

Inviting All Vets to Gridley Museum's Open House

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FRIDAY • MARCH 28, 2025 • VOL. 145 NO. 13



### **OFFICER KILLED DURING MAJOR DRUG RAID**



### **CHICO STATE EVENT HONORS HMONG JOURNEY**



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# High Wheelers Seek Host Families



The Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers are seeking host families to host players for the 2025 season. Photo courtesy of Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers

High Wheelers Press Release

MARYSVILLE, CA (MPG) - Have you ever wondered where the Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers players stay while in town playing professional baseball?

The answer is all the players and coaches stay with host families.

Host families are asked to provide housing for their assigned player(s) for the duration of their stay with the Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers. Most players are here in mid-May through mid-September.

The players will spend half of the season on the road playing against other teams across California, Montana, Idaho and Colorado, so they will stay at host homes for half

During that time span, host families are asked to provide players with a bed and access to bathroom facilities. Players will need access to the host family house, usually by key or garage door opener and many of them will have their own car, so a place to park might be necessary.

For the five months that the players are in Yuba-Sutter, host families are providing more than just housing; they're providing a home.

When you become a host family, you will be adding a new member to your family, not just taking on a tenant. If your family has children, these players can serve as positive role models. These players are respectful of their environment, and nothing less will be tolerated by the Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers organization.

All these players come highly recommended by their coaches and their character expectations are clearly laid out for them before they sign a

contract to play for the team. Host families will receive two season tickets (per player that they house) for the season.

Families are sure to love the excitement and entertainment of Yuba-Sutter High Wheelers Professional Baseball and the players enjoy seeing their adopted families in the stands supporting them.

The longest lasting benefit of becoming a host family is the bond that will be forged between your family and the player who lives with you that can last a lifetime. Players and their host families have been known to keep in contact long after their playing careers ended, remaining friends and sharing family milestones.

For more information on becoming a High Wheeler host family, visit www.highwheelers.com/assets/ HostFamilies.

## Council **Approves** \$3.5 Million for Water **Fund Deficit**

Story by Shaunna Boyd

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - The Live Oak City Council voted unanimously to fill two vacancies on the Planning Commission during the March 19 meeting.

The city received nine applications for the Planning Commission and first considered appointments at the prior meeting, when current commissioner Michelle Serpa was re-appointed to another four-year term.

Live Oak Mayor Jeramy Chapdelaine nominated Liz Skutley for the four-year term expiring in 2029 and Alan Deala for the term expiring in 2027 (a seat vacated by Vice-Mayor Aaron Pamma when he took his position on City Council). Both nominations were unanimously

City Council then conidered an interfund loan to the Water Fund, which is projected to have a \$3.5-million deficit by the end of the fiscal year in June, due to many years of water rate revenues not meeting expenditures.

approved by City Council.

Interim Finance Director James Ramsey recommended a loan from the Connection Fee Fund (which comes from fees for new connections to the city's storm drainage, water and sewer systems), which has available funding not currently allocated. A total of \$3 million could be transferred by the end of March, with an additional \$500,000 transferred in June when the fiscal year ends. The city is also under-

going a Water Rate Study, with the potential to increase rates over five years to cover the cost of water operations. Those increases would also enable the eventual repayment of the interfund loan over a period of five years, beginning after the fund has reached solvency. The loan would also be subject to an annual average interest rate, currently set at 2.46%.

Councilmember Nancy Santana asked why the water connection fees aren't included in the Water Fund. Ramsey explained that state law requires a separate accounting system because the water connection fees are restricted to covering the costs of establishing water connections for new developments, while the Water Fund

Continued on page 5

## Lake Oroville's Flood Control Releases Ongoing

California Department of Water Resources News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) continues federally required flood control releases from Lake Oroville to maintain flood protection for downstream communities.

Water is being released through the Hyatt Powerplant for energy production and from Oroville Dam's main spillway. With wetter watershed conditions earlier last week, Department of Water Resources increased releases to 15,000 cubic feet per second but reduced releases on March 21 as drier conditions returned.

Department of Water Resources continues to conserve as much water supply as possible in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Releases are subject to change based on ongoing weather conditions.

Between October and June, Department of Water Resources is required to operate Lake Oroville for flood control under federal Water Control Manual guidelines set by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. These federal regulations establish a set storage space that is reserved to capture inflows from rain and future snowmelt, while protecting downstream



courtesy of Department of Water Resource

communities from damaging flood events through water releases. Releases to the Feather River are coordinated closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other downstream water operators.

Current reservoir levels are as follows, although estimates can change quickly: current reservoir level is at 868 feet elevation, current storage capacity is at 86 percent, total releases to the feather river are at 12,500 cubic feet per second and reducing to 11,500 cubic feet per second on March 16.

Lake Oroville is the largest storage facility in the State Water Project, providing flood protection while

supporting environmental and water delivery needs to 27-million Californians. Some water released from Lake Oroville is distributed locally for agriculture benefits, while the remaining Feather River releases flow south through the State Water Project system to reduce salinity effects in the Delta, provide irrigation for crops in the Central Valley and eventually make their way to Southern California. Department of Water Resources continues to monitor lake levels, weather forecasts and mountain snow levels to optimize water storage while allowing for carryover storage into next year.

Planned water

fluctuations at the Oroville-Thermalito Complex were coordinated for several locations on the weekend of March 22 and 23 for planned concrete work on the River Valve Outlet System at Oroville Dam. Starting March 21, water levels at the Thermalito Afterbay dropped approximately 3 feet, while water levels at the Diversion Pool and Thermalito Forebay were approximately 1 foot lower than usual. These water level fluctuations are within the standard operating range at these facilities, with water elevations returning to their usual level by the end of last weekend.

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## The New Pi-Line

Boston Massacre and the British Parliament's



By Josh F.W. Cook

This week's Pi-Line is the text of the 250th anniversary of Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!" speech for which the president of the United States of America issued a proclamation.

"Our Nation proudly commemorates the 250th anniversary of Patrick Henry's address to the Second Virginia Convention - a seminal moment in our great American story and a fateful turning point in America's epic struggle for Independence. On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry rose to the pulpit of St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia, to speak those immortal words that remain etched upon every American heart: 'Give me liberty or

give me death!'

In the wake of escalating tensions between the Patriots and the Redcoats, Henry delivered this stirring address before more than 100 delegates, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and many of the statesmen who would go on to sign the Declaration of Independence. Following the bloody

authoritarian imposition of the Intolerable Acts, which closed the Boston Harbor and stripped New England Colonists of their right to self-govern; American leaders deliberated whether to continue their pursuit of peace, or as a final recourse, to take up

arms in the rebellion.

With British tyranny on

the rise and American

confidence in retreat,

the Second Virginia

Convention assembled. Patrick Henry, a respected lawyer who had recently served as a delegate to the Continental Congress, arrived at the Convention with one goal in mind: to galvanize militiamen into securing 'our inestimable rights and liberties, from those further violations with which they are threatened.' Some members cautioned against such decisive action, insisting that peaceful reconcili-

ation was still possible,

but as Henry listened, he

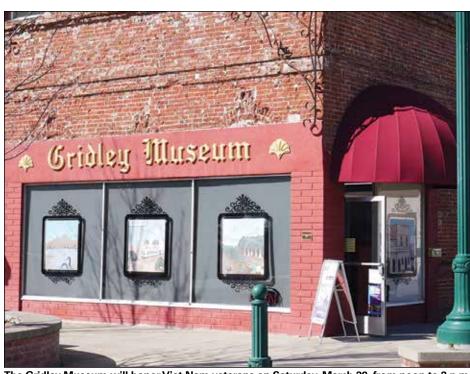
grew more impatient. A Baptist minister who observed the proceedings later recalled that he had 'an unearthly fire burning in his eye.' Overcome with righteous indignation, Henry rose from his seat with no notes in hand, boldly beseeching his fellow Virginians: 'If we wish to be free... we must fight!' At a moment when America's fate hung in the balance, Henry's words sparked daring action in the souls of patriots, fortified the cause of freedom, and set America on the path to ultimate triumph over forces of tyranny and oppression.

By a narrow margin, the Second Virginia Convention passed the resolution to form a militia - the first critical step to Independence. 'It is not now easy to say what we should have done without Patrick Henry,' Thomas Jefferson later wrote. 'He was before us all in maintaining the spirit of the Revolution.' As we approach the 250th anniversary of our Nation's Independence on July 4, 2026, we look to Patrick Henry, a son of the frontier, the first and sixth Governor of Virginia, an unflinching advocate for American Independence, and a true man of his moment.

Today, we invoke his courage, we honor his legacy, and we fearlessly summon the spirit of 1776 to build a future that we will be proud to impart on our children. Like Patrick Henry and the giants of American liberty who came before us, now is our time to ring that great bell of American freedom and to propel our Nation into a new and radiant golden age. NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 23, 2025, as a day in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Patrick Henry's speech to the Second Virginia Convention."

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

# Inviting All Vets to Gridley Museum's Open House



The Gridley Museum will honor Viet Nam veterans on Saturday, March 29, from noon to 2 p.m. The Gridley Museum resides in the historic district of Downtown Gridley. Photo by Teri Saya

### Gridley Museum News Release

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - Greetings, Gridley's Viet Nam era Veterans, you are invited to an Open House at the Gridley Museum, 601 Kentucky Street, in your honor.

We are honoring veterans for the 50th anniversary of your national holiday on Saturday, March 29, from noon to 2 p.m. We are keeping the open house short and casual as we expect that you might want to move on after a tour of the museum to the local Moose Lodge to visit with your fellow vets. The Moose Lodge feels strongly about honoring our Viet Nam-era vets and has graciously donated the social quarters for an extended time of fellowship ad visiting after the two-hour open house at the museum.

We have been collecting pictures and stories and memorabilia from that time and hope you approve of the work that we've done to honor you and your service. The staff and volunteers would welcome any and all advice as to how we can expand and improve our collections.

We are also planning a larger event in October. At that time, we hope to collect donations and pledges for donations to purchase recording equipment and preservation tools. Also, we hope to involve more volunteers to help vets record or write their stories and memories. If you should choose to do so, we are eager to help. We sincerely believe that your stories and experiences deserve to be recorded. We hope our pride in you fellow "Gridley kids," "Gridley citizens" and Viet Nam vets in general and your place in history can be preserved for generations to come.

For questions and further information, contact Suzie Dukes at (530) 320-0339, Ron Eggers at (530) 864-4349 or Joann Hamman at (530) 864-5337. ★

## Semi Overturns on Route 99



A semi-trailer truck overturned on March 24 off of State Route 99, out of the flow of traffic. Photo

### Story by Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - In the very early morning of March 24, a semi-trailer truck carrying frozen food overturned on State Route 99 in front of Grease Monkey Truck and Trailer Repair. The vehicle landed off the road, not endangering any other drivers. CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection)

engines 74 and 274 were dispatched to the scene.

According to CAL FIRE engineer Isaiah Jones, the driver was found still in the cab of the truck unhurt. They broke the window so the driver could climb out. Jones said there was no fire risk, despite some diesel and coolant leakage.

"He missed all of the power poles, barely. He did take out a road sign and the truck was damaged but there was no other property damage," said Jones.

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) workers were nearby, tearing out the old water main.

Jones also indicated that the cause of the accident is not known at this time.

"The driver was in route from Weed to a destination south of Gridley," Jones





## **Gridley High School Student Stabbed**

By Connie Voss

**GRIDLEY, CA (MPG)** - On Wednesday at about 9:40 a.m., Gridley High School Resource Officer Ashley Carson responded to a report of a stabbing in the boys' locker room.

The school was placed on lockdown in the Guardian Building, where some parents told The Gridley Herald that their children felt safe. School was canceled at 10:45 a.m. and all students were sent home.

Gridley Unified School District Superintendent Justin Kern said in a letter to parents that day, "Due to the nature of the incident and the disruption it has caused, I have made the decision to dismiss students today at 10:45 a.m. to ensure their well-being and provide a safe and supportive environment."

A student in the locker room at the time of the incident told The Gridley Herald that he heard, "Oh, my goodness, he got stabbed!" The suspect fled after Carson came in, according to the student talking to the newspaper before he ran out with other students.

According to CAL FIRE, the victim was conscious and alert when transported by ambulance to Adventist Health Rideout in Marysville.

At about 9:59 a.m., California Highway Patrol (CHP) called the Gridley Police Department saying they had found a juvenile possibly associated with the incident. The suspect was taken to Gridley Police Department for questioning.

A parent told The Gridley Herald that both the suspect and the victim have special needs. They also indicated that Sycamore Middle School eighth-graders were visiting the high school visiting for a field trip.

All the eighth-graders were sent back to Sycamore Middle School.

Nearby Wilson Elementary School was put on code yellow. Code yellow means that as a precaution for events or incidents occurring outside the school building, students and staff are asked to remain in their classrooms and can continue learning as there is no immediate or active threat.

The names and ages of the suspects are not being released, as of press time. ★

# Officer Killed During Major Drug Raid in Olivehurst; Suspect Also Dead

OLIC

By Shamaya Sutton

**OLIVEHURST, CA (MPG)** - A Marysville police officer was shot and killed Wednesday morning during a multi-agency drug raid in Olivehurst, part of a sweeping operation targeting a transnational drug trafficking organization. The officer was struck during gunfire exchange at a residence on

Kestrel Court around 7:50 a.m., officials said. The suspect involved in the shooting was also killed at the scene.

The incident occurred during the execution of one of 20 coordinated search warrants across Yuba, Sutter, Tehama, and Butte counties, according to officials at a press conference held later in the day at the Yuba County Sheriff's Department.

"It's important to note that in this multi-year operation, the suspects - the central suspects in this operation - were part of transnational drug-trafficking organizations that were moving methamphetamine and deadly fentanyl across the border from Mexico into our state, where it was harming our communities and children," said Yuba County District Attorney Clint Curry. "Tragically, this morning, at one of the sites where a search warrant was being served, a Marysville police officer lost his life in the line of duty."

Curry also chairs the Yuba-Sutter Narcotic and Gang Enforcement Task Force NET-5.

Yuba County Sheriff Wendell Anderson confirmed that the officer was part of the Yuba-Sutter Regional SWAT team that entered the home, where they encountered gunfire. One officer was struck and later died from his injuries at Rideout Hospital in Marysville. The suspect inside the home was pronounced dead at the scene.

"There was one other individual inside the residence where the search warrant was executed," said Anderson. "That person was detained, brought to the Sheriff's Office for questioning, and has since been released." The identity of the fallen officer had not been released to allow the family time to grieve and notify loved ones, as of press time. Officials described him as a young U.S. Army veteran who had served with the Marysville Police Department for two years.

"We lost an officer today who was near and dear to our hearts," said Marysville

Police Chief Christian Sachs.
"I appreciate the support from all the allied agencies within the region who have come to support us in this tragic time."

Law enforcement officials from across the region joined Sachs in expressing their condolences and support, including Marysville Mayor Chris Branscum, who described an emo-

tional scene at the hospital.

"I heard about this early this morning, and when I arrived at the hospital, I walked into a room of Marysville police officers, with one of our sergeants on a knee saying a prayer for a lost officer," said Branscum.

A formal procession honoring the fallen officer made its way through the streets of Marysville on Wednesday afternoon, accompanied by dozens of law enforcement vehicles and community members lining the roads in solemn tribute.

District Attorney Curry said two investigations are now underway: one into the officer-involved shooting itself, led by the Yuba-Sutter Officer-Involved Shooting Investigation Team, and another into the larger drug-trafficking operation. He anticipates releasing more information on the arrests and seizures made as early as the end of the week.

"Even prior to today, (this operation) had seized hundreds of pounds of methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl and over \$150,000 in currency," said Curry. "These were major players pushing poison through our neighborhoods. We couldn't just sit and watch it happen."

Authorities plan to release more details about this case on Thursday or Friday

## **Solar Contractor Warns Biggs Council**

Story by Connie Voss

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - The first bi-monthly Biggs City Council meeting kicked off March 24 with public comments, when resident James Wilson addressed the council saying it was non-compliant with the California Solar Rights Act.

"You guys don't let us (he and other contractors) install enough solar...no batteries allowed and you guys are limiting how much we install," said Wilson. "I'm just giving you guys a warning. We're coming."

Wilson said that he and other contractors will post fliers around town about this issue.

Resident Ricki Donnahoe informed the council during public comments that she requested a repair on her property's apron, the paved area that connects a driveway to the street, two years ago and it has not yet been fixed.

"It's a major trip hazard but it hasn't been fixed and it really needs to be fixed. I have people that walk across the front of my yard that are in rehabilitation and I'm afraid they're going to get hurt," said Donnahoe

Donnahoe said that there is a three-inch crack on the city sidewalk and trees that need trimming.

The next item was on policy regarding

the city's use of social media.

"We need to have protocols in place, a social media policy that is pinned to the top of our Facebook page. So that those who participate there understand that there are some rules of conduct," said Biggs Interim City Administrator Cliff Wagner. "We can't allow people to defame other parties... neighborly elements of decorum that need to be present. The most appropriate way to do that is through a published policy."

The council voted unanimously to establish a social media policy.

The council also voted to update Biggs policies and procedures to reflect the meeting change from once to twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays. The meeting time was updated to 6 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. The decision to make those changes was made at the March 11 council meeting.

Several appointments were made for different council members to represent Biggs on various local boards, namely, the Waste Management Local Task Force (LTF), the Regional Waste Management Authority (RWA) and Butte County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement board.

Councilmember Anita Wilks volunteered for both the Regional Waste Management Authority and Local Task Force, with Vice-Mayor Doug Arnold as an alternate. Mayor Bo Sheppard will represent Biggs at the Butte County Abandoned Vehicles Abatement board, with Interim City Administrator Wagner as alternate.

Department updates included a report by

CAL FIRE Chief Chip Fowler. Biggs fire-fighters had the annual 40-hour refresher training for the water rescue team. The team also responded to a couple of rescues during this time. The training is about 70% complete.

Public Works Superintendent Paul Pratt attended a three-day conference for the Public Works Officers Institute in Southern California and shared what he learned. Pratt said that the California State Water Board has new water sample requirements on tests for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).

"I don't think that we do have it (in Biggs groundwater) but it's just a test we have to do," said Pratt.

Other subjects at the public works conference were best practices for road paving and micro-servicing. Also discussed was the public works role as part of the city's first responder team.

Interim City Administrator Wagner emphasized this role, especially in the area of wastewater treatment plant and well systems. Wagner praised Pratt and his team for their round-the-clock work to maintain the facilities.

Wagner attended the Utility Director's meeting at Guilford.

Speaking about the Northern California Power Agency, Wagner said, "I'm impressed with the professionalism of

what they do."

Along with all the policy-making state utility agencies, California Electrical Commission, the California Air Resources Board and the California Public Utilities Commission, Wagner said, "They are committed to advancing solar power, batteries and wind. The difficulty with those sources is that they are never reliable sources 24/7... Once upon a time, California believed in clean, abundant natural gas. Now it's the enemy of

'Consequently, we are not able to reliably secure long-term contracts with projects like the Lodi Energy Center, or like the Geysers, which is geothermal, to build a reliable portfolio that our contracts have to look 10 years down the road. The types of systems that are being constructed and deployed are dramatically out of step with what we are required to have," Wagner said. "Sacramento would like to be able to tell all of the western states how they need electric delivery and somehow they think that's going to come to pass. So it's concerning from a policy perspective, our future in this area, and every policy area in California."

Biggs Mayor Sheppard concluded the meeting by reporting that he and Gridley Mayor Mike Farr met with the Northern California Power Agency in a seven-hour study session. Hydrogen was discussed and Lodi Energy Center concurred that natural gas is on the way out. The Northern California Power Agency's general manager will be at the May 13 Biggs City Council meeting.

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

# Time for some financial spring cleaning

**Spring is here** — which means it's once again time to wash the windows, organize your cabinets and steam your carpets. This year, in addition to tidying up around your house, why not also consider some financial spring cleaning?

Here are some suggestions to consider:

"De-clutter" your investment portfolio. When you embark on your home cleaning mission, you might notice that you have redundancies — three blenders, two vacuum cleaners, and so on. Similarly, you might find duplications in your investment portfolio, perhaps in the form of multiple, near-identical stocks or mutual funds. If so, then it might be worthwhile to consider selling some of these investments and using the proceeds to boost your portfolio in other areas in which you may be lacking.

Cut back on "overgrown" **investments.** Now that winter is over and you're venturing outside more, you may notice some overgrown shrubbery or some tree branches that need pruning. And while it may sound counterintuitive, you might also have some investments that have grown too big for your needs. For example, you might own some growth-oriented investments whose value has increased so much that they now take up a larger percentage of your portfolio and carry a higher degree of risk — than you originally intended. If that's the case, you might be better off by selling some of these investments and purchasing others to help bring your investment mix back to its desired alignment.

**Dust off your investment strategy.**With more sunlight now pouring in your house, you might notice that the corners of your walls and ceiling may need a good

dusting. And as you continually work to strengthen your financial foundation, you may need to dust off your investment strategy, especially if you've recently experienced changes in your life, such as a marriage, addition of children, new job, and so on. And as you move closer to retirement, you may also need to adjust your strategy in some ways. For one thing, you might want to adopt a more conservative investment approach in the years immediately preceding your retirement, though you'll still need to have some growth potential in your portfolio to help keep you ahead of inflation.

Protect yourself from financial dangers. As you go about your household spring cleaning, you may find actual physical dangers that need to be removed or stored more safely, such as sharp objects or broken tools. And as you navigate daily life, you may also find threats to your financial safety – the need for an expensive home improvement, or a major car repair or an unexpectedly large medical bill. If you don't have the money available to pay these expenses, you might be forced to dip into your retirement accounts or run up your credit card or take out a high-rate loan. To protect yourself from having to make these moves, you may want to maintain an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account, separate from those you use for your daily living expenses.

Of course, some of these moves can take some time — but by getting started on them soon, you can help put your financial house in better shape by the time the next spring cleaning rolls around.

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



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**Dave Ramsey** 

Dear Dave,

I started listening to your show, and following the Baby Steps, three months ago. I'm already seeing great results with my money. Over the weekend, I spent time looking at part-time jobs to help me pay off debt faster and keep moving forward with my finances. I found a few work-from-home ideas that were intriguing. But how can I tell the difference between real opportunities and all the scams featured online and on television?

– Bonna

Dear Bonna,

Congratulations on making the decision to gain control of your money! You sound motivated, and I believe it will translate into some really good things.

Truth be told, the vast majority of things you see online and in latenight infomercial presentations are scams. I'm not talking about ads

### **Dave Ramsey Says**

### **Determination** and Hard Work

for legitimate job hunter sites, I'm talking about business-in-a-box kind of thing. I know you've probably seen the advertisements that go something like, "My sister-in-law makes \$500 an hour working from home, and you can, too!" These clowns are the worst of the worst. Please, don't waste a second of your time on that kind of stuff. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

There's no shame in picking up a normal, parttime gig a couple of nights a week after work and on weekends. You'd be surprised at how much extra cash you can earn just delivering pizzas, or working at a local retail store. If that doesn't sound like something you'd enjoy for a little while, you might try thinking of something you love doing, and find a creative way to make some extra money doing that. Your idea might even be something that would allow you to work from home. I've known lots of folks

ond incomes by turning a hobby or hidden talent into extra cash.

But the big thing is to just find a real and honest idea to help you make extra money. Remember, shortterm sacrifice for long-term gain. You won't be doing this side gig forever. But whether you're looking for a little help in building your emergency fund or paying off debt, creativity, determination and hard work go a long, long way.

Best of luck, Bonna. And God bless. You can do this!

- Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling 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 Ramsev Solutions.

## **Gridley Thumbs and Roots**

who make wonderful sec-



By Barbara Ott

Spring is officially here! Equinox has passed, the earth will start warming and this week has proven that particular point. The snails are showing up in all sizes. I'm going to bait them to see if I can even the odds just a little. I'm hoping to see more signs of toads with the warmer weather. Once I see more of them it will be toad party time! I have a giant toad yard art in the front yard, I think I will start by putting a party hat on that big old toad. I'll have to invite folks over in celebration. I am wondering about toad party décor. Wind in the Willows comes to mind. I don't know if Disneyland still has that ride in Fantasyland. I was 34 when I first went to Disneyland and Mr. Toad's wild ride was my very favorite ride. There's another children's book Frog and Toad Are Friends, that's a sweet book about being friends. With the world of knowledge at my fingertips I'll have to do some research. What type of snacks will be great? Gummy bugs and worms might be a

go to. We'll see. The acknowledgement of toads in the yard will be a time for celebration, that is for sure. Maybe I'll have another celebration when the Praying Mantis egg cases hatch. I found out their cases are called ootheca when singular and oothecae when plural, it is Greek. You might never use that word but you can be well assured I will find a way to use it on occasion. I'll keep everyone informed about party

I'm getting rid of some great rocks, many of them big. If you'd like free rocks for your garden contact me at beeeott@gmail. com. May all your flowers bloom and all your veges start growing like crazy. ★

### Legislation Introduced to Battle Smoke Taint in Wine Industry

Legislation coming out of both houses of Congress has been introduced to protect winegrape growers against wildfire smoke damage. Reps. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, and Doug LaMalfa, R-Richvale, have partnered with Sens. Alex Padilla, D-California, and Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, to introduce the Smoke Exposure Research Act of 2025. The bill would authorize \$32.5 million annually over the next five-year Farm Bill cycle to better understand the impacts of prolonged wildfire smoke exposure on vines and wineries and provide fair insurance products for growers.

### New Farmer-focused Survey Reveals Barriers to Sustainable Groundwater

Researchers at California State University Water Advocacy Towards Education and Research, or CSU-WATER, surveyed hundreds of farmers in five counties in the San Joaquin Valley about their perceptions of California's landmark groundwater law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. CSU-WATER recently published results from the survey, which revealed barriers farmers have faced learning about SGMA and adapting to the law. Experts have predicted that SGMA will transform California's agricultural landscape within the next 15 years and cause as much as a million acres of farmland in the San Joaquin Valley to be

taken out of production.

### On the Record: Juan Alanis Talks Serving on Legislative Committees

Assembly Member Juan Alanis, R-Modesto, spoke with Ag Alert® about the role legislative committees play in the California State Legislature's policymaking process. "Committees provide a space to hold discussions on issues. We try to engage in bipartisan conversations, see what questions come up and hopefully find some solutions," said Alanis, who represents District 22 in the California State Assembly and serves as vice chair on the Assembly Agriculture, Natural Resources and Public Safety committees. "Public testimony about how constituents may be affected can have a huge impact on how the members view bills."

### ICYMI: Adding Automation Helps Lower Farm Risk

To address labor shortages, reduce costs and improve efficiency, farmers are looking for ways to add more mechanization. Tim Chiala, chief operations officer of Morgan Hill-based George Chiala Farms Inc., has invested in more technology at his family-run farming and food-processing company. Chiala Farms is testing machines such as an automatic jalapeño de-stemmer and another with robotic arms that remove the tops, tails and peels of bulb onions. "The supply of labor fluctuates like crazy, but hopefully by adding robotics, it will give us some

stability," Chiala said.

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### Paul V. Scholl

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## **Rice Fields Provide Vital** Habitat for Snakes, Birds, Fish

Flooded rice fields in California's Central Valley offer important, often vital habitat to many wildlife species. Photo by Yogesh Pansare from Pixabay

### By Kat Kerlin, University of California, Davis

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - From ducks and cranes to giant garter snakes and salmon, flooded rice fields in California's Central Valley offer important, often vital habitat to many wildlife species. Yet uncertainties around crop markets, water and climate can prompt some growers to fallow rice fields or change their management practices.

Will today's rice acreage under current practices be enough to meet key species' needs? If not, how much rice is needed? Where should it be planted? And what management practices offer the greatest benefit for species of concern?

Scientists from the University of California, Davis, and Point Blue Conservation Science address these questions in a new report, "A Conservation Footprint for California Rice," written for the California Rice Commission.

"This was a highly interdisciplinary effort that I don't think has been attempted at this scale for California rice or perhaps any other California agricultural crop working with wildlife," said report co-lead John Eadie, a UC Davis professor emeritus in the Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology who coordinated the 173-page effort among 13 authors. "I think this report provides the baseline for future work to come."

The authors reviewed the core needs of key species living among the region's rice fields. These include giant garter snakes, wintering ducks, wintering and breeding shorebirds, black terns, sandhill cranes and native fish. They developed a mapping framework of the species' habitat, as well as an estimate of the rice acreage, management practices and priority locations for rice that would most greatly benefit each wildlife group.

Over the past decade, rice acreage has ranged from 250,000 to 540,000 acres in California. The report found that approximately 470,000 to 500,000 acres defines the desired conservation footprint of rice for the most species of concern.

The needs for different species include 30,000 acres for native fish, 43,000 acres for sandhill cranes, 80,000 acres for giant garter snakes, 373,500 acres of winter-flooded rice and flooded fallow rice fields for non-breeding shorebirds, 473,000 acres of planted rice to restore populations of black terns and help support breeding shore birds, and 500,000 acres for wintering ducks.

### Winter flooding critical

The authors emphasize that rice acreage alone, even as much as 500,000 acres, will not sustain these species unless water is available during the winter and during critical periods in the fall and spring. Winter flooding of the rice fields is especially critical for many of these species.

Historically, seasonal wetlands shaped the Central Valley's ecology and biodiversity. Beginning in the mid-1800s, these lands were largely drained for agriculture, flood control and development.

"In the absence of natural wetlands, rice has become essential surrogate habitat for an incredible diversity of California wildlife," said report co-editor Daniel Karp, a UC Davis professor in the Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology. "In the face of climate-induced droughts and escalating water prices, providing rice farmers with the support needed to continue flooding their fields in winter is absolutely essential to safeguard this incredible conservation success story."

### Priority locations and management solutions

For nearly all wildlife groups, the Colusa and Sutter basins rank as the highest priority locations for rice habitat, given their proximity to wetlands and wildlife refuges. The Yolo Basin, Consumnes-Mokelumne Rivers region, and parts of the Delta are especially important for shorebirds and sandhill cranes. The Yolo and Sutter bypasses also represent critical areas for fish in flooded rice fields.

The conservation value of these areas, however, largely depends upon how they're managed. In addition to winter flooding and water availability, spatial location, managing vegetation, irrigation canals and post-harvest rice straw are just some of the considerations when managing rice for wildlife. The report outlines several strategies for each group.

"This kind of interdisciplinary work is challenging but so important to effective conservation," said report co-author Kristen Dybala, a principal ecologist at Point Blue Conservation Science. "When we work together, we can identify opportunities for the same acres to contribute to multiple goals at once."

### The value of rice

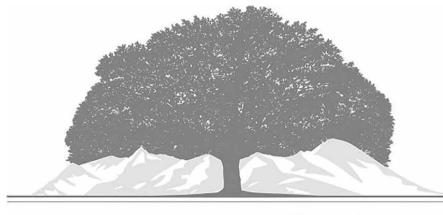
In addition to providing habitat for wildlife, rice production creates about \$1 billion of added economic value and up to 7,500 jobs for California's Sacramento Valley.

"For decades now, our growers have seen firsthand how much their rice fields are used by wildlife all throughout the year," said Tim Johnson, president and CEO of the California Rice Commission. "This Rice Footprint report by the University of California, Davis, details how these same fields that grow America's sushi rice serve as the economic driver for our small communities and are also vital to our ecosystem in helping waterfowl, shorebirds, reptiles and fish thrive."

The report was funded primarily by the California Rice Commission through a grant to the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences and to Point Blue Conservation Science.

Additional authors include Francisco Bellido-Leiva, Lee Burrows, Sean Fogenburg, Andrew Rypel and Brian Todd of the UC Davis Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology; Robert Walsh of Point Blue Conservation Science; Bruce Linquist of UC Davis Plant Sciences; and Daniel Sumner and Jessica Xu from UC Davis Agricultural and Resource Economics.

## **Council Approves \$3.5 Million** for Water Fund Deficit



## LIVE OAK

### CALIFORNIA

Continued from page 1 operations should be supported by water rates.

Vice-Mayor Pamma asked if there would be any penalties for early re-payment of the loan. Ramsey clarified that there would be no penalties since City Council sets the loan's terms and conditions.

Because City Council is scheduled to vote on the water rate increase in May, Pamma requested that the full interfund loan amount of \$3.5 million be transferred at the end of the fiscal year, after that decision is made.

City Council voted unanimously to approve the interfund loan to the Water Fund, which will take place at the end of June.

The council also continued discussion on the Water Rate Study, which recommends annual increases over the next five years to bring the Water Fund out of the existing deficit and into solvency.

As an enterprise fund, the Water Fund operations should be fully funded by the rates collected from users. But Live Oak has not raised water rates in almost 20 years. Current rates are among the lowest in the region, which has led to a current deficit of \$2.9 million, which is expected to increase to a \$3.5-million deficit by the end of the fiscal year.

The Water Rate Study recommendation is to start with an initial 60% increase this summer. Even with the increases, the Water Fund will still be in deficit for the first two years of the plan. However, by year three, it is expected to reach self-sufficiency, with rates covering the costs of operation. Then in years four and five, there should be enough surplus funding to begin loan repayment and eventually to cover capital improvements to the system.

The proposed rate increases would cover the actual costs of service and bring rates in line with the average costs in the region. The rate increase process is governed by Proposition 218, which requires notices be mailed to all ratepayers to inform them of the proposed change and provide the public hearing date. A community outreach

meeting is scheduled for April 23 with the public hearing scheduled for May 28 at City Hall. If more than 50% of ratepayers submit a written protest against the increase, it cannot legally be adopted. If there is not a majority protest, then City Council can approve the rate increase schedule, which will set the legal maximum increase for each year in the plan. City Council will review the increases on an annual basis and, depending on the current financial status at that time, can select a lower increase for that year.

During the meeting's Public Comment, one resident spoke in support of the plan, stating, "I applaud all of you to make this tough decision. We don't have a choice. The rates need to be increased."

Councilmember Santana suggested that the city reduce the cost of sewer rates to offset the impact that higher water rates will have on the residents.

However, Mayor Chapdelaine clarified that changing the sewer rates would require a separate rate study and another Prop. 218 process. He explained that it was only the water rate study that was under consideration at this meeting.

Vice-Mayor Pamma said it was a tough situation but the city had "spent too many years just moving money to cover the Water Fund deficit" and now they need a "real solution." Pamma also cautioned that the sewer system needs significant capital improvements, so the existing rates might be needed to fund those projects in the next few years.

City Council voted 4-1 to approve the Water Rate Study and authorize the mailing of the Prop. 218 notices, with Councilmember Santana dissenting.

Finally, the council reviewed the policies for the maintenance and monitoring of backflow prevention devices, which protect the city's water system from contamination via homes or businesses.

There are 231 backflow devices in Live Oak, with just 30 owned by the city. The rest are installed at private homes or businesses. In most jurisdictions, the cost of installation, maintenance, repairs, and annual inspections for these devices are the responsibility of the property owner. However, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the safety of the water system and compliance with state reporting requirements falls to the City.

Due to the challenge of ensuring compliance, a prior City Council voted to take on the full cost of all these devices within the city, with the intention that the cost should be incorporated into the water rates. But the water rates were never increased to cover that cost.

Vice-Mayor Pamma pointed out that the Water Fund budget includes \$485,000 over five years for backflow device maintenance, repairs and reporting. With the Water Fund already at a significant deficit and facing necessary rate increases, Pamma suggested that City Council re-examine the backflow device policy and consider requiring property owners to take on those costs. With the current policy, Pamma said, the cost is "subsidized to the residents, so this is hurting

them in the long run." Councilmember Bob Woten said he owns a business that has a backflow device and that budgets are tight for most businesses in the city. It might not be fair for everyone to cover these costs, Woten said, but having the city oversee the system is the safest way to ensure that the water system is protected. However, Woten acknowledged that the current situation is "kind of a mess," since the rates were never adjusted to cover this cost.

Mayor Chapdelaine asked staff to come to a future meeting with options for covering the backflow costs while meeting compliance and reporting requirements.

The next Live Oak City Council meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. April 2. ★

## Sacramento Hosts March for Life

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - The California March for Life is set to take place on March 31 at 1315 10th St., Sacramento with a series of events to bring together pro-life advocates from across the state. The rally and march will begin at noon, following a pre-rally concert at 11 a.m.

This year's event will feature keynote speaker Melissa Ohden, a survivor of abortion and the founder of the Abortion Survivors Network

the California Family

Council; Dr. John Jackson

In addition to Ohden, several other influential advocates will speak, including Lila Rose, founder of Live Action; Jonathan Keller from

of William Jessup University; Jackie Turner from Acres of Hope; and John Gerardi of Right to Life of Central California. The rally will also hear from Kathleen Jones of Life Choice Pregnancy Centers and Hannah

Gautsch from March for The March for Life, first held in Washington, D.C., in 1974 as a response to the Roe v. Wade decision, has since grown into the largest pro-life event in the

"We march because we envision a future world where the beauty and dignity of every human life are valued and protected. We promote the beauty and dignity of every human life by working to end abortion - uniting, educating, and mobilizing pro-life people in the public square," according to the event's website.

Alongside the rally and march, several auxiliary events will take place. A prayer breakfast for pastors, hosted by the California Family Council, will begin at 8:30 a.m. March 31. Participants are also invited to join Love Life's prayer walk at 11 a.m. to Planned the Capitol. Additionally, a prayer and worship rally will occur at the West Steps of the Capitol at 11 a.m. The California March

Parenthood, located near

for Life is open to all and encourages attendees to bring creative, pro-life signs. While registration is not required for the rally or march, organizers recommend registering to stay updated on event details.

To register and learn more, visit marchforlife. org/california.

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### **FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000097 The following person(s) are doing business as: Exxtravagant Landscape, 3549 Esplanade Space 448, Chico, CA 95973

Dillanes, Esplanade Space 241, Chico, CA 95973 and Jamin U Chavez, 1552 Elm Street Unit B. Chico. CA 95928 and Jose J Carmona. 3549 Esplanade Space 448, Chico, CA 95973

Date filed in Butte County: February 3, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 3, 2025

This Business is conducted by: COpartners. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025 LANDSCAPE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000173 The following person(s) are doing business as: 4Dot Studios. 2240 St George Lane, Suite 6, Chico, CA 95926 Stacia C Higman, PO Box 2434,

Paradise, CA 95967 Date filed in Butte County:

2025. February Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: February 27, 2025 This Business is conducted by:

An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000181 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rockfort Sweeper, 7766 Old Honcut Road, Oroville, CA 95966 Gerardo Sanchez Cruz, PO Box

635, Palermo, CA 95966 Date filed in Butte County: March

3, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 3, 2025

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000142 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rite Aid #6548. 14115 Lakeridge Circle, Magalia, CA 95954

Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Etters, PA 17319

Date filed in Butte County: 14, 2025. February Registrant commenced to transact business under the above

business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

RITE 4-4-25 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000137 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rite Aid #6087, 650 Mangrove Avenue, Chico,

CA 95926 Pavless Inc. Thrifty Newberry Commons, Etters, PA

17319 Date filed in Butte County:

The February 14, 2025. Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025 4-4-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000140 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rite Aid #6094. 220 West East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

Payless Inc, Newberry Commons, Etters, PA Date filed in Butte County:

14, 2025. February Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by:

A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000139 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rite Aid #6091, 2700 Oro Dam Boulevard East, Oroville, CA 95966

Payless Inc, Thrifty 200 Newberry Commons, Etters, PA 17319

Date filed in Butte County: 2025. The February 14, Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A This Business is conducted by:

Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000138 The following person(s) are doing business as: Rite Aid #6090, 1583 Highway 99, Gridley, CA 95948

Newberry Commons, Etters, PA 17319

Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000186

The following person(s) are doing business as: I Am Adventure Books, 834 Muir Avenue, Chico, CA 95942 Joshua A Shelton, 834 Muir

Avenue, Chico, CA 95942 Date filed in Butte County: March 4, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

on: March 4, 2025

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law

(see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000185 The following person(s) are doing business as: Lovingkindness, 170 Mountain View Drive, Oroville, CA 95966

Lizeth Gonzalez, 1380 East Avenue, Suite 124 PMB 150, Chico, CA 95926

Date filed in Butte County: March 4, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: October 24, 2024 This Business is conducted by:

An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025 LOVING 4-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000197 The following person(s) are doing business as: Goldie, 49 Avalon Court, Chico, CA 95926 Marcheta Clyde LLC, 49 Avalon Court. Chico. CA 95926

Date filed in Butte County: March 10, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

This Business is conducted by: A Limited Liability Company. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000207 The following person(s) are doing business as: An Honest Smog, 2270 Montgomary Street, Oroville, Ca 95965

Casimir Enterprises Inc, 18 Harmony Dive, Oroville, CA Date filed in Butte County: March

12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: January 1, 2025 This Business is conducted by:

A Corporation. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000194 The following person(s) are doing business as: Board Game Knights, 556 Kentucky Street, Gridley, CA 95948

Aidee L Rubio, 2 E Gridley Road, B245, Gridley, CA 95948 Date filed in Butte County: March

7, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 7, 2025

This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025 4-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000196 The following person(s) are doing business as: Sisters Salon, 1561 Myers Street, Oroville, CA

Heidi E Hoskins, 1561 Myers Street, Oroville, CA 95966 Date filed in Butte County: March 10 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business

under the above business name

on: March 1, 2025 This Business is conducted by: An Individual. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., **Business and Professions Code** Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000224 The following person(s) are doing business as: Running Brook Designs, 284 Rio Lindo Avenue, Chico, CA 95926 Will K Brumbaugh, 284 Rio Lindo

Avenue, Chico, CA 95926 Date filed in Butte County: March 18, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name

on: January 1, 2025

This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025 RUN 4-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000221 The following person(s) are doing business as: Impact Speech Therapy, 60 Declaration Drive, Suite D, Chico, CA 95973 Impact Speech Therapy Inc. 60 Declaration Drive, Suite D,

Date filed in Butte County: March 17, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A

Chico, CA 95973

This Business is conducted by: A Corporation, NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000187 The following person(s) are doing business as: Road Roaster Coffee, 3856 Cosby Avenue, Chico, CA 95928

TFD Family LLC, 3856 Cosby Avenue, Chico, CA 95928 Date filed in Butte County: March 5, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 2, 2025

This Business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new fictitious business statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400, ET SEQ., Business and Professions Code. Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025 4-18-25

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #25CV00455

Petitioner Edward Henry Quint filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Edward Henry Quint to Alan Simmons.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing April 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928 Filed on February 13. 2025 Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the

Superior Court Publish: March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025

QUINT 3-28-25 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #25CV00545

Petitioner Jorden Faith Anderson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Ryder Andersyn Yetter to Ryder Eugené Anderson. THE COURT ORDERS that all per-

sons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing April 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928

Filed on February 20. 2025 Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025 ANDERSON

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME

CASE #25CV00671 Petitioner Susan Jacqueline Wilks filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Susan Jacqueline Wilks to Jacqueline

Norma Shearer.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing April 30, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department TBD, Room TBD, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928 Filed on March 6, 2025

Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 2025

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #25CV00803

Petitioner Jaime Morales Avila filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Jaime Morales Avila to Jaime Morales.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing April 30, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department 6, Room TBD, Superior Court of California. County of Butte. North County Courthouse 1775 Concord ivenue Chico. CA 959

Filed on March 17, 2025 Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025

**MORALES** SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF BUTTE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME CASE #25CV00804

Petitioner Ashley Jackson filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Bryce Andrew Sebring Jr. to Andrew David Ruckman.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing April 30, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Department TBA, Room TBA, Superior Court of California, County of Butte, North County Courthouse 1775 Concord Avenue Chico, CA 95928 Filed on March 13, 2025

Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025 RUCKMAN

SUPERIOR COURT

COUNTY OF BUTTE CASE NO: 21PR00316 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY AT A PRIVATE SALE

RAMSEY, Conservatee

NOTICE is hereby given that, subject to confirmation by the above entitled Court, on April 8, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. or thereafter within the time allowed by law, the undersigned, as conservator of the person and estate of BARBARA RAMSEY, will sell at private sale to the highest and best net bidder on the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned, all right, title and interest of conservatee and subsequently all right, title and interest of the estate in real property thereon located in the County of Butte, State of California, and more particularly described as follows: A lot located at 680 Memorial Way, Paradise, California, 95969 previously contained a mobile home prior to the Camp Fire in 2018. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: AP#: 052-090-023-000 All that certain real property situated in the unincorporated area of the County of Butte, State of California, described as follows: PARCEL I: THE EASTERLY 49 1/2 FEET OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PARCEL OF LAND: A PORTION OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF **TOWNSHIP** SECTION 15, 22 NORTH, RANGE 3 EAST, M.D.B. & M., DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A POINT WHICH IS SOUTH 0° 26' WEST 948.2 FEET FROM THE CENTER OF SAID SECTION 15, ALSO BEING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED IN DEED FROM INEZ CARROLL, ET AL, TO EVA W. KING, RECORDED SEPTEMBER 20, 1954, IN BOOK 736, OF OFFICIAL RECORDS, AT PAGE 377 THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID KING PARCEL NORTH 89° 51' EAST, 400.00 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT BEGINNING FOR THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED: THENCE FROM SAID TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUING ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID KING PARCEL, NORTH 89° 51' EAST, 99.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0° 26' EAST, 97.7 FEET, MORE OR LESS TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID KING PARCEL; THENCE NORTH 89° 51' WEST, 99.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0° 26 WEST, 97.7 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING. PARCEL II: A NON-EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF WAY FOR ROAD PURPOSES TO BE USED IN COMMON WITH OTHERS, OVER A STRIP OF LAND 20.0 FEET IN WIDTH, THE CENTERLINE OF WHICH IS PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF **ABOVE** DESCRIBED PARCEL; THENCE SOUTH 51' EAST, 139.5 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0° 26' EAST, 87.6 FEET, MORE OR LESS TO A POINT DISTANT SOUTH 26' WEST, 10.0 FEET OM THE NORTH LINE FROM OF THE LAND DESCRIBED THE DEED TO SAMUEL SHAW AND BETTY D AW. HUSBAND AND WIFE RECORDED **FEBRUARY** 1, 1961 IN BOOK 548, OF RECORDS, OFFICAL BUTTE COUNTY, AT PAGE 359; THENCE PARALLEL THENCE WITH AND 10.0 FEET DISTANT FROM THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SHAW PARCEL, NORTH 89° 52' EAST TO A POINT ON THE WESTERLY LINE THE NEAL COUNTY ROAD. EXCEPTING THEREFROM SO MUCH OF SAID RIGHT OF WAY WHICH LIES WITHIN THE LINES OF PARCEL I, SHOWN ABOVE. The sale is subject to current taxes, covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations, rights, rights of way, and easements of record. any encumbrances of record to be satisfied out of the purchase price. The property is to be sold on an "as is" basis except as to title. The conservator of the estate has an exclusive listing with Re/Max Home and Investment. Interested parties may contact Sandie Patton, Broker Associate at (530) 774-4340. The terms

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY AT A PRIVATE SALE

OF CALIFORNIA In the Conservatorship of the

Person and Estate of BARBARA

and conditions of the sale are: cash sale, taxes, rents, operating, and maintenance expenses, premiums on insurance acceptable to the purchaser shall be pro-rated as the date of confirmation of sale. Escrow charges, examination of title, recording of conveyance, any title insurance policy shall be paid 1/2 by Buyer and 1/2 by Seller. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any and all bids prior to entry of an order confirming the sale. TIFFANY ROWE, Interim Public Guardian Publish: March 14, 21, 28, 2025 GRIDLEY HERALD 3-28-25 MP'G



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# Lake Oroville's Flood Control Releases Ongoing

Continued from page 1

The lower water levels within the complex enable Department of Water Resources to continue making progress on the River Valve Outlet System at Oroville Dam. The system is a series of two parallel outlet conduits, each with two valves, which have the capacity to draw water from deep in Lake Oroville for release. The River Valve Outlet System is a critical feature of the dam, providing the ability to discharge cold water to the Feather River to maintain water temperatures necessary for fish health. It also ensures the ability to maintain Feather River flows through River Valve Outlet System releases during drought years, especially if reservoir levels drop below Hyatt Powerplant's water

intake structures. California The Department of Fish and Wildlife planted approximately 25,000 Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout at Lake Oroville on March 21 to support recreational fishing. Approximately 18,400 trout were planted at Loafer Creek and approximately 6,600 trout were planted at Lime Saddle. The trout were supplied by the Darrah Springs Hatchery and are about 10to 12-inches in size, sterile and are native to Eagle Lake in Lassen County. More information about Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout

is available at wildlife. ca.gov/Fishing/Inland/ Eagle-Lake-Rainbow-Trout.

The Christmas Tree Fish Habitat is a project that the Department of Water Resources, the California Conservation Corps, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife installed fish habitat structures earlier this month at Lake Oroville and the Thermalito Afterbay using approximately 1,300 recycled Christmas trees. The trees were collected by Chico Boy Scout Troop 2 and delivered free of charge to the Department of Water Resources by Recology, a local waste management

company.

To create the habitats on Lake Oroville and the Thermalito Afterbay, California Conservation Corps team members bundle the recycled Christmas trees together and anchor them in various locations around the lakebed. At Lake Oroville near the Bidwell Saddle Dam area. 744 trees were assembled into 35 structures. At the Thermalito Afterbay, 570 trees were assembled into 56 structures. Anchoring the trees allows them to remain submerged, providing juvenile fish safe refuge, and improving fisheries and recreational fishing opportunities.

For more than 30 years, Department of Water Resources has worked with local groups to construct fish habitat structures,

which is one of the longest continuously running warmwater fish habitat improvement programs in the State of California.

Forecast-informed reservoir operations at Lake Oroville can increase region's resilience to floods, according to a new report released last week by the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes. The report shows that changes to reservoir operations at Lake Oroville and New Bullards Bar Reservoir can further reduce flood risk for communities along the Yuba and Feather rivers during extreme atmospheric river storm events and potentially benefit water supply during drier periods. The approach, known as Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO), uses improved monitoring, weather and runoff projections to build more flexibility and efficiency into reservoir operations.

In the largest Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations assessment to date, Department of Water Resources and Yuba Water Agency (Yuba Water) partnered with the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes at University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Engineering Research and Development Center to evaluate if Forecast-Informed Reservoir

Operations could be implemented at both reservoirs to reduce downstream flood risk without negatively impacting water supplies. Lake Oroville is managed by the Department of Water Resources and New Bullards Bar is managed by Yuba Water Agency.

Using historical forecasts, reservoir storage and river flow data, scientists found that Forecast-Informed

Reservoir Operations, combined with a planned second spillway at New Bullards Bar, could provide additional flood storage capacity in the Yuba-Feather system and reduce downstream peak flows during prolonged storms such as the 1986 and 1997 floods that devastated Yuba County.

"California's reservoirs play a critical role in safeguarding our communities from floods and maintaining our state's water supply, especially as we continue to see more extreme weather events in the form of larger, wetter and more frequent storms and longer, more severe periods of drought," said Department of Water Resources' State Climatologist Dr. Michael Anderson. "The Yuba-Feather FIRO Viability Assessment is an important step toward improving flood protection to communities downstream while managing California's valuable water resources for decades to come."

Learn more about the Yuba-Feather Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations Final Viability Assessment in Department of Water Resources' news release available at water.ca.gov/News/ News-Releases/2025/ Mar-25/Report-Shows-

Forecast-Informed-Reservoir-Operations-Can-Increase-Region-Resilience.

Current lake operations entail that Lake Oroville is at 868 feet elevation and 2.96 million acre-feet (MAF), which is 86 percent of its total capacity and 123 percent of the historical average.

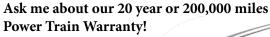
Feather River flows are at 4,000 cubic feet per second through the City of Oroville with 8,500 cubic feet per second being released from the Thermalito Afterbay River Outlet (Outlet) for a total Feather River release of 12,500 cubic feet per second downstream. On March 23, the total Feather River flows reduced to 11,500 cubic feet per second with flows through the City of Oroville at 3,000 cubic feet per second and flows from the outlet at 8,500 cubic feet per second. Department of Water Resources continues to assess Feather River releases daily.

The public can track precipitation, snow, reservoir levels and more by visiting cdec.water.ca.gov. The Lake Oroville gage station is identified as "ORO." ★



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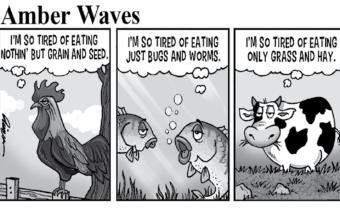










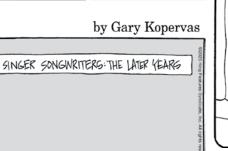


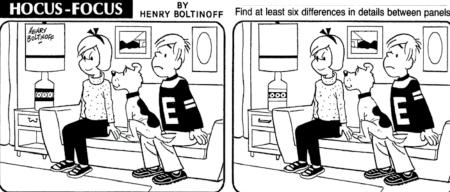












 Curtain is shorter. 6. Design on lamp is different. Differences: 1. Drawer handle is different. 2. Picture is reversed. 3. Stripes on sleeve are higher. 4. Spot on dog's back is smaller.

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Wagner "I think we need to have that chat, son .. now that we can talk.3

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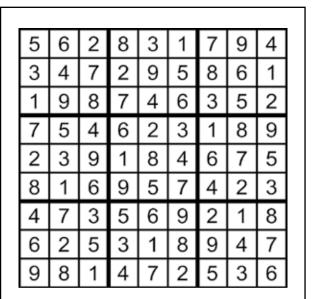


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acr. 8. Elect democratically

13. \*Henry , a serial

husband 14. Mosaic artist

15. Cracked open 16. Between ids and

super-egos 17. More unfriendly

18. \*Babylonian ruler, code creator 20. Minute bit

21. Cavern or cave

22. Not amateur

23. Sapodilla tree gum 26. \*Akhenaton or Tutankhamun

30. Be bedridden 31. a.k.a. crown vetch 34. \*Viracocha, the

eighth Sapa \_\_\_\_ of Kingdom of Cusco 35. Like some peppers

37. \_\_\_\_-been 38. Trots and canters

39. And others, for short 40. Shred of clothing

42. Aptitude test, acr.

43. a.k.a. sodium carbonate 45. In ignoble manner 47. One behind plate,

for short 48. Patrick Swayze/

Demi Moore movie 50. George Lucas'

warrior-monk 52. \*Egypt's famous

queen 56. Capital of Tunisia

57. Military status 58. "High" time 59. River in India

60. Rainbows, e.g.

61. Al Capone, e.g. 62. Difficult situation

63. Striped stinger 64. Biblical paradise

DOWN 1. Ho-hum

2. Indian royal 3. Mosque V.I.P.

4. Plane road 5. "Sometimes a cigar is

6. She turned to stone 7. Not yet final, legally

speaking 8. \*Second-longest reining

British monarch

9. Spaghetti aglio and

10. Do like bees? 11. Go wrong

13. Top of a mountain, e.g. 14. #8 Down's headdress,

e.g. 19. Untwist a rope

22. Third degree 23. Lawyers' loads 24. Informed of latest

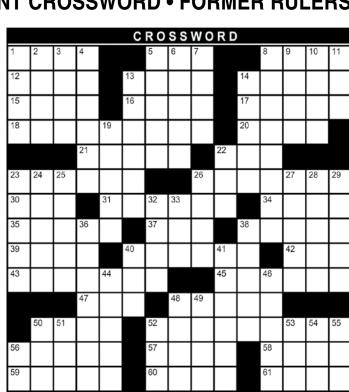
trends (2 words) 25. Homeric epic

26. Exterminator's target 27. Liquorice flavor

28. Based on number 8 32. \*Mohammad Reza

Pahlavi 33. Get calories 36. \*Robert Graves' "I,

38. Comprehend





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41. Kindle editions 44. Not quite right 46. Posture

48. Unfriendly stare

49. From this time 50. Equinox month

51. Concludes

52. Underwater hermit 53. Arnold Lobel's "Frog 54. Tug-of-War equipment

55. Soon, to a bard 56. Burton of gothic horror

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row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

## Lobbyists are a Growth Industry in a State as Complex as California



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

In the late 1990s, the late Jay Michael and I coauthored a book, published by the University of California, that explored why and how interest groups employ lobbyists to represent them in Sacramento.

Michael was a retired lobbyist who provided innumerable stories about what happens out of public view to shape legislation and other official policy, such as the notorious "napkin deal" Willie Brown brokered in a Sacramento restaurant that changed tobacco liability and other tort law. I framed the process in the context of an ever-changing state and a Legislature undergoing a cultural and ideological evolution.

At the time there were about 1,200 registered lobbyists working the Capitol, not only those who sought to affect legislation but those who concentrated on regulations, contracts and other acts in California's vast bureaucracv.

As a hobby Chris Micheli, a lobbyist whose firm represents 15 widely varying clients, dives into legislative minutiae and recently generated data on the growth of lobbyist activity.

Micheli found that the number of lobbying firms has grown from 433 to 484 over the last 10 years. More interestingly, the number of registered lobbyists had nearly tripled from 1,270 when Michael and I were writing our book to 3,245 in the current legislative session.

That seemingly huge increase is, Micheli explains, a little misleading because it includes 1,116 newly registered lobbyists in 2011-12 due to a change in law. Reacting to a corruption scandal in the California Public Employees Retirement System, the Legislature required registration of "placement agents," who persuade the immense pension system to place millions or even billions of dollars into their clients' investment

"While the number of registered lobbyists has grown by 1,975 over the past 25 years, more than half of those registrations are attributable to the addition of placement agents," said Micheli. "Even taking those registrations out of the total figure, the number of registered lobbyists has still grown over 65% during the past quarter century."

The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) scandal is a stark example of why interest groups employ lobbyists and why their numbers are likely to continue growing indefinitely.

The decisions officialdom makes often have immense financial impacts. The state budget, currently about \$300 billion, is just one of those high-impact policy venues. Who gets shares of that money, and who doesn't, is the subject of perpetual lobbying activity, and there are always winners and losers in what legislators and the gover-

In relatively lean times the budget lobbying grows even more intense, a cyclic phenomenon now playing out as politicians wrestle with multi-billion-dollar shortfalls.

However, the budget is only one of many venues for the clashes of financial interests, and California's leftof-center politics spawn an ever-expanding array of laws, agencies and officials with regulatory authority.

Decrees of regulatory agencies, such as the California Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Insurance, can make or break the bottom lines of regulated industries and professions. That's very evident now as Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara copes with the fire insurance crisis.

Many high-value issues are virtually invisible such as decisions over which drugs will be included on the Medi-Cal "formulary" and what the state will pay pharmaceutical companies for those medications.

When one combines the state budget with the electric power rates set by the Public Utilities Commission, the insurance premiums that Lara approves and countless other legislative and non-legislative issues, it becomes evident that decisions made in Sacramento control an immense portion of the state's \$3.5 trillion

Therefore, those affected believe they need skilled professional advocates, much like anyone facing serious civil or criminal court actions needs a savvy lawyer.

Maybe it shouldn't work that way, but in a state as immense and complex as California, it does.

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.

# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



I made the mistake this morning of tuning into Kings radio station 1140 am and listened to the morning show hosts trashing the Kings coaching staff, general manager and the owner. All this while the hometown team is making a run at the play-in spot that could still lead to the playoffs.

Disappointing to say the least and considering two amazing wins over the Memphis Grizzlies and of all teams the Cleveland Cavaliers, the last thing I expected to hear was a diatribe that basically told anyone silly enough to listen, that the Kings are the worst run organization in basketball.

There is plenty of time to cast aspersions at ownership when the season has concluded, but right now, despite the unpredictable nature of the current squad, these players need the full commitment of every fan and that should certainly include the Kings radio station.

Fans deserve the truth to be sure, and the truth is that this team is laden with talent and has found ways to beat the best teams in the NBA.

Besting a payoff bound Grizzlies squad just one week ago was unexpected but just what the Kings needed as they welcomed the team with the best record in basketball to Golden One Arena, the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Facing a team that had won 16 consecutive games twice in the current season was bad enough, but to face this Goliath in back-to-back games seemed like a recipe for disaster.

Shaking off anything resembling tiredness, the Kings spoiled the Cavaliers' night with a shorthanded squad and bested the Cavs by the score of 123-119. Malik Monk played both ends of the floor in championship style scoring 22 points while adding 6 boards and 8 assists. Malik made his presence felt all night, and made his leadership felt as 7 players contributed double digit scoring and gave fans a completely different look at what is possible with this team.

Rookie Devin Carter had his best game as an NBA pro, and it could not have come at a better time. Playing a season high 31 minutes Carter contributed 16 points, 5 rebounds, and 3 assists, all the while adding a level of defense that reminded me of Davion Mitchell when he was a rookie for the Kings.

For every Kings fan on the planet, this game was a moment in time that said, 'See, this team has something special!"

Consistency has been the problem all season, and it reared its ugly head later in the week as the Sactown ballers fell victim to both the Milwaukee Bucks and the Chicago Bulls. Both contests were winnable games, and if ever the absence of Domantas Sabonis was noticed the most it was in these two games.

I say to every fan, DO NOT lose spirit. This team has something about it that is certainly unpredictable, but fascinating at the same time.

Stories have yet to be played out as many are wondering if rookie Devin Carter can double down on his stellar play against the Cleveland Cavaliers, and will former all-star Zach Lavine find himself down the stretch after missing one game for personal reasons and then contributing anemic results upon his return.

Yes, there are mysteries, but on any given night this squad even shorthanded can hand defeats to some of the best teams in the NBA, and they've given some of their best performances against the very best the NBA has to offer.

The vaunted Boston Celtics come to town on Monday night, and they surely haven't forgotten the pasting the Kings handed them on their home floor in January when the Kings walked away with a 114-97 win. Look for the Celtics to bring it strong

on Monday night, and with Sabonis still sidelined with a sprained ankle and sore hamstring, the Kings will be called upon to bring their best performance if they

That's why we play the game they say, and I know every Kings fan will be watc-

Just 12 games to go Kings fans and it's time to bring it strong. Give these gladiators all you have and let's see what our hometown boys can do!

All the best!

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



### Why in the world is the ice that polar bears depend on melting?

– Maeve, 7, Canada

Dear Maeve,

There's just something special about those powerful, snow-white polar bears. That's probably why it's so hard to learn about what's happening to their habitat.

I talked about that with my friend Anthony

Pagano. He used to work with the grizzlies at Washington State University's Bear Center. He studies polar bears in Alaska.

He told me that classify scientists polar bears as marine mammals—like whales, dolphins and other mammals that live in the

"They're reliant on the sea ice that occurs over the Arctic Ocean," he said. "They use the ice as a platform to catch seals."

Polar bears spend most of their time on the ice. Even in winter when temps drop to

negative 60 degrees, and it's dark all the time, they stay out in the ice and snow.

catch seals.

That ice melts back a bit in the summer. To cope, most polar bears wander onto land to wait for the ice to return. They mostly don't eat anything all summer long. They tank up on seals in the spring so they can survive by burning all the extra fat they stored.

Scientists monitor polar bears because, like you said, the Arctic ice is declining—and it's happening fast.

The ice is melting because of global warming. When humans burn fossil fuels like oil and coal, a bunch of greenhouse gases go into the Earth's atmosphere and stay there. It's like putting a warm coat on the planet. It holds in heat and makes the Earth warmer over time.

A warmer planet is extra bad news for places covered with ice and snow.

Pagano told me the Arctic is warming two to four times faster than anywhere else on Earth. It's happening more quickly because snow and ice are white and reflect the sun's energy. When that snow and ice melt, it exposes the dark surface underneath. It could be the dark ground

or the dark ocean. That dark surface absorbs the sun's light and heat instead of reflecting it away. That warms the area even more-and that melts even more ice and snow.

Scientists expect a time will come when there's no ice at all in the Arctic during the summer. That could happen as soon as 2050.

That will make summer even harder for polar bears. If the snow and ice can't recover, it will leave polar bears with nowhere to live or hunt for seals. We could lose two-thirds of the polar bears we have now.

But we don't have to lose the polar bears completely. "At least some polar bear populations are likely

to persist through the end of the century," Pagano said. "That suggests that polar bears are unlikely to go extinct in the next 80 years or so. If we can develop a strategy to deal with greenhouse gas emissions, polar bears could recover." With any luck—and with the hard work of

scientists like Pagano—we'll be able to turn things around for these vulnerable marine mammals. The Arctic would be un-bear-able without them.

Sincerely,

"They're reliant on the sea ice that occurs over the

Arctic Ocean," he said. "They use the ice as a platform to

Dr. Universe

### **Are You Prepared** to Evacuate in an Emergency? When stuff hits the fan and you need to flee your home, being organized is the

best way to protect your home and family.

If there comes a time when you have to abandon your house, an emergency probably won't give you enough time to gather essentials and take steps to limit property damage. Getting all of your ducks in a row before disaster strikes is the best course of action.

Evacuations in the U.S. are more common than most people realize, according to FEMA. Natural disasters aside, people are forced to leave their homes hundreds of time a year because of transportation and industrial accidents.

Here's a list of things you can prepare now in case your home is ever in harm's way:

Have a grab-and-go kit. Include essential supplies, such as water, food, and first-aid supplies.

### What to Put In Your Emergency Preparedness Kit

• Your driver's license. • The deed to your house. • Proof of insurance. • Medical records. Passports.
 Social security cards.
 A list of personal contacts.

Safeguard pets. Make sure they're micro-chipped and have I.D. collars. Create pet grab-and-go kits

that include leashes, medications, meal bowls, and three days worth of food and water. Know your utility shutoffs. Learn now how to safely shut off all utility services in your home. FEMA has tips for shutting off electricity, water, and gas. Note: To turn off gas you may need a special wrench

Stock pile sand bag materials. If you live in a flood prone area, keep sandbags on hand or the materials to make them. It takes 100 sandbags to create a 1-foot-tall wall that's 20 feet long. If you're filling bags on the fly, two adults can create the wall in about an hour.

### When it's Time to Evacuate

Before you pick up and go (and if you have enough time) follow these steps - they're designed to protect your pets and help prevent property damage:

Shut off utilities. Turn off electricity, water, and gas. Doing so will help prevent additional dangers including flooding, fire, and explosions. Keep in mind, you're going to need the utility company to turn your gas back on when you return home.

Protect indoor stuff. Move valuables to higher levels in your home to prevent water damage. As an extra measure, wrap electronics and furniture in sheets, blankets, or plastic drop cloths.

Gather up pets. If it's not safe for you to stay, it's not safe for Fido. Make plans to stay with friends or at a pet-friendly hotel - most emergency shelters will only accept service animals that assist people

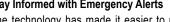
Lock your house. Because crooks and looters take advantage of evacuations, lock all doors and windows and don't leave house keys in an obvious place, such as a mailbox.

### Important Stuff to Remember

Whether the order is voluntary or mandatory, if officials in your area tell you to evacuate, you should do so before things get worse. Although laws vary from area to area, you may receive a hefty fine or face a jail sentence if you don't follow a mandatory evacuation order.

Failure to follow an evacuation order can place your life in danger by leaving you stranded in an area with no basic services or food and water. When you return home after an emergency, don't use matches, lighters, or any sources of flame or

spark until you're 100% certain that you don't have a natural gas leak inside your home – you'll need a gas company service technician to confirm that it's safe. Stay Informed with Emergency Alerts





Smartphone technology has made it easier to receive disaster alerts free of charge. You'll automatically receive alerts if you have a phone capable of receiving Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) and your wireless carrier participates in the program. To find out if your mobile device is capable of receiving WEA alerts, contact your mobile device carrier or visit CTIA - The Wireless Association. Thank You,

Sparky the Dog **Gridley Fire Station 74** 

### **Chico State Event Honors Hmong Journey**

California State University, Chico News Release

CHICO, CA (MPG) - An inspiring event celebrating the Hmong journey will take place at Chico State bringing together Hmong students, faculty, staff and professionals from across Butte County in a powerful collaboration to honor their history and uplift the next generation.

The event, 50 Years of Resilience: Honoring the Hmong Journey and Advancing Mental Health for Future Generations, will be held on Saturday, March 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Bell Memorial Union (BMU 100). The event is free and open to the public. While the event is geared toward Hmong youth, Hmong elders, and

behavioral health professionals, anyone interested in learning more about the past 50 years of Hmong history and their resettlement in the United States, including Butte County, is invited.

Keynote speaker Dr. Calvin Yang, a renowned Hmong mental health and cultural resilience expert, will lead a workshop for young Hmong men. Other interactive workshops will focus on strategies to address mental health, immigration and cultural preservation.

Judy Vang, lead organizer of the event and program coordinator for the Bilingual Bridges Behavioral Health Program at Chico State's School of Social Work, said, "Hmong people have been in Butte County for several decades. Although we have

faced various problems, including mental health issues, the Hmong community remains resilient and is still here. That is what we want to highlight."

Tracy Vue, a Chico State student helping plan the event, said they were motivated to be a part of an event that would help a new generation of Hmong people better understand their mental health and prevent ongoing trauma from being passed through generations.

"Our older generation went through the trauma of war and displacement and have mental health issues, but it doesn't need to be passed down where it can also hurt this or the next generation," Vue said.

The Hmong, an American ally during the Vietnam War in the lesser-known Secret War, fled

Hmong students celebrate their heritage at California State University, Chico. Photo Courtesy of

Laos following the withdrawal of American troops from Southeast Asia. Since 1975, Hmong have resettled as refugees in various parts of the world and the United States. Their experiences with the war, forced migration and life in the United States have shaped their mental health. Most recently, one study found that 72% of Hmong elders reported depressive symptoms. Even with mental health challenges, the Hmong's survival tells a story of familial and cultural strengths that keep the community together. Through perseverance, Butte County is home to a longstanding and vibrant Hmong community today.

Registration for the event is required as seats are limited. Registration information for the event can be found at csuchico.sjc1. qualtrics.com/jfe/form/ SV a4TBuPUrwxZ6Wvc.

The event was made possible with funding from the California Department of Health Care Access and Information, the

Center for Wellness and Nutrition (a program of the Public Health Institute), with funding from the California Department of Public Health, the Hmong Cultural Center of Butte County, the Bilingual Bridges Behavioral Health Program at California State University, Chico School of Social Work, the Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American Resource Center at California State University, Chico, and United Way of Northern California.

## Butte College Presents 'The Trail to Oregon!'

**Butte College News Release** 

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Join Butte College Drama for a performance journey with "The Trail to Oregon!," a hilarious musical parody of the classic Oregon Trail game by Team StarKid. This exciting and humorous show will be performed April 4 to April 6 at the Butte College Black Box Theater.

"The Trail to Oregon!" is a fastpaced, audience-driven musical comedy that takes the audience on a wild and entertaining journey along the Oregon Trail. The story follows a hapless pioneer family as they face unpredictable challenges, from deadly dysentery to stampeding buffalo. With catchy songs, witty dialogue and interactive elements, this musical is suitable for all ages.

One feature of this production is that the audience chooses

the names of family members and shapes the adventure, just like in the original video game. This interactive element adds an extra layer of fun and engagement, making each performance a unique experience where no two shows are the same.

Directed by the Butte College Performing Arts Drama Department's Kevin Muster, the production features a cast of Butte College students.

"We are incredibly excited to

present "The Trail to Oregon!" to our community," said Muster. "This musical is not only fun and entertaining but also a great opportunity for our students to showcase their talents and hard work."

Tickets for "The Trail to Oregon!" can be bought online at buttecollegeperformingarts. ludus.com. General admission tickets are \$20, and student tickets are \$10.

"The Trail to Oregon!"



Butte College students rehearse for "The Trail To Oregon," a musical opening on April 4 at the college. Photo by Kevin Muster

performances will be at 7 p.m. April 4, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. April 5, and 2 p.m. April 6 at the Butte College Black Box Theater, 3536 Muster at musterke@butte.edu.★

Butte Campus Drive, ARTRS

160, Oroville. For more information, email





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