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THE GRIDLEY HERALD

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FRIDAY • APRIL 25, 2025 • VOL. 145 NO. 17

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**Kory Hamman
Hamman Real Estate**



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‘Tommy Moose’ Dolls Donated to Orchard Hospital



Orchard Hospital staff members were pleased to receive the Tommy Moose donation. Courtesy photo

By **Connie Voss**

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Carrying on a tradition, the Gridley Moose Lodge donated a case of 12 stuffed toy moose dolls (a.k.a. “Tommy Moose”) to benefit young patients at Orchard Hospital. The stuffed toys help comfort children in stressful situations.

Past Junior President Larry Evans and Moose Administrator/Gridley City Councilmember Jim Roberts represented the Moose Lodge and made the presentation.

“We’re a community organization and we care about helping in the community. That’s why we do this,” said Moose Lodge Treasurer Pamela Roberts.

Roberts said that the Gridley Police Department and CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection) both recently received a case of the dolls as well.

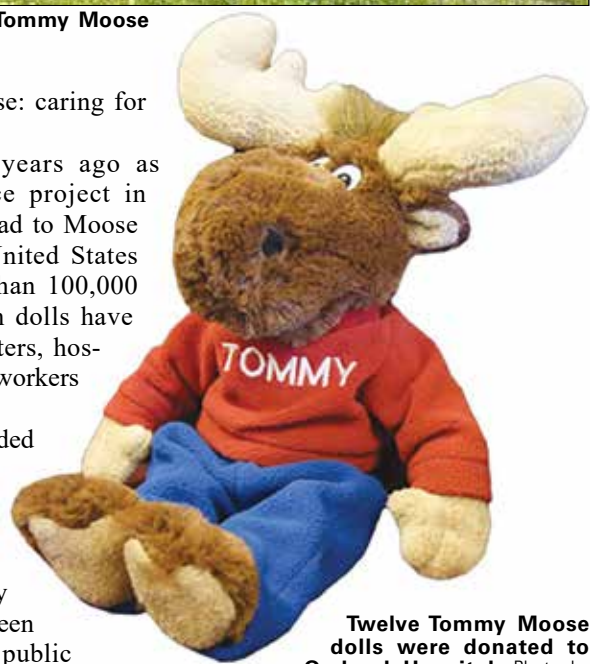
The Tommy Moose program fulfills one of the key missions of the

Loyal Order of Moose: caring for children.

What started 23 years ago as a community service project in Connecticut has spread to Moose Lodges across the United States and Canada. More than 100,000 Tommy Moose plush dolls have been donated to shelters, hospitals and emergency workers since 2002.

The program has added color-along storybooks, bookmarks, a clothing line for infants and toddlers, and the Tommy Moose mascot often seen at parades and other public events throughout the country.

On Facebook, Orchard Hospital extended “a huge thank you to the Gridley Moose Lodge for their generous donation of stuffed moose animals for kids that come to the hospital. Your kindness is bringing big



Twelve Tommy Moose dolls were donated to Orchard Hospital. Photo by Moose International

smiles and warm hugs to some very special little ones.”

More information about the program can be found online at tommymoose.org. ★

Live Oak Hires New Interim City Manager



Kary Hauck

By **Shaunna Boyd**

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - The Live Oak City Council held a special meeting on April 7, with a closed session to discuss the dismissal of the current Interim City Manager Richard Crabtree, as well as the recruitment of a new interim city manager.

At the end of the closed session, Live Oak city attorney Nicole Rosser said the recommendation was to terminate the employment contract of Crabtree and the council voted 4-0 to approve the termination, with Councilmember Nancy Santana absent.

The council also voted 4-0 to approve an employment contract with Kary Hauck to serve as the new interim city manager.

At the April 16 regular meeting, new Interim City Manager Hauck recommended that the City Council approve a letter of opposition to California Senate Bill 634 (SB 634 – Perez), which Hauck said, if approved, would “(prohibit) cities from adopting any regulation, policy or guidance that would impose any civil or criminal penalties on a person experiencing homelessness.”

“This strips the city’s ability to exercise local control and safeguard community character, infrastructure and public safety,” said Hauck. “The bill fails to hold all residents to consistent standards, potentially increasing tensions between housed and unhoused populations.”

Councilmember Bob Woten agreed that the council should submit a letter of opposition.

Mayor Jeremy Chapdelaine said, “This one could be significant for us with the challenges we’ve had with that.”

If the bill passed, Chapdelaine said, it would negatively impact progress that the city has made working with the Sheriff’s Department and local non-profit organizations to address homelessness at the local level.

City Council voted 4-0 to approve the opposition letter, with Vice-Mayor Aaron Pamma absent.

During City Manager Updates, Hauck said, “There’s a lot of great work being done by staff ... since I came on board.”

Mayor Chapdelaine said, “We appreciate everything you’ve been doing.”

The next Live Oak City Council meeting is scheduled for May 7. ★

Farmer’s Wives Boutique Relocates and Expands

Story and photos
by **Connie Voss**

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Farmer’s Wives Boutique has moved from its old location on Spruce Street to 893 Hazel St. (on the corner of Hazel and Kentucky streets). One of the newer small businesses in Gridley, the store opened last August at the Spruce Street location.

Store owners Kourtney Becker, Brooke Mardesich, Ally Mardesich and Maddi Mardesich Klein made the decision to move to a bigger store and a more prominent location. Although the building is older, the store interior has been remodeled and still retains a rustic charm.

The boutique sells stylish women’s clothes, as well as locally-made jewelry, hats and custom-made decorative signs.



Store employees Josie Stogsdill and Addison Foster pause for a picture at Farmer’s Wives Boutique.

In addition, the store has collaborated with “The Kat’s Meow” store in Chico to offer a sizable

inventory of children’s clothing, shoes and toys. Mardesich’s sister-in-law, Jill Mardesich, owns and operates The Kat’s Meow. That store was started in Gridley by

Continued on page 2

The New Pi-Line



By Josh F.W. Cook

across the United States, people still believe in and hope for resurrection or a life after death. Professor Ryan Burge has gathered data on American religiosity that started in 1973. Back then, about 76% of folks believed in something beyond this life. But by 1990, that figure had crept up to just about 80%, and it continued to rise very slowly from there. Really, from 2000 through 2022, the calculations are all basically the same. Even today, the share of Americans who believe in life after death is 82%. In the most recent survey data from 2022, 80% of those with no more than a high school education believed in an afterlife. It was 79% of those with a four-year degree and

81% of people who had gone beyond a bachelor's. In other words, there is no statistically significant impact of education on belief in life after death; these numbers run contrary to the lie that "simple people" believe in religious mysteries and more "educated" people do not. More than a majority of people in the United States across all religious denominations are planning on something going on after they're dead. Moreover, as they remember the people they love and miss, who already are gone, they hope to find those people when they get there. I know I do. Easter was a great reminder.

Josh F.W. Cook is a chaplain. ★

We just finished celebrating Easter. Easter is a celebration of Jesus coming back from the dead. For me, it's a more significant celebration than Christmas. Even with the decline in religious participation that is still going on

Rotary Rocks with Silent Disco



Dancers enjoy their music, undaunted by any noise from others.

Story and photo by Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - On Saturday night, April 12, Gridley Rotary held its second Silent Disco at Butte Hall, Butte County Fairgrounds, for all ages.

Tickets were \$7 if purchased online or \$15 at the door. Drinks and food were available. The event was promoted by Rotary as family friendly.

While the concept of a Silent Disco could seem strange, it was obvious that all of those who attended were having a great time. However, attendees were few in number. Rotary members hope that the idea will catch on, as more Silent Discos are held.

A smorgasboard of tunes was delivered via headphones by three different disc jockeys from BlackNoise, from oldies to contemporary hits. Some dancers jumped in formation, while one sang out "SWEET CAR-O-LINE!" He didn't bother anyone

because others were all too busy singing and dancing to their own music. All the while, bright disco lights made colorful patterns on the walls and ceiling.

"I'm hoping that it really continues to grow here in Gridley. I think we need more things like this for kids. Clean, healthy, good, fun," said Rotarian Jessica Flatt. "Making friends, large groups, small groups, and it's not expensive, very user friendly. You can sing along and not be embarrassed. We'd like to do more this summer, once a month, and we want everyone to go home and tell someone else. We'd like everybody's input."

"It was so much fun. We had such a great time," said an attendee named Dawn.

Proceeds from the event will help fund the Rotary commemorative clock scheduled for installation in Gridley on May 9. The clock will have a plaque in memory of Rotarian Dick Jones who passed away last year. ★

Gridley Recreation

24th Annual Kid's FREE Fishing Day

Saturday May 10th, 2025

Gray Lodge Wildlife Area "Bone Yard Pond"
3207 Rutherford Rd. Gridley CA 95948

Pond Stocked with 900 lbs of live channel catfish!

7:00 am to 11:30 am **No Pets allowed**
Ages 1 - 15 years

- Limited number of poles available on site.
- Free bait & BBQ Lunch provided for children & their families
- Shuttle to parking lot 14.
- 1/4 mile walk from there to the Registration Table.
- **Must Register to Fish**, Free Bait will be pond side.
- All raffle prizes announced at 10:00am
- Entry for Biggest Fish 7:00am - 11:00am

For more information please contact Gridley Recreation (530)846-3264

Absolutely no admittance to Gray Lodge Property before 6:30am.
Violators will be removed from the event!

funded by the Outdoor Equity Grants Program, created through AB 209 and administered by California State Parks, Office of Grants and Local Services.

Farmer's Wives Boutique Relocates and Expands



Children's clothing and other items are sold at Farmer's Wives Boutique.

Continued from page 1
Mardesich's mother, Joan Mardesich, more than 30 years ago, and later moved to 138 W. Third St., Chico.

Farmer's Wives offers custom gift baskets and gift wrapping year-round. Shopping parties can be arranged for either large events or smaller home gatherings. There was a recent "Sip and Shop" event at Butte Creek Country Club, with wine tasting and a large assortment of merchandise.

"Our original location was wonderful but it didn't give us a lot of space for expansion. We wanted to collaborate with Kat's Meow and offer more merchandise. We get a lot more foot traffic in this part of town," said Becker. "The charm of the vintage building is just amazing. We're also carrying a lot more home décor than we used to because we have more space."

Hours for The Farmer's Wives Boutique are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays to Fridays and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 530-870-6117. ★



Farmer's Wives Boutique co-owner Maddi Mardesich Klein models a recent arrival at the new store. Courtesy photo.

Butte College SBDC In-Person Business Trainings

National Small Business Week is May 4th to May 10th, 2025. To celebrate small businesses during this week, Butte College SBDC is hosting free workshops every day of the week beginning Monday, May 5th through Friday, May 9th.

How to Use Facebook & Instagram Ads to Grow Your Business (Colusa & Oroville)
In this 2-hour presentation, we will dig into what makes advertising profitable OR a money pit and how to best avoid the pitfalls that many businesses make. Topics include: The Do's & Don'ts about your Pricing Model & how to use it for effective Ads; The ONE THING that does not show up on Facebook or Instagram but is the secret to Profitable Ads; The FOUR numbers you must track to make or break your profitability when advertising on Facebook & Instagram; How to KNOW exactly how much money you are making from your Ads and avoid the guessing game; Understanding profit strategies for brick & mortar and service businesses; Learning the types of business that SHOULD NOT be advertising online; Sharing information on Ads & online copy that are leads and sales generators; How to identify the correct target market for your Ads; and A step-by-step planner for orderly planning to ensure your online campaign has the biggest chance for success.
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 | **Time:** 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Location: Colusa City Hall, 425 Webster St., Colusa
Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 | **Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am
Location: 1566 Huntoon St., Oroville

The Basics of Bookkeeping (Red Bluff)
Learn basic concepts for setting up your bookkeeping and develop an understanding of financial statements to better manage your business. Learn and understand common terms used in bookkeeping so you can converse confidently with lenders, financial advisors, and bookkeepers. Learn simple and key concepts for good record keeping for your business.
Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 | **Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am
Location: Hampton Inn & Suites, 520 Adobe Rd., Red Bluff

Introduction to Digital/Online Marketing (Paradise)
This workshop will focus on discussing introductory methods of digital and online marketing. You will learn the basics about Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Search Engine Marketing (SEM), Social Media Marketing (SMM), as well as mobile, affiliate, and online Ad marketing. You will be provided real-world examples of which type of marketing best fits your marketing goals, as well as ideas for your future marketing needs. This training is perfect for individuals who are either first getting started in digital/online marketing, or those who would like a little more information on how to develop their current digital/online marketing.
Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025 | **Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am
Location: Paradise Chamber, 6161 Clark Rd., #1, Paradise

Financial Management Series for Existing Businesses (Chico)
This 4-week, 2 hours per week series is designed to teach you how to utilize your financial statements to better manage and understand your business operations, cash flow, and profitability. Focus includes: Interpreting and understanding your financial statements (Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet); hands-on exercise and case study; Identifying cash flow cycle and how it impacts your business; Learning how to calculate and use financial ratios to troubleshoot fiscal dangers, and analyzing trends to improve business performance; Using financial tools to make good business decisions for effective spending and break-even analysis; Knowing how to think critically when looking at pricing and costs; and Developing forecasts and budgetary tools and techniques to improve profit. This series is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank.
Date: Fridays, May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025 | **Time:** 8:30am - 10:30am
Location: Butte College SBDC, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico

To Register for Trainings: CALL: (530) 895-9017
or REGISTER HERE: <https://www.buttecollegesbdc.com/events/>

Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, and grants with the California Office of the Small Business Advocate. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA or the California Office of the Small Business Advocate.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least 72 hours in advance of this event; please send an email with the subject header ACCOMMODATION REQUEST to Butte College SBDC, 2480 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico, CA 95928, (530) 895-9017, konwaso@butte.edu

Victory on the Court

Live Oak Seniors Defeat Deputies and Firefighters in Charity Game

By Shamaya Sutton,
photos by Chris Pedigo

LIVE OAK, CA (MPG) - After weeks of anticipation, the Live Oak High School Sober Grad Night Basketball Game tipped off on April 4 with energy and purpose. This community fundraiser was created to promote safe graduation celebrations and honor the memory of local DUI tragedies that inspired its launch.

Now in its third year, the event featured a competitive and spirited matchup between Live Oak High School seniors and a team composed of Sutter County Sheriff's deputies and firefighters. In a hard-fought battle, the seniors clinched their first-ever win in the series, defeating the first responders 60-50.

All proceeds from the evening, including ticket sales, concessions, and raffles, will directly support Live Oak's Sober Grad Night celebration on Wednesday, June 4, ensuring a fun and safe send-off for the Class of 2025. ★



The Live Oak Lions and Sutter County Sheriff's and Fire team tip off the April 4 Sober Grad Night fundraiser game in front of a cheering crowd.

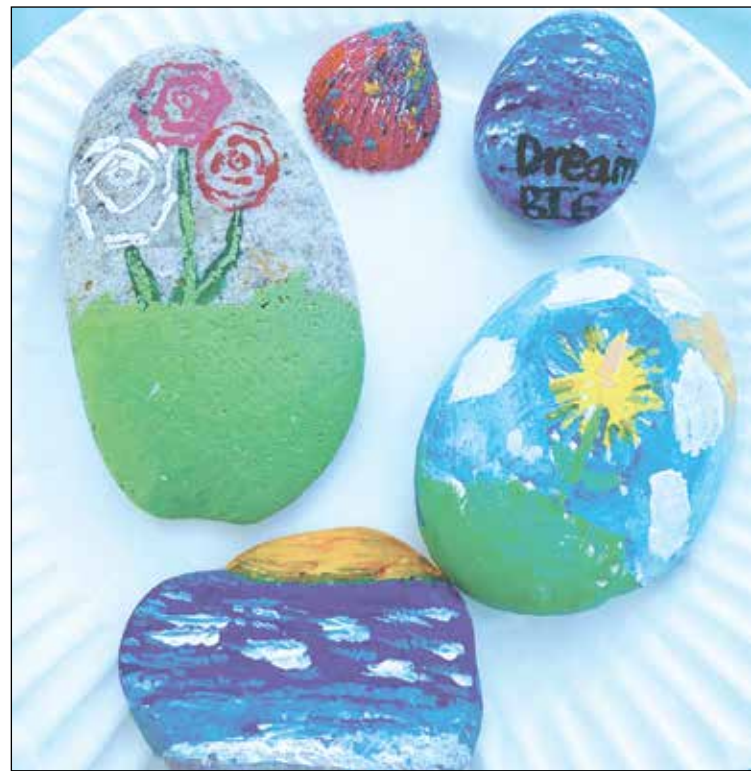


A Live Oak senior pushes through double coverage for a shot at the basket.



A Live Oak player, bottom, stays strong on defense as the Sutter County Sheriff's team looks to pass under pressure.

Quota Rocks!



Rocks and a shell shown here are just some of the handiworks from the Quota Rock Painting party on April 12. Courtesy photo.

By Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Youngsters from Gridley participated in a special rock painting party on April 12 at Quota Park, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event was organized by Peggy Harshbarger and the Quota club of Gridley.

"(It's) one of my favorite hands-on service projects," said Harshbarger. "The kids had fun. The parents and grandparents were happy and so appreciative to have a great free activity to experience. And they didn't have to drive miles to get here. I can't thank all the Quota members enough for time, donations and support for this great event."

They almost ran out of rocks, but Harshbarger brought some oyster shells that the kids enjoyed painting as much as they enjoyed the rocks. The shells were so popular that Harshbarger said she will bring more next year.

Harshbarger has been a "Quotarian" for over thirty years, along with other family members. The club has been in Gridley since 1936. Originally, it was part

of the Quota International organization, but that was disbanded several years ago. Since then, the Gridley club has continued to function on its own.

The Rock Painting party was part of the Kindness Rocks project, started in 2015. Founder Megan Murphy from Cape Cod, Massachusetts started the project by painting "You've got this" on a rock and leaving it at the beach. When a friend found the rock Murphy started making more with other inspirational messages. Another Cape Cod resident Alice Brock began sending painted rocks to friends. Since then, the phenomenon has spread across the United States, to the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Haiti, according to Wikipedia.

The project also spawned "International Drop a Rock Day" on July 3, when everyone is encouraged to paint and place a rock for someone else to find.

For more information on the Kindness Rocks Project, go online to thekindnessrocksproject.com. ★

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

How should you respond to tariffs?

The Trump Administration has announced tariffs on trade with other countries. While there has been a lot of uncertainty as to how these policies will evolve, it's generally agreed that tariffs can be inflationary, and they have also sparked volatility in the financial markets. How should you respond to tariffs — as a consumer and an investor?

As a consumer...

- Review your budget. If you're worried that higher prices will put stress on your cash flow, look for ways to cut costs, perhaps by eating out less often or eliminating streaming services you no longer use. Look for items that could easily be swapped for cheaper alternatives, like generics for brand names. You may even be able to get a better deal from your cable or internet providers, just by asking.
- Build or replenish an emergency fund. It's typically a good idea to have an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses in a liquid, low-risk account. Usually, you'd want this fund available to meet large, unexpected expenses, such as a medical bill or a new furnace. But with the possibility of tariffs causing inflation in some sectors, you might also want your emergency fund ready to handle price increases in items such as car parts.
- Accelerate large purchases susceptible to tariffs. If you're already planning on making a large purchase, and you think the price may be affected by tariffs, you might want to act now, if you can afford to do so. Some items that may be susceptible to tariffs include automobiles, smartphones and computers.

As an investor...

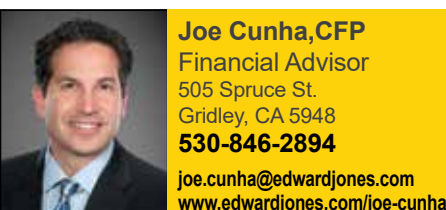
- Diversify. Tariffs may affect some industries, such as automobiles and consumer electronics, more than

others, such as healthcare and pharmaceuticals. But rather than making hasty "buy" and "sell" decisions based on tariffs and their possible effects, try to build and maintain a diversified portfolio containing a mix of stocks, bonds and other securities. Diversification is the best defense against the market volatility caused by tariffs — or, for that matter, caused by any other factor. While diversification cannot guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, but at any given time, some asset classes may be up, or not hit as hard as others. And if your portfolio is heavily invested in an asset going through a downturn, you'll likely take a much bigger hit than if your dollars were spread across the wide array of available investment types.

- Keep following a long-term strategy. Right now, tariffs are certainly in the headlines as a potentially disruptive force in the financial markets. But there have always been such forces — wars, natural disasters, political turmoil, and so on — and while they have caused volatility for a while, the markets regained its footing, sooner or later. And the most successful investors were the ones who stayed the course throughout the disruptive events, rather than jumping out of the market until things cooled down. This doesn't mean you should never make changes in response to market conditions — at times, you may need to adjust your portfolio somewhat. But by following a long-term strategy based on your risk tolerance, time horizon and financial goals, you'll be better equipped to cope with market gyrations.

Tariffs can lead to uncertainties in the financial world. But by thinking carefully about how you might respond, you can bring more clarity to your own situation.

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



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Inaugural Gold Country Brew Fest and State BBQ Championship Debuts

Gold Country Casino Resort News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Mark your calendars for an unforgettable day of bold flavors, cold brews and nonstop entertainment as the inaugural Gold Country Brew Fest and State BBQ Championship makes its debut at the Gold Country Casino Resort on May 17!

This highly anticipated event is set to become a must-attend celebration of competitive barbecue, craft beer and live entertainment, offering something for everyone. The Brew Fest and State BBQ Championship will bring together top pit masters and premier breweries for a one-of-a-kind experience. Attendees can look forward to a vibrant festival atmosphere, barbecue samples from championship competitors, unlimited craft beer tastings and live music and entertainment.

Watch as some of the best pit masters in the region go head-to-head for the coveted championship title. Guests will have the chance to sample their award-worthy creations,

from smoky ribs and tender brisket to perfectly seasoned pulled pork and more.

Sip on a wide variety of craft beers from top breweries, featuring everything from hoppy India pale ales (IPAs) and crisp lagers to rich stouts and refreshing sours. With unlimited tastings, there is something to

excitement going. Set against the backdrop of the Gold Country Casino Resort, the event will offer a lively and welcoming environment for foodies, beer enthusiasts and anyone looking to enjoy a day of great food, drinks and entertainment.

"This event is all about bringing people together to celebrate the best in BBQ, craft beer, and live entertainment," said Ben Lobenstein. "We're excited to launch this new festival and create a memorable experience that attendees will look forward to year after year."

Tickets are on sale now, with prices starting at \$43.87. VIP options are also available for those looking to elevate their experience. VIP entry begins at 1 p.m. and general admission entry begins at 2 p.m. Guests must be 21 or older to attend.

Whether you are a foodie, a craft beer enthusiast or just looking for an incredible way to spend the day, the Gold Country Brew Fest and State BBQ Championship is the ultimate summer event you won't want to miss.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit goldcountrycasino.com/entertainment-nightlife. ★



Photo by ALles via Pixabay

satisfy every beer lover's palate.

The festival will feature high-energy live performances from talented musicians, creating an electric atmosphere throughout the day. Interactive experiences and fun activities will also be available to keep the

Gridley Council Told Sidewalks Need Repair

By Connie Voss

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Information was presented by Marcus Beverly, program manager for the Northern California Cities Self Insurance Fund (NCCSIF) Alliant Insurance Services at the Gridley City Council's bimonthly meeting on April 21.

Using a Power Point slide show "Managing Sidewalk Liability," Beverly reported that in the last 10 years, Gridley has had a few claims but nothing major in the way of sidewalk injuries.

The Streets and Highways Code passed in 1941 placed the responsibility of sidewalk maintenance on the property owners but the city is liable for the owner's failure to maintain it. Beverly said that some cities, such as San Jose, have shifted the liability back to the property owner.

In the event of a repair, Beverly said, the city pays the first \$200 and splits the rest of the cost 50/50 with the property owner, according to Gridley Municipal Code 12.05.015. The code can be viewed online at codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/gridley/latest/gridley_ca/0-0-0-5137.

"Offering some kind of (financial) assistance is worthwhile and needed," Beverly said.

Gridley City Administrator Elisa Arteaga concurred.

"If they don't have the money, they're not going to do it. There are sidewalks out there that need repair," Arteaga continued. "It's a huge liability right now."

Beverly recommended a program for risk management that involved dividing the city into zones and making periodic inspections. The city can then prioritize the heavily trafficked areas where maintenance is needed. Beverly also recommended a complaint procedure, to pay close attention to trees and the "safe routes to school" program.

The next item of business was to approve a letter of support from the council to the Gridley Unified School District honoring a request to purchase property between the school and Butte County Fairgrounds. This will increase the safety of the students by providing additional parking and making it easier for law enforcement vehicles to access the school in the event of an emergency. This need was recognized during the school's recent stabbing.

City Administrator Arteaga pointed out that if the stabbing had occurred during heavily congested times, the emergency vehicles would not have been able to reach



the school.

Councilmember Catalina Sanchez read a letter she wrote to the school district regarding this issue.

Mayor Farr expressed his support for the school district to acquire the land and make the area safer for students.

"I think it's a smart idea," Farr said.

However, Butte County Fair Manager and CEO Matt Reed said he had met with the fair board earlier that day. The board members do not want the school to purchase the land, because the fair uses it for parking at fair time.

"If you take that away, we have no parking," Reed said. "My board urges you to vote this down. If the school takes over the property for parking, the pool will more than likely shut down."

Vice-Mayor Bruce Johnson indicated that he did not have enough information to vote on the issue. Mayor Farr recommended getting Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue and the school board to come to the next meeting for their input.

"Maybe there's a way that you (the fair board) can work together with the school to accomplish what you want to accomplish and accomplish what they want to accomplish," Farr said.

No action was taken, pending further review.

The council then approved an award of contract for planning services with PlaceWorks Inc. for the completion of the city's housing element. Arteaga was authorized to execute a contract with PlaceWorks Inc. in the amount of \$58,608 for professional planning services related to the preparation and completion of the City's Housing Element update.

The meeting concluded with committee and department reports. Johnson reported that Mosquito Abatement is planning to spend \$50,000 for an airplane propeller overhaul. Johnson also raised concerns about the noise level at the fairgrounds and an ordinance for fireworks. ★

Gridley Thumbs and Roots



By Barbara Ott

The nights are going in and out of Spring temperatures. Going into the mid fifties then down to the high forties. Many in our area have planted their early vegetables and some have even put in their tomatoes. Until the night temperatures rise a bit more many of these plants will simply wait. Planting early is a bit of a gamble. Sometimes it pays off by having some warm

weather crops produce early, sometimes it simply stresses the plants to adjust and wait for warmer night temperatures before taking off. Regular early crops like chard, snow peas, lettuce are just fine during this time and will produce readily. This is their time. Late cauliflower, cabbage and broccoli are still producing during this beginning to warm time.

I optimistically moved some plants out of the green house. These are not vegetable plants but ornamentals. Many of these plants don't like temperatures as low as 50. They are looking a bit pouty but not damaged. In the meantime the weeds are happy and mass multiplying. It is an interesting time for plants and gardeners. The

fruit trees are setting fruit. The apple trees are a bit behind the peaches and are just starting to bloom. The blueberries are fattening up and will ripen once the nights are a bit warmer closer to 60 degrees. The grape is putting on itty bitty clusters. The bees have been active even with the chill nights because the days are warm. It looks like a good fruit year in my garden. Of course, this is a wake-up time for the small creatures like snails and sow bugs. I'm watching four Praying Mantis cases (ootheca) waiting for the hundreds of tiny insects come swarming out of their case to start attacking things in their world, such vicious little predators. May the soil warm up. ★

Substance Abuse Prevention Forum Addresses Concerns

By MPG staff

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The City of Gridley encourages community members to attend Gridley's Substance Abuse Prevention Forum on April 29.

The forum will be from 4:30 to 7 p.m. April 29 at Gridley City Hall, 685 Kentucky St.

Discussion topics are understanding the impact of substance use to our children and families, exploring health risks and long-term effects of substance use, parenting through the challenges of substance use, and substance use and its consequences.

Forum participants include Butte County Behavioral Health, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, American Lung Association, California Health Collaborative, Gridley Police Department and Gridley Parks and Recreation Department.

Substance use is a growing concern in the community, according to forum organizers, but together, we can be part of the solution. The April




The free forum will be from 4:30 to 7 p.m. April 29 at Gridley City Hall. Photo by Mart Production via Pexels

29 forum is designed to introduce the Gridley community to the importance of substance abuse prevention.

Attend the forum to learn how to protect our

families, support our youth and build a healthier, safer Gridley through education, awareness and action.

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Stonyford Rodeo Grand Marshals: George and Linda Rahn Corbin

Stonycreek Horsemen's Association News Release

STONYFORD, CA (MPG) - The Stonycreek Horsemen's Association is proud to honor George Corbin and Linda Rahn Corbin as the grand marshals for the 82nd annual Stonyford Rodeo.

This beloved couple, deeply rooted in their community and steadfast supporters of the rodeo, embodies the spirit of dedication, hard work and tradition that makes this event a cherished cornerstone of Stonyford.

George Corbin was born in 1941 in Delevan, Colusa County, to Toby and Lorraine Corbin. Raised in a farming family, Corbin grew up with a strong connection to the land. He attended and graduated from Maxwell High School before serving his country in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1961.

After his military service, Corbin returned to his roots, dedicating his life to farming. This is a profession that he continues to this day with the same grit and determination that have defined his character. His commitment to the community extends beyond the fields. Corbin has been an active member of the American Legion in Maxwell for the past decade, proudly supporting veterans and local initiatives.

Rahn Corbin was born in 1943 in Hanford to Jack and Frances Case. Her family moved to Willows when she was in second-grade. It was there that she grew up, attending school and building lifelong friendships. After graduating from high school, Rahn Corbin embarked on a career with Bank of America, where her warmth and professionalism shone.

It was through a dear friend and co-worker, Eleanor Johnson, that Rahn Corbin's life took a joyful turn. Johnson introduced her to Corbin and the two



Pictured are 2025 Stonyford Rodeo Grand Marshals George Corbin and Linda Rahn Corbin. Photo courtesy of Stonycreek Horsemen's Association

were married in October 1969, love, mutual respect and shared beginning a partnership built on values.

Together, the couple raised three children, Korri, Rich

and Barry, who have blessed them with four grandchildren: Kati, Jake, Lisa and Kayla. The Corbin family has grown even further with the addition of two great-grandchildren, bringing joy to their lives.

Rahn Corbin's generous spirit extends to her volunteer work with the Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff Program (VIPS) program with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office. There, Rahn Corbin contributes her time and energy to keeping her community safe and connected.

For approximately 20 years, George and Linda Corbin have been devoted members of the Stonycreek Horsemen's Association and enthusiastic supporters of the Stonyford Rodeo. Their involvement goes far beyond spectatorship; they are hands-on contributors who have helped sustain this cherished tradition.

Corbin has served on the board of directors and is a familiar face at the annual workdays, rolling up his sleeves to ensure the rodeo grounds are ready for the big event. Rahn Corbin, as the assistant treasurer, brings her organizational skills and cheerful presence to the association's financial side. During workdays, she pitches in to help alongside her fellow members.

As grand marshals, the couple represents the heart and soul of the Stonyford Rodeo. It is a celebration of community, hard work and western heritage. Their lifelong dedication to family, service and the land mirrors the values that make this event so special.

George and Linda Corbin would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the members of the Stonycreek Horsemen's Association and everyone else who works tirelessly to bring the rodeo to life each year. Here is to the 82nd Stonyford Rodeo; may it continue to unite and inspire for generations to come! ★

Third Annual Big Time Celebration at Butte College

Butte-Glenn Community College News Release

OROVILLE, CA (MPG) - Butte College invites the community to its third annual Big Time celebration on May 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the college's main campus.

This free, family-friendly event honors Native American cultures and traditions through music, dance, art, food and community connection.

This year's Big Time event will feature headliners Lil Mike and FunnyBone, a dynamic hip-hop duo known from "America's Got Talent" and "Reservation Dogs." As proud members of the Pawnee Nation and Southern Cheyenne tribe, Lil Mike and FunnyBone use music/comedy to uplift Native voices and inspire audiences across the country. Their performance promises to bring energy, heart and humor to the celebration.

The event will also

feature California feather dancers, craft and jewelry vendors, food and an elders' gift giveaway.

One of the highlights for many guests will be the food offerings, which include beloved favorites such as Indian tacos, frybread and Rez dogs that will all be available for purchase throughout the day.



Organized by the Butte College Native American Center in collaboration with a cross-departmental team from student services, the Big Time event is more than a cultural festival; it is a celebration of unity.

"For many Native American families, it feels like a big family reunion," said Native American Center Supervisor Frankie Medrano. "And it's a rare opportunity for non-Native attendees to experience California Native culture firsthand."

Butte-Glenn Community College Superintendent and President Virginia L. Guleff emphasized the significance of the event.

"We are proud to host Big Time as a celebration of the Native peoples of this region and beyond," she said. "It's an opportunity for the broader community to engage, learn, and build connections."

The Big Time celebration is free and open to the public, and all ages are welcome. It offers a meaningful chance to engage with Native culture and support Native artists and entrepreneurs. It also offers the opportunity to connect with the Butte College Native American Center and local organizations. ★

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Longtime Rodeo supporters George and Linda Corbin have been named this year's Grand Marshals!

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The Moving Wall is Coming to Chico

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 582 News Release

CHICO, CA (MPG) - The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 582 for Butte, Glenn and Tehama counties is bringing The Moving Wall to Chico from June 5 through June 9. The Moving Wall will be located at the Chico Elks Lodge, 1705 Manzanita Ave., and will be open to the public 24 hours a day.

The Moving Wall is a half-size, 253-foot, traveling replica of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The wall has tremendous significance for the 58,318 who died in the Vietnam War and the 2.5 million servicemen and women that served in Vietnam. The wall provides an opportunity for many that are unable to visit the Memorial in Washington, D.C. to visit the Memorial locally.

Every time The Moving Wall visits a town, thousands of visitors come to find a name or a few names that are very special to them. It helps bring closure and healing to veterans, their families and friends of those who died or are still missing in Vietnam.

The wall is intended to help close old wounds, not to open them, and to educate the community about the war in Vietnam and its social and economic impact on our nation and our veterans. More information will be provided as it becomes available. ★



The Moving Wall, a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. (shown above), helps bring closure and healing to veterans, their families and friends of those who died or are still missing in Vietnam. Photo by clarencealford via Pixabay

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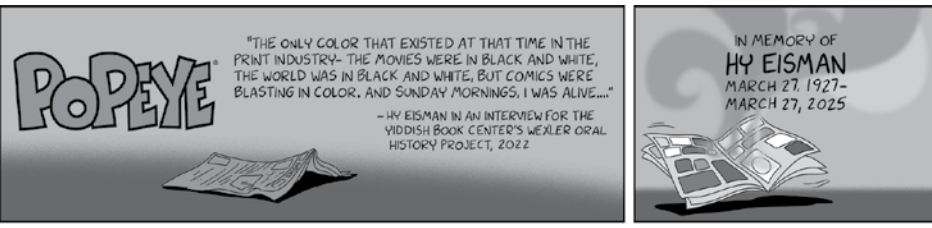
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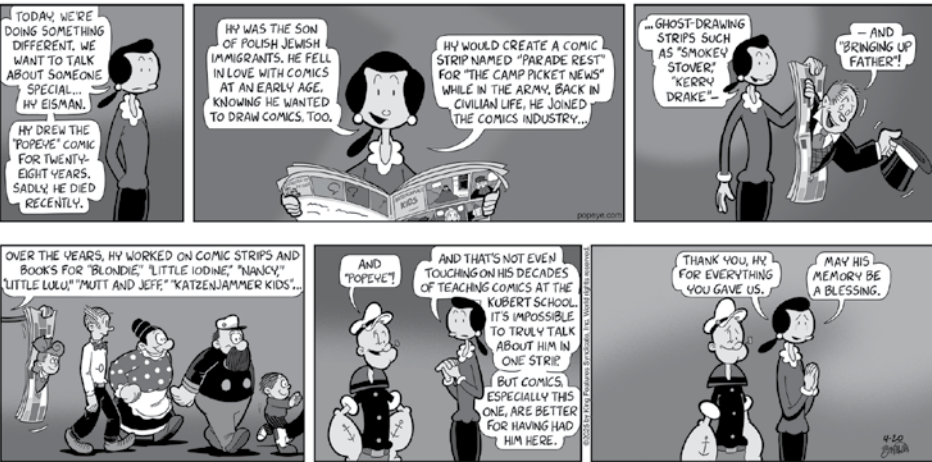
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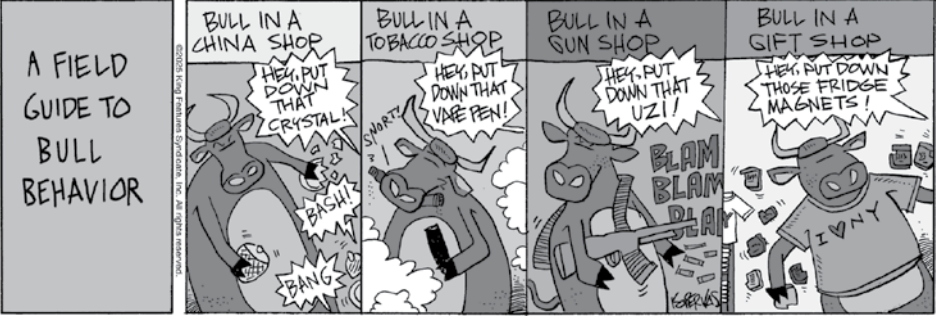
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CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Little rascal
 - Center of activity
 - d'Ivoire lead-in
 - Tree, in Latin
 - *Common ___ or ___ of Good Feelings
 - Supreme Teutonic god
 - Large violin family member
 - *Gravely ___ or ___ at ease
 - Speak up
 - *Holiday ___ or ___ weather
 - *Butter ___ or ___ tape
 - Zeppelin lead-in
 - *Batman's ___ or ___ Cod
 - What, in Oaxaca
 - Whimper
 - Smells
 - Defender of skies
 - Like debatable point
 - *Stem to ___ or ___ parent
 - *Ill at ___ or ___ up
 - Famous fabulist
 - Brain wave
 - Opposite of digest
 - "Will be," to Doris Day
 - *Kitchen ___ or ___ or swim
 - *Willie ___ or ___ Mandela
 - To, archaic
 - Had a meal
 - Voyeur's glance
 - Anger management issue
 - *Passenger ___ or ___ post
 - *Grammatically ___ or ___ answer
 - Past participle of bear
 - Go wrong
 - Empower
 - Assumed name
 - Barn sound
 - Fair attractions
 - Catch one's breath
 - Coniferous tree
 - Baker's raiser
- DOWN**
- Bursas
 - *Rowing ___ or ___ cut
 - *Willing and ___ or ___-bodied
 - Relating to mole
 - Temporarily, Latin (2 words)
 - *Rightful ___ or ___ apparent
 - Dot-com address
 - Craft wood
 - Native Egyptian, in Roman times
 - Related to ear
 - Hyperbolic tangent
 - Opposite of WSW
 - Suitors
 - Possible allergic reaction
 - Tax person's designation, acr.
 - Shut down (2 words)
 - *Dancing ___ or ___ bee
 - Cell phone bill item
 - Art class subject
 - Things to lament

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WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS

MPG

Biggs Baseball Falls to Maxwell

Story and photos by Jennifer Corriea

BIGGS, CA (MPG) - Biggs saw itself fall from the ranks of the unbeaten in the Mid-Valley League last week as they dropped a pair of games to Maxwell by scores of 0-1 and 5-9, respectively.

On the road last Monday, the Wolverines got a masterful effort on the mound from David Ibarra but could not break through against Panther pitcher Yahir Alcaraz and as a result, suffered the narrow loss.

Ibarra and Brady Smith accounted for the Wolverines' only two hits in the game.

Completing the series with Maxwell at home on April 17, Biggs got two hits from Matthew Martin and one apiece from Smith, Cameron Kroupa and Russell Cote, but it was not enough to get past the Panthers.

In between their games with the Panthers, the Wolverines posted a 17-4 non-conference win over Lindhurst on April 16.

Ibarra, Cote, Dennis Dewhurst and Davis Long each had a pair of hits in the win.

Four pitchers, including Smith, Cote, Brayden Martin and Wyatt Whetstone, combined to strike out eight batters and limit the Blazers to four hits.

This week the Wolverines (11-6, 4-2) played a non-league game in Live Oak on April 22. Then, they will head to the Durham Tournament, which runs on April 25 through April 26. ★



The Wolverines' David Ibarra delivers a pitch in a 0-1 loss to Maxwell on April 14.



Biggs shortstop Dennis Dewhurst avoids Maxwell baserunner Alex Krug in a game played on April 14.

Bulldogs Split in Yuba City Tournament

By Dillon Longmire

YUBA CITY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Bulldogs participated in the 2025 Norcal Baseball Classic at Bryant Stadium this past week.

The Bulldogs were 1 of 12 teams that participated in the three-day tournament. On Monday, April 14 the Bulldogs faced the Folsom Bulldogs. The game held at 0-0 until the top of the 4th inning when seniors Gus Stogsdill and Nathan Zumwalt scored one run each to take a 2-0 lead. That lead quickly went away after Folsom scored 4 runs at the bottom of the 5th inning to take the lead 4-2. The defense would play strong for both teams and the Folsom Bulldogs would escape with a 4-2 victory to open the tournament.

Later that same day, the Bulldogs faced the Marysville Indians. The game started quick with a run coming from each team in the 1st inning. The score would be 1-1 until the bottom of the third when the

Bulldogs scored 2 runs and pushed the score to 3-1. The Bulldogs would repeat, scoring 2 runs in the 5th inning, and then scored 3 runs in the 7th inning while only allowing 2 more runs from the Indians. The Bulldogs would win the game 8-3 and end the first day of the tournament with a 1-1 record.

On Tuesday, April 15 the Bulldogs faced the Lassen Grizzlies. The game held at 0-0 until the bottom of the 5th inning when the Bulldogs scored the 1st run of the game. The Bulldogs would not hold onto that lead for long as the Grizzlies responded with 3 runs of their own at the top of the 6th. In the 7th, the Grizzlies would score another run to make the score 4-1 and give the Bulldogs an opportunity to comeback. The Bulldogs would unfortunately score only one run and lose the game 4-2.

Wednesday, April 16 was the last day of the tournament, and the Bulldogs faced the Narbonne

Gauchos. The Gauchos opened the game with 2 runs and great defense, as the score held at 2-0 until the bottom of the 4th when the Bulldogs exploded for 5 runs and took a 5-2 lead. The Gauchos would quickly respond and score 3 runs at the top of the 5th and tie the game at 5-5 until the Bulldogs scored another run at the bottom of the 5th. The Bulldogs defense would get back to holding strong as they did not allow another run from the Gauchos while scoring another run for themselves. The Bulldogs would win the game 7-5 and finish the tournament with a 2-2 record.

After the tournament, the Bulldogs stand with a 13-8 record. Gridley will resume league play and play the Corning Cardinals in back-to-back games. The first game will take place in Corning on Tuesday, April 22 with a start time of 4 p.m. Their second matchup will take place in Gridley on Friday, April 25 with a start time of 4 p.m. ★

Gridley Softball Resume with High Hopes

By Dillon Longmire

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - The Gridley Bulldogs softball team gear up for the second half of the season with a record standing at 8-4 overall, and 1-2 in league.

The Lady Bulldogs started the season with four straight wins and smoke coming off their bats, as in those games the Bulldogs scored a combined 60 runs and only allowed 7 runs. After their first loss of the season came against the Las Plumas Thunderbirds on March 22, the Bulldogs would dominate four straight games once

again as this time they would score 68 combined runs while allowing only 14.

Since that dominating stretch, the Bulldogs have lost three straight league games, and their offensive output has seemed to be put in a slump. Fortunately for the Bulldogs, they had a spring break to mentally and physically reset and hope for a strong finish to the season.

The Bulldogs resume play travel and play the Pierce Bears on Tuesday, April 23 and then on Friday, April 25 the Bulldogs will face the Corning Cardinals in Corning. Both games will start at 4 p.m. ★

Salmon Fishing Shutdown Marks a Grim Milestone

By Charlton H. Bonham

This week, a public federal process determined there will be no commercial salmon fishing off California's coast for the third year in a row. It's a grim milestone for our state.

While we will see some recreational ocean fishing, we're at the low-water mark. With so few fish available, we know this won't be enough to meet the demand of our state. That's hard news in hard times.

Thirty years ago, the idea we would be implementing, yet alone discussing, these restrictions would have been unthinkable. Back then, millions of salmon swam through the rivers of California every year. It was a bountiful, thriving species.

But last year, the number of adult salmon in the Sacramento Index, a critical measure of the Sacramento River salmon population and an indicator of the overall health of California's salmon, shrank to roughly 100,000 fish. It's a tiny fraction of salmon's former might.

The reasons for the decline are numerous and complicated. Decades of severe drought, climate disruption, water management challenges and habitat loss threaten the future of salmon in California. The loss of salmon would wound California deeply.

Salmon are the basis of a multibillion-dollar fishing economy that creates jobs across the state. They support thriving forests, rivers and floodplains and serve as one of the most popular seafood choices across the country. Salmon provide vital subsistence to numerous California tribes. Recreational salmon fishing trips form the basis of family legend and lore.

For the salmon lovers among us, these are dark times. But I see glimmers of hope.

Two weeks ago, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife revealed the progress on California's "Salmon Strategy for a Hotter, Drier Future." It was an update on the strategy Gov. Gavin Newsom released last year, which outlined dozens of key action items the state must take to better support healthy salmon populations.

In the last year alone, state fish and wildlife and its partner agencies have made critical headway on nearly 70% of the action items set by Governor Gavin Newsom. Another 26% are already done.

California finished removing the

outdated and obsolete Klamath River dams, allowing for a free-flowing river and access to cold-water habitats blocked for more than a century.

California's initiative to fast-track approvals for salmon restoration projects led to the streamlining of more than 60 important projects to support salmon populations over the past year.

Fish and wildlife has also worked with the State Water Resources Control Board to develop flow recommendations in drought-prone watersheds like the Scott and Shasta rivers and Mill and Deer creeks. This ensures salmon populations have enough cold water to survive during dry periods.

Investments to expand and modernize the state's fish hatcheries, ensuring California is supporting the production of a resilient salmon population, have increased fall run production from state-operated hatcheries in the Central Valley by over 9.7 million fish.

The state's salmon strategy was designed for long-term salmon support. But we're already seeing early benefits, some that even surprised fish and wildlife officials. Ten days after the final Klamath dam came down, state scientists spotted salmon swimming north of the dam sites into Oregon.

Experts originally estimated that would take 10 years.

Data shows that, while salmon numbers from 2024 are down, California saw the highest number of jacks (2-year-old fish) returning to the Central Valley since 2019. Jacks are an important predictor of the number of adult salmon that will return to spawn the following year.

In Lagunitas Creek, there's been a 60% increase in spawning of endangered Coho salmon. In Mendocino County, adult coho salmon returns have almost quadrupled their 15-year average.

To be clear, these wins are just the beginning. The road to reviving California salmon will be long. But these successes give me hope and the drive to keep fighting for salmon.

This commentary appeared on CalMatters.org on April 18, written by Charlton H. Bonham, director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



There are the times in the life of an NBA city, when sadness becomes an almost overwhelming reality. For some it is a different emotion because as fans we come in all shapes and sizes. But for those of you that are simply angry, let me say to you that life is too short, and if anything, this franchise needs your positive energy more than your anger.

The person responsible for giving away Davion Mitchell and then trading away the heart of the franchise in DeAaron Fox, has been given his walking papers, and many would say rightfully so.

Yes, the Sacramento Kings have a new general manager, and his name is Scott Perry. Unlike his two predecessors, Perry comes to the Kings with a resume of experience.

Sacramento is not new to Scott Perry, as he spent a short stint as the Kings vice president of basketball operations in 2017. After only three months in the head office, Perry was hired by the New York Knicks as their general manager.

Make no mistake about it, the position of GM with any NBA club is a chess piece of invaluable proportion. Fortunately, Scott Perry comes with not only experience in his role, but NBA respect as well. This bodes well for a franchise in desperate need of a captain that can navigate a ship.

Fans immediately wonder what Perry's first moves will look like, and will Doug Christie remain as the head coach of the Kings moving into the 2025/2026 season? Many believe the answer is yes, as Vivek Radadive apparently holds Christie in high esteem.

Whether it's choosing the coach or draft choices, the Kings owner has shown a penchant for being centrally involved in all moves involving this team. He has been criticized for being too involved and has even been given credit for the decision to draft Marvin Bagley over Luka Doncic in the 2018 draft.

At the end of the day, virtually every owner has the final decision as it relates to all moves, but the most successful organizations know the value of the basketball minds they hire, and those people need to know they have a level of autonomy when it comes to decision making. In short, let

people do the job they've been hired to do, and respect their ability to do it.

Every NBA team has a culture, and as a new general manager walks in the door, that culture is about to change.

What fans want and hope for, is a culture that not only fosters comradery and cogent decision making, but an environment that says loudly, "we know what we're doing and we're good at it."

Poor decision making has robbed the Kings of a first-round draft choice in the upcoming draft, so before Scott Perry sits down at his new desk, he will have to decide if he needs to reconcile a pathway that includes a move that can secure a first-round draft pick. Easier said than done, and there will need to be a player in this draft that makes a move like this necessary.

NBA insiders say this draft is a better than average class, so this is not a good time to be sitting on the sideline.

After making the playoffs just two seasons ago, the Kings finished 40-42 this season, and many might say that it was overachieving considering the upheaval that was the 2024/2025 season.

Without question, the team and the fans are looking for a steady hand that can create not just confidence, but genuine excitement as the 2025/2026 season begins.

I believe this is possible, and I want to give this new GM my utmost support as he steps in at a difficult time and knows without a doubt, he has a big job to do.

Very soon Sacramento Kings fans will discover if players like Keegan Murray and even newcomer Zach Lavine have a future in a Kings uniform.

Attempting to reassemble a team in mid-season while making dramatic changes to the lineup proved too much the Sactown ballers, and this offseason will be one of the most critical in many years.

Take a deep breath Kings fans but don't lose hope. More changes are undoubtedly in the offing, and shortly you will see if the experience that Scott Perry brings to this team will pay the dividends fans are praying for.

All the best!

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

Easter Egg Hunts All Around Town!



Raina Wright Reynolds and her daughter, Maybelle, take a picture with the Easter Bunny. Courtesy photo

Story by **Connie Voss**

GRIDLEY, CA (MPG) - Easter celebrations started in Gridley as early as April 12 and continued through Easter Sunday, April 20.

Most of the events started with the youngest children going out first, some as young as 1 year old, to find the eggs in the easiest places. The older groups were turned loose for the more challenging finds. Some groups hid special prize eggs.

On April 12, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints had a tri-ward breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt at the church on French Avenue. Each ward had special Easter services on Easter Sunday. All the kids were anxious for the egg hunt, which was first.

The Gridley Lions Club had their 47th annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 19 at Manuel Vierra Park. They colored 4,800 real eggs for the event, and all were snapped up in just a few minutes!

Past Lions President Barbara Ott said that club members really wanted to have the real eggs, and Grocery Outlet gave the organization a good discount. Eleven prize eggs, painted silver and gold and one both silver and gold, were hidden along with the others.

The lucky finders of the prize eggs received a stuffed bunny prize. Embracing the joy of the season, the Miss Butte County court and West-Gridley 4H hopped to it by answering the Easter Bunny's call to assist with



The Miss Butte County Court girls were a big help to the Lion's Club Easter Egg hunt. Courtesy photo



The annual Lion's Club Easter Egg hunt at Vierra Park was enjoyed by all who attended. Photo by Connie Voss

the event. First Baptist Church had a free craft for children representing the reason Easter is celebrated.

The Live Oak Lions club also held their annual Easter egg hunt during Easter weekend.

The Howard Hamman family had their annual event on Easter Sunday, at their property near the Sutter Buttes. Festivities

included a potluck picnic followed by an Easter egg hunt. The Hammans welcomed about 100 people "from all over," according to Hamman. Some were unacquainted with the family and came with others.

Another celebration was held at Christian Life church, 1526 Humble Ave. The Easter service was held at 10 a.m. with



Many enthusiastic children, ages 1 years old and up, enjoyed the Easter Egg hunt at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Photo by Connie Voss

an egg hunt immediately following, along with crafts and prizes. Attendees finished off the morning with a free barbecue luncheon.

Happy Spring! ★



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