



Warriors Put Up
Strong Fight in Close
Union Mine Contest

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Galt Man Killed
in Elk Grove Crash
Remembered for Kindness

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The Galt Herald

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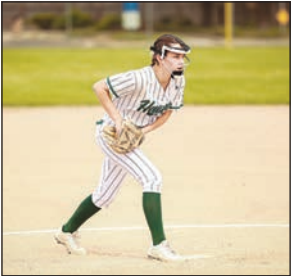
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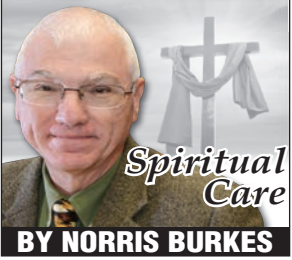
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TUNA SANDWICHES
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WHEN WE HAGGLE
OVER INTEGRITY, WE
RISK EVERYTHING



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Planting Event Supports Migratory Bird Day



The Cosumnes River Preserve is partnering with the city of Galt to host a pollinator planting event to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day. The event highlights the importance of migratory birds like the sandhill crane, which migrates through the preserve every fall. Photo courtesy of Cosumnes River Preserve

By Sean P. Thomas
City Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - In celebration of World Migratory Bird Day, the Cosumnes River Preserve and the City of Galt will host a native plant installation event at Galt Community Park on Saturday, May 10, from 9 to 11 a.m., focused on supporting bird habitats and pollinator species.

The event, themed "Protecting Shared Spaces," will include the planting of native pollinator-friendly plants such as milkweed, goldenrod, California sunflowers and button-willows. Trees like black walnut and white alder are also being considered,

according to Amber Veselka, outreach coordinator for the Cosumnes River Preserve.

The preserve, a key stop along the Pacific Flyway, is a critical habitat for several bird species during both spring and fall migrations. Although fall sees the greatest influx of waterfowl – such as ducks, Canada geese and sandhill cranes – spring is an important time for migrating swallows and other smaller species.

According to BirdCast, a migration forecasting tool, more than 1 million birds passed over Sacramento County just last night.

Veselka said the planting will help restore habitat and create food

sources for birds and the insects they depend on.

"Hummingbirds, moths and other pollinators play a vital role in ecosystems," Veselka said. "By planting native species, we're supporting the entire food chain that migratory birds rely on."

World Migratory Bird Day, first observed in 1993, has grown into a global event celebrated in more than 100 countries. The campaign raises awareness of the threats migratory birds face such as habitat loss, climate change and urban sprawl and promotes conservation actions that individuals and communities can

Continued on Page 2

City
Seeks
Input
on Park
Naming



By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - As Galt continues to expand its residential neighborhoods, the city is inviting residents to help name new parks planned in the Liberty Ranch and Elliott Ranch subdivisions.

The Galt Parks and Recreation Department is accepting park name submissions through Wednesday, May 7 at 5 p.m. Submissions must follow the city's official naming policy, which considers geographic relevance, historical significance and community impact.

Liberty Ranch is one of Galt's largest master-planned developments, covering approximately 150 acres. It includes plans for more than 1,400 homes, multiple parks and expansive open spaces. Located near Liberty Ranch High School and McCaffrey Middle School, the neighborhood continues to grow with a variety of housing and recreational amenities.

Elliott Ranch, previously referred to as Simmerhorn Ranch, will add 429 single-family homes along with land reserved for a park and a future elementary school. The subdivision is being developed as part of Galt's long-term strategy to accommodate new residents while expanding public facilities.

Eligible park name submissions must reflect nearby geographic features, honor individuals or events of historical significance, or recognize people or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the Galt community, especially related to parks and recreation.

Only submissions that meet the city's criteria will be considered. Residents with questions are encouraged to contact the Galt Parks and Recreation Department at (209) 366-7180.

Galt Seeking Youth
Commission Mentor

The city of Galt is looking for an adult mentor to help serve on the Galt Youth Commission.

Galt youth commissioners work alongside city departments, businesses and nonprofits to advocate

Continued on Page 2

Zoo Relocation Canceled
Due to Financial Concerns



Rendering courtesy of city of Elk Grove/Sacramento Zoological Society

By Sean P. Thomas
City Editor

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Plans to relocate the Sacramento Zoo to Elk Grove have been officially canceled, bringing an end to years of planning and negotiations.

The announcement was made on Wednesday via a city news release.

The relocation project,

first proposed in 2021, aimed to move the aging Land Park facility to a larger, modern site in Elk Grove near Kammerer Road and Lotz Parkway. Zoo leaders and city officials had hoped the move would address concerns about outdated infrastructure, limited space, and animal welfare at the current location.

The project, initially estimated at \$302 million, was to be financed through a combination of Elk Grove city funds, private fundraising, development fees and bond financing. The City of Elk Grove had committed \$93 million, largely from its General Fund Reserve, casino payments and community facility district

revenues.

According to a city news release, the Sacramento Zoological society "no longer see the effort to build a new zoo in Elk Grove as viable," due to concerns over economic uncertainty, construction costs, future operating costs and the scale of the first phase of the project, as well as the

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Liberty Ranch FFA Chapter Shines at State Leadership Conference

By Liberty Ranch FFA

GALT, CA (MPG) - In early April, 38 students from Liberty Ranch High School traveled to Sacramento to attend the 97th Annual California State FFA Leadership Conference. Throughout the week, members participated in competitions, leadership development events and statewide discussions that celebrated the achievements and growth of California FFA.

Our novice parliamentary procedure team represented our chapter with pride, ultimately earning the title of Reserve State Champions!

They have worked tirelessly all year to get to this level, practicing for up to five hours a week studying Roberts’ Rules of Order. In addition, Peyton Deuel and Abby Woods served as official state delegates, contributing to important conversations shaping the future of FFA in California. Taryn Cooley led her own subcommittee meeting, demonstrating strong leadership and parliamentary skills on the convention floor.

Our chapter had several students recognized for individual excellence. Joey O’Neal interviewed and was awarded the prestigious Byron J. McMahon Memorial Scholarship, while Abby Woods competed for a state proficiency award in plant systems agriscience and was named Reserve State Champion. Emily English



Liberty Ranch High School FFA members pause for a photo during their trip to the 97th Annual California State FFA Leadership Conference in Sacramento. Photo courtesy of Liberty Ranch FFA

showcased her professionalism in the state Job Interview contest, ranking among the top 24 students in California.

On day three, Jeffrey Garner was selected to serve as parliamentarian for the 2025 State Delegate Process: an exciting leadership opportunity to help discuss issues facing California FFA.

The chapter was also recognized onstage with the 2-Star National Chapter Award, honoring its commitment to excellence in growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture. Beyond the competitions and recognitions, students enjoyed seven high-energy general sessions that celebrated FFA spirit. Friday night’s

“Flame Fest” offered fun and connection with games, a silent disco and more.

The Career Show provided valuable opportunities for members to connect with colleges, industry professionals and future career pathways.

“I enjoyed the energy and motivation that state conference provided me,” Student Addie Gonzalez said. “It was an experience of a lifetime and I am so grateful I was able to go! I can’t wait to get more involved in FFA.”

We’re proud of all our students who represented our chapter and community with enthusiasm, leadership and heart! We can’t wait for another great year!

★

Art Studio, Community Space Set to Open on Fourth Street in Galt

By Sean P. Thomas
City Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - A new art studio and community space is set to open in downtown Galt, led by Galt resident and South Sacramento art teacher Esperanza Pevehouse and her daughter Kennedy Johnson.

The Color Wheel is expected to open May 31.

The studio will be located at the corner of C and Fourth streets in a soon-to-be renovated building that Pevehouse said has long caught her attention.

“Ever since I moved to Galt, that building has just stood out to me. I thought it was really pretty and it needed something in that spot,” Pevehouse said. “Fourth Street is where our community comes together, and that is where we have our little festivals and parades and our ice rink.”

“I just thought it was the perfect spot for our community to gather and to showcase the store,” she added.

The building is in the midst of a renovation. Once complete, it will house The Color Wheel, a restaurant and multiple top-floor apartments. The project is part of a broader city effort to revitalize the area and attract new investment.



Esperanza Pevehouse, left, and daughter Kennedy Johnson are opening The Color Wheel in downtown Galt. Photo courtesy of Esperanza Pevehouse.

“I love art, so my kids and I are always going to other art pottery studios and doing art,” Pevehouse said. “I always had it in my mind that I have to do this, and just staring at that space every morning, I pass it every time I come home.”

Pevehouse said she was encouraged by her husband to pursue her vision.

“My husband told me that you never know unless you try,” she said. “I’m hoping that our community feels the same way and they rally together. It can only be our community that makes our store a success.”

Once open, The Color Wheel will offer pottery painting, birthday parties, guided art classes, field trips, team-building activities and fundraisers.

“We want to make people want to come back,” she said.

Pevehouse’s daughter, Kennedy, who is also an art teacher, plans to help run the studio.

The two plan to be on-site Fridays through Sundays, with a hired employee managing daytime operations during the week.

Renovations include painting the building, installing custom wallpaper, cabinetry, shelving, countertops and new lighting. A kiln is also in the process of being delivered.

“I am hoping that the word gets out,” Pevehouse said.

Pevehouse also runs the Young Bakers Academy, which teaches aspiring bakers to make pastries and baked goods. The next academy camp is scheduled for June 16 to 20.

More about The Color Wheel, including class details, can be found at thecolorwheel-galt.com. ★

Planting Event Supports Migratory Bird Day

Continued from page 1
take.

This year’s theme highlights the importance of integrating nature into urban environments. Veselka said the City of Galt was quick to partner when approached about finding a site for planting.

“We are planting plants that are native to this area and hopefully creating a partnership with the city to help them plant more native plants in their open spaces,” Veselka said.

The Cosumnes River Preserve spans more than

50,000 acres and is managed by a coalition of public and nonprofit organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, the Bureau of Land Management and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. It is the last free-flowing river system west of the Sierra Nevada and hosts hundreds of thousands of migratory birds each year.

Beyond the bird day event, the preserve offers guided nature walks, bird surveys and volunteer opportunities, including a

naturalist training program. Veselka also encouraged residents to take conservation into their own hands.

“Planting a few native plants in your yard can create a small sanctuary for pollinators and birds,” she said. “It doesn’t take much to make a difference.”

Participants in the May 11 event are encouraged to sign up through Eventbrite via the Cosumnes River Preserve website. Attendees should wear closed-toed shoes and bring sunscreen, bug spray, water and snacks. ★

Local Student Wins \$10,000 Taco Bell Scholarship

By MPG Staff

GALT, CA (MPG) - Jeanette Gallegos, a student at San Joaquin Delta College pursuing a nursing degree, has been awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from the Taco Bell Foundation.

Gallegos, a 2024 graduate of Liberty Ranch High School, has worked at the C Street Taco Bell for the past two years. However, the scholarship is open to all eligible applicants, not just Taco Bell employees.

The award is funded through the Taco Bell Foundation’s Round Up program, which supports education and career readiness initiatives. ★



Jeanette Gallegos poses, front center, with parents and Taco Bell coworkers. Photo courtesy of Maricella Gallegos

Zoo Relocation Canceled Due to Financial Concerns

Continued from page 1
ability to fund future plans.

According to a FAQ page surrounding the zoo, the event pavilion, permanent classrooms, overnight guest accommodations and Okapi Aviary were cost engineered out of the program.

The pavilion and education programs, such as summer camp and guest accommodations were outlined as revenue-generating items that would have contributed to the profits for the zoo.

“We know this decision may be disappointing to some of our supporters,” Robert Churchill, interim CEO of the Sacramento Zoological Society said. “Please know we considered that fact, and that this was not a decision taken lightly. However, we truly believe that ending the Elk Grove project is the most responsible choice for the long-term sustainability and

success of the zoo.”

The initial phase of the new zoo was also expected to house fewer species than the current zoo in Land Park, 30 species, compared to the 94 at the current location.

“This is a deeply disappointing outcome for all of us who believed in the vision for the zoo and what it could have meant for our community and the region,” Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen said in a statement. “I want to thank the Sacramento Zoological Society for their partnership over the past several years and for their belief in our City. Despite the decision to discontinue the project, the City of Elk Grove will continue to dream big and pursue projects that will enhance our community and ensure that Elk Grove becomes a regional destination.”

The Sacramento Zoological Society was expected to raise \$50 million of the

anticipated \$80 million in private donations. Additionally, the city planned to issue \$114.5 million in bonds, with \$7.8 million in annual repayments split between the city and the society.

Over the years, experts and advocates have raised concerns that the Sacramento Zoo, which opened in 1927, is no longer able to meet modern standards for animal care or to accommodate future growth. The current zoo is approximately 15 acres.

Plans for the new site in Elk Grove would have expanded the zoo to 64 acres and included upgraded exhibits and facilities. The project was in the fundraising stage of development before being shelved.

Elk Grove had already invested in early studies, planning and community outreach. Officials say the city will now evaluate alternative uses for the site that

had been earmarked for the zoo project.

“We are grateful to the City of Elk Grove and its residents for embracing the bold vision that began our partnership,” Society Board Chair Elizabeth Stallard said in the news release. “We are disappointed that we will not be able to realize the dream we shared. However, the Society remains committed to ensuring that this region will continue to have a vibrant and beautiful zoo long into the future.”

The Sacramento Zoological Society is expected to revisit options for improving or redeveloping the current Land Park site. According to the release, the zoo and the city plan to unwind the arrangements between both entities in the coming weeks and months.

Elk Grove leaders plan to consider an alternative option for the site later. ★

City Seeks Input on Park Naming

Continued from page 1
and create programs for teenagers in the Galt area. The opportunity also helps teens become engaged in their local community.

The adult mentor guides and supports the five commissioners as they work to implement teen programs throughout the city.

As of press time there are four commissioners on the body, with a candidate for

the fifth slot currently being interviewed.

Applicants must be registered voters and live within the Galt Joint Union High School District’s jurisdiction.

Applications are due to the City Clerk’s Office by 5 p.m. Monday, May 5.

The term would wrap up in December 2026.

The commission meets on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the City Clerk’s Office at 209-366-7130 ext. 7.

Galt Invites Public to Submit Military Photos for Parade Float Tribute

The City of Galt is asking residents to help honor U.S. military service members by submitting photographs for a tribute float being created by the Galt Parks & Recreation Department.

According to the city, the float will feature a visual display of military personnel,

both past and present, from all branches of the armed forces. The project is part of the department’s ongoing efforts to honor military heroes through community engagement and intended to recognize the bravery and dedication of those who have served.

Photos must be high-resolution and either 5x7 or 8x10 inches. Submissions are limited to the first 200 entries.

To submit a photo or request additional information, email jgarcia@cityofgalt.org or call (209) 366-1115. ★

Galt Man Killed in Elk Grove Crash Remembered for Kindness, Talent

By Sean P Thomas
City Editor

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Connor Lopez, a beloved piano teacher and musician from Galt, was identified as the 23-year-old motorcyclist killed in a crash last week in Elk Grove. His family and friends are mourning the sudden loss of a man they described as warm, witty and extraordinarily gifted.

Lopez died at the scene after his motorcycle collided with an SUV around 3:50 p.m. Wednesday, April 23 on the 8100 block of Sheldon Road, according to the Elk Grove Police Department. Investigators said the circumstances of the crash are still under investigation.

A GoFundMe page launched by his family has raised thousands of dollars to help cover funeral expenses, a reflection of how deeply Lopez was loved in his community.

“Connor was really special,” his mother, Allison Lyman, said. “He was probably the kindest person you would have ever met.”

Connor Lopez was a



Connor Lopez, center, pictured with his mother, Allison Lyman, left and his sister, Ella Lopez. Photo courtesy of Ella Lopez

classically trained pianist who taught lessons at NewSongs School of Music in Elk Grove and often filled his family home with music.

“He loved that,” Lyman

said. “He would come home and talk about ways to kind of challenge his students or teach them, and we will forever miss hearing him play at home or at family gatherings.”

Lopez graduated from Liberty Ranch High School in 2019 and was studying communications at Sacramento City College. He had recently moved into his first apartment and

took pride in caring for his cat, Benny, his beloved and grumpy feline he even had tattooed on his body.

His younger sister Ella Lopez, 20, described her older brother as “so genuine and so humble,” with a quick sense of humor and a magnetic personality.

“He was just not afraid of being himself,” Lopez said. “Anyone who briefly encountered him, he would leave an impression.”

His family says the outpouring of community support has been overwhelming.

“Connor would be shocked to see how many lives he touched,” his mother said. “I wish he did.”

Outside of playing music, Lopez said, her brother enjoyed playing soccer, hanging out with his siblings and playing video games.

“He was effortlessly cool, never afraid to be himself,” said Ella Lopez. “You just felt better around him. He was so full of life.”

Connor is survived by his siblings Vincent Lopez, 10; Ava Lyman, 11; Julia Lyman, 12; Roman Lopez,

12; Ofelia Lopez, 16; and Ella Lopez, 20; and his mother, Allison Lyman and his father, Vidal Lopez.

Lyman said NewSongs School of Music closed for a week to honor Connor’s memory, and friends have shared story after story with the family about his kindness, humor and generosity.

The GoFundMe, in a little over five days, has already raised \$24,200 out of the \$25,000 goal to help cover funeral costs as of Wednesday.

Allison Lyman said it has “meant the world” to their family to see the support.

“We are just devastated, and it has been such a source of comfort to know how many people loved him,” Lopez said.

Donations to support his family can be made through the GoFundMe page at gofundme.com/f/honoring-connor-lopez-and-supporting-the-lopez-family.

Anyone with information about the crash can call the Elk Grove Police Department Traffic Bureau at 916-627-3714. ★

Paddlefest Returns to Lodi Lake

By MPG Staff

LODI, CA (MPG) - The 10th annual Paddlefest will kick off kayak season Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lodi Lake Beach.

Hosted by Lodi Boathouse owner Abigail Christensen, the event is expected to draw about 300 participants. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 for children 10 and younger, and \$5 for those who are not getting in the

water. Tickets must be purchased in advance; no sales will be available at the gate.

Paddlefest offers guests unlimited access to Headwaters Kayak gear, as well as demos from Eddyline, Stellar and Mocean Kayaks, a new company making its debut. Guests may bring their own life jackets and paddles, but outside boats will not be allowed.

Food will be available from A Moveable Feast, and live music will be provided by the First Street Band.

New this year, Juicing by Jules will offer a fresh juice bar on site.

Dogs and swimming will not be allowed during the event. More surprises are expected soon.

For details and tickets, visit lodiboathouse.com or follow along at facebook.com/lodiboathouse. ★



Paddlefest is expected to draw about 300 participants to Lodi Lake. Photo courtesy of Lodi Boathouse

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10:20 AM	10:45 AM	10:50 AM	10:55 AM	11:00 AM	11:25 AM	11:45 AM		12:25 PM	12:45 PM	1:20 PM	1:45 PM	1:50 PM	1:55 PM	2:00 PM	
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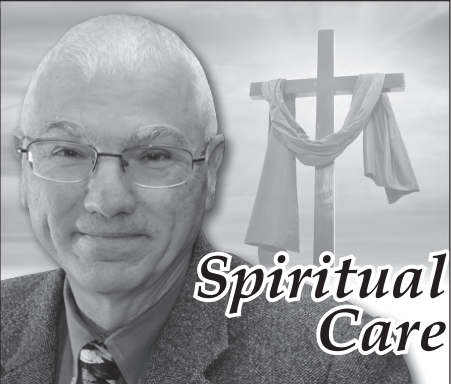
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When We Haggle Over Integrity, We Risk Everything



BY NORRIS BURKES

In 1995, I was serving as an active-duty Air Force chaplain on Moffett Field in the San Francisco Bay Area.

During my three years there, our chaplain assistant constantly fielded requests from couples wanting to be married in our beautiful WW2 chapel.

Since military members are entitled to the free use of chapel facilities, we got a lot of calls from bargain hunters not much interested in the religious commitment assumed with a church wedding.

So, you might imagine my reserve when my assistant transferred a call from an Army helicopter pilot called, asking if I perform “all weddings.”

At first, I said, “sure,” but circled back to clarify his use of the word “ALL.”

“I’m a Protestant chaplain and I do ALL Protestant weddings,” I said. I’m not sure he heard my limitations because he still wanted to schedule premarital counseling.

The couple came to my office that afternoon holding hands and in good spirits. After a few minutes, they asked to see my menu of ceremonies I offered couples.

As they studied the script together, the pilot blurted out a question. “Would it be possible for you not to talk so much about God?”

When I offered them both a blank stare, the woman added some explanation. “Our friends may be offended to hear so much mention of God and the Bible.”

I wanted to ask if they noticed the Christian cross I wore above my left uniform pocket. Instead, I tried to gently explain that I couldn’t officiate a Christian wedding without using Christian vows because I was, well, believe it or not, a Christian.

At that point, the woman leaned forward in her chair to make a confession. “I should have told you — I’m Wiccan.”

“Yeah,” I said, “You definitely should

have mentioned that.”

Don’t get me wrong. As a group, Wiccans are generally peaceful and tolerant people. They are a nature-based religion. They do have witches, but not witches in the sense of potions and spells. They don’t worship the devil. In fact, they don’t believe in the devil.

“I can’t do the wedding,” I said, “but perhaps you can get a Justice of the Peace.”

The woman saw my point and nodded in agreement, but I could see that her fiancé was getting furious.

“But you said you did ALL weddings — no matter what denomination,” protested the pilot.

I reminded him of our phone call when I said my focus was Protestant weddings. I tried to explain that Wiccans aren’t just another division of the Protestant family of churches.

The pilot remained unmoved until the woman confronted her fiancé with a question:

“Dear, don’t you understand? We would be hypocrites for saying the Christian vows and the chaplain would be a hypocrite for officiating a wedding for people he knows don’t believe the Christian vows.”

Wow, I was under her spell. Her words were so profound that I have repeated them to nearly every engaged couple seeking to be married.

This Wiccan had a sense of her own worth, but her fiancé was more interested in bargain hunting – to the point of denying something that was important about who she was.

The pilot was a bargain hunter trying to simulate God into a relationship where God was not wanted. And the truth is that God only comes to marriages, and to your life, as an invited guest.

In my many years of serving as a chaplain, I’ve often recounted this story to those who are tempted to haggle over the price of their integrity.

“It’s simple, really. I tell them. “You will never find a bargain by concealing who you really are. Because when you sell out who you are, it will cost you everything.”

Sign up to receive this weekly column in your email box at <https://thechaplain.net/newsletter/> or send me your email address to comment@thechaplain.net.

All of Norris’s books can be ordered on Amazon. Autographed copies can be obtained on his website www.thechaplain.net or by sending a check for \$20 for each book to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602. ★

Area Adds Legion Auxiliary



From top left: Malene Evans, treasurer; Judy Sala, chaplain; Desiree Salvador, secretary; Gwendolyn Mills, vice president; Reina Panganiban, president; Jennifer Turner, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California, District 6 president. Bottom left: LaNette Titus, executive committee; Kyra Titus, sergeant at arms. Photo courtesy of American Legion Post 55

American Legion Post 55 News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - For years our community, now our city, had one American Legion Post, one Veterans of Foreign Wars Post and one Marine Corps Detachment to serve our veterans. Just a couple of years ago, several members of American Legion Post 233 formed American Legion Post 55, which increased our ability to serve our veterans.

Both posts have a Sons of the American Legion Squadron and on Wednesday, April 23, our friends from District 6 and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233 inducted the officers into our American Legion Auxiliary Unit 55. ice, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion

Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we are advocates for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Members of the Auxiliary are the male and female spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of the American Legion. Some are also veterans and members of a local American Legion Post.

If you are interested in coming to a meeting to learn more or to join, you can find more information about our local unit at post55.americanlegionelkgrove.com/auxiliary. ★

MEMORIAL

RICHARD (DICK) HULBERT SMITH • 07/24/1928- 04/20/2025

Richard (Dick) Hulbert Smith, known affectionately to family and friends as “Bonka”, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Sunday April 20th, 2025 at the age of 96.

He was born in Long Beach California on July 24, 1928 to Hulbert and Phyllis (Redfern) Smith. He was raised in Bakersfield CA and graduated from Bakersfield High School in 1946 and from the University of California Berkeley in 1950 with a degree in Mathematics. Richard met Nancy VanKirk in 1950 at the University of Michigan where he was working on an actuarial degree and she was studying Music, then later married in 1951.

Richard worked in computer sales for 38 years in various locations across the United States and for a variety of companies including, Control Data, Honeywell, Xerox, Memorex, Aerojet, and Eaton.

Richard was well known for his stories, jokes, and his kind heart. He travelled extensively with his



wife and family and produced several volumes of travel diaries that he loved to show off. He also produced an extensive autobiography titled “My Life as a Gypsy” which chronicled the many places he lived, as well as a complete list of all the cars he ever owned.

He was especially fond of the years spent in Minnesota, resulting in him being a lifetime Vikings fan, along with the years spent in

Thousand Oaks raising his kids and the city of Galt where he and Nancy spent their retirement years.

He was extensively involved in his community, particularly with the Lions Club where he was given a lifetime achievement award in 2007 for his service.

Richard is survived by his children Elizabeth, Kirk (Tina), Erik (Vickie), and Jennifer, grandchildren Kimberly (Blake) Standal, Corinne Smith, Andrew Smith and Danielle Smith, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years Nancy (VanKirk) Smith.

Richard and Nancy will be interred together at the Odd Fellows Cemetery in New Haven Indiana in the Van Kirk family section.

No services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Richard’s name to the Lions Club International Foundation, Department 4547, Carol Stream, Illinois, 60122-4547.

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Ask

DR. UNIVERSE

How do glasses work?

— Prisha, 8, Pennsylvania

Dear Prisha,

I got glasses as a kitten. I put on my new spectacles and was floored by the crisp details. I had no idea you could see individual leaves on trees. I thought everyone saw a green blur.

I talked about that with my friend Dr. Rachna Narula. She's an eye doctor—called an optometrist—at Washington State University.

She told me that glasses help direct light to the correct spot in the eye so we can see.

"If someone's eyeball is too short or too long, glasses help focus the image on the retina because that's where the person can see," Narula said.

We see because light gets inside our eyeballs and hits a layer of tissue at the very back called the retina. That tissue is full of cells that change light into electrical signals and shoot them up the optic nerve to our brains. Our brains turn the signals into images.

Getting light to hit our retinas depends on different parts of the eye working together. First, the light goes through the clear, squishy tissue at the front of the eye called the cornea.

The cornea bends the light to focus it toward the retina. Then, the lens, which is behind the cornea, bends the light a bit more.

A black and white illustration of the parts of the eyeball.

The pupil and iris also help light get into the eyeball. The pupil is the small dark spot we see in the center of our eyes. It's like a window that allows light to enter the eye. The iris is the colored part of our eyes. Its muscles make the pupil bigger or smaller to control how much light gets in. Image: NIH/Wiki

Ideally, the cornea and lens work together to bend the light so it hits the retina.

But sometimes the distance from the cornea to the retina is too long or too short. The bent light hits in front of the retina or behind it. That makes our vision blurry.

Some people are near-sighted, or myopic. Their distance vision is blurry. Their eyeballs are too long, so the light focuses in front of the retina.

Some people are far-sighted, or hyperopic. Their up-close vision is blurry. Their eyeballs are too short, so the light focuses behind the retina.

Some people have astigmatism. Their cornea or lens isn't perfectly round. It's shaped more like an egg. That scatters the light, making it hit lots of places at the same time. That also makes things blurry.

An optometrist can measure the length and shape of our eyeballs. They use lots of instruments and ask us questions to figure out the perfect lens to correct our vision. Glasses bend the light before it gets to the cornea. So, the glasses lens, the cornea and the eye's lens work together to bend the light just right.

A glasses lens can curve inward—called concave—to fix near-sightedness. Or the lens can curve outward—called convex—to fix far-sightedness.

You can tell what kind of lenses you have by looking closely at them.

"Concave lenses are thinnest at the center, and as you go out, they become thicker," Narula said. "Convex lenses are the opposite. They're thickest in the center and become thinner toward the edges."

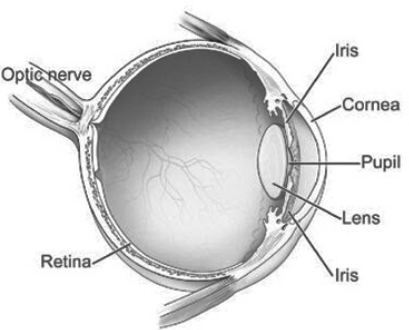
Some eyeballs need both kinds of correction, so some lenses do both.

Narula told me that lots of people don't realize they're having trouble seeing—like me thinking trees are green blobs. It can make doing stuff or learning difficult. It can give us headaches or make our eyes super tired.

That's why we visit the optometrist. The right glasses can reframe how we see the world.

Sincerely,

Dr. Universe



The diagram shows a cross-section of a human eye. Labels include: Optic nerve, Iris, Cornea, Pupil, Lens, and Retina. The optic nerve is at the back, connected to the retina. The iris is the colored part, surrounding the pupil. The cornea is the front part, and the lens is behind it. The retina is the back part where light is captured.

Social Security Matters

Please Clear Up Our Confusion about Our Social Security Payments?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am thoroughly confused. What do I need to do to continue receiving automatic Social Security deposits to my bank account, and maintain our Medicare and Supplement health insurance? My wife has received her SS deposit regularly on the 3rd Wednesday each month with automatic bank deposit for many years. I have received my SS deposit regularly the 4th Wednesday each month with automatic bank deposit also for many years. Can you please tell me what to do to continue receiving these automatic deposits?

First, I hear that we do not need to do anything. Then I hear that we must show up in person at our local SS office to visually confirm our identity. We live 100 miles away from our only SS office, and apparently, they don't take walk-ins. Next, I hear that we must contact the SS on the internet and answer their questions in order to continue receiving our checks. I am totally confused and don't know what to do,

and we don't want to miss our checks or have our Medicare and supplemental insurance cancelled. Can you please help us? **Signed: Confused in Hawaii**


Dear Confused: I know there have been a lot of news media reports and articles written on the recent changes announced by the Social Security Administration (SSA) with respect to a need to confirm one's identity in-person. Allow me to set you mind at ease because, from what you have described (that you are already receiving Social Security benefits and Medicare insurance), you do not need to do anything to have your Social Security benefits, and your Medicare insurance continue without interruption (and that includes your wife as well).

That which has been reported in the media is sometimes misleading or misinformed, but here at the AMA Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service we are watching these events very closely and can assure you that your regular benefits will continue uninterrupted. The only people who may be affected by the SSA's new processes are those who are applying for Social Security for the first time, or those who need to change where their monthly benefit is deposited. In those cases, the SSA is being very careful that no fraud is being attempted and,

thus, the reason for a possible in-person SSA office visit (but only in those specific unique circumstances). But for you and your wife, it will continue to be "business as usual" and you will see no interruption in either your monthly Social Security benefit nor in your usual Medicare coverage and supplement. You don't need to do anything to have all your benefits continue.

So, please relax and do not worry. And rest assured that here at the AMAC Foundation we are watching all events occurring in Washington, D.C., especially those related to Social Security and Medicare, and will promptly inform our members of anything which affects them.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. ★




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New California School Data Project Fulfills Campaign Promise Newsom Made



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Governor Gavin Newsom can, and should, be faulted for making campaign promises six years ago that he must have known were impossible to achieve, such as his vows to create single-payer health care and build 3.5 million new housing units.

When reminded of them after becoming governor, he dismissed them as "aspirational," a caveat he neglected to attach to his original pledges.

Nevertheless, credit is due when one of his promises becomes reality, as it did this week when the state launched the beginnings of a long-needed system of tracking how the state's public-school students fare in classrooms and later in life.

The Cradle-to-Career (C2C) project released its first batch of numbers, along with video tutorials on how to access the data.

"With the C2C Student Pathways Dashboard now live, Californians can visualize their futures by seeing disconnected data from across sectors and previously unavailable insights, all in one place," Newsom said in a statement. "The Golden State is once again leading the way in innovation, connecting our education system to the workforce to ensure everyone has the freedom to succeed."

However, not everyone in the rarified ranks of education researchers and reformers echoed Newsom's boasts.

Alex Barrios, president of the Educational Results Partnership, a business-backed education policy coalition, complained that "the dashboard fails to do what it promised. It doesn't represent the journeys of all students and how they navigate to and through careers.

"By following the career trajectories of only college graduates, it assumes the only path to success for students is through a four-year college degree," Barrio alleges.

The new data system should include all of the factors that Barrio's organization lists, but its criticism may be premature, since officials say they intend to expand the project's scope as rapidly as it can obtain data.

Assuming that the project does widen its reach, C2C, as it's dubbed, not only will be a lasting accomplishment for Newsom, but it will fill a void that's existed far too long. Without reliable data on outcomes, the nation's large school system operates in an accountability vacuum, which the education establishment seems to prefer.

The state Department of Education has a "dashboard" that purports to give parents, taxpayers and voters a picture of how well schools are doing their job. However, the current system is a mish-mash of educational jargon that is difficult to decipher. It also skews the ratings in ways that minimize actual academic achievement, such as in reading, writing and mathematics, and elevates peripheral factors it calls "multiple measures."

Thus, it downplays the fact

that California's students fare very poorly vis-a-vis those in other states and the "achievement gap" still broadly separates low-income and English-learner students from those with more privileged circumstances.

Education reformers have long pushed for obtaining and publishing more objective and complete data, especially after former Governor Jerry Brown and the Legislature overhauled school finance a decade ago to provide more funds to schools with substantial numbers of what were called "at-risk" students.

Better numbers would, the reformers said, provide a clearer understanding of whether Brown's Local Control Funding Formula was working.

Brown, however, backed the education establishment's preference for getting the money without strict accountability for how it was spent and whether it was having a positive effect. He said he trusted that local school officials would spend the extra money wisely, calling it "subsidiarity," a secular version of an obscure religious principle.

After Newsom succeeded Brown, he quickly reversed that position and called for a comprehensive data system to track how students were faring during and after their journeys through the school system. The Legislature responded by authorizing the C2C system.

Dan Walters is one of the 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. ★

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Recycle Household Batteries

City of Galt residents can recycle their household batteries in one of two green household-battery recycling bins: on the west side at the front entrance to the Galt Police Department or on the east side at Galt Community Park, just west of the fire station.

The green bin is only for dry-cell household batteries.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 209-366-7260.

Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings

Narcotics Anonymous (Nar-Anon) family group meetings for friends and family members who are dealing with drug addiction are held locally from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at the Galt United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt.

AA 24-Hour Hotline

For help with an

alcohol-related problem, call the Alcoholics Anonymous 24-hour hotline at 209-745-1525.

Volunteers Sought for Senior Resource Center

The Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to operate a computer and are willing to answer questions from seniors in person, over the phone, on social media and by email at the Galt Senior Resource Center.

Volunteer slots are available in two-hour increments for up to four hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, excluding holidays.

Volunteers will be trained and can contact commission members if questions arise.

The resource center is at the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave. If interested in helping, call 209-294-3308 and leave a message or inquire in person.

Sunshine Food Pantry Donations

Sunshine Food Pantry is a food closet that helps provide for residents.

Collections of canned food and dry good nonperishable items are received at United Methodist Church, 571 C St. in Galt; call to make an appointment for donations at 209-745-4133.

The food closet is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the United Methodist Church.

Nominate Your Neighbor

The Galt Beautification Committee wants you to “nominate your neighbor.” Has your neighbor recently completed a yard project? Does your neighbor have the best flowers in town or the best-looking yard? The Galt Beautification Committee wants to know.

Send an email with pictures and why you are nominating your neighbor

to planningdivision@city-ofgalt.org.

The best submissions will be included in future newsletters and City Manager Updates.

Meals on Wheels Cafe Accepting Older Adults

Meals on Wheels is accepting new participants in its Galt All Seasons Café located in the Chabolla Community Center, 600 Chabolla Ave.

The cafe is open at 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays for adults age 60 and older. Those interested can apply at the Chabolla Center when meals are being served or they can call 916-444-9533.

Senior Bingo Weekly at Chabolla

The Galt Commission on Aging is hosting free Senior Bingo games at the Chabolla Community Center at 600 Chabolla Ave. from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays (except holidays

and when required by the city).

Seniors of Galt and its immediate vicinity are invited to have fun and play bingo together and socialize.

Square Dance Classes on Mondays

The Diamond Dancers Square Dance Club hosts social square-dancing classes in Galt.

The classes are open to everyone and are held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays at the Valley Oaks Grange Hall. The classes are formatted for flexibility and students can learn numerous square dance calls in about three months.

The Valley Oaks Grange Hall is at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadanz at 916-835-8916.

Library Offers Older Adults Computer Time

In cooperation with

the Galt Commission on Aging, the Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library will schedule a set time for older adults to use its computers, upon request. Those 65 and older who want computer time can call the library at 916-264-2920. Staff will help set up the computer or tablet.

The library is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 1000 Caroline Ave.

City After-Hours Assistance

After-hours assistance is available at the Galt Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments. For Public Works concerns, call the Galt Police Department nonemergency line at 209-366-7000.

The Parks Maintenance Division is available for scheduled field or facility use assistance only from 10 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 209-810-0293. ★

POLICE LOGS

During the time period of April 22 to April 28, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in 12 arrests.

April 22

4:55 a.m., Narcotics Violation/adult arrest, Galt Sports Complex on Caroline Avenue.

9:59 a.m., Warrant Served/adult arrest, Pringle Avenue/McFarland Street.

4:54 p.m., Vandalism, Ellis Circle: Truck passenger side and top of hood keyed.

8:44 p.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury, Savemart Supermarkets on C Street.

April 23

10:31 p.m., Warrant Served/adult arrest, North Lincoln Way/Myrtle Avenue.

April 24

2:17 p.m., Pursuit/adult

arrest, Holly Court.

April 25

3:18 p.m., Assault w/ Deadly Weapon reported, California Waste Recovery Systems on Enterprise Court.

7:01 p.m., Vandalism reported, Fairway Drive/Glendale Avenue.

April 26

4:13 a.m., Warrant Served/adult arrest, Highway 99 Southbound/Elm Avenue.

10:07 a.m., Vandalism reported, Katsura Street: Window broken out.

10:55 a.m., Narcotics Violation/adult arrest, Dollar Tree (by Tractor Supply) on Twin Cities Road.

8:04 p.m., Weapon Discharge/adult arrest, Kost Road/Joy Drive.

9:33 p.m., Domestic Violence/adult arrest,

Wendy Hope Drive.

April 27

1:22 a.m., DUI/adult arrest, Ampm Store, East Stockton Boulevard.

8:04 a.m., Battery/adult arrest, Rancho Seco Care Center, LLC on F Street.

1:32 p.m., Warrant Served/adult arrest, Mildred Avenue.

April 28

12:30 a.m., DUI/adult arrest, Highway 99 Southbound/Fairway Drive.

11:05 a.m., Theft reported, Quail Hollow Drive: License plate stolen.

3:52 p.m., Robbery reported, Tractor Supply Company on Twin Cities Road.

5:45 p.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury, Savemart Supermarkets on C Street.

5:57 Hit and Run/Non-Injury, Walmart on Twin Cities Road. ★

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Mental Health Rehab Center Lease Approved

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - On April 22, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved a significant step forward in the creation of a new Mental Health Rehabilitation Center for adults.

The board authorized the execution of a 30-year lease agreement and sublease with WellSpace Health for a new facility at 6790 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento. The lease will run from Jan. 1, 2027, through Dec. 31, 2056.

This proposed facility, approximately 24,700 square feet in size, is expected to be completed by Dec. 31, 2026. It will feature a 32-bed, 24-hour residential program designed for individuals 18 years or older living with mental disorders.

The program will provide intensive support and rehabilitative services to help residents develop skills to become self-sufficient, with the hope of increasing levels of independence and developing skills to reintegrate back into society.

WellSpace Health, the nonprofit organization partnering with the county, will manage the facility, ensuring it provides the highest level of care for those in need. The lease agreement ensures the county’s first right of refusal on available beds, allowing for the county to place individuals in need of care directly into the facility.

The \$23.57 million needed for the construction of the Mental Health Rehabilitation Center will come from



The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors authorized the execution of a 30-year lease agreement and sublease with WellSpace Health for a new facility in Sacramento. Image courtesy of Sacramento County

Round three of the State of California’s Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program grant. In addition, the county will provide a required grant match of \$1.98 million, which will come from Sacramento County’s Patient Care Revenue, along with up to \$1.5 million in possible cost overrun funding.

The new facility is an essential part of the county’s commitment to improving mental health services and addressing the growing need for mental health care across the region. By providing a stable and supportive living environment for individuals in recovery, Sacramento County is helping to break down barriers to mental health treatment and support. ★

Galt High School Student Wins Second Place in Regional PSA Competition

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Emilyann Sheldon of Galt High School earned second place in the animation category of the 2025 High School Public Service Announcement (PSA) Competition, hosted by the Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) in partnership with Access Sacramento.

Sheldon’s PSA, “The Biggest Threats Against Your Pipes,” was recognized for its creative and educational approach to raising awareness about proper sewer practices. The annual competition encourages high school students across Sacramento County to produce 30-second animated or live-action videos addressing environmental

issues such as flushing wipes and disposing of medications safely.

More than 30 student teams submitted entries as part of the initiative, which is part of SacSewer’s Confluence Regional Partnership Program. The program aims to promote environmental stewardship through youth engagement and public outreach.

“This competition not only brings visibility to important environmental issues but also gives students a platform to express their ideas and sharpen their storytelling skills,” said Donna Girot, executive director of Access Sacramento.

Winning PSAs, including Sheldon’s, will be broadcast throughout the spring and summer on

Access Sacramento, Metro 14, and the Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium. Encore presentations will air during the “Hometown Game of the Week” high school sports broadcasts later in the year.

2025 PSA Competition – Animation Category Winners:

First Place: “Lu and Mags” by Anh-Thy Le (Franklin High School)

Second Place: “The Biggest Threats Against Your Pipes” by Emilyann Sheldon (Galt High School)

Third Place: “F.O.G. Clog” by Daniel Munoz (Franklin High School)

Honorable Mention: “Drain Therapy” by Daniel Lu (Franklin High School) ★



ABOUT TOWN

Fireworks Vendor Applications Accepted

The City of Galt is accepting applications for organizations that wish to sell fireworks on city property.

Applications for fireworks permits are available in the City Clerk’s Office, 380 Civic Drive; city website, cityofgalt.org, or email clerk@cityofgalt.

All applications and required attachments must be completed and received by the City Clerk’s Office no later than 5 p.m. May 22.

Applicants must be community-based, resident

501(c) (3), (4), (6) or (7) nonprofit organizations promoting and providing services to residents and/or businesses.

The lottery will be held the first Monday of June in the City Clerk’s office and will determine the rank order for placement at the bottom of the master list for those eligible nonprofit organizations not already included in the master list.

Saturday, May 3 Wilton Bingo – The next bingo will be on Saturday, May 3 in the Wilton Community Center. Doors open at 5 p.m. with food available for sale and bingo starts at 6 p.m.

All proceeds go to two non-profits: the local Park Council and the Wilton History Group.

9717 Colony Road, at Dillard Road.

Cosumnes River Preserve Habitat Restoration Day – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.: The Habitat Restoration Team (HRT) is open to anyone 18 or older who wishes to be truly involved with environmental stewardship at the Preserve. HRT assists Preserve staff with focused conservation projects that allow members to experience more of the Preserve and contribute to its success.

To sign up, please

contact the volunteer coordinator at 916-826-0927 or email info@cosumnes.org. *6500 Desmond Road.*

Lodi Comic Con – 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.: The event will feature more than 200 booths of exhibitors and artists, our biggest event ever! A portion of the proceeds will benefit local charities. Information and tickets at: universe.com/events/lo-di-comic-con-spring-saturday-may-10-2025-lo-di-grape-festival-tickets-JHMK4X.

Lodi Grape Festival grounds, 413 E. Lockeford St., Lodi

Saturday, May 10
World Migratory Bird

Day – 9 a.m. to noon: The Cosumnes River Preserve will be hosting a community planting in the City of Galt. Join us in the creation of bird-friendly environments within our man-made communities. More information at 916-684-2816. *Cosumnes River Preserve Visitor Center, 13501 Franklin Blvd.*

Friday, May 16 through Sunday, May 18

Golden State Pinball Festival – The event includes multiple tournaments for adults and kids alike. Proceeds benefit the World of Wonders Science Museum in Lodi.

Parking is free. Tickets at: goldenstatepinball.org/ tournament. *Lodi Grape Festival grounds, 413 E. Lockeford St., Lodi.*

Monday, May 19 Elk Grove Community Concert Band Concert – 7 p.m. at Joseph Kerr Middle School. Christopher J. Tootle is musical director of the band, which includes professional, semi-professional and amateur adult musicians; and talented Elk Grove Unified School District school musicians. The concert is free; doors open at 6:30 p.m. Learn more at elkgrovecommunityband.org. *8865 Elk Grove Blvd.* ★

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Tuna Sandwiches for Mother's Day? Maybe!

According to the National Day Calendar website, World Tuna Day is an annual celebration on May 2 that highlights the importance of managing fish stocks to maintain sustainability.

World Tuna Day encourages proper management, so the world has systems in place to prevent tuna stocks from crashing. More than 96 countries around the world participate in the conservation and management of tuna.

Industry groups have observed May 2 as World Tuna Day since 2017. This is a special day for all who are involved in tuna fishing, tuna conservation and management to celebrate the wonders of tuna.

The tuna industry has an annual value of almost \$10 billion. In fact, approximately 7 million tons of tuna and tuna-like species are landed yearly.

Besides industry use and consumption, overfishing and illegal tuna fishing contribute to a need for monitoring tuna stocks.

Some fun facts: All forms of tuna represent more than one-third of the total fish and seafood segment in the United States, and more than half of the finfish segment;



canned tuna is the second-most popular seafood product in the United States after shrimp; Americans eat about 1 billion pounds of canned and pouched tuna a year, averaging 2.7 pounds of canned tuna per capita; only coffee and sugar exceed canned tuna in sales; and health-wise the omega-3 fatty acids found in tuna are known to promote good heart health by helping to decrease triglycerides in the blood and promote eye and brain health.

Wow! That makes the tuna sandwich I am having for lunch seem pretty special. I am a big fan of tuna. Tuna casserole, cream of tuna on toast, hot tuna melt, or a tuna salad sandwich made with dill pickle, purple onion and romaine lettuce make my day.

And served with ridged potato chips is the cherry on top!

Cinco de Mayo is Monday. It's a day to celebrate the Battle of Puebla, the Mexican army's victory over the French on May 5, 1862. It is considered a holiday of remembrance and celebration of Mexican heritage and culture. And to be clear, it is celebrated more in the United States than Mexico as support for Mexico's victory over the French.

A little payback for the French choosing not to support the Confederacy during the American Civil War. Enjoy some spicy food and a margarita or two to celebrate.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11. Gather the family and celebrate the moms in your family. The grandmas, aunts, moms, pet moms, foster moms, sister moms, etc. You got the picture? That one person in your life that loves you unconditionally, who you can tell anything and they will still love you, who celebrates your victories and consoles you when you are sad.

Mother's Day may only come once a year and should be celebrated showing

the love and appreciation you have for them.

However, don't stop at one day; moms should be celebrated every day: to the moon and back.

Another set of dates that should be on your radar: May 22-26. The dates of the "Cowboy Boots and Fair Roots" Sacramento County Fair. Our FFA and 4-H students have the opportunity to exhibit the projects they have been working on this past year. Photography, gardening, baking, leather work, rabbits, calves, lambs, poultry, eggs, cattle, dairy, goats, horses, etc. will be judged and put on display. Please show your support by attending the fair.

And remember there will be fair food to eat. YUM! Footlong corndogs, deep-fried vegetables, funnel cakes, spiced corn on the cob, cinnamon rolls, mini donuts, caramel apples, cotton candy, shaved ice ... I could go on and on, but I'll stop. I am making myself hungry and the fair is still three weeks away. Maybe I will see you there at the fair.

Until next week – Be strong, be courageous, make a memory. ★

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6. Pro football org.

9. Tea servings

13. Relating to axis

14. Gerishwin or Levin

15. Break of day

16. Repeat, in music

17. Red Cross bed

18. Arm bones

19. *Mother _____, personification of physical world

21. *Mother _____, fictional dog owner

23. Opposite of hence

24. Sleeveless garment

25. Money source

28. Golfer's destination

30. Pass, as time

35. "Metamorphoses" poet

37. *The Beatles: "Mother _____ comes to me"

39. "The Goldbergs" sibling

40. Unacceptable, to a baby

41. Alpine singing

43. Resembling wings

44. Fill with optimism

46. Fill to satisfaction

47. Orion's _____

48. Like funeral atmosphere

50. Lice eggs

52. Morse code dash

53. Remainder of a cigarette

55. Before skip and a jump

57. *Mother of _____, a.k.a. Daenerys Targaryen

61. *Mother _____, Missionaries of Charity founder

64. Pass

65. Stir or fuss

67. Add together

69. Anomie, alt. sp.

70. Decompose

71. Very angry

72. Puppy sounds

73. "_____ no evil, hear no evil"

74. Tennis-affected joint

DOWN

1. Took place

2. Yoked team

3. Capital of Latvia

4. Kind of ray

5. Cast-off skin

6. French Riviera city

7. "To" follower

8. Wood turning device

9. Tulip starter

10. Leo's Karenina

11. _____ gum, food additive

12. Put metal to the pedal, p.t.

15. Difficult to detect

20. With ample space

22. Employ

24. Green and lush, as in trees

25. *Mother _____, investigative journalism nonprofit

26. Convex molding

27. Twofold

29. Cambodia's neighbor

31. A in UAE

32. Heaped

33. Famous Teatro alla _____

34. *Mother _____, personification of planet

36. Shower with affection

38. Abominable snowman

42. River in Hades

45. Personify

49. *Mother Superior is the head one at the convent

51. Foray

54. Former Russian leaders

56. *Mother of _____, a.k.a. nacre

57. June 6, 1944

58. Raja's wife

59. On the surface

60. Emeralds and rubies

61. Carrying bag

62. Hunk of something

63. Lowest female singing voice

66. Female forest ruminant

68. Archery bow wood

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Sacramento Zoo Welcomes Two Clouded Leopards

Sacramento Zoo News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Zoo announced the arrival of two clouded leopards, Serai and Rajasi, on April 17.

The pair is settling in and can be spotted in their new habitat next to the capybaras at the Big Cat Row exhibit. In the next few weeks, they will alternate time in their habitat, getting some solo time to learn the new space.

Clouded leopards cannot roar like a large cat but they can make a “purr” sound, similar to (but not exactly like) a small cat. They have the longest tail and longest canine teeth in relation to their body size of any cat species. They have special ankle bones that allow them to rotate their ankles backward, allowing them to climb headfirst down a tree and even hang on upside down to the underside of a branch.

Globally, populations are declining, mostly due to habitat loss. Unfortunately, clouded leopards are also still hunted and



The Sacramento Zoo announces the arrival of two clouded leopards, Serai and Rajasi. The pair is settling in and can be spotted in their new habitat next to the capybaras at the Big Cat Row exhibit. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Zoo



The Sacramento Zoo partners with the Clouded Leopard Working Group to provide funding for their important conservation work. Photo courtesy of Sacramento Zoo

killed for their unique pelts and they are occasionally killed when caught in snares.

The Sacramento Zoo partners with the Clouded Leopard Working Group to provide funding for their important conservation work. Conservation efforts for the clouded leopard are focused on education for the human communities that live in their region, providing resources that allow humans to coexist with these cats and protecting the habitat of the clouded leopard so that it cannot be destroyed.

The Sacramento Zoo is home to more than 300 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The zoo inspires conservation awareness and action through exceptional animal care, education and recreation, and it welcomes an average of 500,000 visitors a year.

The zoo is at 3930 West Land Park Drive, Sacramento. For more information, go online to saczoo.org, email info@saczoo.org or call 916-808-5888. ★

Sacramento Leads with Automated Bike Lane Enforcement Technology

Sacramento Regional Transit News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The City of Sacramento and Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) are partnering to launch automated bike lane enforcement, making Sacramento the first city in California and in the United States to enforce bike lanes using technology installed on transit buses.

This initiative expands upon SacRT’s automated bus stop enforcement program, which currently equips 100 SacRT buses with camera systems to identify and report vehicles illegally parked along bus stops. Now, that same technology will also target illegal parking in bike lanes, a move by the City of Sacramento to protect vulnerable road users and improve roadway safety citywide.

When vehicles park illegally in bike lanes, cyclists are forced into traffic, putting them at greater risk of serious injury or worse. By keeping bike lanes clear, this program enhances safety and predictability for everyone on the road, whether they are walking, biking, driving or riding transit.

One-hundred SacRT buses are equipped with front-facing cameras powered by machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) from Hayden AI. These cameras detect and record instances of illegal parking in Sacramento bus stops and bike lanes. When a violation occurs, the system captures a short video and a photo of the vehicle’s license plate, and the exact time and location of the incident. This information is then sent to the City of Sacramento for review and violation processing.



When vehicles park illegally in bike lanes, cyclists are forced into traffic, putting them at greater risk of serious injury or worse. Image by Mircea Iancu from Pixabay

As of April 14, drivers illegally parked in Sacramento bike lanes receive warning notices in the mail. Violations with an accompanying fine will be

issued, starting June 13.

This program is made possible by Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), which authorizes California cities to use forward-facing cameras for enforcing parking violations in bike lanes and transit zones, a vital legislative step toward making streets safer for everyone.

“We’re proud to be the first city in the country to use this technology to help keep our bike lanes clear,” said Staci Hovermale, parking services manager for the City of Sacramento. “This tool helps us enforce existing parking rules more effectively, improving safety for cyclists and ensuring everyone shares the road responsibly.”

Said SacRT General Manager/Chief Executive Officer Henry Li, “Keeping bike lanes clear is an important part of making

Sacramento a place where everyone can thrive. This program will help improve safety and travel times for everyone on Sacramento roads, no matter how you travel around.”

California-based Hayden AI is providing the automated bus stop and bike lane enforcement camera systems for SacRT buses and Duncan Solutions is providing the violation processing software. All evidence packages of parking violations detected by the camera systems are reviewed and ultimately approved or rejected by City of Sacramento parking enforcement officers.

“We’re honored to support Sacramento in leading the way for bike lane safety,” said Lisa Schule, executive chairwoman of Hayden AI. “Using AI technology to protect bike lanes is a transformative shift for urban mobility and safety.” ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-02337
Michelle Kiel and Kevin Kiel, 10374 Twin Cities Road, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Little Ferns Child Development Center, LP" 10374 Twin Cities Road, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 25, 2025
Publish: April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2025
FERNS 5-2-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-02152
Socheat Khun and Na Sona Kea, 13260 Alta Mesa Road, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s)

"Alta Mesa Jujube Farm" 13260 Alta Mesa Road, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 20, 2025
Publish: April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2025
JUJUBE 5-2-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-02240
Esperanza Pevehouse and Kennedy Johnson, 305 4th Street, Unit B, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Color Wheel" 305 4th Street, Unit B, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County March 21, 2025
Publish: April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2025
COLOR 5-9-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-02854

Pauline To Lee, 12660 Arabian Lane, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "PJ's Farmhouse" 12660 Arabian Lane, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 14, 2025
Publish: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2025
PJ 5-16-25

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CHANGE OF NAME #25CV009370

Vanessa Espinoza and Ivan de Jesus Avalos has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of

Edgar Avalos Espinoza to Edgar Espinoza.
IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on August 14, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: April 21, 2025
Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025
ESPINOZA 5-23-25

TRUSTEE SALE

T.S. No. 131645-CA APN: 148-0330-031-0000 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 10/13/2017. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 5/29/2025 at 1:30 PM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 10/18/2017 as Instrument No. 201710181088 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Sacramento County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: KATHLEEN MARIE ESMOND, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; OUTSIDE THE EAST MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 720 9TH ST., SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 135 SUNSHINE DRIVE, GALT, CA 95632 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness

of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$234,700.76 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be

made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 313-3319 or visit this Internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 131645-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 131645-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (855) 313-3319 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108
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GALT HERALD 5-2-25

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MPG

LOCAL SPORTS
→ COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Warriors Put Up Strong Fight in Close Union Mine Contest

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - In an exhilarating matchup on Thursday, April 24, the Galt High baseball team showed resilience and determination against Union Mine, bouncing back from a tough loss earlier in the week to the Diamondbacks. Though the Warriors fell short with a final score of 6-4, the game was a testament to the team's fighting spirit.

Union Mine came out swinging, establishing its dominance early by scoring four runs in the first inning. However, Galt quickly responded, matching the Diamondbacks with a run of their own in the second inning, showing that the Warriors wouldn't back down easily.

Both teams entered a stalemate during the third and fourth innings, with neither side able to capitalize on scoring opportunities. As the game progressed into the later innings, Galt found its rhythm, scoring two runs in the fifth to narrow the gap. Despite the Diamondbacks adding another run in the sixth, the Warriors kept the pressure on, threatening to take control with a bases-loaded situation in the seventh inning.

With Union Mine on its fourth pitcher of the evening, tension mounted as Galt's chances for a comeback hung in the



Anthony Garcia fields a ball.



Michael Perucci is safe at third.

balance. Unfortunately, a final strikeout dashed the Warriors' hopes, leaving three runners stranded on base and sealing the 6-4 victory for Union Mine.

Nick Reid was a standout for the Warriors, taking on the lion's share of pitching duties. He delivered a strong performance,

pitching six innings, striking out six batters and walking four. Gianni Sterni stepped in for the final inning, striking out one and walking two, showcasing the depth of talent on the mound for Galt.

Offensively, Reid also made his mark with two hits, joined by Carlo

Sterni, who contributed a solid performance as well. James Gilbert, Michael Perucca, Cash Myrick and Jared Russell each added a hit, with Reid, Perucca, Myrick and Gianni Sterni crossing home plate to score for the Warriors.

During the game, head coach Mike Tassano



Gianni Sterni fields a ball on the run and throws to first.



Cash Myrick runs to second.



Carlo Sterni gets the forced out at second.

encouraged his team to embrace the experience, reminding them to relax and enjoy the game while maintaining focus on every play. His leadership and wisdom continue to guide

the Warriors. It has been a tough season for the Warriors but their fighting spirit is evident. Their season will end Thursday, May 1 when they play Liberty Ranch. ★

Hawks Stunt League Champs Eye Sectionals

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Liberty Ranch High School's stunt team soared to league champion once again after securing an impressive victory against crosstown rivals Galt High School in their final league match, with a commanding score of 22 to 1. This win not only capped an undefeated league season but solidified the Hawks' long-standing dominance in stunt cheerleading, a sport they have excelled in for nearly as many years as it has existed.

The Hawks showcased their prowess throughout the league, overcoming formidable opponents including El Dorado, Argonaut and Bradshaw Christian, culminating in a perfect record this year. Under the careful guidance of Head Coach Barbara Welch and her dedicated coaching staff, the team has refined its routines and strategies, positioning itself as a formidable contender for the section tournament.

This year's section tournament is divided into two divisions, with Liberty Ranch competing in Division Two alongside 16 other teams. The Hawks are seated at fourth place and will face tough competition as they aim to advance past Roseville, Lincoln and top-seeded Twelve Bridges to chase the title of section champions.

Coach Welch praised the hard work and commitment of her athletes, saying, "Every practice is focused on fine-tuning our



Liberty Ranch and Galt High compete with triple toe-touch baskets. Photos courtesy of Tais Richardson



Liberty Ranch performs its kick release.



Liberty's Sofia Richardson pulls a heel stretch.

routines and enhancing our skills. This team is not only talented but also understands the importance of teamwork and dedication, which makes us a force to reckon with."

Meanwhile, Galt High School, under the leadership of new coach Emmary Buys, had a successful season, finishing in third place in the league and maintaining a playoff contender position. The Warriors achieved victories over El Dorado (9-2) and Argonaut (9-8) though they faced

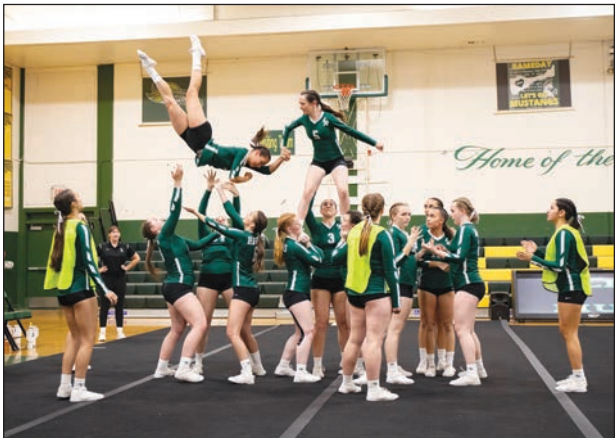
setbacks against Bradshaw (1-19) and Liberty Ranch, the latter confirming their third-place standing.

"This was a building year for us," Coach Buys reflected. "We focused on the fundamentals and teaching our athletes what they're truly capable of. The progress they've made this year, moving from levels 1 and 2 to partner stunts at levels 4 and 5, as well as pyramids at level 4, is remarkable."

The Warriors entered the playoffs on Monday

night to face Roseville, but their journey ended there. Meanwhile, Liberty Ranch will kick off its playoff journey on Tuesday, with the final rounds set to take place on Saturday at Galt High School gymnasium.

With a chance to secure their place as section champions, the Hawks are poised to make their mark in the tournament. Both programs reflect the heart and determination of their athletes as they navigate this exciting emerging sport. ★



The Hawks attempt a Twisting Baja in Pyramid 6.



Galt High steps high with a kick release.



Galt flyers tum and prepare to post a liberty.

LOCAL SPORTS
→ COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Liberty Ranch Hawks Soar to Victory Over Argonaut, Clinch League Title

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Last Friday night, excitement and tension filled the air at the Galt softball complex as the Liberty Ranch Hawks took to the field against the Argonaut Mustangs for a critical matchup that could decide the league title. With a standing-room-only crowd cheering loudly in support, the stakes were high and the atmosphere was electric.

The Hawks, having previously edged Argonaut 2-1 earlier in the season, knew they were up against a formidable opponent. The last time Liberty secured the league title was in 2022, and after two consecutive years of finishing second, the players were eager to reclaim their championship status.

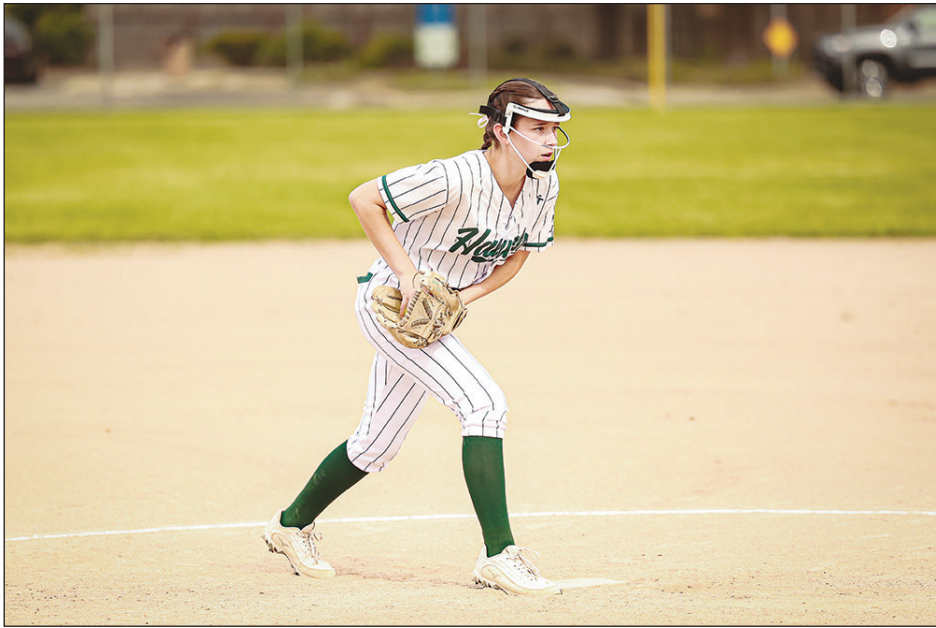
As the game unfolded, the Hawks showcased their offensive prowess, pulling ahead in the second inning with an impressive three-run rally that energized the crowd. Despite Liberty's strong start, the Mustangs retaliated fiercely throughout the game, threatening to equalize as they repeatedly found themselves with players on base.

Argonaut filled the bases several times, posing a significant challenge to the Hawks' defense. However, Liberty's fielders rose to the occasion, shutting down their opponents' attempts to score, with each strike, catch and throw a testament to their commitment and teamwork.

"In those intense moments, I could feel the energy shift in our favor," said junior pitcher Laura Quinn, who handled the mound duties throughout the game. "We practiced hard for this, and we all trusted each other to play our roles and do our jobs."

As the game progressed into the seventh inning, the Mustangs managed to push one run across the plate, increasing the pressure on the Hawks.

With eight hits on the day, Argonaut had the bases loaded and two outs, a situation



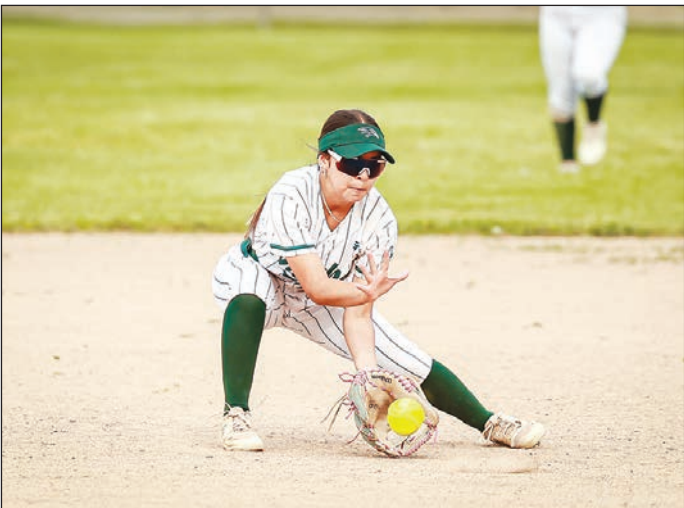
Laura Quinn takes the mound for the Hawks.



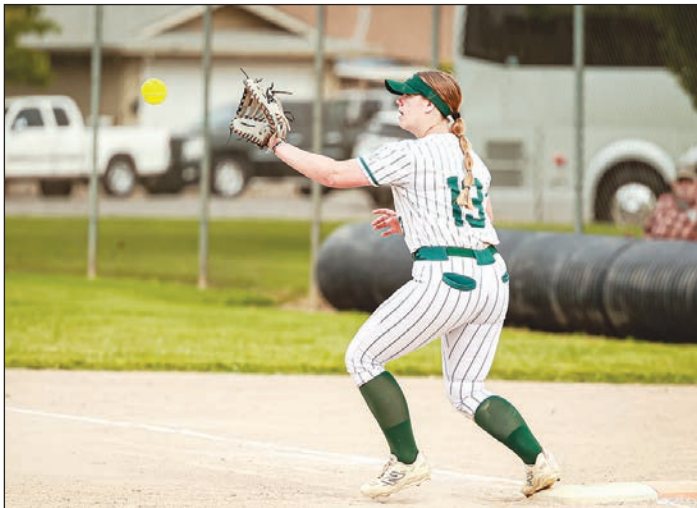
Kaitlynn Castro runs in from the outfield to catch a fly.



Freshman Mariella Granata bunts.



Shortstop Khali Barrantes fields a grounder and throws for the out.



Carlie Perez gets an Argonaut batter out at first.

that could have easily turned the tide in their favor.

But Quinn remained composed, delivering one final pitch that resulted in a pop-up infield fly, expertly snatched by Khali Barrantes, and sealing the victory for Liberty Ranch.

Head Coach Vince Bunac couldn't hide his excitement after the game.

"I'm so incredibly proud of these girls and the camaraderie they've shown all season long. They've worked so hard, and it all came together when it mattered most," he said with a beaming smile. "This victory means a lot, not just for this year but for the culture we're building here at Liberty Ranch."

With the final score resting at 3-1, the

Hawks celebrated their hard-fought triumph, officially clinching the league title and solidifying their status as one of the top teams in the region.

Supported by their fans and fueled by determination, Liberty Ranch is now poised to carry this momentum into the upcoming playoffs, aiming for greater heights on their quest for a section title. ★



Galt's Mary-Kate Miller gets herself out of a pickle.



Adelle Werdon hits the ball that sends two teammates home.

Galt High Softball Teams Split the Day

Story and photos
by Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Friday proved to be an eventful day for Galt High School's softball program as both the varsity and junior varsity teams took to the field, showcasing their skills and determination in separate matches.

The varsity squad traveled to El Dorado and made a strong impression, securing their second league victory of the season with an impressive 13-3 win.

The team demonstrated solid pitching and hitting throughout the game, displaying their growth and

resilience as they continue their pursuit to improve their skills.

Back in town, the junior varsity team engaged in an electrifying matchup against Tracy High School. The game was a back-and-forth battle, with both teams exhibiting great offense and teamwork. Fans filled the stands, cheering enthusiastically for their teams, creating an electric atmosphere in the complex. Although the JV game was not a league match, the excitement on the field resonated with the crowd, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

The scores from the junior varsity game have

not yet been posted on MaxPreps, but the sense of camaraderie and passion

shown by the players underscored the spirit of Galt High softball. ★

Hawk Tennis Celebrates Seniors



Liberty Ranch seniors Michael Schroeder, Raj Pillay, Kailee Solon Keefer, James Briggs and Summer McCoy are honored at their last home game. Photo Courtesy of Anngela Schroeder

GALT HERALD ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Khali Barrantes
Liberty Ranch Softball



Hunter Rohner
Liberty Ranch Golf



Madison McDonald
Galt High Swim



Michael Perucca
Galt High Baseball