges supports Vision 2030, a strategic plan designed to serve our students, our communities, and our planet. For more information, please visit the California Community Colleges website or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter). ★

Dispute over Marysville State Theater Leads to Lawsuit



On Feb. 7, Donald Melvin filed a lawsuit against California Partners LLC, James R. Norris, Eva Hollo, The Testate and Intestate Successors of George Benny and the City of Marysville. Courtesy Photo

By Shamaya Sutton

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - On Feb. 7, Donald Melvin filed a lawsuit against California Partners LLC, James R. Norris, Eva Hollo, The Testate and Intestate Successors of George Benny and the City of Marysville.

This dispute appears to be regarding the historic state theater in Marysville, which has been closed since 1996.

Hollo and Benny, both now deceased, had been doing business under California Partners LLC that currently owns the theater. Over the decades, various local news outlets have covered the company's tumultuous relationship with the City of Marysville.

This past summer, Melvin identified himself as the theater's owner during a live broadcast interview with CBS News. In 2017,

an area newspaper identified Melvin as the theater's property manager and he also appeared to serve as a liaison for Hollo and Benny during encounters with Marysville city legislators.

However, Melvin's relation and motive to this case is unclear.

The case management conference is set for 1:30 p.m. June 16 at the Yuba County Superior Court with Stephen Berrier serving as judicial officer. ★

The Hall Sisters to Perform in Oroville



The Hall Sisters will showcase the talent and charm that led them into the national spotlight and inner circle of the music industry in a special concert at State Theatre in Oroville, California on Thursday, March 20 at 7 p.m. Photo courtesy of Live On Stage, Inc.

Live On Stage, Inc. News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Hall Sisters will showcase the talent and charm that led them into the national spotlight and inner circle of the music industry in a special concert at State Theatre in Oroville on Thursday, March 20 at 7 p.m. T

The Hall Sisters are one of the industry's hottest up-and-coming, premier acts in the country/pop genre, having already performed in iconic venues such as Carnegie Hall and The Grand Ole Opry. The sibling quartet marries stunning harmonies and brilliant musicianship with engaging, uplifting and family-friendly music. Owing to their upbringing in a home filled with music from a wide range of artists and genres, their show features heart-wrenching ballads and instrumentals, fiery fiddle tunes, and country music classics, sprinkled with pop. Their repertoire features, but is not limited to, hit songs like "Good To Be Alive," "Bookdocks," "Boogie

Woogie Bugle Boy," and more!

Established in 1952, the Oroville Concert Association ("OCA") presents an annual concert series to Oroville as an expression of their mission: "to offer every man, woman and child in this community the opportunity to experience the magic of affordable, live, quality performances by bringing audiences and professional artists together." The Oroville Concert Association also provides free matinees for local schools, serving thousands of students each year. Through the generous support of patrons and sponsors, evening concert series tickets are offered at affordable family friendly prices.

Tickets are available online at orovilleconcertassociation.org or at the door on the night of the concert for \$35 each for adults. Students attending with a paying adult will be admitted for \$15 at the door. For more information, call 530-520-4238 or 530-990-3316 or email info@orovilleconcertassociation.org. ★

Bok Kai Festival Shines Once Again

Continued from page 1

Office of Education won Best of Parade and Ellyson Chiropractic took Best of Parade Theme, which was Year of the Snake. And finally, the Judges Award went to 4-H.

After the parade, a crew of skilled Chinese Lion Dancers traveled through town to bless the storefronts of participating businesses. These acrobatic spectacles involved plenty of firecrackers and the tossing of sacrificial lettuce or cabbage. Visiting spectators documented the shenanigans on their way to visit the rarely open Bok Kai temple for a glimpse into traditional Taoist culture.

"I never even knew this was here or how much history Marysville had," said Carmichael resident Ian Kearney as he perused the artifacts of the Bok Kai Museum.

Meanwhile, local bands played outside the Woodbutcher and music students showcased their progress at the Institute of Rock.

to get the kids up on stage doing what they love," said Stevie Bogan, the Institute of Rock's owner.

Bogan was also celebrating his own accomplishments with the release of "Banter with Bear", a new podcast series focused on professional musicians and many of Bogan's interesting acquaintances.

At 9 p.m., Bogan took the stage with his Irish rock band ONOFF to close the day out after a dazzling fireworks show by Devastating PYRO.

Sunday, March 2, was a tad cooler and wetter

but the Bok Kai festival trudged on. The streets were filled with the smell of smoke and barbecue as hot rod engines competed against the sound of distant firecrackers. At the corner of First and C streets, a mix of martial artists and cultural dancers entertained the crowds while judges sampled an assortment of delectable ribs.

There were six official entries for the Bok Kai rib cookoff this year and the winners were as follows: "Nice Racks" in first place, Jon Otto in second place and JTK for people's choice. ★



This year's Judges Award for the annual Bok Kai parade went to the 4-H Club, featured on March 1 in downtown Marysville. Photo by Chris Pedigo

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MEMORIAL

ELISABETH ANN WOOD • 10/11/1949 - 02/16/2025

Elisabeth Ann Wood, her husband Woody, affectionately known as Lizzy, went home to be with her Lord & Savior on Sunday, February 16th at the age of 75. She was born October 11, 1949, in Marysville, CA, to the late Eugene & Cecilia Ahart & is preceded in death by her husband, Richard Wood, & her sister, Louise Ahart. Lizzy's joy in life included building & running the ranch business with

her husband Woody, the love of her life & best friend. Her beloved Corgi dogs as well as the stray pup, Chico, who captured her heart, also brought her immense joy. Lizzy strongly believed in treating others in the way she would want to be treated herself as was evidenced by her very generous & giving heart. Fond memories of Lizzy will always be cherished by all who knew & loved her.

A memorial service will be held in Lizzy's honor on Saturday, March 8th at 1 pm at Iowa City Ranch, 3164 Iowa City Ranch Road, Marysville. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your favorite charity in Lizzy's name. Gravesite service was held Wednesday, March 5th at Peoria Cemetary, Browns Valley. Holycross Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Former Juvenile Hall Educator Sentenced in Child Predator Sting Case

Yuba County District Attorney News Release

YUBA COUNTY, CA (MPG) - One of the suspects arrested during last summer's child predator sting was sentenced to probation in Yuba County Superior Court on Feb. 24. Moises Hernandez Cordero Jr., 39, of Rancho Cordova, was sentenced to two years' formal probation and 45 days in the Yuba County Jail for contacting a minor for sexual purposes and attempting to possess child pornography. The grant of probation was made by the court over the objection of the Yuba County District Attorney's Office, who asked for state prison time.

Cordero, an educator at Sacramento Juvenile Hall at the time, was arrested as part of the multi-agency child predator sting led by Yuba County District Attorney's Office and the Yuba County Sheriff's Office. The undercover operation – called Summer Sentinel – resulted in the

arrests of 14 suspects who had engaged in sexually explicit messages and arranged meetings with who they thought were young girls. Fortunately, instead of coming face-to-face with a child, the suspects were met by agents from various regional departments and arrested.

"We're disappointed that this would-be victimizer got a slap on the wrist," Yuba County District Attorney Clint Curry said. "There is consolation that he will no longer have access to children through employment. We hope parents use this undercover operation as a learning opportunity to talk with their children about who they interact with online."

Cordero communicated with an undercover officer posing as a 13-year-old girl and was explicit in his plans to have sex with her. He arranged to meet who he thought was the girl, but his plans fell through when he got a flat tire. He will have to register as a sex offender for life. ★

Sites Reservoir to Receive Federal Funding

Sites Reservoir News Release

MAXWELL, CA (MPG) - The week of Feb. 24, the Trump Administration released federal funding, previously allocated through the Bureau of Reclamation, to the Sites Reservoir Project (Project) to expand California's water storage capacity for the future.

"Thanks to bipartisan support from our federal partners, we've been able to make significant progress on Sites Reservoir, which is now nearing the start of construction," said Fritz Durst, chair of the Sites Project Authority Board of Directors. "Sites Reservoir is a critical piece of California's long-term water resiliency, and this funding helps move us closer to creating a reliable water source for our communities, farms and environment."

Jerry Brown, executive director of the Sites Project Authority said, "We appreciate the Trump Administration's release of these critical funds, underscoring the federal government's ongoing commitment to

Sites Reservoir. We look forward to continuing to work with our federal partners to move this critical project forward and deliver on the benefits it will provide to our participants across the state."

Sites Reservoir will provide 1.5-million acre-feet of off-stream storage, capturing and storing excess flows from the Sacramento River, substantially improving the state's water flexibility, reliability and resiliency in drier years. The project is backed by a broad coalition of cities, counties, water agencies and irrigation districts across California, including the Sacramento Valley, San Joaquin Valley, Bay Area and Southern California.

The Sites Reservoir Project is an off-stream reservoir proposed north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where it would provide unique water supply and environmental benefits during dry periods, especially during extended drought. Additional information can be found at sitesproject.org or on Facebook, Instagram and X at @SitesProject. ★

Gallagher Celebrates New Sites Reservoir Funding from Trump Administration



James Gallagher
Assemblyman
James Gallagher
News Release

Colusa County.

"When President Trump took office, he promised more water for California farms and families. On Feb. 25, he delivered on that commitment," said Gallagher. "The state has dragged this project out for decades while Californians have been forced to get by with less. It's time to get this thing done."

When completed, Sites Reservoir will allow California to store an additional 1.5-million-acre feet of water, enough to meet the needs of 7.5 million people for a year. Building Sites is projected to create roughly 2,000 jobs for North State workers.

Last September, the project hit a roadblock when regulators with the Biden and Newsom administrations refused to issue necessary permits.

In 2016, California voters demanded action to improve our water supply when they passed Proposition 1, which promised an additional \$2.7 billion for water storage projects. Nearly a decade later, not a single new dam has been built.

Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher represents California's 3rd Assembly District, which includes Butte, Glenn, Sutter, Tehama, Yuba and parts of Placer counties. ★

PG&E Conducts Night Work Along Oro Dam Boulevard East



Work will take place at night so as to reduce traffic impacts, which include detours and traffic reduced to a single lane at locations in the westbound direction, between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. March into June, weather permitting. Photo courtesy of PG&E

PG&E News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and its contract crews will conduct a safety inspection on a section of natural gas transmission pipe in Oroville.

This week, PG&E crews and contractors will begin work to prepare for the strength test by excavating at various points along the pipe, which runs under the westbound lanes of Oro Dam Boulevard East from Feather River to Lincoln boulevards.

Work will take place at night to reduce traffic impacts, which include detours and traffic reduced to a single lane at locations in the westbound direction, between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday nights to Friday mornings from March into

June, weather permitting. There will sometimes be lighting at work sites and steel plates on the road.

About one mile of an 8-inch diameter natural gas pipeline will be tested in segments in April and May, with the project completed in June. PG&E has notified residential and business customers in the area. There will be no interruptions of natural gas service to customers.

This type of safety test requires PG&E to temporarily take the pipe out of service to fill it with water, which is then pressurized to three times the line's maximum operating pressure (MAOP), an industry practice used to identify any anomalies in the pipeline that might need further examination or repair.

These tests are part of

PG&E's ongoing commitment to deliver safe, reliable natural gas service to customers and communities it serves.

If needed, crews will repair or replace parts of the pipeline before returning it to service.

This routine safety testing is mandated by the California Public Utilities Commission and will help enhance the safety and reliability of the area's natural gas service. The strength test confirms the gas pipeline's integrity and operating pressure.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16-million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit pge.com. ★

The Brownsville Bailinick & Beyond

Yuba Feather Community Services yearly election has been postponed until April (it usually happens in March). This is a group that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the community center and manages the community center and parks. This is an open community meeting and you are most welcome to attend. It is a JOB: bathrooms, grass, rentals and more! If you have your membership slip in by March 11, you are able to vote for the empty places on the board. There will be membership applications at Stone Soup and the community Breakfast as well as at Books & More. Please consider being part of the group that keeps the community center going. If you are interested in renting part of the hall, please call Books & More – 530 675-3275.

The monthly community breakfast is on Sunday, March 9, from 8 – 11 at

the Ponderosa Community Center in Brownsville. Remember daylight "saving" time starts that day, too This is a project supported by Yuba Feather Next Step serving a very tasty breakfast: pancakes or French toast, scrambled eggs with ham or sausage, biscuits and gravy all for \$10.00. Then there is a Special Breakfast offered each month, a culinary delight, for \$14: special German pancakes with lots of trimmings is on the menu this month.

It is time to plant pansys, but not petunias, peas but not green beans, certainly not tomatoes. Maybe another winter storm or two, but then spring happens.

Look Back in Time – In 1909 Alohanse Dubuque won first prize in the La Porte Snowshoe races at 14 seconds on the 1,800 ft. track (so speedy).

Hope to see you in Brownsville soon.
~ Yvonne

Purge of Federal Support Jolts Agriculture

The Trump administration's mass firing of federal employees and its withholding of federal funds during the past month have impacted farmers who for decades have partnered with the federal government for conservation, infrastructure and equipment upgrades, research and other work critical to agriculture. "We have been constantly assessing the impacts because these actions touch so many areas of the federal government that farmers and ranchers interact with," said Erin Huston, natural resources and land consultant for the California Farm Bureau.

State Water Board Delays Probation for Kern Subbasin

Groundwater agencies in Kern County have been given more time to improve their groundwater sustainability plans and potentially avoid state intervention. Citing significant progress in the agencies' plans to bring the critically overdrafted Kern County Subbasin into sustainability by 2040 under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, or SGMA, the California State Water Resources Control Board last week continued its hearing to

Sept. 17 on whether to place the subbasin in probationary status.

Heavy Bee Mortality Puts Almond Pollination at Risk

California almond orchards have turned snowy white, signaling the start of bloom. However, beekeepers say that bee mortality rates are at an all-time high, and they are concerned there may not be enough honeybees to pollinate the 2025 almond crop. "The commercial beekeeping industry is experiencing significant hive losses nationwide," said Ryan Burris, president of the California State Beekeepers Association.

Record Winegrape Acreage Left Unpicked Last Season

California's winegrape sector continues to reel from a shrinking market that has left the state with too much vineyard acreage and, year after year, an oversupply of grapes. Last year, more than a tenth of the state's crop was left unpicked, according to industry estimates presented last month at the Unified Wine and Grape Symposium in Sacramento. "I don't think there's ever been a time when we left that many acres of grapes on the vine," said Jeff Bitter, president of Allied Grape Growers. ★

Lacking the Capacity to Store Water That Atmospheric Rivers Dump on the State



By Dan Walters,
CALMatters.org

President Donald Trump is obsessed with how California manages its water supply, demanding changes as one price of giving the state billions of dollars in aid to cope with Southern California's deadly and destructive wildfires.

However, Trump's specific complaints are not grounded in hydrologic or managerial reality — such as his insistence that a lack of water from Northern California was a factor in either the fires' eruption or the firefighting efforts. Hydrants dried up largely because systems were designed to deal with individual structure fires, not widespread wildfires involving thousands of buildings.

That said, there's much to criticize in how California, once a global leader in large-scale water management, has faltered. Population growth and evolving agricultural practices have increased demand, while federal and state environmental laws, judicial decisions, political foot-dragging and climate change have restricted supply.

One major failing has been a slow response to an obvious need for more water storage — either in reservoirs or underground aquifers — to capture winter rains and spring snowmelts as a buffer for dry years.

Scientists believe that even if California's overall water supply from rain and snow storms doesn't decline, wet and dry cycles have become more intense, and more precipitation is coming as rain instead of snow. Thus the natural reservoirs of snowpacks in the Sierra and other mountain ranges are becoming less dependable, increasing the need for supplemental storage.

California's most recent experiences — two wet winters that defied some forecasts — underscore the need.

A new report from the Public Policy Institute of California points out that the atmospheric rivers that dropped immense quantities of rain and snow on the state this month, following a very dry January, did not result in substantial new storage in the state's major reservoirs.

"Rather than storing all the water they can, during the winter reservoir operators are required to maintain enough space in their reservoirs to capture high inflows and reduce the risk of flooding downstream," PPIC researchers Jeffrey Mount and Greg Gartrell wrote.

"When the February storms arrived, the surge of water into the state's two largest reservoirs — Shasta and Oroville — quickly filled the flood reserve space. Because the winter flood season is far from over, dam operators had no choice but to let the water go to make space for possible future floods.

"And they let go a lot of water. Between February 1 and 18, those two reservoirs alone released more than 2 million acre-feet of water into the Sacramento and Feather Rivers to maintain

space for future stormwater."

An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons and 2 million-acre feet equates to more than half of Oroville's capacity, or about 20% of what Californians consume each year for non-agricultural purposes.

Overall, Mount and Gartrell calculated, 5.1 million acre-feet of water flowed into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta from storm runoff and reservoir releases during that period in February. Just 4% of it could be diverted into storage because of insufficient capacity and operational mandates.

Even a relatively tiny increase in storage capacity could pay huge dividends when wet winters such as this evolve into periods of drought. Had the long-proposed Sites Reservoir on the west side of the Sacramento Valley existed, it could have banked as much as 1.5 million acre-feet of that excess flow.

California's water managers acknowledge the need for more storage to take advantage of high-precipitation winters such as this one, but clearing all of the legal and financial hurdles and actually building it take decades.

Sites, first proposed seven decades ago, is just now beginning to appear feasible.

The hydrological reality of California's water supply is changing faster than our willingness to deal with it. The outcome of that disparity is perilous.

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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The Why and How of Gold

During Money Matters seminars I remind attendees that a dollar in your hand is better than a dollar in the bank. This is because a dollar in the bank is only yours if the bank gives it to you. Which, of course, in the worst of times, may not be a foregone conclusion. Banks aren't always open and some banks, as we have seen, close for good. Hey, it happens.

But there is also a problem with that dollar in your hand. If the Federal Reserve, the entity that essentially controls the greenback, prints a lot of them, we can get close to what I call the Mexican Peso moment.

A Mexican Peso moment means that if the Mexican government prints a lot of Pesos, the Peso may become worth less. Hopefully they don't print so many of them that they actually become worthless altogether. This event when a government goes hog wild and overprints tons of their currency is known as monetary inflation.

Gold has been a refuge at times for monetary inflation and I mention gold today because the price of gold has been on a tear lately. Reaching new highs almost every week, from the low of about \$2,000/oz. where it seemed stuck after a run up a year or so back, its price now presses up against \$3,000.00/oz. at the time of this writing.

Seemingly off the radar screens of many an investor and certainly off the screens of the evening news, its recent rise has been nothing short of stellar.

In the past, when the price of gold finally does make it to the evening news, it usually has risen so high so fast, even the average Joe becomes aware of the price rise and starts thinking he should buy some.

So back to the Mexican Peso moment.

Humans have flocked to gold for centuries to protect against monetary inflation caused by excessive money printing. Although there is more than one way to counter inflation, gold has been a popular one.

In recent years, Bitcoin and other cyber coins like it have also been thought to protect against inflation. But Bitcoin has its limitations when checking all the boxes versus gold.

For instance, many people around the globe don't have access to a computer for whatever the reason.

Gold on the other hand can be held in your hand, passed around, bartered with, and basically exists in physical form. Cyber coins, by their very definition, exist only in cyberspace.

Gold also has centuries of history

whereas cyber coins are relative newbies on the investment scene.

For many of the reasons I have detailed above, gold is the ultimate bird-in-the-hand asset. Not that there are not advantages Bitcoin has over gold, but if we go by the premise a bird-in-the-hand is better than a bird somewhere else, gold has the history and physical properties to be arguably the best asset going.

The question then becomes should one hold actual physical gold or buy something like gold stock indexes, gold mining stocks, or many of the physical gold proxies where ones gold is held somewhere else like a vault in Switzerland.

That of course is left up to the investor but there are distinct differences between holding physical gold versus the other proxies mentioned above.

When you hold physical gold, you depend on no one to fulfill their promise to give it back to you because you already hold it. When you have someone else like a bank or trust hold your gold, you are at the whim of a promise being fulfilled and we all know promises can be broken.

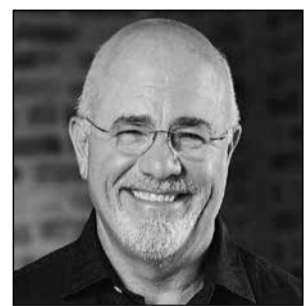
Physical gold is taxed at a higher rate when a profit is made versus holding stocks in the stock market of companies that mine gold. Stocks can also be sold on a moment's notice whereas finding a buyer for physical gold that you possess comes with its own challenges.

The markup on physical gold can also be many percentage points between the buy and sell prices while stocks on the public market place usually have a lower buy and sell requirement. Also as a general rule, gold stocks move a bit faster and farther either up or down in price versus physical gold.

There are many other pros and cons between owning physical gold and gold proxies or substitutes. I will be holding a seminar on gold in the month of March. Feel free to contact me for more information, times, dates and registration requirements.

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

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



Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey Says

A High-Risk Proposition

is about as far from an actual emergency as you can get.

Now, I don't know the exact course you're talking about, but I do know quite a bit about the concept of buying and selling stocks—or day trading—if you want to call it that. Research shows over 90% of day traders lose money over time. And I can tell you something else, too. One hundred percent think they'll never be the ones losing out. That includes people who take courses like the one you're looking at.

I've seen no data points—none—showing that on a consistent, level basis across a broad population, that people who take courses like these make money and become wealthy as a result. Buying and selling single stocks is an ultra-high risk proposition. That's why I don't buy them. I know some people who buy and sell single stocks as a very small percentage of their financial world. And

when I say "very small percentage," I mean it's like a hobby they dabble in once in a blue moon, with a very small amount of cash.

But my best advice, Pete, is to stay away from this kind of thing. Someone might make a little money playing around like this from time to time, but it's nothing you should spend a lot of time on, or make a serious financial investment in. And it should never, ever be the main focus of an investing strategy.

— Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of The Ramsey Show. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions. ★

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are on Baby Step 4 of your plan. Recently, we were offered the opportunity to take part in a three-day, hands-on stock trading class. The only problem is we don't have the \$5,000 registration fee at the moment. What do you think about us temporarily taking that amount from our emergency fund, then replacing it over a few months' time? We would still have the minimum three months of expenses you recommend still there for emergencies even after taking the class.

— Pete

Dear Pete,

I wouldn't waste my money on the course. And I especially wouldn't blow any of my emergency fund on something like that. Your emergency fund is for, repeat after me, emergencies only! In my mind, a short course on single stock investing

Some You Don't Forget



By Kathy Craig Harteis

My first time living in Beach I was the new person in town. It was my late husband David's home town. The people here welcomed me as one of their own.

We recently lost one of the ladies who welcomed me. Joyce Westrum helped when David was sick and dying. She worked for Homemakers, a group who helped when needed. I couldn't leave the house without

someone being with David. He didn't want anyone "sitting" with him but he was happy when Joyce came for a visit. It was different somehow. She was there for two old friends to visit.

I'm still housebound so I was unable to attend Joyce's service.

I'm thankful that my church First Lutheran live streamed her service. Each of her kids; Sue, Steve and Jay hold a special place in my heart. I pray they all find peace in memories of blessings from their mama and their late dad Ken Westrum.

Yet another friend; Rick Finneman went to heaven this week. Like Joyce, his wife Sharon was there for me when David was sick.

It's not easy to visit a dying person but Sharon was one of the ones who was there.

Also like Joyce's kids, Rick and Sharon's boys; Todd, Troy and the memory Stephen also have my heart.

Again I will have to physically miss the service but will hopefully be able to live stream.

Having people like the Westrums and the Finnemans in my life has been a blessing.

Life is good today.

A native of Grimes, CA, Kathy Craig Harteis is a former local journalist and former owner and chief executive of Kathy Craig Media Consulting, in Colusa. She currently lives in Beach, North Dakota, where she lived for many years while raising her family. ★

Newsom Issues Statement on Sites Reservoir's Funding

Office of Governor Newsom
News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On Feb. 25, California Gov. Gavin Newsom celebrated the release of funding by

the Trump Administration for the state's Sites Reservoir Project and the existing San Luis Reservoir.

"We are grateful for this shared priority with the Trump Administration as we move

forward together to build critical infrastructure to improve water storage," said Governor Newsom.

The Sites Reservoir will capture water during wet seasons and store it for use during drier seasons,

holding up to 1.5-million acre-feet of water, enough to supply more than 4.5-million homes for a year. It has received a total of \$46.75 million in early funding from the state. In all, Sites is eligible for \$875.4 million of Proposition 1 funding. The total project cost is estimated at \$4 billion.

Governor Newsom streamlined the project late last year, defeating a CEQA legal challenge and preserving that victory on appeal. This funding was awarded during the Biden administration and released by President Trump on Feb. 25. More information about the project can be found at build.ca.gov. ★



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- CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Giant Himalayan
 - *M in MAC
 - Bathtub libation
 - Joie de vivre
 - Do like fly fisherman
 - East side of Jersey
 - Tucked in
 - Diva's solo
 - Length of a forearm
 - *___ Sunday
 - Osiris' wife
 - Freshwater fish
 - Stir fry pan
 - Victorian era overcoat
 - Smallest
 - *Like attending band at the NCAA Tournament
 - Kaa of "The Jungle Book"
 - Great Lake
 - Prep mushrooms for steak, e.g.
 - Cooking fat
 - Bible song
 - Second to last word in some fairytales
 - False
 - Dip oreo into milk, e.g.
 - Tiresome
 - Hoariest
 - NBC's sketch comedy show
 - Misrepresent
 - South American monkey
 - *2025 NCAA Championship game venue
 - Renaissance fiddle
 - "To ___ and to hold"
 - ___-friendly
 - Founding Father Thomas ___
 - Damien's prediction
 - Reunion group
 - Bancroft to Hoffman in "The Graduate"
 - Agreement word
 - Ages and ages
- DOWN**
- Nay opposers
 - River in Bohemia
 - 1.3 ounces, in Asia
 - Owes money (2 words)
 - Angelina Jolie's 2024 singing role
 - "Kick the bucket," e.g.
 - *___ Smith, coach of 2 champs and 11 Final Four teams
 - Mongolian desert
 - Fleur-de-lis
 - "Cut down at end of last game
 - Like rheumy eyes
 - Descendant
 - *2024 winners
 - Thin pancake
 - *___ and move on
 - "Cinderella's victory
 - Furlough
 - Spew, past tense
 - Cough syrup balsam
 - Use other end of pencil?
 - Farm structures
 - Dangle a carrot
 - *___-up or evenly matched game
 - Step on it
 - *2024 Most Outstanding Player Newton
 - Paralyzing disease,

CROSSWORD

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Death Notices

WOOD – Elizabeth Wood, 75, of Loma Rica, passed away February 16, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

HAYES – Gary Hayes, 64, of Yuba City, passed away February 23, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

PILKENTON – Sean Pilkenton, 57, of Olivehurst, passed away February 25, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

TRAYNER – Gail Trayner, 77, of Yuba City, passed away February 26, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

TURNER – Joann Turner, 93, of Marysville, passed away February 26, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

BELKNAP – Caryl Belknap, 89, of Marysville, passed away March 2, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

BYARD – Deborah Byard, 61, of Olivehurst, passed away March 2, 2025. Arrangements are under the direction of Holycross Funeral Home and Crematory 530-751-7000.

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Breaking news, the Sacramento Kings can win games against playoff quality teams without all-world center Domantas Sabonis. It happened Saturday night in Houston Texas against a playoff bound Rockets team, as iron man Sabonis grabbed his right hamstring and was forced to leave the game only two minutes into the action.

Not to be esoteric, but intended for every fan and pundit to understand, this team even short-handed can make the playoffs. Yes, I said playoffs, not playin.

Even with the news that Sabonis will be sidelined for 2-3 weeks, every fan should find the positive where it takes you. With Sabonis resting his ailing hamstring, players such as Keon Ellis, Trey Lyles, and hopefully Markelle Fultz, will get much more court action, and Fultz in particular needs more time getting used to his new teammates.

I'm excited to see the athleticism and deft ball handling that Fultz brings to the hardwood, and without question Malik Monk needs time without the ball. Monk is getting exhausted handling the ball every possession, and he is leading the team in turnovers nearly every night. This comes from trying to do too much, and I love the effort Malik brings every game. No one gives more, but he is more comfortable in the role as a 2 guard, and with either Devin Carter or Markelle Fultz on the court, Malik can assume his former role.

Not to be overlooked as the Kings have put together a 3-game winning streak, is the work of big man Jonas Valanciunas. Jonas looks like the NBA starter he's always been and will fill the void left by Sabonis as he nurses his hamstring over the next half dozen games.

Valanciunas is an excellent rebounder and has a low post game that is second to none. He gets criticism for his defense, but I believe he is a more than capable team defender, and he accepts a challenge well. Without question the acquisition of Jonas Valanciunas was bound to pay dividends, and Sacramento is about to see what this quality NBA center can do.

While pundits criticized the trade that brought Zach Lavine to the Kings from

Chicago, all that Zach has done is play better and better with every game. The initial jitters that led to poor 3-point shooting has been replaced by stellar knock-down 3's, that ignite the home crowd and show naysayers that this former NBA all-star can make a difference every night.

This is exactly the type of team Sacramento fans have been hoping to see for years. A team that can take any team to the wire every night, and as this newly assembled group has found time together, they are looking like a bonified playoff contender.

Just percentage points ahead of the Dallas Mavericks in the Western Conference standings, Monday night's game looms large.

The Kings occupy the No. 9 spot in the standings but are amazingly only a half-game out of the No. 6 spot. Five quality teams are vying for No. 6, but the Kings are finding their collective stride at just the right moment. Tested they will be as they enter American Airlines arena and face Kyrie Irving and Klay Thompson.

If ever in a frenetic season it is time for optimism, that time is now! It should come from every corner, and regardless of what occurs against the Mavericks and the Nuggets on Wednesday night in Denver, everyone should be looking forward to Friday night's contest against the visiting San Antonio Spurs.

Much has been said about the back story of DeAaron Fox leaving the Kings, and for one night that needs to take hiatus. When DeAaron is introduced as a member of the opposing team, every fan needs to get on their feet and put their hands together. What Fox did for the Sacramento Kings in nearly eight seasons is legendary, and without question No. 5 will have his jersey retired someday.

Stand up Kings fans, because the best is truly yet to come! It's a great time to be a Sacramento Kings fan, so remember the glass is half full, and the playoffs are right around the corner!

All the best!

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

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Italians Prominent in Local History

Story and photos
by Susan Meeker

WILLIAMS, CA (MPG) - Everyone in Colusa County in 1850 came from somewhere. Most were settlers of English descent that traveled from the east via the various large-wagon overland routes; other emigrants from Europe and Asia made their way from the east by ship, rounding Cape Horn to San Francisco, before making their way north on steamboats.

The Italians, like other immigrants to America, were driven by the promise of new opportunities and a better life, according to researcher Cassie Ferraiuolo, who spoke at the Colusa Historical Society annual luncheon, hosted by the Sacramento Valley Museum in Williams on Feb. 22.

Ferraiuolo's master's thesis, "Little Italy, Colusa: The Forgotten Neighborhood 1850-1930," delves into a lesser-known chapter of Italian American history. It is dedicated to preserving the history of Colusa's Italian families, including her own, many of whom followed January Cairo from the iron mines of Minnesota.

"Keep in mind that most of them came to America with just the clothes on their backs and a few (dollars) in their pockets," Ferraiuolo said. "They didn't come as families. They came one person at a time and what they saw when they first got here were 'man catchers' who would exploit them for cheap labor and work them under brutal conditions."

Because they left Italy amid similar hardships, Ferraiuolo said, the workers led labor strikes and riots in mining and lumber camps from the East Coast to the West in protest of the treatment.

"The Italians wouldn't stand for it," Ferraiuolo said. "They didn't leave Italy for a better opportunity, only to face the same thing in America."

Much of Ferraiuolo's Colusa research comes from local newspapers, famous in the 19th and 20th century for their fascinating



Cassie Ferraiuolo recaps her master's thesis on Feb. 22 about the history of Italian immigrants who came to Colusa in the 19th- and early-20th century for opportunity and a better way of life.

blend of reporting, gossip and social commentary. They covered events such as parties, weddings, charity functions, and other social gatherings that offered readers a glimpse into the glamorous and often scandalous world of high society.

"The Ferraiuolo name (frequently misspelled) is very prominent and its drops off just before the 1930s," Ferraiuolo said. "The next is Lucchesi. This one just keeps going up almost into the 1960s."

Despite being known as a melting pot of various nationalities and races, America had cities such as Colusa that maintained segregated communities at the turn of the 20th-century. Sixth and Fremont streets, and part of Goad's Extension, were home to a mix of immigrants from North and South Italy, who were political adversaries in the old country but stuck together for safety and protection amid prejudice and discrimination.

"It was a very tight community," Ferraiuolo said.

The Italians in Colusa played a significant role in agriculture, including quality olive oil

production and produce. Some were said to be part of a larger organized crime syndicate known as the Italian American Mafia, which gained power by bootlegging alcohol during prohibition.

Ferraiuolo's thesis covers various aspects of the lives of Colusa's most-known Italian immigrants, including the first Frank Ferraiuolo and prominent agriculturist John Delpapa, who led the underground wine production movement and hosted extravagant parties where nearly every county official was present.

Other familiar names in Colusa include Anania, Candito, Garofalo, Guilani, Genise, Nicoletti, Paletta, and Vedo. The Guerino (Guerrino) families adopted the name Ward, Ferraiuolo said, meaning "little warrior," the Old English equivalent to the occupational surname for guard, watchman or gatekeeper.

Ferraiuolo's work includes her use of extensive archival collections, made possible through the Clarence McIntosh-William Hutchinson Graduate Fellowship Award, which allowed her to travel across the country to access

valuable resources that significantly enriched her research.

Ferraiuolo, who lives in Yuba City, is a middle school history teacher and is currently working on her doctorate. She spoke to about 100 Colusa County Historical Society members and guests at the museum, the largest of Ferraiuolo's audiences to hear her presentation. Ferraiuolo's thesis is online and accessible by title.

Colusa County Historical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation, documentation and dissemination of the history of Colusa, Glenn and Tehama counties which at one time were all part of Colusa County, one of 27 original counties of California, said President Charles Yerxa.

The Feb. 22 annual meeting also served as the election of the board of directors, with the general membership voting unanimously to keep its current leadership. Longtime Director Gene Russell of Orland continues as the editor of the Colusa County Historical Society's bi-annual publication "Wagon Wheels," although he is seeking retirement from the duty. ★

CASA Program Needs Volunteers

Continued from page 1
the case. In one example, a child shared that she missed her grandmother, whom she hadn't seen in almost a year due to her foster care placement. So, at the next court hearing, the judge instituted monthly visits with the grandmother.

Whenever possible, the goal of foster care is to reunite the children with the families. Court-Appointed Special Advocates helps parents accomplish the tasks required to get their children back, such as parenting classes or drug testing. Court Appointed Special Advocates' family mentorship program also includes budgeting, career planning, and health and nutrition to ensure that the children return to a better home life.

Court Appointed Special Advocates is funded by federal and state grants, as well as private donations, and those funds are used to ensure foster children have the essential items they need, as well as toys and comfort items, and to cover the cost of extracurricular activities.

To learn more about Court Appointed Special Advocates and get involved, visit casaplacer.org/yubacounty.

After the Court Appointed Special Advocates presentation, City Council then adjourned to a closed session conference regarding labor negotiations for the following bargaining units: Teamsters, Marysville Police Officer Association Sworn and Non-Sworn, Firefighter Union, and the Mid-Management and Executive Team.

There were no reportable actions from the closed session.

The next Marysville City Council meeting is scheduled for March 4. ★

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that Erle Road Self Storage 5600 Lindhurst Ave, Marysville, CA 95901 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, known as the "California Self Service Storage Facilities Act", Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on **Tuesday, March 18 25, 2025 at 10:00 AM**, on the premises where said property has been in storage at Erle Road Self Storage 5600 Lindhurst Ave. Marysville, CA 95901, telephone 530-634-9781. Units to be sold belonging to the following:

Name
Crystal L Snider
Jennifer L. Emmrich
Kristopher Ronald Allen Robinson
Antonio F. Fontanez V
Cassandra G. Spradlin
Richard Charles Kimball
Jonas Fuentes
December D. Wall
Tiarah A. Rogers

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in CASH only. All purchased items sold AS IS, WHERE IS, and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. Auctioneer Joan Hilbers, Bond# W1 50153447 (3/7/25 & 3/14/25)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE

Notice is hereby given that Marysville Mini Storage 528 14th Street, Marysville, CA 95901 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, known as the "California Self Service Storage Facilities Act", Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

This auction will be conducted online at www.bid13.com **Friday March 7th 2025 at 10:00 AM, and end on Thursday March 13th at 10:00AM**. If there are no bidders, the property will be donated or disposed of accordingly. Property to be sold as follows: household goods, personal items, furniture, etc. belonging to the following:

Name:
Dominic A Henry
Jerry Wayne Patterson II
Jessica S Najjarro
Bryan L Johnson
Gary L Jeffery
Juan Ramirez Jr

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in CASH only. All purchased items sold AS IS, WHERE IS, and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. 530-742-6898 (TD) 3-7-2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LIEN SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Plumas Lake Self Storage 3000 Plumas Arboga Rd., Plumas Lake, CA 95961 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, known as the "California Self Service Storage Facilities Act", Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

Auction will be conducted **online at Bid13.com**, starting March 08, 2025, ending March 18, 2025, at 8:00 am. Property to be sold as follows: misc. household goods, personal items, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, misc. tools, etc. belonging to the following:

Toni Abrahamian & Erika Friend
Taylor Augustin
Patricia Eugene
Keshia Lee
Michael Malson
Beau Riddles

All purchased items are sold AS IS, WHERE IS. Payments must be made in CASH. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. (TD) 2-28, 3-7, 2025

**CALL
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YUBA COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICE**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2025F-052

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

Atelier Aurel
12797 Josselyn Hill
Oregon House, CA 95962
MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 59
Oregon House, CA 95962
County of YUBA
Registered Owners:
Maria Billings-Lowry
PO Box 59
Oregon House, CA 95962
Peter F. Lowry
PO Box 59
Oregon House, CA 95962

This business is conducted by a Married Couple.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/02/2015.

(I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct).

Signed:
Maria Billings-Lowry
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yuba County on February 13, 2025.
(I Hereby Certify That This Copy is a Correct Copy of the Original on File in my Office).
DONNA HILLEGASS,
County Clerk
By BRIDGETTE EVANS,
Deputy Clerk
Feb. 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 2025F-060

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:

Hot Za Pizza
13375 Rue Montaign
Oregon House, CA 95962
MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 115
Oregon House, CA 95962
County of YUBA
Registered Owners:
Tristan Winks

13375 Rue Montaign
Oregon House, CA 95962
This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A5.

(I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct).

Signed:
Tristan Winks
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Yuba County on February 21, 2025.
(I Hereby Certify That This Copy is a Correct Copy of the Original on File in my Office).
DONNA HILLEGASS,
County Clerk
By SARAH MULL,
Deputy Clerk
Feb. 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 2025



UC Davis Offers Doctor of Nursing Program

University of California,
Davis News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at the University of California, Davis has earned accreditation for its Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia degree program by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA).

This significant milestone marks the first Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia program within the University of California system and only the sixth of its kind in California. The program is set to welcome its inaugural cohort of students in June.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia program is an integrated, full-time, three-year curriculum designed to equip experienced critical-care registered nurses with the knowledge and hands-on training required to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists.

The program blends rigorous online coursework with in-person simulation training and extensive clinical experience, ensuring students receive a comprehensive and immersive education.

“Earning COA accreditation validates the quality of our curriculum and faculty and highlights the caliber of the dedicated and supportive staff here at the School of Nursing,” said Program Director Jakkarin “Jake” Sareerak. “As a new program, we prioritized hiring the highest caliber of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists faculty, many of whom have served in program administrator



University of California, Davis has earned accreditation for its Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia program, the first of its kind within the University of California system. Photo courtesy of Pixabay

roles and bring extensive experience in both education and clinical practice.”

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists programs have transitioned from the master’s degree to the Doctor of Nursing Practice level to better prepare clinicians for the increased complexity of patient care and to equip them with advanced leadership and quality improvement skills. This change, supported by accrediting bodies, ensures that Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists are ready to meet modern health care challenges and effectively lead interdisciplinary teams.

Applicants must hold either a bachelor’s degree in nursing science or an equivalent major or a bachelor’s degree in another specialty in addition to a Master of Science in Nursing or an

equivalent graduate degree.

Graduates of the Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia program will be fully prepared to take on leadership roles in anesthesia care, Sareerak said, which addresses critical gaps in health care access across California.

Addressing the Shortage

The demand for anesthesia providers continues to outpace supply nationwide. The American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology reports that by 2033, the anesthesiology workforce could experience a shortage of approximately 12,500 providers. That is further exacerbated in California’s rural and underserved areas.

With 40-million residents, the state has a growing need for anesthesia services, especially

as its aging population requires more procedures. In addition, non-operating-room anesthesia sites are increasing due to technological advancements, which require more anesthesia care beyond traditional surgical settings.

By expanding nurse anesthesia education, the School of Nursing is actively addressing this workforce challenge and strengthening the future of anesthesia care in California.

“With the growing shortage of anesthesiologists and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists across the nation, this program is poised to help bridge the gap by preparing highly-skilled nurse anesthetists to serve diverse patient populations,” said Dean Stephen Cavanagh.

UC Davis Health is also

meeting this need head-on by partnering with the School of Nursing through its expansion efforts. A key milestone in this expansion is the integration of the 48X Complex as part of the program’s primary clinical training site.

Expected to open for patients in July, the four-story, 268,228-square-foot complex will feature 14 operating rooms. The large facility is ideal for presenting learning opportunities for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist students and addressing the shortage of ambulatory operating room capacity at the main hospital.

“This initiative will provide invaluable hands-on experience for future Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists while ensuring a steady pipeline of highly trained anesthesia providers within UC Davis Health. We hope to retain many of the graduates which will help us reinforce our commitment to delivering safe, high-quality anesthesia services and shaping the future of health care excellence,” said Kimberly Beres, the health system’s chief nurse anesthetist.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia program is the latest offering from the Top 25 15-year-old nursing school. The school already offers a popular Doctor of Nursing Practice – Family Nurse Practitioner program that is helping to fulfill California’s shortage of primary care providers, along with master’s degrees in nursing, physician assistant studies, a Doctor of Philosophy program and a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner post-graduate certificate program. ★

California Comment on Latest Small Business Optimism Index



Overall, small business owners remain optimistic regarding future business conditions but uncertainty is on the rise. Photo by Gustavo Fring Pexels

National Federation of
Independent Business
News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Small business optimism across the nation fell a bit in January but for the third consecutive month, came in higher than its 51-year average, according to the release Feb. 11 of the monthly Small Business Optimism Index by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB).

“Prior to this nice three-month stretch, the Small Business Optimism Index went 34 consecutive months below its 51-year average,” said John Kabateck, state director for National Federation of Independent Business in California. “What we could be witnessing is a possible rebound for all sectors of the economy. A rebound that could get some serious traction with the right state and federal policies. A possible rebound that could just as easily be undercut by the wrong ones.”

The National Federation of Independent Business’s legislative agenda for California can be read at [nfib.com/news-article/nfib-announces-legislative-agenda-for-california](https://www.nfib.com/news-article/nfib-announces-legislative-agenda-for-california). For National Federation of

Independent Business’s congressional agenda, visit [nfib.com/news-article/nfib-to-congress-advance-the-small-business-growth-agenda](https://www.nfib.com/news-article/nfib-to-congress-advance-the-small-business-growth-agenda).

The National Federation of Independent Business’s monthly Small Business Optimism Index is the gold standard measurement of America’s small business economy. Used by the Federal Reserve, Congressional leaders, administration officials and state legislatures throughout the nation, it’s regarded as the bellwether on the health and welfare of the Main Street enterprises that employ half of all workers, generate more net new jobs than large corporations, and gave most of us the first start in our working life.

The Optimism Index (aka Small Business Economic Trends report) is a national snapshot of the National Federation of Independent Business member, small-business owners not broken down by state. The typical National Federation of Independent Business member employs between one and nine people and reports gross sales of about \$500,000 a year.

“Overall, small business owners remain optimistic regarding future business conditions but uncertainty is on the rise. Hiring challenges

continue to frustrate Main Street owners as they struggle to find qualified workers to fill their many open positions. Meanwhile, fewer plan capital investments as they prepare for the months ahead,” said National Federation of Independent Business chief economist Bill Dunkelberg.

Highlights from the Latest Small Business Optimism Index

The net percent of owners expecting the economy to improve fell five points from December to a net 47% (seasonally adjusted).

Thirty-five percent (seasonally adjusted) of all owners reported job openings they could not fill in the current period, unchanged from December.

Twenty percent (seasonally adjusted) plan capital outlays in the next six months, down seven points from December.

A net 3% of owners reported that their last loan was harder to get than in previous attempts (down one point). The last time it was this low was June 2022.

A net 0% (seasonally adjusted) of owners plan inventory investment in the coming months, down six points from December’s highest reading since December 2021. ★

Drivers See a Slight Break at the Pump



Gas prices are expected to remain steady as March arrives and routine seasonal maintenance wraps up. Photo by Engin Akyurt Pexels

AAA Northern California
News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - With winter nearly in the rearview, temperatures warmed up while gas prices cooled down. Last week, gas prices dropped by three cents, bringing the national average to \$3.12 per gallon.

Gas prices are expected to remain steady as March arrives and routine seasonal maintenance wraps up.

On Feb. 27, California drivers saw an average price of \$4.81, a three-cent drop from two weeks ago.

Fuel prices throughout the state on Feb. 27 included San Francisco at \$5.05, Oakland at \$4.98, San Jose at \$4.91, Sacramento at \$4.95, Fresno at \$4.82 and Stockton at \$4.77.

Regarding the Oil Market Dynamics, at the close of the Feb. 26 formal trading session, the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) rose \$2.54 to settle at \$80.04 a barrel. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported that crude oil inventories decreased by 2 million barrels from the previous week. At 412.7 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 6% below the five-year average for this time of year.

A quick analysis of gas stats shows that the nation’s Top 10 most expensive gasoline markets are California (\$4.81), Hawaii (\$4.54), Washington (\$4.14), Nevada (\$3.84), Oregon (\$3.76), Alaska (\$3.46), Arizona (\$3.40), Pennsylvania (\$3.33), Washington, D.C. (\$3.25) and Illinois (\$3.24).

The nation’s Top 10 least expensive gasoline markets are Mississippi (\$2.67), Texas (\$2.69), Oklahoma (\$2.73), Kentucky (\$2.74), Louisiana (\$2.76), Arkansas (\$2.78), Alabama (\$2.78), South Carolina (\$2.79), North Carolina (\$2.80) and Tennessee (\$2.80).

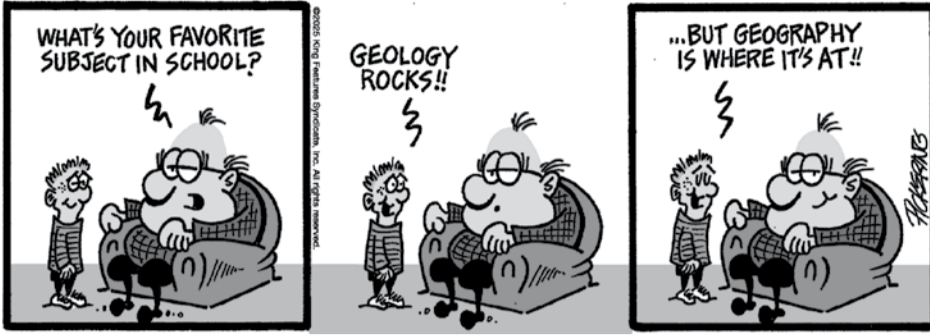
Taking a glance at the electricity stats in the nation shows that the Top 10 most expensive states for public charging per kilowatt hour are Hawaii (55 cents), West Virginia (47 cents), Montana (45 cents), Idaho (42 cents), Arkansas (42 cents), New Hampshire (42 cents), Tennessee (42 cents), Kentucky (41 cents), Alaska (41 cents) and South Carolina (41 cents).

The nation’s Top 10 least expensive states for public charging per kilowatt hour are Kansas (22 cents), Nebraska (24 cents), Maryland (25 cents), Missouri (25 cents), Delaware (28 cents), Iowa (28 cents), Texas (29 cents), Michigan (29 cents), Utah (29 cents) and North Dakota (30 cents). ★

COMICS & PUZZLES

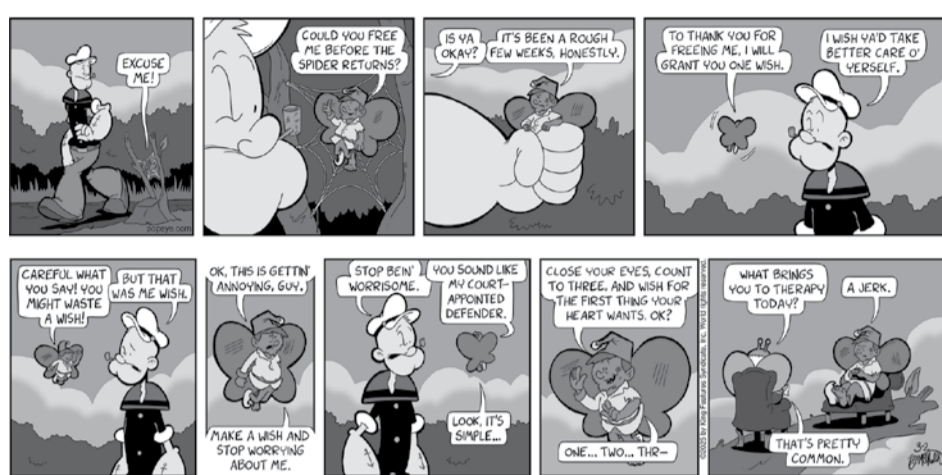
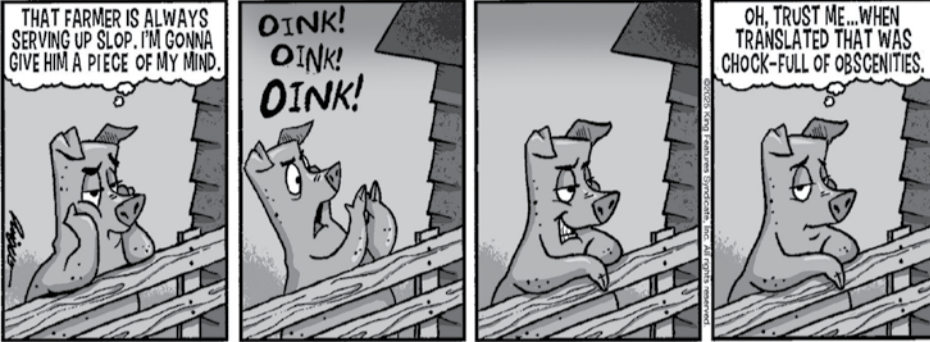
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



GRIN AND BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



The Dobbins Certified Farmers Market is Open again starting March 15th Every Saturday, 10 am-2 pm at 9761 Marysville Road, Dobbins. For vendor info call Teresa McFall 530-635-0452



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For more info. Call 530-870-8272 or email: info@93qradio.com

The morning show from 6 am to 9 am weekday mornings with Fish informs and entertains with interviews from local business owners, civic leaders, community organizations and everyday people who are making a difference in our great community.

Interviews are at 8:15 a.m. each morning unless noted

- March 7 / No Interviews
- March 10 / 7 am Yuba Sutter Food Bank
- March 10 / 8 am Cal Trans - Megan Reese
- March 11 / 7 am Adventist Health w/Patience Boudreaux, Amanda Ellis and Heather Pena
- March 11 / 8 am Brandon Barnes, Sutter County Sheriff
- March 12 / 7 am Virgil Atkinson
- March 12 / 8 am David Read, Yuba Sutter Arts
- March 13 / 7 am TBD
- March 13 / 8 am Officer Brian Danielson, CHP PAO
- March 14 / 7 am TBD
- March 14 / 8 am / Amy Nore, YCOE

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(Lou Binninger can also be heard on No Hostages Radio podcast, or read at Live with Lou Facebook & Nohostagesradio.com)

Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers Holds Open Tryout

High Wheelers News Release

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - The 2024 Pioneer Baseball League Champion Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers have announced the date of their Open Tryout Camp at Bryant Field.

Local baseball talent will have the opportunity to attend the tryout camp at Bryant Field (1431 C St., Marysville) on Saturday, March 29.

Prospective players must have no more than three years of professional experience and have competed in organized baseball

at the collegiate or professional level to try out.

The Open Tryout Camp will begin with position and two-way player check-in at 8:30 a.m. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., position players will go through warm-ups, defensive drills and batting practice on the field. There will be a break afterwards and pitchers will check in at 11:30 a.m. All players will return to the field at noon for a scrimmage game.

Registration costs \$100 per prospective player. All interested players must register and acknowledge a participant



The Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers will host an Open Tryout Camp at Bryant Field on March 29. Courtesy photo

waiver. Attending the tryout will not guarantee a spot on the team. In the instance of foul weather on March 29, the Tryout Camp will not be rescheduled and refunds will be distributed. ★

Center Stage Announces Open Auditions



The cast of Center Stage Productions "Frozen Jr." gets ready to take a bow after a performance at Sutter Theater Center for the Arts in Yuba City last summer. Courtesy photo

By Shamaya Sutton

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - Aspiring young performers throughout the Yuba-Sutter region will have the opportunity to take center stage this summer with one of the area's premiere performing arts groups - Center Stage Productions (CSP). The group just recently announced auditions for its highly anticipated 2025 season which will include three beloved musicals: The Music Man, Mary Poppins Jr., and Aristocats Kids.

Auditions will take place on March 15 and 16, with sign-ups opening on Monday, Feb. 24. Those interested in auditioning can find the sign-up link on Center Stage Production's website, centerstageys.org, as well as on the organization's social media pages.

"The Music Man" is directed by Center Stage Productions founders Corey and Morgan Kersting. This timeless Broadway favorite follows the charming con artist Harold Hill as he transforms a small town through the power of music until his own heart is unexpectedly changed.

"Mary Poppins Jr." is a delightful adaptation of the Disney classic, this musical follows the magical nanny as she brings joy and life lessons to the Banks family in London. This production will be directed by Lydia Crist, a local high school theatre educator and founding member of Convergence Theatre Company (CTC). Crist has previously directed "Salt of the Earth" and "Godspell" for Convergence Theatre Company and said she is excited to bring this "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" show to life. Cassie Fifield will be joining the production as music director. A seasoned vocal coach and performer, Fifield has been a part of the Yuba-Sutter arts scene since 2018 and has worked on

numerous musical productions, including Center Stage Production's "Frozen Jr." last year.

"Aristocats Kids" is based on the Disney animated film, this fun-filled show follows a group of Parisian cats on a wild adventure filled with jazz, friendship, and a little bit of feline mischief. Mary Banach, a senior at River Valley High School, and Cameron Kersting, a senior at Yuba City High School, will co-direct this production. Both directors were involved in Center Stage Production's "Frozen Jr." last year and said they are passionate about children's theater and bringing new and returning actors together for a fun-filled summer production.

Young performers ages 7 to 17 (or 18 if still in high school) are invited to audition. Participants must bring a headshot and resume and prepare a 32-measure cut of an age-appropriate musical theater song to perform for the directing team. Those auditioning may choose a selection from one of the upcoming productions. A backing track on a personal device is required—no live accompaniment will be provided.

All auditioners must register online by March 11 to secure a spot. Walk-in auditions cannot be guaranteed.

Since 2022, Center Stage Productions, powered by Yuba Sutter Arts & Culture, has provided high-quality youth theater experiences with the goal of inspiring creativity, confidence, and teamwork. With each production, young performers develop their talents while bringing magical stories to life for local audiences.

For more information on auditions, show details, and rehearsal schedules, visit centerstageys.org or follow @CenterStageProductionsYubaCity on Facebook and Instagram. ★

Bulldogs Championship Hopes Cut by Panthers

By Dillon Longmire

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Bulldog boys finished off the D4 Northern Section California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Boys Basketball playoffs this past week, falling to the University Prep Panthers 52-34 in the championship matchup.

On Saturday, March 1 the Bulldogs met the Panthers at Butte College with championship aspirations.

For the first time since the Gridley Invitational Basketball Tournament, the Bulldogs struggled on offense. The Bulldogs started the game slowly, scoring only six points to the Panthers 12 in the first quarter.

The Bulldogs picked it up in the second quarter, scoring 11 points while the Panthers kept a consistent scoring streak with another 12-point quarter giving the Panthers a 24-17 lead at halftime.

The Bulldogs kept a consistent scoring pattern in the second half while the Panthers came out of the halftime locker room better than they were in the first half.

The Panthers improved on both offense and defense and held a tight grip on the rest of the game slowly growing a lead over the Bulldogs. As the final buzzer sounded, the Panthers celebrated as they

won the championship game with a final score of 52-34.

Although the Bulldogs lost, they will continue to play as they have qualified for the 2025 CIF State Boys Basketball Championships. On Tuesday, March 4, the Bulldogs are scheduled to host the Bret Harte Bullfrogs out of Angels Camp. The game is schedule dot be played at Gridley High School with tip-off at 7 p.m., after press time. ★



Gridley High School senior Luis Murillo (no. 3) attempting a layup against University Prep on March 1. Photos by Jennifer Corria

Spring Comes Early



Early almond tree blossoms in an orchard of Yuba City serve as both a visual spectacle and a crucial indicator to local farmers who rely on successful pollination for their annual yield. Courtesy photo

Continued from page 1

they play an essential role in sustainable agriculture. Studies from the University of California Cooperative Extension show that mustard cover crops help suppress weeds, improve soil health, and provide a natural form of pest control. Farmers often allow these plants to grow before incorporating them into the soil, where they act as a natural biofumigant, reducing harmful soil pathogens and enhancing future crop productivity.

The use of mustard and other cover crops is a long-standing practice in the Yuba-Sutter region. Cover cropping helps prevent soil erosion, a concern in areas with winter rains and seasonal flooding according to the University of California Cooperative Extension. Additionally, these plants attract beneficial pollinators, such as honeybees and native bees, which are essential for the success of orchards and nearby vegetable farms.

For farmers, the early arrival of spring in the Yuba-Sutter region offers an extended growing season, allowing for more crop rotations and increased yield potential. However, it also presents challenges, such as managing unpredictable late frosts and ensuring adequate pollination amidst changing climate conditions. Despite these concerns, the region remains a vital agricultural hub, contributing significantly to California's overall food production.

The benefits of these vibrant plants extend beyond agriculture, however.

The early arrival of blossoms and greenery brings a renewed sense of life to the Yuba-Sutter community. Residents enjoy the seasonal beauty, with visitors flocking to see the almond orchards in bloom and fields awash in yellow. Photographers, nature enthusiasts and agritourists alike find inspiration in the region's early spring display. Whether admired for its beauty or valued for its agricultural boons, the early arrival of spring in the Yuba-Sutter area is a phenomenon that continues to shape both the land and the livelihoods of those who call it home. ★



Yellow blossoms fill the rows in an orchard of south Yuba City. Courtesy photo

Plumas National Forest Seeks Camp Hosts



Here is Little Grass Valley Reservoir near La Porte. Photo courtesy of United States Forest Service

Plumas National Forest News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Volunteer campground hosts are needed for several Plumas National Forest campgrounds located at Little Grass Valley Reservoir near La Porte.

The volunteer positions will likely begin in late May/early June and last into September or October, depending on the weather.

"If you're enthusiastic about camping and like people, this may be a perfect

summer activity," said Dave Brillenz, District Ranger for the Feather River Ranger District.

Host duties include, but are not limited to, welcoming visitors, sharing news and information about recreational opportunities in the area and light campground maintenance. Hosts must provide their own self-contained recreational vehicle or trailer and personal vehicle.

If you're interested in being a host at selected Little Grass Valley Reservoir Campgrounds, contact the Feather River Ranger District at 530-534-6500. ★