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THE NEWS

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VOLUME 44 • ISSUE 28

Serving Rio Linda, Elverta and Sacramento County

JULY 11, 2025

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Bible Quizzers Qualify for Nationals



The Junior Bible Quizzing National Tournament will be held in Branson, Missouri from July 13 to July 18 and the Senior Bible Quizzing National Tournament will be held in St. Louis, Kentucky from July 18 to July 22. Photo courtesy of Higher Ground Apostolic Church

**Higher Ground
Apostolic Church
News Release**

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - The Rio Linda Bible Quizzing teams have qualified for the National Bible Quizzing Tournament this month.

Children from Higher Ground Apostolic Church, ranging in age from 5 years old to 18 years old competed in several district and regional tournaments beginning last January.

For the 2025 season, Rio Linda has more quizzers than before. There are



For the 2025 season, Rio Linda currently has more quizzers than ever before, featuring five teams in four different divisions. Photo courtesy of Higher Ground Apostolic Church

currently five teams in four different divisions. Out of the five Rio Linda teams that competed this year, three have qualified for the national tournament.

But what is Bible Quizzing?

United Pentecostal Church (UPC) Bible Quizzing is a dynamic and impactful program that combines spiritual growth, mental discipline and friendly competition. It offers participants the opportunity to engage deeply with the Word of God, build camaraderie

Continued on page 2

Del Paso Manor Water District Reorganized

Sacramento Suburban Water District News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - As of June 30, the reorganization of Del Paso Manor Water District (DPMWD) into Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) is complete.

This marks the official transition of Del Paso Manor Water District into the newly-designated Del Paso Manor Service Area (DPMSA) within the Sacramento Suburban Water District.

The reorganization marks the conclusion of a multi-year effort to improve long-term financial stability and reliable water service for Del Paso Manor Water District's ratepayers without burdening current Sacramento Suburban Water District customers with the costs associated with necessary improvements to the Del Paso Manor Service Area facilities.

"We're proud to welcome Del Paso Manor customers into the SSWD community," said Sacramento Suburban Water District General Manager Dan York. "Our top priority is strengthening the area's water infrastructure to support safe, reliable water service at an affordable rate. As we move forward, we're committed to providing the DPMSA customers with new tools, additional resources and responsive support throughout the transition and into the future."

Del Paso Manor customers can expect billing system integration starting this month. Del Paso Manor Service Area customers should mail payments to P.O. Box 1420, Suisun City, CA 94585-4420. Checks should be made payable to Sacramento Suburban Water District. Online billing and new Sacramento Suburban Water District account numbers will go into effect in September.

The Sacramento Suburban Water District Preventive Maintenance Team has begun inspecting infrastructure in the Del Paso Manor Service Area, including fire hydrants and valves, and is collecting GIS data to improve long-term system reliability and emergency response.

The Del Paso Manor Service Area will continue to have local input through a new advisory committee, composed of former Del Paso Manor Water District board members.

The former Del Paso Manor Water District office

Continued on page 3

Handmade, Locally Sourced at Market and Peddler's Fair



Individuals converse with vendors about items and the community at the Rio Linda Farmer's Market and Peddler's Fair on July 3 at Depot Park.

**Story and photos
by Seth Henderson**

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) -Local produce, freeze dried goods, tie-dye apparel and other hand made goods were some of the items available at the Rio Linda Farmer's Market and Peddler's Fair from 5 p.m.

to dusk July 3 at Depot Park.

Fair participants browsed and shopped at more than 10 vendors' spaces, including Sacramento Snoshack, which had a trailer serving flavored snow cones. Home-baked goods, jams and jellies were available to sample and purchase.

Another vendor featured an assortment of specialty crystals, gems and rocks, featuring shapes such as skulls, tiki themes, elephants, frogs and turtles.

Eleven-year-old Rio Linda resident Virginia Broyles was selling multiple items she crocheted by hand, including hats,

bracelets, key chains and bags, among other apparel and accessories.

"All of this stuff was made in about a year, so I've been crocheting for six to five years because my aunt taught me," Virginia said. "She showed me the basics. I kept doing that

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Bible Quizzers Qualify for Nationals

Continued from page 1

and develop important life skills. Bible quizzing fosters a love for Scripture while challenging quizzers to memorize and understand the Bible in ways that are both profound and fun.

At its core, Bible quizzing is a program designed to help young people (typically ages 5 to 18) memorize, study and apply the Scriptures. The program is based on competitive quizzes, where participants or quizzers are asked a series of questions related to a designated portion of the Bible.

Each year, Bible quizzers focus on a specific set of Scriptures. These could be entire books of the Bible, key chapters or significant passages. Some years focus on the New Testament, while others focus on the Old Testament. This year's focus was the four gospels detailing the birth and life of Jesus.

Bible quizzing competitions are structured in a team format. Typically, teams consist of three to five quizzers, who



Children from Higher Ground Apostolic Church, ranging in age from 5 years old to 18 years old, competed in several district and regional tournaments beginning last January. Photo courtesy of Higher Ground Apostolic Church

are often grouped based on age or experience level. Teams are given questions based on the Bible passage they studied and the quizmaster reads questions aloud. Quizzers answer questions by "buzzing" in with their responses and the first quizzer to buzz can

answer. Correct answers earn points, while incorrect answers can result in a deduction of points for the team. The goal is to accumulate as many points as possible by answering questions accurately and swiftly.

United Pentecostal Church Bible Quizzing is

much more than a competition. It is a powerful tool for spiritual growth, intellectual development, and community building. The program offers youth the opportunity to immerse themselves in Scripture, form lasting friendships and build skills that will benefit them

throughout their lives. By participating in Bible quizzing, quizzers don't just memorize Bible verses but they embrace a journey of spiritual transformation and lifelong learning.

The Junior Bible Quizzing National Tournament will be held in Branson, Missouri from

July 13 to July 18 and the Senior Bible Quizzing National Tournament will be held in St. Louis, Kentucky from July 18 to July 22.

If you would like to support the Bible Quizzing teams, send any donations via Venmo to Bible-Quizzing-HG. ★

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Del Paso Manor Water District Reorganized

Continued from page 1

at 1817 Maryal Drive remains open with limited hours (10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mondays through Fridays) until Sept. 15, when it will permanently close. Customers are invited to begin using the Sacramento Suburban Water District Customer Service Department at 3701 Marconi Ave. for billing assistance and any other questions related to the operations of Sacramento Suburban Water District or Del Paso Manor Service Area.

Del Paso Manor Service Area customers are now eligible for a variety of Sacramento Suburban Water District services, including rebates for high-efficiency toilets, sprinkler timers and irrigation upgrades, and free Water-Wise House Calls to help save water at home.

Sacramento Suburban Water District is committed to keeping Del Paso Manor Service Area customers informed throughout the transition and beyond. Customers will continue to receive regular updates through bill inserts, social media and other outreach avenues, and can find the latest information at sswd.org.

To celebrate this new chapter, Sacramento Suburban Water District invites customers to a special Welcome Event from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 31 at Del Paso Manor Elementary School, 2700 Maryal Drive, Sacramento.

This casual, open-house-style event is an opportunity for customers to meet Sacramento Suburban Water District staff and board members, ask questions, and learn more about services and upcoming projects in the Del Paso Manor Service Area.

The evening will include a brief welcome video and remarks from Sacramento Suburban Water District leadership

Informational stations on customer service, billing, conservation programs, water meters, finance and Capital Improvement Projects. There will also be an opportunity to meet the new advisory committee and a raffle entry for a free smart sprinkler timer.

All community members are welcome to attend and light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, visit sswd.org. ★



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Handmade, Locally Sourced at Market and Peddler’s Fair

Continued from page 1

for years and then I started making tiny, tiny bags and then started selling those for a dollar a piece for about one year.”

Virginia said she went from making tiny bags to learning how to make them larger with thicker carrying straps and had a few of them for sale at the fair. Virginia said her mother asked her to make small baby hats and she looked to some of her previously unfinished designs, resulting in a plethora of hats she also had for sale.

Virginia had more than 20 handmade items for sale on July 3 and said she has sold about \$60 worth of crocheted items between the fair and school. Virginia said she is starting to make little flowers, drink coasters and “little whales.”

David Oropeza, a 67-year-old Antelope resident, said that Virginia made him an over-the-shoulder pouch. Oropeza said he has also bought individually-beaded Indian jewelry that is “one of a kind” at the fair.

“Everybody who comes here is friendly, helpful, reasonable and Charlea (Moore), who puts on this and is one of the caretakers of this place, is a wonderful person,” Oropeza said. “Rio Linda is just a nice place to come and we’re having beautiful weather for all of this.”

Nicole Muzyka and her mother, Kim Miller had a booth selling apparel for their brand Pokey Toes Apparel. Muzyka said that she and her mother hand-make all the items, which include dog bandanas, dog accessories, soaps, lotions, key chains, embroideries and an array of other items.

Muzyka said that they have been selling custom handmade items for the past few years from their online Etsy shop and locally through venues such as the fair. Items from their Etsy website include potholders, hanging towels and other kitchen accessories.

Meghan Carlsen, owner and founder of Beastly Freeze Dried Foods, 43, said she brought freeze



Locally grown produce is sold to a customer attending the Rio Linda Farmer’s Market and Peddler’s Fair on July 3 at Depot Park.

dried fruits, vegetables, herbs, candy and baked goods, trying to bring freeze-dried awareness to the community.

“We’ve got onions that you can cook with on a daily basis, garlic, apples that you can just snack on,” Carlsen said. “There’s people around here that just pick them up for their horses and feed them to their horses because the freeze-drying process really locks in 99 percent of the nutrients and it removes 99 percent of the water, so you’ve got a shelf stable, just full of flavor and nutrient packed bite.”

Carlsen said she has been in the business of freeze drying for about a year and a half. Carlsen said that her products can be found at the San Juan Club, the Cedar Room or Scotty’s Hideaway, as well as their e-commerce site at beastlyfreeze-dried.com. Carlsen said individuals looking to preserve their harvest should reach out to her.

A project that Carlsen said she is working on is creating a produce slurry for an agrotech company to ensure its encapsulation process works properly because the agrotech company’s product preserves harvested fruit.

Sixty-six-year-old Alfred Caesar, the owner and operator of Caesar’s Scissors, had handmade, custom licensed merchandise, ranging from Disney products to major

league sports. Some of his products included cooking aprons, pillows and kitchen towels.

Caesar said he has been selling his merchandise at the fair for the past three years.

“I just decided to start doing something to keep me busy,” Caesar said. “My wife and I used to do this together and after she passed away, I kept doing it and it gives me something to do with my time.”

Caesar said he participates in numerous events around Rio Linda, including the farmer’s market and the Rio Linda Elverta Country Fair. He said it gives him an opportunity to sit in the park, talk to people, have fun and walk away with a little bit of money.

Some vendors at the farmer’s market accepted contactless payment, such as Venmo and Apple Pay. Depot Park is located at 6730 Front St. in Rio Linda and the fair takes place from 5 p.m. to dusk every Thursday.

According to a flier for the farmer’s market and peddler’s fair, food trucks and musicians are wanted to cater and perform at the event. A 10-foot-by-10-foot space at the event is free and more information can be obtained from the event’s organizer, Charlea Moore, whose contact information is 916-275-3275 by phone and charhorseranch@aol.com by email. ★

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Senate Bill 54 the So Called Values Act



By John McGinness

Much attention has been directed at immigration enforcement in California this year. Donald Trump made several campaign promises in his 2024 presidential campaign. Chief among those were commitments to improve the economy (reduce inflation) and enforce the existing immigration laws. He even went so far as to suggest the possibility of mass deportations. The result of his clearly expressed promises was a decisive win on November 5, 2024. In fact, to the surprise of many, Donald Trump not only prevailed in the electoral college, he won the popular vote and became the forty-seventh president of the United States. Among the first actions of the new president was the appointment of a no-nonsense border czar, Tom Homan who has been unequivocal in his commitment to relentlessly enforce immigration laws in this country. The United States of America is often referred to as a democracy, when in fact, it is a constitutional republic. However, the method through which we elect candidates for office is through a democratic process. In the case of President Donald Trump, the

voters spoke clearly through the democratic process and chose the candidate who committed to strict immigration enforcement. That development put the state of California, and other blue states at odds with the new administration and the will of most Americans, as evidenced by the 2024 election outcome. To develop a better understanding of how California got where it is today, we revisit history. In 2017 the California Legislature passed Senate Bill 54, the so-called Values Act which prohibited the practice of state and local law enforcement officers from interacting with personnel from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This action by the legislature was taken without voter approval and against vocal opposition from law enforcement executives and rank and file law enforcement practitioners. It was signed into law by Governor Edmond G Brown, Jr and became law on January 1, 2018. Prior to that time, ICE personnel regularly visited, and in many cases were stationed in, major jails throughout the state of California for the purpose of monitoring the immigration status of criminal suspects booked into the facilities. That practice allowed for the peaceful transfer of jurisdiction from California peace officers - to immigration enforcement personnel. Additionally, when ICE had identified a person that was wanted and subject to arrest under their jurisdiction, they would routinely contact local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of ensuring local police were aware of the presence of armed plain clothes personnel engaged in dynamic law enforcement operations. That course of action ensured effective communication

in the spirit of maximum public and officer safety. Senate Bill 54 outlawed each of those practices, foreseeably increasing the risk to the public, law enforcement personnel and even the suspects themselves. It is impossible to imagine a safer environment in which to effectuate the arrest of a criminal suspect than simply transferring that person from the jurisdiction of one law enforcement agency to another within the confines of a secure jail, a setting in which no one is armed, and escape is virtually impossible. Similarly, the capture of a fugitive with the presence of uniformed law enforcement personnel present in marked patrol cars, with ready communication capabilities with their federal colleagues, facilitated optimum elements for a safe outcome. Nonetheless, the California legislature and governors, past and present, embraced this extraordinarily ill-conceived law and in so doing, hampered the safety of legitimate, statutorily, and constitutionally sanctioned law enforcement operations. Effective January 1, 2018. ICE personnel were removed from the jails forthwith. No communication between and among state and local law enforcement personnel could take place. This eliminated the potential of an illegal immigrant with an egregiously violent criminal history, freshly arrested for a violation of state law to be properly referred to ICE. For those of us who closely watch the actions of the California legislature, there was specific frustration with this course of conduct. Because the US Constitution (Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4) clearly delegates immigration enforcement power to the

Federal Government, preventing individual states from having their own processes for naturalization. Additionally, the US Supreme Court decided in Arizona v United States (2012), that immigration enforcement and naturalization is the sole prevue of the federal government. In addition to the Constitutionally enumerated duty of the federal government to enforce immigration law, the U.S. Congress has codified specific laws in statute, i.e.: 8 U.S.C.1325 which makes it a crime for an alien to enter or even attempt to enter the U.S. at a time or place not designated by immigration officials, or to elude inspection. It is a misdemeanor for the first offense, but it can become a felony if the person has been previously deported and re-enters without authorization, or if that person commits other violations of law. Congress has also funded ICE, and the Executive Branch has given clear direction to personnel in ICE to enforce the law. The foregoing represents the law of the land in the United States of America in 2025. A person with a modicum of sixth-grade civics knowledge should understand that if there is dissatisfaction with the law, there are means by which laws can be changed. However, the notion of duly elected members of the legislative and executive branch of any state government simply and overtly defying the law is unconscionable. The common refrain from Governor Newsom includes an assertion that the actions of the federal government in immigration law enforcement is a denial of democracy. Every Californian should know that federal immigration personnel enforcing the laws created and funded by a duly

elected Congress, and directed by the Executive Branch of the government, in a manner consistent with the language expressed in the U.S. Constitution, is the essence of democracy. Citizens who oppose the law have a right and arguably a duty to endeavor to change the law. Defiance of the law is not the answer. Apropos of nothing above, but consistent with Governor Newsom’s lack of understanding or willful defiance of the fundamentals of democracy is evidenced by another development of last November’s election, Proposition 36. Nearly seventy percent of the California electorate passed Proposition 36; it passed in each of the very diverse fifty-eight counties in California. A significant portion of that proposition was the demand for treatment of chronic drug offenders. The people spoke clearly through that democratic act. Yet, Governor Newsom refuses to ensure funding for that critical treatment. It appears Governor Newsom is resistant democracy when he does not like the decisions of the voters. To be clear, there is room for improvement on both sides of the divide. Constitutional officers should never waiver from their oath to the Constitution, and dignified communication facilitates the optimal outcomes. Perhaps we heed President Abraham Lincoln and invoke our *Better Angels*. California and the nation deserve better. *John McGinness, MS is the retired sheriff of Sacramento County, an adjunct professor of criminal justice and host of the John McGinness Show on KFBK. He can be reached at 916-924-3901 or at john.jpm.solutions@gmailcom.* ★

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Academic, Career Outcomes Program for Asian American Students

**By Cynthia Hubert
of California State University,
Sacramento**

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Sacramento State will soon launch a pilot program designed to serve as a model for improving academic and career outcomes for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students.

The pilot program follows the University’s designation by the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs as the state’s first Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI)-Serving Institution.

The commission will provide seed funding for the project, which the University will administer beginning this fall.

The pilot program will add to Sac State’s already robust student support system, which includes an Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Student Center. The University is also a federally designated Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

“This (program) is a testament to our commitment as an AANHPI institution. It will allow us to expand upon the great work we already are doing and allow Sac State to serve as a model for other institutions,” said Chao Vang, the assistant vice president



Sacramento State will launch a pilot program this fall to support Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) students, funded by the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs, following the University’s designation as the state’s first AANHPI-Serving Institution. Photo courtesy of Chao Vang

for Educational Equity Programs and Student Success.

About 7,000 of Sac State’s more than 31,000 students identify as Asian American, said Vang. Roughly half of those students are members of groups that traditionally have been underserved in higher education, including Native Hawaiians, Southeast Asians, and Southwest Asian North Africans (SWANA), Vang said.

Sac State is the first university in California to be awarded a pilot program to specifically serve this diverse group of students, administrators said.

“This partnership demonstrates our commitment to foster an ecosystem of academic excellence in

advancing equity, retention and outcomes for Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander, Southeast Asian, and North African students,” said Aniesha Mitchell, Sac State’s vice president for student affairs.

The pilot project will focus on three areas that Sac State has identified as most pressing for those students: career development, mental health and academic tutoring.

“This (program) is a testament to our commitment as an AANHPI institution,” said Vang. “It will allow us to expand upon the great work we already are doing and allow Sac State to serve as a model for other institutions.”

For the academic portion of the

program, Sac State will identify courses that have high failure or dropout rates among the targeted student groups, then provide culturally appropriate tutoring to those who are struggling, Vang said.

Student tutors will be trained to teach with cultural differences in mind to make learning more relevant to the lives and experiences of participants, he said.

“In some cultures, letting people know that you need help with your mental health is taboo,” Vang said. “We want to offer a culturally affirming approach to mental health awareness,” including marketing campaigns that feature Asian Americans, as well as peer counselors to help members of the target groups seek services.

For the mental health part of the project, the campus will launch a yearlong campaign encouraging all students, but especially members of the target groups, to seek help if they are feeling depressed, anxious or overwhelmed.

“We hope that students will then go home and have conversations about mental health with family members,” Vang said.

The third portion of the new project aims to help students succeed in the professional world by sharpening skills such as building a resume and interviewing for a job.

“We will give them access to working professionals who have shared cultural experiences and can help guide them,” said Vang.

The project’s overall goal is to ensure that SWANA, ANHPI and Southeast Asian students earn their college degrees and gain a foothold in the workplace.

“Our pilot initiative supports historically underserved students by providing resources to promote academic success, mental health access and career readiness,” said Khydeeja Alam, the executive director of the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. “We are committed to providing tools for AANHPI students to graduate on time and shape California’s future as leaders in their communities.” ★

Senator Ashby Unveils Historic District Legislation

**Senator Angelique Ashby
News Release**

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - State Senator Angelique Ashby, through Senate Bill 802, has proposed the establishment of a new regional agency to address the persistent challenges of housing and homelessness throughout Sacramento County.

As proposed, the Sacramento Area Housing and Homelessness Agency will centralize services through a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) designed to coordinate, fund and implement all housing and homelessness programs across Sacramento County.

Senate Bill 802 aims to dismantle the fragmented and siloed system currently impeding regional advancement on the issues of homelessness and affordable housing, by replacing the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) with a broader, more inclusive regional effort. The new Joint Powers Authority will be governed by elected representatives from the County and City of Sacramento as well as all cities in the county with a population greater than fifty thousand (Folsom, Elk Grove, Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova). Smaller cities and unincorporated areas will be represented by the County Board of Supervisors.

“SB 802 creates a first-in-the-state model where one entity becomes the lead provider of homelessness and housing services regionally,” said Senator Angelique Ashby. “Providing resources for the unhoused population doesn’t stop at city or county lines – and our response shouldn’t either. SB 802 gives the Sacramento region a structure to act collectively, share resources, and bring real accountability to the issue.”

For decades, Sacramento County’s homelessness response has been fractured, managed by a patchwork of nonprofit organizations, municipal departments, and independent planning bodies – each working independently with little to no coordination across jurisdictions.

“Until we regionalize our efforts to address homelessness, nothing will change,” said Assemblymember Heath Flora. “As elected officials, it is our duty to the public to reevaluate systems that are not working and try something new. That’s exactly what SB 802 seeks to do.”

The cities in the region are expected to meet state-driven goals and standards, yet the smaller regions have little to no governing authority when decisions are being made. A different approach is needed to wield the results we all so desperately want. The public has been incredibly clear on this issue, they expect broad collaboration and meaningful partnership. That has not happened effectively on any level over the past 15 plus years.

In 2023, the Sacramento Grand Jury issued a report on addressing homelessness in Sacramento County, focusing on the five government funded agencies currently

tasked with varying, and sometimes competing, responsibilities relative to homeless services.

The report outlined: “taking all the organizations together, their sheer number, and the diversity of their make-up, interests and actions in supporting the homeless population - represent significant coordination, management, and oversight challenges. In the absence of a working organizational structure it becomes virtually impossible to make the most effective use of the valuable resources they offer.”

The Sacramento Area Housing and Homelessness Agency will serve as the region’s premier housing entity, with the legal authority and governance structure to plan and deliver services in a coordinated and efficient manner.

“Senator Ashby’s bold move is common sense,” said former Mayor of Sacramento and former Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg. “The cities and County of Sacramento should not only work together on homelessness but they should also govern together. Governing together will lead to better results for everyone in Sacramento County.”

Under Senate Bill 802, the new agency will be empowered to apply for and administer state and federal housing funds, align programs, streamlining service delivery to better meet the needs of unsheltered and housing-insecure residents across all jurisdictions.

The bill responds to the growing consensus voiced by area residents that the region’s current approach to homelessness, where multiple agencies, cities and the county often compete with one another for funding sources and work at odds through overlapping or disconnected strategies, has failed to produce meaningful progress while utilizing taxpayer dollars.

In the last five years, the State of California has provided more than \$400 million to address homelessness in Sacramento through the City, County and Continuum of Care. Without a true regional approach, those dollars have failed to make a meaningful and lasting impact.

“Homelessness is the most urgent issue facing our community, and people deserve to see us working together,” said Sacramento City Councilmember Caity Maple. “SB 802 gives us the chance to finally build a system that’s coordinated, compassionate, and focused on real results. I truly believe that if we work together, we can turn the tide.”

Senate Bill 802 lays out a detailed governance framework for the new Joint Powers Authority, including board composition, decision-making structures, timelines and public accountability requirements. The goal is to build a responsive and transparent agency that can evolve with the region’s housing needs and ensure resources are effectively utilized.

Senator Ashby and regional partners will continue working with stakeholders, the Legislature and the Administration to move Senate Bill 802 forward. ★

Sterile Male Mosquito Pilot Program to Launch

Technique Aims to Reduce Invasive Mosquitoes Posing Health Threat

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District News Release

SACRAMENTO AREA, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced June 26 that it will officially launch the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) Pilot Program in South Natomas in July.

This innovative, science-based program using sterile male mosquitoes aims to reduce populations of Aedes aegypti, the invasive mosquito species. Aedes aegypti has been rapidly spreading in our region and poses a public health threat for diseases such as dengue, Zika and chikungunya.

Beginning July 8, Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District staff will conduct weekly releases of non-biting male mosquitoes that carry Wolbachia, a naturally occurring bacteria. When these sterile males mate with wild female mosquitoes, the resulting eggs do not hatch. Over time, this reduces the local mosquito population.



An Aedes aegypti adult male mosquito rests on human skin. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District

“We’re proud to lead this effort and bring new, effective mosquito control strategies to our community,” said Gary Goodman, district manager for Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control. “By targeting Aedes aegypti at the source, this program helps us reduce the threat of mosquito transmitted diseases and protect residents.”

The project will continue through November in a designated 100-acre zone of South Natomas.

Residents in the pilot area might notice an increase in mosquito activity during the release period but no action is required on their part and they can go about their day as usual. District staff will be present in the neighborhood each week to release the sterile males and set

mosquito traps to evaluate the program’s effectiveness.

Residents are encouraged to continue protecting themselves by using insect repellent when spending time outdoors and eliminating any standing water around their homes to prevent mosquito breeding.

The sterile insect technique method is being used by other mosquito control districts across California and is gaining attention nationwide as a promising tool to address the growing spread of invasive mosquitoes. Travel-related cases of dengue are detected in our region every year and the presence of Aedes aegypti increases the risk for locally acquired infections.

Last year, 18 dengue cases were reported in Southern California. This emphasizes the importance of using innovative approaches such as Sterile Insect Technique to reduce mosquito populations and help prevent the spread of disease.

For more information about the Sterile Insect Technique Pilot Program in South Natomas or to request a free home service inspection, visit www.fightthebite.net or call 800-429-1022. ★

The ‘New’ K-Zap Turns 10

By J.G. Wirt

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - July 8 will mark 10 years since the rebirth of K-ZAP as a low-power broadcaster and internet radio station.

In that time, former listeners have tuned back in and have helped spread the word about the “50 Years of Rock, Blues & More” station.

There’s no big first-decade celebration planned, according to K-ZAP’s program manager and weekday morning announcer Dennis Newhall.

Rather, K-ZAP’s current big effort aims to secure a second low-power signal that would help its radio broadcasts at KZHP 93.3 FM cover an area from Rocklin to Mather and McClellan to El Dorado Hills.

A waiver from the Federal Communications Commission, with help from the area’s U.S. representatives, just might make it happen, Newhall said. The petition is at k-zap.org/zapthegap.

Meanwhile, the all-volunteer crew continues to raise the K-ZAP profile by supporting events and selling T-shirts and hats featuring the smiling K-ZAP cat and shows such as

“Mick Martin’s Blues Party” and “Psychedelic Sunday.”

The on-air team continues to add context to the K-ZAP music mix in three-hour shifts. And it’s all about the music: new songs by old artists and just the right mix of the new stuff. Plus, K-ZAP airs deep tracks and B-sides, along with artists who don’t get airplay on the major stations.

“It’s a craft. Like you’re building something,” Newhall said of curating the playlist from the vast K-ZAP music library. “Sometimes, a great artist has something new but it doesn’t fit our format.”

The on-air volunteers do three-hour shifts, all remote, and support the station because it’s convenient, according to Newhall. There’s no commute.

“And it’s fun. It’s a sandbox,” Newhall said. “For the most part, they’re radio veterans. No one’s hiring 60-year-old deejays.”

Newhall, who also helps to curate the Sacramento Rock and Radio Museum, said he and the other veteran announcers do this work for mental stimulation and camaraderie.

“And like any hobby, you try to get better at it,” Newhall said. ★

Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



The Milwaukee Bucks won their first NBA title in 1971, and it took 50 years for the Bucks to win a title again. A fellow by the name of Giannis Antetokounmpo helped them accomplish this task, but players of his caliber are in short supply.

The Sacramento Kings have been in Sacramento for 40 years without reaching the finals or winning a championship. But make no mistake, fans in Kingstown still believe an NBA title will eventually come to Sacramento.

Sadly, during the offseason, fans are hearing far too much about mid-level exceptions, aprons first and second, collective bargaining and salary caps. Frankly, the NBA has one of the most complicated systems regarding player compensation, and it takes someone with an advanced degree in economics to comprehend it.

What we know, is that in the aftermath of seeing mega popular DeAaron Fox trot his talents to the San Antonio Spurs midway through the 2025/2026 season, the Kings have navigated the point guard position much like a rudderless ship.

Freshman GM Scott Perry, tasked with replacing De’Aaron Fox, last week signed journeyman Dennis Schröder, a former #1 draft choice by the Atlanta Hawks in 2013. Schroder was chosen #17 overall and for the past 12 seasons has seen playing time with Oklahoma City Thunder, Los Angeles Lakers, Boston Celtics, Houston Rockets, Toronto Raptors, Brookly Nets, Golden State Warriors and finally the Detroit Pistons.

Originally from Germany, where he played professionally and for the German national team in the Olympics, one could say Schroder has seen America from coast to coast.

Dennis Schroder’s career stats are not gaudy, but 13.9 points per game being as traveled as he’s been, shows he can contribute when needed. Five assists per game and 3 rebounds aren’t eye popping, but it’s important to remember why the Kings went out to get him.

Sacramento has a plethora of scoring power in the starting lineup and coming off the bench. What has been lacking since the departure of Fox, is a capable distributor of the basketball.

At 2.2 turnovers per game Schroder has a better control average than DeAaron Fox, so at least in one regard the Kings have made

an upgrade.

Not many players would clammer to be the replacement for a point guard as popular as Fox, but Sacramento fans are a generous crowd, and I expect to see fans give Dennis Schroder an ample opportunity to display his talents.

Do I think Schroder can be a capable replacement? Absolutely! He won’t score 24 points per game or go coast to coast with the type of speed that DeAaron does, but neither does anyone else.

Scott Perry was given a thankless job, and if Schroder can come in and give the Kings 14 points per game, and take care of the basketball, there’s a good chance that the playoffs of two seasons ago won’t be the exception to the rule.

Coming off the bench is last year’s first round draft choice Devin Carter, and Sacramento has a rookie guard in Nique Clifford that is going to need playing time, so don’t expect to see Schroder get much more than 20-25 minutes per game.

Perry is likely to have more moves coming, so keep your eyes on summer league Kings fans, and don’t forget that Sacramento also drafted a 7-footer in Maxime Raynaud. It will be interesting to see how coach Christie uses his new big man.

Sadly, popular Jonas Valanciunas won’t be suiting up for the Kings this season, as he was traded last week to the Denver Nuggets for Dario Saric. Saric will be a role player, and spell Sabonis off the bench. At 6’ 10” and 225 lbs. this 31-year-old will undoubtedly see playing time.

Players like Isaac Jones and Devin Carter are still trying to open eyes, so this year’s summer league will be an opportunity to showcase their talents and allow Doug Christie to see their growth over the season.

NBA pundits have praised the Kings’ draft this year, and I concur with their accolades. There’s real optimism as this team is deep in talent. It remains to be seen how that talent will come together, and whether the Kings can take the young talent they have to the next level.

Stay tuned Kings fans, because this roster isn’t cast in stone just yet!

All the best!

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

Social Security Matters

Can I Switch to a Taxi Driver Job Without Hurting my Social Security?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I opted to draw my Social Security retirement benefit early and work part time. The company I work for has decided to pull me from field work due to my age and health. Although they are great keeping me at 20 hours per week running for parts and doing office work, I’m not sure how much longer it will last. I’m thinking of taking a taxi driving job to keep my income enough to live on. The way it would work, I would lease the cab for some amount of dollars per day, set my own hours to work and collect anywhere from \$1.40 to \$4.00 per mile, depending on what type of fare. My question is: how does Social Security look at that type of employment? Would I be held to the 15 - 45 hours a month standard? I could never come close to making the \$1,200 to \$1,300 a month I need by working so little. Any advice is greatly appreciated. **Signed: Seeking Advice**

Dear Seeking: If you go ahead with your plan to lease a taxicab instead of continuing your current employment, you would, in effect, be considered “self-employed” and would submit your income tax return to the IRS accordingly. Social Security would get your earnings information as reported to

the IRS, and it would be your net earnings from self-employment (after deducting all your business expenses) that is reported to SSA by IRS. There is, however, a special rule which would apply to you in your first calendar year of self-employment while collecting early Social Security benefits.

Since, in your first year, some of your earnings would be as a part-time employee paying SS FICA payroll taxes, Social Security would first look at your earnings as an employee to see if you exceeded the annual earnings limit (\$23,400 for 2025). Then, upon starting your self-employment, Social Security would look at the hours you spent performing “substantial gainful activity” (e.g., driving your taxi) each month and, if you spent more than 45 hours per month in that capacity, you would not be considered “retired,” and thus, not eligible for Social Security in any month you exceeded that amount of hours. If you earned less than the annual limit in total (both as an employee and while self-employed), you would get benefits for all months of the year. But if you earn more than the annual limit, you will get no benefits for any month you exceeded 45 hours as a self-employed person. Again, this only applies during the first calendar year of self-employment - in the following year only your net earnings from self-employment would count toward the annual earnings limit.

In effect, SSA would use the hours-worked standard to see if you are truly retired or actually working. If the latter, they would withhold

SS monthly benefits for any month you exceed 45 hours working while self-employed (up to and including December of your first calendar year of self-employment), and only if your total income (as an employee and while self-employed) exceeds the annual limit.

So, if your goal is to net \$1,200 - \$1,300 per month as a self-employed taxi driver, that would be well within the limits of the annual earnings test (\$23,400 for 2025 but changes yearly). But there may, or may not, be a reduction in your Social Security benefits during your first year of self-employment, depending on when you start as self-employed. Note that SSA will ask about your work plans when you apply, and if you expect to stay under the annual limit (working part time in both capacities), you should get full SS benefits. Just be careful to stay under the annual earnings limit for those collecting early Social Security benefits. FYI, earnings from before your SS benefits started don’t count toward the earning limit.

Note, too, that your monthly Social Security benefit will be actuarially reduced according to how far in advance of your full retirement age you claim SS. Whenever SS benefits are claimed prior to one’s full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

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). ★



Blow up Washington, D.C.’s Brutalist Buildings, and the Sooner, the Better

There’s a reason God created dynamite. The brutalist federal buildings that have blighted Washington, D.C., for decades deserve the same fate as Carthage after the Third Punic War, and the nation’s capital is finally beginning to move on from these concrete monstrosities.

The Department of Housing and Urban and Development just announced that it is leaving its god-awful headquarters in Washington for a less hideous space in Northern Virginia. HUD Secretary Scott Turner has described the structure as “the ugliest building in D.C.,” which is a dubious claim only because there are so many other buildings in Washington that compete for that distinction. He’s not the first HUD secretary to hate the building. Jack Kemp called it “10 floors of basement.”

Meanwhile, the FBI is also departing its HQ, designated by the U.K. building materials retailer Buildworld as the ugliest building in the United States and the second ugliest in the world.

The moves are in keeping with the spirit of President Trump’s executive order stipulating that federal buildings should “respect regional, traditional and classical architectural heritage in order to uplift and beautify public spaces and ennoble the United States and our system of self-government.”

That EO should be considered common sense, but has several trigger words for defenders of the architectural status quo, including “traditional,” “classical” and, perhaps foremost of all, “beautify.” In response, the American Institute of Architects expressed its “strong concerns that mandating architecture styles stifles innovation and harms local communities.”

According to The Nation magazine, Trump’s initiative is part of an agenda to “make historical architecture on the whole inextricable from Eurocentric white supremacy.” In short, it’s an unforgivable offense to want a government building to look nice.

Brutalism, with its blocky, minimalist structures made of poured concrete, was a creation of a post-war Europe that wanted to embrace the fresh and new and to economize on rebuilding. Although the name “brutalism” perfectly captures the aesthetic effect, it actually comes from the French for “raw concrete,” “beton brut.”

To be sure, concrete is extremely important to modern life, but no one has ever said, “Oh, it’s so elegant and uplifting.” The brutalist buildings in Washington were largely built between the late 1960s and mid-1970s, an era of grievous architectural mistakes, including cookie-cutter multiple-purpose baseball stadiums and modernist Catholic churches. The buildings never had a heyday, but were hated when they were erected and are still hated now.

The seedbed of the trend was a Kennedy administration commission that advocated contemporary

designs and said -- laughably, in retrospect -- that federal architecture should “reflect the dignity, enterprise, vigor and stability of the American national government.”

Instead, the brutalist buildings speak of a lumbering bureaucracy with no regard for the sensibilities or priorities of ordinary people. They are about what you’d expect if a DMV were headquartered in a maximum-security prison or in a massive pillbox.

The buildings could easily be used as stage sets for docudramas about East Germany. They are a tribute to soulless monumentality and a gut punch to the human spirit. If they don’t eventually get a well-deserved appointment with a wrecking ball, they should be donated to North Korea.

The original justifications of brutalism no longer apply. The buildings aren’t new anymore, and aren’t cheap. They haven’t aged well in any sense, not aesthetically or functionally. The FBI building is literally falling apart, and the expense of maintaining the HUD building has become ruinous.

Defenders of the brutalist buildings say that they are now part of our heritage and should be preserved as such. That’s not fair, though, to the people who have to work in them, or who walk or drive by them every day. They are a net subtraction to the D.C. landscape and to human happiness. If one of them has to be kept for historical reasons, it should be made into a Smithsonian museum devoted to idiotic fads that were indulged for much too long.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2025 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

California Lawmakers Finally Achieve ‘Holy Grail’ Reform



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Jerry Brown once described reform of the California Environmental Quality Act as “the lord’s work” but he, like other recent governors, was not willing to invest enough political capital to change it.

Simply put, significantly altering CEQA, which then-Gov. Ronald Reagan signed more than a half-century ago, would require confronting two powerful interest groups: environmental organizations and labor unions, which have weaponized the law to achieve their goals.

Brown made one stab at compelling the Legislature to alter CEQA in 2016, but otherwise left it to his successor, Gavin Newsom.

For six years, Newsom echoed the attitudes of his predecessors, critical of CEQA’s misuse to block housing and other much-needed projects, or compel developers to hire unionized labor or jump through other hoops, but unwilling to confront it head-on.

Instead, he and the Legislature nibbled at the edges of the law and gave specific projects, such as sports arenas, exemptions.

Finally, however, the social and economic costs of leaving CEQA intact became too high. The state’s critical shortage of housing continued despite innumerable policy

declarations aimed at spurring investment. It became downright embarrassing that a politically dominant Democratic Party pledged to socioeconomic equity was unable to deliver on promises to make housing more abundant and affordable.

California starred in a New York Times video that chastised blue states for failing to live up to their stated principles and in a recent book, “Abundance,” about the nation’s chronic inability to deliver much-needed projects due to regulatory overkill, such as CEQA.

This year, with Newsom nearing the end of his governorship and appearing to cast his eyes toward a presidential campaign, the governor decided to confront the CEQA issue squarely. He endorsed two bills that would impose limits on the law’s reach and, in the end, threatening to block the entire state budget if they weren’t placed on his desk.

On Monday (June 30), the last day of the fiscal year, the Legislature passed Assembly Bill 130 and Senate Bill 131 with last-minute changes to dampen opposition from construction unions. Newsom quickly signed them.

“We needed to go bold and big on this holy grail reform,” Newsom said at a hastily staged signing ceremony.

Essentially, the legislation exempts virtually all infill housing projects from CEQA’s provisions, making it more difficult for opponents of high-density housing projects, known as NIMBYs, to block approval.

Such projects, particularly those aimed at low- and moderate-income families, have been the most difficult to gain approval, due largely to opposition in upscale communities

dominated by single-family homeowners.

“When you are building housing in an existing community, that is environmentally beneficial, it is climate friendly, that is not something that should be subjected to potentially endless CEQA challenges and lawsuits,” Sen. Scott Wiener, a San Francisco Democrat who authored SB 131, told senators before they passed the measure.

Wiener and Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks, an Oakland Democrat who carried AB 130, have been the Capitol’s two most aggressive advocates of pro-housing legislation.

The remaining question, of course, is whether the two new laws, which go into effect immediately, will have a discernible impact on the state’s housing shortage. CEQA is just one factor of many determining whether proposed projects proceed or die. Those who oppose high-density housing in their neighborhoods will not just roll over.

Ironically, as the Legislature was passing the two new laws on Monday, The Atlantic was publishing a lengthy article entitled “The Whole Country Is Starting to Look Like California,” that describes how red tape and local opposition are adversely affecting housing development in red states such as Texas and Florida, which had been viewed as developer paradises.

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. ★

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Paytient Technologies, Inc., 3601 Endeavor Avenue, Suite 109, Columbia, MO 65201 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Paytient" 3601 Endeavor Avenue, Suite 109, Columbia, MO 65201. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 9, 2025
Publish: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 2025
PAYTIENT 7-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03266
JDM Automotive LLC, 7823 Fair Oaks Boulevard, #4, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "American River Auto Sales" 7823 Fair Oaks Boulevard, #4, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 29, 2025
Publish: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 2025
RIVER 7-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04353
Q&S Traders LLC, 8748 Gessnger Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Exotic Smokes/The Elite Smoke Shop" 6221 Mack Road, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025
Publish: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 2025
EXOTIC 7-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04177
Fluid Force Industries LLC, 8116 Holly Drive, Citrus heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Fluid Force Industries" 8116 Holly Drive, Citrus heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 4, 2025
Publish: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 2025
FLUID 7-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04352
Frank DeMille IV, 4500 Natomas Central Drive, Apt 934, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Q KO's BBQ" 4500 Natomas Central Drive, Apt 934, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025
Publish: June 20, 27, July 4, 11, 2025
BBQ 7-11-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04296
Mohammed Meraj Desai, 1089 Brock Circle, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "MLA PrimeMarket" 1089 Brock Circle, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 9, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
MLA 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03846
Ruben Fragoso Regalado, 6617 Whitsett Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "RF Landscaping" 6617 Whitsett Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 21, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
RF 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04513
Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services of the Diocese of Sacramento, Inc., 2110 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery" 2615 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95818. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 17, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
CEMETARY 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04102
Halal Spot LLC, 7700 Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 1000, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Halal Spot" 7700 Sunrise Boulevard, Suite 1000, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 2, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
HALAL 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04542
Anthony Zakhir, 8581 23rd Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Glass Pro's" 8581 23rd Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
GLASS 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04538
Khoshal Parwani, 9100 Tuolumne Drive, Apt 37, Sacramento, CA 95826 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Happy Lawn Care" 9100 Tuolumne Drive, Apt 37, Sacramento, CA 95826. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
HAPPY 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04547
Donald Scott White, 4136 Borderlands Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mainstream Resellers" 4136 Borderlands Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
HAPPY 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04324
Daniel Joseph Palermo, 1175 Reston Drive, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "DP Mortgage Consulting" 1175 Reston Drive, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 9, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
DP 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04286
Monroe Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 273, Monroe, WI 53566 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Credit Bureau Centre" 1804 10th Street, Monroe, WI 53566. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 9, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
CREDIT 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04364
John Holt, 3315 Spicewood Drive, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Saved Child Studio" 3315 Spicewood Drive, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
SAVED 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04464
OJ's Pantry, 2717 Tierra Grande Circle, Sacramento, CA 95827 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Folsom Grocery Outlet" 671 E Bidwell Street, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 16, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
FOLSOM 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04362
2257 Ventures, LLC, 843 River Pointe Circle, Oakdale, CA 95361 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "San Andreas RV Park" 693 W Brannan Island Road, Isleton, CA 95641. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
ANDREAS 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04378
Boutique Family Photography LLC, 1401 21st Street, #7291, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "LaLa Photography Sacramento/ LaLa Photography" 1835 Prairie City Road, #500, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
LALA 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04448
Grizzly Hottie LLC, 3037 Stanton Circle, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ellie Mae Wilde" 3037 Stanton Circle, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 16, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
ELLIE 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04521
Tabaka & Co LLC, 7468 Palmer House Drive, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tabaka & Co" 7468 Palmer House Drive, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 17, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
TABAKA 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04528
M.T. Stomach Catering LLC,

7195 Canelo Hills Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Momo's Smokehouse" 7431 Madison Avenue, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 17, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
MOMO 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04414
WestCoast Mortgage Group and Realty Company, 2716 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mission Ready Mortgage" 2716 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 12, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
MISSION 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03823
K2S Group, LLC, 2308 Seabler Place, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Alibi Bar" 617 Munroe Street, Sacramento, CA 95825 . Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 21, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
ALIBI 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03962
Ravinder Saini, 55 Quinta Court, Suite F, Sacramento, CA 95823 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "New Globex Wholesale" 55 Quinta Court, Suite F, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 27, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
NEW 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04550
Horizon Locksmith LLC, 1924 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95815 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Horizon Locksmith" 1924 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95815. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
HORIZON 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04091
Blake Lall, 6560 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95831 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Creative Buys" 6560 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95831. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 2, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
BUYS 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04240
Graceline LLC, 2108 N Street, Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Summit Auto Group/ DealerEase" 2108 N Street, Suite N, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 5, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
SUMMIT 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04567
18 Source LLC, 7804 Auburn Woods Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95610 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "18 Source Productions/EliteDIY.com" 7804 Auburn Woods Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 20, 2025
Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18, 2025
SOURCE 7-18-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03941
Marco McDonough, 1861 Coarse Gold Place, Gold River, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Sacramento Real Estate Group" 1610 R Street, Suite 280, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 23, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
SACRAMENTO 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04178
Marlik LLC, 1641 Daunting Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "LOOTI" 8525 Madison Avenue, Suite 127, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 4, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
LOOTI 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04512
Ahad Tax Solutions LLC, 2717 Cottage Way, Suite 3, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ahad Tax Solutions" 2717 Cottage Way, Suite 3, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 17, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
AHAD 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04596
Jennifer Rogers, 5941 N Haven Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "West Coast Lemonade" 5941 N Haven Drive, North Highlands, CA 95660. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 20, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
LEMONADE 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03593
Atarah Lockett, 2285 Natomas Park Drive, Unit 12301,

Sacramento, CA 95833 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Too Die For Experience" 3160 Arden Way, Suite #134, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 12, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
LOCKETT 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04549
Ohannes Boghossian, 1001 Eastern Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95864 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Vanini European Clothier" 1031 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
VANINI 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04006
Keyswag Capital Inc., 401 West A Street, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92101 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Key Real Estate Capital" 401 West A Street, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92101. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 28, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
KEYSWAG 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04276
Kalpesh Patel DDS PC, 911 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Stonebrook Dental" 911 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 6, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
STONEBROOK 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03069
Shreeram Ventures LLC, 1189 Rio Royal Way, Sacramento, CA 95834 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Ziggli Vibes" 1189 Rio Royal Way, Sacramento, CA 95834. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County April 22, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
ZIGGLI 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04546
2nd Chance Resle LLC, 4800 Marconi Avenue, Apartment 212, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "E-Ride Central" 8215 Cliffe Way, Sacramento, CA 95828. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
CENTRAL 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03560
Karen Dean, 8825 Rio Linda Boulevard, Elverta, CA 95626 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "On The Spot Bookkeeping and Payroll Service" 8825 Rio Linda Boulevard, Elverta, CA 95626. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 12, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
BOOKKEEPING 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04532
Roman Grom, 3705 Merryly Way, Sacramento, CA 95821 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Gromex Solutions" 3705 Merryly Way, Sacramento, CA 95821. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 17, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
GROMEX 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04427
Guorong Gao, 4150 Manzanita Avenue, Suite 100-A, Carmichael, CA 95608 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Youmi Massage" 4150 Manzanita Avenue, Suite 100-A, Carmichael, CA 95608. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 13, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
YOUMI 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04607
Sacred Dreams By Wasiduk LLC, 2108 N Street, Suite 12842, Sacramento, CA 95816 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wasiduk" 2108 N Street, Suite 12842, Sacramento, CA 95816. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 23, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
WASIDUK 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04054
Ashnik Creations LLC, 4598 SpringHarvest Drive, Folsom, CA 95630 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Annapura Foods and Spices LLC" 4598 SpringHarvest Drive, Folsom, CA 95630. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 30, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
ANNAPURNA 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04556
Tea Cozy, LLC, 1021 R Street, Suite 101, Sacramento, CA 95811 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Tea Cozy" 1021 R Street, Suite 101, Sacramento, CA 95811. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
TEA 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04652
Joann Rong Wen, 8116 Spellberg Way, Sacramento, CA 95828 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s)

"Paragon Hair Salon" 9441 Madison Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 24, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
PARAGON 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03895
Shahar Ron Voskovitch, 5147 Greenberry Drive, Sacramento, CA 95841 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Quick Pick Locksmith" 5147 Greenberry Drive, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 22, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
VOSKOVITCH 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04540
The Humanitarian Church, 7916 Lucie Lane, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "The Humanitarian Church/Front Foundation Uganda" 7916 Lucie Lane, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
HUMANITARIAN 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04603
Hapisap Corporation, 2036 Nevada City, Highway #83, Grass Valley, CA 95945 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Grass Valley Distribution Company/Grass Valley Distribution Co.", 197 Otto Circle, Sacramento, CA 95822. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 23, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
HAPISAP 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04695
Julie E. Snider, 11572 Sutters Mill Circle, Gold River, CA 95670 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Mulard Press", 11572 Sutters Mill Circle, Gold River, CA 95670. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 26, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
MULARD 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04049
Gramic Enterprises Inc, 2012 West Sunset Road, #110, Henderson, NV 89014 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Pacific Kidz Company", 2012 West Sunset Road, #110, Henderson, NV 89014. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 30, 2025
Publish: July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025
PACIFIC 7-25-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04541
Svetlana Osokina and Estefania Parra and Michael Croddy, 5299 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95841 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "OP Law Group/ Ocean Pacific Law Group", 5299 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95841. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 18, 2025
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COMICS & PUZZLES

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS
POPEYE
BY KENNY BLACKLAD

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Foot is moved. 2. Tree is moved. 3. Rock is moved. 4. Mountain is different. 5. Ear is larger. 6. Fingers are different.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

GRIN BEAR IT.

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

A	F	A	R			N	B	A				H	A	T					
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G	O	N	G			O	R	E	O			M	A	L	L	S			
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A	M	Y								S	P	A				R	E	D	S

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CLUES

ACROSS
1. A long way off
5. Basketball org.
8. *Dr. Seuss' cat headgear
11. Elbow-wrist connection
12. Showing signs of use
13. Legal excuse
15. "The ____ Show" (1976-1980)
16. Black and white cookie
17. Pall ____ and ____ of America
18. *Halle Berry's 2004 role
20. Small island
21. In advance
22. Santa ____ winds
23. *Bouncy, trouncy, flouncy, pouncy one
26. Orbital extremes
30. Half and half
31. Casual top
34. Clerk's call
35. Fortuneteller's props
37. Pub offering
38. *Berlioz, Toulouse and ____ of "Aristocats"
39. ____ perspirant
40. Silo contents
42. Philosophical system
43. More zestful
45. Army's offensives
47. Blast maker, acr.
48. " ____ Line Is It Anyway?"
50. Long, long time
52. *Lewis Carroll's smiley ____ Cat
55. Star Wars attacker
56. First rate (2 words)
57. Foolish
59. Jaws of Life manufacturer
60. *Cereal-praising tiger
61. Lake north of Cleveland
62. Comedian Schumer
63. Health resort
64. Communists, slangily

CROSSWORD

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DOWN
1. Summer mo.
2. Flocculant, for short
3. Actress Kendrick
4. Riffraff
5. ____ Jean Baker
6. Certain pudding ingredient
7. Happening soon, old fashioned
8. Ant construction
9. Competent
10. ____ the season!
12. Suitors
13. Type of acid
14. *Garfield's favorite food
19. Sharpens
22. Bldg unit
23. November birthstone
24. Lacking sense
25. Hanukkah coins
26. Atlas stat
27. Chilling
28. Be
29. Champagne flute part, pl.
32. Whisker
33. Not well
36. *What three little kittens lost
38. Decent person, in Yiddish
40. Between game and match

41. " ____ Goosey Gander"
44. Magazine's special feature
46. Kidnapper
48. What pertussis patients do
49. Temporary tattoo ink
50. Class reunion attendee
51. With bloodshed
52. *A. L. Webber musical
53. One in a million
54. Children's author Blyton
55. Repeated Cuban dance step
58. An affirmative

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Sac State's Slater Named Student-Athlete of the Year

Sacramento State Athletics News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Football's Jackson Slater has been named California State University, Sacramento's Male Student-Athlete of the Year.

Slater is a Football Championship Subdivision Consensus All-American following the 2024 season after being recognized by the Associated Press, Stats Perform and the American Football Coaches Association.

Selected by the Tennessee Titans in the fifth round (167th overall) of the 2025 NFL Draft, Slater did not allow a sack during the season, started 44 games during his career and helped the Hornets to a pair of Big Sky titles and three National Collegiate Athletic Association Football Championship Subdivision Playoff appearances.

Slater competed at the Senior Bowl where he garnered national attention for his play against the country's top players. He later attended the NFL Combine and produced some of the top athletic rankings among offensive linemen.

Other nominees included Luke Dugger (golf), named all-Big West Conference, competed in all 11 tournaments and led the team with an average of 71.64 strokes per round, which ranks



Sacramento State's Jackson Slater did not allow a sack during the 2024 season, started 44 games during his career and helped the Hornets to a pair of Big Sky titles and three National Collegiate Athletic Association Football Championship Subdivision Playoff appearances. Photo courtesy of Sacramento State Athletics

third in school single-season history. Dugger had a relative scoring average of +0.21 strokes per round and had 19 rounds of par or better, which ranks second in school single-season history. He set the school single-season record with 10 rounds in the 60s, shot 66 in the opening round of the Palouse Collegiate and Ram Masters for his season low. Dugger's 54-hole total of 66-71-67-204 at the Ram Masters is the third lowest in school history.

Evan Gibbons (baseball) was named the Western Athletic

Conference Pitcher of the Year, was the first Hornet to win the honor, a first team all-Western Athletic Conference selection for the first time in his career. He led the Western Athletic Conference in victories at the end of the regular season with a 10-2 overall record, ranking ninth in the nation. Gibbons had the most wins by a Hornet pitcher since Austin Root finished 11-3 in 2018. Gibbons struck out 63 batters in 88.0 innings and ranks tied for seventh on the Hornet career wins list with 21.

Miles Grant (track and field) became the school's first Division I All-American in the men's high jump. He tied for first place at the National Collegiate Athletic Association West First Round after clearing a career-best 7-01.50. That height is tied for third in school history, trailing only marks from 1979 and 1980, repeated as the Big Sky Outdoor Champion, cleared at least 6-11 in five outdoor meets. Grant won the Big Sky indoor title for the second consecutive season and opened the year by setting his indoor personal

record with 7-02.50 to rank second in school history.

Henry Lamchinniah (tennis) was unanimously selected first team all-Big Sky Conference (singles) in his first season with the Hornets after transferring from Southern Mississippi. He played at No. 1 in the Hornets' singles lineup all year, owned a 14-5 dual singles record (6-2 in the Big Sky) and won eight of his final 10 matches. Lamchinniah had a six-match singles winning streak from March 5-20 and nine of his 14 singles wins came in straight sets. Fourteen victories were second most among all No. 1 players in the Big Sky.

Donovan Sessoms (soccer), a first team all-Big West Conference selection, was only the sixth Hornet to earn first team honors in the Big West in program history and the first since 2022. As two-time Big West Offensive Player of the Week, Sessoms finished the year with 10 goals (seven in conference play) and 20 points overall, tying him for ninth on the school's single-season goals list and 10th on the single-season points chart. Sessoms had the most goals by a Hornet since 2010 and the most points by a Hornet since 2009. Five of Sessoms' 10 goals were game winners and he was drafted by the expansion San Diego FC in the third round of the 2024 MLS SuperDraft. ★

TY Johnson Signs with Lakers



University of California, Davis men's basketball alumnus TY Johnson is in the Los Angeles Lakers' summer league. Johnson was previously named to the Lou Henson Award Mid-Season Watch List recognizing the nation's top mid-major players. Photo courtesy of University of California, Davis Athletics

University of California, Davis Athletics News Release

DAVIS, CA (MPG) - University of California, Davis men's basketball alumnus TY Johnson has signed a summer league contract with the Los Angeles Lakers, following the 2025 NBA Draft.

Johnson, the Big West Conference's most dynamic two-way player this season, earned All-Big West First Team honors after finishing as the nation's sixth-leading scorer at 21.1 points per game. He topped the conference scoring charts while averaging 3.0 assists and 4.1 rebounds per contest.

Defensively, Johnson ranked second in the Big West and 18th nationally with 2.3 steals per game. He set the University of California, Davis Division I single-season record with 72 steals and recorded three or more steals in 12 games, including a six-steal performance against Cal Poly. Johnson finished his career ranked second in the program's history for steals.

Johnson became University of California, Davis' all-time leader in career free throws made (470). Johnson's 178 free throws made this season rank 15th in the National Collegiate Athletic Association and he set a program single-game record with 18 made free throws.

He scored double figures in 30 of 32 games, exploding for 20 or more points 21

times, including five 30-point performances. Johnson's 35-point games against Washington and University of California, Santa Barbara were tied for the fourth most by an Aggie since 2005.

Johnson finished his senior season tied for third on University of California, Davis' all-time scoring list with 1,694 points, one of just 26 Aggies to reach 1,000 career points. Johnson led the Aggies in scoring 26 times and in assists 15 times. He was the only Big West player to rank in the Top Five in both scoring and steals.

Johnson earned Oscar Robertson National Player of the Week honors on Nov. 12 after opening the season with consecutive 30-point games and was a two-time Big West Player of the Week.

He was named to the Lou Henson Award Mid-Season Watch List recognizing the nation's top mid-major players.

Johnson's senior season efficiency placed him in rare company nationally; he was the first qualified player since Vanderbilt's Scotty Pippen Jr. in 2021-22 to rank in the 99th percentile in points per 40 minutes while also ranking in the 95th percentile or higher in steals per 40 minutes.

Johnson and the Lakers were set to begin summer league play on July 5, after press time, at the California Classic, hosted by the Golden State Warriors at the Chase Center in San Francisco. ★

High Quality Development at Republic FC Academy



In Las Vegas on June 16, the Sacramento Republic FC Academy's U13 team wins the international Copa Rayados tournament without conceding a goal. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento Republic FC Academy

By Seth Henderson

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Republic FC Academy's U13 team won the international Copa Rayados tournament in Las Vegas on June 16 without conceding a goal, ranking first in the Northwest Division for quality of play, rated at 86.2.

Quality of play is a recently-developed ranking metric for Major League Soccer NEXT age groups U13 and U14 as of April 2, according to a Major League Soccer news release. The program was piloted for the first time in contrast to a traditional win-draw-loss standing. The quality of play metrics is calculated using artificial intelligence, run by the platform Taka, providing coaches and players with hyper-focused data.

Sacramento Republic FC Academy Director Eder

Quintanilla said that the U13 team is a special group, taking home the championship silverware in 2024 and now this year. The U13 team recruited more defensive players, Quintanilla said, which helps reduce the chances of getting scored on and the new quality of play metrics are a great new tool for development.

"Everybody is still learning what they consider quality of play and which metrics you can measure but I think it's a pretty good initiative, looking at how we can pay attention more to how we're playing, how we're developing our players," Quintanilla said. "More than just winning."

Coaches are still asking the league questions to clarify what constitutes as a good or high-quality play and comparing metrics but he said its difficulty in the style of play will be better for player development in the long run,

Quintanilla said.

According to Taka's website at taka.io, its platform uses raw game footage and analyzes the game play by identifying jersey numbers and corresponding value to their actions depicted in the footage. Highlight reels and statistics are automatically populated for coaches and players to analyze their performance, applying the results to their next practice or match.

"The 'win or lose' is like a tool for development," Quintanilla said. "We obviously use the competition to get better because you need to evaluate yourself, you need to evaluate your opponents, you need to come up with the strategies to win the game, to score goals, to create census but that's only a tool."

Quintanilla said the wins might help attract some recruits but their process is to scout the best players in all

age groups every year.

"We're trying to bring the most talented players in the area and that's not going to change, winning or losing," Quintanilla said.

Competition is sparked not only within the league but also within the academy teams, Quintanilla said, determining team leaders, minutes and starters.

Major League Soccer NEXT Technical Director Luis Robles said in a news release that individual development is prioritized over competition for the younger age groups.

After the winning season, Quintanilla said, many get-togethers take place in the off-season, discussing new ideas and improvements to make the team better.

"We celebrate but we quickly put our head down again and work for next season," Quintanilla said. ★

A's Jacob Wilson Elected Starter

Athletics News Release

WEST SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Jacob Wilson from the Athletics has been elected by the fans as starting shortstop for the American League in the 2025 All-Star Game at Atlanta on July 15.

Wilson ranks second in the Major Leagues with 108 hits and a .339 batting average, and his 26 strikeouts are the fewest in the American League and third fewest in the majors among qualifiers.

He received 52% of the vote in

Phase two of fan voting, beating out Royals shortstop Bobby Witt, Jr.

Wilson is the first rookie shortstop to be elected by the fans and will become the second rookie shortstop to start an All-Star Game, along with the Orioles Ron Hansen, who started both All-Star Games in 1960. He will be the first Athletic to start an All-Star Game since Josh Donaldson at third base in 2014 and the first shortstop since Bert Campaneris made three straight starts from 1973 to 1975.

Wilson is the early favorite for American League Rookie of the Year

as he leads all Major League rookies in batting, on-base percentage (.380), slugging percentage (.473), OPS (.853), runs (42), hits and RBI (40). He is on pace to break Socks Seybold's Athletics record for batting average by a rookie (.334 in 1901) and Hall of Famer Al Simmons' record for most hits by a rookie (183 in 1924).

The 23-year-old Wilson will be the first A's rookie to start an All-Star Game and will be the youngest A's starter in the All-Star Game since Vida Blue in 1971. ★