



Galt All-Stars 8U Capture Regionals, Advance to Cal Ripken World Series

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Lucas Becomes First Hawk to Compete in State Hurdles



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L'Chayim Threads Community Together



L'Chayim of Galt President Gale Webber, located in the back right, said the nonprofit organization relies entirely on volunteers and community support.

Story and photos by Idaly Valencia

GALT, CA (MPG) - In the heart of Old Town Galt, nonprofit organization L'Chayim has spent the past 20 years helping fill gaps in community support through volunteer-driven initiatives and handmade goods.

Founded in 2005 by Jeanne Hopkins and Gloria Stemler in memory of their mothers, who both passed from cancer, L'Chayim began with small donations collected from coins and recycling. Its mission is to

foster a spirit of "hospitality with dignity and love," rooted in the basic human need for acceptance and connection.

The name L'Chayim, a Hebrew toast meaning "to life," reflects the organization's purpose: to celebrate life by giving back to the community.

President Gale Webber said the nonprofit relies entirely on volunteers and community support.

"Everything in here is handmade; the fabric that's in here is donated," Webber said. "We have a core group that works

Tuesdays and Thursdays, and then we have other people that come in either Tuesday or Thursday."

Located on Fourth Street, the boutique sells handmade items including quilts, bucket hats, micro-wavable bowl cozies, dog scarves, eyeglass cases, book covers and towels, among other one-of-a-kind merchandise. Customers can also purchase fabric for \$5 per yard.

Proceeds support local schools, sports teams and student athletes, agencies and unhoused individuals. A small portion is

used for operational costs.

Each month, L'Chayim donates to groups such as the Galt Teen Center, United Methodist Church Food Pantry, Catholic Youth Association, LDS Church Afghan and Ukraine Refugees, BSA Troop and Crew 1119, Marin O. Lawrence Library, Galt 4-H and the Galt Lions Club.

In-kind donations include pillowcases for Shriners' Children's Hospital and Cosumnes Fire Department and Galt Police Toy Drive; bibs for

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Residents Voice Safety Concerns with Fairway Oaks Development



By John McCallum

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt City Council's decision at its July 15 meeting to delay approval of the Fairway Oaks subdivision Final Map and Subdivision Improvement Agreement proved a wise move as the meeting's public comments revealed a number of residents' concerns about the development.

The development, currently beginning construction, is located east of South Lincoln Way, west of U.S. Highway 99 and the Dry Creek Ranch Golf Course and between Southdale Terrace and Russell Ranch (Creekside) subdivisions on the north and south, respectively.

According to the staff report, the 48.7-acre subdivision will consist of 162 "medium density single-family residential lots" and 11 acres of "passive open space" upon final buildout.

The report also notes construction of "off-site improvements" for Fairway Oaks gives the city an opportunity to extend water and sewer facilities along Bernal and Cornell roads. Westly extension of these facilities along Cornell, along with "stubbing out" water and sewer lateral lines along both roads, "will facilitate future connections by the adjacent properties that have been recently annexed" without having to dig up newly paved roads.

The final map for Fairway Oaks also "offers the dedication of roadway rights-of-way and four lots for public uses that include open space, storm drainage, utility and emergency vehicle access." The open space includes a bike trail, oak grove preserve and a stormwater quality basin.

"We still have some work to do on utility and easement issues, so we prefer to have time to resolve those issues before bringing that for final map approval," Interim City Manager Chris Erias said in citing staff's recommendation to delay a final decision on Fairway Oaks construction.

Glendale Avenue and Cornell and Ranch roads provide access to Fairway

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Celebrating Community on National Night Out



Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, National Night Out on Aug. 5 aims to raise awareness about crime and drug prevention while strengthening the bond between residents and public safety agencies. File photo by Paige Lampson

By Idaly Valencia

GALT, CA (MPG) - National Night Out, held annually on the first Tuesday in August, is a nationwide event that brings neighbors and law enforcement together to promote community safety and unity.

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, this evening aims to raise awareness about

crime and drug prevention while strengthening the bond between residents and public safety agencies.

National Night Out is dedicated to strengthening police-community partnerships and building a safer, more connected Galt. From 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 5, there will be block parties at parks throughout the city where residents can attend and celebrate with neighbors.

"This event straightens our bonds with the community with a lot of things going on in the world," said Galt Police Community Service Officer Julio Roque. "This helps us show them that we are human, too, and we like to have fun and we love throwing events for everyone to attend."

The three parks are Galt

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Pride in Community is Better than Ever

Galt Community of Character Coalition News Release

GALT, CA (MPG) - This year's Galt 4th of July Parade and celebration will be remembered as one of the best, most spirited and well attended Independence Day events ever.

Participants and onlookers all seemed united in love of country and love and pride in the community of Galt. Those who have lived in Galt for a while know that Pride in Community is a character trait held dearly here.

In fact, Pride in Community is the character trait of focus each summer, according to the Galt Community of Character Coalition. Clearly, the Kevin Tonn 5K Run that began the day, as well as the Parade, Market on Fourth Street and Fireworks Display were all examples of Pride in Community.

But what about Pride in Community on an everyday basis? What does that look like?

The following are some of the observations that emerged from a recent discussion on how to identify someone who demonstrates pride in community. Perhaps you've seen Galt residents who have engaged in the following, admirable activities:

Someone who sees something that needs to

be done in our community and does it before being asked. Picking up litter or garbage on the street and vacant lots or picking up dog waste while walking to keep the town clean and welcoming.

Student athletes who do their best every day and represent their school and community with pride. Those who always say positive and supportive things to others. Residents who are open to new ideas while honoring old traditions.

Volunteers, whether it's with a community organization, schools, youth sports teams, city committees or faith-based activities.

Those who put their faith or personal moral code into effect in how they respond to treatment of people in need, and individuals who live their lives with integrity by setting a good example for others in the community every day.

Whether you are new to Galt or have lived here for years, we can all recognize that Galt is a special place. Through the work of many individuals, organizations, schools and city services, Galt shines as a great American little town.

It's no wonder that Pride in Community is one of six-character traits selected by the Galt community through surveys and questionnaires as values to be promoted to make our community stronger.

The Galt Community of Character Coalition is regularly using public meetings of school boards and city council to recognize and honor individuals and groups displaying good character in our community. New members are welcome. The next meeting will be held on Aug. 11 at 5 p.m. at the L'Chayim women's center, 400 Fourth Street, Suite 160.

For July and August, the coalition is seeking nominations for individuals and groups displaying the character trait of Pride in Community.

It is encouraged to take a moment and nominate a deserving organization or community member whose actions help make Galt a great community.

To nominate an individual or group who displays the character trait of Pride in Community, submit a nomination by emailing the Nominating Committee at marimartinez2323@gmail.com. Deadline for nominations is Aug. 31.

The Galt Character Coalition strives to create a community culture based on positive values, goodwill, and accepted character traits by motivating individuals, families, and organizations to take responsibility for their choices and actions, to make a difference in the community, and to display and recognize good character. ★

Three Tips to Protect Rivers When Boating

City of Sacramento News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - With summer in full swing, City of Sacramento Department of Utilities staff are reminding boaters how they can help keep local waterways clean.

"Our rivers are great places to recreate but boats are a surprising source of waterway pollution," said Emma Burke, an outreach specialist that manages the City's Keep Our Waters Clean program, which helps educate boaters.

"Waste, fuel and oil from boats can harm local wildlife and affect drinking

water supplies."

According to Burke, there are three simple ways boaters can help protect rivers:

Use public restrooms and dispose of pet waste properly

Waste carries bacteria, viruses and parasites that can threaten the health of humans and wildlife.

Use pumpout stations to remove wastewater from your boat's holding tank

Improperly dumped wastewater often contains excess nutrients that contribute to harmful algal blooms and can harm fish and wildlife. Boaters can find a list of pumpout

station locations on the California State Parks website.

Recycle used oil and dirty bilge water at designated facilities.

Dirty bilge water can contain pollutants, such as oil, fuel and debris, which should never be dumped in waterways. Boaters can find facilities to recycle used oil and dirty bilge water on CalRecycle's website.

"While these are some of the simplest ways boaters can help keep our waterways clean, they also happen to be some of the most effective," Burke said. ★

Vehicle Collision into Structure

Galt Police Department News Release

GALT, CA (MPG) - On the morning of July 20, Galt Police Department officers responded to a report of a vehicle collision into structure at Galt Dental Group, located at 1067 C St.

Upon arrival, officers, with assistance from Cosumnes Fire Department personnel, initiated a collision investigation.

Findings revealed that a 47-year-old

female, the sole occupant of a Toyota Camry, had parked on the west side of the business.

While parked, the driver inadvertently accelerated, causing the vehicle to drive through the business.

Fortunately, the business was unoccupied at the time of the incident and no injuries were reported by the driver. The collision was determined to be the result of driver error and alcohol/drugs were not a contributing factor. ★

July is National Park and Recreation Month

City of Galt News Release

GALT, CA (MPG) - Each July, the city celebrates the contributions of park and recreation professionals and the lasting impact they have on communities across the country, including right here in Galt.

Galt's Parks and Recreation team creates the spaces, programs and connections that make daily life richer, from exciting community events and fitness classes to peaceful green spaces and cherished family moments.

This year's theme, "Build Together, Play Together," marks the 40th anniversary

of National Park and Recreation Month. Our dedicated Parks and Recreation team embodies this spirit every day, and we're incredibly grateful for their year-round commitment to our community.

The city invites residents to join in celebrating all month long by exploring Galt's beautiful parks, participating in programs and events, or engaging with us on social media. And if you see a member of our Parks and Recreation team out and about, be sure to thank them; they're helping Galt build and play, every day.

Happy Park and Recreation Month, Galt! ★



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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		10:25 AM	10:45 AM	11:20 AM	11:45 AM	11:50 AM	11:55 AM	12:00 PM	
12:20 PM	12:45 PM	12:50 PM	12:55 PM	1:00 PM	1:25 PM	1:45 PM		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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L'Chayim Threads Community Together

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Rancho Seco Care Home; receiving blankets for Sutter Children's Hospital NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit); tote bags for Head Start; and trick-or-treat bags for L'Chayim's annual Halloween event.

"We are now partnering with Shriners. We are committed to 50 to 100 pillowcases for them. We're taking 100 pillowcases to Rancho Seco Care Home and we also make bibs for them for helping feed the residents," Webber said.

"We've sponsored football players whose families just can't come up with those \$400. We've sponsored part of the livestock area at the state fair as well," she added.

"Say somebody had a house fire or something and you need clothes, they can call and make an appointment, and we have them come in and shop for clothes," said Webber. "We have hats that we provide to Fairsite School, and we give them to the police department so they could hand them out to the homeless during the wintertime."

"Basically, we're always looking for people to ask us for help," she said.

L'Chayim also supports McCaffrey Middle School's Maker Space class, offering discounted fabric to its students and teacher, as well as to Galt 4-H and a women's group in Lodi. Volunteers create items for city departments such as neck coolers for Parks and Recreation workers and aprons for Galt Police Department to wear during National Night Out on Aug. 5.

Sidewalk sales held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays feature clothing, shoes, phone accessories, books and other donated items (except furniture), starting at \$1. The sale promotes sustainability while raising funds for L'Chayim's causes.



Located on Fourth Street, the boutique sells handmade items including quilts, bucket hats, microwavable bowl cozies, dog scarves, eyeglass cases, book covers and towels.



L'Chayim of Galt's twice-a-week sidewalk sale, located at 400 Fourth St., promotes sustainability while raising funds for local causes.

Volunteer Adell Wyckoff, who has worked the sidewalk sale since December 2018, said the effort helps more than just the community.

"The reason why we want to make money is for the community so we can give bigger, you know, whoever needs something in the community, and we want to keep our prices low so our clientele can

afford it," Wyckoff said. "I was seeing a therapist and he said part of you is dying at home because I was waiting at home waiting for my husband to retire. So this is like a gift from God for me ... I love the town of Galt and the people; it's just great."

The nonprofit organization also has hygiene kits available for individuals who might be experiencing

hardship and require some basic self-care items.

"In that situation, we have hygiene bags and we have clothes that we've put aside and we just tell them to go out and pick out some clothes," Wyckoff said.

L'Chayim's fabric scraps go through multiple stages of reuse, with even the smallest remnants donated to a resident who fills dog



Sidewalk sales held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays feature clothing, shoes, phone accessories, books and other donated items (except furniture), starting at \$1.



Customers can purchase fabric for \$5 per yard at the L'Chayim of Galt boutique located at 400 Fourth St.



In the heart of Old Town Galt, the nonprofit L'Chayim organization has spent the past 20 years helping to fill gaps in community support through volunteer-driven initiatives and handmade goods.

beds with leftover fabric to give to the local animal rescue shelter.

Recent projects include sponsoring a free pool day for youth at Gora Aquatic Center on July 26 and supporting a student quilt showcase at the California State Fair.

"Everything is made with love," Webber said. "This is therapy for a lot of us, sewing and actually making stuff, creating and giving back out to the community."

Through every stitch, sale and act of service,

L'Chayim continues to be a lifeline for the Galt community. It's a place where creativity, compassion and purpose come together.

L'Chayim welcomes new volunteers and is flexible with scheduling. For more information, call 209-744-1143 or visit the boutique at 400 Fourth St., Suite 160.

The boutique is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays. It is also open the first three Saturdays of every month. ★

Celebrating Community on National Night Out

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Community Park at 1000 Walnut Ave., Meadowview Park at 1128 Meadowview Drive and the sports complex at 1022 Caroline Ave. Each location will have separate giveaways of new televisions.

The event at the sports complex will give away a 65-inch 4K television and the events at Meadowview Park and at Galt Community Park will give away a 55-inch 4K television each. There will also be free food and

snacks, including tacos, hot dogs and churros.

Residents can connect one-on-one with the police department, its special divisions and administration as well as the canine unit.

No purchase is required to enter the giveaways. To participate, residents are asked to show up and pick up a free raffle ticket for a chance to win.

"It's always nice when we put a smile on people's faces and it's always great when we get kids coming

up to us and say, 'I want to be a police officer when I grow up.' It's a great event. I hope to see all of you there," said Roque.

The city of Galt is seeking community support to help fund these events; donations will help make Galt's National Night Out a memorable event.

To donate via cash or check, schedule a pickup by emailing Roque at jroque@galtpd.com or calling/texting 209-744-6533. For more information, visit online.nnogalt.org. ★



National Night Out goes from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 5 at three different parks: Galt Community Park (1000 Walnut Ave.), Meadowview Park (1128 Meadowview Drive) and the sports complex at 1022 Caroline Ave. File photo by Paige Lampson

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Residents Voice Safety Concerns with Fairway Oaks Development

Continued from page 1

Oaks off South Lincoln Way, with the latter running through the Russell Ranch (Creekside) subdivision. Additionally, Chase Drive, accessed off Ranch and other roads in Creekside, would be extended along the east border of Fairway Oaks and wrap around into the subdivision north of Cornell.

It was these concerns over traffic and safety that had a number of residents from along Cornell Road and the Creekside areas attending the July 15 meeting. Although the item was pulled from the Consent Agenda schedule, Mayor Shawn Farmer recognized residents' desire to speak on the issue during the public comment period on non-agenda items.

A July 14 post on the Galt Creekside News website noted an email sent among residents on Cornell Road had requested they attend the July 15 council meeting to advocate for closing that road to traffic, essentially making it private.

Creekside/Ranch Road residents expressed on the site that they would also be attending the meeting to oppose this move, stating "to let the council know they need to stick to the plan."

Several Cornell residents spoke to this at the meeting, with 23-year Cornell Road resident Carol Smith noting the road is so narrow toward its eastern terminus that drivers can "high-five" each other as they pass.

Smith questioned if the road width was legal, adding there are no sidewalks or other safety measures currently along Cornell Road for residents and said she would be "mortified" to have her grandchildren playing outside her home when Fairway Oaks development brings more houses and traffic.

She noted that along Glendale, Ranch and Chase, sidewalks exist and the roadway is "as my neighbor said, about 46 feet wide."

"The infrastructure is there," Smith said. "It's not there on Cornell Road, so I'm one for keeping Cornell Road, closing it off, permanently, and if possible, making it a private road."

Smith's suggestion for making Cornell private received applause, as did residents of Creekside who were present and spoke against closing off Cornell Road.

Creekside resident, former Galt mayor and councilmember Jay Vandenburg said the traffic study for the development was



Cornell Road is under road work near the proposed Fairway Oaks subdivision's location. Photos by Idaly Valencia

"too old" and that closing Cornell would force more Fairway Oaks traffic onto Ranch Road.

Vandenburg also said he was concerned about the height of proposed retaining walls for Fairway Oaks and together with closing Cornell and not making proposed road improvements could lead to decreased safety for residents to satisfy requirements of the development builders, K. Hovanian Homes Northern California.

"To summarize, I would say that this is a sacrifice of many for the benefit of few and we should do better than that," Vandenburg said.

"I think overall the issue is the increased demand, the increased traffic to both neighborhoods, to both streets," area resident Brooke Stahmer said, pointing to overall traffic in the area as factoring into impacts on the community.

The proposed resolution on the Fairway Oaks Final Map and Subdivision Improvement Agreement notes the latter requires K. Hovanian Homes Northern California to complete an estimated \$14.332 million in public improvements "in accordance with the conditions of approval."

Staff said they would bring the resolution back at a future council meeting. ★



The Fairway Oaks development, currently beginning construction, is located east of South Lincoln Way, west of U.S. Highway 99 and the Dry Creek Ranch Golf Course and between Southdale Terrace and Russell Ranch (Creekside) subdivisions.

MEMORIAL

NANCY EDSALL • 09/02/1949 - 06/25/2025

Nancy Edsall of Galt, CA, San Jose, CA, to Bertha and Henry Holloway, and she was the baby of the family (youngest of 9). She is survived by her only child, daughter Angela (Angie) Dotson (married to Steve), but she also has grandchildren who she loved beyond words ~ Kevin (Sarah), Lindsey, Steven (Caroline) and Tyler (Taylor). She lived a full life of love, church, family, friends, and laughter. To those who knew her, there is no doubt in some way you experienced her kindness to and love of others. "I love you most, mom!" (love Angie)

The Galt Herald

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The Galt Herald

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Summer league has grown exponentially, and fans are tuned in today like never before.

Sunday night saw our Sacramento Kings vying for their third summer league championship, as they faced off with the Charlotte Hornets in Las Vegas Nevada.

With identical 5-0 records the Kings got a dose of what their first and second round draft choices were capable of, so it remained to be seen how they would perform when the lights were brightest.

After an auspicious summer league audition, Nique Clifford struggled finding his shooting stroke, and had just 4 points entering the fourth quarter. The Kings would never give up on this game. After being down by 18 points, the young squad fought back to a single point deficit with less than 2 minutes remaining.

A pass from Isaac Jones to Clifford well beyond the arc, and Nique did not disappoint draining a deep three. Clifford followed up with an acrobatic jump shot in the corner for another three, and the Kings looked like winners.

Charlotte would not go quietly as sharpshooter Kon Knueppel pulled up for a back breaking three. Moving the ball quickly into the frontcourt Isaac Jones sized up his first 3-point shot of the night and when Isaac converted the three the Kings were knocking on the door once again.

Kings fans can be proud of how the team fought for a win that ultimately would escape them, as a much needed rebound careened off the foot of Isaac Jones, and the Kings would go on to lose 83-78.

Neither the loss of the game nor the championship is the real story. The Sacramento Kings got more than just a glimpse of what their first and second round draft choices are capable of.

Talented, for sure and yes, they are raw. Nique Clifford put together a string of games that stated loudly, I've arrived and ready to make a difference!

Although I don't like using that word, Maxime Raynaud is more of a project. Raynaud, like every rookie, is going to need extended playing time, and time to play through his mistakes.

What the Kings really wanted to know, is can this 7'1" big man make an impact and play alongside Domantas Sabonis. I believe

he can, but confidence building is what will determine how quickly Maxime Raynaud will arrive.

Not to be left behind was the electric play of second year man Isaac Jones, who coming off a stellar 36-point performance, led all scores again with a 24-point performance. Jones made his lone 3-point attempt and added 11 big boards while chipping in with 2 assists.

Isaac Jones summer league performance came as no surprise to me. What's sad is the lack of playing time he received in his rookie year. It's my hope, as Isaac is receiving accolades from other coaches and pundits, that the staff pay close attention to what is possible.

Jones 6'9" frame and 7'3" wingspan make him a difficult guard for any team. He has a definite knack around the rim. He's active, and if he finds himself in a rotation that gives him 20 minutes plus per game, look for both Isaac and the Kings to take a step forward.

There is much to shout about as the Kings close out their summer league schedule. The confident presence that Nique Clifford brought every night is one of many things to be happy about.

Nique lived up to his billing as he played hard at both ends of the court, and like Isaac Jones, Clifford will need to find his place on the team that gets him minutes every game.

Doug Christie has his work cut out for him with a crowded guard rotation, including second year man Devin Carter, who acquitted himself admirably and played dominantly. Devin needs to continue working on his shot, but the upside for Carter is huge. No need for the Kings to question their decision to draft a player that could only contribute half a season due to injury. Carter is winning fans with every game he plays. I look for Devin to be more than just a contributor in the upcoming season.

Yes, Kings fans, you got what you were hoping for, and without a doubt this summer league squad has got the city of Sacramento excited.

Scott Perry isn't done just yet, so stay tuned Kings fans!

All the best!

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

Social Security Matters

What is the Formula for Deciding When to Claim?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am curious about the "formula" to decide when to take Social Security while still working. I am past the Full Retirement Age. How do you best address such? Should we schedule a call? **Signed: Wondering When**

Dear Wondering: Well, you can always contact us by phone on 1.888.750.2622 to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors, or you can send your questions to us via email at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. You don't need to pre-schedule a meeting, as we have multiple advisors answering the phone on most normal business days. If they all happen to be busy when you call, simply leave a voicemail and an Advisor will return your call promptly.

For starters, since you have reached your full retirement age, know that your work earnings will no longer negatively affect your Social Security benefits. You can earn as much as possible, and your monthly SS amount will be the same, based on your average lifetime monthly earnings (for your highest 35 years), and based on your age when you claim.

Since you have not yet claimed SS, you are already earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) which increase your monthly SS amount by .667% for each month you continue to delay. That's 8% for each full year you delay past your full retirement age (FRA). You should not, however, wait longer than age 70 to claim because that is when you will get your maximum SS benefit amount. For you, that means that your age 70 amount will be 28% more than the amount you would have received at your FRA of 66 years and 6 months (in Oct. 2023), and about 15% more than if you were to claim now.

Note too, that if your more recent income is among the highest of your lifetime, Social Security will automatically increase your monthly SS retirement amount to account for that event. They will check your work earnings each year to see if you are entitled to a larger SS amount because of your recent earnings.

Since (according to your AMAC member record) you are married, you may also wish to consider whether your wife will get a spousal benefit from you when you claim. If your wife's personal SS retirement amount at her FRA is less than the amount you were entitled to at your FRA, then she will get a spousal boost when you claim. With her spousal boost (if claimed at her FRA), her total SS benefit should be about 50% of your FRA benefit amount (not half of the higher amount you will get because you waited longer to claim).

But your wife cannot get a spousal boost until you are collecting your SS.

And here is something else to think about: received SS benefits will become part of your overall income taxed by the IRS when you submit your income tax return. If you file your income tax as "married/jointly" and your combined income from all sources is more than \$32,000 then some of your SS benefits will become taxable income. If your combined income is between \$32,001 and \$44,000, then half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. Or, if your combined income from all sources exceeds \$44,000, then about 85% of your received SS benefits will become part of your income taxed by the IRS. Just something to keep in mind, especially since you are still working.

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. ★



It's Time to Cut Off Public Broadcasting

In the past, whenever Republicans have tried to cut federal funding for public broadcasting, the 8-foot-2-inch-tall yellow bird has been trotted out as an exemplar of all that is good and necessary about public broadcasting, and the federal dollars have been preserved.

Perhaps our Jim Henson-created feathered friend will continue his undefeated streak, but a Trump-backed recessions bill represents the best chance to defund public broadcasting in decades, if not ever.

The bill, clawing back previously appropriated funding, has already passed the House and is now being considered in the Senate, where the filibuster doesn't apply. The measure targets \$9.4 billion in federal spending, including funds for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The CPB gets about \$500 million a year from the federal government, and parcels it out to NPR, PBS and local public radio and TV stations.

NPR maintains that it only gets about 2% of its funding from the federal government, with more coming indirectly via member stations. PBS gets about 15% of its funding from the feds.

If NPR and PBS programming is as compelling and vital as its defenders say, it shouldn't be a heavy

lift to get foundations, philanthropists and devoted listeners and viewers to fill any funding gap. The organization's already given out a lot of tote bags during fundraising drives. Surely, they can give out some more.

Decades ago, with the rise of cable TV and a proliferation of sources of news and entertainment, it seemed absurd for the government to have to prop up a few select media sources. How much more ridiculous it is now, in the age of YouTube, social media, satellite radio, Substack, streaming services and podcast platforms.

Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the Public Broadcasting Act, creating the CPB in 1967, and like many other Great Society programs, public broadcasting is an anachronism that won't go away. Big Bird himself is approaching the age when he'll soon begin to be eligible for senior-citizen discounts.

Supporters of public broadcasting extol the virtues of "All Things Considered," the "PBS NewsHour" and "Frontline," and yes (political bias aside), journalists do some good work for these programs. They also (again, political bias aside) do some good work at The New York Times and CBS News, yet neither of these outlets depend on federal tax dollars.

Oh, defenders also ask, How can we possibly do without the wonder of educational programming like "Sesame Street" and "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood"? "Sesame Street" is, indeed, an American institution. Even if PBS collapsed tomorrow, the show would certainly go on. For about a decade now, new epi-

sodes have been featured on HBO or Netflix, demonstrating how a venerable 50-year-old project can adapt to the times.

It's simply not true, by the way, that we depend on PBS for good shows for kids. There's been educational programming developed by Nickelodeon ("Blue's Clues & You!"), Scholastic Entertainment ("The Magic School Bus") and Netflix ("Ask the StoryBots" and "Ada Twist, Scientist"). And somehow, such iconic children's programming as "Dora the Explorer," "Peppa Pig" and "Bluey" were created without the involvement of PBS.

Then there's the argument that a cut-off of federal funding will be devastating to local public radio stations in rural communities. It's true that small stations could go out of business, but as anyone who has been paying attention has noticed, we live in an era of great media churn. Private media entities are going out of business -- and being created -- all the time. The government shouldn't extend its favor to a few select outlets. Especially when these outlets are so blatantly and pervasively biased. NPR and PBS provide left-of-center content for left-of-center audiences under the guise of objectivity. As many legacy media organizations have long demonstrated, there is a business model there, but it's not one that deserves or needs taxpayer support.

Big Bird should, finally, make his own way in the world.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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New California Budget Ignores Day of Reckoning



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

When Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders were drafting a more-or-less final 2025-26 state budget last month, they were closing what they described as a \$12 billion deficit, a number that the state's media repeatedly cited.

It was the wrong number; it minimizes the state's chronic gap between income and outgo, as the state's official budget summary released this week confirms.

The budget projects that the state will receive \$208.6 billion in general fund revenues during the fiscal year that began on July 1, but it will spend \$228.4 billion, a gap just shy of \$20 billion.

The \$12 billion figure stems from counting a \$7.1 billion diversion from one of the state's reserve accounts as revenue — an assumption that violates common sense as well as any legitimate accounting scenario.

The more accurate figure of \$20 billion is important because it squares with projections by Newsom's Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office that California has what's called a "structural deficit" in the range of

\$10 billion to \$20 billion a year.

In other words financing all of the programs and services now in state law will indefinitely cost that much more each year than the state is likely to receive in revenues.

The budget closes about a third of the \$20 billion gap with an aforementioned \$7.1 billion shift from the emergency reserve — money that's supposed to be used to cushion the impact of an economic downturn or calamities such as the wildfires that devastated Los Angeles, earthquakes or destructive storms.

The deficit isn't a genuine emergency because it resulted from irresponsible political decisions, particularly Newsom's declaration in 2022 that the state had a \$97.5 billion budget surplus and thus could afford a sharp increase in spending.

The surplus was a mirage, based on assumptions of a \$40 billion annual increase in revenues that never happened. Last year, the Department of Finance acknowledged that revenues over four years would fall short of expectations by \$165 billion.

However, much of the phantom money was already spent, thereby creating the structural deficit that Newsom and the Legislature basically ignored in putting together the current budget.

The \$12 billion gap left after the reserve fund shift was mostly papered over with on- and off-budget loans from special funds, shifting some spending into future years and using

accounting gimmicks, such as shifting some current year spending, the June 2026 state payroll for instance, into the next fiscal year.

One could liken the state budget to a family that takes out loans on its credit cards to finance a lavish lifestyle, or a city that provides pension benefits it cannot afford.

Sooner or later, the debts pile so high that they can no longer be ignored and the day of reckoning arrives. That's one reason why more than 30,000 Californians file for bankruptcy each year and why several California cities have gone bankrupt in recent years.

States cannot file for bankruptcy, no matter how distorted their finances. If they could, California would not qualify because of its almost unlimited ability to borrow money from special funds.

However, there will be a day of judgment if California's spending continues to outpace its revenues, particularly if the state's economy continues its sluggish performance.

Newsom and legislators implicitly assume that at some point revenues will increase enough to cover their spending and pay off their debts — just as a debt-ridden family buys lottery tickets in hopes of avoiding bankruptcy.

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. ★

Ice Cream is Good; With Hot Fudge? Even Better!



official holiday!

One fun way to celebrate National Hot Fudge Day is to invite your family and friends over for an Ice Cream Social. Have them bring their favorite toppings and you supply the vanilla ice cream. Yes, just vanilla. You are featuring the toppings, not the ice cream.

My favorite: Pour some hot fudge to coat the bowl, add two large scoops of ice cream, pour more hot fudge over the ice cream, topped with a healthy serving of whipped cream, sprinkle with chopped walnuts or almonds, and carefully place two maraschino cherries on top (one for me and one to share) and at least a half of cup of hot fudge on the side, just in case I didn't get enough the first time and especially if I am sharing.

What do you think? Is your mouth watering? If so, you may want to have a test run right now, before the party, just so you get it right.

I started back to work this past Wednesday. It felt good to be back. I am excited for the new school year. This past year the "Covid Kid" era finally seemed to fade away, and our students are seeing the positive possibilities of life. Not dwelling on the negative.

High school starts Aug. 6 and I am fortunate to start early to get organized for the new freshmen and returning students. It is going to be a good year. Galt Elementary, Arcohe Elementary and New Hope Elementary open their doors on Aug. 7; Oak View Elementary starts school on Aug. 15.

Remember, Herald Day is Saturday, Aug. 2. It is the one day we see our neighbors from across the pastures, catch up on their families and friends: who got

married, got divorced, had babies, got a new dog, moved away, moved back, and who retired and why. There is always a "why."

The crafters will be there offering artistic jewelry, home décor, jams and jellies, metal and wood sculptures, plants, etc. It is a good time to find unique Christmas gifts. Yes, I said Christmas; I am always thinking about Christmas. It is my favorite time of year; in fact, there are only 153 shopping days until Christmas.

So, you had best get started; there is no time like the present (no pun intended). And there will be food at Herald Day so you don't have to make lunch; there will be food trucks and vendors. And buy an extra meal or two to take home for dinner.

On a personal note: Happy Anniversary to my husband, Don. Thursday, July 31 will be 56 years and counting. It has been an adventure. I am looking forward to the years to come. Cheers to you, my love.

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

ABOUT TOWN

Enter Aug. 2 Herald Day Contests

Herald Community Club is accepting entries for the Herald Day 2025 canning and baking contests. Herald Day is scheduled for Aug. 2 at Herald Park on Twin Cities Road. The categories are baked goods, canned jelly or jam, canned pickle or relish and salsa.

Entries must be delivered to Herald Park by 11 a.m. on event day. For more information, call Jim Cunningham at 209-768-7144.

Saturday, July 26

Habitat Restoration Workday – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Cosumnes River Preserve. Anyone 18 or older who wants to be truly involved with environmental stewardship at the Preserve is invited to join the Habitat Restoration Team (HRT). This team assists Preserve Staff with focused conservation projects that allow members to contribute to Preserve success. Call 916-826-0927 to sign up or for more information. *The Barn at 6500 Desmond Road.*

Twin Cities Cruisers Cars and Coffee – 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Life's a Grind Coffee House. *10420 Twin Cities Road.*

Thursday, July 31

Lodi Farmers Market – 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., every Thursday evening through Aug. 28 on School Street in Downtown Lodi.

Saturday, Aug. 2

Galt Saturday Market – First Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fourth Street Promenade. Visit with local artisans, shop handmade crafts and enjoy a variety of cuisine from yummy food trucks!

American Steel Car Club, 28th Annual "Stuck in Lodi" car show – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Downtown Lodi, entrance at Lodi Avenue and School Street. For more information, call 209-365-9600.

Stretch, Purr and Pose, Cat Yoga – 11 a.m. to 2:45

p.m. at PALS Haven, Lodi. This yoga class invites you to flow through a beginner-friendly practice while adoptable cats roam freely, stretch beside you, or maybe just curl up in your lap. All proceeds go toward helping PALS care for local animals in need. Contact PALS Haven at 209-333-9963 for more information or to sign up for one of the three sessions available. *5113 W. Sargent Road.*

Wilton Bingo – Doors open at 5 p.m. with food available for sale, and bingo starts at 6 p.m. in the Wilton Community Center. All proceeds go to two non-profits: the local Park Council and the Wilton History Group. *Colony Road at Dillard Road.*

Astronomy in the Park – 8 p.m. at Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton. Enjoy telescope viewings guided by local astronomers, interactive presentations, and educational activities perfect for kids and adults alike. Bring a blanket, pack a picnic and don't forget your sense of wonder. For more information, contact 209-953-8800. *4520 W. Eight Mile Road.*

Sunday, Aug. 3

Rio Vista and Isleton 2025 Holy Ghost Portuguese Festa, Rio Vista – 10:30 a.m. parade, 11:30 a.m. Mass. Open to the public; first feeding 11 a.m. and auction at 2 p.m. More information at rvi-chg1899@gmail.com. *295 S. 7th St.*

Tuesday, Aug. 5

National Night Out – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Be part of Galt's biggest community event of the year at one of three locations: Community Park, 1000 Walnut Ave.; Meadowview Park, 1128 Meadowview Drive; or Sports Complex, 1022 Caroline Ave. More information at nngalt.org.

Thursday, Aug. 7

Lodi Farmers Market – 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., every

Thursday evening through Aug. 28 on School Street in Downtown Lodi.

Friday, Aug. 8

Friday Night Movies at Veterans Field – Gates open at 6 p.m. and the movie starts at dusk. This month, we'll be watching "Cars," so bring your blankets, chairs and picnic baskets to enjoy an evening outdoors with family and friends. For more information, call 209-366-7115 or email jgarcia@cityofgalt.org. *900 Caroline Ave.*

Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10

"Straight Up Dubs" car show – Lodi Grape Festival & Event Center. This is an all-models Volkswagen-only event. Gates open at 2 p.m. Saturday for overnight camping; Sunday is a car show and swap open to the public. Schedule and information at straightupdubs.org. *413 E. Lockeford St.*

Saturday, Aug. 9

Taste of the Delta – 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Delta Diamond Farm and Event Center, Isleton. Join us for the premier annual event where the best of the Delta region comes together for an afternoon of local wine, craft beer, delicious food and artisan vendors. Tickets and more information at tasteofthedelta.com. *15175 CA-160.*

Summer Concerts in the Park – presented by the City of Galt Parks and Recreation. This month's event will be at Walker Community Park. Join us when the gates open at 6 p.m. to enjoy the B-Side Band. Bring your chairs, blankets, snacks, neighbors and friends. More information at cityofgalt.org. *380 W. Elm Ave.*

James Garner: A Tribute to Johnny Cash – 7 p.m. at the Charlene Powers Lange Performing Arts Theatre, Lodi. Join us for a special fundraising concert benefiting the Lodi Arts Foundation. Tickets and more information at

lodi.gov and look for Lodi Events at Hutchins Street Square. *125 S. Hutchins St.*

Veterans Meetings

American Legion Post 55, Veterans and Auxiliary Units – fourth Wednesday each month. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m. Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive. Next meeting will be Aug. 27. Breakfast: second Saturday, 8-10 a.m., 8830 Sharkey Ave., Elk Grove.

American Legion Post 233 and Auxiliary Unit 233 – general meetings the fourth Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove. Dinner at 6 p.m. Next meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 28. The Post Family Breakfast,

9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2. Bert's Diner, 8972 Grant Line Road, Elk Grove. For more information, call 916-683-6128.

Marine Corps League Detachment #1238 – first Thursday each month. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., District 56 Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove.

VFW Post 2073 – second Thursday. Dinner 6 p.m., meeting 7 p.m., District 56 Veterans Hall, Elk Grove. For more info, call 916-684-3849. 8230 Civic Center Drive.

Library Events

Sacramento County Libraries have the following upcoming events: (G) Marian O. Lawrence Library, 1000 Caroline

Ave., (WG) Walnut Grove, 14177 Market St.

Wednesday, July 30: Teen space, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Meet other teens and hang out in a space dedicated to you. (WG)

Thursday, July 31: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (WG) Tai Chi for beginners, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Join us for a 6-week series of this low-impact, gentle martial art. Registration is required. (WG) STEAM builder space – Ozobots, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. (G)

Friday, Aug. 1: Family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (G)

Saturday, Aug. 2: Piñatas with Patty Botello, 11 a.m. to noon. The program will be presented in English and Spanish. Materials and supplies provided. (G) ★

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MEETING MINDERS

Sunday, Aug. 3

Galt 4-H Club meeting, 4 p.m. at either Barbara Payne Community Garden or Grange Hall (depending on weather); see Facebook page GALT 4-H or email galt4h@gmail.com.

Monday, Aug. 4

Lodi Parkinson's Support Group, 10 a.m., GracePoint Church, 801 Lower Sacramento Road (enter off Tokay Street), Lodi; 209-269-1080 or 209-329-1185.

Galt Youth Commission, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Tuesday, Aug. 5

Galt City Council, 6 p.m., Council

Chambers, 380 Civic Drive.

Wednesday, Aug. 6

Cosumnes CSD, 5 p.m., Elk Grove CSD boardroom, 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove.

Herald Community Club, 6:30 p.m., Hendrickson Hall, 12746 Ivie Road, Herald, 209-810-8390.

Sacramento LAFCo, 5:30 p.m., County Administration Center boardroom, 700 H St., Sacramento.

Friday, Aug. 8

Galt Sunrise Rotary, 7 a.m., Comfort Inn & Suites, 10380 Twin Cities Road, 209-745-6617. ★

Hear that Train Whistle Blow

Historic Steam Locomotive Set to Ride the Rails Again

California State Railroad Museum Foundation News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Visitors to the Old Sacramento Waterfront will soon regularly hear that steam whistle blow as Granite Rock 10 returns to operating service, riding the rails of the Sacramento Southern Railroad.

The California State Railroad Museum & Foundation are thrilled to announce the historic steam locomotive is set to officially begin pulling weekend excursion trains on August 9.*

Moving forward, Granite Rock 10 will likely pull excursion trains on two weekends per month, rotating with historic diesel locomotives.

In the meantime, the community and rail fans might see Granite Rock 10 on the excursion train as the train crew gets fully up to speed operating the steam locomotive for the first time in six years.

Since October 2019, Granite Rock 10 has been out of service for needed maintenance that took place in the historic Railyard Shops. Most of the meticulous work done on the locomotive involved a cylinder-rebuilding project followed by precision adjustments to the valves and valve-timing mechanisms.



The California State Railroad Museum Foundation mission is to generate revenue and awareness on behalf of its destinations, while supporting the preservation, interpretation and promotion of our railroad heritage. The foundation provides funding for ongoing support of numerous programs, both at the museum's Old Sacramento location and at the historic park in Jamestown. Photo by Kelly B. Huston, courtesy of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation

The precision-focused maintenance was led by Chief Mechanical Officer Al DiPaolo who was supported by a dedicated crew of mechanics that specialize in historic rail equipment.

"Still operating steam locomotives such as our prized Granite Rock 10 are true survivors and always have a fascinating story to tell," said Dr. Ty Smith, Director of the California State Railroad Museum. "We invite our local, regional, and world rail

community to take a ride back in history to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of a historic train ride reminiscent of an earlier time when steam ruled the rails and connected the nation in majestic ways."

As background, Granite Rock 10 was built in 1942 for the U.S. Army Transportation Corps, sold as surplus to Granite Rock Co. of Logan in 1947 before retiring from service in 1960. The historic steam locomotive was later donated to the California State Railroad

Museum in 1995 and returned to service in 1997, pulling weekend excursion trains and delighting fans of all ages.

With roots dating back to World War II, Granite Rock 10 tells a tale of ingenuity and using every available technological resource available at the time. "Today, Granite Rock 10 allows the Museum to preserve and teach the now nearly forgotten knowledge associated with the maintenance and operation of steam-driven machinery," said Tim Schroepfer, President

& CEO of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation.

In addition to periodic evening and/or special train ride experiences, memorable six-mile, 45-minute excursion train rides are available Fridays through Sundays, with three trains departing on Fridays (11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.) and five on Saturdays and Sundays (10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.).

Advance reservations for excursion train rides are available here. Tickets purchased online may be picked up in the ticket office of the Central Pacific Passenger Station on Front Street between I and J streets at the Old Sacramento Waterfront. If still available, same-day tickets are available at the ticket office as well.

For updates on when Granite Rock 10 will be operating on the Sacramento Southern Railroad, the team will give as much advance notice as possible via social media channels. For more information about the California State Railroad Museum or Foundation, please visit www.californiarailroadmuseum.com.

*Steam is not guaranteed and motive power is subject to change on any given day without advance notice. ★

Law Enforcement Partnership Yields 24 Narcotics Arrests



Sacramento County District Attorney Thien Ho speaks at a podium in Sacramento during a July 16 press conference about a joint narcotics operation between Sacramento Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office. Photo courtesy of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

Sacramento County District Attorney's Office News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Police Department, along with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office announced the results of a recent operation focused on maintaining safety and quality of life in the central city.

Over a five-week period from April 23 to May 30, a temporary team known as the Central Narcotics Enforcement Team (CNET) worked to identify and stop street-level drug activity.

The operation was part of the Sacramento Police Department's ongoing efforts to ensure our streets remain a safe and welcoming place for residents, workers and visitors.

"This operation addressed street-level drug activity helping to keep our neighborhoods safe," said Sacramento Police Chief Kathy Lester. "We're committed to using focused strategies and strong partnerships to protect our community and preserve the

vibrant atmosphere of our city."

The operation led to approximately 24 arrests, with additional arrests anticipated and resulted in the seizure of large quantities of drugs, firearms and cash.

More than 2,700 grams of cocaine, 6,000 fentanyl pills, 311 grams of heroin and 260 grams of ketamine were seized, along with more than 200 grams of ecstasy, 17 ounces of Dimethyltryptamine (DMT) and nearly two pounds of psilocybin mushrooms.

Also seized in the operation were 20 Adderall pills, more than four pounds of methamphetamine, more than \$31,500 in cash believed to be proceeds from drug sales, three rifles and one handgun.

While Central Narcotics Enforcement Team was a temporary team, the Sacramento Police Department remains focused on using resources effectively, listening to community concerns and working with partners to keep neighborhoods safe.

The link to the July 16 CNET News Conference news conference is <https://www.youtube.com/live/yGTVb6YZ-DAs?si=s9mVyuudmVyXTd3C>. ★

Governor Newsom Announces Appointments



Gov. Gavin Newsom

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Governor Gavin Newsom announced the appointment of several positions on July 16.

Jennifer Osborn, of Orangevale, has been appointed Director at the California Department of Industrial Relations. Osborn has been Chief Deputy Director at the California Department of General Services since 2021.

She was Director of the Division of Administrative Services at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from 2018 to 2020. Osborn was Deputy Secretary of Fiscal Policy and Administration at the California Government Operations Agency from 2013 to 2018. She was Deputy Secretary of Fiscal Operations at the California State and Consumer Services Agency from 2012 to 2013.

Osborn was Principal Program Budget Analyst at the California Department of Finance from 1998 to 2011. She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Nevada, Reno and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Political Science from California State University, Chico. This position requires Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$236,052. Osborn is a Democrat.

Gentian Droboniku, of Sacramento, has been appointed Chief Deputy Director of the California

Department of Tax and Fee Administration. Droboniku has been a Research Data Manager at the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration since 2019 and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California, Price School of Public Policy since 2017.

Droboniku was a Research Data Specialist at the California Public Employees Retirement System from 2014 to 2018. He was a Debt and Investment Researcher at the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission from 2012 to 2014. Droboniku was Performance Evaluator at the California State Auditor from 2010 to 2012. He was a Graduate Student Policy Assistant at California's State Controller's Office from 2008 to 2010.

Droboniku earned a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$214,968. Droboniku is a Democrat.

Sean Connelly, of Sacramento, has been appointed the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public and Employee Communications at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Connelly has been Chief of Staff in the Office of Assemblymember Jessica Caloza in the California State Assembly since 2024.

He held multiple positions in the Office of Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez in the California State Assembly from 2016 to 2024, including Chief of Staff and Capitol and Communications Director. Connelly held multiple positions at the University of California Student

Association from 2013 to 2016, including Interim Executive Director and the Director of Government Relations.

He was a Legislative Assistant and Consultant for Office of Senator Ellen Corbett in the California State Senate from 2012 to 2013. Connelly was an Executive Fellow in the Capital Fellowship Program at the California National Guard for Adjutant General David Baldwin from 2011 to 2012. He earned a Bachelor of the Arts degree in Global Studies and Maritime Affairs from California State Polytechnic University, Maritime Academy.

This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$172,008. Connelly is a Democrat.

Melissa Bacon, of Sacramento, has been appointed Deputy Director at the Office of Legislative and Governmental Affairs at the California Department of Health Care Services. Bacon has been Assistant Deputy Director at the Office of Legislative and Governmental Affairs at the California Department of Health Care Services since 2016, and was Staff Services Manager from 2013 to 2016.

She was an Associate Governmental Program Analyst at the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs from 2008 to 2013. Bacon was an Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention Coordinator at University of California, Davis, Health, Education and Promotion Department from 2006 to 2008.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of California, Davis. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$164,400. Bacon is registered with no party preference. ★

Unsecured Property Taxes Due Sept. 2

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Annual bills for Sacramento County unsecured personal property taxes for fiscal year 2025-2026 will be mailed on July 18 and are due no later than Sept. 2 to avoid penalties for delinquency.

If you owned unsecured property in Sacramento County, such as a boat or aircraft or if you leased or owned fixtures and equipment related to a business on Jan. 1 and do not receive a tax bill by Aug. 8, contact the Sacramento County Tax Collector's Unsecured Property Tax Unit at 916-874-7833 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, excluding holidays.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse delinquency or allow the tax collector to cancel penalties or collection costs.

Payments can be made by mail or in person at the County Tax Collector's Office, 700 H St., Room 1710, Sacramento, CA 95814, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, excluding holidays.

Property taxes can also be paid online by e-check or credit card with the Sacramento County Property Tax Bill Information System website.

Tax bills become delinquent if not paid in the Tax Collector's Office by 5 p.m. Sept. 2 or received by mail bearing a postmark of Sept. 2.

If the tax bill is not paid by the delinquency date, a 10% penalty and collection cost will be added. DMV registration could be withheld on watercraft if unsecured property taxes are reported delinquent.

If a tax bill remains unpaid after Oct. 31, additional collection costs and monthly penalties at the rate of 1.5% will be added to the base tax. ★

Sapphires in the Mail, Arriving by the Day

Story and photos by Kimberly A. Edwards

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG)- The highlight of my day is awaiting the mail truck, as I'm on the watch for flats, bundles and cardboard boxes.

This new pastime is an unexpected treat of buying books and articles written by early authors of the California Writers Club Sacramento. Our club is turning 100 years old this fall. The hunt has made me realize that not only were these authors talented but that they deserve honor. They are deceased now but the books, poems and articles they left behind endure.

Daily, I scour club records for references to work published. Then I tear through the internet, screen after screen, chasing available titles.

Books are searchable, although covers changed by publishers make first editions hard to identify.

Magazines can be fleeting. For example, so-and-so sold stories to Love Stories, Argosy, Secrets, Intimate Stories, Essence, Popular Mechanics, Weird Tales, Dude, Popular Science, Better Homes and Gardens, Teen and so on. But our records don't specify the exact date of publication. So last night, I foraged for an hour for "The Torso on the Rocks," sold to Trapped Detective Story Magazine. No luck.

Each day's mail brings surprises, as I rediscover the forgotten gems I've ordered. Our club, an affiliate of the California Writers Club in 1925, claimed members who

published as early as 1914. Yesterday, I discovered early publisher Jo Anderson, "His Print Shop," at 416 J St., Sacramento. The illustrations done by a name described as "Sacramento Boy" went on to become an internationally famous article.

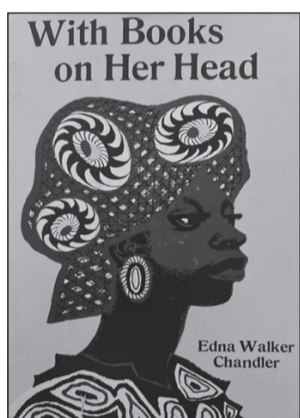
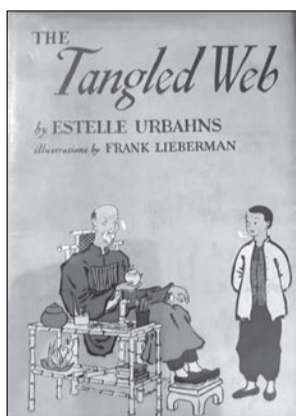
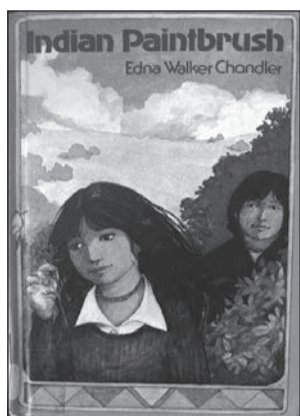
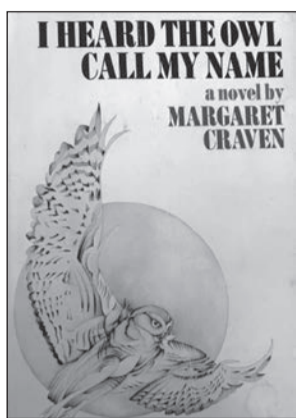
Enthusiasm can be dizzying. Four times I ordered duplicate copies of the same book but they were different editions with different covers. Twice I ordered "The Golfer's Bible" but one turned out to be a real Bible. Recently, the bank put my credit card on hold for charges thought to be suspicious.

On a dark night, I realized that I had accidentally disposed of something in the garbage bins. With a flashlight and a stool, I dug for a discarded photo of nationally-syndicated columnist "Helen Help Us" Helen Bottel.

It's exciting to find an early book, especially a scarce one. I'm not a professional book trader, so I obviously don't know what I'm doing. I'm just snatching what I can, convincing myself that the dazzle of yore belongs to us in Sacramento.

Having studied multi-cultural children's books in the '70s, I know that librarians in those days had little guidance when ordering books with diverse characters. I am, thankfully, finding in this growing trove of jewels respectable renditions.

What tested my mettle, however, were two early books with "Pickanny" in the title. One was dedicated to the students of



These books are just a few of the works by Sacramento-area writers. Some of the authors were published as early as 1914. California Writers Club, Sacramento will celebrate 100 years of excellence in writing on Oct. 18 at North Ridge Country Club. Go online to sacramentowriters.org for more information about the writers club and its 100th-year anniversary.

own our past and understand that perspective at the time differs from love on the page crafted laboriously by an author with good intentions.

Many of our early authors' books were made into movies. One inspired the TV series, "Grizzly Adams."

Edna Chandler and Lee Roddy published more than 50 books apiece.

Duane Newcomb sold 2,000 articles. Leo Rosenhouse sold dozens monthly.

Psychiatrist Walter Bromberg, author of "Crime of the Mind," served as an expert on famous criminal cases. Edna Mae Burnam Nauman wrote the "Dozen a Day," music instruction for piano students.

Attorney Ken Donelson and his wife, Irene, wrote "Married Today, Single Tomorrow: Marriage Breakup and the Law." Diane Davidson wrote "Feverisham" about a real-life murder in Tudor England.

Walter T. Boyd, having worked in secret military operations, wrote about cryogenics.

Amparo Campeón wrote a column for Spanish-language newspaper, "El Hispano."

Bud Gardner became the most inspirational writing teacher in the U.S.

Eva Rutland wrote, "When We Were Colored."

So what will we do with this stockpile of early work of which we are so proud? We plan to display it at our "100 Years of Writing Excellence in Sacramento" event from noon to 3 p.m. Oct. 18 at North Ridge Country Club. Presenters

will include award-winning featured speaker Jack Ohman, Rich Ehisen, poet Carol Lynn Stevenson Grellas, literary agent Sandra Proudman and Alison Linton of the local CBS affiliate. For tickets or more information, go to sacramentowriters.org.

The 102-year Kiyo Sato International award winner will be on hand. Attendees will learn about early magazines and trends in publishing.

We thank our partners, the Crocker Art Museum, the California State Library, the Sacramento Public Library and the Center for Sacramento History.

As a child whose hands leaked stories from the minute I awoke, I believe that everyone who wants to write should be encouraged and we need to applaud all who have.

Questions remain: will my credit card be deactivated due to flagged purchases around the globe? What am I going to do with these treasures after the event, since they are taking over my condo?

Sapphires shine and can last forever, as will these works, long past my condo and me.

Kimberly A. Edwards, first vice-president of the California Writers Club, is a long-time writer with credits in national magazines, international media, newsletter publishing, reporting, column writing, poetry and memoir. Everyone in the writing community is invited to join the Centennial event (sacramentowriters.org) to honor early writers and those currently devoted to all genres, including journalism. ★

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<p>Yard sale? Garage Sale? Advertise in your local community newspaper! Call (916) 773-1111</p>					

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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 with questions.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Square Dance Classes 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 Valley Oaks Grange Hall is at 347 Fifth St. For more information, call Sue Regadan at 916-835-8916.

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.

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.

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.

TOPS Weekly Meetings

TOPS, Taking Off Pounds Sensibly, holds meetings every Wednesday at Grace Presbyterian Church, 10 N. Mills Ave., Lodi.

Meeting time: 10-10:45 a.m. Weigh-ins: 9-9:50am. No charge for first meeting.

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 non-emergency line at 209-366-7000.

The Parks Maintenance Division is available for scheduled field or facility use assistance only from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Call 209-810-0293.

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. ★

POLICE LOGS

During the time period of July 15 to July 21, Galt Police received and responded to a variety of calls, resulting in seven arrests.

July 15

7:20 a.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, Fourth Street/H Street.

1:23 p.m., Stolen Vehicle, South Emerald Oak Drive: 2012 Honda Civic stolen.

July 16

11:55 a.m., Warrant Served/Adult Arrest, Simmerhorn Road/North Lincoln Way.

12:37 p.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, E Street/Sixth Street.

July 17

4:21 a.m., Fraud/Adult Arrest, Caroline Avenue/Maple Street.

8:09 a.m., Theft reported, Billorights Avenue: Exterior electrical breakers

stolen.

12:31 p.m., Fraud reported, Courtenay Court: Student loan opened in reporting party's name fraudulently.

4:16 p.m., Theft reported, Raley's on Twin Cities Road: Leather briefcase taken from service truck.

July 19

7:55 a.m., DUI/Adult Arrest, Di Maggio Way/Marichal Way.

11:07 p.m., Warrant Served/Adult Arrest, Twin Cities Road.

July 20

12:52 a.m., Narcotics Violation/Adult Arrest, Highway 99 Northbound/Walnut Avenue.

4:08 a.m., Hit and Run/Non-Injury, West E Street.

July 21

6:03 p.m., Theft reported, Sixth Street: Blue Husky rocket bicycle stolen. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

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Publish: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2025
ROADS 8-1-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05309 Alejandro Guerrero, 913 Lake Canyon Avenue, Galt, CA 95632 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "All Grit" 913 Lake Canyon Avenue, Galt, CA 95632. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 18, 2025
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
GRIT 8-15-25



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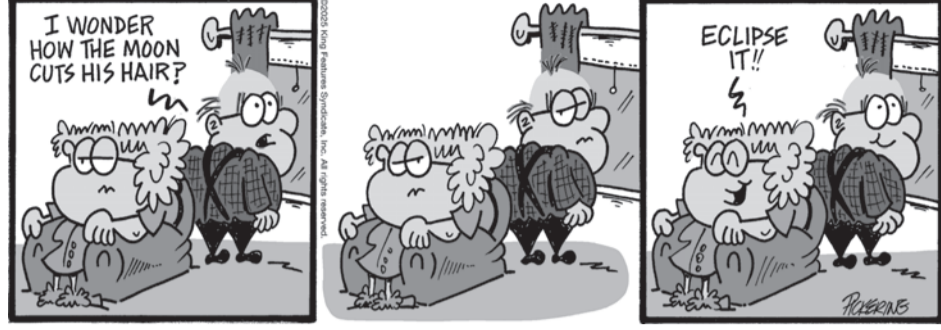
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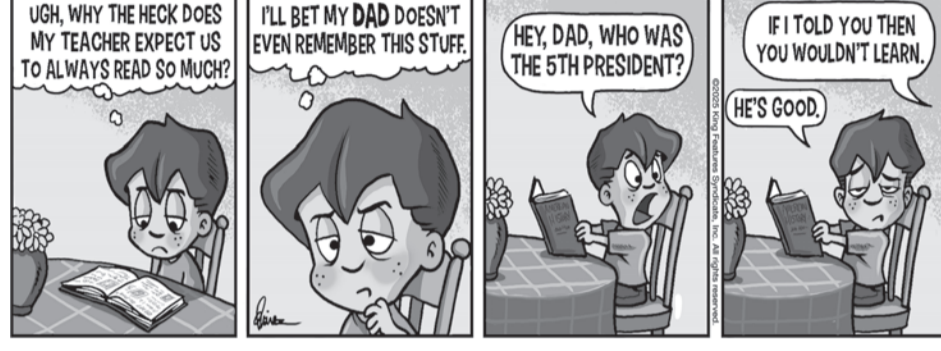
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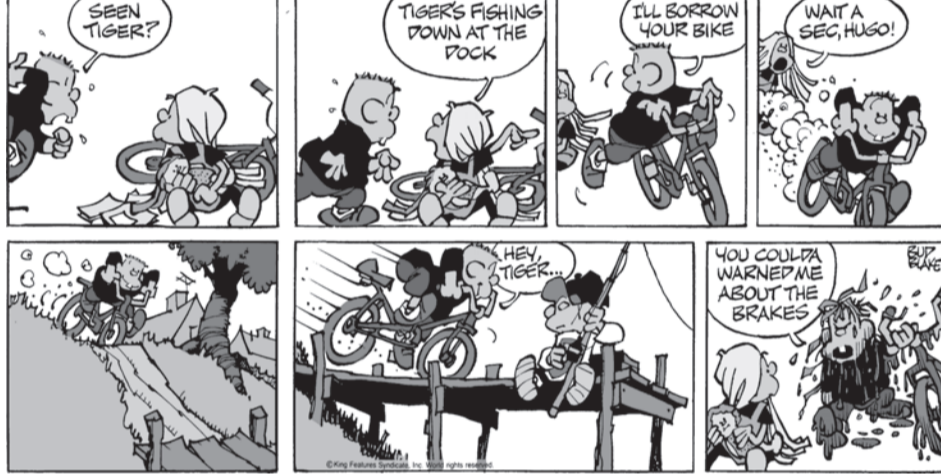
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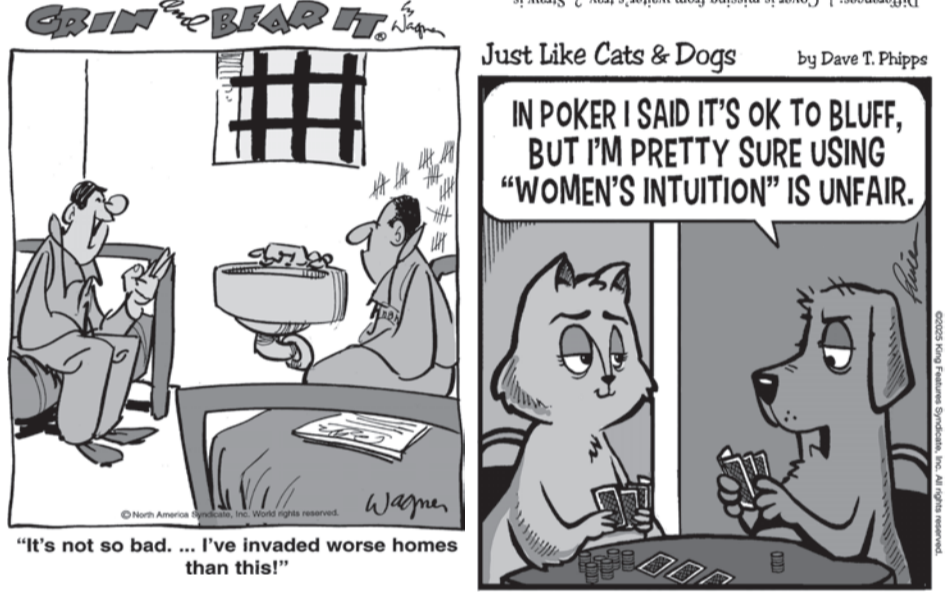
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- ACROSS**
- Basilica feature
 - Cameron, to friends
 - _____ and flow
 - One of the Bridges
 - Have the blues
 - Op-ed piece
 - Blondie's hit "_____ Me"
 - Certain something
 - *Granny Smith
 - *Broth-making container
 - Big name in map-making
 - Inexperienced
 - *Group of dishes or pots
 - Deprived of ovaries
 - Medusae
 - Got an Oscar, e.g.
 - Kind of license
 - Crescent
 - Description for twins
 - "_____ the season!"
 - Orthodox Judaism adherent
 - Class roster item
 - Between lights and action
 - Source of pork
 - *Shredding devices
 - Bear-like
 - Florida key
 - French farewell
 - Physicist Niels _____
 - *Kitchen hand protector (2 words)
 - Holey confection
 - Track event
 - _____ of the trade, sing.
 - 1st letter of Hebrew alphabet
 - Charlie Parker's nickname
 - Shrek or Fiona, e.g.
 - Word of compliance
 - Actor Stallone
 - *Spice _____ or pot _____
- DOWN**
- Beginning of the alphabet
 - *Often go with carrots
 - *NaCl
 - Speech at a funeral
 - *Flute alternative
 - *Cook's garb
 - *Veal or venison, e.g.
 - Sport spectator's TV acronym
 - Like white-headed eagle
 - "Farewell" to Birdie
 - Manage (2 words)
 - Like cornstalks
 - *Flat-edged utensil
 - *Flapjack alternative
 - Blink of an eye, abbr.
 - Swing, _____, swung
 - Like Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station location
 - Carl Jung's inner self
 - *_____ on place
 - *Seaweed-wrapped dish
 - Opposite of cation
 - Swamp plant
 - Estimated arrival times, acr.
 - Timothy, to friends
 - *Popular condiment
 - Sheik's bevy
 - Alan Paton's novel "_____ The Beloved Country"
 - Broken, e.g.

CROSSWORD

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LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Galt All-Stars 8U Capture Regionals, Advance to Cal Ripken World Series

Story and photos by Paige Lampson

SPORTS EDITOR

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt All-Stars 8U baseball team made history this week, capturing only the second regional championship in the organization's history with a thrilling comeback victory at the Cal Ripken Pacific Southwest Regional Championships held on their home field.

What started as a potential disappointment turned into a Cinderella story for the ages. The tournament began with 10 teams in pool play format, and Galt stumbled out of the gate, losing its opening game to Hawaii. But this young squad showed remarkable resilience that would define its championship run.

"If you make a mistake, you need to let it go, and these boys do that well even at the age of 8," said Manager Richard Savage. "Yes, it may involve a tear or two, but 10-15 seconds later they are back, locked in and ready to get revenge for themselves and their team. Regionals really showed how they never gave up and clawed back every game they needed to come out on top."

After that opening loss, Galt didn't taste defeat again. The team battled through pool play to earn one of the top two spots, setting up a semifinal showdown with Laguna. In a nail-biting extra-inning affair, Galt prevailed 9-5 while Hawaii fell to Buchanan 6-3 in the other semifinal.

The championship game against Buchanan proved to be an instant classic. With regulation games lasting six innings unless tied, these 8-year-olds found themselves in an epic battle that stretched to eight innings. In a display of heart and determination



Brady McNamara catches a fly and gets the batter out.

that belied their young age, Galt pulled off a dramatic 11-10 walk-off victory in the eighth inning.

The marathon final day saw the team play an incredible 15 innings of baseball, showcasing the stamina and mental toughness that carried them to the title.

The roster that made this magical run possible includes Rowan Enriquez, Connor Deegan, Beau Savage, Jordyn Fluty, Brady McNamara, Guner Brechbill, Thiago Bueno, Nathaniel Joiner, James Arosteguy, Jameson Pearman, Ayden Alvarez and Anthony Knock.

The championship was a team effort both on and off the field, with Savage leading a dedicated coaching staff that includes Assistant Coaches Jed McNamara, Chris Alvarez and Larry Fluty.

NorCal Cal Ripken Tournament Commissioner Tara Adversalo, who attended every game, was impressed by both the competition and the host community.

"All the teams were so gracious and happy to be in Galt," Adversalo said. "The community support was absolutely overwhelming, and the



Jordyn Fluty stares the batter down before winding up to pitch.

atmosphere was electric. These players fought hard and never gave up, displaying the true spirit of little league baseball. The Galt 8U team earned every bit of this championship.

Congratulations to all the players and coaches; they worked incredibly hard and deserved this victory. Mark my words, this 8U team is going to make some serious waves in the future."



Jameson Pearman catches a throw from left field and stops the runner from advancing.



Connor Deegan pitches in the opening game.



Beau Savage gets ready to throw to first from a crouch.

The championship celebration included commemorative bats for each player and coach and a banner for the field, with Manager Savage receiving a special plaque recognizing the historic achievement.

As a sports observer, the skill level displayed by these 8-year-olds was truly remarkable. Each player demonstrated exceptional positional awareness, knew where the ball was at all times and understood situational baseball. Their eagle-eyed concentration and relentless effort never wavered, even in the most pressure-packed moments.

Now, this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity takes the team to Cherry Hill, New Jersey, for the Cal Ripken

World Series in August. However, the cost of this dream trip is substantial, and the team is actively seeking sponsors and donations to help make this journey possible.

Anyone interested in supporting the Galt All-Stars can contact Manager Savage at 209-479-6239, and he will provide information on how to contribute to this historic opportunity.

For these young champions, the dream continues: from a heartbreaking opening loss to regional champions bound for the World Series. It's a testament to the power of perseverance, teamwork and the magic that makes youth baseball so special. ★

Lucas Becomes First Hawk to Compete in State Hurdles, Earns Legislative Recognition

Story and photo by Paige Lampson Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - Liberty Ranch High School track and field athlete Larry Lucas achieved a historic milestone this season, becoming the first hurdler in school history to compete at the state level while setting new school records in the process.

Lucas, who captured third place in the 110-meter hurdles at the Masters tournament, was recently honored with a Certificate of Recognition presented by Sen. Roger Niello.

The senior standout's journey to state competition was marked by a record-setting performance at the Masters tournament, where he clocked a time of 14.70 seconds in the 110-meter hurdles. The time not only earned him a bronze

medal finish but also shattered the previous Liberty Ranch school record in the event.

Lucas' individual success was complemented by his contribution to the school's 4x100-meter relay team, where he holds the school record alongside teammates Joseph Brown, Camren Hudson and George Adrian. The relay team's record-setting performance demonstrates the depth of talent in Liberty Ranch's sprint program.

Sen. Niello's presentation of the Certificate of Recognition highlights the significance of Lucas' achievement not only for Liberty Ranch High School but for the broader community.

The legislative acknowledgment underscores how Lucas' historic performance has brought positive attention to the school's

athletic program.

As the first Liberty Ranch hurdler to compete at the state level, Lucas has established a new benchmark for future Hawks track athletes. His 14.70 performance in the 110-meter hurdles sets a high standard while proving that Liberty Ranch can compete with the state's elite programs.

The combination of individual excellence and team success positions Lucas as one of the most accomplished track athletes in Liberty Ranch history. His dual record-holding status in both hurdles and relay events demonstrates his versatility and value to the Hawks' track program.

Lucas will be attending UCLA in the fall, but he will not be running track so he can focus on his academics at the prestigious university. ★



Larry Lucas, right, standing with Liberty Ranch Track Coach Marquan Du Bois, who celebrated Lucas' groundbreaking achievement and his representation of the school at the state's highest competitive level.

LOCAL SPORTS → COVERAGE

PRESENTED BY THE GALT HERALD

Galt Gators Swim Team Claims Third Place at Motherlode Championships



The 2025 Galt Gators Swim Team. Courtesy photos



The littlest boy swimmers prepare to dive.



The team cheers as the coaches race on floating bulls.



A trio of racers leaves the blocks.



Another set of racers is off.

By Paige Lampson
Sports Editor

GALT, CA (MPG) - The Galt Gators swim team concluded its season on a high note, capturing third place at the Motherlode Conference Championships in a competitive field that showcased the depth of talent across the region.

Despite facing stiff competition from established programs, the Gators posted a solid team score of 1,166 points, finishing just 13 points behind second-place Rollingwood Rockets (1,179) and trailing conference champion Fair Oaks Dolphins (1,672.5). The tight battle for second place highlighted the competitive nature of this year's championship meet.

"The coaches are extremely proud of the hard work and the improvement made as a team," said team officials. "Our swimmers were able to achieve their best times when it mattered most."

The Gators' success was built on outstanding individual performances, with eight swimmers earning high-point trophies across multiple age divisions.

Age Group Champions

Neal Hiuga dominated the 7-8 boys division, capturing first place with 53 points

Rosa Hausauer claimed the 11-12 girls championship with 59 points

Paige Vanderspek topped the 13-14 girls field with an impressive 62 points

Runner-Up Finishes

Maximus Frade earned second place in 9-10 boys (52 points)

Isaac Maldonado finished second in 11-12 boys (55 points)

Lucy Thomlinson took second in 13-14 girls (56 points)

Third-Place Honors

Sophia Ochoa captured third in 7-8 girls (40 points)

John Carey rounded out the trophy winners with third in 13-14 boys (47 points)

Meet of Champions Qualifiers

Perhaps most impressive was the team's depth of talent qualifying for the prestigious Meet of Champions, with nine swimmers earning qualifying times across 19

different events.

Multiple Event Qualifiers

Paige Vanderspek led the way with six qualifying times (100 IM, 50 Free, 50 Back, 100 Free, 50 Breast, 50 Fly)

Neal Hiuga qualified in five events (25 Free, 25 Back, 50 Free, 25 Breast, 25 Fly)

Lucy Thomlinson earned three qualifications (100 IM, 100 Free, 50 Breast)

Additional Qualifiers

Rosa Hausauer: 100 Free, 50 Breast, 50 Fly

Sophia Ochoa: 25 Free, 50 Free, 25 Breast

John Carey: 50 Back, 100 Free

Isaac Maldonado: 50 Breast

Maximus Frade: 25 Free

John Pilegaard: 50 Fly

Final Conference Standings

The championship meet featured five teams battling for conference supremacy:

1. Fair Oaks Dolphins: 1,672.5 points

2. Rollingwood Rockets: 1,179 points

3. Galt Gators: 1,166 points

4. Dixon Dolphins: 835.5 points

5. Sacramento Stingrays: 770 points

The Gators' third-place finish represents a strong showing in a conference where the top three teams were separated by just over 500 points, demonstrating the competitive balance throughout the league.

Community Support Recognized

Team officials were quick to acknowledge the community effort that made the championship meet possible, thanking coaches, board members and parent volunteers who contributed to the event's success.

As the Gators celebrate their conference championship performance, the focus now turns to the Meet of Champions, where nine of their swimmers will represent the team at the next level of competition.

With such a strong showing at conference and numerous personal best times achieved, the future looks bright for Galt swimming. The third-place finish caps what team officials describe as a season marked by consistent improvement and dedication, setting a solid foundation for continued success in the pool. ★