



**Kid-Friendly
Coffee Shop Opens
in Live Oak**

PAGE 10

**Butte College
Speech and
Debate Wins Big**

PAGE 3



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**SEE
INSIDE**

**GOODBYE,
CLARK & SONS**



PAGE 3

**BIGGS SOFTBALL
DOMINATES
TOURNAMENT**



PAGE 3

**Kory Hamman
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Officer Killed During Drug Raid

Marysville Police Officer Osmar Rodarte Fatally Shot During Operation in Olivehurst

By Shamaya Sutton

OLIVEHURST, CA (MPG) - The Marysville Police Department has identified Officer Osmar Rodarte as the officer who was fatally shot on the morning of March 26 during a multi-agency drug raid in Olivehurst.

The officer was part of a sweeping operation targeting a transnational drug trafficking organization. Rodarte was struck during an exchange of gunfire 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 Yuba County Sheriff's Department identified the shooter as Rick David Oliver, 60, of Olivehurst.

According to officials, Oliver opened fire on the Yuba-Sutter Regional Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team as they entered his home. Officer Rodarte and another teammate returned fire, fatally striking Oliver. Rodarte later died from his injuries at Adventist Rideout Hospital.

Oliver's residence was one of 20 locations



In a statement posted by the City of Marysville Police Department, Marysville Police Chief Christian Sachs described Officer Osmar Rodarte as "more than a colleague; he was a friend, a father, an Army veteran and a true hero." Photo courtesy of Marysville Police Department

targeted in a coordinated operation conducted across Yuba, Sutter, Tehama and Butte counties. The search warrants were the result of a multi-year investigation by the Yuba-Sutter Narcotic and Gang Enforcement Task Force (NET-5) in partnership with the Drug Enforcement

Administration (DEA), focused on dismantling a transnational drug trafficking organization.

"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, who also chairs NET-5. "Tragically, this morning, at one of the

Continued on page 5

Gallagher Calls for Audit of Soaring Medi-Cal Costs

Assemblyman James
Gallagher News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On March 21, Assembly Republican Leader James Gallagher (East Nicolaus) announced Assembly Joint Resolution 4, calling for a federal audit of California's Medi-Cal program as skyrocketing costs put patient care and other state priorities at risk.

"Medi-Cal is supposed to protect our most vulnerable, but Gov. Newsom's decision to expand the program to illegal immigrants has added costs that are just unsustainable," said Gallagher. "Hospitals and providers are struggling to keep their doors open, patients can't get in to see a doctor, and the state needs billions more just to keep the program running."

Medi-Cal spending from the state's General Fund has nearly doubled under Governor Newsom, rising from \$21.6 billion to \$42.1 billion over six years. Much of that growth is driven by the expansion of Medi-Cal benefits to illegal immigrants—now costing \$8.4 billion this year alone - nearly one-quarter of the program's General Fund budget.

Despite this record spending, the program is facing a \$6.2 billion budget shortfall. Newsom's administration has already borrowed \$3.4 billion and is seeking another \$2.8 billion bailout just to stay solvent through June.

Meanwhile, the Governor's budget proposes cuts to other critical programs, including an 8% reduction to University of California and California State University systems, while draining \$7 billion from the state's rainy-day fund.

"This is about priorities," Gallagher said. "While Californians struggle to access care, the state keeps throwing money at a program that's deep in the red. We need accountability before it collapses completely."

AJR 4 urges the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to audit California's Medi-Cal program and help restore fiscal stability.

"Taxpayers deserve answers," Gallagher said. "We should be protecting care for low-income families, seniors, and the disabled - not blowing billions with no plan in sight."

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

Butte Water District Rates Increasing

Story and photos
by Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - A vote was taken at the Butte Water District (BWD) March 31 public hearing to raise water rates and implement a new Groundwater Management Fee. The rate increases are within the parameters of the five-year plan outlined in the 2024 Cost of Service Study.

Butte Water District Manager Donnie Stinnett told the Gridley Herald in February that copies of the study and the meeting notice were previously prepared and mailed out to all landowners in the district in accordance with Proposition 218, passed in 1996. By this law, California water districts are required to obtain an independent cost-of-service study, with a projected five-year plan in place, specifying maximum amounts of increase for each year. Any potential fee increases must be within those limits and a public meeting must be held.

Landowners had until March 10 to object or protest by March 31 at the time of the vote. If a majority of the 3,644 landowners had protested the increase, the district could not by law raise the rates. The majority needed was 50% plus 1 or about 1,800 parcels. It was announced that only 37 protests were made.

"Every landowner has the right to reject it or vote against it. You can look at the report and if you don't agree with it, you can protest. Everything is transparent," former Butte Water District Manager Mark Orme told the Gridley Herald in February.



Attorney Andrew McClure conducted the March 31 public hearing held by Butte Water District.

The appropriate forms for protests were online at buttewaterdistrict.org.

Many landowners either called or met with board members for additional information, according to Stinnett.

"We met with hundreds and hundreds of people, either in the office or in the field," said Stinnett.

The meeting, conducted by attorney Andrew McClure, was well-attended and public comments

were invited periodically as part of the agenda.

There was a slide presentation by Alison Lechowicz, Municipal Consultant, summarizing the needs for the rate increase and groundwater management fee, as found by the Cost-of-Service Study.

"These are the legal maximum rates," Lechowicz said, and the increases will be evaluated by the

Continued on page 7

Goodbye, Clark & Sons Shop



Shown is the very familiar Clark & Sons Small Engine Repair's storefront on State Highway 99. Courtesy photo

By Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - After 42 years in business, Clark & Sons Small Engine Repair, located at 1291 State Highway 99 in Gridley, will permanently close.

Owned and operated by Gridley residents Ed and Barbara Clark, the business has a good reputation for selling and repairing small equipment such as chain-saws, weed eaters and lawn mowers. They owned the shop while raising their family, which now includes three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

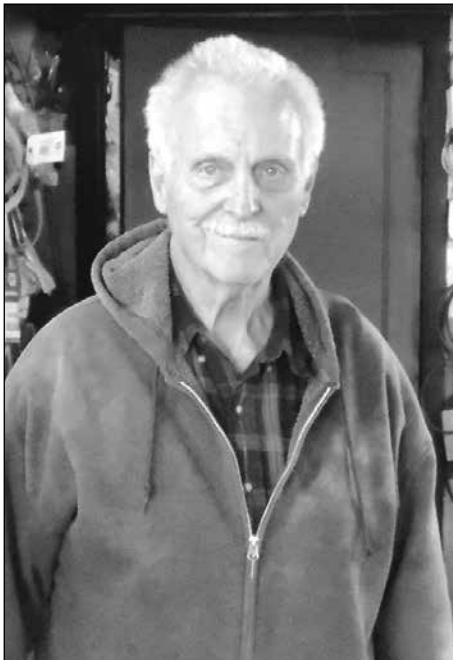
Barbara Clark did the bookkeeping and a variety of other tasks to keep the Clark & Sons Small Engine Repair business running smoothly.

Clark & Sons was twice voted “Neighborhood Fave” for Gardening and Landscaping in 2023 and 2024 on the Nextdoor.com website.

The Clark & Sons Small Engine Repair shop is arrayed with antique tools on the walls and filled with repaired equipment waiting for pickup. Before closing the doors, Ed Clark will repair what is left at the shop and not take in additional repair jobs.

Ed Clark and his father opened his father's shop on Live Oak Boulevard in 1959. Prior to opening his own shop in November 1982, Ed Clark worked as a carpenter for eight-and-a-half years.

During the last 42 years, there have been open houses with home-cooked food, drawings for free equipment and demonstrations by chainsaw carvers. The Clarks have also supported chainsaw carving events at the fairgrounds with free drawings for chainsaws and blowers.



Ed Clark has operated his Clark & Sons Small Engine Repair shop for 42 years. Photo by Connie Voss

State restrictions on gasoline-powered tools have severely undercut the Clark's business. They are unable to sell popular brands such as Husqvarna and Snapper, because those brands are no longer shipped to California.

“About three-fourths of the business this past year has been repairs only,” due to the shortage of equipment to sell, the couple said.

Along with their ages (both are 83), Barbara Clark said “It's time to retire.”

Ed Clark said “I can continue at home, sharpening chains and doing stuff like that.”

When asked if he will miss the business, Ed Clark replied, “Of course I will!” ★

Butte College Speech and Debate Wins Big



The Butte College Speech & Debate team won first place overall at the Hornet Cup, held on March 22 to March 23 at California State University, Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Butte College

By Christian Gutierrez, Butte College Public Information Officer

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - The Butte College Speech and Debate team won first-place overall at the Hornet Cup, held on March 22 and March 23 at California State University, California.

Competing against 21 colleges and universities, the team brought home an impressive 26 individual awards, marking their second consecutive first-place tournament finish.

Among the standout performances, Kyle Landrum won the limited prep. triathlon award for the second year in a row.

Ginger Gage-Nichols, Jacob Toste, Julia Irvine and Landrum each secured

first-place finishes in their respective events, contributing to the team's overall success.

The Butte College team took the first-place overall team award and had four individual first-place winners.

The individual first place winners included Ginger Gage-Nichols in the Open Drama & Open Ads category, Jacob Toste in the Open Informative category, Julia Irvine in the Open Prose category and Kyle Landrum in the Open Impromptu and Open Extemporaneous category.

Next up for the Speech and Debate team, the team will now compete in two national tournaments.

First, the Phi Rho Pi Community College National Tournament

(April 6 to April 12, Norfolk, Virginia) in which Butte College will compete against top community colleges nationwide, aiming to build on last year's success, where they earned seven awards, including a bronze team award.

Then, the National Forensics Association Championship (April 17 to April 21, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan). This tournament features the best competitors from both two-year and four-year colleges. Butte College is returning to this elite competition for the first time in several years.

Congratulations to the Butte College Speech and Debate team on their outstanding season and best of luck at nationals. ★

Biggs Softball Dominates in Tournament Play

By MPG Staff

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - The Biggs High School softball team has been on a tear during tournament play in March.

The Wolverines won their home tournament, which ran from March 20 to March 22. During the tournament, Biggs racked up four wins and one tie. First, the team beat Durham High School on March 20 by a score of 3-1. Next up, the Wolverines took down both Chester and Fall River on March 21, outscoring the two opponents by a total of 19 runs scored to only three allowed.

In the final game of the Biggs tournament, the Wolverines tied Mt. Shasta High by a score of 9-9.

Next up for the Wolverines was the Trinity High School tournament in Weaverville, which ran from March 28 to March 29.

In the Trinity tournament, the Wolverines outscored their opponents 51 runs to four runs in just 16 innings. That led to Biggs winning all four games played in Weaverville.

Across the four games, Biggs hitters tallied 47 total hits, including 17 doubles and five homeruns.

The Wolverines currently have a record of 10-2-1 and are scheduled to begin league play on April 1 when they host the Williams High School Yellowjackets, weather permitting, after press time. ★



The Biggs High School softball team won the Trinity High School tournament played in Weaverville on March 28 and March 29. Photo by Biggs High School Athletic Director Michelle Felkins

Gridley Library Expands Hours

By Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - A resolution was made to expand library hours throughout the county, effective April 1, during the March 25 Butte County Board of Supervisors meeting.

Currently, the library is open three days a week.

With the new resolution's passage, the library will be open five days a week, which includes Thursday nights and Saturdays. Along with the extra hours, more staff members were hired. The resolution includes funding for the new employees.

Gridley Friends of the Library treasurer Cathie Slota expressed appreciation to the board at the March 25 meeting.

“We haven't had Saturdays for a few years,” Slota told the Gridley

Herald. “It's great to see things being added instead of taken away. Gridley Friends of the Library raises money for items not covered in the budget.”

The new hours for the library located at 299 Spruce St. will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m. Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Library director Misty Wright indicated that the Board of Supervisors made the decision to add the additional 16.5 staff positions immediately after the Nov. 5, 2024 General Election.

“Since then, we have been hiring and training the new employees,” Wright said. “Even before COVID, we were on reduced hours and barebones staffing. Now we can even offer evening hours.”

Measure H, the 1% sales tax initiative passed last November, made all this possible. The tax is collected from businesses throughout the county to fund public safety services, such as the county library system, firefighters, sheriff's deputies, prosecutors and probation officers. Butte County Measure H was passed by 67% of voters.

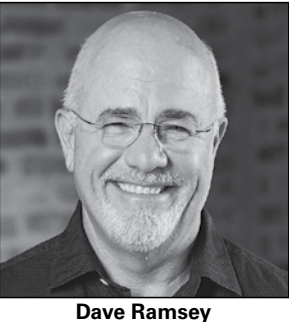
A continuing library program is “Ladies Night Out” movie night, held the third Friday of every month, and men and teens are welcome to join. Newly-released films, classics and older movies are in rotation for the showings. Refreshments are served and admission is free. For more information about movie night, visit the Butte County Library's Instagram page @ buttecolibrary. ★



Here is Gridley's first library, The Carnegie Free Public Library, built in 1916. Photo courtesy of Gridley Friends of the Library



This photo of Gridley's present-day library was featured in The Gridley Herald on March 4, 1983. Photo courtesy of Gridley Friends of the Library



Dave Ramsey Says Wealth Magnifies What’s Already There

Dear Dave,

My wife and I started out broke when we married. Since then, we’ve been very blessed in our work and investments. We’re currently looking at retiring early in a few years, with a nest egg of somewhere between \$8 million and \$12 million. Our four daughters, all between the ages of 7 and 12, have been raised in the church, and we’ve tried our best to teach them to love God, not money. Is there a certain limit we should look at in terms of how much we leave them as an inheritance?

– Mark

Dear Mark,

First off, wow! You two have done an incredible job managing your money. I’m so proud of you and what you’ve been able to accomplish.

Honestly, I don’t look at things like this in terms of an amount, but as a principle. You aren’t obligated, biblically or otherwise, to leave your money to your kids. At the same time, I think it’s wrong to assume that leaving them your money will damage them in some way. Wealth always magnifies the character of the person hold-

ing it. That includes both their positive and negative traits. You said you’re raising your girls to love God and understand that the church is important. I believe those are great first steps toward teaching children to have good, strong character.

One of the first things we taught our kids about, aside from God, was how they were not entitled to anything just because they hit the gene pool lottery. Another thing we taught them was that in order to be qualified to manage the Ramsey wealth, they had to understand they didn’t own it — God did. Every bit of it. Their job was to manage it wisely. Once you understand that concept, you also begin to realize why the Bible has so many warnings about wealth. It’s a heavy thing to carry in a wise manner.

The Bible tells us that a good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children (Proverbs 13:22). But at the same time, you don’t want your hard-earned money going to fund a cocaine habit for some here today, gone tomorrow reality television star on the back of a yacht. It sounds to me like you and your wife are doing a great job — not only with your money but also with raising your girls to know

right from wrong and to have a sound, biblically based moral compass.

Finally, Mark, one thing I want you to avoid falling for is the thread running through some of our Christian churches that says money is a bad thing. It’s not. Money is a tool, one that’s not inherently good or bad. It can be used responsibly or irresponsibly, depending on the holder, and it exposes the morals and character of the people it touches.

Your job as parents is to raise kids who grow into adults with the morals and character to manage this huge financial legacy wisely for the Lord. If you do your job well (and I think you’re off to a good start), the wealth you leave them will truly be a blessing.

– Dave

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



Farm Bureau Delegation Calls for Support

California farmers and ranchers gathered at the state Capitol in Sacramento last week to draw attention to key agricultural priorities during this session of the California Legislature. California Farm Bureau President Shannon Douglass called for immediate action to be taken to support small and mid-sized farms, streamline regulations and invest in innovative water management practices. “While there are regulations that are needed, they should be tailored to support farming and not drive up costs,” Douglass said.

EPA Announces it Will Revise ‘Waters of the U.S.’ Definition

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to review the definition of “waters of the United States,” or WOTUS, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin announced this month. Zeldin pledged to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to quickly revise the definition, which determines which waters are subject to the federal Clean Water Act. “The hope is that we get a clear and easily implementable definition” that is consistent with a 2023 Supreme Court ruling, said Kari Fisher, senior counsel and director of legal advocacy for the California Farm Bureau. “That way we can stop this continuous cycle of changing definitions.”

Exporters Try to Navigate Impacts of Trump Tariffs

President Donald Trump’s on-again-off-again tariffs on the United States’ biggest trading partners has caused confusion for agricultural exporters. “I think it mostly still continues to be confusion rather broadly since there are so many moving pieces,” said Matthew Viohl, a federal policy director for the California Farm Bureau. Jim Geller, president of Geller International in San Mateo County, said he’s worried about how and what he’ll be able to ship this year to Hong Kong, one of his main markets. “We have no strategy because of the uncertainty,” Geller said.

Pistachio Genome Breakthrough Could Benefit Breeding Efforts

Researchers at the University of California, Davis, published a study last week detailing the most comprehensive genome sequence of the pistachio. The breakthrough could enable plant breeders to create new pistachio varieties, possibly making the nut more nutritious, according to the study. “The improvement in accuracy of the new reference genome is like going from a hand-drawn map of a landscape to a satellite image from Google Earth,” said J. Grey Monroe, an assistant professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at UC Davis, who co-authored the study. ★

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

April brought on rain showers which were welcomed by the earth. It is the time seeds really take off. In our growing area we are able to have plants in the ground in April. It is safest to wait until after tax-day, April 15 for frost free time in the valley. There are always those exceptions but the plants can be protected from most of the low frost that can happen after April 15.

Fruit is setting or has set. If you look carefully at your fruit trees you can see the tiny beginning fruit where the blooms once were. I have a crabapple pre-Bonsai I’ve been growing in a gallon pot. It bloomed wonderfully this year and has tiny crabapples starting. The column apples are very slow to leaf out and of this writing they haven’t shown any blooms. Hoping they do well. I’d love a few fresh home-grown apples.

On April 12 city councilwoman Catalina Sanchez and the St Timothy Community Garden are having an Earth Day Block Party on Jackson St. It starts at 11 am and goes until 2 pm. Green Thumb Garden Club will be there planting

seeds with anyone stopping by. They will also have information about the club if you have thought of joining, we’d love to see you. I won’t be there due to other obligations. I think the potential for this event is a great one for the community. Go out support this event, stroll through the community garden, check out the future food preservation workshops and help the quality of our community.

I’m hoping all the berries will start coming on soon. The blueberries are full of blooms. The strawberries will happen before I notice, and the thornless blackberries that I’m growing in a large pot should get going soon. Happy Spring gardening to all of you. ★

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Capitol Chaos to Spiritual Clarity

Arbuckle Architect Finds Redemption After the Jan. 6 Insurrection



Valerie Ehrke takes a selfie with a friend while attending the Trump rally in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 6, 2021. Photo courtesy of Valerie Ehrke

By Shamaya Sutton

ARBUCKLE, CA (MPG) - Valerie Ehrke, a farm girl from Arbuckle, never imagined that her trip to Washington, D.C. in January 2021 would become a pivotal moment in her life. Originally motivated by a desire to witness historic political events firsthand, Ehrke’s participation led her on a tumultuous journey through the United States legal system, culminating in an unexpected presidential pardon.

“I truly believe everything happens for us, not to us,” said Ehrke. “It’s my job, and my duty, to alchemize that horrific experience into something beautiful and something full of love.”

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ehrke said she had never been deeply involved with politics. She spent her time tending to her business, Valerie Ehrke Design, and dabbling in the healing arts. But, like many others, the political climate during the COVID-19 lockdowns pushed her to become more engaged.

“By the time Jan. 6 rolled around, I thought I had missed all my opportunities to go to a Trump rally,” said Ehrke. “I wanted to go to a big event that I knew the press would cover and I wanted to see if what the (mainstream media) had to say about it matched what I witnessed myself.”

Ehrke soon booked her tickets and flew to Washington D.C. with a friend. On the morning of Jan. 6, 2021, Ehrke attended the rally where President Trump delivered a speech and urged the crowd to

march to the Capitol to protest the Electoral College certification.

“The people didn’t seem to be in riot mode at all,” said Ehrke. “There were families with their children, people flying flags and taking video footage. There were no weapons, no broken windows and nobody fighting.”

After a while, the day’s chill began to take its toll and Ehrke headed back to her hotel room to warm up. Once inside, she watched the events unfold from her television.

“CNN was showing Trump supporters going through the rotunda in the Capitol building inside the velvet ropes, flying their flags,” said Ehrke. “CNN was like, ‘Look what Trump supporters are doing. They’re walking through the rotunda but these areas are open to the public anyway.’”

Ehrke, who had traveled so far to witness the event, said that she thought to herself, “I’ve come too far to miss this.”

She bundled up and made her way back to the Capitol. Upon arriving at the Capitol, Ehrke saw a crowd gathered around the glass doors on the north side of the building, waiting to be let in.

“I saw people up on the balconies and the stairs on the north side of the building, so I walked over to where everyone was standing,” she said. “They were all standing in front of these glass doors and I didn’t know why but I noticed that they all appeared to be waiting for something.”

Ehrke joined the crowd and about 10 minutes later, she said the doors were opened for them.

Ehrke slowly made her way inside with the rest, “concert style,” but the group was halted again after a few feet.

“I was at the tail end of the crowd, and I’m shorter than most men, and the crowd was mostly men, so I couldn’t see ahead of me more than a little bit,” said Ehrke. “At some point up ahead of me, it stopped. I don’t know what was stopping people because I couldn’t see.”

At this point, Ehrke said, she began to notice the smell of pepper spray in the air and felt the crowd getting pushed back. As people attempted to move backward, Ehrke found herself stuck.

“I tucked into a corner between the door and the wall for safety,” Ehrke said, not wanting to climb over the pile of people in front of her. “Then some man grabbed me by my jacket and just threw me out of the door.”

Ehrke spent the remainder of her trip sightseeing. Not long after her return to California, Ehrke said, she was contacted by the FBI who used social media posts, flight records, cell phone location and bank account data to track her involvement. About a week after her D.C. trip, two agents approached her as she was leaving her office.

“I didn’t think I’d done anything wrong, so I sat them down in my office and told them everything I could in the 20-minute time span that I had,” said Ehrke.

Ehrke said that the agents gave Ehrke their contact information and let her know they would be in contact if charges would be pressed.

“After that, I started looking around for an attorney,” said Ehrke. “At that point, they were difficult to find because many attorneys are left leaning and anybody on the left thought, we were just the crappiest people on the planet.”

About three days after the agents’ visit, Ehrke said, she was informed that charges would be pressed and she was eventually required to turn herself in at the federal building in Sacramento.

“I was under so much stress, I wasn’t sleeping at all,” said Ehrke. “I had a friend drive me because I just wasn’t functioning.”

She described the overwhelming scene upon her arrival at the federal building.

“The whole building was covered with Humvees and AK-47s, and I was in a state of panic so we pulled over on some side street so I could call the lady FBI agent and ask what I was supposed to do,” Ehrke said.

Eventually, Ehrke was charged with several offenses, including attempting to interfere with Congress, parading and picketing on Capitol grounds, and trespassing. After a difficult nine-month process, Ehrke took a plea deal and pleaded guilty to a single misdemeanor charge, parading and picketing, to avoid jail time.

“I feel like I got lucky. A lot of others got jail time,” said Ehrke.

Despite these legal hurdles, Ehrke’s journey took an unexpected turn when, in January 2025, she received a presidential pardon as part of a larger initiative to pardon individuals involved in the Jan. 6 events. She thought the pardon might come in the mail with an official signature but was surprised to learn the process is much more informal.

“I wasn’t contacted by anybody,” said Ehrke. “After about three weeks, I thought, ‘I wonder if I have to ask for it’ so I did an AI search, and it gave an email address to the U.S. Pardon Attorney.”

She was then directed to email the attorney’s office with the subject line “January 20th 2025 pardon” and to include her case number in the body of the email.

“I knew the pardon was

already in progress because it was already in progress because shortly after that I received a letter, dated from before I even made the email request,” said Ehrke. “The FFA and the TSA were removing my security risk status, and I was also able to get my pilot’s license back.”

As part of her healing process, Ehrke wrote a memoir, “January 6th – Chaos to Christ.” In the book, she details her personal experience during the Capitol attack and the spiritual transformation that followed.

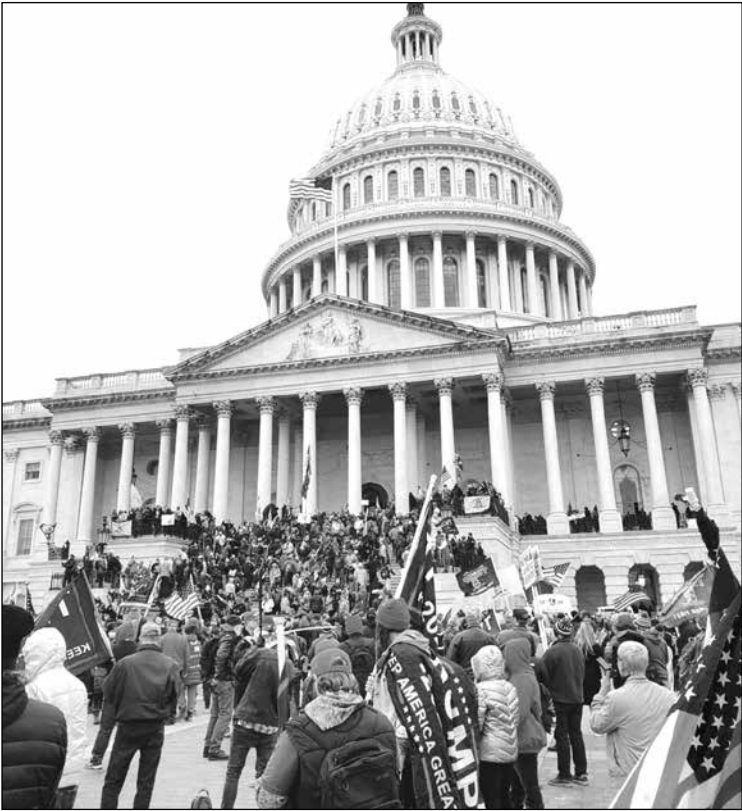
“My passion now, as life is ever evolving, is helping people process and integrate their anger and trauma,” said Ehrke.

Ehrke continues to run her architectural design business where she helps clients bring their dream homes to life. Additionally, she hosts occasional events such as sound baths on her family’s land in Arbuckle. Despite the political storm she found herself in, Ehrke remains focused on personal growth and healing, working to help others process their struggles.

Reflecting on her experiences, Ehrke has become more vocal about her political views.

“I agree with the left on several key issues, such as protecting the Earth and sexual freedom,” she said. “But I do not believe the two-party system is the best answer.”

Now, Ehrke hopes to inspire others through her story, showing that it’s possible to transform pain into something beautiful. ★



Valerie Ehrke took this picture while approaching a crowd gathered at the north end of the Capitol Building on Jan. 6, 2021. Photo courtesy of Valerie Ehrke

Officer Killed During Drug Raid

Continued from page 1
sites where a search warrant was being served, a Marysville police officer lost his life in the line of duty.”

Said Yuba County Sheriff Wendell Anderson, “There was one other individual inside the residence where the search warrant was executed. That person was detained, brought to the sheriff’s office for questioning, and has since been released.”

Rodarte, a young U.S. Army veteran, had served with the Marysville Police Department for two years. His name was officially released by the department the night of March 26.

“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 emotional 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.

In a statement posted by the City of Marysville Police Department, Sachs described

Rodarte as “more than a colleague; he was a friend, a father, an Army veteran and a true hero.”

The transfer of Rodarte’s body from Rideout Hospital to Lakeside Chapel on the afternoon of March 26 was accompanied by at least a dozen law enforcement vehicles and community members who lined the roads in solemn tribute.

Another formal procession was held at 9:30 a.m. March 27 to escort Rodarte’s body from the mortuary to Placer County, where additional arrangements are being handled. Residents were invited to line the sidewalks along D Street, between Ninth and First Streets, to offer their support and pay their respects.

“Your presence will be a powerful testament to the impact Officer Rodarte had on all of us and the strength of the community he served so selflessly,” said Sachs in a statement released from the Marysville Police Department.

That solemn journey lasted approximately 11 minutes and was accompanied by various law enforcement officers and honor guards paying tribute along the route.

According to Curry, Rick David Oliver had been identified in the investigation as a low-level dealer helping distribute drugs in the area.

He was a registered sex offender with prior convictions for soliciting lewd acts in public,

indecent exposure and felony unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor. Oliver also had a history of drug offenses and failing to appear in court. As a convicted felon, Oliver was prohibited from owning or possessing firearms.

During the operation, officers disrupted two clandestine drug labs and seized firearms, ammunition, drugs and drug paraphernalia. As of March 28, authorities reported the following totals from the investigation:

Prior to March 26, a total of 335.7 pounds of methamphetamine, 8.8 pounds of heroin, 1,542 fentanyl pills, 0.45 pounds of cocaine and three firearms had been seized. Additionally, \$153,154 in U.S. currency had been recovered.

On March 26, 6.7 pounds of methamphetamine, 14 fentanyl pills, 0.26 pounds of cocaine, 17 pounds of marijuana and six firearms were confiscated.

The total amounts seized included 342.4 pounds of methamphetamine, 8.8 pounds of heroin, 1,556 fentanyl pills, 0.71 pounds of cocaine, 17 pounds of marijuana and nine firearms. The status of the total U.S. currency is still to be determined.

“Drug seizures on March 26 were lower than anticipated,” said Curry in a recent statement released by Yuba County Sheriff’s Department. “Based on information from confidential sources, members of the Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) have complained about



From left, Marysville Police Chief Christian Sachs, Yuba County District Attorney Clint Curry, and Yuba County Sheriff Wendell Anderson addressed reporters on March 26. The Yuba County Sheriff’s Department has identified the shooter as Rick David Oliver, 60, of Olivehurst. Courtesy photo

the shortage of drugs caused by recent changes at the United States border that increased security.”

Curry added, “We are thankful to President Donald J. Trump and his administration for taking steps to shut down the flow of poison from abroad.”

To date, the investigation has resulted in 45 arrests, including 20 on the day of the operation. Curry emphasized that the effort involved more than 125 law enforcement personnel and the

support of over 20 agencies.

“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.”

Additional updates, including memorial service information and public tributes for Officer Rodarte, are expected in the coming days. ★

Legal Advertising Hotline
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LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Gridley Herald Adjudicated For and By the County of Butte, Adjudication No. 27207–October 29, 1951

Legal Advertising
300 Spruce Street, Ste C
Gridley, CA 95948

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENTS

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: February 27, 2025.
The 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
4DOT 4-4-25

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
4DOT 4-4-25

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
Thrifty Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Eters, PA 17319
Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. The 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
Thrifty Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Eters, PA 17319

Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. The 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
AID 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
Thrifty Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Eters, PA 17319
Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. The 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
#6094 4-4-25

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
Thrifty Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Eters, PA 17319
Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. The 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
#6091 4-4-25

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
Thrifty Payless Inc, 200 Newberry Commons, Eters, PA 17319
Date filed in Butte County: February 14, 2025. The 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
#6090 4-4-25

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
BOOKS 4-4-25

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 on: N/A
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
GOLDIE 4-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000207
The following person(s) are doing business as: An Honest Smog, 2270 Montgomery Street, Oroville, Ca 95965
Casimir Enterprises Inc, 18 Harmony Dive, Oroville, CA 95966

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
HONEST 4-11-25

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
KNIGHTS 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 95966
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
SISTERS 4-11-25

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, Chico, CA 95973
Date filed in Butte County: March 17, 2025. The 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 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025
IMPACT 4-18-25

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: 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 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025
ROAD 4-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000206
The following person(s) are doing business as: Funes Enterprises LLC/Ocean Valley Hardscape and Excavation, 13371 Hog Ranch Road, Oroville, CA 95965
Funes Enterprises LLC, 13371 Hog Ranch Road, Oroville, CA 95965
Date filed in Butte County: March 12, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
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 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025
FUNES 4-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000234
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bailey Septic and Excavation LLC, 14077 Wingate Circle, Magalia, CA 95954
Bailey Septic and Excavation LLC, 14077 Wingate Circle, Magalia, CA 95954
Date filed in Butte County: March 24, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
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: April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
BAILEY 4-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000243
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kawaii Pop, 2163 4th Street, Oroville, CA 95965
Mallina Grey, 7390 Lincoln Boulevard, Unit 642, Palermo, CA 95968
Date filed in Butte County: March 26, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: March 24, 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: April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
KAWAII 4-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 2025-0000167
The following person(s) are doing business as: Novacare Rides, 2237 Stump Drive, Oroville, CA 95966
Marvyn O Arabia, 2237 Stump Drive, Oroville, CA 95966
Date filed in Butte County: February 28, 2025. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the above business name on: N/A
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: April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
NOVA 4-25-25

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME

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
JACQ 4-11-25

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 Avenue Chico, CA 95928
Filed on March 17, 2025
Stephen E. Benson, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2025
MORALES 4-18-25

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 4-18-25

SECTION 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, of the County of BUTTE , State of California, will receive up to and no later than May 1, 2025 at 2:00pm sealed bids for the award and contract for the furnishing of all labor, materials, transportation and services required for the construction of the Classrooms at Sycamore Middle School and such bids shall be received at the office of the Gridley Unified School District, 429 Magnolia Street, Gridley, CA 95948 and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above stated time and place.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on April 22,, at 3:30pm Meet at Sycamore Middle School 1125 Sycamore St., Gridley, CA 95948

Each Bid must conform and be responsive to this invitation and the Contract Documents. Electronic copies may be obtained upon request from the office of the Architect; Nichols, Melburg & Rossetto, 555 Main Street, Suite 300, Chico, CA 95928. Make requests to nimerfroh@nmrdesign.com with a subject heading of “Sycamore Middle School Classroom Project”

Each Bid shall be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or bid bond made in favor of the Board of Trustees, Gridley Unified School District, executed by the bidder as principal and an admitted surety company as surety. All bonds for this project must be issued by an Admitted Surety, an insurance organization authorized by the Insurance Commissioner to transact business of Insurance in the State of California during this business year, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the maximum amount of the bid. The check or bid bond shall be given as guarantee that the bidder shall execute the contract if it be awarded to them in conformity with the Contract Documents and shall provide the surety bond as specified therein within five (5) days after notification of the award of the contract to bidder.

It shall be mandatory upon the Contractor to whom a contract is awarded, and upon all subcontractors under them, to pay not less than the general prevailing rates of per diem wages to all workers in the execution of the contract. Pursuant to the provisions of the California State Labor Code, and Local Laws thereto applicable, the said Board of Trustees has ascertained the prevailing rate of wages in the locality where this work is to be performed, for each craft and/or type of worker or mechanic needed to perform the work of this contract. General Prevailing Wage Rates shall be those rates pertaining to Butte County as published by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) pursuant to California Labor Code, Part 7, Chapter 1, Article 2, Sections 1770, 1773, and 1773.1.

Copies of the Prevailing Wage Schedules may be obtained from the Division of Labor Statistics and Research, P.O. Box 420603, San Francisco, CA 94101, or www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Prevailing-Wage.html.

Each Contractor and subcontractor must be registered with DIR prior to submitting a bid.

The District has set an overall goal for this Project that Bidders obtain a minimum 3% of their bid amount in participation by certified Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (“DVBE”). The participation may be through work or supply of materials. If a Bidder is unable to obtain the full 3% participation by one or more DVBEs, then the bid may be found responsive only if it establishes “good faith efforts” to meet the goal. The requirements for good faith efforts are set forth in Section 00 48 00 DVBE Requirements in the project specifications.

The bidder awarded this contract may elect to receive 100% of payments due under the contract from time to time without retention of any portion of the payment by the public agency, by depositing securities of equivalent value with the public agency in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

The Gridley Unified School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or waive any defect or irregularity in bidding.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF HEARING

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB), pursuant to Section 12878 of the California Water Code, will hold a public hearing Friday, April 25, 2025, in the CNRA Headquarters: 715 P Street, Room 2-301, Sacramento, CA 95814. **Note: The public hearing is currently scheduled to be held in person at the identified venue, however due to changing conditions the meeting venue may change and is also expected to be simultaneously held virtually. In the event of a meeting location change, we ask that the public confirm the venue location on the CVFPB's website or attend the public hearing remotely via the Zoom link or telephone. The remote hearing link and telephone instructions can be found at CVFPB's website, www.cvfpb.ca.gov, by selecting the Meetings icon.** This hearing is being held to consider the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget estimate for Maintenance Areas (MAs) Nos. 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, and 17 (Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lake, Sacramento, Sutter, and Yolo Counties) for maintenance and operation of the levees and flood risk reduction works within the MAs.

The purpose of the hearing is to confirm or revise the proposed maintenance and operation work program and budget submitted to the CVFPB by the Department of Water Resources for fiscal year 2025-2026. The CVFPB will receive evidence or testimony from any landowner or other interested person relevant to the proposed program of work, the necessity for such work, or the estimated cost thereof.

Within 10 days of the meeting date, please check the CVFPB website www.cvfpb.ca.gov for a copy of the proposed budget and an agenda for the April 25th meeting. If you need reasonable accommodations, call the Central Valley Flood Protection Board at (916) 574-0609, or contact the CVFPB Clerk at jonah.knapp@cvflood.ca.gov as soon as possible, for arrangements.

Butte Water District Rates Increasing

Continued from page 1
board year-to-year if rates need to be raised to the maximum rates or not. "These really are the worst-case scenario rates."

At present, Butte Water District relies on water rate revenues, standby fees (an assessment of \$7 per acre, initiated in 2013) and surplus water transfers to outside entities (variable from year-to-year, according to Lechowicz) to pay for water delivery. Ground Water Substitutions, when water is supplied from two district-owned wells, also provides funds.

Currently, water rates and standby fee revenues generate \$800,000 or a little more than half of the \$1.5 million total annual operating costs. The increase will help bridge the gap between revenues and cost of operation.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) authorizes the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (in this case, the Butte Water District) to charge the Groundwater Management Fee.

"The Groundwater Management Fee will cover about 25% of the total cost of operation," Lechowicz said.

All parcels with wells on-site, pumping or using pumped groundwater from nearby sources, will be subject to the new fee. For those not benefiting from ground water, there is a form to file for a fee exemption.

A tutorial on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and why it was enacted can be found at youtu.be/Vtr07_bZKlg.

Each landowner will be subject to a Standby Fee (increased to the maximum of \$8.68 per acre), the Groundwater Management Fee (\$12.78 per acre) and Water Delivery rate that varies by crop. Homeowners with wells but no farmland will be charged the Groundwater Management Fee.

During the public comment following the slide presentation, one attendee inquired about the portion of the \$1.5-million budget devoted to staffing costs. In the Cost-of-Service Study, the



The Butte Water District Board of Directors invited public comment about rate increases during the March 31 meeting.

amount is disclosed as about \$1 million needed for salaries and benefits of employees.

Some concerns were expressed by landowners being charged for water pumped from their own property.

"Did Butte Water District somehow put the water in the ground that homeowners are pumping out?" asked Joan Cameron.

The Butte Water District board maintained that the district has imported surface water to the area from the Feather River for more than a hundred years, thus replenishing the groundwater.

"We decided to form our own GSA (Groundwater Sustainability Agency), that keeps the state out, it keeps the counties out and you have this board to trust. Everybody has to comply with the Sustainable

Groundwater Management Act. You can only extract as much groundwater as you have surface water to match. You are very fortunate that your land is in the Butte Water District, because it's the best one of the bunch," said Butte Water District Board President Charlie Etcheverry.

After the meeting, Susan Schohr, who owns property in four water districts, spoke with the Gridley Herald.

"I worked with this water district from the onset of this Proposition 218 to do this with the water rates. I have worked with other water districts and I have been dismayed by outcomes and what their plans were," Schohr said. "The cost of this study starts at about \$60,000 to \$70,000, just to do what they did today, to have Alison and her

team come in, and you want to be sure of where you're going with that when you're done. The amount of money that they take from all of us, and yes, farming is not good right now, particularly rice farming where they (Butte Water District) get the most of their money because that's using the most water. No, none of us can afford to do this but it's mandated by the state."

General Manager Stinnett said "I thought it was a very informative meeting. I still encourage people that have questions to get a hold of our office (phone 530-846-3100). I'm still more than happy to spend as much time as needed to explain how the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act works. This is happening across the state; we're just doing our part." ★

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ACROSS

1. Like some cham-pagnes

5. Undergarment

8. Dashboard acronym

11. Poison ivy woe

12. Took to court

13. Milan's La ____

15. Afresh

16. Globes and such

17. SNL's forté

18. *Ladyfingers+coffee liqueur

20. Grammy of sports

21. Jeweler's unit

22. *Like walnuts on ice cream

23. *Thin Mint or Carmel deLite

26. *Apple dip

30. Nelson Mandela's org.

31. Profoundness, pl.

34. Frost-covered

35. Ticket leftovers

37. Pathet ____

38. Lazybones

39. Samoan money

40. A in AU, Alabama

42. Heidi Samuel ____ Klum

43. Contaminating punch

45. Flammable anes-thetics

47. a.k.a. acid

48. Military group

50. Jezebel's deity

52. *Espresso+gelato

56. Forgo

57. Palo ____, CA

58. Sacred image

59. Southern cuisine pods

60. Show the guns

61. Small stream

62. "The Star-Spangled Banner" author

63. Toni Morrison's ____ Baby

64. Adeline or Addison, for short

DOWN

1. Troublesome child

2. Jasmine of "Aladdin," e.g.

3. Olympic cast-out

4. Smack

5. Anatomical sac

6. Overthrow by argument

7. Marketing creations

8. Wild onion

9. Clever tactic

10. Spanish sea

12. Evening party

13. See-through

14. *Eggs+milk+sugar

19. Old ____, or unpopped popcorn kernels

22. Be, singular past tense

23. Uses a fishing reel

24. Like beer at a kegger (2 words)

25. Round openings

26. Cabbage, in France

27. "The House at Pooh Corner" author

28. African chieftain

29. Ancient Greeks' harps

32. Socket counterpart

33. Bar bill

36. *Filo dough+nuts+honey

38. Book opener

40. Uniting conjunction

41. Robin Hood in Disney's "Robin Hood" (2 words)

44. Keys

46. Mecca to Medina exodus

48. Type of lily

49. Happily ever when?

50. *Make Alaska

51. Gossamer

53. Vinegar or lemon juice, to a chef

54. Communicated

55. James Bond's "For Your Eyes ____"

56. Asian cuisine pan

57. Astern

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The Real Crisis in California Schools is Low Achievement, Not Cultural Conflicts



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

When Governor Gavin Newsom unexpectedly voiced opposition to allowing transgender women to compete in women’s sports, he was throwing gasoline on an issue that was already burning in state and national political arenas. “I think it’s an issue of fairness,” Newsom told right-wing iconoclast Charlie Kirk on the inaugural segment of the governor’s new podcast. “I completely agree with you on that. It is an issue of fairness. It’s deeply unfair. I’m not wrestling with the fairness issue. I totally agree with you.”

The remark generated a tsunami of media commentary about Newsom’s motives and a torrent of criticism from fellow Democrats, particularly from lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ) rights advocates. It also focused attention on two Republican bills that would ban transgender women from women’s high school and college sports.

Ordinarily, given Republicans’ lack of legislative clout, Democratic leaders would just dump both bills in the wastebasket, as they have done innumerable times.

However Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas is allowing Assemblywoman Kate Sanchez of Rancho Santa Margarita and Assemblyman Bill Essayli of Corona to present their measures, Assembly Bills 89 and 844, to the

Assembly’s Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports and Tourism.

That’s probably as far as the measures will go. The Legislature’s influential lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender caucus will see to that. But the maneuver protects Rivas from allegations that he was not willing to have at least a discussion on the issue that Newsom, for whatever reason, chose to highlight.

While these well-orchestrated events feed political junkies’ voracious appetite for cultural conflict, they also underscore the pathetic lack of interest Capitol politicians have in a real crisis, the shamefully low levels of academic achievement in California’s schools.

California fares very poorly vis-a-vis other states in federal academic testing, seventh from the bottom, and there’s a yawning achievement gap separating low-income students from their more privileged classmates. Moreover, California is one of several states whose students still lag behind pre-pandemic achievement levels.

A few days ago, the Washington Post published an article by Rahm Emanuel, former mayor of Chicago and chief of staff to President Barack Obama, about the neglect of educational achievement.

Emanuel called it a “Sputnik moment in education” and declared that “almost no one among the nation’s purported adults seems to want to solve the problem.”

Emanuel continued, “On both sides of the aisle, we’re caught in wild and beside-the-point education debates, whether the Education Department should be closed, which students should change in which locker rooms or

participate in which sports, and whether curriculums should be stripped of diversity, equity and inclusion. All those disagreements deserve a hearing. But they are shiny baubles distracting us from the real crisis, namely, our children’s failure to meet basic standards in reading, writing and arithmetic.”

That’s precisely what’s happening in California.

Emanuel cited examples of states that have taken educational achievement seriously, one being Mississippi, where deep poverty is a way of life.

“Mississippi’s early embrace of ‘the science of reading’, that is, the restoration of phonics in teaching literacy, has led to what some call a miracle: The state’s reading scores for fourth graders rose from 49th nationally in 2013 to ninth in 2024,” Emanuel noted. “We ought to be bringing these approaches to scale with urgency.”

Phonics has made some inroads in California, but unlike Mississippi, California has not fully embraced it, despite ranking 33rd in fourth grade reading.

That could change if the Legislature adopts AB 1121, a newly introduced measure by Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, a West Covina Democrat, with support from EdVoice and other education reform groups.

The bill would encourage school districts to adopt “evidence-based means of teaching foundational reading skills.”

It deserves at least as much legislative attention as the transgender bills.

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



In the life of every NBA team there is a lowest spot of the season. Sunday night in Orlando Florida could very well be the Mendonza line for the Sacramento Kings.

It was not a pretty sight as a tired Kings team fought in futility just to stay in the game. The Magic jumped out to a 10-1 lead, and it went downhill from there. There are many reasons the Kings lost this game, and shooting 25% from beyond the arc was front and center. In the first quarter alone, the Kings went 0-6 from 3-point range while the Magic connected on 5-10.

Outrebounded 49-41 hurt, but making only 17 assists to the Magic’s 31 was a staggering statistic.

Coming off a scintillating victory at Golden One over the Portland Trailblazers, fans were looking forward to scoring a victory over a Magic squad that came into the game below 500. Sadly, for the Kings, Orlando played more like the Boston Celtics as they excelled in nearly every aspect of the game.

In desperation, coach Christie turned to little used Doug McDermott in an effort to ignite the team in the second half, but it was too little, too late as McBuckets contributed 8 points in a 30-point blow-out loss.

Scoring an anemic 91 points, the Kings now head for Indiana where the Pacers await. Currently in the No. 4 place in the eastern conference, the Pacers are playing some of their best basketball of the season and are 7-3 over the last 10 games.

With eight games remaining, Sacramento is faced with winning games against teams they are not favored to beat and that begins with the Pacers Monday night.

Already looking like a tired team, besting Tyrese Haliburton and his Pacer teammates is a tall order, but fans should remember that this is the same team that went into Boston and blew out the hometown Celtics, and although that was prior to the DeAaron Fox trade, Fox did not play in that game.

Yes, the Kings can surprise you, and although the media has all but counted out the Sactown ballers, I hope the loyal fans of Sacramento haven’t given up hope.

I continue to hope that coach Christie pays close attention to his bench, as players like Isaac Jones, and even Doug McDermott can make contributions that matter if they are used on a consistent basis.

For the Johnny come lately Kings fans, there was a time in Sacramento, that Arco Arena was filled with screaming fans that would have been over the moon for a 30-win season, let alone a shot at post-season basketball.

Losing season after losing season had fans standing in a line for season tickets that were 5 years in the waiting. This is true, and even with the inconsistent play of the 2025 Kings squad today, there is still hope.

The Yeoman like work of Domantas Sabonis alone is worth the ticket, and right now Kings fans have the opportunity to see a burgeoning Keeon Ellis, as he begins to make his mark on the NBA. His defensive excellence is something to behold, and the best for Keon is yet to come.

Many pundits believe a change in the front office is imminent, and that means a new GM. Typically new GM’s want to pick their own coach, and since coach Christie has the word interim next to his name, don’t be surprised if you see more changes within the administration than you do on the court.

Make no mistake about it Kings fans, the last eight games matter! They matter to the fans, and they matter to every player. We are blessed with players that have a lot of heart, and there remains a lot of talent on this team.

I am ready for more offensive flow and less iso, and if that is what we see, pray that the 3-pointers start falling.

Currently the Kings lead the entire NBA in mid-range shooting, thanks largely to Domantas Sabonis and DeMar DeRozan, but 3-point shooting is not our strong suit, and right about now would be a great time to find our stride.

Root hard Kings fans, because anything can happen in an 8-game stretch! All the best!

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

Ask

DR. UNIVERSE

Why do we have two intestines?

– Dru, 11, Illinois

Dear Dru,

When it comes to intestines, it sure seems like two are better than one.

I asked my friend Franck Carbonero why that is. He’s a microbiologist at Washington State University. He studies the bacteria that live inside the human gut.

He told me that the small intestine and the large intestine do different jobs.


Let’s say you sink your teeth into some pizza. You chew it up and swallow it. All those chewed up bits land in your stomach. They mix with digestive juices and start to break down. The broken-down food and digestive juices together are called chyme. After about six hours, your stomach sends that chyme to your small intestine.

The small intestine’s job is to absorb nutrients from the food.

It might be called small, but the small intestine is super long. If you plopped it on the floor and stretched it out, it would be about 20 feet long. That’s about as long as a small school bus.

“The small intestine is so long because it takes quite some time to absorb all the nutrients,” Carbonero said.

It can take six hours for the small intestine to do its job. The nutrients are sucked from the inner surface of the small intestine into the bloodstream. Then they zoom away to other parts of your body. The small intestine sends what’s left to the large intestine.



The small intestine and the large intestine do different jobs. Image by Phylum from Pixabay

The large intestine’s job is to absorb any leftover nutrients. Then it recycles extra water from the stew-like chyme. It forms the leftover waste into poop.

The large intestine is wider than the small intestine. But it’s much shorter—about 5 feet long when stretched out. This part of digestion is slower. It can take 3 days.

That’s because digestion in the large intestine involves about 38 trillion helpers. They’re bacteria that live in your large intestine.

“The bacteria evolved to degrade the fiber and leftover food,” Carbonero said. “They ferment it into smaller molecules for their own needs. By doing that, they also release vitamins our bodies can use.”

The kind of digestion bacteria do is called fermentation. That’s when bacteria break down sugars so they can use the energy. In the large intestine, bacteria break down fiber and sugars that we can’t digest on our own. Fermentation also makes vitamins we need.

By splitting up the digestion jobs—and partnering with lots of bacteria—your intestines get everything we can use out of the food we eat. They should really take a bow-el for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe

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Scald Emergencies

With National Burn Awareness Week being in the month of February, here is some basic information on pediatric scalding emergencies.

WHAT TO DO

- Set water heater temperature to no higher than 120°F/48°C, or just below the medium setting
- Create a “no kid zone” in the kitchen around stoves, ovens and hot items
- Keep hot drinks away from the edge of tables and counters
- Use a travel mug with a tight fitting lid for all hot drinks
- Place pots and pans on the back burner with handles turned away from the edge of the stove

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Leave a child unattended in the bathtub; if you must leave, take the children with you
- Allow young children to adjust the water temperature or sit near faucet handles
- Set anything hot on tabletops within reach of young children who can pull them down
- Allow appliance cords (slow cookers, deep fryers, coffeemakers) to dangle over the counter edge

THE FACTS

The average annual cost of scald injuries is \$44 million. Over 136,000 children were seen in emergency rooms for burn injuries in 2011. 1,100 children die each year from fire and burns.

THE FIX

The average annual cost of scald injuries is \$44 million. Over 136,000 children were seen in emergency rooms for burn injuries in 2011. 1,100 children die each year from fire and burns.

IF A BURN INJURY DOES HAPPEN ...

- 1) Cool the burn with COOL (not cold) water to stop the burning process
- 2) Remove all clothing and/or diaper from the injured area
- 3) Cover the area with a clean dry sheet or bandages
- 4) Seek medical attention and call 911

Thank You,
Sparky the Dog
Gridley Fire Station 74

Live Oak Councilmember Opens Kid-Friendly Coffee Shop

By Shamaya Sutton

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - A line of customers wrapped around the block and down the street on Saturday, March 29, in Live Oak, starting at the corner of Fir and California Street. They weren't waiting for a concert or a celebrity sighting; they were there for the opening of Holy Grounds, an independent coffee shop owned by local businesswoman and Live Oak City Councilmember Ashley Hernandez.

"I'm totally shocked by the turnout," said Hernandez. "It's so awesome to see."

Before she started serving espresso, Hernandez spent more than eight years in property management and maintenance. In the last four years, she has become a pillar of the Live Oak community, currently serving on the Live Oak City Council (2022 to 2026) and appointed mayor in December 2023.

During her time in office, Hernandez has helped steer the city through critical challenges, most recently addressing a deficit in the Water Fund and advocating for financial accountability to secure infrastructure grants. But despite Hernandez's civic duties, coffee and connection remained close to her heart.

"When I ran for council, obviously we owned a small business, so I was really passionate about



The Hernandez family cut a red ribbon outside their new coffee shop Holy Grounds in Live Oak on Saturday, March 29, in celebration of their grand opening event. Photo courtesy of YSBC Sports

the small business community," said Hernandez. "What better way to show that than putting my money where my mouth was and doing it here as well."

Her journey as a "caffeine dealer" started in 2023 with a cute and quaint mobile coffee camper. The eye-catching setup turned more than a few heads with unique flavors such as the blackberry shaken espresso and Pistachio Matcha. The business was also aided by its cheeky and memorable name: Holy Grounds.

"I'm a really big follower of Jesus, so for me, I wanted something that reflected that without pushing it on anyone else," said Hernandez. "Luckily, no one

local had the same name."

While successful, Hernandez chose to sell her mobile business to help pay for her new permanent brick-and-mortar location. A tribute to her beginnings stands in the playyard in the form of a mini replica of the original Holy Grounds trailer, skirted by a kids' mud kitchen and sand box.

"I really just saw a need for our community here in Live Oak," said Hernandez. "As a mom, I always love a good space where you can bring your kids, so next to our coffee shop, we have a fully fenced-in area. Now, parents can bring their kiddos here and enjoy a cup of coffee while letting their kids play without worrying about where they're going."

Opening day was a full-blown celebration. The street was blocked off, kids swarmed the Bead Bar and NorCal Rolling Video Games rolled up with entertainment. Even into the afternoon, the line to get in stayed long.

"We really don't have anything like this in our community," said neighboring resident Mary Hardwick. "The owners would be out here sometimes until 3 in the morning working. I couldn't wait to see the final results."

Inside, the space is warm, modern, and inviting, thanks to the



People wait to enter Holy Grounds, a newly opened coffee shop and deli in Live Oak on March 29. Photo by Shamaya Sutton

hands-on work of Hernandez's husband, Diego Hernandez, owner of Hernandez Handyman Services & Construction Inc.

"The first month was all demo and at least 15 dump runs," said Diego Hernandez. "It took a while to get it cleaned up but it's quite the transformation. Now that it's open, I feel like I can finally breathe."

It took the couple seven months to juggle full-time jobs, parenting six children and managing the renovation.

"They definitely have become my new elite employees," joked Ashley Hernandez, referring to her husband and children.

While the brews might be complex, the heart behind

Holy Grounds remains simple: connection.

"I really love connecting with people and I felt like coffee is one great way that you get to do that," said Ashley Hernandez. "We're always saying, 'Hey, want to meet up for coffee?' And who doesn't enjoy a good cup, especially if you have kiddos. You need extra caffeine wherever you can get it!"

Holy Grounds Coffee is located at 2624 Fir St., Live Oak. Business hours are from 6 a.m. 2 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

To learn more about Holy Grounds, visit online holygroundscoffee530.com. ★



A kids play area set up in a fully fenced in yard, part of the newly opened Holy Grounds coffee shop in Live Oak. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



Diego and Ashley Hernandez work together behind the counter of the newly opened Holy Ground Coffee & Deli in Live Oak on March 29. Photo by Shamaya Sutton



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