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Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale & Sacramento County

MARCH 21, 2025

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Preschoolers Get VIP Tour



Nora Elmer, 4, of Fair Oaks reaches for her dollar at the teller window at SAFE Credit Union's Antelope branch. Photo courtesy of Safe Credit Union

Safe Credit Union News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Preschoolers from Antelope, Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, Rio Linda and Roseville received a special behind-the-scenes visit at SAFE Credit Union's Antelope branch.

The ninth annual VIP tour and financial education event brought Antelope's Play With Me Preschool children and their families to the branch. Preschoolers learned the basics about money, toured the vault, and interacted one-on-one with a branch teller to sign the withdrawal keypad to receive a \$1 bill. They used the cash toward buying a treat at nearby Yogurt Time.



SAFE's Training Branch Manager Avi Naidu helps a field trip attendee with a signature pad. Photo courtesy of Safe Credit Union

the field trip was signing his name on the electronic pad," said mother Connie Broome of Citrus Heights. "He enjoyed being able to act like a grown-up at the teller stand."

Parent and Antelope resident Jennifer Martindale said it was her daughter Riley's first trip to a bank and that she especially "liked getting her dollar."

"I like all of the money," said Riley, 4. "I liked seeing the bank safe the most."

Martindale said that

SacSewer **Offers Tours**

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO REGION -Reservations are now being accepted for the Sacramento Area Sewer District's free EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility (EchoWater Facility) public tours from April to October.

The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) provides service to residential, commercial and industrial customers throughout unincorporated Sacramento County; the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento; West Sacramento; and the communities of Courtland, Locke and Walnut Grove. The district is governed by a 17-member Board of Directors: five Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, five Sacramento City Council members, two Elk Grove City Council members, and one representative each from Yolo County and the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Rancho Cordova and West Sacramento.

According to the Sacramento Area Sewer District's website, it is the second largest sewage collection utility in California, and owns the Echo Water Resource Recovery Facility, the second largest water resource recovery facility of its kind in the nation. Beginning next month, the public will have an opportunity to learn more about the water resource recovery facility, where an average of 151 million gallons of sewage is treated daily. Located near Elk Grove, the Echo Water Facility Public Tour offers a behind-the-scenes look at how the recovery facility collects and treats sewage, manages and recovers natural resources, and protects the environment for the 1.6- million people it serves. "Our public tours offer the community a unique opportunity to experience firsthand how we're setting the bar for excellence in utility management and environmental sustainability," said SacSewer's communications director Nicole Coleman. "We invite everyone to join us for a tour, ask questions and learn how the critical work we do is shaping a more sustainable future." SacSewer's free public tours run from April through October and are open to anyone interested in learning about sewage collection and treatment, sustainability and environmental stewardship. Children under 12 are not permitted on public tours and adults must accompany Continued on page 4



"It w a s truly

heartwarming to welcome the kids and their parents and to see the excitement on the kids' faces as they built up their financial awareness through the tour and the hands-on withdrawal experience," SAFE Credit Union Antelope Branch Manager Avi Naidu

said.

SAFE Credit Union, a not-for-profit financial institution, shares in the credit union cooperative principle of sharing profits within communities through financial education.

"Parker's favorite part of

Riley's full experience culminated with Riley using her dollar toward buying a vanilla vogurt with gummy worms and crumbled Oreos.

"I think she listened and learned more about money than ever before," *Continued on page 2*



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OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER

Bringing Easter Joy to Local Families



Shown are volunteers from Helping Hands at the 2024 Easter Basket event. Courtesy photo

Patsy McGavock, JustServe.org

ORANGEVALE/FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - The Orangevale Fair Oaks Spring Food Drive returns with a heartwarming twist, combining efforts Helping Hands OV-Orangevale-Fair Oaks' Easter Baskets for Kids in Need Drive.

In addition to the annual

drive-through food collection of neighborhood drives and individual donations, prearranged Easter basket donations will be collected for children in need. The community is invited to stay for Easter fun, including face painting, treats and photos with the Easter bunny.

On Saturday, April 12, from 9 a.m. to noon, residents are encouraged to drop off non-perishable food donations at the Orangevale Fair Oaks Food Bank. Easter basket donations, which have been pre-matched with families, will be collected from 9 to 11 a.m. The celebration will last through noon.

"Every year, we're amazed by how generous our community is," said *Continued on page 2*

www.AmericanRiverMessenger.com

Preschoolers Get VIP Tour Facundo Campoy: A Legend

Continued from page 1 Martindale said. "Having to put your money into the safe and going to the bank in order to pull it out, she learned about where money (actually) goes."

SAFE Credit Union's Vice-President Retail Branches Janine Southwick said the branch and retail staff created a supporting and welcoming environment for families.

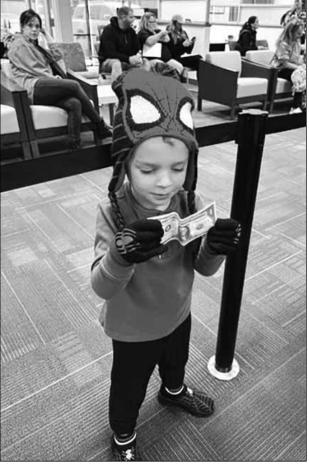
"We feel so fortunate to have been able to welcome our smallest of members in the community into our Antelope branch for their first in-person lesson in banking," Southwick said. "I'm so proud of our branch and retail teams for creating such a fun-filled and educational environment for these preschoolers."

SAFE's financial education team members introduced students to how money works and gave them each a Mr. SAFE piggy bank.

SAFE Credit Union community relationship specialist Miriam Dougherty explained to the preschoolers how saving money in their new piggy banks will help them buy items later.

She offered parents advice on how to talk with their children about money.

"One significant mistake is not talking with your kids about money at



Parker Broome, 4, of Citrus Heights examines his recently withdrawn dollar bill at SAFE Credit Union's Antelope branch. Photo courtesy of Safe Credit Union

all, or if you do, it may be in a negative way," said Dougherty, a certified financial educator. "It's OK to be honest about money but at the same time it's best to do it in a healthy way that can start with explaining to children the difference between wants versus needs."

Along with facilitating special educational

events, SAFE's financial education team regularly conducts Budget Cents programs for teens at area high schools and at juvenile detention centers through a partnership with Sacramento County Department Education. Each financial literacy lesson starts by giving students mock budgets and incomes to learn how to manage.

in His Own Time



Evel Knievel (second from left) shakes hands with exterior Skycycle Designer Doug Malewicki (right) with Skycycle builders Bob Truax (left) and Facundo Campoy (second from right). Photo ourtesy of the Campoy family

By Judy Andrews

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - The community recently lost Facundo Campoy, a local legend and friend to many. Campoy was a cherished great-great-grandfather

and an engineering pioneer with an intriguing connection to the famous daredevil Evel Knievel.

Affectionately known to family and friends as "Popeye," Campoy was born in Fair Oaks on Sept. 4, 1933, to Spanish immigrants Francisco (Frank) and Rosa Campoy.

He was the youngest of seven children and the last surviving sibling among Frank Campoy, Anne Clover, Pete Campoy, Joe Campoy, Lasalle Campoy and Isabel Owens.

Facundo Campoy's obituary, written by his son, Anthony Campoy, highlights that Facundo Campoy was a lifelong member of St. Mel Catholic Church in Fair Oaks, beginning at the original St. Mel Catholic Church on Bridge Street. In 1937, he married Mary Jo Burns from Manhattan, Kansas, at the same church.

Facundo and Mary Campoy had six children: Sandra (deceased), Rebecca, Laura (Kurt), Cheryl, Steve (Amanda) and Anthony (Laurie). Facundo Campoy was also a devoted and loving grandfather to 16 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.



Andy Campoy holds a photo of his grandfather, Facundo Campoy, taken in 1953 while serving in Korea with the U.S. Army, 24th Infantry Division. Facundo Campoy was proud to be a veteran. Photo by Judy Andrews



Facundo Campoy (shown here in the mid-1970s) worked at Aerojet in Rancho Cordova for 35 years. He began as a welder and later was promoted to welding operations foreman and manufacturing director. Photo courtesy of the Campoy family

Bringing Easter Joy to Local Families

Continued from page 1

Sydnie Anderson, president of Helping Hands OV-Orangevale-Fair Oaks. "From donating Easter baskets to supporting the food drive, it's a heartwarming reminder that together, we can make a huge impact on

The impact of organized efforts is undeniable. According to Orangevale Fair Oaks Food Bank Director Andrea Scollay, more than 50% of donations at community drives come from neighborhood-led efforts. Last year, where donors receive details about a child's age, gender, clothing size, favorite activities and any food allergies to create a personalized Easter basket. It's a simple but meaningful way to bring joy to children facing hardship

the lives of local families."

This year, the food bank is encouraging residents to take food collection a step further by organizing mini neighborhood drives. Even small efforts add up: if just 10 neighbors each fill a bag, neighborhood by neighborhood, the collective impact can quickly replenish food bank shelves. Helping Hands OV-Orangevale-Fair Oaks makes it easy by providing printable fliers to distribute that invite neighbors to leave filled bags on their porches for pickup. Participants can then deliver their trunkful of donations to the food bank on April 12.

congregations that distributed collection bags to their neighbors delivered several truckloads of food a piece. A local Scout troop can bring more than 1,100 pounds of food, while two Orangevale Woman's Club members gathered more than 700 pounds through a single neighborhood outreach.

In addition to food donations, there is a pressing need for Easter baskets. The deadline to register to donate is Saturday, March 22. As of March 14, more than 60 families needed basket sponsors of the 180 receiving baskets this year. The initiative follows an adopt-a-child model,

this Easter.

For neighborhood fliers and volunteer opportunities, visit JustServe. org and search for "Spring Community Food Drive" or go directly to ovfofb. org/host-a-food-drive.

To donate an Easter basket, register by March 22 at forms.gle/etwpR1DwVsAwWxAn7.



Orangevale Woman's Club's



Facundo and Mary Campoy's remarkable, faithfilled union endured for 67 joyful years until his passing on Feb. 17. He died peacefully at home, with Mary and family members by his side.

Campoy had a long, distinguished, impressive career. He worked as a welder at Aerojet General Corporation (later Aerojet Tech Systems) for five years and then owned Campoy's Speed-A-Motive in Sacramento for another five years.

"My grandfather built and tested engines for racing boats, sprint cars and dragsters," said Andy Campoy, Facundo's grandson. Andy Campoy owns Honeymoon Tattoo in Fair Oaks Village. Framed photos and cherished memorabilia of his grandfather adorn the walls of the tattoo parlor, giving it a museum-like atmosphere.

"My grandfather was the most influential person in my life and the center of my universe," Andy Campoy fondly recalled. "His children and grandchildren adored him. He was a father figure to all of us."

One photo in Andy Campoy's shop captures Facundo Campoy racing a drag boat named "Climax" in Long Beach in 1967. On that day, he set an all-time elapsed record for the quarter-mile at 7.33 seconds and reached a speed of 186 mph. Facundo Campoy established a second world record in "Adios Two," a boat he built, owned and drove.

Campoy returned to Aerojet, where he stayed for another 30 years. He eventually became the foreman of welding operations and retired as the manufacturing director.



Mary and Facundo Campoy were married at St. Mel Catholic Church in Fair Oaks in 1937. Photo courtesy of the Campoy family

While working at Aerojet in the early 1970s, Campov collaborated with fellow rocket engineers Bob Truax and Bill Sprow. The three men designed and built a steam rocket propulsion vehicle that Evel Knievel used in his attempted mile-long jump across the Snake River.

Campoy was featured in a 1971 Sacramento Bee article, stating, "We had been advertising in magazines, and Knievel read about the work we were doing (on steam rocket engines) at Truax Corp. Evel expressed interest and gave me a call. I told him the engine, heater and test would cost \$10,000. Any additional tests needed would be \$700 each."

"Originally, Evel wanted to jump his motorcycle off into the Grand Canyon but the Department of the Interior said no," he added.

Truax, Sprow and Campoy constructed three "Skycycles" for Knievel's outrageous stunt where there was no room for mistakes. The first two were tested at the launch site but crashed into the Snake River due to parachute malfunctions. Knievel planned to accomplish the actual stunt in the third Skycycle.

Campoy discussed the

project in a 2015 video documentary, "Being Evel."

"We thought he was going to make it," Campoy said. "But it, too, landed in the middle of the river."

The parachute deployed too early before reaching the other side. Knievel survived with only minor injuries. Campoy always maintained that the rocket would have succeeded had the parachute worked properly.

Campoy worked on numerous rocket engineering projects for Aerojet, including the production of Titan Defense Missiles, the Navy Mine Program, and the Space Shuttle's Orbital Maneuvering System engines, for which he received the prestigious Silver Snoopy Award.

"My father was truly a rocket scientist and a legend in his own time," said son, Anthony Campoy. "He had a strong presence in the community, earning the respect of many. He was known and well-loved locally and in broader circles wherever cars, boats, or rockets pushed the envelope for speed."

A memorial service was held for Campoy on Feb. 28, at St. Mel Catholic Church in Fair Oaks. He was 91 years old.

Big Day of Service Coming

By Thomas J. Sullivan

FAIR OAKS/ORANGEVALE, CA (MPG) - The Rotary Clubs of Fair Oaks and Orangevale and the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation are teaming up with the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce to bring the first Big Day of Service to the city of Citrus Heights on May 17.

The seventh annual Big Day of Service (BDOS) is a one-day multi-community event where the public is invited to help make their local community beautiful.

"We're especially excited to bring this annual gathering of unity and service to the

city of Citrus Heights," said Sheri Merrick, executive director of the Citrus Heights Chamber. The stated purpose of Big Day of Service is to "inspire generosity, foster volunteerism, and strengthen community connections."

"Brad Squires, the founder and CEO of the Orangevale Fair Oaks Community Foundation reached out to the Citrus Heights Chamber

to ask the city to participate this year," said Merrick.

The three communities have a goal of 60 significant projects to be completed in a single day with 10 being completed in the city of Citrus Heights. Individual project initiatives that might involve reading to seniors, delivering meals or other such volunteer efforts, help create opportunities for individuals to positively impact their surroundings, promoting kindness and cooperation.

"Everyone can make a difference, even in a small way during this event. I'm inviting the public to learn more about the BDOS and how they can participate," said Merrick, adding that plenty of hard work and volunteer coordination is needed in advance of the event to make the upcoming Big Day of Service event a multiple community success.

"The active process of seeking sponsors, coordinating volunteers and obtaining materials to support some 10 individual projects in Citrus Heights has actively begun.' Merrick continued. "We're starting early to get the word out with sponsoring information and to identify volunteers who may want to be a project lead."

Caryl Balko, formerly of PRIDE Industries Career Club and a Citrus Heights Chamber ambassador, also serves as event captain.

According to Merrick, a list of projects within the city of Citrus Heights during the Big Day of Service event is still being prepared. Once that list is finalized, volunteers will be able to sign up for a specific project in their local area.

"It's very early in the process, and nominations for projects for that day are ongoing," said Merrick. "The public can go to the BDOS website and suggest projects which they feel should be considered.'

Merrick said that they welcome the help and support of individual project sponsors that are needed to fund the cost of supplies

for one or multiple Big Day of Service projects.

Planning meetings for the Big Day of Service have started. Merrick said she has met with Meghan Huber, Citrus Heights Economic Development and Community Engagement director, and Marisa Brown, city communications officer, to stay aligned and see how to best integrate Citrus Heights into Big Day of Service.

"We currently have one project in Citrus Heights approved and are collaborating with the chamber to get more ideas submitted by utilizing our combined communication

channels," Brown said. In 2018, the first annual Big Day of Service, more than 1,000 participants showed up on a single day to tackle 25 community service projects. In 2019, more volunteers tackled more than 30 local projects to beautify and improve local neighborhoods. This year, the goal of the Big Day of Service is 50 local projects.

Initial Big Day of Service sponsors include the Rotary Club of Fair Oaks, Orangevale Rotary, Sacramento County Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez, Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation, Sunrise Community Church, Delta Dental, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, SMUD and Helix Electric.

Donations are tax-deductible and contributions can be made to the Community Foundation of Orangevale and Fair Oaks at ovfocf.org/donate.

For more information about the upcoming Big Day of Service on May 17, visit bigdayofservice.us, call 916-238-8868 or email info@bigdayofservice.com.

Roger Niello Appointed to Little Hoover Commission



Little Hoover Commission

News Release SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - State Sen. Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks) has been appointed to the

Little Hoover Commission by the Senate Rules Committee, chaired by Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg).

Niello replaces Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), who served on the Little Hoover Commission from 2023 until he termed out of office in 2024. Wilk automatically left the commission when his legislative service ended.

"It is both a privilege and a profound responsibility to be appointed to the Little Hoover Commission and contribute to its mission of improving state government. I am looking forward to collaborating with my fellow Commissioners to make

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a meaningful impact in shaping a government that addresses Californians' needs," Niello said.

Niello has been senator for California's Sixth Senate District, representing portions of Placer and Sacramento counties, since 2022. In 1974, he joined his family business, the Niello Auto Group, and spent the next 25 years running retail automobile dealerships with his family partners.

Niello was elected to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in a special election in 1999 and in 2004 was elected to the California State Assembly and re-elected twice. After his time in the Assembly concluded, Niello accepted an appointment as president and CEO of the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Niello has served as president of the Golden State Voter Participation. chair of the Sacramento Valley Lincoln Club Board, co-chair of the California Civic Learning Partnership in Sacramento County, member of the University of California Center Sacramento Advisory Board, the **Dignity Health Sacramento** Service Area Hospital Community Board, the Greater Sacramento Economic Council Board, and Sacramento Rotary.

In February 2011, he was named the University of California Center Sacramento Governance Fellow, the first to serve in that position.

Niello earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley and his master's degree from the University of California at Los Angeles.

The Little Hoover Commission is America's only permanent, independent citizens commission working to improve state government. A nonpartisan oversight agency created in 1962, the commission includes 13 commissioners appointed by the governor and legislative leaders. The commission's mission is to investigate state operations and promote efficiency, economy and improved service.

State Sen. Roger Niello represents District 6, which includes Antelope, Arden-Arcade, Carmichael, Citrus Heights, Clay, Fair Oaks, Folsom, Foothill Farms, Franklin, Galt, Gold River, Herald, Mather, Orangevale, Rancho Cordova, Rancho Murieta and Wilton in Sacramento County. The district includes Auburn, Granite Bay, Lincoln, Loomis, Newcastle, Penrvn, Rocklin, Roseville and Sheridan in Placer County.







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Don't Miss Taste of Fair Oaks, **May 16**



Judv Andrews By Judy Andrews. Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce

The Fair Oaks Chamber will host its annual fundraising event, Taste of Fair Oaks, on Friday, May 16. This event is the chamber's largest of the year and showcases area restaurants, wineries, breweries and more. Taste of Fair Oaks will be held at North Ridge Country Club from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets will go on sale April 1. But don't wait too long to purchase them because this event sells out quickly! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Orangevale-Fair Oaks Community Foundation. For more information, please visit the chamber website at fairoakschamber.com.

The Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank needs your donations for its 2025 Spring Food Drive and Helping Hands OV Easter Basket event on April 12. Easter baskets and food can be dropped off at the food bank between 9 a.m. and noon. Kids will enjoy participating in fun activities and taking photos

with the Easter bunny. Food items most needed include cereal, pasta and pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned fruits and meat (tuna and chicken), and Easter baskets for the children. The food bank is located at 6483 Main Ave., Orangevale.

The Fair Oaks Brew Pub recently celebrated its 10th anniversary with a special ribbon-cutting event on March 12. Congratulations to owners Wei Zhang and Gary Juels for 10 successful years and thank you for all you do to support the community. The Fair Oaks Brew Pub is located at 7988 California Ave. Visit its website at fairoaksbrewpub.com.

Welcome new and returning members. The chamber wants to acknowledge the following businesses that recently joined or renewed their membership. Please show your support to the following:

Community Health Centers of America

Creative Spirit Learning Center Neptune Society of

Northern California Rim's Deli

Tende-Heart Senior Care LLC The Swenson Law Firm Violet Wellness Spa

April Family Events

April 12 - Spring Food Drive and Helping Hands OV Easter Basket Drive, 9 a.m. to noon, Orangevale-Fair Oaks Food Bank (6483 Main

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Ave, Orangevale). Donate food and Easter baskets. Take a photo with the Easter bunny.

April 19 – Easter Eggstravaganza, 9 a.m. to noon, Fair Oaks Park (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.). Join the Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District for its annual family-fun tradition. Children and families will enjoy an Easter egg hunt, petting zoo, craft and activity stations, vendors, food trucks and more. Visit forpd.org for more information.

April 26 - Healthy Kids Day, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Rollingwood YMCA (9373 Winding Oak Drive, Fair Oaks.) Enjoy family-fun activities, water safety tips, CPR demos and more. This event is free and open to the public. Visit ymcasuperiorcal.org/hkd for more information.

April 26 - Kid's Art Festival, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fair Oaks Park (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.). The Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District and the San Juan Unified School District are hosting a free event for kids focusing on creative fun. Activities include make-and-take art stations, dance and musical performances, an art show and more. Visit forpd.org for more information.

For more information about the Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce, visit fairoakschamber.com.

See you in Fair Oaks!

MPG



By Patsy McGavock JustServe.org

ORANGEVALE-FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Have vou ever seen a need or issue in your community and don't know where to start? Whether it's reporting potholes and fallen trees, getting help with state agencies or navigating permitting processes, 311 and the staff at your elected representatives' offices can change overwhelmed and uncertain to efficiently and effectively resolved.

With Orangevale and Fair Oaks among the 67% of Sacramento County that is unincorporated, county offices and special districts serve as the primary local government. Knowing who to call and knowing you'll find an advocate there empowers you to make a difference.

311: A Direct Line for Non-Emergency Issues

Sacramento County's 311 system is a direct tool for addressing almost any non-emergency, generally property- related issue in unincorporated areas, from illegal dumping and potholes to verifying business licenses and garbage collection dates. Available as a phone line, website and mobile app, 311 allows residents to report concerns quickly and track progress on their requests. Customer service representatives are available all hours, seven days a week.

"311 is a great tool that lets residents and the county work together,"

COMMUNITY CONNECTION Informing, Empowering and Engaging Readers with Their Community

Who Ya' Gonna Call? How 311 and Your Elected **Representatives Can Help**

said Vanessa McCarthy-Olmstead, chief of staff for Supervisor Rich Desmond. "It creates a record of the issue, is geo-tagged and allows residents to check

for updates." While 311 is best for non-urgent concerns, county staff step in when issues require more than just a service request.

How County Supervisor Staff Can Assist

If an issue involves people rather than property, staff at your county supervisor's office can help navigate complex situations related to public health, child support, Medi-Cal, adult protective services, and other state-mandated county services. They can also advocate for an issue that remains unresolved or help navigate land use and permitting questions.

"Often we work hand-in-hand with multiple agencies," McCarthy-Olmstead said. "Our staff can help make the right connections, so people aren't spinning their wheels."

"If it deals with human issues and someone don't know where to start, needs a follow up or are bringing an issue that impacts their community to the attention of their elected official, these are excellent reasons to contact your supervisor's office,' McCarthy-Olmstead said. **State-Level Assistance:**

Your Senator's Office

Anyone having trouble with a state related agency,

such as DMV, Caltrans, **Employment Development** (EDD) and licensing agencies, should contact their state senator's office, said Rob Olmstead, Senator Roger Niello's district coordinator.

"We have staff who can take a concern, digest it and figure out which agency to reach out to on behalf of the constituent," Olmstead said. "We also have direct phone lines that the public doesn't have access to, which helps us advocate more efficiently."

Visitors are also welcome to come in person to their senator's district offices. For Senator Niello, those are in Roseville and Rancho Cordova, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Staff can even come to those who are physically unable to visit.

Leveraging the Staff's Connections

Elected representative's office staff will help, according to Matt Hedges, chief of staff for Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez.

The goal, Hedges said, is simple: "We want people to feel welcomed, not overwhelmed."

For city-related concerns, residents should start with their city manager's office.

Local government is accessible.

Patsy McGavock is a volunteer community advocate *"informing, empowering"* and engaging readers with their community." Find your passion and get involved. \star



SacSewer Offers Tours

5057 Cottage Way, at the Walnut Avenue Parking Lot

Saturday, April 12th 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

(Or until the truck is full)

On-site Shred Truck • You Can Watch

Bring all old or new tax records and/ or any other old dust-gathering confidential documents for professional shredding

Suggested Donation:

\$500 for each paper grocery shopping bag

- Please, no plastic bags or large metal clips/binders, or Amazon-style packing
- All shredded paper is recycled

or \$1000 for each standard file box.

For More Information OLASVDPSHRED@GMAIL.COM | Curbside Service Available

Continued from page 1 tour participants who are minors.

The three-hour tour includes a 60-minute classroom presentation and a 120-minute walking and bus portion.

Tour participants will gain a deeper understanding of what happens after they flush their toilets, wash their dishes or do laundry and how these everyday actions connect to a vast, sophisticated treatment process designed to protect the environment and public health.

Closed-toed shoes are required as tour groups will walk through



Sacramento Area Sewer District's free Echo Water Resource Recovery Facility (Echo Water Facility) public tours are educational and free for adults and children 12 and older. Photo Courtesy Sacramento Area Sewer District

industrial areas.

For more information about the Echo Water **Resource Recovery Facility** public tours, including tour dates and registration details, visit SacSewer.

com/tours. To experience a virtual tour, visit sacsewer. com/virtual-tours.

For more information about the Sacramento Area Sewer District, go online to sacsewer.com.

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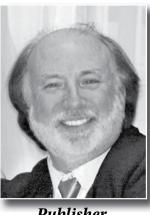
(Located one block South of Madison; just East of Dewey)

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Sunday Schools (All Ages) - 9:45 am Sunday Worship Sunday Evening 11:00 am 6:00 pm

Wed. Evening 7:00 pm

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION (916) 967-3915 WWW.GBCFAIROAKS.NET



Publisher, **Paul V. Scholl**

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Serving Fair Oaks, Orangevale and Sacramento County since 2006

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Call 916-773-1111 for more information.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.







The past week for the Sacramento Kings may very well be poorest stretch in a helter skelter season that saw the Sactown boys lose games to the New York Nicks, Golden State Warriors and Phoenix Suns by a combined total of 71 points.

Many Kings fans turned their TV sets to another channel in the fourth quarter of these games to avoid the agony of watching another beatdown. No lighting the beam last week and probably the last thing on anyone's mind.

Most fans agree that watching a seesaw battle in which your team is giving the best they have will always keep them watching to the very end but what we witnessed in the past week was hard for even the most ardent fan to lay eyes on.

Thrust into the position of point guard with the trade of DeAaron Fox, Malik Monk has struggled in his new role. Most glaring are the constant turnovers and it appears to be contagious as usually reliable ballhandlers DeMar DeRozan and Zach Lavine have suddenly joined the turnover turnstile. Forty-eight times, the Kings have turned the ball over in the past three games and that means 48 missed opportunities to put a shot up.

Entering Monday night's game against the Memphis Grizzlies, Sacramento sits in the number 9 position in the Western Conference with a 500 record of 33-33.

At no time entering the 2024/2025 season did I believe the Sacramento Kings were a 500 team.

After the firing of Mike Brown and the trading of DeAaron Fox, newcomers Zach Lavine, Jonas Valanciunas and Jake LaRavia gave hope to Kings fans that the playoffs were not a pipe dream.

The bench is stronger but the starting lineup is putting the team in a hole in the first quarter of nearly every game. The past three games saw the Kings down by double digits at the end of the first quarter and climbing out of a hole every game is not a recipe for success.

So what is the answer Kings fans? How does this newly-assembled squad put together a winning stretch that allows Sacramento fans to witness postseason basketball? With 16 games remaining, there's no more trading or adding to the team, so coach Christie will have to move the chess pieces he has.

Sadly, although Malik has wanted to be a starter for some time, he has not thrived in his new role. Coming off the bench and adding a spark seems to be the logical move for coach Christie to make.

Jake LaRavia has added much needed defense but Markelle Fultz has failed to add much to the point guard position. Coach Christie might be faced with using rookie Devin Carter who has proven himself to be a skilled ball handler and surprisingly a good rebounder as well.

Perhaps the time has come to give Isaac Jones some more court time, as this team could use his length and rebounding. Jones has received too little time on the court but seems to make an impact when given the opportunity.

Trey Lyles and Keegan Murray need to live up to their billing and add 3-point shooting to a team that is in sore need.

Cross your fingers, Kings fans, that Domantas Sabonis will stay healthy and former all-stars DeMar DeRozan and Zach Lavine will be the players we know they can be the rest of the way.

Many of the senseless turnovers come from players trying to do too much and what the Kings need is to get back to basics and keep it simple. Move the ball, make good passes and allow teammates to shoot the basketball in rhythm.

Make no mistake about it, there is plenty of talent on this team.

Play-in appears to be the logical prescription, so take your medicine Sacramento Kings and see where the Play-in might take you.

King's fans want postseason basketball and what you call it matters little. Magical things can happen when given a chance and that's what the play-in brings, a chance.

Stay positive, Kings fans, and keep those TV sets on for the fourth quarter. These guys might surprise you yet!

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

Social Security Matters *Can I Avoid Paying the Medicare Premium?*



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: Is there any way I can get out of paying the \$185 I am told will be taken out of my Social Security for Medicare Part B when I turn 65? We pay for Medicare all our working lives, and now I have to pay a monthly premium for insurance that only covers 80%. Signed: Disheartened Senior

Dear Disheartened: For clarification, the money you paid into Medicare while working during your lifetime was for Medicare Part A (inpatient hospitalization coverage). The Medicare taxes paid while working entitled you to FREE Medicare coverage for Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage, but they do not entitle you to Medicare coverage for outpatient services (coverage for doctors, medical tests, etc.). For that coverage from Medicare, you must enroll in Medicare Part B, for which there is a monthly premium (\$185/ month for 2025). If you wish to have Medicare Part B coverage, you must enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65 - unless you have other "creditable" healthcare coverage from an employer.

The Medicare Part B premium will be automatically deducted from your Social Security pavment when you enroll in Medicare, and there is no way to avoid it if you wish to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient medical services. But, if you currently have "creditable" healthcare coverage from an employer, you can delay enrolling in Medicare Part B (thus avoiding the premium) until your employer coverage ends. If you don't enroll in Medicare Part B during your initial enrollment period (at 65), or in a Special Enrollment Period following the end of your creditable employer healthcare coverage, then you will incur a penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside of the prescribed enrollment periods. That penalty is a permanent increase in your Medicare Part B premium. FYI, "creditable" is an employer group plan with at least 20 participants.

We do not advise going without outpatient healthcare coverage, so you should carefully consider enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. If you are already collecting Social Security benefits, you will be automatically enrolled, but you can opt out of Part B if you wish – it's just not advisable, unless you have current creditable healthcare coverage from an employer.

So, to recap: the Medicare taxes you paid while working only entitled you to free Medicare Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage. You must enroll in Medicare Part B (for which there is a monthly premium) to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient healthcare services. Both Medicare Part A and Part B have deductibles and copayments, for which you may wish to consider getting either a supplemental insurance plan or a Medicare Advantage plan. But, in either case, you must still have both Medicare Part A and Part B to obtain such additional healthcare coverage.

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California's Cities and Schools Face Big Budget Gaps, Few Options



"Similarly, the number of

A number of smaller cit-



Donald Kendrick, Music Director

Season 29 2025 Finale

dation.org.

By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

California's state budget is mired in what fiscal authorities call a "structural deficit," meaning its revenues cannot keep up with spending mandated by current law.

For several years, Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature have papered over the chronic gap between income and outgo with gimmicks, including on- and off-budget borrowing and creative accounting, plus dips into "rainy day" funds set aside for emergencies.

Those maneuvers merely postpone the day of reckoning, because the administration and the Legislature's budget analyst, Gabe Petek, project yearly multibillion-dollar shortfalls indefinitely.

The state's dilemma has several roots, most notably an erroneously high multiyear revenue forecast in 2022 that led to a belief that there would be an immense budget surplus and to sharply increased spending. The administration later pegged the revenue error at \$165 billion over four years.

That factor was exacerbated by what Petrek dubbed "a sluggish economy."

"Outside of government and health care, the state has added no jobs in a year and a half," Petek noted in a November fiscal overview. Californians who are unemployed is 25% higher than during the strong labor markets of 2019 and 2022."

State government is not alone in facing chronic budget deficits. The state's major cities and many school districts are also feeling the pinch of stagnant revenues and inflation, especially with rising worker salaries. Add the horrendous Los Angeles wildfires and President Donald Trump's potentially huge federal spending reductions and the budget gaps could become even wider.

A few days ago, Matt Szabo, the City of Los Angeles' chief administrative officer, and city Controller Kenneth Mejia bluntly warned the city council that LA is several hundred million dollars short of covering its budgeted expenditures not even counting the likely effects of wildfires on revenues and spending.

"The city is facing significant headwinds," Szabo said, adding "immediate spending reductions required."

"The city of L.A., financially, we are in trouble," Mejia told the council in a letter. He added, "The city is estimated to overspend by \$300 million over budget. So when you have less revenues compared to your budget, and you have more expenses over your budget — that's a big gap that we have to fill."

San Francisco's new mayor, Daniel Lurie, says he wants to "eliminate \$1 billion in overspending" over the next three years to cover an \$876 million deficit over two years. "The era of onetime or Band-Aid solutions is over," Lurie told other officials after taking office in January. ies, including Sacramento, are also dealing with significant deficits.

Meanwhile many school districts are also facing big budget gaps due to declining enrollment and chronic absenteeism that reduce state aid based on attendance, in addition to the expiration of federal grants meant to cope with COVID-19 and employee union demands for raises to offset inflation-hammered personal budgets.

The Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, a state agency that monitors school district finances, recently issued a report on school systems in various degrees of fiscal difficulty, with those in Oakland and San Francisco on the list of the most troubled.

The agency cited not only enrollment declines, but the jolts of losing federal pandemic aid and rising costs, particularly for fire insurance and electric power, as factors.

In theory, local officials could seek tax increases as they ponder ways to balance their budgets. However voters facing rising living costs of their own are not likely to approve of that solution.

Therefore the options are either make real spending reductions, which might mean laying off workers and closing schools, or emulate the state's gimmickry and hope the problems solve themselves.

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. \star

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Aquatic Invasive Plants' Control Efforts Begin

California Department of Parks and Recreation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) -California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) began its 2025 control efforts for invasive aquatic plants in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its southern tributaries (Delta) this month.

Starting March 20, after press time, the Division of Boating and Waterways began herbicide treatments on water hyacinth, South American spongeplant, Uruguay water primrose, alligator weed, Brazilian waterweed, curlyleaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, coontail, fanwort, and ribbon weed in the Delta. The treatment start date can change, depending on weather conditions and plant growth/movement.

"DBW continues to work with the public and our local, state and federal partners to control these aquatic invasive plants to reduce or eliminate the negative impacts on people's daily lives and businesses," said Division of Boating and Waterways' Deputy Director Ramona Fernandez. "The continued use of monitoring and technology allows the division to focus on the areas that best help us manage wthe challenges."

These aquatic invasive plants have no known natural controls in the Delta, the West Coast's largest estuary. They negatively affect the Delta's ecosystem as they displace native plants that are essential to the area's biodiversity while negatively impacting the economy, environment and public health. Continued warm temperatures help the plants proliferate at high rates.

The plants are also known to



Starting March 20, the Division of Boating and Waterways will begin herbicide treatments. Photo courtesy of California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways.

form dense mats of vegetation, creating safety hazards for boaters and obstructing navigation channels, marinas and irrigation systems. Due to their ability to spread rapidly to new areas, the plants will likely never be eradicated from Delta waters. Therefore, Division of Boating and Waterways operates control programs as opposed to eradication programs. The division works with local, state and federal entities to better understand the plants and implement new integrated control strategies to increase efficacy.

Funding for Division of Boating and Waterways' aquatic invasive plant control programs comes from the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, which receives revenues from boaters' registration fees and gasoline taxes.

All herbicides are registered for aquatic use with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Treated areas for submersed aquatic vegetation (Brazilian waterweed, curlyleaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil. coontail, fanwort, and ribbon weed) will be monitored to ensure herbicide levels do not exceed allowable limits and follow EPAregistered label guidelines. The public can view the public notices and sign up to receive weekly updates on this year's treatment season at the Division of Boating and Waterways' website at dbw. parks.ca.gov.

Below is a list of proposed area control actions for the 2025 treatment season.

Floating Aquatic Vegetation

Control Program is to control water hyacinth, South American spongeplant, Uruguay water primrose and alligator weed. Herbicide control treatment period is for all sites from March 20 to Nov. 30. Types of herbicides are Glyphosate, Imazamox, 2,4-D or Diquat.

Potential treatment areas are initially in and/or around but not limited to the following areas: San Joaquin River, Old River, Middle River, Fourteen Mile Slough and Snodgrass Slough.

The submersed Aquatic Vegetation Control Program is to control Brazilian waterweed, curlyleaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, coontail, ribbon weed, and fanwort. The herbicide control treatment period from March 20 through Nov. 30, based upon Division of Boating and Waterways field survey data, water temperatures and fish surveys, uses Fluridone, Diquat or Endothall herbicide. Potential Sacramento-area treatments will be at French Island, Hogback, Long Island Slough, Sacramento Marina, Snug Harbor and Washington Lake.

MARCH 21, 2025

Last year, Division of Boating and Waterways treated a total of 2,649 acres of floating aquatic vegetation and 1,115 acres of submersed aquatic vegetation. No mechanical harvesting was conducted. A combination of herbicide, biological and mechanical control methods will be used to help control invasive plants at high-priority sites in the Delta.

In 1982, California state legislation designated Division of Boating and Waterways as the lead state agency to work with other state, local and federal agencies in controlling water hyacinth in the Delta, its tributaries and the Suisun Marsh. The Egeria Densa Control Program was authorized by law in 1997 and treatment began in 2001. In 2012, spongeplant was authorized for control upon completion of the biological assessment. In 2013, Division of Boating and Waterways's jurisdiction expanded to include other invasive aquatic plants, and since then, other aquatic invasive plants such as Uruguay water primrose, Eurasian watermilfoil, Carolina fanwort, coontail, alligator weed and ribbon weed have been added to the Aquatic Invasion Plant Control Program.

To report sightings, subscribe for program updates or for more information regarding the control program, connect online at dbw.parks.ca.gov/AIS, email a AIS@parks.ca.gov or phone at 888-326-2822.

Los Rios Chancellor Brian King to Retire



Chancellor Brian King

2012 after an extensive national search by the Los Rios Board of Trustees. He is the ninth chancellor in the 60-year history of the district.

Under King's leadership, Los Rios has raised more than \$60 million through grant-seeking and fundraising efforts and seen marked improvements in student Executive Committee. King also served as co-chair of the Sacramento Metro Chamber's Cap-to-Cap 50th Anniversary and the past president of the Global Community College Leadership Network.

"The Board of Trustees is grateful for Chancellor King's 13 years of skilled service," said Los faculty, staff, students and the community.

"Though I'm announcing a timeline for my retirement today, this is far from goodbye," King said. "Fifteen months is a long time and we've got a lot of work to do to expand access to our colleges and help students, especially first- generation students and students of color, realize the promise of a college degree for their family and community."





Los Rio Community College District News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA

- Los Rios Community College District Chancellor Brian King will retire at the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

"Serving as the chancellor of the Los Rios Community College District has been the professional honor of my lifetime," King said in a video message to faculty, staff and administrators at the four Los Rios colleges and district office. "I'm so proud of what our district has accomplished over the past 13 years."

King joined Los Rios as chancellor in February success. In the last 13 years, Los Rios has built or significantly renovated more than a dozen major campus facilities, seen enrollment grow to beyond pre-pandemic levels and expanded programs for students and employers in the Capital region.

During his time at Los Rios, King has served in leadership roles in a number of significant local and statewide organizations, including serving as past president of the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges Board. King has been a member of the Sacramento Metro Chamber Board of Directors and the Greater Sacramento Economic Council

Rios Board of Trustees President Kelly Wilkerson. "Chancellor King has shepherded our district through tumultuous times, always keeping students at the forefront of his decision-making. His leadership and deep commitment to creating opportunity throughout the Sacramento region has left a lasting mark on Los Rios and the students we serve."

The Los Rios Board of Trustees expects to immediately begin the process of selecting a search firm to coordinate the recruitment and hiring of King's replacement. The search process will begin this spring and continue into the 2025-26 academic year with significant engagement from

The Los Rios Community College District is the second-largest community college district in California, according to the college district, serving the greater Sacramento region. American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges; six major education and outreach centers; and specialized workforce and economic development programs for regional businesses, governments and organizations are in the district.

For more information, go online to www.losrios. edu.

New Home Sales Rebounded in February

North State Building Industry Association News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION (MPG) -Sacramento - area new home sales slowed during the first three weeks of February before coming back strong during the last week of the month, according to the North State Building Industry Association on March 11.

Tim Murphy, the Building Industry Association's president and CEO, attributed the late-month surge in part to mortgage interest rate trends.

"As markets adjusted to the presidential transition, interest rates ticked upwards to a little over 7% in mid-January and then gradually eased downward," Murphy said. "That decline accelerated in the latter part of February, which likely accounted for higher sales at the end of the month."

Building Industry Association member builders sold 521 new homes in the seven-county region in February, which was above the average for the month (505 sales) but below February sales totals reported in recent years.

Sales were down 32% from February 2024 (partly because that year was a five-week month) and down 21% from January (again, partly because that, too, was a five-week month).

As mentioned, however, sales rebounded from 114 in the third week of February to 148 in the last week of the month, which was the best weekly sales total since the end of last August.

New home communities in Sacramento County reported the highest number of sales in February with 269, due largely to the fact that there are far more open communities there than in other parts of the region. Placer County finished in second-place with 154, followed by Yuba County with 49. Including adjacent Sutter County, the region reported 57 sales in all.

As is often the case, Roseville reported the most sales of any submarket

with 80, followed by Rancho Cordova and Elk Grove, tied with 56 each. Sacramento was fourth with 33 and Plumas Lake fifth with 27. Rocklin came in sixth with 21, followed by Folsom with 20, Natomas with 17, and Lincoln and Antelope, which each saw 14 sales.

Building Industry Association statistics include sales by members in Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

Representing more than 500 members who provide 55,000 industry jobs, the North State Building Industry Association is committed to preserving and furthering the economic interests of its members, while working to enhance the industry's standing as a significant contributor to the regional economy. The association, founded in 1944, is comprised of builders, developers, subcontractors, suppliers and related professionals.

For more information, visit online www.northstatebia.org.

Here is a rendering of "Riparian" by HUA Design Studios, one of the new permanent art installations planned at Sacramento International Airport. Photo courtesy of Sacramento International Airport

Sacramento International Airport News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento International Airport (SMF) continues its public art program with a \$2-million investment in three permanent art installations as part of its SMForward expansion.

The artwork will be featured in the new pedestrian walkway, offering travelers an immersive and inspiring experience that reflects the region's natural beauty, history and culture.

"These installations are a reflection of Sacramento's vibrant history and commitment to public art, which has the power to transform spaces and create a sense of place," said Sacramento County First District Supervisor Phil Serna. "These installations will celebrate Sacramento's identity and enhance the journey for millions of travelers who pass through SMF each year."

The selected works explore themes of migration, movement and connection, featuring large-scale sculptures, intricate designs inspired by local landscapes and celestial-inspired imagery.

One installation is "Preserved Flight Path" by David Brooks, showcasing avian flight paths in aluminum and endangered local bird sculptures in the Pedestrian Walkway Hub. The second installation is "Riparian" by HUA Design Studios (Huameng Yu & Louis Chinn), evoking the Natomas Basin's habitat with thousands of suspended glass rondelles forming a murmuration, geographic brass inlays and native plant motifs.

The third installation is "Blue Moon (Theia)" by John Roloff, transforming the walkway into a cosmic-inspired space with translucent lunar imagery and meteorite-inspired flooring.

"Our goal in this art program is to cultivate an unforgettable experience for every traveler," said Sacramento County Director of Airports Cindy Nichol. "The artists will create a welcoming, inspiring environment for travelers while celebrating our region's culture, ecology, and spirit of innovation."

The new selections join iconic sculptures such as "Leap," the red rabbit in Terminal B and the giant whimsical luggage carts, "Samson," in Terminal A.

The public art program is a key component of SMForward, the airport's \$1.4-billion expansion plan, which includes new parking, a pedestrian walkway and terminal improvements. The installations are expected to be completed alongside the new facilities, further establishing Sacramento International Airport as a gateway to Northern California's creativity and diversity.



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TY Johnson Named to All-Big West First Team

University of California Davis News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The University of California (UC), Davis senior guard TY Johnson, one of the most dynamic two-way players in college basketball, was named to the All-Big West First Team on Tuesday, March 11, as announced by the conference.

-Johnson's selection marks the fourth consecutive year the Aggies have placed a player on the First Team. A model of consistency, Johnson has earned conference recognition in each of his three seasons at UC Davis: an Honorable Mention in his debut 2022-23 campaign, a Second Team nod in 2023-24 and now a First Team honor in 2024-25.

-The Chicago native has been the cornerstone of the Aggies' success this season, starting all 31 games while averaging 21.2 points, 4.2 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 2.3 steals per game. Johnson has led UC Davis in assists 15 times this season and recorded three or more steals in 12 games, including a season-high six in a record-breaking performance against Cal Poly, where the Aggies forced 33 turnovers-the most in program history.

-Johnson's statistical profile this season places him in elite



UC Davis senior guard TY Johnson was named to the All-Big West First Team on March 11. Photo courtesy of UC Davis Athletics

company, as he is the first qualified player since Vanderbilt's Scotty Pippen Jr. in 2021-22 to rank in the 99th percentile in points per 40 minutes while also ranking in the 95th percentile or higher in steals per 40 minutes.

-Johnson burst onto the national scene early this season, leading the country in scoring at one point and earning a spot on the "Early Season" watch list for the Lou Henson Award, which honors the top mid-major

player in college basketball. His 21.2 points per game currently rank sixth nationally, and he has scored in double figures in 29 games, including 21 performances with 20 or more points and five games with 30 or more.

-Defensively, Johnson has been equally impactful, ranking 10th nationally in total steals (72) and 15th in steals per game (2.3), both of which are second among Big West leaders.

Johnson solidified himself as

the conference's premier twoway standout, slotting in as the only player in the Big West this season to rank inside the top five in both points per game and steals per game.

Johnson notably opened the season with a career-high 35 points against Washington, followed by a 30-point outing against Idaho. Those efforts earned him Oscar Robertson National Player of the Week honors, one of the most prestigious weekly awards in college basketball.

In Big West play, Johnson elevated his game even further, averaging 21.8 points per game. He matched his career-high with another 35-point performance at UC Santa Barbara on Jan. 18 and dropped 33 points against Long Beach State on Feb. 6.

His was recognized throughout conference play twice with Big West Player of the Week honors this season, bringing his career total to three.

Johnson also has etched his name throughout the UC Davis record books this season. He currently ranks fourth in program history in scoring (1,686 points, including 1,675 at UC Davis) and is one of only 26 Aggies to reach 1,000 career points. He needs just 19 points to tie for third all-time.

Defensively, Johnson is second in career steals at UC Davis and holds the program's Division I single-season record with 72 steals and counting this year. He also set a single-game program record with 18 free throws made against Long Beach State on Jan. 11, breaking the previous mark of 17 held by Fowzi Abdelsamad. Additionally, Johnson now holds every UC Davis free throw record, including most in a single season (175 and counting) and most in a career (464).

of the Week Honors



On March 8, The Hornets' Varsity Eight was named the West Coast Conference Crew of the Week. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State University

consisted of just two seniors, the Hornets

Hornets Receive Crew Using Tech to Improve **Anglers' Experience**

California Department of Fish and Wildlife News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is excited to announce the launch of a web-based platform called the California Inland Recreational Angler Survey (CIRAS), that will provide the public with helpful fishing information driven by data submitted by anglers. The platform can be found at CIRAS. wildlife.ca.gov.

The California Inland Recreational Angler



Sacramento State university News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The Hornets' Varsity Eight was named the West Coast Conference Crew of the Week for the team's performance on March 8 at the season-opening Sacramento State Invitational.

The Hornets joined the West Coast Conference this season, and took home the honor in their first week in the conference.

At the Sacramento State Invitational on Lake Natoma, the Hornets took home first place in a five-boat field, which included three other West Coast Conference teams.

Despite racing with a crew that

finished with a winning time of 6:53.4, followed by Saint Mary's (6:57.5), Portland (7:04.3), Santa Clara (7:28.3) and Orange Coast College (7:43.5). The Hornets raced with 4-6 mph cross winds on the course.

Sacramento State's lineup in that race was, cox - Emma Goldsmith, stroke - Nieka Marais, seven - Valarie Reed, six - Kaylee Godwin, five - Daria Okhremtchuk, four - Ella Holmes, three - Mackenzie Murray, two - Ruth Brooks and bow - Harper Waring.

Sacramento State is scheduled to be back in action for the Hornet Invitational March 15 on Lake Natoma at 8:30 a.m. ★

Mulumba Led the Nation in Rebounding



Sacramento City College sophomore Joyce Mulumba led the nation in rebounding at the collegiate level, for the 2024-2025 season. Photo courtesy of Sacramento City College

Sacramento City College News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Congratulations to Sacramento City College sophomore Joyce

Mulumba for leading the nation in rebounding for the 2024-2025 season!

Joyce Mulumba was the only player in the country to secure 500+ rebounds during the regular season

of competition on any level of college basketball. This includes National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division-1, NCAA Division-2, NCAA Division-3, NAIA, NJCAA and 3C2A.

Mulumba totaled an astonishing 516 rebounds for the 2024-2025 season and reached the 1,000-rebound milestone for her young college career.

Mulumba led the state (3C2A) in rebounding consecutively for two years and the BIG-8 Conference at 18.4 rebounds per game for the 2024-2025 season.

Joyce Mulumba is the first player in program history at Sacramento City College to lead the nation in rebounding.

Survey is powered by anglers for anglers. It allows anglers to submit data regarding their fishing trips and provides immediate access to aggregated sport fishing data through an interactive "Ready to Fish" dashboard.

As a crowdsourcing platform, California Inland Recreational Angler Survey requires a high level of participation among the full spectrum of California inland anglers' fishing interests to drive the quality of fishing information it provides.

This new technology expands the reach of the state's Angler Survey Boxes, a network of more than 200 metal angler survey boxes located throughout the state where anglers can record their fishing experiences on paper survey slips.

While the Angler Survey Boxes system is typically used to evaluate trout fisheries, the modern California Inland Recreational Angler Survey platform will provide anglers with an opportunity to submit and interact with information about any sport fish from any fishable inland or anadromous water in the state.

This means data on additional locations and fish species will be more accessible to the public than ever before.

Historic data from the survey box program will also be uploaded into the California Inland Recreational Angler Survey providing immediate utility for those

The California Inland Recreational Angler Survey is a new web-based platform created by the state to provide helpful fishing information. Photo courtesy of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

fisheries while anglers begin to populate new locations and species data.

The web platform debuts its first phase for waters within CDFW's North Central Region and will later be expanded statewide. While the new survey can be accessed using mobile devices, the platform currently requires internet connectivity to submit angling data. However, the state plans to incorporate off-line functionality in future phases.

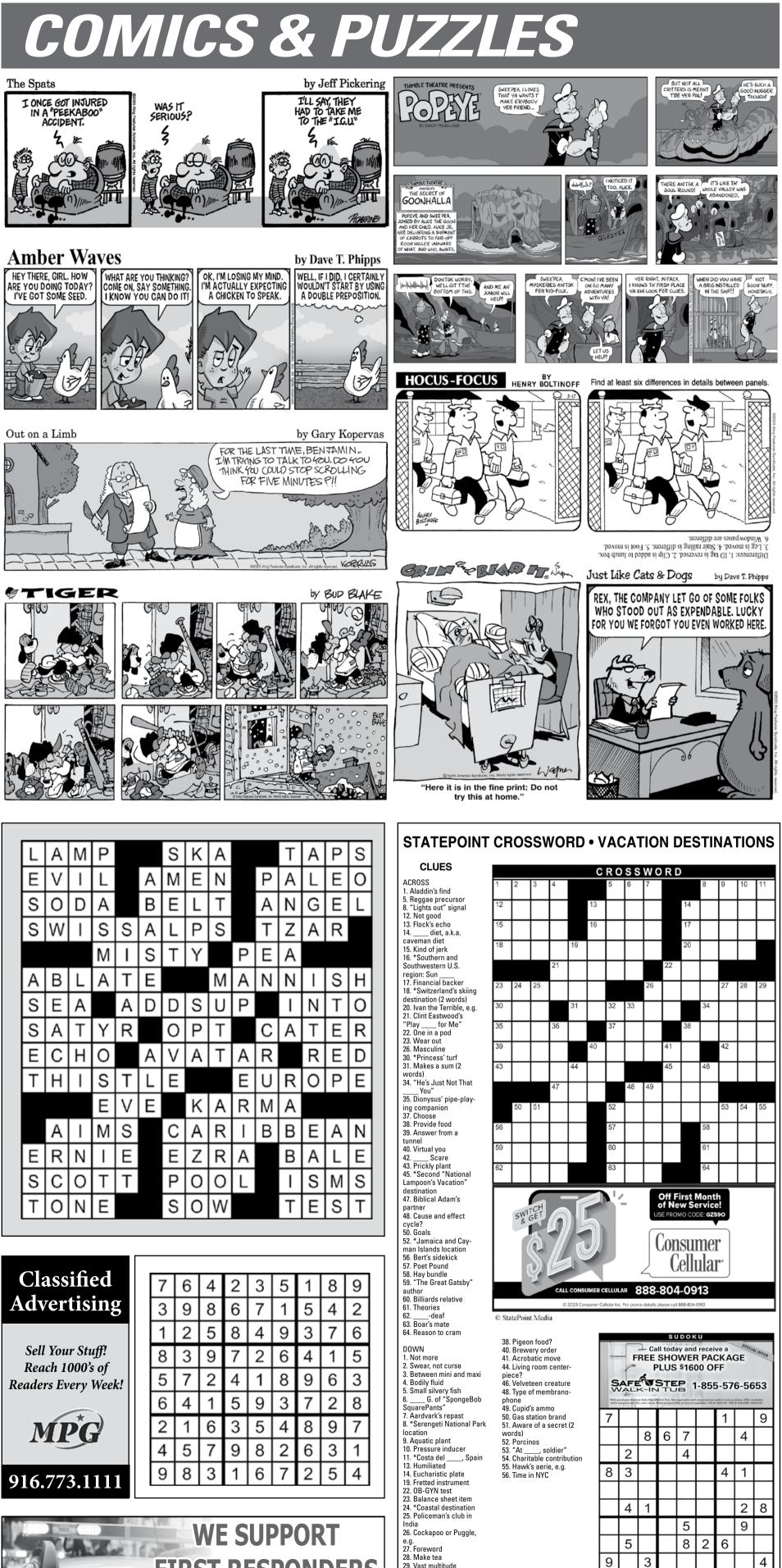
"The CIRAS project represents a new opportunity for the state to better understand angler preferences and performance of fisheries, while also allowing anglers to access information to plan their next fishing trip," said CDFW Fisheries Branch Chief Jay Rowan.

"By giving access to information that other anglers have entered into CIRAS, people will be able to see what species are present, catch rates, size distributions, and the time of year others are out catching fish. CIRAS also provides an opportunity for anglers to contribute directly to scientific work at CDFW, which will help us better manage the lakes and streams and improve fishing opportunities."

The state uses fishing survey data submitted by anglers to inform management actions to protect fisheries and improve angling opportunities. These surveys collect data directly from anglers about the fish they catch (or don't catch).

Data collected from angler surveys can include the species of fish caught, general fishing location, and overall angling experience from a single fishing trip. This information can also serve as an alert for state scientists when more robust surveys are necessary. This new technology will complement, rather than replace, more intensive assessments conducted by trained staff.

The state encourages anglers fishing in California Department of Fish and Wildlife's North Central Region to contribute their catch information using this new platform. California Department of Fish and Wildlife's North Central Region encompasses all or parts of 17 counties, including Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento (east of Interstate 5), San Joaquin, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo (north of Interstate 80), and Yuba.



Cla	ssified
Adv	ertising







29. Vast multitude 32. Peace symbol 33. *Rest and relaxation destination 36. *El Capitan and Half Dome location

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ARC Swimmers Set Record at Cuesta Meet



The American River College women's swim team finished in first-place at the Cuesta Invite on March 7. Courtesy photo

Americanriver.prestosports.com

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The American River College women's swim team traveled to San Luis Obispo on March 7 and finished in first-place by more than 100 points in the 20-team invite hosted by Cuesta College.

The American River College's Beavers dominated the meet, winning four of the five relays and setting a new school record in the 200 Medley Relay in a time of 1:51.60 (Mia Verwoest, Amber Inderkum, Caitlin Wham and Audrey Ng).

American River College freshman Wham won four events: the 50 free in 24.98, 200 Free in 1:55.99, the 100 Fly in 57.50 and the 200 Fly in 2:08.73, resetting her own school record in this event.

Sophomore Ng won both distance events, the 500 Free in 5:25.30 and the 1650 Free in 19:08.23, in her first time swimming the event.

Sophomore Verwoest contributed to the wins in the 100 Back in a time of 59.50.

Freshman teammate Inderkum finished second in the 100 Breast with a time of 1:11.26.

All American River College swimmers had multiple season best swims, including the mile crew. Multiple swimmers dropped more than 30 seconds in their 1650 Free races. Collectively, it was a successful meet for the entire women's team. ★

Bunny Spring Festival for All Ages

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Mark your calendars for the free Bunny Hop Bop Spring Festival at Madison Marketplace from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13.

Madison Marketplace is located at the intersection of Hazel Avenue and Madison Avenue in

Fair Oaks at 8874 Madison Ave. The free activities will be held along Madison Avenue at Madison Marketplace in Fair Oaks. Family fun includes face painting and bounce house play.

Take a keepsake photo with the costumed character Easter Bunny and find it posted on Facebook.

Event attendees aged 18 or older can enter the raffle drawings for the chance to win prizes.

There will also be deejay music.

Visit madisonmarketplace.com and become a MadisonMarketplaceFairOaks Facebook Friend to learn about events and shopping specials at the open-air shopping center.

Image by Mohamed Hassan from Pixabay

Rosie Buck is Woman of the Year



Assemblyman Josh Hoover presents his Woman of the Year award to community leader Rosie Buck. Carmichael Park staff and supporters applaud. A formal ceremony at the Capitol's State Assembly crowned the honor.

Story and photo by Susan Maxwell Skinner

CARMICHAEL, CA (MPG) - Assemblyman Josh Hoover has chosen community leader Rosie Buck as his 2025 Woman of the Year.

The award cements Buck's repute as a District 7 mover and shaker. In conjunction with National Women's Month, senators and assembly members nationwide have bestowed similar honors on exemplary women.

Californian honorees last week converged on the Capitol from throughout the state. Fair Oaks resident Buck joined a formal parade into the Assembly's green-carpeted Chamber. On Hoover's arm, Buck heard her achievements read aloud. Politicians and the public applauded.

"Some amazing women were being honored," Buck marveled. "I couldn't believe I was among them."

The ceremony followed lunch at Prelude, a favored hobnobbing spot for politicians, hosted by the District 7 leader.

"Having known Rosie since my (2022) election, I couldn't think of anyone more deserving of the award," Hoover said. "She's a business owner who is really giving back. Her efforts are of huge benefit to the community."

Woman of the Year Buck recently began a second year as Carmichael Chamber of Commerce president. The 36-year-old also sits on Carmichael's Improvement District Board. Buck organizes public events in her role as a Carmichael Parks Foundation director.

She's also a Kiwanis member and an Elks Lodge member.

Buck and her mechanic husband, Jeff Buck, provide curriculum feedback and internships for the San Juan School District. In addition, the supermom does daily lunchbox prep and chauffeur duties for 7-year-old son, Archer.

Assemblyman Hoover last year named Buck Family Automotive, owned by the couple, as a "Small Business of the Month" winner.

"My office represents many communities in our region," Hoover said. "We see Rosie at lots of events. She's everywhere. She has tremendous energy and organizational skill. I'm in awe of how much this young woman does as a volunteer, along with being a mom, a wife and a businesswoman."

The 5-feet, 2-inches dynamo encountered Hoover's award as a "delightful surprise and a proud moment" in her action-packed life.

"I'm deeply honored," Buck said. "I love representing my community. I didn't tell many people when I learned I was Woman of the Year. When my friends found out, they were thrilled for me.

"At the Capitol ceremony, it was great to have my husband and my mom applauding from the public gallery. They were so proud. I was a bit teary and I couldn't stop smiling," Buck added. "But I really felt it was our community that was being honored."

Two Family-Friendly Events

Blood Drive Aims to Combat Shortages



Vitalant, which serves approximately 900 hospitals nationwide, will hold a blood drive from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 27 at 7009 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights. Photo courtesy of Vitalant

By Patsy McGavock

CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA (MPG) -To combat persistent blood shortages in California, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints partners with Vitalant every three months.

Community members are invited to donate from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 27 at 7009 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights to help strengthen the local blood supply and raise awareness about the critical need for regular donations.

Every two seconds, someone in the United States requires blood, underscoring the constant demand for this lifesaving resource. While 38% of the population is eligible to donate, only about 3% do, leading to frequent shortages, according to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Even a few new regular donors can make a difference.

Vitalant, which serves approximately 900 hospitals nationwide, has been addressing these shortages. In 2023, the organization collected more than 1.6 million donations from 610,000 donors at 24,600 community blood drives and about 115 donation centers, resulting in 2.1 million blood components for patients in need.

Blood centers nationwide have seen donations decline as a lingering result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The rise of remote work ended many workplace-based drives.

"Many people have fallen out of the routine and we need them," said Stephanie Kresse, a Vitalant account manager. The Citrus Heights community blood drive aims to help close that gap by bringing the donation team closer to residents. For those unable to donate on March 27, Vitalant also operates centers in Fair Oaks, Folsom, Roseville and Sacramento with flexible hours throughout the week.

To participate in the March 27 blood drive, schedule an appointment at donors.vitalant.org using the blood drive code SMFR048 or call 877-258-4825. Appointments are encouraged to ensure a smooth donation experience but walk-ins are welcome.

"We encourage donors to review Vitalant's guidelines to ensure they meet the health qualifications" said Mike Petterborg, a church volunteer organizing the event. "We hope to collect 30 units of blood at each drive, though we often bring in about 20."

Vitalant emphasizes that the donation process is safe, quick and rewarding. Individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine or recovered from the virus might be eligible to donate, provided they meet specific criteria.

Those unable to donate can still make an impact. Businesses and community organizations with available space can host a blood drive to help meet ongoing demand. Learn more at vitalant.org/host-a-blood-drive. Your contribution today can make a life-changing difference tomorrow.

Coming to Fair Oaks This April



Families can enjoy a free children's egg hunt, craft and activity stations, a petting zoo and photos with the Bunny. Photo courtesy of Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District

Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District News Release

FAIR OAKS, CA (MPG) - Mark your calendars for two beloved annual Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District events in Fair Oaks. Easter Eggstravaganza returns on April 19, followed by the Kid's Art Festival on April 26, both promising fun for the whole family.

The cherished Fair Oaks tradition, Easter Eggstravaganza, happens rain or shine on Friday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to noon at Fair Oaks Park (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.). This festive event is presented by the Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District and proudly sponsored by Sunrise Community Church and Big Mountain Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

Families can enjoy a free children's egg hunt, craft and activity stations,



Easter Eggstravaganza is happening rain or shine on Friday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at Fair Oaks Park. Photo courtesy of Fair Oaks Recreation and Park District

a petting zoo, and photos with the Bunny. Want to add even more excitement? For a nominal fee, teens (ages 13 to 17) and adults (ages 18-plus) can participate in the Teen and Adult Prize Egg Hunts (pre-purchase required). Skip the line for Pictures with the Bunny with a \$10 Fast Pass (pre-purchase required). Plus, enjoy vendors, food trucks, and pay-to-play activities such as face painting!

Celebrate creativity at the Kid's Art Festival, a free community event presented by the Fair Oaks Recreation & Park District and the San Juan Unified School District. The festival takes place on Friday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fair Oaks Park (11549 Fair Oaks Blvd.).

Families and children of all ages will enjoy a day immersed in the arts with make-and-take art stations, dance and music performances, elementary-high school art show, food trucks and more.

Don't forget to wear clothes that can get messy. A special thank you to the Kid's Art Festival sponsors, Community Health Centers of America and the Sacramento Fine Arts Center, for helping make this event possible.

For more information on both events, visit forpd.org/ events.