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Elk Grove Citizen

75¢ per copy

116TH YEAR • ISSUE 33

Official Newspaper of Elk Grove Since 1909

AUGUST 15, 2025

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CITY NAMES FINALISTS FOR PITCH ELK GROVE



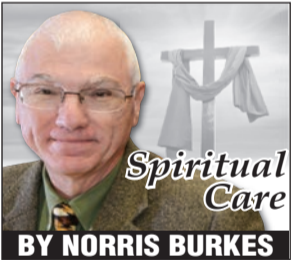
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TIME FOR MORE TALKS AND TRADES



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Spiritual Care

BY NORRIS BURKUS

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xHope Equips Youth for Success



Local nonprofit xHope hosted a back-to-school event series where youth were able to shop for new and gently used clothes from their boutique closet. Photos courtesy of XHope



Nonprofit xHope helped ease back-to-school nerves through an event series from mid-July to early August.

By Idaly Valencia

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Returning to school is an exciting time for students nationwide. It's a whirlwind of emotions as children and teens prepare for a new start in their educational journeys.

It can also be a nerve-racking experience for those who may not have access to new clothes and gear to begin the school year on a confident note.

Nonprofit xHope helped ease those nerves through a series of back-to-school events from mid-July to early August. By opening its boutique doors, youth could shop for new outfits, shoes and backpacks at no cost, many items still with tags or gently used.

Outreach coordinator Gina Thielke noted at the July 31 event that the

nonprofit organization had already surpassed its goal of how many children to give back to this year.

"I think our goal was to have 250 kids come through for an experience and after next Friday, our last experience, we'll be at 300 kids served," she said.

Many of the families that xHope works with come through referrals from Elk Grove Unified School District, foster agencies and local support centers, according to Thielke.

Its new warehouse location off Elkmont Way has more capacity to serve youth and families than before.

"We just had a little closet that they would go shop in and we would just have one family at a time but we didn't have space to the scale that we're doing it in now," said Thielke.

The goal, she added, was to make

Continued on Page 3

Barn Banquet Raises Funds to Preserve Elk Grove History



By MPG Staff

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Elk Grove Historical Society will host its annual Barn Banquet from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22 to raise funds for a planned barn that will store historical items and serve as an event venue.

Sponsored by the City of Elk Grove, Cosumnes Community Services District and Elk Grove Milling Inc., this is the second banquet in the fundraising series.

The barn will be located at Heritage Park, northwest of Elk Grove Regional Park, and will house historical carriages, wagons and other memorabilia preserved by Elk Grove's founding families. It will also serve as an event hall for the historical society and be available to rent for events such as weddings.

Jim Entrican, of Elk Grove Historical Society, said the barn is part of a three-year fundraising plan. Wood from an old bridge on Bruceville Road will be repurposed for the structure, but construction costs are expected to total \$1 million.

The project is about 75% funded, with roughly a quarter of the total goal still needed, Entrican said.

The evening will feature a live auction, dinner and live music by the Taylor Chicks, an Americana-style duo. Tickets cost \$85 per person or \$150 per couple. A table for eight is \$850 and includes reserved seating with the business name displayed, along with recognition in the event program.

Legacy donation opportunities are available, with sponsorship categories that include in-kind contributions of goods and services, such as printing, prizes, labor and materials, which will receive recognition equal to half the donation's value.

"Friends of the Barn" donations are available at \$1,000, \$500 or \$150, with donor names displayed inside the barn and on the project website.

A \$2,500 "Carriage Sponsor" donation includes a name on the barn's permanent donor

Continued on Page 3

New Program Delivers Care Beyond 9-1-1

Cosumnes Community Services District News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Residents in southern Sacramento County who have trouble accessing regular care will soon receive timely, in-home support through a mobile healthcare program designed to improve health outcomes and reduce unnecessary trips to the emergency room.

Launched by the Cosumnes Fire Department on Aug. 5, the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Pilot Program will focus on individuals managing chronic illnesses, recovering from hospital stays, or facing



The Mobile Integrated Healthcare unit is staffed by a licensed Advanced Practice Provider and a Retired Annuitant Paramedic. Photo courtesy of Cosumnes Community Services District

barriers to traditional medical services; bringing care directly to those who need it most.

Operating three days a week, the Mobile Integrated Healthcare unit is staffed by a

licensed Advanced Practice Provider and a Retired Annuitant Paramedic. The program extends care beyond traditional 9-1-1 responses by focusing on non-emergency, preventive and follow-up services. Initially, the team will assist frequent 9-1-1 callers, visit individuals recently discharged from the hospital, and respond to behavioral health concerns or medical issues that can be safely managed without a trip to the emergency room.

This initiative builds on countywide efforts to improve ambulance patient offload times and emergency response efficiency. Cosumnes Fire's Mobile

Continued on Page 2

City Names Finalists for Pitch Elk Grove Contest



On Aug. 5, the City of Elk Grove announced the nine startups advancing to the finals of the 2025 Pitch Elk Grove competition on Sept. 4. Photo courtesy of City of Elk Grove

City of Elk Grove News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The wait is over! Following a highly competitive review process, the City of Elk Grove is pleased to announce the nine startups advancing to the finals of the 2025 Pitch Elk Grove competition.

Initially planned as an eight-finalist event, the exceptional quality of this year's semi-finalists led to an expansion to nine. These companies represent some of the most promising early-stage ventures in the Sacramento region, each offering innovative solutions to key challenges that present significant market opportunities.

On Sept. 4, the finalists will present their ventures live before a panel of industry experts at The Center at District56 in Elk Grove. They will compete for their share of \$20,000 in prize money: \$10,000 for the top startup, \$5,000 for second place, \$2,500 for third place and \$2,500 for the best Elk Grove-based startup.

By combining monetary awards with meaningful mentorship and exposure, Pitch Elk Grove delivers lasting value that extends far beyond competition day.

In preparation for the finals, each team will work closely with an experienced pitch coach to refine their presentations, strengthen their narratives and sharpen their delivery. This personalized guidance is designed to position them for success during the competition and beyond, equipping them with the skills, confidence and connections to engage future investors, partners and customers.

"These startups embody the bold thinking and innovative spirit that are fueling our region's next wave of

growth," said Economic Development Director Darrell Doan. "This year's competition was one of the most competitive yet and expanding the finalists to nine shows just how much talent we're working with in Greater Sacramento."

From breakthrough technologies to community-transforming solutions, each finalist has demonstrated early traction, a solid growth plan, and the ability to clearly communicate their vision. They're led by passionate teams ready to make a measurable impact.

The nine finalists are: Demotu (Cameron Park): An AI-powered training platform using movement analysis for gyms and sports teams.

EnlitenAI (Tracy): Delivers personalized neurology care with AI-driven decision support for treatment optimization.

IGH Naturals (Sacramento): Offers a patented electrolyte mix that helps reduce chemo-related vomiting, diarrhea, and mouth sores.

Red Line Safety, Inc. (Greenwood): Develops wearable technology to protect firefighters, enhance operations, and safeguard property.

Rely (Sacramento): Verifies renter data once for use anywhere, helping operators lease faster with built-in intelligence.

Resolv (Truckee): Automates clean energy rebates using AI to unlock billions for contractors and incentive providers.

SeeMedX (Sacramento): Provides continuous, non-invasive heart monitoring to improve patient care and outcomes.

Soar Optics (Elk Grove): Creates products for the rapid and cost-effective detection of microplastics.

Stealth Talent Solutions (El Dorado Hills): An outcome-based hiring

platform combining AI with agency-level service at software speed and scale.

"The quality of this year's finalists reflects the growing strength of the Sacramento region's startup ecosystem," said Laura Good, President and CEO of StartupSac. "Pitch Elk Grove gives these founders a chance to showcase their potential and tap into a community of support that can help take them to the next level."

Produced by the City of Elk Grove in partnership with StartupSac and Explore Elk Grove, Pitch Elk Grove offers early-stage, investable startups the opportunity to gain visibility, receive mentorship and compete for funding. The competition is part of the Startup Elk Grove Incentive Program, which provides technical and financial support to help startups launch, scale and thrive in Elk Grove.

The 2025 finalist judges include Cheryl Beninga of Wai Mohala Ventures, Ashu Bhalla of Moneta Ventures, Pam Kaur of BankTech Ventures, and Mariah Lichtenstern of DiverseCity Ventures. The final judge will be announced at a later date.

To attend this year's Pitch Elk Grove event on Sept. 4, register at 3common.com/pitch-elkgrove2025. For more information on the criteria of the contest, visit startup-sac.com/pitch-elkgrove.

Startup Elk Grove provides technical and financial assistance to launching and scaling technology and innovation-based startups, and to co-working and incubator facilities that support them.

To qualify, companies must be emerging or scaling and commercializing innovative products or platforms. ★

Apply Now for Calling All Dreamers Business Incubator



Pittador Brews, last year's Calling All Dreamers winner, plans to open in September in Old Sacramento Waterfront. Photo courtesy of Downtown Sacramento Partnership.

Downtown Sacramento Partnership News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - Downtown Sacramento Foundation is encouraging entrepreneurs to submit their big ideas in the 13th annual Calling All Dreamers business incubator. This program provides a one-of-a-kind chance for aspiring business owners to receive resources and support to launch their dream business.

Applications can be submitted online at CallingAllDreamers.org through 11:59 p.m. Sept. 1.

Now entering its 13th year as a business incubation program, last year's Calling All Dreamers winner signed a lease in Old Sacramento Waterfront and plans to open in September.

Last year's runner-up is in lease negotiations and plans to sign a lease this summer.

"Calling All Dreamers is a great opportunity for entrepreneurs to connect with local experts to develop and elevate their

business models," said Andrew LaFrance, business development manager at Downtown Sacramento Partnership and program manager for Calling All Dreamers.

"This free program has assisted nearly 40 retail, food-based and experience-based businesses with opening in Sacramento since 2013. I am eager to see which exciting business concepts participate in the 13th season of this impactful program that has brought so much value to the downtown community."

Selected applicants will participate in business development workshops that call for extensive planning, market research and proof of financial sustainability. After several months, the top five concepts are chosen to move forward and are eligible to receive a \$5,000 to \$20,000 cash infusion into their business provided they complete the program and sign a lease in Downtown Sacramento Partnership's district within one year.

Leading the cohort through the process is a special selection committee formed by the Downtown Sacramento Foundation, including prominent business leaders and SCORE volunteers who assist them in building out their business plan and financial projections.

After being selected by a committee in early September, the cohort attend a variety of business workshops from September through November.

The selection committee will choose the five program finalists in December and the finalists will practice and deliver a final pitch in February.

The final awardee and runner-up will be announced in February 2026.

Former Calling All Dreamers finalists and runners-up currently operating in downtown Sacramento include Pittador Brews (coming soon), Haus of Comedy (coming soon), Ecojoyous (2024), Dipped N Color Splat Studio (2023), and NEO Escape Rooms (2018). ★

New Program Delivers Care Beyond 9-1-1

Continued from page 1

Integrated Healthcare program is the latest step in that work, aimed at delivering care directly to patients, reducing unnecessary transports and keeping emergency services available for critical calls.

"Mobile Integrated Healthcare represents the future of community-based care," said Cosumnes Fire Chief Felipe Rodríguez.

"By meeting people where they are and addressing the root causes of repeated emergency calls, we're not just helping individuals, we're improving the system for everyone."

The pilot covers the Cosumnes Fire Department's 157-square-mile service

area, which includes more than 214,000 residents in Elk Grove, Galt and unincorporated areas of south Sacramento County. The all-risk, all-hazards fire department provides fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue operations and community risk reduction across the region.

Funded by the American Rescue Plan Act with support from Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Hume, who advocated for expanding telehealth and integrated care, the pilot will run through Dec. 31. During that time, the department will evaluate how the program operates in the field, monitor patient outcomes and explore opportunities for future expansion. ★

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xHope Equips Youth for Success

Continued from page 1
the back-to-school event an “experience” rather than simply handing out backpacks. In addition to new clothes, children also received school supplies and haircuts for a confidence boost before the first day.

Sacramento barber Willie Harris, also known as williemoneyblendz, volunteered his services at the July 31 event.

Harris told The Elk Grove Citizen that providing haircuts left him “feeling great” about giving back to the community.

“Especially like the confidence a haircut gives to kids. It’s just great,” said Harris.

Liviu Vizitu and Kyle Atwater, owners of local Chick-fil-A restaurants, also attended to support xHope’s mission.

Vizitu, of Chick-fil-A Delta Shores, said he has a personal connection to the organization, as xHope Executive Director Wendi Cross played a role in his family’s foster care journey.

“Wendi was a mentor for my wife when we were fostering and then we adopted a little boy,” he said.

Vizitu said he has known about xHope for a long time and has continually supported its growth.

“Chick-fil-A as a corporation really cares about foster kids and has a few foster homes ... this kind of work is near and

dear to Chick-fil-A’s core values,” said Vizitu.

Atwater, of Chick-fil-A Elk Grove Marketplace, shared the same sentiment.

“We’re happy to partner and give where we can at this great organization,” he said. “This experience that they have for kids and families is amazing. A free chicken sandwich is just kind of the cherry on top of this day.”

Along with providing food, Chick-fil-A is contributing funds to transform the outdoor space at xHope’s location into a community courtyard.

The courtyard is one of several renovations the nonprofit is raising money for, along with a conference and collaboration room, a boutique closet called “Threads of Hope” and an enrichment classroom. These upgrades will support xHope’s mission to meet immediate needs, build relationships and connect with vulnerable youth.

Diane Lampe attended the July 31 event to network with families and children she knows through her role as a board member and volunteer with Elk Grove HART, a nonprofit that assists those experiencing homelessness. The group refers people to xHope and connects them with resources.

Lampe shared a recent encounter with a



Local barbers and hair stylists volunteered their time and services to give children free haircuts at the xHope back-to-school event series. Photos courtesy of xHope



xHope’s back-to-school event series was full of smiles and excitement.

the event to capture children’s enthusiasm as they got haircuts, posed for photos with the Chick-fil-A cow mascot and picked out new clothes.

Ham said that many success stories happen at xHope but aren’t documented. This event was an opportunity to showcase the organization’s impact on local youth.

“Our hope is to create a video where we can show to potential donors that we are doing more than just giving out an outfit,” Ham said.

She explained that the nonprofit’s mission goes far beyond meeting surface needs, aiming to address the deeper challenges children face.

“We’re impacting at the root level ... providing just that simple security for a child goes so much farther than what you expect it does, especially when you get to talk with the kids.”

For more information about xHope and to donate, visit xhopemissions.org. ★



Barn Banquet Raises Funds to Preserve Elk Grove History

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and website recognition, acknowledgment during the banquet program and a reserved table for eight.

Pictured is an art piece that will be up for sale during the live auction at the second annual Raise the Barn Banquet on Friday, Aug. 22. It is a 22 x 28 oil painting titled “East Main Elk Grove” by western artist Yvonne Bonnaci. Photo courtesy of the Elk Grove Historical Society

The \$5,000 “Heritage wall (third tier), event and website recognition, acknowledgment during the banquet program and a reserved table for eight.

Tickets are available at EGBarnProject.com. Sponsors can contact Jim Entrican at jentrican@comcast.net. ★

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Connecting Communities

AMBASSADOR OF THE MONTH

Sandhya Sami

Sandhya always knew she wanted to work closely with the community, which has led her to Cosumnes CSD. She started working with CSD in 2016. She is currently a Management Analyst in the Office of the General Manager, managing multiple projects for business engagement, sponsorships, Cosumnes Legacy Foundation, grant coordination, and supporting the General Manager and District Counsel with increased levels of responsibility. What truly sets Sandhya apart is her unwavering commitment to community values. Her interpersonal skills and positive attitude towards work have earned her recognition, including the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award in 2020 and the Administrative Services Award of Excellence in 2022. Sandhya has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from UC Davis, where she emphasized social work. In her leisure time, Sandhya enjoys spending time with her Rottweilers, Bullet and Ammo, and traveling with her husband. As a new Ambassador, she is excited to contribute to the community and looks forward to building new relationships.

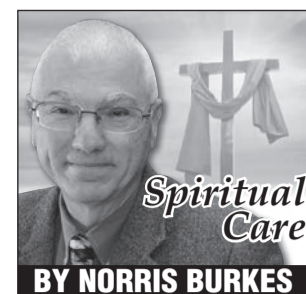
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Plan to Live or Plan to Die



Spiritual Care

BY NORRIS BURKES

In 2015, I was serving as a hospital chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital in Stockton, California. My job could be a bit overwhelming as my Catholic employer required their chaplains to visit every newly-admitted patient.

So, as I approached the end of my shift one afternoon, I was in a hurry as I pushed open the last door on the 3rd floor ward.

That's where I found an elderly female patient lying in a darkened room. I spoke to her, but she seemed to be under heavy sedation. Since I couldn't offer much support, I made a retreat pivot in hopes of ending a long day.

But, my exit was blocked by the lanky silhouette of an elderly man standing in the doorway.

"Hello," I said, "I'm Norris Burkes, the hospital chaplain."

The man moved across the room to greet me, introducing himself with a broad smile. I don't remember his name, but his demeanor brought "Mr. Rogers" to mind.

Mr. Rogers told me the patient was Mrs. Rogers and proceeded to tell her story.

She was 75, he 86. It was their second marriage and he'd tried to make

her happy during their ten-years of matrimony, but from the beginning it seemed to him that she was prepping herself to die.

She'd struggled with frequent doctor visits for a bad back, memory issues, and poor eyesight. "It's as if," he said, "she was always searching for something more serious, like she needed a better reason to die."

"Depression can hit hard in the elderly," I said.

Mr. Rogers nodded at my conjecture, so I said more.

"I see you've decided to make her a DNR," referring to the medical order "Do Not Resuscitate." Since it's part of the job to clarify DNR to families, I added, "So if her heart stopped right now, we would do nothing to restart it."

"Yup. She states that preference in her living will."

Hoping to affirm their choice, I added, "It's good that she planned for this moment."

"I suppose it's a good idea to plan for death, but my wife seemed to be always trying to make death her plan," he said. "All she talked about was dying."

"If you're not planning to live, you are planning to die," he quipped.

Still aware that I was hearing a one-sided story about my patient, my sympathies tipped toward Mr. Rogers. He seemed fit, certain and thriving. Even with his own death likely close, he proclaimed to be

living his life to the fullest.

After about twenty minutes, we both began walking to the door, ending our visit.

"Do you drive yourself here?" I asked.

"No, no," he said.

Oh, good," I said, expecting he'd long given up driving.

"I have a car, but home is just four miles away."

I squinted to find clarity in his answer.

"I rode my bike here. I only drive if it's raining."

Suddenly, the man's life philosophy came into sharper focus.

I had stopped riding my bike a few years previous out of safety concerns, but this octogenarian wasn't planning on braking his bike—or his life. He was still going full speed.

Looking back on that visit now, Mr. Rogers' influence on my life is clear.

Within a year of meeting him, my wife and I sold our house to embark on three years of travel. While we are back into home ownership, I've never forgotten Mr. Rogers' inspiration to keep planning for life and accept death only when it finally comes.

By the way, I'm back on a bike again. It's an e-bike, but it's getting me down the road.

Sign up to receive this column by email at <https://thechaplain.net/columns/> Contact Chaplain Norris at comment@thechaplain.net or 10566 Combie Rd. Suite 6643 Auburn, CA 95602 or voicemail (843) 608-9715. ★

RELIGION NEWS

Chabad of Elk Grove Offers Torah Classes

Local community members are invited to attend free weekly Torah Classes that will be offered by Chabad of Elk Grove.

Each class will be held from 6:45-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at a private location.

The course, "Flashbacks in Jewish History," will examine how our past informs our future. Rabbi Chaim Groner leads the discussion.

For location, call (917) 724-4443.

Field of Hope United Church of Christ's Services

Community members are invited to the Field of Hope United Church of Christ's Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. at 9624 Melrose Ave., Elk Grove.

Sunday School and nursery services are available. For more information, visit www.FieldOfHopeUCC.org.

Events at Elk Grove Presbyterian Church

Our next Jazz & Blues Concert at our church will be on Aug 3, with Blues music by Julie & the Jukes. Concerts are held the first Sunday of every month through November.

Rev. McNamara welcomes members and visitors every Sunday at 10 a.m. Our church is at 8153 Elk Grove Blvd, Suite 50, facing Big Horn.

We have open Communion the first Sunday of the month.

For more information, Rev. McNamara can be reached at (916) 683-1435 or elk-grovepres@gmail.com.

Grace Church Hosts Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered ministry offering help in finding freedom from the issues (hurts, hang-ups and habits) controlling your life.

Meetings are held weekly on Friday evenings at 7 p.m. at Grace Church, located at 9766 Waterman Road, next to Mel Dogs.

Sunday Worship begins at 10 a.m. For more information call (916) 714 3444) or email office@gracechurcheg.org. Visit GraceChurchEG.org.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church's Mass Schedule

Elk Grove's St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church invites everyone to celebrations of Holy Mass at 8700 Bradshaw Road..

Mass will be held there at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon on Sundays.

They also have weekday Masses at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

For more information, call (916) 647-4538, visit www.SMGCC.net, or download the MyParish app and enter the code, 55321. ★

Airport Sets All-Time Passenger Record

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Sacramento International Airport (SMF) achieved the busiest month in airport history with 1,296,818 passengers traveling through the airport in June.

The record culminates 19 months of consistent year-over-year growth at Sacramento International Airport, which served 13,822,315 passengers in fiscal year 2025, which also set a record. Historically, July has been Sacramento International Airport's busiest month.

"Breaking this passenger record highlights the power of smart, strategic investment in public infrastructure," said Board

Chairman and First District County Supervisor Phil Serna. "SMF continues to drive growth, tourism and regional connectivity, all of which contribute to a stronger economy for the people of Sacramento County."

Sacramento International Airport currently offers more than 202 peak day flights on 11 domestic and international carriers, connecting travelers to 52 nonstop destinations.

"We are proud to serve so many travelers in our region and support our community's business and leisure needs," said Cindy Nichol, director of the Sacramento County Department of Airports. "I'm proud of all the behind-the-scenes work to keep SMF operating at this high level. It takes a huge

and talented team to serve over one million travelers each month."

With new nonstop service to Kansas City, Baltimore, Anchorage, Morelia and Puerto Vallarta, Sacramento International Airport is meeting demand and expanding its global reach.

"SMF's recent growth is no accident; it's the result of strong airline partnerships," said Stephen Clark, deputy director of Commercial Development for the Sacramento County Department of Airports. "And we're just getting started. Securing SMF's first transoceanic flight remains a top priority and we're working side by side with our Regional Air Alliance to make it a reality." ★

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916-689-7300

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Sacramento, CA 95823

Pastor Rob Williamson

916-421-5039

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Kings Korner

By V.G. Harris



Aside from the constant narrative that is who will be the next member of the Sacramento Kings, we could spend a lot of quality time discussing the team already assembled, and how Doug Christie is going to employ this talented group of ballers.

Sadly, trades and acquisitions remain at the top of the conversation, and after weeks of courting Jonathan Kuminga with little or no success, the name of Josh Giddy has surfaced.

Giddy is basically another version of Kuminga, although playing more minutes and scoring more points. Giddy has been a Swiss army knife for the Chicago Bulls and is currently a free agent that could potentially add needed time on the court for Sacramento as most likely a small forward.

I have all but given up on the whimsical notion that the Kings will ever acquire a true power forward, and I keep looking at the current roster and hope that Isaac Jones will grow into just exactly that. In the meantime, as Sacramento has apparently solved the point guard quandary by signing journeyman Dennis Schroder, they must turn their attention to the front court.

Trey Lyles is seemingly about to get away, and this writer believes that it would be another mistake if the Kings don't bring this asset back. Lyles gives Sabonis much needed help on the boards, is the consummate team player, and has a reliable 3-point shot that is a nice compliment to Keegan Murray.

So, what about this Josh Giddy rumor, and does it have any real substance? Like all NBA rumors, it largely remains to be seen, but we know that Chicago is not afraid to make deals with the Sacramento Kings.

Reportedly, Giddy can play virtually anywhere on the court. Having a player with great versatility is not a bad problem to have. His defense, once criticized, has gotten better with time, so if the Kuminga acquisition turns into a bust, could Giddy step in and fill a much-needed position for the Kings in the front court?

I think he could, and unlike Kuminga who would insist on being in the starting lineup, Giddy could be used as either a starter or a bench player. Although Giddy's 14.6 points per game is notable, I am more impressed with his 8 rebounds and 7 assists.

There is virtually no question that adding

Giddy would give Sacramento a boost, and without question would give the Kings a more well-rounded look.

Scott Perry has done an admirable job in not taking quick offers or jumping into the deep end with his eyes closed.

Most Sacramento fans want instant results but that is simply not realistic, and Perry is making noises that would indicate he is not afraid of going into next season with the team already assembled.

That may not sound sexy, but it's important to find time for #1 pick Nique Clifford and to also bring along 7'1" Maxime Raynaud.

Not to be overlooked are the consistent efforts of second year Isaac Jones, who, if given enough court time, could open eyes and potentially add the needed front court help the Kings are trying to acquire.

All-stars don't become all-stars sitting on the bench, and at some point, coaches must let players play through mistakes and keep sending them out there.

Building confidence is one of the most critical aspects of a coach's job, and it's how teams like the Oklahoma City Thunder and Indiana Pacers built winning organizations.

Can the Kings become the next Oklahoma City Thunder?

It hasn't happened since the Kings landed in Sacramento, but it's the stuff great stories are made of, and I say why not in Sacramento.

Who doesn't like a Cinderella story. If Doug Christie can get this group to believe in themselves and buy into roles, anything is possible.

Fans need to be fans, and if Sacramento has anything it's die-hard fans!

Domantas Sabonis is not a mystery. He just goes out every night and outrebounds everyone on the planet.

Newly acquired Zach Lavine is at the top of the league in 3-point percentage year in and year out.

Mid-range specialist DeMar DeRozan is an assassin from 15 feet and dominates the mid-range, so is there any reason the Kings can't build around these gladiators and make the 2025/2026 season something to remember.

Stay tuned Kings fans, because it just might happen!

All the best!

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

Social Security Matters

Can My Wife Get Her Full Spousal Benefit at 62, or Must She Wait?



By Russell Gloor, AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I'm 64 and my wife is 62. If my wife starts her own benefit now, she will get about \$700 on her own at 62. I will retire next year and claim Social Security when I am 65. SSA says my wife can draw \$1,100 under spousal benefits, so if she claims now will they give her spousal benefits of \$1,100, or does she need to wait until I claim at age 65 to get the \$1,100? **Signed: Trying to Understand**

Dear Trying: If your wife is now 62, then her full retirement age (FRA) for Social Security purposes is age 67, and if she claims any SS benefit before reaching her FRA, the amount will be reduced for early claiming. If your wife were to claim now (before you), she would get only her own SS retirement amount (the \$700 amount), and that would be a reduction of about 30% from what she would get if she waited until her FRA to claim.

Your wife cannot get a "spousal boost" (an additional amount as your spouse) until you claim your SS retirement benefit (at age 65?). And her

benefit as your spouse at that time will also be reduced because she will not have yet reached her FRA. If your wife is already collecting her own SS retirement benefit when you later claim, she will be given her "spousal boost" to make her benefit equal what she is entitled to as your spouse. But her total monthly benefit as your spouse will also be reduced because it will be awarded before her FRA. The only way your wife can get her full spousal benefit from you is to wait until she is 67 to claim Social Security. If she claims any earlier, her monthly amount will be permanently reduced.

FYI, if you plan to claim at age 65, you should also be aware that your full retirement age (FRA) is also age 67, and claiming at age 65 will mean that you will get about 87% of the amount you would get if you waited until age 67 to claim. Again, these reductions are permanent, except for normal Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) awarded annually thereafter.

Having said all of that, deciding when each of you should claim your Social Security benefit is a matter of financial need, while also considering your life expectancy. If your life expectancy is short and/or you need the money, then claiming early is likely the right decision. But if your life expectancy is longer and you don't urgently need the money, then you might both consider waiting longer to claim a higher

monthly amount and get more in cumulative lifetime benefits.

Finally, please remember that whenever SS is claimed before full retirement age, Social Security has an annual earnings test which limits how much can be earned by working while collecting early SS benefits. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 over the limit (they take back by withholding future SS payments). FYI, the earnings limit for those who claim SS early changes (increases a bit) yearly and goes away entirely once full retirement age is reached. So, if either or both of you are working, you should evaluate whether claiming your Social Security benefit early (before your respective FRA) is a prudent choice.

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Gerrymander for Me, but not for Thee

Let's take a tour of the 13th congressional district in Illinois. It starts in East St. Louis and then moves steadily north. By the time it gets to Springfield, home of Abraham Lincoln, about 90 miles away, it takes a sharp turn to the east, reaching Decatur and finally Champaign, itself about 80 miles away from Springfield.

It's a jagged, narrow strip of territory with no obvious rhyme or reason as it traverses six counties. It's less a congressional district than a road trip, and bears a resemblance to the original gerrymander, a long, salamander-like state senate district in Massachusetts in 1812.

The only point of the new 13th district lines, fashioned with the redistricting after the 2020 census, was to gather together far-flung Democrats to create another Democratic congressional district. Mission accomplished. The 13th district went from being a competitive district long held by a Republican to flipping to the Democrats in 2022.

Overall, Illinois lost one district after the 2020 census and managed to draw lines that changed the congressional ratio from a 13-5 Democratic advantage to a 14-3 Democratic advantage. The political analysis website 538 called the new map "the worst gerrymander in the country

drawn by Democrats."

This makes it especially inapt that a contingent of Texas Democrats fleeing the Lone Star State to try to stop what they consider unfair new congressional boundaries found a safe harbor in Illinois. Next time, their travel agent should do a hypocrisy check before booking a destination.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker welcomed the self-exiling Democrats and hailed their courage. He told them that he and other top Democrats in the state were pleased "to stand in solidarity with you and send a clear message to all Americans." His conscience showed no sign of being pricked by the fact that he signed off on the redistricting that saw Republicans in 2022 win nearly 44% of the popular vote in Illinois congressional races and only about 17% of the congressional seats.

A special session of the Texas legislature is considering new lines that could net Republicans another five seats. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has cited a Department of Justice letter saying that some of the current districts need to be redrawn because they represent unconstitutional racial gerrymandering (the Biden Justice Department had been fighting Texas because, in its view, the current lines didn't reflect enough racial gerrymandering).

The Supreme Court is taking up a Louisiana case that should clarify the extent to which states can consider race in drawing so-called majority-minority districts. In the meantime, the partisan effect of the new Texas lines before the 2026 midterms is unmistakable. If Republicans were likely to lose five

seats from the redistricting, there's no doubt that the state's Republican governor and Republican legislature wouldn't be undertaking it.

Drawing district lines is an inherently political enterprise, and parties tend to give themselves the best of it. When Democrats controlled the Texas legislature, they maintained congressional lines in their favor. It wasn't until Republicans won the state house for the first time since Reconstruction in 2002 that the GOP could redraw the congressional map and Republicans subsequently won a majority of Texas congressional seats in 2004, also for the first time since Reconstruction.

Since Democrats gerrymander too, they have limited options for retaliating against Texas. Pritzker says he may redraw his state's lines, but this would require gerrymandering on top of his current gerrymandering. California Gov. Gavin Newsom is making similar noises, but the California map is already tilted toward Democrats. Republicans won nearly 40% of the congressional vote in the Golden State in 2024, but only about 17% of the seats.

If the Texas plan goes through and all else remains equal, the Lone Star State will have about the same partisan skew as California.

Less gerrymandering would be better rather than more, but Democrats like Gov. Pritzker, who blessed his state's meandering 13th district, have no standing to make the case.

Rich Lowry is editor of *The National Review*.

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Democracy Be Damned

Texas and California Plot Dueling Congressional Gerrymanders



By Dan Walters, CALMatters.org

Under pressure from President Donald Trump, Texas' dominant Republicans are attempting to redraw the state's congressional districts and thus increase the number of GOP-held seats after the midterms.

Republicans have a paper-thin majority in the House of Representatives. Trump obviously fears that Democrats could win control next year and he wants mid-decade redistricting to make congressional regime change less likely.

Meanwhile, Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders want to counter the nakedly partisan effort in Texas by gerrymandering California's congressional districts to neutralize whatever Texas does. It's faintly reminiscent of the SPY vs. Spy comic strip in MAD Magazine that baby boomers might recall, or perhaps the classic Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote cartoons.

However, there's nothing funny about trampling — in the lust for partisan political power — the quaintly democratic notion that congressional districts should fairly represent the characteristics and values of their constituents.

Newsom wants the Legislature to place a measure on the November ballot that would set aside — temporarily, he says — the state's constitutional requirement that redistricting be done once

a decade by an independent commission.

"It's cause and effect, triggered on the basis of what occurs or doesn't occur in Texas," Newsom said this week. "I hope they do the right thing, and if they do, then there'll be no cause for us to have to move forward."

After the 1970 census, Republican Gov. Ronald Reagan and Democratic legislative leaders deadlocked on redistricting and the state Supreme Court intervened, creating its own mechanism to draw new maps.

A decade later, after the 1980 census, Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown, legislative leaders such as Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, and Phil Burton, leader of the state's congressional delegation, drew very weird-looking, politically lopsided districts — one of which Burton described as "my contribution to modern art."

Republicans persuaded voters to reject the maps via referendum. However, the state Supreme Court decreed that the challenged maps be used for the 1982 election anyway. After that election, Brown and legislators simply adopted slightly changed versions.

Republicans tried again to overturn the Democrats' maps via ballot initiative but the state Supreme Court cancelled it, declaring that the state constitution limited redistricting to one each decade. Speaker Brown publicly thanked "Sister Rose and the Supremes," referring to Chief Justice Rose Bird, one of several reasons Bird was ousted by voters a few years later.

After 1990 census, Republican Gov. Pete Wilson and Democratic legislators once again stalemated and once again the Supreme Court stepped in. However, after the 2000 census, although

Democrat Gray Davis was governor, leaders of both parties forged a bipartisan gerrymander, freezing the numerical status quo in the Legislature and the congressional delegation.

After Davis was recalled, successor Arnold Schwarzenegger mounted a campaign to reform redistricting, backed by Charles Munger Jr., a very wealthy physicist and son of the famous businessman and investor Charlie Munger. Voters passed their 2008 initiative to create an independent commission for legislative seats and a 2010 measure to extend its authority to congressional districts despite opposition from both parties.

The commission drew maps after the 2010 and 2020 censuses and both plans helped Democrats achieve supermajorities in legislative houses and the congressional delegation — thanks largely to demographic trends and declining GOP voter registration.

Today, Republicans hold just nine of the state's 53 congressional seats and Newsom is ready to cut that in half. He says that the revised districts would be in effect until the commission is revived after the 2030 census.

However, due its almost nonexistent population growth, California could lose as many as four seats after the 2030 census. Having seized more power over redistricting, would Democrats really be willing to return to the commission system they once despised?

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. ★

POLICE LOGS

Aug. 2

12:24 a.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Daniel Little, 23, on domestic violence charges.

12:57 a.m., 9010 block of Stinson Beach Way, Elk Grove Police arrested a male juvenile, 17; Izayah Davis Marez, 20; Luis Garay Jimenez, 35; and Salvador Hernandez, 19, on burglary charges.

9:05 a.m., 7200 block of Laguna Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Krista White, 45, on shoplifting charges.

9:33 a.m., Center Parkway/Hollybrook Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Shavil Singh, 36, on possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

10:19 a.m., 4500 block of Laguna West Way, Elk Grove Police arrested Sharon Taylor, 66, on battery charges.

11:28 a.m., 8400 block of Elk Grove Florin Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Ger Noua, 44, on trespassing charges.

12 p.m., 8700 block of Auberry Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Earnest Barron, 31, on vandalism charges.

3:52 p.m., Boulder River Way/Clear Springs Way, Elk Grove Police arrested John Thompson, 38, on possession of controlled substance, parole violation and warrant charges.

4:26 p.m., 8300 block of Elk Grove Florin Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Charles Williams, 34, on possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

7:34 p.m., Auberry Drive/Laporte Way, Elk Grove Police arrested Jose Perez, 42, on drug possession with priors, possession of drug paraphernalia and resisting arrest charges.

8:07 p.m., Elk Grove Boulevard/Big Horn Boulevard, Grove Police arrested Isaac Muniz Ramirez, 21, on DUI,

driving with open container and driving without proof of registration charges.

Aug. 3

12:24 a.m., Calvine Road/Waterman Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Leodegario Vargas, 39, on DUI and driving without headlights charges.

1:36 a.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Daniel Moriarty, 50, on domestic violence charges.

1:40 a.m., Big Horn Boulevard/Bruceville Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Juan Estrada Velasquez, 23, on DUI/drug and driving with open container charges.

2:55 p.m., Sky River Parkway/Promenade Parkway, Elk Grove Police arrested Javier Navarro, 40; and Juan Villalpando, 51, on possession of controlled substance, drug possession with priors and possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

3:55 p.m., 8800 block of Calvine Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Christopher Prasad, 32, on warrant charges.

6:57 p.m., 8100 block of Sheldon Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Joshua Miller, 42, on possession of cocaine or heroin charges.

7:24 p.m., Franklin Boulevard/Blossom Ridge Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Jacob Schneider, 33, on possession of controlled substance, possession of drugs with priors and reckless driving charges.

Aug. 4

12:09 a.m., 9600 block of Walnut Avenue, Elk Grove Police arrested Johnny Hughes, 50, on battery and vandalism charges.

11:24 p.m., 8100 block of Sheldon Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Jacob Glass, 37, on

possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

Aug. 5

4:56 p.m., 9400 block of Harbour Point Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Michael Rueber, 55, on DUI/drug charges.

6:10 p.m., 9100 block of Lakemont Drive, Elk Grove Police arrested Gurpreet Singh, 32, on domestic violence charges.

9:49 p.m., 9400 block of Oreo Ranch Circle, Elk Grove Police arrested Ion Stoian, 26, on warrant charges.

Aug. 6

1:30 a.m., 9010 block of Bruceville Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Patrick Hudspeth, 31, on public intoxication, resisting arrest, battery on a peace officer and parole violation charges.

1:26 p.m., Laguna Boulevard/Dwight Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Ashley Maye, 45; and Kevin Newsome, 38, on warrant charges.

3:44 p.m., 8400 block of Elk Grove Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested Essence Harris, 38, on possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia charges.

5 p.m., 9400 block of Oreo Ranch Circle, Elk Grove Police arrested a male juvenile, 17, on receiving stolen property charges.

5:23 p.m., 7400 block of Laguna Boulevard, Elk Grove Police arrested a male juvenile, 14, on battery and giving false identification to a peace officer charges.

7:24 p.m., confidential location, Elk Grove Police arrested Taroy Ireland, 34, on domestic violence charges.

10:37 p.m., 8400 Elk Grove Florin Road, Elk Grove Police arrested Katrina Johnson, 46, on shoplifting charges. ★

Reduce Electricity during Flex Alerts and Earn Bill Credits

By MPG Staff

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - With temperature rising, it's not too late to register for Power Saver Rewards, a California Public Utilities Commission program.

Anyone enrolled can receive a credit on their electric bill when they reduce energy use during a Flex Alert issued between May 1 and Oct. 31. The annual limit for Power Saver Rewards events is 60 hours (or 12 events).

A Flex Alert is a call to reduce energy use, normally issued from 4 to 9 p.m. on hot days, when electricity demand is at its highest as residents return home from work or school.

Power Saver Rewards events are triggered when the California Independent System Operator issues a Flex Alert or an Energy Emergency Alert Watch, according to PG&E

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company).

If a Flex Alert or an Energy Emergency Alert Watch is issued on short notice without day-before notification, then a Power Saver Rewards event will not be called for that day.

Enrollees receive Flex Alert notifications through emails, text messages and/or mobile app push notifications.

"The best way to help during a Flex Alert is to avoid using large appliances like dishwashers, washing machines and dryers, and to set your thermostat to 78 degrees," said Wilfredo Cruz, the nonprofit Community Resource Project organization's executive director. "If possible, use fans instead of your air conditioning. These small changes can make a big impact."

The PG&E website offers the same tips as

above, along with turning off lights not being used.

"It's a win-win for all PG&E residents," Cruz said. "You're helping your community remain powered up during high-demand hours and you're receiving a credit back on your utility bill at the same time."

According to PG&E, those participating in the Power Saver Rewards Program will receive a yearly bill credit of \$1 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of energy that is reduced during Power Saver Rewards events. Starting in 2024, incentives were lowered from \$2 per kWh to \$1 per kWh.

PG&E customers can sign up online for the Power Saver Rewards program at powersaver.pge.com. Or sign up at PowerSaverRewards.org.

For more from PG&E, visit powersaver.pge.com or call 800-743-5000. ★

ARTS CALENDAR

View Artwork from Elk Grove

At webmaps.elkgrovecity.org/publicartelkgrove.

The Elk Grove Arts Commission has created a virtual Citywide Art Guide to art pieces and art events in Elk Grove.

If you know of a piece or event that should be included, contact the city of Elk Grove's community event center manager, Lana Yoshimura at lyoshimura@elkgrovecity.org.

Art Workshops for Adults

Enhance your visual arts skills or learn a new technique in an art class or workshop

at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center.

We periodically offer workshops for younger people, dependent upon the instructor and type of class.

If you're looking for basic to advanced instruction in Batiking, Ceramics, Clay, Encaustics, Fabric Art, Mixed-Media, Mosaics, Plein Air, or Watercolor (and more!), you will find it here. To learn more, visit elkgrovefineartscenter.org/workshop.

The Elk Grove Fine Arts Center is at 9020 Elk Grove Blvd., Suite 101. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, and Sundays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. ★

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Subscriptions should be mailed to *Elk Grove Citizen*, 217 Fourth Street, Galt, CA 95632. Subscription rate is \$52 per year within Elk Grove, \$72 within Sacramento County.

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Long-term Liability Increases to \$91.5 Billion

State Controller Announces Benefits Increases for State Retirees

California State Controller's Office News Release

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - State Controller Malia M. Cohen published a report showing the state's net liability for retiree health and dental benefits, also known as other post-employment benefits (OPEB), increased to \$91.5 billion on Aug. 6.

The liability represents the present-day cost to provide health and dental benefits to state retirees and their dependents earned as of June 30, 2024, and is an estimate developed by actuaries in consideration of current and future economic, demographic, and health care-related assumptions that are subject to change on an annual basis.

California's net other post-employment benefits liability increased by \$6.3 billion since the prior year's valuation of \$85.2 billion. In comparison, the net OPEB liability increased by \$2.8 billion from the end of fiscal year 2021-22 to the end of fiscal year 2022-23 and decreased by \$13.1 billion from the end of fiscal year 2020-21 to the end of fiscal year 2021-22.

Health care claims experience, plan design, trend rates, demographic experience, and changes to the blended discount rate affected the total other post-employment benefits liability estimate. A significant driver behind the total OPEB liability increase includes higher than average per member health-care claim costs and plan design



The liability represents the present-day cost to provide health and dental benefits to state retirees and their dependents earned as of June 30, 2024. Image by JetalProduções from Pixabay

changes that increased the expected total OPEB liability by \$4.9 billion.

Changes in the health care trend rate assumptions, including adjustments to reflect the potential impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Medicare prescription drug benefits, increased the total OPEB liability by nearly \$2.5 billion. The blended discount rate is based on the combination of the full funding discount rate of 6.00 percent and the 20-year municipal bond index which increased from 3.86 percent at the end of fiscal year 2022-23 to 3.97 percent at the end of fiscal year 2023-24. The change to the blended discount rate decreased the total OPEB liability by \$1.6 billion.

"The estimated liability for retiree health and dental benefits is a significant long-term cost facing California, which is why the

state set a responsible goal to fully fund these benefits over the long-term by 2046," said Controller Cohen. "Since 2010, the state and public employees through collective bargaining have contributed to the prefunding of these benefits, which allows investment income to relieve the future financial burden that would otherwise fall to employees and taxpayers. Given the current climate of economic uncertainty and looming budget shortfalls, the state's current actions to pause prefunding contributions will save General Fund dollars. However, the most fiscally prudent plan for fully funding these promised health and dental benefits includes a return to prefunding when feasible, as well as remaining vigilant in our efforts to contain health care costs."

Beginning in January 2010,

California entered into collective bargaining agreements to prefund retiree health and dental benefits. Contributions were deposited into the California Employers' Retiree Benefit Trust to generate investment income. The trust funds cannot be used to pay the retiree health benefits until the state has fully funded the legacy liability, or until 2046, whichever comes first.

Prior to these prefunding efforts, the state paid for the benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis, covering only the minimum amount needed to fund the costs as they were due. With all bargaining units, except for those under the California State University, contributing to the trust, analysts expected to see acceleration of the funded ratio.

However, several current bargaining agreements reached with

state public employee unions beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 suspend state and/or employee prefunding contributions toward future benefits for two years.

The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) is the state's largest purchaser of public employee health benefits, and the Controller serves as a voting member of its Pension & Health Benefits Committee. CalPERS uses its market position to contain rising health care costs for its members and retirees by providing choices for affordable health plans, negotiating for lower premiums, encouraging prevention, and stabilizing and lowering the costs of prescription drugs where feasible.

As the chief fiscal officer of California, Controller Malia M. Cohen independently oversees and manages California's financial resources with integrity and transparency to build trust. The controller is responsible for accountability and disbursement of the state's financial resources. The controller has independent auditing authority over government agencies that spend state funds. She is a member of numerous financing authorities and fiscal and financial oversight entities including the Franchise Tax Board. She also serves on the boards for the nation's two largest public pension funds. Follow the Controller on X at @CAController and on Facebook at California State Controller's Office. ★

President's Executive Order Opening 401(k)s to Private Markets Needed



"Expanding access to private markets will help Californians build wealth and successfully save for a comfortable retirement," said Rob Lapsley. Image pexels-yankrukov

California Business Roundtable News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA - On Aug. 7, the California Business Roundtable indicated its support to expand access to private investments in 401(k) accounts.

The president's order directs the Department of Labor and the Securities and Exchange Commission to issue guidance to employers and U.S. retirement plan administrators on including private assets in 401(k) retirement plans. This regulatory clarity removes a key barrier that kept many California employers from offering a broader range of investment options to their workers. It will strengthen California's retirement system, which operates in a high-cost-of-living environment where working families deserve every advantage to build wealth.

"Expanding access to private markets will help Californians build wealth and successfully save for a comfortable retirement," said Rob Lapsley, president of the California Business Roundtable. "All workers, not just the wealthy, deserve to have access to wealth-building tools. This executive order democratizes the same investment opportunities for working families that have long been available to institutional investors and government pension recipients."

For too long, unclear regulations have stopped California employers from offering alternative investments, creating a two-tier system where only wealthy investors and public pension holders could access higher-return private markets. President Trump's executive order removes that uncertainty, empowering employers to offer stronger financial tools while reducing the litigation risk that has

plagued retirement plan sponsors.

Performance data from leading financial institutions supports President Trump's decision. Private equity has consistently outperformed public markets over the long term. Recent studies show that private equity has returned an average of 10.7% annually, compared to the public benchmark of only 6.6%. While public pension funds have raised their investments in alternatives from 10% to 25%, most working Americans still can't access these higher returns because of outdated rules.

The order also arrives as California workers face mounting challenges to their retirement security. With Baby Boomers turning 65 at record rates and Social Security projected to be unable to meet its obligations by 2033, strong 401(k) performance is more important than ever. Defined contribution plans now outnumber defined benefit plans by a ratio of eight to one, making private market access essential for achieving retirement adequacy.

California Business Roundtable urges policymakers to build on this momentum by updating other outdated rules that block financial innovation. California's economic competitiveness depends on ensuring our workforce has access to the same wealth-building opportunities available to institutional investors and this executive order represents a major step toward that goal.

Established in 1976, California Business Roundtable has consistently brought together top executives from California's largest companies, providing a platform for collaboration and strategic advocacy on issues critical to the state's economic health. ★

PG&E Data Center Demand Pipeline Swells to 10 Gigawatts

Pacific Gas and Electric Company News Release

SACRAMENTO REGION, CA (MPG) - Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) on July 31 shared that it is proactively working to serve 10 gigawatts (GW) of new electricity demand from data center projects over the next 10 years, which is enough energy to simultaneously power approximately 7.5-million homes.

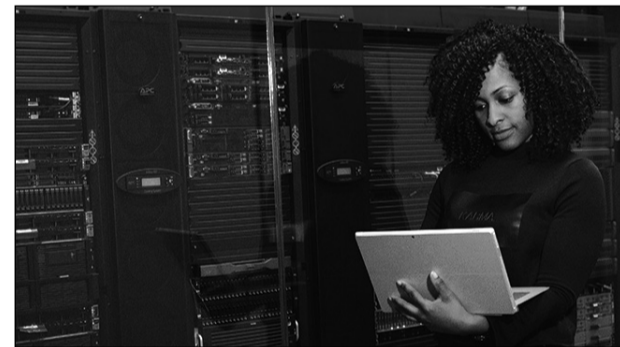
The 10 GW in PG&E's data center project pipeline reflects a significant increase from the 8.7 GW of data center demand PG&E reported in May and the 5.5 GW the company reported in February.

This milestone includes the results of PG&E's April 2025 study of data center applications from across its 70,000- square-mile service area.

"Data centers are powering more than just the digital world; they're helping power California's future and PG&E is proud to lead the way in meeting growing demand for data centers," said Mike Medeiros, vice-president, South Bay Delivery, PG&E. "This growth can help lower costs for all electric customers while creating tens of thousands of jobs and billions in local revenue."

PG&E estimates the 10 GW of anticipated data center load growth could lead to lower customer electric bills by 10% or more by spreading fixed costs across more energy usage, create 50,000 construction jobs and 115,000 associated support jobs, add 5,000 permanent tech jobs and 28,500 permanent support roles, generate \$1.25 to \$1.75 billion in increased property tax revenue and contribute \$2.5 to \$3 billion in additional sales tax revenue.

Of the 10 GW, 17 data center projects totaling



Data centers are powering more than just the digital world; they're helping power California's future and PG&E is proud to lead the way in meeting growing demand for data centers. Image courtesy divinetechygirl pexels

approximately 1.5 GW are in the final engineering phase (the last step before project construction starts) and projected to begin operations between 2026 and 2030. Most of these are in San Jose, Silicon Valley and the greater San Francisco Bay Area but some are also in the Central Valley and Sacramento.

Growth in data center demand is good news for all PG&E customers.

PG&E estimates for every 1,000 MW (or 1 GW) of new electric demand from data centers it serves, PG&E electric customers could save from 1% to 2% on their monthly bill in the long term, while serving those customers with some of the cleanest electricity in the United States.

New energy demand from data centers allows PG&E to utilize more of its existing power infrastructure. Today, PG&E's grid is 45% utilized on average. By spreading the fixed costs of operating and maintaining the grid over more units of energy, PG&E can increase the average grid utilization rate and each customer's dollar can go further. **California Public Utilities Commission Approves Interim Implementation of PG&E's Rule 30 Large Load Proposal**

In addition to data centers, PG&E is getting more applications to power large, new loads including from warehouses, electric vehicle fleets and manufacturing

growth. To support this surge in large-load interconnection requests, the California Public Utilities Commission has approved PG&E's proposal for interim implementation of Electric Rule 30.

Rule 30 provides a streamlined, transparent and equitable pathway for transmission-level retail electric service. Under the interim rule, applicants who agree to fund necessary transmission infrastructure upfront can benefit from accelerated grid connections.

"Our large-load customers have asked for the ability to fund their projects upfront, which helps us serve them faster," Medeiros said. "We greatly appreciate the Commission's decision to implement an interim approach while the permanent process is finalized. This is a great step forward and solid recognition of the importance of Rule 30."

PG&E is committed to working with regulators, developers, and communities to ensure this growth is sustainable and beneficial for all Californians.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE: PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16-million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California.

For more information, visit pge.com, pge.com/news and pge.com/innovation. ★

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENTS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04268
Gema Marina Gonzalez, 8860 Mannington Street, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "NaCLY" 8860 Mannington Street, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 6, 2025.
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
NACLY 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04376
Jadori Erfe, 10212 Jennick Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Visionary Real Estate Media" 10212 Jennick Way, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County June 11, 2025.
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
NACLY 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05149
Fatoumata Karawana, 14744 Washington Avenue 103, San Leandro, CA 94578 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Fatima Hair Styles" 8860 Mannington Street, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 15, 2025.
Publish: July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2025
FATIMA 8-15-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05391
Philip Andrew Shabanov, 9001 Clay Station Road, Wilton, CA 95693 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "PSX Motors" 9001 Clay Station Road, Wilton, CA 95693. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 22, 2025
Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
PSX 8-22-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-03921
Hanna Baek, 8359 Elk Grove Florin Road, Suite 103-380, Sacramento, CA 95829 and Saleem Raza, 7310 Home Leisure Plaza, Sacramento, CA 95823 and Diem T Nguyen, 7343 Home Leisure Plaza, Sacramento, CA 95823 are doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "99 Home Center" 7323 Home Leisure Plaza, Sacramento, CA 95823. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County May 23, 2025
Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
HOME 8-22-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04949
Drums & Flats Inc., 29 Walnut Meadow Lane, Danville, CA 94506 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Wingstop 278" 8447 Elk Grove Florin Road, Suite 50, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 7, 2025
Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025
WINGSTOP 8-22-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05502
Tedz Bear Care Non-Emergency Medical Transportation LLC, 166 Geary Street, Suite 1500, San Francisco, CA 94801 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "T. B. C. NEMT" 10135 Cornice Court, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County 7-25-2025
Publish: August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
TEDZ 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-04892
Harugama, LLC, P.O. Box 38, Hood, CA 95639 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Harry B. Whitney & Sons" 1300 Hood Franklin Road, Hood, CA 95639. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County 7-3-2025
Publish: August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
HARRY 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05411
Troy A. Johnson and Olga Johnson, 9610 Two Harbors Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Zova Homes" 9610 Two Harbors Court, Elk Grove, CA 95624. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County 7-23-2025
Publish: August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
ZOVA 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05081
Terrill Outsourcing Group, LLC, 9370 Studio Court, Suite 110, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Superlative RM" 9370 Studio Court, Suite 110, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County 7-14-2025
Publish: August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
SUPERLATIVE 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05646
Elk Grove Prieto Inc, 350 Automall Drive, Roseville, CA 95661 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Elk Grove Chevrolet" 9650 Auto Center Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County 7-31-2025
Publish: August 8, 15, 22, 29, 2025
ELK 8-29-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05644
Jamie Cisneros, 7918 Mansell Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "JRC Designs" 9245 Laguna Springs Drive, Suite 3200, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County July 31, 2025
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
JRC 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05780
Tahara & Travels LLC, 7625 Forestdale Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "TINFLASK" 7625 Forestdale Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 5, 2025
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
TINFLASK 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05689
Michael Smith, 6108 Laguna Vale Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Extreme Handyman Services" 6108 Laguna Vale Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 1, 2025
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
EXTREME 9-5-25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBNF2025-05821
Carolyn Panopio, 10511 Monserrate Street, Elk Grove, CA 95757 is doing business under the Fictitious Business Name(s) "Trending Tinx" 10511 Monserrate Street, Elk Grove, CA 95757. Filed with the Clerk of Sacramento County August 6, 2025
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
TRENDING 9-5-25

ORDER TO SHOW FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#25CV018308

Jessica Montgomery has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Jessica Joy Montgomery to Jessica Joy Lujan.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on December 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: August 4, 2025
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
MONTGOMERY 9-5-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#25CV018196

Trayvon Dwayne Carr has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Trayvon Dwayne Carr to Tray Bryant Hicks.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on December 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: August 1, 2025
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
CARR 9-5-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#25CV018480

An Huu Phan has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of An Huu Phan to Samuel Phan

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on December 31, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in Department 54, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: August 6, 2025
Christopher E. Krueger, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
PHAN 9-5-25

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CHANGE OF NAME
#25CV018468

Gaganpal Singh has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing the name(s) of Gaganpal Singh to Gaganpal Singh Parhar.

IT IS ORDERED that all persons interested in the above-entitled matter appear before this court on December 18, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 53, located at 813 6th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and show cause, if any, why the petition for Change of Name should not be granted.
Dated: August 6, 2025

Richard K. Sueyoshi, Judge of the Superior Court
Publish: August 15, 22, 29 Sept 5, 2025
SINGH 9-5-25

TRUSTEE SALE

APN: 117-0820-010-0000 TS No.: 25-09082CA TSG Order No.: 92126101-0 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED AUGUST 5, 2009. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Affinia Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded August 10, 2009 as Book No.: 20090810 Page No.: 1279 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, California, executed by: EMANUEL HERNANDEZ, A SINGLE MAN AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, as Trustor, will be sold AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER for cash (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said deed of trust in the property situated in said county and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced deed of trust. As more fully described in the attached legal description. See Exhibit A. Sale Date: September 30, 2025 Sale Time: 9:00 AM Sale Location: East Main Entrance Gordon D. Schaber Sacramento County Courthouse, 720 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 2 File No.:25-09082CA The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 5104 Birkdale Court, Elk Grove, CA 95758. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$138,374.73 (Estimated) and of . Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less

than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call, (800) 280-2832 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website, www.auction.com, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 25-09082CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (800) 280-2832, or visit this internet website www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 25-09082CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a

bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. 3 File No.:25-09082CA If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. For Pre Sale Information Log On To: www.auction.com or Call: (800) 280-2832. For Post Sale Results please visit www.affinidefault.com or Call (866) 932-0360 Dated: July 22, 2025 By: Omar Solorzano Foreclosure Associate Affinia Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 (833) 290-7452 4 File No.:25-09082CA LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A LOT 10 OF LAGUNA CREEK VILLAGE UNIT NO. 3, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 174, AT PAGE 22, OF MAPS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY ON APRIL 15, 1987, AND AMENDED BY A CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION RECORDED AS NUMBER 272732. EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL MINERALS, OIL, GAS, PETROLEUM, OTHER HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES AND ALL UNDERGROUND WATER AND ALL GEOTHERMAL ENERGY SOURCES IN OR UNDER OF WHICH MAY BE PRODUCED FROM SAID LAND WHICH UNDERLIES A PLAN PARALLEL TO AND FIVE HUNDRED (500) FEET BELOW THE PRESENT SURFACE OF SAID LAND. SUCH RESERVATION SPECIFICALLY RESERVED IN GRANTOR THE RIGHTS OF PROSPECTING, EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, EXTRACTION, AND TAKING OF SAID MINERALS, OIL, GAS, PETROLEUM, HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES, WATER, AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY (AND/OR IT SOURCES) FROM SAID LAND BY MEANS OF MINES, WELLS, DERRICKS, AND/OR OTHER EQUIPMENT FROM SURFACE LOCATIONS ON ADJOINING OR NEIGHBORING LAND OR LYING OUTSIDE OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED LAND; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE OWNER OF SUCH MINERALS, OIL, GAS, PETROLEUM, OTHER HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES, WATER, AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY SOURCES, AS SET FORTH ABOVE, SHALL HAVE NO RIGHT TO ENTER UPON THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND NOR TO USE SAID LAND OR ANY PORTION THEREOF ABOVE SAID PLANE PARALLEL TO AND FIVE HUNDRED (500) FEET BELOW THE PRESENT SURFACE OF SAID LAND FOR ANY PURPOSE WHAT

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1

ORDINANCE NO. 1, 2025-2026

An Ordinance of the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, Acting on Behalf of the Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1, Approving the Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1 Tax Report, Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and Levying and Apportioning the Special Tax as Provided Therein.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District (the "Board") on January 26, 1987, duly adopted its Resolution No. 27, 1986-87 (the "Resolution") reconfirming the establishment of the Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1 (the "Community Facilities District") for the purpose of providing for the financing of certain facilities in and for the Community Facilities District and providing for the levy of a special tax in and for the Community Facilities District; and

WHEREAS, at elections held in the Community Facilities District on April 28, 1987, and March 10, 1998, the qualified electors therein duly authorized the levy and collection of a special tax to be used for the purpose of paying the costs of such facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1 Tax Report, Fiscal Year 2025-2026, (the "Tax Report") has been submitted to the Board, and the Board has determined to approve the Tax Report and to levy the special tax at the rates specified in the Tax Report and to apportion them in the manner specified in the Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, acting on behalf of the Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1, ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. The Elk Grove Unified School District Community Facilities District No. 1 Tax Report, Fiscal Year 2025-2026, in the form submitted to this meeting and on file with the Board, is hereby approved and adopted. The Superintendent and his designees are hereby authorized to make changes to the Tax Report in response to appeals from taxpayers, or, otherwise, in order to correct errors in the application of the special tax to particular parcels.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Section 53340 of the Government Code of the State of California, the special tax is hereby levied at the rates specified in the Tax Report and is hereby apportioned in the manner specified in the Resolution (and as more particularly described in the Tax Report).

SECTION 3. The Superintendent shall deliver the Tax Report, together with a certified copy of this Ordinance, to the Auditor of the County of Sacramento no later than August 8, 2025.

SECTION 4. Pursuant to Section 53340 of the Government Code for the State of California, the special tax shall be collected by the Tax Collector of the County of Sacramento in the same manner as ordinary ad valorem property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same procedure, sale, and lien priority in case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes.

SECTION 5. In order to have the tax levied hereby collected in the next tax collection period and thereby available to finance the facilities approved by the electors of the Community Facilities District, the Tax Report, together with an ordinance which has been duly adopted and is in effect, must be delivered to the Auditor of the County of Sacramento no later than August 8, 2025.

SECTION 6. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to cause this ordinance to be published within fifteen (15) days after its adoption in The Elk Grove Citizen, a newspaper of general circulation in the Community Facilities District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District this 5th day of August 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0
ATTEST: 0

s/Michael Vargas
President of the Board of Education of the
Elk Grove Unified School District

The Elk Grove Citizen 8-15-2025

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, County of Sacramento, State of California, will receive sealed bids up to but no later than **August 29, 2025, at 4:00 P.M.** PST.

The bid must be obtained, submitted, and received online through the EGUSD Online Bonfire Procurement Portal: <https://egusd.bonfirehub.com>.

BID# 804-25/26 MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS, TRASH CAN LINERS FOR WAREHOUSE STOCK

The Bid must be obtained, submitted, and received online through the EGUSD Online Bonfire Procurement Portal: <https://egusd.bonfirehub.com>.

Bids will not be opened or read publicly and will be opened in accordance with the procedures set forth in Public Contract Code Sections 20112 and 1601.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids received in whole or part, to waive any irregularities in the bids or bidding, and to be the sole judge of the suitability of products and services being offered.

For assistance, please contact Kirsten Garcia at kgarcia@egusd.net or by phone at (916) 686-7773.

Kirsten Garcia
Purchasing Supervisor
Elk Grove Unified School District

Elk Grove Citizen 8-8, 8-15-2025

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Board of Education of the Elk Grove Unified School District, County of Sacramento, State of California, will receive sealed Requests for Qualification/Proposals (RFQ/Ps) up to but no later than **SEPTEMBER 2, 2025, at 4:00 P.M.** PST. for:

RFQ/P# 806-25/26 COMPREHENSIVE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR AFTER SCHOOL EDUCATION & SAFETY (ASES) OR AFTER SCHOOL SAFETY & ENRICHMENT FOR TEENS (ASSETS)

The RFQ/P must be obtained, submitted, and received electronically online through the EGUSD online Bonfire Procurement Portal at <https://egusd.bonfirehub.com>

Since this is an RFQ/P, there will not be a public opening.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all RFQ/Ps received in whole or part, to waive any irregularities in the RFPs, and to be the sole judge of the suitability of products and services being offered.

For assistance, please contact Destiny Gutierrez at degutier@egusd.net or by phone at (916) 686-7773.

Brad Minami
Director, Purchasing & Warehouse
Elk Grove Unified School District

Elk Grove Citizen 8-15, 8-22-2025

Cosumnes Fire Department Earns International Accreditation

Cosumnes Community Services Department News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Cosumnes Community Services District Fire Department is proud to announce that it has received Accredited Agency status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI), placing it among just over 340 fire agencies worldwide recognized for meeting the highest standards in service, performance and continuous improvement.

"This accreditation is a reflection of our district's commitment to excellence, continuous learning, and community service,"

said Fire Chief Felipe Rodríguez. "It wasn't just about checking boxes; it was about challenging ourselves to be better. The process gave us a chance to evaluate everything we do, build on our strengths, and identify new ways to protect lives and property more effectively."

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International accreditation program, administered by the Center for Public Safety Excellence, is a comprehensive and voluntary process that evaluates fire and emergency service agencies against 250 rigorous performance indicators. These indicators span governance, administration, risk reduction,

operational readiness, training and resource management.

To achieve accreditation, the department completed a multi-year self-assessment followed by an extensive peer review by external fire service professionals.

The process helped identify operational efficiencies, enhance accountability, and strengthen sustainable practices; all of which contribute to improved public safety outcomes.

"We are incredibly proud of the members of Cosumnes Fire for achieving this major milestone," said Cosumnes Community Services District Board President Angela Spease. "This recognition shows

the public that our fire department operates with integrity, innovation, and a relentless drive to serve. It builds confidence in the high standards we hold for public safety in our community."

"Achieving accreditation in both the fire department and the parks and recreation department is a testament to the outstanding work of our staff," said Cosumnes Community Services District General Manager Tim Ogden. "It shows that whether we're responding to emergencies or enriching lives through recreation, our district is committed to meeting the highest professional standards for the benefit of our entire community." ★

Armed Robbery Suspect Arrested After Pursuit, Search

Elk Grove Police Department News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - An employee at a recycling center near Bond Road and Elk Grove Florin Road was robbed at gunpoint shortly after noon on Aug. 7.

Responding officers located the suspect driving westbound on Bond Road. A pursuit followed, continuing into East Sacramento, where officers lost sight of the suspect vehicle. The vehicle, a pickup truck, was later found parked and unoccupied.

Officers searched the area and found the suspect, a 61-year-old man, walking near Sacramento Charter High School. The school was placed on a precautionary lockdown while officers gave chase.

He was ultimately taken into custody with the help of a police K9.

The suspect is currently being treated at a local hospital. Once medically cleared, he will be booked into the Sacramento County Main Jail on multiple charges, including robbery, attempted assault with a deadly weapon and resisting arrest. ★

LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the County of Sacramento, Case No. 14303 - October 14, 1910
The Elk Grove Citizen Adjudicated For and By the City of Elk Grove, Case No. CS01032 - August 25, 2000

TRUSTEE SALE
 SOEVER, AS RESERVED BY LEWIS HOMES OF CALIFORNIA, A CALIFORNIA GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. NPP0476895 To: CITIZEN (ELK GROVE) 08/08/2025, 08/15/2025, 08/22/2025
 ELK GROVE CITIZEN 8-22-25
 T.S. No.: 2024-00249-CA
 A.P.N.:116-0740-039-0000

Property Address: 8962 SEDGEWICK COURT, ELK GROVE, CA 95624
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 03/26/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT

A LAWYER. Trustor: VERA DAVIS, A SINGLE WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC Deed of Trust Recorded 04/02/2004 as Instrument No. --- in book 20040402, page1852 and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Sacramento County, California, Date of Sale: 10/02/2025 at 01:30 PM Place of Sale AT THE EAST MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 720 9TH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 295,979.74
THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE: All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as: More fully described in said Deed of Trust. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 8962 SEDGEWICK COURT, ELK GROVE, CA 95624 A.P.N.: 116-0740-039-0000 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 295,979.74. Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to

commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2024-00249-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. **NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction, if conducted after January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you

can call (866)-960-8299, or visit this internet website <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx>, using the file number assigned to this case 2024-00249-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 238 Ventura, CA 93003 Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx>
 Date: August 5, 2025
 **This address must be used for the required delivery by certified or overnight mail of postponement requests as specified pursuant to Civil Code section 2924f(e).
 Published 8/15/2025, 8/22/2025, 8/29/2025
 Elk Grove Citizen 8-29-25

LIEN SALE

LIEN SALE 8/25/25 10AM AT 8240 14TH AVE, SACRAMENTO
 17 BMW LIC# 9PYE528 CA VIN# WBXHT3C30H5F86480
 15 KIA LIC# 7XUM037 CA VIN# KNDPB3AC1F7723245
 ELK GROVE CITIZEN 8-15-25

LIEN SALE 8/25/25 9AM AT 8999 ELK GROVE FLORIN RD, ELK GROVE
 18 CHEV LIC# 8EZY288 CA VIN# 1G1ZB5ST9JF234375
 ELK GROVE CITIZEN 8-15-25

LIEN SALE 8/25/25 9AM AT 3534 51ST AVE, SACRAMENTO
 21 FORD LIC# 9TYY089 CA VIN# 1FMCU0G63MUB26598
 ELK GROVE CITIZEN 8-15-25


Call to place your legal advertising
 916-773-1111

PUBLIC NOTICE

ELK GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PRE-QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES

Notice is hereby given that all contractors required to pre-qualify for Elk Grove Unified School District ("District") projects must adhere to the following procedures, submit the following documentation and information at least annually, with quarterly certifications or updates, and must be found by the District on a quarterly basis to pre-qualify, as a condition of bidding the District project during any quarterly period. The District is required to have a pre-qualification process pursuant to applicable California law (in particular Public Contracts Code sections 20111.5 and 20111.6) for any projects projected to cost \$1,000,000 or more. Any General Contractors (GCs) and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) Subcontractors bidding on projects projected to cost \$1,000,000 or more are required to participate in the District's pre-qualification process. MEP is defined as subcontractors holding the following license classifications: C-4, C-7, C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 and/or C-46. Pre-qualification application packages are available on our website at <https://www.egusd.net/Departments/Facilities-and-Planning/www.egusdplans.com>, or via email at facilitiesbids@egusd.net

It is mandatory that all GCs and MEP Subs who intend to submit bids fully complete the pre-qualification questionnaire, provide all materials requested herein, and be approved by the District. No bid will be accepted from a GC that has failed to comply with these requirements, or submits a bid that lists MEP Subs that have failed to comply with these requirements. If two or more business entities submit a bid on a project as a Joint Venture, or expect to submit a bid as part of a Joint Venture, each entity within the Joint Venture must be separately qualified to bid.

Pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5, no contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations.

The pre-qualification packet includes, in part, a questionnaire and financial statement, to be verified under oath. The District will use the information and documentation required herein, as the basis for rating contractors in respect to the size and scope of contracts upon which each contractor is qualified to bid. The District reserves the right to check other sources available. The District's decision will be based, in part, on its uniform rating system, including, among other things, objective evaluation criteria and references.

While it is the intent of the pre-qualification questionnaire and documents required therewith to assist the District in determining bidder responsibility prior to the submission of bids and to aid the District in selecting the lowest responsible bidder, neither the fact of pre-qualification, nor any pre-qualification rating, will preclude the District from a post-bid consideration and determination on a specific project of whether a bidder has the quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the proposed work, and has demonstrated the requisite trustworthiness. Contractors are encouraged to submit pre-qualification packages as soon as possible, so that they may be notified of pre-qualification status well in advance of the bid process.

If the bidder, within the last calendar year, has submitted to the District a completed Pre-Qualification Application and the District has determined that the bidder is prequalified, the bidder must submit a **Quarterly Update** in each calendar quarter after the calendar quarter in which the initial Pre-Qualification Application was filed, certifying that nothing has changed in the interim period to make the Pre-Qualification Application materially untrue, inaccurate or misleading. If the bidder has been deemed prequalified by the District within the last calendar year but has failed to submit a Quarterly Update in order to maintain pre-qualification, the bidder will be automatically disqualified and must submit a full Pre-Qualification Application in order to be considered for pre-qualification.

The pre-qualification packages should be sealed, marked "CONFIDENTIAL PREQUALIFICATION", and delivered to: **Facilities and Planning Department, Elk Grove Unified School District, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Room 206, Elk Grove, CA 95624, Attention: Pre-Qualification, by 4:00 p.m. on September 30, 2025.**

The questionnaire answers and financial statements included in the pre-qualification packages submitted by contractors are not public records and are not open to public inspection. All such information provided will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law, although the contents may be disclosed to third parties for the purpose of verification, investigation of substantial allegations, and in the process of any applicable appeal. State law requires that the names of contractors applying for pre-qualification status shall be public records subject to disclosure, and the first page of the questionnaire will be used for that purpose.

Each questionnaire must be signed under penalty of perjury in the manner designated at the end of the form, by an individual who has the legal authority to bind the contractor on whose behalf that person is signing. If any information provided by a contractor becomes inaccurate, the contractor must immediately notify the District and provide updated accurate information in writing, under penalty of perjury.

Elk Grove Citizen 8-15, 8-22-2025

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR LEASE-LEASEBACK CONTRACT

Notice is hereby given that the Elk Grove Unified School District (hereinafter referred to as "Owner") will receive sealed proposals prior to the date and time stated below for the

The Arbor Ranch Elementary School lease-leaseback contract (the "Contract"),

as per the Request for Sealed Proposals ("RFP"), drawings, specifications, and other Contract Documents which may now be obtained at www.egusdplans.com.

Proposals will be sealed and filed through Dropbox to Michael Bean (mbean@egusd.net) and Hannah Dayton (hdayton@egusd.net).

on September 8, 2025, before 3:00 p.m. on the clock designated by the Owner or its representative as the bid clock. No proposal will be accepted by the Owner after this time. Facsimile (FAX) copies of the proposal will not be accepted. Proposals may be opened immediately after the above deadline for submittal, or at a later time, within the Owner's discretion.

The lowest proposed fee shall be determined from the proposed base fee.

Mandatory pre-proposal conference will be held on August 29, 2025 at 9:00 am at the Robert L. Trigg Center, Room 209, 9510 Elk Grove-Florin Road, Elk Grove, California. Contractors not attending this conference or the previous conference on May 6, 2025, will be disqualified from submitting proposals.

This Contract is subject to prequalification. See the Request for Sealed Proposals and Qualifications for details.

Public works projects shall be subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. For all projects over Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), a contractor or subcontractor shall not be qualified to submit a proposal or to be listed in a proposal subject to the

requirements of Public Contract Code section 4104, or to enter into, or engage in the performance of, any contract of such public work, unless the contractor or subcontractor is currently registered and qualified under Labor Code section 1725.5 to perform public work (as defined by Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1 (§§1720 et seq.) of the Labor Code).

As detailed in the Contract Documents, the successful proposing entity will be required to furnish a Payment (Labor and Material) Bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Total Sublease Amount, and a Faithful Performance Bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Total Sublease Amount.

The successful proposing entity will be allowed to substitute securities or establish an escrow in lieu of retainage, pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22300, and as described in the Contract Documents.

The Owner will not consider or accept any proposals from contractors who are not licensed to do business in the State of California, in accordance with the California Public Contract Code, providing for the licensing of contractors. In accordance with Section 3300 of said Code, the proposing entity shall have a Class "B" license at the time of award and shall maintain that license in good standing through Contract Completion and all applicable warranty periods.

The Director of Industrial Relations of the State of California, in the manner provided by law, has ascertained the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and rate for legal holidays and overtime work. The Contractor must pay for any labor therein described or classified in an amount not less than the rates specified. Copies of the required rates are on file at the Owner's business office and are available to any interested party on request.

The successful contractor will have to comply with skilled and trained workforce requirements pursuant to Public Contract Code sections 2600 et seq. and Education Code section 17407.5.

Elk Grove Citizen 8-15, 8-22-2025

MEETING MINDERS

Community members can watch these meetings online and submit public comments for the officials to review.

The Elk Grove City Council has its regular meetings at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. To view the meeting, visit ElkGroveCity.org.

The Elk Grove Planning Commission has its online meetings at 6 p.m. the first

and third Thursdays of the month.

A live video stream of this meeting can be viewed at the city of Elk Grove's website, www.ElkGroveCity.org.

The Cosumnes Community Services District Board of Directors has in-person meetings at 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

It governs the Cosumnes Fire

Department as well as Elk Grove's parks and recreation system.

The CSD board meetings can be watched live at www.CosumnesCSD.gov and they are held at 8820 Elk Grove Blvd.

The Elk Grove Unified School District Board of Trustees meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. This meeting is in-person at the Robert L. Trigg

Education Center Board Room, 9510 Elk Grove Florin Road.

Members of the public can also view it by using the Zoom application and visiting the school district's website, www.EGUSD.net.

Past board meetings can be watched on the district's YouTube channel, "ElkGroveUnified." ★

Water District Issues Urgent Warning About Door-to-Door Scam

Elk Grove Water District News Release

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Elk Grove Water District is warning residents about reports of aggressive and deceptive door-to-door salespeople who represent the "California Efficiency Group." District officials say they have received numerous complaints from customers describing the following troubling behaviors:

False Claims of Affiliation - Representatives allegedly tell residents they are working with the Elk Grove Water or state agencies.

Fear Tactics About Water Safety - Residents report being told, without any factual basis, that Elk Grove's drinking water is unsafe for consumption or bathing.

Unauthorized Recordings - Some customers have reported being

audio recorded without their consent.

Attempts to Enter Homes - Representatives have allegedly sought entry into homes under false pretenses.

Requests for Sensitive Information - Residents have been asked for personal details such as Social Security numbers and gross income.

"These tactics are deceptive, unlawful and unacceptable," said Elk Grove Water District General Manager Bruce Kamilos in a statement. "Our water is safe, meets all state and federal quality standards, and we do not partner with private companies to conduct in-home sales or inspections."

The water district is urging residents to take the following immediate steps if approached by these individuals:

1. Do not allow them into your home.
2. Do not provide any

personal or financial information.

3. Call the Elk Grove Police Department immediately at (916) 714-5115 while the individuals are still in the area.

The water district has issued a formal cease-and-desist letter to the California Efficiency Group, and the matter has been referred to the Elk Grove Police Department, the Sacramento County District Attorney's Consumer Protection Division, the California Attorney General's Office and the Better Business Bureau.

"We take our customers' safety and privacy seriously and will pursue every available legal remedy to stop this behavior," the water district's statement concluded.

For more about Elk Grove's drinking water, visit egwd.org or call the water district directly at (916) 685-3556. ★

Kaiser Hospitals Earn National Recognition

Kaiser Permanente News Release

OAKLAND, CA (MPG) - Kaiser Permanente Northern California's hospitals are once again being nationally recognized for providing patients with comprehensive care and evidence-based treatments for complex medical conditions and procedures.

U.S. News & World Report's 2025-2026 Best Hospitals annual report ranks all 21 Kaiser Permanente Northern California hospitals as "high-performing" - or among the top 30% of hospitals in the nation - for at least one of the 37 measures evaluated. The measures include congestive heart failure, pneumonia, colorectal cancer surgery, stroke, and diabetes.

Approximately, 4,500 hospitals participated in the study, which analyzes hospital performance for 15 specialty care areas and 22 procedures and conditions. The "high performing" designation honors those hospitals that deliver high-quality care when treating complex medical conditions.

Kaiser Permanente hospitals are consistently recognized nationally for providing high-quality and safe patient care leading to better health outcomes.

"This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to provide superior, quality health care to improve the lives of our patients, members, and the communities we serve," said Mike Bowers, FACHE, interim president of Kaiser Permanente's Northern California region. "Our hospitals are leaders in the nation because our highly skilled care teams put our patients at the center of everything they do."

Hospitals Ranked Among Best in State

Kaiser Permanente Northern California has eight hospitals designated as "Best Regional Hospitals" because they are ranked among the best in the state: Oakland/Richmond, Roseville, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Clara, South Sacramento, and Walnut Creek.

Kaiser Permanente Vallejo is also ranked as one of the top 50 hospitals in the nation for rehabilitation. And

Kaiser Permanente South Sacramento is recognized as a "Best Regional Hospital for Community Access" for the care it provides to underserved populations.

"Our physicians, nurses, and care teams work collaboratively to deliver high-quality, high-value, patient-centered care," said Maria Ansari, MD, FACC, chief executive officer and executive director of The Permanente Medical Group. "We remain committed to advancing evidence-based treatments and leveraging the latest innovations in technology to improve the lives of our patients to live longer and healthier."

In its hospital analysis, U.S. News & World Report uses publicly available data such as volume, mortality rates, infection rates, staffing levels, and patient satisfaction rates, among other factors.

The annual ratings and rankings are designed to help patients, and their health care providers make informed decisions about where to receive care for challenging health conditions or elective procedures. ★

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ABOUT TOWN

Friday, Aug. 15
Fridays in the Grove Dive-In Movie – 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Join us to watch “Moana” under the stars while hanging out in the pool. Admission is available at the gate at the rec swim rate (\$8 ages 5 and up, \$5 ages 2 to 4 years old, 2 and under free). 9701 Big Horn Blvd.

Latin Dance Night – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Old Town Plaza. This free community event, brought to you by Dance on the Edge, invites everyone to enjoy salsa, bachata and cumbia dancing in a fun, welcoming atmosphere. The night begins with a free beginner dance lesson; no partner needed. All ages welcome; bring your friends, family or come solo. For more information, contact Gavina at gavina@danceontheedge.com. 9615 Railroad St.

Friday, Aug. 22
Summer Concert: Innersoul – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Warm nights and great tunes are back this summer, with a twist: Cosumnes CSD is searching for amateur performers in Elk Grove. If you’ve got talent, come show it off. See cosumnesd.gov for application information, then bring your family and friends out to enjoy these free outdoor concerts. This week, our local performers will be opening for Innersoul, family-friendly

old school music, funk, Latin and dance hits. 3020 Renwick Ave.

“Raise the Barn” Banquet – 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at District 56. The Elk Grove Historical Society hosts this evening of great food, music and community to support the Barn Project. Tickets available at egbarnproject.org. 8230 Civic Center Drive.

NorCal Spartan Event at Mahon Ranch – This event, including several different courses and distances, is designed to test the grit of competitors. Schedule, registration information and more details at spartan.com. Continues through Sunday, Aug. 24. 10171 Grant Line Road.

Saturday, Aug. 23
Elk Grove Lions Burgers and Brews – 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Wackford Aquatic Center. Join us for a fun-filled night of delicious burgers, refreshing brews, and community spirit. Tickets available at elkgrovelionsfoundation.org. 9014 Bruceville Road.

Friday, Aug. 29
Summer Concert: On Air – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Warm nights and great tunes are back this summer, with a twist – Cosumnes CSD is searching for amateur performers in Elk Grove. If you’ve got talent, come show it off.

See cosumnesd.gov for application information, then bring your family and friends out to enjoy these free outdoor concerts. This week, our local performers will be opening for On Air, classic rock and power horns. 3020 Renwick Ave.

Library Events
 Sacramento County Libraries have the following upcoming events: (EG) Elk Grove Library, 8900 Elk Grove Blvd.; (F) Franklin, 10055 Franklin High Road; (NW) Nonie Wetzel Library, 170 Primasing Ave., Courtland; (VH) Valley Hi/North Laguna, 7400 Imagination Parkway, Sacramento:

Friday, Aug. 15: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Morse Community Park, 5540 Bellaterra Drive. (F) Tween comic group, 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EG)

Saturday, Aug. 16: Explore and learn, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (F)

Tuesday, Aug. 19: Elk Grove Navigator office hours, 10 a.m. to noon. Participants can connect with trained navigators who offer guidance, answer questions, and link clients to resources such as shelters, food assistance and housing. (EG)

Wednesday, Aug. 20: Explore and learn, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (VH) STEAM for kids – Ozobots & LEGOs, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. (F) Teen space, 4 p.m. to 6

p.m. (NW)

Thursday, Aug. 21: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Elk Grove Regional Park, 9950 Elk Grove Florin Road, in front of the concrete slab near the Rhoads School House. (EG) Adult space, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Discover engaging activities, enjoy light refreshments, and meet good company. (VH)

Friday, Aug. 22: Outdoor family story time, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Morse Community Park, 5540 Bellaterra Drive. (F)

Saturday, Aug. 23: Explore and learn, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (F)

Call 916-264-2920 or 800-561-4636 for more information on any of these events.

Ongoing Events
Elk Grove Certified Farmers Market – every Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon at 8245 Laguna Blvd.

Farmers Market – every Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 8280 Longleaf Drive, in the parking lot between buildings B and C. Enjoy fresh produce, deliciously prepared food, craft retailers and more. Brought to you by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and California Correctional Health Care Services.

Rotary Club of Elk Grove – meets every Wednesday for lunch at noon, at The Park at Laguna Springs, 9670

Laguna Springs Dr. More information at elkgroverotary.org.

Widowed Persons Social Club – Aug. 15, 10 a.m., Pinochle at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact is Jim at 916-768-1923.

Aug. 17, 1-3 p.m., Ice Cream Social Oaks Mobile Home Club House, 116 Calle Entrada, Elk Grove. Contact is Evelyn at 916-685-9669.

Aug. 21, 11:30 a.m., Lunch & 12:30 p.m. General Meeting at Golden Corral, 7700 W. Stockton Blvd. \$24 includes lunch. Contact is Pat at 916-802-4524.

Aug. 22, 10 a.m., Hand and Foot card game at Elk Grove UMC, 8986 Elk Grove Blvd. A small donation to the church is expected. Contact is Gerri at 916-698-1940.

Aug. 26, 5 p.m., The Brick House, 9027 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove. Contact is Addie at 916-682-3609.

A widowed person may attend up to three events while deciding if they wish to join WPSC. Contact Bonnie at 916-422-1522 if you are interested in membership.

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.

American Legion Post 233 and Auxiliary Unit 233 – general meetings fourth Thursday each month at 7 p.m., at Elks Lodge, 9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove. Dinner at 6 pm. Post 233 Family Breakfast, first Saturday each month at 9 a.m., with location TBD. Currently, we will meet at Mimi’s Café, corner of Laguna Blvd and West Stockton Boulevard (just off Highway 99). For information, call Henry at 916-205-9296 C or Sue at 916-683-6128 H.

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 233 – first Monday at 5:45 p.m. at the Veterans Hall, 8230 Civic Center Drive.

SAVE THE DATE: Oct. 11, Post 233 will host its annual fundraiser at District 56. Please email egpost233@gmail.com for more information. 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.

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

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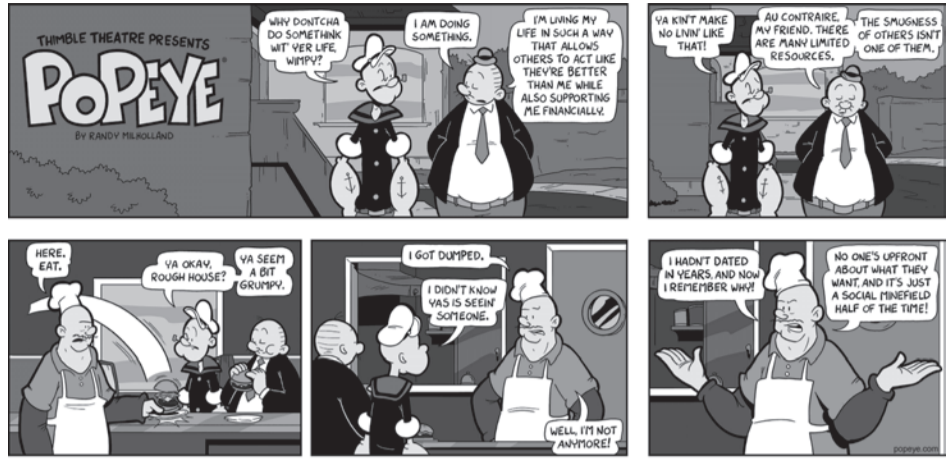


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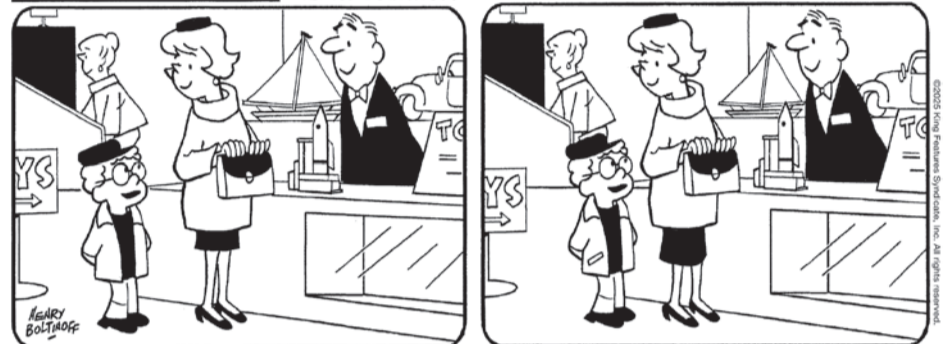
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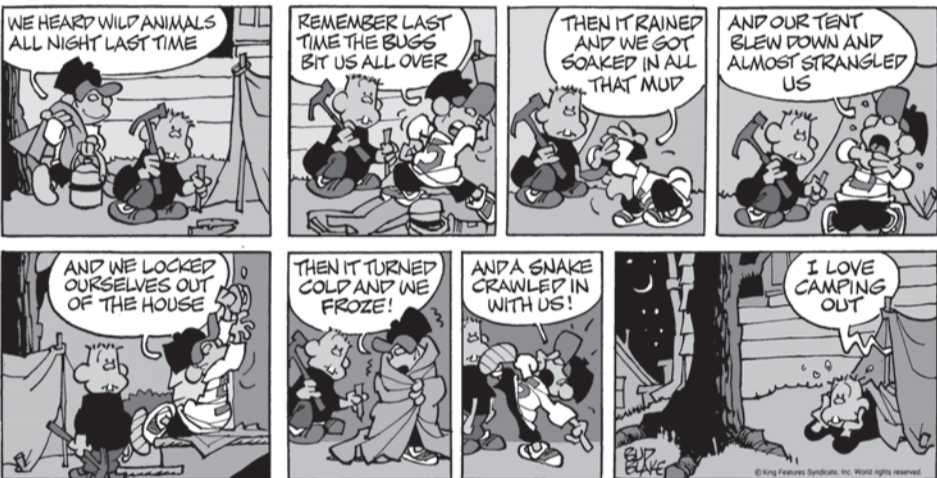


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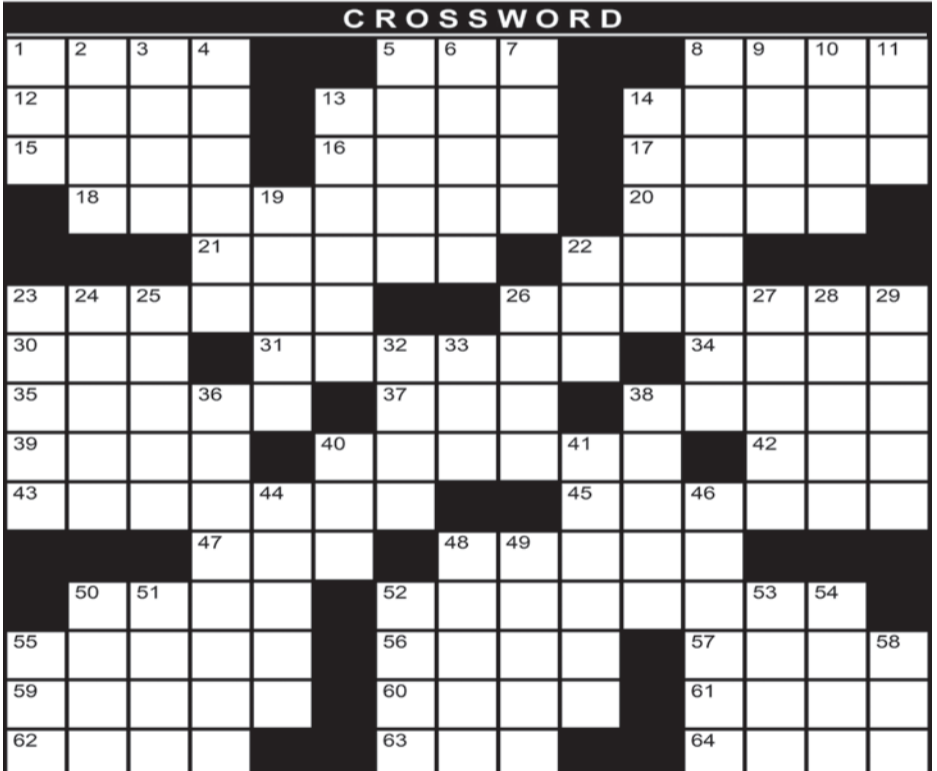
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 - *... Readers
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 - Basketry stick
 - *... time for preschoolers
 - Plums and cherries genus
 - Allegiance
 - Crew propeller
 - Rh in Rh disease
 - Your majesty
 - Miss of the Muppets
 - Band event
 - Asci, sing.
 - Olympic castaway
 - *Didn't fail
 - Frozen H2O
 - Took a penny-farthing, e.g.
 - *Punctuation marks for famous words
 - Maltese or Havana, e.g.
 - *Use Play-Doh
 - Cheap trinket
 - *3+x=10, e.g.
 - Soviet place of exile
 - Curtis, to friends
 - Beehive state
 - *Olden-day notebook
 - Honey-producing facility
 - Sushi restaurant
 - Location of altar
 - Type of poem
 - Sing like Ella Fitzgerald
- DOWN**
- Mountain basin
 - Attention grabber
 - Reduced Instruction Set Computer
 - Hiccup's Toothless, e.g.,
 - Irritate by rubbing
 - Persian Gulf ship
 - Multi-
 - *"Get out of classroom" permit (2 words)
 - International Civil Aviation Organization
 - Retired, shortened
 - Bard's before
 - Lacking cordiality
 - Settle a debt
 - Unethical loaner's practice
 - Us, in Mexico
 - Temporary store
 - Reason to strike
 - Prodded
 - Totes or tugs
 - Permissible
 - Cease-fire
 - Many affirmatives
 - "Good grief!"
 - Bro's counterpart
 - *School alum
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'In a Nutshell' Returns to Sacramento

Storytellers Tackle the Theme of Bullies

By Ornella Rossi

SACRAMENTO, CA (MPG) - "In a Nutshell," a live storytelling event that has quickly gained a loyal following in Sacramento, is back on Aug. 29 at the Sofia, 2700 Capitol Ave., bringing compelling, raw and entertaining stories to the stage.

Curated and hosted by comedian Keith Lowell Jensen, writer/storyteller Amy Bee and author Aaron Carnes, the event promises a night of diverse storytelling with a focus on the theme of "Bullies."

The event, which will run from 6 to 9 p.m., features four prominent storytellers: Brian Copeland, Kimberli Joy, Corey Rosen and Kathleen Taylor. These performers, each with unique backgrounds and experiences, will share personal stories that explore the complex and evocative nature of bullying.

Before the event kicks off, attendees can attend a book signing with Brian Copeland in the lobby. Copeland, a multi-talented storyteller, actor and author, will promote his book "Shadows of Justice." Afterward, he will sign copies, offering fans an opportunity to engage directly with him.

In an exclusive interview, "In a Nutshell" co-creator Carnes explained how the series came to life.

"Amy and Keith are storytellers themselves and we all share a deep love for writing. We went to a storytelling show in the North Bay in 2024 and were really impressed with it. We started talking about how cool it would be to bring something like that to Sacramento," said Carnes. "In January 2025, we had our first show and the response was incredible."

Since then, "In a Nutshell" has grown in popularity, with each monthly event offering a hand-picked lineup of storytellers.

"The goal is never competition," Carnes said. "Each performer gets



Following their performances, storytellers take center stage thanking the audience at the "In a Nutshell" event in June. Photo courtesy of Elle Jaye @drumphotos

15 minutes and we really curate the lineup. We want diverse stories but all tied together with a theme."

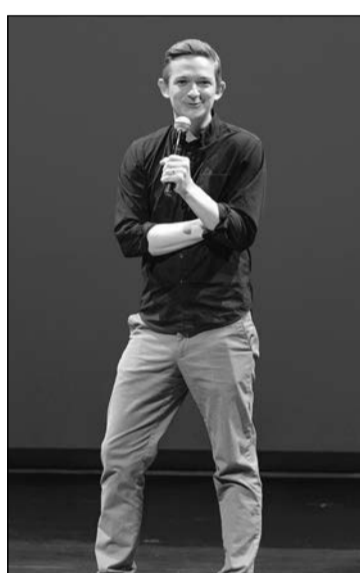
As the digital world continues to dominate our lives, live storytelling has a unique power to connect us. Carnes reflected on the emotional impact of experiencing a story told in person.

"Storytelling is the oldest form of entertainment," Carnes said. "It creates a flow of energy between the audience and the storyteller that is really compelling. You're reacting together. There's something real about it, something tangible."

Event co-creator Jensen also highlighted the power of storytelling in fostering human connection.

"Growing up, I'd always hear stories in circles that would happen organically; people want to share their stories," Jensen said. "Every form of entertainment comes down to telling a story. Without any special effects, no visuals, it's still so effective, which

is why we address our audiences as humans."



Storytellers engage the audience at Sacramento's "In a Nutshell" event on March 31 at the Sofia Theatre. Photo courtesy of Elle Jaye @drumphotos

is why we address our audiences as humans."

This month's theme, Bullies, suggested by co-creator Bee, is both personal and evoking.

"I think everyone has a bullying

story, sometimes even being the bully," Jensen said. "Bullying is such an important topic right now, and it's one that's near and dear to a lot of us. This theme is deeply personal and it's something that resonates with so many people."

The storytellers for this month's show bring a wealth of experience and distinct voices to the stage.

Copeland is known for his diverse body of work, including his recent book and one-person plays.

"Brian (Copeland) is a fantastic storyteller," Carnes said. "He was in a radio talk in San Francisco. Both Amy (Bee) and I are from the Bay Area, so we are really excited for that."

Rosen, a major figure in the San Francisco Bay Area's "Moth" storytelling scene, will also take the stage. Rosen, a writer, actor and author of "Your Story, Well Told," is known for his skill in guiding people through the art of storytelling.

Joy, who began telling stories on stage in June 2022, and Taylor, a writer, educator and storyteller, are new performers at the Nutshell and were recommended by previous storytellers.

For the creators of "In a Nutshell," the ultimate goal is connection.

"It's supposed to be fun and entertaining but there is a serious tone to it too about experiencing our humanity and everyone else's humanity together. Hearing people's stories is one of the most human things people can do," Carnes said. "We want people to hear the world in a more sympathetic lens. We shouldn't see each other as allies or enemies. Storytelling won't fix the world but hopefully it makes us think of our shared humanity."

Jensen added, "We're just three friends who love stories. We want people to come have fun and walk away with something they'll remember. It's a shared experience that brings people together."

For those who have never attended a live storytelling event, Carnes offered a simple invitation: "It's oddly compelling. The first time I went to a storytelling show, I was blown away by how engaged I was. The 15-minute format is just enough to tell a full story but not so long that it becomes too much. You'll be surprised by how powerful and intimate the experience is."

While "In a Nutshell" has found a home at The Sofia, the team is planning to expand their reach.

In addition to the main event, "In a Nutshell" also hosts an open mic show at Old Soul at The Alley on the third Thursday of each month. This event allows new storytellers to try their hand at the craft and gain experience.

To learn more about this event, future events and tickets, visit <https://www.inanutshellstorytelling.com>. ★

Sacramento Superior Court Appoints Kelly Sullivan as Interim Officer

Sacramento Superior Court News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - The Sacramento Superior Court recently announced the appointment of Kelly Sullivan as interim court executive officer.

"Kelly Sullivan is a proven leader with a deep understanding of court operations and a strong commitment to public service," said Sacramento

Superior Court Presiding Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi. "We are confident in her ability to guide the court during this transition with integrity, professionalism and focus."

As Interim Court Executive Officer, Sullivan oversees the court's operational and administrative functions, including budget and finance, human resources, strategic planning, and coordination with justice and community partners, while



Kelly Sullivan. Courtesy photo

the court searches for a permanent court executive officer.

"I am honored to serve the Sacramento Superior Court in this interim capacity," said Sullivan. "I look forward to working alongside the bench, staff and stakeholders to ensure the court continues to provide fair, accessible and effective justice for our community."

Sullivan has served as the court's chief deputy executive officer

since September 2022.

Sullivan previously served as chief deputy director over the Civil and Criminal Division (October 2020 to September 2022) and as director of operations (October 2016 to September 2020). She has been with the court for more than 20 years.

Sullivan assumed the post when Court Executive Officer Lee Seale retired, effective Aug. 4. ★

Fentanyl Awareness Summit Open to the Public

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County's annual Fentanyl Awareness Summit is back this year with a renewed sense of urgency and hope.

The Sacramento County Department of Health Services, in collaboration with the Sacramento County Opioid Coalition; Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society; California State University, Sacramento; the U.S. Attorney's Office; Sac Metro Fire and local law enforcement, hosts the Sept. 4 event.

The summit aims to bring community members together to analyze data trends; discuss prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement efforts; hear from those with lived experiences; provide resources and support ongoing solutions for a safer community.

This year's event centers around a message that sets it apart from previous summits: fentanyl-related deaths are declining in Sacramento County for the second year in a row.

After years of staggering increases, new data shows another year of progress. The Sacramento County Coroner's Office reported a 32% reduction in fentanyl-related deaths from 2023 to 2024. It's a promising sign that prevention, education, treatment and enforcement efforts are making an impact.

"We know we still have a long road ahead but this decline is something to hold onto," said Lori Miller, division manager for Sacramento County's Substance Use



Sacramento County's annual Fentanyl Awareness Summit, open to the public, is on Sept. 4. The summit discusses data trends, prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement efforts; provides resources and supports ongoing solutions for a safer community. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County

Prevention and Treatment. "It shows that our work is saving lives."

If you would like to attend the summit and learn how you can support a safer community, make sure to register online at form.jotform.com/251477672072158.

If you cannot attend, there are still many ways to get involved and help keep the momentum going. Learn and spread the word about campaigns such as Safer Sacramento and I Pill Can Kill.

Wear Purple on Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day on Aug. 21. Take this time to educate the public on the dangers of fentanyl, fake pills and other illicit drugs, while also highlighting the difference between fentanyl poisoning and overdose.

Wear Purple on International Overdose Awareness Day on Aug. 31. This globally-observed day aims to reduce the stigma associated with drug-related deaths, remember those lost and acknowledge the grief

endured by their loved ones.

Join the Sacramento County Opioid Coalition. Meetings are held quarterly. Check out the Sacramento County Opioid Coalition website at sacopioidcoalition.org for the meeting schedule and more information.

Share your loved one's story through an Opioid Awareness Project featuring Gone Too Soon Memorial Posters, commemorating the precious lives lost in Sacramento and surrounding counties. Those interested should contact Lori Miller at Millerlori@sac-county.gov.

Watch and share "The Ripple Effect." Sacramento County's Department of Health Services' Sacramento Substance Use Prevention and Treatment, in collaboration with NTI Upstream, proudly presents "The Ripple Effect," a powerful nine-part documentary blog series exposing the devastating impact of the fentanyl crisis in the United States, with a sharp focus on Sacramento County.

Each "The Ripple Effect" episode offers an in-depth exploration of the epidemic's roots, its far-reaching impact on individuals and communities, and the determined local response aimed at prevention, education and recovery. The Ripple Effect is available on the Safer Sacramento website at safersacramento.com/the-ripple-effect.

For more information and resources, call Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services at 916-875-1055 for a substance use assessment or visit Sacramento County's Department of Health Services at dhs.sac-county.gov. ★

Eagles Scrimmage at Clash of The Nest



Families and fans gather at the start of the tailgate.



A junior varsity player hits the target to dunk Head Coach Sam Cole.



It's the start of a drive for Team Red.

Story and photos by Nathan Felix Valencia

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - The Pleasant Grove High School football team had a successful night for its first Clash of The Nest inner squad scrimmage on Friday Aug. 8 at Pleasant Grove. Not only was there the inner-squad scrimmage that took place at 7 p.m., but there was a tailgate that started at 5 p.m.

The tailgate was held on the outside basketball courts where the families barbecued and got to spend time with the entire Pleasant Grove football community. Along with the barbecue, the football program had introduced the junior varsity football team and had a dunk tank that gave a chance for players and families to dunk the varsity coaches.

Once the tailgate was over, everyone headed to the football field to watch the scrimmage, where this was the first chance for the team to be in a live football setting.

Head Coach Sam Cole had split the roster in half to make two teams, where every player had a chance for significant playing time. He put each team in certain situations and had them play for 20 minutes. Every player was able to show the community how much work they had put in for this upcoming season.

"I want to say thank you to the booster

club we've assembled, all the support from the families and everybody that came out to make this event possible," said Coach Cole.

Cole knows how important it is to have a strong community that supports the football team to not only succeed on the football field but off of it as well. The support comes from the families of the players and the kids that attend Pleasant Grove High School and even down to their junior football program.

Andrea Carter, who is the vice president of the booster club, said, "We are just reaching out to our spheres of influence, to the people that we know to try and get their support as well."

And that is exactly what the booster club is accomplishing: reaching out to the Junior Eagle program for support in supplying the barbecues and reaching out to the community to supply the dunk tank.

The booster club is looking to continue to build its fundraising committee so new parents can join to help support the football program by bringing new ideas that will strengthen the community.

"Our main goal is to raise money and to bring the families in and make them feel included," Carter said. Pleasant Grove is pushing to have a family-like community where the parents know every player and want every player to be successful. ★

Young Players Test Skills at Football Jamboree

Story and photos by Nathan Felix Valencia

ELK GROVE, CA (MPG) - Sacramento Youth Football held a jamboree for the youth football programs at Sheldon High School on Saturday Aug. 9, which was hosted by the Pleasant Grove Junior Eagles football program.

Six high schools were represented by their junior programs in the jamboree: Monterey Trail, Elk Grove, Pleasant Grove, Franklin, West Park and Del Campo. Each of the youth programs had 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U age groups.

The jamboree started with the 8U age group at 10 a.m. in a round-robin format where four teams would play at one time for a seven-minute period. Two teams were on the north side of the field and two teams on the south. Every team had a chance to play offense and defense throughout the day.

With the heat rising to triple digits, every team and player tried to stay hydrated along with trying to stay cool. The Junior Eagle Program had done a good job by having people responsible for filling up water for both sides and had invested into an outdoor misting system that anyone could use to cool down.

Despite the heat, the



Pleasant Grove 12U Junior Eagles Coach Zack Vierra: "The best part about being a coach is just seeing the kids grow, seeing them flourish, being able to pick up what you've been telling them and seeing when the light bulb clicks."

jamboree was a success. It gave players and coaches a chance to show what each team was capable of moving into the upcoming year.

Zach Vierra, president and 12U head coach of the Junior Eagles Program, gave praise and explained, "We're a part of a great league, the SYF. I've been a part of Pleasant Grove Football for 15 years, being able to just build relationships with the other teams and their presidents."

Sacramento Youth Football takes pride in the importance of the development of youth football players to build a foundation that they can take with them when they move



The 8U Monterey Trail Junior Mustangs and West Park Junior Panthers face off at Sheldon High on Aug. 9.

up in age groups or head into high school. It allows players to learn the fundamentals of the game and football etiquette.

"The best part about being a coach is just seeing the kids grow, seeing them flourish, being able to pick up what you've been telling them and seeing when the light bulb clicks," said Vierra.

The development of the youth players and building the foundation to continue to play the older they get is the staple for youth football. It is where coaches are not just seen as coaches, but as father figures as well: pouring information that they have into their



The 10U Pleasant Grove Junior Eagles take the field.

players to lead them on the path to success.

The coaches also create a lasting impression on the players: so much so that when a player's career

is finished, they are going to want to come back to coach.

"What's even better is seeing former players come back. That second

generation of carrying the torch, being a part of the community. The things that you learned are now being passed on to others," Vierra said. ★