



**Ice Cream Truck Returns After Three-Year Hiatus**

PAGE 2

**Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club Sweeps Cameron Park Tournament**

PAGE 4



# RIVER VALLEY TIMES

41ST YEAR • ISSUE 15

Serving Rancho Murieta, Sloughouse, Wilton

AUGUST 8, 2025

**SEE INSIDE**

**STATE IS FINALLY ADOPTING PHONICS**



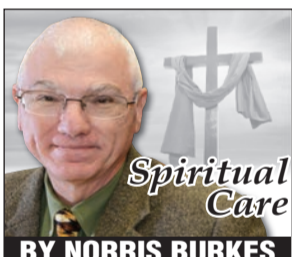
PAGE 8

**SUMMER CAN BE TORMENTING, FANS**



PAGE 8

**SYNCHRONIZING OUR HEART WITH OUR ACTIONS**



**BY NORRIS BURKES**

PAGE 4



Scan our QR Code for a direct link to our online edition!

PRSRTD STD. U.S. POSTAGE PAID CARMICHAEL, CA PERMIT NO. 350 OR CURRENT POSTAL CUSTOMER

## Army Corps Concludes Physical Levee Inspections



Drone footage shows inspectors walking a levee road in Wilton on June 23, during the final of three physical inspections for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pilot study. The study focuses on at-risk levees within Reclamation District 800. Courtesy photo

**By Gail Bullen**  
*River Valley Times Reporter*

**WILTON, CA (MPG)** - When Reclamation District 800 (RD 800) was selected as one of only four private levee districts nationwide to take part in a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pilot study in late 2022, it was already a major win. The program promised

expert inspection, risk analysis and long-term data, all at no cost to the district. But what may be even more rewarding, district leaders say, is that it also brought long-sought recognition and support from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR): the most likely source for future funding. Reclamation District

800 maintains and repairs 34 miles of privately owned, mostly dirt levees along the Cosumnes River between Rancho Murieta and Freeman Road off Dillard Road in Wilton and Freeman Road off Grant Line Road in the Sheldon community. The funding to maintain the levees at a 10-year flood standard is provided by an assessment district that generates just

over \$500,000 annually. The district currently owes more than \$7 million to the Bank of Stockton but is awaiting two FEMA payments of nearly \$5 million in reimbursement for the 2023 storm repairs.

**Levee Inspections**

The pilot project began in earnest on Feb. 13, 2024, when Army Corps

*Continued on page 6*

## Rancho Murieta Bookmobile Celebration Draws Crowd



Brady Martel, 3, proudly displays his first medal and a free book, earned through the Sacramento Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Photo by Melinda Martel

**By Gail Bullen**  
*River Valley Times Reporter*

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - Rancho Murieta's youngest readers were treated to science demonstrations, face painting, free books and well-deserved medals at the Sacramento Public Library's Summer Reading Program celebration, held on July 30 at the Village Clubhouse parking area.

The event was hosted by the library's Bookmobile team, which visits Rancho Murieta every Wednesday morning as part of its outreach program. The end-of-summer celebration featured a face painter and a live "Mad Scientist" presentation.

"It was a huge turnout: 50 kids and 60 adults," said Rancho Murieta volunteer Cindy Jones, who regularly assists the Bookmobile staff. "We had six staff members on site. The face painter and Mad Scientist were big hits."

Several Rancho Murieta families shared their appreciation for the program and the personalized service offered by the Bookmobile team.

Melinda Martel attended the celebration with her grandsons.

"They did a very nice job recognizing the accomplishments of the young readers, as well as welcoming new ones," she said.

Brady Martel, 3, earned his first medal and chose the book "Dog Man" as his prize. Jack Martel, 6, participated in the science demonstration, using a blower to keep a ball afloat.

"This is Jack's third year and third medal," Martel

*Continued on page 5*

## Yacht Rock Attracts 800 to Clementia Concert



Mustache Harbor brings yacht rock to the Lake Clementia Amphitheater on July 26 in the third concert of the season presented by Entertainment, Theatre & Culture for Rancho Murieta (ETC).

**Story and photos by Gail Bullen**  
*River Valley Times Reporter*

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - Yacht rock – the smooth soft rock of decades past – drew about 800 attendees to the Lake Clementia Amphitheater on July 26, when Entertainment, Theatre & Culture for Rancho Murieta (ETC) presented its third concert of the summer season.

It was Mustache Harbor's second performance in Rancho Murieta, following a successful debut concert

in 2022. Formed in 2010, the San Francisco-based band rode the rising wave of a soft rock revival, embracing smooth hits from the 1970s and '80s in a genre that came to be known as yacht rock.

JT Turner, the ETC Board president, said the band had delivered again.

"Just like in 2022, they brought that unmistakable yacht rock energy that gets the entire crowd smiling and singing along," he said. "These guys know how to throw a party on stage." While many who attend Mustache

Harbor's concerts are longtime fans of soft rock, younger generations are also coming aboard: a trend that was evident in Rancho Murieta. After the concert, bandleader Jamie Browne said the crowd was just as energetic as it had been in 2022. But what amazed him this time was the number of young people on the dance floor.

"It was incredible because a lot of this music came from the '70s before these kids were even born, yet they were singing all the lyrics. They must have had a good upbringing."

*Continued on page 12*

# Ice Cream Truck Returns to Rancho Murieta After Three-Year Hiatus

By Gail Bullen  
River Valley Times  
Reporter

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - After a three-year break, the familiar jingle of the ice cream truck once again made its way through Rancho Murieta on Sunday, July 6, drawing enthusiastic customers and plenty of smiles.

More than 500 frozen treats were handed out at just \$1 each, with Big Bomb Pops and SpongeBob Popsicles topping the list of favorites.

Residents came out in droves to enjoy the long-awaited return of the summer tradition.

Eric Dubey served as



Amy Hein and Beth Merino, seated in the red golf cart in front of the ice cream truck, post live updates on social media to help residents track the next stop. Photo by Lynsey Camara

the ice cream man for the day, while Phil Elder of Nice Dreams Ice Creams provided the truck and its sweet offerings. Beth Merino and Amy Hein helped keep the event running smoothly, escorting the truck through the

neighborhood and sharing live updates on social media to inform residents of the next stop's location.

This year also marked a change in leadership. After organizing the event for a decade as a member of the now-disbanded



Key organizers of the July 6 ice cream truck's return to Rancho Murieta pause for a photo. From left are Phil Elder, Alicia Correia, Meagan Bingaman and Eric Dubey. Photo by Amy Hein

Optimist Club of Rancho Murieta, Alicia Correia has officially "retired her ice cream hat."

Meagan Bingaman has stepped in to take over the tradition on behalf of the Cosumnes River Activities

League, ensuring the ice cream truck will continue bringing joy to the community in the years ahead.

Correia expressed "a huge thanks" to the volunteers and community donors who made the

event possible and helped to revive the beloved tradition.

This story is also online at [therivervalleytimes.com](http://therivervalleytimes.com) and at [Facebook.com/therivervalleytimes](https://www.facebook.com/therivervalleytimes). ★

# Blue-Green Algae in Clementia

By Gail Bullen  
River Valley Times  
Reporter

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - The Rancho Murieta Community Services District posted an Aug. 5 notice on its website warning residents about the discovery of cyanobacteria – blue-green algae – in Clementia Reservoir.

Humans and pets can be exposed to harmful algae blooms through accidental ingestion while swimming, by inhaling water spray aerosols during water recreation such as boating, or by being in the water where a bloom is occurring.

Although swimming and direct reservoir contact are allowed at Clementia Reservoir, the district is advising residents to



A photo from September 2023 shows blue-green algae in Chesbro Reservoir. Photo courtesy of Rancho Murieta Community Services District

avoid water where a visible blue-green algae bloom is present. The district also plans to have the reservoir treated as soon as possible to prevent the expansion of the cyanobacteria and protect the water supply, the notice said.

"Your best bet is

– "When in doubt, best keep out," the notice said.

In September 2023, after blue-green algae was found in Chesbro Reservoir, the district contracted with Solitude Lake Management to treat the affected section with a low dose of copper sulfate algacide. ★

## STAY CURRENT

**WITH THE LATEST ON THE CAPITAL SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR PROJECT**

# AMMA ELECTRIC

**EXPERTS ON SMUD DISCONNECT REPAIRS**

- REMODELING
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- COMPLETE REPAIR SERVICE
- PANEL CHANGES
- VIOLATIONS CORRECTED
- TROUBLESHOOTING
- NEW CIRCUITS
- ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS
- BREAKERS/FUSES

**LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1992**

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

**NO JOB TOO SMALL... OR TOO BIG!**

**Property Managers: We specialize in serving you promptly & completely**

**24 Hour**  
Emergency Service

Live People to Answer the Phone

Our Workmanship is Guaranteed for Life

FAST RESPONSE!

**916-354-8870 OR 916-988-3464**

SLOUGHHOUSE, CA • Serving the Entire Sacramento Area Since 1992

FREE ESTIMATES • SENIOR DISCOUNTS • LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED • WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS

The Capital SouthEast Connector is making commutes faster and safer for thousands of drivers every day.

With major improvements underway, the route will ease congestion and open up new opportunities for travel across the region.

**TRACK PROGRESS AND UPDATES AT [CONNECTORJPA.COM](http://CONNECTORJPA.COM)**

**CAPITAL | SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR JPA**  
*Connecting Communities*

## Rancho Murieta

### HOMES & LAND

Rancho Murieta, a 3,500-acre country-club community, is an oasis of emerald fairways and manicured greens, built along the scenic banks of the Cosumnes River. It encompasses five lakes, greenbelts, rolling hills and stately oaks.

[rmhl.acceleragent.net](http://rmhl.acceleragent.net)

Karen is a Presidential Award Holder with the Masters Club of the Sacramento Association of Realtors for over 39 years.

This is the most prestigious award given.

Thank you to all of our clients in 2025 for another successful year.

BRE #00670687

**Rancho Murieta's Top Realtor for 45 Years and counting.**

\*Source: MLS for residential, Not including "Residential Income"

**Karen Hoberg,**  
**Broker/Owner**  
**(916) 947-6910**

# SMUD Schedules Underground Work on Four Streets



The map indicates the locations where the work is scheduled. Courtesy photo

## Rancho Murieta Association News Release

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - The Sacramento Municipal Utility District will conduct underground line installation in

Rancho Murieta from Aug. 11 to Aug. 22, weather permitting.

The work is part of a SMUD infrastructure improvement project.

Four streets will be affected: Pera Drive, Lindero Lane, Carreta

Lane and Lago Drive. The map highlights where active construction will take place.

Local access for residents will be maintained; however, they are asked to follow all posted signage and exercise caution. ★

# Vitalant Collects 64 Pints at Community Blood Drive



The Rancho Murieta Women's Club is thanking volunteers Sue Kjome and Olivia Reed for their years of service promoting the club's community blood drive during the July 4 Parade. Kjome drives her red convertible Mustang while Reed, dressed as "Drippy," waves to the crowd.

**Story and photos by Gail Bullen**  
River Valley Times Reporter

## RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)

A community blood drive co-sponsored by the Rancho Murieta Women's Club and the Knights of Columbus collected 64 pints of lifesaving blood on July 14 at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church.

The event began with 54 scheduled appointments, which organizers strongly encouraged. Nineteen walk-ins helped to make up for several no-shows. In total, technicians and a nurse from the Vitalant blood bank collected 46 whole blood donations and eight Power Red donations, which count as two each, bringing the total to 64 pints.

Bonnie Kirschman, who co-chairs the Women's Club blood drive committee, said Vitalant account manager Stephanie Kress emailed her the results the following day.

"Thank you for hosting another lifesaving



Jon Snyder makes a double donation through a Vitalant Power Red machine during the July 14 blood drive at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church.

blood drive yesterday with Vitalant. It was a good turnout," Kress told her.

The Vitalant representative also acknowledged the club's many volunteers who help with each quarterly blood drive.

"I know you and your team did a lot of outreach, and I think the reminder calls helped with the walk-ins," Kress said. "I really appreciate all your efforts as I know you made an extra effort with this drive, and it shows!"

Kirschman also took the opportunity to acknowledge two longtime volunteers for promoting the club's blood drives during the July 4 parades.

Sue Kjome drove her red Mustang convertible with Olivia Reed in the back, dressed as "Drippy."

"At this year's parade, I really noticed a lot of small children waving and calling to 'Drippy,' Kirschman said. "And Olivia always answered with big waves with those 'Mickey Mouse' hands!"

Kjome, who has been in the parade since 2012, is selling her car. Reed has left the area after graduating from college.

The next blood drive is scheduled for Oct. 27.

This story is also online at [therivervalleytimes.com](http://therivervalleytimes.com) and at [Facebook.com/therivervalleytimes](https://www.facebook.com/therivervalleytimes). ★

# FOLLOW US

for Local News and much more!

## River Valley Times

Facebook: @therivervalleytimes

# RANCHO MURIETA AIRPORT

(916) 354-9889

20 minute drive from Folsom and El Dorado Hills

1,000, 1,500, 2,000, 3,000 Sq. ft. Boutique Garages and Shop Space

- Epoxy floors available
- 200 amp 3 phase power

### FEATURING

- Roll up and man door
- Pre plumbed for bathrooms
- LED lighting
- Insulated
- Fire sprinklers



Share with a friend or relative

• Great for indoor RV/Boat Storage or Extra Garage Storage

Conveniently located at Rancho Murieta Airport

• Internet Ready

## RV & BOAT STORAGE • SELF STORAGE



### STORAGE PRICING

| SIZE (WxL) .... | PRICE (\$/mo) |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 8 x 8:.....     | \$127.00      |
| 8 x 10:.....    | \$143.00      |
| 8 x 20:.....    | \$212.00      |
| 8 x 40:.....    | \$287.00      |



### RV & BOAT PRICING

| SIZE (WxL) ... | PRICE (\$/mo) |
|----------------|---------------|
| 11 x 20:.....  | \$150.00      |
| 11 x 25:.....  | \$155.00      |
| 11 x 30:.....  | \$165.00      |
| 12 x 40:.....  | \$185.00      |
| 12 x 50:.....  | \$200.00      |

Office Hours Mon-Sat 8am-4pm (Gate Hours 6am-7pm Daily)

24 Hour Video Surveillance • 50' Wide Drive Aisles  
Dump Station • Propane Sales

7443 Murieta Drive, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683 • Visit us at [www.rmairport.com](http://www.rmairport.com)

SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS • BATTERIES



GIPSON GOLF CARTS

AUTHORIZED DEALER



A Textron Company

### NEW LOCATION

7000 Alameda Dr. Rancho Murieta, CA 95683 (over the hill at the driving range)

Zack Bowden (916) 806-0920  
zackbowden@gipsongolfcarts.com  
[www.gipsongolfcarts.com](http://www.gipsongolfcarts.com)

## Propane Available at Rancho Murieta Airport



only \$3.65 per gallon

# Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club Sweeps Cameron Park Tournament

By Gail Bullen  
River Valley Times  
Reporter

**RANCHO MURIETA, CA (MPG)** - The Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club (RMPC) made a bold statement at the inaugural "Battle of the Paddle" interclub tournament, held July 25 at Cameron Park Country Club courts.

Facing off against teams from the Serrano and Cameron Park country clubs, Rancho Murieta teams dominated the competition. They won the finals in Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles: a clean sweep for Rancho Murieta. "This was a fantastic showing by our players, and we're proud



Rancho Murieta pickleball players are all smiles after dominating a tournament organized by Phil Klingensmith, third from right, at Cameron Park Country Club on July 25. The winners in three doubles categories are, from left, Ken Hanlon, Rex Magadia, Denise Brown, Kellie Borges and Greg Brown. Courtesy photos

to represent our community," said Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club Secretary Hayley Friedman, who coordinated the team's participation. The tournament came

together after an invitation from Rich Klingensmith, the Pickleball and Tennis Pro for the Serrano and Cameron Park country clubs. He had originally reached out to Rancho



A dozen Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club players form a full team to represent the community.

Murieta Country Club, but when its pro declined to send a team, the opportunity was passed on to Rancho Murieta Pickleball Club, and the club responded quickly.

"What started as a text and a signup sheet turned into an amazing day of connection, community and competition," Friedman said. "We pulled

together players from all over Rancho Murieta: club members, casual players and people who just love the game."

In match after match, the Rancho Murieta teams brought energy and skill to the courts, ultimately winning every final. The local champions were Ken Hanlon and Rex Magadia in Men's Doubles; Kellie

Borges and Denise Brown in Women's Doubles; and Kellie Borges and Greg Brown in Mixed Doubles.

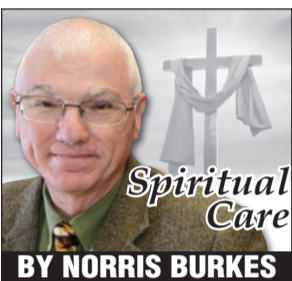
Friedman was pleased about taking on the task of assembling the team.

"Beyond the wins, the highlight was the camaraderie: sharing stories, laughter and meals with our new friends from Cameron Park," she said. "Pickleball brings people together across ages and backgrounds, and this friendly match reminded us why we love it so much."

"Here's to many more community matches ahead," Friedman added.

This story is also online at [therivervalleytimes.com](http://therivervalleytimes.com) and at [Facebook.com/therivervalleytimes](https://www.facebook.com/therivervalleytimes). ★

## Synchronizing Our Heart With Our Actions



Have you ever done the right thing in a difficult situation, but your heart said, "I'm just not feeling it"? If so, then you know how hard it is to sync your feelings with your actions.

I remember such a moment in 1995 in Mountain View, California where I was stationed at Onizuka Air Station. It was memorable because it was the very first time I shared a chaplain's assignment with a Catholic priest.

His name was Richard Regan.

Father Regan was a winsome and gregarious guy who was adored by his parishioners. We became fast friends, and he encouraged me to call him Richard, but around his parishioners, I had to call him "Father."

One weekday morning, Richard and I arrived in uniform for a meeting in our chapel office. As we walked toward the entryway, we met two contractors hired to refurbish the steps.

The two men scrambled to their feet. They looked past me and greeted Richard in a deep Irish brogue.

"Top o' the morning to ya', Father."

Richard returned a polished smile as we walked past them to enter our office suite.

Inside, I noted how the

men barely glanced at me. Richard explained.

"I met them a few days ago and they asked about the Christian cross we both wear on our uniforms. I told them that I was a Catholic priest and you are a Protestant minister."

Richard described how the men looked down at their work in an awkward pause. "Is that so?" they asked.

"I hope that won't stop you from greeting him each morning too," Richard said.

"We'll greet him if you insist," one admitted, "but I'm afraid we'll be giving him a rather frosty 'top-o'-the-morning.'"

Richard laughed. The men didn't.

I had much in common with those men. We both were having trouble syncing our feelings with doing what we knew was right.

It was a stretch for me to call my friend "Father" because I was raised with the literal interpretation of Jesus' words in Mathew 23:9: "Do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven." Yet I learned to do it because it was a professional courtesy of clerical protocol.

The catholic men, likely raised in the Northern Ireland conflict, probably found it difficult not to spit on Protestants, but the good Father's insistence encouraged them to do what was right.

Today, in the current political climate, I'm aware that there are many issues that work to separate us, such as gun control, immigration and

abortion. These topics are difficult to decide, but we choose our views for various reasons based on our upbringing, personalities and experiences.

Yet as people of faith, we do know what is right between each other. Our faith demands we do unto others, as we would have them do unto us. We know for certain that we must love God with all our heart and our neighbor as our self.

So, even during these days of political madness and uncertainty, I hope we will pledge to ourselves and to our faith, to do the right thing between each other. We will remain civil and kind and will synchronize our faith with our actions.

As for the Irishmen, I told Richard that they'd warmed a bit, but still hadn't wished me, "Top-o'-the-morning."

"Sounds like progress," he said.

"How so?"

"If they really didn't like you, they'd insult you with something like, 'May the cat eat you, and may the devil eat the cat.'"

I grinned. I suppose sometimes you take what you can get.

Discounted versions of all my books can be found on Amazon by searching for "Norris Burkus." Autographed copies can be obtained on my website [www.thechaplain.net](http://www.thechaplain.net) by sending a check for \$20 for each book to 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602.

Sign up to receive this weekly column by email at [www.thechaplain.net/newsletter/](http://www.thechaplain.net/newsletter/) or send me your email address to [comment@thechaplain.net](mailto:comment@thechaplain.net). ★

### 6.75% Initial APR

**5 Year FIXED RATE**

CHECK THE EL DORADO ADVANTAGE:

- ✓ FIXED RATE for 5 Years
- ✓ Local Processing & Servicing
- ✓ No Closing Cost on Qualifying Transactions; Except for Appraisal/Evaluation Costs
- ✓ Have Funds Available for Current and Future Needs
- ✓ Home Improvement, Debt Consolidation, College Tuition
- ✓ Interest May be Tax Deductible (Please consult your tax advisor)

**EL DORADO SAVINGS BANK**

Serving our local communities for over 65 Years

Member FDIC NMLS ID 479256

**www.eldoradosavingsbank.com**

RANCHO MURIETA • 7185 Murieta Drive • 916-354-2661  
ELK GROVE • 9003 Elk Grove Blvd. • 916-685-3936  
SHELDON • 8973 Grant Line Road • 916-686-0200

Se Habla Español EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

The initial Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is currently 6.75% for a new Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC), and is fixed for the first 5 years of the loan which is called the draw period. After the initial 5 year period, the APR can change once based on the value of an Index and Margin. The Index is the weekly average yield on U.S. Treasury Securities adjusted to a constant maturity of 10 years and the margin is 3.50%. The current APR for repayment period is 7.875%. The maximum APR that can apply any time during your HELOC is 15%. A qualifying transaction consists of the following conditions: (1) the initial APR assumes a maximum HELOC of \$200,000, and a total maximum Loan-to-Value (LTV) of 70% including the new HELOC and any existing 1st Deed of Trust loan on your residence; (2) your residence securing the HELOC must be a single-family home that you occupy as your primary residence; (3) if the 1st Deed of Trust loan is with a lender other than El Dorado Savings Bank, that loan may not exceed \$300,000, have a total maximum Loan to Value (LTV) of 65% and may not be a revolving line of credit. Additional property restrictions and requirements apply. All loans are subject to a current appraisal or property evaluation. This cost will be disclosed in your commitment letter and paid at loan closing. Property insurance is required and flood insurance may be required. Rates, APR, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Other conditions apply. A \$525 early closure fee will be assessed if the line of credit is closed within three years from the date of opening. An annual fee of \$85 will be assessed on the first anniversary of the HELOC and annually thereafter during the draw period. Ask for a copy of our "Fixed Rate Home Equity Line of Credit Disclosure Notice" for additional important information. Other HELOC loans are available under different terms.

MEMORIAL

VIRGINIA ADELAIDE MACKO • 10/10/1947 - 07/08/2025

Rancho Murieta, California. Virginia (Ginny) Adelaide Macko found her peace on July 8, 2025. Ginny was born October 10, 1947, in Sacramento, California to Adelaide and Willard Hill, and graduated from C. K. McClatchy High School in 1965. She worked for many years in finance and later returned to school to earn her master's degree in Human

Resources from Golden Gate University. She went on to have a distinguished career in HR management, most recently at the Rippey Corporation in El Dorado Hills. Prior to her illness, Ginny was an active member of the Rancho Murieta chapter of the Kiwanis Club for over twenty years, as well as the Moose Lodge in Folsom, California. Ginny is

survived by her loving partner, Raphael Caballero, brother Paul Hill (Roxanne), nieces Elizabeth Hepworth (Bill), Adelaide Burk (Damon), nephew Loren Hill (Monique), beloved great nieces and nephews Caty, Grace, June, Jack, Ben Jessa, Sam, and Adam, and many dear friends. Details for a celebration of Ginny's life will be determined at a later date.

Glenn Guenard & Ross Bozarth

are dedicated to the victims of accidents.

We help with serious injuries that require serious representation. We are the Law Offices Of Guenard & Bozarth.

We have over 80 years of experience on our legal team... the most experienced law firm in Elk Grove. If you are looking for results call GB Legal 247/365 at 888-809-1075 or visit [gblegal.com](http://gblegal.com)

DO YOU KNOW THESE GUYS?

Insurance Companies Know Them Because They Have Paid Them Over \$130 Million Dollars

WE CAN HELP!

The Law Offices of Guenard & Bozarth represent injured people. Our Office is located at 8830 Elk Grove Blvd. in the heart of Elk Grove.

26th Annual Race for the Arts

Saturday, August 23

5K & Kids Fun Runs Arts Festival

William Land Park, Sacramento

[RacefortheArts.com](http://RacefortheArts.com)

Thank You Sponsors:

KCRA 3/ KQCA My 58 KFBK News Radio 93.1 KISS 107.9

Sactown Magazine, Inside Sacramento Visit Sacramento, Sacramento 365, Messenger Publishing Group

Councilman Rick Jennings Friends of the Arts Decker Design Solutions

Hobrecht Lighting Design & Decor Mansour Rugs Riverview Media Photography Jessica Neeves Photography Bouchard Communications Dos Coyotes, Panera Bread

RACE FOR THE ARTS PREMIERE EVENT

"Off to the Races" Food & Wine Tasting

Thursday, August 14, 6:00 - 8:30pm

Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H Street, Sacramento

[RacefortheArts.com](http://RacefortheArts.com)

Tickets available online \$40 or \$50 at the door

# Rancho Murieta Bookmobile Celebration Draws Crowd

*Continued from page 1*

said. “He loves to pick out books and enjoys that one-on-one reading time. The staff at the Bookmobile really make an effort to bring books they know kids will enjoy: Jack loves space, so they bring him books about astronauts and planets.”

Rachael Pierson said the Bookmobile has become a cherished weekly tradition. “We absolutely love the Bookmobile; it’s our favorite activity in the middle of the week.”

Her children, Nora, 10; Lily, 7; and Beau, 4, all earned medals this summer.

“The staff always greet us with smiles and have our books ready. Some days, they even send home activity kits for science experiments,” Pierson said.

Nancy Clevenger attended the Summer Reading Celebration with her grandchildren, Mattingly Miller and Eddie James Miller, who were visiting from Chico.

While the children were enrolled in their hometown reading program, Clevenger participated in the Sacramento Public Library’s challenge.

“Both the children and I met and exceeded our summer reading program challenge. The children are ferocious readers and were able to check out books that day through the help of the Bookmobile assistants,” she said. “The festive activities to celebrate the end of the summer reading program was a crowning touch to



Eddie James Miller looks on as his sister, Mattingly Miller, gets her face painted during the celebration. Photo by Nancy Clevenger

an already fun reading and online experience.”

Clevenger said the Bookmobile’s weekly visits to Rancho Murieta have become a valued part of her reading life.

“We order books online and pick them up at the portable library, where the staff and volunteers go beyond friendly, helping choose books to my liking,” she said. “My visit with them each week turns into a mini book club as we discuss books read and the books being returned or picked up.”

But for Clevenger, the Bookmobile is more than just a library on wheels: It’s a place for community

connection.

“As I run into the same people each week at the bookmobile, I’ve added new friends to my life,” Clevenger said. “The intimacy of the bookmobile setup lends itself to this connection.”

The Bookmobile stops in Rancho Murieta every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, parking outside the Murieta Village Clubhouse.

The Sacramento Public Library’s Summer Reading Challenge began June 1 and runs through August 15.

It’s open to all ages – children, teens, and adults – and participants can track

their reading online using the Beanstack app or a printed log.

For kids and teens, reading five books or earning 500 points earns a free book. Those who reach 2,500 points – about 25 books or equivalent activities – receive a Summer Reading medal. Adults earn similar rewards, including free books and tote bags.

*This story is also online at [therivervalleytimes.com](http://therivervalleytimes.com) and at [Facebook.com/therivervalleytimes](https://www.facebook.com/therivervalleytimes).* ★

Jack Martel, 6, uses a blower to keep a ball suspended in the air during the “Mad Scientist” demonstration. Photo by Melinda Martel



Pierson siblings Nora, 10; Lily, 7; and Beau, 4, are regular visitors to the Bookmobile and participated in the Summer Reading Program. Photo by Rachael Pierson



# SUPER DIAMOND



## The Neil Diamond Tribute

THANK YOU to our Title Sponsor



Entertainment, Theatre & Culture for Rancho Murieta

**Saturday**  
**Aug 16, 2025**  
**8:30pm**  
**Gates Open 7:00pm**  
**Lake Clementia**  
**Members \$30.00**  
**Non-Members \$40.00**

**CHILDREN 6 & UNDER FREE**  
 \$5.00 surcharge at the gate, so buy your tickets early!

ETC Members/Sponsors enjoy priority blanket setting from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM. General admission blanket setting from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.

Closed 12:00 Noon – 7:00 PM. Gates open at 7:00 PM. Come early to avoid long lines. Concert starts promptly at 8:30. No Refunds – No Exchanges.

Events open to Rancho Murieta residents, real property owners and their guests, ETC sponsors and Rancho Murieta business owners. Tickets available at Ace Hardware and ETC ticket tables.

**Note:** Discounted tickets for ETC Members are only available at Ace Hardware and ETC ticket tables.

**Membership Info:** Joelle Maggio 951-544-0858

**For the safety of the children and ALL concert attendees:**

**CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED & SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES.**  
 No running or racing around the grounds, blankets, or dance floor.

*Keeping the Arts Alive in Our Community!*

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Corvette Club Slates Poker Run

The Rancho Murieta Corvette Club will host a Poker Run on Saturday, Oct. 12 to raise funds for its annual Thanksgiving Dinner project, benefiting families in the River Valley area of South Sacramento County.

Over the years, the club's effort has grown from donating turkeys to the Sacramento Food Bank to providing complete holiday dinners to families in need within the local community. This year's Poker Run is dedicated to Jerry McDonald, a past president and longtime member of the club, who passed away in 2024.

A Poker Run is a driving event in which participants follow a predetermined scenic route, stopping at five designated locations to collect playing cards. The goal is to assemble the best poker hand and win prizes.

This year's route winds through foothill and lower Sierra roads and concludes

at Moonraker Millhouse Brewery in Cameron Park for lunch and prize distribution. Written directions will be provided to help participants stay on course. The drive takes approximately 90 minutes.

The event is open to all vehicles, not just Corvettes: Sports cars, sport sedans, SUVs and trucks are all welcome. The entry fee is \$30, which includes two poker hands: one for the driver and one for the navigator.

Entries are due by Oct. 3. To participate, download the entry form at [www.rancho-murieta-corvettes.com](http://www.rancho-murieta-corvettes.com). Complete the form and mail it with a check made out to Rancho Murieta Corvettes to the address provided.

### SOLOS Plans Ice Cream Social at Riverview Park

Save Our Lakes & Open Spaces (SOLOS) invites the community to an ice cream social on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Riverview Park. The event

will feature complimentary ice cream from an ice cream truck and live music by the New Age Quintet.

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, along with a light dinner, snacks and their favorite beverage. SOLOS will share updates on local development and have merchandise available for purchase. Donations are welcome to support the group's ongoing efforts.

### Kiwanis Club Opening Sale of Farm to Fork Tickets

Ticket sales for the Kiwanis Farm to Fork Dinner at Rancho Murieta Country Club will begin on Monday, Aug. 11 at [rmkiwanis.org](http://rmkiwanis.org). Tickets are \$80 each plus a \$2.75 processing fee. Tables will accommodate 10 people and "tickets bought together, sit together."

We are also looking for all the talented Table Hostesses out there who provided a centerpiece for their table and are willing to help out again.

For more information, or to volunteer to be a table hostess, and/or to pay by cash or check, please contact Carol Prinzo at 916-354-9688 or Jeannette Edwards at 408-515-2636.

### Summerfest Seeks Cornhole Tournament Sponsors

The Summerfest Committee is looking for sponsors for the Cornhole Tournament taking place Saturday during the community carnival at Stonehouse Park on Oct. 24 and 25.

The \$1,200 sponsorship package includes two tickets to Summerfest on Saturday, one team entry into the tournament and one set of custom cornhole boards branded with your business or family name, a \$400 value. Your boards will be featured front and center at the tournament, then head home with you after the event.

For more information, email [rmsummerfest@gmail.com](mailto:rmsummerfest@gmail.com). ★

# Army Corps Concludes Physical Levee Inspections

*Continued from page 1*

engineers conducted their first levee tour on the north side of the Cosumnes River. Top DWR officials from the Division of Flood Management joined that tour: an unusual show of support for a rural district long accustomed to going it alone.

The mutual respect grew stronger as the Corps continued its inspections this year on April 7 and June 23.

All three inspections were followed by classroom work, in which federal, state and local stakeholders reviewed levee conditions, modeled breach scenarios and identified weak spots.

Patrick Ervin, the district's contract engineer, explained the process.

"We basically sit in the classroom for three days and go over the risks and kind of assign values of what we think the highest risks are, and then the Corps comes up with a report," he said.

Board Trustee Leland Schneider participated in the first levee inspection and described the interactive nature of the classroom work.

"They're asking you numbers the whole time, like, 'So what should we plug in here?' And you're like, 'Plug this in. No, that's not it. Plug this in,'" he said.

Schneider was especially impressed by the 3D simulations used to model potential flood paths, calling the laptop visualizations "cool."

Ervin said the Corps prioritized higher-risk levees.

"Levees that pose a significant threat to life and structures when breached received the full levee review, including a physical inspection and full risk analysis," Ervin said.

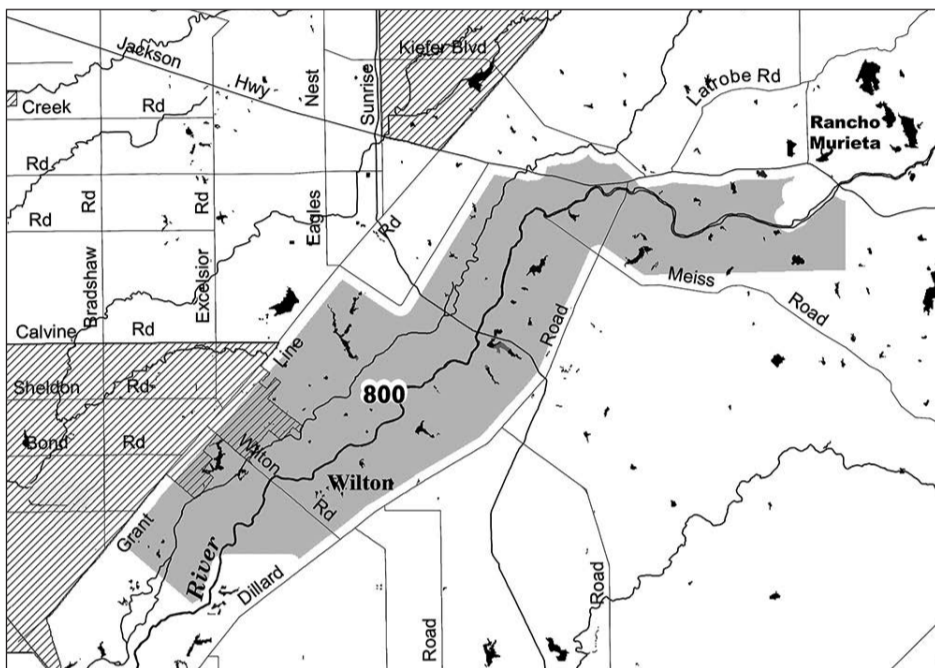
Other levees with lower risk received a "baseline assessment," which still involved data collection and modeling, but without a field inspection. Hydraulic modeling also considered stretches along the Cosumnes River with no formal levees, known as "high banks."

One remaining segment – a levee south of Wilton Road on the river right side – will be assessed remotely due to the absence of nearby buildings, Ervin reported at the July board meeting.

Reclamation District 800 hasn't been out of pocket for its study participation.

"If we were paying for this ourselves, it would be extremely expensive," said Rebecca Smith, the district's contract attorney.

Nor did the district pay Ervin and Smith for their involvement, even though



RD 800 maintains and repairs 34 miles of privately owned levees along the Cosumnes River between Rancho Murieta and Freeman Road off Dillard Road in Wilton and Freeman Road off Grant Line Road in the Sheldon community. Courtesy photo



Engineer Patrick Ervin briefs the board on the June 23 levee inspection during the July 17 meeting. He said federal and state officials continued to express amazement at how the district managed to protect its infrastructure during the 2023 flooding. Photo by Gail Bullen

they customarily bill the district for their work. Their participation was covered by a \$500,000 planning grant secured by state Sen. Roger Niello in 2023.

### DWR Recognition

The district's response after the 2023 storm, which broke three levees and caused massive erosion, hasn't gone unnoticed, including a recognition that the district borrowed more than \$6.5 million to make the emergency repairs.

At the district's Feb. 15, 2024, board meeting, board members and staff recounted how Water Resources officials expressed surprise and admiration at what they saw during the initial Corps levee inspection.

"I've got a whole new respect for your district. We didn't really understand what went on out here until today," Water Resources Division of Flood Management Manager Jeremy Arrich told Schneider during a break in the Feb. 13, 2024, inspection.

"DWR will have involvement. All you have to do is ask. We need to get you guys so it is not just your board members and your employees who are flood-fighting out here," Arrich told Schneider.

The Corps and DWR officials were especially



Reclamation District 800 trustees meet with contracted staff and the sole district employee during a recent board meeting at the Wilton Community Center. From left are Engineer Patrick Ervin, Trustee Leland Schneider, Attorney Rebecca Smith, Accountant Perla Tzintzun-Garibay, Board President Brian Takemori, Secretary Marsha Holmes, Trustees Mark Hite, Jack Kautz and Dave Utterback, and Maintenance Supervisor Trevor Dosh. Photo by Gail Bullen

struck by the volume of water the system withstood: around 75,000 cubic feet per second (CFS), compared to 9,000 CFS in some other areas.

Levee patrol efforts during the high water also raised eyebrows. Schneider recalled being asked, "You guys patrol this when the water's right here; are you guys goofy?"

The night patrols through rain and darkness also included close encounters with swimming rattlesnakes, Trustee Dave Utterback said.

The district's work continued to receive admiration at subsequent inspections.

"They kept saying, 'We don't know how you've held this system together as

long as you have,'" Ervin said at the July meeting.

Ervin also reported that Mike Mierzwa, State Floodplain manager at the Department of Water Resources, has taken a strong interest in the district's situation and is pushing for a new cost-sharing maintenance program for high-risk levees outside the Delta region. It would be similar to the Delta Levees Subventions Program, which reimburses up to 75% of maintenance costs.

### What Happens Next

Ervin expects the Corps to deliver a draft report of its findings from the June inspection in about three months. They will send a draft review before anything goes public, and they

are open to comments or clarifications, Ervin said. "The Army Corps does not take criticism poorly and will make revisions if needed."

The Corps also prepared draft reports after the first two inspections, but they aren't yet available for public review.

Smith said the value of the work goes far beyond internal planning. The process has given Reclamation District 800 something in never had before: robust, third-party documentation.

"We walked away with a big old packet of information from trusted engineers," she said. "Now we can say, 'Here's the problem. Come help us find a solution.'"

Ervin added: "Our hope

is that this work helps us to better understand our flood system, and to plan for future improvements that will keep our communities and properties safe. We are also hopeful that this information translates to access to funding and better data about where funds can be most effective at meeting the district's flood control goals.

"I don't think the district learned anything new regarding this levee system's historical problems, but other participants in this process, mainly California DWR, are learning a lot about what we are up against out here, especially considering our lack of funding.

"I think DWR's participation demonstrates that we are on their radar, and I am hopeful that it eventually translates to longer-term support and funding opportunities," Ervin said. "I also think that the reports generated from the levee review will give decision-makers outside of the district better information about how critical this infrastructure is, and how important it is that the state and federal government bring support to the region."

This story is also online at [therivervalleytimes.com](http://therivervalleytimes.com) and [Facebook.com/therivervalleytimes](https://www.facebook.com/therivervalleytimes). ★



A photo taken after the 2023 flooding shows the most severe of three levee breaks. Located at the end of Bradley Ranch Road in the Sheldon community, the break stretched the length of a football field. Courtesy photo

**Dear Neighbors,**

After 40 years in Rancho Murieta, I have decided to resign from my position as a Director on the Rancho Murieta Association (RMA) Board, effective immediately. This was a difficult choice. My goal has always been to help build a strong, transparent, and well-governed community. Over the past two years, I have become increasingly concerned that certain Board practices do not align with the fiduciary standards set out in the Davis-Stirling Act and our own bylaws. Despite repeated efforts to offer informed, constructive feedback and encourage widely used leadership-training programs, those ideas have not yet been considered or implemented.

Distressed and solution focused, I submitted a proposal earlier this year to form a **Leadership & Communication Improvement Committee** aimed at strengthening the Board's functionality, communication, and legal compliance. Despite my own repeated requests and the support of many community members - **the proposal has not been placed on an agenda for open discussion.**

In my experience, the Boards messaging strategies have had a **discouraging effect on members who raise concerns.** Stepping down allows me to speak more freely about these issues while remaining an engaged member of the Association.

I remain committed to supporting our excellent staff by advocating for effective leadership, clear policies, and a forward-looking plan for Rancho Murieta's future.

If you see me—or Leo and me—around the neighborhood, please say hello. I would love to hear your ideas, concerns, and hopes for how we can make Rancho Murieta even stronger.

## RANCHO MURIETA IS STRONGEST WHEN WE HOLD LEADERS ACCOUNTABLE

### A Call to Action

As of **August 8, 2025**, **three seats** on the RMA Board will be available for the November election. This is a pivotal opportunity to vote for directors who value open dialogue, fair governance, and long-term planning. I encourage every member to vote for candidates who prioritize transparency, respectful communication, and responsible stewardship of Association resources.

### Moving Forward

We deserve a Board that:

- **Commits** to structured director training on fiduciary duties, open-meeting laws, conflict-resolution, and nondiscrimination policies.
- **Rebuilds trust** through timely and transparent communication with members.
- **Supports staff and residents** with fairness and professionalism.
- **Encourages robust member input** rather than discouraging participation.

Our community is strongest when we hold leaders accountable and collaborate for the common good. Thank you to everyone who has supported efforts toward positive change. I look forward to helping Rancho Murieta remain a healthy and vibrant community—today and in the years ahead.

Sincerely, Danny Carrillo



Scan for more information about the Leadership Communication Improvement Committee.



*This message reflects my personal views and is provided for community information.*

# A Call for Strong RMA Board Leadership through Education

We add our names to the many others expressing strong support for the establishment of a RMA Director Education Program. As our community continues to grow, it is vital to equip our Board with the tools and knowledge needed to support smooth leadership transitions, uphold legal compliance, and reduce the risk of costly liabilities.

To this end, we support the formation of a short-term **Leadership & Communication Improvement Committee (LCIC)**—a volunteer group of community members

tasked with evaluating and recommending high-quality training and education options tailored to HOA governance.

### The LCIC would be responsible for:

- Identifying and recommending director education and compliance programs
- Developing an ongoing training calendar for RMA Board members
- Ensuring RMA governance aligns with best practices **already adopted by more than 1,500 California HOAs**

Informed, ethical, and transparent leadership is key to the long-term well-being of our community. Establishing this committee is a critical first step toward more effective governance, open communication, and increased membership confidence. We look forward to seeing this initiative on an upcoming RMA agenda.

|                     |                 |                       |                 |               |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Mike Martel         | Sandy Dufrene   | Steve Bloom           | Jenna Ogden     | Tammy O'Brien |
| Don Ogden           | Carol Marks     | Richard Conn          | Lori Ogden      | Anne Steiner  |
| Dave Thomas         | Patricia Luke   | Josie Martinez        | Tony Valez      | Damone Block  |
| Tracy Stigler       | Susan Phillip   | Chris Lucchetti       | Al Dolata       | Ann Millet    |
| Mary Newman         | Manuel Vasquez  | Sherry Luman-Carrillo | Pat Meeks       | Kendra Block  |
| Jay Solomon         | Nellie Bloom    | Ray Lozada            | Scott Robertson | Bill Moe      |
| Myrna Solomon       | Breck Phillip   | Michael Millet        | Josh Mockley    |               |
| Kim Doughty         | Ernie LeBlanc   | Ambrose Carrillo      | Bob Kiel        |               |
| Virginia Nichelmann | Eugene Huguenin | Leah Lucchetti        | Sid Williams    |               |
| Carole Matheson     | Tony Martinez   | Dalton Westerberg     | Joe Waite       |               |

# Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Imagine having the confidence to forgo college basketball entirely and jump straight from high school to professional basketball. That's what Jonathan Kuminga did and so did Kobe Bryant and LeBron James. Things turned out pretty well for those two, and it may turn out well for Kuminga too. The only question is, will it be in a Sacramento Kings uniform?

Well, that's the question on the mind of every Kings fan, largely because that's the current talk of the town.

The Warriors, after surprising everyone and acquiring Jimmy Butler late last season, are apparently prepared to part ways with 22-year old Kuminga, and the Sacramento Kings are interested.

Should the two teams come to an agreement, the Kings would finally complete the missing piece they have long been looking for, front court help to compliment Keegan Murray.

The Kings have met with Kuminga and it's been reported that Kuminga is eager to join the beam team, and travel 90 miles north to unite with the Warriors closest rival.

Times in San Francisco have been tumultuous for young Kuminga, and he has fallen into disfavor with coach Steve Kerr. Stories vary as to the reason for his fall from grace, but reportedly Kerr is unhappy with Kuminga's desire to elevate his game and not play within the team style that Kerr desires.

Without question, Kuminga's beginning in the NBA could not have been any meteoric, as the Warriors captured the NBA title in Kuminga's rookie season.

Kuminga contributed nearly 10 points per game in his rookie campaign while logging just under 17 minutes per game.

Kuminga has steadily improved his game, but he has plateaued the past 2 season's averaging 15 points and just under 5 rebounds per game.

The age-old problem of minutes is the issue, and with stars Stephen Curry, Jimmy Butler, and Draymond Green, breaking into the starting lineup does not appear to be a realistic outcome for Kuminga.

The Kings are undoubtedly assuring a starting position in the negotiations, and Kuminga has expressed a real interest in joining the Sactown boys.

I can envision the first time the Warriors

come to town, with Kuminga lighting things up and showing the Warriors what they passed up on. Maybe lighting the beam with a smile to match.

This is not a done deal Kings fans, but it is not pie in the sky either. If the Warriors don't move Kuminga this season, they will run the risk of him signing elsewhere and receiving no compensation. Suffice to say, the Warriors are smarter than that, so making a good deal for Kuminga now makes loads of sense, and I believe Scott Perry is trying to help the Warriors do just that.

If reports are accurate, that means the Kings will in all probability say goodbye to Malik Monk, while including a first-round draft choice in the deal. The sticking point has been whether the pick will be unrestricted, and it's my view that in all likelihood the Kings may have to acquiesce to get this trade consummated.

Without question the NBA has yet to see the best of Kuminga, and there is no question in my mind that this talented young player could be the missing ingredient the Kings have long been looking for.

Sadly, trades that are as public as this one rarely come to fruition, so say your prayers Kings fans, because I do not see a down side to welcoming Kuminga into the Sactown family!

Summertime can be tormenting for true basketball fans, and with the summer league concluding, trade rumors that can change the landscape of the hometown team in a positive way, are just what Kings fans need to while away the hours waiting for training camp to begin.

Not to be lost in the Kuminga hype, is current Kings power forward Trey Lyles who is currently a free agent. At 6'9" and 234 lbs., Lyles represents a big body and someone that the Kings can count on off the bench. Losing him would be a critical mistake and would remind me of the faux pas made just a season ago when Davion Mitchell slipped through their fingers and was unceremoniously traded to the Toronto Raptors.

Stay positive Kings fans, because Scott Perry brings with him much needed experience in the front office, at a time when a steady hand is very much required.

All the best!

Your thoughts are always welcome at [vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com](mailto:vgharriskingsfan@gmail.com). ★

## Social Security Matters

### Why Hasn't My SS Benefit Changed Because I Am Still Working?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I am currently receiving Social Security benefits while continuing to work full time. There are no restrictions on my wage earnings because I waited until full retirement age before beginning benefits. However, I was also told that my benefit amount would be reviewed each year if my current earnings were higher than past earnings. That held true for the first two years but has yet to be adjusted for 2025. I thought it might be because of HR 82, which does not impact me directly, but I think it may be the reason my payment has not yet been changed. Has enough time passed so I should contact SSA now to see if this is the case? **Signed: Waiting Anxiously .**

**Dear Waiting:** If you are already collecting benefits, Social Security reviews your earnings each year to see if your more recent earnings are high enough to warrant an increase in your monthly

benefit. They do this automatically, after they get your most recent earnings data from the IRS, and they typically do that review by the end of the 3rd quarter of each year. If a higher benefit is indicated, they will increase your monthly amount and pay you retroactively to the beginning of the year for any difference in your benefit.

SSA has, indeed, been vigorously working on changes resulting from HR82 (the Social Security Fairness Act), which may have affected the timeliness of their review of your recent earnings. However, I suspect that is not why your SS benefit has not yet changed. More likely, it has to do with the fact that your past earnings have been adjusted for inflation (which is a normal part of Social Security's process when calculating your benefit amount). Your earnings for each year in your lifetime (up to age 60) were adjusted for inflation when you originally claimed SS, and your recent earnings would need to be higher than the inflation-adjusted amounts used by SS when you claimed. They use the 35 highest earnings years (adjusted for inflation) over your lifetime to calculate your benefit, and inflation has a substantial effect. For example, \$50,000 earned

in 1990 would require over \$100,000 in earnings today to cause an increase in your benefit. Thus, you cannot go by the actual dollars you earned in earlier years, because SS uses inflated amounts to calculate your benefit.

In any case, if you believe that the Social Security Administration neglected reviewing your earnings from last year, or in any year since you claimed, you can make an appointment to review that with them by calling 1.800.772.1213. SSA typically does such appointments over the phone, so you likely won't need to make a personal visit to your local SSA office to investigate this.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). ★*

## California Is Finally Adopting Phonics

### Fulfilling A Grandmother's Dream



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Marion Joseph died in 2022 and therefore cannot celebrate what at long last is happening in California to improve children's abysmal levels of reading comprehension.

Joseph, a renowned expert on reading instruction, came out of retirement in the 1980s to wage a personal crusade for the adoption of phonics, doing battle with educators who stubbornly supported a rival system called "whole language" that was failing to raise reading scores.

Phonics stresses fundamental instruction in the letters and letter combinations that make up sounds, thus allowing children to "sound out" words and later whole sentences and passages. The whole language approach assumes that reading is a naturally learned skill, much like speaking, and that exposing children to reading material will allow it to emerge.

Having realized that her own grandson, then a first-grader, was having difficulty with reading, Joseph began pestering the state's politicians to adopt phonics, persuading then-Gov. Pete Wilson in the 1990s to appoint her to a commission on reading instruction and then the state Board of

Education, platforms from which she could pursue her mission.

However, she achieved only modest success in what were dubbed "reading wars," and after she left the school board the whole language approach re-emerged as dominant.

Reading scores on state and national academic tests continued to languish, with fewer than half of fourth-graders reading at an acceptable level.

School districts that had voluntarily adopted phonics demonstrated remarkable gains. They recognized that the ability to read is fundamental to succeeding in other academic skills, such as mathematics.

Finally substantial numbers of legislators decided to intervene, and a pro-phonics contingent began pushing measures that would compel school districts to adopt what has been dubbed the "science of reading," backed by a phalanx of education reformers.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, who has struggled with dyslexia, a disorder affecting his ability to read, supported the efforts and included \$200 million in the 2025-26 state budget to train teachers in phonics.

Meanwhile Assembly Bill 1454 is moving quickly through the legislative process. Sponsored by pro-phonics legislators including Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, it would require the state Board of Education to adopt phonics-based instructional materials and include phonics in reading teacher credential programs.

The pro-phonics moves are drawing praise from

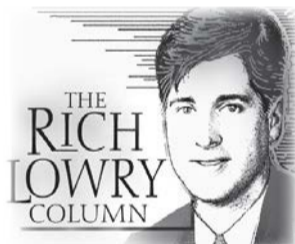
EdVoice and dozens of other educational reform groups.

"When a child learns to read, they don't just decode letters on a page, they begin to dream bigger, think more critically, and imagine a future beyond what they can see. Today's committee approval brings us one step closer to all California children reading at grade level," said Marshall Tuck, CEO of Ed Voice, after the bill cleared the Senate Education Committee last week.

Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, a West Covina Democrat who has become the Legislature's top phonics advocate, said, "After months of hard work and collaboration, we are making steady progress toward delivering on our promise to teach all California children to read. The support we saw today in the Senate Education Committee moves us closer to ensuring that no child falls through the cracks because they weren't taught to read using scientifically proven reading methods. The continued bipartisan support on this bill tells us that California is ready and motivated to lead on literacy."

The actions fall a bit short of requiring local school districts to adopt phonics, but they go a long way toward achieving Marion Joseph's goal.

*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. ★*



#### Hamas is to Blame for Gaza's Woes

Hamas started a war, rejected a ceasefire and stole and profited from humanitarian aid, and we are supposed to believe that it's all Israel's fault.

International attention is focused on food shortages in Gaza, with the blame and the pressure -- as always -- on Israel to do something about it.

It is always difficult to get to the ground truth in Gaza, which is shrouded in the fog of war, of Hamas propaganda and of slanted media coverage, but there appears indeed to be a brewing humanitarian crisis.

Israel stopped shipments of aid into Gaza in March after a temporary ceasefire expired, and then started them up again in May, using the so-called Israel- and U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) as the conduit. The stoppage in aid, coupled with inadequate GHF operations, has led to the current situation.

It's necessary to understand the larger context, though. Israel halted food shipments as a means to deny Hamas revenue, not to target the general population.

The terror group had perfected the art of exploiting humanitarian aid (and commercial transactions) for its own purposes via

theft and taxes, plowing the proceeds into its military operations.

Although there is now an effort by Israel's critics to portray the concern over Hamas profiteering as fabricated or exaggerated, there is no doubt that this business model was crucial to the terror group. Both The Wall Street Journal ("A Depleted Hamas Is So Low on Cash That It Can't Pay Its Fighters") and The Washington Post ("Hamas Facing Financial and Administrative Crisis as Revenue Dries Up") have run reports on the squeeze felt by Hamas.

The Journal article back in April noted that the cash crunch with the cut off in aid was "making it harder for Hamas to bring in new recruits and maintain cohesion." The Washington Post reported about a week ago: "With its coffers depleted, Hamas's military wing can no longer adequately pay the salaries of its fighters, though it is still able to recruit teenage boys for missions like keeping lookout or placing explosives along Israeli military routes."

Making it harder for your enemy to pay its fighters and secure new ones is an important and legitimate military goal. The problem is the potential cost to people in Gaza who aren't combatants.

The hostages are just another consequence of how deeply embedded Hamas is in Gaza society. This isn't a group of terrorists who moved into territory adjacent to Israel to launch the Oct. 7 attacks and could be quickly extricated by an intense military

operation. Hamas has been the government of Gaza for a couple of decades, and has used every instrument of political and social influence at its disposal -- including the distribution of food -- to build its military capacity.

It's important to remember that Israel didn't start this war, that it'd much rather be fighting a conventional military force that abided by the rules of war, and that Hamas still holds Israeli hostages and has taken a rejectionist attitude to ceasefire talks.

Even Emperor Hirohito thought his people had suffered enough at the conclusion of World War II, but Hamas considers the agony of Gazans a useful weapon in the narrative war. From this perverted point of view, a famine would be welcome news, perhaps forcing Israel to stay its hand and leave Hamas to fight another day.

Clearly, Israel needs to find better ways to get aid into Gaza. The GHF hasn't gotten the support that it needed from the U.N. and other agencies (they are too invested in the corrupt status quo), while the distribution points for aid are chaotic and dangerous.

The best thing that could happen would be an end to the war with a decent political authority -- more invested in the general welfare than in tunnels and rockets-- finally in charge of Gaza. But Hamas would rather see the population starve than give up on the war, or its grip on power.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

(c) 2025 by King Features Synd., Inc. ★

WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS



WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS MPG



# SECURITY LOGS

Following is a summary of activity for the Rancho Murieta Community Services District Security Department for the following dates. Note: these log entries are condensed. For full security log details, go to the CSD website at rmcscd.com.

## July 18

4:19 a.m., Unoccupied White Toyota Tundra with an empty boat trailer seen near boat ramp at Lake Clementia. After searching area a boat with three males found in lake. Subjects loaded boat and departed area at that time.

11:10 p.m., Illegal fireworks reported at Lake Chesbro. Patrol arrived in area where fireworks were reported. Found trash and fireworks on road next to Chesbro and saw a golf cart departing through Lake Calero exit. Unable to locate golf cart.

## July 19

12:25 a.m., Vehicle found in Lake Calero parking lot after hours. Vehicle departed on approach.

12:30 a.m., Golf cart leaving Robles Grande, driving erratically, running stop signs and playing loud music. Followed cart to De La Cruz. Resident info not obtained.

## July 21

12:02 a.m., Came across a white Honda Ridgeline at lake Calero after hours. Driver departed area at that time.

1:04 a.m., Guest of resident at Gazebo Park after hours. Departed park on approach.

5:43 a.m., Call about items left by a possible transient at Rio Oso and I Park. Items to be taken to North Gate to be logged in lost and found.

## July 22

9:58 p.m., Report of assault: Resident

from Lago Drive allegedly assaulted by resident from Via Del Cerrito. One arrived at address to serve "cease and desist" documents. During the process, server allegedly was attacked while on porch. Server ran across the street and was chased, caught up to and thrown to the ground and allegedly struck in the head.

## July 23

5:30 p.m., Report of a golfer shooting balls into Lake Joaquin. Upon arrival, patrol did not locate any golfers around the lake. A grandmother and her grandson were practicing across the street on Lago Drive in a little field.

## July 25

1:15 a.m., Lake Calero Peninsula: Came across a white Kia Sorento with two subjects on a bench. Patrol notified the subjects the lake was closed, and they apologized and departed.

8:20 p.m., Two occupied vehicles found at Riverview Park after hours. Vehicles departed upon approach.

11:45 p.m., Gray Honda van found at lake Calero after hours. Family disputed rule and left without further incident.

## July 26

10:20 p.m., vehicle accident: Reporting party said that that while in line to depart Lake Clementia after a concert, a golf cart behind them, cut the line and bumped his golf cart while passing. Reporting party then followed the golf cart home and confronted them. Address unknown. Reporting party then drove to North Gate to report the incident. Photos included are of the subject who cut the line and reportedly bumped the cart that reporting party was driving. No information about suspect received.

## July 27

12:25 a.m., call came in with no address or location other than one of the back lakes. Patrol arrived at Lake Clementia to find several cars and golf carts in area near the park. All vehicles departed on arrival, leaving trash.

1:55 a.m., Observed black Lexus fail to stop at Murieta Parkway and Alameda intersection. Vehicle was traveling at a high rate of speed. Subsequent calls/complaints of vehicle speeding through community.

## July 28

2:23 a.m., Two vehicles, red sedan and grey Nissan, with six individuals at Riverview after hours creating a noise disturbance. Group waited after being informed they must leave. Patrol had to ask them twice. Will be citing both vehicles.

1:12 p.m., Subjects were observed on Jackson Highway looking over the bridge. The third subject was down by the riverbank recording as one of the subjects jumped off the bridge. All information recorded about descriptions and locations of the individuals were forwarded to the Sheriff's Department.

2:15 p.m., Report of nephew, possibly under influence of drugs and could be carrying illegal substances in his backpack, wandering in the Murieta South. Last known location Greens Park. Reporting party was referred to Sheriff's Department.

3:30 p.m., Reporting party contacted CSD Dispatch, stated he has video footage of a theft that occurred at 1:45 p.m. July 25.

Video footage review revealed a newer model blue Nissan Rogue with custom rims arrived to the southwest parking of the plaza. Passenger exited the Nissan

and began looking into windows of all the parked vehicles. Nissan then parked next to a Subaru Forrester, passenger exited the vehicle, handed to second party what appeared to be a window punch. Second party then proceeded to the front passenger window, broke it, reached inside of the vehicle, took an unknown item from the vehicle and returned to the front passenger seat of the blue Nissan.

Blue Nissan then left west on Lone Pine Drive. Owner of the vehicle stated that a few of her credit cards inside a wallet were taken from her vehicle. Victim stated that her credit cards were attempted to be used to pay for gift cards at the Rancho Murieta Bel Air about an hour after the theft. Victim filed a report with Sheriff's Department on July 25.

## July 30

10:53 a.m., Stonehouse Park, Guest without resident using dog park amenities as reported by reporting party. Guest was educated about rules by RMA Compliance and left.

## Aug. 2

2:20 a.m., vehicle accident: Silver Audi drove onto yard and cement steps on Murieta South Parkway. Property damage occurred. Car destroyed cement steps; possible DUI; CHP was dispatched. Vehicle disabled on front yard. Driver was given a field sobriety test. Both driver and passenger were arrested by CHP.

## Aug. 3

10:26 p.m., reporting party stated multiple subjects at Lake Chesbro. Patrol found one golf cart with four juveniles, one Toyota pickup missing a driver door and no plates. Subjects departed scene on arrival. Remained in area to ensure all had left. ★

# Local Classifieds Advertise in your local community newspaper Call 916-773-1111

|  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Concrete</b>  | <b>Home Improvement</b>   | <b>Landscaping</b>   | <b>Automotive</b>  | <b>Roofing</b>   |
| <p><b>SONDROL CONCRETE</b><br/>25+ years experience. All types of finishes. Patios, driveways, slabs, Walkways, Spa pads. Tear out/ Replace Tractor work. <i>Written estimates.</i> Lic. # 778034<br/><b>916-955-1083</b></p>  | <p><b>ALL PHASE HOME REPAIR</b><br/>Elk Grove, CA<br/>•Electrical •Plumbing<br/>•Fencing •Fans •Decks<br/>•Doors •Windows •Tile<br/>Flooring •Trim base-board •Sheetrock •Dry Rot Texture •Painting<br/>•Lighting •Concrete<br/>•Sprinkler Repair<br/>•Framing and more!<br/>All phases of home repair &amp; any construction needed- Big or small. Quality work guaranteed! Low prices- free est. Serving Elk Grove, Rancho Murieta, Galt, Wilton, Herald, Sac. &amp; Surrounding Areas<br/>CSL#1134987<br/><i>Bonded &amp; Insured</i><br/><b>(916)287-6164</b></p> | <p><b>CREATE YOUR PARADISE</b><br/><br/><b>Winter Yard Cleanups, Complete Landscape Design/ Installation, Sprinkler System Installs/Repairs, All Types Concrete Work, Fence Installation, Retaining Walls- All Types, Drainage Systems- all types, Landscape Lighting, Residential/ commercial</b><br/>American Landscape Design &amp; Installation. Est 1987<br/>American Construction &amp; Property Maintenance Company<br/>WE ACCEPT VISA &amp; MASTER CARD<br/><b>(916)612-0776</b><br/>Lic#690968</p> | <p><b>Elk Grove Shell</b><br/><br/><b>Your Local Full Service Auto Repair Shop Committed to Customer Satisfaction</b><br/><b>Specializing In:</b><br/>• Oil Changes<br/>• Smog Repair<br/>• Smog Inspection<br/>• Safety Inspection<br/>• Transmission Service<br/>• Brakes<br/>• Wheel Alignment<br/>• Check Engine Light Diagnosis<br/>• Tires<br/>• Tune-Up<br/>• Batteries<br/>• 30, 60, 90K Service<br/>• Brake &amp; Lamp Station<br/><b>Mon-Fri, 8-5 • 916-685-7796</b><br/>8901 Elk Grove Blvd.<br/></p> | <p><b>PREMIER ROOFING INC.</b> <i>Se Habla Espanol</i><br/>LIC# 1097848<br/>• ROOF REPAIR • NEW ROOFS<br/>• ROOF MAINTENANCE • GUTTER CLEANING<br/>• COMPLETE RE-ROOF CELL 209.810.6233<br/><b>209.745.7565</b><br/>1premierroofing@gmail.com</p>  |
| <p><b>Perez Landscaping &amp; Concrete</b><br/>•Concrete Finishing/ Stamping<br/>•Landscape installation and Design<br/>•Sodding, •Planting<br/>•Irrigation •Retaining Walls<br/>•Yard maintenance. Free estimates. Fore more info. call <b>916-834-2352</b> email:Elverperez@att.net Lic #14-00016214</p> | <p><b>Junk Removal</b><br/><b>MS Hauling</b><br/>•Junk Removal<br/>•Garage Cleanouts<br/>•Yard Debris<br/>•E-Waste<br/>Mention this ad and receive 15% off!<br/><br/>Call (916)207-5702<br/>License # 778034</p>  | <p><b>MPG</b><br/></p>  | <p><b>Roofing</b><br/><b>JIM MOYLEN ROOFING</b><br/>1981 License # 407605<br/>A+ Rating with BBB.<br/>Specialize in Re-Roof, Prompt Repairs, Low Slope Roof, Seamless Gutter Installation.<br/><br/>Free Estimates! Open Monday-Saturday<br/><b>916-531-2793 Cell</b><br/><b>Tile Repairs</b></p>  | <p><b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY ROOFING &amp; GUTTERS</b><br/><br/><b>RESIDENTIAL &amp; COMMERCIAL</b><br/>• NEW ROOF INSTALL<br/>• TEAR OFF &amp; REROOF<br/>• ROOF REPAIR<br/>• OVERLAY ROOF INSTALL<br/>• DRY ROT REPAIR<br/>• SEAMLESS GUTTER INSTALL<br/>• GUTTER REMOVAL &amp; INSTALL<br/>• GUTTER REPAIR<br/>• GUTTER GUARD &amp; INSTALL<br/>• DOWNSPOUTS INSTALL<br/>• CUSTOM COLORS<br/><b>FREE ESTIMATES!</b><br/><b>916-719-8288</b><br/>RAMON M., FOREMAN/OPERATOR<br/>LIC# 1072137</p> |
| <p><b>3DR CONCRETE</b><br/>All your concrete needs. Bobcat services, driveway repair. Comm &amp; Res. Lic # 968987 insured (209)570-7304</p>   | <p><b>JUNK &amp; HAULING</b> cleanups all excavation &amp; concrete removal cars and trucks removal good \$ small jobs ok \$40 &amp; up lic (916)-280-4361</p>  | <p><b>YARD CLEANUP &amp; DECORATIVE ROCK</b><br/>One time cleanup pruning. Also bark, weed control, sod, seed, pruning, sprinkler systems, hauling, etc. Mobile homes, commercial or residential. Local gardener.<br/><br/>916-205-9310 or 916- 627-9000</p>   | <p><b>Painting</b><br/><b>Shelton Painting, Inc.</b><br/>• Repaints: Exterior &amp; Interior<br/>• Dry Wall Repair<br/><br/>Free Estimates<br/><b>(209) 745-7897</b><br/>3 Generations of Quality Painters #908019<br/>We accept Visa &amp; Mastercard</p>   | <p><b>Tractor Work</b><br/><b>MAC Industries DIRT WORK</b><br/><br/>•Excavations •Utility Trenching •Foundations-All types<br/>•Laser Grading &amp; Dozer work •Driveways •Building Pads •Drainage-All Types<br/>•Field Mowing / Firebreaks •Flail •Bushhog<br/>•Septic System Installation •Drilling •Foundations<br/>•Post •Tree holes •Trenching •Irrigation<br/>•Drainage •Rototilling •Disking<br/>License #919198 &amp; Insured<br/>Michael- 916-747-9667 Bill- 916-869-1019</p>        |
| <p><b>CONCRETE &amp; FOUNDATIONS &amp; HOUSE LEVELING</b> &amp; stucco &amp; excavation, junk removal all k. good \$ small jobs ok lic (916)-271-0227</p>  | <p><b>Landscaping</b></p>   | <p><b>YARD CLEAN UP</b><br/>Sod installation<br/>Landscape installation<br/>Lawnmowing services<br/>Fence repair<br/><br/>Call for free estimate<br/><b>916-271-7265</b></p>   | <p><b>Roofing</b><br/><b>ROUT ROOFING</b><br/>Specializing in Res Roofing &amp; Repairs<br/>We Hand Nail for Quality!<br/><i>Free Estimates</i><br/><b>916-423-1288 or 209-748-5588</b><br/> Since 1975 Lic.#302302<br/>Visit: mpg8.com</p>   | <p><b>Be a part of something important</b><br/><b>Local Writers Wanted</b><br/>We are looking for local Freelance Writers to provide great coverage.<br/> Call us today at 916-773-1111</p>   |
| <p><b>Yard sale? Garage Sale? Advertise in your local community newspaper! Call (916) 773-1111</b></p>   |   |  |  |  |

**WE SUPPORT FIRST RESPONDERS**



# CALL A PROFESSIONAL

## PURCHASE • REFINANCE FIXED RATE LOANS

### 15 Year Term Fixed Rate Loan

RATE **5.000%** APR **5.30%**  
180 Monthly Payments of \$7.91 per \$1,000 Borrowed

### 30 Year Term Fixed Rate Loan

RATE **5.750%** APR **5.93%**  
360 Monthly Payments of \$5.84 per \$1,000 Borrowed

### Check the El Dorado Advantage:

✓ No Application Fee ✓ No Prepayment Penalty ✓ Local Processing and Servicing



## EL DORADO SAVINGS BANK

Serving our local communities for over 65 Years

ELK GROVE • 9003 Elk Grove Blvd. • 916-685-3936

RANCHO MURIETA • 7185 Murieta Drive • 916-354-2661

SHELDON • 8973 Grant Line Road • 916-686-0200

Se Habla Español

Maximum loan \$650,000.00, primary or vacation residence. 20% minimum cash down payment on purchase. 25% equity required on refinance. Other loans available under different terms.

LOAN TERMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

www.eldoradosavingsbank.com 800-874-9779



## John Taylor

Farmers Insurance Agent/Broker

14650 Cantova Way, St. 204  
Rancho Murieta, CA 95683  
jtaylor3@farmersagent.com



For All Your  
Insurance Needs  
— In Business  
Since 1984



License #: 0678249

Call today for a policy review and quote!

**(916) 485-3236**

916-402-6021 (Cell)

## Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

### Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

| 6-month                  | 1-year                   | 2-year                   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>4.25</b> %<br>APY*    | <b>4.05</b> %<br>APY*    | <b>3.90</b> %<br>APY*    |
| Minimum deposit \$10,000 | Minimum deposit \$10,000 | Minimum deposit \$10,000 |

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



**Linda Sobon**  
Financial Advisor

2360 East Bidwell St., Suite 102  
Folsom, CA 95630  
916-673-6549

\* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 10/16/2024. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-1867K-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

## Need to Advertise?

Let Lezet help you get the word out

Office: (209) 745.1551

lezet.vidauri@MPG8.com

Elk Grove Citizen The Galt Herald RIVER VALLEY TIMES

Please call 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays



**KAREN HOBERG**  
**(916) 947-6910**

karen@rmhl.net Lic. #00670687

EXPERIENCE • KNOWLEDGE • RESULTS



**DEB BRITTAN TEAM**  
*unlocking your dreams*  
IN RANCHO MURIETA

**COMPLIMENTARY  
HOME STAGING**

*just mention this ad*  
**(916)**

**932.6693**

RanchoMurietaHomes.com



REALTOR®  
&  
RANCHO  
MURIETA  
RESIDENT

DRE# 02056360

## RIVER VALLEY TIMES

Serving Rancho Murieta, Sloughouse  
and Sacramento County.

It is the intent of the *River Valley Times* to strive for an objective point of view in the reporting of news and events. It is understood that the opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and cartoonists and are not necessarily the opinions of the publisher or our contributors.

The *River Valley Times* is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or materials. The entire contents of the *River Valley Times* are copyrighted. Ownership of all advertising created and/or composed by the MPG is with the publishing company and written permission to reproduce the same must be obtained from the publisher.

Subscriptions should be mailed to *River Valley Times*, 7144 Fair Oaks Blvd. Suite 5, Carmichael, CA 95608.

The *River Valley Times* is published twice monthly. Call (916) 773-1111 for more information.

We are proud members of these newspaper associations.



**Publisher,  
Paul V. Scholl**

*River Valley Times* is a member of **Messenger Publishing Group**

To submit your articles, information, announcements or letters to the editor, please email to:

Publisher@mpg8.com.

Be sure to place in the subject field "Attention to Publisher". If you do not have email access, please call us at (916) 773-1111.

Do You Need **MPG**  
Your Legal Ads  
Published?

We can help.


Call us now to place your legal advertising!



**916-773-1111**

All legal ads published by Messenger Publishing Group.

# CALL A PROFESSIONAL



**AZTEC SOLAR INC.**  
**JACK STANGER**  
 SOLAR ENERGY EXPERT  
*Electric • Hot Water • Pool Heating*  
 (916) 853-2700 • (916) 802-1830  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
 LC# 550110  
 jack@aztecsolar.com • www.aztecsolar.com



**ANDRADE**  
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
**Residential & Commercial**  
 Repair • Maintenance • Replacement  
**Tune Up**  
**Andrade Heating & Air Conditioning**  
 (916) 747-9882  
 License #955437

*"We truly believe honesty is the best policy."  
 -AJ & Jen Andrade*




CALL Jessie -  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**BEST PRICE Stump Grinding & Tree Service**  
 209-210-0625

25 Years Experience!  
**CRAMER CONCRETE, Inc.**  
 Driveway • Patio • Walkway • Pool Decks • Concrete Removal  
 Stamped • Salt Finish • Exposed Aggregate • Colored • Broom Finish  
 Call a trusted Murieta/Wilton Contractor  
 References available in your neighborhood  
**FREE WRITTEN ESTIMATES**  
**Glen Cramer (916) 871-2561**  
 www.cramerconcrete.com  
 BBB Lic# 686244



**Quality Service At Competitive Prices!!!**  
 We currently provide pest protection for over 500 homes in your community!!  
**Call Today and Compare!**  
 Be sure and ask about our Murieta Special!!!  
**354-0209**  
 Rancho Murieta Residents Owned & Operated  
 "Particular Homeowners Deserve Apex"



**Honor Thy Elders...**  
 Senior Living Transitions, LLC  
 • All Care Facilities  
 • Independent Living • Respite  
 • In Home Care Providers  
 • Companion • VA Aid  
 • Medical Alert • Estate Planning  
 Gerontology Degree  
**Caryl Abshire, LNHA**  
 Over 25 years experience  
 www.HonorThyElders.com  
**916 320-3631**




**"The Low-rate Leader for Purchase & Refinance Loans"**  
**Bruce Boal** 916  
 California Home Loans 417-2001  
 RM resident over 20 years! NMLS# 1070092




**New Home BUILDING SUPPLY** (916) 455-3057  
 "Since 1949"  
 5310 Franklin Blvd. • Sacramento  
 • We have all the hard-to-find sidings  
 • Quality lumber for any size project  
 • Competitive pricing  
 • Variety of deck materials  
 • Local Steving family owned & operated



**Mr. Handyman**  
 Home Improvement Professionals  
 Professional • Safe • Reliable • Fully Insured  
 (916) 487-8655  
 www.mrhandyman.com/arden-arcade  
 SENIOR DISCOUNTS!

**We Express Excellence in Auto Repair**  
 All Insurance Claims Welcome  
**Auto Body EXPRESSIONS Inc.** Written Lifetime Warranty  
  
**685-5078**  
 9734 Dino Dr., Elk Grove  
 www.autobodyexpressions.com



Grow your business here!  
 Call (209) 745-1551 to advertise with us today!  
**River Valley Times**  
 Messenger Publishing Group  




**AMMA ELECTRIC**  
 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED • RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL... OR TOO BIG!**  
 Property Managers: We specialize in serving you promptly & completely  
**916-354-8870 OR 916-988-3464**  
 SLOUGHHOUSE, CA  
 Serving the Entire Sacramento Area Since 1992  
 FREE ESTIMATES • SENIOR DISCOUNTS  
 LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED • WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS

**FOLLOW US**  
 for Local News and much more!  
**River Valley Times**  
 Facebook: @therivervalleytimes

# Yacht Rock Attracts 800 to Clementia Concert

Continued from page 1

The band's playlist featured hits from iconic yacht rock performers such as Christopher Cross, George Benson, Foreigner and Michael McDonald. They also performed two hits by Toto: "Rosanna" and "Africa."

Mixed into the set were crowd-pleasing selections from other artists of the era – Fleetwood Mac, the Bee Gees and Elton John – all met with whistles and shouts of approval. The musicians closed out the night with an encore performance of "You're Still the One."

When the band began to play, the dance floor was first claimed by enthusiastic youngsters. But adults soon joined in, packing the area so tightly there was little room left to move. That didn't seem to matter; many sang along to every lyric and cheered the band's onstage antics. At times, the musicians even paused to let the crowd carry the tune.

Dozens of attendees dressed for the occasion in captain's hats, nautical-themed outfits and laid-back yacht-worthy attire.

Some sported artificial mustaches, including Candy Hearn and her daughter.

"I think people really got into the spirit of it, and it was a perfect night," she said.

Trish Mahan, who performed with a tribute band in the 1970s and '80s, recognized many of the same songs in Mustache Harbor's set.

"When you are in a live band, the most important thing is that the people enjoy the music and have



Everyone in this group wore a yachting cap to get into the spirit at the soft rock concert. From left are Lisa Brown, Marklin Brown, Kim Arston, Stoni Arston, Pam Bauserman, Mike Bauserman, Kelly Nies and Kurt Nies.



One of the singers croons a classic tune with unmistakable delight.



Wearing a nautical-themed top, Stephanie Burton dances with her daughter Nikki Wise and friend Katie Riedinger.



One of the two lead singers tosses a souvenir into the crowd.



Max Clelland trips the light fantastic in front of the stage.

a good time," she said. "It was obvious to me that was happening."

JT Turner emceed a brief program before the concert. A highlight came when he used a specialized cannon to launch sponsor T-shirts into the crowd, while his young assistant, Max Clelland, tossed mustache keychains to eager children gathered near the stage.

Turner also shared details about the event sponsors, recognized two birthdays and introduced the band.

### Food Trucks Debut

The concert also marked



Two food trucks make their debut at an ETC concert, positioned so only concertgoers have access.

the debut of two food trucks, which were positioned exclusively for concertgoers. Drewski's

Food Truck served tacos and grilled cheese sandwiches. Turner confirmed the food trucks will return

for the final two concerts on Aug. 16 and Aug. 30.

For more information about the concerts go to

etc-rm.org or email asketcinfo@gmail.com.

More photos are at the-rivervalleytimes.com. ★

**Harrah's**  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
IONE, CA

WHERE

MILLIONAIRES

ARE MADE!

Must be 21 years of age or older to gamble. Know When To Stop Before You Start®. 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537). See official rules at Caesars Rewards Center.